

National States Geographic Information Council 2008 State Summary  
 2008 State Summary  
 State of Iowa

Background Information

1	Please Choose the primary contact
Brad Cutler	

3	Please select the answer that most closely describes your role in statewide GIS coordination.
Volunteer Working on Statewide Issues	

4	What is your job title?
Other (please specify) Project Specialist	

5	Enter the name of your agency/organization.
Iowa Geographic Information Council	

6	Please select the answer that best describes the affiliation of your office/agency in state government.
Non-Profit Organization	

11	Describe your state's top three geospatial accomplishments during the past year. (200 character limit per line)
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[Accomplishment 1.](#)  
 Completion of FGDC CAP grant that looked at Return on Investment study of state spatial data infrastructure.  
[Accomplishment 2.](#)  
 Acquisition phase of statewide LiDAR dataset is 50% complete.  
[Accomplishment 3.](#)  
 Increased communication and interaction between local and state government agencies.

12	Describe your state's top three geospatial goals for the coming year. (200 character limit per line)
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[Goal 1.](#)  
 Return on Investment study of geospatial technology in response to the 2008 flooding experienced in Iowa.  
[Goal 2.](#)  
 Establishment of a local government geospatial service bureau.  
[Goal 3.](#)  
 Further statewide framework data projects across Iowa. Complete statewide 2' 4-band orthoimagery; begin work on statewide address/geocoding project; local resolution NHD pilot project using stream lines extracted from LiDAR.

13	Describe the three most significant geospatial challenges for your state. (200 character limit per line)
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[Challenge 1.](#)  
 Financing and budgetary issues combined with communicating GIS issues to elected officials at all levels of government.  
[Challenge 2.](#)  
 Statewide organization is volunteer based without full-time paid staff to address issues.  
[Challenge 3.](#)  
 Difficulty in limiting "focus" to several core issues from statewide strategic plan when there are so many issues that need to be addressed.

14	Describe any significant cooperative efforts with federal, state or local partners. (200 character limit per line)
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[Cooperative Effort 1.](#)  
 Completed a multi-agency ROI study - IGIC, GITA, DNR, and other state, regional, county, municipal, and private agencies  
[Cooperative Effort 2.](#)  
 Iowa DOT Multilevel Linear Referencing System allows features to be located on a linear network using one of many supported linear referencing methods. Iowa's technology can be made available to other state DOTs at no charge.  
 AASHTO TIG has awarded Iowa DOT a grant to promote ML LRS, based upon the NCHRP 20-27 model. With this grant a ML LRS lead states team has been formed to provide assistance, education and experiences with other states. The lead states team is comprised of Iowa, California, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Carolina and Ohio.  
[Cooperative Effort 3.](#)  
 Cooperative effort funded by CAP grant to work on extraction of structure data from statewide LiDAR dataset between statewide council, Iowa DNR, Iowa DOT, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and County Assessor's Association.  
[Cooperative Effort 4.](#)  
 Continued work on statewide orthoimagery projects. Cooperative funding between federal, state and local partners for continued acquisition of USDA-NAIP imagery and statewide 2' 4-band orthoimagery.  
[Cooperative Effort 5.](#)  
 Continued expansion and improvement of the Iowa GIS Data Repository. Project is managed by statewide association of county government GIS/IT professionals.  
[Cooperative Effort 6.](#)  
 Empty

15	Describe any significant data development activities, innovative applications, cost saving measures, contracts, etc. that are on-going or that you have begun over the past year. (200 character limit per line)
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[Activity 1.](#)  
 Multi-agency ROI study (CAP Grant)  
[Activity 2.](#)  
 The GeoTREE Center at the University of Northern Iowa has recently developed a free ArcGIS extension called GeoLiTE (GeoTree Lidar Tool Extension) to assist the processing and analysis of Iowa LiDAR data. The tool is used in conjunction with the hosting of LiDAR data at the University of Northern Iowa in conjunction with the Iowa DOT and Iowa DNR. The functionalities include:  
 (1) Convert LAS file to XYZI file; (2) Merge and clip multi-tile LiDAR data to a user defined analysis extent; (3) Resampling: LAS or XYZ points can be sampled to keep necessary percentage of points, With accurate GPS point collection, DEM can be evaluated by calculating RMSE (Root Mean Square Error); (4) Directly derive terrain and DEM from LiDAR data; (5) Batch derive slope, contour, hillshade, and aspect from DEM; (6) Visualize lower elevation areas with the Water level tool. Useful for flood management.

Current version supports both ArcGIS 9.2 and 9.3.

Activity 3.

Empty

Activity 4.

Empty

Activity 5.

Empty

Activity 6.

Empty

16	Please provide the URL link for the mission statement of your state GIS Council.
URL: <a href="http://www.iowagic.org">http://www.iowagic.org</a>	

17	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Coordination Office.
No State GIS Coordination Office	

18	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Coordination Council Web Page.
URL: <a href="http://www.iowagic.org">http://www.iowagic.org</a>	

19	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Clearinghouse Node.
URL: <a href="http://www.iowagis.org">http://www.iowagis.org</a>	

20	Is your Clearinghouse Node set up to be harvested by the GOS Portal?
Yes	

21	Please provide the URL link to a list of GIS data stewards for your state.
No List Available	

22	Please provide the URL link to your state GIS Personnel Classifications.
No Specific GIS Classifications	

23	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS data distribution policies.
No State Data Distribution Policy	

24	Please provide the URL link for your state GIS Data Standards.
No Data Standards	

## Score Card for the fifty states initiative

1	Which of the following NSGIC Coordination Criteria are in effect in your state? 1 = We previously had this function and lost it over the past year 2 = No plans at this time for implementing this criteria 3 = We currently are planning to implement this within the next 12 to 18 months 4 = Progress has been made and we reasonably expect this to be fully implemented within the next 12 months 5 = Implemented at this time						
		Not Applicable	1	2	3	4	5
	1. A full-time, paid coordinator position is designated and has the authority to implement the state's business and strategic plans.	-	-	-	3	-	-
	2. A clearly defined authority exists for statewide coordination of geospatial information technologies and data production.	-	-	-	-	-	5
	3. The statewide coordination office has a formal relationship with the state's Chief Information Officer (or similar office).	-	-	-	-	4	-
	4. A champion (politician or executive decision-maker) is aware and involved in the process of coordination.	-	-	-	-	4	-
	5. Responsibilities for developing the National Spatial Data Infrastructure and a State Clearinghouse are assigned.	-	-	-	-	4	-

6. The ability exists to work and coordinate with local governments, academia, and the private sector.	-	-	-	-	-	5
7. Sustainable funding sources exist to meet projected needs.	-	-	-	3	-	-
8. Coordinators have the authority to enter into contracts and become capable of receiving and expending funds.	-	1	-	-	-	-
9. The Federal government works through the statewide coordinating authority.	-	-	-	-	-	5

2 Please identify the stakeholder groups that participate on your GIS Coordination Council and their level of participation.			
	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Cities and Towns	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Statewide City Organization	Actively participates on our Council	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Counties and Parishes	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Statewide County Organization	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Regional Government Organizations	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
State Agencies	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Tribal Governments	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Federal Agencies	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Utilities	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Academic (Colleges & Universities)	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Education (K-12)	-	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Private Sector (GIS Industry Vendors and Users)	Actively participates on our Council	Has an official 'seat' or voting privileges on our Council	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
General Business Community	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Surveying Community	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Non-Profit Organizations	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
General Public	-	-	Invited to participate in general meetings of our Council
Local URISA Chapter	-	-	-
Local ASPRS Chapter	-	-	-

3	Please provide the URL link to your current Statewide Strategic Plan for GIS.
Under Development - Not Available at this Time	

4	Please provide the URL link to your current Statewide Business Plan for GIS.
Under Development - Not Available at this Time	

5	Please provide the URL link to your current Statewide Marketing Plan for GIS.
No Marketing Plan Available	

6	Please provide the URL link to the Law or Executive Order that established your GIS Coordination Office and/or Council.
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URL:  
[http://www.iowagic.org/about/documents/documents/igic\\_exec\\_order](http://www.iowagic.org/about/documents/documents/igic_exec_order)

7 Please provide a URL link to your state's law(s) related to privacy issues as they affect data and information technology.  
Not Applicable - No Law in Effect

8 Please provide a URL link to your state's law(s) related to data security issues.  
Not Applicable - No Law in Effect

9 Does your GIS Coordination Council have adequate funding to support its operation? (This refers only to the activities of the Council and not to your Coordination Office or projects like data development.)  
Not Funded

10 What fund sources does your Coordination Council use to support its operations? (Check all that apply)  
Conference proceeds

11 Does your GIS Council officially endorse the use of appropriate OGC, FGDC, ANSI or ISO standards as appropriate?  
Yes

12 Does your state make its own GIS Inventory tool available to users?  
No, but we actively support use of the Ramona System

13 Does your state actively develop and promote the use of data sharing agreements?  
Yes, but only for limited operational needs

14 Does your GIS Council or State Coordination Office actively participate in The National Map?  
Yes

## Hot Topics

1 Does your state have a shared Orthoimagery Program that involves local and state agencies?  
No, but we plan to start one in the next 12 months

2 Have you completed a Return on Investment (ROI) Study or Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to justify a shared Orthoimagery Program?  
Other (please specify)  
in progress

3 Please provide a URL link so we can obtain a copy of your ROI or CBA study.  
Not Applicable

4 Does your state have a shared Road Centerline file project that involves local and state agencies?  
Yes

5 Have you completed a Return on Investment (ROI) Study or Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to justify a shared Road Centerline File program?  
No

6 Please provide a URL link so we can obtain a copy of your ROI or CBA study.  
Not Applicable

7 Does your state have a statewide (or multi-jurisdictional) address database? (pick one)  
No

8 Is this database based on individual addresses or address ranges? (pick one)  
Not Applicable

9 Have you completed a Return on Investment (ROI) or Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to justify this Address program? (pick one)

Not Applicable

10 If applicable, please provide a URL link so we can obtain a copy of your ROI or CBA study. (fill-in if applicable)

## Role of State GIS Coordinators

1 Please choose the mechanism that created your position.  
Governor's Executive Order

2 Please provide the URL link for the document(s) that created your position (Legislation, Executive Order or Other Action).  
URL:  
[http://www.iowagic.org/about/documents/documents/igic\\_exec\\_order](http://www.iowagic.org/about/documents/documents/igic_exec_order)

3 Which choice most closely matches the title of your boss?  
Other (please specify)  
outside of State Government

4 What choice best describes how closely you are aligned with the State CIO?  
Not Very Close, But Getting Closer

5 Please select the number of staff that you supervise.  
Less than 3

6 Does your GIS Coordination Office have adequate funding to support its operation? (This refers only to the activities of your office and not to the Coordination Council, or projects like data development.)  
Not Applicable

7 What fund sources does your Coordination Office use to support its operations? (Check all that apply)  
Not Applicable  
Conference proceeds

8 When an administration change occurs following a statewide election is your position?  
Not Likely to be Affected

9 Please rank the importance of these characteristics/skills to the effective performance of your job.

	Not Important	Not Very Important	Important	Very Important	Critical
GIS Evangelist/Cheerleader	-	-	-	-	Critical
GIS Architect	-	Not Very Important	-	-	-
Political Savvy	-	-	Important	-	-
Technological Savvy	-	Not Very Important	-	-	-
General Management Skills	-	-	-	-	Critical
Procurement/Contracting Skills	-	Not Very Important	-	-	-
People Skills	-	-	-	-	Critical
Understanding the Business Needs of Your Customers	-	-	-	-	Critical