

Blind Persons Served by Iowa Programs

The Iowa Department for the Blind was established in 1925 and provides the following services and programs to Iowans who are blind or visually impaired.

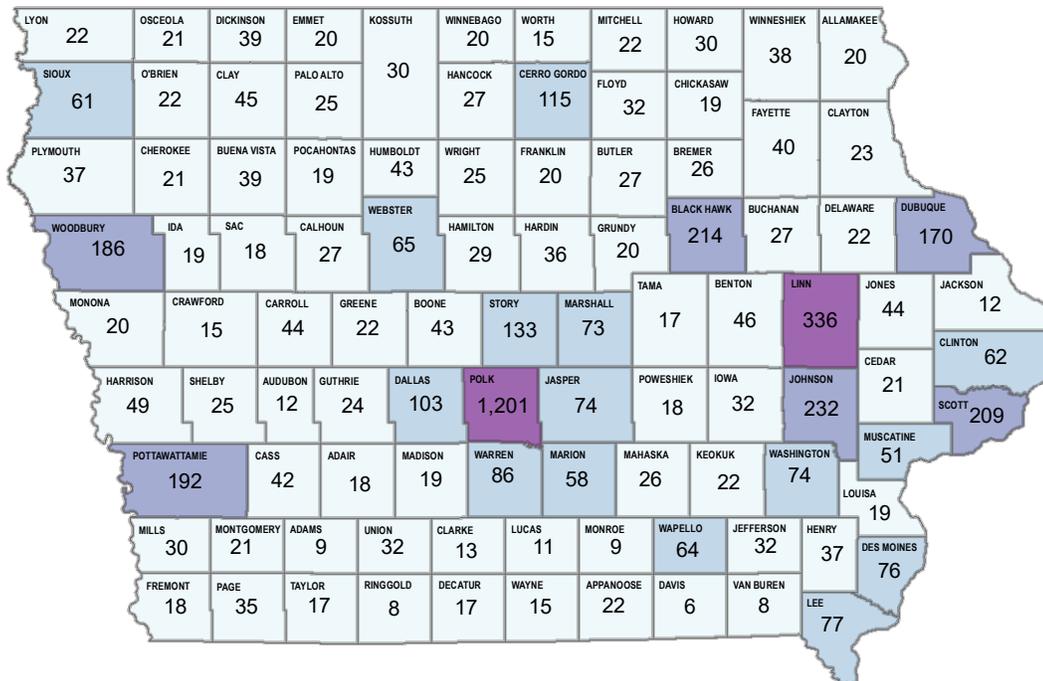
- The [Library for the Blind and Print Disabled](#) provides books and other materials in a variety of formats, transcribes print materials into Braille and recorded formats, acquires instructional and employment materials for students and workers, provides independent access to the library's collection through the Online Public Access Catalog, and circulates videos enhanced with audio descriptions.
- The [Vocational Rehabilitation Program](#) assists people who are blind or have low vision in preparing for, obtaining, and retaining employment.
- The [Independent Living Program](#) serves individuals with vision loss caused by a condition that cannot be corrected with glasses and has affected the person's ability to complete daily activities such as driving, reading the mail, and cooking.
- The [Business Enterprise Program](#) provides opportunities for legally blind clients of the Vocational Rehabilitation Program to manage their own businesses.

Blind Persons Served — 2015 to 2024

Calendar Year	Library	Vocational Rehabilitation	Independent Living	Business Enterprises	Total Services Provided
2015	7,024	624	709	60	8,417
2016	6,835	607	656	60	8,158
2017	5,513	573	385	26	6,497
2018	5,583	598	390	26	6,597
2019	5,708	644	416	21	6,789
2020	5,731	571	307	21	6,630
2021	5,649	579	274	16	6,518
2022	5,612	590	349	14	6,565
2023	5,774	617	345	12	6,748
2024	5,807	573	380	13	6,773

Note: Count is only the number of active cases, not total number of clients served per year.

Number of Library Patrons by County — 2024



5,807
Patrons Statewide
in 2024

Total Patrons

- 6 - 50
- 51 - 150
- 151 - 250
- 251 - 1,201

Source: Department for the Blind
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