Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Milestones 2011 Summary

The 2000s have been a challenging decade for Minnesota and the nation. The combination of a serious recession, high unemployment rates and a turbulent housing market has heightened citizens' worries about the future. In the face of these adversities, legislators recently decided it was time to resurrect Minnesota Milestones, a goal-setting project initiated in the early 1990s. This is the second update of Milestones since 2002.

The results show a mixed picture. While there has been good progress in some areas, the majority of indicators show either no real change or change in a negative direction. In particular, economic and environmental indicators reveal few favorable trends.

There are many government accountability measures and many indicators projects. Most state agencies now have performance goals and measure progress toward these objectives. Accountability Minnesota provides performance indicators for Executive Branch agencies of Minnesota state government.

Among projects with a more general scope, the most notable is the Wilder Foundation's Minnesota Compass, which will produce regular updates on a wide variety of statewide indicators and provide more detail by geography and groups of interest. Minnesota Compass is the expansion of an existing indicator project focused on the Twin Cities.

Minnesota Milestones, originally developed by Minnesota Planning, is distinctive because the goals were established through grass-roots participation of citizens who attended public meetings to talk about their vision of Minnesota's future. Milestones measures progress toward broad societal goals, rather than through more narrowly-defined performance measures. Achieving these goals requires the combined efforts of government, businesses, nonprofit organizations and individual citizens.

Milestones established goals in four major areas: People, Community and Democracy, Economy and Environment. This edition of Milestones retains the original goals, but some indicators have been changed.

For each indicator, the trend is summarized as positive, negative or inconclusive. An upward-pointing thumb with a green background shows a trend moving in a favorable or desirable direction. A downward-pointing thumb on a red background indicates an unfavorable trend. A sideways-pointing thumb with a yellow background suggests no clear trend is evident.

Trends may vary from year to year, and may show different results over the long run than over the past few years. A certain degree of subjectivity is inevitable in rating the trend. Generally, this update focuses on trends since 2000, identifying the decade-long trend rather than what occurred over a single year.

People

The first major goal area is divided into five sub-goals. First, our children will not live in poverty. Second, families will provide a stable, supportive environment for their children. Third, all children will be healthy and start school ready to learn. Fourth, Minnesotans will excel in basic and challenging academic skills and knowledge. Fifth, Minnesotans will be healthy. The indicators related to **People** are aligned to these five areas.

Overall, six of 20 People indicators showed favorable changes, seven showed negative shifts and seven showed no clear pattern.

Among the positive changes, Minnesotans are living longer, have improved on college readiness and math test scores, smoke less and are less likely to be injured in traffic accidents. In addition, pregnancy rates for Minnesota teenagers have dropped.

Variables changing in a negative direction include rising levels of obesity and diabetes, both major public health problems with implications for health costs. The well-being of children is another area of concern. More children are poor, there are more low-birth-weight babies, and reading skills are lagging.

The remaining “People” indicators – a range of variables such as school readiness, immunization and high school graduation rates – showed no clear trends.

Community and Democracy

The Community and Democracy goals are divided into five sub-goals. First, our communities will be safe, friendly and caring. Second, people in need will receive support that helps them live as independently as they can. Third, all people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy. Fourth, people will participate in government and politics. Fifth, government in Minnesota will be cost-efficient, and services will be designed to meet the needs of the people who use them. The indicators related to **Community and Democracy** are aligned to these five areas.

Of 12 indicators linked to the Community and Democracy goal, seven showed no discernable change. These include measures of government performance and efficiency, such as the price of government, and bridge conditions.

Crime rate trends are a bright spot in the Community and Democracy group. Violent crime and homicide rates both declined substantially in the 2000s. On the down side, there has been a trend toward more severe poverty, with more homelessness and more use of food shelves.

Economy

The Economy goals are divided into five sub-goals. First, Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth. Second, Minnesota's workforce will have the education and training to make the state a leader in the global economy. Third, all Minnesotans will have the economic means to maintain a reasonable standard of living. Fourth, all Minnesotans will have decent, safe and affordable housing. Fifth, rural areas, small cities and urban neighborhoods throughout the state will be economically viable places for people to live and work. The indicators related to the **Economy** are aligned to these five areas.

There were few bright spots among the economic indicators, which is not surprising given the recent recession. Of 18 indicators, none showed favorable changes, while

ten moved in an unfavorable direction.

On the down side, lagging economic growth has been a factor in higher unemployment rates and lower ratios of workers to population. Slow population growth has occurred across the state, with more areas experiencing out-migration. Incomes have fallen relative to the national average and wages have stagnated.

Environment

The Environment goals are divided into four sub-goals. First, Minnesotans will conserve natural resources to give future generations a healthy environment and a strong economy. Second, Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth. Third, Minnesotans will restore and maintain healthy ecosystems that support diverse plants and wildlife. Fourth, Minnesotans will have opportunities to enjoy the state's natural resources. The indicators related to the **Environment** are aligned to these five areas.

Only one of 10 environmental indicators showed a positive trend. It should be noted that widely-accepted statewide environmental indicators are hard to find and national comparisons are scarce.

Three indicators changed to a negative direction. Minnesotans are using more water resources. Data sources point to declines in many species of breeding birds, raising concerns about the health of Minnesota’s diverse ecosystems. Participation in traditional forms of outdoor recreation has declined as younger generations turn to alternative forms of entertainment.

On the positive side, lake water clarity in Minnesota appears to be improving overall, with more lakes showing improvement than deterioration.

The remaining five environmental indicators showed no clear change. These include greenhouse gases, energy consumption, frog and loon populations, and air and water quality.

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Milestones 2011

- **Home**
- **Executive Summary**
- **Background**
- **Contact**

More indicators

- **Minnesota Compass**
- **Milestones 2002**
- **Children's Services Report Card**
- **State Agency Accountability**

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Welcome to Minnesota Milestones 2011! Minnesota Milestones began in 1991 in the belief that a shared vision, clear goals and measurement of results would lead to a better future for Minnesota. The report uses 60 progress indicators to determine whether the state is achieving 19 publicly determined goals. The goals are grouped in four broad areas: People, Community and Democracy, Economy and Environment.

As a starting point, readers are encouraged to read the summary of Minnesota Milestones 2011. The summary provides a brief overview on how Minnesota is progressing toward each goal. Read more about Minnesota Milestones...

Our children will not live in poverty.
- 1 Child Poverty
- 2 Low-income School Children

Families will provide a stable, supportive environment for their children.
- 3 Teen Pregnancy
- 4 Kids Count Rank

All children will be healthy and start school ready to learn.
- 5 Low Birth Weight
- 6 On-time Immunization
- 7 School Readiness

Minnesotans will excel in basic and challenging academic skills and knowledge.
- 8 Third-grade Reading
- 9 11th Grade Math
- 10 High School Graduation
- 11 College Readiness

Minnesotans will be healthy.
- 12 Health Insurance
- 13 Infant Mortality
- 14 Life Expectancy
- 15 Diabetes
- 16 Obesity
- 17 Tobacco Use
- 18 Suicide
- 19 Index of Well-Being
- 20 Traffic Injuries and Fatalities

Our communities will be safe, friendly and caring.

21 Volunteering
22 Violent and Property Crime
23 Homicide Rate
24 Juvenile Apprehensions

All people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy.

25 Food Shelf Use
26 Homelessness
27 Employment of People with Disabilities
28 Bias Crimes
29 Voter Turnout

Government in Minnesota will be cost-efficient, and services will be designed to meet the needs of the people who use them.

30 Price of Government
31 Bridges in Good Condition
32 Commute Times

Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.

33 Growth in Gross State Product
34 Employment of Working-age Population
35 Employment/population ratio
36 Change in Number of Jobs
37 Change in Number of Establishments
38 Unemployment Rate

Minnesota's workforce will have the education and training to make the state a leader in the global economy.

39 High School Education
40 Some College Education
41 College Graduation

All Minnesotans will have the economic means to maintain a reasonable standard of living.

42 Median Household Income Compared to U.S. Median
43 Poverty Rate
44 Average Wage

All Minnesotans will have decent, safe and affordable housing.

45 Home Ownership
46 Housing Costs
47 Foreclosures

Rural areas, small cities and urban neighborhoods throughout the state will be economically viable places for people to live and work.

48 Counties with In-Migration
49 Regional Disparity in Unemployment
50 Income by Congressional District

Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.

51 Energy use per person
52 Air quality
53 Greenhouse gas emissions
54 Lake water quality
55 Water use

56 Drinking water quality

Minnesotans will restore and maintain healthy ecosystems that support diverse plants and wildlife.

57 Frogs

58 Loon populations

59 Breeding bird populations

Minnesotans will have opportunities to enjoy the state's natural resources.

60 Outdoor Recreation

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 1: Child Poverty

Goal: *Our children will not live in poverty.*

Rationale: Poverty can do both immediate and lasting harm to children. Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to lack adequate food and clothing, live in poor housing, become victims of crime and violence, lack basic health care and be less successful in school.

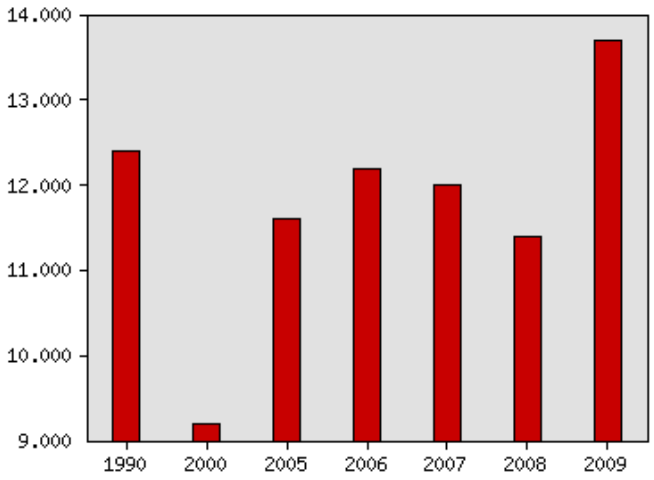
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

About this indicator: Child poverty rates have fluctuated along with shifts in the economy. The percentage of related children under age 18 living in households below the federal poverty line rose from 10.2 percent in 1980 to 12.4 percent in 1989, fell to 9.2 percent in 1999, and then rose again to 13.7 percent in 2009. Household poverty is the most direct indicator of the economic status of children.

The poverty line is a federal estimate of the pretax annual income needed to meet basic living costs, adjusted for family size. In 2009, the poverty level for a family of four with two children was $21,756.

Percent of Minnesota children below poverty



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
1990	12.4%
2000	9.2%
2005	11.6%
2006	12.2%
2007	12%
2008	11.4%
2009	13.7%

Percent of Minnesota children below poverty, U.S. Census Bureau

For comparison: Nationally, in 2009, 19.7 percent of related children under 18 were below poverty. This is significantly above the Minnesota rate of 13.7 percent.

Historically, poverty rates in Minnesota are highest among American Indian children, closely followed by African American families. Child poverty is also considerably higher in Hispanic and Asian families than in non-Hispanic White families

Technical notes: The 1990 and 2000 numbers come from the Decennial Census. Other years come from the American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The U.S. Department of Commerce adjusts the poverty level annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. Poverty rates can also be found in the Current Population Survey, but the estimates are based on smaller survey samples.

Sources:

- U.S. Bureau of the Census, Decennial Census, 1980, 1990 and 2000, http://www.census.gov/.
- American Community Survey, http://www.census.gov/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Child poverty

Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 2: Low-income School Children

Goal: *Our children will not live in poverty.*

Rationale: Eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals is an important measure of child poverty trends, because it is updated every year. Poverty can do both immediate and lasting harm to children. Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to lack adequate food and clothing, live in poor housing, become victims of crime and violence, lack basic health care and be less successful in school.

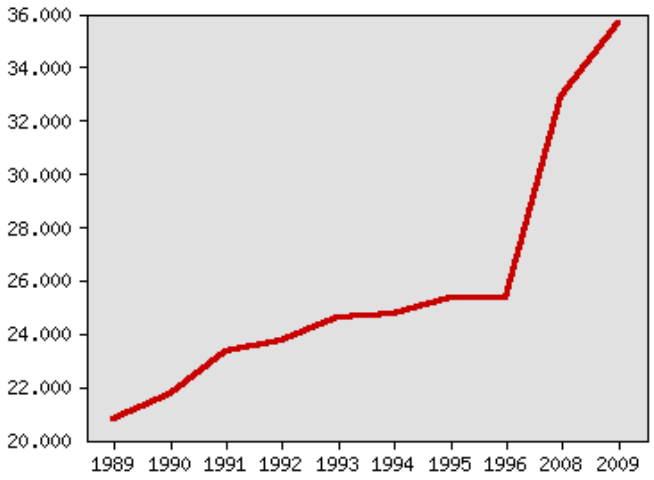
About this indicator: The proportion of public school children from low-income families has risen steadily. In the 2009-2010 school year, 35.6 percent of K-12 students in Minnesota qualified for a free or reduced-price meal. The rate has increased substantially since 1989-1990, when it was 20.8 percent. The rate stabilized in the late 1990s, but has shown a marked gain in the 2000s.

Students are eligible for free lunch when family income is below 130 percent of the federal poverty level. They qualify for reduced-price lunch and breakfast when family income is between 130 percent and 185 percent of the poverty level. In 2009-10, 27.7 percent of children qualified for free lunch and 7.9 percent qualified for reduced-price meals.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Percentage of public school children approved for free or reduced-price school meals



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
1989	20.8%
1990	21.7%
1991	23.3%
1992	23.7%
1993	24.6%
1994	24.7%
1995	25.3%
1996	25.3%
2008	32.9%
2009	35.6%

Percentage of public school children approved for free or reduced-price school meals, Minnesota Department of Education

For comparison: Federal data is collected differently, making comparison among states impossible.

Within Minnesota, there is great variation from region to region and among school districts. In Mahnomen County, 71 percent of K-12 students qualify for free or reduced-price meals. In Carver County, only 16 percent qualify.

Things to think about: Some of the growth in the late 1980s and early 1990s can be attributed to increased efforts to enroll eligible children in the program.

Technical notes: The percentages shown are for all school children in kindergarten through twelfth grade enrolled on October 1 of each school year, who are eligible and sign up for the program. Poverty levels are adjusted each year and vary with the size of the family.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Education http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Data/Data_Downloads/Student/Enrollment/State/index.html

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Low-income school children

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Indicator 3: Teen Pregnancy

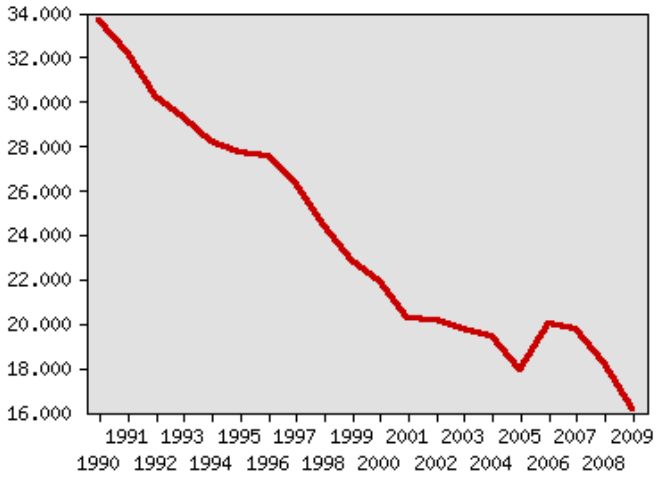
Goal: *Families will provide a stable, supportive environment for their children.*

Rationale: Supportive and nurturing relationships promote children's emotional security, social development and academic achievement. Teenage mothers, many of whom are single, face difficulties in providing a stable, supportive environment for their children. Teenage mothers can find it difficult to support a child. Only about half complete high school, limiting future job prospects. There is a high rate of welfare participation among the group.

About this indicator: Minnesota's teen pregnancy rate has generally been declining. The rate fell from 33.6 per 1,000 in 1990 to 21.9 per 1,000 in 2000 and 16.1 in 2009. Rates in the 2000s have fluctuated within a fairly narrow range.

The number of teen pregnancies for girls age 15-17 is calculated by combining the reported number of births, abortions and fetal deaths to women in this age group

Teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 girls ages 15 to 17, total



YEAR	DATA
1990	33.6
1991	32.2
1992	30.2
1993	29.3
1994	28.2
1995	27.7
1996	27.5
1997	26.3
1998	24.4
1999	22.8
2000	21.9
2001	20.2
2002	20.1
2003	19.7
2004	19.4
2005	17.9

Teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 girls ages 15 to 17, total, Minnesota Department of Health

YEAR	DATA
2006	20.0
2007	19.7
2008	18.2
2009	16.1

Teen pregnancy rate per 1,000 girls ages 15 to 17, total, Minnesota Department of Health

For comparison: Teenage birth rates in the U.S. fell dramatically in the 1990s but began to rise again in the mid-2000s.

State and national comparisons include live births only. Preliminary 2008 data show Minnesota's birth rate for 15-to-19 year-olds was 27.2, below the national rate of 41.5. Minnesota had the 8th-lowest rate.

The 2008 data also show substantial racial and ethnic discrepancies. Birth rates for white, not Latino teens in Minnesota are below the national average, but rates for black and Latino teens are much high than the national averages for those groups

Things to think about: Some who survey teen pregnancy look at the 15-to-19 year old population rather than 15 to 17. Age 10 to 19 is also sometimes used. The Minnesota Department of Health reports pregnancies for the 15 to 17 category. Since girls this age are still in high school, pregnancies are highly disruptive to future educational and career opportunities.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, http://www.health.state.mn.us/
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, "State Disparities in Teenage Birth Rates in the United States," http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db46.htm

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Teen pregnancy

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 4: Kids Count Rank

Goal: *Families will provide a stable, supportive environment for their children.*

Rationale: The well-being of children is an important determinant of their success as adults. Supportive and nurturing relationships promote children's emotional security, social development and academic achievement.

About this indicator: In 2010, Minnesota was second on the Kids Count state rankings. Overall state rankings are based on 10 measures: low birth weight, infant mortality, child death rate, teen death rate, percent of 16-19-year-olds who are high-school dropouts, percent of 16-19-year-olds who are not attending school and not working, percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment, percent of children in poverty, and percent of children in single-parent families.
Since 2000, Minnesota has ranked between first and fourth among all states. There is no trend towards a higher or lower ranking.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Kids Count Rank

YEAR	DATA
2002	2
2003	2
2004	2
2005	3
2006	4
2007	1
2008	2
2009	2

Kids Count Rank, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center

YEAR	DATA
2010	2

Kids Count Rank, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center

For comparison: Of the ten indicators used, Minnesota ranked in the top five on five of them: teen death rate (5th), teen high school dropout rate (1st), teens not attending school and not working (1st), percent in single-parent families (4th), and percent of children in poverty (4th) .
Minnesota's lowest ranks on the indicators were for the percentage of low-birthweight babies (9th), the infant mortality rate (8th), and the birth rate for teens ages 15 to 19 (8th).

Sources:

- Kids Count, http://datacenter.kidscount.org/

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 5: Low Birth Weight

Goal: *All children will be healthy and start school ready to learn.*

Rationale: Low birth weight is often associated with health and development problems. This goal reflects the growing scientific understanding that a healthy pregnancy and early nurturing contribute to a child's brain development and later success in school.

About this indicator: The percentage of babies weighing less than 2500 grams (5.5 pounds) increased from 5.1 percent in 1990 to 6.1 percent in 2000 and 6.8 percent in 2007. The 2009 value was 6.6 percent.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

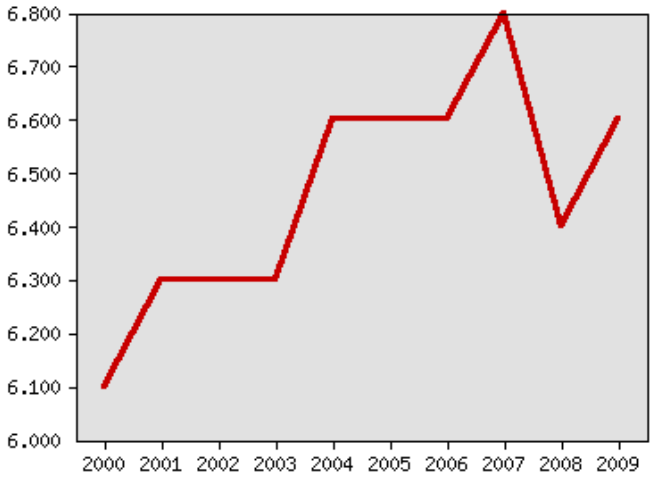
Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

A considerable body of research shows that low birth weight puts infants at higher risk for health problems and developmental delays. The reasons for low birth weight are not clearly understood, but some major factors include poor prenatal care, smoking, and older or younger age of the mother. Multiple births are much more likely to be low birth weight, and the increasing number of multiple births has probably played a role in the rising rates of low birth weight.

Low birth weight



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
2000	6.1%
2001	6.3%
2002	6.3%
2003	6.3%
2004	6.6%
2005	6.6%
2006	6.6%
2007	6.8%
2008	6.4%
2009	6.6%

Low birth weight, Minnesota Department of Health

For comparison: Nationwide, 8.2 percent of babies were low birth weight in 2007.

Technical notes: The low birth weight figures reflect only those births for which a birth weight is reported. Some births, such as infants born at home, may be excluded.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, http://www.health.state.mn.us/
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Low birth weight

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 6: On-time Immunization

Goal: *All children will be healthy and start school ready to learn.*

Rationale: On-time immunization is an important element in developing healthy children who can attend school every day, ready to learn.

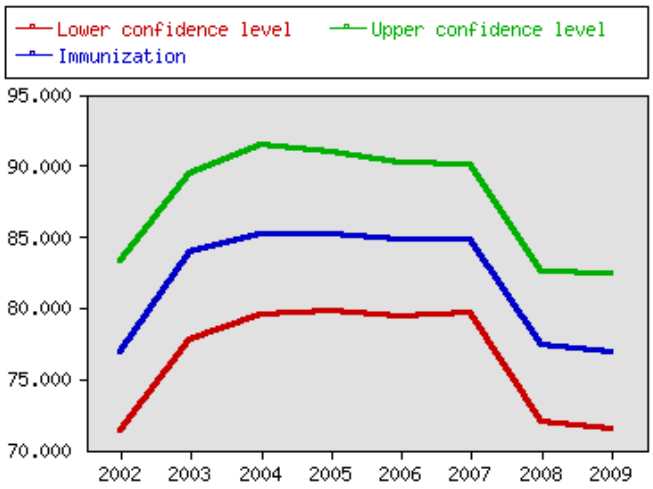
About this indicator: The percentage of Minnesota children ages 19-35 months who have received the 4:3:1:3:3:1-S vaccination series was 76.9 percent in 2009. Because of sampling error, year-to-year changes are not statistically significant. The 2009 margin of error was 5.5 percent. The 4:3:1:3:3:1-S standard includes four or more doses of diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis vaccine, one or more dose of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, three or more doses of haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine, plus two or more or three or more Hib vaccine depending on brand type (primary series only), 3 or more doses of HepB, and one or more doses of varicella vaccine.
In 2008, the slightly different 4:3:1:3:3:1 standard was used. The use of the 4:3:1:3:3:1-S standard in 2009 is based on the Hib vaccine shortage, the difference in types of Hib vaccines used by the states, and the required suspension of the booster dose. More information is available online at http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stats-surv/imz-coverage.htm#nis.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA		
	Immunization	Lower confidence level	Upper confidence level

YEAR	DATA		
2002	76.8%	71.3%	83.3%
2003	83.9%	77.7%	89.4%
2004	85.2%	79.5%	91.4%
2005	85.2%	79.7%	90.9%
2006	84.7%	79.3%	90.2%
2007	84.7%	79.6%	90.1%
2008	77.4%	71.9%	82.5%
2009	76.9%	71.4%	82.4%

On-time immunization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Edit trend | Edit data
On-time imunization lower confidence level, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Edit trend | Edit data
On-time imunization upper confidence level, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: In 2009, Minnesota ranked 17th on the 4:3:1:3:3:1-S series and was slightly above the national average. However, as noted, the margins of error are substantial.

Sources:

- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stats-surv/imz-coverage.htm

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Indicator 7: School Readiness

Goal: *All children will be healthy and start school ready to learn.*

Rationale: Children who start school ready to learn are more likely to succeed in school. The early childhood years – birth to age five – are a critical period of growth and development. Learning begins with a healthy, nurturing start in life.

About this indicator: Department of Education data show no improvement in school readiness. Their survey draws a random selection of kindergarten students and trains teachers to evaluate their proficiency on five dimensions: physical development, the arts, personal and social development, language and literacy, and mathematical thinking. Because children develop at different rates across different dimensions, no overall rating is made.

Students are most likely to be rated as “proficient” on physical development, 65 percent.

Changes over a several-year period are not statistically significant.

PERCENT PROFICIENT BY DOMAIN

	Physical development	The arts	Personal and social development	Language and literacy	Mathematical thinking
2006	71%	58%	57%	54%	52%
2007	65%	53%	52%	50%	50%
2008	61%	49%	49%	47%	44%
2008 Standard Error	2.7%	2.9%	2.4%	2.5%	2.6%
2009	65%	53%	53%	51%	49%
2009	2.7%	3.3%	2.4%	2.7%	2.5%

	Physical development	The arts	Personal and social development	Language and literacy	Mathematical thinking
Standard Error					

PERCENT "NOT YET" BY DOMAIN

	Physical development	The arts	Personal and social development	Language and literacy	Mathematical thinking
2006	3%	6%	8%	10%	9%
2007	3%	5%	8%	10%	9%
2008	4%	8%	11%	12%	13%
2008 Standard Error	1%	1.6%	1.2%	1.6%	1.5%
2009	3%	6%	8%	10%	9%
2009 Standard Error	.4%	.7%	.8%	1.0%	.9%

For comparison: Comparable national data are not available.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Education, http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Learning_Support/Early_Learning_Services/Kindergarten/Minnesota_School_Readiness_Studies/index.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 8: Third-grade Reading

Goal: *Minnesotans will excel in basic and challenging academic skills and knowledge.*

Rationale: Students who are proficient in reading at an early stage are more likely to be successful in school.

About this indicator: The percent of students meeting or exceeding the third-grade reading standard on the MCA-II test has declined from 81.6 percent in 2005 to 76.3 percent in 2010.

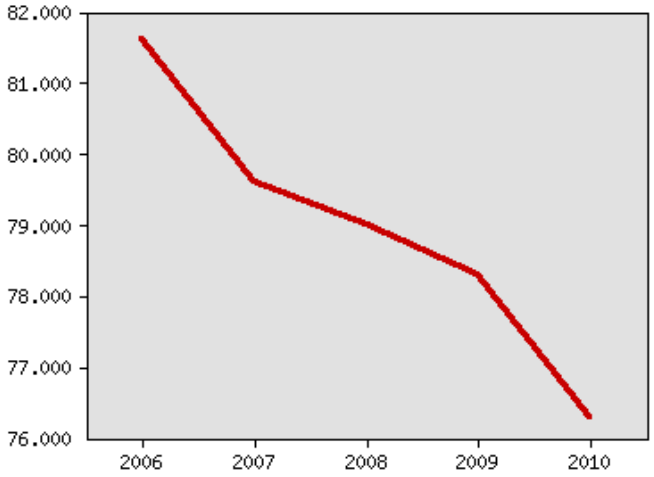
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Percent of Third grade students meeting or exceeding reading standards



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
2006	81.6%
2007	79.6%
2008	79%
2009	78.3%
2010	76.3%

Percent of Third grade students meeting or exceeding reading standards, Minnesota Department of Education

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Education, http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Data/Data_Downloads/Accountability_Data/Assessment_MCA_II/MCA_II_Excel_files/index.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 9: 11th Grade Math

Goal: *Minnesotans will excel in basic and challenging academic skills and knowledge.*

Rationale: Minnesotans value an educated citizenry, well prepared for work and for participation in democracy and community life. Math skills are required for many jobs and for admission to many colleges and universities.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

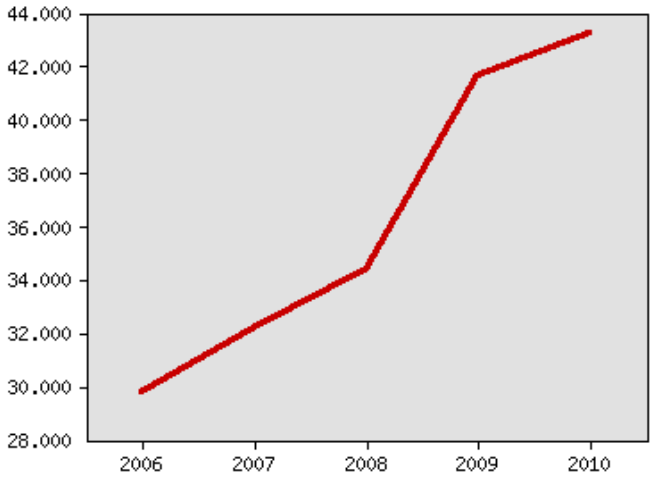
Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

About this indicator: The percentage of students meeting or exceeding 11th grade math standards grew from 29.8 percent in 2006 to 43.2 percent in 2010.

Percent of students meeting or exceeding 11th grade math proficiency



YEAR	DATA
2006	29.8%
2007	32.2%

Percent of students meeting or exceeding 11th grade math proficiency, Minnesota Department of Education

YEAR	DATA
2008	34.4%
2009	41.6%
2010	43.2%

Percent of students meeting or exceeding 11th grade math proficiency, Minnesota Department of Education

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Education, http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Data/Data_Downloads/Accountability_Data/Assessment_MCA_II/MCA_II_Excel_files/index.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 10: High School Graduation

Goal: *Minnesotans will excel in basic and challenging academic skills and knowledge.*

Rationale: A high school diploma is a sign of basic academic competence. It is generally considered a minimum requirement for entry into the workforce and is an essential prerequisite for additional education and training.

About this indicator: The percentage of students graduating from high school on time has remained steady at about 73 percent, with an increase in 2009 to almost 75 percent.

Graduation rates were compiled by Twin Cities Compass and reflect the requirement of Adequate Yearly Progress measurements under the No Child Left Behind Act. Further information may be found at http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec /guid/hsgrguidance.pdf

The rate presented here is the new Four-Year Graduation Rate that will become the official Adequate Yearly Progress rate beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. This rate considers first time ninth grade students in the cohort, adds students transferring into the cohort, subtracts students transferring out of the cohort, and computes how many graduate “on-time” (within four years). This new Four-Year on-time Graduation Rate will eventually allow for state and national comparisons of graduation rates, once all states implement the uniform methodology.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Percent of students graduating from high school on time

YEAR	DATA
2004	71.9%
2005	72.9%
2006	73.4%
2007	73.3%
2008	72.8%
2009	74.9%

Percent of students graduating from high school on time, Minnesota Department of Education

For comparison: The AYP-based method differs from previous approaches to calculating high school graduation, for example the National Governors Association (NGA) method. The NGA method allowed extra time for students with limited English proficiency and special education students to graduate. The new Four-year Graduation Rate does not make these exceptions. It also excludes any alternative degrees that are not fully aligned with a State's academic standards

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Education, http://www.education.state.mn.us/MDE/Data/Data_Downloads/index.html
- Twin Cities Compass, http://www.tccompass.org/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- High school graduation

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 11: College Readiness

Goal: *Minnesotans will excel in basic and challenging academic skills and knowledge.*

Rationale: Students who are prepared for the demands of the college classroom are more likely to be successful academically and learn the challenging subjects needed in the modern economy.

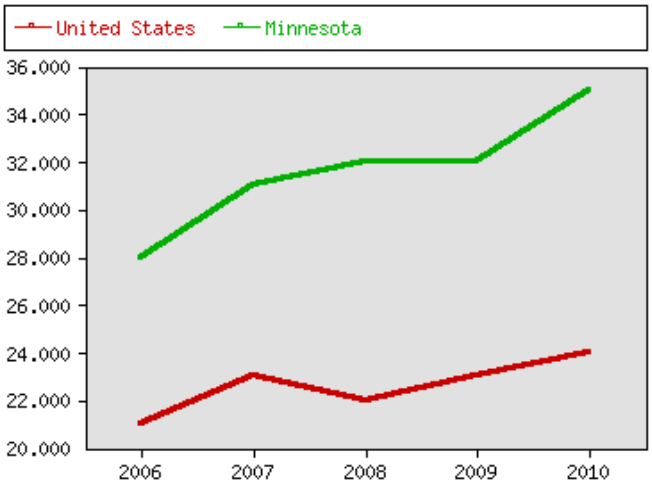
About this indicator: College readiness scores have risen, but a large share of students are still not adequately prepared. Among the 70 percent of Minnesota high school graduates who took the ACT college-readiness test in 2010, 35 percent met all four college-readiness benchmarks (English, math, reading and science). The percentage has increased from 28 percent in 2006.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Minnesota	United States
2006	28%	21%

Percent of ACT-tested Minnesota graduates meeting all 4 college-readiness benchmarks, ACT Edit trend | Edit data

Percent of ACT-tested United States graduates meeting all 4 college-readiness benchmarks, ACT Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
2007	31%	23%
2008	32%	22%
2009	32%	23%
2010	35%	24%

Percent of ACT-tested Minnesota graduates meeting all 4 college-readiness benchmarks, ACT Edit trend | Edit data

Percent of ACT-tested United States graduates meeting all 4 college-readiness benchmarks, ACT Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Nationally, 24 percent of those taking the test met all four benchmarks. In 2010, 47 percent of U.S. high school graduates took the ACT. Minnesota students are most likely to meet the English benchmark (79 percent) and least likely to achieve the science benchmark (42 percent).

Things to think about: While test scores have gone up in recent years, almost two-thirds of graduates taking the test are rated as below standard for college readiness.

Sources:

- ACT, http://www.act.org/news/data.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

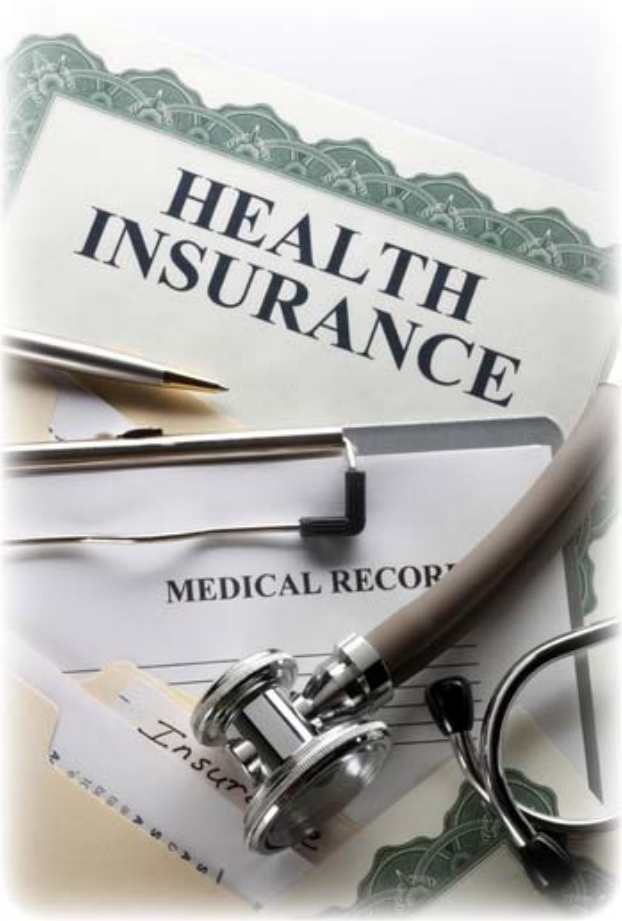
Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 12: Health Insurance

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Health insurance coverage is important because it increases the likelihood that people will get the preventive care and treatment they need to stay healthy. People without insurance may incur huge expenses if they need medical care.

About this indicator: The 2009 American Community Survey showed 91 percent of Minnesotans had some form of health insurance. 2008 was the first year health insurance coverage was included in the ACS. Overall coverage rates have not changed much, but with the slumping economy more people are using public health insurance.



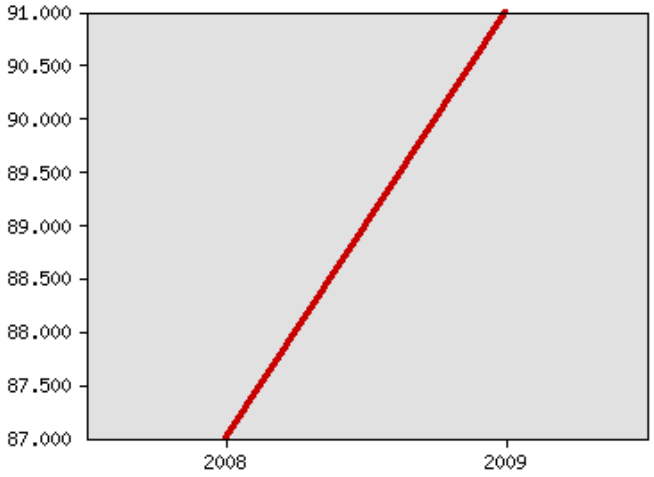
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Percent of Minnesotans with health insurance



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
2008	87%
2009	91%

Percent of Minnesotans with health insurance, American Community Survey

For comparison: Minnesota had the seventh-highest rate of health insurance coverage in the American Community Survey, but differences among states are not always significant.

The Current Population Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau also asks about health insurance coverage. In 2009, 91.2 percent of Minnesotans had health insurance coverage, with a margin of error of 0.7 percent. The national average was 83.3 percent.

The Minnesota Health Care Access Survey conducted by the Minnesota Department of Health is an alternative measure of health insurance coverage. Preliminary results from the 2009 Health Care Access Survey found that 9.1 percent of Minnesotans did not have health care coverage.

Sources:

- U.S. Bureau of the Census, http://www.census.gov/
- Minnesota Health Care Access Survey, http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpsc/hep/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Health insurance

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 13: Infant Mortality

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Infant mortality is an important indicator because it reflects the quality of both pre- and post-natal care.

About this indicator: Since 1999, the infant mortality rate has fluctuated. The 2009 rate, 4.5 per 1,000, was the lowest recorded during the ten-year period. The highest rate was 6.2 per 1,000.

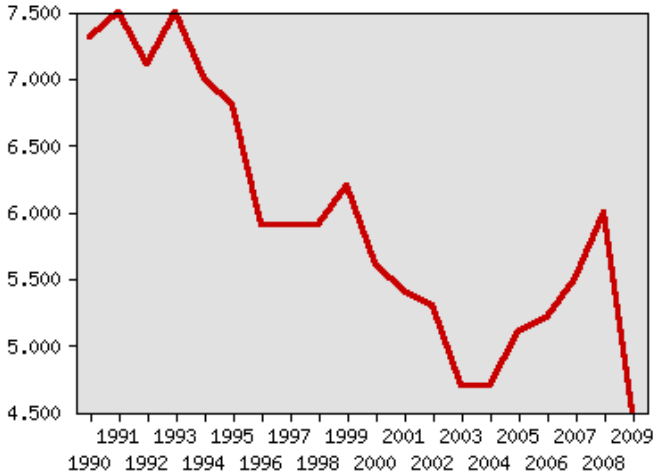
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, total



YEAR	DATA
1990	7.3
1991	7.5
1992	7.1
1993	7.5

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, total, Minnesota Department of Health

YEAR	DATA
1994	7.0
1995	6.8
1996	5.9
1997	5.9
1998	5.9
1999	6.2
2000	5.6
2001	5.4
2002	5.3
2003	4.7
2004	4.7
2005	5.1
2006	5.2
2007	5.5
2008	6.0
2009	4.5

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, total, Minnesota Department of Health

For comparison: The national infant mortality rate was 6.7. Kids Count reports that in 2006, five states had infant mortality rates lower than Minnesota.

Technical notes: Infant mortality is reported as the number of deaths from birth to the first birthday, per 1,000 live births.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Health, http://www.health.state.mn.us/
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics Report, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs
- Kids Count, http://datacenter.kidscount.org/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Infant mortality

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 14: Life Expectancy

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Life expectancy is used worldwide as a broad snapshot of human health.

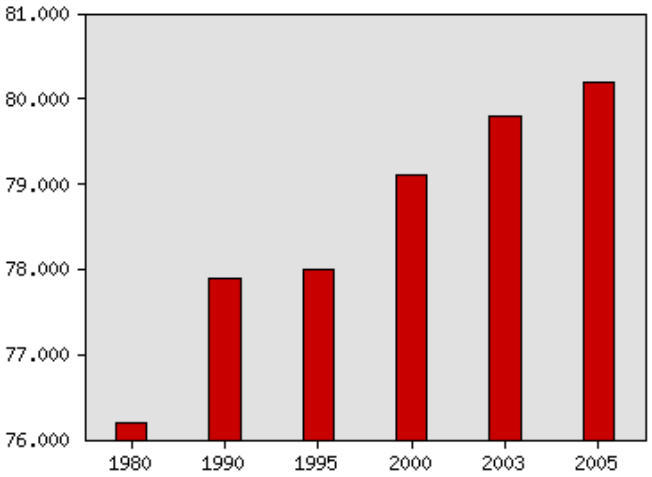
About this indicator: Life expectancy for the total Minnesota population increased steadily from 77.9 years in 1990 to 80.2 in 2005.

Women live longer than men, but the gap between the sexes has narrowed considerably as men have posted greater gains.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Expected years of life remaining at birth



YEAR	DATA
1980	76.2
1990	77.9
1995	78.0
2000	79.1

Expected years of life remaining at birth, National Center for Health Statistics and Minnesota State Demographic Center

YEAR	DATA
2003	79.8
2005	80.2

Expected years of life remaining at birth, National Center for Health Statistics and Minnesota State Demographic Center

For comparison: The national life expectancy in 2005 was 77.5 years.

Technical notes: Life expectancy is based on a mathematical model using population by age and mortality by age. Life expectancy in any given year is the average number of years that will be lived by a child born in that year if mortality rates by age remain constant.

Sources:

- Minnesota State Demographic Center, http://www.demography.state.mn.us/
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Report, http://www.cdc.gov/nchs

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

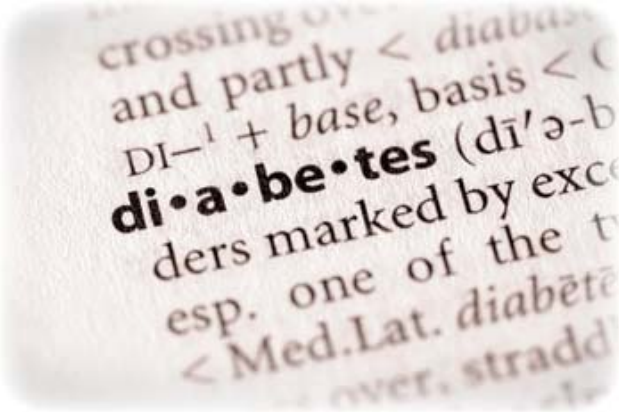
- Life expectancy

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

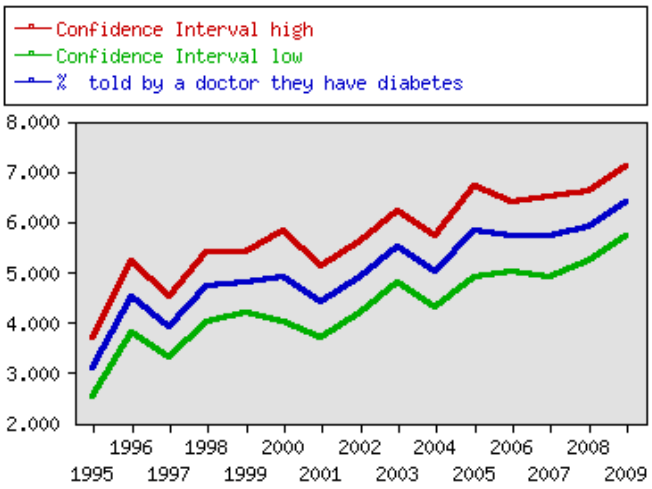
Indicator 15: Diabetes



Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Diabetes can cause premature death from heart disease and other complications. It can also be disabling.

About this indicator: In 1995, 3.5 percent of survey respondents in Minnesota had diabetes. This grew to 6.4 percent by 2009. In the survey, respondents are asked if they have ever been told by a doctor that they have diabetes. Although year-to-year changes may not be statistically significant, the long-term trend has been upwards.



How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

YEAR	DATA		
	% told by a doctor they have diabetes	Confidence Interval low	Confidence Interval high

Percent told by a doctor they have diabetes, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System **Edit trend** | **Edit data**
Confidence Interval (low) of Percent told by a doctor they have diabetes, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System **Edit trend** | **Edit data**
Confidence Interval (high) of Percent told by a doctor they have diabetes, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

YEAR	DATA		
1995	3.1%	2.5	3.7
1996	4.5%	3.8	5.2
1997	3.9%	3.3	4.5
1998	4.7%	4.0	5.4
1999	4.8%	4.2	5.4
2000	4.9%	4.0	5.8
2001	4.4%	3.7	5.1
2002	4.9%	4.2	5.6
2003	5.5%	4.8	6.2
2004	5%	4.3	5.7
2005	5.8%	4.9	6.7
2006	5.7%	5.0	6.4
2007	5.7%	4.9	6.5
2008	5.9%	5.2	6.6
2009	6.4%	5.7	7.1

Percent told by a doctor they have diabetes, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Edit trend | Edit data
Confidence Interval (low) of Percent told by a doctor they have diabetes, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Edit trend | Edit data
Confidence Interval (high) of Percent told by a doctor they have diabetes, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: The median rate among all states was 8.3 percent. No national average was provided. Minnesota had the lowest diabetes prevalence rate among states.

Sources:

- U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 16: Obesity

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Growing rates of obesity have become a major source of concern in public health circles. Obesity is a major risk factor for heart disease, diabetes and other ailments.

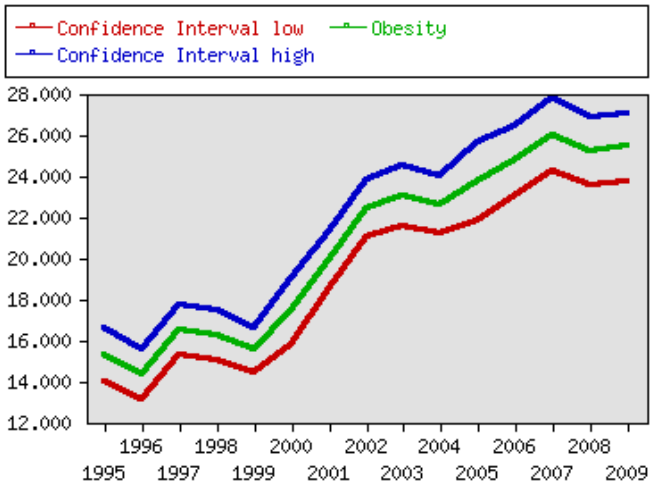
About this indicator: Obesity rates have increased substantially in Minnesota. In 1995, 15.3 percent of Minnesotans were classified as obese. By 2009 the rate was 25.4 percent. Obesity is defined as a body mass index of 30.0 or more.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA		
	Obesity	Confidence	Confidence

YEAR	DATA		
		Interval low	Interval high
1995	15.3%	14.0	16.6
1996	14.3%	13.1	15.5
1997	16.5%	15.3	17.7
1998	16.2%	15.0	17.4
1999	15.5%	14.4	16.6
2000	17.4%	15.8	19.0
2001	19.9%	18.5	21.3
2002	22.4%	21.0	23.8
2003	23%	21.5	24.5
2004	22.6%	21.2	24.0
2005	23.7%	21.8	25.6
2006	24.7%	23.0	26.4
2007	26%	24.2	27.8
2008	25.2%	23.5	26.8
2009	25.4%	23.7	27

Percent of population defined as obese, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Edit trend | Edit data
Confidence Interval (low) of percent of population defined as obese, Risk Factor Surveillance System Edit trend | Edit data
Confidence Interval (high) of percent of population defined as obese, Risk Factor Surveillance System Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Minnesota is similar to the national average. Nationally, 26.9 percent of the population was classified as obese in 2009.

Sources:

- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Behavioral and Risk Factor Surveillance System, http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 18: Suicide

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Suicide is an important public health indicator because it is a leading cause of premature death in Minnesota, and because it demonstrates the seriousness of mental health problems, including depression.

About this indicator: After declining between 1990 and 2000, the suicide rate has risen during the 2000s. The 2009 rate was 11.2 per 100,000 population.

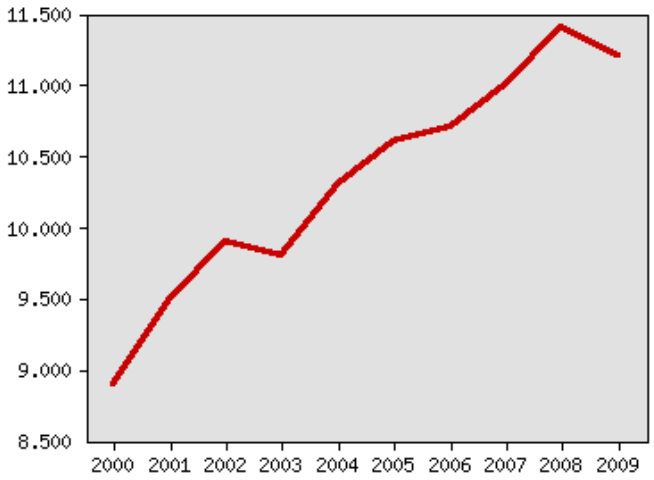
Suicide rate per 100,000

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA
2000	8.9
2001	9.5
2002	9.9
2003	9.8

Suicide rate per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Health

YEAR	DATA
2004	10.3
2005	10.6
2006	10.7
2007	11.0
2008	11.4
2009	11.2

Suicide rate per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Health

For comparison: Mental Health America reports that Minnesota had the 13th-lowest age-adjusted suicide rate in 2004.

Things to think about: The number of Minnesotans who die from suicide is nearly five times as high as the number who die from homicide. Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for Minnesotans ages 15 to 34. Persons ages 50 to 64 had the highest rate of suicide.

Sources:

- Minnesota Center for Health Statistics, http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/annsum/index.htm
- Minnesota Center for Health Statistics, "Suicide Trends in Minnesota," http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/connect/index.cfm?do=suicideprevention.suicidetrend
- Mental Health America, http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/go/state-ranking

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Suicide

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 19: Index of Well-Being

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: A sense of personal well-being is an important indicator of health and quality of life.

About this indicator: Minnesota ranked 5th overall on the index. The well-being index is based on questions asked in a large, ongoing survey conducted by the Gallup organization and reported by AHIP, America's Health Insurance Plans. The indicator is based on a set of 42 questions covering the areas of life evaluation, work quality, basic access, healthy behavior, physical health and emotional health.

Data from the survey was first reported for 2008, so no time series is available.

For comparison: Minnesota's high overall position reflects high rankings on the dimensions of basic access, physical health and emotional health. Minnesota was lower on other dimensions including healthy behavior, work conditions and life evaluation.

The index is also calculated for each Congressional District. Minnesota's Third Congressional District was the highest ranked in the state, 23rd among 435 districts. The Eighth District ranked 235th, the lowest standing among the state's eight Districts.

Things to think about: Variation on some items is greater than on others.

Sources:

- Hi-Wire Bridge for Well-Being, Health and Fitness http://www.ahiphiwire.org/wellbeing

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 20: Traffic Injuries and Fatalities

Goal: *Minnesotans will be healthy.*

Rationale: Traffic accidents kill many people and injuries can result in pain, disability and high medical costs.

About this indicator: The rate of traffic injuries and fatalities per 100,000 population has fallen substantially from 919.5 in 2000 to 648.1 in 2008. Possible factors include more seatbelt use, safer cars, improved road design and stricter impaired driving laws.

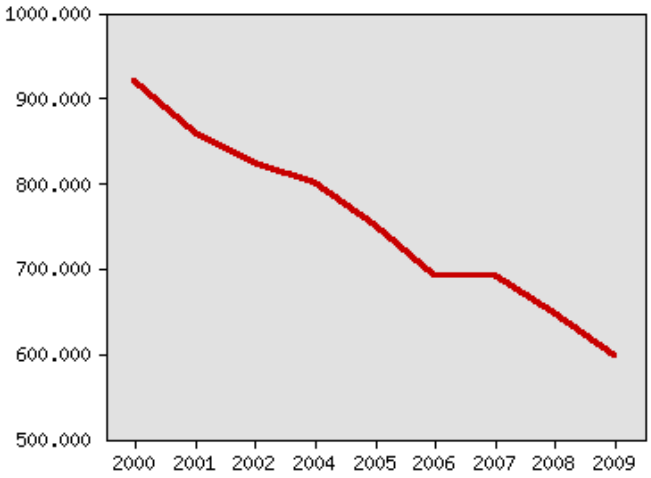
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Minnesota traffic fatalities and injuries per 100,000 population



YEAR	DATA
2000	919.5
2001	858.9
2002	823.9
2004	800.3

Minnesota traffic fatalities and injuries per 100,000 population, Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety

YEAR	DATA
2005	749.2
2006	690.6
2007	691.3
2008	648.1
2009	598.1

Minnesota traffic fatalities and injuries per 100,000 population, Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety

For comparison: There were 455 traffic fatalities in 2008, the lowest number since 1945. Improved trauma treatment may have played a role in reducing fatalities.

Sources:

- Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety, http://www.dps.state.mn.us/OTS/crashdata/crash_facts.asp
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, http://www.dot.state.mn.us/measures/pdf/Annual%20Measures%20Report%205-18%20(small).pdf

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Indicator 21: Volunteering

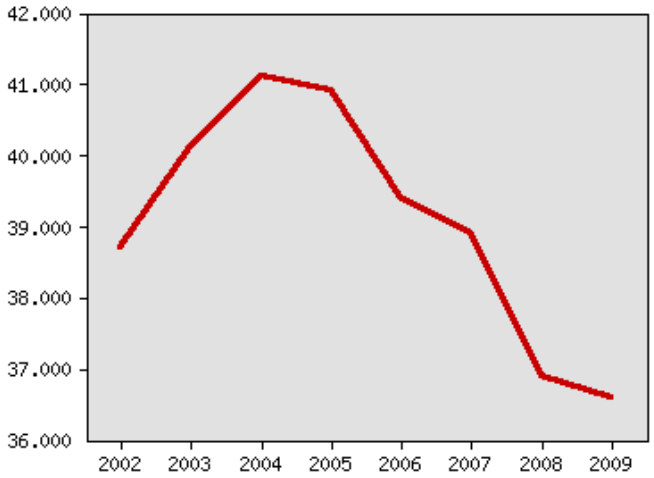
Goal: *Our communities will be safe, friendly and caring.*

Rationale: Minnesotans want to live in friendly communities where help is nearby and there is a sense of connectedness. Volunteerism reflects a sense of commitment to community.

About this indicator: In 2009, 36.6 percent of Minnesotans ages 16 and older said they had volunteered during the past 12 months. The number shows no clear trend over time.

In 2009, Minnesotans contributed an estimated 160.1 million hours of service.

% of people 16 and older who volunteer



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
2002	38.7%
2003	40.1%
2004	41.1%
2005	40.9%
2006	39.4%
2007	38.9%
2008	36.9%
2009	36.6%

% of people 16 and older who volunteer, U.S. Bureau of the Census

For comparison: Minnesota ranked third among all states and the District of Columbia in the rate of volunteering, using a three-year average for 2007-2009. Minnesota placed twelfth on the annual volunteer hours per resident, 42.1.

Compared to the national average, Minnesotans are more likely to volunteer to collect and distribute food.

Earlier versions of Milestones used data from the Minnesota State Survey. Volunteering rates were considerably higher in the Minnesota State Survey than in the Current Population Survey data shown here. This reflects differences in questions asked and methodology.

Things to think about: Minnesotans are most likely to volunteer for religious and educational activities.

Sources:

- U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/MN

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Volunteer work

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 22: Violent and Property Crime

Goal: *Our communities will be safe, friendly and caring.*

Rationale: Crime rates are an important aspect of community safety. When people feel safe, they are more likely to be involved in their communities. Minnesotans want to live in friendly communities where help is nearby and there is a sense of connectedness.

About this indicator: The rate of serious property crime has generally declined since 2002. The violent crime rate has fluctuated but remains well below levels of the early 1990s.

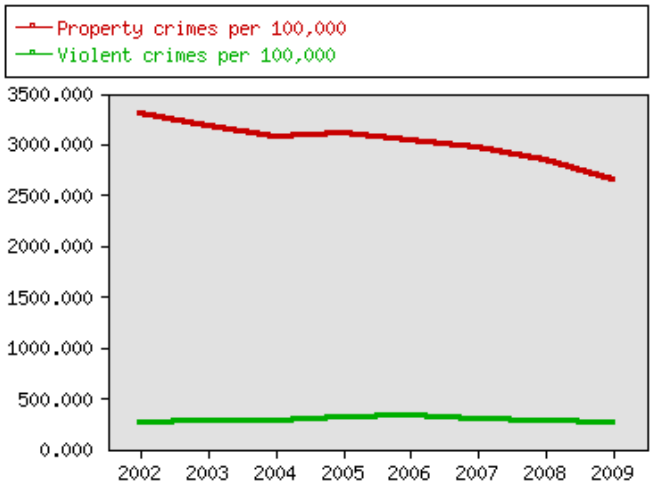
The data is based on crimes reported to law enforcement. In addition, estimates are made for non-reporting and partially reporting jurisdictions.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Violent crimes per 100,000	Property crimes per 100,000

Violent crimes reported per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Edit trend | Edit data
Property crimes reported per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Public Safety Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
2002	263	3,301
2003	271	3,168
2004	275	3,076
2005	305	3,106
2006	326	3,041
2007	289	2,962
2008	271	2,834
2009	250	2,644

Violent crimes reported per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Public Safety
Edit trend | Edit data
Property crimes reported per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Public Safety Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: On measures of crime rates, Minnesota ranks in the middle of the states. In 2007, 16 states had lower violent crime rates. Twenty-two states had lower property crime rates.

Minnesota's violent crime rate is substantially lower than the national average, 289 per 100,000 compared to 467. The property crime rate in Minnesota is also below the national average, 3,037 per 100,000 versus 3,264.

Things to think about: The F.B.I. suggests caution in comparing crime statistics across regions or over time. Not all crimes are reported, and the likelihood a crime is reported may vary by region. Estimates made for non-reporting jurisdictions may vary in accuracy.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Public Safety, http://www.bca.state.mn.us/CJIS/documents/Page-15-02.html
- U.S. Census Bureau, The 2009 Statistical Abstract, http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/cats/law_enforcement_courts_prisons/crimes_and_crime_rates.html

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Violent and property crime

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 23: Homicide Rate

Goal: *Our communities will be safe, friendly and caring.*

Rationale: Minnesotans want to be comfortable and safe in their communities. Crime rates are an important aspect of community safety. Murders are considered the single most serious type of crime.

About this indicator: Between 2000 and 2009 the homicide rate declined slightly from 2.9 to 1.8 per 100,000.

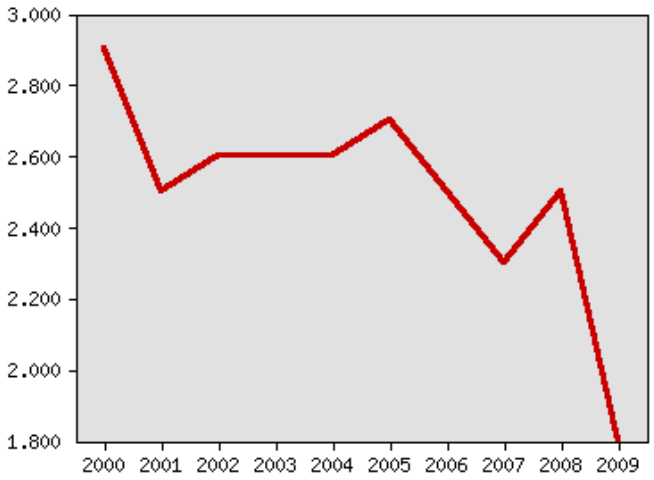
Homicide rate per 100,000

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA
2000	2.9
2001	2.5
2002	2.6
2003	2.6

Homicide rate per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Health

YEAR	DATA
2004	2.6
2005	2.7
2006	2.5
2007	2.3
2008	2.5
2009	1.8

Homicide rate per 100,000, Minnesota Department of Health

For comparison: Department of Justice Statistics show Minnesota had the 11th lowest homicide rate in 2007. According to data compiled by the Death Penalty Information Center, Minnesota had the 6th lowest homicide rate in 2009.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Health http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/annsum/index.htm
- U.S. Census Bureau population estimates http://www.census.gov/
- U.S. Census Bureau, the 2009 Statistical Abstract http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/cats/law_enforcement_courts_prisons/crimes_and_crime_rates.html
- Death Penalty Information Center, http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/home

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 24: Juvenile Apprehensions

Goal: *Our communities will be safe, friendly and caring.*

Rationale: Youth crime is an important factor in community safety. Youth commit a disproportionate share of crimes in Minnesota, especially serious property crimes. Many youths who are apprehended continue their criminal careers as adults.

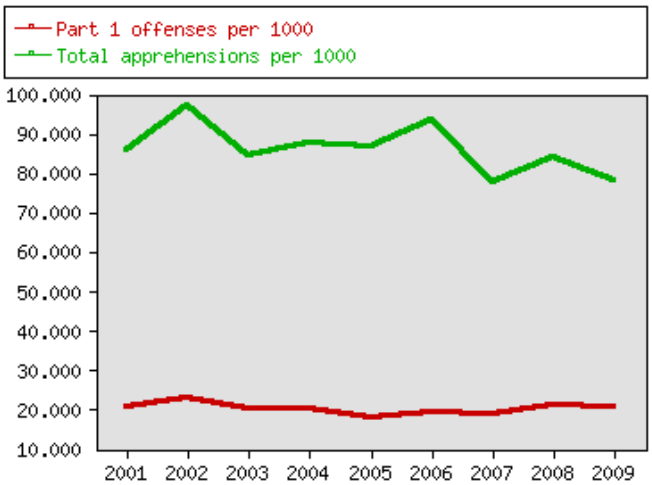
About this indicator: The rate of all juvenile apprehensions has fluctuated during the 2000s, showing no clear trend. The rate of apprehensions for more serious Part 1 offenses also shows no clear trend.

Arrests of juveniles are called apprehensions. The overall rate includes violent crime and property crime (burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson). In 2009, youth ages 10-17 accounted for 19 percent of all violent and serious property crimes arrests in Minnesota, according to the Department of Public Safety.

The apprehension rate is a different measure than the crime rate. The age of the perpetrator is not available for every crime, only for those that result in an apprehension or arrest. Also, a single apprehension may cover several offenses.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Total apprehensions per 1000	Part 1 offenses per 1000

YEAR	DATA	
2001	85.9	20.5
2002	97.2	22.9
2003	84.6	20.1
2004	87.7	20.1
2005	86.5	18.1
2006	93.3	19.4
2007	77.8	19
2008	83.8	21
2009	78.0	20.6

Juvenile apprehensions rate per 1000, Minnesota Department of Public Safety

Edit trend | **Edit data**

Juvenile part 1 offenses per 1000, Minnesota Department of Public Safety

Edit trend | **Edit data**

For comparison: Minnesota has relatively high rates of juvenile apprehensions. In 2009, the total apprehension rate for juveniles was the 9th highest in the nation. The apprehension rate for Part 1 offenses was 25th highest.

Technical notes: In the calculation of juvenile apprehension rates by state, the numerator used was the number of apprehensions for persons ages 10 to 17. The denominator was the estimated population ages 10 to 17. There are few apprehensions of children under age 10.

Sources:

- Minnesota apprehension data from Minnesota Department of Public Safety http://www.bca.state.mn.us/CJIS/Documents/Page-15-02.html
- Population estimates from U.S. Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.html
- Apprehension data by state from the United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2008 Crime in the United States, http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm#cius

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Juvenile apprehensions

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 25: Food Shelf Use

Goal: *All people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy.*

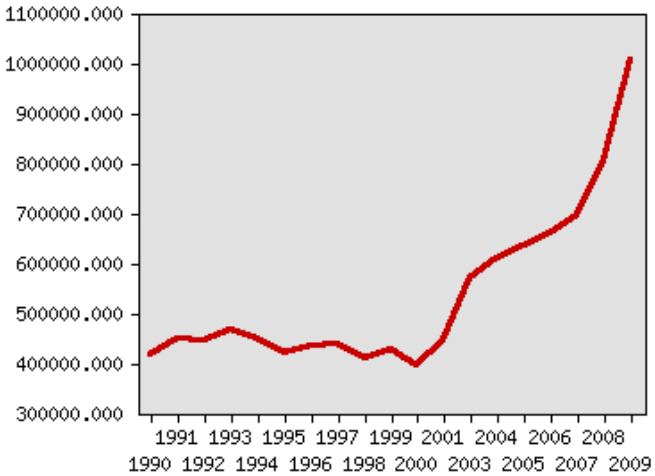
Rationale: Food shelf use gives some indication of the number of Minnesotans requiring assistance with this basic need, and the availability of food assistance to help them.

About this indicator: The number of household visits to food shelves has grown each year since 2003. Between 2008 and 2009, the number of visits increased 25 percent.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Household visits to food shelves



YEAR	DATA
1990	416,552
1991	449,232

Household visits to food shelves, Hunger Solutions Minnesota

YEAR	DATA
1992	446,175
1993	465,977
1994	447,213
1995	421,369
1996	433,214
1997	435,881
1998	408,335
1999	425,583
2000	396,002
2001	443,939
2003	571,031
2004	609,730
2005	634,116
2006	660,476
2007	695,004
2008	805,207
2009	1,006,714

Household visits to food shelves, Hunger Solutions Minnesota

For comparison: No national figures are available on food shelf use. The USDA reports data on household food insecurity based on responses to the annual food security module in the Current Population Survey. Survey questions cover anxiety that the household budget is inadequate to buy enough food, concern over inadequate quantity or quality of food, and instances of reduced food intake. For the 2007-2009 period, Minnesota's rate of food security was 10.5 percent, lower than 43 other states.

Sources:

- Hunger Solutions http://www.hungersolutions.org/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Food shelf use

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 26: Homelessness

Goal: *All people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy.*

Rationale: This indicator deals with one of the most basic human needs – a safe, stable place to live.

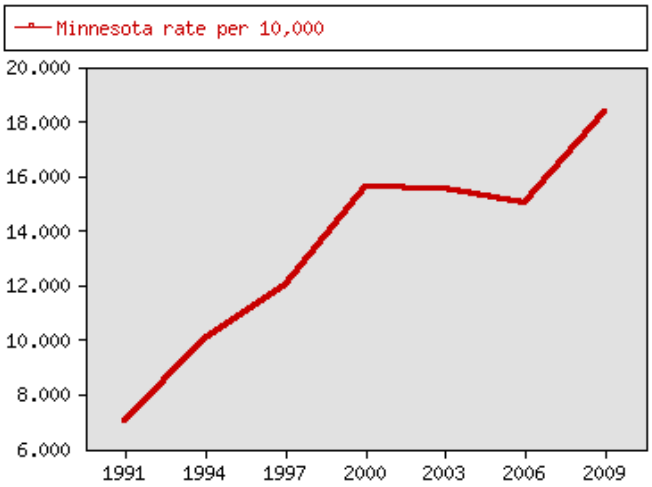
About this indicator:
Homelessness rose substantially in 2009 after a period of stability earlier in the 2000s. Data is available once every three years from a survey conducted by Wilder Research. The survey looks at people living without shelter. In 2009, the rate of homelessness in Minnesota was 18.4 per 10,000 population, well above the 2006 rate of 15.0. The number of homeless people has more than tripled since 1991, when the survey was first conducted.
The 2009 survey found 6,449 homeless people in the 7-county Twin Cities area, accounting for 67 percent of the statewide total.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Minnesota rate per 10,000	Number of homeless

Homelessness rate per 10,000 in Minnesota, Wilder Research Edit trend | Edit data

Number of persons experiencing homelessness, Wilder Research Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
1991	7.0	3,079
1994	10.0	4,553
1997	12.0	5,645
2000	15.6	7,696
2003	15.5	7,811
2006	15.0	7,713
2009	18.3	9,630

Homelessness rate per 10,000 in Minnesota, Wilder Research **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

Number of persons experiencing homelessness, Wilder Research **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

For comparison: The 2009 survey found striking indicators of the recent economic downturn. Forty percent of those interviewed reported job loss or reduced hours as a reason they lost housing. More people experienced long-term homelessness. There was a rapid increase in the number of homeless young adults ages 18 to 21.

Things to think about: The survey is done at a single point in time. Over a year, the number of people who experience homelessness for at least a short period is much greater.

African Americans and American Indians are greatly overrepresented in the homeless population.

Experience of domestic abuse is common among women in shelters.

Sources:

- Wilder Research http://www.tccompass.org/
- Overview of Wilder homeless survey, http://www.wilder.org/fileadmin/user_upload/research/Homelessoverview2006_3-07.pdf

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Homelessness

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 27: Employment of People with Disabilities

Goal: *All people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy.*

Rationale: Many people with disabilities are able to work and want to work despite the obstacles they face. Providing employment opportunities helps both the individual and employers seeking workers. People with full-time jobs pay more taxes and require less government assistance.

About this indicator: In 2009, 24 percent of Minnesotans ages 16 to 64 who had a disability worked full-time year-round. Among people the same age without a disability, 56 percent worked full-time year-round.
Eight percent of working-age Minnesotans report having a disability.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

YEAR	DATA	
	% with a disability employed	% Without a disabilty employed
2008	25.8%	56.7%
2009	23.9%	56%

Percent of people with a disability aged 16-64 employed year-round, full-time, U.S. Census Bureau Edit trend | Edit data
Percent of people without a disability aged 16-64 employed year-round, full-time, U.S. Census Bureau Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Minnesota ranked 20th on the proportion of people with disabilities who work full-time, year-round.

Technical notes: The way disability is measured was changed significantly in the 2008 American Community Survey. Results from before 2008 are not comparable to those from 2008 and later.

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Milestones 2011

- **Home**
- **Executive Summary**
- **Background**
- **Contact**

More indicators

- **Minnesota Compass**
- **Milestones 2002**
- **Children's Services Report Card**
- **State Agency Accountability**

Indicator 28: Bias Crimes

login

Goal: *All people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy.*

Rationale: Incidents of bias or hate crimes are harmful not only to the individual victims, but also to Minnesota communities and neighborhoods. They indicate a lack of acceptance of the increasing diversity of Minnesota's communities.

About this indicator: In 2009, 155 bias crimes were reported. The number has fluctuated from year to year with no long-term trend evident.

Racial bias was the most common type of bias (65 percent), followed by sexual orientation (18 percent).

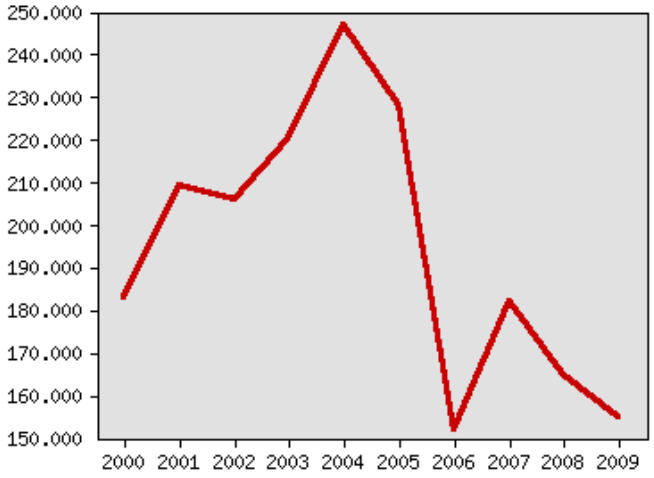
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Reported bias crimes



YEAR	DATA
2000	183

Reported bias crimes, Minnesota Department of Public Safety

YEAR	DATA
2001	209
2002	206
2003	220
2004	247
2005	228
2006	152
2007	182
2008	165
2009	155

Reported bias crimes, Minnesota Department of Public Safety

For comparison: The FBI collects data on bias crimes, but data from various areas is not comparable.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Minnesota Justice Information Services, http://www.bca.state.mn.us/CJIS/Documents/Page-15-02.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 29: Voter Turnout

Goal: *All people will be welcomed, respected and able to participate fully in Minnesota's communities and economy.*

Rationale: High voter turnout is an indicator that people are interested and believe they can make a difference in government. This goal reflects Minnesotans' desire for open and representative government, as well as the belief that broad-based and energetic citizen participation in the political process and civic affairs is a sign of a healthy democracy.

About this indicator: In the 2010 general election, 55.9 percent of eligible Minnesota voters went to the polls. This was considerably below the voting level in the 2008 Presidential election, 78.4 percent, and also lower than in the previous off-year election, 60.5 percent.

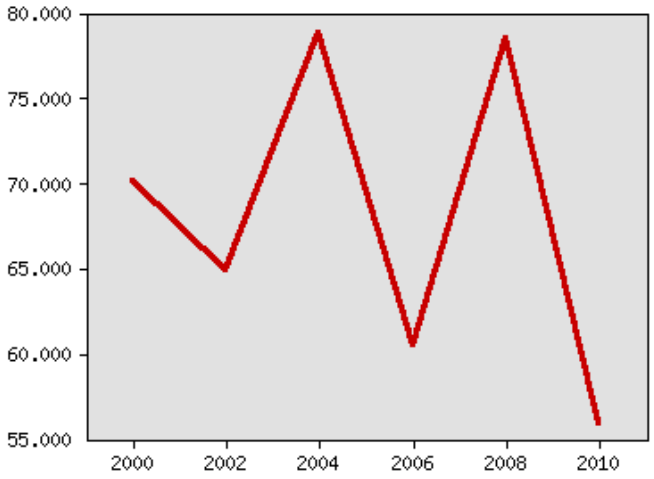
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Percent of eligible Minnesotans who voted in state general elections



YEAR	DATA
2000	70.1%

Percent of eligible Minnesotans who voted in state general elections, Minnesota Secretary of State

YEAR	DATA
2002	64.9%
2004	78.8%
2006	60.5%
2008	78.5%
2010	55.9%

Percent of eligible Minnesotans who voted in state general elections, Minnesota Secretary of State

For comparison: Minnesota had the highest voting rate of all states in the 2010 election, 55.5 percent, ahead of second-place Maine with 54.5 percent. This measure of voting is slightly different than the one cited above. It is based on the turnout rate for the office with the highest number of votes cast. The numbers cited above are based on total ballots cast rank. Total ballots cast is considered a better indicator of participation, but not all states provide the data.

Technical notes: Different results would be obtained using the total voting-age population instead of the estimated number of eligible voters as the denominator. People who are not citizens or are ex-felons still on parole status may not vote. Residents living abroad may be eligible to vote but do not appear in the population estimates. For these reasons, many consider a measure based on eligibility to be more meaningful. Data on age is easier to find, however.

Sources:

- Minnesota Secretary of State. The data are compiled by Dr. Michael McDonald of George Mason University. Historical Minnesota voting turnout, http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=137
- United States Election Project, http://elections.gmu.edu/voter_turnout.htm

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Voter turnout

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Indicator 30: Price of Government

Goal: *Government in Minnesota will be cost-efficient, and services will be designed to meet the needs of the people who use them.*

Rationale: Minnesotans expect their state and local governments to spend money carefully and effectively. This indicator indirectly measures progress toward this goal by tracking how much government spends compared to how much people earn.

About this indicator: The proportion of personal income going to state and local revenues has fluctuated within a narrow range and shows no real trend since 2000. The annual figure ranges between 15.0 and 16.2 percent of income.
This indicator reports the price of government based on actual revenues collected. During good economic times, revenues sometimes exceed expectations and push the actual price of government above the target set by the Governor and Legislature.

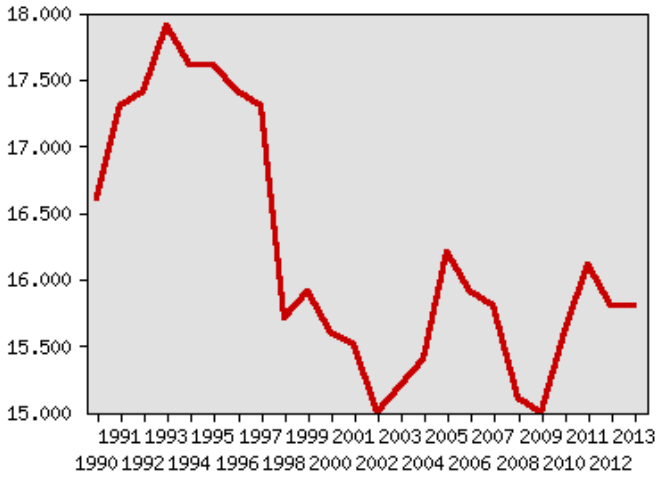
State and local government taxes and fees, as a percentage of personal income

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA
1990	16.6%
1991	17.3%
1992	17.4%
1993	17.9%
1994	17.6%
1995	17.6%
1996	17.4%
1997	17.3%
1998	15.7%
1999	15.9%
2000	15.6%
2001	15.5%
2002	15%
2003	15.2%
2004	15.4%
2005	16.2%

State and local government taxes and fees, as a percentage of personal income, Minnesota Department of Finance

YEAR	DATA
2006	15.9%
2007	15.8%
2008	15.1%
2009	15%
2010	15.6%
2011	16.1%
2012	15.8%
2013	15.8%

State and local government taxes and fees, as a percentage of personal income, Minnesota Department of Finance

For comparison: The price of government has declined since the mid-1990s, when it was in excess of 17.0 percent.

Comparisons with other states are not possible. This measure is unique to Minnesota.

Technical notes: Most local governments begin their fiscal year in January, while state government and school districts have fiscal years that begin in July. The price of government is computed for the fiscal years ending between July 1 and June 30. For example, the 2007 price of government is based on local government revenue for the fiscal year ending December 2006 and school district and state revenue for the fiscal year ending June 2007.

Sources:

- Minnesota Management and Budget, Financial Forecasts and Updates, http://www.finance.state.mn.us/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Price of government

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 31: Bridges in Good Condition

Goal: *Government in Minnesota will be cost-efficient, and services will be designed to meet the needs of the people who use them.*

Rationale: Timely maintenance of bridges, a critical part of Minnesota's infrastructure, is important to the state's economy and transportation system.

About this indicator: In 2009, 87.4 percent of state Principal Arterial bridges were in Good or Satisfactory structural condition, measured by deck area. This included 53.7 percent in good condition. The remaining 12.6 percent were in fair or poor condition. The target goal set by Mn/DOT is 55 percent in good condition. The 55 percent goal has been met in the past and the state is on target to meet this goal again by 2012.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Percentage of state highway bridges in good condition, by principal arterials square footage

YEAR	DATA
2000	57.2%
2001	56.3%

Percentage of state highway bridges in good condition, by principal arterials square footage, Minnesota Department of Transportation

YEAR	DATA
2002	53.3%
2003	51.8%
2004	53.3%
2005	53.3%
2006	53.9%
2007	55.2%
2008	53.4%
2009	53.2%

Percentage of state highway bridges in good condition, by principal arterials square footage, Minnesota Department of Transportation

Technical notes: The indicator is based on bridges 20 feet and over on State Highway Principal Arterials. This includes 2536 bridges.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, 2008 Annual Transportation Performance Report, http://www.dot.state.mn.us/measures/performancereports.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 32: Commute Times

Goal: *Government in Minnesota will be cost-efficient, and services will be designed to meet the needs of the people who use them.*

Rationale: The adequacy of the state's transportation system affects residents daily. Traffic congestion is inconvenient for commuters and adversely affects businesses that depend on timely delivery of goods and services.

About this indicator: The average commute time to work in 2009 was 22.5 minutes, not significantly different than the 22.6 minutes in the 2008.

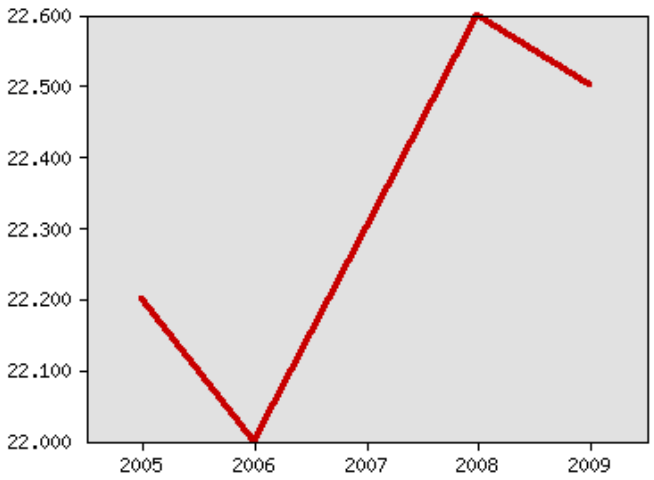
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Mean travel time to work (minutes)



YEAR	DATA
2005	22.2
2006	22
2007	22.3

Mean travel time to work (minutes), U.S. Census Bureau

YEAR	DATA
2008	22.6
2009	22.5

Mean travel time to work (minutes), U.S. Census Bureau

For comparison: In the 2000 Census, the average travel time to work was 21.9 minutes. In 1990, it was 19.1 minutes.

In the 2009 American Community Survey, the national average was 25.1 minutes. Minnesota had the 17th lowest average commuting time.

Things to think about: Commuting times reflect more than the presence or absence of congestion. Where people live relative to their place of employment is another important factor. Many Minnesotans are willing to trade a longer commute for less expensive housing or a desired lifestyle.

Sources:

- U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, American FactFinder, http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html, Economic profiles.

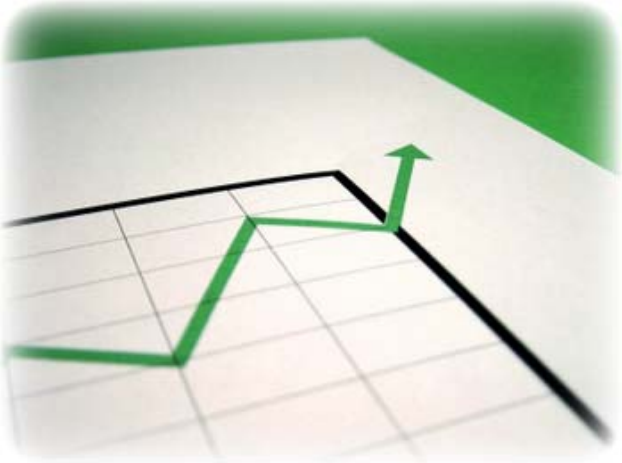
Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 33: Growth in Gross State Product

Goal: *Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.*



Rationale: Economic growth creates jobs and may increase opportunities for better jobs and improved living standards. Sustainable, strong economic growth puts Minnesota in a better position to achieve other Minnesota Milestones goals. Gross state product is the most commonly used measure of overall economic production. Continuous growth in gross state product is a strong indication of a healthy economy.

About this indicator: Minnesota's gross state product declined by 2.3 percent in 2009, after four years of tepid growth. Growth was stronger in the late 1990s, when annual growth rates ranged between 3 and 5 percent.

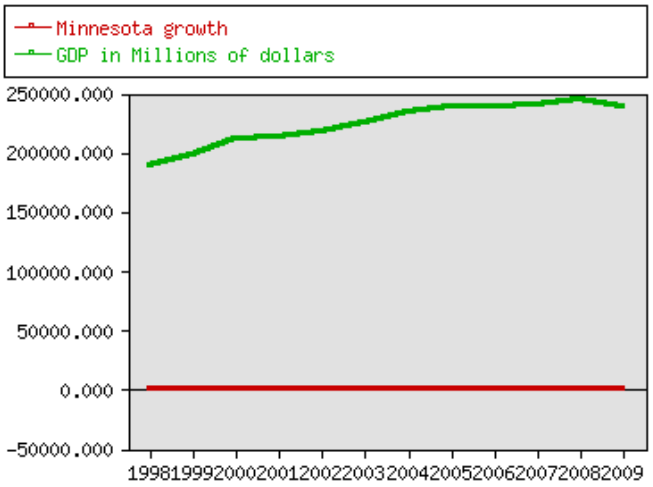
Gross state product is the value of all goods and services produced in the state.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Minnesota growth	GDP in Millions of dollars

Annual real growth in the gross state product, U.S. Department of Commerce
Edit trend | Edit data
Minnesota real GDP, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
1998	5.3%	189,260
1999	4.5%	197,810
2000	6.8%	211,177
2001	0.8%	212,802
2002	2.3%	217,705
2003	3.4%	225,073
2004	4.1%	234,347
2005	1.7%	238,367
2006	0.2%	238,938
2007	0.7%	240,548
2008	1.8%	244,759
2009	-2.3%	239,043

Annual real growth in the gross state product, U.S. Department of Commerce
Edit trend | Edit data
Minnesota real GDP, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Among 50 states and the District of Columbia, Minnesota ranked 46th in gross state product growth between 2000 and 2009. Minnesota's gain of 38 percent was below the national average of 43 percent percent. Per capita personal income (a major component of GDP) growth during the same period was also slower than the national average. Minnesota's rank in per capita personal income declined from 13th in 2000 to 18th in 2009.

Technical notes: The indicator used is millions of 2005 chained dollars. Because of changes in the industrial classification system, totals for 1996 and 1997 are not exactly comparable.

Sources:

- U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, regional accounts data, http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/data.htm

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Growth in gross state product

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 34: Employment of Working-age Population

Goal: *Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.*

Rationale: High labor participation rates, as measured by the proportion of the working-age population that is in the workforce, contribute to strong and sustainable economic growth. Economic growth creates jobs and may increase opportunities for better jobs and improved living standards.

About this indicator: The percentage of Minnesotans ages 16 to 64 who are employed has declined since 2000, from 81.3 percent to 74.8 percent in 2009. Minnesota continues to rank high among states, normally ranking in the top 5. These figures are subject to sampling error. Higher unemployment rates are a factor in the decline. Retirement of baby boomers in their late 50s and early 60s may also be contributing.

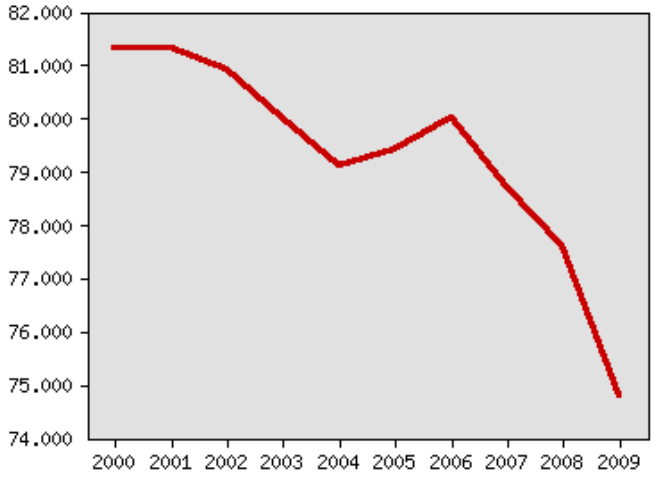
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Percent of population 16-64 who are employed



YEAR	DATA
2000	81.3%
2001	81.3%
2002	80.9%
2003	80.0%
2004	79.1%
2005	79.4%
2006	80.0%
2007	78.7%
2008	77.6%
2009	74.8%

Percent of population 16-64 who are employed, Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

For comparison: The American Community Survey also collects data on this topic. The 2008 and 2009 values in the ACS are similar to those in the Current Population Survey.

Sources:

- Current Population Survey data, provided by Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Employment of working-age population

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 35: Employment/population ratio

Goal: *Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.*

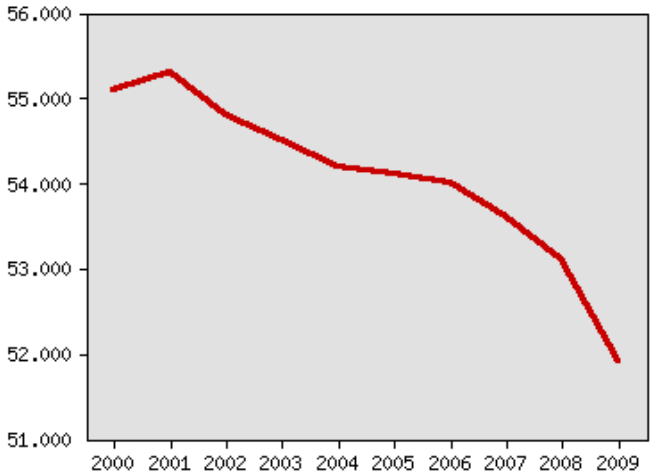
Rationale: A high employment/population ratio means that a large fraction of the population is working and paying taxes. It contributes to greater economic growth because employed people have more money to spend.

About this indicator: The employment to population ratio declined from 55.1 in 2000 to 53.1 in 2008 and then more sharply to 51.9 in 2009. The Great Recession is responsible for the sharp drop from 2008 to 2009, while slow job growth is probably a major reason for the earlier decline. Baby boomer retirements and lower workforce participation by young adults are other factors in the gradual downward drift.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Employment to population ratio



YEAR	DATA
2000	55.1
2001	55.3

Employment to population ratio, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and U.S. Census Bureau

YEAR	DATA
2002	54.8
2003	54.5
2004	54.2
2005	54.1
2006	54.0
2007	53.6
2008	53.1
2009	51.9

Employment to population ratio, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and U.S. Census Bureau

Things to think about: The aging of the baby boom generation is expected to produce a lower employment/population ratio in the future, with negative implications for state tax revenues.

Sources:

- Employment data from Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development LAUS data, http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/Home.htm
- Population estimates from U.S. Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 36: Change in Number of Jobs

Goal: *Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.*

Rationale: Minnesotans need good jobs in order to provide for themselves and their families and to contribute to the overall economic well-being of the state.

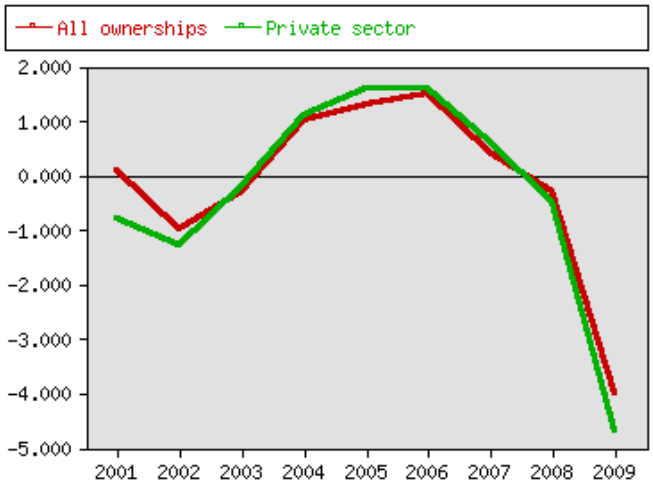
About this indicator: From 2008 to 2009, jobs declined sharply by 4.7 percent in the private sector and 4.1 percent in the total economy. Between 2000 and 2008, the number of jobs in Minnesota increased only 2.7 percent. Employment declined in three of eight years since 2000.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	All ownerships	Private sector
2001	0.1%	-0.8%
2002	-1.0%	-1.3%

Change in the number of jobs (all sectors), Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

Change in the number of jobs (private sector), Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

YEAR	DATA	
2003	-0.3%	-0.2%
2004	1.0%	1.1%
2005	1.3%	1.6%
2006	1.5%	1.6%
2007	0.4%	0.6%
2008	-0.3%	-0.5%
2009	-4.0%	-4.7%

Change in the number of jobs (all sectors), Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data
Change in the number of jobs (private sector), Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: In the 1990s, the number of jobs grew 27 percent, a much faster rate than this decade. Between 2001 and 2008, job growth in Minnesota was slower than the national average, 2.6 percent compared to 4.0 percent.

Technical notes: The figures shown are for total employment in both public and private employment. The QCEW (Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages) is based on establishments covered by unemployment insurance. The QCEW system covers about 97 percent of Minnesota jobs. It does not include self-employed people.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, QCEW employment data, http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/tools/qcew/default.aspx

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 37: Change in Number of Establishments

login

Goal: *Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.*

Rationale: The creation of new businesses is an indicator of a strong, dynamic economy. Small businesses and start-ups are responsible for much of the job growth in Minnesota.

About this indicator: The number of Minnesota establishments declined in 2009 by nearly 2,600, or 1.5 percent. The number of establishments also declined in 2007. Growth earlier in the decade had also been slow. There was a net gain of 9,100 establishments between 2004 and 2008. Between 2000 and 2008, the total number of establishments grew 2.7 percent.

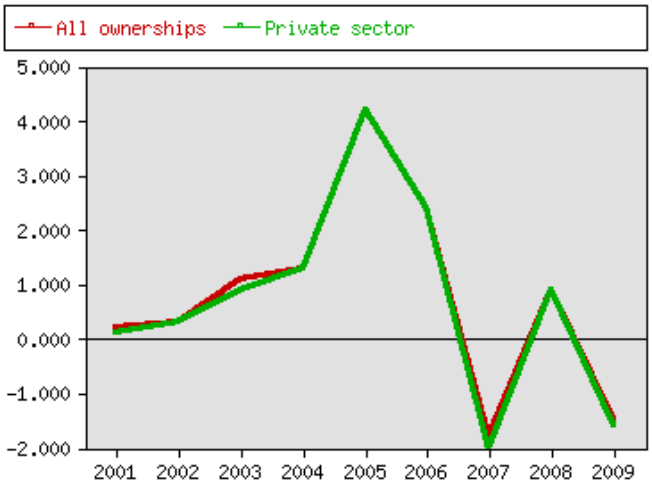
The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), the source of this data, is based on all establishments covered under the Unemployment Insurance system.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	All ownerships	Private sector

Percent change in establishments from previous year (all sectors), Department of Employment and Economic Development **Edit trend** | **Edit data**
Percent change in establishments from previous year (private sector), Department of Employment and Economic Development **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

YEAR	DATA	
2001	0.2%	0.1%
2002	0.3%	0.3%
2003	1.1%	0.9%
2004	1.3%	1.3%
2005	4.2%	4.2%
2006	2.4%	2.4%
2007	-1.8%	-2.0%
2008	0.9%	0.9%
2009	-1.5%	-1.6%

Percent change in establishments from previous year (all sectors), Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data
Percent change in establishments from previous year (private sector), Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Establishment growth in Minnesota has lagged the national average. Between 2001 and 2008, the number of establishments in the U.S. increased 13.8 percent, compared to 8.5 percent in Minnesota.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, QCEW establishment data, http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/tools/qcew/default.aspx

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

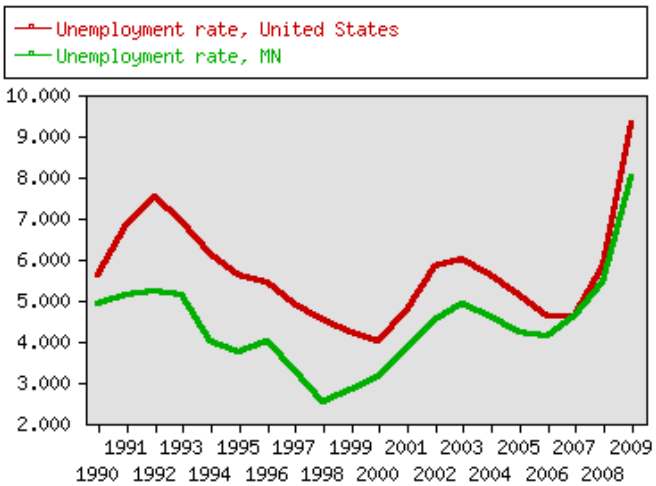
Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 38: Unemployment Rate

Goal: *Minnesota will have sustainable, strong economic growth.*

Rationale: The unemployment rate affects people's financial well-being as well as overall state economic growth.

About this indicator: As the economy slumped in the 2000s, the annual unemployment rate grew from 4.0 percent in 2000 to 8.0 percent in 2009. Unemployment has leveled and begun to decline in 2010. The US average for 2009 was 9.3 percent.



How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

YEAR	DATA	
	Unemployment rate, MN	Unemployment rate, United States
1990	4.9%	5.6%
1991	5.1%	6.8%

Minnesota unemployment rate, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data
United States unemployment rate, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
1992	5.2%	7.5%
1993	5.1%	6.9%
1994	4%	6.1%
1995	3.7%	5.6%
1996	4%	5.4%
1997	3.3%	4.9%
1998	2.5%	4.5%
1999	2.8%	4.2%
2000	3.1%	4%
2001	3.8%	4.7%
2002	4.5%	5.8%
2003	4.9%	6%
2004	4.6%	5.6%
2005	4.2%	5.1%
2006	4.1%	4.6%
2007	4.6%	4.6%
2008	5.4%	5.8%
2009	8%	9.3%

Minnesota unemployment rate, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data
United States unemployment rate, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: In November, 2010 the state unemployment rate stood at 7.1 percent seasonally adjusted, lower than the U.S. rate of 9.8 percent. Unemployment has declined moderately during 2010.

Things to think about: The unemployment rate is estimated and does not always follow the trend in other labor market indicators such as the number of jobs. The unemployment rate can go down if people give up looking for jobs, or conversely it can go up if improved economic prospects draw more workers into the job market.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/Home.htm

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

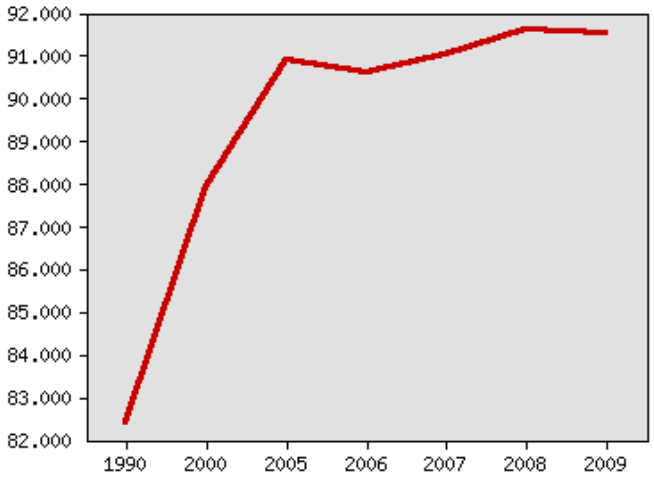
Indicator 39: High School Education

Goal: *Minnesota's workforce will have the education and training to make the state a leader in the global economy.*

Rationale: A high school education is the minimal entry-level requirement for many jobs. The educational attainment of the workforce is important both for the state's economic development and the financial well-being of individuals.

About this indicator: The percentage of Minnesotans ages 25 and older who have graduated from high school rose from 82.4 percent in the 1990 Census to 90.1 percent in the 2000 Census. The American Community Survey shows a 2009 rate of 91.5 percent, not statistically different from the 2008 rate.

Percent of population ages 25+ with at least a high school diploma



YEAR	DATA

YEAR	DATA
1990	82.4%
2000	87.9%
2005	90.9%
2006	90.6%
2007	91%
2008	91.6%
2009	91.5%

Percent of population ages 25+ with at least a high school diploma, U.S. Census Bureau

For comparison: Minnesota is statistically tied for first with four other states in the percentage of adults who have completed high school, according to the 2008 American Community Survey. The national average was 85.3 percent.

Things to think about: Much of the increase in educational attainment is traceable to the replacement of older generations who typically had less education. Educational attainment among younger adults has shown little change.

Technical notes: The data includes people who have received a GED or other high school equivalency certificate. In 2008, 11 percent of Minnesotans who had graduated from high school but not advanced to college had received their diploma via a GED or similar certificate.

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and American Community Survey, http://www.census.gov/

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 40: Some College Education

Goal: *Minnesota's workforce will have the education and training to make the state a leader in the global economy.*

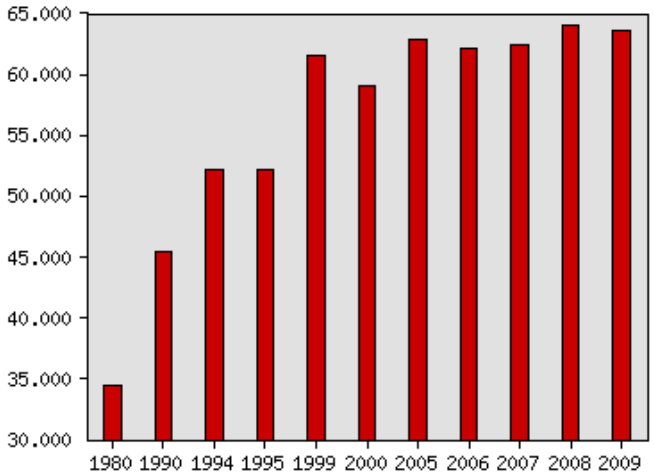
Rationale: A college education or technical training is increasingly seen as important both for the state's economic development and the financial well-being of individuals. College-educated workers are seen as more productive.

About this indicator: The percentage of Minnesotans ages 25 and older who have attended college rose from 45.5 percent in the 1990 Census to 59.1 percent in the 2000 Census. The American Community Survey shows a 2009 rate of 63.6 percent, down slightly from 2008, but the change was not statistically significant.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Percentage of Minnesotans age 25 and older with some college



YEAR	DATA
1980	34.5%
1990	45.5%
1994	52.2%

Percentage of Minnesotans age 25 and older with some college, U.S. Bureau of the Census

YEAR	DATA
1995	52.2%
1999	61.6%
2000	59.1%
2005	62.9%
2006	62.1%
2007	62.4%
2008	64.1%
2009	63.6%

Percentage of Minnesotans age 25 and older with some college, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Things to think about: Much of the increase in educational attainment is traceable to the replacement of older generations who typically had less education. Educational attainment among younger adults has shown little change.

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and American Community Survey, http://www.census.gov/

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Indicator 41: College Graduation

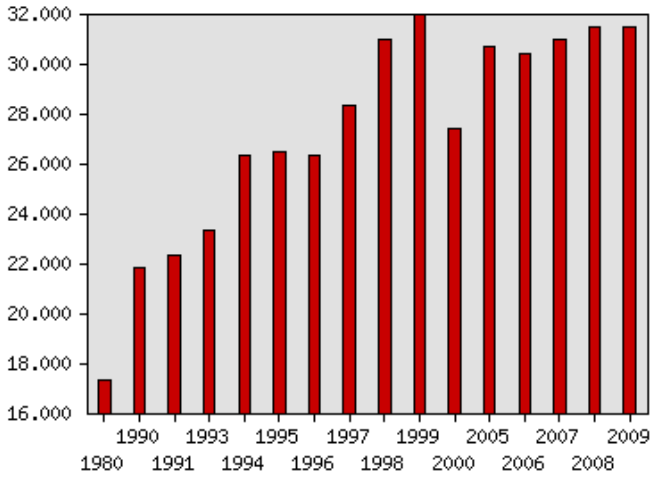
Goal: *Minnesota's workforce will have the education and training to make the state a leader in the global economy.*

Rationale: Higher education is required for many of the jobs in the new global economy. The educational attainment of the workforce is important both for the state's economic development and the financial well-being of individuals.

About this indicator: The percentage of Minnesotans ages 25 and older who have graduated from college was 31.5 percent in 2009, according to the American Community Survey, unchanged form 2008. The percentage increased substantially from 21.8 percent in the 1990 Census and 27.4 percent in the 2000 Census.

Age 25 and older is the standard for computing educational attainment in Census surveys. Most adults have completed their formal educations by that age, though a small number continue.

Percentage of Minnesotans age 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree



YEAR	DATA
1980	17.3%
1990	21.8%
1991	22.3%
1993	23.3%
1994	26.3%
1995	26.5%
1996	26.3%
1997	28.3%
1998	31%
1999	32%
2000	27.4%
2005	30.7%
2006	30.4%
2007	31%
2008	31.5%
2009	31.5%

Percentage of Minnesotans age 25 and older with a Bachelor's degree, U.S. Bureau of the Census

For comparison: In 2009, Minnesota ranked 11th among states on the proportion of adults who are college graduates. The national average was 27.9 percent.

Things to think about: Much of the increase in educational attainment is traceable to the replacement of older generations who typically had less education. Educational attainment among younger adults has shown little change.

Sources:

- U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census and American Community Survey, http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 42: Median Household Income Compared to U.S. Median

Goal: *All Minnesotans will have the economic means to maintain a reasonable standard of living.*

Rationale: The citizens who helped create Minnesota Milestones stated clearly that income slightly above the poverty level is not adequate for a reasonable standard of living. The indicators for this goal deal with several aspects of employment and income. Comparing Minnesota's median income to the nation's median income indicates how Minnesota families are faring compared to the rest of the nation.

About this indicator: Between 2005 and 2008, the ratio of Minnesota median household income to U.S. median household income ranged from 1.15 to 1.13. This was just slightly higher than the ratio in the 2000 Census, 1.12. In 2009, the indicator dropped to 110.74. Minnesota ranks 13th in median household income, down from 10th in 2006.

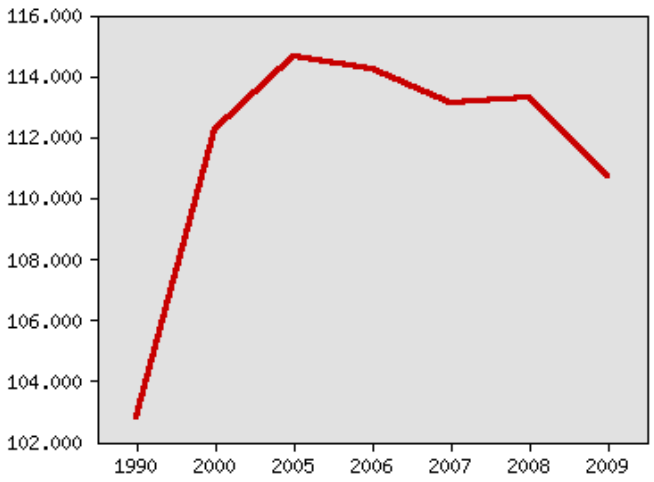
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Minnesota median household income as a percentage of U.S. median



YEAR **DATA**

Minnesota median household income as a percentage of U.S. median, U.S. Census Bureau

YEAR	DATA
1990	102.8%
2000	112.2%
2005	114.6%
2006	114.2%
2007	113.1%
2008	113.3%
2009	110.7%

Minnesota median household income as a percentage of U.S. median, U.S. Census Bureau

For comparison: In the 1990 Census, median income in Minnesota was 3 percent above the national average. Minnesota incomes grew rapidly relative to the national average in the 1990s, but in the 2000s income growth has been slower.

Sources:

- U.S. Bureau of the Census, Decennial Census and American Community Survey, http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Median family income compared to U.S. median

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 43: Poverty Rate

Goal: *All Minnesotans will have the economic means to maintain a reasonable standard of living.*

Rationale: Measuring the percentage of Minnesotans who live in poverty gives an indication of how many Minnesotans are not financially able to maintain a minimum standard of living. Milestones respondents indicated that incomes must be well above the poverty level in order to be considered adequate.

About this indicator: Poverty rates have risen since 2000 as the economy has slumped. The percent of Minnesotans in poverty decreased from 10.2 percent in 1990 to 7.9 percent in 2000. Since then, poverty rates have shown an upward trend. In 2009 the rate was 11.0 percent.

The 2009 federal poverty threshold for a family of four was $21,954. Many Minnesotans with incomes above the poverty line still have difficulty making ends meet.

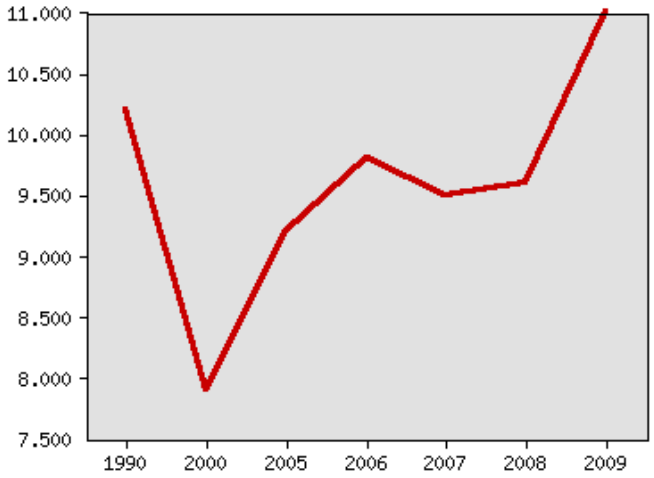
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Minnesota poverty rate



YEAR	DATA

Minnesota poverty rate,

YEAR	DATA
1990	10.2%
2000	7.9%
2005	9.2%
2006	9.8%
2007	9.5%
2008	9.6%
2009	11%

Minnesota poverty rate,

For comparison: In 2009, Minnesota had the 11th lowest poverty rate among all states. The national poverty rate was 14.3 percent.

The Current Population Survey also provides poverty data. In 2009, the Minnesota poverty rate was 9.9 percent using the traditional poverty measure and 13.1 percent in the alternative CE-based measure.

Things to think about: The federal government is considering changes in the way poverty is measured. The current measure is often criticized because it does not account for shifts in spending patterns and does not factor in noncash benefits such as food stamps.

Sources:

- http://www.census.gov/

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Poverty rate

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 44: Average Wage

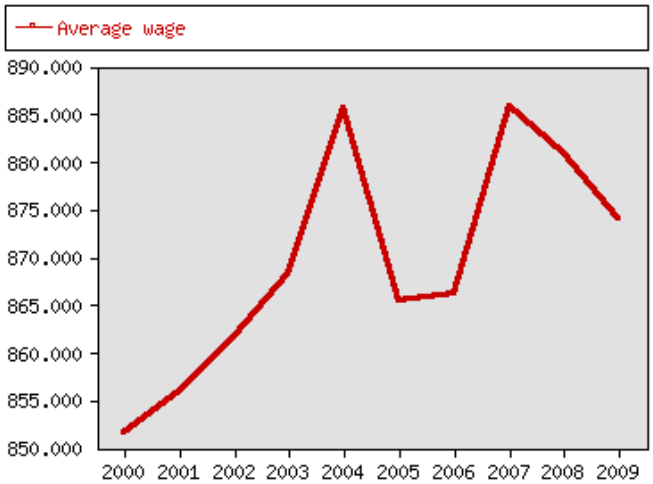
Goal: *All Minnesotans will have the economic means to maintain a reasonable standard of living.*

Rationale: Hourly or weekly wages are the major determinant of income and spending power for the working-age population.

About this indicator: Wages have grown slowly in the 2000s. The average weekly wage for workers in all industries was $874 in 2009, compared to $851 in 2000. These figures are adjusted for inflation. Between 2008 and 2009, Minnesota average wage decline by 0.8%, the second decline in two years

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Average wage	% change
2000	851.5	N

Average weekly wage in 2008 dollars, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data
Average weekly wage in 2008 dollars, % change from previous year, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
2001	855.9	0.5%
2002	861.7	0.7%
2003	868.2	0.8%
2004	885.6	2.0%
2005	865.4	-2.3%
2006	866.1	0.1%
2007	885.8	2.3%
2008	881.0	-0.5%
2009	874.0	-0.8%

Average weekly wage in 2008 dollars, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data
Average weekly wage in 2008 dollars, % change from previous year, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Edit trend | Edit data

N: No data

For comparison: Between 2001 and 2008, average wages in Minnesota and the U.S. grew at an almost identical rate. The 2009 average wage in the U.S., $879, was close to the Minnesota average, $874.

Technical notes: Data come from the QCEW system and are based on establishments qualifying for unemployment insurance coverage.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/tools/qcew/default.aspx

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 45: Home Ownership

Goal: *All Minnesotans will have decent, safe and affordable housing.*

Rationale: A high home ownership rate is typically an indication that the housing stock is in at least fair condition and that housing is affordable.

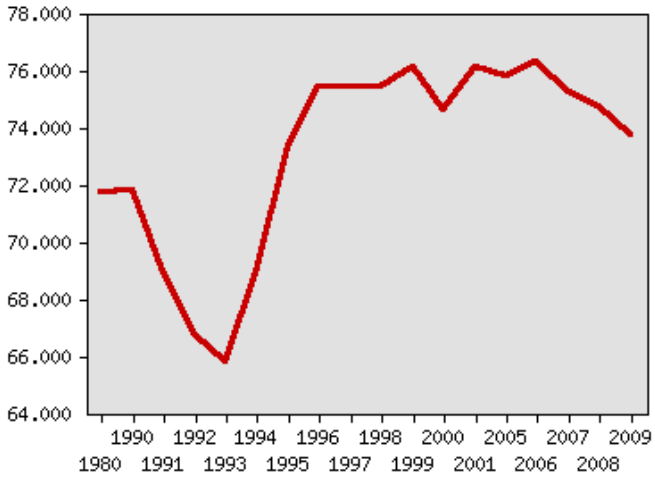
About this indicator: The rate of home ownership in Minnesota has leveled off and fallen slightly since 2005. The rate was 73.7 percent in 2009, down from 75.8 percent in 2005. The crisis in the housing market has increased the number of foreclosures and made some families leery about buying a house.

Home ownership rose substantially in the 1990s and early 2000s. The 1990 rate was 71.8; this rose to 74.6 percent in 2000.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Home ownership in Minnesota, total (percent)



YEAR	DATA
1980	71.7%
1990	71.8%

Home ownership in Minnesota, total (percent), U.S. Bureau of the Census

YEAR	DATA
1991	68.9%
1992	66.7%
1993	65.8%
1994	68.9%
1995	73.3%
1996	75.4%
1997	75.4%
1998	75.4%
1999	76.1%
2000	74.6%
2001	76.1%
2005	75.8%
2006	76.3%
2007	75.2%
2008	74.7%
2009	73.7%

Home ownership in Minnesota, total (percent), U.S. Bureau of the Census

For comparison: In 2009, Minnesota had the highest home ownership rate among all states. The national average was 65.9 percent.

Sources:

- www.census.gov http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Home ownership

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 46: Housing Costs

Goal: *All Minnesotans will have decent, safe and affordable housing.*

Rationale: This indicator defines housing affordability in relation to household income.

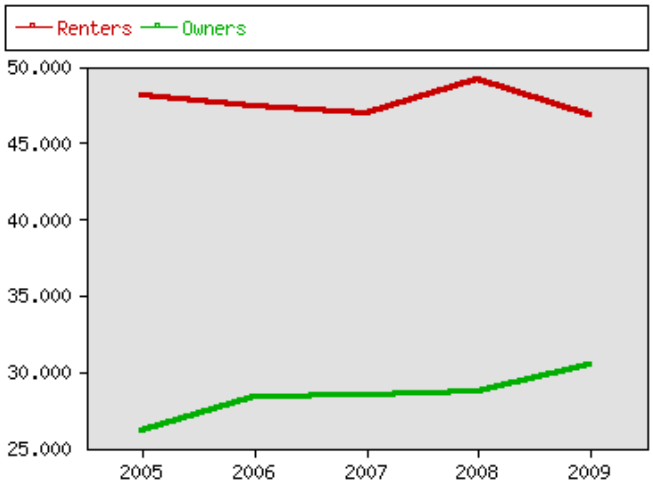
About this indicator: Housing costs are rising relative to income for owners and declining for renters. The percentage of all households spending at least 30 percent of their income on housing declined from 31.1 to 27.8 percent between 2005 and 2009. Among renters, 46.8 percent spent at least 30 percent of their income on housing. Among homeowners, the figure was 30.4 percent.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA	
	Owners	Renters
2005	26.1%	48.1%
2006	28.3%	47.4%
2007	28.5%	46.9%

Share of income spent on housing, owners, U.S. Census Bureau **Edit trend** | **Edit data**
Share of income spent on housing, renters, U.S. Census Bureau **Edit trend** | **Edit data**

YEAR	DATA	
2008	28.7%	49.1%
2009	30.4%	46.8%

Share of income spent on housing, owners, U.S. Census Bureau Edit trend | Edit data
Share of income spent on housing, renters, U.S. Census Bureau Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Among owner-occupied households with a mortgage, Minnesota ranked 29th on the percent spending 30 percent of more of their income on housing costs. The Minnesota figure was 37.5 percent in 2009.

Housing costs are considerably higher than in the 2000 Census, when 37 percent of renters and 22 percent of owners lived in unaffordable housing.

Technical notes: Spending more than 30 percent of income on housing is a widely accepted indicator of expenditure levels that most households cannot afford.

Sources:

- www.census.gov http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Housing costs

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 47: Foreclosures

Goal: *All Minnesotans will have decent, safe and affordable housing.*

Rationale: Foreclosures create severe stress for homeowners and contribute to lower property values, abandoned housing and a depressed housing and construction industry.

About this indicator: The number of foreclosures in Minnesota rose sharply from 6,472 in 2005 to 26,261 in 2008 and then dipped to 23,019 in 2009. In the first three quarters of 2010 there were 21,347 foreclosures. This suggests 2010 foreclosures will likely rival 2008 for the highest number recorded.

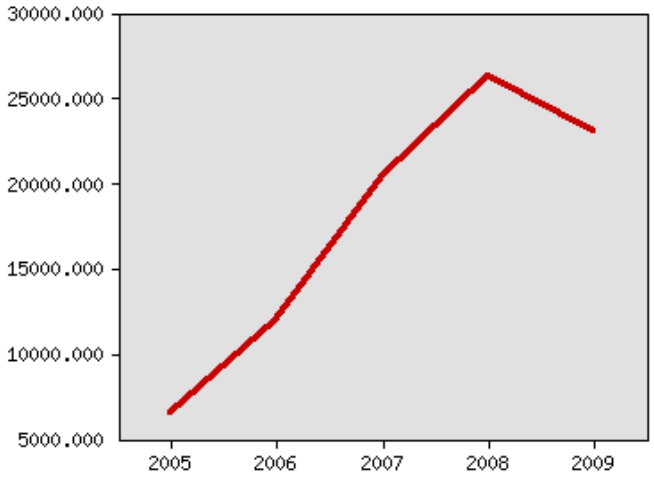
How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

Number of foreclosures in Minnesota



YEAR	DATA
2005	6,472
2006	11,907
2007	20,398
2008	26,261

Number of foreclosures in Minnesota, Housing Link

YEAR	DATA
2009	23,019

Number of foreclosures in Minnesota, Housing Link

For comparison: The highest rates of foreclosure were in outer-ring suburbs of the Twin Cities, including Wright, Scott and Sherburne counties. These are rapidly-growing counties where many homes were purchased in recent years.

Minnesota has more foreclosures than many other states, and foreclosures are growing faster than the national average. According to RealtyTrac, in the third quarter of 2009 Minnesota had one foreclosure for every 217 households. Though lower than the national rate of one per 136 households, this rate was the 18th highest among states.

Between the second and third quarters of 2009, foreclosures in Minnesota grew 16 percent compared to the national average of 5 percent. From the third quarter of 2008 to the third quarter of 2009, Minnesota foreclosures increased 100 percent, the 9th highest gain among states. The national year-to-year figure was 23 percent.

The Housing Link and RealtyTrac numbers are collected using different methodologies and covering different time periods, so figures from the two sources will vary. Both show the volatility and rapid changes that have occurred in foreclosure activity.

Things to think about: The 2009 quarterly data indicate the number of foreclosures is declining, but some experts predict another upswing in the near future because of high unemployment.

Technical notes: Housing Link collects its data from Sheriff's sales.

Sources:

- Housing Link, http://www.housinglink.org/

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Indicator 48: Counties with In-Migration

Goal: *Rural areas, small cities and urban neighborhoods throughout the state will be economically viable places for people to live and work.*

Rationale: Minnesotans value their freedom to choose where to live. Minnesotans in communities throughout the state also want their youth to be able to make a living without moving away. Migration is a good indicator of the relative attractiveness of an area.

About this indicator: Fewer counties are experiencing in-migration in the 2000s. The number of counties with net in-migration declined from 51 in 2000-2001 to 22 in 2008-2009. Minnesota has 87 counties.

The decline in the number of counties with net-migration reflects lower population growth in the state as a whole. Less statewide growth has translated into slower growth in most regions of Minnesota.

Net migration is calculated by subtracting natural increase (births minus deaths) from population change. Out-migration does not necessarily lead to population loss if there is sufficient natural increase to compensate.

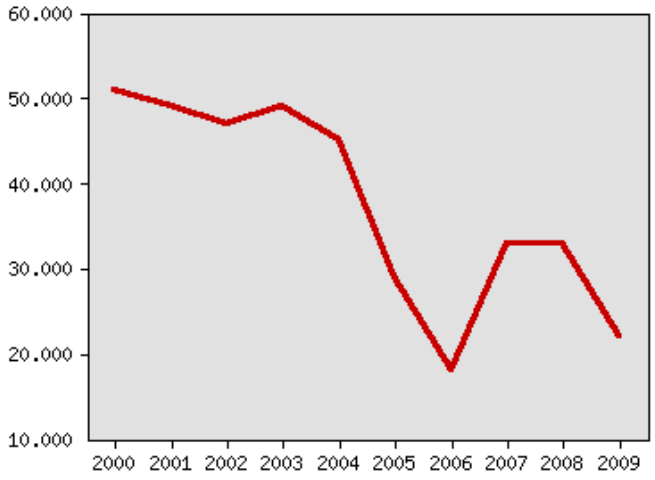
Number of counties with net in-migration

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA
2000	51
2001	49
2002	47
2003	49
2004	45
2005	29
2006	18
2007	33
2008	33
2009	22

Number of counties with net in-migration, Minnesota State Demographic Center

For comparison: Between 1990 and 2000, 55 counties experienced net in-migration.

Sources: Annual data calculated by Minnesota State Demographic Center

- http://www.demography.state.mn.us/documents/MigrationTrendsinMinnesota2000to2005.pdf
- http://www.demography.state.mn.us/PopNotes/MigrationPN00/MigrationPN00.pdf

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Counties losing population

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 49: Regional Disparity in Unemployment

Goal: *Rural areas, small cities and urban neighborhoods throughout the state will be economically viable places for people to live and work.*

Rationale: Differences in unemployment rates are a key indicator of variations in economic opportunity.

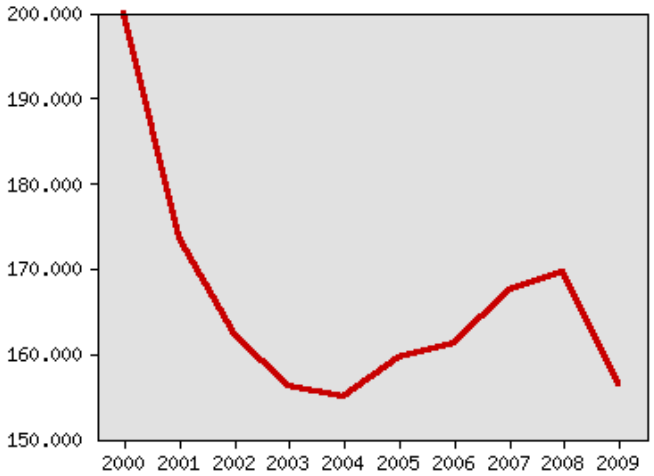
About this indicator: The ratio of the highest regional unemployment rate to the lowest rate declined from 2.00 in 2000 to 1.55 in 2004, then rose again. In 2009 the ratio of the highest to the lowest was 1.56.

The regions used are Economic Development Regions. There are 13 regions.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Highest regional unemployment rate as a percentage of lowest regional unemployment rate



YEAR	DATA
2000	200%
2001	173.5%

Highest regional unemployment rate as a percentage of lowest regional unemployment rate, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

YEAR	DATA
2002	162.2%
2003	156.1%
2004	155%
2005	159.5%
2006	161.1%
2007	167.5%
2008	169.6%
2009	156.3%

Highest regional unemployment rate as a percentage of lowest regional unemployment rate, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

For comparison: In November, 2010 Region 8 (Southwest) had the lowest unemployment rate at 5.0 percent. The highest unemployment rate was 9.4 percent in Region 5, the North Central Region. The state unemployment rate in November was 6.6 percent, with a seasonally adjusted rate of 7.1 percent.

Technical notes: This indicator uses annual average unemployment rates.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, http://www.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/tools/laus/Default.aspx

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Regional disparity in unemployment

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 50: Income by Congressional District

Goal: *Rural areas, small cities and urban neighborhoods throughout the state will be economically viable places for people to live and work.*

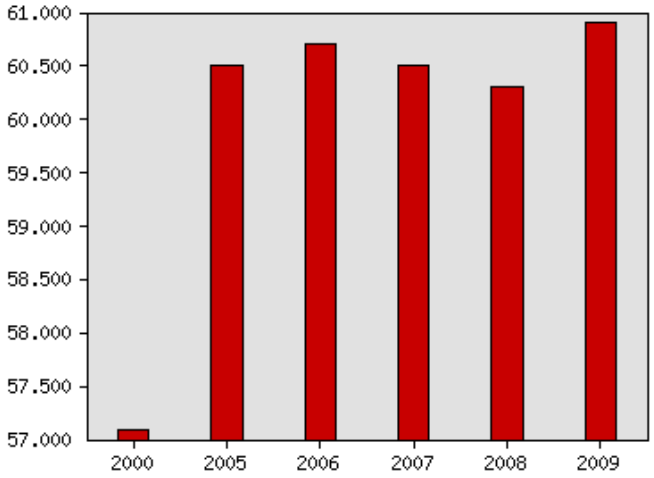
Rationale: Variations in household income are an indicator of differences in living standards and economic opportunities across Minnesota.

About this indicator:
Congressional District incomes have become more equal in the 2000s, though disparities remain large. In 2000, the median income in the bottom-ranking district was 57 percent of the median in the top-ranking district. Between 2004 and 2009, the percentage fluctuated between 60 or 61 percent.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Lowest district median as a percentage of highest district median



YEAR	DATA
2000	57.1%

Lowest district median as a percentage of highest district median, U.S. Census Bureau

YEAR	DATA
2005	60.5%
2006	60.7%
2007	60.5%
2008	60.3%
2009	60.9%

Lowest district median as a percentage of highest district median, U.S. Census Bureau

For comparison: Incomes are highest in the Second and Third Congressional Districts and lowest in the Seventh and Eighth Congressional Districts.

Things to think about: Increased equality among districts may be the result of low income growth in the wealthier areas, rather than high income growth in less affluent districts.

Technical notes: Data is for the 110th Congressional Districts. The 2000 Census presents data for both the 110th and 106th Congressional Districts.

Households include both families and nonfamily households Example of nonfamily households are people living alone and unmarried couples. Nonfamily households typically have lower incomes. The mix of household types by District is one factor affecting income.

Median income marks the midpoint of the distribution. Half of all households have incomes above the median and half are below the median.

Sources:

- www.census.gov http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 51: Energy use per person

Goal: *Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.*

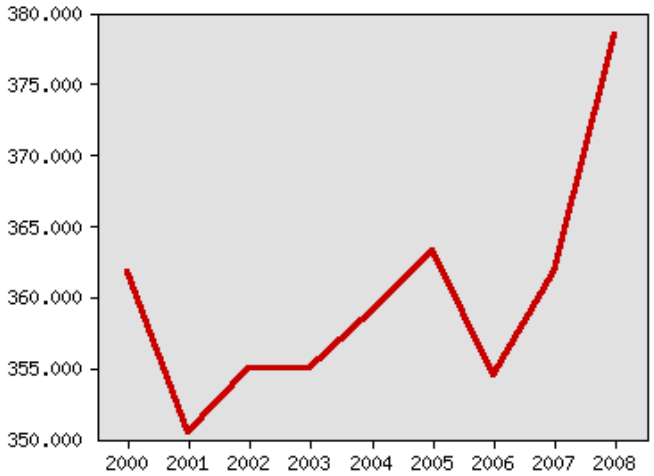
Rationale: Continued prosperity and community well-being depend on conserving and maintaining the natural systems that are the base for economic activity. Energy use is a good measure of both economic and environmental health because virtually all economic activities require energy, and all forms of energy production and use have environmental impacts.

About this indicator: Energy use per person, measured in millions of BTUs, was higher in 2008 than in any other year since 2000. The level remains substantially higher than in the early 1990s.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

Energy use per person in millions of BTU's



YEAR	DATA
2000	361.7
2001	350.4
2002	355.0

Energy use per person in millions of BTU's, U.S. Department of Energy

YEAR	DATA
2003	355.0
2004	359.0
2005	363.2
2006	354.5
2007	361.7
2008	378.4

Energy use per person in millions of BTU's, U.S. Department of Energy

For comparison: In 2008, Minnesota ranked 18th highest among states in per capital energy consumption. Minnesota's per capita consumption level, 378.8 million BTUs per person, was above the national average of 326.5.

Sources:

- U.S. Energy Information Agency, http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/states/state.html?q_state_a=mn&q_state=MINNESOTA
- U.S. Census Bureau Population estimates, http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.html

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Energy use per person

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

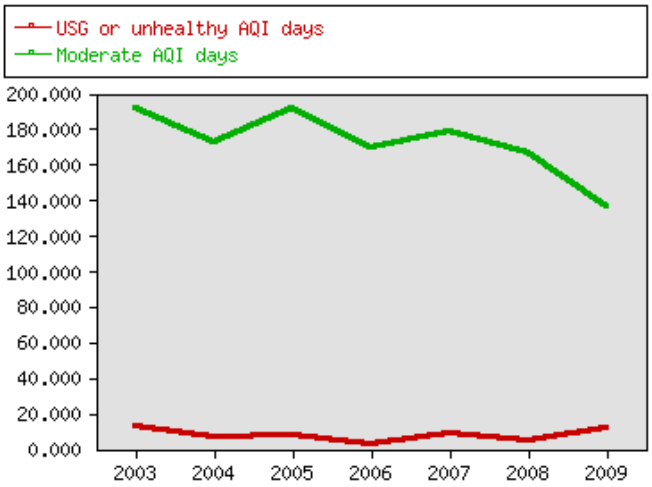
Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 52: Air quality

Goal: *Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.*

Rationale: Air quality in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Minnesota's most urbanized region, is one indicator of the state's air quality.

About this indicator: Air quality in the Twin Cities is often not as good as it should be. Since 2003, the number of days classified as “moderate” air quality has fluctuated between 136 and 191. The number of days classified as “unhealthy” or “unhealthy for sensitive groups” (for example, people with asthma) has varied between 3 and 13. No clear trend is evident.



How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

YEAR	DATA	
	Moderate AQI days	USG or unhealthy AQI days

Moderate Air Quality Index days, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Edit trend | Edit data
Unhealthy for selective groups Air Quality Index days, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
2003	191	13
2004	172	7
2005	191	8
2006	169	3
2007	178	9
2008	166	5
2009	136	12

Moderate Air Quality Index days, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Edit trend | Edit data
Unhealthy for selective groups Air Quality Index days, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Air quality standards have changed over time and become more rigorous. Data collected before 2003 was evaluated using older criteria and cannot be directly compared to the more recent values. The newer numbers use more stringent ozone standards and continuous monitoring of fine particles.

Sources:

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, "Air Quality in Minnesota: Emerging Trends – 2009 Report to the Legislature," January 2009. http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/lraq-1sy09.pdf

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Urban air pollution

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 53: Greenhouse gas emissions

Goal: *Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.*

Rationale: Greenhouse gases are implicated in climate change. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is a major priority both nationally and internationally. In Minnesota, climate change will affect natural ecosystems, forestry, outdoor recreation, infrastructure like flood control and wastewater treatment, agriculture, and human comfort.

About this indicator: The Next Generation Energy Act of 2007 sets a goal of reducing Minnesota greenhouse gas emissions by at least 15 percent by 2015 over 2005 levels. The 2008 data show a slight decrease consistent with this goal.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

YEAR	DATA							
	Total	Agricultural	Commercial	Electric utility	Residential	Transportation	Industrial	Waste
1990	131.4	24.2	5.7	42.4	7.8	31.1	14.7	5.4
2000	158.2	25.5	6.2	53.9	9.8	40.6	19.2	3.0
2001	157.1	25.1	6.4	55.1	9.7	41.0	16.8	2.9
2002	159.3	26.1	6.6	56.2	9.1	41.8	16.9	2.5
2003	160.9	26.2	6.6	57.1	9.6	42.1	16.9	2.3
2004	161.2	26.1	6.4	56.8	9.6	42.3	18.0	2.1
2005	161.3	26.4	6.6	57.5	8.5	42.3	18.1	2.0
2006	160.0	26.2	5.6	57.8	8.4	41.7	18.4	2.0
2007	161.8	27.0	5.7	56.9	9.7	42.0	18.5	1.9
2008	159.4	26.5	6.0	55.9	10.0	39.7	19.5	1.9

Greenhouse gas emissions, total, Edit trend | Edit data
Greenhouse gas emissions, agricultural sector, Edit trend | Edit data
Greenhouse gas emissions, commercial, Edit trend | Edit data
Greenhouse gas emissions, electric utility, Edit trend | Edit data
Greenhouse gas emissions, residential, Edit trend |

YEAR	DATA
	Edit data Greenhouse gas emissions, transportation, Edit trend | Edit data Greenhouse gas emissions, industrial, Edit trend | Edit data Greenhouse gas emissions, waste, Edit trend | Edit data

Things to think about: The economic sectors making the largest contribution to greenhouse gas emissions are electric utilities, transportation and agriculture. Despite the decrease in 2008, emissions are substantially above the 1990 level.

Sources:

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Peter Ciborowski and Anne Clafin, “Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Minnesota: 1970-2006,” June 2009. http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/p-gen4-05.pdf

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

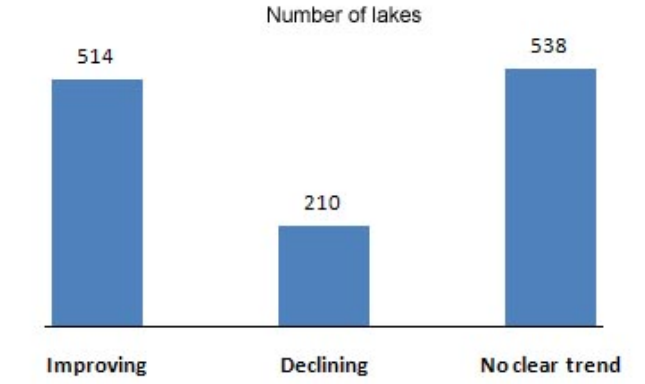
Desirable or positive.

Indicator 54: Lake water quality

Goal: *Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.*

Rationale: Water quality affects the desirability of a lake for fishing, swimming and other recreation. Extreme cases of poor water quality can produce toxic algae blooms.

About this indicator: Volunteers in the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Citizen Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP) measure the transparency (clarity) of lakes statewide using a Secchi Disk. Transparency is one simple measure of water quality. The results of a 2009 trend analysis performed on lakes with sufficient data for analysis show substantially more lakes with an improving water clarity trend, 514, than with a decreasing water clarity trend, 210. The remaining 538 lakes showed no clear trend. A Seasonal Kendall statistical test was used to determine trends for each lake. Only lakes with 8 or more years of data are included in the trend analysis.



Changes in Minnsota Lake water quality, Citizen Lake Monitoring Program, 2009 Survey

Changes in Minnesota lake water quality measured by Citizen Lake Monitoring Program

	2008	2009
Total improving	455	514

Changes in Minnesota lake water quality measured by Citizen Lake Monitoring Program

	2008	2009
Possibly improving	67	78
Likely improving	47	49
Very likely improving	113	122
Almost certainly improving	228	265
Total declining	231	210
Possibly declining	50	40
Likely declining	38	29
Very likely declining	53	65
Almost certainly declining	90	76
No clear trend	515	538

For comparison: Typical Secchi disk measures vary by ecoregion. They are highest in the Northern Lakes and Forests ecoregion in northeastern Minnesota. The Northern Glaciated Plains and Western Cornbelt Plains ecoregions in southern Minnesota have the lowest Secchi measures.

Technical notes: In 2009, 1263 Minnesota CLMP volunteers monitored the quality of 1237 lakes in the state. Participants take weekly transparency measurements on their lakes using a Secchi disk. A Secchi disk is a circular disk with a distinct pattern. The disc is lowered into the water, and the depth at which the pattern is no longer visible is used as a measure of transparency. At least eight to ten readings per season are needed to give reliable results.

Secchi transparency (clarity) is a measure of the depth of light penetration in the water column. Factors affecting water clarity in lakes include algae, dissolved organic compounds, and suspended sediments.

Sources:http://www.pca.state.mn.us/clmp

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/clmpfactsheets.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 55: Water use

Goal: *Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.*

Rationale: A clean and abundant water supply is essential to economic and human health. The use, quality and availability of water are important indicators of future economic and environmental conditions.

About this indicator: Total and per capita water use declined in 2009. This may be a result of the recession.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

- Undesirable or negative
- No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions
- Desirable or positive.

YEAR	DATA	
	Per capital daily water use	Total gallons used (billions)
1995	716.6	1,210.041
1996	692.7	1,184.042
1997	674.8	1,166.383
1998	733.7	1,280.709
1999	736.6	1,300.838
2000	746.8	1,340.901
2001	700.4	1,272.541
2002	706.7	1,298.470
2003	740.2	1,374.720
2004	733.4	1,377.253

Per capita daily water use (gallons), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data

Total water used (billions of gallons), Minnesota Department of Natural Resource Edit trend | Edit data

YEAR	DATA	
2005	751.5	1,427.713
2006	756.5	1,421.523
2007	755.0	1,430.583
2008	738.7	1,410.313
2009	709.8	1,364.363

Per capita daily water use (gallons), Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data

Total water used (billions of gallons), Minnesota Department of Natural Resource Edit trend | Edit data

For comparison: Power generation accounts for the largest share of water use, followed by public water supply, industrial production and irrigation. Power generation draws mostly from surface water and returns the majority of the water to the original source. Some water users rely on a combination of surface and ground waters, called conjunctive use.

Technical notes: Water use for hydropower was not included in the figures for total water use or per capita use.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/appropriations/wateruse.html

Related 2002 Milestones indicator:

- Water use

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 56: Drinking water quality

Goal: *Minnesotans will improve the quality of the air, water and earth.*

Rationale: Harmful chemicals, nutrients and bacteria in the drinking supply can adversely affect public health in both the short term and long term.

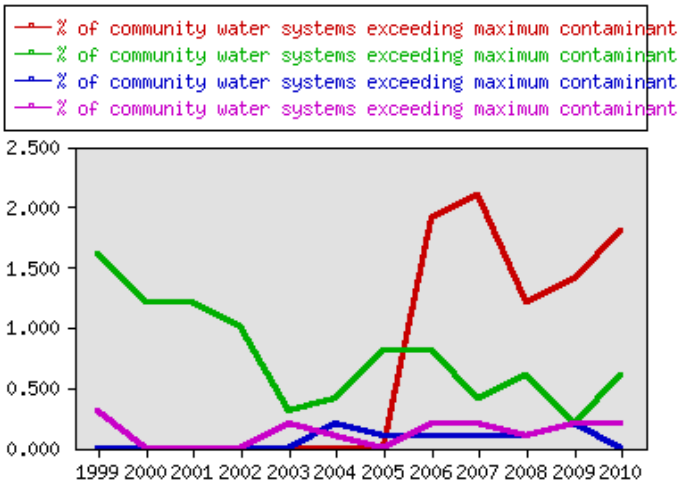
About this indicator: Data collected by the Minnesota Department of Health show high quality for almost all of the state's community water systems. Only a very small number violate maximum contaminant level standards for arsenic, nitrate, disinfection byproducts or lead.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA			
	% of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level for Arsenic	% of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level for Nitrate	% of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level for disinfection byproducts	% of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level for lead

YEAR	DATA			
1999	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.6
2000	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
2001	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
2002	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
2003	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3
2004	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.4
2005	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.8
2006	1.9	0.2	0.1	0.8
2007	2.1	0.2	0.1	0.4
2008	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.6
2009	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
2010	1.8	0.2	0	0.6

Percent of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level, Arsenic, Edit trend | Edit data
Percent of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level, Nitrate, Edit trend | Edit data
Percent of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level, Disinfection byproducts, Edit trend | Edit data
Percent of community water systems exceeding maximum contaminant level, Lead, Edit trend | Edit data

Things to think about: The contamination measures in the MDH report do not cover water from private wells. Some people are concerned about the presence in water supplies of contaminants for which we are not yet testing. These include pharmaceuticals and industrial chemicals such as PCBs. Ongoing research projects will provide better information about the presence of these chemical in Minnesota's water supply.

Technical notes: Standards for arsenic contamination became stricter in 2006. This explains the increase in community water systems violating the standard.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Health http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/tracking/dwreport.pdf

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Milestones 2011

- **Home**
- **Executive Summary**
- **Background**
- **Contact**

More indicators

- **Minnesota Compass**
- **Milestones 2002**
- **Children's Services Report Card**
- **State Agency Accountability**

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

login

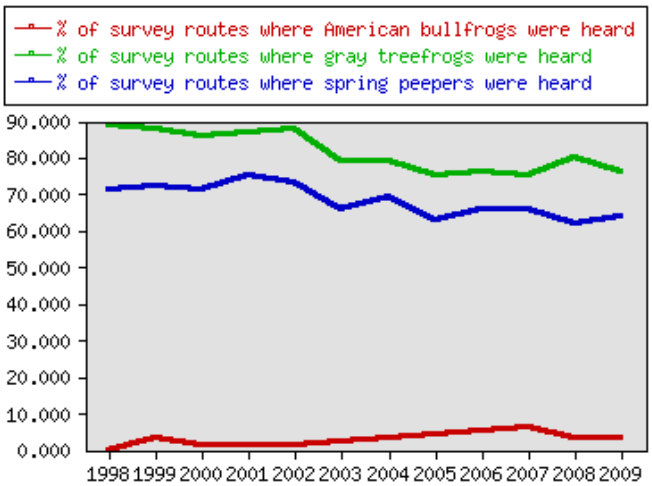
Indicator 57: Frogs

Goal: *Minnesotans will restore and maintain healthy ecosystems that support diverse plants and wildlife.*

Rationale: Frogs, like other amphibians, are believed to be highly sensitive to changes in the environment. With a life cycle that exposes them to aquatic habitats as tadpoles and terrestrial habitats as adults and a semi-permeable skin that makes them sensitive to environmental contaminants, frogs and toads are good indicators of ecosystem health.

About this indicator: No trend was detected for 11 of Minnesota's 14 species of frogs and toads, and therefore populations of these species appear stable. Though data must be interpreted with caution, they hint at gradual declines in two major Minnesota frog species: gray treefrogs and spring peepers.

Bullfrog populations appear to be moving beyond their traditional range in southeastern Minnesota.



YEAR	DATA		
	% of survey routes where gray treefrogs were heard	% of survey routes where spring peepers were heard	% of survey routes where American bullfrogs were heard
1998	89%	71%	0%
1999	88%	72%	3%
2000	86%	71%	1%
2001	87%	75%	1%
2002	88%	73%	1%
2003	79%	66%	2%
2004	79%	69%	3%
2005	75%	63%	4%
2006	76%	66%	5%
2007	75%	66%	6%
2008	80%	62%	3%
2009	76%	64%	3%

Percent of all the survey routes ran statewide each year where gray treefrogs were heard by volunteers, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data

Percent of all the survey routes ran statewide each year where spring peepers were heard by volunteers, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data

Percent of all the survey routes ran statewide each year where american bullfrogs were heard by volunteers, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data

Things to think about: The DNR does not consider the data a conclusive indicator of population changes. For example, weather affects the results of the survey. Fewer frogs will be heard if spring weather is unusually chilly or snowy.

Technical notes: Data is collected in the Minnesota Frog and Toad Calling Survey. The survey is conducted by volunteers who are trained to recognize frog calls. The volunteers then drive a prescribed route and stop at fixed locations to listen for the calls.

Because the survey is done by volunteers, the number of routes surveyed varies from year to year. Although the volunteers are trained, some may be more accurate than others in their identification of frog calls. The survey is conducted at the side of the road and does not attempt to find frogs in more remote habitats.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Frog and Toad Calling Survey, http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteering/frogtoad_survey/index.html

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 58: Loon populations

Goal: *Minnesotans will restore and maintain healthy ecosystems that support diverse plants and wildlife.*

Rationale: Many citizens are concerned about the well-being of Minnesota's state bird. Loons are sensitive to acid rain, density of human population, and other factors. This makes loon populations a good indicator of the health of lake ecosystems.

About this indicator: Minnesota's loon population appears to be stable over the last 15 years.

The DNR, with the assistance of hundreds of volunteers, gathers information about loon numbers on more than 600 lakes in six index regions of the state. These six regions represent different types of lakes and habitats. Volunteers visit each lake in early July and count the number of adult and juvenile loons.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

LOONS PER 100 ACRES

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Aitkin/Crow Wing	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.9
Becker	2.4	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.1	1.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.5
Cook/Lake	2.4	1.9	1.5	2	1.8	1.9	0.9	1.7	2.2	1.9	2	1.7	2.6	1.3	1.1	1.0
Itasca	4.2	3.8	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.1	4.1	3.5	4.2	3.7	4.9	4	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.6
Kandiyohi	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	1	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7
Otter Tail	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.2	1.6	2.3

For comparison: Loon population density varies among parts of the state. Within each region, the numbers appear to be stable or increasing.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/nongame/projects/mlmp_state.html

Previous Indicator

Next Indicator

Indicator 59: Breeding bird populations

Goal: *Minnesotans will restore and maintain healthy ecosystems that support diverse plants and wildlife.*

Rationale: Birds inhabit a wide range of settings ranging from wetlands to forests to urban areas. Changing populations of breeding birds can indicate changes in the health of these diverse ecosystems.

About this indicator: Between 1980 and 2007, there were significant declines in 43 of the 143 species that breed in Minnesota and were counted in the survey. The populations of 13 species increased significantly. Changes for the remaining species were not significant.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.

TRENDS IN MINNESOTA BREEDING BIRD POPULATIONS 1980-2007

	Total species	Significant Decline	Significant Increase	Nonsignificant change
All breeding birds	143	43	13	87
Breeding area:				
Grassland	13	4	0	9
Wetland	25	9	4	12
Successional or scrub	20	6	1	13
Woodland	49	6	4	39
Urban	11	6	1	4

Migration type:	Total species	Significant Decline	Significant Increase	Nonsignificant change
Permanent resident	18	4	4	10
Neotropical migrant	56	17	1	38

Things to think about: Since many bird species migrate, they are affected by the ecosystems of the places where they winter or the places they migrate through to reach their destinations. Species who reside year-round in Minnesota appear to be faring better than those which migrate to neotropical areas.

Technical notes: The Breeding Bird Survey, or BBS, is a large-scale roadside survey of North American birds. Experienced birders survey more than 3,500 routes, usually in June. The survey has been conducted since 1966. The data are processed by the United States Geological Survey. Variation in counts can reflect sampling error and technique as well as true changes in bird populations.

Sources:

- USGS, Breeding Bird Survey, http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/

Previous Indicator Next Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration

Minnesota Milestones 2011

Indicator 60: Outdoor Recreation

Goal: *Minnesotans will have opportunities to enjoy the state's natural resources.*

Rationale: Preserving the state's natural heritage is important not only for preserving plant and animal life and sustaining the state's economy, but also for recreation and enjoyment.

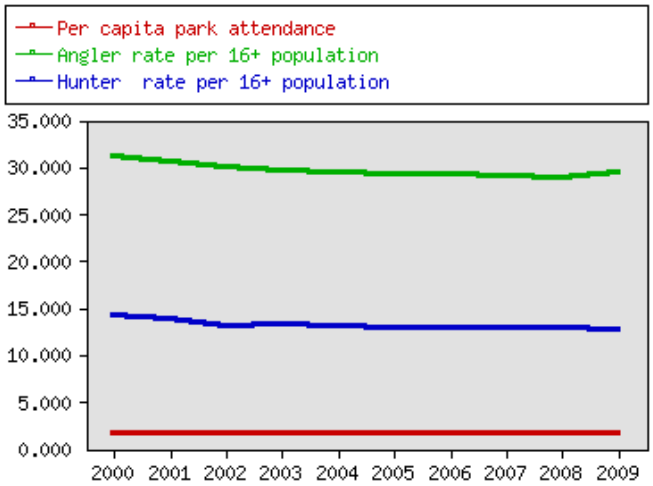
About this indicator: Per capita participation in outdoor recreation has declined. Minnesotans are less likely to obtain hunting and fishing licenses than in the past. They are also less likely to go boating. After a long period of gradual decline, attendance rates at state parks increased in 2009, possibly because state parks offer an affordable recreation opportunity for people affected by the economic downturn.

How is Minnesota doing?
Keep an eye out for these images to quickly tell which way the trend is going:

Undesirable or negative

No change, or not enough data to draw conclusions

Desirable or positive.



YEAR	DATA		
	Angler rate per 16+	Hunter rate	Per capita

YEAR	DATA		
	population	per 16+ population	park attendance
2000	31.1%	14.1%	1.7%
2001	30.6%	13.8%	1.6%
2002	29.9%	13.1%	1.6%
2003	29.6%	13.2%	1.6%
2004	29.4%	13%	1.6%
2005	29.2%	12.9%	1.6%
2006	29.2%	12.9%	1.6%
2007	29.1%	12.9%	1.6%
2008	28.8%	12.8%	1.6%
2009	29.3%	12.6%	1.7%

Angler rate per 16+ population, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data
Hunter rate per 16+ population, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data
Per capita park attendance, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Edit trend | Edit data

Things to think about: Population shifts and generational changes appear to be responsible for much of the decline out outdoor recreation. Minnesota's population is aging and becoming more urban, and older people and city dwellers participate less in traditional outdoor activities. The rapidly growing nonwhite and Latino populations also have lower participation rates.

In addition, younger generations appear to be participating less in outdoor activities than previous generations did at the same age.

Sources:

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/aboutdnr/reports/strategic-documents/trends.pdf
- Annual values provided by Tim Kelly, DNR

Previous Indicator

Milestones is a product of the Minnesota State Demographic Center, a division of the Department of Administration