



Minnesota's Changing Population:

Growth, Diversity, and Aging in Goodhue County

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Today's Topics

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Population Growth & Decline

How fast is Goodhue County growing, and how does that compare to the state?

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Population Projections & the Future

What the next 30 years look like for Goodhue County's age structure

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Racial & Ethnic Diversity

How Goodhue County's population compares to Minnesota's growing diversity

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The role of foreign-born residents in the county and state population

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Population Aging

More older adults, a shrinking working-age base

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Income & Poverty

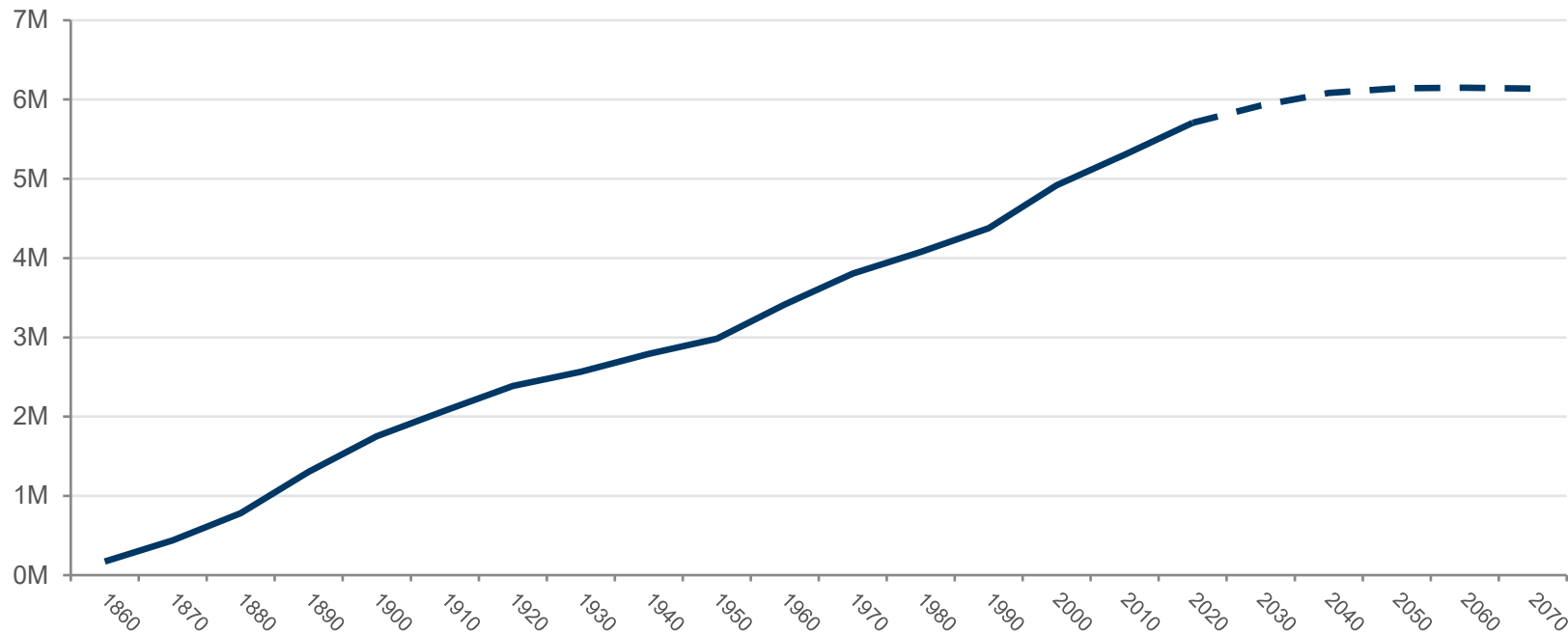
County-level economic patterns compared to statewide

01

Population Growth & Decline

How fast is Goodhue County growing, and how does that compare to the state?

Minnesota's population growth has slowed



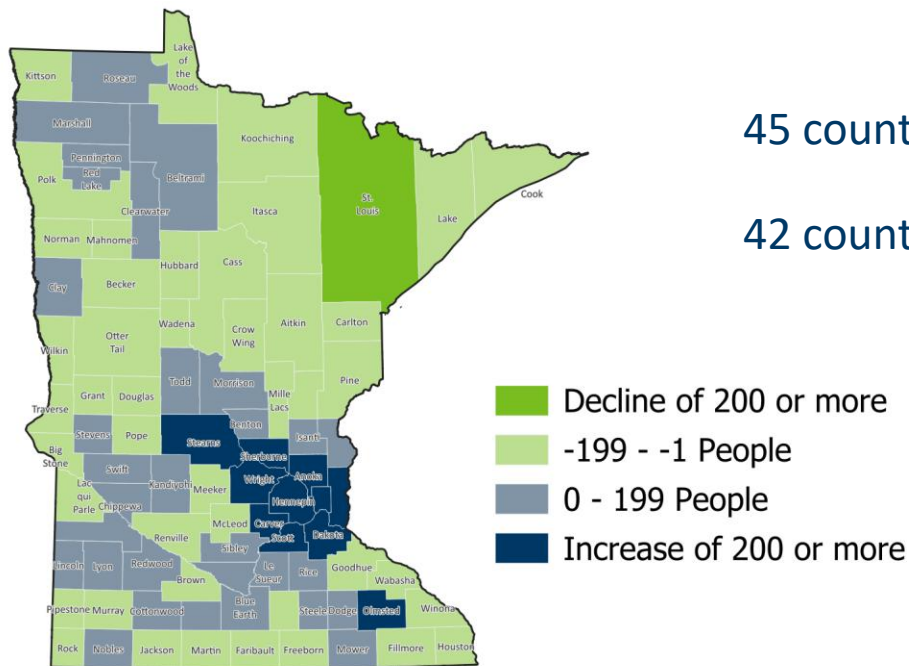
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Censuses and Minnesota State Demographic Center Population Projections

How Populations Change

- There are only three things that affect a population size over time:
 - Births
 - Deaths
 - Migration

$$\text{Population}_2 = \text{Population}_1 + \underbrace{\text{Births} - \text{Deaths}}_{\text{Natural Change}} + \underbrace{(\text{In-migration} - \text{Out-migration})}_{\text{Net Migration}}$$

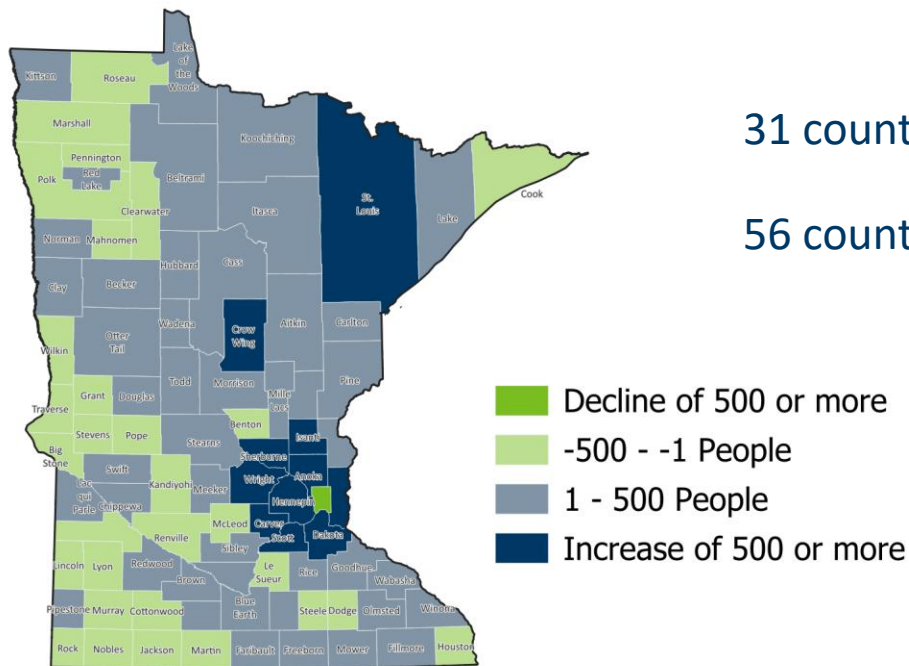
Natural Change, 2025



45 counties had natural decline

42 counties had natural increase

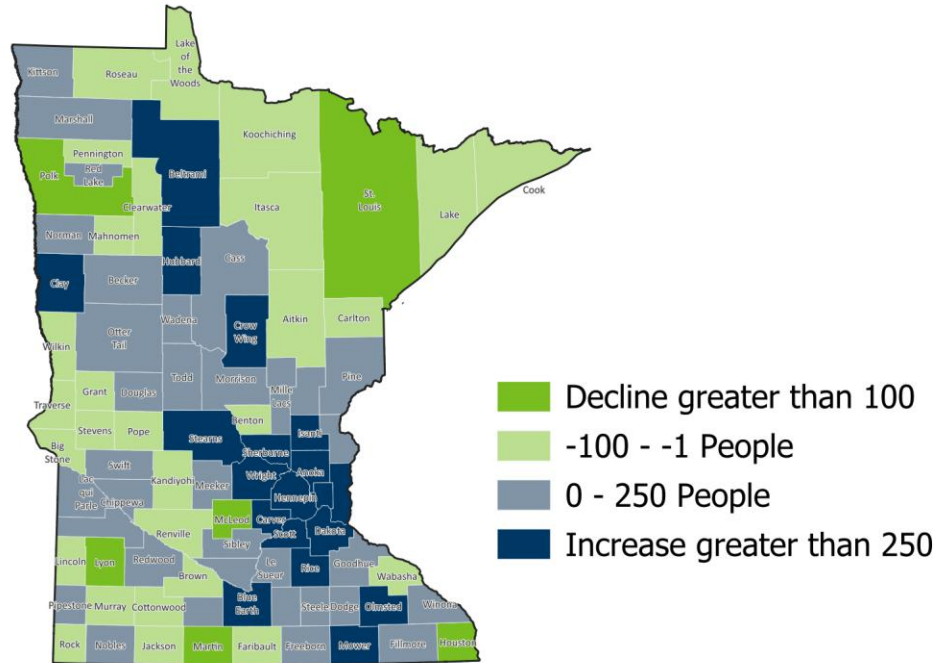
Net Migration, 2025



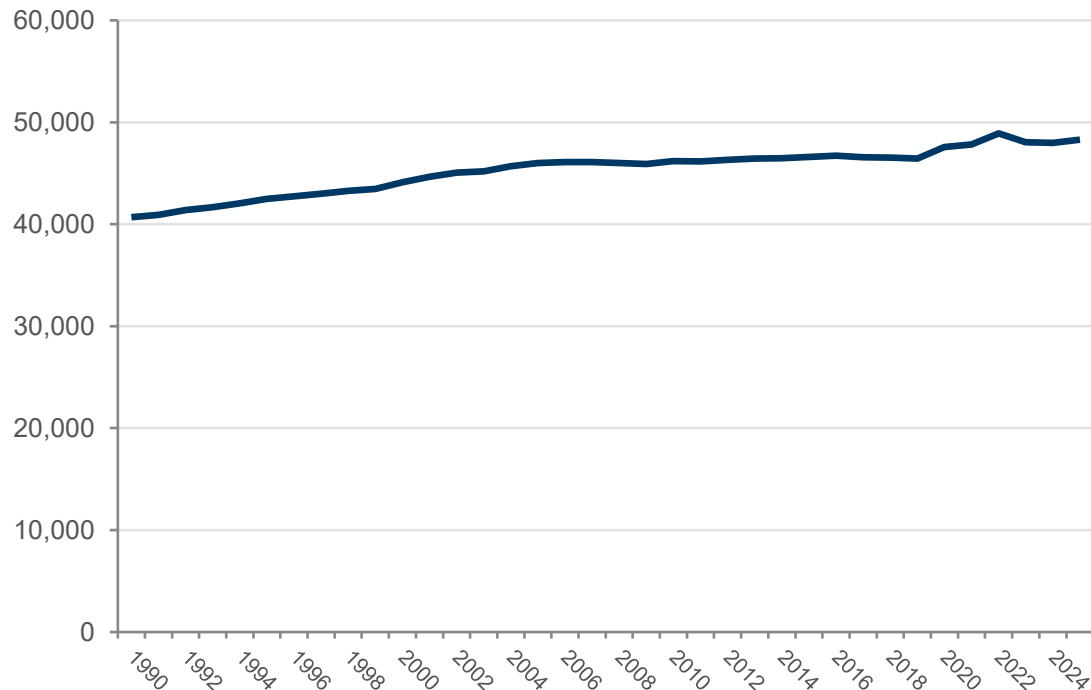
31 counties had net out-migration

56 counties had net in-migration

Overall Change



Goodhue County has grown steadily since 1990

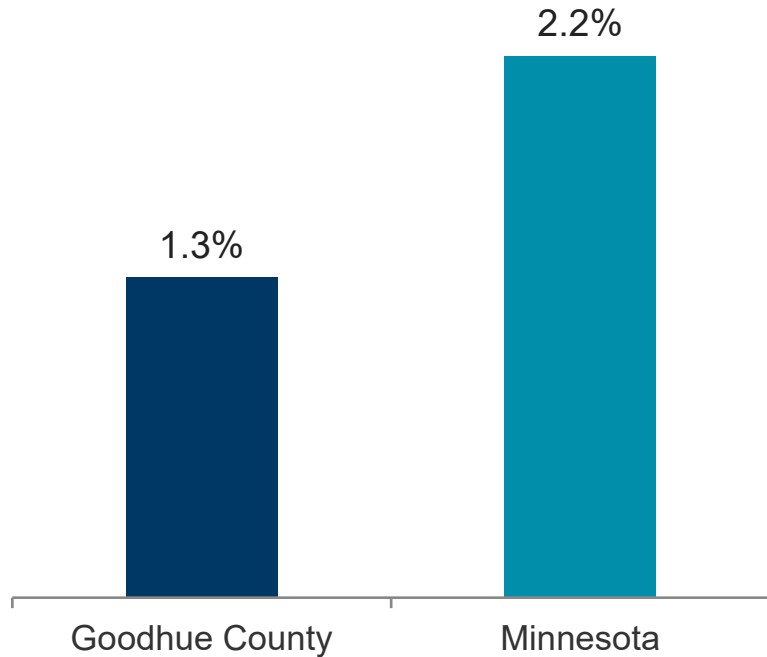


+18.7%

growth since 1990

Growth nearly stalled in the 2010s, only +266 residents (+0.6%) across the entire decade, before picking back up after 2019.

Goodhue County is growing, but more slowly than the state



Goodhue County's population grew **1.3%** from the 2020 Census base to 2025, compared with **2.2%** statewide.

48,195 Goodhue County's estimated population, July 1, 2025

02

Population Projections & the Future

What the next 30 years look like for Minnesota and Goodhue County

Minnesota Population Projections 2025 to 2055: Slower growth, increasing diversity.

Twin Cities Metro

Age Group	2025	2055	% Change
0–19	785,461	759,111	-3.4%
20–64	1,874,741	1,961,961	+4.7%
65–74	315,113	328,521	+4.3%
75+	231,054	350,225	+51.6%
85+	61,799	135,881	+119.9%

Greater MN (non-Twin Cities metro)

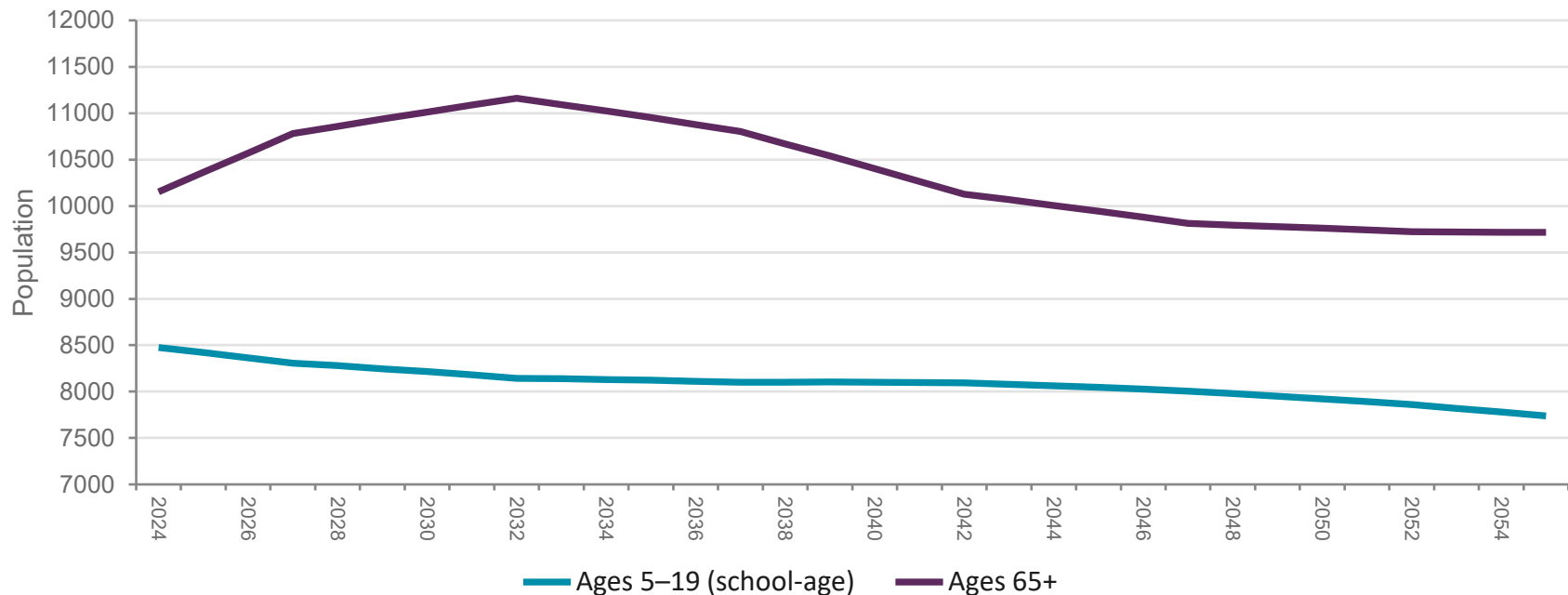
Age Group	2025	2055	% Change
0–19	645,732	643,437	-0.4%
20–64	1,415,323	1,518,645	+7.3%
65–74	306,893	296,846	-3.3%
75+	230,083	287,845	+25.1%
85+	65,308	100,892	+54.5%

Diversity is growing everywhere:

Twin Cities: White non-Hispanic falls from 69.1% (2025) → 56.4% (2055) **Greater MN:** White non-Hispanic falls from 85.8% (2025) → 75.1% (2055)

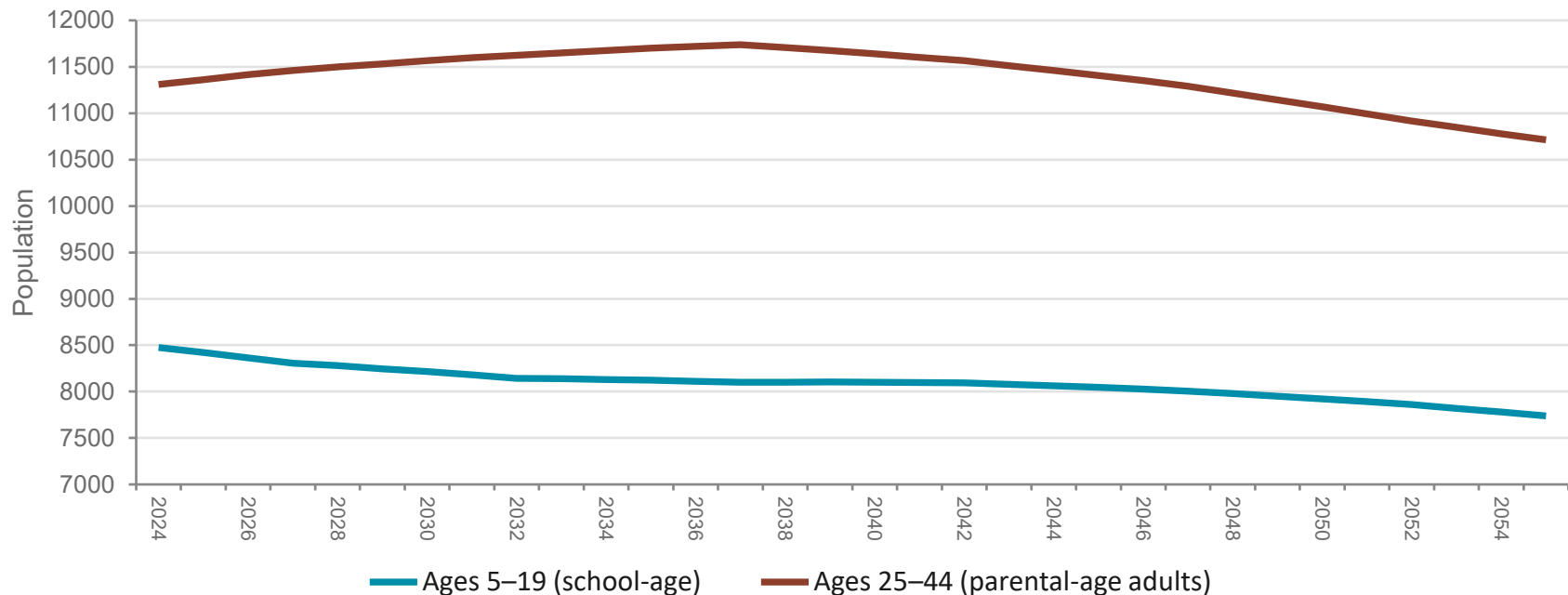
There are already more residents 65+ than school-age children

65+ exceeds school-age population in every year of the projection, 2024–2055



Two populations, two different trajectories

Parental-age adults grow for over a decade, school-age population declines anyway



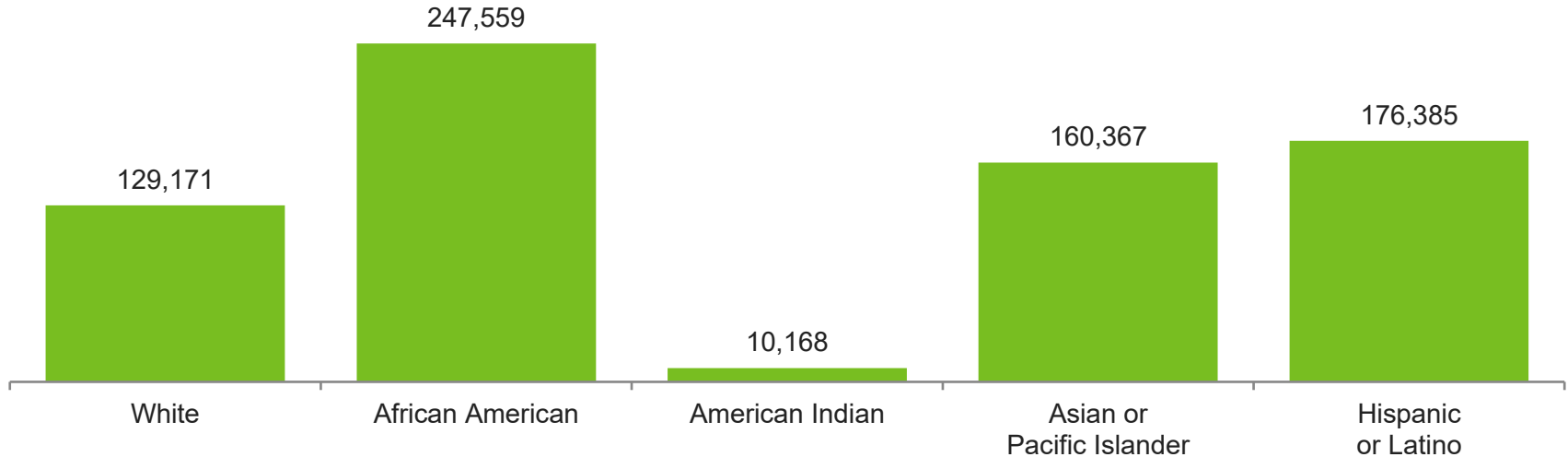
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Racial & Ethnic Diversity

How Goodhue County compares to Minnesota's growing diversity

Communities of Color Have Been Driving Growth in MN

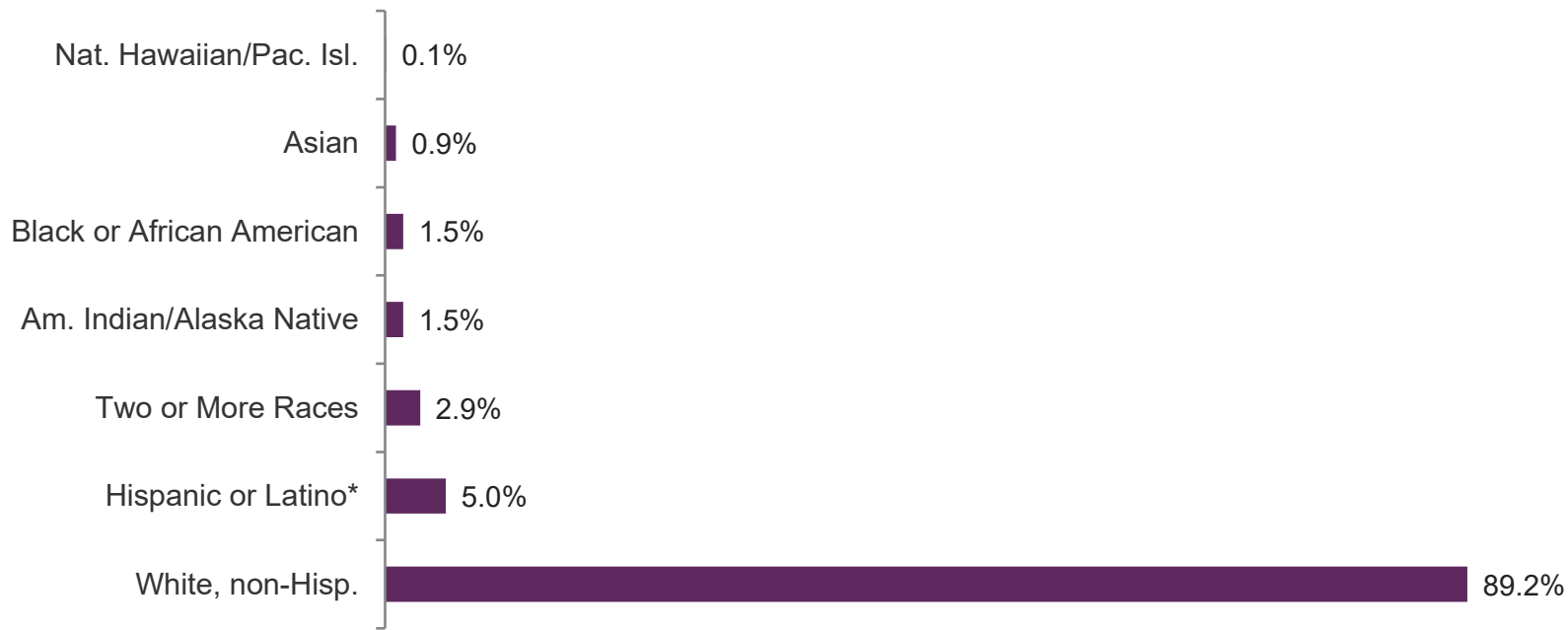
Change in Minnesota population by race/ethnicity, 2000 to 2020



Bar labels show population growth by group, 2000–2020. The White population grew about 3% (129,171); American Indian, 18%; Asian or Pacific Islander, 103%; Hispanic or Latino, 121%; African American, 130%.

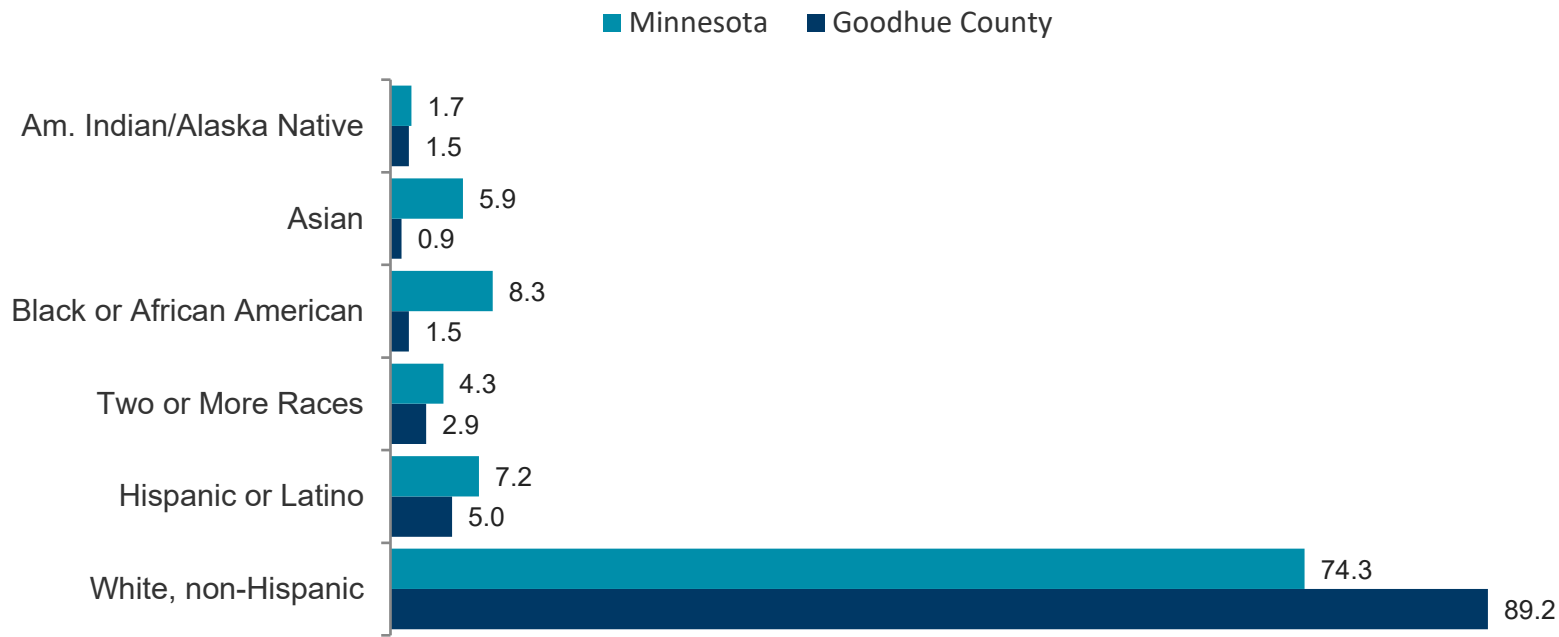
Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Bridged-Race Population Estimates, 2000–2020.

Goodhue County's population by race and ethnicity, 2025



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2025 Population Estimates.

Goodhue County is less diverse than Minnesota overall, though diversity has been increasing statewide



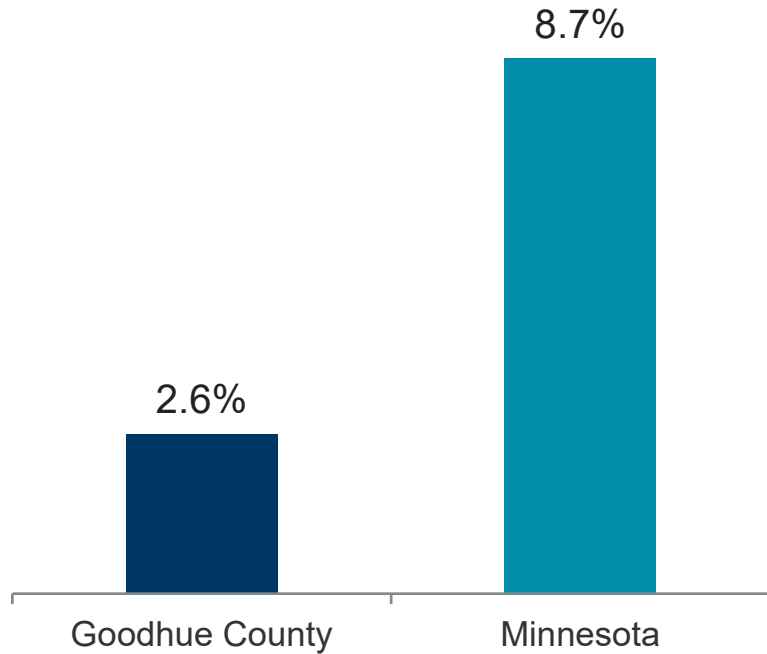
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2025 Population Estimates (race and Hispanic-origin percentages).

04

Immigration

The role of foreign-born residents in the county and state population

Foreign-born residents make up a smaller share of Goodhue County's population than the state's



2.6% of Goodhue County residents are foreign-born

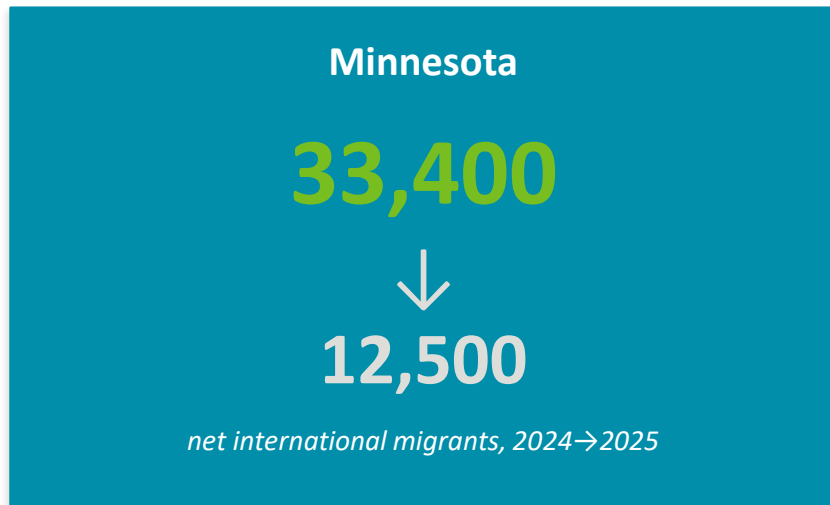
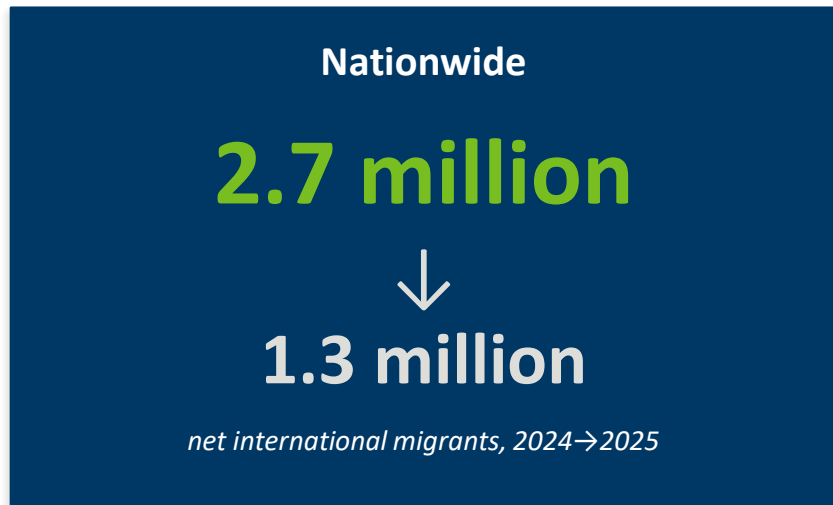
8.7% of Minnesotans statewide are foreign-born

Top 10 Sending Countries for Foreign-Born Minnesotans

Country	Minnesota Population
Mexico	53,504
Somalia	38,650
India	32,440
Ethiopia	32,353
Thailand	27,567
China	25,073
Laos	23,676
Vietnam	19,306
Canada	18,055
Germany	15,763

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS).

International migration levels have fallen sharply since 2024.

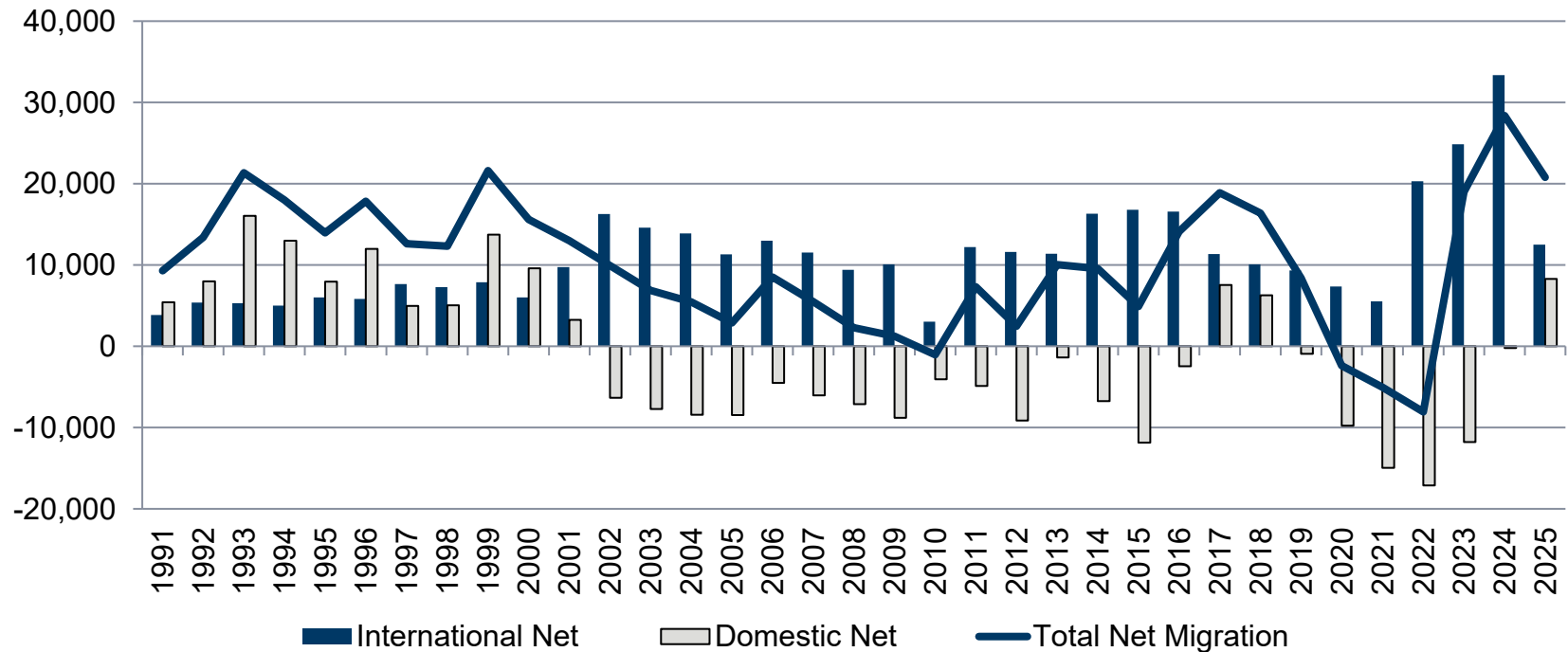


Elevated levels of international migration between 2022 and 2024 temporarily strengthened Minnesota's workforce. That trend has reversed.

International migration is the most realistic mechanism for future population and labor force growth. An increase in the birth rate is unlikely, and domestic migration tends to flow out of Minnesota.

Elevated levels of international migration between 2022 and 2024 temporarily strengthened Minnesota's workforce.

Migration in Minnesota, 1991-2025

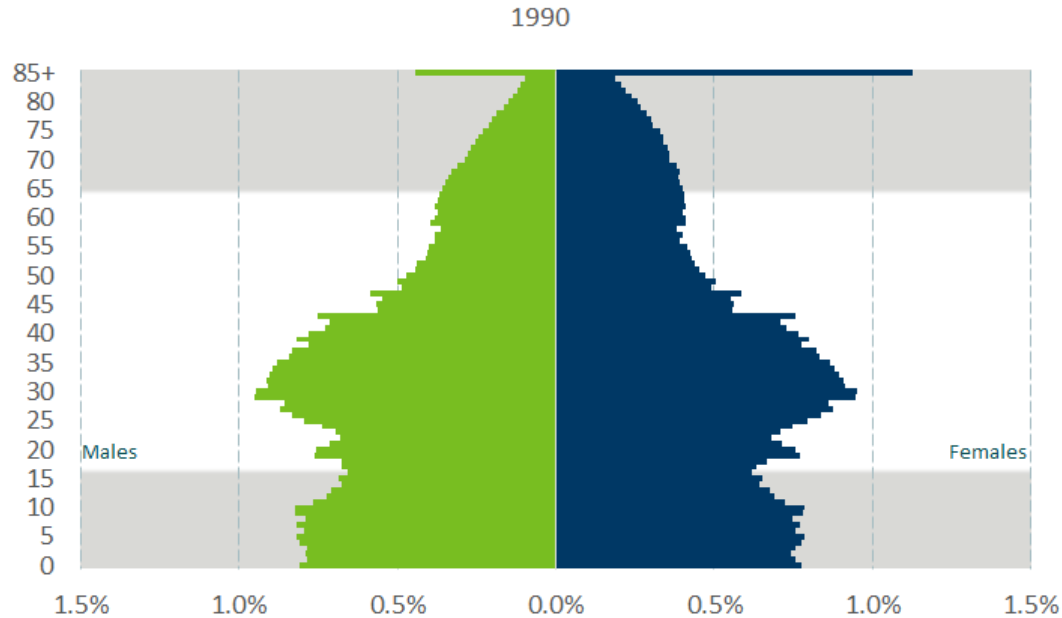


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Population Aging

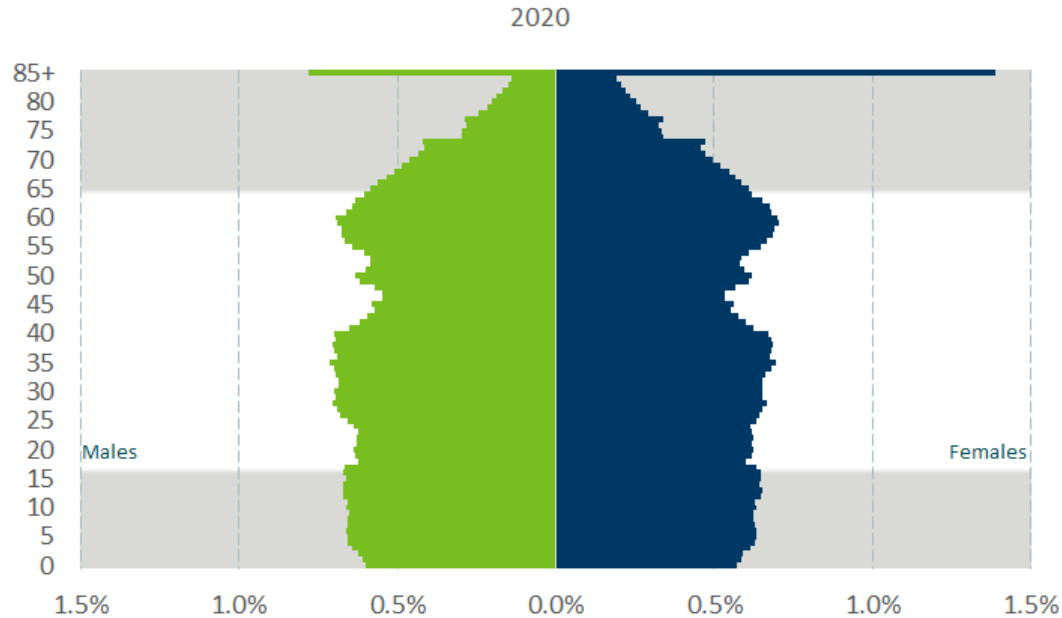
More older adults, a shrinking working-age base

Minnesota's Changing Population Structure



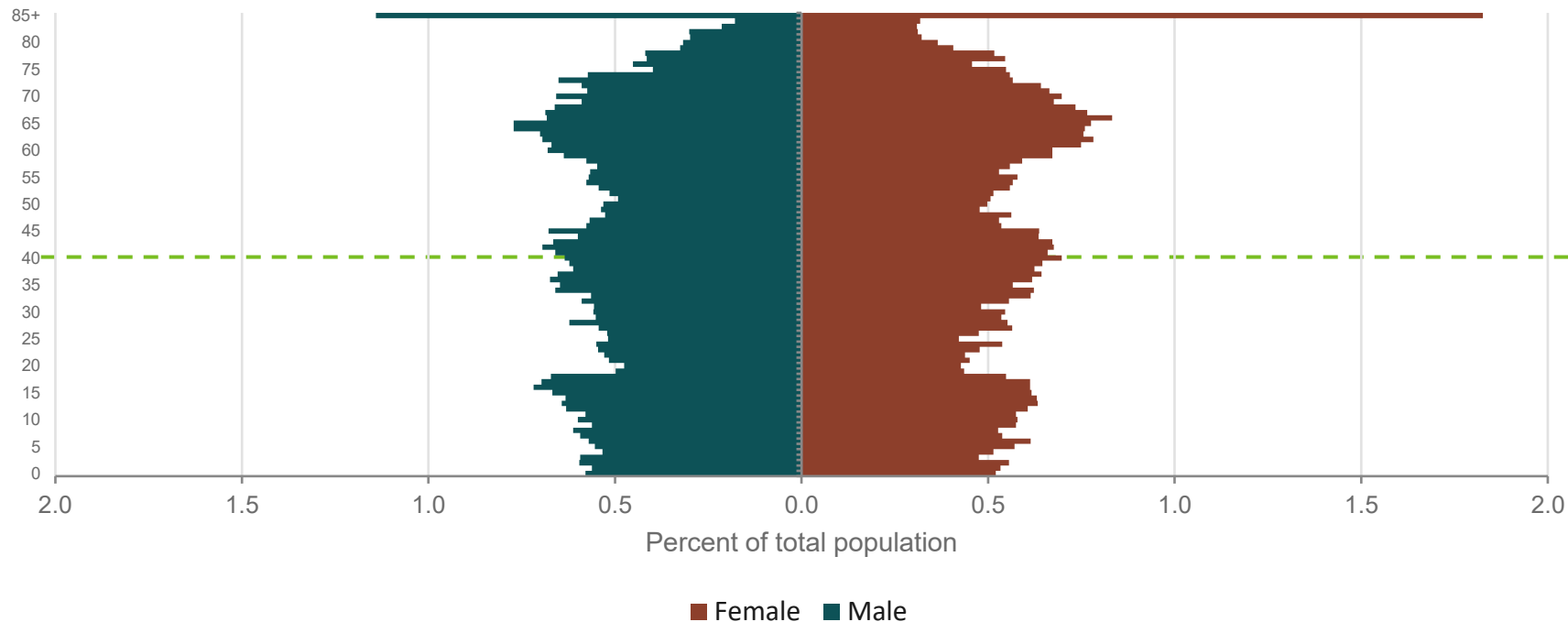
Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Bridged-Race Population Estimates 1990-2020.

Minnesota's Changing Population Structure

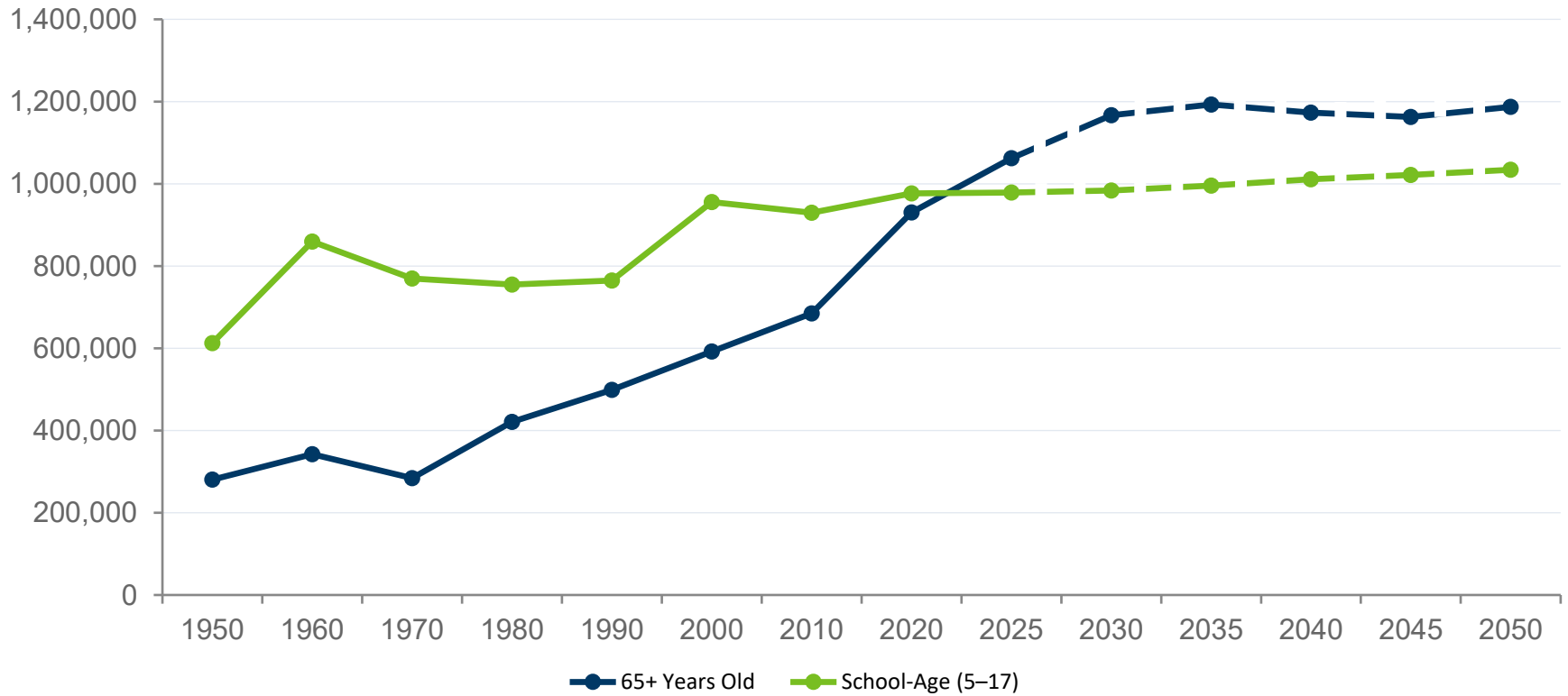


Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Bridged-Race Population Estimates 1990-2020.

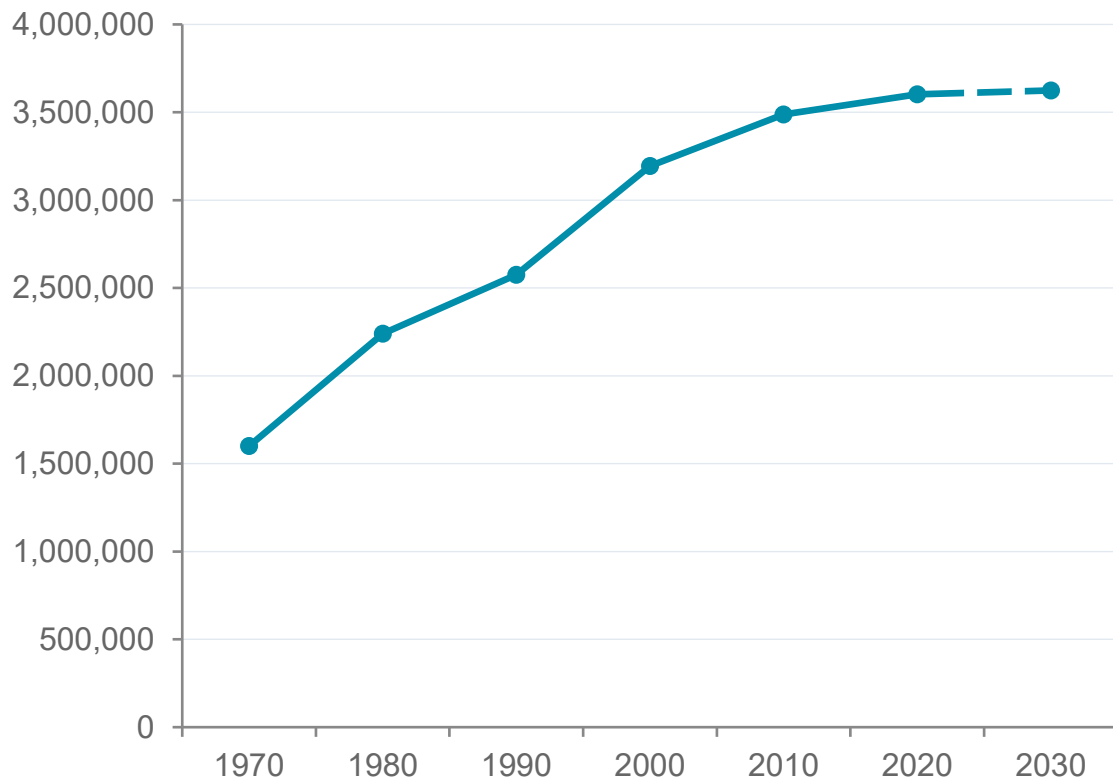
Goodhue County population pyramid, single year of age, 2025



More older adults than school-age children



Working-Age Population: Next-to-no growth over the next decade.



~643K

working-age Minnesotans
not in labor force (2024)

**Among Top 5
States**

MN labor force
participation nationally (2026)

What population aging means for county planning

Workforce

As the working-age population plateaus statewide, employers, including county government and local health and human services, compete for a limited pool of workers.

Health & Long-Term Care

A larger 65+ population increases demand for home care, assisted living, and long-term services and supports.

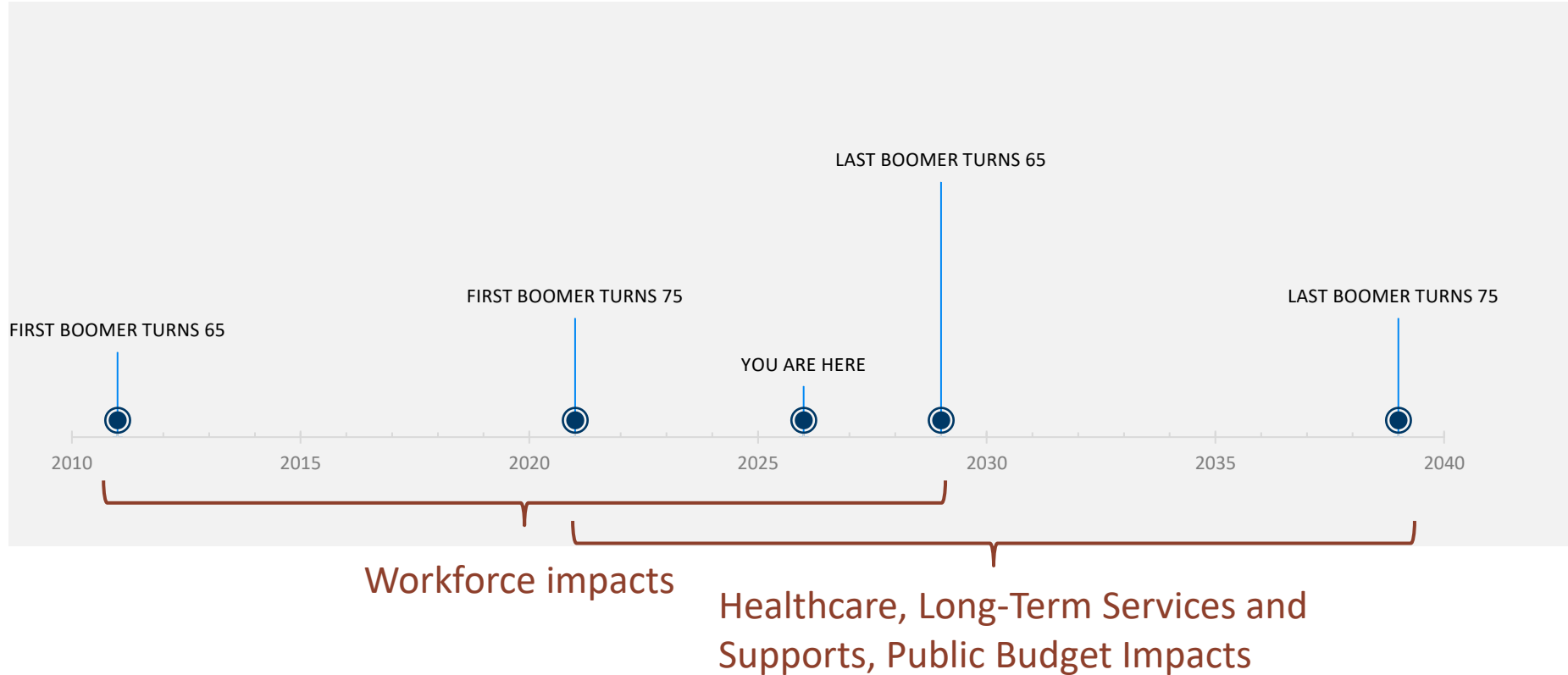
Public Budgets

Aging populations shift the mix of services counties fund, from schools toward senior services, over time.

Schools

In Goodhue County specifically, the school-age population (5–19) is projected to decline gradually through 2055 even as the 65+ population and parental-age adults grow.

When will we feel the impact of population aging?



06

Income & Poverty

County-level economic patterns compared to statewide

Minnesota Income & Poverty Snapshot

\$ 89,062

Median household income
(2024 dollars)

\$ 48,237

Per capita income
(2024 dollars)

9.3%

Minnesotans living
in poverty

Goodhue Income & Poverty Snapshot

\$ 84,171

Median household income
(2024 dollars)

\$ 43,250

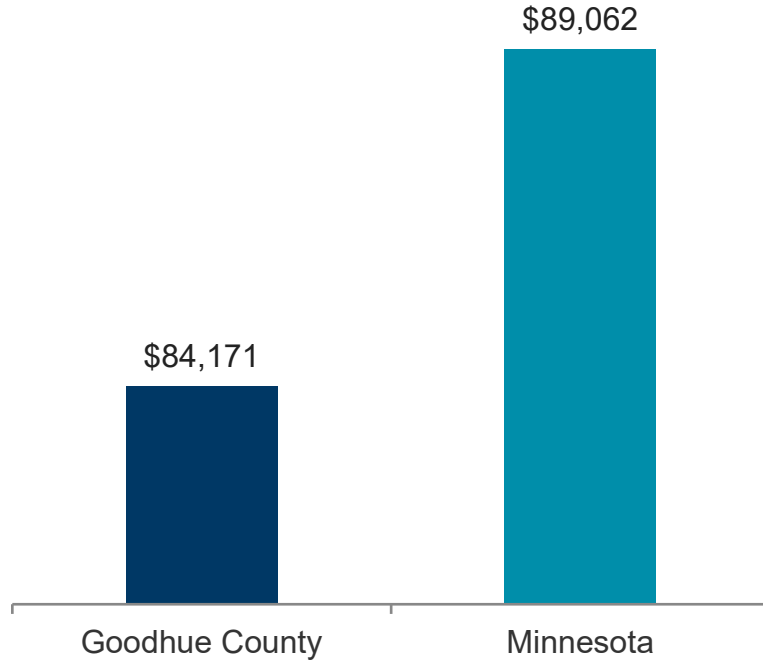
Per capita income
(2024 dollars)

7.2%

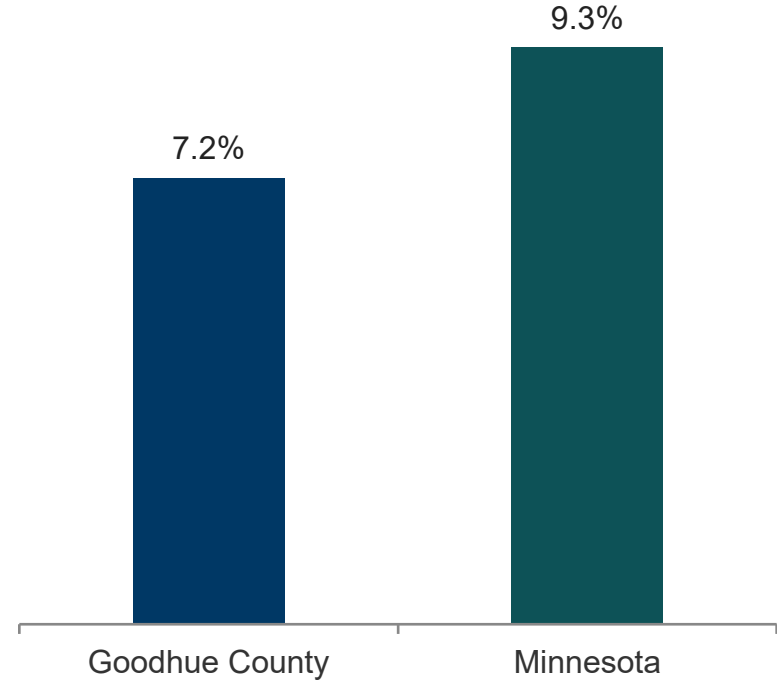
Goodhue residents living
in poverty

Income & poverty vary between Goodhue County and the state

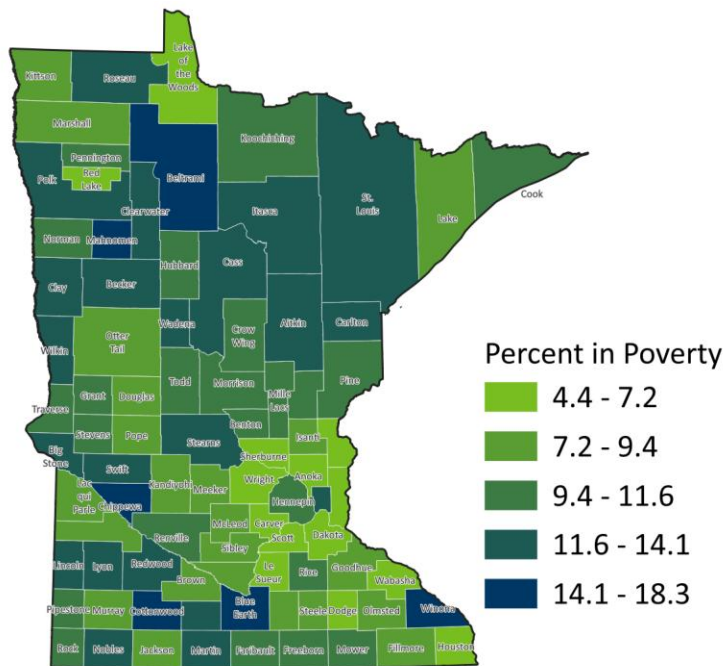
Median Household Income



Poverty Rate

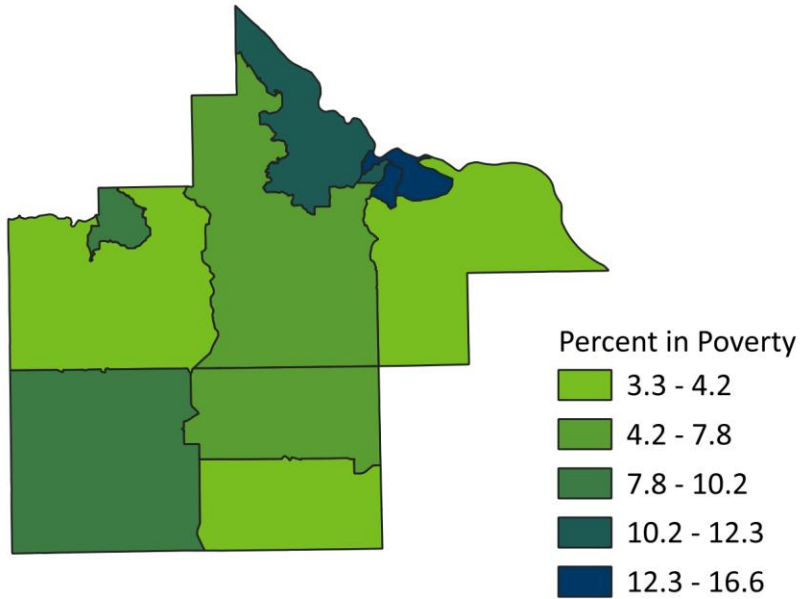


County Poverty Across the State



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020–2024 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Poverty Across the County



Things to Ponder

- 1 Goodhue County's population is growing, but more slowly than the state as a whole, and growth nearly stalled during the 2010s. How does that history factor into long-range planning?
- 2 Residents 65+ already outnumber school-age children in Goodhue County, and that gap is projected to persist through 2055. How might that shift the mix of services the county funds over the next decade?
- 3 Goodhue County is less racially and ethnically diverse than Minnesota overall, but the state's communities of color have driven most of its growth since 2000. Is county workforce and service delivery keeping pace with a changing regional labor market?
- 4 Goodhue County's median household income and poverty rate are both more favorable than the statewide figures. Where might income-based program eligibility or need still look different locally than the state as a whole?

Thank You

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