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2015 Yellow Medicine County Report on Economic Development

Fall 2015

Prepared for Yellow Medicine County

Prepared by the Center for Small Towns
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Introduction

Background and Scope of Work

In April 2015, Peg Heglund, the county administrator from Yellow Medicine County (YMC), approached the Center for Small Towns (CST) to hire a student to gather data on economic development topics for YMC. The purpose of this project was to update the 2006/2007 YMC Comprehensive Plan with the most current, publically available data (most notably the 2010 Census and 2013 American Community Survey).

This report aims to meet that purpose, providing an overview of the current data related to economic development. This data can then be used by YMC to inform economic development initiatives and/or modernize their now-outdated county-wide strategic plan. The authors make an effort to describe the data's applications for economic development in YMC; however, we do not provide complete context for the data or draw any overarching conclusions in this report. Rather, we intend to provide concrete indicators of economic development in comparison to the state of Minnesota and Region 6W.

The major topic categories discussed in this report are:

- Demographics
- Education
- Housing
- Farming & Agriculture
- Income & Wage
- Business & Employment
- Transportation

Region Profile

Yellow Medicine County (YMC) is located in west central Minnesota and includes the cities of Canby, Clarkfield, Echo, Granite Falls, Hanley Falls, Hazel Run, Porter, St. Leo, and Wood Lake. This county is part of Region 6W, which also includes Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, and Swift counties. In addition to providing a county-wide overview of economic data, this report will provide comparative data points for the weighted average of the five counties in Region 6W (Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, and Yellow Medicine) and the state of Minnesota.

Data Resources

Data was primarily obtained from each the following publicly available data sources. These sources are cited within the report when used to provide data for a table or graph.

- U.S. Census Bureau (both the U.S. Census and American Community Survey)
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Census of Agriculture, Minnesota Land Economics
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)
- Minnesota Student Survey
- U.S. Department of Labor: Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Minnesota Department of Transportation

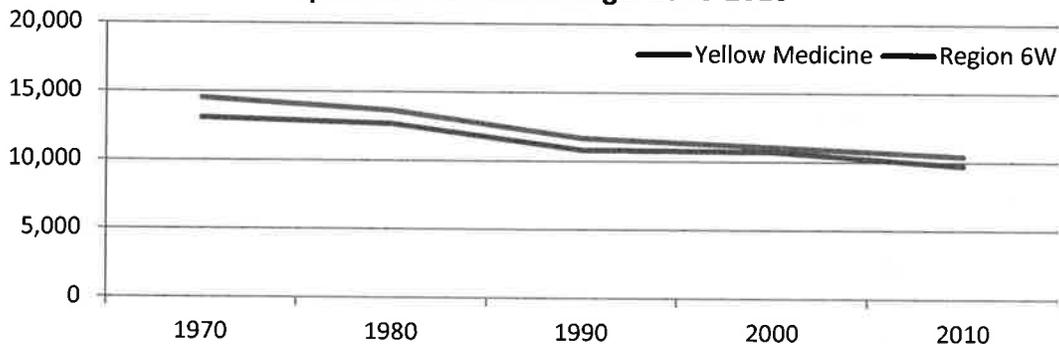
Demographics

The following chapter examines various demographic data such as population change, population projections, age, and race. The variables provide a general picture and background about the demographic trends of Yellow Medicine County, the weighted average of counties in Region 6W, and Minnesota which can help inform other details of economic development.

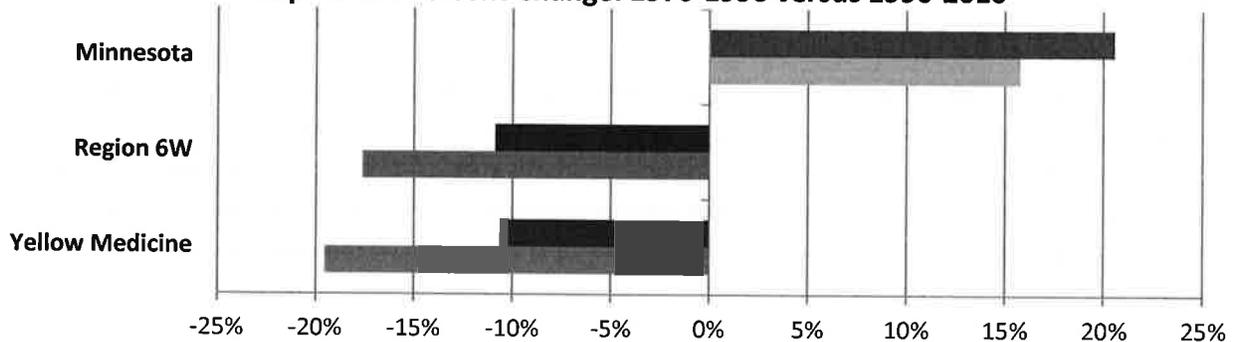
Population Change

Population Percent Change by Decade: 1970-2010							
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	%Change '70-'90	%Change '90-'10
Yellow Medicine	14,523	32,653	11,684	11,080	10,438	-19.55%	-10.66%
Region 6W Average	13,086	12,665	10,828	10,725	9,734	-17.63%	-10.88%
Minnesota	3,800,000	4,100,000	4,400,000	4,900,000	5,303,925	+15.79%	+20.54%

Population Percent Change: 1970-2010



Population Percent Change: 1970-1990 versus 1990-2010



Dark Colored Bars: % population change 1990-2000

Light-Colored Bars: % population change 2000-2010

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

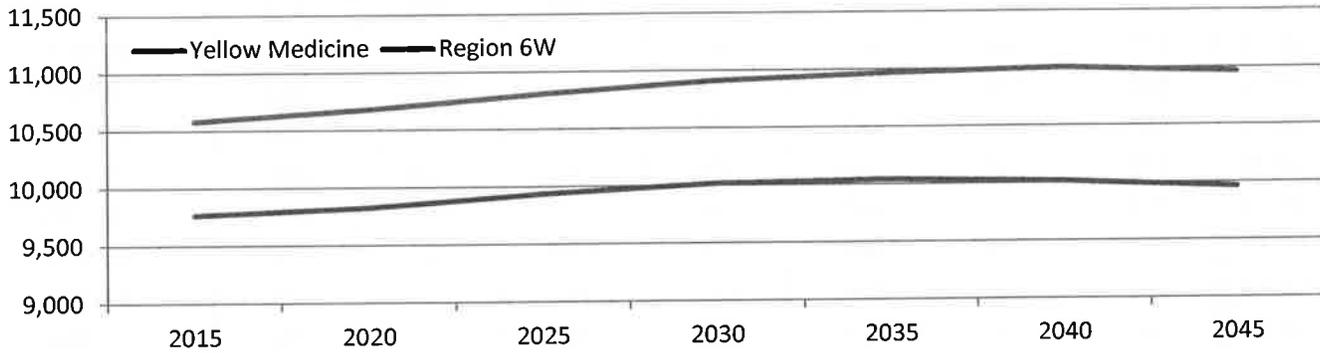
The populations of Yellow Medicine County and the county average of Region 6W has decreased by the about the same rate from 1970 to 2010. Yellow Medicine County went from a population of 14,523 in 1970 to 11,685 in 1990 for a -19.55% change. The county average in Region 6W went from a population of 13,086 in 1970 to 10,828 in 2010 for a -17.63% change. On the other hand, Minnesota went from 3.8 million in 1970 to 4.4 million in 1990 for a 15.79 percent increase.

From 1990 to 2010, the same trends continued for the three areas. Yellow Medicine went from a population of 11,684 in 1990 to 10,438 in 2010 for a -10.66% change. The county average in Region 6W has gone from a population of 10,828 in 1990 to 9,734 in 2010 for a -10.88% change. On the other hand, Minnesota has increased from 4.4 million in 1990 to 5.3 million in 2010 for a 20.54 percent increase.

Population Projections

Population Projections by 5-Year Cohort: 2015-2045							
	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Yellow Medicine	10,581	10,680	10,809	10,909	10,968	11,004	10,963
Region 6W Average	9,766	9,827	9,938	10,018	10,041	10,018	9,963
Minnesota	5,497,933	5,677,582	5,841,619	5,982,601	6,093,729	6,175,801	6,234,930

Population Projections by 5-Year Cohort: 2015-2045



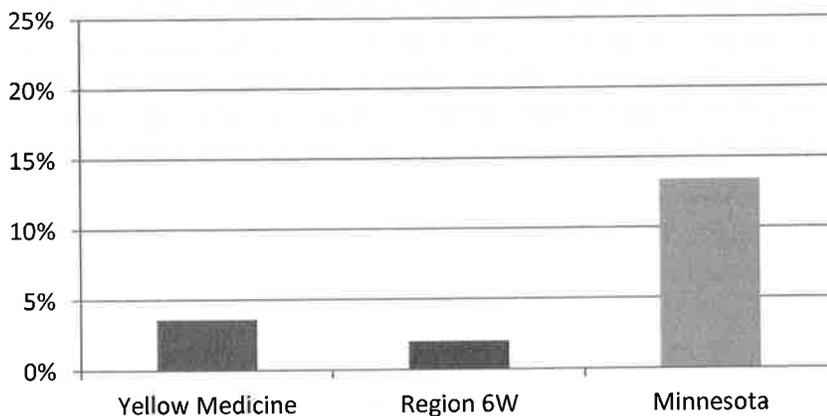
Source: 2010 U.S. Census

The population projections for Yellow Medicine County and the weighted average of Region 6W follow the same predicted trend of population increase. Yellow Medicine County is predicted to increase from a population of 10,581 in 2015 to a population of 10,809 in 2025, 10,968 in 2035, and 10,963 in 2045. The county average of Region 6W is predicted to increase from a population of 9,766 in 2015 to a population of 9,938 in 2025, 10,041 in 2035, and 9,963 in 2045.

The population of Minnesota is predicted to increase by a much larger margin. It is predicted to go from 5,497,933 in 2015 to 5,841,619 in 2025, to 6,093,729 in 2035 and to 6,234,930 in 2045.

Projected Population Change: 2015-2045		
	Total Population Change 2015-2045	Percent Population Change 2015-2045
Yellow Medicine	382	+3.61%
Region 6W Average	197	+2.02%
Minnesota	736,997	+13.40%

Projected Population Change from 2015 to 2045



Yellow Medicine County's population is projected to increase by a total of 382 from 2015 to 2045 for a percent increase of 3.61.

The weighted county average of Region 6W is projected to increase its population by a total of 197 from 2015 to 2045 for a similar percent increase of 2.02.

Minnesota is projected to increase its population by 736,997 for a larger percent increase of 13.40 from 2015 to 2045.

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

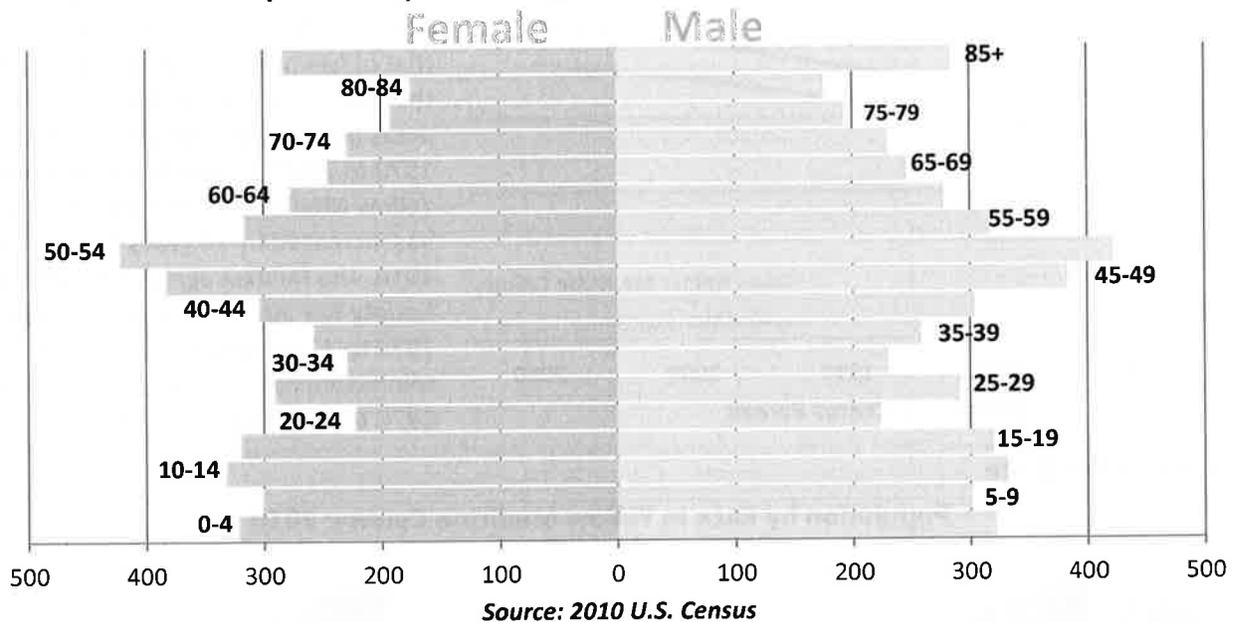
Population Projections by Age Group in Yellow Medicine County: 2015-2045								
Age	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	'15-'45 % Change
0-4	566	587	617	627	617	600	595	+5.12%
5-9	608	555	578	605	617	612	599	-1.48%
10-14	644	602	553	574	605	620	618	-4.04%
15-19	831	806	766	714	736	769	792	-4.69%
20-24	544	606	584	542	495	522	558	+2.57%
25-29	524	556	619	595	557	512	542	+3.44%
30-34	566	564	596	658	637	603	561	-0.88%
35-39	486	562	561	594	655	639	607	+24.90%
40-44	616	483	559	558	592	658	646	+4.87%
45-49	551	611	481	556	555	595	665	+20.69%
50-54	754	547	608	478	554	557	600	-20.42%
55-59	896	746	543	602	473	554	560	-37.50%
60-64	672	883	735	533	593	469	554	-17.56%
65-69	575	669	879	732	533	599	478	-16.87%
70-74	452	567	660	866	723	532	599	+32.52%
75-79	442	452	560	650	856	718	532	+20.36%
80-84	385	442	452	556	645	849	725	+88.31%
85+	469	442	458	469	525	596	732	+56.08%
Total	10,581	10,680	10,809	10,909	10,968	11,004	10,963	+3.61%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The age groups of 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 30-34, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, and 65-69 are all predicted to decrease by various amounts from 2015 to 2045. The most noticeable decrease is predicted to be the 37.5 percent decrease in the 55-59 year age group, the 20.42 percent decrease in the 50-54 year age group, and the 17.56 percent decrease in the 60-64 year age group. This connects with the projected increase in the age groups above 70 years, such as the predicted increases of 32.52 percent in the 70-74 age group, 20.36 percent in the 75-79 age group, 88.31 percent in the 80-84 age group, and 56.08 percent in the 85+ age group. On the younger end of the spectrum, the 0-4 year age group is expected to increase by 5.12 percent, while the 5-9 year age group is expected to decrease by 1.48 percent. The 10-14 year age group is expected to decrease by 4.04 percent, and the 15-19 year age group is expected to decrease by 4.69 percent. Additionally, the 20-29 year age groups are predicted to increase, specifically by 2.57 percent for ages 20-24, and 3.44 percent for ages 25-29. Ages 30-34 are expected to decrease slightly by 0.88 percent, while ages 35-39 are expected to increase substantially by 24.9 percent. Ages 40-44 are expected to increase by 4.87 percent and ages 45-49 by 20.69 percent. Overall, there are varied changes in the population of each age group that results in an overall projected increase of 3.61 percent for Yellow Medicine County from 2015 to 2045.

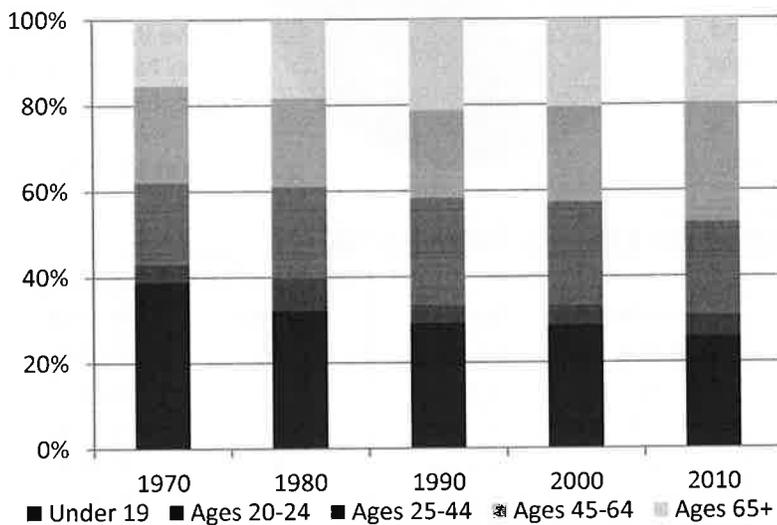
Population by Age

Population by Sex and Age in Yellow Medicine County: 2010



This graph shows that the largest proportion of the population is approximately ages 45 to 59. Age groups beyond age 59 decrease in proportion. Age groups below age 45 are relatively constant, with some fluctuation in proportions. There is no major difference in the population distribution between females and males.

Population by Age Group in Yellow Medicine County: 1970-2010

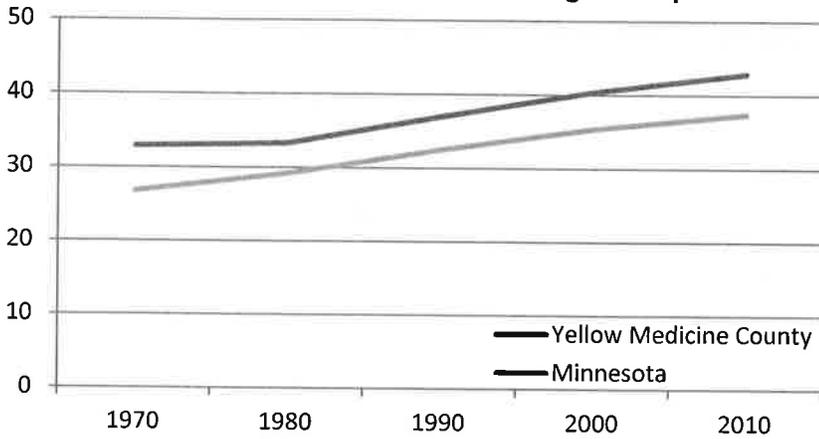


The percentage of the population that is under the age of 19 has decreased from 38.8% in 1970 to 25.8 percent in 2010. The percentage of the population aged 20-24 has remained relatively small and constant. This age group made up 4.2% of the population in 1970, 7.7% of the population in 1980, 4.1% in 1990, 4.5% in 2000, and 5.0% in 2010. The percentage of the population that is 25 to 44 years has also fluctuated and slightly increased over time. It made up 19.1% of the population in 1970, 21.2% in 1980, 25.1% in 1990, 24.2% in 2000, and 21.7% in 2010. The population that is ages 45 to 64 has increased from 22.65% in 1970 to 27.8% in 2010. This is most likely because the under 19 age group made up a large proportion of the population in 1970. The percentage of the population ages 65 and up has increased from 15.4% in 1970 to 19.6% in 2010. These trends support that the population of Yellow Medicine is aging and increasing the percentage of older populations.

Population by Age Group in Yellow Medicine County					
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Under 19	38.8%	32.1%	29.2%	28.6%	25.8%
Ages 20-24	4.2%	7.7%	4.1%	4.5%	5.0%
Ages 25-44	19.1%	21.2%	25.1%	24.2%	21.7%
Ages 45-64	22.5%	20.7%	20.3%	22.2%	27.8%
Ages 65+	15.4%	18.3%	21.3%	20.5%	19.6%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

Median Age of Population: 1970-2010

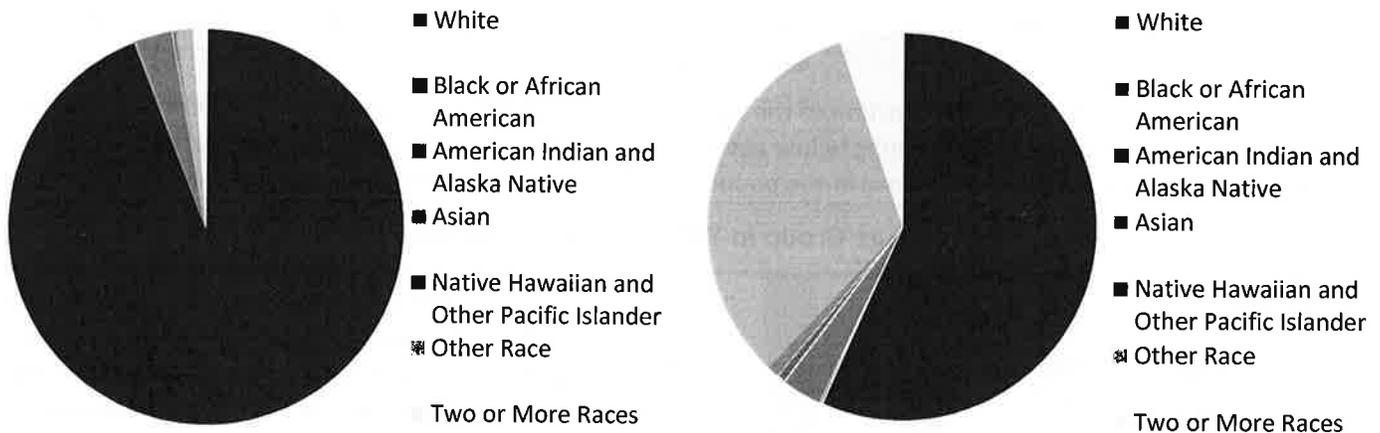


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The median age of the population in Yellow Medicine County is slightly greater than that of Minnesota. Something notable, though, is that the median age of both areas has followed similar trends from 1970 to 2010. In both Minnesota and Yellow Medicine County the median age has increased by 10 years from 1970 to 2010. The median age of Yellow Medicine County has increased from 32.9 years in 1970 to 42.9 years in 2010, while Minnesota has increased from 26.8 years in 1970 to 37.4 years in 2010.

Population by Race

Population by Race in Yellow Medicine County: 2010



Population by Race in Yellow Medicine County: 2010

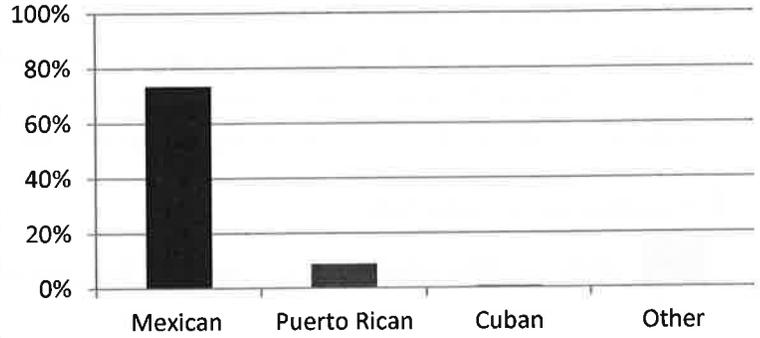
	All Persons		Hispanic/ Latino Population	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White	9,806	93.95%	225	56.68%
Black or African American	16	0.15%	1	0.25%
American Indian and Alaska Native	314	3.01%	13	3.27%
Asian	33	0.32%	3	0.76%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	6	0.06%	4	1.01%
Other Race	138	1.32%	130	32.75%
Two or More Races	125	1.20%	21	5.29%
Total Population	10,438	100%	397	100%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

93.95 percent of the Yellow Medicine County population is white, while 56.68 percent of the Hispanic and Latino population is white. Additionally, 32.75 percent of the Hispanic and Latino population is classified as other race. The American Indian and Alaska Native population makes up 3.01 percent of the overall population and 3.27 percent of the Hispanic and Latino population. The African American population makes up 0.15 percent of the Yellow Medicine County population, the Asian population makes up 0.32 percent, and the Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander population makes up 0.06 percent. 1.32 percent classify themselves as another race and 1.2 percent classify as two or more races.

Hispanic/Latino Population in Yellow Medicine County: 2010

Hispanic or Latino Population: 2010		
	Number	Percentage
Mexican	292	73.55%
Puerto Rican	35	8.82%
Cuban	3	0.76%
Other	67	16.88%
Total Hispanic/ Latino Population	397	100%



Source: 2010 U.S. Census

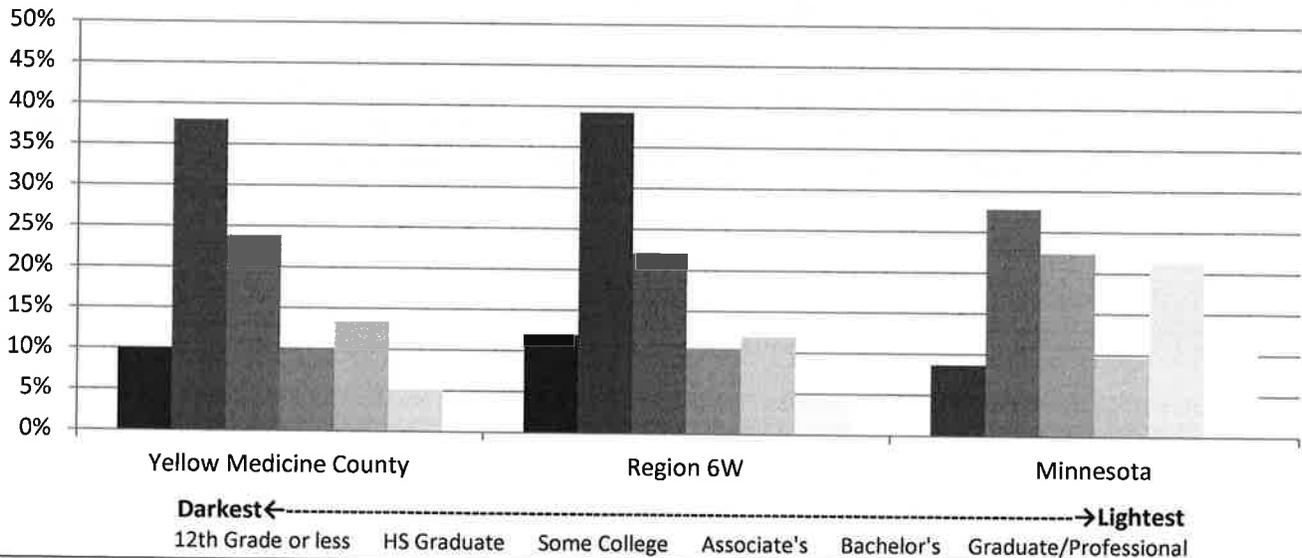
The Hispanic or Latino Population of Yellow Medicine County is diverse within itself. 73.55 percent of this population is Mexican. 8.82 percent of the population is Puerto Rican. 0.76 percent of the population is Cuban, and 16.88 percent of the population is classified as other Hispanic or Latino ethnicities.

Education

The following variables examine educational attainment and educational enrollment of the population of Yellow Medicine County compared to the weighted average for Region 6W counties and the state of Minnesota average. To better understand employment and income statistics, as well as economic development in Yellow Medicine County, it is important to examine how the education of the county compares to that of the region and the state.

Educational Attainment

Average Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Older: 2005-2009 Average



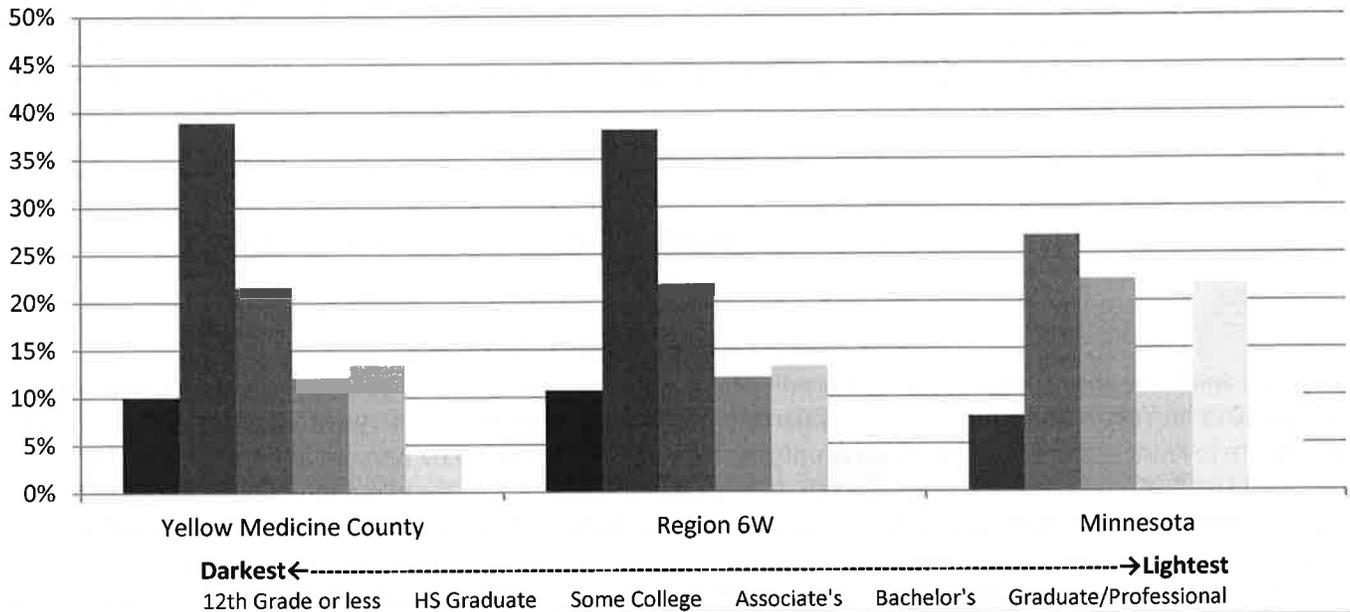
Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Older: 2005-2009 Average						
	12th Grade or Less	High School Graduate	Some College	Associate's	Bachelor's	Graduate/Professional
Yellow Medicine	10.00%	38.00%	23.80%	9.90%	13.40%	5.10%
Region 6W Average	11.97%	39.24%	22.02%	10.50%	11.95%	4.38%
Minnesota	8.70%	27.80%	22.40%	9.70%	21.30%	10.10%

Source: 2005-2009 American Community Survey

The data above reported the highest level of educational attainment for the population ages 24 years and over. This data was averaged from the years 2005 through 2009 using the American Community Survey. The reported educational attainment was very similar between Yellow Medicine County and the weighted county average of Region 6W, but slightly higher across the state of Minnesota. 10 percent of Yellow Medicine County report an educational attainment of 12th grade or less compared to the county average in Region 6W of 11.97 percent and the state average of 8.7 percent. 38 percent of Yellow Medicine County and 39.24 percent of Region 6W report high school graduate as their highest level of education compared to Minnesota at 27.8 percent.

23.8 percent of Yellow Medicine County has completed some college, 9.90 percent have received an Associate's degree, 13.40 percent have a Bachelor's degree, and 5.10 percent have graduate or professional degrees. For Region 6W, 22.02 percent have completed some college, 10.5 percent have an Associate's degree, 11.95 percent have a Bachelor's degree, and 4.38 percent have a graduate or Professional degree. In Minnesota, 22.4 percent have some college, 9.70 percent have an Associate's degree, 21.30 percent have a Bachelor's degree, and 10.1 percent have graduate or professional degrees.

Average Educational Attainment for Population Age 25 Years and Older: 2009-2013 Average



Educational Attainment for Population 25 Years and Over: 2009-2013 Average						
	12th Grade or Less	High School Graduate	Some College	Associate's	Bachelor's	Graduate/Professional
Yellow Medicine	10.00%	38.90%	21.60%	12.10%	13.40%	4.00%
Region 6W Average	10.69%	38.09%	21.82%	12.06%	13.21%	4.13%
Minnesota	7.90%	26.90%	22.30%	10.30%	21.90%	10.70%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Similar to the data from 2005-2009, Yellow Medicine County reports similar numbers to the county average of Region 6W, while Minnesota reported slightly higher educational attainment. Yellow Medicine County reported that 10 percent of the population over 25 completed 12th grade or less and 38.9 percent graduated high school. Region 6W reported that 10.69 percent of the population over 25 has completed 12th grade or less and 38.09 percent graduated high school, while Minnesota reported that 7.90 percent of the population over 25 completed no higher than 12th grade and 26.9 percent graduated high school.

Yellow Medicine County reported that 21.60 percent of the population over 25 completed some college, 12.10 percent completed an Associate's degree, 13.4 percent completed a Bachelor's degree, and 4 percent completed a graduate or professional degree.

Similarly, Region 6W reported that 21.82 percent completed some college, 12.06 percent completed an Associate's degree, 13.21 percent completed a Bachelor's degree, and 4.13 percent completed graduate or professional degree.

Conversely, in Minnesota 22.30 percent of the population over 25 completed some college, 10.3 percent completed an Associate's degree, 21.9 percent completed a Bachelor's degree, and 10.7 percent completed a Bachelor's degree.

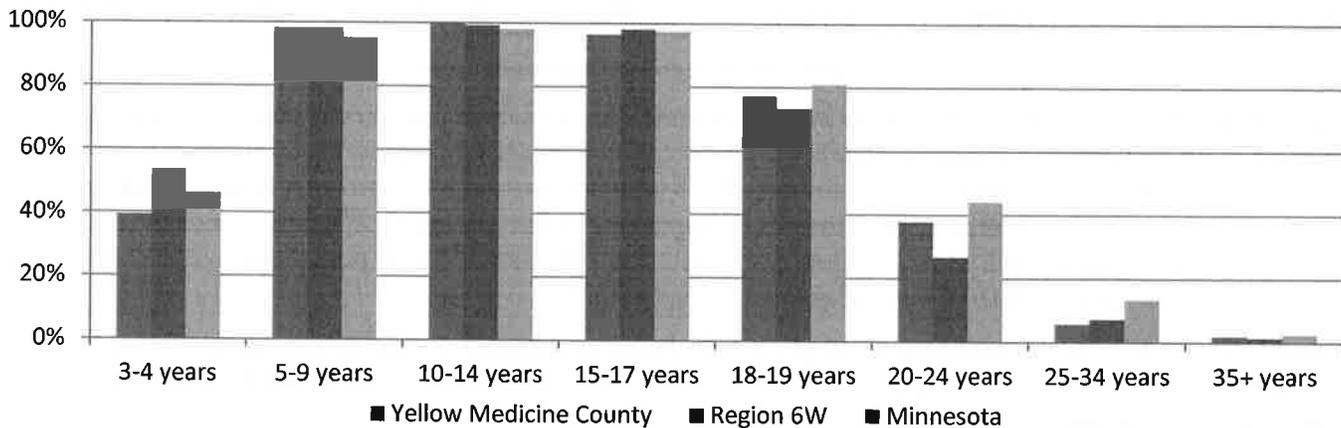
Educational Enrollment

Average School Enrollment for Population 4 Years or Older: 2009-2013 Average							
	Nursery school, preschool	Kindergarten	Grade 1-4	Grade 5-8	High school	Under-graduate	Graduate/Professional school
Yellow Medicine	6.10%	5.81%	22.25%	20.93%	27.19%	16.15%	1.57%
Region 6W Average	9.07%	5.95%	20.09%	22.80%	27.06%	13.29%	1.72%
Minnesota	6.72%	5.02%	19.83%	19.83%	20.88%	22.84%	4.89%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

The graph and table above show the school enrollment for the population over 3 years old averaged from 2009 through 2013. In Yellow Medicine County, 6.1 percent of the population is in nursery school or preschool and 5.81 percent are in Kindergarten. The weighted county average of Region 6W is 9.07 percent in nursery school or preschool and 5.95 percent are in Kindergarten. In Minnesota, 6.72 percent are in nursery school and preschool, and 5.02 percent are in Kindergarten. Additionally, in Yellow Medicine County, 22.25 percent of the population is in grades 1-4, 20.93 percent are in grades 5-8, and 27.19 percent are enrolled in high school. Similar numbers are reported for the county average of Region 6W, with 20.09 percent enrolled in grades 1-4, 22.8 percent enrolled in grades 5-8, and 27.06 percent enrolled in high school. In Minnesota, 19.83 percent are enrolled in grades 1-4, 19.83 percent are enrolled in grades 5-8, and 20.88 percent are enrolled in high school. In Yellow Medicine County, 16.15 percent of the population is enrolled in undergraduate education, while 13.29 percent of Region 6W and 22.84 percent of Minnesota are undergraduates. 1.57 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 1.72 percent of Region 6W, and 4.89 percent of Minnesota County population over 3 years of age has a graduate or professional degree.

Percent of Age Group Enrolled in School: 2009-2013 Average



Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

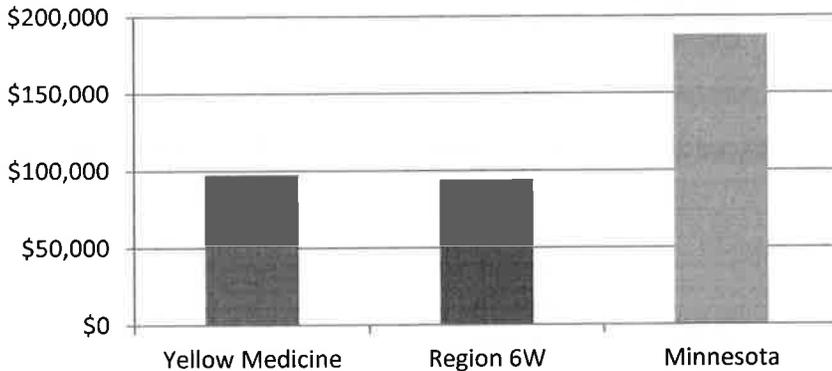
This data shows the percent of various age groups enrolled in school, as averaged from the 2009 to 2013 American Community Survey. The data is reported for Yellow Medicine County, the weighted county average of Region 6W, and the state average of Minnesota. For ages 3 to 4, 39.3 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 53.53 percent of Region 6W, and 46.2 percent of Minnesota are enrolled in school. There are similar numbers between Yellow Medicine County, Region 6W, and Minnesota for ages 5 to 17 where close to 100 percent of the age group is enrolled in school. For ages 18 to 19, 77.4 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 73.54 percent of Region 6W, and 81 percent of Minnesota are enrolled in school. For ages 20 to 24, 37.8 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 26.73 percent of Region 6W, and 44.1 percent of Minnesota are enrolled in school. For ages 25 to 34, 5.8 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 7.27 percent of Region 6W, and 13.4 percent of Minnesota are enrolled in school. For ages above 35 years, 2 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 1.44 percent of Region 6W, and 2.6 percent of Minnesota are enrolled in school.

Housing

The following variables examine various housing data which highlights the economic development of Yellow Medicine County. These data regarding housing values and costs provide insight into the affordability of housing in the county, compared to the region and state; they can help illuminate the challenges or stresses that housing can be putting on individuals of the county. On the other hand, household characteristics and the style of homes and housing units within the county can provide insight into the style of life and potentially inform where the county can improve economically.

Housing Values

Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units: 2009-2013 Average



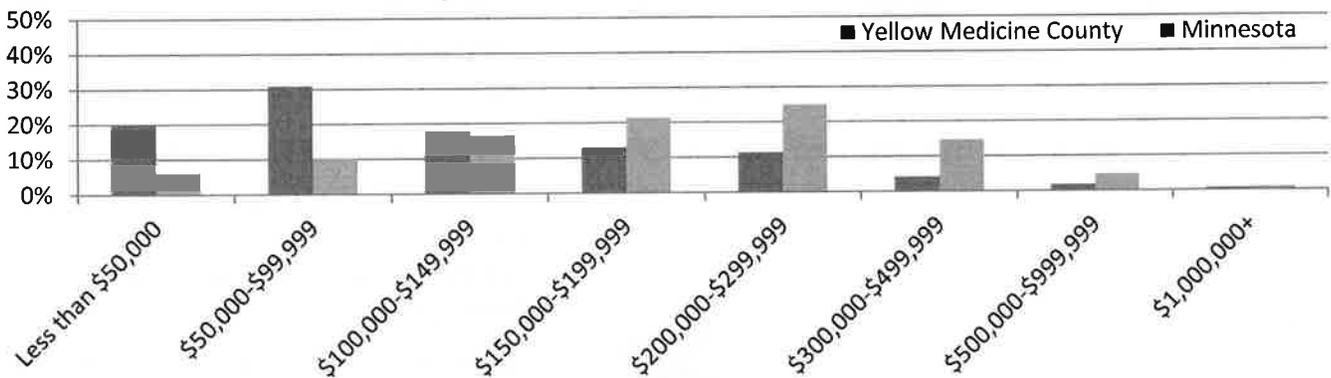
The median value of owner-occupied housing units is averaged from data collected through the American Community Survey from 2009 to 2013.

In Yellow Medicine County, the median value is \$97,600, which is very similar to the weighted average for Region 6W with a median value of \$93,747.44.

On the other hand, the median value of owner-occupied housing units in Minnesota is much higher at \$187,900.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Average Value of Homes: 2009-2013 Average



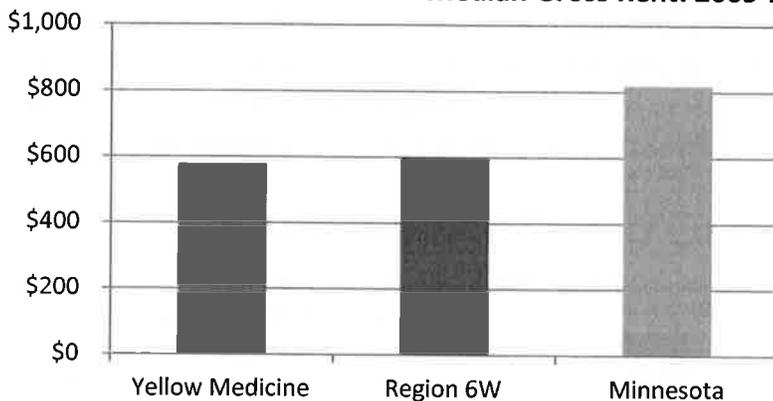
Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

The value of homes in Yellow Medicine County and Minnesota were averaged from 2009 to 2013 American Community Survey data. The distribution shown in the graph above is not the most accurate depiction of how homes are valued because the monetary gaps are not even; however, it is still apparent that the average value of homes in Minnesota is greater than that in Yellow Medicine County.

Yellow Medicine County has more homes valued less than \$99,999, while the state of Minnesota has more homes valued greater than \$150,000. 20.1 percent of Yellow Medicine homes and 6.2 percent of Minnesota homes are valued less than \$50,000. 31 percent of Yellow Medicine homes and 10.4 percent of Minnesota homes are valued between \$50,000 and \$99,999. 17.8 percent of Yellow Medicine homes and 16.6 of Minnesota homes are valued between \$100,000 and \$149,999. 13.1 percent of Yellow Medicine homes and 21.4 percent of Minnesota homes are valued between \$150,000 and \$199,999. 11.4 percent of Yellow Medicine homes and 25 percent of Minnesota homes are valued between \$200,000 and \$299,999. 4.2 percent of Yellow Medicine homes and 14.8 percent of Minnesota homes are valued between \$300,000 and \$499,999. Finally 1.8 percent of Yellow Medicine homes are valued between \$500,000 and \$999,999 and 0.7 percent of homes are valued over \$1,000,000, while 4.8 percent of Minnesota homes are valued between \$500,000 and \$999,999 and 0.9 percent of homes are valued over \$1,000,000.

Housing Costs

Median Gross Rent: 2009-2013 Average

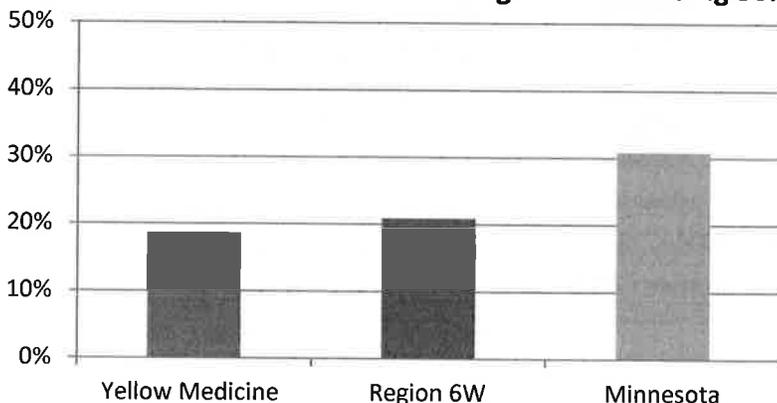


In Yellow Medicine County, the median gross rent is \$579. This rent is very similar to the weighted county average for Region 6W, where the median gross rent is \$600.

The median gross rent for the state of Minnesota is higher than both Yellow Medicine County and Region 6W, at \$819.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Percent of Households With Housing Costs Exceeding 30% of Household Income: 2009-2013 Average

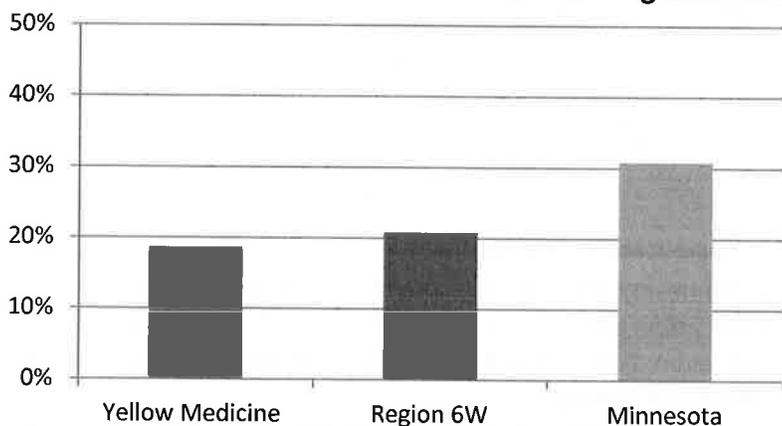


18.74 percent of households in Yellow Medicine County have housing costs that exceed 30% of total household income, lower than the average for Region 6W, at 20.9 percent.

Both of these areas are lower Minnesota, where 30.83 percent of households have housing costs that exceed 30% of the total household income.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Percent of HUD-Assisted Housing Units out of Total: 2009-2013 Average



HUD-assisted homes are those that receive financial, need-based assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

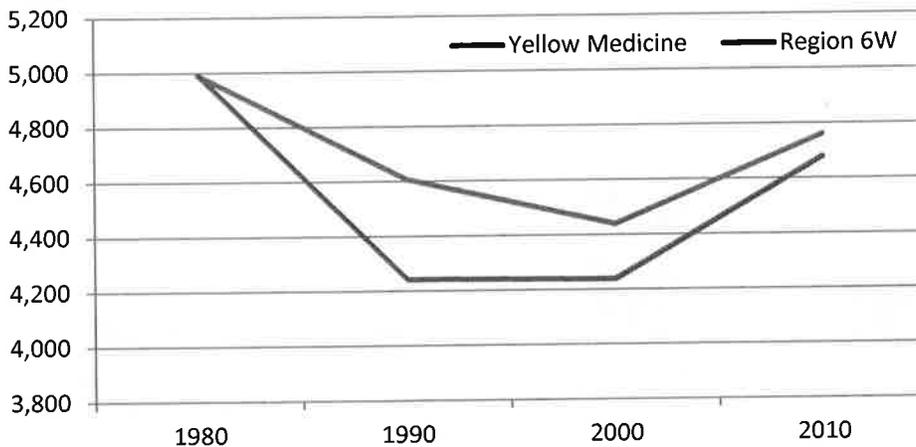
18.74 percent of homes in Yellow Medicine County receive HUD-assistance compared to the weighted county average of Region 6W, 20.9 percent.

A greater amount of homes in Minnesota are HUD-assisted, compared to Yellow Medicine County and the Region 6W average. 30.83 percent of housing units in Minnesota are HUD-assisted.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Household Characteristics

Number of Households by Decade: 1980-2010



The total number of households in Yellow Medicine County and the weighted county average of Region 6W have decreased overall from 1980 to 2010, but this number has slightly increased since 2000.

In Yellow Medicine County the total number of households has decreased from 4,991 in 1980 to 4,607 in 1990 and to 4,439 in 2000. This number then increased to 4,760 in 2010.

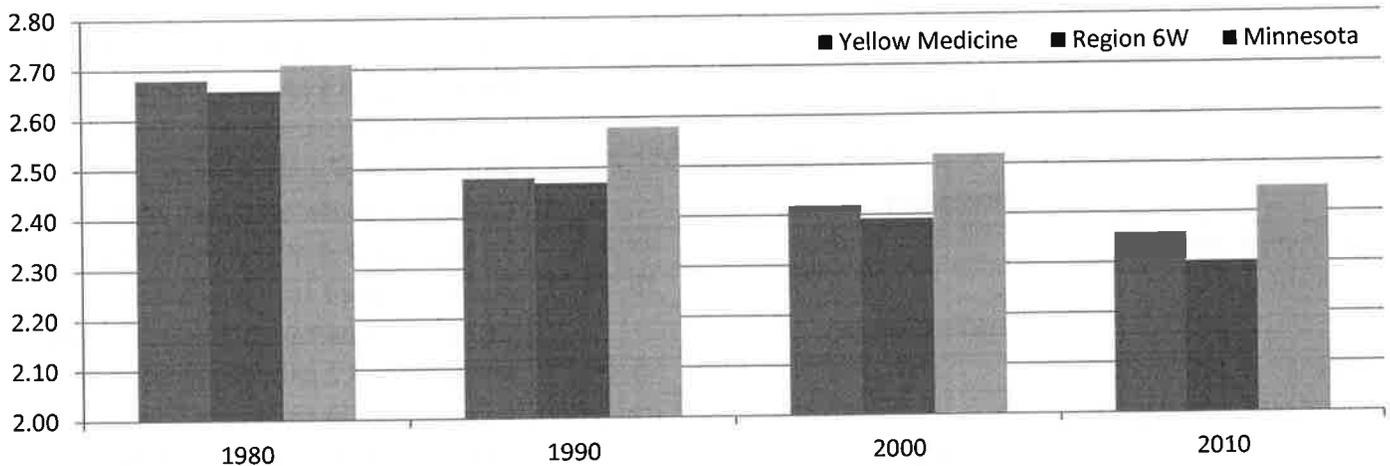
The county average of the total number of households in Region 6W has decreased from 4,993 in 1980 to 4,243 in 1990 and to 4,239 in 2000. This number then increased to 4,677 in 2010.

Minnesota has increased from 1,445,222 households in 1980 to 1,647,853 in 1990, to 1,895,127 in 2000, and to 2,347,201 in 2010.

Number of Households by Decade: 1980-2010					
	1980	1990	2000	2010	30 year change
Yellow Medicine	4,991	4,607	4,439	4,760	-231
Region 6W Average	4,993	4,243	4,239	4,677	-315
Minnesota	1,445,222	1,647,853	1,895,127	2,347,201	+901,979

Source: U.S. Census 1980-2010

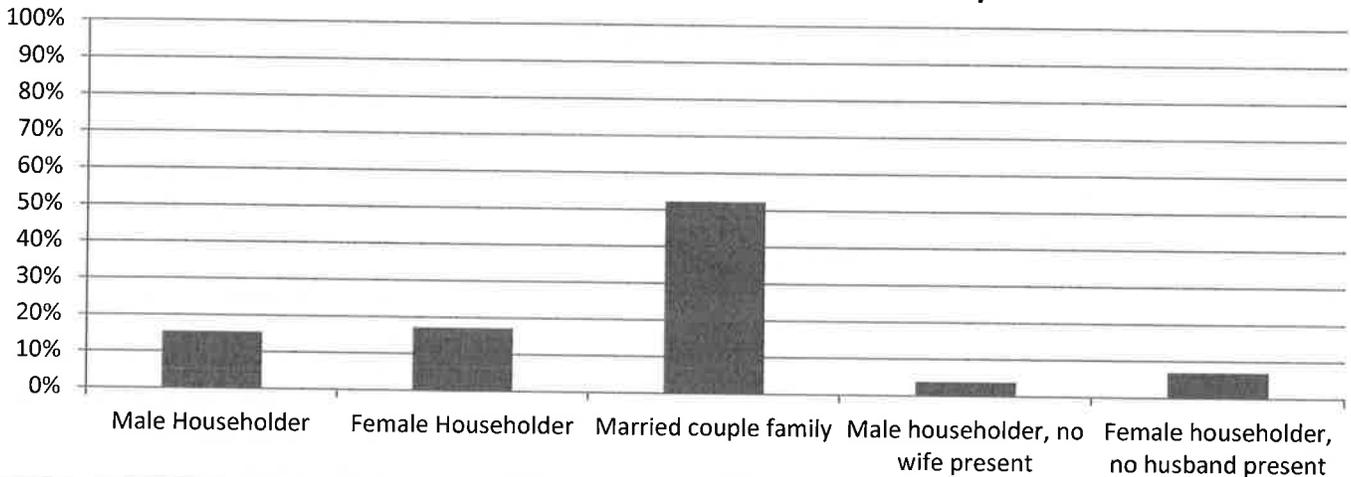
Persons per Household by Decade: 1980-2010



Source: U.S. Census 1980-2010

The persons per household for Yellow Medicine County, the weighted county average of Region 6W, and Minnesota have all decreased from 1980 to 2010. In 1980, there were 2.68 persons per household in Yellow Medicine County, 2.66 in Region 6W, and 2.71 in Minnesota. In 1990, there were 2.48 persons per household in Yellow Medicine County, 2.47 persons per household in Region 6W, and 2.58 persons per household in Minnesota. In 2000, there were 2.42 persons per household in Yellow Medicine County, 2.39 persons per household in Region 6W, and 2.52 persons per household in Minnesota. Finally, in 2010 there were 2.36 persons per household in Yellow Medicine County, 2.30 persons per household in Region 6W, and 2.45 persons per household in Minnesota.

Household Characteristics in Yellow Medicine County: 2010



Household Characteristics in Yellow Medicine County: 2010		
	Count	Percent
One Person Households		
Male Householder	658	15.50%
Female Householder	730	17.20%
Two or more person households		
Married couple family	2,214	52.30%
Male householder, no wife present	164	3.90%
Female householder, no husband present	296	7.00%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

In Yellow Medicine County, 15.5 percent of households have a male householder, while 17.2 percent have a female householder. Additionally, 52.3 percent of households are married couple families, 3.9 percent are male householders without a wife, and 7 percent are female householders without a husband.

Housing Units

Percentage of Housing by Type and Occupancy: 2009-2013 Average		
	Yellow Medicine	Minnesota
Occupancy		
Occupied Units	86.6%	89.20%
Vacant Units	13.4%	10.50%
Occupancy Status		
Owner occupied units	79.7%	72.53%
Renter occupied units	20.3%	27.55%
Type of Unit		
Single Family Units	91.2%	81.02%
2 or more unit structures	7.2%	16.07%
Mobile homes and all other types	1.6%	2.92%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

13.4 percent of homes in Yellow Medicine County and 10.5 percent of homes in Minnesota are vacant units. Additionally, 79.7 percent of units in Yellow Medicine County are owner occupied, while owner 72.53 percent of Minnesota units are owner occupied. In Yellow Medicine County, 91.2 percent of homes are single family units, 7.2 percent contain 2 or more units, and 1.6 percent of homes are mobile homes or other. In Minnesota, 81.02 percent are single family units, 16.07 percent have 2 or more units, and 2.92 percent are mobile homes or other.

Number of Housing Units by Decade in Yellow Medicine County Cities: 1970-2010					
City	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Canby	846	945	886	918	892
Clarkfield	405	475	444	429	424
Echo	151	159	145	136	122
Granite Falls	916	1108	1046	958	944
Hanley Falls	115	132	123	123	120
Hazel Run	40	35	33	31	29
Porter	83	98	99	98	97
St. Leo	46	60	61	57	58
Wood Lake	180	188	180	190	195
City Totals	2782	3200	3017	2940	2881
Percent Change in Number of Housing Unit by Decade in Yellow Medicine County Cities					
City	1970-1980 % Change	1980-1990 % Change	1990-2000 % Change	2000-2010 % Change	
Canby	+11.70%	-6.24%	+3.61%	-2.83%	
Clarkfield	+17.28%	-6.53%	-3.38%	-1.17%	
Echo	+5.30%	-8.81%	-6.21%	-10.29%	
Granite Falls	+20.96%	-5.60%	-8.41%	-1.46%	
Hanley Falls	+14.78%	-6.82%	--	-2.44%	
Hazel Run	-12.50%	-5.71%	-6.06%	-6.45%	
Porter	+18.07%	+1.02%	-1.01%	-1.02%	
St. Leo	+30.43%	+1.67%	-6.56%	1.75%	
Wood Lake	+4.44%	-4.26%	+5.56%	+2.63%	
City Totals	+15.03%	-5.72%	-2.55%	-2.01%	

Source: U.S Census: 1970-2010

Between 1970 and 1980, there was an increase in housing units Canby, Clarkfield, Echo, Granite Falls, Hanley Falls, Porter, St. Leo, and Wood Lake, while housing units decreased by 12.5 percent in Hazel Run. Because of the large amount of cities with a positive change, there was an overall percent change of 15.03% among the cities. Between 1980 and 1990, there was a small increase in housing units only in Porter and St. Leo.

Canby, Clarkfield, Echo, Granite Falls, Hanley Falls, Hazel Run, and Wood Lake all had a negative percent change in housing units from 1980 to 1990, resulting in a total percent change of -5.72 percent among all cities. Between 1990 and 2000, Canby and Wood Lake had a positive change in housing units, while there was no overall change in housing units in Hanley Falls during this time period. On the other hand, Clarkfield, Echo, Granite Falls, Hazel Run, Porter, and St. Leo all reported a negative percent change in housing units, resulting in a total percent change among the cities of -2.55 percent. From 2000 to 2010, only St. Leo and Wood Lake reported a positive percent change in housing units, while Canby, Clarkfield, Echo, Granite Falls, Hanley Falls, Hazel Run, and Porter reported a negative percent change in housing units. Overall, from 2000 to 2010, there was a total percent change among the cities of -2.01 percent.

As of 2010, there were 892 housing units in Canby, 424 housing units in Clarkfield, 122 housing units in Echo, 944 housing units in Granite Falls, 120 housing units in Hanley Falls, 29 housing units in Hazel Run, 97 housing units in Porter, 58 housing units in St. Leo, 195 housing units in Wood Lake.

Change in Number of Housing Units by Decade in Yellow Medicine County Townships: 1970-2010								
Township	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	1970-2010 Total Change	Percent Change	Zoning Permits in 2010
Burton	97	81	73	70	73	-24	-24.74%	10
Echo	105	95	84	78	69	-36	-34.29%	9
Florida	92	81	70	68	62	-30	-32.61%	2
Fortier	84	63	54	58	50	-34	-40.48%	1
Friendship	96	94	85	100	89	-7	-7.29%	4
Hammer	120	124	102	93	89	-31	-25.83%	9
Hazel Run	96	87	81	78	80	-16	-16.67%	7
Lisbon	111	101	92	84	87	-24	-21.62%	6
Minnesota Falls	140	150	142	157	176	36	+25.71%	5
Norman	95	116	116	113	107	12	+12.63%	9
Normania	104	94	81	82	83	-21	-20.19%	5
Omro	133	92	70	66	66	-67	-50.38%	5
Oshkosh	103	105	91	88	88	-15	-14.56%	7
Posen	103	101	90	90	89	-14	-13.59%	6
Sandles	80	81	77	75	76	-4	-5.00%	14
Sioux Agency	140	127	122	112	108	-32	-22.86%	4
Stony Run	154	212	205	204	173	19	+12.34%	11
Swede Prairie	101	85	72	65	67	-34	-33.66%	8
Tyro	105	105	87	84	81	-24	-22.86%	10
Wergeland	84	86	72	74	72	-12	-14.29%	4
Wood Lake	107	106	100	94	94	-13	-12.15%	12
Township Totals	2250	2186	1966	1933	1879	-371	-19.74%	148

Source: U.S Census: 1970-2010 and Yellow Medicine County Zoning Office

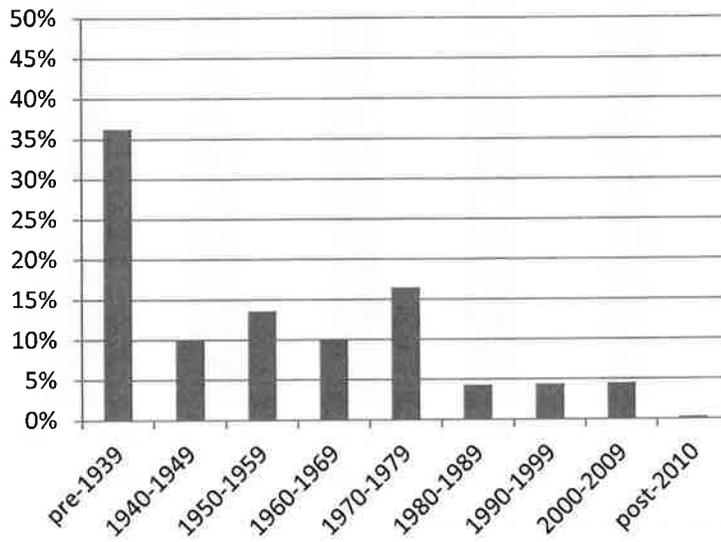
The above table shows the housing unit change from 1970 to 2010 in each Yellow Medicine County township as well as the total amount of zoning permits issued in 2010 within each township. There were a few townships that reported a positive percent change from 1970 to 2010: Minnesota Falls reported a 25.71 percent change, Norman reported a 12.63 percent change, and Stony Run reported a 12.34 percent change in housing units from 1970 to 2010.

Burton reported a -24.74 percent change, Echo reported -34.29 percent, Florida reported -32.61 percent, Fortier reported -40.48 percent, Friendship reported -7.29 percent, Hammer reported -25.83 percent, and Hazel Run reported -16.67 percent change in housing units. Lisbon reported -21.62 percent, Normania reported -20.19 percent, Omro reported -50.38 percent, Oshkosh reported -14.56 percent, Posen reported -13.59 percent, Sandles reported -5 percent, and Sioux agency reported -22.86 change in housing units. Finally, Swede Prairie reported -33.66 percent, Tyro reported -22.86 percent, Wergeland reported -14.29 percent, and Wood Lake reported -12.15 percent change in housing units.

Overall, among all the townships, the percent change in housing units was -19.74 percent. The most zoning permits in 2010 were in issued in Sandles (14), 12 permits were issued in Wood Lake, 11 permits were issued in Stony Run, 10 were issued in both Tyro and Burton, and 9 were issued in Echo, Hammer, and Norman. There were 8 permits issued in Swede Prairie, 7 permits issued in both Hazel Run and Oshkosh, 6 permits were issued in both Lisbon and Posen, 5 permits were issued Minnesota Falls, Normania, and Omro, and 4 permits issued in Friendship, Sioux Agency, and Wergeland. The fewest amount of zoning permits were issued in Florida (2 permits) and Fortier (1 permits).

Housing Characteristics and Fuel Usage

Year Householder Report Their Home Was Built in Yellow Medicine County



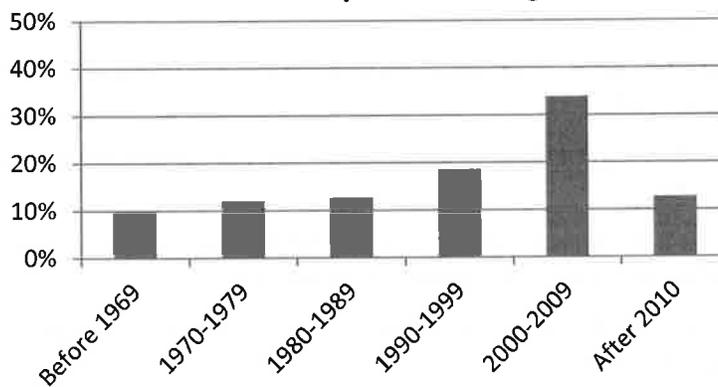
This data is based off of data averaged from 2009 to 2013 in the American Community Survey.

The highest percentage of homes (36.3 percent) in Yellow Medicine County was built before 1939. 10.1 percent of homes were built between 1940 and 1949, 13.6 percent between 1950 and 1959, and 10 percent between 1960 and 1969.

16.5 percent of homes, the second greatest percentage, were built between 1970 and 1979. A small amount of homes were built after 1979, with 4.3 percent built between 1980 and 1989, 4.4 between 1990 and 1999, 4.5 between 2000 and 2009, and only 0.3 percent built after 2010.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Year Householder Reported Moving Into Their Current Housing Unit in Yellow Medicine County



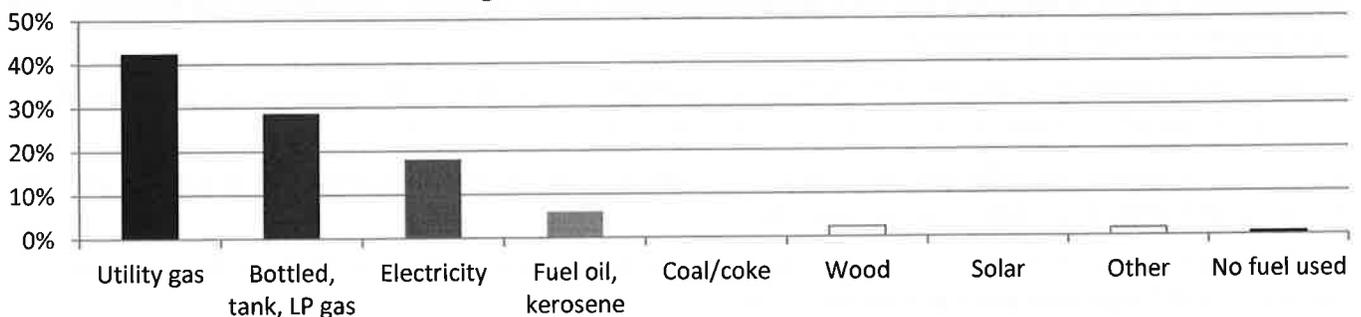
The year that householders moved into their units were averaged from the 2009 to 2013 American Community Survey.

In Yellow Medicine County, 9.9 percent of householders moved into their unit before 1969, 12.1 percent between 1970 and 1979, and 12.7 percent between 1980 and 1989.

18.6 percent moved in between 1990 and 1999, while the greatest percentage of householders (33.9 percent) moved in between 2000 and 2009. Since 2010, 12.7 percent have moved in.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

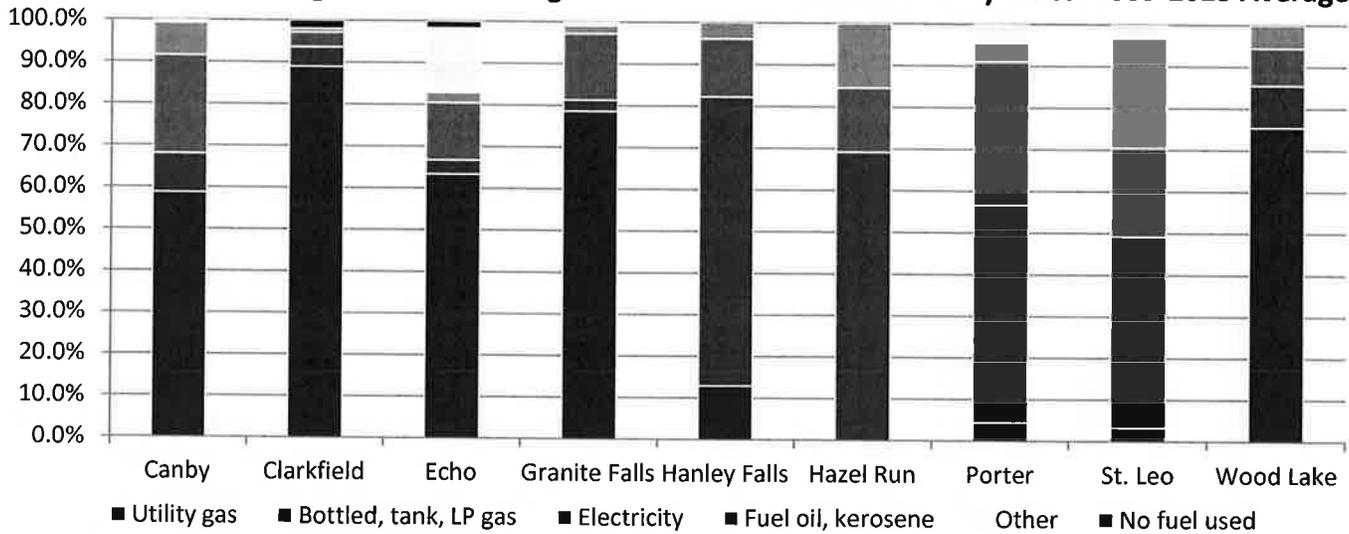
Percent of Homes Using Different Heating Fuels in Yellow Medicine County



Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

The 2009-2013 American Community Survey collected data on the fuel used to heat homes in Yellow Medicine County. 42.5 percent of homes use utility gas to heat their homes, while 28.7 percent use bottled, tank, and liquid petroleum (LP) gas. Other notable sources of fuel are electricity (used by 18.1 percent of homes) and fuel, oil, or kerosene (used by 6 percent of homes). Only 2.3 percent of homes use wood to heat their homes, while 1.7 percent of homes use other fuel sources; these two categories are collapsed into "other" in the next graph. 0.6 percent of homes reported using no fuel. No homes reported utilizing coal/coke fuel sources and solar fuel.

Percent of Homes Using Different Heating Fuels in Yellow Medicine County Cities: 2009-2013 Average



Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Canby, Clarkfield, Echo, Granite Falls, and Wood Lake homes predominantly use utility gas to heat their homes. However, Hanley Falls, Hazel Run, Porter, and St. Leo predominantly use bottled, tank and liquid petroleum (LP) gas to heat their homes.

In Canby, 58.7 percent use utility gas, 9.3 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 23.5 percent use electricity, 7.7 percent use fuel oil or kerosene, and 0.9 percent use other fuel.

In Clarkfield, 88.9 percent use utility gas, 4.7 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 3.5 percent use electricity, 0.9 percent use fuel oil or kerosene, and 2 percent don't use fuel.

In Echo, 63.4 percent of homes use utility gas, 3.3 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 13.8 percent use electricity, 2.4 percent use fuel oil or kerosene, 15.4 percent use other fuels, and 1.6 percent don't use fuel.

In Granite Falls, 78.6 percent use utility gas, 2.7 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 15.9 percent use electricity, 1.9 percent use fuel oil or kerosene, and 1 percent uses other fuel.

In Hanley Falls, 12.9 percent use utility gas, 69.3 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 13.9 percent use electricity, and 4 percent use fuel oil or kerosene.

In Hazel Run, 0 percent use utility gas, 69.2 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 15.4 percent use electricity, and 15.4 percent use fuel oil or kerosene.

In Porter, 4.4 percent use utility gas, 52.2 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 34.4 percent use electricity, 4.4 percent use fuel oil or kerosene, and 4.4 percent use other fuel.

In St. Leo, 3.3 percent use utility gas, 45.9 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 21.3 use electricity, 26.2 percent use fuel oil or kerosene, and 3.3 percent use other fuel.

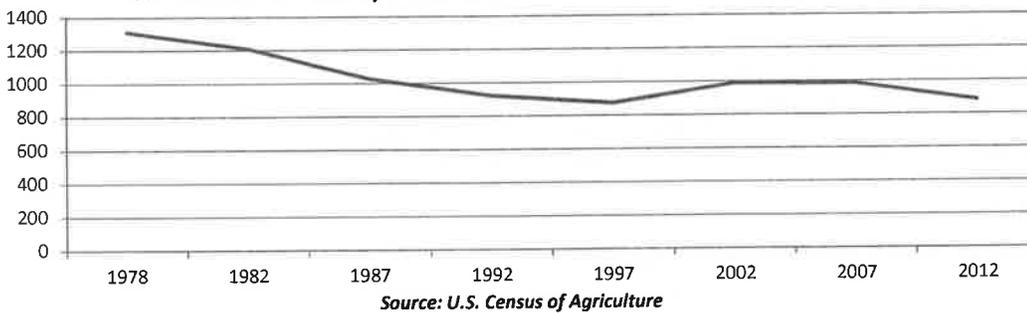
Finally, in Wood Lake, 75.4 percent use utility gas, 10.1 percent use bottled, tank, or LP gas, 8.9 percent use electricity, and 5.6 percent use fuel oil or kerosene.

Farming & Agriculture

The following data on farms and farm size provides information on the kind of farms that are present in Yellow Medicine County today compared to previous years. Additionally, this data provides information on the employment on farms and the value of farms, which shows the impact that farms have on the county economy.

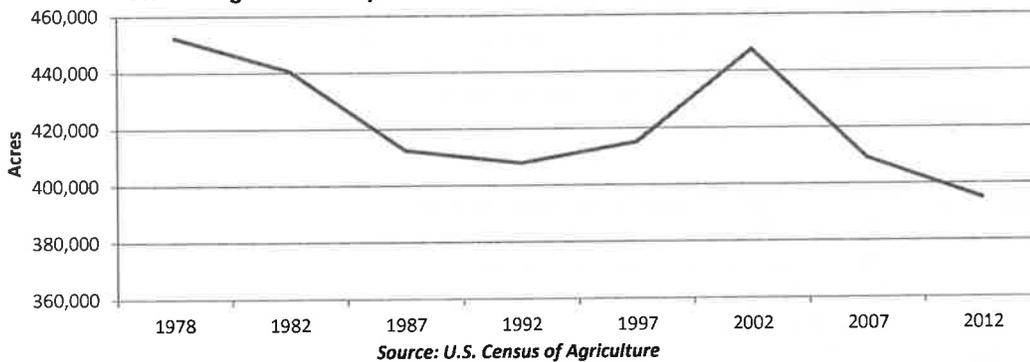
General Farm Characteristics

Total Number of Farms by 5-Year Cohort in Yellow Medicine County: 1978-2012



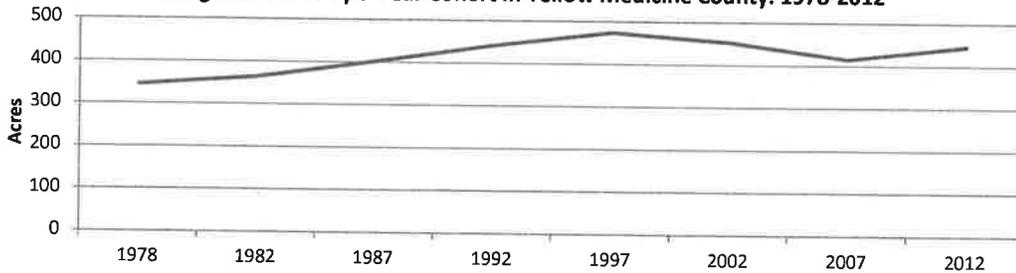
From 1978 to 2012, the total number of farms in Yellow Medicine County has decreased according to the U.S. Census of Agriculture. There were 1312 farms in 1978, 1211 farms in 1982, 1027 farms in 1987, 923 farms in 1992, and 876 farms in 1997. There was a slight increase in total number farms from 876 farms in 1997 to 989 farms in 2002. From 2002 to 2007, the total number of farms decreased by 3 to 986 farms. Then from 2007 to 2012, there was a larger decrease to 885 farms in 2012. Overall from 1978 to 2012, the total number of farms in Yellow Medicine County decreased by 427.

Total Acreage of Farms by 5-Year Cohort in Yellow Medicine County: 1978-2012



There has been a general decrease in total farm acreage, from 1978 to 2012, with a sudden spike in total farm acreage in 2002. There were 425,414 total farm acres in 1978, 440,591 acres in 1982, 412,568 acres in 1987, and 407,953 acres in 1992. The total farms acres then increased slightly to 415,269 acres in 1997 and then spiked to 447,696 acres in 2002. From 2002 on, there was a steep decrease in total farm acreage to 409,223 total acres in 2007 and 395,027 acres in 2012.

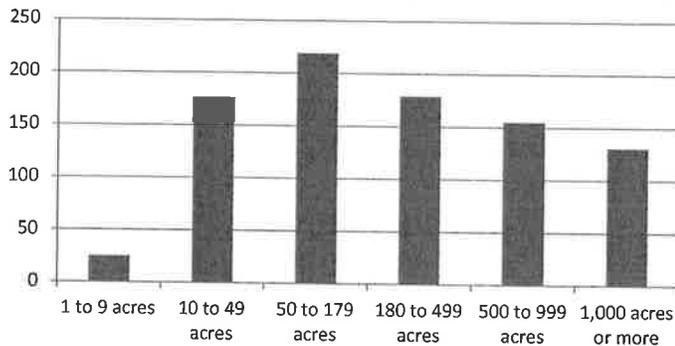
Average Farm Size by 5-Year Cohort in Yellow Medicine County: 1978-2012



Source: U.S. Census of Agriculture

The average farm size in Yellow Medicine County has increased from 1978 to 2012, which supports the trend in farming over this time period. Farms have actually combined over this time period, which leads to a decrease in total farms, but an increase in average farm size. The average farm size in 1978 was 345 acres, 364 acres in 1982, 402 acres in 1987, 442 acres in 1992, and 474 acres in 1997. There was a decrease in average farm size from 402 acres in 1997 to 453 acres in 2002 and then again to 415 acres in 2007. There was an increase in average farm size to 446 acres in 2012. Overall from 1978 to 2012, the average farm size has increased by 101 acres.

Number of Farms by Size in Yellow Medicine County: 2012



Source: 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture

While the average farm size over time has increased in Yellow Medicine County, this graph shows the farm size distribution in Yellow Medicine County in 2012. There are only 25 farms between 1 and 9 acres, while there are 176 farms between 10 and 49 acres. There are the most farms, 219, between 50 and 179 acres and 179 farms between 180 and 499 acres. Additionally, there are 155 farms between 500 to 999 acres and 131 farms with 1,000 acres or more.

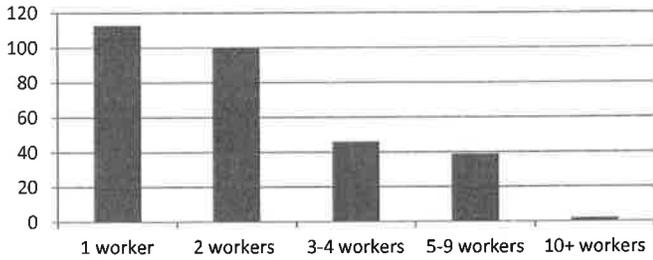
Farm Employees

Farm Employee Characteristics: 2012	
Principal operators by primary occupation	
Farming	538
Other	347
Principal operators by sex	
Male	818
Female	69
Average age of principal operator	56

538 of the principal farm operators in Yellow Medicine County report farming as their primary occupation and 347 report other primary occupations. There are 818 male principal operators and 69 females. The average age of these employees is 56.

Source: 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture

Number of Farms with X Number of Workers in Yellow Medicine County: 2012



This graph depicts that number of farms with x number of workers according to the 2012 U.S Census of Agriculture. 113 farms reported having 1 worker, followed by 100 farms which have 2 workers. There are 46 farms that have 3-4 workers, 39 farms that have 5-9 workers, and only 2 farms with 10 or more workers. It is important to note that most of the farms have 1 or 2 workers.

Source: 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture

Farmland Sales

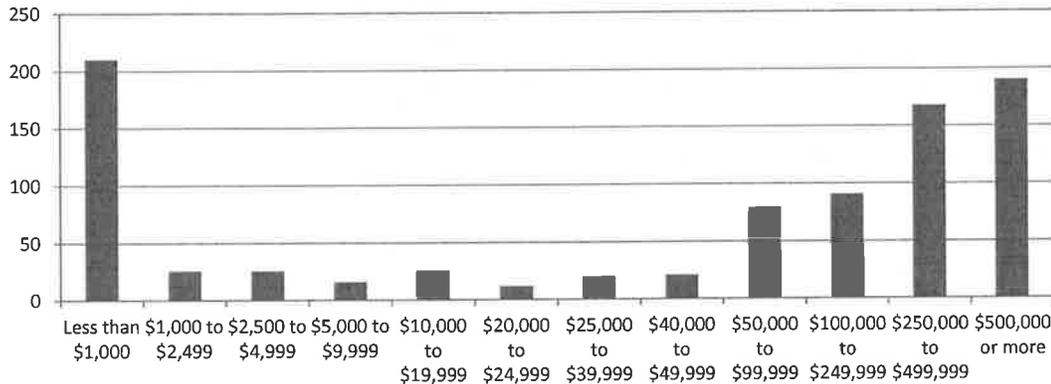
Market Value of Products Sold: 2012		
Crop sales	\$237,791,100	74%
Livestock sales	\$85,005,000	26%

Source: 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture

Crop sales compose 74 percent of products sold in Yellow Medicine County and livestock sales compose 26 percent of products sold.

Crops sales in Yellow Medicine County total to \$237,791,100 in 2012 and livestock sales total to \$85,005,000 in 2012.

Number of Farms by Value of Sales: 2012



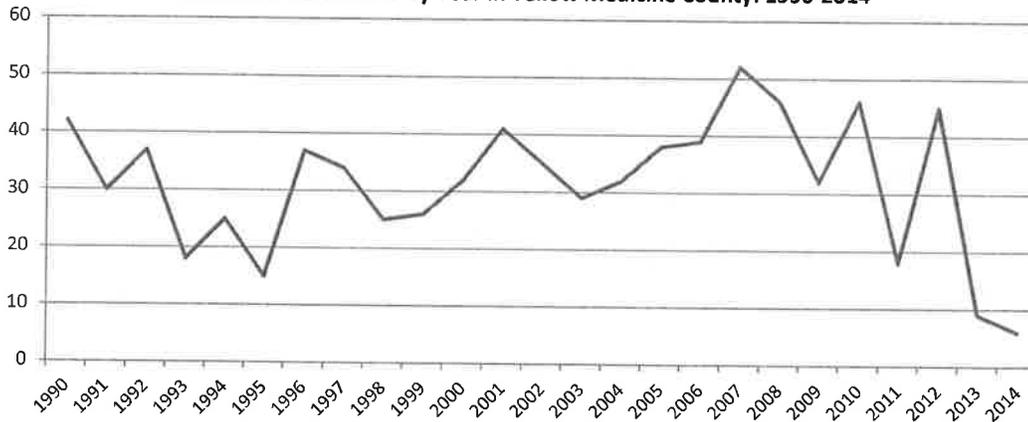
Source: 2012 U.S. Census of Agriculture

In Yellow Medicine County, the distribution of farm based on their value of their sales is polarized, with a large number of farms with sales that value below \$1,000 and above \$50,000.

There are 210 farms where the value of sales is less than \$1,000, 26 farms with sales valued between \$1,000 and \$2,499, 26 farms with sales valued between \$2,500 to \$4,999, 16 farms with sales valued between \$5,000 and \$9,999, 26 farms with sales valued between \$10,000 to \$19,999, 12 farms with sales valued between \$20,000 to \$24,999, 20 farms with sales valued between \$25,000 and \$39,999, and 21 farms with sales valued between \$40,000 and \$49,999.

Additionally, there are 79 farms with sales valued between \$50,000 and \$99,999, 91 farms with sales valued between \$100,000 and \$249,999, 168 farms with sales valued between \$250,000 and \$499,999, and 190 farms with sales valued above \$500,000.

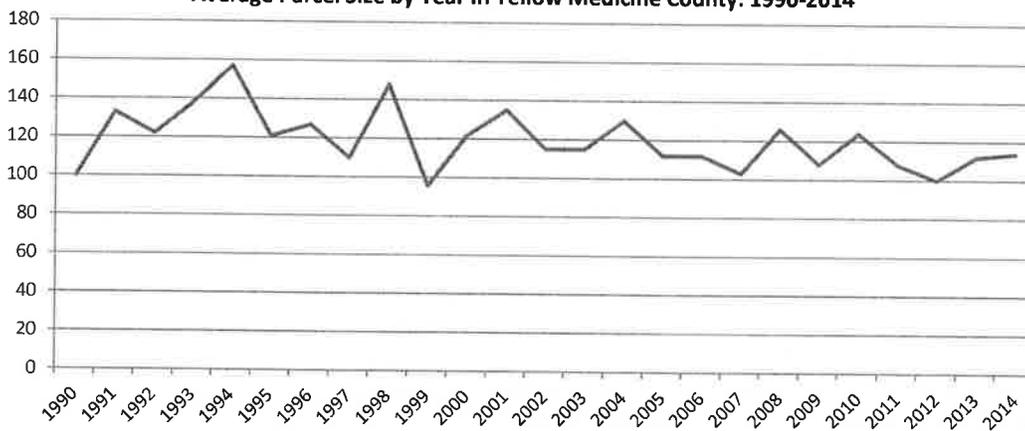
Number of Farms Sold by Year in Yellow Medicine County: 1990-2014



Source: Minnesota Land Economics

There is no clear trend in the number of farms sold in Yellow Medicine County from 1990 to 2014. There were 42 farms sold in 1990, 30 sold in 1991, 37 sold in 1992, 18 sold in 1993, 25 sold in 1994, and 15 sold in 1995. There was a sharp increase from 1995 to 37 farms sold in 1996, followed by a decrease to 34 farms sold in 1997, and 25 farms sold in 1998. There was then an increase to 26 farms sold in 1999, 32 farms sold in 2000, and 41 farms sold in 2001. There was a slight decrease to 35 farms sold in 2002, followed by 29 farms sold in 2003, 32 farms sold in 2004, 38 farms sold in 2005, and 39 farms sold in 2006. Finally, there were 52 farms sold in 2007, 46 farms sold in 2008, 32 farms sold in 2009, 46 farms sold in 2010, 18 farms sold in 2011, 45 farms sold in 2012, 9 farms sold in 2013, and 6 farms sold in 2014.

Average Parcel Size by Year in Yellow Medicine County: 1990-2014



Source: Minnesota Land Economics

The average parcel size in Yellow Medicine County was 100 in 1990, 133 in 1991, 122 in 1992, 138 in 1993, 157 in 1994, 121 in 1995, 127 in 1996, 110 in 1997, 148 in 1998, and 96 in 1999. In 2000, the average parcel size was 122, in 2001 it was 135, in 2002 and 2003 it was 115, in 2004 it was 130, and in 2005 and 2006 it was 112. Finally, in 2007 the average parcel size was 103, in 2008 it was 126, 2009 it was 108, in 2010 it was 124, in 2011 it was 108, in 2012 it was 100, in 2013 it was 112, and in 2014 it was 114.

Value of Farms

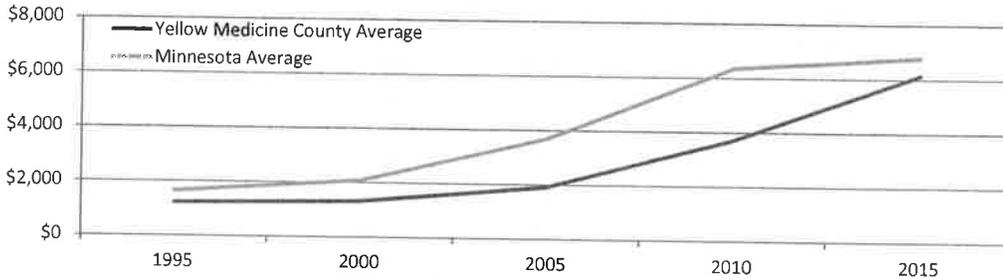
Price Per Acre of Farmland by 5-Year Cohort in Yellow Medicine County Townships: 1995-2015					
<i>In 2015 Inflation Adjusted Dollars</i>					
	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015
Burton Township	\$1,023	\$1,197	\$1,832	\$4,161	\$5,698
Canby City	\$617	\$851	\$1,115	\$2,356	\$4,065
Clarkfield City	\$1,845	\$1,957	\$2,556	\$4,471	\$8,935
Echo City	\$1,878	\$1,961	\$2,646	\$4,832	\$10,802
Echo Township	\$1,785	\$1,871	\$2,534	\$4,489	\$7,541
Florida Township	\$678	\$647	\$1,122	\$2,081	\$3,473
Fortier Township	\$603	\$604	\$1,167	\$2,271	\$3,489
Friendship Township	\$1,575	\$1,680	\$2,244	\$3,962	\$7,834
Granite Falls City	\$317	\$274	\$820	\$2,426	\$1,503
Hammer Township	\$909	\$884	\$1,315	\$2,738	\$4,676
Hanley Falls City	\$1,084	\$1,132	\$1,743	\$3,127	\$4,879
Hazel Run City	\$1,433	\$1,524	\$2,226	\$3,796	\$7,055
Hazel Run Township	\$1,510	\$1,597	\$2,362	\$3,839	\$7,392
Lisbon Township	\$1,297	\$1,588	\$2,272	\$3,602	\$7,225
Minnesota Falls Township	\$1,190	\$1,278	\$1,960	\$3,378	\$5,829
Norman Township	\$796	\$888	\$1,328	\$2,782	\$4,687
Normania Township	\$1,385	\$1,477	\$1,848	\$4,530	\$6,999
Omro Township	\$1,157	\$1,159	\$1,809	\$4,226	\$6,217
Oshkosh Township	\$1,079	\$1,125	\$1,702	\$3,892	\$5,910
Porter City	\$912	\$978	\$1,485	\$3,448	\$5,380
Posen Township	\$1,760	\$1,849	\$2,473	\$4,440	\$7,304
Sandnes Township	\$1,490	\$1,512	\$2,269	\$4,108	\$6,888
Sioux Agency Township	\$1,330	\$1,416	\$2,052	\$3,799	\$5,904
St. Leo City	\$1,293	\$1,358	\$2,124	\$4,663	\$7,395
Stony Run Township	\$1,213	\$1,371	\$2,244	\$3,436	\$6,171
Swede Prairie Township	\$1,215	\$1,535	\$2,211	\$4,704	\$6,500
Tyro Township	\$1,257	\$1,481	\$1,981	\$4,098	\$6,581
Wergeland Township	\$893	\$973	\$1,494	\$3,402	\$5,257
Wood Lake City	\$1,686	\$1,767	\$2,377	\$4,114	\$6,455
Wood Lake Township	\$1,618	\$1,708	\$2,293	\$4,139	\$6,416
Yellow Medicine County Average	\$1,228	\$1,321	\$1,920	\$3,710	\$6,149
Minnesota Average	\$1,644	\$2,093	\$3,693	\$6,361	\$6,789

Source: Minnesota Land Economics

There is a large variation in the price per acre across Yellow Medicine County cities and townships from 1995 to 2015. The lowest values consistently occurred in Granite Falls City, and Florida and Fortier townships, while the highest values consistently occurred in Echo City, Clarkfield City, and Echo Township.

Yellow Medicine County and Minnesota state averages increased consistently over the years examined. The next graph displays this increase in more detail.

Price Per Acre of Farmland by 5-Year Cohort: 1995-2015



Source: Minnesota Land Economics

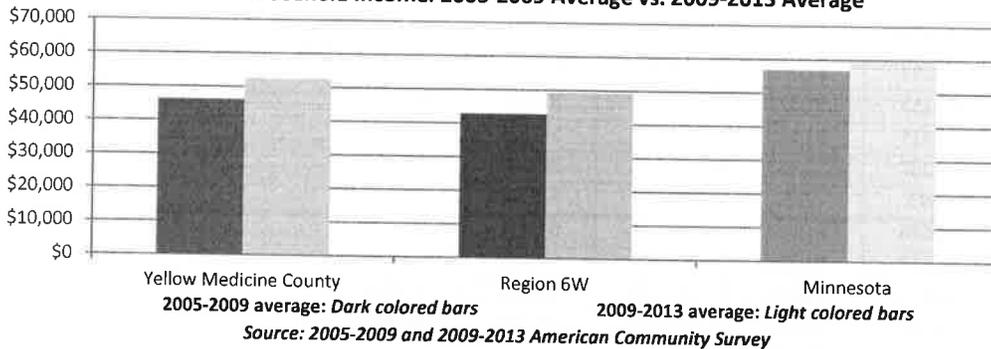
In 1995, the average price per acre in Yellow Medicine County was \$1,228 compared to the average price per acre in Minnesota was \$1,644. In 2000, the average price per acre in Yellow Medicine County was \$1,321 and in Minnesota it was \$2,093. In 2005, the average price per acre was \$1,920 in Yellow Medicine County and \$3,693 in Minnesota. In 2010, the average price per acre was \$3,710 in Yellow Medicine County and \$6,361 in Minnesota. Finally, in 2015, the average price per acre in Yellow Medicine County was \$6,149 and in Minnesota it was \$6,789.

Income and Wage

The following variables on income and wage provide data on the outcomes of economic development. This data on income, public assistance, poverty, and insurance provides information on the ability of the population of Yellow Medicine County to manage the economy and cost of living. It also provides a primary comparison point to Minnesota and weighted average for Region 6W.

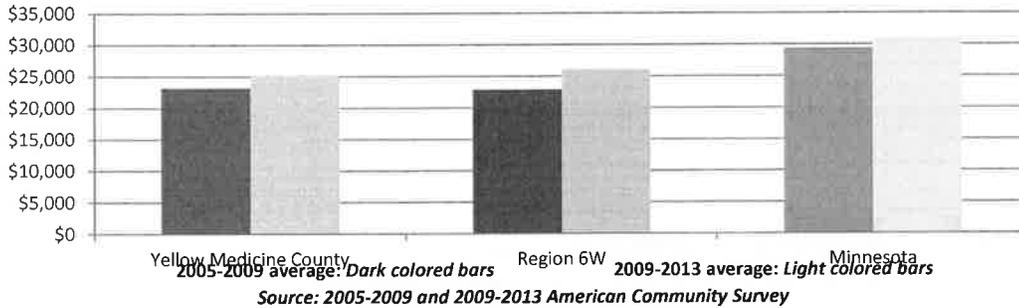
General Income

Median Household Income: 2005-2009 Average vs. 2009-2013 Average



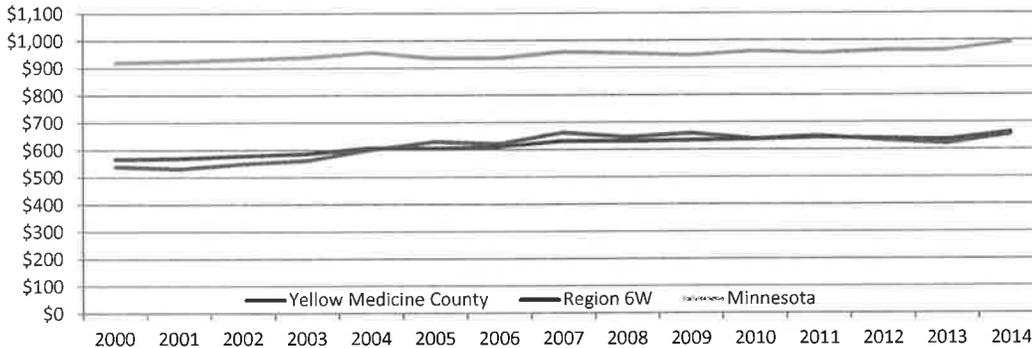
The median household income of Yellow Medicine County, the weighted average for Region 6W, and Minnesota all increased from 2009 to 2013. In 2009, the median household income of Yellow Medicine County was \$46,292, which was greater than the median income of Region 6W and less than the median income of Minnesota in 2009. The median household income of Region 6W was \$42,945 and the median household income of Minnesota was \$57,007. In 2013, the median household income of Yellow Medicine County increased to \$52,510, which was still greater than the average median household income of Region 6W and less than that of Minnesota. The average median household income of Region 6W was \$49,318 and the median household income of Minnesota was \$59,836 in 2013.

Per Capita Income: 2005-2009 Average vs. 2009-2013 Average



Per capita income is the average income received by all individuals in the past 12 months. The per capita income for Yellow Medicine County, the county average of Region 6W, and Minnesota all increased from 2009 to 2013. In 2009, the per capita income of Yellow Medicine County was \$23,216, while the per capita income of Region 6W was \$22,911 and that of Minnesota was \$29,431. In 2013, the per capita income of Yellow Medicine County was \$25,303, while the per capita income of Region 6W was \$26,109 and that of Minnesota was \$30,913.

Average Weekly Wage by Year: 2000-2014
In 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars



Source: Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development, Quarterly Census Employment & Wages Program

The average weekly wage of Yellow Medicine County, the Region 6W county average, and Minnesota has slightly increased from 2000 to 2014. The average weekly wage of Minnesota is much greater than that of Region 6W and Yellow Medicine County. The average weekly wage of Minnesota was \$921.28 in 2000, \$926.04 in 2001, \$932.35 in 2002, \$939.42 in 2003, \$956.99 in 2004, \$936.36 in 2005, \$937.14 in 2006, and \$958.38 in 2007.

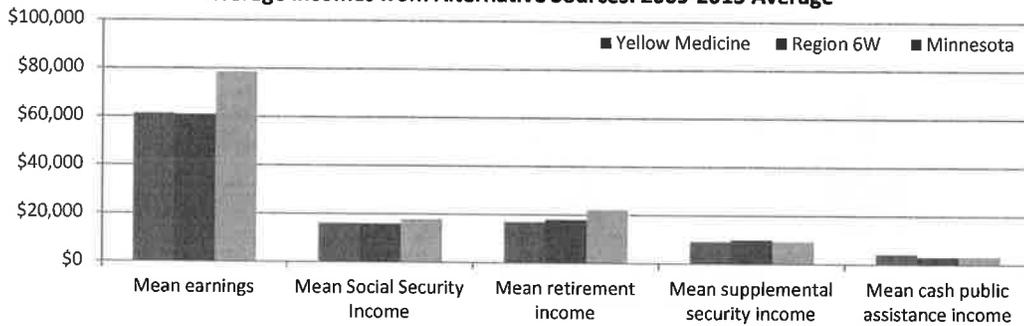
The average weekly wage of Minnesota continued to fluctuate to \$953.24 in 2008, \$945.78 in 2009, \$960.43 in 2010, \$952.79 in 2011, \$962.90 in 2012, \$964 in 2013, and \$992 in 2014.

The average weekly wage of Yellow Medicine county was \$539.78 in 2000, \$531.42 in 2001, \$549.05 in 2002, \$562.14 in 2003, \$600.58 in 2004, \$629.81 in 2005, \$621.68 in 2006, and \$662.89 in 2007.

The average weekly wage continued to fluctuate to \$645.95 in 2008, \$660.20 in 2009, \$636.86 in 2010, \$650.39 in 2011, \$633.14 in 2012, \$621 in 2013, and \$656 in 2014. The average weekly wage of Yellow Medicine County is similar to that of Region 6W, which was \$566.44 in 2000, \$569.33 in 2001, \$579 in 2002, \$586.74 in 2003, \$607.35 in 2004, \$604.79 in 2005, \$611.18 in 2006, and \$631.87 in 2007.

Similar to Yellow Medicine County, the average weekly wage continued to fluctuate to \$630.44 in 2008, \$634.41 in 2009, \$636.81 in 2010, \$644.11 in 2011, \$640.67 in 2012, \$635.34 in 2013, and \$662.67 in 2014.

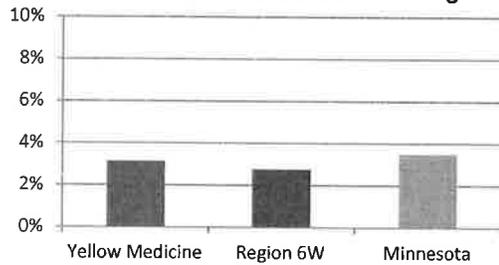
Average Incomes from Alternative Sources: 2009-2013 Average



Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

The mean earnings from alternative sources from 2009 to 2013 were \$61,417 in Yellow Medicine County, \$61,022 in Region 6W, and \$78,629 in Minnesota. The mean social security income was \$16,205 in Yellow Medicine County, \$16,007 in Region 6W, and \$17,798 in Minnesota. The mean retirement income was \$16,999 in Yellow Medicine County, \$18,054 in Region 6W, and \$22,182 in Minnesota. The mean supplemental security income was \$9,310 in Yellow Medicine County, \$9,940 in Region 6W, and \$9,407 in Minnesota. The mean cash public assistance income was \$4,195 in Yellow Medicine County, \$3,168 in Region 6W, and \$3,325 in Minnesota.

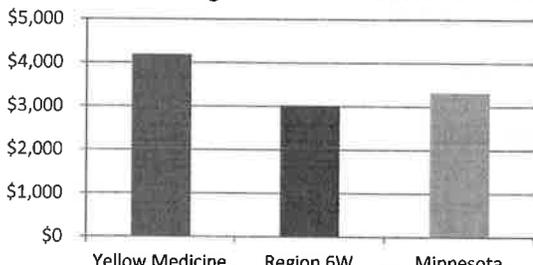
Percent of Households Receiving Public Assistance Income: 2009-2013 Average



The percent of households receiving public assistance income was averaged from the 2009 to 2013 American Community Survey. All three of the areas reported fairly similar percentages. In Yellow Medicine County, 3.14 percent of households received public assistance income. The county average of Region 6W was 2.77 percent of households received public assistance income, which is the lowest of the three reported areas. In Minnesota, 3.5 percent of households reported receiving public assistance income, which is slightly higher than Yellow Medicine County and Region 6W.

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Average Amount of Public Assistance Dollars Received: 2009-2013 Average

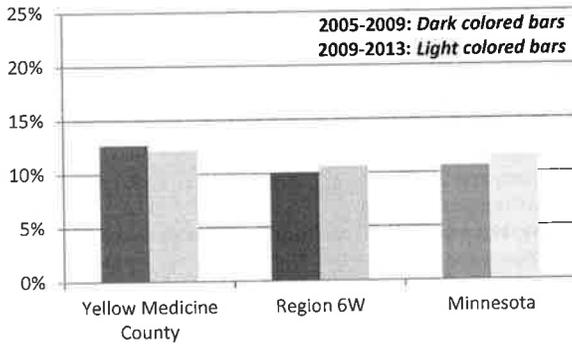


Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

For each of the three areas, the average amount of public assistance dollars received was averaged from the 2009 to 2013 American Community Survey. The greatest amount of public assistance dollars received was in Yellow Medicine County, which reported an average of \$4,195. The Region 6W county average and Minnesota average reported similar amounts of public assistance dollars received from 2009-2013. The average amount of public assistance dollars received in Region 6W was \$3,029 and that of Minnesota was \$3,325.

Poverty

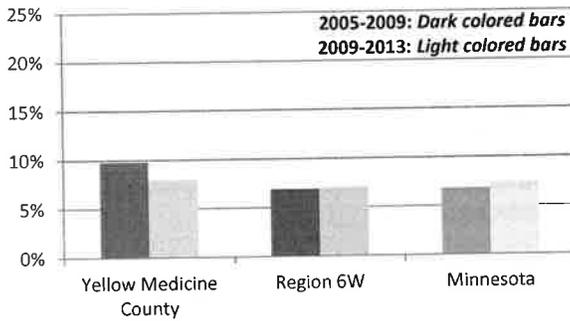
Percent of Population Below Poverty: 2005-2009 Average vs. 2009-2013 Average



This graph compares the percent of population below the poverty line averaged from 2005 to 2009 and 2009 to 2013. The percentages are very similar across the three areas. Yellow Medicine County reported 12.7 percent of the population below the poverty line in 2009. This slightly decreased to 12.2 percent of the population below the poverty line in 2013. The county average of Region 6W reported 10.08 percent of the population below the poverty line in 2009, which increased to 10.59 percent in 2013. Minnesota reported 10.6 percent of the population below the poverty line in 2009, which slightly increased to 11.5 percent in 2013.

Source: 2005-2009 and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

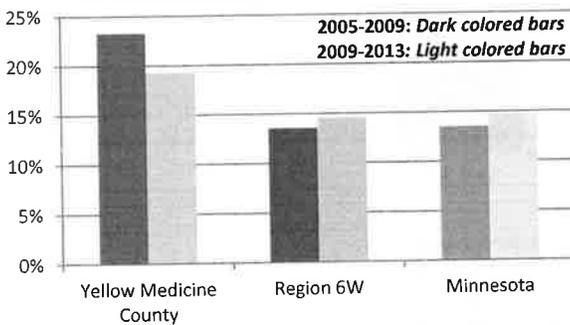
Percent of Families Below Poverty: 2005-2009 Average vs. 2009-2013 Average



This graph depicts the average percent of families below poverty from 2005 to 2009 and 2009 to 2013, as reported in the American Community Survey. Yellow Medicine County reported 9.8 percent of families below poverty in 2009. This decreased to 8 percent in 2013, but was still the greatest percentage of the three areas. The county average of Region 6W reported 6.91 percent of families below poverty in 2009 and 7.03 percent of families below poverty in 2013. Minnesota reported similar numbers to Region 6W, with 6.8 percent of families below poverty in 2009 and 7.4 percent of families below poverty in 2013.

Source: 2005-2009 and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

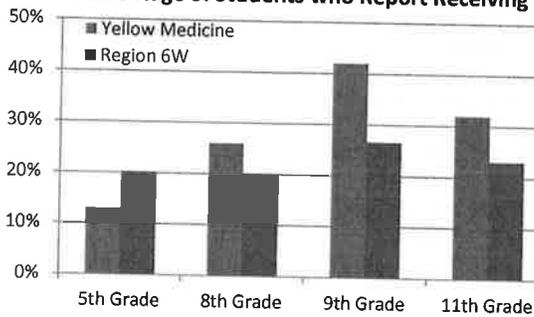
Percent of Children Under 18 Below Poverty: 2005-2009 Average vs. 2009-2013 Average



This graph depicts the average percent of children under the age of 18 below the poverty line from 2005 to 2009 and 2009 to 2013, as reported in the American Community Survey. Yellow Medicine reported the greatest percentage with 23.3 percent of children below poverty in 2009. This decreased to 19.3 percent of children in 2013. The county average of Region 6W reported 13.55 percent of children under 18 below poverty in 2009 and 14.56 percent in 2013. Minnesota reported very similar numbers to Region 6W, with 13.5 percent of children below poverty in 2009 and 14.7 percent of children below poverty in 2013.

Source: 2005-2009 and 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Percentage of Students who Report Receiving Free or Reduced-Price Lunch at School: 2013

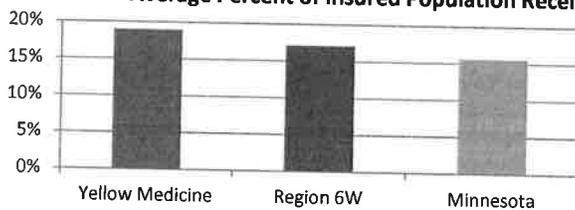


Source: 2013 Minnesota Student Survey

13 percent of 5th graders in Yellow Medicine County receive free or reduced price lunch at school. In Region 6W, 20.27 percent of 5th graders reported getting free or reduced price lunch. 26 percent of 8th graders in Yellow Medicine County and 20.19 percent of 8th graders in Region 6W reported receiving free or reduced price lunch. 42 percent of 9th graders in Yellow Medicine County and 26.67 percent of 9th graders in Region 6W reported getting free or reduced price lunch. Finally, 32 percent of 11th graders in Yellow Medicine County and 23.13 percent of 11th graders in Region 6W reported getting free or reduced price lunch.

Insurance

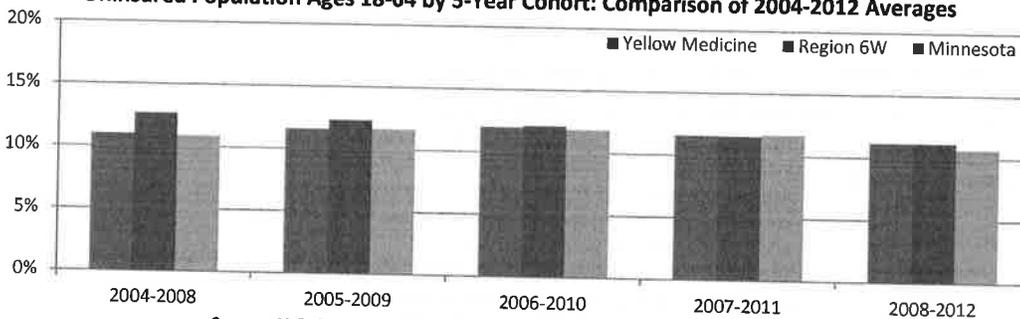
Average Percent of Insured Population Receiving Medicaid: 2009-2013 Average



Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

In Yellow Medicine County, 19 percent of the insured population has received Medicaid, which is the greatest percentage of the three areas. The county average of Region 6W reported 17 percent of the insured population has received Medicaid. In Minnesota, 16 percent of the insured population has received Medicaid. Overall, all 3 areas reported similar percentages.

Uninsured Population Ages 18-64 by 5-Year Cohort: Comparison of 2004-2012 Averages



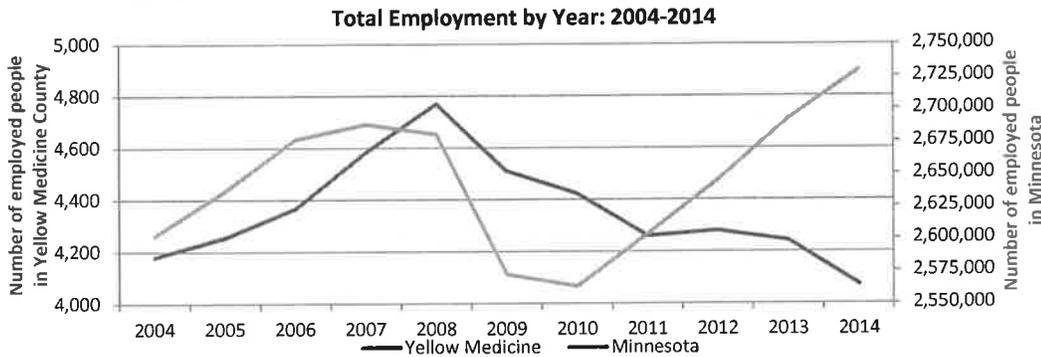
Source: U.S. Census Bureau: Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2012

All percentages reported are based on the population ages 18 to 64 within each area and Region 6W is reported as a weighted average of counties in the region. From 2004 to 2008, an average of 11 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 12.68 percent of Region 6W, and 10.88 percent of Minnesota were uninsured. From 2005 to 2009, an average of 11.6 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 12.34 percent of Region 6W, and 11.65 percent of Minnesota were uninsured. From 2006 to 2010, an average of 12 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 12.14 percent of Region 6W, and 11.88 percent of Minnesota were uninsured. From 2007 to 2011, an average of 11.6 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 11.58 percent of Region 6W, and 11.7 percent of Minnesota were uninsured. From 2008 to 2012, an average of 11.2 percent of Yellow Medicine County, 11.2 percent of Region 6W, and 10.72 percent of Minnesota were uninsured. Overall, there were a similar percentage of 18 to 64 year olds who were uninsured across Yellow Medicine County, Region 6W, and Minnesota from 2008 to 2012.

Businesses & Employment

The following data on businesses and employment within Yellow Medicine County, Region 6W, and Minnesota provides direct data regarding economic development. This data provides insight into the job market and job stability within Yellow Medicine County over time and in comparison to the state and region. It also provides information regarding what jobs are in Yellow Medicine County, and who is working at these jobs.

General Employment Characteristics



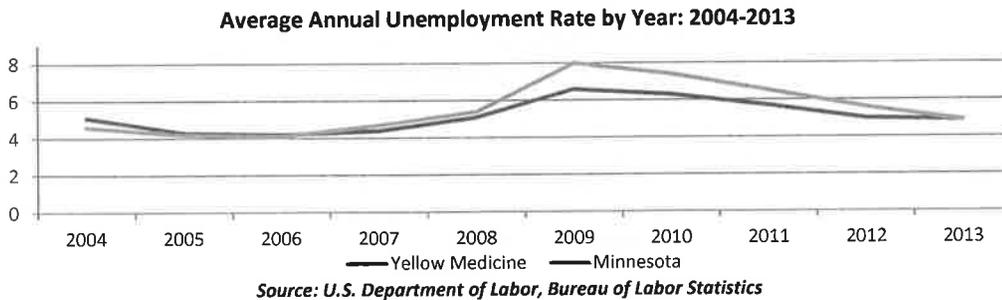
This graph compares the total number of employed individuals in Yellow Medicine County with that of Minnesota. It is important to note when looking at this graph, that this is total employment and does not take into account population changes of the county or state. The population of Yellow Medicine County has been steadily decreasing since 1970, which could explain the large negative trend in employment. This discrepancy could explain why Minnesota has been increasing in total employment since 2010, while Yellow Medicine County has been decreasing since 2008. Overall, there were 4,181 employed individuals in Yellow Medicine County in 2004, and there are now 4,073. In the State of Minnesota, there were 2,602,623 employed individuals in 2004 and 2,729,679 in 2014.

Unemployment

The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines “unemployment rate” as the number of people who are jobless, looking for a job, and available for work as a percentage of the labor force.

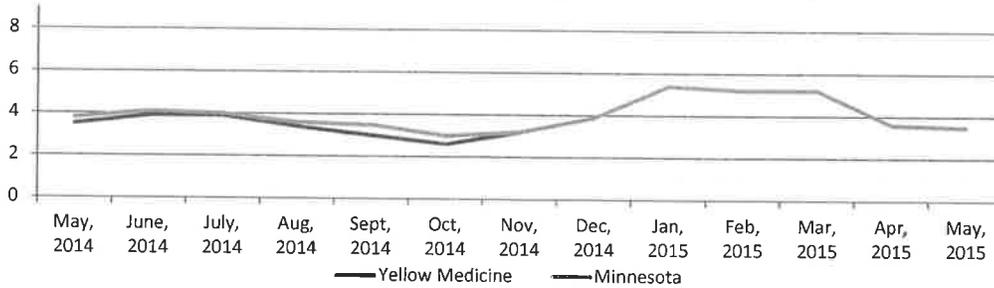
Comment [RME1]: It might help to have a short description of what the “unemployment rate” from BLS means for this Unemployment section... Is it the percent of the non-institutionalized civilian labor force that is currently unemployed and not actively looking for employment?

Comment [RME2]: Double check this definition – it seems odd (BLS might just be different from other sources though)



In Yellow Medicine County, the unemployment rate decreased from 5.1 percent in 2004, to 4.3 in 2005, and 4.2 in 2006. It then increased to 4.4 percent in 2007, 5.1 in 2008, and 6.6 in 2009. There was another decrease to 6.3 percent in 2010, 5.7 in 2011, 5 in 2012, and 4.9 in 2013. In Minnesota, the unemployment rate decreased from 4.6 percent in 2004, to 4.2 in 2005, and 4.1 in 2006. It then increased to 4.7 in 2007, 5.4 in 2008, and 8 in 2009. There was another decrease to 7.4 percent in 2010, 6.5 in 2011, 5.6 in 2012, and 4.9 in 2013.

Average Monthly Unemployment Rate by Month: May 2014 - May 2015

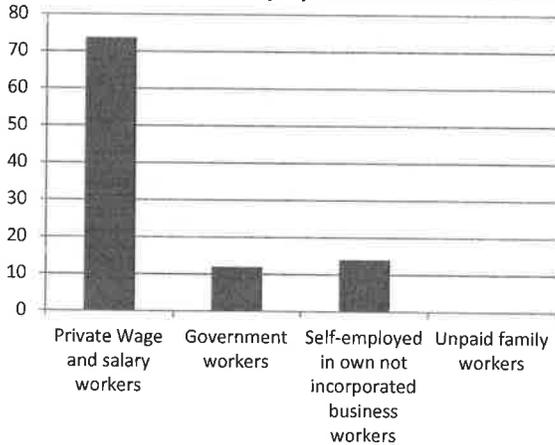


Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The average monthly unemployment rate from May 2014 to May 2015 is very similar between Yellow Medicine County and Minnesota. In May 2014, the unemployment rate was 3.5 in Yellow Medicine County and 3.8 in Minnesota, with an increase in June to 3.9 for Yellow Medicine County and 4.1 for Minnesota. In July 2014, Yellow Medicine County remained at 3.9 and Minnesota decreased slightly to 4, while in August 2014 the rate dropped to 3.4 in Yellow Medicine County and 3.6 in Minnesota. In September 2014, the unemployment rate was 3 in Yellow Medicine County and 3.5 in Minnesota, and in October 2014 the unemployment rate was 2.6 in Yellow Medicine County and 3 in Minnesota.

From November 2014, the unemployment rate in Yellow Medicine County and Minnesota were identical, at 3.2 in November, 3.9 in December, and 5.4 in January 2015. In February and March 2015, the unemployment rate remained at 5.2 for both areas, followed by a drop to 3.6 in April 2015, and 3.5 in May 2015.

Employment Rate of Different Worker Classes: 2009-2013



Yellow Medicine County: 2009-2013			
	Count	% civilian employed	Employment Rate
Private	3,775	73.8%	73.79
Govern.	615	12.0%	12.02
Self-emp.	719	14.1%	14.05
Unpaid	7	0.1%	0.14

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns

There is a highly varied distribution of employment in Yellow Medicine County. 73.8 percent of the civilians employed in the county are private wage and salary workers. 12 percent of the civilians employed are government workers, 14.1 percent of the civilians employed are self-employed, and only 0.14 percent are unpaid family workers.

Employment by Industry

Employment by Establishment Category in Yellow Medicine County: 2009-2013				
	Establishment Count	Paid employee Count (for pay period including March '12)	First Quarter payroll	Annual payroll
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting	2	0-19	D	D
Mining, quarrying, oil/gas extraction	2	0-19	D	D
Utilities	5	20-99	D	D
Construction	39	1,000-2,499	D	D
Manufacturing	21	100-249	D	D
Wholesale trade	15	216	2,417,000	10,106,000
Retail trade	50	398	1,722,000	7,843,000
Transportation, warehousing	21	117	1,175,000	4,887,000
Information	5	20-99	D	D
Finance & insurance	21	110	985,000	4,458,000
Real estate, rental, leasing	4	0-19	D	D
Professional, scientific, technical services	15	55	480,000	2,193,000
Management	1	0-19	D	D
Administrative, support, waste management, remediation services	7	20-99	202,000	1,211,000
Educational services	2	20-99	D	D
Health care, social assistance	25	795	6,060,000	24,421,000
Arts, entertainment, recreation	7	0-19	D	251
Accommodation, food services	22	569	2,657,000	10,851
Other services	50	177	823,000	3,621
Other industries	1	0-19	D	D
Total	315	4,352	40,706,000	164,389,000

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

The above table shows the number of establishments, number of paid employees, and the payroll in Yellow Medicine County by establishment category. The "D" in the payroll columns denotes that data is withheld because there are too few establishments in this category to report.

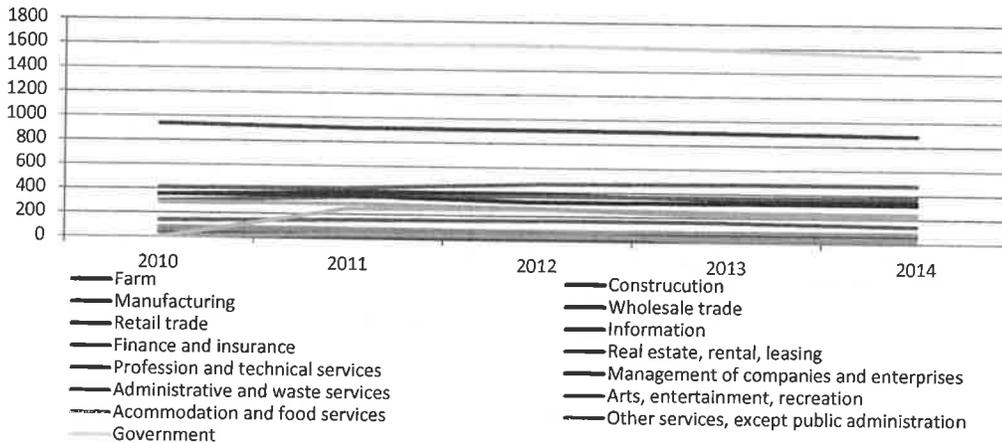
The smallest industries include the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting category, which have 2 establishments. The mining, quarrying, and oil or gas extraction category only has 2 establishments as well, while management only has 1 establishment in Yellow Medicine County. Additionally, education services only have 2 establishments, the real estate, rental, and leasing category has only 4 establishments, utilities has 5 establishments, and information has 5 establishments.

The administrative, support, waste management, and remediation services category and the arts, entertainment, and recreation category both have 7 establishments. Both the wholesale trade category and the professional, scientific, and technical services category have 15 establishments each in Yellow Medicine County.

There are 21 establishments in the manufacturing category, the finance and insurance industry category, and the transportation and warehousing category, while there are 22 establishments in the accommodation and food services category.

There are 25 establishments in the health care and social assistance category and 39 establishments in the construction category. Additionally, there are 50 establishments in retail trade and 50 establishments that provide other services in Yellow Medicine County.

Employment by Industry in Yellow Medicine County: 2010-2014



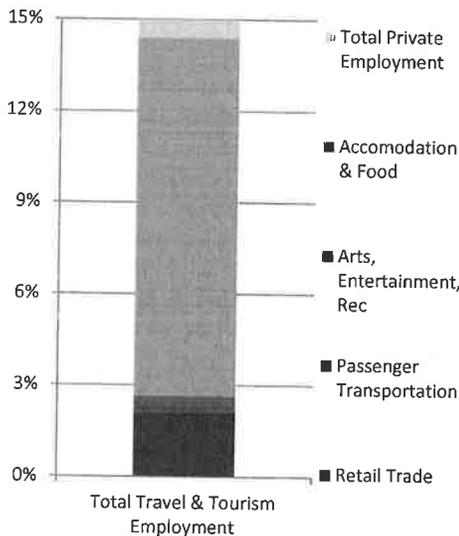
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

From 2010 to 2014, the government industry in Yellow Medicine County has had the most employment with around 1600 employees. This industry is followed by the farm industry with around 900 employees. Many industries have stayed steady, but there are a few notable industries that have grown in employment.

Comment [RRB3]: We should maybe try and think of examples

From 2010 to 2014, the manufacturing industry has increased employment by about 25 percent, retail trade has increased employment by 17 percent, and the accommodation and food services industry has increased employment by about 15 percent.

Percent of Total Private Employment in Travel and Tourism in Yellow Medicine County: 2013



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, 2015

The total private employment sector can be divided into travel and tourism, and further divided into four subsections. There are 4,352 overall individuals in private employment, 618 of which are employed in travel and tourism. Overall, travel and tourism accounts for 14.20 percent of the total private employment.

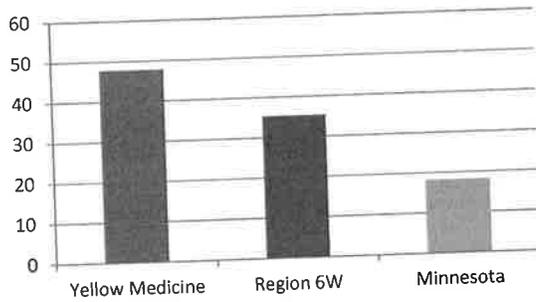
In 2013, the 513 employees in the accommodation and food sector made up 83.01 percent of travel and tourism employment and 11.79 percent of total private employment.

There were 13 employees in the arts, entertainment, and recreation sector, which accounted for 2.10 percent of travel and tourism employment and 0.3 percent of total private employment.

10 employees in the passenger transportation sector made up 1.62 percent of travel and tourism employment and 0.23 percent of total private employment.

There were 92 workers employed in the retail trade sector in Yellow Medicine County, which is 14.89 percent of total travel and tourism employment and 2.11 percent of total private employment.

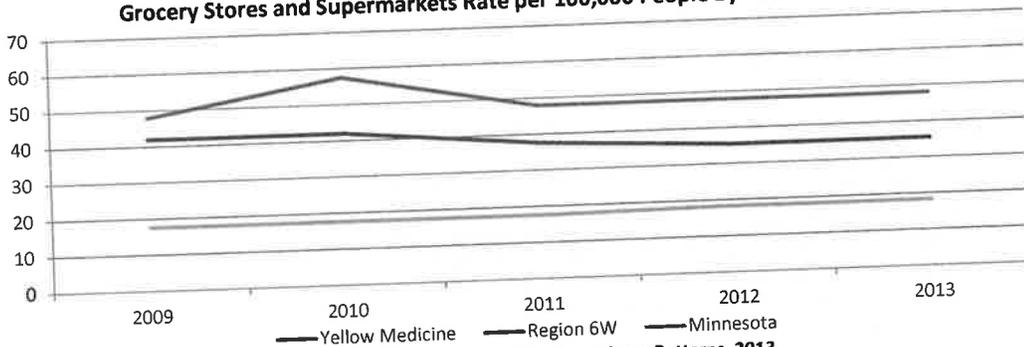
Grocery Store Access: 2013



Grocery store access is defined as the number of grocery stores per 100,000 people. In 2013, Yellow Medicine County reported the greatest grocery store rate per 100,000 of 47.9. It is important to note that there were only 5 grocery stores reported in 2013. The small population of Yellow Medicine County causes a skewed grocery store rate. The county average of Region 6W reported a grocery store rate of 35.41 in 2013. This is based off of 16 total grocery stores in the region. Minnesota has the greatest number of grocery stores, but the lowest grocery store rate with a rate of 18.27 in 2013.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau: County Business Patterns, 2013

Grocery Stores and Supermarkets Rate per 100,000 People by Year: 2009-2013



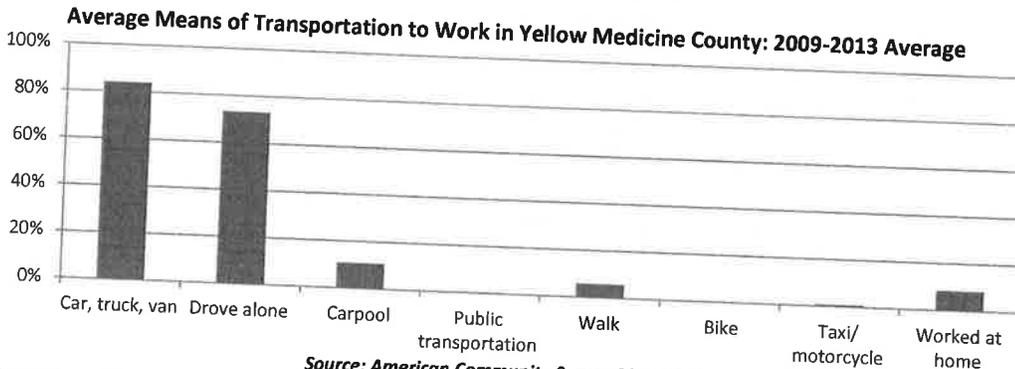
Source: U.S. Census Bureau: County Business Patterns, 2013

The rate of grocery stores and supermarkets per 100,000 had little fluctuation in the state of Minnesota from 2009 to 2013. The rate went from 17.65 in 2009 to 17.61 in 2010, 17.59 in 2011, 18.31 in 2012, and 18.27 in 2013. The rates in Minnesota remained well below that of Yellow Medicine County and Region 6W. In Region 6W there has been a slight decrease in rate in recent years. This is most likely due to an increase in population. The rate was 42 in 2009 and 2010, 38 in 2011, and 35 in 2012 and 2013. Yellow Medicine County maintained the greatest rate across all years. The rate sharply increased from 47.9 in 2009 to 57.48 in 2010, and then sharply decreased back to 47.9, where the rate remained constant from 2011 through 2013.

Transportation

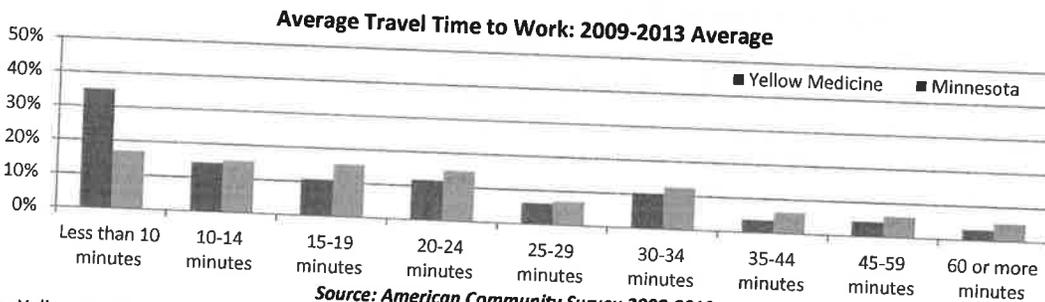
The following data on transportation provides information on not only the condition of roads within Yellow Medicine County, but also on how residents are commuting to work and where they are commuting too. This provides insight into how many jobs are attracting local residents verses out-of-county residents.

Commuting



Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013

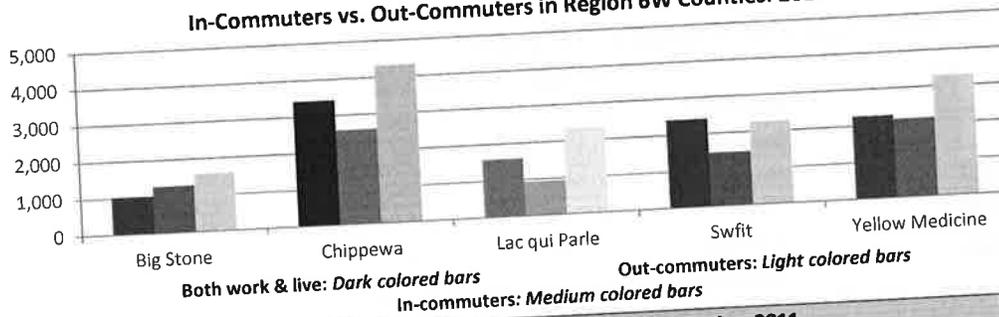
The means of transportation to work in Yellow Medicine County were averaged from the years 2009 through 2013 using the American Community Survey. 84.1 percent of residents reported using a car, truck, or van to travel to work. 73.3 percent drove alone, 10.8 percent carpooled, and only 0.5 percent used public transportation. These percentages are supported by minimal public transportation in the county. 5.8 percent reported walking, 0.3 percent reported biking, 0.9 percent reported taking a taxi or motorcycle, and 8.5 percent reported working at home. The percentage of at-home workers shows that Yellow Medicine County has the ability to attract city workers to move back to small towns and work from home.



Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013

In Yellow Medicine County, 35 percent reported a travel time to work of less than 10 minutes, while in Minnesota only 17 percent reported that same travel time. In Yellow Medicine County, 14.4 percent reported 10-14 minutes, 10.8 percent reported 15-19 minutes, 11.8 percent reported 20-24 minutes, 6.3 percent reported 25-29 minutes, 10.4 percent reported 30-34 minutes, 3.8 percent reported 35-44 minutes, 4.4 percent reported 45-49 minutes, and 3.1 percent reported 60 or more minutes for their average travel time to work. These numbers for travel times over 10 minutes are similar to those reported for Minnesota. In Minnesota, 15.3 percent reported 10-14 minutes, 15.6 percent reported 15-19 minutes, 14.9 percent reported 20-24 minutes, 7 percent reported 25-29 minutes, 12.4 percent reported 30-34 minutes, 6.3 percent reported 35-44 minutes, 6.2 percent reported 45-59 minutes, and 5.2 percent reported 60 or more minutes as their mean travel time to work. Overall, the mean travel time to work in Yellow Medicine County was 18.1 minutes, which is slightly less than the mean travel time to work of 22.9 minutes across the state Minnesota.

In-Commuters vs. Out-Commuters in Region 6W Counties: 2011

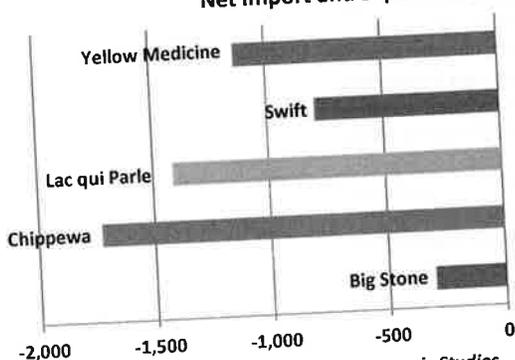


	Both Work & Live	In-Commuters	Out-Commuters	Net Import/ Export
Region 6W Average	2,244	1,682	2,821	-1,138
Big Stone	1,029	1,279	1,582	-303
Chippewa	3,429	2,598	4,329	-1,731
Lac qui Parle	1,582	930	2,346	-1,416
Swift	2,417	1,472	2,266	-794
Yellow Medicine	2,264	2,160	3,296	-1,136

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies via MN DEED Report and 2010 U.S Census

In Big Stone county, there are 1,029 individuals who both work and live in the county, 1,279 who commute into the county, and 1,582 who commute outside of the county for work. Chippewa county reported the greatest numbers in comparison to other counties, but this is due to its large working-age population. In Chippewa county, there are 3,429 individuals who work and live within the county, 2,598 who commute into the county, and a large number of individuals (4,329) who leave the county for work. In Lac qui Parle County there are 1,582 individuals who both work and live in the county, 930 who commute in, and 2,346 who leave the county for work. In Swift County, there are 2,417 individuals who both work and live in the county, 1,472 who commute in, and 2,266 who leave the county for work. Finally, Yellow Medicine County reported 2,264 individuals who work and live in the county, 2,160 who commute in, and 3,296 who leave the county for work.

Net Import and Export of Commuters in Region 6W Counties

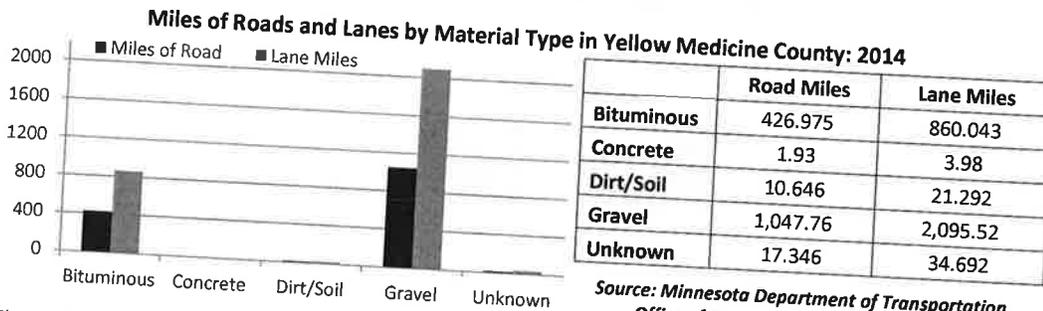


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Economic Studies

A negative number on this graph indicates that more individuals leave the county for work than come in for work, otherwise known as a net export of workers. It is important to note that in this calculation the individuals who both work and live in the county are not taken into consideration.

In Yellow Medicine County there is a net export of 1,136 workers. In Swift County, there is a net export of 794 workers. In Lac qui Parle County, there is a net export of 1,416 workers. In Chippewa County, there is a net export of 1,731 workers, the greatest net export. In Big Stone County, there is a net export of 303 workers, the smallest net export.

Roads



Source: Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Transportation Data & Analysis

The table and graph above depict the different road types in Yellow Medicine. This data reports the miles of road and lane miles, the latter which accounts for the miles of road by lane. For instance, 50 miles on a two-lane road would contain 100 lane miles. The most used road surface in Yellow Medicine County is gravel. There are about 1,048 miles and 2,096 lane miles of gravel road. The next most used road surface is bituminous. There are about 427 miles and 860 lane miles of bituminous road in Yellow Medicine County. Additionally, there are 1.93 miles and 3.98 lane miles of concrete road surface, 10.65 miles and 21.29 lane miles of dirt or soil roads, and 17.35 miles and 34.69 lane miles of unknown road surface in Yellow Medicine County.

Road Mileage by Material Type in Region 6W Counties: 2014

	Brick/block	Bituminous	Concrete	Dirt/Soil	Gravel	Unknown
Region 6W Average	0.05	362.81	11.85	30.03	917.75	19.13
Big Stone	0.23	297.639	1.491	68.69	602.99	0.782
Chippewa	0.07	329.574	35.488	16.264	805.741	22.293
Lac qui Parle	0	343.149	2.558	28.257	1064.584	43.625
Swift	0	386.375	4.879	48.63	981.902	8.7
Yellow Medicine	0	426.975	1.93	10.646	1,047.76	17.346

Source: Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Transportation Data & Analysis
2009-2013 American Community Survey

This table strictly reports road mileage by road type as compared against the five counties in Region 6W. For brick or block roads, there are 0.23 miles of road in Big Stone, 0.07 miles of road in Chippewa, and 0 miles of road in Lac qui Parle, Swift, and Yellow Medicine counties. For bituminous road surfaces, there are 268 miles of road in Big Stone, 330 miles of road in Chippewa, 343 miles of road in Lac qui Parle, 386 miles of road in Swift, and 427 miles of road in Yellow Medicine. For concrete road surfaces, there are only 1.49 miles of road in Big Stone, but 35.49 miles of road in Chippewa, 2.56 miles of road in Lac qui Parle, 4.88 miles of road in Swift, and 1.93 miles of road in Yellow Medicine. For dirt and soil roads, there are 68.69 miles of road in Big Stone, 16.26 miles of road in Chippewa, 28.26 miles of road in Lac qui Parle, 48.63 miles of road in Swift, and 10.65 miles of road in Yellow Medicine. For gravel roads, there are 603 miles of road in Big Stone, 806 miles of road in Chippewa, 1,065 miles of road in Lac qui Parle, 982 miles of road in Swift, and 1,048 miles of road in Yellow Medicine. Finally, there are some remaining miles of road that are an unknown road type. This road type constitutes 0.78 miles of road in Big stone, 22.29 miles of road in Chippewa, 43.63 miles of road in Lac qui Parle, 8.7 miles of road in Swift, and 17.35 miles of road in Yellow Medicine.

Appendix A: Yellow Medicine County EDA Group Initial Meetings

The Yellow Medicine County EDA Group began holding meetings with the goal of bringing together cities in the county to discuss economic development. Information from the discussions beginning in summer 2016 are highlighted below:

- A Shift-Share Comparison done by University of Minnesota Extension showed that the top three areas in growth in Yellow Medicine County were construction, health care & social assistance, and wholesale trade. The bottom three areas in growth were accommodation & food services, other services, and manufacturing.
- Members of the EDA group identified four areas of focus for economic development
 1. Housing
 2. Broadband infrastructure
 3. ?
 4. ?
- Housing
 - Every community is a little different, but there are themes in this region as to what are the major issues in housing
 - The major issue

