

The Lowell Community Profile

The town of Lowell lies approximately 17 miles east of Grand Rapids and is about a half an hour drive from Grand Rapids. Lowell is set on the intersection of the Flat and Grand River. It is well known for the Lowell Showboat, which used to have "big-name entertainers" come and perform on the Showboat. Now the Showboat is used to host banquets, reunions, and various community events. The Showboat lies on the Flat River and can be seen from main street in the downtown area of Lowell.

The Flat River crosses under main street and dumps into the Grand River to the south of Lowell.

The downtown area consists of many shops and restaurants housed in brick buildings that were used in the era of yesteryear. Many people love to shop and eat at some of these restaurants. The downtown area is not big, but one who drives west on main street would see many fast-food places, a theater, and Lowell First Baptist Church. The population of the people within the city limits is not big, and in 2022 was 4,121.

However, the Lowell area is much bigger. In years past Lowell would be described as a rural community, that is no longer the case. Many people have moved into the many housing developments that used to be farmland. Farmland still exists along with farmers, but the community now also has a suburban element. So, Lowell is much different than it used to be. With suburbanites moving into the area, the population is much more diverse. Certainly, the Lowell area is still predominantly white, with young married couples with families moving into the area, but also infused into the population are more people of color, Hispanic, and Asians. The people in the Lowell Community are friendly, outgoing, and do their best to help and serve one another, particularly those who have been long time residents

More than likely one of the reasons for people moving into the Lowell area is Lowell Area Schools. They have a high rating as a school system. The community does a good job of supporting the school, and their students are well prepared for college or whatever endeavor they choose to go into. The athletic programs are also very good, both for male and female athletes. The teachers have always been very caring and professional as they teach their students. As a result of many people moving into the area, the elementary schools, middle school, and high school have had major renovations to their buildings to accommodate new students. Lowell is now a large class A school.

There are many churches in the Lowell area. Many of the churches preach the word of God, with a few being liberal and not using the Bible and preach on social issues. We thank God that we at First Baptist Church have always had pastors who preached from God's word. Many churches in the Lowell area are country churches which use a Bible name for their church like Alto Bible, Clarksville Bible, Ada Bible, and Smyrna Bible.

Also, there is an organization called F.R.O.M. in Lowell, which stands for Flat River Outreach Ministry. This organization helps people who are in need with food, clothing, and housing. Many people in different churches volunteer their time to help with this cause.

The culture in the Lowell area has changed over the years. It is not as conservative as it once was with the influx of suburbanites. With Michigan passing the legalization of marijuana, there have arisen both medical and recreational marijuana stores in Lowell.

Unfortunately, the influx of more people into the area has not overall produced much numerical growth in our churches. Many people do not see the need for church, particularly with younger people. This also seems to fall in line with the rest of our country. With all this being said, Lowell still tends to lean conservative.

Medical needs can be met in Lowell or in Grand Rapids. The Lowell Health Center is in Lowell, as well as urgent care facilities. Ada is eight miles west of Lowell, and there are many doctors and dentists in this town. Grand Rapids has the medical mile, which has many medical facilities to help people with their medical needs. There are hospitals and Meijer Heart Center where heart and lung transplants take place. We are fortunate to live in this area, because almost all our medical needs can be met in this area.

To sum it up, Lowell is a great place to live. First Baptist Church has provided down through the years a great place to worship, serve the Lord, raise a family with solid Biblical teaching. The Lowell area has something to offer for all age groups. Trails to ride bikes, pickleball courts to accommodate the elderly or anyone who would enjoy playing, walking trails, are just a few of the things a person or family could do. The people are friendly, helpful, and are very concerned about their community. With all of this said, it is no wonder that people are flocking into the Lowell area.