

Housing & School Enrollment

The data presented below includes statistics related to school enrollment and housing in the Region, including median home values, median rent, median monthly housing costs and vacancy rates for counties in the UMRDC Region and the State of Minnesota.

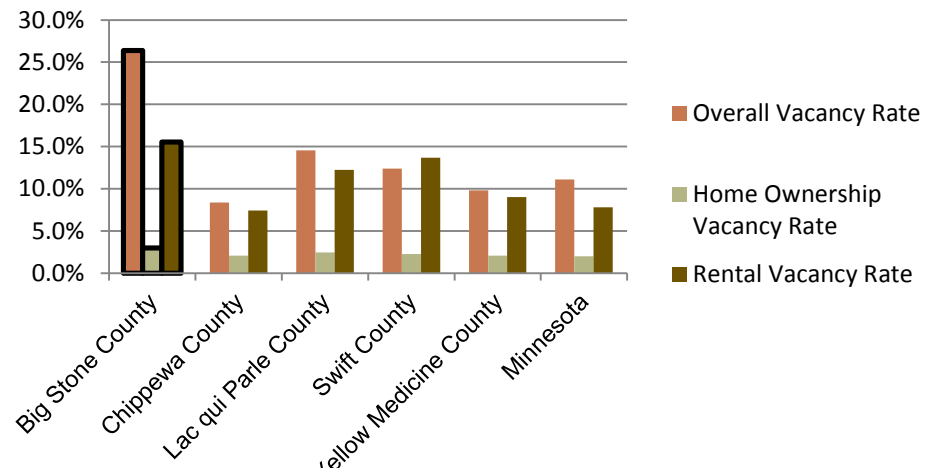
2010 Housing Statistics

County	Median Home Value	Median Rent	Median Monthly Housing Costs
Big Stone County	\$81,900	\$447	\$924
Chippewa County	\$94,400	\$542	\$1,026
Lac qui Parle County	\$77,100	\$449	\$868
Swift County	\$97,600	\$453	\$1,024
Yellow Medicine County	\$97,100	\$505	\$997
Minnesota	\$206,200	\$759	\$1,549

Source: US Census Bureau, ACS (2006-2010)

At \$81,900, the median home value in Big Stone County is below the State of Minnesota and it is at the lower end for median home values in the Region. This trend continues for monthly housing costs in Big Stone County. Median monthly housing costs for homeowners are the second lowest in the region, only higher than Lac qui Parle County and median monthly rent is the lowest in the Region, although not significantly less than rents in Lac qui Parle and Swift Counties.

2010 Vacancy Rates



Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial

Home ownership vacancy rate and rental vacancy rate are the proportion of the homeowner or rental inventory that is vacant "for sale" or vacant "for rent." The overall vacancy rate includes other vacancies such as vacant "sold - not occupied," seasonal housing and vacant "rented - not occupied." In 2010, Big Stone County had a high overall vacancy and rental vacancy rate compared to other surrounding counties. This was seen among some of the communities within Big Stone County and could be linked to the many vacation properties located along Big Stone and other lakes in the county.

School Enrollment Since 1999

School District	1999-2000	2005-2006	2010-2011	% Change
Benson School District	1,216	1,050	970	-20.23%
Canby School District	766	581	522	-31.85%
Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley School District	565	434	377	-33.27%
Dawson-Boyd School District	681	544	517	-24.08%
Kerkhoven-Murdock-Sunburg School District	664	585	557	-16.11%
Lac qui Parle Valley School District	1,245	1,007	820	-34.14%
Lakeview School District	589	609	595	1.02%
M.A.C.C.R.A.Y. School District	986	790	674	-31.64%
Montevideo School District	1,599	1,459	1,342	-16.07%
Ortonville School District	717	530	527	-26.50%
Yellow Medicine East School District	1,299	1,081	862	-33.64%

Source: Minnesota Department of Education

The school districts in Big Stone County, like most school districts in the Region, have seen a steady decline in school enrollment over the last decade. Lac qui Parle Valley School District has seen the greatest decline in enrollment in the Region. The decline in enrollment is consistent with the declining and aging population in Big Stone County and the entire Region. Note that data was only available for public school districts.

UMVRDC staff developed the concept and design for the Community Profile Brochures and data was collected by students and staff from the Center for Small Towns at the University of Minnesota, Morris. All information was collected from trusted sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the American Community Survey, Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED), and the Minnesota Department of Education and is presumed to be accurate.



Helping Communities Prosper

2010 Census Data for Big Stone County, Minnesota



This Community Profile Brochure is comprised of statistical information from a variety of sources and will provide a snapshot of historical and current demographic, economic and social trends in the Upper Minnesota Valley Region. The purpose is to provide a concise summary of key community statistics to aid decision making about community and economic development.

This statistical and informational profile was compiled by the UMRDC in collaboration with The Center for Small Towns at the University of Minnesota, Morris for all five counties (Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift and Yellow Medicine) and 37 cities in the Upper Minnesota Valley Region.



Demographics

The demographic profile below is a snapshot of historical, current and future population trends including population distribution and make up.

Comparison Historical Population from 1960 to 2010

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	% Change
Big Stone County	8,954	7,941	7,716	6,285	5,820	5,269	-41.15%
Households	2,605	2,436	2,873	2,463	2,377	3,115	19.58%
Average Household Size	3.44	3.26	2.59	2.55	2.45	1.69	-50.79%
Chippewa County	16,320	15,109	14,941	13,228	13,088	12,441	-23.77%
Lac qui Parle County	13,330	11,164	10,592	8,924	8,067	7,259	-45.54%
Swift County	14,936	13,177	12,920	10,724	11,956	9,783	-34.50%
Yellow Medicine County	15,523	14,415	13,653	11,684	11,080	10,438	-32.76%

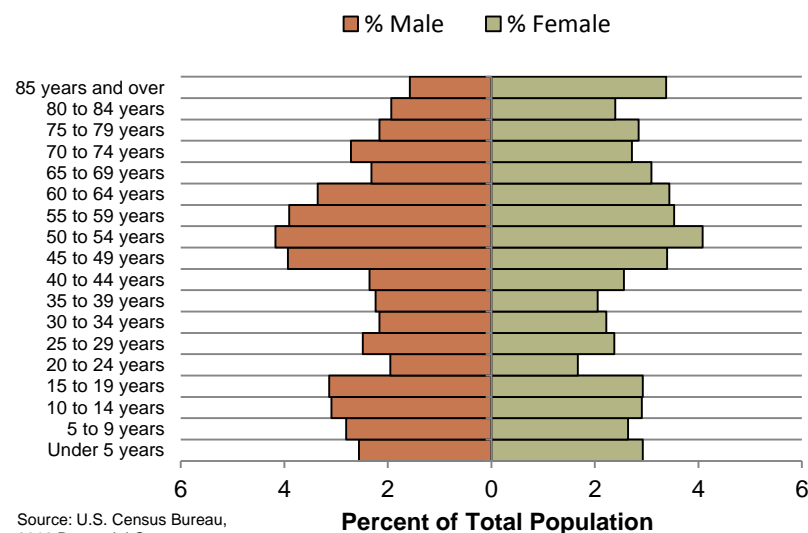
Source: US Census Bureau

UMVRDC Regional Population Projections

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	% Change
Big Stone County	5,190	5,160	5,160	5,110	5,060	-2.50%
Chippewa County	12,890	13,040	13,200	13,130	13,130	1.86%
Lac qui Parle County	6,940	6,830	6,770	6,640	6,520	-6.05%
Swift County	10,510	10,300	10,150	9,960	9,800	-6.76%
Yellow Medicine County	9,980	9,970	9,720	9,660	9,600	-3.81%
UMVRDC Region	45,510	45,300	45,000	44,500	44,110	-3.08%

Source: US Census Bureau

Big Stone County Population Distribution, 2010

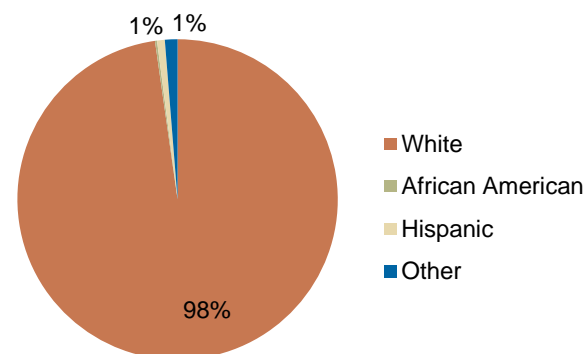


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census

The population distribution paints a typical picture of rural counties with a majority of the population over the age of 45. Similar to other counties in the Region, a relatively small percentage of the population is made up of youth in Big Stone County. Big Stone County has nearly an entirely white population, which is typical for counties made up of small rural communities.

Big Stone County has seen an overall decrease in population from 1960 through 2010, with the largest loss of population (1,431 people) occurring between 1980 and 1990. Big Stone County has the second highest rate of population loss since 1960 in the Region. The population is projected to decrease over the next few decades, however less dramatically than over the past 50 years. While the population of the county has declined, it has seen a slight increase in number of households. This is consistent with national and statewide trends, as family size is often smaller now than it has been in previous years. The number of actual households has increased over time while the average household size has reduced by over 50%.

Race, 2010



Source: US Census Bureau, Decennial

Economic

The employment and industry data below represents a picture of the overall economic health of the Region and Big Stone County. This data shows the diversity of Big Stone County's economy.

Types of Employment in Big Stone County, 2011

Types of Industry	Number of Employees	Number of Firms	Total Wages	Average Weekly Wage
Education and Health Services	832	25	\$26,071,034	\$602
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	311	50	\$9,542,067	\$588
Public Administration	178	19	\$6,006,514	\$653
Construction	175	29	\$8,776,702	\$914
Leisure and Hospitality	140	17	\$832,431	\$113
Financial Activities	72	21	\$2,832,856	\$756
Manufacturing	48	7	\$1,207,350	\$486
Other Services	44	17	\$623,079	\$275
Natural Resources and Mining	27	6	\$1,045,477	\$730
Total, All Industries	1,902	210	\$58,389,854	\$589
Other	75		\$1,452,344	

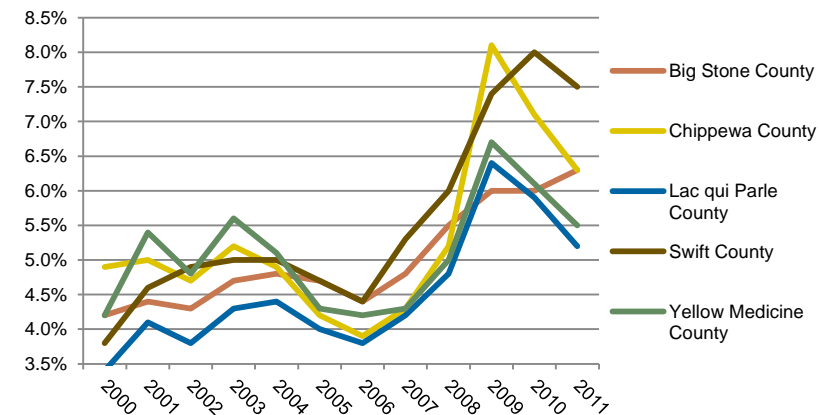
Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, QCEW

Annual Median Household Income:

- **Big Stone - \$44,438**
- Chippewa - \$44,712
- Lac qui Parle - \$48,269
- Swift - \$43,846
- Yellow Medicine - \$50,740
- UMRDC Region - \$46,401
- Minnesota - \$57,243

Source: 2007-2011 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

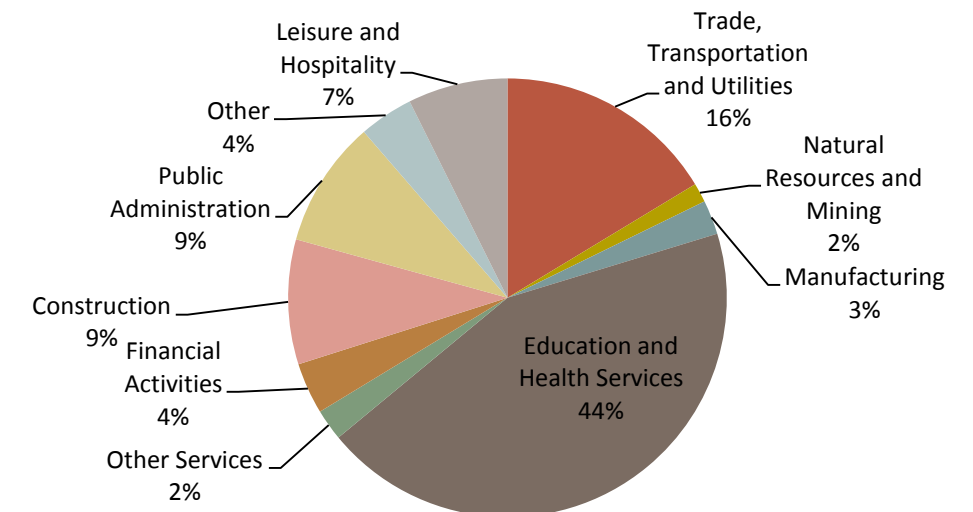
Unemployment Rates, 2000-2011



Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, LAUS

The employment categories shown in the table above and the chart below show the 11 Super Sectors of Industry, which is the federal standard in data pertaining to business and industry. In Big Stone County, the sectors of Information and Professional and Business Services were small, so they were combined as the "Other" sector at the bottom of the table. The pie chart below details that in Big Stone County, nearly half of all employment comes from Education and Health Services, which is the largest percentage of employees in one sector per county in the entire Region. Big Stone County had a slight increase in unemployment during the Recession of 2007-2009, but in 2011 had an unemployment rate just under 6.5%, which is close to the State unemployment rate of 6.4% and below the national average of 8.9% for 2011.

Employment by Industry in Big Stone County, 2011



Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development QCEW

