

ORIGIN AND NAMING OF IOWA COUNTIES

County	Date of Est.	Date of Org.	Named in Honor
Adair	1851	1855	John Adair, general during War of 1812 and 6th Governor of Kentucky.
Adams	1851	1853	John Adams, 2nd president of U.S.
Allamakee	1847	1849	Allan Makee, Indian trader.
Appanoose	1843	1846	Famous Sac Indian chief.
Audubon	1851	1855	John James Audubon, American artist and naturalist.
Benton	1843	1846	Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri.
Black Hawk	1843	1853	Famous Sac Indian chief.
Boone	1846	1849	Nathan Boone, army officer in the Iowa Territory.
Bremer	1851	1853	Fredricka Bremer, Swedish traveler and author.
Buchanan	1839	1846	James Buchanan, 15th president of U.S.
Buena Vista	1851	1859	Final victory field of General Zachary Taylor in the Mexican War.
Butler	1851	1854	William O. Butler, general in the Mexican War.
Calhoun	1855	1855	John Calhoun, vice president of the U.S. (1825-1832).
Carroll	1851	1855	Charles Carroll, signer of the Declaration of Independence.
Cass	1851	1853	Senator Lewis Cass of Michigan.
Cedar	1837	1838	Red Cedar River running through the county.
Cerro Gordo	1851	1855	Famous battlefield of the Mexican War.
Cherokee	1851	1857	Famous southern Indian tribe.
Chickasaw	1851	1853	Prominent Indian nation located in the south.
Clarke	1846	1851	James Clarke, last governor of the Iowa Territory.
Clay	1851	1858	Lt. Col. Henry Clay, Jr. of Kentucky, who fell at the battle of Buena Vista.
Clayton	1837	1838	Senator John Middleton Clayton of Delaware.
Clinton	1837	1840	DeWitt Clinton, 5th governor of New York.
Crawford	1851	1855	William H. Crawford, secretary of the U.S. treasury (1817-1825).
Dallas	1846	1847	George Mifflin Dallas, vice president of U.S. (1845-1849).
Davis	1843	1844	Garret Davis, representative from Kentucky.
Decatur	1846	1850	Stephen Decatur, American naval officer.
Delaware	1837	1844	The state of Delaware.
Des Moines	1834	1834	Des Moines River which runs through southeastern Iowa.
Dickinson	1851	1858	Senator Daniel S. Dickinson of New York.
Dubuque	1834	1834	Julien Du Buque, 1st white settler in Iowa.
Emmet	1851	1859	Robert Emmet, Irish nationalist (1778-1803).
Fayette	1837	1851	Marquies de Lafayette, French general and statesman.
Floyd	1851	1854	Sgt. Charles Floyd of Lewis and Clarke's expedition. Died 1804 and was buried on the banks of Missouri River. First white man whose death and burial in Iowa are on record.
Franklin	1851	1855	Benjamin Franklin, American statesman and philosopher.
Fremont	1847	1850	John Charles Fremont, lieutenant colonel in the Mexican War.
Greene	1851	1854	Nathaniel Greene, general in the Revolutionary War.
Grundy	1851	1856	Felix Grundy, chief justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court and U.S. representative and senator from Tennessee.
Guthrie	1851	1851	Edwin Guthrie, captain in the Iowa volunteers during the Mexican War.
Hamilton	1847	1857	William W. Hamilton, president of the Iowa Senate (1856-1857).
Hancock	1851	1858	John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress.
Hardin	1851	1853	John J. Hardin, Illinois colonel killed in the Mexican War.
Harrison	1851	1853	William Henry Harrison, 9th president of U.S.
Henry	1836	1837	Gen. Henry Dodge, governor of Wisconsin Territory.
Howard	1851	1855	Tighman A. Howard, general from Indiana.
Humboldt	1857	1857	Baron Friedrich Alexander von Humboldt, German scientist.
Ida	1851	1855 or 1858	Ida Smith, first white child born in what is now Ida Grove (1856).
Iowa	1843	1845	Iowa River running through the county.
Jackson	1837	1837	Andrew Jackson, 7th president of U.S.
Jasper	1846	1846	William Jasper, sergeant in the Revolutionary War.

Jefferson . . .	1839	1839	Thomas Jefferson, 3rd president of U.S.
Johnson . . .	1837	1838	Richard Mentor Johnson, vice president of U.S. (1837-1841).
Jones	1837	1838-1847 .	George Wallace Jones, 1st delegate in Congress from the Wisconsin Territory.
Keokuk	1843	1844	Sac Indian chief.
Kossuth	1851	1855	Lajos Kossuth, Hungarian patriot and statesman (1802-1894).
Lee	1836	1838	A New York land company that owned extensive interests in the half breed tract.
Linn	1837	1839	Senator Lewis Field Linn of Missouri.
Louisa	1836	1837	Louisa Massey, area folk heroine who avenged her brother's murder by slaying his assassin.
Lucas	1846	1894	Robert Lucas, 1st governor of Iowa Territory.
Lyon	1851	1872	Nathaniel Lyon, brigadier general in the Mexican and Seminole Wars.
Madison	1846	1849	James Madison, 4th president of U.S.
Mahaska	1843	1844	Chief of the Iowa tribe. Name is interpreted as "White Cloud."
Marion	1845	1845	Francis Marion, American commander in the Revolutionary War.
Marshall	1846	1849	John Marshall, 4th chief justice of U.S.
Mills	1851	1851	Major Frederick Mills, Iowa officer in the Mexican War.
Mitchell	1851	1854	John Mitchell, Irish refugee of 1848.
Monona	1851	1854	An Indian girl who, believing her white lover was killed by her people, jumped from a high rock into the Mississippi River.
Monroe	1843	1845	James Monroe, 5th president of U.S.
Montgomery . .	1851	1853	Richard Montgomery, general killed at the Assault at Quebec (1775).
Muscatine . . .	1836	1837	Indian word thought to mean "prairie."
O'Brien	1851	1860	William Smith O'Brien, leader for Irish independence in 1848.
Osceola	1851	1871	Seminole Indian chief.
Page	1847	1851	John Page, captain in the 4th U.S. Infantry and fatally wounded in the battle of Palo Alto.
Palo Alto	1851	1858	First battlefield victory in the Mexican War.
Plymouth	1851	1858	Landing place of the Mayflower pilgrims.
Pocahontas . . .	1851	1859	Virginia Indian princess.
Polk	1846	1846	James Knox Polk, 11th president of the U.S.
Pottawattamie .	1847	1837	Indian tribe and former possessor of Iowa Territory.
Poweshiek	1843	1837	Fox-Mesquaki Indian chief.
Ringgold	1847	1855	Maj. Samuel Ringgold, fatally wounded in Mexican War.
Sac	1851	1856	Indigenous Iowa Indian tribe. Name means "red bank."
Scott	1837	1837	Major General Winfield Scott, negotiated 1st treaty purchasing lands in Iowa from Indians.
Shelby	1851	1853	General Isaac Shelby, 1st governor of Kentucky.
Sioux	1851	1860	Indian tribe indigenous to what is now Iowa and Minnesota. Also known as the Dakota tribe.
Story	1846	1853	Joseph Story, associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.
Tama	1847	1853	A Fox Indian chief. Also believed to be the name of Chief Poweshiek's wife.
Taylor	1847	1851	General Zachary Taylor, 12th president of U.S.
Union	1851	1853	Union of the states.
Van Buren	1836	1838	Martin Van Buren, 8th president of U.S.
Wapello	1843	1844	Fox Indian tribes chief.
Warren	1846	1849	General Joseph Warren of the Revolutionary War.
Washington . . .	1839	1839	George Washington, 1st president of U.S.
Wayne	1846	1851	General Anthony Wayne of the Revolutionary War.
Webster	1853	1857	Daniel Webster, American statesman and orator.
Winnebago	1851	1857	Indigenous Iowa Indian tribe.
Winneshiek	1847	1851	Winnebago Indian chief.
Woodbury	1851	1853	Levi Woodbury, New Hampshire and U.S. statesman.
Worth	1851	1858	William J. Worth, major general in the Mexican War.
Wright	1851	1855	Silas Wright, 12th governor of New York; and Joseph A. Wright, governor of Indiana.