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 communities in the UMVRDC Region and the State of Minnesota.

### 2010 Census Data for Bellingham, Minnesota

Bellingham is part of the Ortonville School District, which, like most school districts in the Region, has seen a steady decline in enrollment over the last decade. This decline in enrollment is consistent with the declining and aging population in the Region. Note that data was only available for public school districts.

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, the city of Bellingham had the highest rental vacancy rate compared to other like-sized communities, but a lower home ownership vacancy rate.

At $36,900, the median home value in Bellingham is below both Lac qui Parle County and the State of Minnesota, however it falls in the middle for median home values in similar sized communities. The median monthly housing costs for homeowners in Bellingham is the highest among like-sized communities and even higher than that for Lac qui Parle County.
The demographic profile below provides a snapshot of Bellingham and surrounding communities’ historical, current, and future population trends including population distribution and make up.

**Demographics**

**Comparison Historical Population from 1960 to 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellingham</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>-48.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>-25.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Household Size</td>
<td>2.97</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>-31.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boyd</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>-58.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clantarf</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>17.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De Graff</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>-41.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>-50.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porter</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>-29.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lac qui Parle County</td>
<td>13,330</td>
<td>11,164</td>
<td>10,592</td>
<td>9,924</td>
<td>8,067</td>
<td>7,259</td>
<td>45.54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unemployment Rates, 2000-2011**

- **Belle Plaine County**: $46,712
- **Lac qui Parle County**: $48,269
- **Swift County**: $44,438
- **Chippewa**: $44,712
- **Yellow Medicine**: $50,740
- **UMVRDC Region**: $46,401

**Annual Median Household Income**

- **City of Bellingham**: $33,472
- **Big Stone**: $44,438
- **Chippewa**: $44,712
- **Lac qui Parle**: $48,269
- **Swift**: $43,846
- **Yellow Medicine**: $50,740
- **UMVRDC Region**: $46,401
- **Minnesota**: $57,243

**Types of Employment in Bellingham, 2011**

- **Public Administration**: 3 employees, 1 firm, $63,156, $461
- **Total, All Industries**: 42 employees, 10 firms, $1,257,225, $586

**Economic**

The employment and industry data below represents a picture of the overall economic health of Bellingham and Lac qui Parle County. This data shows the diversity of the Region’s economy.

**Bellingham Population Projections**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2030</th>
<th>2035</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellingham</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-19.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lac qui Parle County</td>
<td>6,940</td>
<td>6,830</td>
<td>6,770</td>
<td>6,640</td>
<td>6,520</td>
<td>-6.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMVRDC Region</td>
<td>45,510</td>
<td>45,300</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>44,500</td>
<td>44,110</td>
<td>-3.27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bellingham Population Distribution, 2010**

- 85 years and over: 9%
- 80 to 84 years: 10%
- 75 to 79 years: 7%
- 70 to 74 years: 7%
- 65 to 69 years: 6%
- 60 to 64 years: 8%
- 55 to 59 years: 8%
- 50 to 54 years: 5%
- 45 to 49 years: 4%
- 40 to 44 years: 3%
- 35 to 39 years: 3%
- 30 to 34 years: 2%
- 25 to 29 years: 1%
- 20 to 24 years: 1%
- 15 to 19 years: 1%
- 10 to 14 years: 2%
- 5 to 9 years: 2%
- Under 5 years: 1%

The population distribution above shows there is a high percentage of the population in the middle age cohorts and the 75 to 85 age cohorts. Bellingham has a nearly all white population, which is typical for a community of this size.

Bellingham has seen an overall decrease in population from 1960-2010 of over 48 percent. Although Bellingham gained population from 1970 to 1980, it has seen a steady decline in population ever since 1980. The population is projected to continue to decrease over the next few decades, however less dramatically than in previous decades.

**Race, 2010**

- **White**: 99%
- **African American**: 1%
- **Hispanic/Latino**: 1%
- **Other**: 1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial

The employment categories shown in the table above and chart below show the 11 Super Sectors of Industry, which is the federal standard in data pertaining to business and industry. The table above shows that much of the employment and economic activity in Bellingham is outside the 11 Super Sectors. The pie chart below details that in Lac qui Parle County, just over one third of all employment comes from Education and Health Services. The Manufacturing and Trade, Transportation and Utilities sectors are also large employers in the county. Lac qui Parle County had a slight increase in unemployment during the Recession of 2007-2009, but in 2011 had an unemployment rate under 5.5%, the lowest of all counties in the Region.