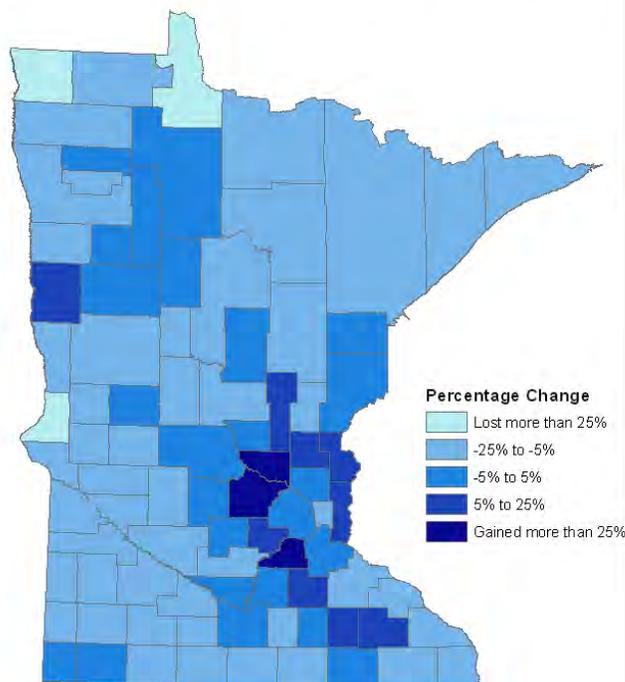


The Changing Face of Minnesota's Children: Child Population Change from 2000 to 2010

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released decennial data from the 2010 Census, which is the official population count used to track the growth of national, state, and local populations. From 2000 to 2010, the United States population grew to 309 million people, an increase of 9.7 percent. Minnesota did not match national growth rates but experienced an increase of 7.5 percent in population over the last 10 years. While the total population in Minnesota gained approximately 370,000 people, children (0-17) did not influence this change. Growth was almost nonexistent for children in Minnesota and the total child population decreased by almost 3,000 children over the 10-year period equaling a less than one percent decline in the overall child population (-.22%).

Aggregate growth, however, does not provide a complete picture of Minnesota's changing landscape. To understand the changes in the child population, we must look at changes across each county and within the different racial and ethnic groups. At the county-level, the child population increased in 23 counties across the state. Of those counties that experienced child population growth, only five had growth rates greater than 10 percent. The remaining 63 counties (one county saw no change) experienced a decline in child population and of these 33 had declines greater than 10 percent. The greatest increase in growth was experienced in Scott County (40.3%) and the greatest decline in growth was experienced in Lake of the Woods County (-27%).

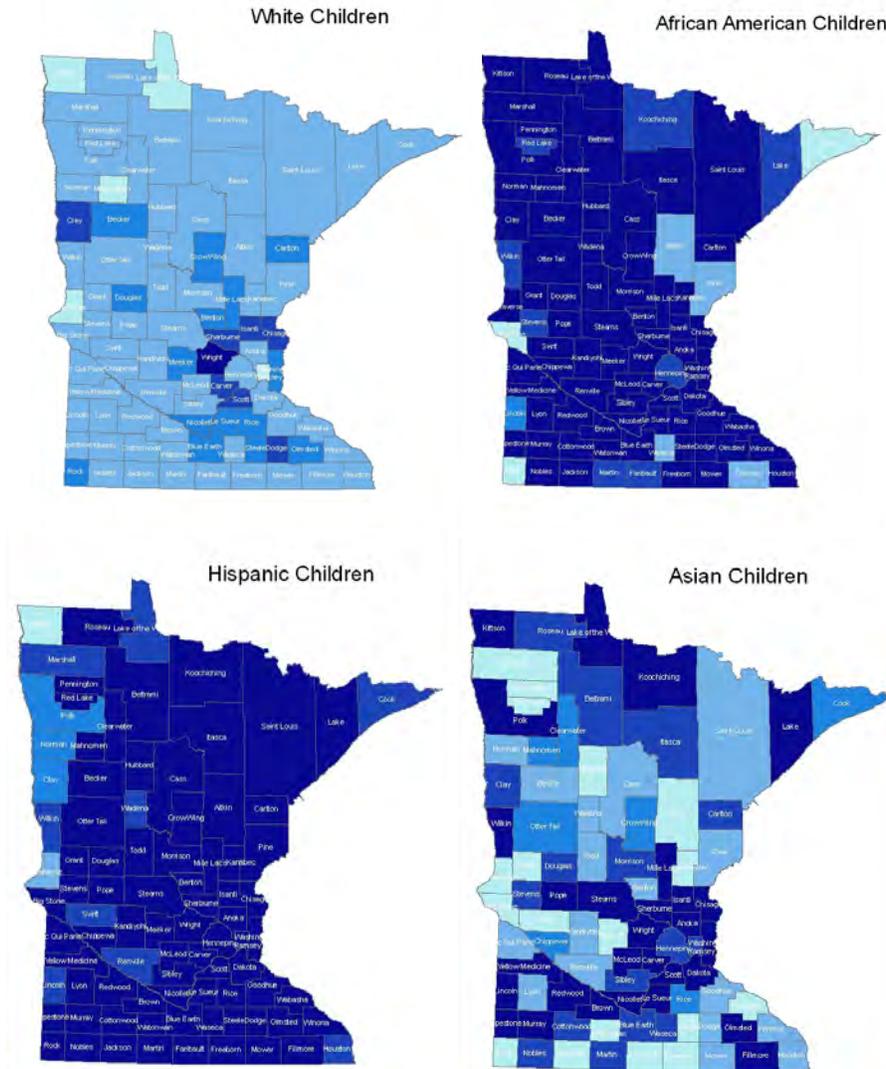
Total Child Population Change, 2000 - 2010



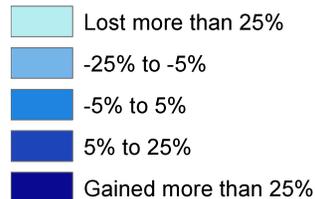
Not only is the total county population changing, but the face of Minnesota is also changing. According to analysis from the State Demographic Center, populations of color are growing in every region across Minnesota, even in regions where overall population is declining. For children, the largest population growth was seen among Hispanic, African American, and children of two or more races, while White and American Indian children experienced declines in population. A better picture of child population changes in Minnesota can be seen from the growth occurring across different groups of color in the state.

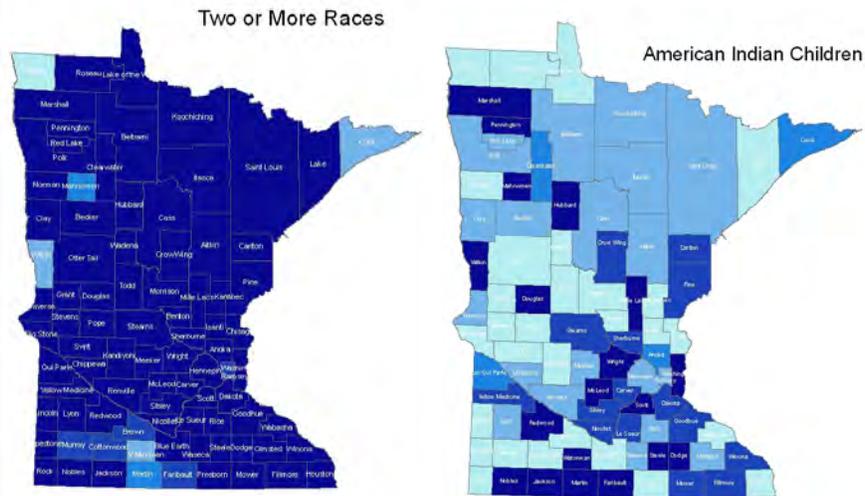
Statewide Child Population Change by Race and Ethnicity, 2000-2010

Race	2000	2010	# Change	% Change
White	1,079,278	989,911	-89,367	-8%
African American	64,308	96,705	32,397	50%
Hispanic	55,640	101,422	45,782	82%
Asian	53,881	67,458	13,627	25%
Two or More Races	43,851	70,461	26,610	61%
American Indian	21,581	20,070	-1,511	-7%
Total	1,286,894	1,284,063	-2,831	-.22%



Percentage Change





Child Population Change at the County-Level by Race and Ethnicity, 2000-2010

Race	Counties Increased	Counties Decreased	No Change
White	10	76	1
African American	78	7	1
Hispanic	83	4	0
Asian	46	36	5
Two or More Races	82	5	0
American Indian	34	51	2

What does Minnesota's Changing Child Population Mean?

How well Minnesota does moving forward will depend on how well our children do. As we plan for the future, we must consider the increase in racial and ethnic diversity in our state to ensure success of all Minnesotans both young and old.

Within Minnesota's changing child population lies an opportunity to invest and prepare our young people for a successful tomorrow. We must consider their needs in health care, education, and economic programs. With a child population that is not growing, we cannot afford to lose one child to crime, poor health, or poverty. Older Minnesotans will depend more than ever on the skills and abilities of the younger generation to continue our state's economic prosperity. A highly skilled and educated workforce will support programs and benefits like Medicare and Social Security that our aging population will need. In addition, they will fill jobs as baby-boomers retire.

Today's children will offer new ideas and opportunities that will create jobs and grow the economy, but only if Minnesota works hard to foster equal opportunities for all its children. Unfortunately, our state has one of the largest education achievement gaps in the country. Children of color in Minnesota also face disparities in health and economic outcomes. We need to use this information to invest now so that all children have access to health care, quality nutrition, healthy housing, and a first class education to help them succeed early and often throughout their childhood and into adulthood. We are all in this together across racial groups and geography- all 5 million Minnesotans including our 1.3 million children.

Data come from Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota analysis of 2000 US Census Bureau Summary File 1 Data and 2010 US Census Bureau Summary File 1 Data and Redistricting Data.