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News Release

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MARRIED COUPLES JUST 57 PERCENT OF MN HOUSEHOLDS; AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE SHRINKS THROUGHOUT STATE.

Significant changes occurred in the 1980s in the percentage of households that are made up of families, especially married couple families, according to new 1990 Census data. From 1980 to 1990, families dropped from 71.8 percent of all households to 68.6 percent; married couple families dropped from 62.1 percent of all households to 57.2 percent. In fact, fewer than half the households in Hennepin and Ramsey counties are now married couple families, 48.6 percent and 48.7 percent respectively.

The changes are not the result of fewer families; rather, the growth in "non-traditional" and nonrelated households has outpaced the growth in families. Where family households grew 9 percent during the last decade, nonfamily households grew 26.9 percent. These different growth rates portray the changes in our culture. The growth in nonfamily households shows the greater number of persons either living alone—25.1 percent of households in 1990—or nonrelated persons living together in one household—6.3 percent of households.

Married couple families are not growing as fast as other types of families. While the number of married couple families increased five percent over the last ten years, female headed family households increased 32 percent, and male headed family households jumped 42.4 percent. Now, more than 11 percent of all Minnesota households are single-parent households. However, this phenomenon is not consistent across the state. In Ramsey County, the number is over 14 percent, but it is only 6.9 percent in Traverse County.

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According to State Demographer Tom Gillaspy, "We will be releasing more specific data as we have an opportunity to process and analyze the computer tapes from the 1990 Census. The data will help us understand the changes taking place throughout Minnesota. For instance, in several counties in Western Minnesota, 19 percent or more of their households are occupied by persons 65 years old and over living alone. Statewide, this type of household is only 10 percent of all households. These numbers will have an effect on the long range vitality of a county." Gillaspy adds, "More data on the 'shrinking' of households will provide us with innumerable insights into the people and ways of Minnesota."

As a result of these larger trends, overall household size is shrinking. The number of persons per household in Minnesota dropped from 2.74 to 2.58 from 1980 to 1990. This trend reflects national trends in declining household size. The decline also occurred in each county in Minnesota. For the first time, no county in Minnesota has an average household of three or more; household sizes range from 2.33 in Cook County to 2.98 in Sherburne County

Notes:

Households

Includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit. Persons not living in households are classified as living in group quarters. In 100-percent tabulations, the count of households always equals the count of occupied housing units.

Family Households

Includes a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. The number of family households always equals the number of families; however, a family household may also include nonrelatives living with the family. Families are classified by type as either a married-couple family or other family which is further classified into "male householder" (a family with a male householder and no wife present) or "female householder" (a family with a female householder and no husband present).

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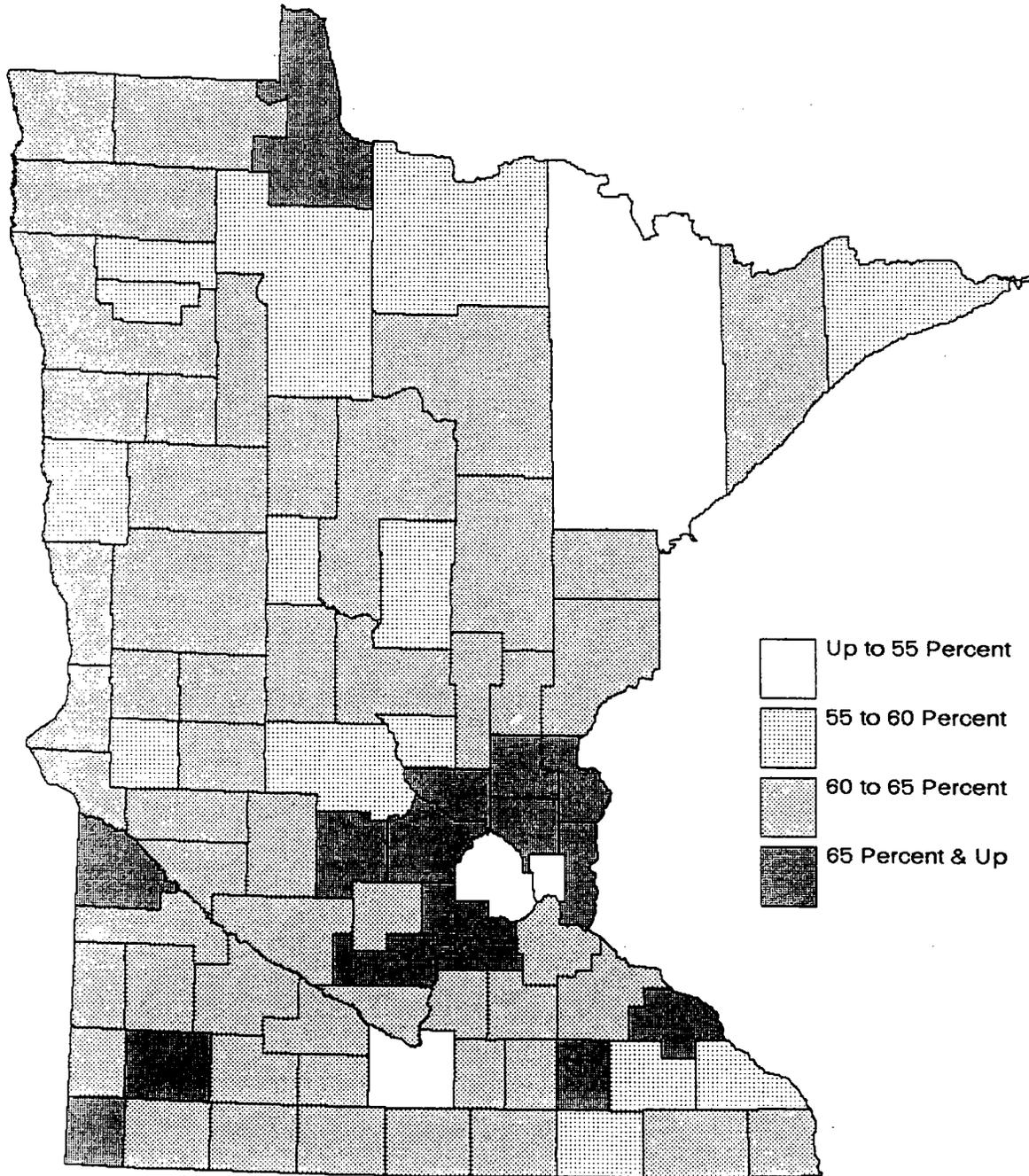
Changes in Household Types From 1980 to 1990 . . .

. . . Minnesota

	1990	1980	Actual Change	Percent Change
Total Households	1,647,853	1,445,222	202,631	14.0%
Family Households	1,130,683	1,037,522	93,161	9.0%
Percent of Total	68.6%	71.8%		
Married Couple Families	942,524	897,532	44,992	5.0%
Percent of Total	57.2%	62.1%		
Male Headed Families	46,605	32,719	13,886	42.4%
Percent of Total	2.8%	2.3%		
Female Headed Families	141,554	107,271	34,283	32.0%
Percent of Total	8.6%	7.4%		
Nonfamily Households	517,170	407,700	109,470	26.9%
Percent of Total	31.4%	28.2%		
Living Alone	413,531	335,791	77,740	23.2%
Percent of Total	25.1%	23.2%		
Not Living Alone	103,639	71,909	31,730	44.1%
Percent of Total	6.3%	5.0%		
Persons/Household	2.58	2.74	-0.16	-5.8%

Prepared by State Demographer's Office

Married Couple Families in 1990 as Percent of all Households



DATANET PLUS MAPPING

Prepared by State Demographer's Office

U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census

DATANET
Plus
MAPPING
MINNESOTA STATE PLANNING AGENCY



Minnesota Household Types in 1990

	Total	Families	Married Families	Male Headed Families	Female Headed Families	Non- Families	Living Alone	Living Alone 65 +
Minnesota	1,647,853	1,130,683	942,524	46,605	141,554	517,170	413,531	167,001
Aitkin	5,126	3,620	3,226	127	267	1,506	1,375	814
Anoka	82,437	65,136	54,419	2,759	7,958	17,301	12,835	3,571
Becker	10,477	7,555	6,327	355	873	2,922	2,580	1,385
Beltrami	11,870	8,390	6,574	435	1,381	3,480	2,721	1,228
Benton	10,935	7,562	6,305	360	897	3,373	2,617	1,127
Big Stone	2,463	1,727	1,557	56	114	736	714	467
Blue Earth	19,277	11,993	10,100	473	1,420	7,284	4,678	2,022
Brown	10,321	7,167	6,306	249	612	3,154	2,892	1,575
Carlton	10,842	7,856	6,610	343	903	2,986	2,669	1,384
Carver	16,601	12,864	11,301	439	1,124	3,737	2,965	1,146
Cass	8,302	6,097	5,131	324	642	2,205	1,959	1,029
Chippewa	5,245	3,684	3,283	119	282	1,561	1,460	898
Chisago	10,551	8,183	7,125	332	726	2,368	1,971	1,013
Clay	17,490	11,921	9,890	477	1,554	5,569	4,097	1,903
Clearwater	3,064	2,240	1,885	111	244	824	770	490
Cook	1,632	1,072	944	41	87	560	473	196
Cottonwood	5,060	3,585	3,221	98	266	1,475	1,405	869
Crow Wing	17,204	12,161	10,299	461	1,401	5,043	4,360	2,260
Dakota	98,293	73,632	62,196	2,719	8,717	24,661	18,507	4,607
Dodge	5,538	4,277	3,809	156	312	1,261	1,101	612
Douglas	10,988	7,781	6,836	255	690	3,207	2,696	1,433
Faribault	6,772	4,710	4,156	137	417	2,062	1,946	1,191
Fillmore	7,822	5,654	5,034	196	424	2,168	1,975	1,207
Freeborn	13,029	9,287	8,088	331	868	3,742	3,378	1,863
Goodhue	15,198	10,903	9,550	363	990	4,295	3,788	2,026
Grant	2,454	1,737	1,561	46	130	717	670	461
Hennepin	419,060	257,347	203,656	11,708	41,983	161,713	121,665	37,466
Houston	6,844	5,053	4,382	179	492	1,791	1,604	850
Hubbard	5,781	4,274	3,750	179	345	1,507	1,357	770
Isanti	8,810	6,815	5,886	304	625	1,995	1,674	834
Itasca	15,461	11,424	9,758	449	1,217	4,037	3,572	1,835
Jackson	4,560	3,272	2,916	114	242	1,288	1,173	666
Kanabec	4,753	3,485	2,973	159	353	1,268	1,141	586
Kandiyohi	14,298	10,145	8,839	340	966	4,153	3,424	1,708
Kittson	2,274	1,586	1,407	59	120	688	653	388
Koochiching	6,025	4,278	3,528	238	512	1,747	1,493	736
Lac qui Parle	3,505	2,487	2,280	81	126	1,018	972	596
Lake	4,242	3,019	2,662	96	261	1,223	1,077	523
Lake of the Woods	1,576	1,169	1,030	46	93	407	369	192
Le Sueur	8,468	6,247	5,445	273	529	2,221	1,955	1,097
Lincoln	2,704	1,904	1,711	78	115	800	756	496
Lyon	9,073	6,251	5,480	196	575	2,822	2,370	1,189
McLeod	11,815	8,611	7,552	326	733	3,204	2,759	1,421
Mahnomen	1,805	1,339	1,113	78	148	466	439	268



Minnesota Household Types in 1990

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Marshall	4,194	3,017	2,671	139	207	1,177	1,102	661
Martin	9,129	6,378	5,616	180	582	2,751	2,536	1,405
Meeker	7,651	5,628	5,010	202	416	2,023	1,838	1,066
Mille Lacs	6,911	5,031	4,281	220	530	1,880	1,654	976
Morrison	10,399	7,715	6,648	324	743	2,684	2,412	1,291
Mower	15,028	10,373	8,950	348	1,075	4,655	4,172	2,296
Murray	3,758	2,715	2,476	84	155	1,043	986	602
Nicollet	9,478	6,786	5,895	219	672	2,692	2,096	901
Nobles	7,683	5,525	4,888	186	451	2,158	1,925	1,036
Norman	3,118	2,155	1,921	94	140	963	913	591
Olmsted	40,058	27,737	23,914	820	3,003	12,321	9,872	3,236
Otter Tail	19,510	13,939	12,288	512	1,139	5,571	5,027	2,908
Pennington	5,173	3,463	2,899	147	417	1,710	1,456	734
Pine	7,577	5,514	4,724	245	545	2,063	1,832	1,013
Pipestone	4,078	2,821	2,520	74	227	1,257	1,171	707
Polk	11,984	8,506	7,214	349	943	3,478	3,114	1,715
Pope	4,135	2,986	2,683	99	204	1,149	1,087	705
Ramsey	190,500	120,206	92,790	5,854	21,562	70,294	55,727	19,058
Red Lake	1,730	1,171	1,034	48	89	559	527	288
Redwood	6,554	4,643	4,151	150	342	1,911	1,772	1,070
Renville	6,790	4,848	4,339	189	320	1,942	1,807	1,089
Rice	16,347	11,644	9,906	462	1,276	4,703	3,946	1,805
Rock	3,754	2,733	2,478	65	190	1,021	961	590
Roseau	5,415	4,016	3,459	221	336	1,399	1,190	596
St. Louis	78,901	51,903	42,426	2,237	7,240	26,998	22,747	11,183
Scott	19,367	15,438	13,416	621	1,401	3,929	2,996	1,126
Sherburne	13,643	10,715	9,357	428	930	2,928	2,073	774
Sibley	5,323	3,942	3,509	187	246	1,381	1,267	761
Stearns	39,776	27,766	23,736	1,119	2,911	12,010	8,558	3,624
Steele	11,342	8,328	7,352	263	713	3,014	2,620	1,247
Stevens	3,823	2,478	2,189	83	206	1,345	973	522
Swift	4,268	2,950	2,625	98	227	1,318	1,259	820
Todd	8,589	6,209	5,490	253	466	2,380	2,121	1,224
Traverse	1,778	1,253	1,130	32	91	525	502	320
Wabasha	7,286	5,387	4,782	187	418	1,899	1,678	922
Wadena	4,978	3,468	2,976	129	363	1,510	1,358	776
Waseca	6,649	4,756	4,123	171	462	1,893	1,636	844
Washington	49,246	39,277	33,729	1,379	4,169	9,969	7,929	2,364
Watonwan	4,530	3,133	2,768	118	247	1,397	1,265	734
Wilkin	2,805	2,022	1,765	90	167	783	710	405
Winona	16,930	11,329	9,652	471	1,206	5,601	4,316	2,023
Wright	23,013	18,071	15,741	738	1,592	4,942	4,026	1,804
Yellow Medicine	4,607	3,208	2,902	105	201	1,399	1,318	791

