

PROFILE OF BROWN COUNTY

BRIEF HISTORY OF COUNTY

Brown County is located in the south central part of Minnesota, approximately 100 miles southwest of the Twin Cities. Brown County has a population of 25,893 with New Ulm as the largest city and county seat. The county is mostly agricultural, but also has many industrial and commercial businesses.

Brown County was officially organized by the U.S. Territorial Legislature on February 18, 1856 and is named after territorial councilor Joseph Renshaw Brown. The earliest pioneers included Germans, Norwegians, English, Irish, and Danes. Brown County is very proud of its historic roots and you will find history celebrated wherever you go.

Brown County has much to offer for recreation, community events, and business opportunities. Enjoy camping in Flandrau State Park and Lake Hanska County Park, canoeing down the Minnesota and Cottonwood Rivers, visit historic Schell's Brewery in New Ulm, attend some of the many community festivals including the Syttende Mai celebration (Norwegian Constitution Day) in Hanska, or check out some local history at the Brown County Historical Society Museum in New Ulm or the Depot Museum in Sleepy Eye. Whether you are here to work or play, Brown County is the place to be!

Source: *County's website*

QUICK FACTS OF COUNTY

Website: <http://www.co.brown.mn.us/>

Facts	Brown County	Minnesota
Land area, 2010 (square miles)	611.09*	79,626.74*
Average Persons per square mile, 2010	42.4*	66.6*
Number of Cities	7**	854***
Number of Townships	16**	1,784***

Sources:

*U.S. Census Bureau: *State and County Quick Facts*, 2012)

**Number of Cities and Townships in Brown County (Minnesota Department of Administration)

***Number of Townships in Minnesota (Minnesota Association of Townships)

PROFILE ISSUES COVERED

❖ QUICK FACTS OF COUNTY

❖ POPULATION OF COUNTY

- Population Trend and Projections (2000-2040)
- Population Projection by Age Cohorts (2010- 2020)
- Population of Cities In Brown county (2006- 2011)
- Population of Townships In Brown county (2006- 2011)
- Key Highlights

❖ SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

- Projection of County's Household Types (2010-2020)
- Ethnic Composition of County's Population (2000 – 2011)
- Education Attainment (2012)
- Key Highlights

❖ COUNTY'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

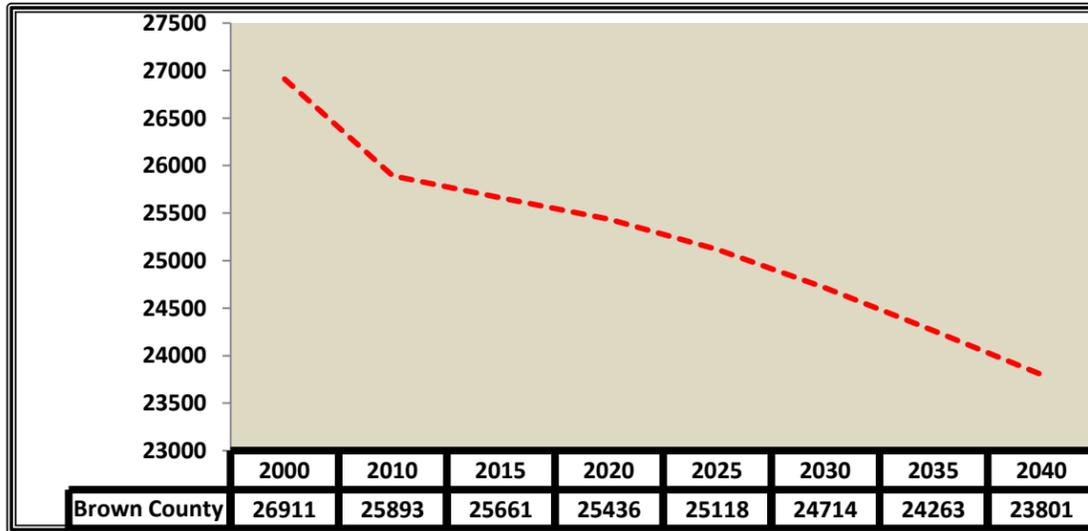
- County's Labor Force Outlook (2005-2035)
- County's Labor Force Outlook by Age Cohorts (2005-2035)
- Comparing Unemployment Rates for Brown county, Region Nine and Sate (2000 – 2012)
- Trend in County's Per Capita Income (2000-2011)
- Key Highlights

❖ COUNTY'S HOUSING PROFILE

- Housing Units: Total, Owner and Renter Units (2000-2011)
- Trend in County's Homeownership Rate (1990-2011)
- Other Housing Characteristics (2000-2011)
- Housing Expenditure for Brown county (2012)
- Key Highlights

POPULATION OF COUNTY

POPULATION TREND AND PROJECTIONS (2000-2040)



Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ The county's population is projected to decrease by a rate of between 1 – 2 per cent every five years from 2010 to 2040.
- ❖ By 2020, significant decreases of not less than 36% are expected for the following age cohorts: 20-24; 25-29; 45-49; and 50-55. This will affect the county's labor force population.
- ❖ With no significant increase (less than 6 per cent) expected for population less than 19 years in 2020, the county's current facilities in K-12 schools can accommodate any future increases in enrollments.
- ❖ Similar to other counties in the region, population over 65 years are expected to increase in 2020, meaning the need to consider housing and health facilities to accommodate the special needs of this population group.

POPULATION OF CITIES IN BROWN COUNTY (2006- 2011)

City	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Cobden	51	46	43	45	36	36
Comfrey	347	344	346	344	366	366
Evan	90	89	86	82	86	84
Hanska	416	410	404	396	402	397
New Ulm	13,610	13,568	13,473	13,396	13,522	13,467
Sleepy Eye	3,584	3,581	3,545	3,521	3,599	3,598
Springfield	2,196	2,230	2,210	2,185	2,152	2,144

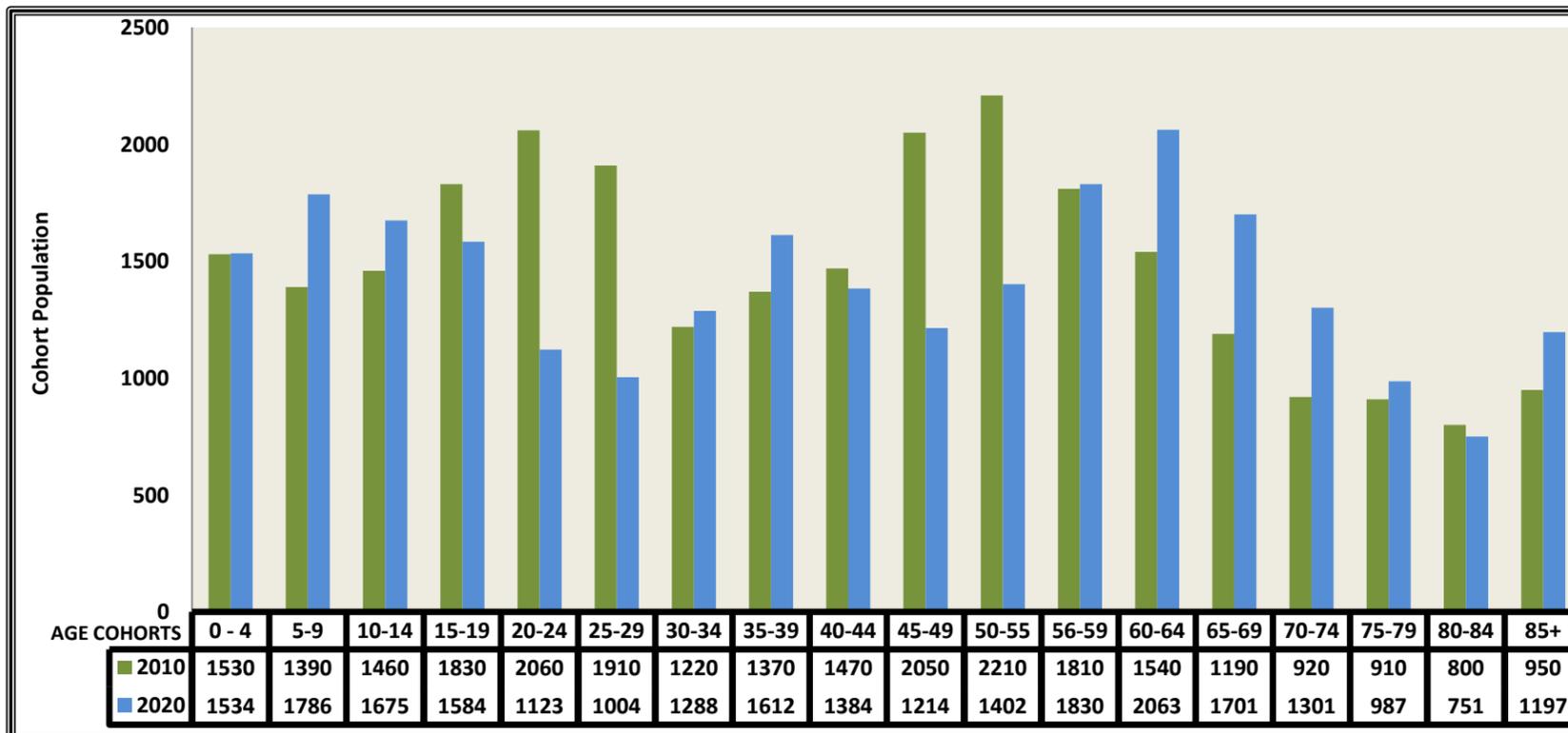
Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012

POPULATION OF TOWNSHIPS IN BROWN COUNTY (2006- 2011)

Township	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Albin	299	294	292	289	348	349
Bashaw	234	233	232	228	243	245
Burnstown	231	232	233	229	268	267
Cottonwood	899	891	886	880	840	835
Eden	273	252	259	255	254	249
Home	642	638	633	626	545	529
Lake Hanska	308	313	311	308	339	335
Leavenworth	315	311	309	301	287	282
Linden	321	319	323	318	295	290
Milford	777	776	768	759	694	690
Mulligan	221	220	219	213	218	219
North Star	311	309	308	303	287	285
Prairieville	328	329	325	320	255	247
Sigel	416	416	412	405	344	334
Stark	357	341	336	330	348	346
Stately	198	202	202	196	165	162

Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012

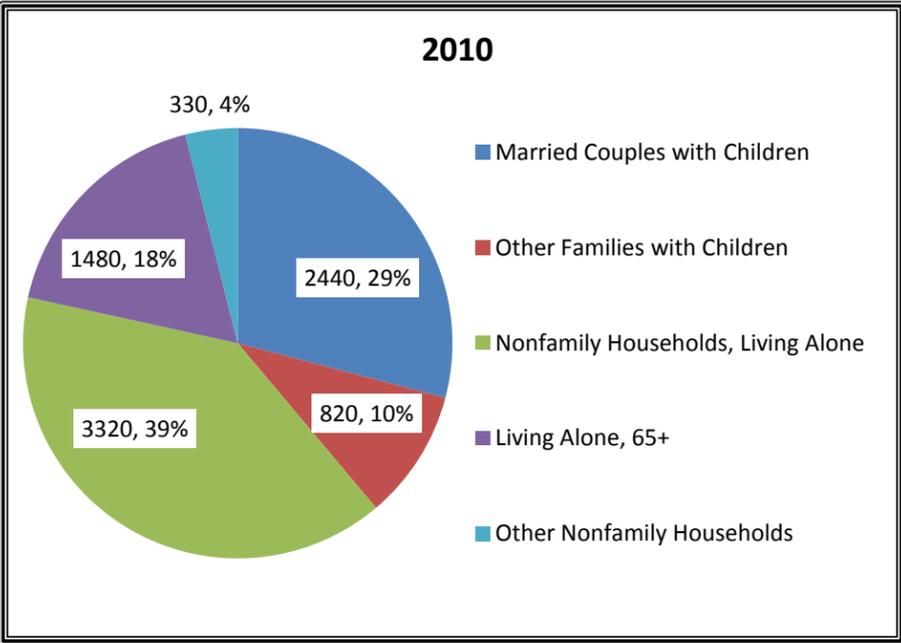
POPULATION PROJECTION BY AGE COHORTS (2010- 2020)



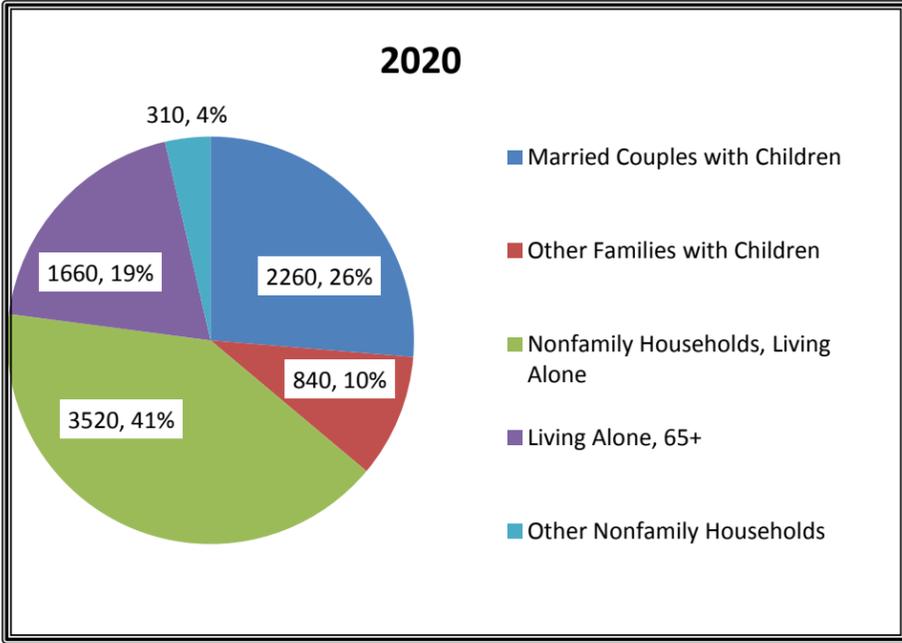
Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012

SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

PROJECTION OF COUNTY'S HOUSEHOLD TYPES (2010- 2020)



Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012



Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012

ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF COUNTY'S POPULATION (2000 – 2011)

Ethnic Group	2000	2005-2009	2010	2011
White alone	19,670	24,696	24,825	24,701
Hispanic or Latino	266	830	792	820
Asian alone	69	169	231	151
Black or African American alone	15	25	22	64
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	15	4	0	27
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	2	9	18	18
Some Other Race alone	0	0	0	0
Two or more races	60	148	142	145

Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2012

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ The 6 per cent increase in “Non-family households living alone” and the 7 per cent reduction in “Married Couples with Children” in 2020 imply a potential increase in demand for single family housing in Brown County.
- ❖ The ethnic composition indicates a minimal but perceptible diversification in the County’s population – The number of Hispanic and Asian population groups have increased significantly in the County.
- ❖ Only 18 per cent of the 25+ population have their bachelors and graduate degrees. Less than half of the County’s 25+ population can be categorized as highly skilled labor force based on their education attainment (i.e. having attained more than high school degree).

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT (2012)

	TOTAL	%
Population Age 25+	17,756	
< Grade 9	1,044	5.88
Grade 9-12	1,021	5.75
High School	7,014	39.5
Some College	4,006	22.56
Assoc Degree	1,407	7.92
Bach Degree	2,328	13.11
Grad Degree	936	5.27

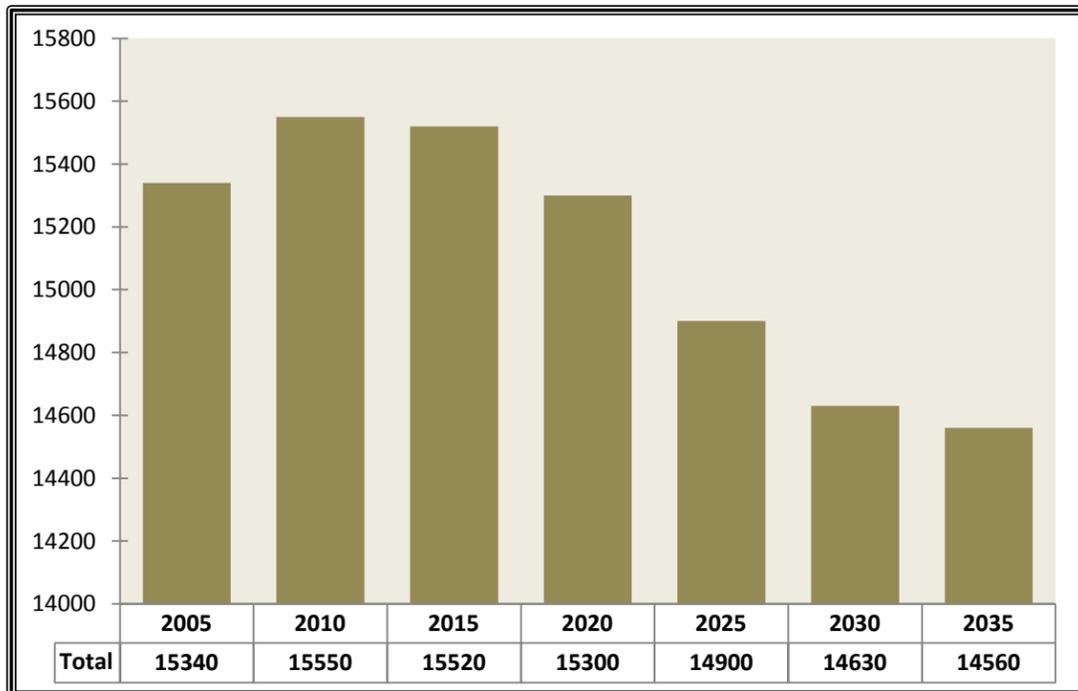
Data Source: MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (MN DEED),

COUNTY'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

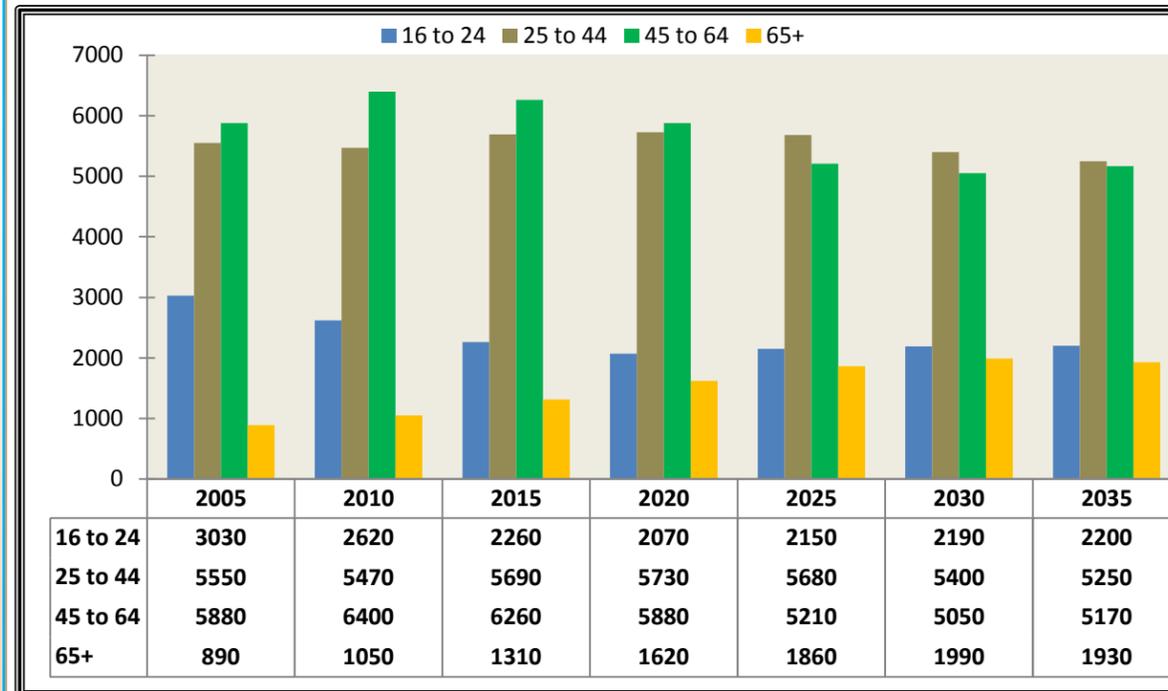
- ❖ As earlier indicated at population section, the county's labor force population in 2020 is expected to decrease due to the significant decreases projected for the 20-24; 25-29; 45-49; and 50-55 age cohorts.
- ❖ The rate of unemployment has typically been higher than that of the region and state until 2009. In 2012, while the unemployment rate in the region and State is seen to be decreasing, that of Brown County is increasing.
- ❖ There is a similarity between the trend in the per capita income of the County and State since 2009. Per capita income for both County and State decreased in 2009 and have since then been increasing.
- ❖ Despite the similarity in trends, an individual earns about 12% less annually of what is averagely earned by a person statewide (using the 2011 per capita income statistics).

COUNTY'S LABOR FORCE OUTLOOK (2005-2035)



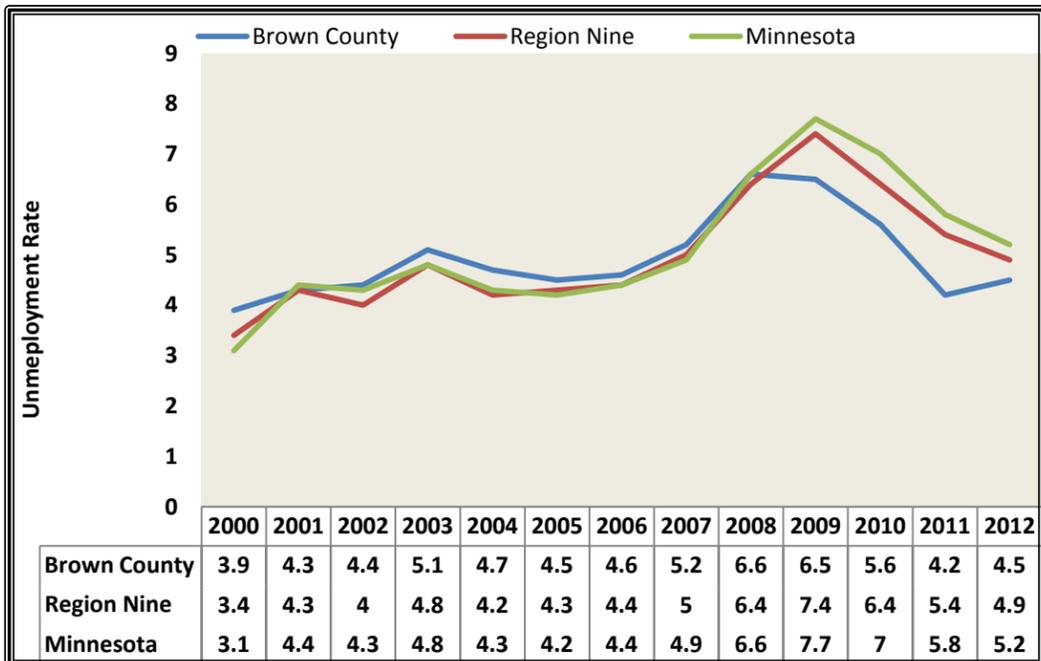
Data Source: MN DEED), 2012

COUNTY'S LABOR FORCE OUTLOOK BY AGE COHORTS (2005-2035)



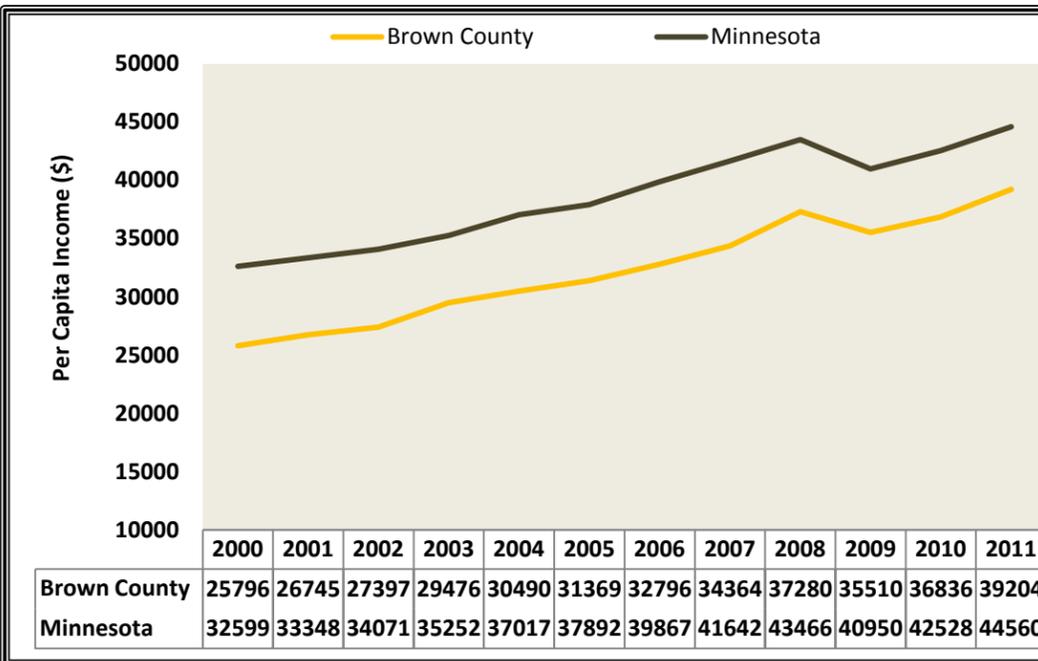
Data Source: MN DEED), 2012

COMPARING UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR BROWN COUNTY, REGION NINE AND STATE (2000 – 2012)



Data Source: MN DEED), 2012

TREND IN COUNTY'S PER CAPITA INCOME (2000-2011)

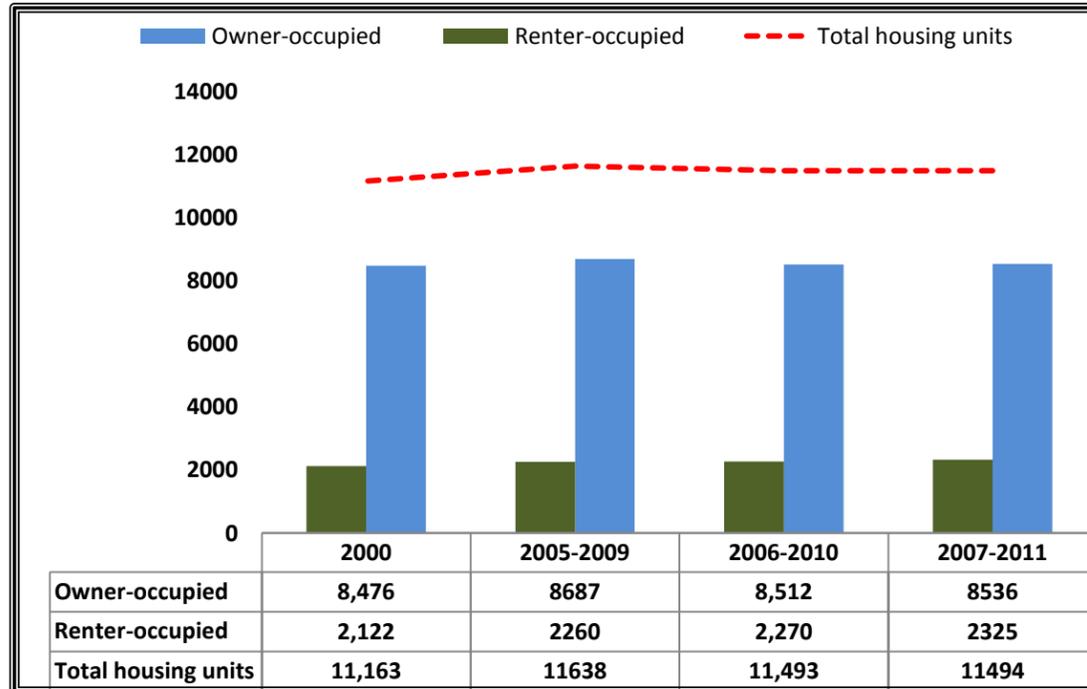


Data Source: US Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2012

COST OF LIVING

COUNTY'S HOUSING PROFILE

HOUSING UNITS: TOTAL, OWNER AND RENTER UNITS (2000-2011)

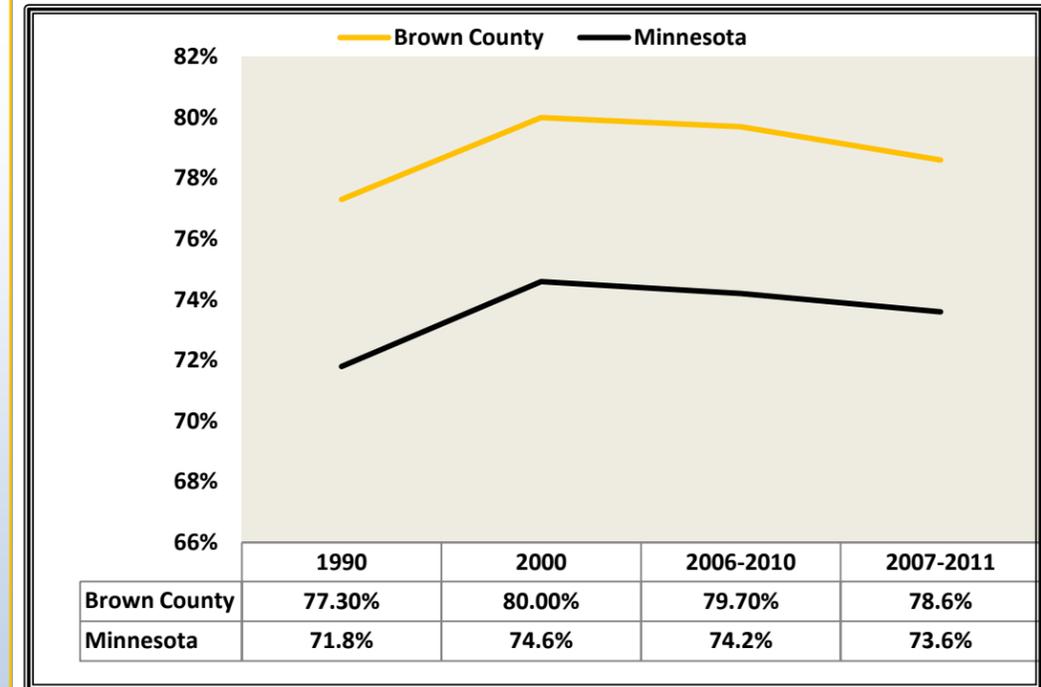


Data Source: MN State Demographic Center, 2012

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Housing units in this county have not increased significantly. In fact, owner-occupied housing units have decreased since 2006 –with a decrease of 1.1 per cent and 0.01 per cent in ownership and vacancy rates respectively sin 2011. Despite such decreases, homeownership rate in the county has been significantly higher than that of the State since 1990.
- ❖ Interest now seems to be in renter-occupied housing units since it has recorded very significant increases since 2000. The vacancy rate for this housing type has decreased significantly from 8.9 per cent in 2006-2009 to 4 per cent in 2007-2011.
- ❖ Annually, rent cost per household represents 35 per cent of the total housing cost paid by a homeowner.

TREND IN COUNTY'S HOMEOWNERSHIP RATE



Data Source: Compiled from Decennial Census and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

OTHER HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS (2000-2011)

Characteristics	2000	2005-2009	2006-2010	2007-2011
Occupied housing units	10,598	10,947	10,782	10,861
Vacant housing units	565	691	711	633
Population in owner-occupied housing units	21,798	20,310	20,714	20,395
Population in renter-occupied housing units	3,952	4,054	4,068	4,317
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)	1.2	-	1.2	1.3
Rental vacancy rate (percent)	8.3	-	8.9	4
Average household size of owner-occupied units	2.57	2.34	2.43	2.39
Average household size of renter-occupied units	1.86	1.79	1.79	1.86

Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2012

HOUSING EXPENDITURE FOR BROWN COUNTY (2012)

	\$ PER HOUSEHOLD	TOTAL \$000'S
Mortgage Interest	\$3,652	\$39,317
Property Taxes	\$1,616	\$17,403
Miscellaneous Owned Dwelling Costs	\$1,257	\$13,537
Rental Costs	\$2,283	\$24,578
Other Lodging	\$507	\$5,462

Data Source: MN DEED, 2012(mnprospector.com)