



State of Rural Minnesota Report 2013



center for **rural policy**
and development

Seeking Solutions for Greater Minnesota's Future

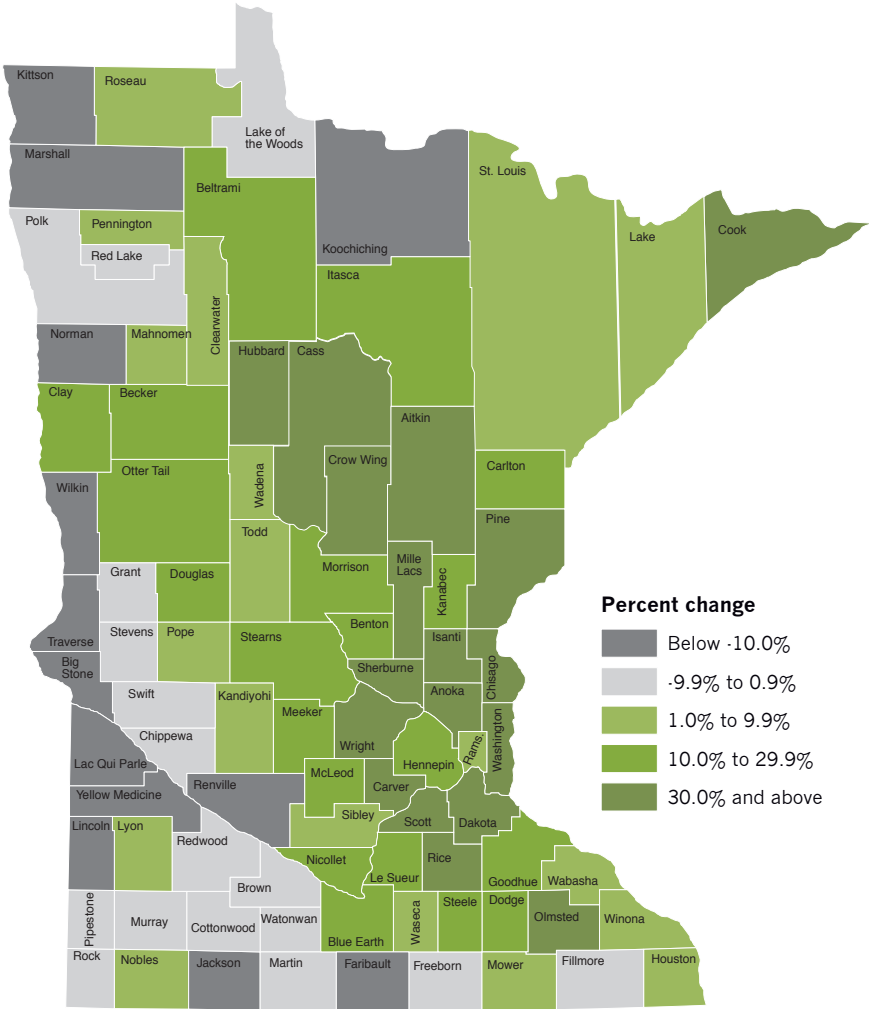
Introduction



In 1997, a group of rural Minnesota advocates came together to create a rural policy “think tank” that would provide policy makers, rural advocates and concerned citizens with an objective, unbiased and politically “unspun” examination of contemporary rural issues.

- ✓ Based in St. Peter, Minn.
- ✓ Non-partisan, non-profit policy research organization
- ✓ Dedicated to providing Minnesota’s policy makers with an unbiased evaluation of issues from a rural perspective.
- ✓ The Center is recognized as a leading resource for rural policy research and development.

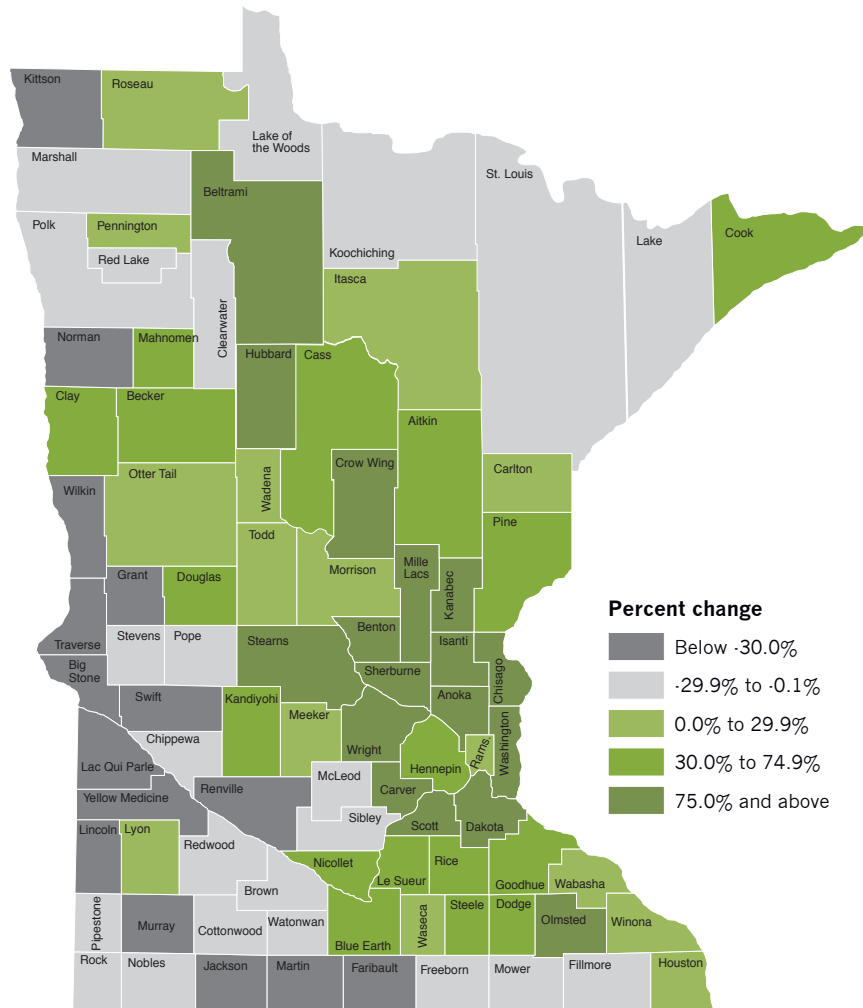
Population change, 1990-2010



- From 1990 to 2010, the state's population grew by nearly 1 million, to 5.3 million. The most dramatic growth was seen in the Twin Cities suburbs, stretching up into the Central Lakes area.

Data source:
U.S. Census Bureau,
Population Estimates Program
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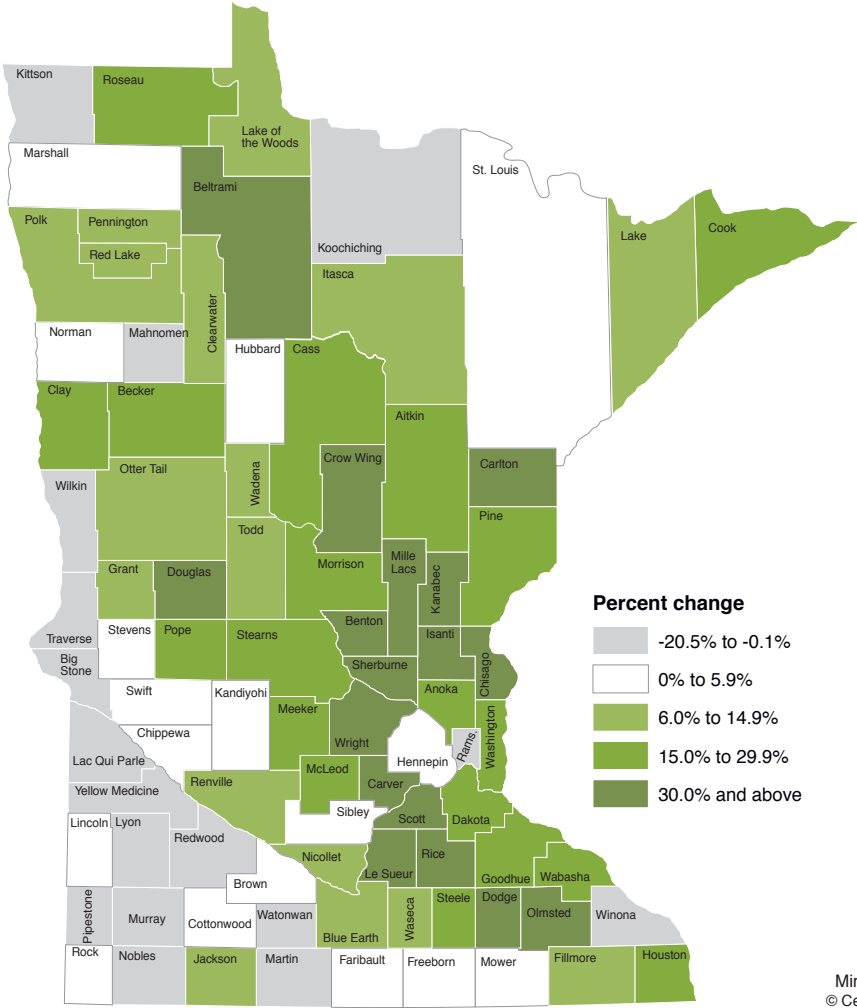
Long-term population change, 1960-2010



- Looking at how the population has changed since 1960 shows the relentless shift from the rural counties to the urban and suburban cores of the Twin Cities, St. Cloud and Rochester. Sherburne County has seen the most growth, increasing by 588%.

Data source:
U.S. Census Bureau
© Center for Rural Policy and Development

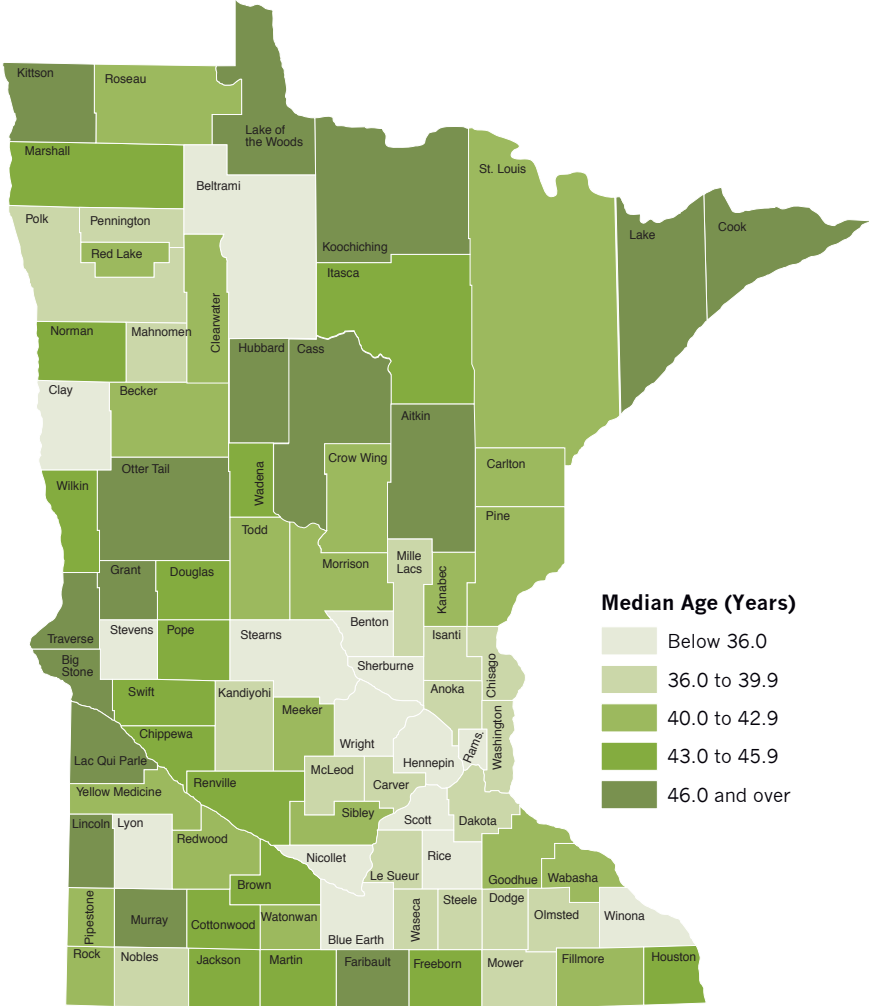
Projected population change, 2010-2035



- Minnesota’s State Demographic Center projects that population trends will continue much as they have: the western and southern counties will continue to lose population while growth will continue to radiate out from the Twin Cities and north into the central lakes region.

Data source:
 Minnesota State Demographic Center
 © Center for Rural Policy and Development

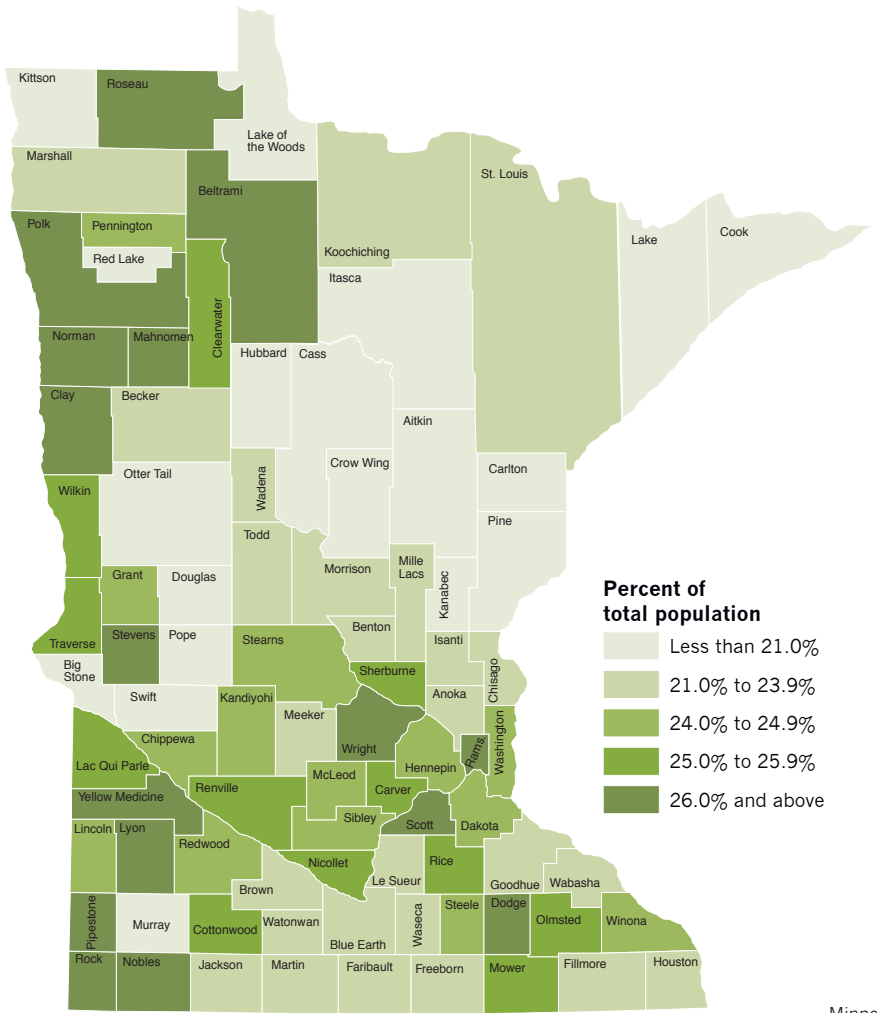
Median Age, 2010



- Median age—the age at which half the population is older and half is younger—gives an indication of the overall age of the population in an area. Fast-growing counties with young families, large institutions of higher education, or large minority populations tend to have a lower median age.

Data source:
U.S. Census Bureau
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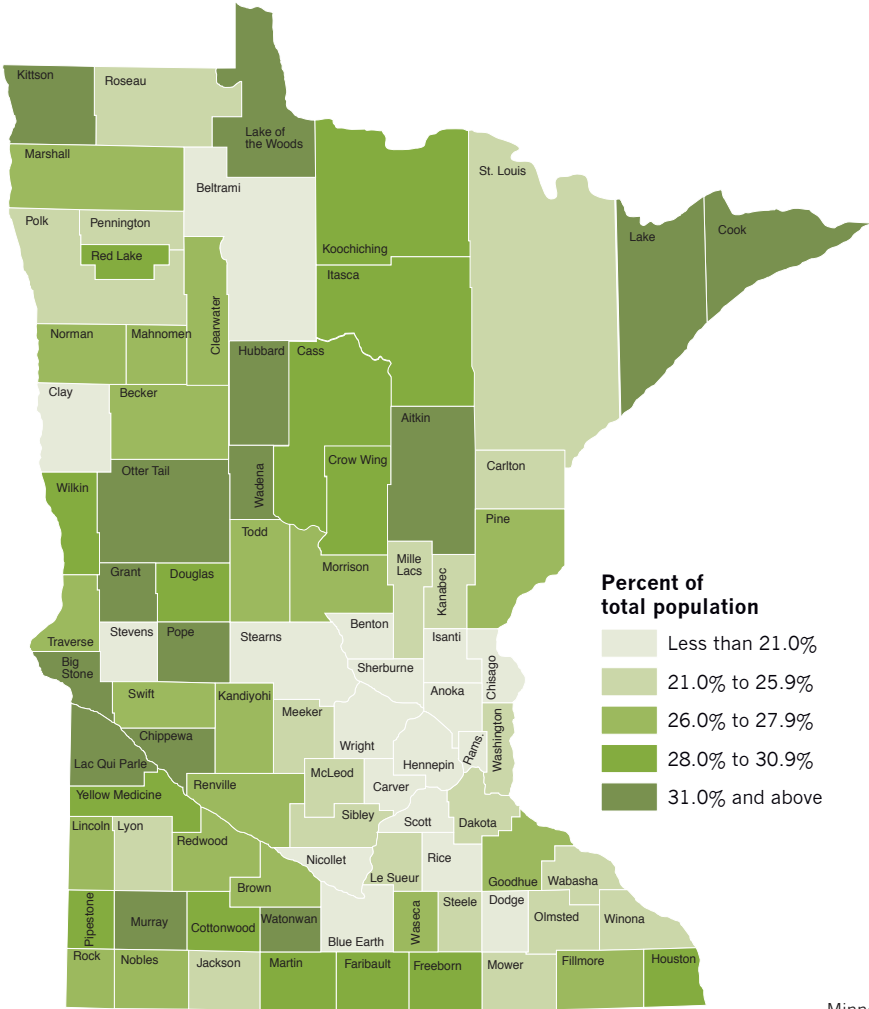
Projected population age 19 and under, 2035



- The population age 19 and under is projected to stay highest in the Twin Cities.
- Some rural counties are projected to have higher rates of young people as well, most likely due to the presence of a college or a large minority population.

Data source:
 Minnesota State Demographic Center
 © Center for Rural Policy and Development

Projected population age 65+, 2035



- While the trend in aging is projected to continue through 2035 much as it has, the growth in the aging population may be offset in some southern and western counties by the presence of minorities and immigrants and by colleges.

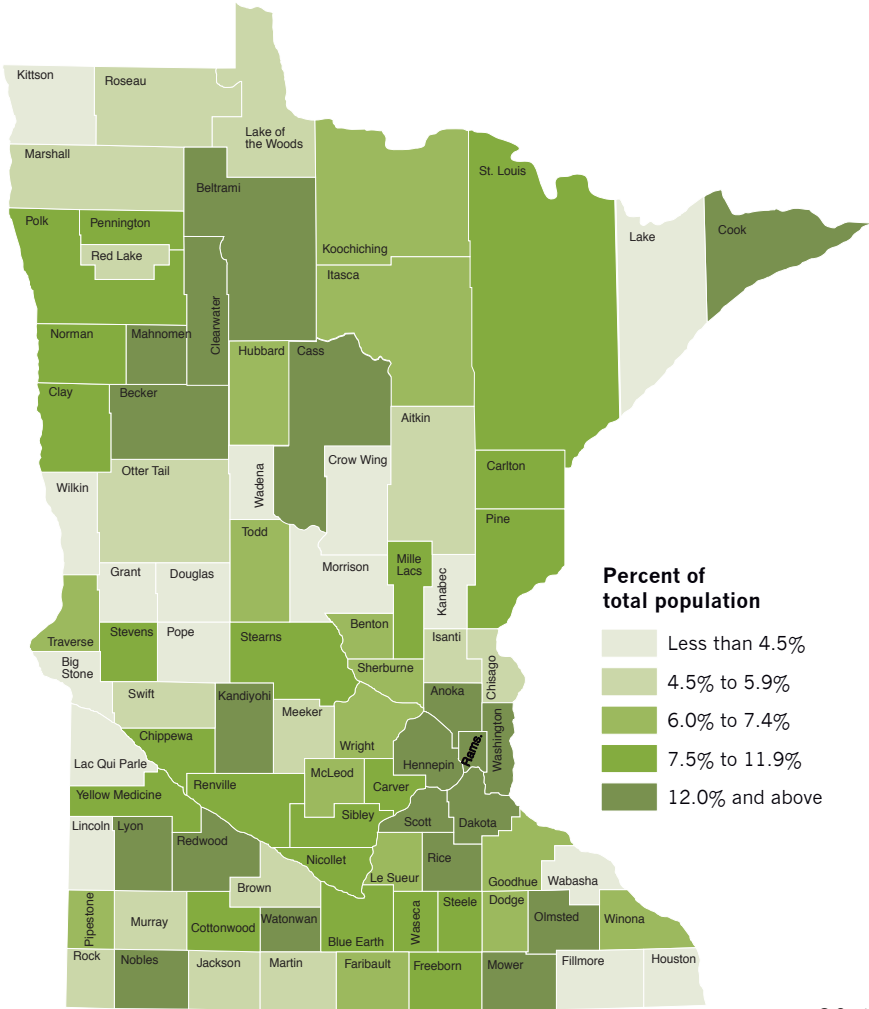
Data source:
 Minnesota State Demographic Center
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County	Decrease in white population	Increase in minority population	Change in total population
Clearwater	-116	502	386
Fillmore	-243	332	89
Hennepin	-88,200	208,194	119,994
Kandiyohi	-1,093	4,571	3,478
Lyon	-1,691	2,759	1,068
Mahnomen	-1,129	1,498	369
Mower	-3,753	5,531	1,778
Nobles	-4,953	6,233	1,280
Pennington	-175	799	624
Ramsey	-80,755	103,630	22,875
Roseau	-59	662	603
Sibley	-352	1,212	860
St. Louis	-6,678	8,691	2,013
Todd	-137	1,669	1,532
Waseca	-506	1,563	1,057

Fifteen counties that experienced population growth between 1990 and 2010 due to growth in their minority populations (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010). Twelve of them are not in a Metropolitan Statistical Area.

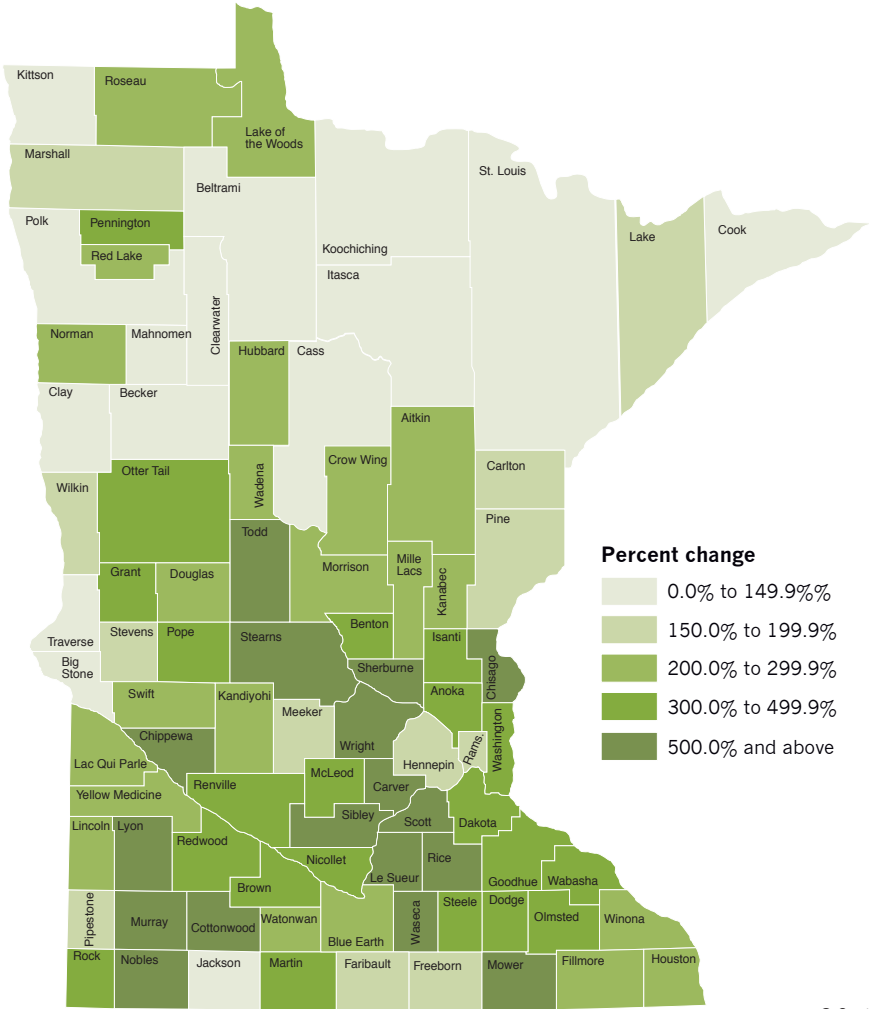
Distribution of people of color, 2010



- Minnesota’s minority population has more than doubled since 1990, increasing from 6.3% of the total population to approximately 17% in 2010.
- ✓ Counties in the north tend to have large Native American populations; Latinos and Somalis make up the largest minority groups in western and southern Minnesota.

Data source:
U.S. Census Bureau
© Center for Rural Policy and Development

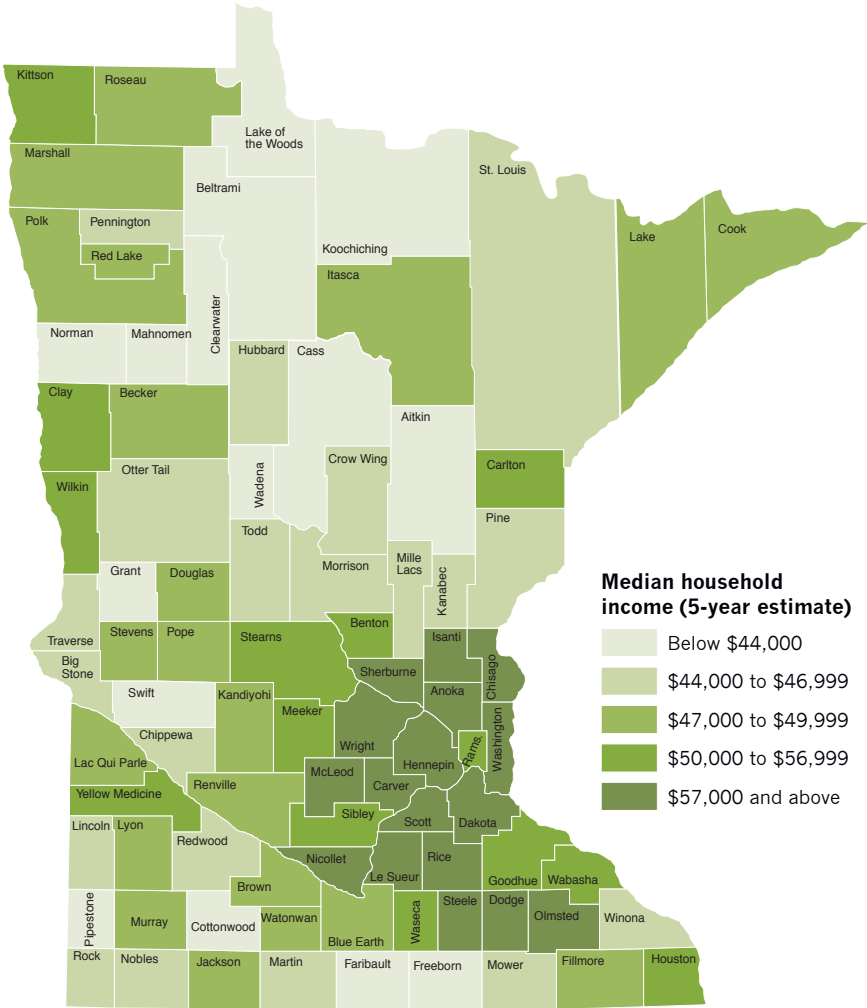
Change in the distribution of people of color, 1990-2010



- Between 1990 and 2010, northern counties' Native American populations remained relatively stable. Some western and southern counties saw dramatic growth with the in-migration of Latinos, Laotians, Somalis, Sudanese, Hmong and other groups. However, some of the highest growth was in the ring suburbs of the Twin Cities.

Data source:
U.S. Census Bureau
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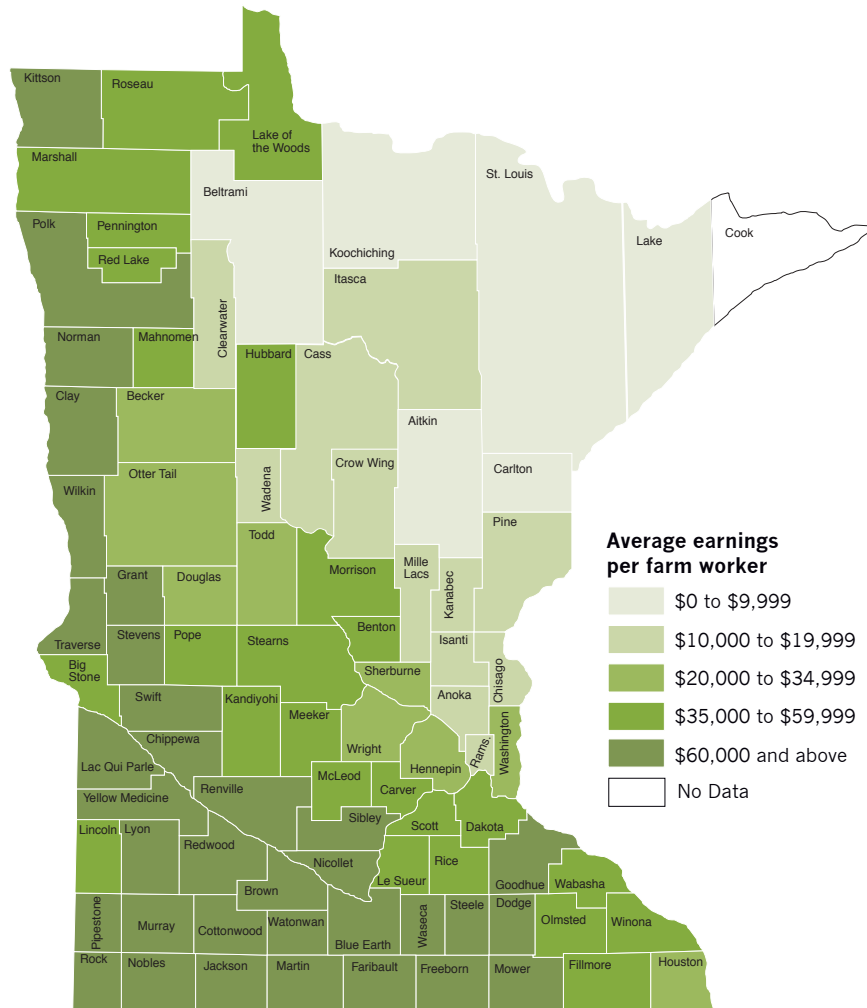
Median household income, 2011



- In 2011, Minnesota’s estimated median household income was \$58,476. Median household income is a frequently used measure showing the point at which half the households in the group have a higher income and half have a lower income. Carver County had the highest estimated median household income, at \$83,415, while Wadena County recorded the lowest, at \$35,307.

Data source:
 U.S. Census Bureau
 American Community Survey
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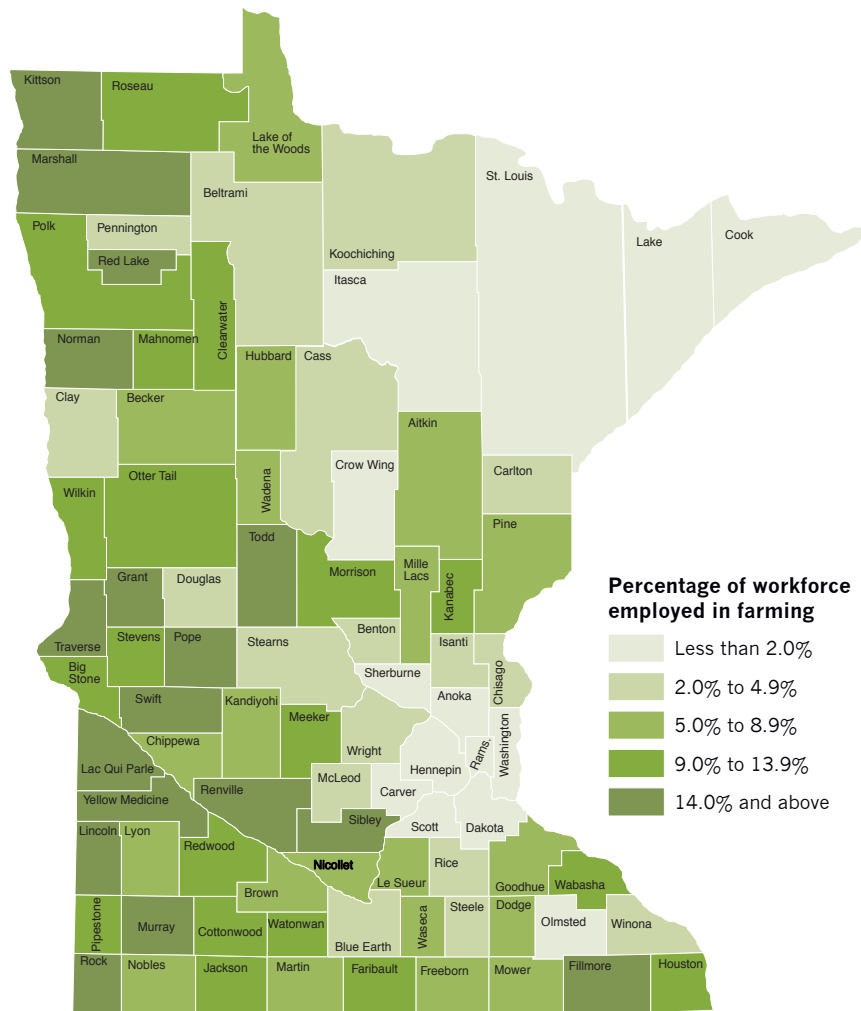
Average earnings in farming, 2011



- Farming has had a strong presence in Minnesota historically and continues to do so today. The distribution of wealth from farming is apparent.

Data source:
 U.S. Department of Commerce
 Bureau of Economic Analysis
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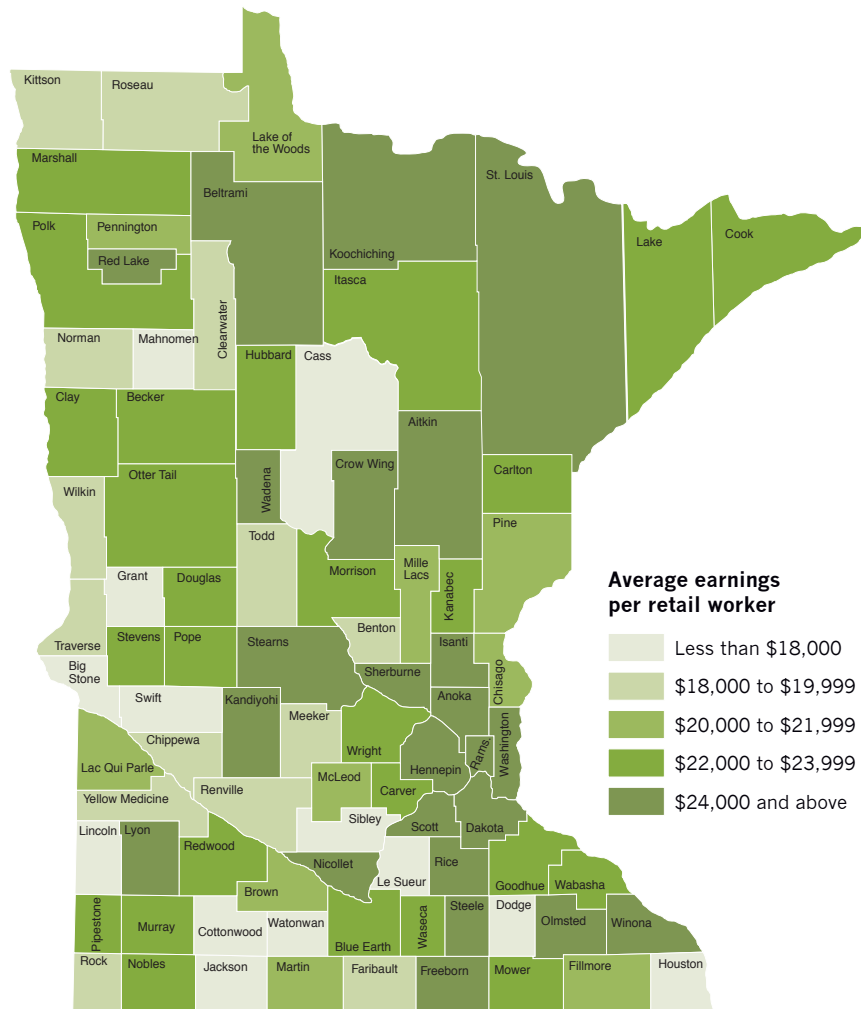
Workforce in farming, 2011



- Only about 2.5% of Minnesota’s workforce is employed directly in farming, but that figure varies significantly across the state. Some counties have 20% or more of their workforce working directly in farming.

Data source:
U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of Economic Analysis
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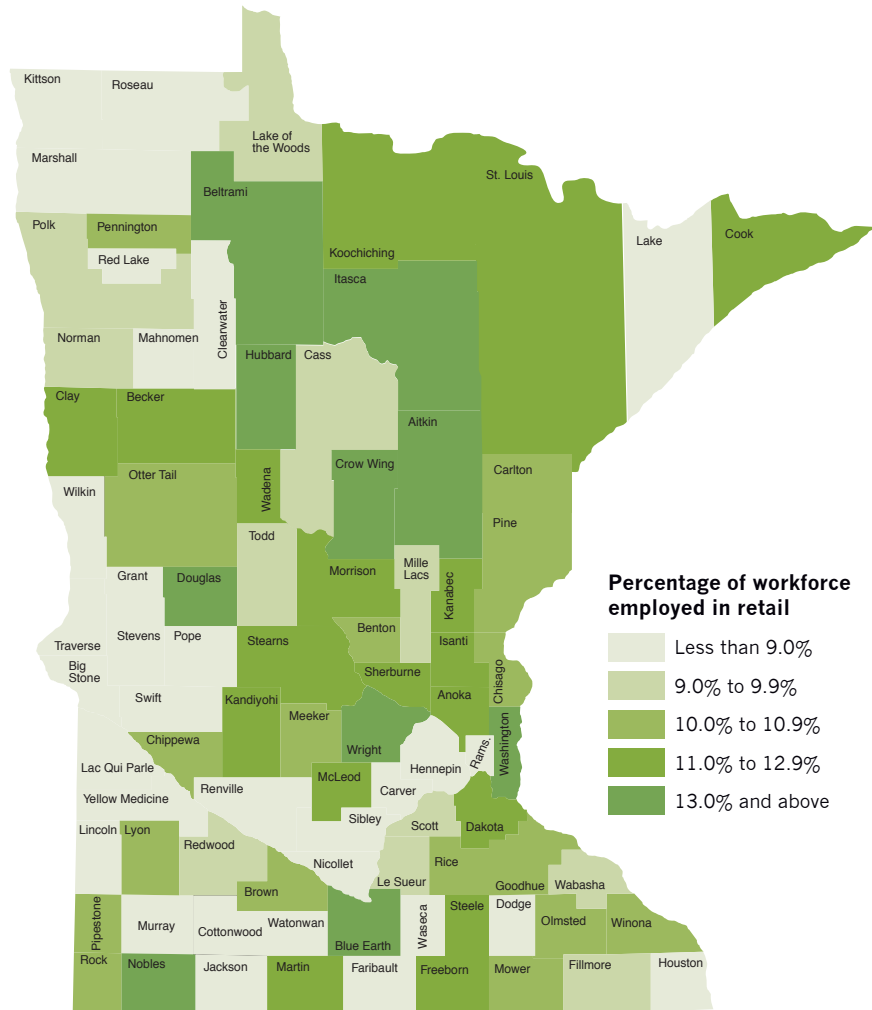
Average earnings in the retail sector, 2011



- Earnings from retail tend to be some of the lowest of any industry. The highest retail earnings cluster around the Twin Cities.

Data source:
 U.S. Department of Commerce
 Bureau of Economic Analysis
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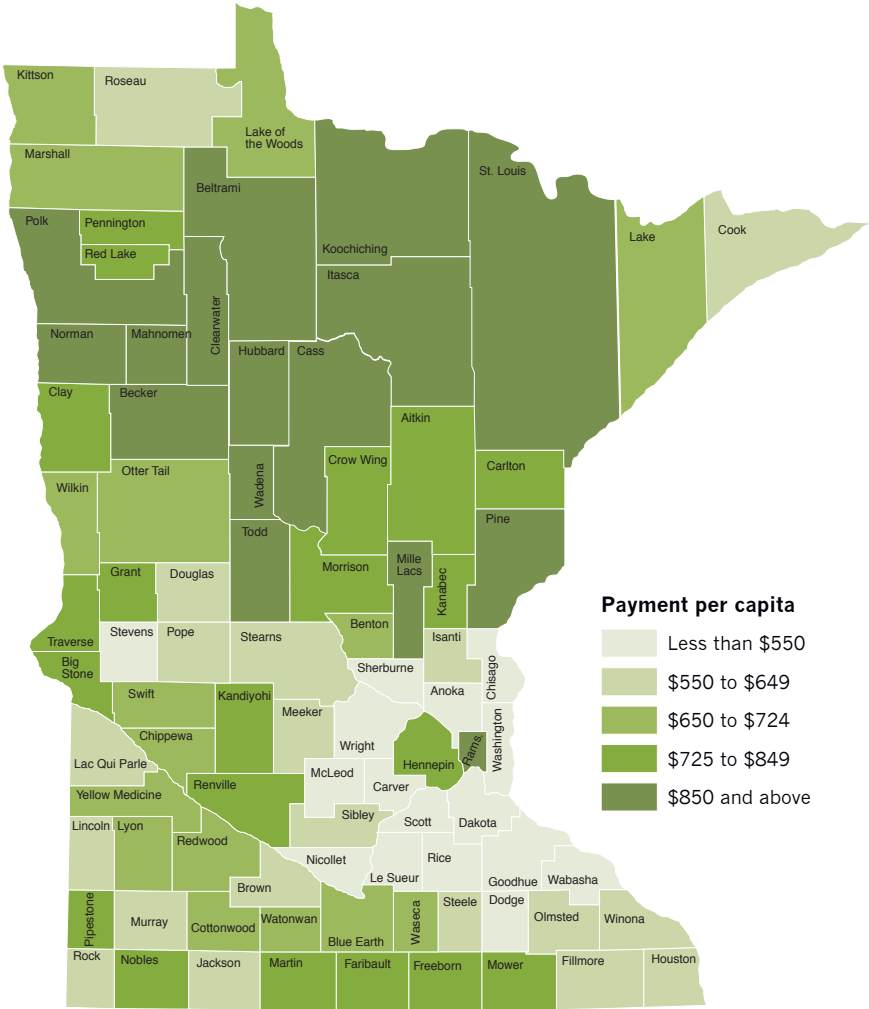
Workforce in the retail sector, 2011



- In Minnesota, approximately 10% of the workforce works in the retail sector. Retail centers can be seen around the state. Although the Twin Cities has some of the highest total earnings in retail, its low percentage of workforce in retail compared to the rest of the state shows a more diversified economy.

Data source:
 U.S. Department of Commerce
 Bureau of Economic Analysis
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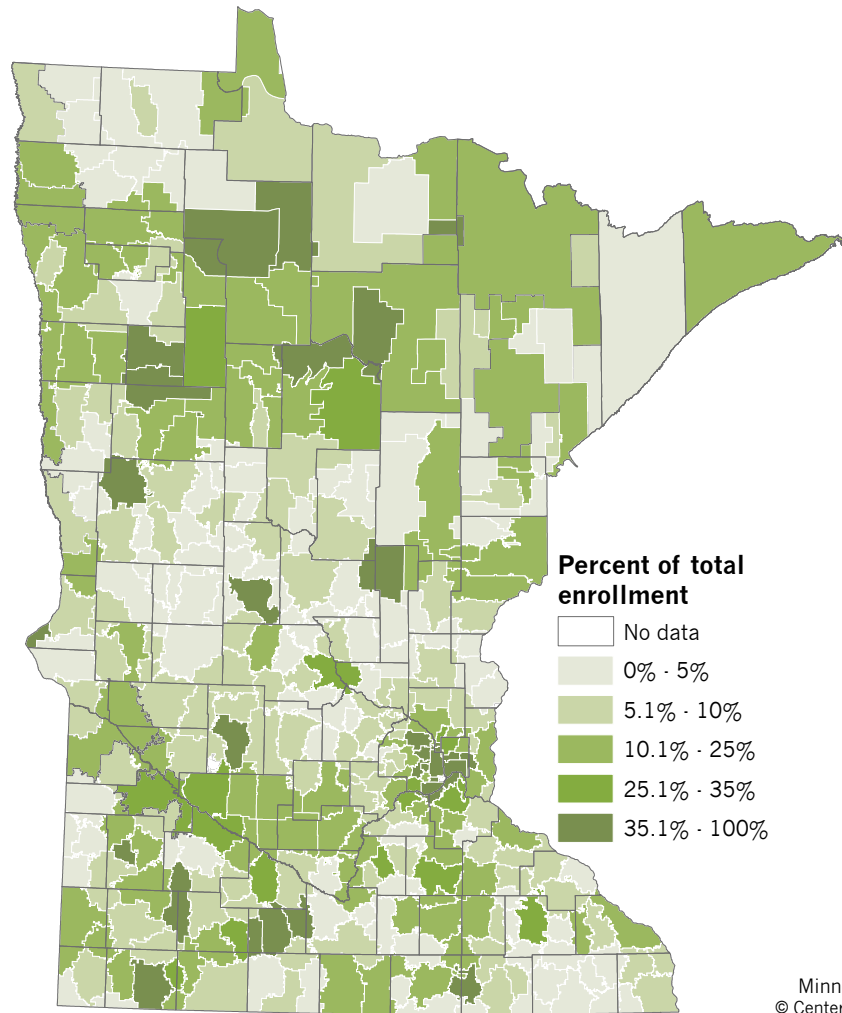
Public assistance payments per capita, 2011



- The average public assistance payment for Minnesota was \$705 in 2011.
- ✓ For the purposes of this report, public assistance includes family assistance, food stamps (SNAP), general assistance, supplemental security payments and other income maintenance benefits. It does not include medical payments or farm program payments.

Data source:
 U.S. Department of Commerce
 Bureau of Economic Analysis
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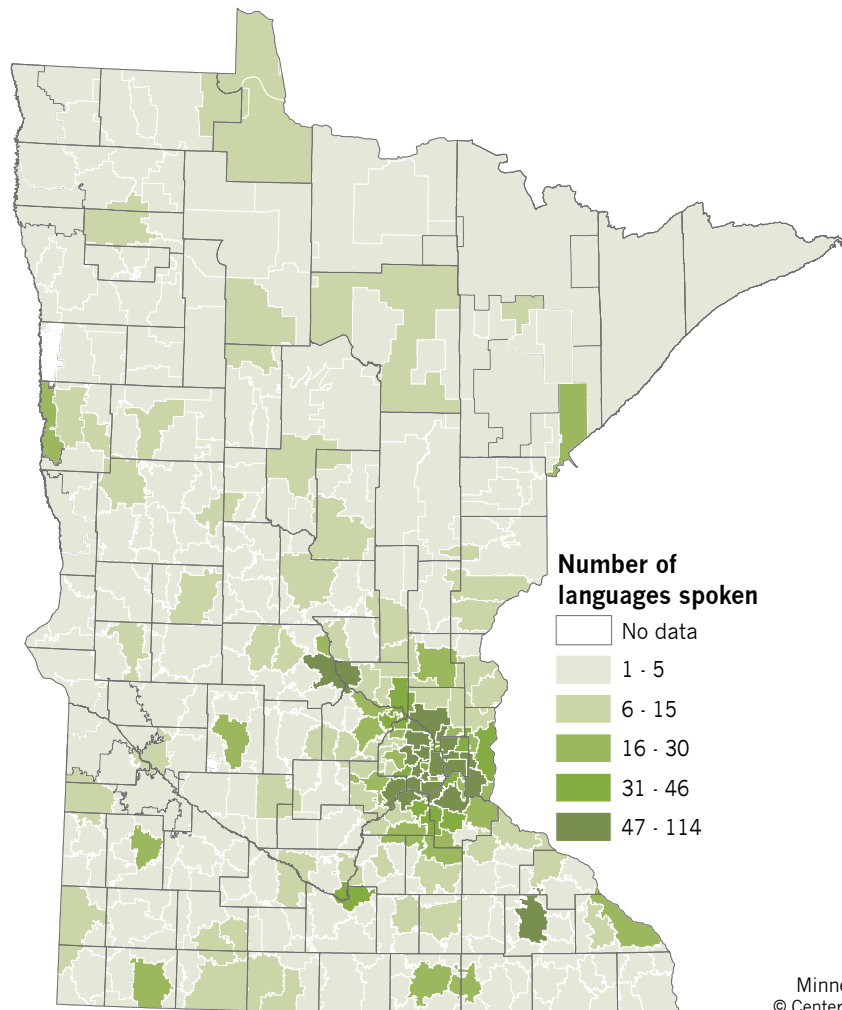
Students of color, 2011-2012



- The diversity of students continues to rise in the core Twin Cities districts and in suburban districts. While most of rural Minnesota remains white, pockets of diversity can be found around the state. Native American students make up this population in the northern districts, while southern districts are home to largely immigrants of Latino, African and Asian origin.

Data source:
Minnesota Department of Education
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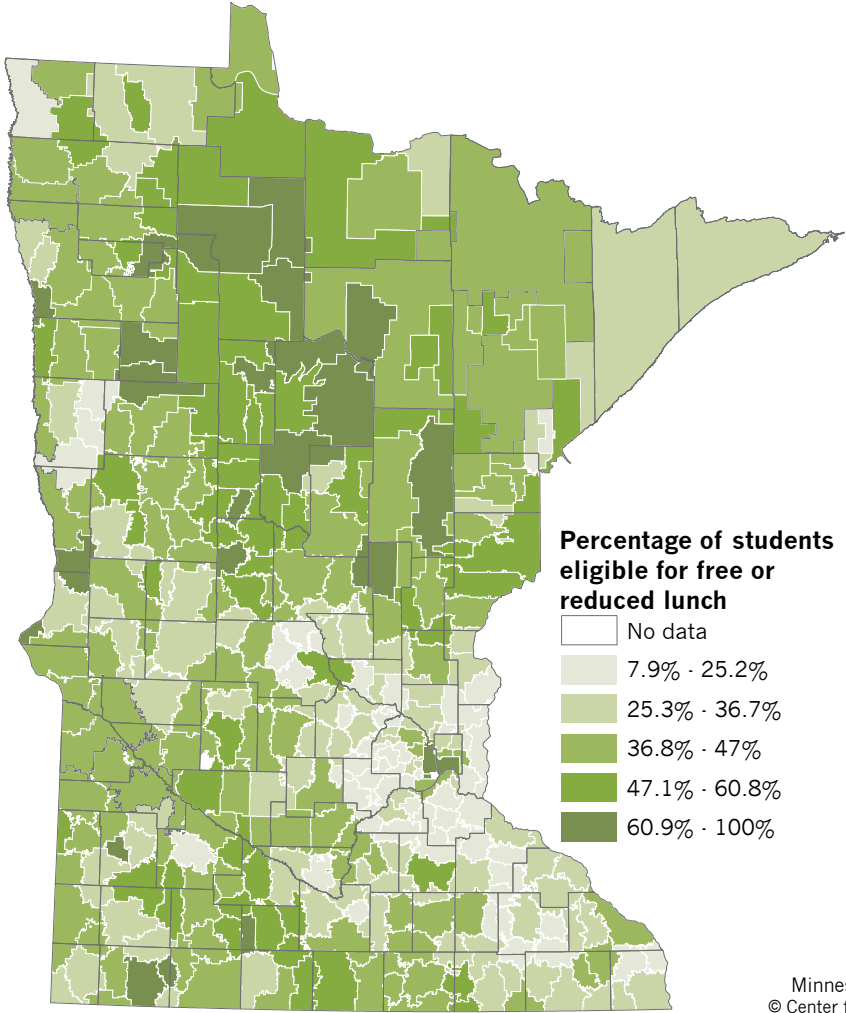
Languages spoken at home, 2011-2012



- Understanding the variety of languages spoken at home is important for effective curriculum design. St. Paul and Anoka-Hennepin had the largest number of languages spoken at home (114 and 96 respectively), followed by Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan (85).

Data source:
Minnesota Department of Education
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Free lunch eligibility, 2010-2011



- For the state of Minnesota, 37.2% of students were eligible for free or reduced-price lunch in the 2010-2011 school year. Since recipients' families must meet certain income guidelines to qualify, free and reduced-price lunch can be a good proxy for poverty rates.

Data source:
Minnesota Department of Education
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Thank You!

Atlas of Minnesota
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www.ruralmn.org