



Spring 2001

This report, the first in a series analyzing data from the 2000 census, provides information on both the number of children and their race/ethnicity for all 87 counties in Minnesota. More census information, including information for other states, and smaller, sub-county areas, is available at <http://factfinder.census.gov> or <http://www.kidscount.org>.



Children's Defense Fund

Minnesota KIDS COUNT, a joint project of the Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota and Congregations Concerned for Children, is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and provides county-by-county assessment of the condition of Minnesota's children. Minnesota KIDS COUNT releases periodic reports and an annual databook to provide a statistical profile of Minnesota's children and suggestions for action on their behalf. This report is available on the CDF-MN web site at <http://www.cdf-mn.org> or by calling 612/870-3670.

Minnesota Children in the 2000 Census: Population by County

In March of 2001, the U.S. Census Bureau released the first local level data from the 2000 census. This data, intended for use in the legislative redistricting process, provides basic information about the population, including the total number of people, the number of people older than 18, and a count of the population by race and Hispanic origin. By simple subtraction, it is possible to obtain information about the number of children in Minnesota under age 18, as well as their race and ethnicity. This report, the first in a series,

will look at this data and what it tells us about Minnesota children.

Number of Children in Minnesota

The 2000 Census recorded 1,286,894 children in Minnesota, 26% of the population. The number of children increased 10% from the 1990 census. Children are relatively the same percentage (26%) of the total population for both years, however. Thirty eight Minnesota counties increased their number of children (see Figure 1).

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Figure 1. Counties With Increased Number of Children, 1990 - 2000

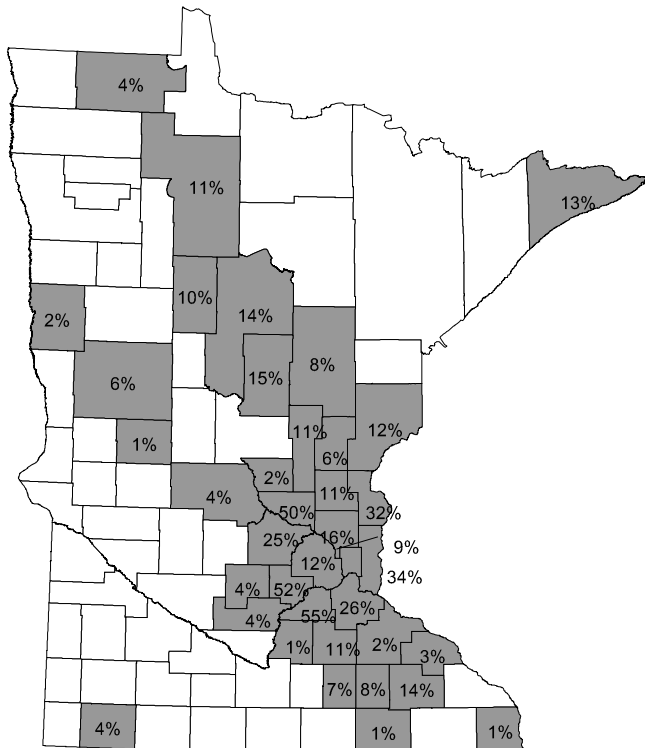
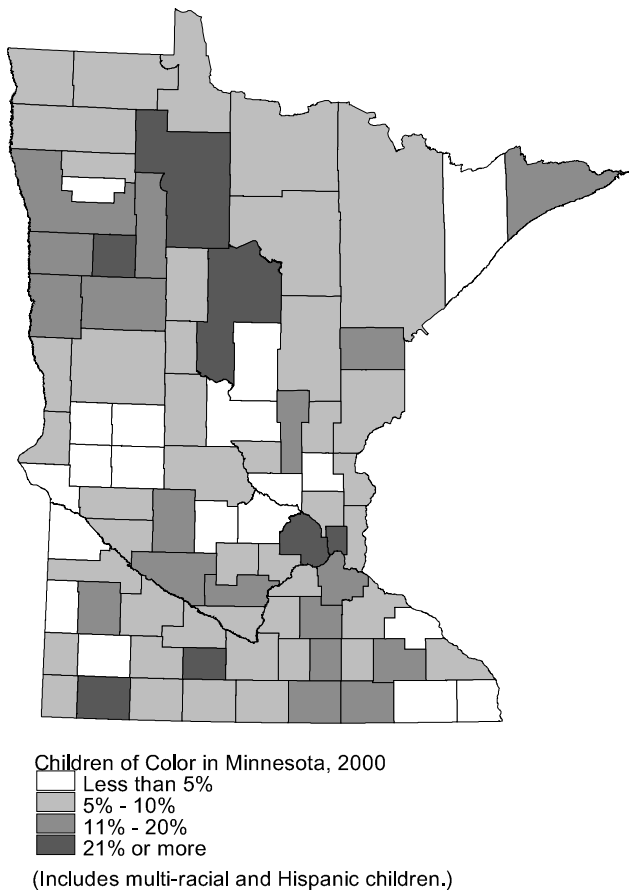


Figure 2. Children of Color in Minnesota as a Percentage of All Children 2000



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These counties were predominately in the eastern part of Minnesota and correlated with overall population gains in these counties. Only three counties – Hennepin, Scott, and Ramsey – increased the percentage of the population comprised of children (meaning that the number of children grew faster than the number of adults.)

Children of Color in Minnesota

Minnesota’s population has become increasingly diverse over the last decade. The extent of that change is difficult to measure exactly because of changes in how racial and ethnic categories are recorded. In the 1990 census, people were allowed to select only one racial identity, in addition to indicating whether or not they were Hispanic. This means

that multi-racial children were classified in only one racial category.

However, in the 2000 census, people could select more than one racial identity, meaning that multi-racial children might now be recorded in up to six different categories of race as well as indicating Latino/Hispanic origin. Thus, the number of children counted in a particular group, such as American Indian, depends on if it counts children who were recorded as American Indian only, or children who were recorded as being American Indian as well as some other race or races (i.e. American Indian and white). In the 2000 Census, 3.4% of Minnesota children were identified as multi-racial. The largest multi-racial categories were white and American Indian, white and African-American, and white and Asian.

By any method of comparison, the population of children of color in Minnesota grew substantially through the decade. In the 1990 census, 112,755 or 9.7% of children were children of color. In the 2000 census, 231,489 or 18% of Minnesota children were children of color (this figure includes multi-racial children and all Latino/Hispanic children, regardless of race). Figure 2 shows the proportions of these children throughout the state.

Figure 3 shows the total number of children in four racial groups and the differences in this data depending on whether or not multi-racial children are included. (Please note that including multi-racial children means that some children are counted in more than one group in this chart.)

Figure 3. Number of Children of Color in Minnesota, Census 2000

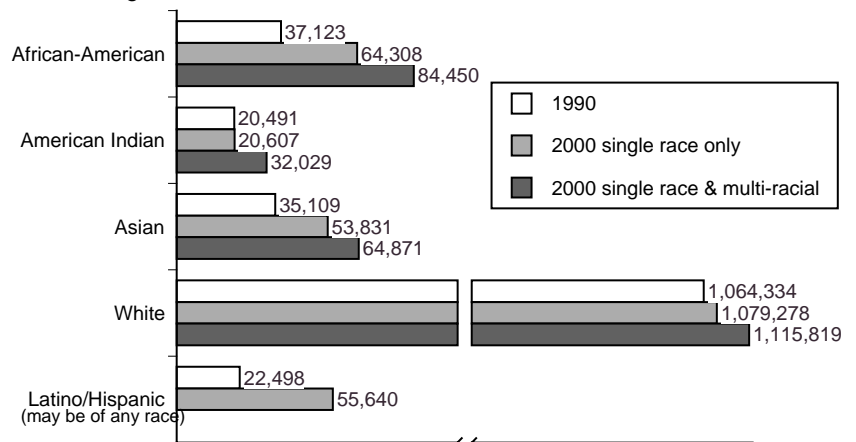


Figure 4. African-American Children Minnesota as a Percentage of All Children, 2000

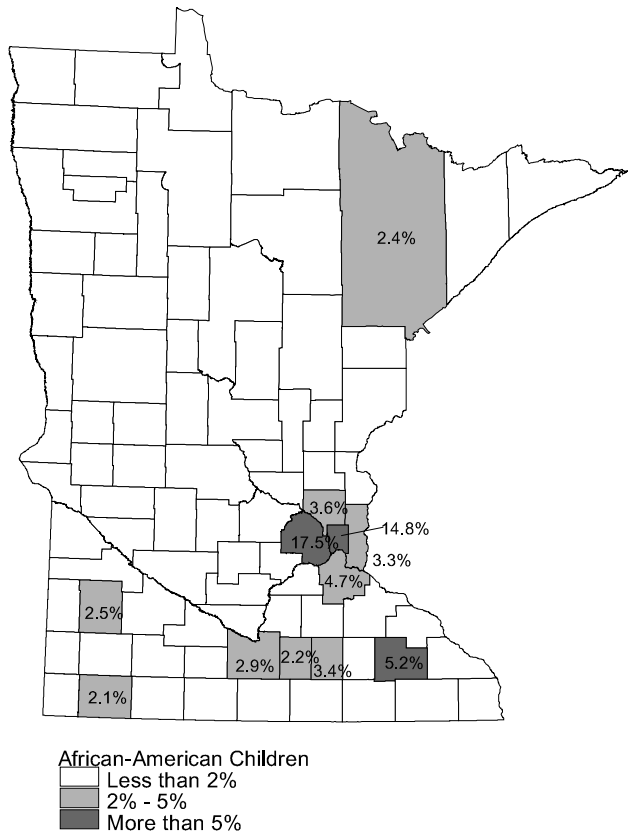
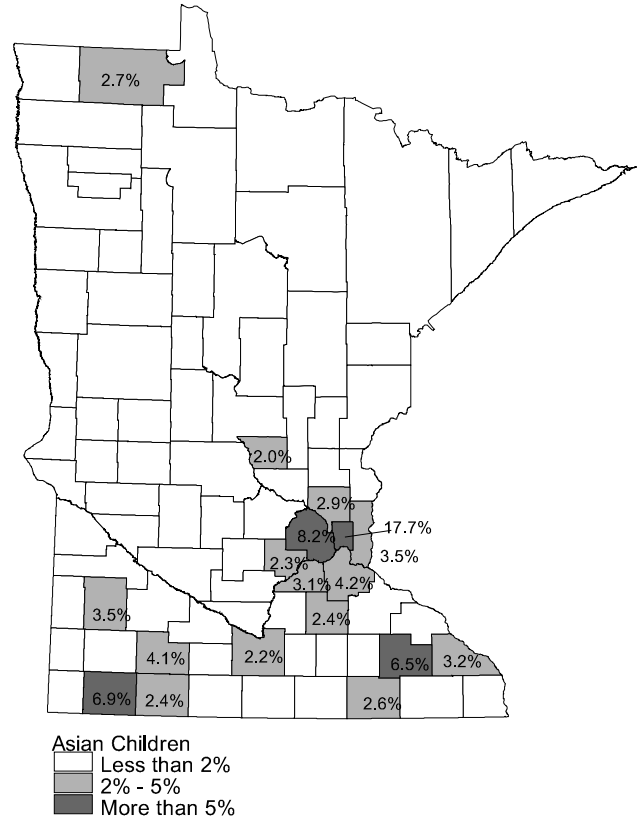


Figure 5. Asian Children in Minnesota as a Percentage of All Children, 2000



African-American Children in Minnesota

(This includes children who were identified as African-American only as well as multi-racial children where one of the races selected was African-American.)

The 2000 Census reported 84,450 African-American children, 6.6% of all Minnesota children. (See Figure 4) Most African American children in Minnesota live in and around the metro area. Ninety percent live in Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota, Anoka and Washington counties. Seven other Minnesota counties have more than 2% of their children who are African-American, including Olmsted, with just over 5%; and St. Louis, Steele, Waseca, Blue Earth, Lyon and Nobles counties with 2-3%.

Asian Children in Minnesota

(This includes children who were identified as Asian only as well as multi-racial children where one of the races selected was Asian.)

The 2000 Census reported 64,871 Asian children, 5% of all Minnesota children. (See Figure 5) The county with the highest proportion of Asian children was Ramsey. However, Hennepin, Olmsted and Nobles counties also had significant percentages of Asian children. Other counties where Asian children comprised at least 2% of the child population included Jackson, Cottonwood, Lyon, Blue Earth, Mower, Rice and Winona counties in southern Minnesota; the surrounding metro counties of Carver, Dakota, Washington, Anoka, Sherburne and Benton; and the northwestern Minnesota county of Roseau.

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American Indian Children in Minnesota

(This includes children who were identified as American Indian only, as well as multi-racial children where one of the races selected was American Indian.)

The 2000 Census recorded 32,029 American Indian children in Minnesota, 2.5% of all Minnesota children. (See Figure 6) Forty-two percent lived in the seven counties in the metro area, and the remainder live in greater Minnesota, primarily in the northern part of the state. Counties in greater Minnesota with the highest percentage of American Indian children tend to include reservations. These counties include Mahnommen, Beltrami, Cass, Becker, Clearwater, Cook, Itasca, Aitkin, Mille Lacs, and Carlton in northern Minnesota, and Redwood in southwestern Minnesota.

Figure 6. American Indian Children in Minnesota as a Percentage of All Children, 2000

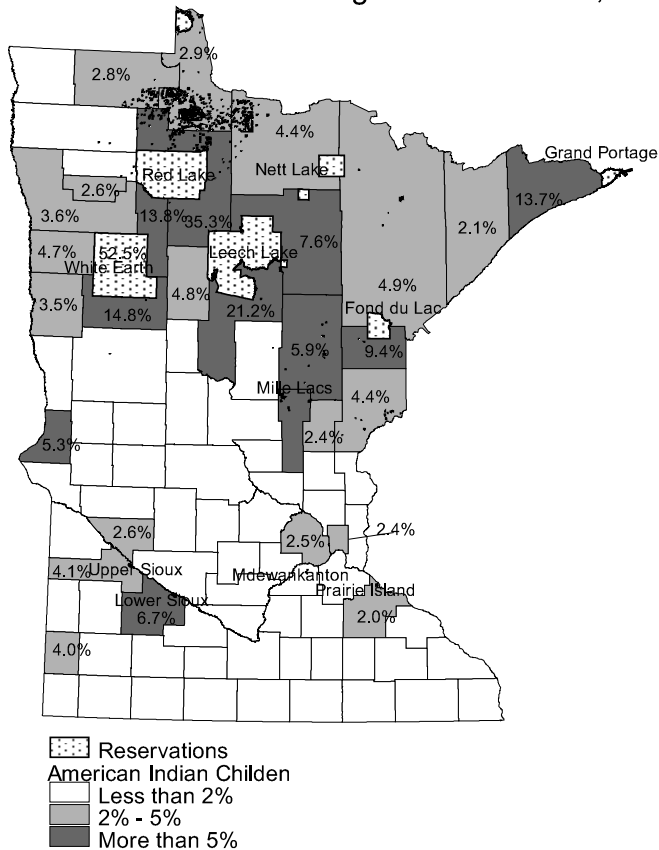
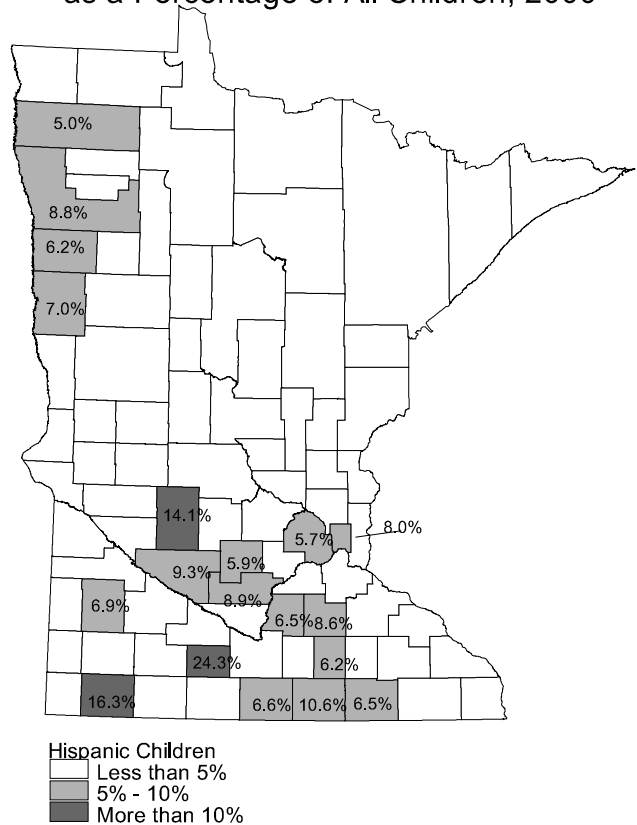


Figure 7. Latino/Hispanic Children in Minnesota as a Percentage of All Children, 2000



Latino/Hispanic Children in Minnesota

(This includes all children who were categorized as Latino/Hispanic, regardless of what other race was selected.)

The 2000 Census recorded 55,640 Latino/Hispanic children, or 4.3% of all Minnesota children. (See Figure 7) Sixty percent lived in the metro counties of Hennepin, Ramsey, Dakota and Anoka, and the remainder were in greater Minnesota. The counties with the highest percentage of Latino/Hispanic children are all rural: Nobles, Watonwan and Freeborn counties in southern Minnesota and Kandiyohi county in western Minnesota. Other counties with significant percentages of Latino/Hispanic children include Martin, Faribault, Mower, Steele, Rice, LeSeuer, Lyon and Renville counties in Southern Minnesota; Clay, Norman, Mahnommen, and Polk counties in northwestern Minnesota; and St. Louis County in northeastern Minnesota. ❖

COUNTY	1990 Total population < age 18	2000 Total population < age 18	% change 1990-2000
Aitkin	2,960	3,194	7.9%
Anoka	74,528	86,217	15.7%
Becker	8,083	7,993	-1.1%
Beltrami	10,227	11,379	11.3%
Benton	9,078	9,261	2.0%
Big Stone	1,642	1,446	-11.9%
Blue Earth	12,375	11,951	-3.4%
Brown	7,439	6,814	-8.4%
Carlton	8,245	8,032	-2.6%
Carver	14,498	22,080	52.3%
Cass	5,954	6,774	13.8%
Chippewa	3,576	3,320	-7.2%
Chisago	9,428	12,395	31.5%
Clay	12,667	12,822	1.2%
Clearwater	2,421	2,193	-9.4%
Cook	919	1,054	14.7%
Cottonwood	3,306	3,040	-8.0%
Crow Wing	11,949	13,691	14.6%
Dakota	82,352	103,862	26.1%
Dodge	4,920	5,350	8.7%
Douglas	7,793	7,877	1.1%
Faribault	4,523	3,946	-12.8%
Fillmore	5,784	5,513	-4.7%
Freeborn	8,648	7,808	-9.7%
Goodhue	11,514	11,702	1.6%
Grant	1,625	1,505	-7.4%
Hennepin	238,544	267,502	12.1%
Houston	5,328	5,360	0.6%
Hubbard	4,088	4,514	10.4%
Isanti	8,107	8,970	10.6%
Itasca	11,638	10,729	-7.8%
Jackson	3,153	2,761	-12.4%
Kanabec	3,865	4,127	6.8%
Kandiyohi	11,082	10,980	-0.9%
Kittson	1,511	1,325	-12.3%
Koochiching	4,219	3,425	-18.8%
Lac qui Parle	2,354	1,977	-16.0%
Lake	2,513	2,463	-2.0%
Lake of the Woods	1,143	1,118	-2.2%
LeSueur	6,845	6,955	1.6%
Lincoln	1,799	1,525	-15.2%
Lyon	6,750	6,650	-1.5%
MacLeod	9,301	9,684	4.1%
Mahnomen	1,574	1,515	-3.7%
Marshall	3,181	2,583	-18.8%
Martin	6,165	5,415	-12.2%
Meecker	6,137	6,109	-0.5%
Mille Lacs	5,436	6,023	10.8%

COUNTY	1990 Total population < age 18	2000 Total population < age 18	% change 1990-2000
Morrison	9,281	8,894	-4.2%
Mower	9,559	9,690	1.4%
Murray	2,630	2,287	-13.0%
Nicollet	7,360	7,365	0.1%
Nobles	5,386	5,522	2.5%
Norman	2,179	1,915	-12.1%
Olmsted	29,484	33,533	13.7%
Otter Tail	13,448	14,238	5.9%
Pennington	3,632	3,330	-8.3%
Pine	5,972	6,752	13.1%
Pipestone	2,902	2,551	-12.1%
Polk	9,161	8,128	-11.3%
Pope	2,971	2,791	-6.1%
Ramsey	119,997	130,684	8.9%
Red Lake	1,354	1,098	-18.9%
Redwood	4,856	4,464	-8.1%
Renville	4,943	4,552	-7.9%
Rice	12,900	14,313	11.0%
Rock	2,803	2,558	-8.7%
Roseau	4,658	4,867	4.5%
Saint Louis	48,419	44,829	-7.4%
Scott	18,024	27,964	55.1%
Sherburne	13,135	19,914	51.6%
Sibley	4,094	4,254	3.9%
Stearns	33,430	34,267	2.5%
Steele	8,769	9,404	7.2%
Stevens	2,516	2,173	-13.6%
Swift	2,797	2,754	-1.5%
Todd	7,153	6,683	-6.6%
Traverse	1,179	1,047	-11.2%
Wabasha	5,692	5,854	2.8%
Wadena	3,733	3,542	-5.1%
Waseca	5,210	5,039	-3.3%
Washington	44,335	59,225	33.6%
Watonwan	3,265	3,273	0.2%
Wilkin	2,112	1,985	-6.0%
Winona	11,764	11,393	-3.2%
Wright	22,469	27,975	24.5%
Yellow Med.	3,150	2,858	-9.3%
STATE	1,167,909	1,286,894	10.2%



Children of Color, 2000 Census

COUNTY	Total Children of Color and/or Hispanic**	% children of color and/or Hispanic**	White*	Black or African American*	American Indian and Alaska Native*	Asian*	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander*	Some other race*	Two or more races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
Anoka	8,942	10.4%	78,318	1,916	633	1,729	18	750	2,853	2,028
Aitkin	272	8.5%	2,952	13	157	13	1	11	47	48
Becker	1,374	17.2%	6,669	30	892	31	-	39	332	126
Beltrami	4,304	37.8%	7,129	62	3,704	52	3	40	389	202
Benton	586	6.3%	8,734	80	55	133	9	54	196	117
Big Stone	49	3.4%	1,402	5	16	9	-	4	10	10
Blue Earth	1,057	8.8%	11,068	224	55	192	20	142	250	364
Brown	404	5.9%	6,529	7	12	40	2	127	97	279
Carlton	966	12.0%	7,128	24	591	38	1	20	230	102
Carver	1,627	7.4%	20,895	162	41	406	2	260	314	758
Cass	1,579	23.3%	5,241	14	1,287	28	2	12	190	103
Chippewa	274	8.3%	3,107	19	50	12	1	64	67	128
Chisago	616	5.0%	11,924	43	70	139	6	48	165	205
Clay	1,674	13.1%	11,552	71	313	107	4	372	403	897
Clearwater	362	16.5%	1,838	11	259	12	-	13	60	40
Cook	181	17.2%	879	8	107	4	1	7	48	21
Cottonwood	318	10.5%	2,762	17	17	84	-	81	79	139
Crow Wing	638	4.7%	13,147	88	141	47	-	49	219	169
Dakota	14,272	13.7%	91,539	3,108	454	3,301	59	1,686	3,715	4,157
Dodge	350	6.5%	5,065	18	10	36	-	148	73	239
Douglas	254	3.2%	7,665	35	19	55	1	26	76	84
Faribault	375	9.5%	3,731	31	17	18	-	81	68	259
Fillmore	143	2.6%	5,399	20	6	11	-	18	59	49
Freeborn	1,057	13.5%	7,154	36	24	71	1	358	164	830
Goodhue	776	6.6%	11,010	141	168	114	3	81	185	185
Grant	42	2.8%	1,465	6	7	3	-	10	14	13
Hennepin	87,745	32.8%	185,458	37,374	3,818	18,408	152	7,560	14,732	15,242
Houston	192	3.6%	5,192	37	12	41	-	17	61	49
Hubbard	323	7.2%	4,222	16	161	17	-	16	82	57
Isanti	413	4.6%	8,632	33	75	54	2	23	151	117
Itasca	1,048	9.8%	9,729	37	613	40	5	36	269	119
Jackson	184	6.7%	2,616	4	3	60	-	53	25	93
Kanabec	246	6.0%	3,917	12	55	35	2	10	96	56
Kandiyohi	1,883	17.1%	9,735	97	68	61	8	792	219	1,546
Kittson	71	5.4%	1,277	4	5	6	-	12	21	38
Koochiching	243	7.1%	3,209	15	100	7	4	4	86	42
Lac qui Parle	48	2.4%	1,933	5	8	8	-	4	19	10
Lake	92	3.7%	2,380	4	30	3	-	7	39	23
Lake...Woods	61	5.5%	1,064	7	21	2	-	3	21	10
LeSueur	585	8.4%	6,571	12	19	30	1	241	81	453
Lincoln	51	3.3%	1,482	2	12	5	-	14	10	25
Lyon	920	13.8%	5,938	113	31	204	-	216	148	459
MacLeod	801	8.3%	9,148	33	23	54	8	295	123	573
Mahnomen	813	53.7%	708	2	604	1	-	4	196	23
Marshall	177	6.9%	2,470	3	11	11	-	62	26	129

* single race only

** includes multi-racial children and all Hispanic/Latino children



Children of Color, 2000 Census, continued

COUNTY	Total Children of Color and/or Hispanic**	% children of color and/or Hispanic**	White*	Black or African American*	American Indian and Alaska Native*	Asian*	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander*	Some other race*	Two or more races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)
Martin	316	5.8%	5,136	26	9	28	1	124	91	189
Meeker	291	4.8%	5,872	14	11	39	-	114	59	182
Mille Lacs	688	11.4%	5,396	23	445	14	1	16	128	96
Morrison	278	3.1%	8,682	31	26	32	3	26	94	96
Mower	1,096	11.3%	8,847	101	28	199	1	329	185	631
Murray	102	4.5%	2,215	4	11	5	1	18	33	55
Nicollet	481	6.5%	6,993	86	19	74	2	72	119	208
Nobles	1,407	25.5%	4,421	83	20	318	8	515	157	898
Norman	233	12.2%	1,753	6	45	13	-	40	58	119
Olmsted	5,159	15.4%	28,897	1,273	89	1,803	12	426	1,033	1,008
Otter Tail	866	6.1%	13,528	80	101	85	10	194	240	407
Pennington	192	5.8%	3,170	12	29	30	3	28	58	69
Pine	540	8.0%	6,273	47	228	24	2	35	143	109
Pipestone	164	6.4%	2,398	12	63	10	-	13	55	34
Polk	1,092	13.4%	7,298	39	170	27	3	373	218	719
Pope	82	2.9%	2,726	12	12	5	1	10	25	33
Ramsey	53,965	41.3%	80,650	15,128	1,480	20,773	129	4,546	7,978	10,472
Red Lake	43	3.9%	1,057	4	24	3	-	3	7	5
Redwood	427	9.6%	4,073	10	247	22	3	31	78	86
Renville	511	11.2%	4,198	4	35	18	-	229	68	425
Rice	1,878	13.1%	13,130	121	65	270	3	421	303	1,224
Rock	162	6.3%	2,417	26	23	30	-	29	33	58
Roseau	311	6.4%	4,573	15	99	118	1	4	57	27
Saint Louis	4,379	9.8%	40,771	525	1,503	435	11	198	1,386	672
Scott	2,666	9.5%	25,721	278	233	665	7	430	630	953
Sherburne	923	4.6%	19,161	110	89	114	4	108	328	304
Sibley	478	11.2%	3,946	11	15	28	-	195	59	380
Stearns	2,254	6.6%	32,439	377	114	505	15	243	574	725
Steele	1,097	11.7%	8,629	184	6	132	4	233	216	585
Stevens	102	4.7%	2,083	12	16	16	1	8	37	28
Swift	192	7.0%	2,615	9	14	23	2	60	31	120
Todd	347	5.2%	6,424	10	41	35	1	71	101	191
Traverse	91	8.7%	978	-	54	5	-	1	9	27
Wabasha	280	4.8%	5,660	25	23	37	-	55	54	154
Wadena	178	5.0%	3,412	30	24	14	-	23	39	73
Waseca	436	8.7%	4,722	77	12	36	1	105	86	241
Washington	6,103	10.3%	54,074	1,228	184	1,575	15	521	1,628	1,753
Watsonwan	911	27.8%	2,670	31	11	42	1	439	79	795
Wilkin	110	5.5%	1,906	8	11	3	-	17	40	54
Winona	859	7.5%	10,656	140	28	299	2	96	172	249
Wright	1,180	4.2%	27,064	92	91	189	2	133	404	476
Yellow Med.	231	8.1%	2,661	5	85	6	-	51	50	94
STATE	231,489	18.0%	1,079,278	64,308	20,607	53,831	566	24,453	43,851	55,640

* single race only

** includes multi-racial children and all Hispanic/Latino children

Looking for data about Minnesota children from the 2000 census? Thus far, the census bureau has released population figures by race and ethnicity for all ages and for voting age adults (over 18.) By subtraction, figures for children under 18 can be obtained.

Here are some places to find census information in easy-to-use formats:

On the CDF-MN web site, at www.cdf-mn.org/KidsCount.htm, you can download Excel files with race and Hispanic/Latino population figures for all 87 Minnesota counties and all county seats. These files do not have detailed breakouts about multi-racial children. There are also maps of African-American, American Indian, Asian and Hispanic/Latino child populations in Minnesota.

At the national KIDS COUNT website, www.kidscount.org, you can view, save and print fact sheets for counties, Congressional districts, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the state as a whole, including more detailed information on

multi-racial children, and information from the 1990 and 1980 censuses. Large tables with the raw data are also available.

From the Census Bureau (<http://factfinder.gov>), you can use America's Fact Finder to download information on populations. This would be a good site to get information on smaller towns and areas not available at the other sites. Data about children can be obtained by subtracting the over-18 population from the total population.

Information about Minnesota school districts is available from Proximity at <http://www.proximityone.com/plsd.htm>. By registering, you can download a free Excel spreadsheet listing every Minnesota school district and its population by race and ethnicity.

If you have questions about census data and children, please feel free to call our KIDS COUNT Director, Diane Benjamin, at (651) 227-6121, or email her at benjamin@cdf-mn.org.

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MN Kids Count Project Staff

Diane Benjamin
KIDS COUNT Director

Jim Koppel
CDF-MN Director

Jim Caseboldt
Joint Religious Legislative Coalition

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Children's Defense Fund -
Minnesota
200 W. University Ave.,
Suite 210
St. Paul, MN 55103

