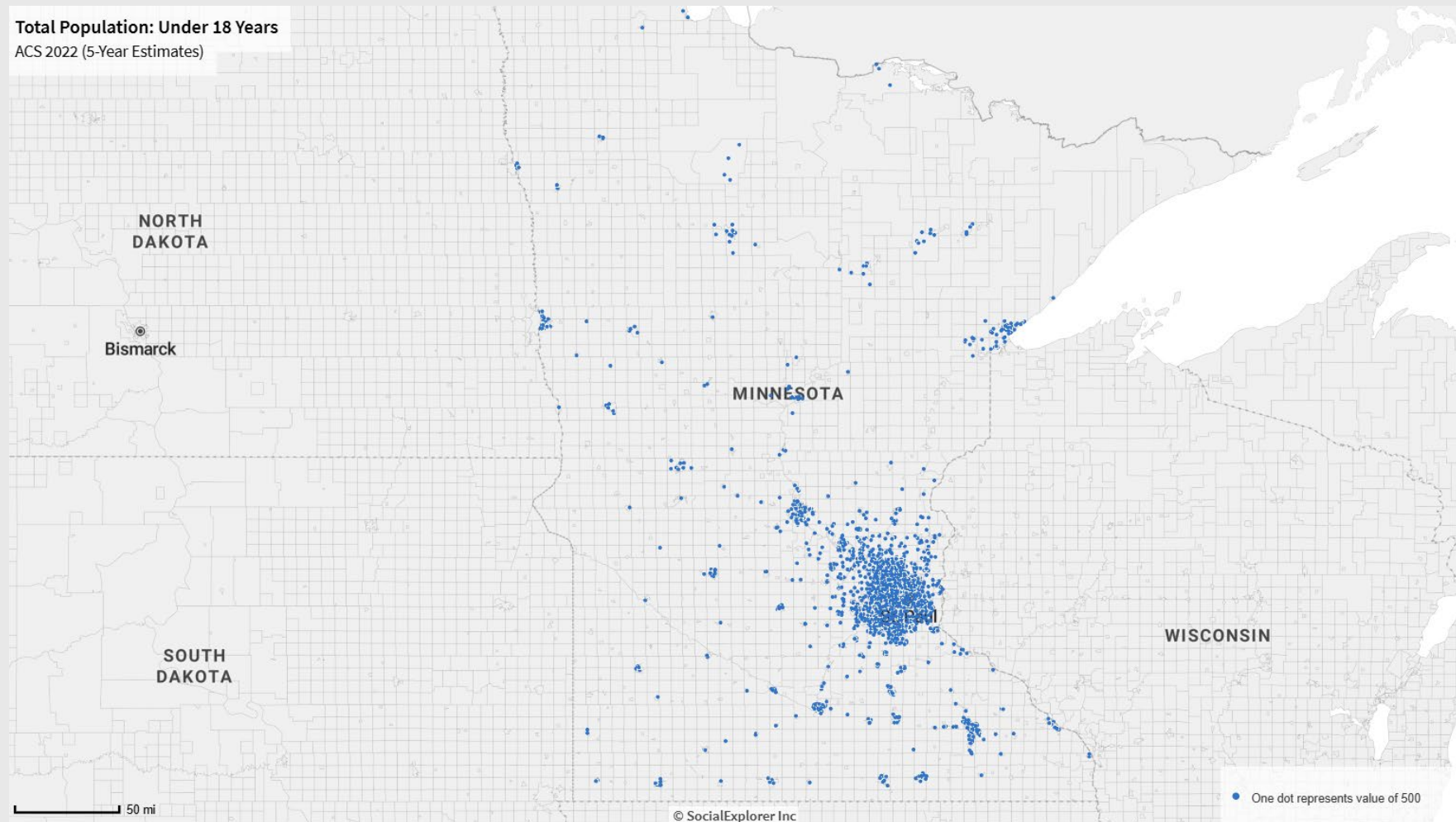




Demographic Overview of Minnesota's K-12 Population

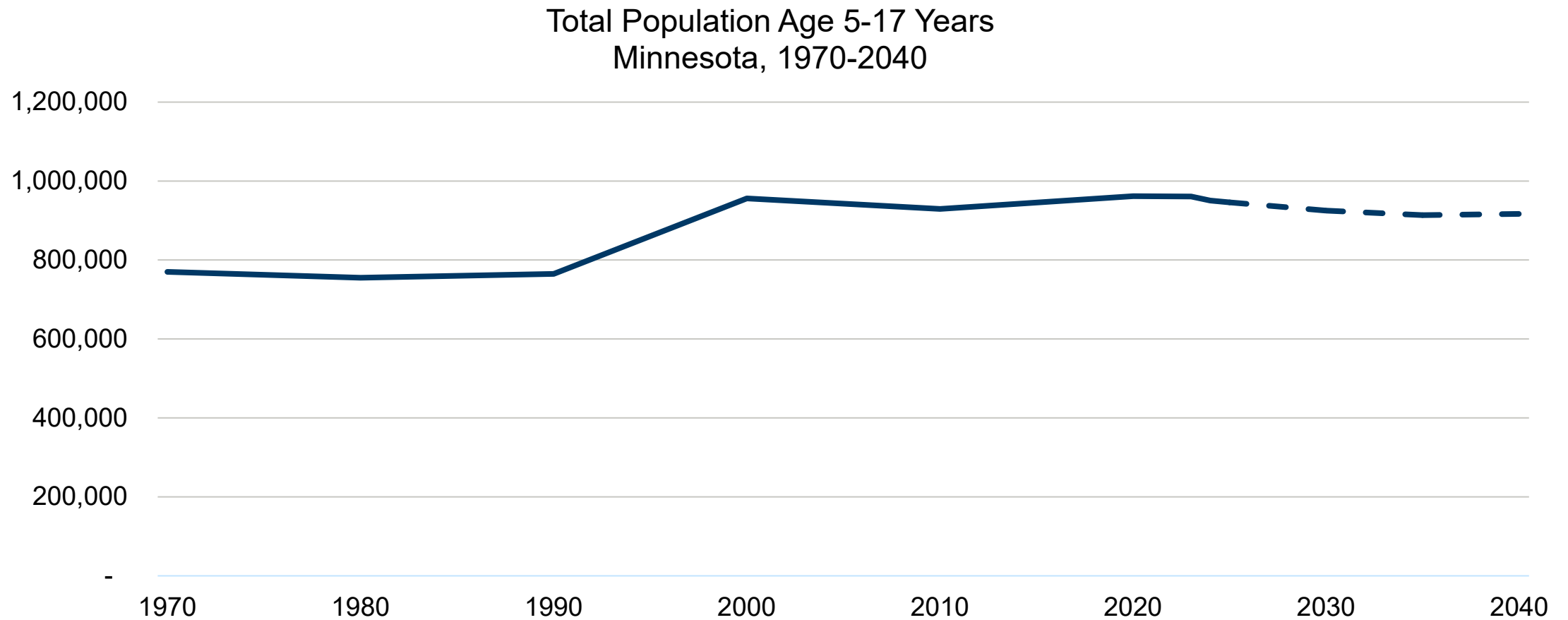
Susan Brower, PhD, Minnesota State Demographer
January 21, 2025

In 2023, there were 960,700 school-age children in Minnesota.



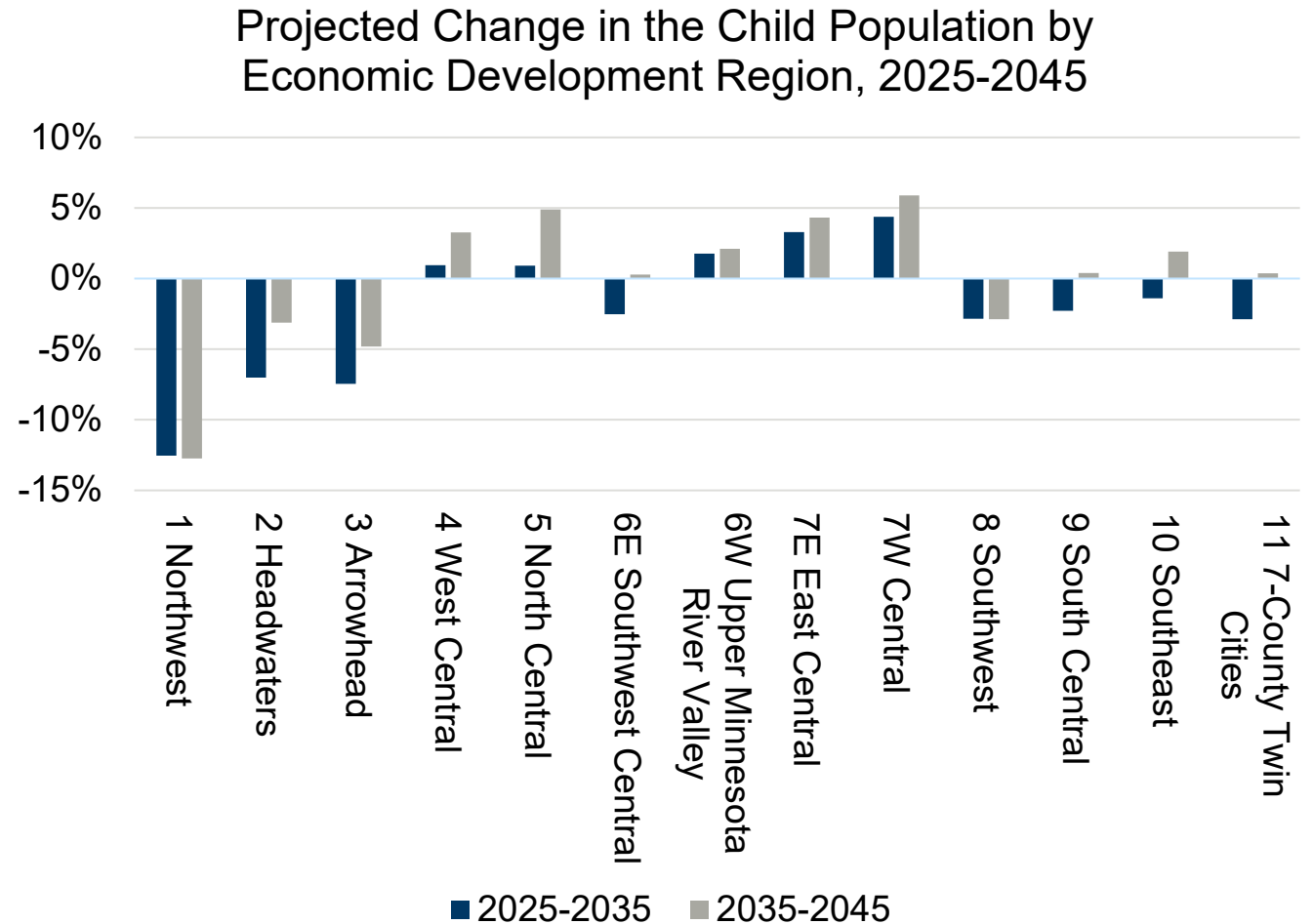
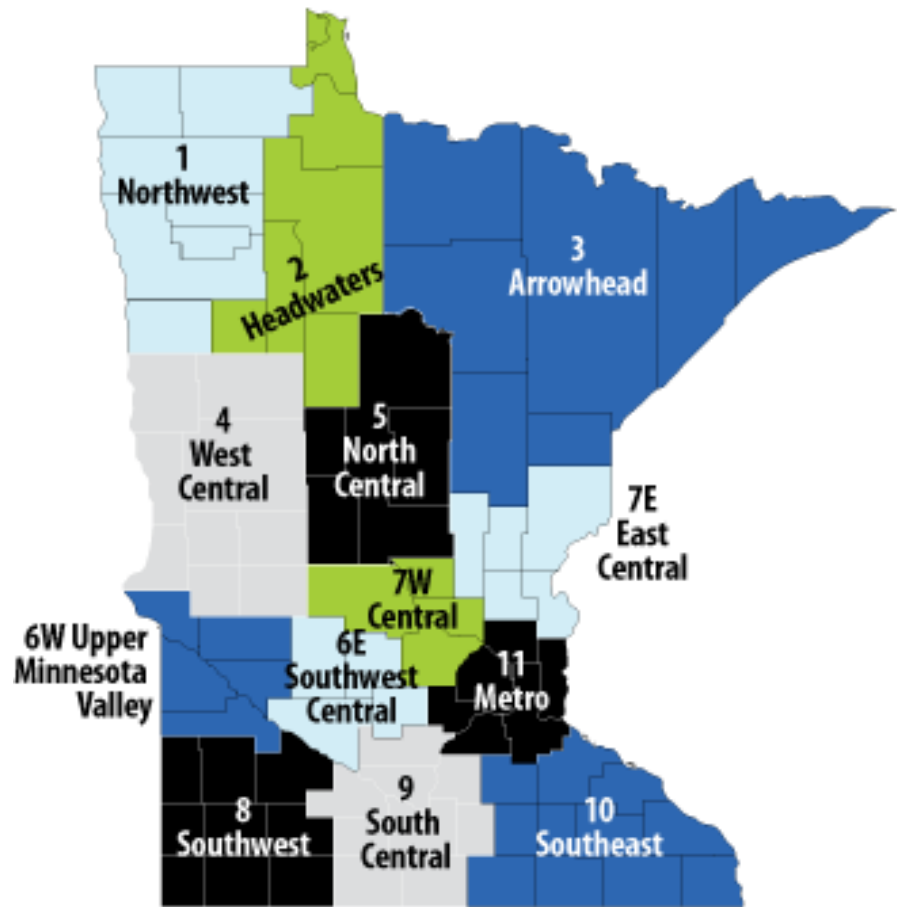
Sources. School-age population (5 to 17 years). U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program
Map data: Child population (0-17 years). U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Minnesota's school-age population is projected to decline by about 5% over the next 15 years.



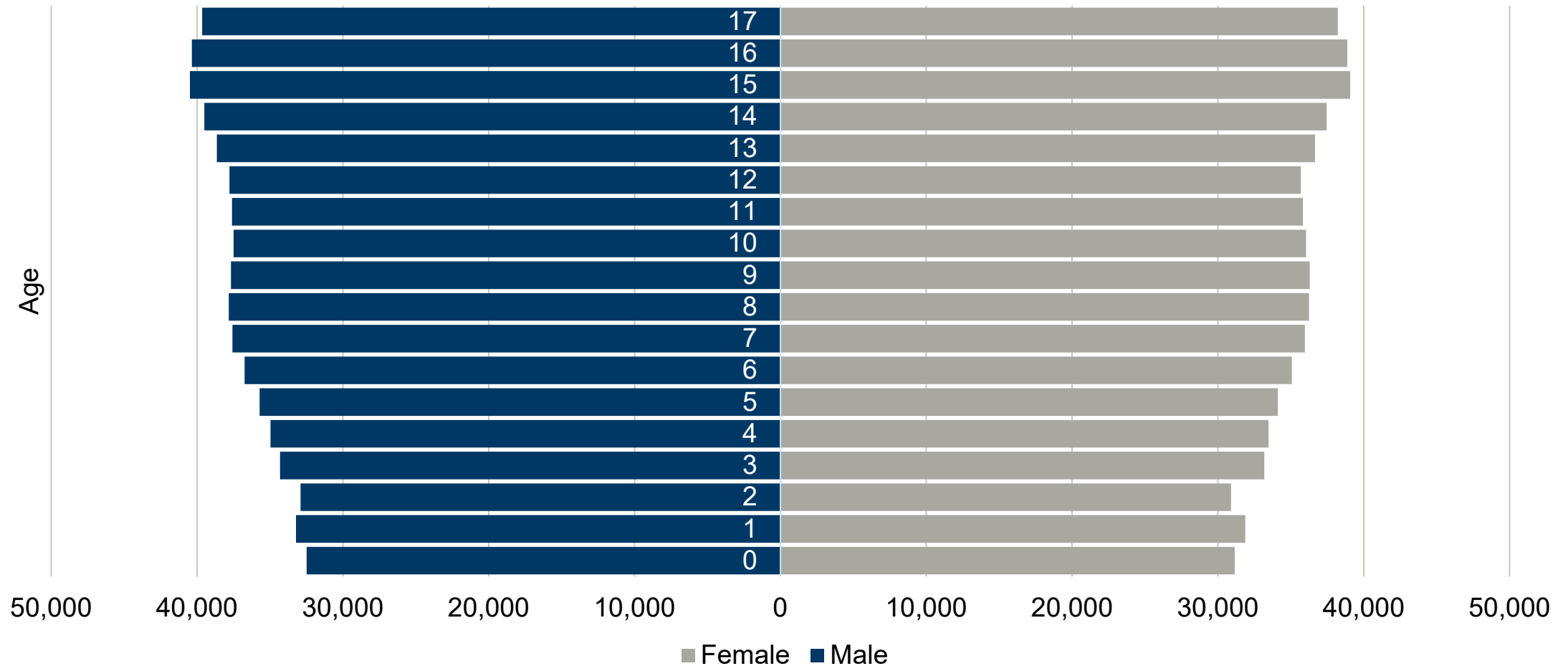
Sources: 1970-2023 ipums.org from U.S. Census Bureau data. 2024-2040 Minnesota State Demographic Center Projections

The child population will decline more in some regions of the state than in other regions.

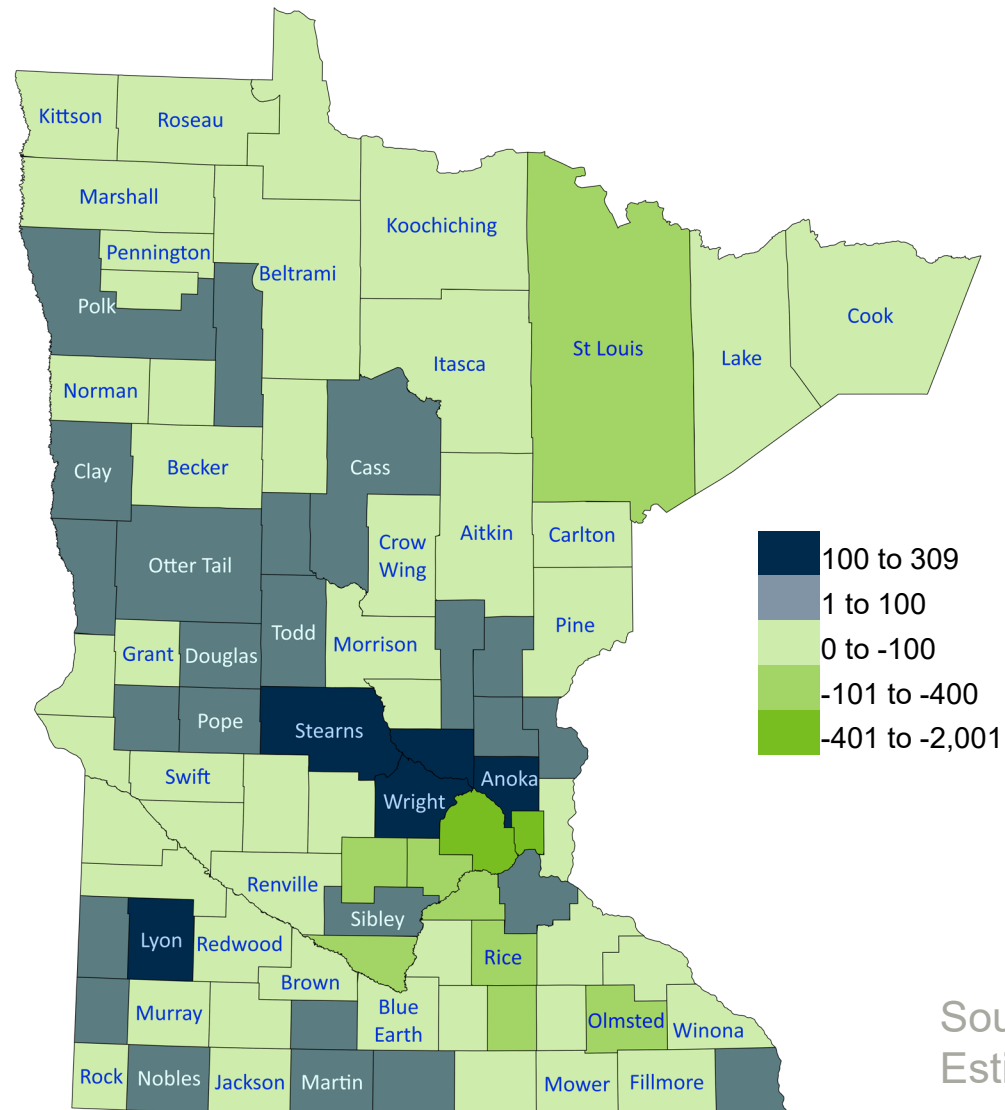


Statewide, births have been declining creating successively smaller cohorts of school-age children.

Minnesota Children by Single Year of Age and Sex, 2023



Average Annual Numeric Change in Population 5 to 17 Years by County 2021-2023

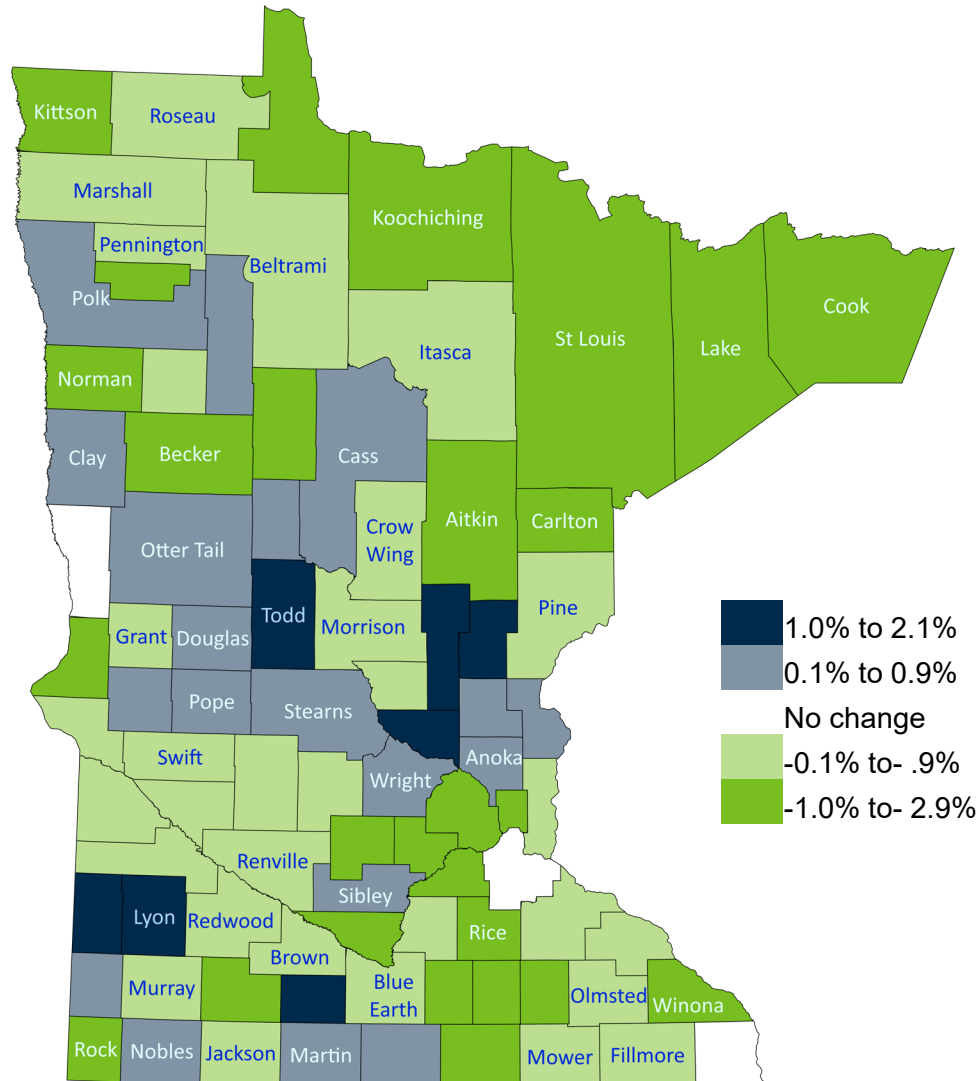


Largest annual gains:
Anoka (+309)
Stearns (+256)
Sherburne (+220)

Largest annual losses:
Ramsey (-1,049)
Hennepin (-2,001)

Source: 2023 U.S. Census Bureau Population
Estimates Program

Average Annual Percentage Change in Population 5 to 17 Years by County 2021-2023



Largest annual gains:
Lyon (+2.1%)
Todd (+1.8%)
Kanabec (+1.8%)

Largest annual losses:
Kittson (-2.8%)
Rock (-2.8%)
Aitkin (-2.9%)

Source: 2023 U.S. Census Bureau Population
Estimates Program

School districts with the largest numeric gains in resident population (Age 5 to 17 years)

School District	Population added 2020-2023	Percent change 2020-2023
Wayzata	2,586	20.5%
St. Cloud	2,024	14.4%
Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan	1,894	6.4%
South Washington County	1,777	8.6%
Anoka-Hennepin	1,693	3.8%
Elk River	1,690	11.2%
Moorhead	977	12.8%
Mounds View	972	7.9%
Spring Lake Park Public Schools	949	18.1%
Osseo	794	2.9%
Mankato	760	8.1%
Lakeville	685	5.4%
Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools	656	7.3%
Columbia Heights	602	16.0%
Rochester	539	2.4%

Note that population changes shown are attributable to school district boundary changes between 2020 and 2023 in addition to changes that are attributable to demographic changes (births and migration of families).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program

School districts with the largest numeric declines in resident population (Age 5 to 17 years)

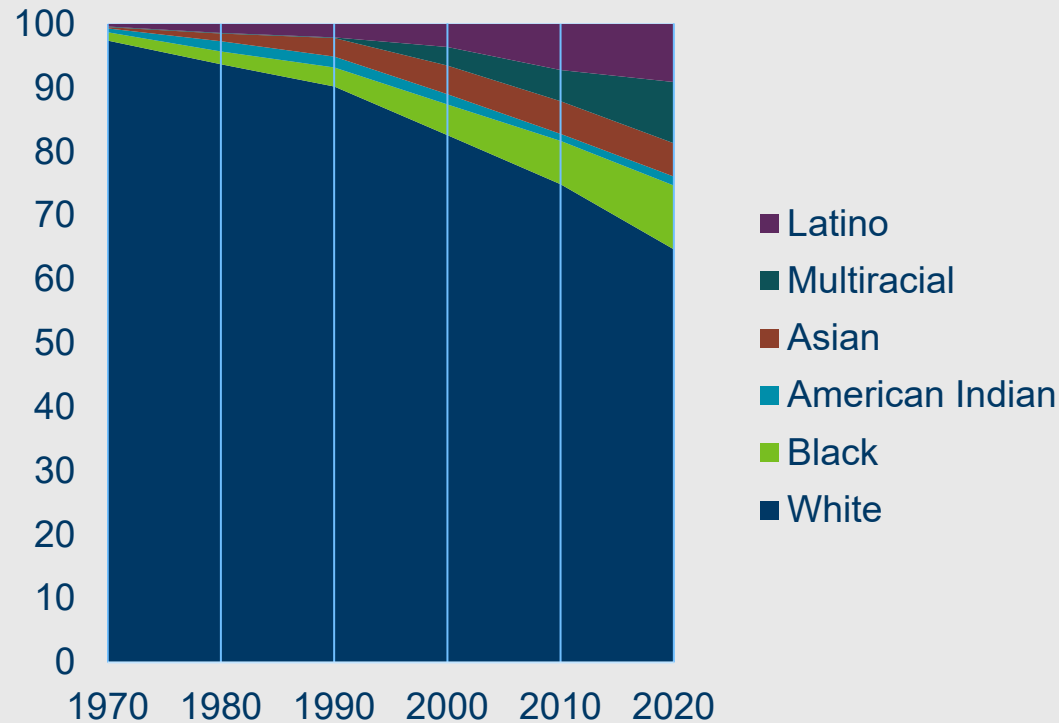
District	Population decline 2020-2023	Percent change 2020-2023
St. Paul	(1,470)	-2.7%
Eden Prairie	(1,218)	-10.1%
Robbinsdale	(852)	-5.3%
White Bear Lake	(620)	-5.7%
Minnetonka	(602)	-6.6%
Inver Grove Heights Schools	(399)	-8.3%
Hastings	(393)	-6.8%
Rocori	(350)	-12.8%
Hopkins	(341)	-3.7%
St. Francis	(311)	-4.8%
Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	(260)	-16.1%
Maple River	(238)	-19.4%
Burnsville	(234)	-2.0%
Melrose	(204)	-11.0%
New Prague Area Schools	(202)	-4.6%

Note that population changes shown are attributable to school district boundary changes between 2020 and 2023 in addition to changes that are attributable to demographic changes (births and migration of families).

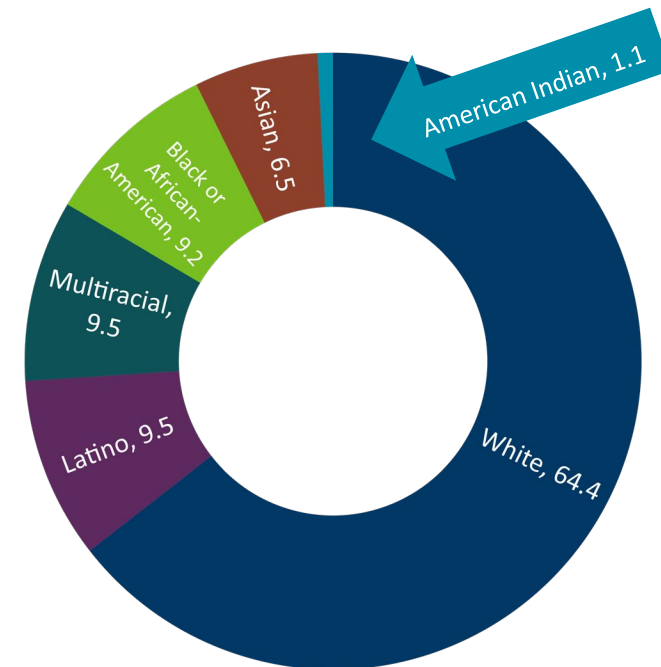
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program

The racial and ethnic diversity of Minnesota's school-age population continues to increase.

Racial and Ethnic Composition of Minnesota's School-Age Population 1970-2020



Population Ages 5 to 17 Years by Race Minnesota, 2023



Detailed Race of Minnesota’s Children (Ages 0 to 17), 2020

American Indian and Alaska Native			White	
Chippewa	8,907		German	431,183
American Indian, not specified	7,094		Irish	198,339
American Indian and Alaska Native, not specified	9,962		Norwegian	166,308
Asian			English	148,258
Hmong	36,943		Swedish	99,370
Asian Indian	15,669		Polish	63,033
Chinese, except Taiwanese	11,097		French	52,979
Vietnamese	9,415		Italian	41,640
Korean	9,393		Scandinavian	34,548
Filipino	7,877		Scottish	30,228
Burmese (including Karen)	7,594		Dutch	28,040
Black or African American			Finnish	26,101
African American	68,831		Czech	23,909
Somali	42,112		Danish	18,112
Ethiopian	9,322		Russian	10,789
Other Black or African American, not specified	43,956		French Canadian	8,424
Latino			Welsh	8,056
Mexican	82,176		Swiss	5,936
Puerto Rican	6,001		Other White, not specified	314,397
Guatemalan	5,289		Other	
			Other Some Other Race, not specified	9,273

Source: 2020 Census, DHC-A. Because these groups include children with multiple racial, ethnic, or cultural identities, some children will be counted in more than one group and the categories will not sum to the total number of children in Minnesota. Only groups with 5,000 or more children are shown.

In Minnesota, 20% of children have a foreign-born parent.

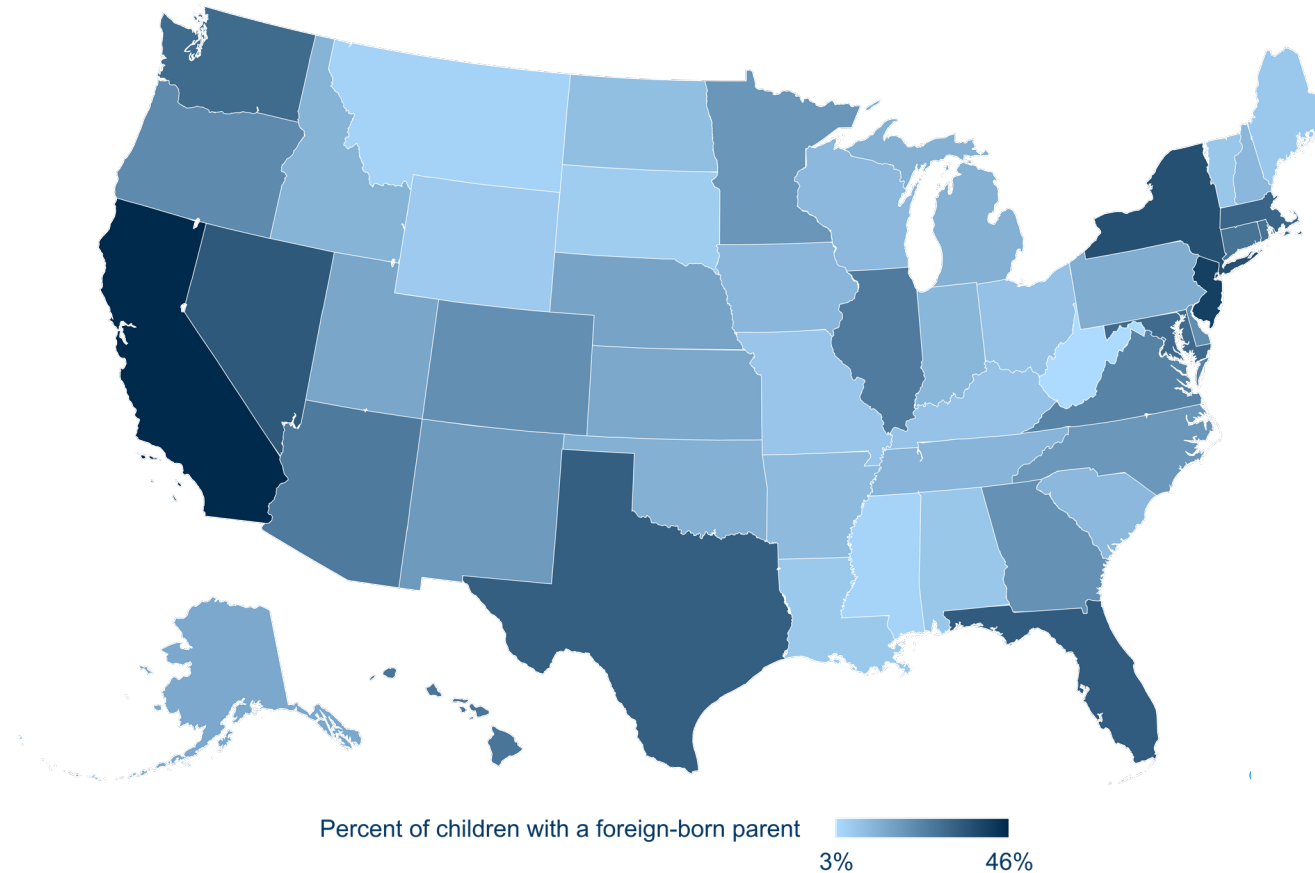
Minnesota Children (0-17 Years) by Nativity of Parent(s) and Presence of Parent(s) in the Household, 2018-2022

	Two Parents Present	One Parent Present	No parent present	All living arrangements	Percent of all children
All parents in household are U.S.-born	813,163	199,432		1,012,595	78%
All parents in household are foreign-born	135,650	49,474		185,124	14%
One parent foreign-born, One parent U.S.-born	73,332			73,332	6%
All Children Ages 0 to 17 Years	1,022,145	248,906	35,094	1,306,145	100%

Source: ipums.org from 2018-2022 U.S. Census Bureau data

Note: Includes only children living in households, not those living in group quarters.

20% of Minnesota children have a foreign-born parent,
compared with 25% nationally.



Source: ipums.org from 2018-2022 U.S. Census Bureau data

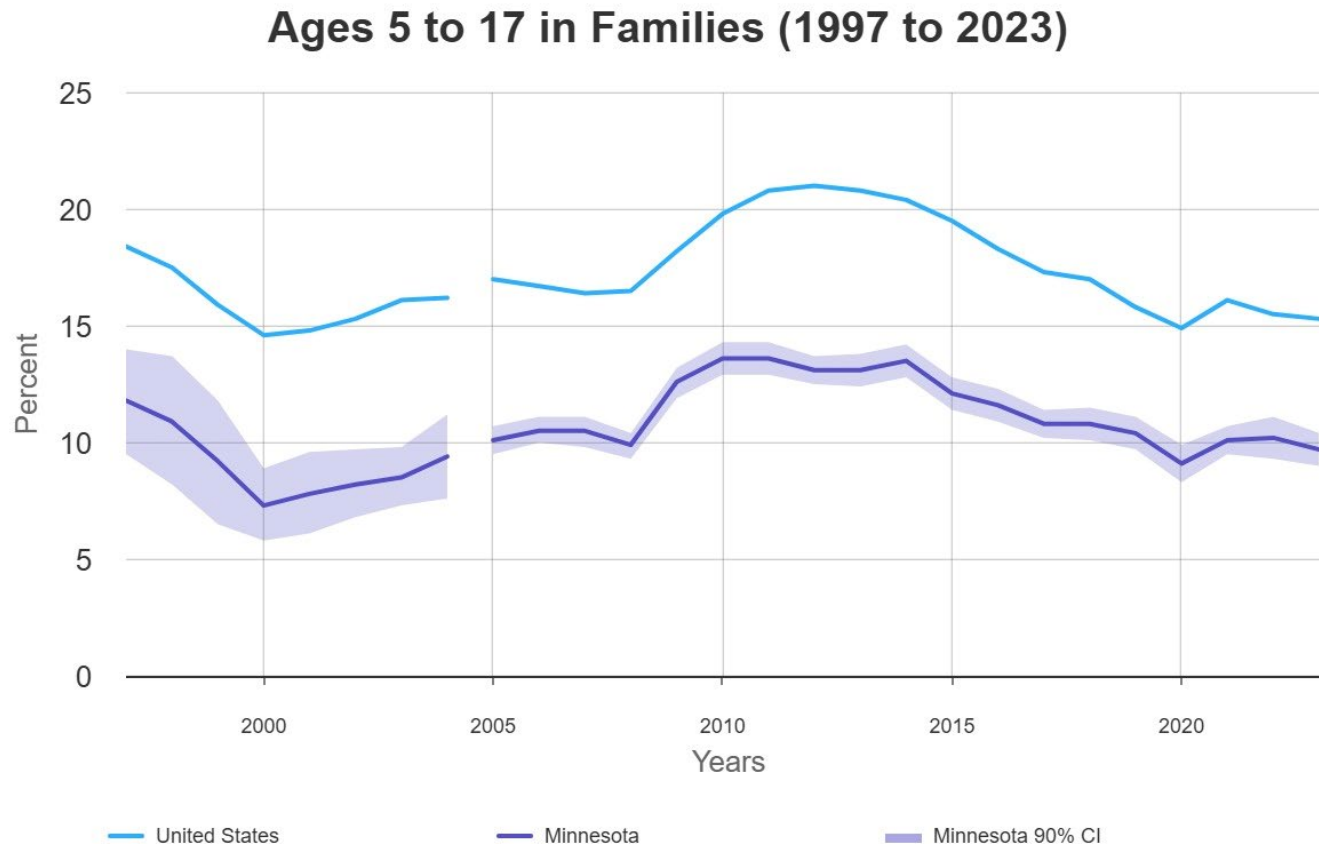
Nearly 1 in 5 Minnesota public school students speak a language other than English at home (152,500).

Primary Home Language by School District Type, Minnesota Public School Students, 2023-2024

	Languages Spoken	Total number of students	Students Speaking English	Students Speaking Languages Other than English	Percent of Students Speaking Languages Other than English
Minneapolis and Saint Paul	129	59,336	37,443	21,893	37%
Balance of 7-county Metro	330	410,734	315,339	95,395	23%
Greater Minnesota - Enrollment 2000 or more	199	196,420	171,925	24,495	12%
Greater Minnesota - Enrollment between 1000 and 1999	99	78,322	73,430	4,892	6%
Greater Minnesota - Enrollment between 500 and 999	83	70,411	67,004	3,407	5%
Greater Minnesota - Enrollment less than 500	54	36,045	33,668	2,377	7%
Minnesota (all)	348	851,268	698,809	152,459	18%

Source: Minnesota Department of Education, Student Language Data

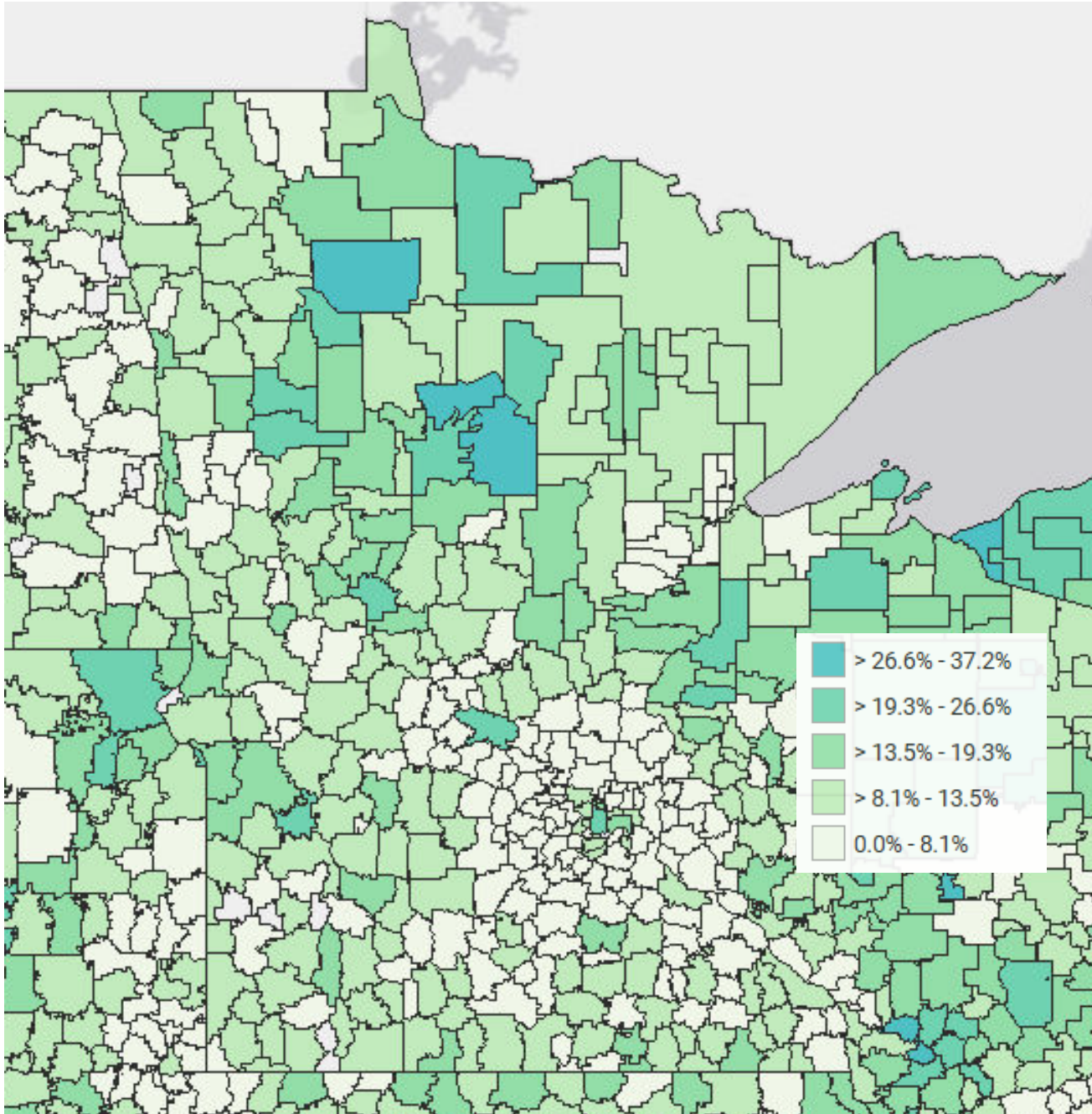
Poverty among school-age children declined in 2023, after year-over-year following the pandemic.



In 2023, 9.7% of Minnesota school-age children live in poverty, compared to 15.3% of school-age children nationally.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

Source: 2024 U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates



Poverty rate by school district, 2023

Districts with highest rates of poverty

- Red Lake Public School District, 34.5%
- Cass Lake-Bena Public Schools, 30.7%
- Northland Community Schools, 26.9%

For data on individual school districts, see:

<https://www.census.gov/data-tools/demo/saipe/#/>

Source: 2024 U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

Thank you

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