

East Central Landscape Demographic Data Report

**A support document to the
2nd Generation MFRC East Central Landscape Plan**

January 2019



Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC)

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This document is online at: <https://mn.gov/frc/east-central-committee.html>.

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	i
Executive Summary	iii
List of Tables	v
List of Figures.....	vii
Setting.....	ix
Population Trends and Projections.....	1
Population Trends	1
Racial Diversity	1
Population Projections	5
Household Trends and Projections	7
Employment Trends and Projections.....	9
Earnings and Income Trends.....	15



Executive Summary

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council was established in 1995 by the Minnesota Legislature to provide advice to public and private organizations on forest sustainability issues. This legislation provided authorization for establishing regional landscape committees to foster landscape-based forest resource planning and coordination. These regional committees provide an opportunity to involve private citizens, forestry professionals, and members of various interest groups in developing and implementing landscape-level plans that promote forest sustainability. From 1998 to 2005, landscape plans were prepared for each of the six forested regions in the state.

The East Central Landscape Plan was first completed in 2005. This Demographic Data Report was developed to support the revision of the 2005 Plan to reflect new findings, conditions, and changes in regional goals and strategies. This Demographic Data Report summarizes the best available data from the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, the American Community Survey, and Minnesota State Demographic Center on regional population and employment trends and projections.

Key findings include:

Population Trends and Projections

- **Population growth in the region is slowing.** From 1960 to 2010 the population of the East Central Landscape has grown at a faster rate than the statewide average. However, from 2010 to 2017 the growth rate is lower than the statewide average, and has even declined in the four northernmost counties (Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, and Pine).
- **Overall racial diversity is limited.** Racial diversity is low across the East Central Landscape. Only two of the nine counties in the region contain a higher percent American Indian and Alaska Native people than the statewide average (Mille Lacs and Pine County).
- **Regional projected population growth is lower than Minnesota overall and is widely variable among counties.** Despite overall projected population growth through 2045, variability in the rate of change exists within the region. Wright County is projected to increase at a higher rate than the statewide average, while the four northernmost counties (Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, and Pine) are expected to further decline in population.
- **The region's population is aging.** The >65 year-old age group is projected to be the fastest growing age group through 2045.

Household Trends and Projections

- **The region has higher homeownership rates compared to Minnesota overall, but varying levels of income and rates of poverty.** Eight of the nine counties in the region have a higher rate of home ownership than the state average, the exception being Benton County.
- **Household income, poverty, and value of owner-occupied homes varies widely across the region.** Median household income has a strong negative correlation with rates of poverty and a strong positive correlation with value of owner-occupied homes. Household income and value of owner-occupied homes is highest in the three southernmost counties (Chisago, Wright, and Sherburne), which also have the lowest rates of poverty in the region and are also

lower than the statewide average. Conversely, the in four northernmost counties (Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, and Pine) median household income and value of owner-occupied homes is lowest in the region while rates of poverty are the highest in the region and higher than the statewide average.

Employment Trends and Projects

- **Employment numbers indicate that the region is recovering from the Great Recession faster than the rest of the state, but some counties are still behind.** Employment across the East Central Landscape rose more quickly than statewide employment over the past ten years, although it was still below the statewide growth rate in five out of the nine counties. Two counties – Mille Lacs and Morrison – have experienced overall negative employment growth since 2008.
- **Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Health Care and Social Assistance, and Accommodation and Food Services are the largest employment sectors in the East Central Landscape.** Together these sectors account for over 70,500 jobs, 48.6% of the total number of industry reported employees in the region.
- **Forest based economic sectors are not important employers to the region.** Wood Products Manufacturing was a reported industry in only two of the nine counties (Mille Lacs and Wright) and accounts for 372 jobs in the East Central Landscape. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting was a reported industry in three of the counties (Benton, Isanti, and Kanabec) and accounts for 395 jobs.
- **All of counties in the region have a higher unemployment rate than the state-wide average.** All counties in the region retain a higher-than-average unemployment rate compared to the state as a whole. The unemployment rate in the East Central Landscape was 4.3% in 2015, a substantial decrease from the 9.7% level it reached in 2009 and its lowest since 2000. Among counties the four northernmost counties in the region (Pine, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Morrison) had unemployment rates of 5.5% or higher in 2017, while the more southern counties had employment rates of 4.5% or lower.

Earnings and Income Trends

- **Per capita income is lower than the state-wide average.** There are no counties in the region which exceed the state average. The highest-income county in the region is Sherburne County (\$31,182) and the lowest-income county is Pine (\$22,817).
- **Wages fall below the state-wide average.** The regional average wage is about \$15,000 less than the state and national average. Weekly wage is also much lower in the East Central Landscape than the state and national averages
- **The region has variable rates of poverty.** Four of the nine counties (Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, and Wright) were at least three percentage points below the statewide levels of persons below poverty level, while the remaining counties were all above statewide levels of poverty.

Note to Reader: Additional regional data can be found in the “East Central Landscape Conditions & Trends Report” (<https://mn.gov/frc/landscape/ec/>).



List of Tables

Table 1. Population estimates for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 1960-2017.....	2
Table 2. Race and ethnicity distribution of Minnesota and counties in East Central Landscape, 2012-2016.	4
Table 3. Population projections for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2015-2045.....	5
Table 4. Population projection by age group for counties in the East Central Landscape, 2015-2045.....	6
Table 5. Per capita and household earnings, cost, and ownership rate for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2012-2016.	8
Table 6. Mean annual employment numbers for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2008-2017; all industries, ownerships, and establishment sizes.....	10
Table 7. Number of employees by employment sector in the nine East Central Landscape counties, 2017.....	11
Table 8. Percent unemployed for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 1990-2017.	13
Table 9. Annual establishments, employment, and wages for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2017 all industries, ownerships, and establishment sizes.....	16

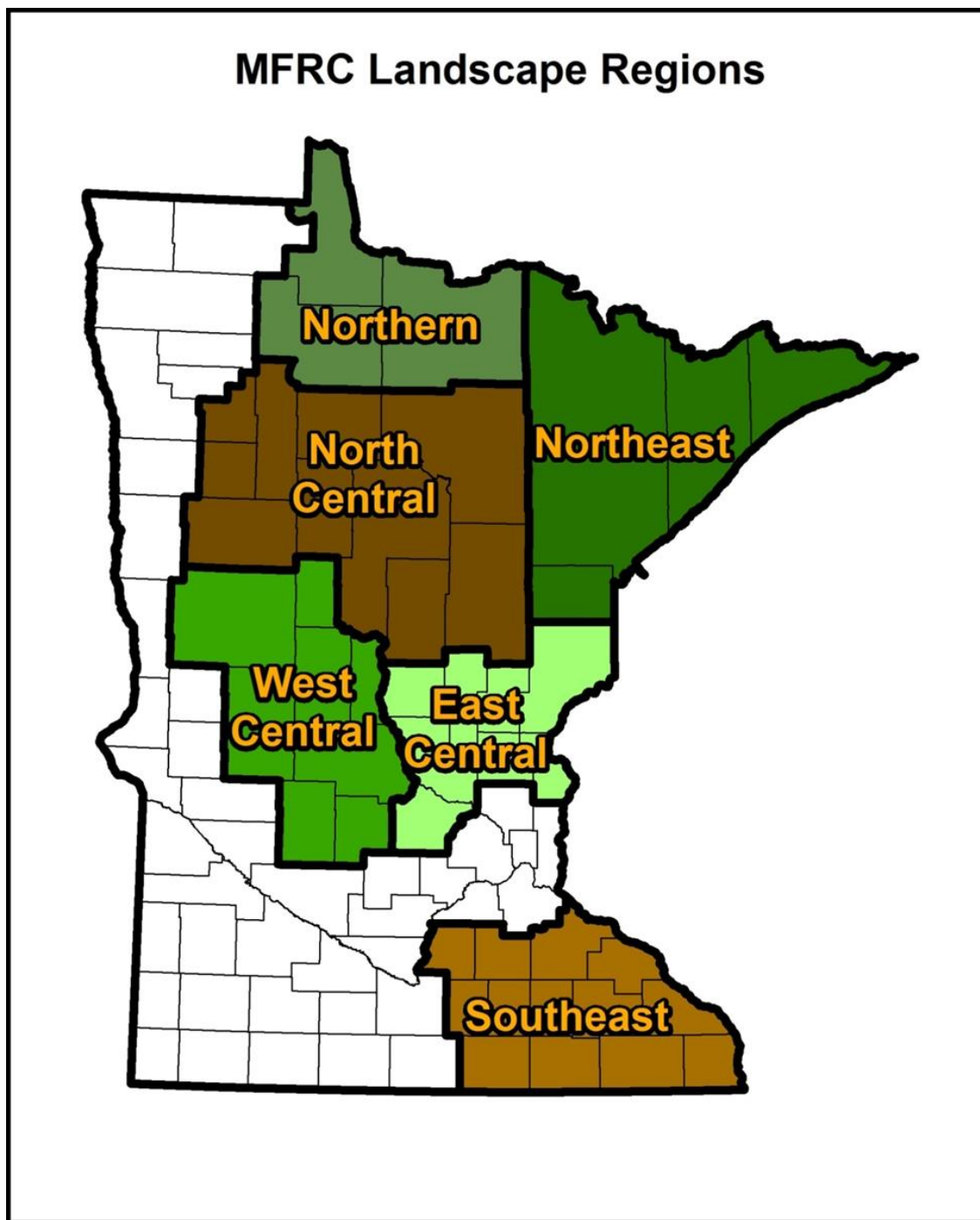


List of Figures

Figure 1. 2010 population density by minor civil division.....	3
Figure 2. Percent unemployed for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 1990-2017.	13
Figure 3. Per capita annual income for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2012-2016; based on 2016 dollars.	16
Figure 4. Average weekly wage for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2017; all industries, ownerships, and establishment sizes.	17
Figure 5. Percent of population with incomes below the poverty level for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2012-2016.	17
Figure 6. Percent of statewide population below poverty level by minor civil division, 2010. ...	18

Setting

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council defines the East Central Landscape as the following nine county area: Benton, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, eastern half of Morrison, Pine, Sherburne, and Wright.



Source: Minnesota Forest Resources Council.



Population Trends and Projections

Population Trends

Minnesota's population has grown at a fairly steady rate of 7-12% per decade since 1960, but over the same time period the population of the East Central Landscape grew at a rate of 15-35% per decade (Table 1). From 2000-2010 the region experienced a 25.8% population increase, which is over three times as much as the statewide average (Table 1). According to 2010 U.S. Census data, the region's population is more concentrated in the southern half of the region, while in the northern counties most of the area has a relatively low population density (Figure 1).

Current data indicates that since 2010 the population growth of the East Central Landscape is lagging behind the statewide average, which is in contrast to the previous five decades when the rate of growth in the region exceeded the statewide average (Table 1). Since 2010 five counties in the region experienced some population growth (Benton, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Wright), while the remaining counties (Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine) all declined in population. In general, patterns of population growth since 2010 follows a north-south axis, with moderate to large population growth in the southern counties and declining populations in the northern counties.

Racial Diversity

Overall, the East Central Landscape contains less racial diversity than the state of Minnesota as a whole (Table 2).

Most of the counties in the East Central Landscape are far below the statewide ethnic diversity average with only two of the nine counties in the region containing a higher percent American Indian and Alaska Native people than the statewide average (Mille Lacs and Pine County).

Table 1. Population estimates for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 1960-2017.

County	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2000 - 2010 % Change	2017 Estimate	2010 - 2017 % Change
Benton	17,287	20,841	25,187	30,185	34,226	38,451	12.3%	39,937	3.9%
Chisago	13,419	17,492	25,717	30,521	41,101	53,887	31.1%	55,308	2.6%
Isanti	13,530	16,560	23,600	25,921	31,287	37,816	20.9%	39,582	4.7%
Kanabec	9,007	9,775	12,161	12,802	14,996	16,239	8.3%	16,024	-1.3%
Mille Lacs	14,560	15,703	18,430	18,670	22,330	26,097	16.9%	25,872	-0.9%
Morrison	26,641	26,949	29,311	29,604	31,712	33,198	4.7%	33,064	-0.4%
Pine	17,004	16,821	19,871	21,264	26,530	29,750	12.1%	29,203	-1.8%
Sherburne	12,861	18,344	29,908	41,945	64,417	88,499	37.4%	94,570	6.9%
Wright	29,935	38,933	58,681	68,710	89,986	124,700	38.6%	134,286	7.7%
East Central Landscape*	154,244	181,418	242,866	279,622	356,585	448,637	25.8%	467,846	4.3%
Minnesota	3,413,864	3,806,103	4,075,970	4,375,099	4,919,479	5,303,925	7.8%	5,576,606	5.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division; Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017. Release Date: December 2017.

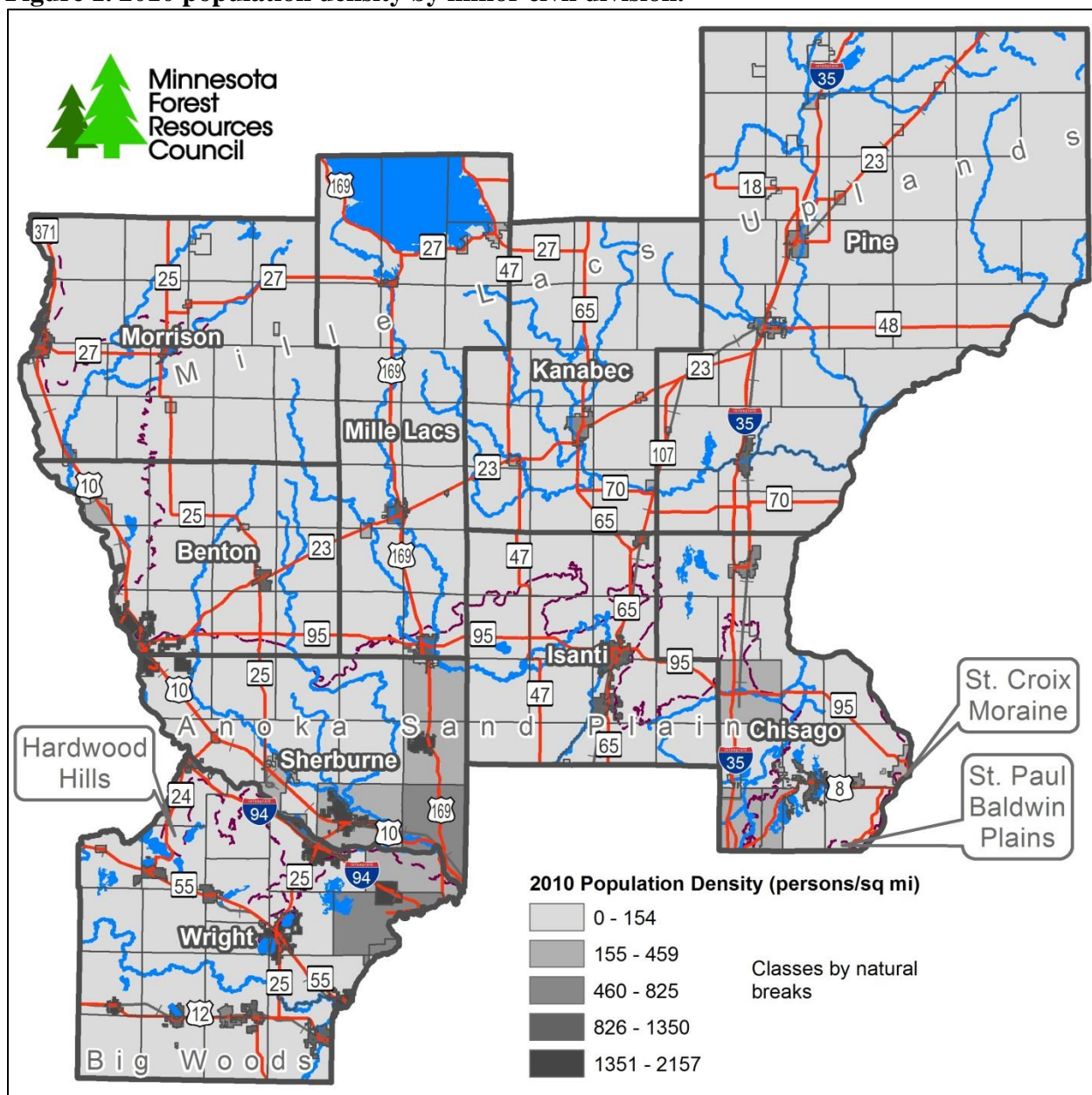
Notes – the U.S. Census Bureau determines where people should be counted during a census using the residence rule, which says:

- Count people at their usual residence, which is the place where they live and sleep most of the time.
- People in certain types of facilities or shelters (i.e., places where groups of people live together) on Census Day should be counted at the facility or shelter.
- People who do not have a usual residence, or cannot determine a usual residence, should be counted where they are on Census Day.

Additionally, people who live at more than one residence, such as people who travel seasonally, are counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time. If time is equally divided, or if usual residence cannot be determined, they are counted at the residence where they are staying on census day.

* The MFRC East Central Landscape splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these population estimates and therefore the 'East Central Landscape' summary row does not represent the true population of the region.

Figure 1. 2010 population density by minor civil division.



Source: MN Geospatial Commons.

Table 2. Race and ethnicity distribution of Minnesota and counties in East Central Landscape, 2012-2016.

	Benton	Chisago	Isanti	Kanabec	Mille Lacs	Morrison
White alone (a)	93.9%	95.6%	95.8%	96.7%	91.1%	97.2%
Black or African American alone (a)	2.7%	1.2%	0.6%	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone (a)	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	1.0%	5.1%	0.1%
Asian alone (a)	1.1%	0.7%	0.9%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (a)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Two or More Races	1.9%	1.8%	1.9%	1.4%	2.5%	1.2%
Hispanic or Latino (b)	2.0%	1.9%	1.8%	1.5%	2.0%	1.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	92.1%	94.1%	94.4%	95.4%	89.7%	96.2%
	Pine	Sherburne	Wright	East Central Landscape	Minnesota	
White alone (a)	91.5%	93.7%	94.7%	94.5%	84.3%	
Black or African American alone (a)	2.1%	2.1%	1.1%	1.4%	5.7%	
American Indian and Alaska Native alone (a)	2.4%	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%	1.0%	
Asian alone (a)	0.5%	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	4.5%	
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (a)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Two or More Races	2.8%	2.0%	1.8%	1.9%	2.7%	
Hispanic or Latino (b)	2.8%	2.4%	2.7%	2.3%	5.1%	
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	89.6%	92.3%	93.1%	93.0%	81.3%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Notes – (a) Includes persons reporting only one race; (b) The concept of race is separate from the concept of Hispanic origin. Percentages for the various race categories add to 100 percent, and should not be combined with the percent Hispanic and Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories. This is why categories do not total 100%.

* The MFRC East Central Landscape splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these population estimates and therefore the ‘East Central Landscape’ summary row does not represent the true population of the region.

Population Projections

Overall, the population of the East Central Landscape is expected to increase by 8.7% between 2015 and 2045 (Table 3). Despite the overall increase, variability in the rate of change exists within the region. Wright County is projected to increase at a higher rate than the statewide average of 12.4%, while Kanabec is expected to decline by 13.7% between 2015 and 2045.

Population projections by age group are available through 2045 by county from the Minnesota State Demographic Center (Table 4). Between 2015 and 2045, the 0-24 year-old age group is expected to decline by 5.4% in the East Central Landscape, the 25-64 age group is expected to decline by 7.5%. During the same time period the >65 age group is expected to increase in population by 104%.

Table 3. Population projections for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2015-2045.

County	2015	2025	2015-25 % Change	2035	2025-35 % Change	2045	2035-45 % Change	2015-2045 % Change
Benton	39,781	42,027	5.6%	43,522	3.6%	44,590	2.5%	12.1%
Chisago	54,995	57,937	5.3%	59,234	2.2%	59,530	0.5%	8.2%
Isanti	38,780	40,090	3.4%	40,455	0.9%	40,262	-0.5%	3.8%
Kanabec	15,913	15,206	-4.4%	14,463	-4.9%	13,732	-5.1%	-13.7%
Mille Lacs	25,950	25,753	-0.8%	25,228	-2.0%	24,537	-2.7%	-5.4%
Morrison	33,005	32,718	-0.9%	32,622	-0.3%	32,724	0.3%	-0.9%
Pine	29,463	29,508	0.2%	29,104	-1.4%	28,459	-2.2%	-3.4%
Sherburne	91,543	96,492	5.4%	99,762	3.4%	102,085	2.3%	11.5%
Wright	131,094	141,796	8.2%	149,279	5.3%	154,853	3.7%	18.1%
East Central Landscape*	460,524	481,527	4.6%	493,669	2.5%	500,772	1.4%	8.7%
Minnesota	5,502,683	5,844,466	6.2%	6,089,935	4.2%	6,278,094	3.1%	12.4%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center.

Notes – projections are based on 2014 projections from the 2010 U.S. Census Data.

* The MFRC East Central Landscape splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these population estimates and therefore the ‘East Central Landscape’ summary row does not represent the true population of the region.

Table 4. Population projection by age group for counties in the East Central Landscape, 2015-2045.

County	Age	2015	2025	2035	2045	% change 2015-45
Benton	0-24	13,324	14,081	13,147	13,415	0.7%
	25-64	20,882	19,858	20,114	20,252	-3.0%
	>65	5,575	8,088	10,261	10,923	95.9%
Chisago	0-24	17,318	16,498	15,062	15,734	-9.1%
	25-64	29,672	28,594	27,159	26,803	-9.7%
	>65	8,005	12,845	17,013	16,993	112.3%
Isanti	0-24	12,490	11,975	10,872	11,251	-9.9%
	25-64	20,413	19,192	18,588	18,333	-10.2%
	>65	5,877	8,923	10,995	10,678	81.7%
Kanabec	0-24	4,622	4,126	3,611	3,704	-19.9%
	25-64	8,201	6,788	6,393	6,070	-26.0%
	>65	3,090	4,292	4,459	3,958	28.1%
Mille Lacs	0-24	8,195	7,769	7,175	7,238	-11.7%
	25-64	12,960	11,807	11,258	10,978	-15.3%
	>65	4,795	6,177	6,795	6,321	31.8%
Morrison	0-24	10,171	9,359	8,427	8,750	-14.0%
	25-64	16,840	15,040	14,702	14,881	-11.6%
	>65	5,994	8,319	9,493	9,093	51.7%
Pine	0-24	8,123	7,968	7,526	7,798	-4.0%
	25-64	15,702	13,691	12,773	12,520	-20.3%
	>65	5,638	7,849	8,805	8,141	44.4%
Sherburne	0-24	32,594	31,430	28,485	29,649	-9.0%
	25-64	49,096	48,321	47,533	46,059	-6.2%
	>65	9,853	16,741	23,744	26,377	167.7%
Wright	0-24	47,281	48,061	44,509	48,187	1.9%
	25-64	68,361	68,308	69,863	68,040	-0.5%
	>65	15,452	25,427	34,907	38,626	150.0%
East Central Landscape*	0-24	154,118	151,267	138,814	145,726	-5.4%
	25-64	242,127	231,599	228,383	223,936	-7.5%
	>65	64,279	98,661	126,472	131,110	104.0%

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center.

Notes – projections are based on 2014 projections from the 2010 U.S. Census Data.

* The MFRC East Central Landscape splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these population estimates and therefore the ‘East Central Landscape’ summary row does not represent the true population of the region.



Household Trends and Projections

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Minnesota currently contains roughly 2.13 million households and 2.44 million housing units (Table 5). In the East Central Landscape, Wright County contains the most households and housing units, and Kanabec County contains the fewest. Sherburne County has the largest number of persons per household (2.89) and Morrison County has the fewest (2.43). Median annual household income is highest in Sherburne County (\$78,081) and lowest in Pine County (\$45,379). Three counties in the region (Sherburne, Wright, and Chisago) have median household incomes above the state median (\$63,217).

The rate of owner-occupied housing units is highest in Chisago County (85.1%) and lowest in Benton County (69.1%); eight of the nine counties in the region have a higher rate of owner-occupied housing units than the state average (71.4%), with Benton County being the exception. Three counties (Chisago, Sherburne, and Wright) had a higher median value of owner-occupied housing units than the statewide average (\$191,500). Wright County has the highest (\$201,500) and Kanabec County has the lowest median value of owner-occupied housing units (\$136,600).

Data on household projections are not currently available. The Minnesota State Demographic Center is in the process of updating all of their projection datasets and has not yet gotten to households. The previously published household dataset used the statewide population projections as a control and staff at the Minnesota State Demographic Center felt that once the statewide dataset had been updated the household data had become outdated. (Megan Dayton – Senior Projects Demographer, personal communication, June 14, 2018).

Table 5. Per capita and household earnings, cost, and ownership rate for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2012-2016.

County	Households	Persons per household	Median household income	% below median MN household income	Persons below poverty level, percent
Benton	15,726	2.45	\$51,841	-18.0%	8.5%
Chisago	19,790	2.64	\$72,908	15.3%	6.7%
Isanti	14,403	2.63	\$62,733	-0.8%	7.7%
Kanabec	6,290	2.49	\$48,042	-24.0%	13.2%
Mille Lacs	10,012	2.52	\$51,232	-19.0%	12.1%
Morrison	13,275	2.43	\$51,456	-18.6%	11.9%
Pine	10,993	2.49	\$45,379	-28.2%	12.2%
Sherburne	30,781	2.89	\$78,081	23.5%	6.3%
Wright	45,887	2.81	\$75,705	19.8%	5.3%
Minnesota	2,135,310	2.49	\$63,217	--	9.9%
County	Housing units, 2017	Owner-occupied housing unit rate	Median value of owner-occupied housing units	% below median MN value of owner-occupied housing units	
Benton	17,138	69.1%	\$158,400	-17.3%	
Chisago	21,957	85.1%	\$195,600	2.1%	
Isanti	15,963	81.3%	\$166,900	-12.8%	
Kanabec	7,924	80.6%	\$136,600	-28.7%	
Mille Lacs	12,918	74.1%	\$143,500	-25.1%	
Morrison	16,176	78.9%	\$155,600	-18.7%	
Pine	17,534	77.8%	\$144,800	-24.4%	
Sherburne	33,888	82.7%	\$193,300	0.9%	
Wright	51,778	81.8%	\$201,500	5.2%	
Minnesota	2,437,711	71.4%	\$191,500	--	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Notes – according to U.S. Census Bureau "a household includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied (or if vacant, is intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters."



Employment Trends and Projections

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis defines employment as employment covered by Social Security. All employment and earnings data are reported for industries classified by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. The NAICS was developed and is revised periodically in an effort to enhance the comparability of industry employment and wage statistics across Mexico, Canada, and the United States, and reflect economic activities within industries more accurately. It is also important to note that these data are reported by place of work rather than by employee's place of residence (as it is with U.S. Census data).

These codes are used to provide a detailed accounting of employment and earnings by industry at the county, state, and national level. This data is based off social security data and tend to emphasize some industries more than others such as manufacturing compared to service industry data. Tourism is captured indirectly through codes for eating and drinking places, hotels and lodging places, and automobile dealers and service stations under the service industry category.

Data disclosure laws are a problem frequently found in county-level data. These laws prevent the release of data that would make it possible to identify a specific business within a geographic area. Lack of disclosure results in incomplete or absent data for some industry categories. Proprietary employment is not reflected in employment numbers.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Minnesota has enjoyed a modest overall growth in employment numbers over the last 10 years (2008-2017), despite a dip in numbers after the Great Recession (Table 6). However, two of the nine counties in the MFRC East Central Landscape have experienced overall negative employment growth since 2008 (Mille Lacs and Morrison) and four counties experienced growth rates higher than Minnesota as a whole (Benton, Chisago, Sherburne, and Wright).

Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Health Care and Social Assistance, and Accommodation and Food Services are the largest employment sectors in the East Central Landscape, and account for 48.6% of all reported jobs in the region (Table 7). Wood Products Manufacturing was a reported industry in only two of the nine counties (Mille Lacs and Wright) and accounts for 372 jobs in the East Central Landscape. Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting was a reported industry in three of the counties (Benton, Isanti, and Kanabec) and accounts for 395 jobs.

The unemployment rate in the East Central Landscape was 4.3% in 2017, a substantial decrease from the 8.9% level it reached in 2010 following the Great Recession and slightly lower than the pre-Recession rate in 2005 (Table 8). From 1990 up to the Great Recession the unemployment rate in the region was higher than the statewide average and more closely followed the national average. Since the 2008 recession it has been lower than the national average but still higher than the statewide average (Figure 2). The only county in the MFRC East Central Landscape to have an employment rate near to the state average was Wright County at 3.6%. Generally speaking, the four northernmost counties in the region (Pine, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Morrison) had unemployment rates of 5.5% or higher in 2017, while the more southern counties had unemployment rates of 4.5% or lower.

Table 6. Mean annual employment numbers for Minnesota and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2008-2017; all industries, ownerships, and establishment sizes.

Year	Benton	Chisago	Isanti	Kanabec	Mille Lacs	Morrison
2008	16,113	14,139	10,780	3,752	9,695	11,514
2009	16,060	13,476	10,247	3,582	9,109	11,146
2010	15,766	13,349	10,093	3,573	8,851	11,085
2011	15,964	13,549	10,213	3,592	9,039	11,413
2012	16,072	13,842	10,382	3,664	9,460	10,884
2013	16,789	14,108	10,772	3,685	9,526	10,812
2014	17,724	14,255	10,898	3,736	9,568	10,569
2015	16,883	14,890	10,987	3,744	9,558	10,759
2016	17,173	15,347	10,906	3,900	9,425	10,906
2017	17,482	15,435	10,808	3,910	9,630	10,808
% change 2008-2017	8.5%	9.2%	0.3%	4.2%	-0.7%	-6.1%
Year	Pine	Sherburne	Wright	East Central Landscape*	Minnesota	
2008	8,232	23,145	36,953	134,323	2,679,527	
2009	8,093	22,294	34,950	128,957	2,569,651	
2010	8,214	22,251	34,958	128,140	2,558,310	
2011	8,137	22,754	35,777	130,438	2,602,988	
2012	8,128	23,285	37,121	132,838	2,644,408	
2013	8,164	25,028	37,574	136,458	2,691,832	
2014	8,052	25,835	38,800	139,437	2,730,301	
2015	8,177	25,582	40,999	141,579	2,776,464	
2016	8,227	25,624	42,321	143,829	2,815,248	
2017	8,355	25,591	43,280	145,299	2,855,916	
% change 2008-2017	1.5%	10.6%	17.1%	8.2%	6.6%	

Source: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, State and County Wages Database; available at: <http://www.bls.gov/cew/data.htm>

* The MFRC East Central Landscape boundary split splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these estimates.

Table 7. Number of employees by employment sector in the nine East Central Landscape counties, 2017.

Industry	Benton		Chisago		Isanti		Kanabec		Mille Lacs	
	#	% ^a	#	% ^a	#	% ^a	#	% ^a	#	% ^a
Total, All Industries ^b	17,469	--	15,400	--	10,828	--	3,911	--	9,629	--
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	259	1.5%			115	1.1%	21	0.5%		
Mining							19	0.5%		
Construction	1,847	10.6%	914	5.9%	485	4.5%	286	7.3%	455	4.7%
Manufacturing	3,883	22.2%	2,277	14.8%	1,439	13.3%	443	11.3%	735	7.6%
• Wood Prod. Man. ^c									64	0.7%
Utilities									48	0.5%
Wholesale Trade	1,044	6.0%	325	2.1%			64	1.6%	146	1.5%
Retail Trade	1,873	10.7%	1,669	10.8%	1,713	15.8%	502	12.8%	1,011	10.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	781	4.5%		0.0%	319	2.9%			225	2.3%
Information	108	0.6%	38	0.2%	261	2.4%	35	0.9%	130	1.4%
Finance and Insurance	230	1.3%	223	1.4%	251	2.3%	129	3.3%	209	2.2%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	227	1.3%	65	0.4%	96	0.9%	38	1.0%	38	0.4%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services			663	4.3%			52	1.3%	301	3.1%
Management of Companies and Enterprises			19	0.1%						
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,067	6.1%	486	3.2%	259	2.4%	42	1.1%		
Educational Services	1,136	6.5%			1,244	11.5%	421	10.8%		
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,237	12.8%			2,431	22.5%	920	23.5%		
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	123	0.7%	396	2.6%	73	0.7%	51	1.3%	141	1.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	1,094	6.3%	1,302	8.5%	775	7.2%	287	7.3%	1,824	18.9%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	424	2.4%	409	2.7%	318	2.9%	174	4.4%	289	3.0%
Public Administration	465	2.7%	1,040	6.8%	600	5.5%	334	8.5%	1,179	12.2%

Table 7. Continued

Industry	Morrison		Pine		Sherburne		Wright	
	#	% ^a	#	% ^a	#	% ^a	#	% ^a
Total, All Industries ^b	10,811	--	8,342	--	25,582	--	43,241	--
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting								
Mining								
Construction	571	5.3%	520	6.2%	2,126	8.3%	3,951	9.1%
Manufacturing	1,053	9.7%	231	2.8%	3,704	14.5%	6,254	14.5%
• Wood Prod. Man. ^c							308	0.7%
Utilities			34	0.4%	694	2.7%		
Wholesale Trade	446	4.1%	121	1.5%	763	3.0%	1,584	3.7%
Retail Trade	1,532	14.2%	1,036	12.4%	3,475	13.6%	6,846	15.8%
Transportation and Warehousing			166	2.0%	1,113	4.4%		
Information	83	0.8%	141	1.7%	96	0.4%	273	0.6%
Finance and Insurance	283	2.6%	168	2.0%	361	1.4%	702	1.6%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	26	0.2%	48	0.6%	137	0.5%	240	0.6%
-Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	625	5.8%			450	1.8%	808	1.9%
Management of Companies and Enterprises					381	1.5%		
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	196	1.8%			952	3.7%	1,366	3.2%
Educational Services			882	10.6%	2,460	9.6%	4,628	10.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance			969	11.6%	3,409	13.3%	6,019	13.9%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	116	1.1%	125	1.5%	269	1.1%	626	1.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	1,002	9.3%	2,332	28.0%	2,067	8.1%	4,192	9.7%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	447	4.1%	280	3.4%	999	3.9%	1,338	3.1%
Public Administration	1,105	10.2%	801	9.6%	1,702	6.7%	1,465	3.4%

Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (MN DEED).

a Percent of total does not sum to 100 because data was not available for some sectors to avoid disclosure of confidential information; estimates for these items are included in the totals.

b Proprietary employment is not reflected in the total sum of all industries.

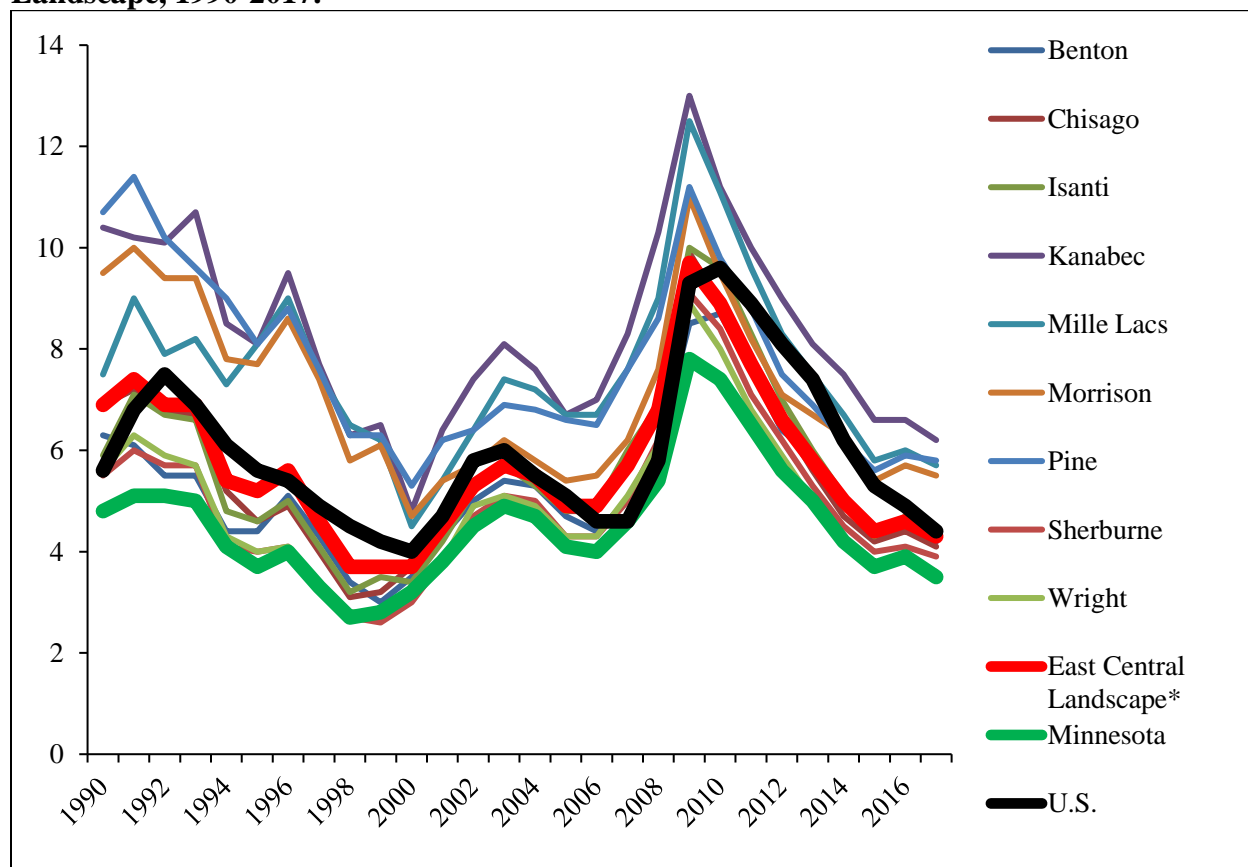
c Wood Product Manufacturing is a sub-sector of Manufacturing and therefore the jobs indicated under this heading are also accounted for in the Manufacturing Sector.

Table 8. Percent unemployed for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 1990-2017.

County	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2017
Benton	6.3	4.4	3.5	4.7	8.7	4.2
Chisago	6.9	4.6	3.7	4.8	8.9	4.1
Isanti	5.9	4.6	3.4	4.8	9.6	4.5
Kanabec	10.4	8.1	4.8	6.7	11.2	6.2
Mille Lacs	7.5	8.1	4.5	6.7	11.1	5.7
Morrison	9.5	7.7	4.7	5.4	9.5	5.5
Pine	10.7	8.1	5.3	6.6	9.8	5.8
Sherburne	5.5	4	3.0	4.3	8.4	3.9
Wright	5.6	4	3.2	4.3	8	3.6
East Central Landscape*	6.9	5.2	3.7	4.9	8.9	4.3
Minnesota	4.8	3.7	3.2	4.1	7.4	3.5
U.S.	5.6	5.6	4.0	5.1	9.6	4.4

Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

* The MFRC East Central Landscape boundary split splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these estimates.

Figure 2. Percent unemployed for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 1990-2017.

Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

* The MFRC East Central Landscape boundary split splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these estimates.



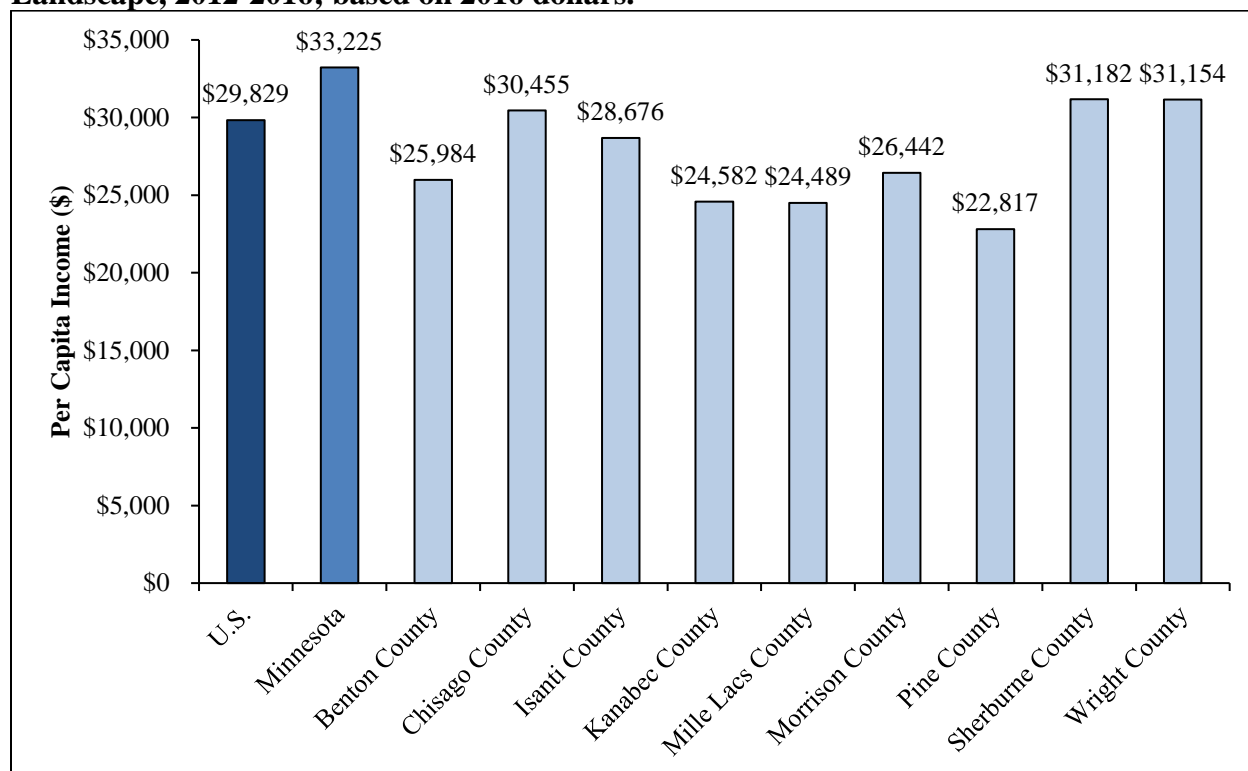
Earnings and Income Trends

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average per capita annual income for the state of Minnesota is \$33,225, which exceeds the average per capita income of every county in the MFRC East Central Landscape (Figure 3). The highest-income county in the region is Sherburne County (\$31,182) and the lowest-income county is Pine (\$22,817).

In terms of wages, Wright County workers earned nearly \$680,000,000 more in total wages than the next highest-earning county in 2017. Chisago and Sherburne County workers received the highest per worker wage (>\$43,000) by more than \$1,600 over the next highest county in the region. (Table 9). The regional average wage is about \$15,000 less than the state and national average. Weekly wage is also much lower in the East Central Landscape than the state and national averages (Figure 4).

Minnesota's poverty level is below the national average, at 10.8% statewide versus 15.1% nationwide (Figure 5). All counties in the East Central Landscape are below the nation-wide levels of persons below poverty level. Four of the nine counties (Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, and Wright) were below the statewide levels of persons below poverty level (Figure 5). Overall, the northeastern and north central parts of the state have some of the highest concentrations of poverty (Figure 6).

Figure 3. Per capita annual income for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2012-2016; based on 2016 dollars.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

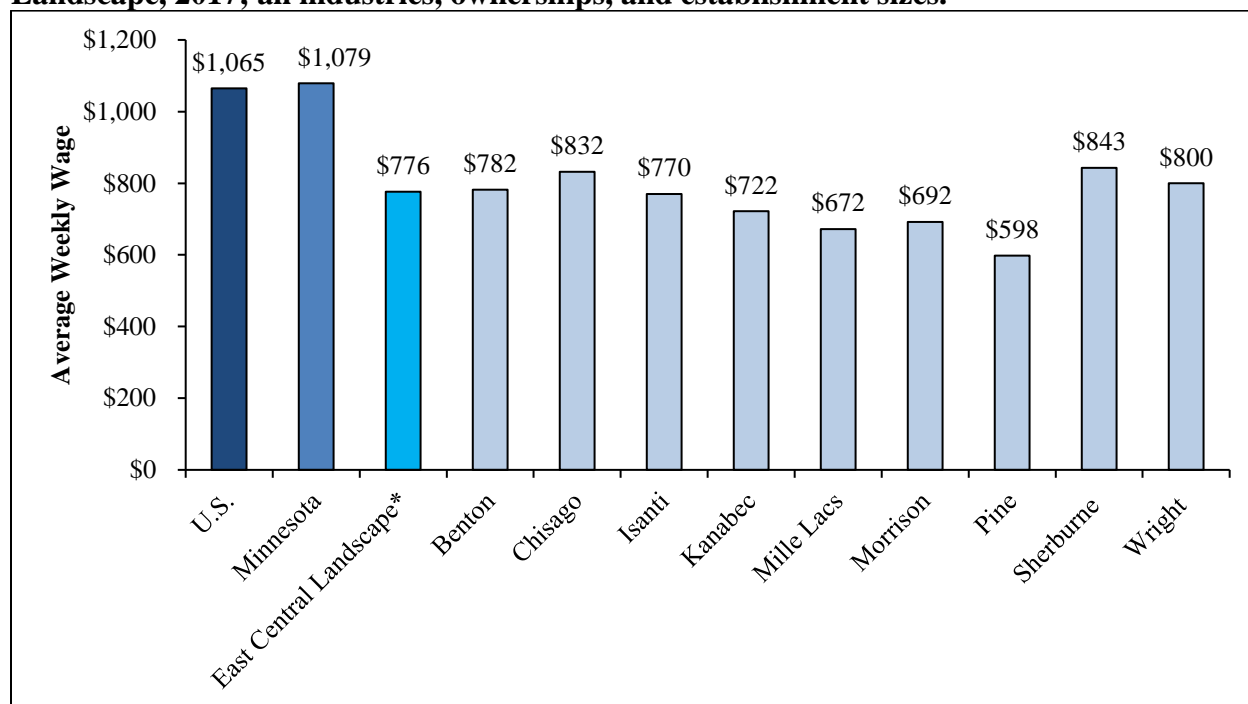
Table 9. Annual establishments, employment, and wages for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2017 all industries, ownerships, and establishment sizes.

County	Annual Establishments	Annual Average Employment	Total Annual Wages	Annual Average Weekly Wage	Annual Wages per Employee
Benton	945	17,482	\$711,102,757	\$782	\$40,677
Chisago	1,116	15,435	\$667,515,314	\$832	\$43,246
Isanti	787	10,819	\$433,129,029	\$770	\$40,033
Kanabec	312	3,910	\$146,867,640	\$722	\$37,562
Mille Lacs	686	9,630	\$336,512,276	\$672	\$34,944
Morrison	939	10,808	\$388,857,798	\$692	\$35,980
Pine	631	8,355	\$259,968,526	\$598	\$31,115
Sherburne	1,942	25,591	\$1,121,625,832	\$843	\$43,828
Wright	3,131	43,280	\$1,801,391,025	\$800	\$41,622
East Central Landscape*	10,489	145,310	\$5,866,970,197	\$776	\$40,376
Minnesota	168,823	2,855,916	\$160,305,443,672	\$1,079	\$56,131
U.S.	9,851,747	143,860,904	\$7,966,329,559,854	\$1,065	\$55,375

Source: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, State and County Wages Database; available at: <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>

* The MFRC East Central Landscape boundary split splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these estimates.

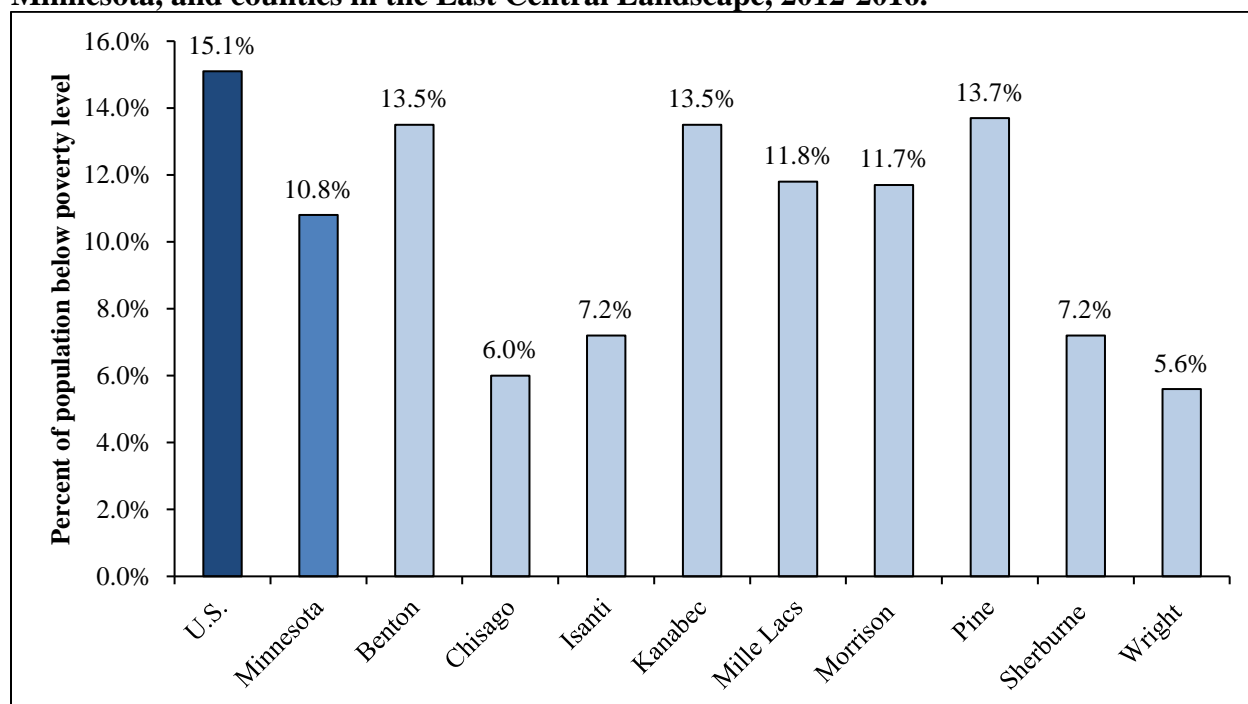
Figure 4. Average weekly wage for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2017; all industries, ownerships, and establishment sizes.



Source: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, State and County Wages Database; available at: <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>

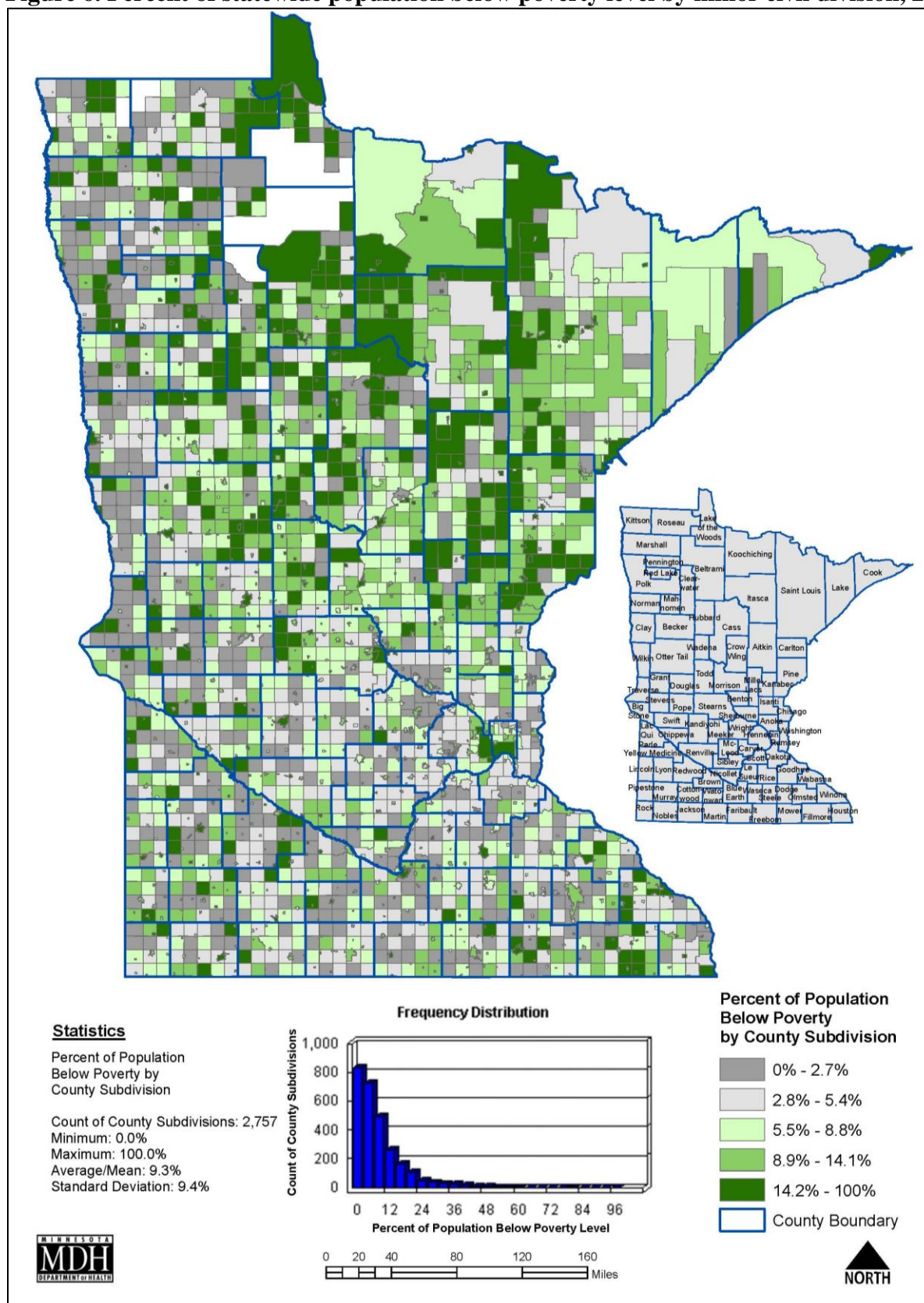
* The MFRC East Central Landscape boundary split splits Morrison County east of the Mississippi River. This county could not be split for these estimates.

Figure 5. Percent of population with incomes below the poverty level for the U.S., Minnesota, and counties in the East Central Landscape, 2012-2016.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Figure 6. Percent of statewide population below poverty level by minor civil division, 2010.



Source: 2010 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, Minnesota Department of Health.