Community Basics Indicators

INDICATOR	PAGE NUMBER

These Indicators are not listed in any specific order.

Drug Arrests   Indicator 1

BACKGROUND

In June of 1971, President Richard Nixon declared a "war on drugs." By doing so, he substantially increased the scope and presence of federal drug control agencies, and pressed through measures such as mandatory sentencing and no-knock warrants. By the 1980s and 90s, rates of incarceration had skyrocketed from 50,000 in 1980 to over 400,000 by 1997[1]. A 2012 report by the Federal Bureau for Investigation (FBI) states that drug offenses remain the single most common cause of arrest[2]. Of the 12.2 million estimated arrests, 1.55 million were for drug abuse violations. 82% of these violations were for possession, 42.4% of which were specifically for marijuana possession[2].

Impact of Drug Arrests on Our Community

Drug use, abuse, and addiction have implications on the individual as well as the community in which they live. Drug abuse negatively impacts the health of the individual, public safety, family structure (approximately 2.7 million children have a parent behind bars[3]), educational attainment, and may lead to loss of employment. There are also significant financial costs related drug arrests. For instance, the average federal prison sentence for a drug offender is almost 6 years, and it costs almost $29,000 to keep one person in federal prison for one year[5]. One drug arrest costs approximately $174,000 in incarceration costs alone.

Prescription drug abuse, or the use of medication without a prescription, is also a concern in our community. The most frequently misused medications are opioid painkillers (e.g., OxyContin, Vicodin); central nervous system (CNS) depressants used for anxiety and sleep disorders (e.g., Valium, Ativan); and stimulants that treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and narcolepsy[4]. There are many motivations for using non-prescribed medications; however, the potential consequences are the same. Possible health consequences of opioid abuse include choking, changes in mood, decreased cognitive function, interruptions in menstrual cycle, infertility, slowed breathing, coma, or event death. CNS depressants can cause memory problems and lead to seizures. Using stimulants can trigger paranoia, increased body temperature, can cause abnormal heartbeat, and possibly fatal seizures. In addition to health consequences, unintentional injury, automobile accidents, poor academic performance, and legal trouble can occur[4].

Overall, 77.2% of the COMPASS NOW 2015 Random Household Survey respondents rated the overall quality of law enforcement in their community as "good" or "excellent." However, the COMPASS NOW 2015 Convenience Survey respondents rated law enforcement slightly lower at 70.7%.
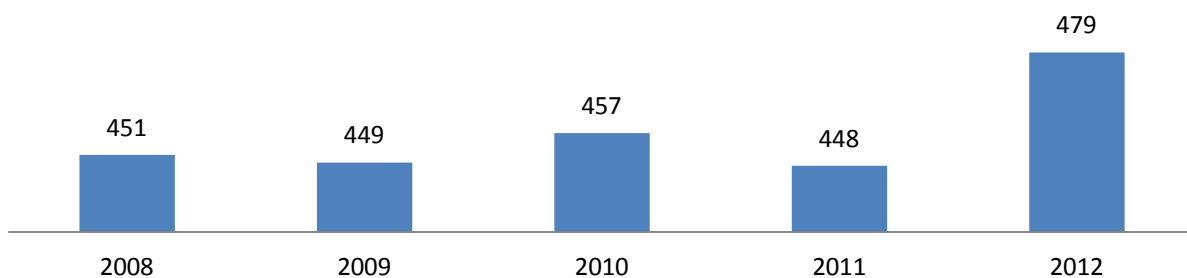
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10.2% of the overall pool of respondents rated the safety of their neighborhood as "fair" or "poor." Both of these statistics are similar to the responses gathered in the COMPASS NOW 2011 Random Household Survey. Conversely, 17.7% of the COMPASS NOW 2015 Convenience Survey respondents rated the safety of their neighborhoods as "fair" or "poor."

Wisconsin Drug Arrests

Drug arrests include arrests for the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of opium or cocaine and their derivatives (such as morphine, heroin, and codeine), marijuana, synthetic narcotics or manufactured narcotics (such as methamphetamine, Demerol, and methadone), or other dangerous non-narcotic drugs (such as barbiturates, Benzedrine). It is important to note that synthetic/manufactured narcotics are equally as addictive as non-synthetic narcotics and can also result in true drug addiction.

The primary source of national information on arrests in the United States comes from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR program is a voluntary data collection program which obtains information on offenses known to law enforcement and arrests from over 18,000 law enforcement agencies annually. According to UCR, the total Wisconsin drug arrests made up 8% of all arrests in 2012. Total arrests for drug crimes increased 7.3% to 27,345 arrests. There were 479 drug arrests per 100,000 residents, with 86% of drug arrests being persons aged 18 and up[2]. The increasing number of drug arrests may be related to increased funding for law enforcement.

Number of Drug Arrests in Wisconsin per 100,000 Population

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
451	449	457	448	479

Sources: *Uniform Crime Report: Arrests in Wisconsin, 2012* Report, https://wilenet.org/html/justice-programs/programs/justice-stats/library/crime-and-arrest/2012-arrests-in-wisconsin.pdf

Arrests for possession made up 83% of drug arrests, while arrests for marijuana possession specifically made up 56% of all drug arrests, which is higher than the national average. Arrests for possession of other dangerous drugs and sales of synthetic narcotics saw the largest percent increase in 2012[2].

In 2012, 80% of individuals arrested for drug-related crimes in the state of Wisconsin were male. In total, 21,986 males were arrested for drug-related crimes, compared to 5,359 females[2]. It is important to note that the Wisconsin Department of Justice has gotten away from measuring arrest rates by race, because these rates are often impacted by repeat offenders which can impact how the demographics appear, particularly in smaller jurisdictions.
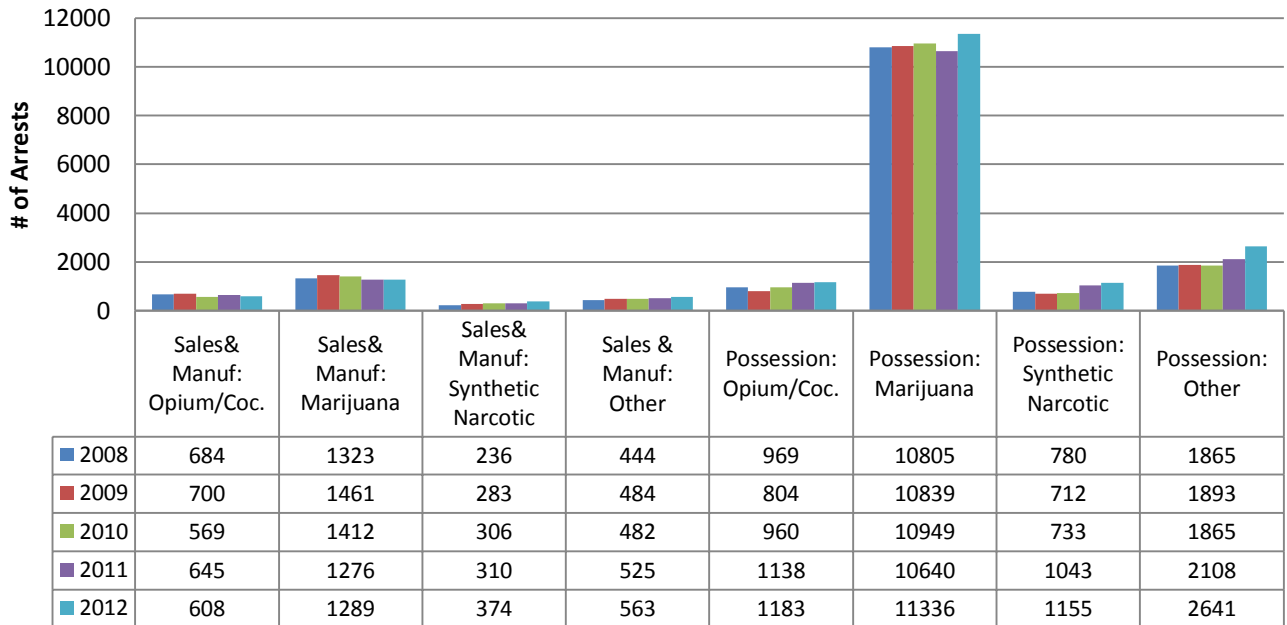
Number of Wisconsin Adult Drug Arrest Rates by Sex and Offense										
	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Sales: Synthetic Narcotic	237	82	241	110	248	131	280	112	237	82
Sales: Other Drug	568	153	525	168	457	189	502	178	568	153
Sales: Opium/Cocaine	1,852	332	1,449	283	1,148	252	1,111	252	1,852	332
Sales: Marijuana	2,072	269	2,119	333	2,100	297	1,900	263	2,072	269
Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	629	295	579	271	615	270	857	362	629	295
Possession: Other Drug	1,598	608	1,617	595	1,537	652	1,814	685	1,598	605
Possession: Opium/Cocaine	1,215	327	1,258	244	1,400	333	1,448	393	1,215	327
Possession: Marijuana	12,601	2,479	12,914	2,553	13,514	2,597	12,838	2,495	12,601	2,479
Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice										

The table below shows Wisconsin adult drug arrest rates by race for years 2008 through 2012. It is important to note that although white citizens consistently have higher numbers of drug arrests than any other race group, this may not be proportionate to the total population. For example, the U.S. Census estimated that the white population in Wisconsin in 2010 was approximately 86.2% of the total population. However, during that same year, only 67% of the total drug arrest rates were from the white population. Moreover, in 2010, it was estimated that African Americans represented 6.3% of the total Wisconsin population. Nonetheless, they were over 30% of all drug arrests.

Adult Drug Arrests by Race, Wisconsin, 2008-2012					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
White	17,106	17,176	17,276	17,685	19,149
Black	7,434	7,329	7,775	7,010	7,332
American Indian	587	561	538	546	590
Asian	187	193	181	249	273
Total Number of Arrests	25,314	25,259	25,750	25,490	27,344
Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice					

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The following four charts show the total number of drug arrests by race in the state of Wisconsin from 2008 through 2012. Possession of marijuana is responsible for the majority of drug arrests among all racial groups. The number of arrests for the sales and manufacturing of synthetic narcotics is responsible for the lowest number of drug arrests among the white demographic. The number of drug arrests for the possession of other drugs has risen by 41%, going from 1,865 arrests in 2008 to 2,641 arrests in 2012.
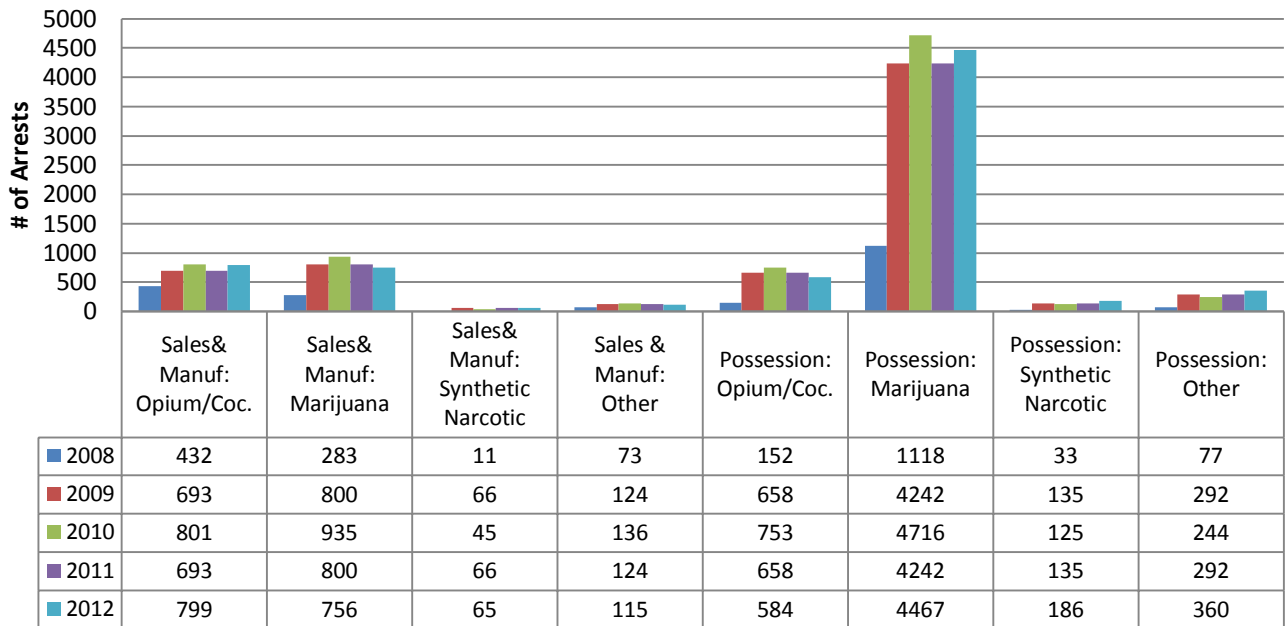
Number of Total Drug Arrests by Race, White: Wisconsin

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	684	1323	236	444	969	10805	780	1865
2009	700	1461	283	484	804	10839	712	1893
2010	569	1412	306	482	960	10949	733	1865
2011	645	1276	310	525	1138	10640	1043	2108
2012	608	1289	374	563	1183	11336	1155	2641

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

The chart on the next page shows the number of total drug arrests among the black demographic in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. Similarly to the arrested white population, sales and manufacturing of synthetic narcotics make up the smallest number of arrests, whereas the possession of marijuana is responsible for the majority of drug arrests. There has been a dramatic increase in drug arrests for the possession of other drugs among the black community. In 2008, there were 77 arrests for possession of other drugs. By 2012, there were 360 arrests for the same charge, an increase of approximately 367%.
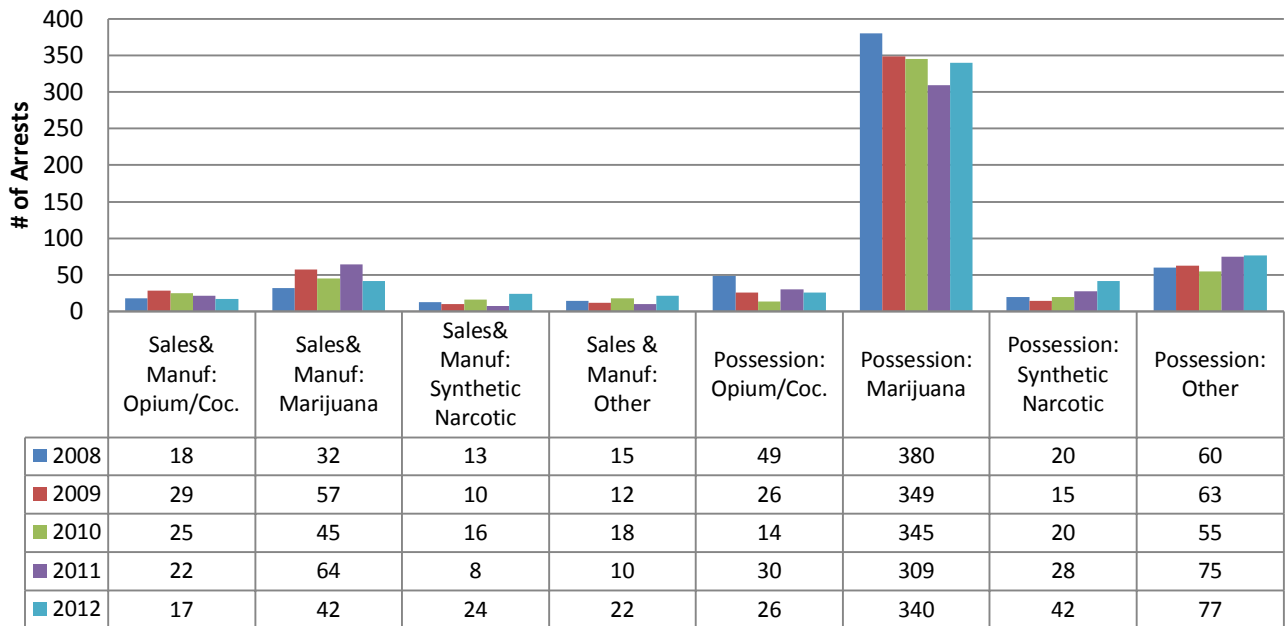
Number of Total Drug Arrests by Race,
Black: Wisconsin

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	432	283	11	73	152	1118	33	77
2009	693	800	66	124	658	4242	135	292
2010	801	935	45	136	753	4716	125	244
2011	693	800	66	124	658	4242	135	292
2012	799	756	65	115	584	4467	186	360

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

The chart on the next page shows the number of total drug arrests among the American Indian demographic in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. Among this population, the sales and manufacturing of synthetic narcotics, opium/cocaine, and other drugs are responsible for approximately 10% of all drug arrests. In 2012, the number of arrests for possession of a synthetic narcotic among American Indians doubled (increasing from 20 arrests in 2008 to 42 arrests in 2012.
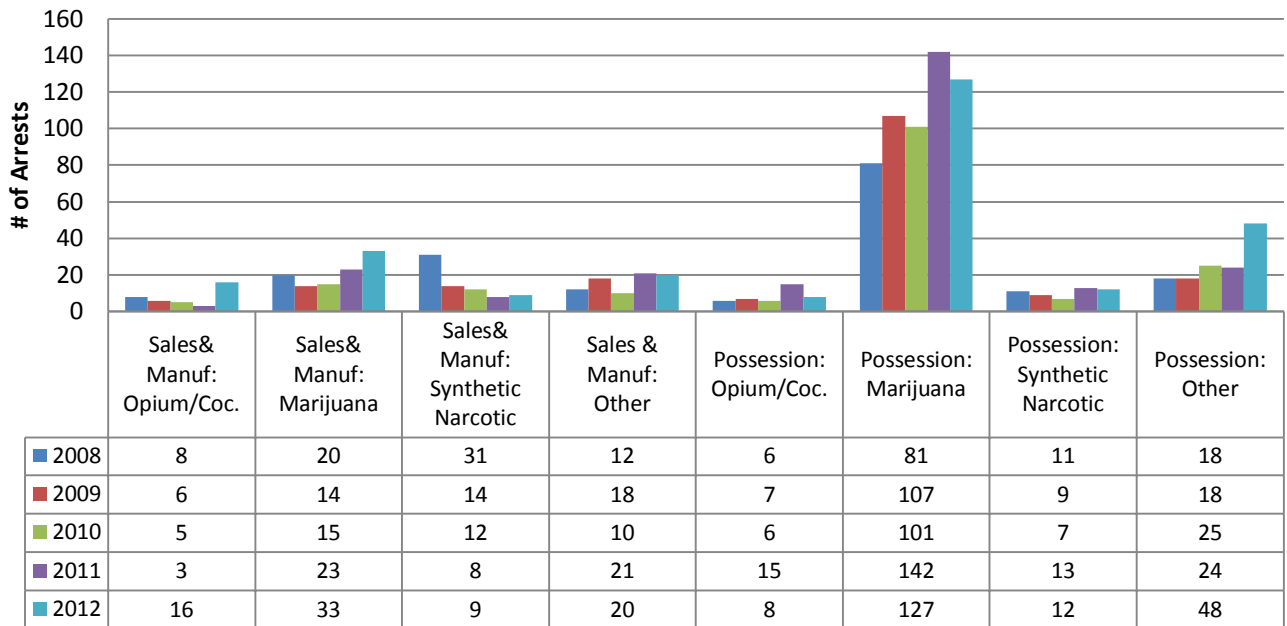
Number of Total Drug Arrests by Race, American Indian: Wisconsin

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	18	32	13	15	49	380	20	60
2009	29	57	10	12	26	349	15	63
2010	25	45	16	18	14	345	20	55
2011	22	64	8	10	30	309	28	75
2012	17	42	24	22	26	340	42	77

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

The chart on the next page shows the number of total drug arrests among the Asian demographic in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. Among this population, the lowest number of arrests comes from the sales and manufacturing and possession of opium/cocaine. There appears to be an increasing trend in drug arrests for the sales and manufacturing of marijuana, increasing by approximately 40% since 2008.

Number of Total Drug Arrests by Race, Asian: Wisconsin

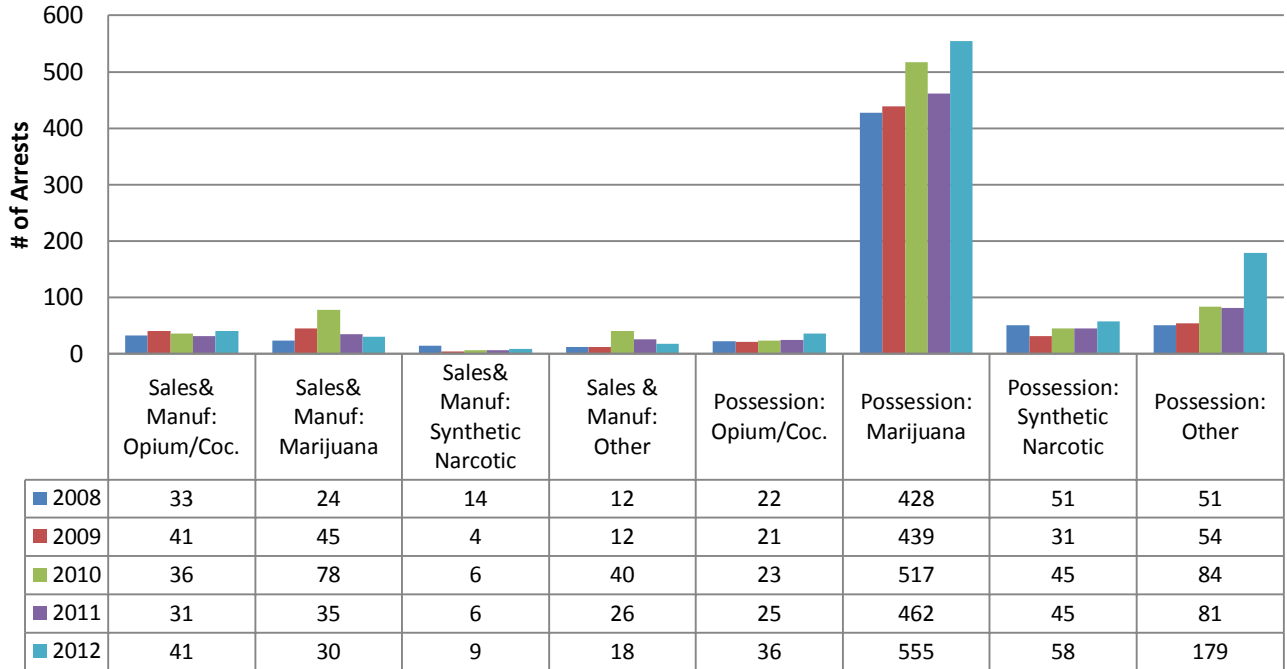|	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	8	20	31	12	6	81	11	18
2009	6	14	14	18	7	107	9	18
2010	5	15	12	10	6	101	7	25
2011	3	23	8	21	15	142	13	24
2012	16	33	9	20	8	127	12	48

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

The next set of charts show total number of drug arrests in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012 by county. La Crosse County follows the state trend of having the majority of drug arrests due to the possession of marijuana and this number seems to be rising. The number of arrests for the possession of other drugs has increased over this five-year period. In 2008, there was a total of 51 drug arrests for this charge. In 2012, this number had increased by over three times to 179 arrests.
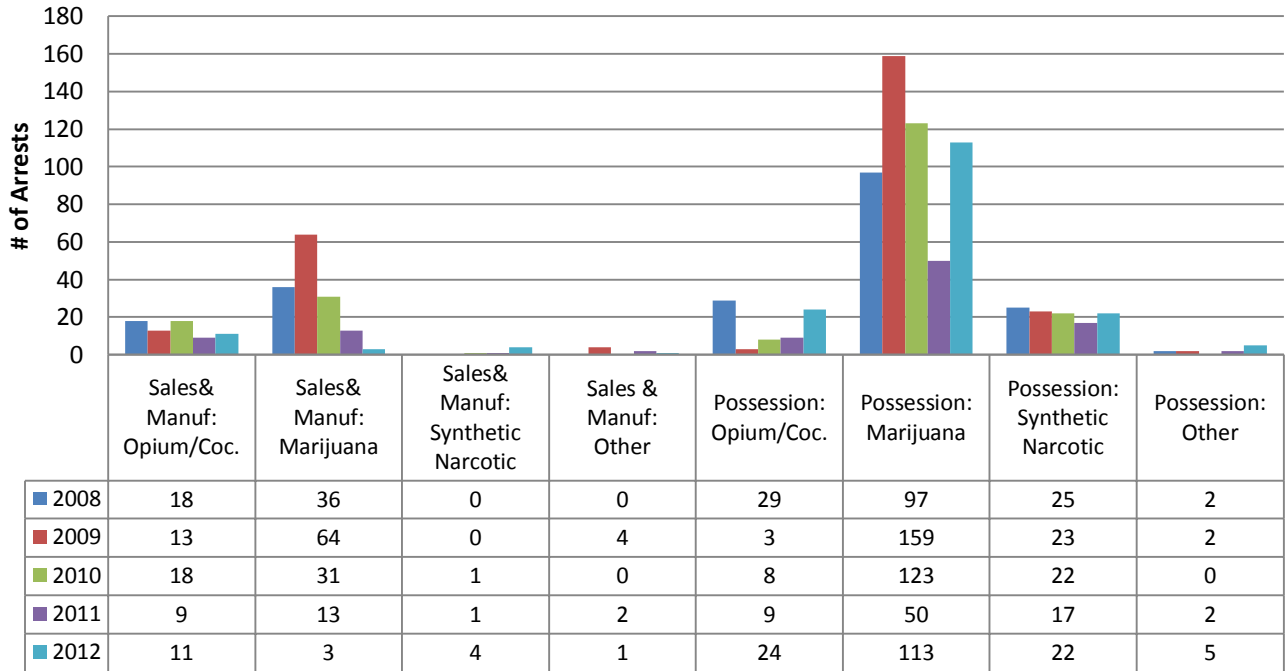
Number of Total Drug Arrests: La Crosse County

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	33	24	14	12	22	428	51	51
2009	41	45	4	12	21	439	31	54
2010	36	78	6	40	23	517	45	84
2011	31	35	6	26	25	462	45	81
2012	41	30	9	18	36	555	58	179

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

Monroe County also shows similar trends to Wisconsin in that the majority of drug arrests are due to the possession of marijuana. The number of arrests for the possession of other drugs has increased over this five-year period. Arrests related to the sales and manufacturing of marijuana have dramatically decreased since 2008, going from 36 arrests to only three in 2012.
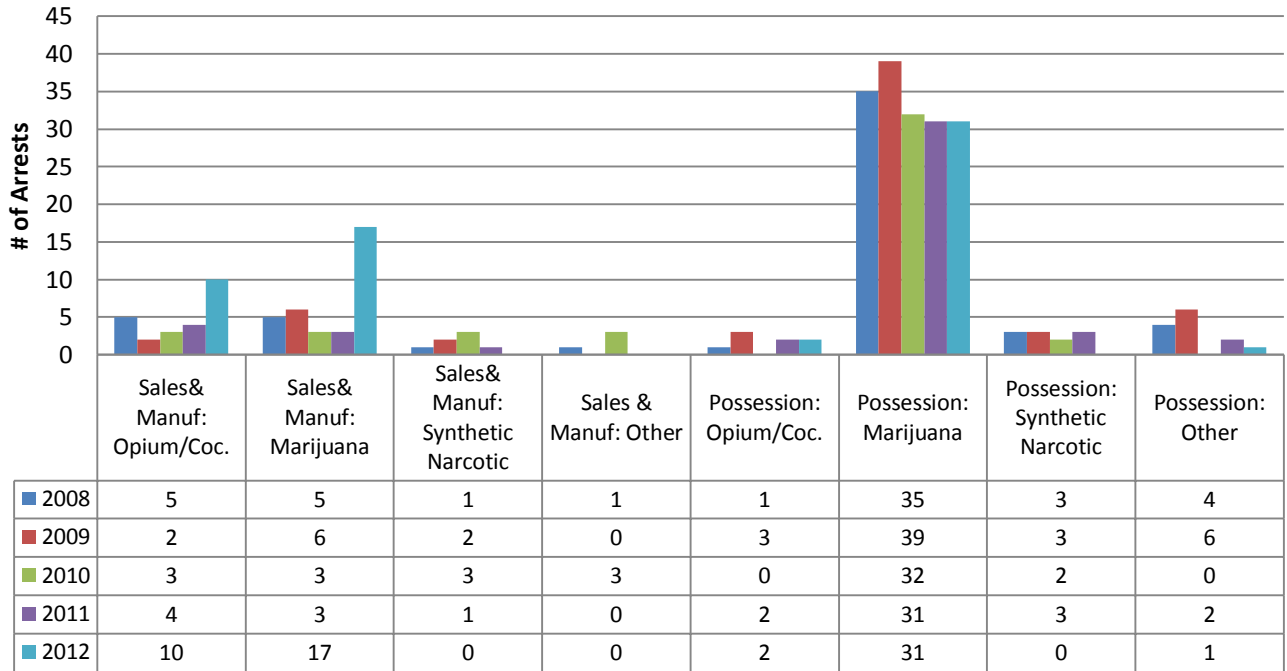
Number of Total Drug Arrests: Monroe County

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	18	36	0	0	29	97	25	2
2009	13	64	0	4	3	159	23	2
2010	18	31	1	0	8	123	22	0
2011	9	13	1	2	9	50	17	2
2012	11	3	4	1	24	113	22	5

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

Trempealeau County also mimics the state trend of having the majority of drug arrests due to the possession of marijuana. The number of arrests for the sales and manufacturing of marijuana have dramatically increased over this five-year period. In 2008, there were a total of 5 drug arrests for this charge. In 2012, this number had increased by over 300% to 17 arrests.
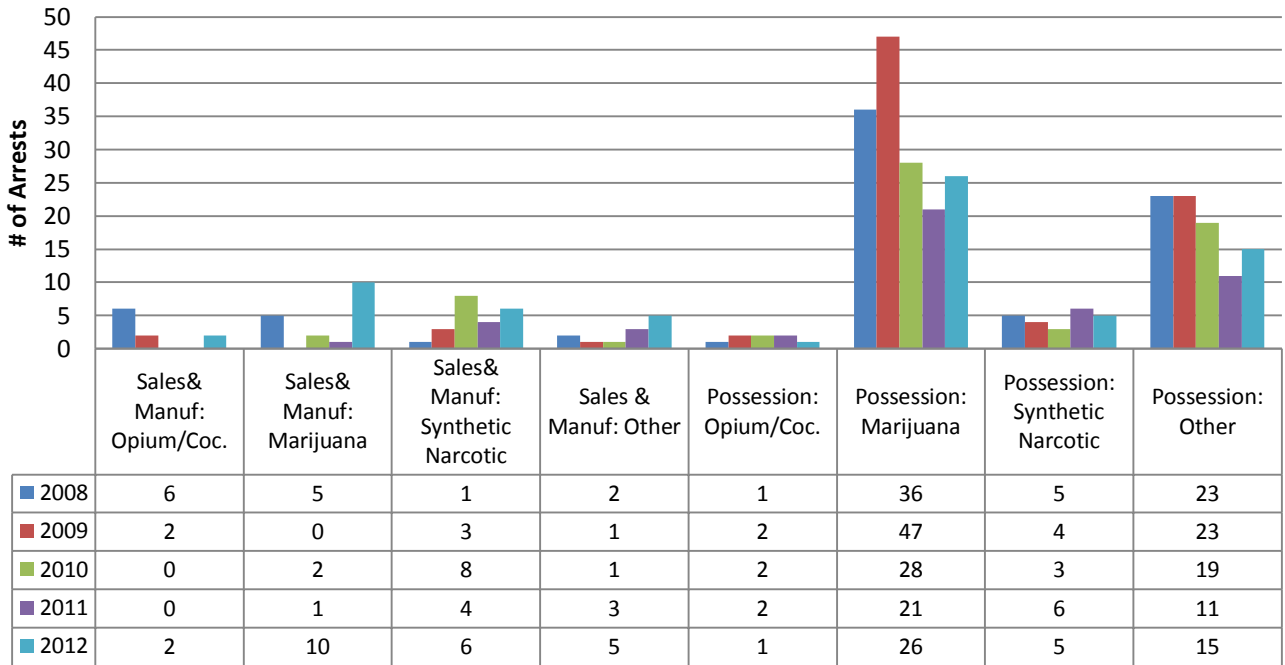
Number of Total Drug Arrests: Trempealeau County

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	5	5	1	1	1	35	3	4
2009	2	6	2	0	3	39	3	6
2010	3	3	3	3	0	32	2	0
2011	4	3	1	0	2	31	3	2
2012	10	17	0	0	2	31	0	1

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

Vernon County follows the state trend of having the majority of drug arrests due to the possession of marijuana, although this trend seems to be decreasing. The number of arrests for the sales and manufacturing of opium/cocaine has decreased threefold since 2008 going from six arrests to two in 2012.

Number of Total Drug Arrests: Vernon County

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2008	6	5	1	2	1	36	5	23
2009	2	0	3	1	2	47	4	23
2010	0	2	8	1	2	28	3	19
2011	0	1	4	3	2	21	6	11
2012	2	10	6	5	1	26	5	15

Source: *Arrests in Wisconsin* Report (2008-2012), Wisconsin Statistical Analysis Center, Crime Information Bureau, Department of Justice

Minnesota Drug Arrest Rates

According to the *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety Uniform Crime Report*, in 2013, the state of Minnesota had a total of 160,797 total drug arrests. Of these, 19,190 were narcotic arrest incidents. In total, 15,223 males and 3,967 females were arrested. Persons aged 25-29 comprised the greatest portion (7%) of the narcotics arrests (1.418). Persons aged 30-34 were the next highest with 2,195 arrests. Race information reveals that 73% of the narcotics arrests were for persons of the white race. See figure on next page for more details.
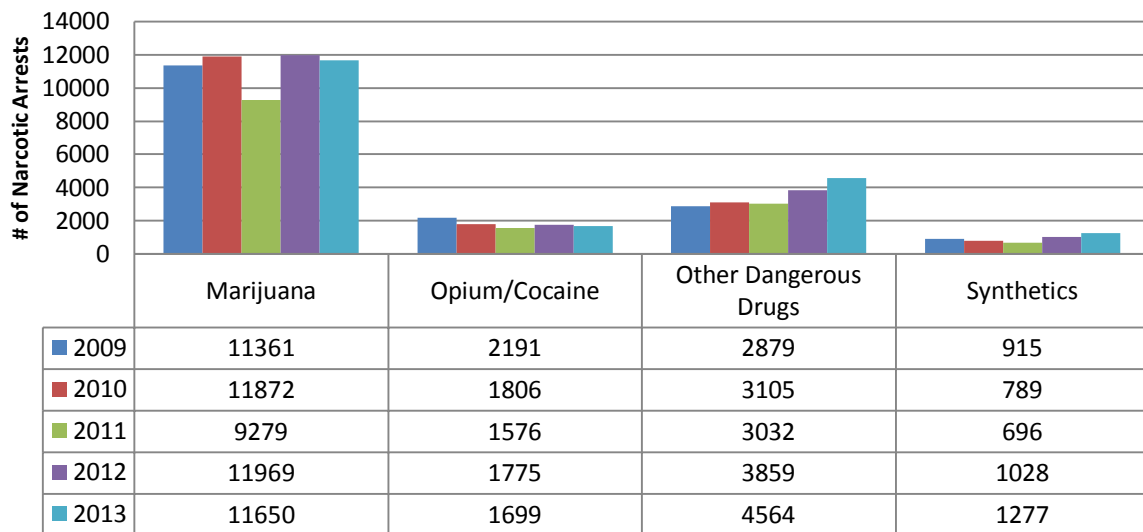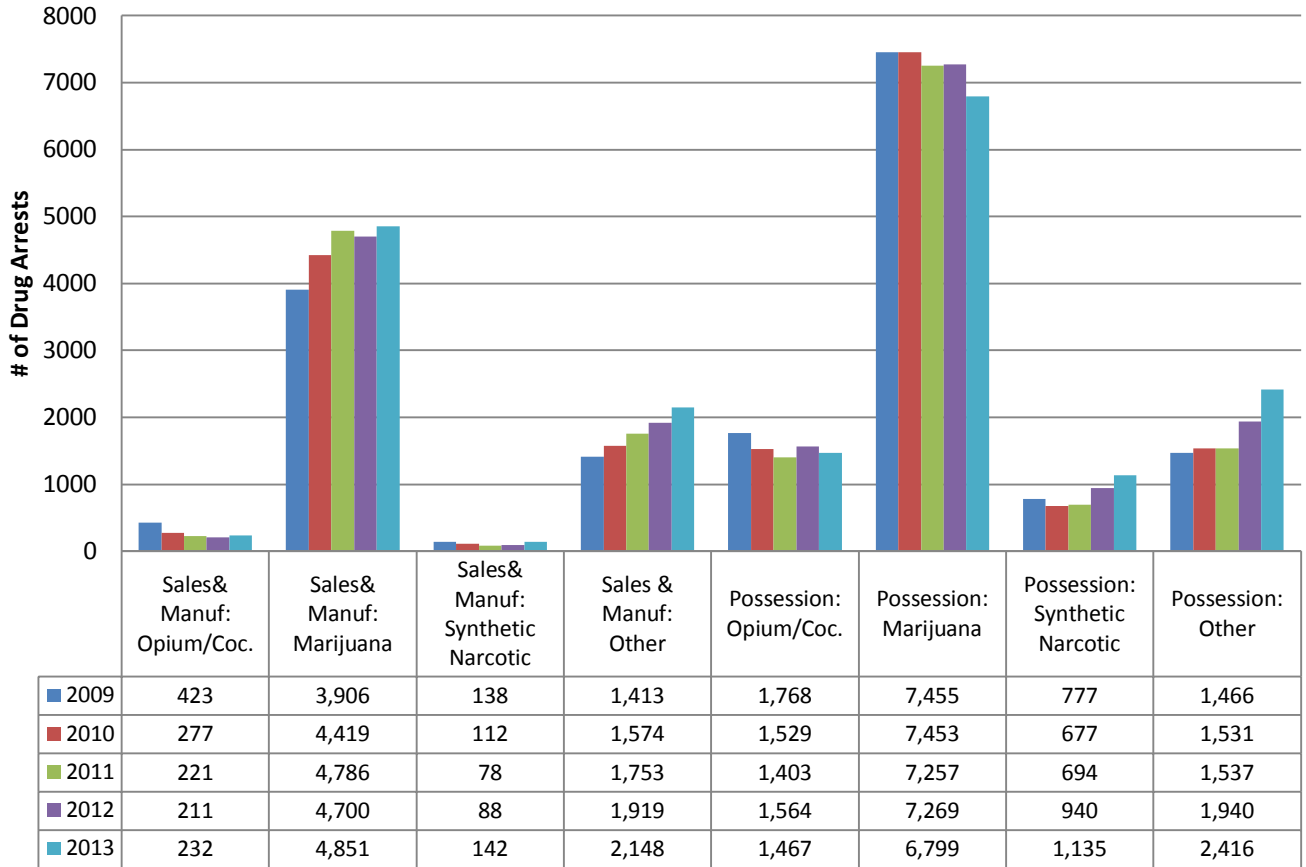
Number of Narcotics Arrests: Minnesota
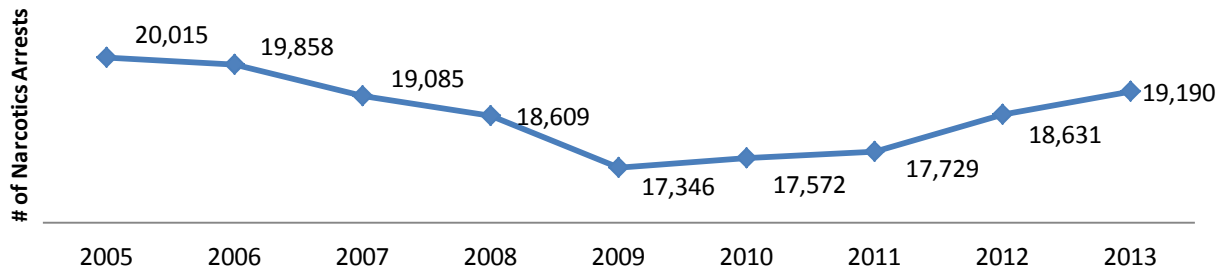
Sources: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Report for the years 2009 to 2013,*
https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/mnjis/Pages/uniform-crime-reports.aspx

Individuals arrested for the possession and/or sale and manufacture of marijuana made up the majority of narcotic arrests in Minnesota in 2013. Out of the 19,190 narcotic arrests, 11,650 of these were for marijuana. This represents approximately 60.7% of total narcotic arrests. The majority of these arrests were for possession of marijuana. It is important to note that these numbers represent the total number of actual arrests; they do not take into account narcotic arrests that were unfounded, which are complaints determined by subsequent investigation to be unfounded and are eliminated from the court.

Number of Narcotic Arrests by Type: Minnesota

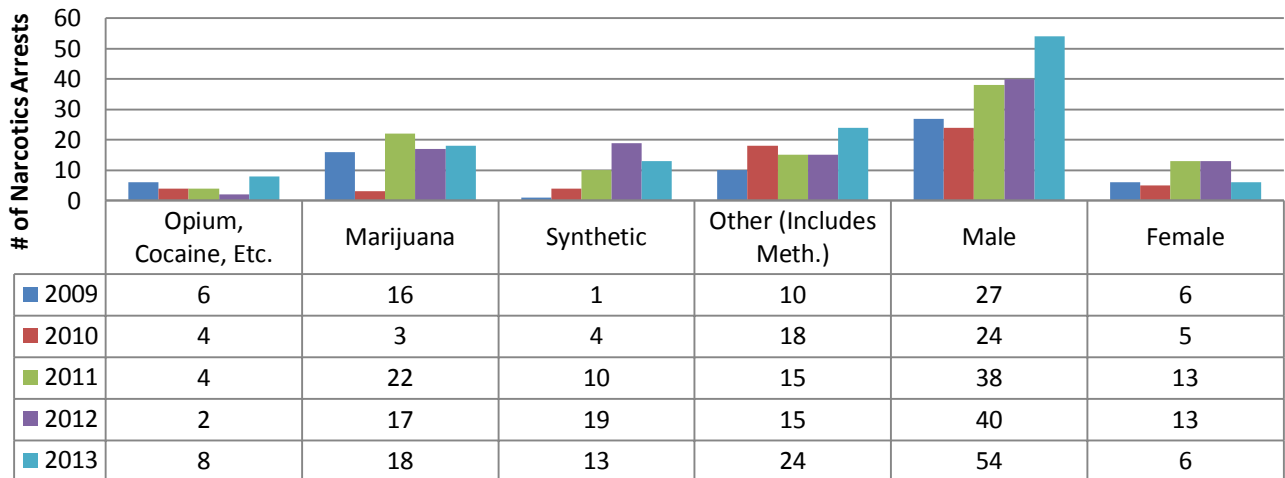|	Marijuana	Opium/Cocaine	Other Dangerous Drugs	Synthetics
2009	11361	2191	2879	915
2010	11872	1806	3105	789
2011	9279	1576	3032	696
2012	11969	1775	3859	1028
2013	11650	1699	4564	1277

Sources: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Report for the years 2009 to 2013,*
https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/mnjis/Pages/uniform-crime-reports.aspx

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As in Wisconsin, the majority of adult drug arrests in Minnesota are for the possession of marijuana. Between 2008 and 2012, there was a 68% increase in the number of arrests for possession of narcotics. The chart below shows trends for this other drug arrest charges.

Adult Drug Arrests for Sale and Possession of Narcotics: Minnesota

	Sales& Manuf: Opium/Coc.	Sales& Manuf: Marijuana	Sales& Manuf: Synthetic Narcotic	Sales & Manuf: Other	Possession: Opium/Coc.	Possession: Marijuana	Possession: Synthetic Narcotic	Possession: Other
2009	423	3,906	138	1,413	1,768	7,455	777	1,466
2010	277	4,419	112	1,574	1,529	7,453	677	1,531
2011	221	4,786	78	1,753	1,403	7,257	694	1,537
2012	211	4,700	88	1,919	1,564	7,269	940	1,940
2013	232	4,851	142	2,148	1,467	6,799	1,135	2,416

Sources: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Report for the years 2009 to 2013,* https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/mnjis/Pages/uniform-crime-reports.aspx

Age may play a role in the type of narcotic violation an individual is arrested for. For the majority of age groups, marijuana is largely the narcotic of choice. However, individuals 35-54 years old are more likely use "other narcotics (including Methamphetamine)." See table below for specific numbers. In total, 2,718 individuals under the age of 18 were arrested. Previous Minnesota Uniform Crime Reports, which contain age-specific narcotic violations among other topics, can be found at the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension website or through accessing this link, *https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/mnjis/Pages/uniform-crime-reports.aspx.*

Age of Individuals Arrested for Specific Narcotic Violations: Minnesota, 2013					
Age	Total	Opium, Cocaine, Etc.	Marijuana	Synthetic	Other (Includes Methamphetamine)
Under 10	4	0	3	0	1
10-12	58	0	55	1	2
13-14	350	7	312	10	21
15	514	5	458	11	40
16	739	6	372	9	52
17	1,053	9	942	19	83
Total Under 18	2,718	27	2,442	50	199
18	1,418	46	1,210	52	110
19	1,364	66	1,088	51	159
20	1,248	65	944	42	197
21	1,054	66	755	47	186
22	906	76	578	56	206
23	837	83	515	49	190
24	742	74	422	51	195
25-29	3,052	339	1,535	242	936
30-34	2,195	239	903	232	821
35-39	1,247	179	437	122	509
40-44	884	145	307	98	334
45-49	667	110	210	89	258
50-54	510	106	169	62	173
55-59	225	51	79	27	68
60-64	67	18	35	4	10
65 and Over	46	9	21	3	13
Total 18 and Over	16,472	1,672	9,208	1,227	4,365
TOTAL	19,190	1,699	11,650	1,277	4,564
Source: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report*					

The graph below provides narcotics arrest information specific to Houston County. Males make up the majority of all narcotic arrests. As with state trends, marijuana-related arrests made up the majority of all drug arrests. However, in both 2010 and 2012 drug arrests related to other drugs (including Methamphetamines) were responsible for more drug arrests than marijuana.

Total Narcotics Arrests by Type and Gender: Houston County

	Opium, Cocaine, Etc.	Marijuana	Synthetic	Other (Includes Meth.)	Male	Female
2009	6	16	1	10	27	6
2010	4	3	4	18	24	5
2011	4	22	10	15	38	13
2012	2	17	19	15	40	13
2013	8	18	13	24	54	6

Sources: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Report for the years 2009 to 2013,* https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/mnjis/Pages/uniform-crime-reports.aspx

Race is another important demographic to consider when reviewing arrest rates. For example, the White population in Minnesota in 2013 made up approximately 85.6% of the total population. However, it appears that only 73% of the total narcotic arrests were White individuals. Furthermore, 5.7% of the total population in Minnesota in 2013 was African American, yet, the African American population made up 21% of total narcotic arrests. Additionally, the American Indian/Alaskan Native population made up 1.3% of the total population in Minnesota in 2013, but, comprised 3% of the narcotic arrests that same year. For information from previous years, visit the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension website at *https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/mnjis/Pages/uniform-crime-reports.aspx*.

Race of Individuals Arrested for Specific Narcotics Violations: Minnesota, 2013					
RACE	Total Number of Arrests	Percent of Narcotic Arrests	Percent of State Population	Juvenile	Adult
Total	19,190	100%	97.8%	2,718	16,472
White	14,057	73%	86.2%	2,132	11,925
African American	4,009	21%	5.7%	439	3,570
American Indian/Alaskan Native	588	3%	1.3%	73	515
Asian/Pacific Islander	536	3%	4.6%	74	462
Source: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report,* U.S. Census Bureau					

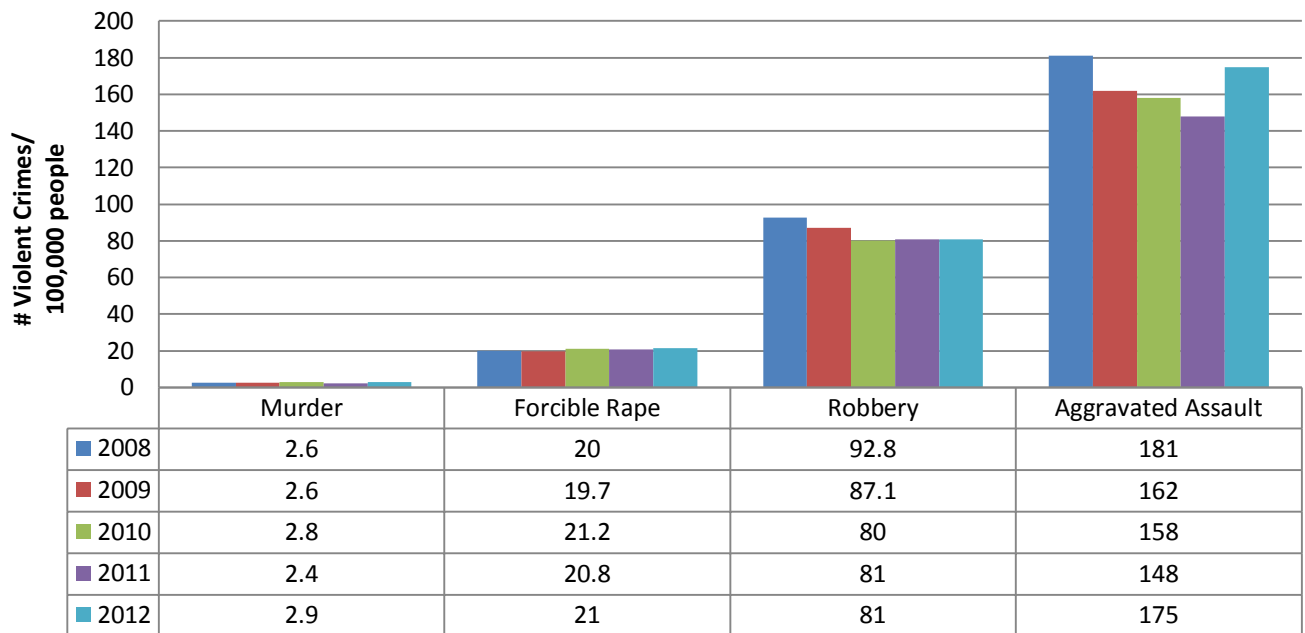Revised on 10/14/2015

BACKGROUND

The FBI defines violent crimes as those offenses which involve force or threat of force. In the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Wisconsin Violent Crime Rates

According to the *Crime in Wisconsin* report published by the Wisconsin Department of Justice Statistical Analysis Center, there were 14,355 violent crimes reported in 2011 and 15,969 crimes reported in 2012, for an overall 11.2% increase[1]. The largest increase was the murder rate. In 2011 there were 139 murders and in 2012 there were 166 murders, for an overall 19.4% increase[1]. Almost half of the increase in murders can be attributed to three multiple homicides: the Oak Creek Sikh Temple shooting in which six people were killed in August 2012, an arson homicide in which three children were killed in September, and the Azeda Salon and Spa shooting in Brookfield in which three people were killed in October 2012. Aggravated assaults made up 62% of violent crimes in Wisconsin in 2012.

The chart below shows the number of violent crimes reported per 100,000 population in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. The majority of violent crimes were related to aggravated assault, and this trend was consistent throughout this five-year time period.

Violent Crimes Reported per 100,000 Population: Wisconsin

	Murder	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault
2008	2.6	20	92.8	181
2009	2.6	19.7	87.1	162
2010	2.8	21.2	80	158
2011	2.4	20.8	81	148
2012	2.9	21	81	175

Source: *Crime in Wisconsin* Reports from 2008 through 2012.

Revised on 10/14/2015

Minnesota Violent Crimes Rates

According to the *Minnesota Crime Information-2013* Report, there were 143,566 crime offenses during 2013, which was a 3.2% decrease in overall rates of Part 1 crimes (homicide, sexual assault, aggravated assault, and robbery) from the 148,330 offenses that occurred in 2012. Violent crimes in Minnesota accounted for 9% of all crime index offenses report in 2013. There were 12,469 murders, forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults for the year, a 1.2% increase over the 12,323 total violent crimes reported for 2012. There were 111 in 2013 in Minnesota compared to 92 in 2012, an increase of 21%. 58% of the victims in these cases knew the offender, 15% of victims were killed by a stranger, and in 26% of these cases the relationship between the victim and offender was unknown. In the majority of cases, 47%, the weapon used to commit the homicide was a handgun.

It is important to note that participation by law enforcement agencies in the UCR program is voluntary. Sub-state data do not necessarily represent an exhaustive list of crimes due to gaps in reporting. Also, data for forcible rape was not consistently reported by city and county agencies in the state of Minnesota. Lastly, some institutions of higher education have their own police departments, which handle offenses occurring on campus. These offenses are not included in the violent crime statistics, but can be obtained from the UCR universities and colleges data tables.

The chart below shows the number of violent crimes reported in Minnesota between 2009 and 2013. As is true with Wisconsin, aggravated assaults were reported most often. It is important to note that the number of crimes reported in Minnesota has gone up substantially. In 2009, there were 69 murders. In 2013, there were 111 murders, nearly double what was reported five years earlier.
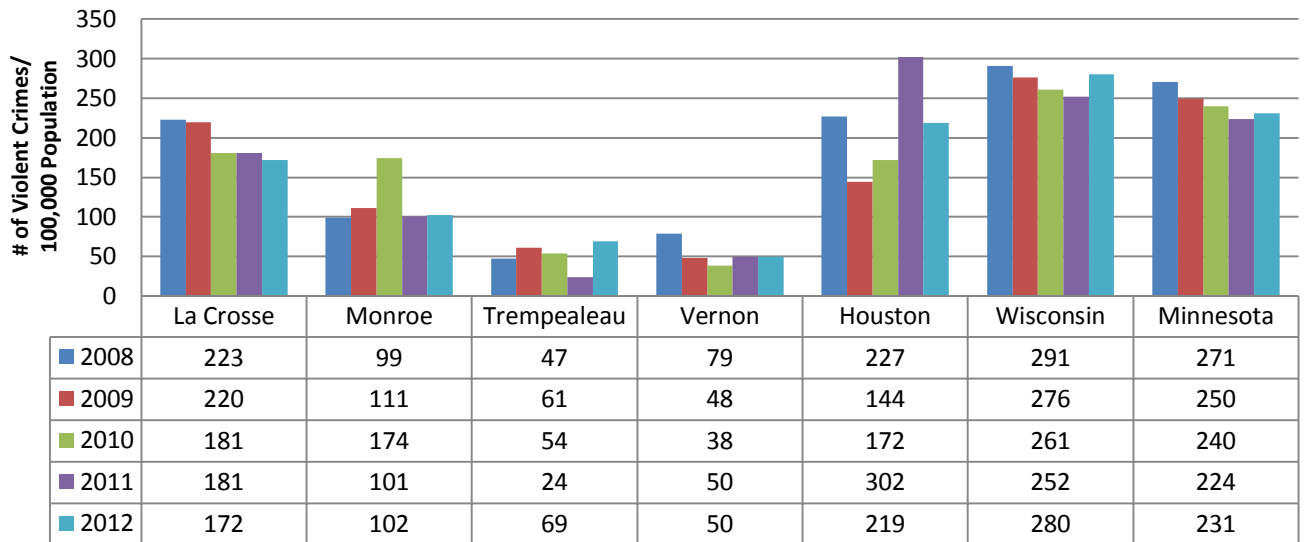
Number of Violent Crimes Reported: Minnesota

	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault
2009	69	2229	3607	7131
2010	90	2330	3363	6978
2011	73	2080	3359	6364
2012	92	2060	3450	3721
2013	111	1971	3661	6726
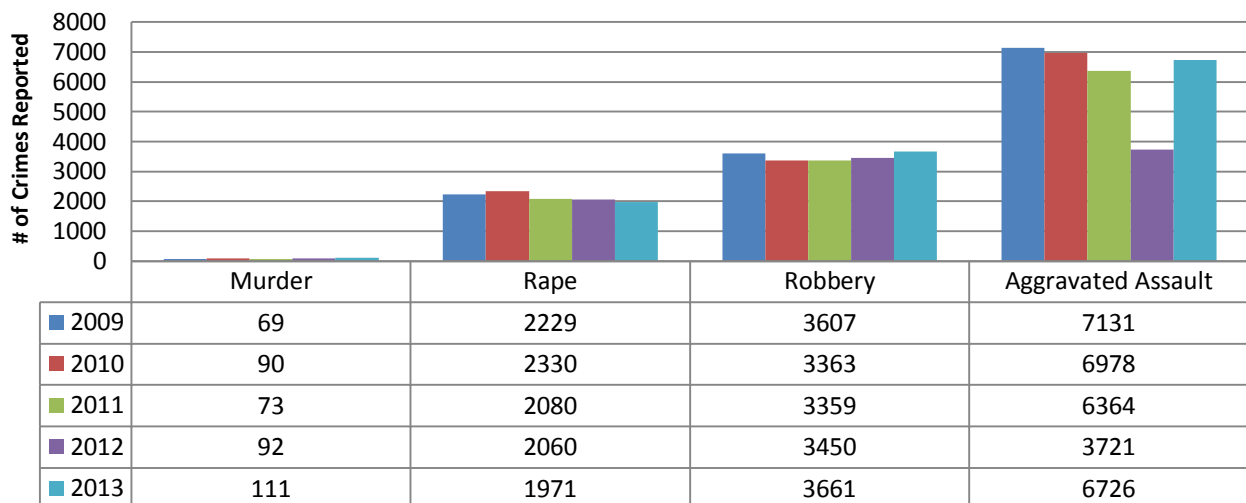
Sources: *State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Uniform Crime Reports* from years 2009 through 2013

The number of violent crimes in the Great Rivers Region is generally lower than state averages. However, Houston County had higher rates of violent crime in 2011 than Minnesota as a whole. Also, although the number of violent crimes in the Great Rivers Region Wisconsin counties seem to be staying the same or slightly decreasing, the number of violent crimes in Houston County appear to be increasing.

Violent Crime Rates in Great Rivers Region

	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon	Houston	Wisconsin	Minnesota
2008	223	99	47	79	227	291	271
2009	220	111	61	48	144	276	250
2010	181	174	54	38	172	261	240
2011	181	101	24	50	302	252	224
2012	172	102	69	50	219	280	231

Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) as prepared by the national Archive of Criminal Justice Data

- Violent Offense Rate= (violent offenses in county/county's population) x 100,000

BACKGROUND

The United States Department of Justice defines sexual assault as any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient. Falling under the definition of sexual assault are sexual activities such as forced sexual intercourse, forcible sodomy, child molestation, incest, fondling, and attempted rape.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state that 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men reported experienced an attempted or completed rape at some time in their lives. Some sources report as many as 1 in 4 women. However, sexual assault knows no age, race, or ethnicity. Here are some facts about sexual assault.

- Nearly 1 in 2 women have experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime[3]
- 27% of male victims of completed rape were first raped when they were 10 years old or younger[3]
- Persons under 18 years of age account for 67% of sexual assault victimizations reported to law enforcement agencies. Children under 12 years old account for 34% of those cases, and children under six years old account for 14% of those cases[3]
- The majority of both male and female victims of rape knew the person who raped them

Victims of sexual assault are:

- 3 times more likely to suffer from depression[14]
- 6 times more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder[14]
- 13 times more likely to abuse alcohol[14]
- 26 times more likely to abuse drugs[14]
- 4 times more likely to contemplate suicide[14]

Wisconsin and Sexual Assault

Section 940.225 of the Wisconsin Statues created four degrees of sexual assault, based on the amount of force used by the perpetrator and the harm done to the victim. First, second, and third degree sexual assaults are felonies; fourth degree sexual assault is a misdemeanor.

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First Degree Sexual Assault includes:
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact without consent which inflicts great bodily harm or pregnancy, or
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact without consent accomplished by using or threatening to use a dangerous weapon, or
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact without consent while aided by one of more persons by use of threat of force or violence, or
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact, with or without consent, with a person under the age of 13.

A person can be imprisoned up to 40 years for committing first degree sexual assault.

Second Degree Sexual Assault includes:
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact without consent through the use or threat of violence, or
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact without consent which causes injury, including illness, disease or impairment of a sexual or reproductive organ, or mental anguish requiring psychiatric care, or sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a person known by the perpetrator or be unconscious or mentally ill or under the influence of an intoxicant to a degree which renders that person incapable of appraising the person's conduct, or
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact without consent while aided by one or more persons, or
- Sexual intercourse or sexual contact, with or without consent, with a person who has not attained the age e of 16 years

A person can be imprisoned up to 20 years and/or fined not more than $10,000 for committing second degree sexual assault.

Third Degree Sexual Assault includes:
- Sexual intercourse with a person without consent of that person, or
- Sexual contact with intentional penile ejaculation with a person without consent of that person.

A person can be imprisoned up to than five years or fined not more than $10,000 for committing third degree sexual assault.

Fourth Degree Sexual Assault includes:
- Sexual contact with a person without consent of that person, or
- Sexual intercourse, with or without consent, with a person 16 or older

A personal can be imprisoned up to nine months in the county jail and/or fined not more than $10,000 for committing fourth degree sexual assault.

It is important to note that fourth degree sexual assault is defined as sexual contact with a person without consent of that person, or sexual intercourse, with or without consent, with a person 16 or older. There are many scenarios in which this could occur and numerous definitions of sexual contact. Sexual contact includes intentional, unwelcomed touching directly or through clothing. The intent of this action is to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade, or arouse or gratify the sexual desire of the perpetrator. Fourth degree sexual assault may be thought of as less impactful and significant than the prior three degrees because it does not necessarily include penetration. However, fourth degree sexual assault can cause numerous consequences to the victim. These outcomes may include feeling unsafe, fear of leaving home, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), feelings of guilt, trouble concentrating, depression, disruptions in close relationships and developing a negative self-image.

Wisconsin Sexual Assault Statistics

The following information is from the *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin- 2010 Report*.

- There were 4,857 sexual assaults reports to law enforcement agencies in 2010, a 5% increase from 2009, with Forcible Fondling accounting for 45% of total sexual assaults.
- In general, sexual assaults occurred most often on Fridays and Mondays and were consistent throughout the year.
- 15% of sexual assault victims were males.
- Juveniles were nearly three times more likely than adults to be victims of sexual assault
- 52% of sexual assaults were committed by people known to victim but outside victim's family
- The 16-20 year old age group represents the highest offending population, while 11-15 year olds were the highest victimized group.
- 6% of all sexual assaults reported were classified to be unfounded cases. This means that further investigation determined that no crime actually occurred.
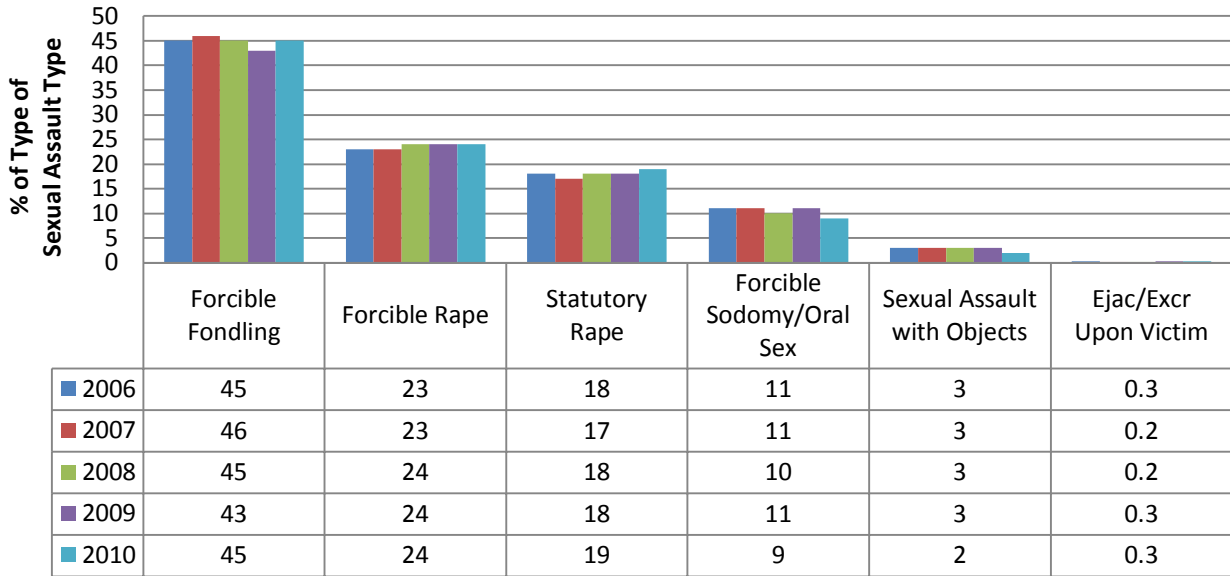
The chart below shows the total number of sexual offenses in Wisconsin between 2006 and 2010.

Total Number of Sexual Offenses in Wisconsin, 2006-2010

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total Number of Sexual Offenses, 2006-2010	5,407	5,176	4,657	4,627	4,857
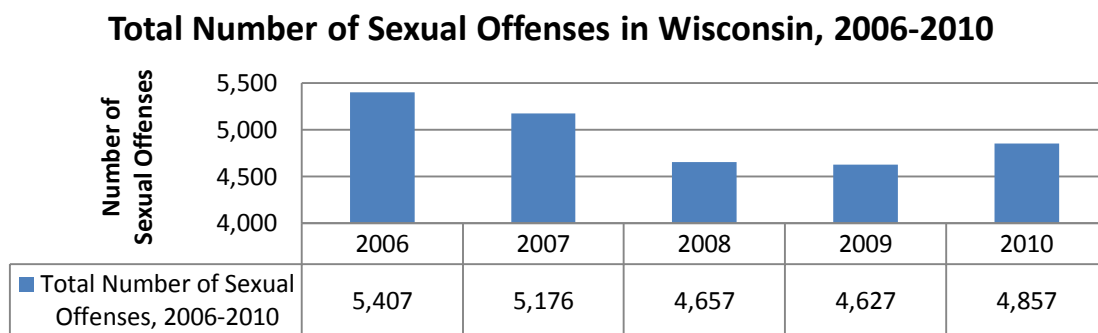
Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin Report*, from years 2008 through 2010

There are numerous types of sexual assaults. The figure below shows the trend between these types between 2006 to 2010. Overall, there were no significant changes in the percentage of types of sexual offenses committed from year-to-year or over the five-year period.
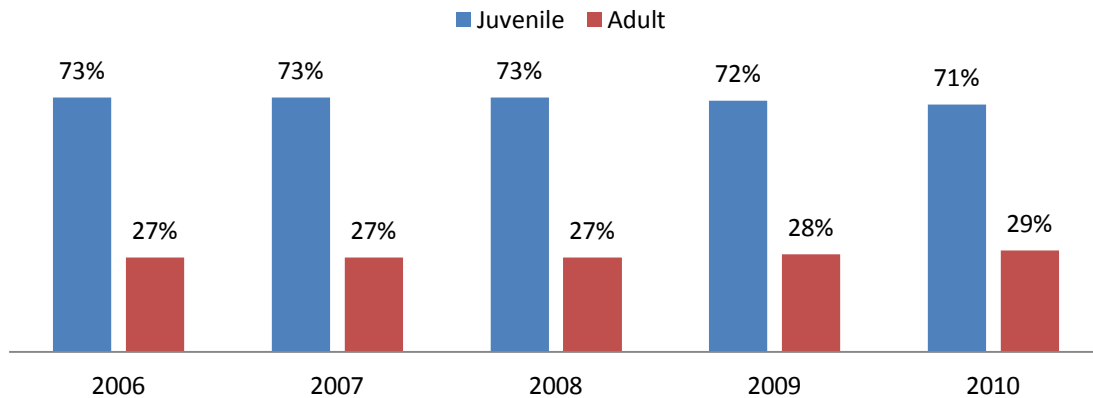
Sexual Offense Types, Percent: Wisconsin

	Forcible Fondling	Forcible Rape	Statutory Rape	Forcible Sodomy/Oral Sex	Sexual Assault with Objects	Ejac/Excr Upon Victim
2006	45	23	18	11	3	0.3
2007	46	23	17	11	3	0.2
2008	45	24	18	10	3	0.2
2009	43	24	18	11	3	0.3
2010	45	24	19	9	2	0.3

Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin Report*, from years 2008 through 2010

The chart on the next page shows the percentage of juvenile and adult victims of sexual assault in Wisconsin between 2006 and 2010. Juveniles consistently represented nearly three-quarters of the victims involved in sexual assault cases.

Juvenile vs. Adult VICTIMS: Wisconsin

Juvenile   Adult

Year	Juvenile	Adult
2006	73%	27%
2007	73%	27%
2008	73%	27%
2009	72%	28%
2010	71%	29%

Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin- 2010 Report*

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The chart below shows the percentage of juvenile and adult offenders in Wisconsin between 2006 and 2010. Adult and juvenile offender rates have remained consistent over the past five years. The juvenile offender population was highest in 2009 at 35%, climbing from its lowest point at 32% in 2006.
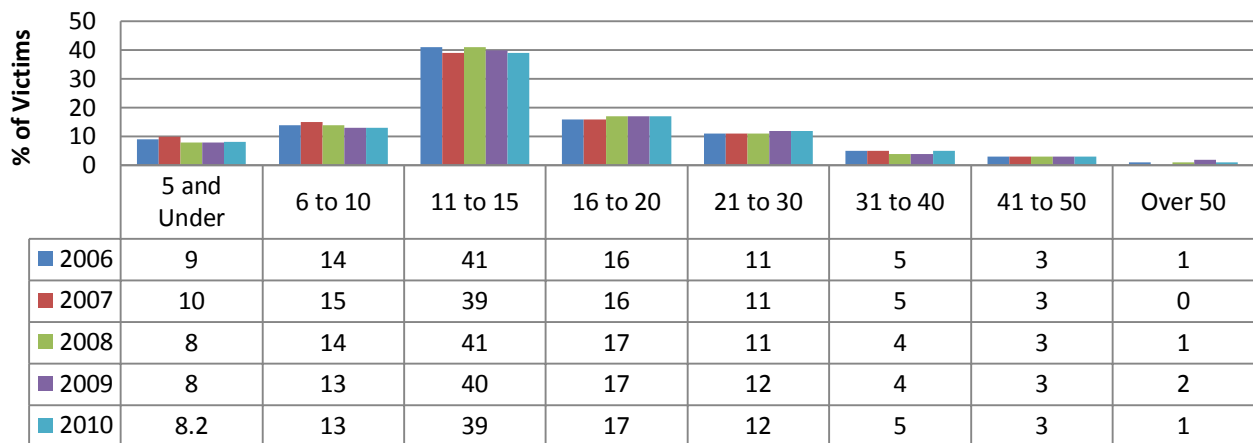
Juvenile vs. Adult OFFENDERS: Wisconsin

■ Juvenile ■ Adult

Year	Juvenile	Adult
2006	60%	32%
2007	58%	34%
2008	61%	34%
2009	60%	35%
2010	60%	34%
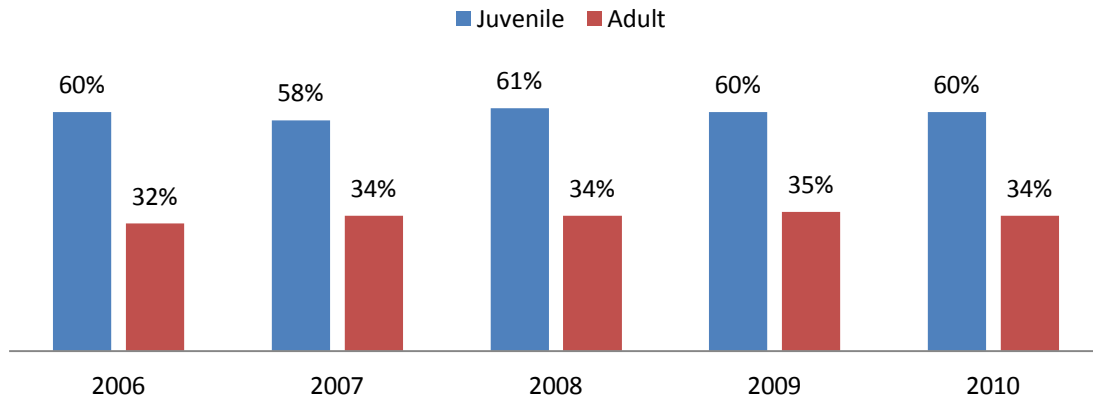
Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin- 2010 Report*

The charts below show the age of sexual assault victims and offenders in the state of Wisconsin between 2006 and 2010. In 2010, victims of sexual assault under the age of 21 represented over 75% of all victims. Juveniles in the 11-15 year old category accounted for the largest percentage of victims. The least often victimized age groups were 41-50 and over 50, which combined accounted for 4% of victims. There were no major changes during this five-year trend for either the victims or the offenders.

Age of Sexual Assault Victims, Percent: Wisconsin

	5 and Under	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50
2006	9	14	41	16	11	5	3	1
2007	10	15	39	16	11	5	3	0
2008	8	14	41	17	11	4	3	1
2009	8	13	40	17	12	4	3	2
2010	8.2	13	39	17	12	5	3	1

Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin Report* from years 2006 to 2010

Revised on 10/14/2015

Of the 4,857 reported sexual assault incidents in 2010, there were 5,287 offenders, two-thirds between the ages of 11 and 30 years old. The 16-20 age group had the highest rate of sexual assault, which represented 24% of reported offenders. Although the 10 and under age group made up 22% of victims, the group composed only 3% of offenders.
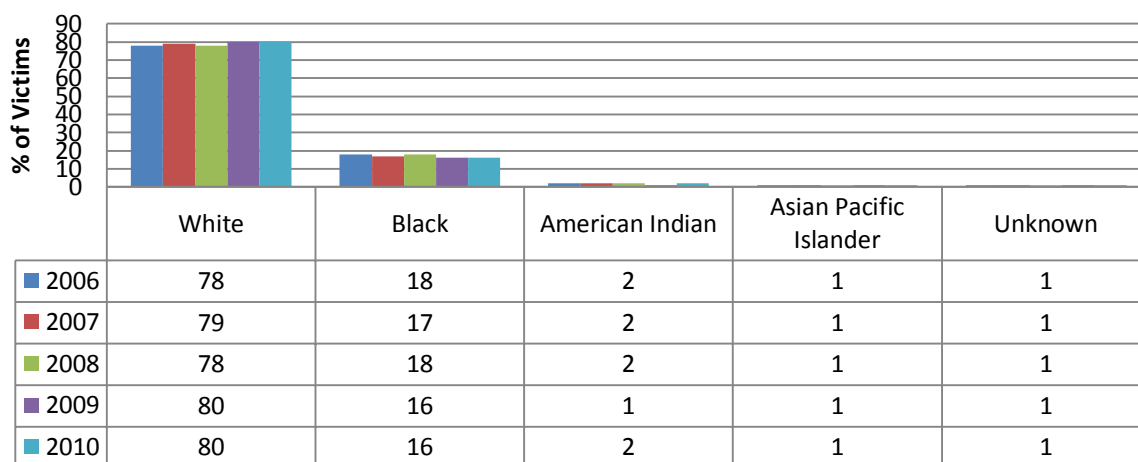
Age of Sexual Assault Offenders, Percent: Wisconsin

	10 and Under	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 30	31 to 40	41 to 50	Over 50	Unknown
2006	3	19	24	19	14	9	5	8
2007	3	19	24	18	12	9	5	7
2008	2	20	25	19	12	10	6	6
2009	3	21	26	19	12	8	6	6
2010	3	20	24	19	13	9	6	6
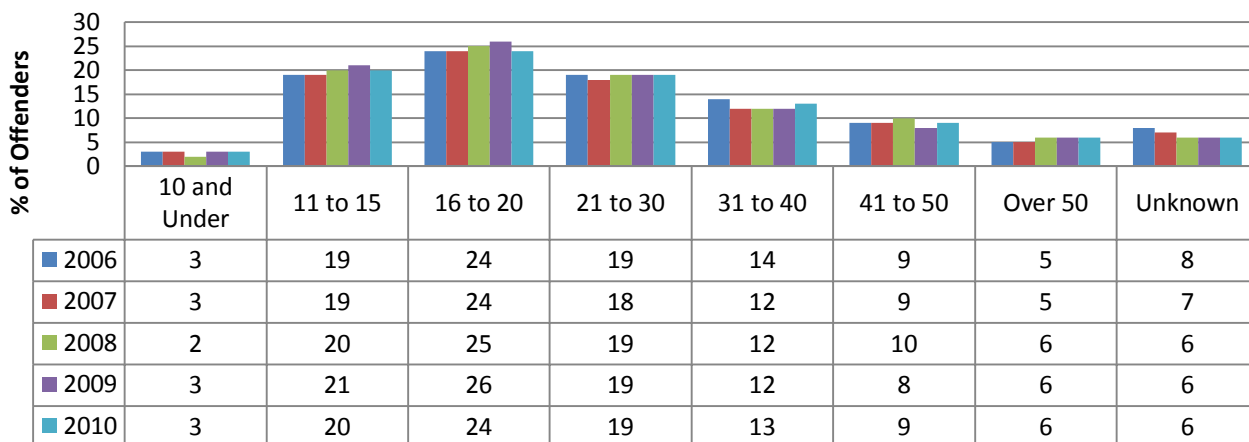
Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin Report* from years 2006 to 2010.

In 2010, 80% of all reported Wisconsin sexual assault victims were identified as White. The next most victimized racial groups were Black and American Indian/Alaskan Native. Sexual assault victims and their offenders are most often the same race[12]. Wisconsin law enforcement agencies in 2010 identified that the majority of victims had not sustained any physical injury (92%)[12]. There were no major changes from year-to-year during this five-year trend.

Victims by Race, Percent: Wisconsin

	White	Black	American Indian	Asian Pacific Islander	Unknown
2006	78	18	2	1	1
2007	79	17	2	1	1
2008	78	18	2	1	1
2009	80	16	1	1	1
2010	80	16	2	1	1

Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin Report* from years 2006 to 2010

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In 2010, nearly three-quarters of reported sexual assaults were committed by White offenders (70%). The second most cited racial group of offenders was Black, followed distantly by "Unknown" (22% and 4% respectively). There were no major changes from year-to-year during this five-year trend.
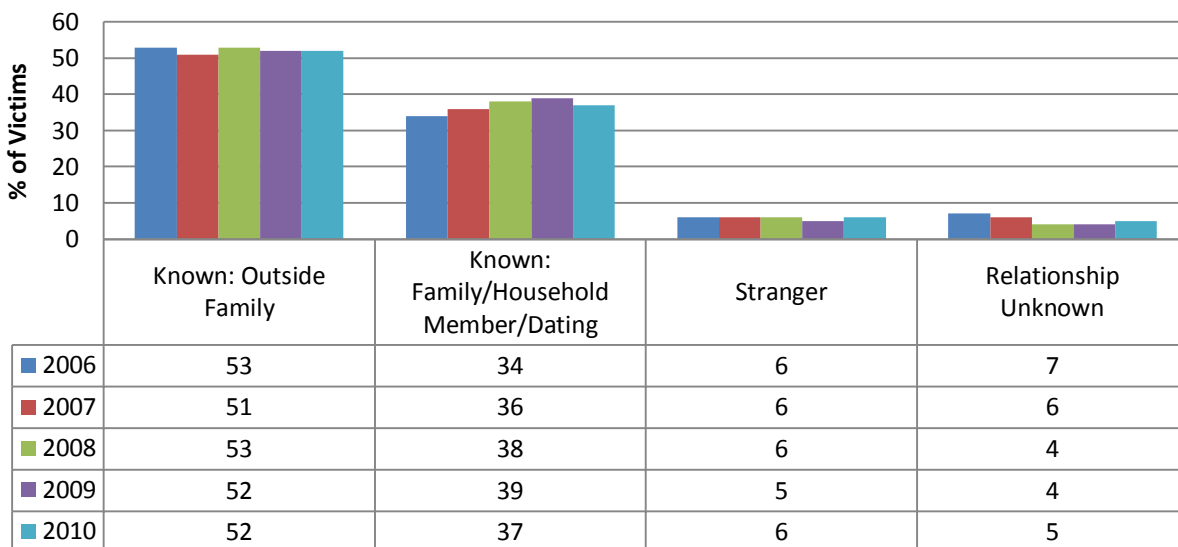
Offenders by Race, Percent: Wisconsin

	White	Black	American Indian	Asian Pacific Islander	Unknown
2006	67	25	2	1	4
2007	66	27	2	1	4
2008	69	25	2	1	3
2009	71	22	1	1	4
2010	70	23	2	2	4
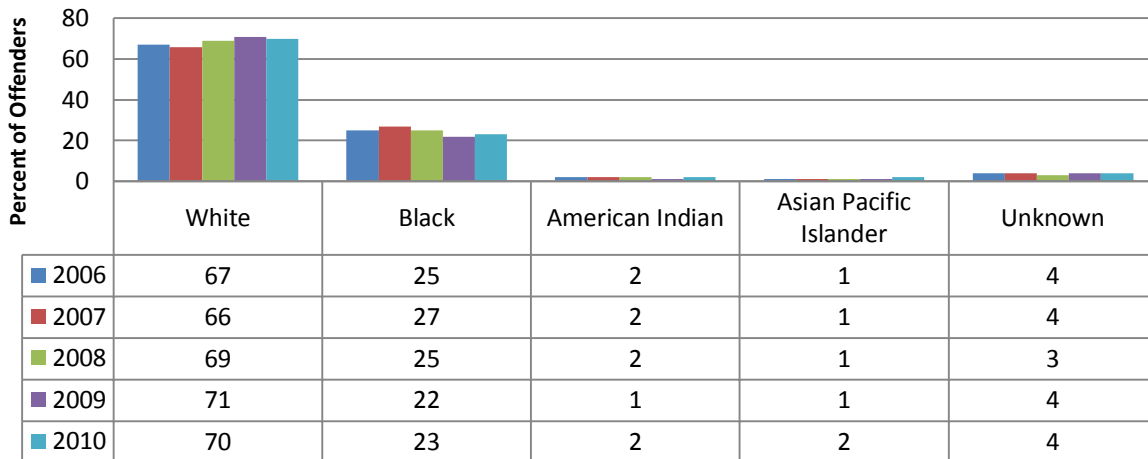
Source: *Wisconsin Sexual Assaults in Wisconsin Report* from years 2006 to 2010

In 2010, nearly 90% of sexual assaults in 2010 were committed by someone known to the offender. The most common victim-offender relationship was "Known: Outside of Family", which includes victim acquaintances, friends, neighbors, and babysitters among other relations. There were no major changes from year-to-year during this five-year trend.

Victim Offender Relationships, Percent: Wisconsin

	Known: Outside Family	Known: Family/Household Member/Dating	Stranger	Relationship Unknown
2006	53	34	6	7
2007	51	36	6	6
2008	53	38	6	4
2009	52	39	5	4
2010	52	37	6	5

Minnesota and Sexual Assault

Unwanted, coerced and/or forced sexual penetration and/or touch by Minnesota Statute as varying degrees of Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC). CSC in the first through fourth degrees are felonies in Minnesota; fifth degree CSC is a gross misdemeanor. Penetration may be of the victim or forcing the victim to penetrate the actor; penetration can be accomplished with either a body part or other object. Similarly, contact can be sexual contact with the victim or forcing a victim to touch the actor. Sexual assault under Minnesota law can refer to rape.

A person is guilty of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Fifth Degree if:

- The person engages in nonconsensual sexual contact; or
- The person engages in masturbation or lewd exhibition of the genitals in presence of minor under the age of 16, knowing or having reason to know the minor is present.

If perpetrator is found guilty and convicted under subdivision 1, they may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year or to a payment of a fine of not more than $3,000, or both. If perpetrator is guilty of a felony, they may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not more than $10,000, or both.

Of the 2,091 rapes reported in Minnesota in 2013, 120 were unfounded. 1,819 were by force, while 152 were attempted rapes. A total of 806, or 41%, were cleared by arrest and 79 were cleared with the arrest of a juvenile. Rapes represented 16% of the total violent crimes in Minnesota with an average of 5 rapes per day.

Comparison of Percentage of Rapes Unfounced, Attempted, and Cleared: Minnesota
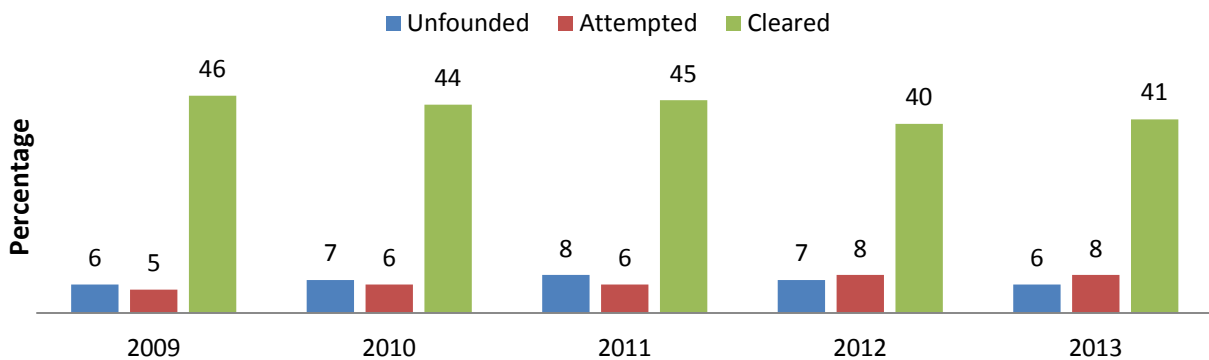
Source: Minnesota Uniform Crime Report-2012

National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NIPSV)
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) assesses experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV), sexual violence (SV), and stalking among adult women and men in the United States. NISVS is the first ongoing survey dedicated solely to describing and monitoring these forms of violence as public health issues. It is also the first survey to provide national and state level data on IPV, SV, and stalking.

According to NISVS 2010, the following are estimates of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence of Minnesota respondents:

- 22.2%, or approximately 452,000 people, stated that they had been raped at some point in their lifetime.
- 48.4% of female respondents, or approximately 982,000 females, stated that they had experienced sexual violence other than rape by any perpetrator at some point in their lifetime.
- 22.4% of male respondents, or approximately 442,000 males, stated that they had experienced sexual violence other than rape by any perpetrator at some point in their lifetime.
- 18.4% of female respondents, or approximately 373,000 females, said that they had been victims of stalking at some point in their lifetime.

- 33.7% of female respondents, or approximately 684,000 females, said that they had been victims of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime.
- 23.5% of male respondents, or approximately 465,000 males, said that they had been victims of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime.

Minnesota Youth Impacted by Sexual Assault
The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) is a triennial survey of young people regarding a variety of risk and protective factors. The survey asks young people questions about their activities, opinions, behaviors and experiences and includes questions on an array of issues, such as substance abuse, school climate, violence and safety concerns, healthy eating, out-of-school activities, connections to school, community and family and many other questions. The survey is administered in schools, alternative learning centers, and juvenile correctional facilities. The 2013 MSS was administered in the first half of 2013 to public school students in grades 5, 8, 9 and 11, statewide. All public school districts in Minnesota were invited to participate. Of the 334 public operating districts, 280 agreed to participate (84% of public operating school districts).

According to the 2013 MSS, ninth grade students reported the all-time lowest rates of being touched or forced to touch sexually against their wishes by people inside or outside of their family. The sharpest decrease occurred for female students, who reported being touched or forced to touch sexually by an adult or other person outside of their family. This percentage dropped from about 13% in 1992 to less than 6% in 2013[13].

The percentage of ninth grade students who reported ever being touched or forced to touch sexually against their wishes by an adult or other person outside their family has dropped consistently over time. The overall rate in 2013 (3.8%) is less than half the rate in 1992 (8.1 %). Females have always reported higher incidents of unwanted touching than males, but this gap has closed with only four percentage points separating them in 2013 compared to more than 10 percentage points in 1992[13].

Been Touched or Forced to Touch Sexually Against Wishes by Adult or Other Person Outside Family

	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2007	2010	2013
All Students	8.1%	6.9%	7.1%	6.1%	6.4%	5.8%	5.4%	3.8%
Males	3.0%	3.3%	4.0%	3.5%	3.4%	2.9%	2.6%	1.7%
Females	13.2%	10.4%	10.1%	8.5%	9.2%	8.5%	8.1%	5.7%
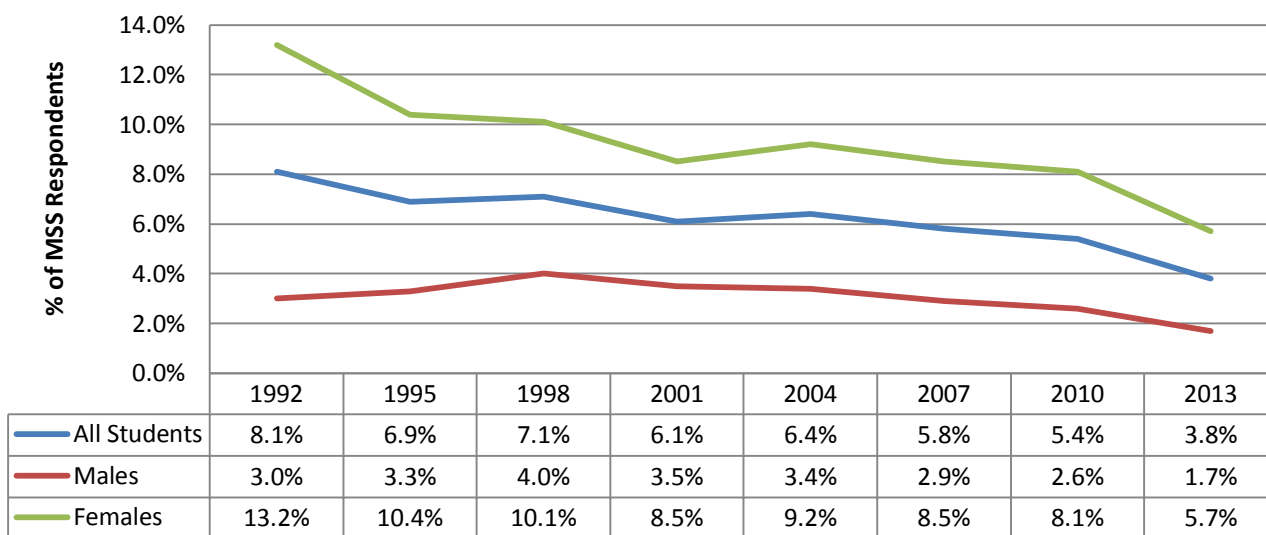
Source: Minnesota Student Survey, 2013

Fewer students reported being touched or forced to touch sexually by a member of the family than by people outside of the family. The overall percentage has dropped from 4% in 1992 to 2.4% in 2013. In particular, female reports of abuse by a family member have decreased by almost half between these time periods[13].

Been Touched or Forced to Touch Sexually Against Wishes by an Older or Stronger Member of Family

	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2007	2010	2013
All Students	8.1%	6.9%	7.1%	6.1%	6.4%	5.8%	5.4%	3.8%
Males	3.0%	3.3%	4.0%	3.5%	3.4%	2.9%	2.6%	1.7%
Females	13.2%	10.5%	10.1%	8.5%	9.2%	8.5%	8.1%	5.7%
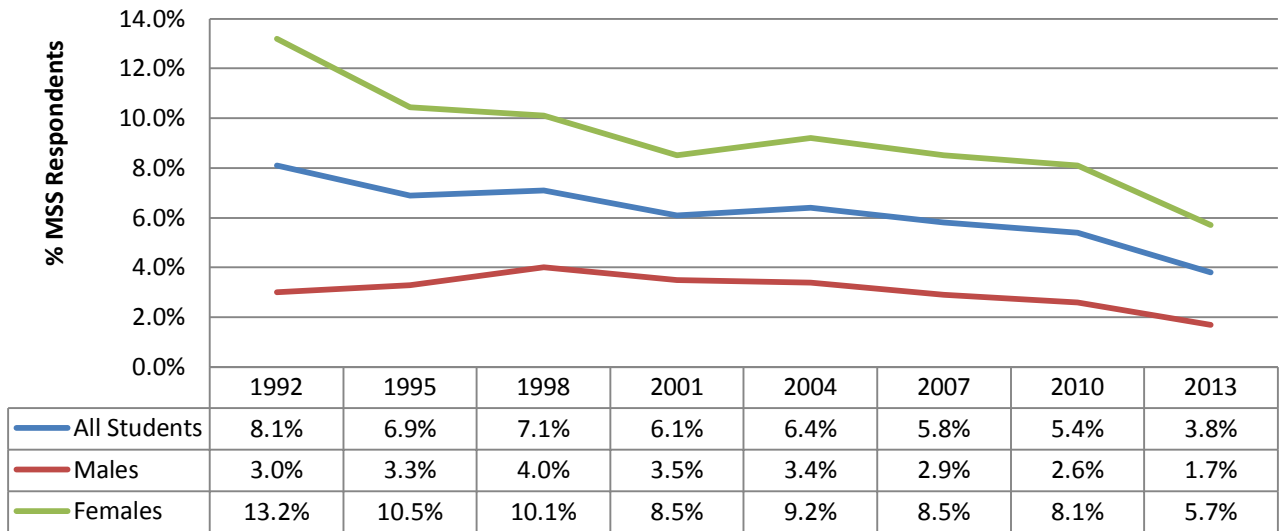
Source: Minnesota Student Survey, 2013

Sexual Assaults and College Campuses in the Great Rivers Region

A 2009 study found that by the time female undergraduate students are seniors, 1 in 5 will have reported experiencing sexual assault since they started college. Disparately, only 4% of the male respondents said that they had been sexually assaulted in college. These numbers reflect recent findings that 19% of women in the United States have been raped during their lifetimes[15].

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (**Clery Act**) requires colleges and universities, both public and private, participating in federal student aid programs to disclose campus safety information, and imposes certain basic requirements for handling incidents of sexual violence and emergency situations. Disclosures about crime statistics and summaries of security policies are made once a year in an Annual Security Report (ASR) and information about specific crimes and emergencies is made publicly available on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Similarly, **Title IX** of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Violations of Title IX include sexual harassment, the failure to provide equal opportunity in athletics, and discrimination based on pregnancy. Because all institutions in the Great Rivers Region are federally funded to some degree, they must comply with these guidelines.

According to the National Justice Department the majority of sexual assaults are never reported. There are three post-secondary education institutions in the Great Rivers Region. These include Western Technical College, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and Viterbo University. It is important to note that Western is a unique institution when compared to UW-L and Viterbo because it has a very small residential population. Thus, the number of sexual assaults will be lower than the other two institutions but that does not mean the rate is lower. Furthermore, the mentality of reporting to the institution is different in that students may be under the impression that if the assault occurs off campus, it is not appropriate to report this to the university. Representatives from the universities in the higher education instituations in the Great Rivers Region shared that the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse had a total of 24 sexual assaults at the in 2014, while Western Technical College and Viterbo had zero. It important to note that Western Technical College has a much smaller residential population than UW-L or Viterbo so this may be one of the reasons the number of reported sexual assault are lower. Also, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse has a larger overall student population so numbers should not be confused with rates when comparing these three institutions.

BACKGROUND

The American Psychiatric Association defines domestic violence as control by one partner over another in a dating, marital, or live-in relationship. Domestic violence occurs in every culture, country, and age group. It is estimated that one in every four women and one in every seven men have experienced physical violence by an intimate partner[15].

Abusers use many strategies to isolate, intimidate and control their partners. However, these actions sometimes start subtly and may be difficult to recognize. In the beginning of relationships, a partner may often be attentive, generous, and protective which may later turn out to be frightening and controlling situations. Abusers often express remorse and extend promises to never act that way in the future.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, through the CDC, conducted a survey called the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey is an ongoing, nationally representative random digit dial (RDD) telephone survey that collects information about experiences of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence among non-institutionalized English and/or Spanish-speaking women and men aged 18 or older in the United States. Some of the key findings regarding domestic violence are listed below.

- On average, nearly 20 people per minute are victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in the U.S. Throughout the course of one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men.
- 1 in 7 women and 1 in 18 men have experienced stalking victimization during their lifetime in which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.
- There are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines each day nationwide.
- In domestic homicide, women are six times more likely to be killed when there is a gun in the house.
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crimes
- Intimate partner violence is most common among women between the ages of 18-24.

Domestic Violence in Wisconsin

Domestic abuse is defined by Wisconsin Statutes, s. 968.075 as the intentional infliction of physical pain, injury or illness; intentional impairment of physical condition; sexual assault; or a physical act that causes the other person to reasonably fear that any of these actions will occur. Domestic abuse applies to act engaged in by an adult person against his or her spouse, former spouse, an adult with whom the person resides or formerly resided, or an adult with whom the person has a child in common.

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There are 73 domestic abuse agencies in Wisconsin that serve the 72 counties and 11 tribal communities. 30 of these agencies have shelters. 28,729 domestic abuse incidents were reported to law enforcement and referred to Wisconsin district attorneys' offices in 2012, a small increase from the 28,539 incidents reported in 2011. 29,941 incidents were reported and referred to district attorneys' offices in 2010. No arrest was made in 28% of incidents. It is important to note that the lack of an arrest may signify that the offender was not present when the incident was reported or when law enforcement arrived (i.e., he or she fled the scene), or a decision was made by law enforcement to not arrest the suspect.

The most common charge issued in Wisconsin domestic violence cases during 2012 was disorderly conduct, followed by misdemeanor battery. The third most common charge issued in 2012 was criminal damage to property.

Deaths Related to Domestic Violence
According to the Wisconsin Domestic Violence Homicide Report, in 2013, there were 38 domestic violence homicide incidents results in 53 deaths: 39 victims, 10 perpetrator suicides following the homicide, and four homicides by legal intervention. Additionally, there were two perpetrator suicides in the context of a potentially fatal domestic violence incident involving law enforcement, making 55 the total count of lives lost due to domestic violence in Wisconsin in 2013.

Domestic Violence Homicide Incidents, Wisconsin			
	2011	**2012**	**2013**
Incidents of Domestic Violence Homicide	31	38	38
Victims of Domestic Violence Homicide (Excluding by Legal Intervention)	32	48	38
Homicides by Legal Intervention (Responding Law Enforcement)	2	0	4
All Domestic Violence-Related Homicides	34	48	43
Perpetrator Suicide (Excluding by Legal Intervention)	3	4	12
Total Deaths (Victim and Perpetrator)	37	52	55
Source: Wisconsin Domestic Violence Homicide Report, 2013			

The chart below shows the age of domestic violence victims in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. In 2012, the age distribution of victims was similar to previous years' reports: nearly half of all victims were 18 to 29 years old; approximately 25% of victims were 30-39 years old; 19% of victims were 40-49 years old, and 15% of victims were 50 years of age and older.
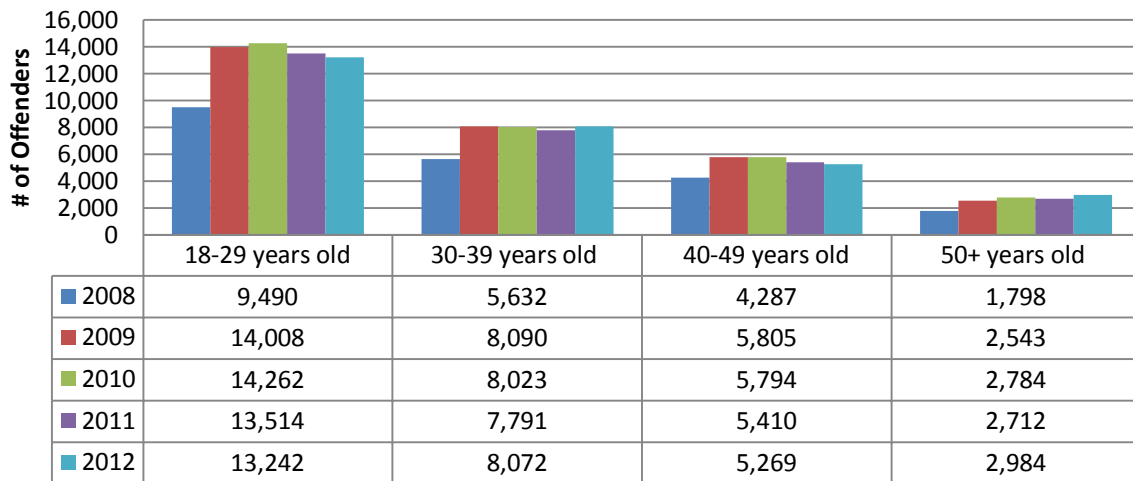
Age of Domestic Violence Victims: Wisconsin
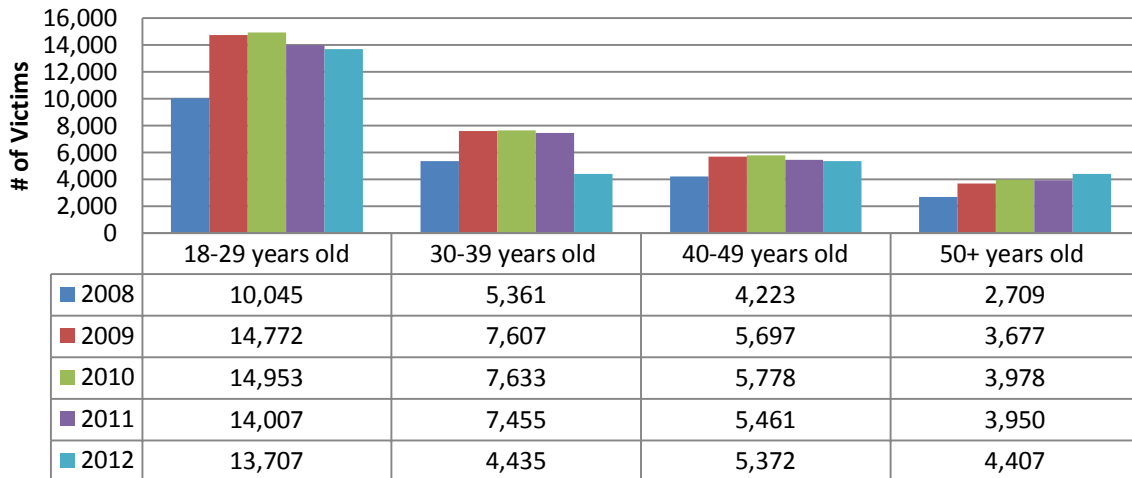
	18-29 years old	30-39 years old	40-49 years old	50+ years old
2008	10,045	5,361	4,223	2,709
2009	14,772	7,607	5,697	3,677
2010	14,953	7,633	5,778	3,978
2011	14,007	7,455	5,461	3,950
2012	13,707	4,435	5,372	4,407

Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report from years 2007 through 2012

The chart below shows the age of domestic violence offenders in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. In 2012, nearly 45% of domestic violence offenders were 18 to 29 years old; approximately 27% of offenders were 30-39 years old; 19% of offenders were 40-49 years old, and 10% of offenders were 50 years of age and older.

Age of Domestic Violence Offenders: Wisconsin

	18-29 years old	30-39 years old	40-49 years old	50+ years old
■ 2008	9,490	5,632	4,287	1,798
■ 2009	14,008	8,090	5,805	2,543
■ 2010	14,262	8,023	5,794	2,784
■ 2011	13,514	7,791	5,410	2,712
■ 2012	13,242	8,072	5,269	2,984

Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report from years 2007 through 2012

The graph below shows the ethnicity of domestic violence victims in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. The number of domestic violence victims has increased among all ethnic groups except the Hispanic group. The largest increase occurred among blacks, which increased from 1,724 victims in 2008 to 7,630 in 2012. It is important to note that although the number of white domestic violence may be higher than all other ethnic groups, we must also consider the domestic violence rates among the ethnic groups if we are to look for possible disparities. That said, although the white population made up 86.2% of the total population in 2010, whites only made up 67% of domestic violence victims. Moreover, the black population made up 6.3% of the total population in 2010; however, they were nearly 25% of all domestic violence victims. The chart below shows more information on the ethnicity of domestic violence victims in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012.

Ethnicity of Victims: Wisconsin
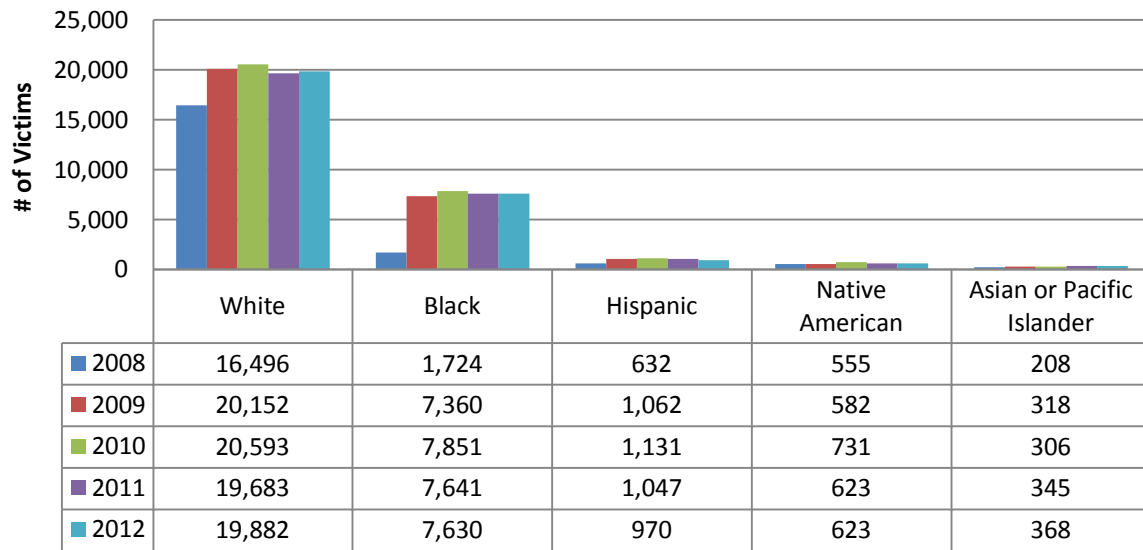
	White	Black	Hispanic	Native American	Asian or Pacific Islander
2008	16,496	1,724	632	555	208
2009	20,152	7,360	1,062	582	318
2010	20,593	7,851	1,131	731	306
2011	19,683	7,641	1,047	623	345
2012	19,882	7,630	970	623	368

Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report from years 2007 through 2012

The number of domestic violence offenders has increased among all ethnic groups, most substantially among the black population. In 2008, there was a total of 2,965 black domestic violence offenders. In 2012, this number had grown to 9,165, an increase of more than three times. Considering this information for possible disparities, in 2010 the Native American population represented only 0.96% of the total Wisconsin population. However, represented for over 2.5% of all domestic violence offenders. The chart below shows more on the ethnicity of domestic violence offenders in Wisconsin.

Ethnicity of Domestic Violence Offenders: Wisconsin
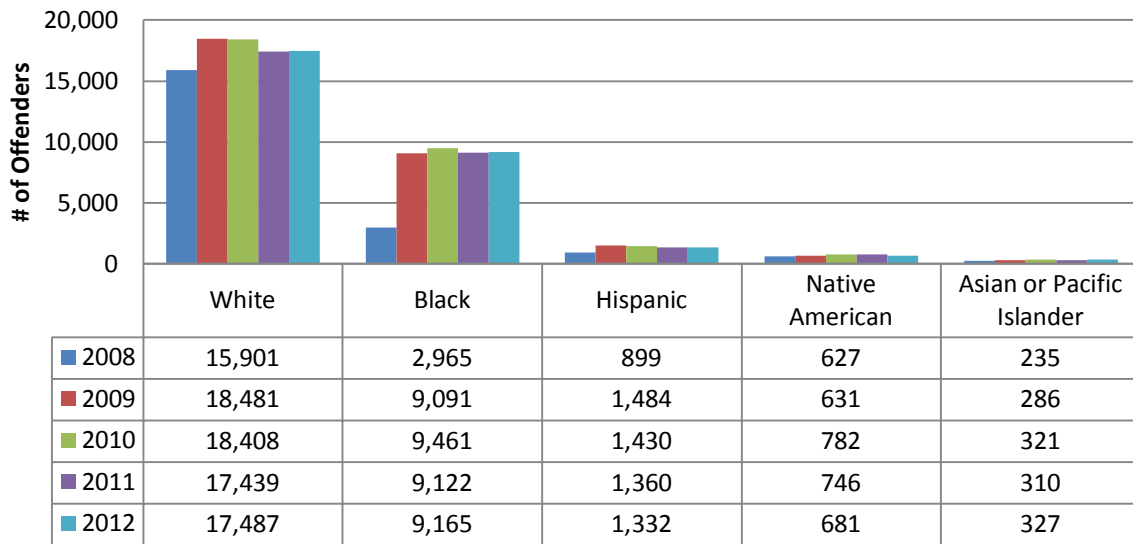
	White	Black	Hispanic	Native American	Asian or Pacific Islander
2008	15,901	2,965	899	627	235
2009	18,481	9,091	1,484	631	286
2010	18,408	9,461	1,430	782	321
2011	17,439	9,122	1,360	746	310
2012	17,487	9,165	1,332	681	327

Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report from years 2007 through 2012

The next two graphs show the number of domestic violence victims and offenders by gender. The majority of victims are females, while the majority of offenders are male. Although the numbers change annually, the percentage of both victims and offenders remain similar throughout this five-year period. On average, 76% of all victims were females and 78.3% of all offenders were male.

Number of Domestic Violence Victims by Gender, Wisconsin
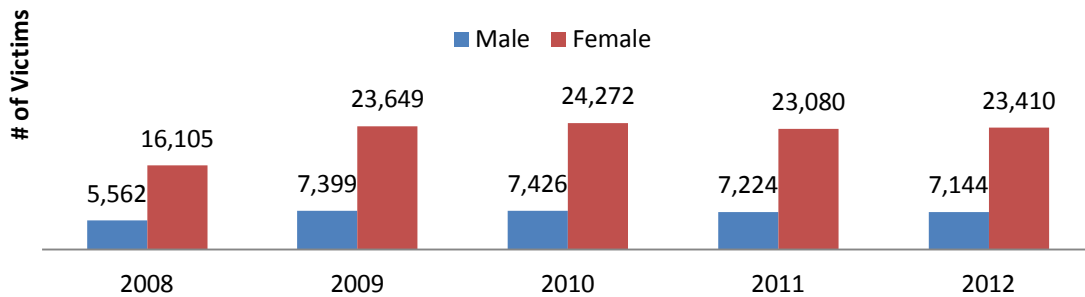
Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report (January-December 2012)

Number of Domestic Violence Offenders by Gender, Wisconsin
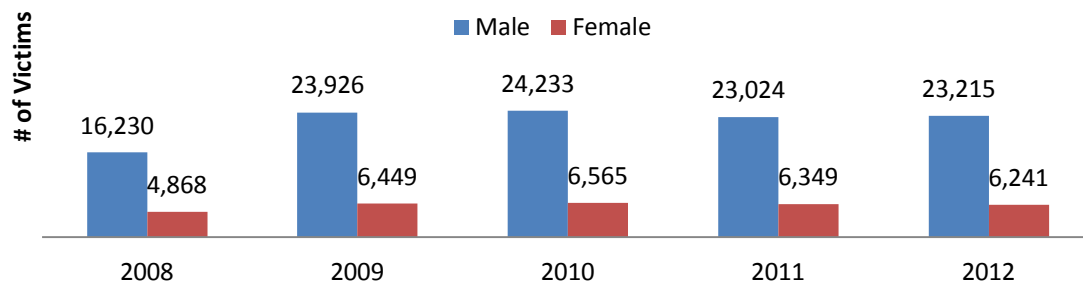
# of Victims

■ Male ■ Female

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Male	16,230	23,926	24,233	23,024	23,215
Female	4,868	6,449	6,565	6,349	6,241

Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report (January-December 2012)

The graph below shows the number of arrests in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. Law enforcement officers must arrest and take a person into custody if the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person is committing or has committed domestic abuse and that the person's actions constitute the commission of a crime, the officer has a reasonable basis for believing that continued domestic abuse against the alleged victim is likely, there is evidence of physical injury to the alleged victim, and/or the person is the predominant aggressor.

It is important to note that these numbers reflect reported cases and that many times domestic abuse goes unreported. Reasons someone may not report domestic violence include fear of more violence, lack of alternatives (i.e., financial assistance, employment), difficulty obtaining legal assistance, believing in cultural/family/religious values that encourage the maintenance of the family unit at all costs, and continuing to hope and believe the perpetrator will change their behavior. "Dual situation" refers to an incident in which more than one person was charged with a domestic abuse offense (whether or not an arrest was made) and/or an incident in which more than one person was arrested. Wisconsin law states that if a law enforcement officer identifies the predominant aggressor, it is generally not appropriate for a law enforcement officer to arrest anyone other than the predominant aggressor. "Predominant aggressor" is defined as the most significant, but not necessarily the first, aggressor in a domestic abuse incident. The figure below shows the number of total arrests in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012.

Arrests in Wisconsin
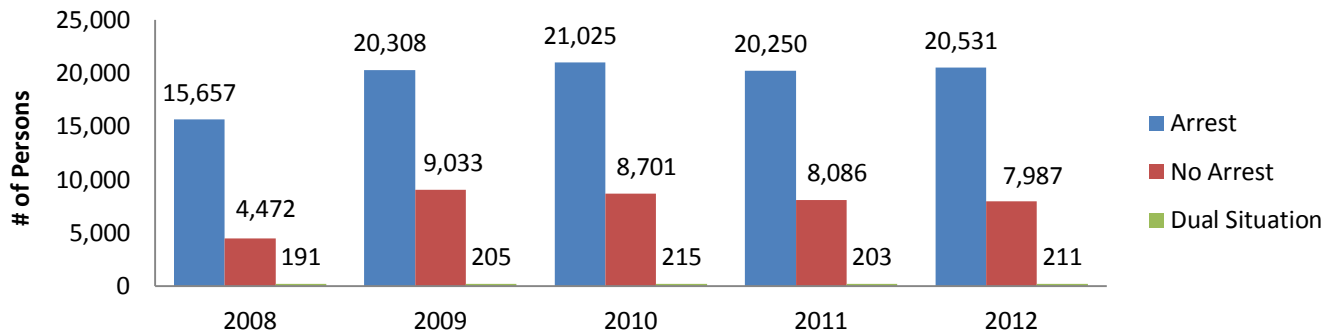
# of Persons

Year	Arrest	No Arrest	Dual Situation
2008	15,657	4,472	191
2009	20,308	9,033	205
2010	21,025	8,701	215
2011	20,250	8,086	203
2012	20,531	7,987	211

Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice Domestic Abuse Incident Report (January-December 2012)

Domestic Violence and the Homeless Population

The homeless population is not immune to domestic violence. Our community is fortunate to have shelter for individuals and families who have experienced domestic violence. One of these shelters is New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers, which provides temporary emergency shelter to the victims of domestic violence. Community members who utilize these services are considered homeless because they were forced to leave a permanent residence in order to escape an abusive relationship and have extremely limited income, poor or no rental history, poor credit history, and a limited support system. New Horizons has the only domestic abuse shelter within a 65 mile radius. The majority of victims/survivors temporarily residing at the shelter at any given time are residents from La Crosse County. However, New Horizons also provides services to victims/survivors of the surrounding area including but not limited to the counties of Monroe, Vernon, Trempealeau, and Crawford counties in Wisconsin, as well as Houston and Winona counties in Minnesota. The following table shows the number of adults, children, and nights of provided shelter provided through New Horizons. The annual number of nights of shelter provided has risen dramatically over this six-year period going from 3,500 total nights of shelter provided in 2009 to nearly 9,000 nights in 2014.

Number of Adults, Children, and Annual Shelter Nights: New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers			
Year	Number of Adults	Number of Children	Annual Number of Shelter Nights Provided
2009	82	92	3,500
2010	104	101	4,408
2011	115	122	6,370
2012	142	110	6,541
2013	157	122	7,749
2014	130	87	8,952
• New Horizons provides services to victims/survivors to the counties of La Crosse, Monroe, Vernon, Trempealeau, and Crawford in Wisconsin, as well as Houston and Winona counties in Minnesota.			

Revised on 10/14/2015

Domestic Violence in Minnesota

In 2011, Minnesota District Courts handled 27,288 domestic violence cases. See table below for the specific contexts of these cases.

Domestic Violence Cases by Context, Minnesota, 2011	
Criminal	**Totals**
Felony Domestic Assault	2,853
Gross Misdemeanor Domestic Assault	2,863
Misdemeanor Domestic Assault	10,607
Family	
Orders for Protection*	10,965 (or 22.5% of family cases filed)
Source: Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, Domestic Violence Fact Sheet *This statistic does not include harassment restraining orders.	

The table below shows the number of domestic violence homicides in Minnesota between 2010 and 2014. Domestic violence female homicides were those in which the suspected, alleged, or convicted perpetrator was a current or former husband, boyfriend, intimate partner, household member, or family member. The domestic violence child homicides were those in which the suspected, alleged, or convicted perpetrator was the father, mother, guardian, babysitter, child care provider, or household/family member of the child; or the perpetrator was the parent's spouse or intimate partner. However, cases of children murdered as a result of violence involving current or former intimate partners are now tracked under the family members, friends & interveners category.

Domestic Violence Homicides in Minnesota					
Deaths	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Women	15	23	14	25	16
Men	2	1	1	7	2
Children	7	4	-	-	-
Family Members/Friends	4	6	3	6	5
Source: The Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, *The 2014 Femicide Report*					

A 2010 Crime Victim Services report by the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs, covering a twelve-month time frame, evidenced[16]:

- 929 victims of an order for protection protection/harassment restraining order violation
- 7,894 adults (98.5% female) and 4,565 children received services from domestic violence shelter
- 548 adults (93.2% female) and 613 children received services from domestic violence hotel/motel/safehome.

Revised on 10/14/2015

In 2011, the Minnesota Department of Health's Minnesota Injury Data Access System (MIDAS) recorded 1,064 patients (908 battery/maltreatment and 156 rapes) that received treatment for injuries at hospitals throughout the state. A total of 153 (97%) of rape patients and 767 (84%) of battery/maltreatment patients were women[16].

Domestic Violence in the Great Rivers Region

The chart below shows the number of reported domestic violence incidents, the rate of domestic violence, and the arrest rate for domestic violence cases in the Great Rivers Region. La Crosse County has a higher rate of domestic violence than the state of Wisconsin, with Trempealeau County coming close to meeting the Wisconsin average. Vernon County has the lowest rate of domestic violence at 123.9 per 100,000 population.

Number and Rates of Domestic Violence Incidents and Law Enforcement Response, 2012				
County	Total Population	Number of Incidents	Rate of Domestic Violence/ 100,000 Population	Arrest Rates
La Crosse	115,577	635	549.4	88.0%
Monroe	45,056	199	441.7	83.4%
Trempealeau	28,986	143	493.3	79.7%
Vernon	29,865	37	123.9	72.9%
Wisconsin	5,706,871*	28,539**	500.0	-
Source: Wisconsin Department of Justice, Domestic Abuse Incident Report (January-December 2012) *Wisconsin population estimated based on 2013 U.S. Census estimates. **Wisconsin number of domestic violence estimates based on data from 2011. • There was a 0% dual arrest rate for all four counties.				

BACKGROUND

Child abuse is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as words or overt actions that cause harm, potential harm, or threat of harm. Acts of commission are deliberate and intentional; however, harm to a child might not be the intended consequence. Intention only applies to caregiver acts—not the consequences of those acts. For example, a caregiver might intend to hit a child as punishment (i.e., hitting the child is not accidental or unintentional), but not intend to cause the child to have a concussion. The following types of maltreatment involve acts of commission:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological abuse

Acts of omission, or child neglect, are the failure to provide for a child's basic physical, emotional, or educational needs or to protect a child from harm or potential harm. Like acts of commission, harm to a child might not be the intended consequence. The following types of maltreatment involve acts of omission:

- Physical neglect
- Emotional neglect
- Medical and dental neglect
- Educational neglect
- Inadequate supervision
- Exposure to violent environments

It is important to note that abuse or neglected children may be referred to foster care. For more information regarding foster care, see COMPASS NOW 2015 Community Indicator 11.

National Statistics about Child Abuse

According to Safe Horizon, the largest victims' services agency in the United States, 1 in 10 children suffer from child maltreatment. 1 in 16 children suffer from sexual abuse. Moreover, nearly 1 in 10 are witnesses to family violence. Additional national statistics about child abuse include:

- 25% of abused children are under the age of three
- 45% of abused children are under the age of five
- In 2012, there was a total of 1,593 children who died in the U.S. because of abuse or neglect. Of these, 70.3% of children who died were younger than three years old. Moreover, 44.4% of the children who died were younger than one year of age.

- Boys and girls are equally as likely to be victims of abuse and neglect, however, the rate of fatality is higher for boys.
- 85% of child fatalities in 2012 were white children. However, Pacific Islanders and African American children had the highest rates of child fatalities (4.69 and 4.67 per 100,000 children).
- On average, there are 2.9 million child abuse cases reported every year in the U.S. 17% of these reports are made by teachers, 17% made by law enforcement, and 11% made by social services.
- In 80% of the U.S. child abuse cases, the parent is the perpetrator. 82.2% of perpetrators were between the ages of 18 and 44 years old. More specifically, 39.6% of perpetrators were in the 25-34 age group.
- 45.3% of perpetrators are male and 53.5% are female.

What can happen to children who are abused or neglected?

- As Children[17]…
  - 1 in every 4 victims of shaken baby syndrome die and nearly all victims experience serious health consequences.
  - Child physical abuse can result in malformation of the brain, resulting in impaired mental development and lack of growth in vital areas.
  - Child abuse victims as young as three years of age have shown signs of depression and withdrawal symptoms.
  - Child abuse victims are more likely to exhibit anti-social behaviors, including borderline personality disorders and violent behavior.
  - Child abuse victims placed in foster or kinship care because of abuse or neglect were found to score lower than other students in tests of cognitive capacity, language development, and academic achievement.
  - Child abuse and maltreatment can have a multitude of long-term effects on physical health. Research has found that during the following three years after the maltreatment investigation, 28% of abused and neglected children had a chronic health condition.
- As Teenagers[17]…
  - Abused children are 25% more likely to experience teen pregnancy.
  - In a study of young adults who suffered child abuse or neglect, 80% met criteria for at least one psychiatric disorder by age 21, including depression, anxiety, eating disorders, and suicide attempts.
  - In a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services study of homeless youth, it found that 46% of those surveyed had escaped a home where they suffered physical abuse, and 17% left because of sexual abuse.
  - Children who experience child abuse and neglect are 59% more likely to be arrested as a juvenile, 28% more likely to be arrested as an adult, and 30% more likely to commit violence crime.

- As Adults[17]…
    - Adults who suffered child abuse and neglect can develop allergies, arthritis, asthma, bronchitis, high blood pressure, and ulcers, in addition to other physical disabilities because of poor health caused by the abuse.
    - Child abuse and neglect have been associated with panic and dissociative disorders, attention deficit and/or hyperactivity disorder, depression, anger, and post-traumatic stress disorder in children and in adults who suffered abuse.
    - Adults who were abused or neglected as children are more likely to abuse alcohol or drugs during their lifetimes. One study found that as many as two-thirds of individuals in drug treatment programs reported being abused as children.
    - It is estimated that 30% of abused or neglected children will grow up and abuse their own children.

Wisconsin

In 2013, county Child Protective Services (CPS) agencies and the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) received a total of 68,943 referrals from reporters alleging maltreatment of children. Law enforcement, educational personnel, and social service workers accounted for the largest sources of CPS reports. A total of 26,108 of these CPS reports, or 37.9%, were screened-in by CPS agencies for further assessment. The term "screened-in" refers to reports to CPS where the information presents reasonable cause to suspect maltreatment of safety/risk concerns that would support threatened maltreatment and the case is assigned for an Internal Assessment (IA). These screened-in reports could involve multiple children within each report, and together they accounted for 24,846 CPS Initial Assessments of families. At the child-level, there were 40,135 CPS maltreatment reports involving 33,818 children and 45,547 allegations of maltreatment. Some children were involved in more than one report and/or were affected by multiple allegations of maltreatment[18].

Neglect was the most common type of maltreatment allegation during calendar year 2013, followed by physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse. Neglect is defined under Wisconsin Legislature 48.02(1)(f) as the "failure, refusal, or inability on the part of a caregiver, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical, or dental care or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child". Of the 40,135 CPS maltreatment reports, 5,466 were substantiated allegations of maltreatment, representing 13.1% of the total. Neglect accounted for the most substantiated findings of maltreatment during 2013[18]. Roughly equal numbers of males and females were maltreaters in 2013. Nonetheless, males accounted for the majority of maltreaters in sexual and physical abuse cases, while females accounted for the majority of maltreaters in neglect cases. In general, primary caregivers accounted for 89% of substantiated maltreatment[18].

The table below shows the total number of CPS referrals made in Wisconsin in 2013 and the related screening decisions. La Crosse County has the lowest percentage of screen-in referrals and the largest percentage of screen-out referrals. Alternatively, Vernon County has the highest number of screen-in referrals and the lowest number of screen-out referrals.

Total CPS Referrals and Screening Decisions by County: Wisconsin 2013							
County	Total CPS Referrals	Screen-Out CPS Referrals	Screen-Out Percent	Screen-In CPS Referrals	Screen-In Percent	Screen-In Service Referrals	Screen-Out Service Referrals
La Crosse	1,501	1,109	73.9%	392	26.1%	494	109
Monroe	575	406	70.6%	169	29.4%	190	38
Trempealeau	272	183	67.3%	89	32.7%	73	34
Vernon	253	147	58.1%	106	41.9%	217	15
State Total	68,943	42,835	62.1%	26,108	37.9%	22,130	5,486
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report							

The figure below displays the total number of CPS maltreatment reports received by CPS agencies from 2004 through 2013. The number of CPS maltreatment reports has fluctuated between approximately 38,000 and 42,500 reports over this time period. Overall there was a 5.5% decline in CPS maltreatment reports over the past ten years. The CPS maltreatment report rate over the past five years, however, has increased by 5.4%.
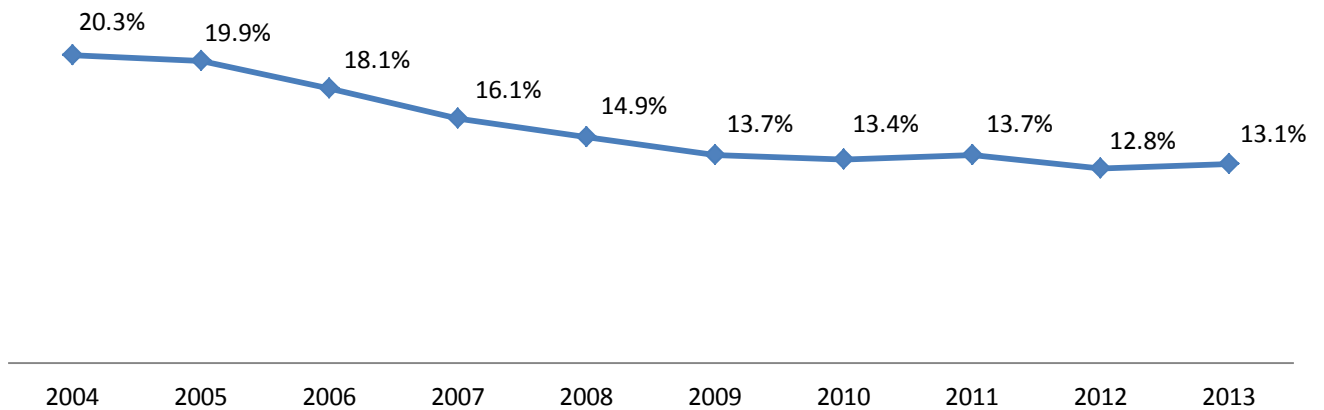
Total Number of Wisconsin CPS Maltreatment Reports: 2004-2013
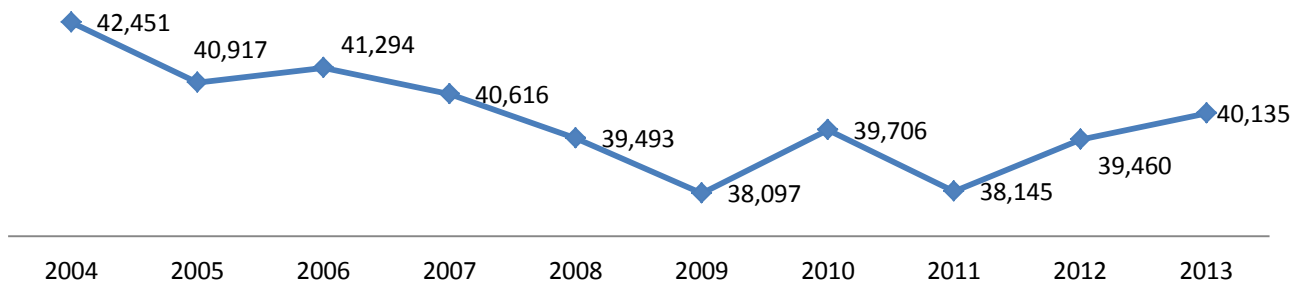
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The figure below depicts the trend in substantiation rates in Wisconsin from 2004-2013. The overall maltreatment substantiation rate declined from 2004 through 2010, and is relatively steady from 2010 through 2013. The marked decline in the substantiation rate between 2005 and subsequent years was likely driven by 2005 Wisconsin Act 232, made effective on October 1, 2006, which eliminated the requirement that CPS agencies complete a CPS Initial Assessment in situations where the alleged maltreater is not a caregiver for the children. While an Initial Assessment is no longer required in these situations, the instance may still be referred to law enforcement and the family may be offered services. Due to this law change, there was a significant decline in the number of non-caregiver CPS Initial Assessments completed beginning in 2007. Non-caregivers, such as peers, family friends, or strangers, tend to comprise a significant proportion of sexual abuse cases. As a result, the number of sexual abuse substantiations declined by over 50% after 2006. A substantiation decision means the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) found the maltreater was responsible for the abused or neglected child. DHHS keeps a list of people who have been "substantiated." People on this list are considered a risk for abusing or neglecting children in the future.

Wisconsin Maltreatment Substantiation Rates

20.3% 19.9% 18.1% 16.1% 14.9% 13.7% 13.4% 13.7% 12.8% 13.1%

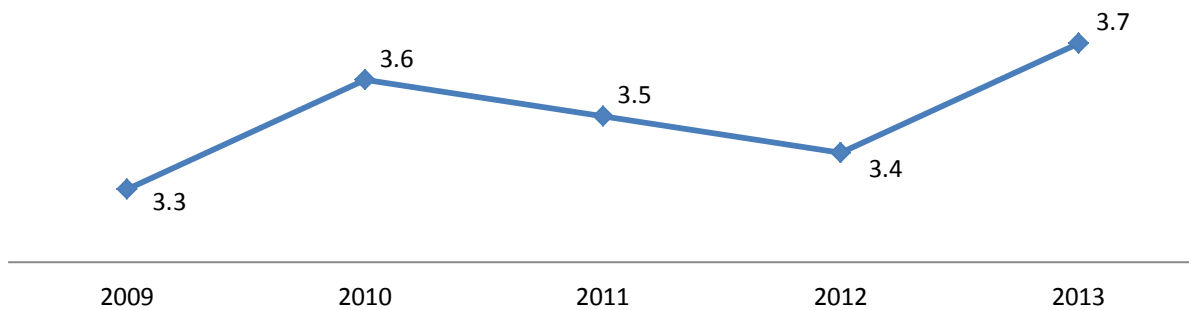| 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

- Note that the substantiation rate calculation was revised and thus 2013 figures are not directly comparable to previous year's figures.

The figure on the next page shows the child victimization rate in Wisconsin over a five-year period. In prior reports children substantiated more than one time were counted multiple times in the victimization rates, but beginning in 2011 child victim counts were unduplicated. The maltreatment rate has hovered during this time span between a low of 3.3 and a high of 3.7 children maltreated per 1,000 children.

Wisconsin Victimization Rate per 1,000 Children

```
                                                                    3.7
          3.6                                                    ●
        ●                    3.5
                           ●
                                            3.4
  3.3                                     ●
●

3.3
    2009          2010          2011          2012          2013
```

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The table below shows maltreatment allegations for the state of Wisconsin by maltreatment type (neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse) and maltreatment findings for 2013.

Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Findings and Maltreatment Type: 2013 Wisconsin				
Maltreatment Type	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Not Able to Locate Information Sources-Unsubstantiated	Total
Neglect	3,219	19,469	617	23,305
Physical Abuse	982	10,367	195	11,544
Sexual Abuse	1,226	4,397	160	5,783
Emotional Abuse	39	925	28	992
Total	5,466	35,158	1,000	41,624
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report				

Certain individuals whose employment brings them into contact with children are required to report any suspected child maltreatment seen in the course of their professional duties. These individuals are referred to as mandated reporters. However, anyone who suspects a child is being maltreated may make such a report. Persons making referrals in good faith are immune from criminal or civil liability. Wisconsin's CPS delivery system requires any concerned individual to report suspected child maltreatment directly to the local CPS agency or law enforcement. The table on the next page displays the count of all screened-in and screened-out referrals by the type of reporter during 2013. The term "screened-out" refers to reports where there is insufficient information to identify and locate any of the persons involved/subjects of the report. Educational personnel made the majority of CPS referrals.

Revised on 10/14/2015

Screened In and Screened Out Referrals by Reporter's Relationship to Alleged Child Victim: 2013		
Reporter	**Count of Referrals**	**Percent of Total Referrals**
Educational Personnel	12,474	18.1%
Legal/Law Enforcement	11,232	16.3%
Social Service Worker	9,739	14.1%
Parent of Child Victim	7,071	10.3%
Mental Health Professional	5,003	7.3%
Other	4,837	7.0%
Relative	4,403	6.4%
Not Documented	3,645	5.3%
Medical Personnel	3,639	5.3%
Anonymous	2,937	4.3%
Neighbor/Friend	2,324	3.4%
Child Care Provider	904	1.3%
Other Caregiver of Child Victim	491	0.7%
Child Victim	213	0.3%
Maltreater	31	<0.1%
TOTAL	**68,943**	**100.0%**
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report		

Across all categories of maltreatment, mandated reports were found to have a higher percentage of allegation substantiations after CPS Initial Assessment than non-mandated reporters' maltreatment allegations. This higher percentage of substantiation is likely due to the fact that mandated reporters are in general more educated on the child maltreatment reporting protocol, and so they are less likely to report situations that do not meet the definition of child maltreatment than non-mandated reporters. The figure on below shows the percentage of substantiated maltreatment allegations by type in Wisconsin. Sexual abuse is the most frequently substantiated type, while emotional abuse is the least commonly reported type.

Percentage of Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations by Type and by Mandated and Non-Mandated Reporters for State of Wisconsin, 2013

■ Mandated ■ Non-Mandated

	Sexual Abuse	Neglect	Physical Abuse	Emotional Abuse
Mandated	15.9%	9.7%	6.6%	2.4%
Non-Mandated	5.3%	4.1%	1.9%	1.5%

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report
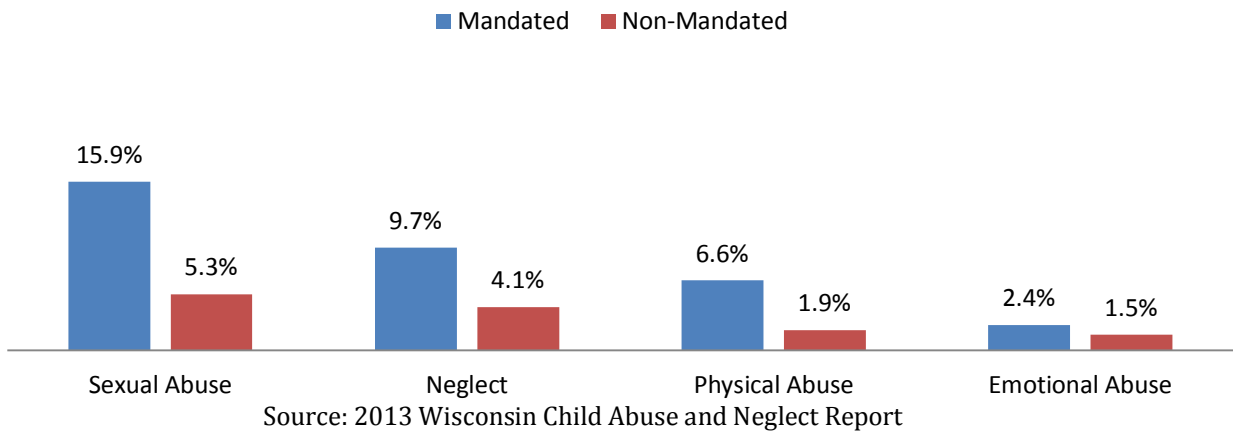
The table below displays the child victimization rate by gender for 2013. The victimization rate by gender is calculated by dividing the number of unique female and male victims in 2013 by the respective Wisconsin female and male child population (ages 0-17). In 2013, females comprised a slightly disproportionate share of the victims given their number in the Wisconsin child population. These proportions have been stable over time. Comparable data for other years can be found at http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwreview/reports/CAN-Y.htm.

Wisconsin Child Victimization Rate by Gender, 2013			
Gender	Child Population (0-17 Years Old)	Count of Victims	Child Victims per 1,000 Children
Females	638,872	2,616	4.1
Males	668,904	2,221	3.3
Total	1,307,776	4,886	3.7
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report Population Source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2013 Easy Access Population Profile • 49 victims are missing from the victim counts as their gender was not reported.			

The table on the next page displays the count of victims by age range for 2013. A victim is a child who had at least one of the maltreatment allegations found to be substantiated as a result of a CPS Initial Assessment. In 2013, the <1-3 age group accounted for the largest number of victims, and 57.7% of victims were under the age of 8. These proportions have been stable over time.
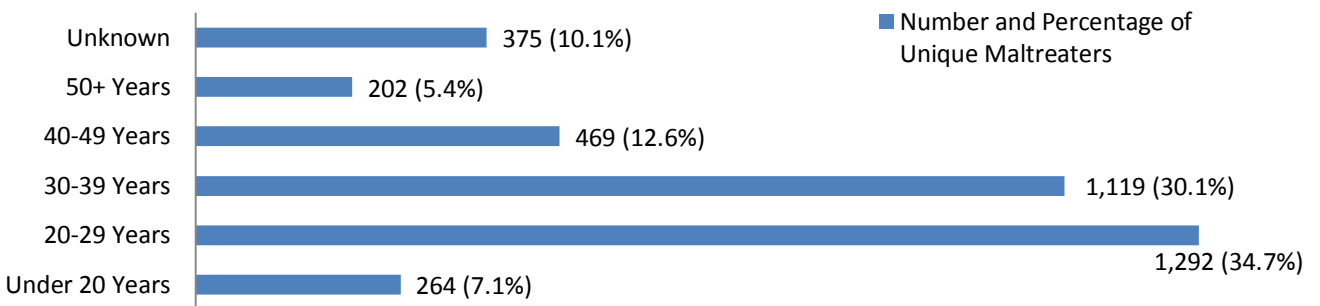
Age Range of Unique Child Maltreatment Victims: Wisconsin, 2013

Age Range	Number and Percentage of Unique Victims
16+ Years	271 (5.5%)
12-15 Years	853 (17.5%)
8-11 Years	926 (19.0%)
4-7 Years	1,307 (26.7%)
<1-3 Years	1,512 (30.9%)
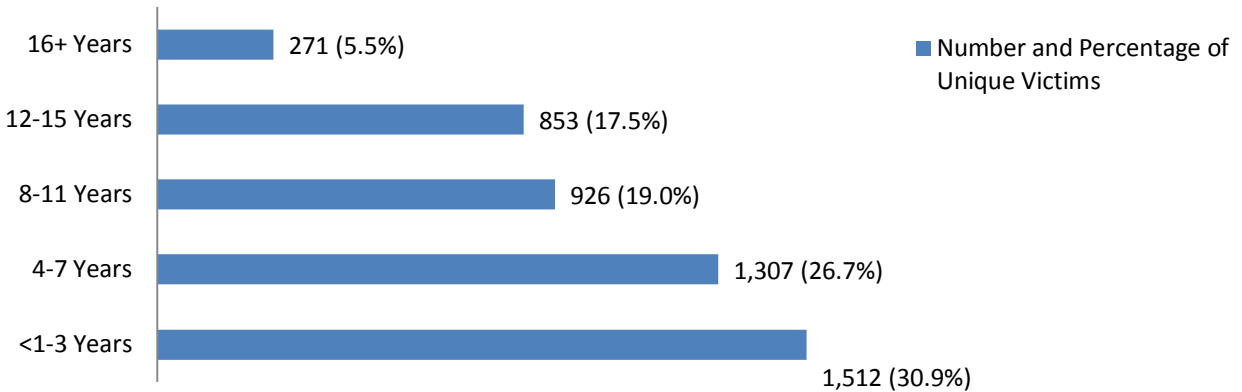
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The figure below shows the count and percentage of maltreaters by their age range for 2013. As the majority of maltreaters are parents, the most common child-rearing age groups account for the largest number of maltreaters. A maltreater is a person, who, after the CPS Initial Assessment of a screened-in referral, has had at least one allegation of child maltreatment found to be substantiated by the CPS agency.

Age Range of Unique Maltreaters: Wisconsin 2013

Age Range	Number and Percentage of Unique Maltreaters
Unknown	375 (10.1%)
50+ Years	202 (5.4%)
40-49 Years	469 (12.6%)
30-39 Years	1,119 (30.1%)
20-29 Years	1,292 (34.7%)
Under 20 Years	264 (7.1%)

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The graph on the next page shows the child maltreatment victimization rate by age and gender for 2013. This victimization rate is calculated by dividing the number of 2013 unique child victims of each gender and age group by the respective number of children in the state's population of the same gender and age group. As children age, the victimization rate drops for both groups, but the female victimization rate remains higher than the male victimization rate for the older four age groups.
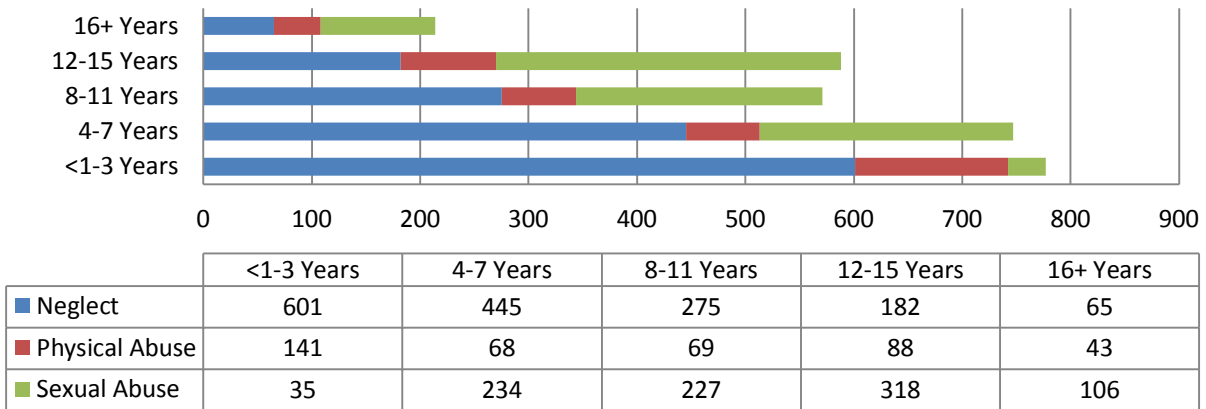
Child Maltreatment Victimization Rate by Age and Gender: Wisconsin, 2013

■ Male ■ Female

Age of Victim	Male	Female
16+ Years	1.1	2.6
12-15 Years	2.1	3.6
8-11 Years	2.6	3.7
4-7 Years	4.1	4.8
<1-3 Years	5.8	5.1

Rate per 1,000 Children
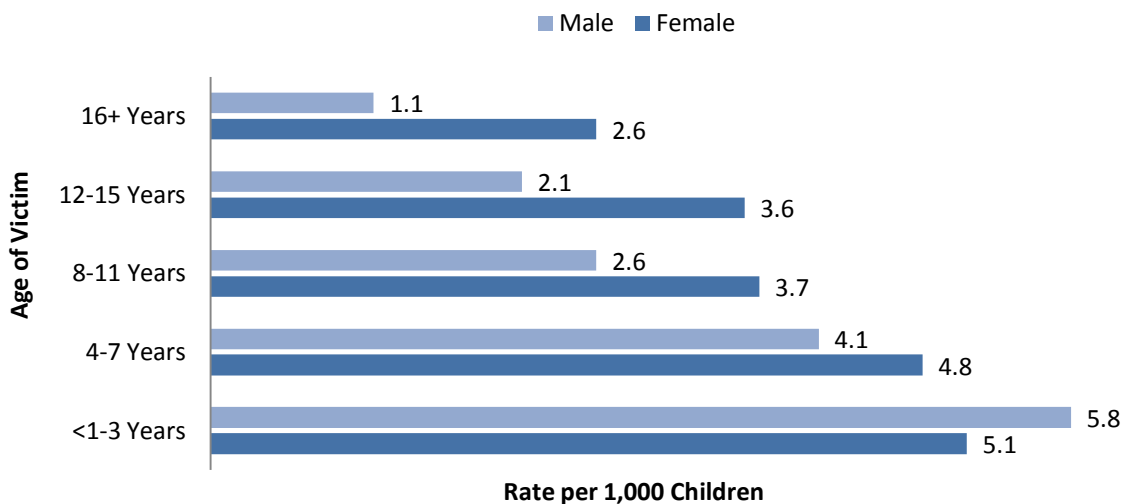
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The two graphs on the next page show the number of substantiated maltreatment allegations, by victim age range, for female and male victims. The 2,616 female victims experienced 2,924 maltreatment substantiations, while the 2,221 male victims experienced 2,493 maltreatment substantiations. A greater number of female victimization among the three older age ranges is due to females experiencing significantly greater instances of substantiated sexual abuse than their male counterparts. This is especially true within the 12-15 age range where females have 4.4 times the substantiation number as males of their same age. Comparisons of these charts also shows that males are on average physically abused at greater rates than females, and are abused at twice the level of females in the 4-7 age range. Neglect declines with age for both males and females.
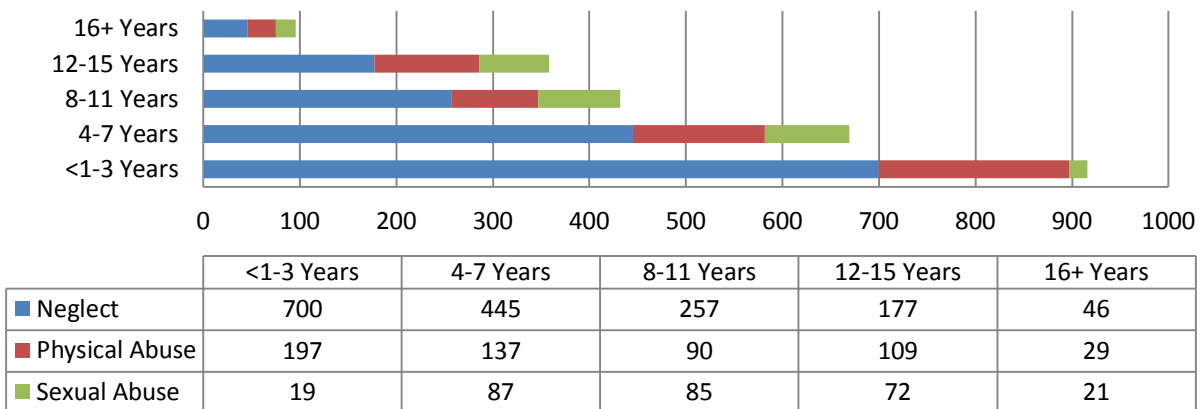
Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations, by Age, for Female Victims: Wisconsin, 2013

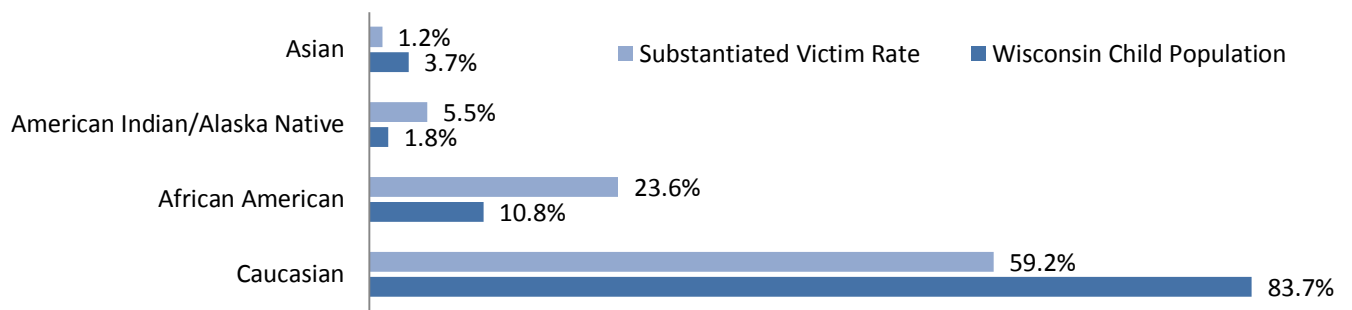|	<1-3 Years	4-7 Years	8-11 Years	12-15 Years	16+ Years
Neglect	601	445	275	182	65
Physical Abuse	141	68	69	88	43
Sexual Abuse	35	234	227	318	106

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

- There were 19 instances of substantiated emotional abuse allegations, made up of one instance in <1-3 year olds, one instance in 4-7 year olds, three instances in 8-11 year olds, eleven instances in 12-15 year olds, and three instances in 16+ year olds.
- This graph does not include the 57 maltreatment substantiations with undocumented gender and/or age values.

Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations, by Age, for Male Victims: Wisconsin, 2013

	<1-3 Years	4-7 Years	8-11 Years	12-15 Years	16+ Years
Neglect	700	445	257	177	46
Physical Abuse	197	137	90	109	29
Sexual Abuse	19	87	85	72	21

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

- There were 20 instances of substantiated emotional abuse allegations, made up of six instances in 4-7 year olds, three instances in 8-11 year olds, nine instances in 12-15 year olds, and two instances in 16+ year olds.
- This graph does not include the 51 maltreatment substantiations with undocumented gender and/or age values.

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The graph below displays the percentage of unique victims by race for 2013, as compared to the race distribution of the total Wisconsin child population. African American children and American Indian children are victims of child maltreatment at higher proportions than their comparative share of the general Wisconsin child population. There were 507 victims (approximately 10.4%) whose race was unable to be determined and are not included in the chart below. In addition, there were five Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims not depicted.

Child Abuse Victim Compared to Child Population, by Race, Wisconsin, 2013

Asian
1.2%
3.7%

American Indian/Alaska Native
5.5%
1.8%

African American
23.6%
10.8%

Caucasian
59.2%
83.7%

■ Substantiated Victim Rate   ■ Wisconsin Child Population

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The figure below compares 2013 percentage of maltreaters by race with the Wisconsin adult population. Persons who identified as African American and American Indian comprise a larger share of identified maltreaters than their proportional share of Wisconsin's general adult population.

Maltreaters Compared to Adult Population, by Race, Wiscosnin, 2013

■ Unique Maltreaters ■ Wisconsin Population

Asian
- Unique Maltreaters: 1.1%
- Wisconsin Population: 2.4%

American Indian/Alaska Native
- Unique Maltreaters: 4.2%
- Wisconsin Population: 1.1%

African American
- Unique Maltreaters: 18.3%
- Wisconsin Population: 6.0%

Caucasian
- Unique Maltreaters: 56.1%
- Wisconsin Population: 90.5%

Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

The death of a child is one of the most tragic consequences of child maltreatment. The role of Child Protective Services in the case of a child maltreatment death is to assure the safety of any other children present in the family and to assess the family's need for services. Investigations of child deaths are generally handled by law enforcement agencies. In 2013, county CPS agencies and the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare reported 20 substantiated cases of a child having died from maltreatment. The figure below shows the count of child fatalities substantiated due to maltreatment from 2004-2013. The number of child fatalities substantiated as maltreatment ranged from 12 to 33 between 2004 and 2013.

Number of Child Fatalities Sustained as Maltreatment: 2004-2013

- 2004: 15
- 2005: 12
- 2006: 16
- 2007: 33
- 2008: 27
- 2009: 23
- 2010: 19
- 2011: 32
- 2012: 24
- 2013: 20
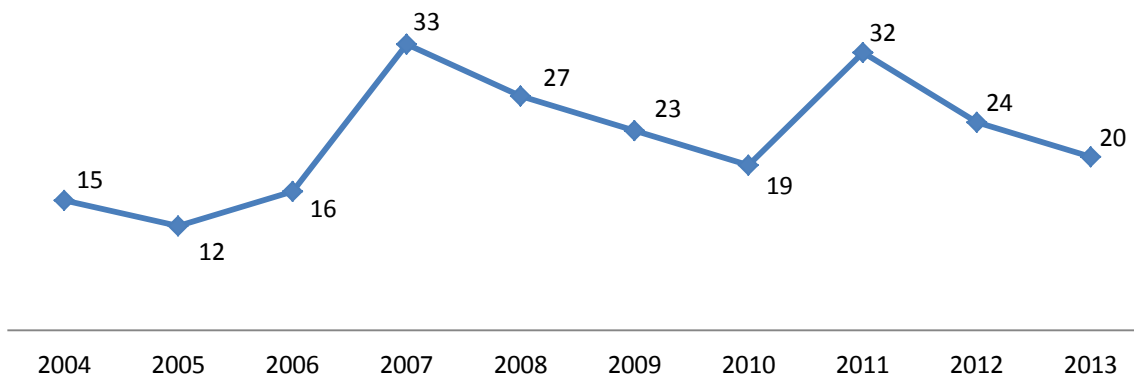
Source: 2013 Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report

- Please note that as compared to the 2012 Child Abuse and Neglect Report, the child fatality figure in 2012 increased by one child due to late reporting of the fatality to the county agency.

Minnesota

The Minnesota Department of Human Services, Children and Family Services Administration annually publishes the "Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report." It provides an overview of how children are faring, and presents information about Minnesota's performance on key child welfare indicators required by state and federal governments.
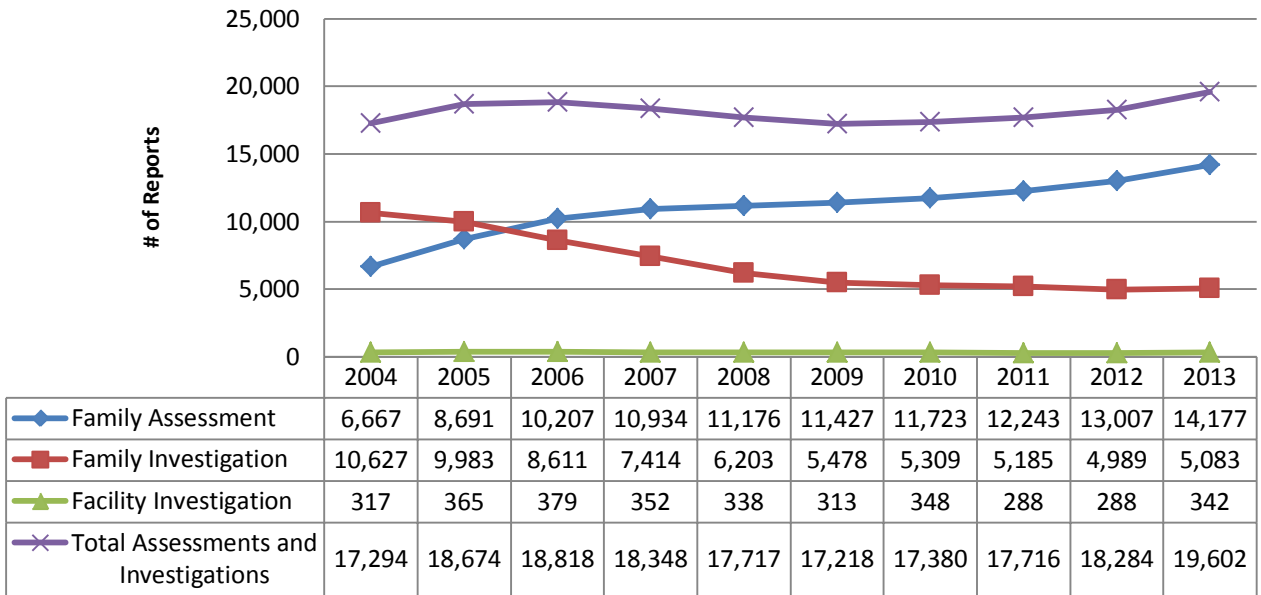
In 2013, over 19,602 reports of child maltreatment were addressed by the child protection system. A total of 25,297 children were involved in these reports. Approximately 72% (14,177 reports) of the reports received a Family Assessment, while the remainder received a Family Investigation. Of the 5,083 Family Investigations, maltreatment was determined to have occurred in 2,767 investigations (with 4,171 associated victims). A Family Assessment ensures children's safety and family stability by building on families' strengths and responding to individual needs. Children and parents get the help they need without being labeled. A Family Investigation is conducted when either a child is in immediate or significant danger or a family will not participate in a Family Assessment, or take steps to ensure the safety of their child. The Minnesota Department of Human Services works closely with the state's tribes that provide direct services to families and children in the child protection system.
Neglect was the most common allegation of maltreatment, found in 64% of Family Assessments and 54% of Family Investigations. This includes neglecting to provide adequate food, clothing or shelter, endangerment, educational neglect, abandonment and inadequate supervision. Medical neglect is counted separately.

American Indian and African American/Black children had the highest rates of contact with the child protection system. They were six and three times more likely to be reported as abused or neglected than were white children, respectively.

The figure below shows the 2004 through 2013 trend in the number of maltreatment reports assessed or investigated by counties or tribes. The use of Family Assessment response has increasingly replaced Family Investigation as the preferred response. The number of Facility Investigations has remained fairly stable between 2004 and 2013.

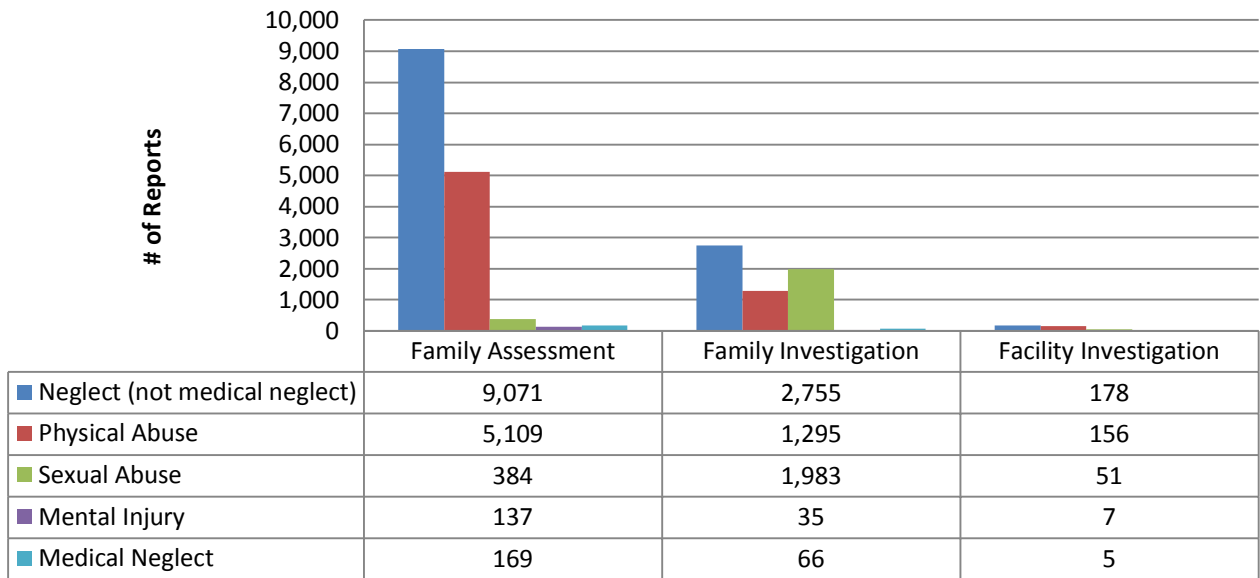## Child Maltreatment Reports by Response Category: Minnesota 2004-2013

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Family Assessment	6,667	8,691	10,207	10,934	11,176	11,427	11,723	12,243	13,007	14,177
Family Investigation	10,627	9,983	8,611	7,414	6,203	5,478	5,309	5,185	4,989	5,083
Facility Investigation	317	365	379	352	338	313	348	288	288	342
Total Assessments and Investigations	17,294	18,674	18,818	18,348	17,717	17,218	17,380	17,716	18,284	19,602

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The figure below shows that neglect was the most common type of maltreatment alleged in all reports. This category includes emotional neglect, physical neglect (food, clothing and shelter), disregard for safety, inadequate supervision, abandonment, expulsion from home, prenatal exposure to alcohol or drugs, educational neglect, endangerment, failure to thrive, and chronic chemical abuse by a primary caretaker. Allegations of neglect appeared in 64% of Family Assessments, 54% of Family Investigations, and 52% of Facility Investigations. Physical abuse allegations appeared in 36% of Family Assessments, 26% of Family Investigations, and 46% of Facility Investigations. Sexual abuse allegations appeared in 39% of Family Investigations and 15% of Facility Investigations. By law, sexual abuse allegations must be investigated and result in a determination of whether maltreatment had occurred. The 384 Family Assessment sexual abuse reports were possibly unfounded allegations of Family Investigations that were switched to a Family Assessment response in the data system. About 1% of all reports had an allegation of mental injury. Medical neglect allegations appeared in 1.2% of all reports.

Reports by Maltreatment Type: Minnesota, 2013

	Family Assessment	Family Investigation	Facility Investigation
Neglect (not medical neglect)	9,071	2,755	178
Physical Abuse	5,109	1,295	156
Sexual Abuse	384	1,983	51
Mental Injury	137	35	7
Medical Neglect	169	66	5

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The table below shows the percent of investigated reports that resulted in a determination that maltreatment occurred. In Family Investigations, non-medical neglect allegations were the most likely to receive a determination. Facility investigations were less likely to be determined, with only 30% demonstrating a preponderance of evidence that maltreatment occurred.

Determined Family and Facility Investigations by Maltreatment Type: Minnesota, 2013						
Maltreatment Type	Family Investigation			Facility Investigation		
	Alleged	Determined	Percent Determined	Alleged	Determined	Percent Determined
Neglect (non-medical)	2,755	1,738	63.1%	178	56	31.5%
Physical Abuse	1,295	633	48.9%	156	36	23.1%
Sexual Abuse	1,983	610	30.8%	51	18	35.3%
Mental Injury	36	13	36.1%	7	3	42.9%

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Medical Neglect	66	33	50.0%	5	-	0.0%
Total Reports	5,083	2,920	57.4%	342	104	30.4%
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013						

The table below identifies the sources of all maltreatment reports accepted for assessment or investigation. Law enforcement and school personnel made 50% of maltreatment reports to child protection agencies. About 83% of reports were from those mandated by law to report suspected child maltreatment. Mandated reporters include those in law enforcement, health care, mental health, social services, education and child care, among others who work with children. Comparable data from previous years can be found at, http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_003712.

Sources of Assessed Maltreatment Reports: Minnesota, 2013		
Report Source	**Reports**	**Percent of Reports**
Law Enforcement or Courts	5,265	26.9%
School Personnel	4,498	22.9%
Social Worker or Counselor	2,682	13.7%
Health Practitioner	2,075	10.6%
Parent or Relative Out of the Home	1,266	6.5%
Friend, Acquaintance or Neighbor	718	3.7%
Parent or Relative in the Home	616	3.1%
Non-Relative Caregiver	393	2.0%
Other	1,463	7.5%
Anonymous	626	3.2%
Total Reports	19,602	100.0%
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013		

The next four figures illustrate the numbers of children reported to child protection by age, gender and maltreatment type. Mental injury maltreatment type is not included due to very small numbers. Overall, girls and boys were nearly equally likely to be reported to child protection, however, the reasons for reporting tended to vary by gender. Younger children comprised the larger numbers of children reported for neglect, while older children comprised a larger proportion of the physical and sexual abuse cases.

Revised on 10/14/2015
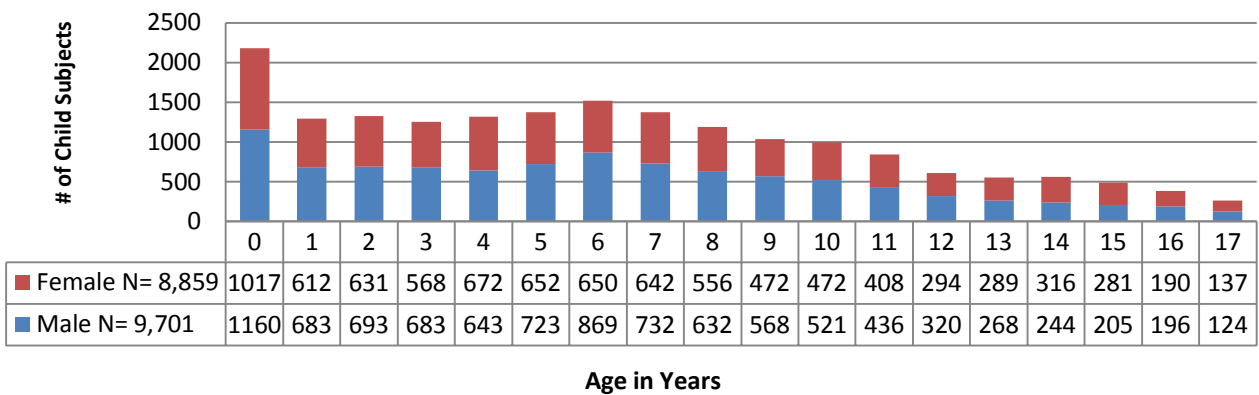
Child Subjects of Maltreatment Reports by Age and Gender: Minnesota, 2013

Age in Years	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Female N= 13,821	1293	770	791	859	934	969	975	925	820	741	742	685	319	626	654	584	510	323
Male N= 14,281	1463	863	879	922	980	1097	1254	1078	925	900	791	705	556	489	427	395	342	213

Age in Years
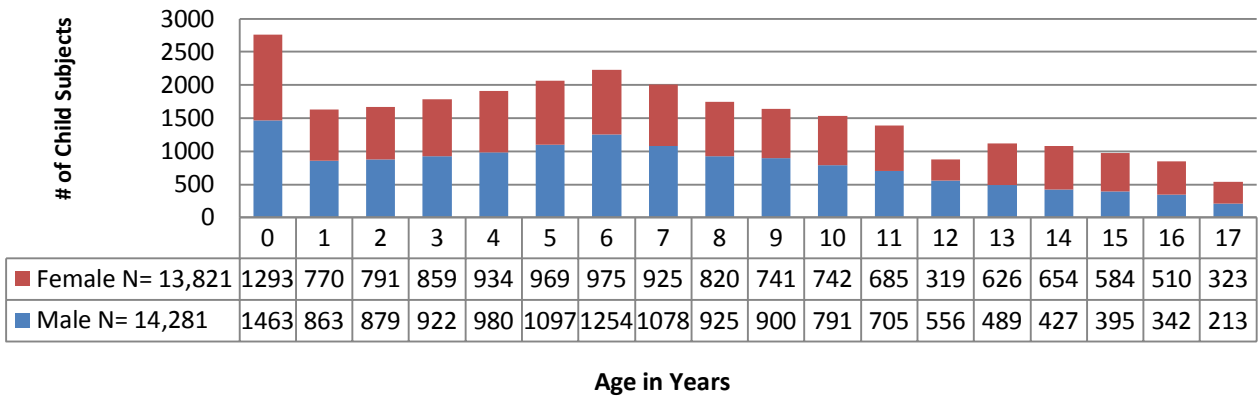
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

- Three subjects of reports were aged 18-20.

The figure below shows that infants are the most vulnerable or the age group more likely to be reported, to certain types of neglect due to the high levels of care and supervision required for their health and safety. Boys outnumber girls, overall, for neglect allegations, but only in children ages 12 and under.

Child Subjects of Neglect Reports by Age and Gender: Minnesota, 2013

Age in Years	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Female N= 8,859	1017	612	631	568	672	652	650	642	556	472	472	408	294	289	316	281	190	137
Male N= 9,701	1160	683	693	683	643	723	869	732	632	568	521	436	320	268	244	205	196	124

Age in Years

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The figure below shows peaks in physical abuse allegations for infants and 5-7-year-olds. Boys comprised 58% of physical abuse reports in children under age 12, while girls appeared more frequently in the teen years. Allegations of physical abuse for boys peaked at age 6 before steadily decreasing with age, while allegations for girls were highest at infancy and age 14.
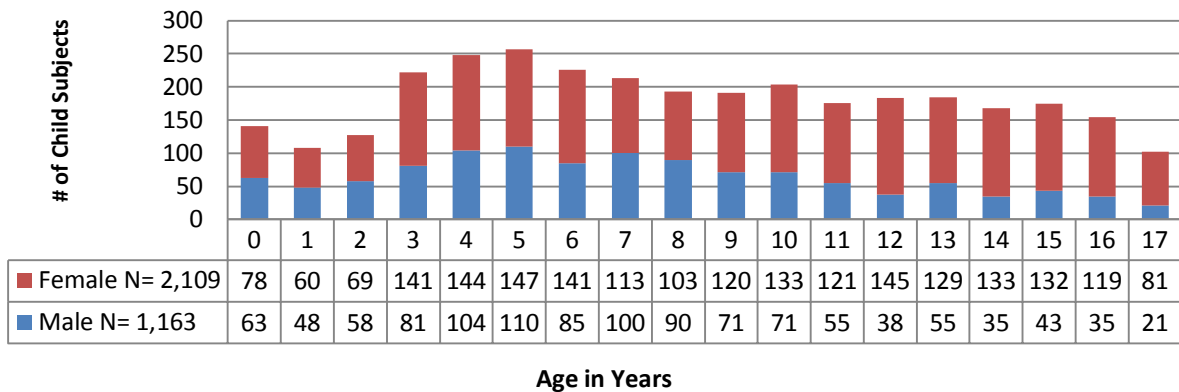
Child Subjects of Physical Abuse Reports by Age and Gender: Minnesota, 2013

Age in Years	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Female N= 3,584	248	139	147	198	193	207	222	209	199	179	187	187	215	241	247	207	240	118
Male N= 4,117	304	170	172	201	290	343	363	299	259	282	241	230	221	193	176	157	134	81
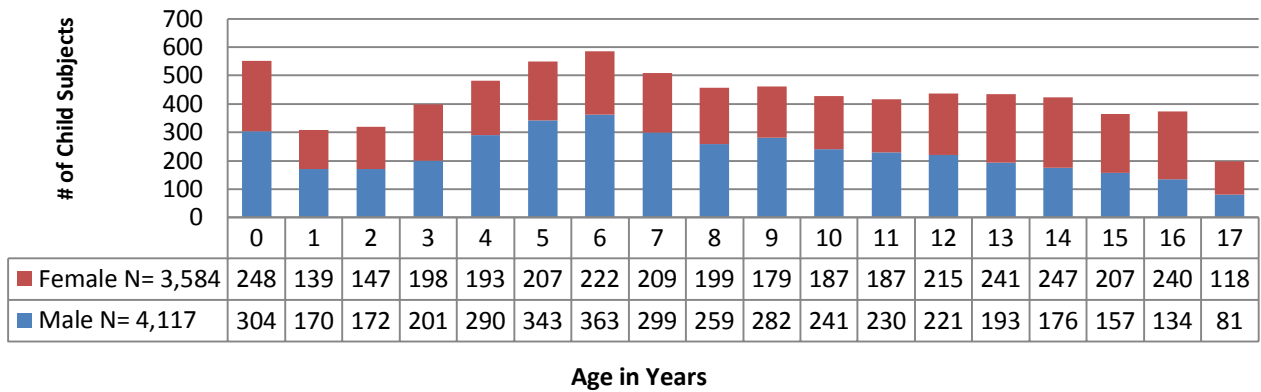
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The figure below shows that girls were 1.8 times more likely to be alleged victims of sexual abuse. Boys were the victims of sexual abuse allegations most often between the ages of 3–8, after which the reports decreased. The pattern of sexual abuse investigations involving girls showed peaks at ages 5 and 12.

Child Subjects of Sexual Abuse Reports by Age and Gender: Minnesota, 2013

Age in Years	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Female N= 2,109	78	60	69	141	144	147	141	113	103	120	133	121	145	129	133	132	119	81
Male N= 1,163	63	48	58	81	104	110	85	100	90	71	71	55	38	55	35	43	35	21

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The figure below reveals that infants were at much higher risk of medical neglect than children of any other age. About 17% of children reported for medical neglect were under age 1.

Child Subjects of Medical Neglect Reports by Age and Gender: Minnesota, 2013

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Female N= 118	20	7	4	5	3	9	9	5	4	8	8	2	4	7	8	6	4	5
Male N= 136	24	14	7	9	6	7	7	7	5	11	6	5	7	8	3	5	2	3

Age in Years
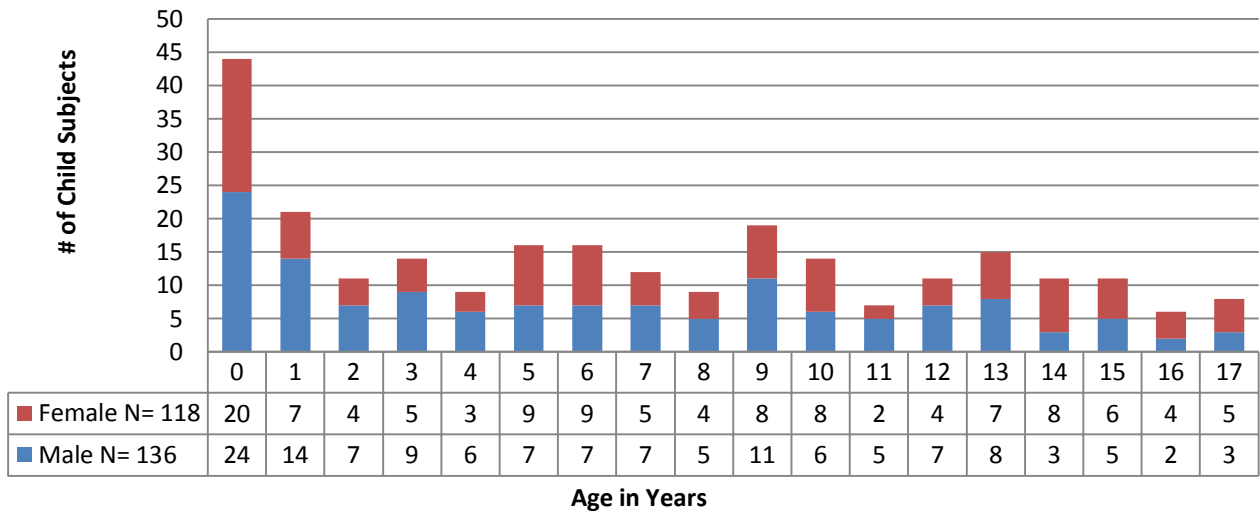
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The figure on the next page shows child subjects of maltreatment by race per 1,000 counts. This was calculated by dividing the number of unique child subjects of reports for each race by the 2013 U.S. Census Bureau child population estimate for that race in Minnesota, then multiplying by 1,000. In the total Minnesota child population, 19.8 children per 1,000 were alleged victims of child maltreatment in 2013. American Indian and African American/Black children were more likely than children of other races to be involved with the child protection system. They were six and three times more likely than a White child to be subjects of an allegation of maltreatment, respectively. Asian or Pacific Islander children had the lowest rate of reports to child protection overall, and for each maltreatment type. American Indian children had the highest rates overall, and for each maltreatment type. Mental injury and medical neglect categories were excluded from the graph due to small numbers.

Incidence per 1,000 by Race/Ethnicity and Maltreatment Type: Minnesota, 2013
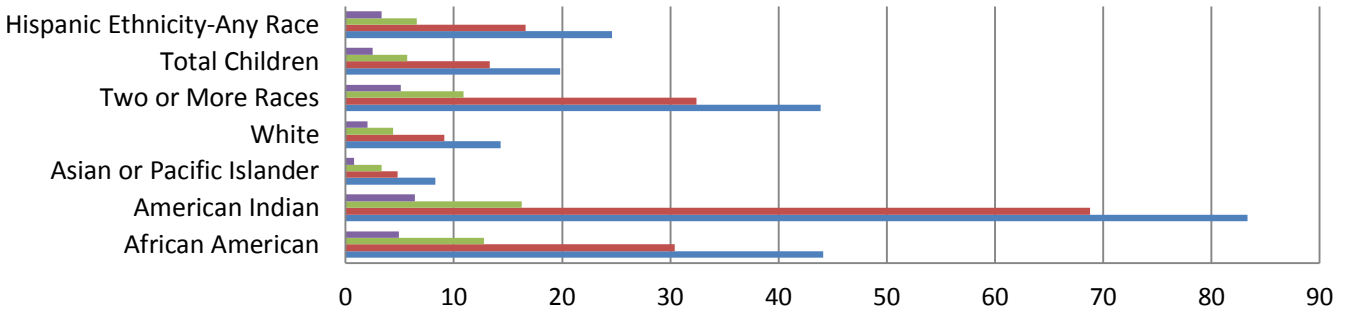
	African American	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Total Children	Hispanic Ethnicity-Any Race
Sexual Abuse	4.9	6.4	0.8	2	5.1	2.5	3.3
Physical Abuse	12.8	16.3	3.3	4.4	10.9	5.7	6.6
Neglect (Non-Medical)	30.4	68.8	4.8	9.1	32.4	13.3	16.6
Total	44.1	83.3	8.3	14.3	43.9	19.8	24.6

Children per 1,000 in Minnesota Child Population

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

For all children in reports of maltreatment by a family caretaker, 72% were assigned to Family Assessment response. White children were more likely to be in reports assigned to Family Assessment than children of other races.

Child Protection Response Category by Race/Ethnicity: Minnesota, 2013

	African American	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Unknown /Declined	Total	Hispanic Ethnicity-Any Race
Family Assessment	69.1%	70.7%	69.2%	74.5%	68.3%	76.2%	72.3%	74.4%
Family Investigation	30.9%	29.3%	30.8%	25.5%	31.7%	23.8%	27.7%	25.6%

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

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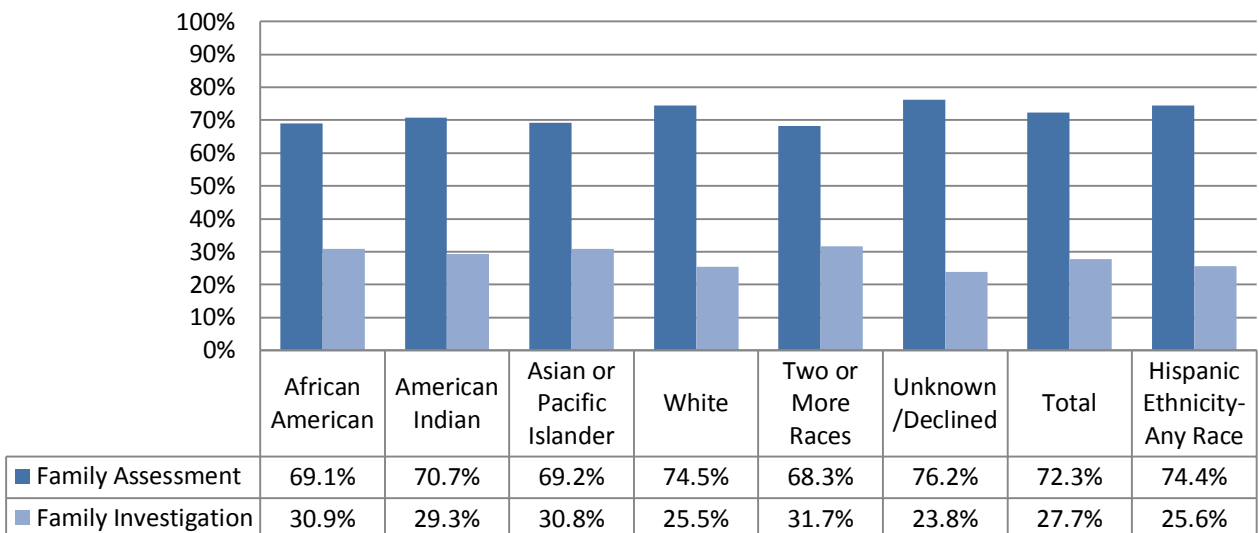
The table below shows the relationship of alleged offenders to the children in assessments and investigations. Birth parents were the largest group and accounted for 76.5% of alleged offenders.

Relationship of Alleged Offenders to Child Subjects of Reports	
Relationship	**Percent of Alleged Offenders (N=23,791)**
Biological Parent	76.5%
Adoptive Parent	1.2%
Stepparent	3.5%
Unmarried Partner of Parent	6.7%
Legal Guardian	1.1%
Sibling	2.4%
Other Relative (Non-Foster Parent)	3.9%
Relative Foster Parent	0.2%
Non-Relative Foster Parent	0.4%
Child Daycare Provider	0.7%
Group Home or Residential Facility Staff	0.2%
Friends or Neighbors	0.4%
Other Professionals	0.0%
Other	1.7%
Unknown or Missing	1.0%
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013	

The following figure shows the 2004 through 2013 trend in the number of deaths and life-threatening injuries determined to be the result of maltreatment by a caretaker. Between 2004 and 2013 there was an average of 46 life-threatening injuries and 16 deaths per year in Minnesota as a direct result of maltreatment by the caretaker.

Number of Deaths and Life-Threatening Injuries: Minnesota, 2004-2013

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Life-Threatening Injury	39	35	48	47	46	44	33	30	52	36
Death	11	15	19	16	18	21	13	14	8	17

Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

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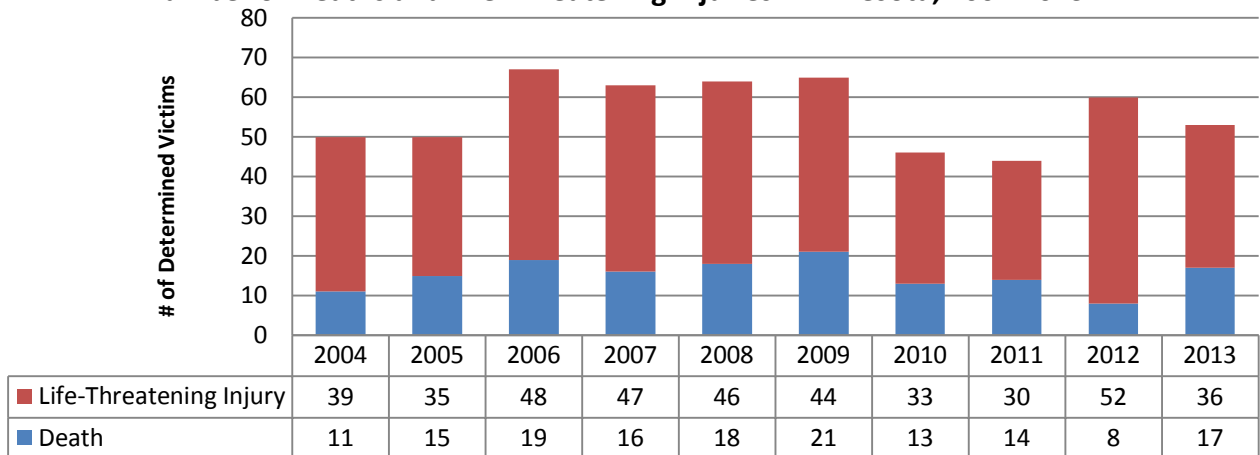
The figure below depicts the prevalence of known family conditions identified by social workers during an assessment or investigation. Most families (77%) were experiencing at least one of the eight issues shown below. About 45% of families in maltreatment reports had parenting issues, while 33% of families were dealing with mental health conditions.

Prevalence of Familiy Conditions: Minnesota, 2013
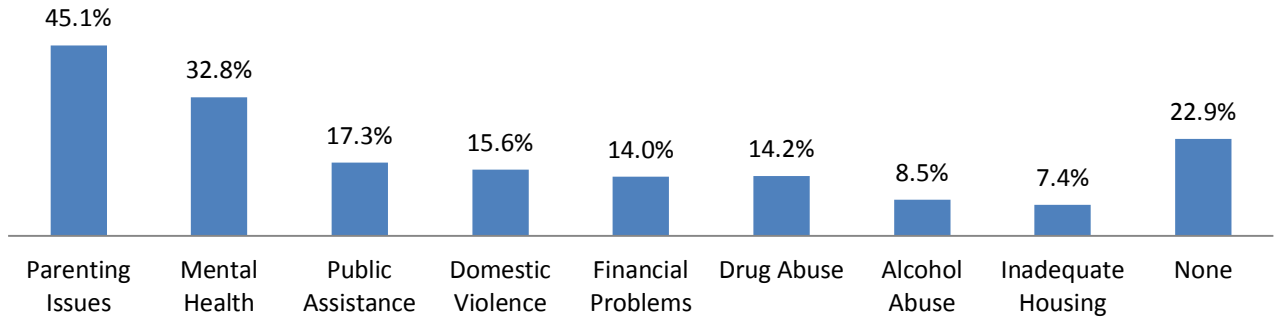
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

The figure below identifies the frequency at which child protection workers recommended various services to address the trauma of child maltreatment and reduce risk factors to prevent future abuse or neglect. The most commonly recommended service was mental health services or individual counseling, followed by parenting education, and mandated child protective services.

Recommended Services: Minnesota, 2013
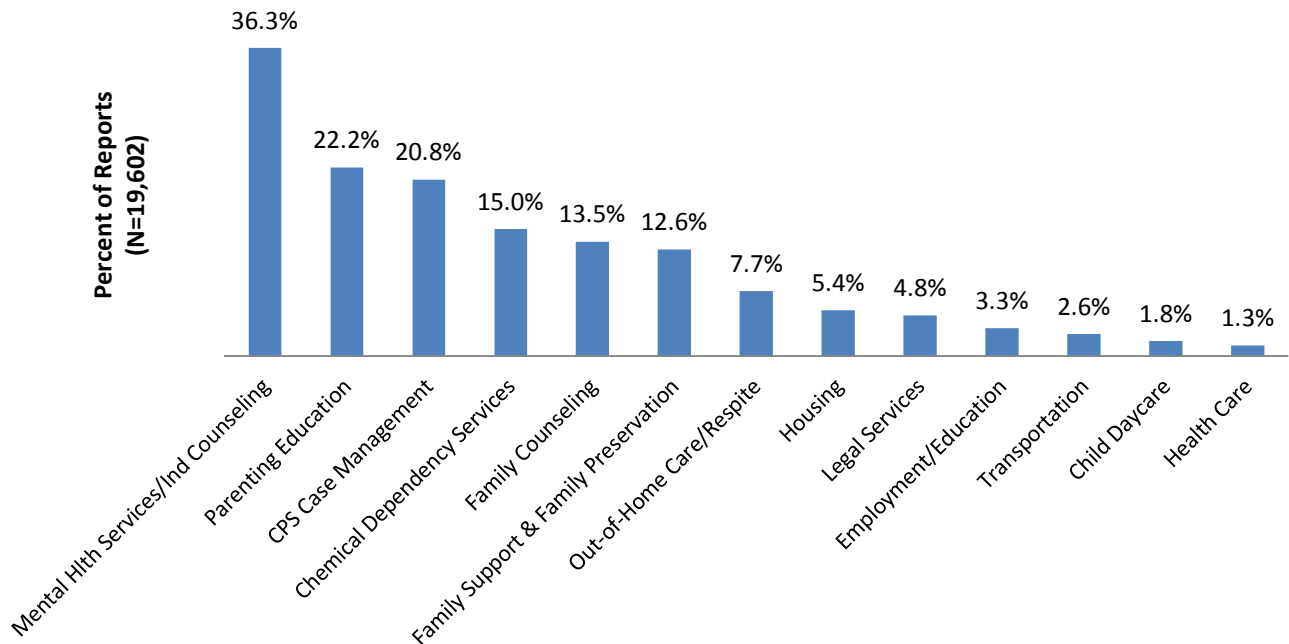
As seen in the figure below, of all victims involved in investigations between July 1, 2012, and December 31, 2012, 2.8% had a subsequent determined report of maltreatment within six months, and 5.0% were victims again within 12 months. American Indian children had the highest rates of maltreatment recurrence in the six- and 12-month time frames. Data should be interpreted with caution because of the small numbers.

Six- and 12-Month Maltreatment Recurrence Rate by Race/Ethnicity: Minnesota, 2013

	African American	American Indian	Asian/ Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Total	Hispanic Ethnicity-Any Race
■ 6-Month Recurrence Rate	3.3%	5.4%	0.0%	1.5%	5.7%	2.8%	3.0%
■ 12-Month Recurrence Rate	6.9%	7.8%	0.0%	2.8%	9.3%	5.0%	6.4%
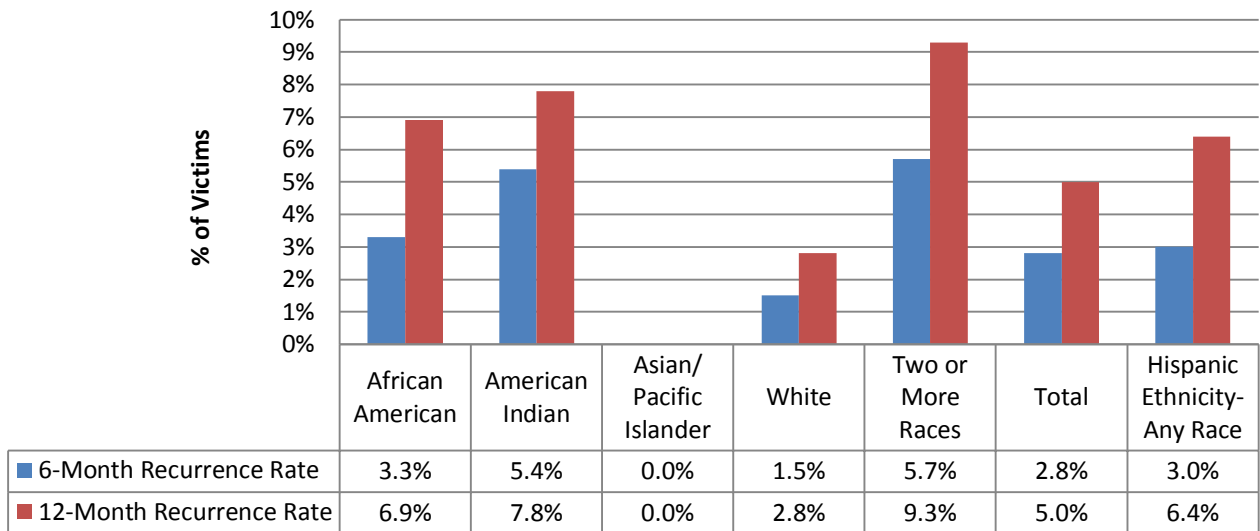
Source: Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2013

Child Abuse in the Great Rivers Region

The Child Protective Services (CPS) program investigates allegations of child abuse and neglect by parents or other family or household members. If necessary, CPS may refer parents to services for help that will allow them to solve their problems and learn how to care for children in ways that do not harm them or put them at risk of abuse or neglect. Some of these services may include counseling, day care, homemaker services, evaluation, treatment, and parenting classes. The figure on the next page shows the total number of CPS referrals for La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon counties from 2009 to 2013. Vernon County had the steepest incline over the five year period, from 174 referrals in 2009 to 253 in 2013, an increase of approximately 45%. It is important to note that this chart reflects the total number of CPS referrals, not the rate. Therefore, although some counties may have fewer referrals, the actual referral rate may be higher.

Total Number of CPS Referrals
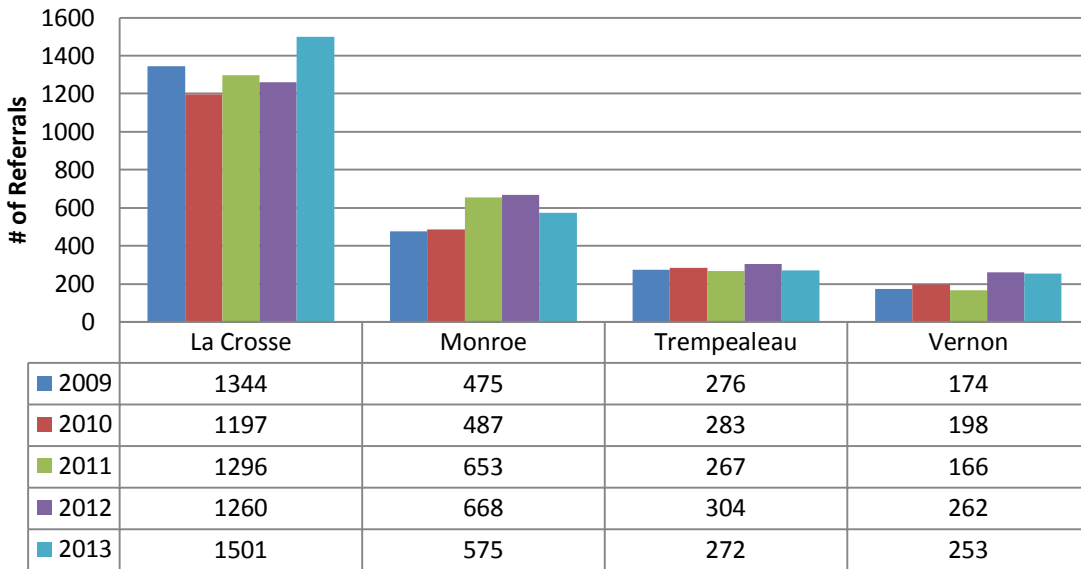
	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
2009	1344	475	276	174
2010	1197	487	283	198
2011	1296	653	267	166
2012	1260	668	304	262
2013	1501	575	272	253

Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

The total number of CPS referrals is important to know; however, understanding the rate at which children in the 0 to 17 age range are reported is vital to determining how that trend is increasing or decreasing. Between 2009 and 2013, all counties within the Great Rivers Region showed declining rates of CPS reports. Monroe County showed the largest decline of approximately 29% over the five-year period.

CPS Reports per 1,000 Population
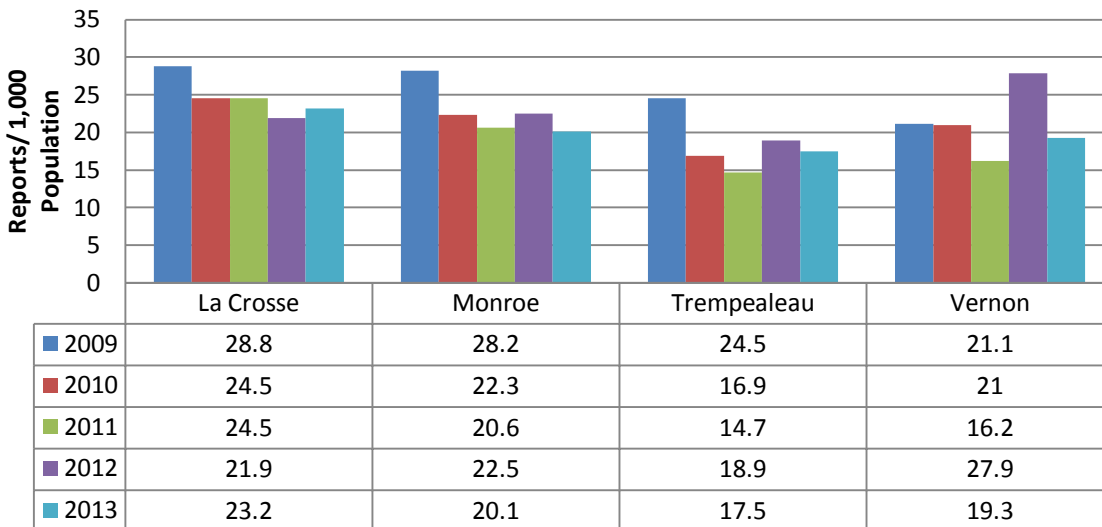
	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
2009	28.8	28.2	24.5	21.1
2010	24.5	22.3	16.9	21
2011	24.5	20.6	14.7	16.2
2012	21.9	22.5	18.9	27.9
2013	23.2	20.1	17.5	19.3

Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

Revised on 10/14/2015

A screened-in referral is when one or more allegations of child maltreatment are present in the referral (which may include one or more children in a family) that have been deemed as rising to the level of maltreatment or threat of maltreatment as defined by Wisconsin statutes and therefore must be assessed. A screened-out referral is one where all allegations in the referral are deemed as not rising to the level of maltreatment or threat of maltreatment as defined by Wisconsin statutes. No further assessment of the allegation is required at that time. However, the family may be referred for voluntary CPS services or other appropriate community services. Vernon County has generally had the highest percent of screened-in CPS referrals; however, this rate has declined over the five-year period. The largest decline can be seen in Monroe County. In 2009, Monroe County screened-in 48% of all CPS referrals. By 2013, this percentage had decreased by approximately 40%.

CPS Referrals, Percent Screened-In
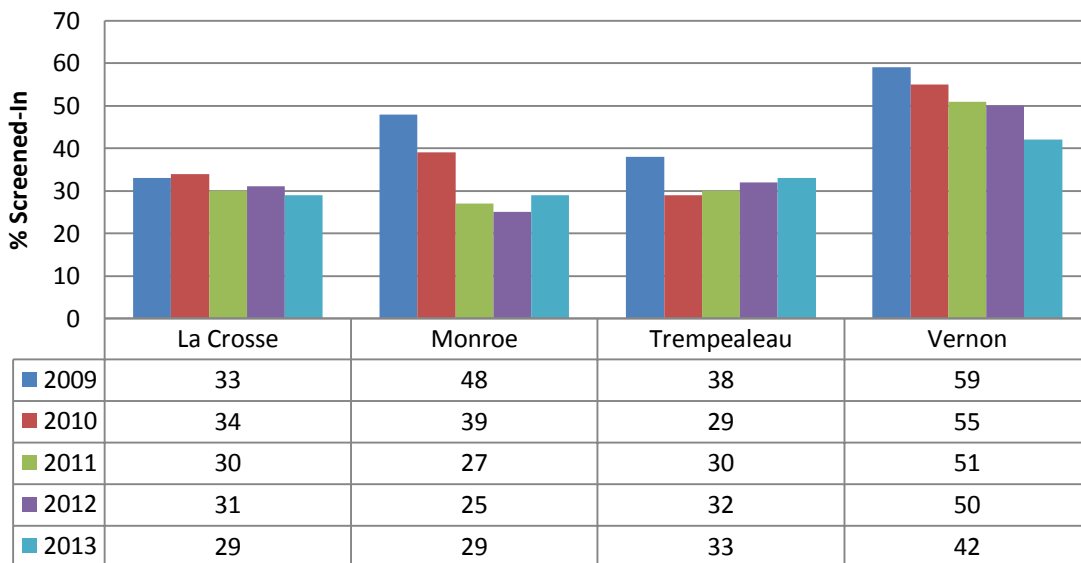
	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
2009	33	48	38	59
2010	34	39	29	55
2011	30	27	30	51
2012	31	25	32	50
2013	29	29	33	42

Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Reports

The Wisconsin Children in Out-of-Home Care Report provides an overview and demographic information for cases where the children are placed in out-of-home care (OHC). The table on the next page shows the number and percentage of children in out-of-home care and who were working with CPS on an ongoing basis. In 2013, there were 178 children in out-of-home care in the Wisconsin counties of the Great Rivers Region.

Grouped Case Type: Count and Percent by County of Children in Out-of-Home Care, CPS Family- Ongoing

County	2009 Count	2009 %	2010 Count	2010 %	2011 Count	2011 %	2012 Count	2012 %	2013 Count	2013 %
La Crosse	97	72%	123	82%	143	85%	133	80%	136	79%
Monroe	11	33%	12	34%	11	34%	15	33%	20	56%
Trempealeau	9	50%	9	50%	5	45%	9	53%	15	65%
Vernon	11	65%	8	40%	6	67%	8	67%	7	64%
Wisconsin	2,616	58%	4,247	65%	4,353	68%	4,172	67%	4,525	69%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Wisconsin Children in Out-of-Home Care

The table below shows the number of child subjects of maltreatment reports per 1,000 in the overall child population for 2013. Houston County has lower rates than the state of Minnesota for all categories.

Child Subjects of Maltreatment Reports per 1,000 in the Child Population: Minnesota, 2013

County/Region	Child Population	Total Unique Children	Total Children per 1,000	Family Assessment Unique Children	Family Assessment Children per 1,000	Investigation- Alleged Unique Children	Investigation- Alleged Children per 1,000	Investigation- Determined Unique Children	Investigation- Determined Children per 1,000
Houston	4,069	49	12.0	45	11.1	6	1.5	2	0.5
Minnesota	1,279,111	25,297	19.8	18,467	14.4	7,640	6.0	4,183	3.3

Source: Minnesota's Child Welfare Report, 2013

The table below shows the number of reported child subjects by maltreatment type and response for Houston County.

Child Subjects of Reports by Maltreatment Type and Response Category: Houston County

Year	Totals FA	Totals Investigation Alleged	Totals Investigation Det.	Neglect (Non-Medical) FA	Neglect Investigation Alleged	Neglect Investigation Det.	Physical Abuse FA	Physical Abuse Investigation Alleged	Physical Abuse Investigation Det.	Sexual Abuse FA	Sexual Abuse Investigation Alleged	Sexual Abuse Investigation Det.	Mental Injury FA	Mental Injury Investigation Alleged	Mental Injury Investigation Det.	Medical Neglect FA	Medical Neglect Investigation Alleged	Medical Neglect Investigation Det.
2009	64	8	0	30	5	-	23	1	-	6	3	-	3	-	-	2	-	-
2010	52	12	6	34	4	-	18	6	5	-	2	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
2011	53	8	4	30	3	-	19	-	-	5	5	4	1	3	-	-	-	-
2012	39	7	0	21	4	-	7	-	-	9	3	-	3	-	-	1	-	-
2013	57	8	5	29	5	4	17	1	1	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: Minnesota's Child Welfare Report for years 2009-2013
- FA: Family Assessment
- Det.: Determined

Revised on 10/14/2015

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living defines elder abuse as any knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult. Legislatures in all 50 states have passed some form of elder abuse prevention laws. Laws and definitions of terms vary considerably from one state to another, but broadly defined, abuse may be:

- Physical Abuse—inflicting physical pain or injury on a senior, i.e. slapping, bruising, or restraining by physical or chemical means
- Sexual Abuse—non-consensual sexual contact of any kind
- Neglect—the failure by those responsible to provide food, shelter, health care, or protection for a vulnerable elder
- Exploitation—the illegal taking, misuse, or concealment of funds, property, or assets of a senior for someone else's benefit
- Emotional Abuse—inflicting mental pain, anguish, or distress on an elder person through verbal or nonverbal acts, i.e. humiliating, intimidating, or threatening
- Abandonment—desertion of a vulnerable elder by anyone who has assumed the responsibility for care or custody of that person
- Self-neglect—characterized as the failure of a person to perform essential, self-care tasks and that such failure threatens his/her own health or safety

Some of the warnings signs of possible elder abuse may include:

- Bruises, pressure marks, broken bones, abrasions, and burns may be an indication of physical abuse, neglect, or mistreatment
- Unexplained withdrawal from normal activities, a sudden change in alertness, and unusual depression may be indicators of emotional abuse
- Bruises around the breasts or genital area can occur from sexual abuse
- Sudden changes in financial situations may be the result of exploitation
- Bedsores, unattended medical needs, poor hygiene, and unusual weight loss are indicators of possible neglect
- Behavior such as belittling, threats, and other uses of power and control by spouses are indicators of verbal or emotional abuse
- Strained or tense relationships, frequent arguments between the caregiver and elderly person are also signs

Elder Abuse in the Great Rivers Region

In 2012, there were 6,200 reported cases of elder abuse in Wisconsin. It is important to remember that these are the number of reported cases. The actual number is more likely greater than this, especially when considering elder financial abuse, because elder abuse is frequently underreported due to the involvement of the elderly person's family member(s). According to the Minnesota Department of Human Services, in Houston County in 2014 alone, there were 95 of adults in the county that were categorized as being part of the vulnerable adult population.

New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers, is an organization located in La Crosse County that provides shelter for individuals and families who have experienced domestic violence. Although located in La Crosse County, New Horizons Shelter has contracts to provide shelter and services to a seven county area in Wisconsin. Among the various demographics, New Horizons provides services to adults who are 60 years or older, disabled persons, and sheltered persons. The graph below shows the number of people 60 years and older who utilized New Horizons between 2010 and 2014.

Number of New Horizons Elderly Participants by County
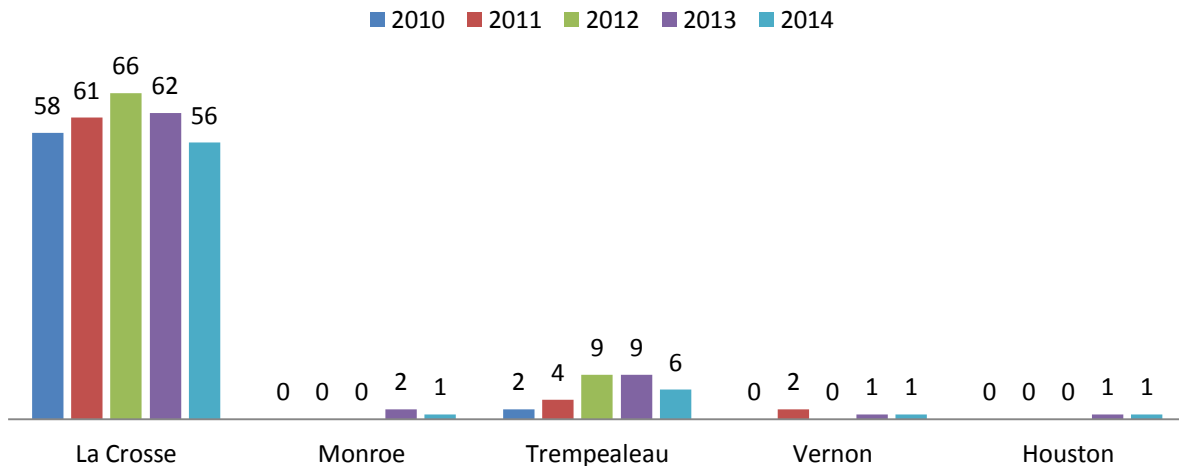
Source: Personal communication with Executive Director of New Horizons

BACKGROUND

Property Crime

The FBI defines property crime as offenses including burglary, larceny-theft, motor-vehicle theft, and arson. The ultimate motivation of these offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force of threat or force against victims. In 2010, there were an estimated 9,082,887 property crime offenses in the nation. That same year, larceny-theft accounted for 68.1% of all property crimes. It is estimated that there was a total of 15.7 billion dollars lost due to property crimes in 2010[6].

Organized Retail Theft

The FBI defines Organized Retail Theft (ORT) as professional burglars, boosters, cons, thieves, fences, and resellers conspiring to steal and sell retail merchandise obtained from retail establishments by theft or deception. 'Boosters' are front line thieves who intend to resell stolen goods. They generally coordinate 'fences,' who may sell the items outright at flea markets or convenience stores or online, or repackage them for sale to higher level fences.

It is important to note the correlation between substance use/abuse and property crime. One study by the U.S. Department of Justice determined that of those 18- to 49-years old who were arrested for property crime, 24.7% reported using alcohol, cannabis, and/or cocaine in the past year[19].

Tax revenue losses attributable to ORT negatively impact states. It is estimated that the annual dollar loss caused by ORT is in billions of dollars[20].

Although there is anecdotal information about the number of people being arrested for drug or alcohol use, there is not currently data kept on the correlation between substance use and property crime. For example, the Uniform Crime Report does not require law enforcement agencies to report if a person is under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of arrest. Even if this information is disclosed by the arrestee, it is not documented unless the person requires assistance with withdrawal from the drug.

Property Crime and Organized Retail Theft in Wisconsin

In the state of Wisconsin in 2012, there were a total of 139,102 property crimes (2,435 per 100,000 residents), with thefts accounted for 74% of property crimes[5]. This is not a significant change from 2011.

Revised on 10/14/2015

The figure below shows the total property crimes in Wisconsin per 100,000 residents between 2008 and 2012.
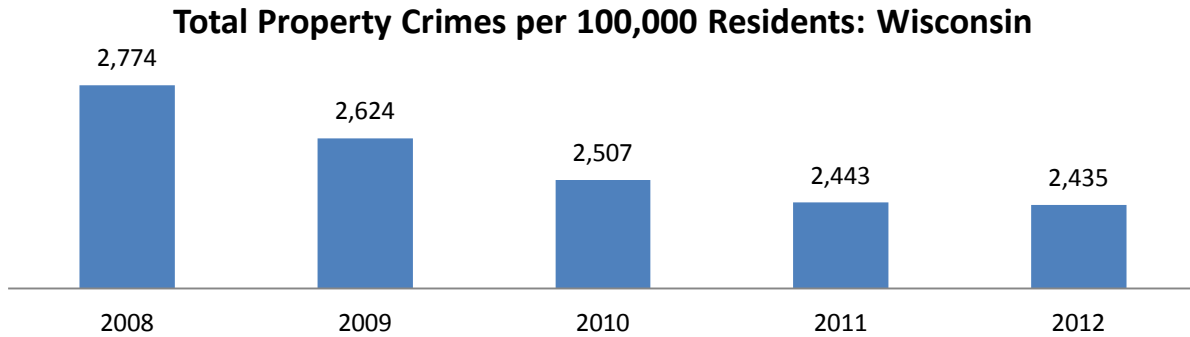
Total Property Crimes per 100,000 Residents: Wisconsin

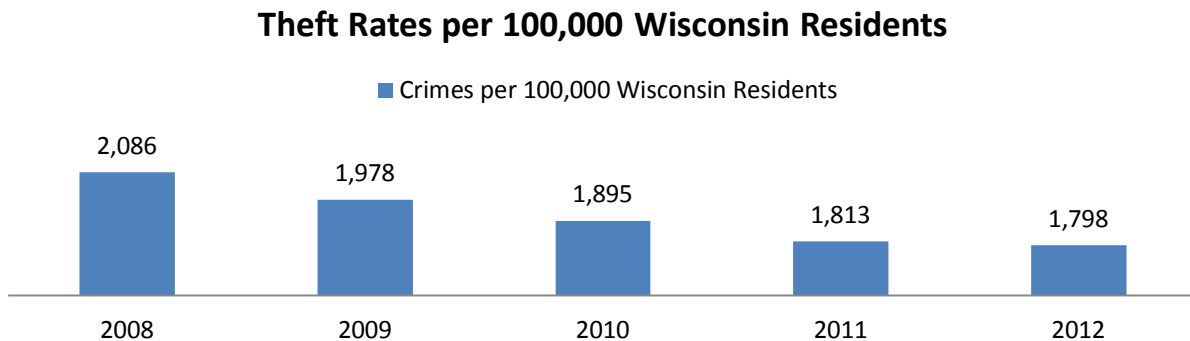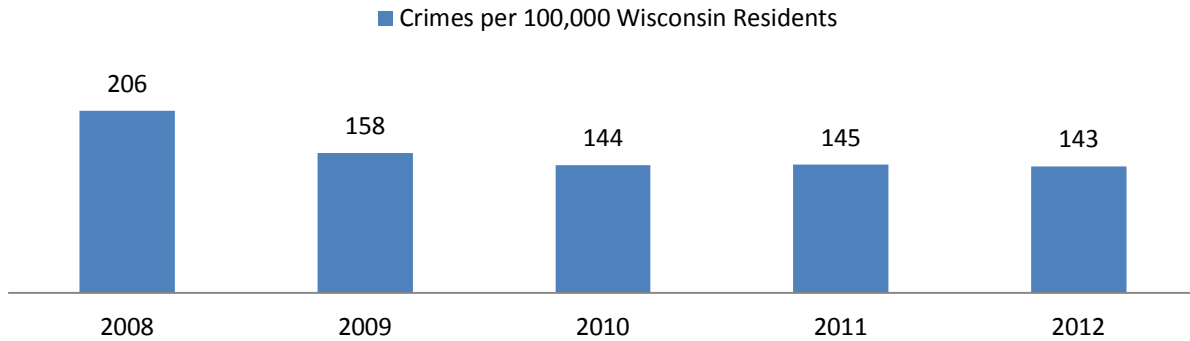| Year	Crimes per 100,000
2008	2,774
2009	2,624
2010	2,507
2011	2,443
2012	2,435

Source: Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network, *Crime in Wisconsin Report 2013*

The figure below shows burglary rates per 100,000 residents in Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. There was not a substantial change in burglary rates during this five-year period.
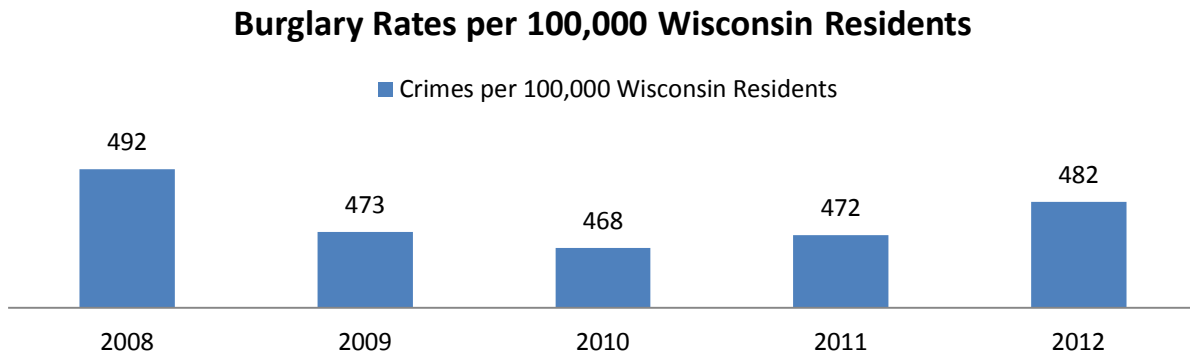
Burglary Rates per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

■ Crimes per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

Year	Crimes per 100,000
2008	492
2009	473
2010	468
2011	472
2012	482

Source: Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network, *Crime in Wisconsin Report 2013*

The figure below shows the theft rate per 100,000 Wisconsin residents between 2008 and 2012.

Theft Rates per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

■ Crimes per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

Year	Crimes per 100,000
2008	2,086
2009	1,978
2010	1,895
2011	1,813
2012	1,798

The figure below shows motor theft rates per 100,000 residents for Wisconsin between 2008 and 2012. Since 2008, the motor vehicle theft rate has decreased by approximately 30%.

Motor Vehicle Theft Rates per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

■ Crimes per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

Year	Rate
2008	206
2009	158
2010	144
2011	145
2012	143

The figure below shows the arson rates per 100,000 Wisconsin residents from 2008 to 2012. Overall, this rate has declined since 2008.

Arson Rates per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents
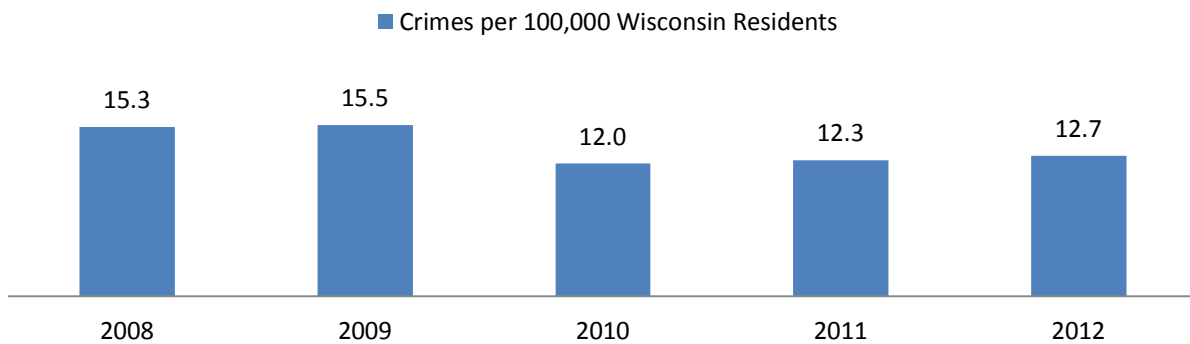
■ Crimes per 100,000 Wisconsin Residents

Year	Rate
2008	15.3
2009	15.5
2010	12.0
2011	12.3
2012	12.7

Thefts made up approximately three-quarters of reported property crimes, and saw no significant change in the five years leading up to 2012. Property valued at more than $141 million was lost due to burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft in 2012 and property valued at more than $7 million was lost due to arson[1].

Percent Property Theft by Type: Wisconsin
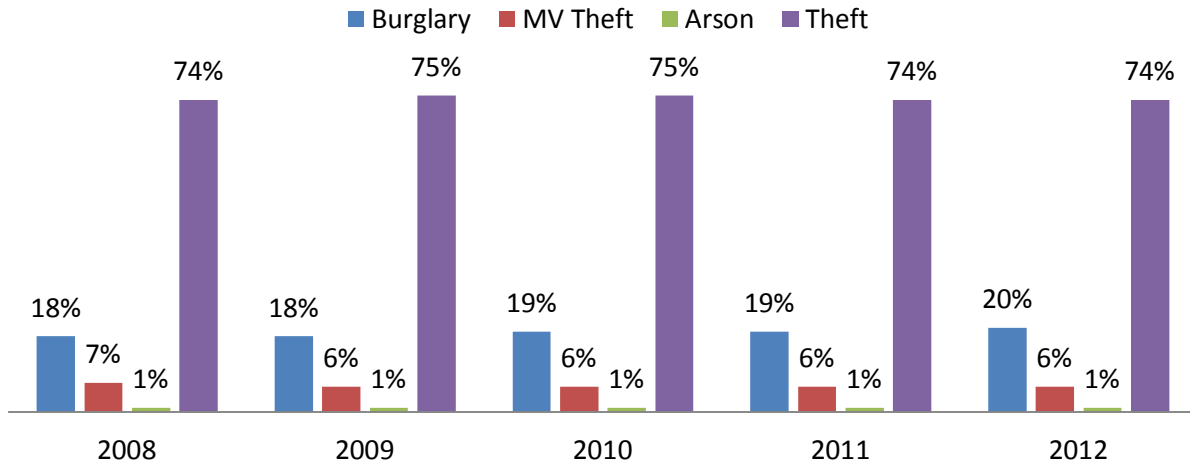
■ Burglary　■ MV Theft　■ Arson　■ Theft

Year	Burglary	MV Theft	Arson	Theft
2008	18%	7%	1%	74%
2009	18%	6%	1%	75%
2010	19%	6%	1%	75%
2011	19%	6%	1%	74%
2012	20%	6%	1%	74%

Source: Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network, *Crime in Wisconsin Report* for years 2008 through 2013

Property Crime and Organized Retail Theft in Minnesota

According to the *Minnesota Crime Information-2013 Report*, there were 131,097 burglaries, larcenies, motor vehicle thefts, and arsons reported for the state of Minnesota in 2013. Compared to the 136,007 offenses reported in 2012, the 2013 figure represents a 3.6% decrease in property crime for the state. The number of property crimes for the state per 100,000 population for 2013 was 2,437 and in 2012 it was 2,544.

Number of Property Crimes Reported: Minnesota

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
■ Burglary	22,165	23,947	25,153	24,829	22,500
■ Larceny	103,695	101,616	100,636	102,154	99,794
■ Motor Vehicle Theft	8,379	8,395	7,927	8,251	7,873
■ Arson	809	675	657	773	930
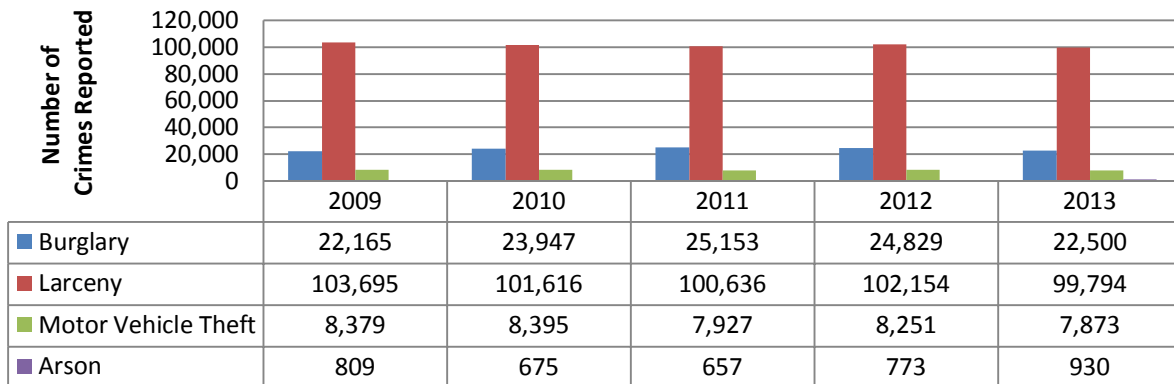
Burglaries

The state of Minnesota defines burglary as the unlawful entry or attempted forcible entry of a structure to commit a theft or felony, even though no force may have been used to gain entry. Burglary is divided into three separate classes:

1. Forcible entry
2. Unlawful entry-no force
3. Attempted forcible entry

Of the total 22,907 burglary offenses reported in Minnesota in 2013, 407 were unfounded. Therefore, there were a total of 22,500 actual burglaries, 3,487 of which were cleared by arrest which amounted to 15% clearance rate. 284 of these were arrests of a juvenile. See figure below for more details.

Burglaries by Location: Minnesota
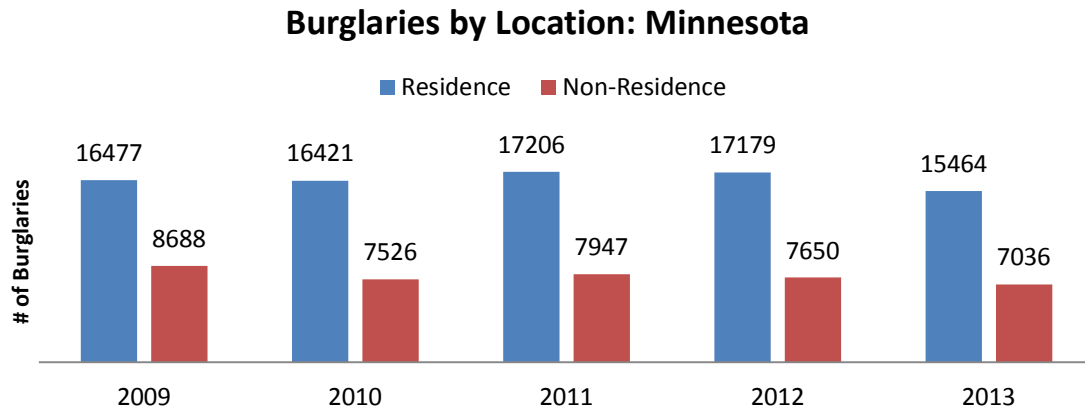
Source: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report

Larceny

Larceny or theft is the taking of the personal property of another with intent to permanently deprive him of ownership. Larceny figures will include all those offenses in which a theft (also attempted situations) occurred regardless of monetary loss assigned the stolen property.

There were 101,600 larceny offenses reported for the state of Minnesota in 2013, 1,806 were unfounded. Thus, there were 99,794 actual larceny offenses, 19,045 were cleared by arrest. Of these arrests, 3,999 were cleared by arrest of juvenile. 76% of total property crimes were larcenies, which averages out to be 273 larcenies each day in Minnesota.

The table below shows the number of larceny thefts for Minnesota in 2013. Overall, the majority of thefts fell within the "all other" category.

Total Larcenty Thefts by Type: Minnesota, 2013
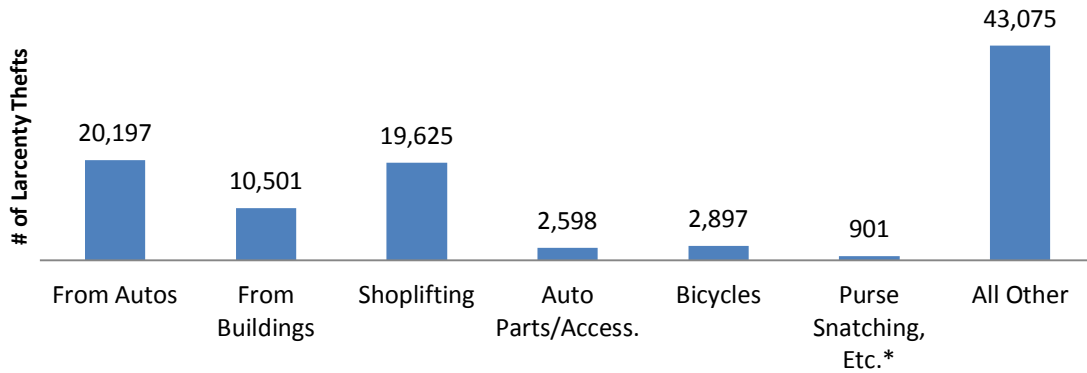
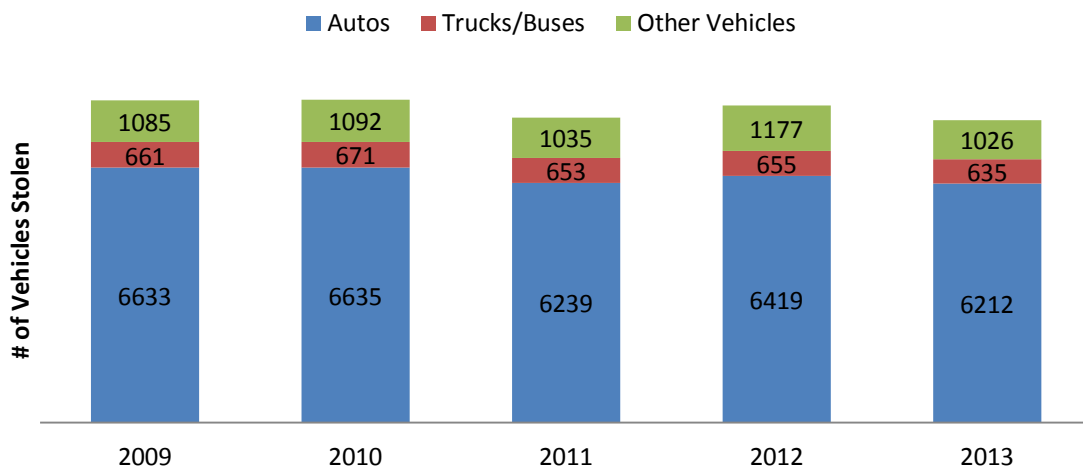Source: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report
*Includes Purse Snatching, Pocket Picking, Cargo Thefts, Coin Operated Machines & Livestock

The chart below shows the average stolen property loss per type in Minnesota in 2013. Property stolen from buildings and "all other" property loss account for the highest averages in stolen property. Shoplifting accounts for the lowest average in stolen property.

Average Stolen Property Loss by Type: Minnesota, 2013
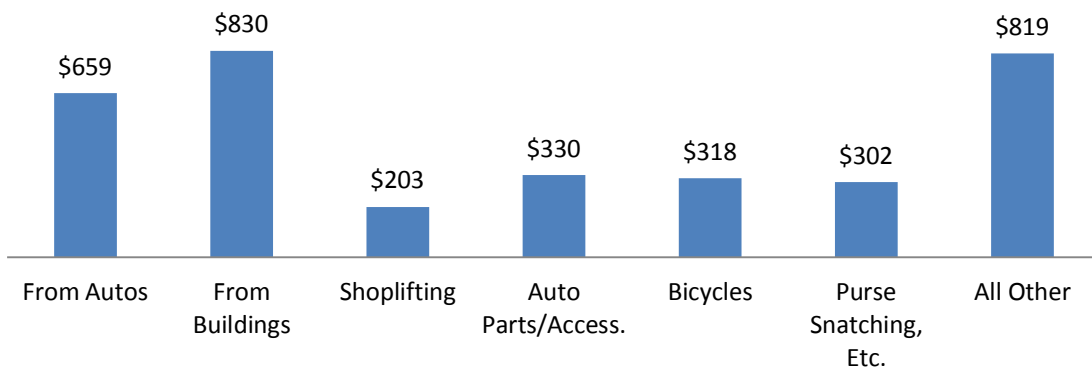
Source: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report
*Includes Purse Snatching, Pocket Picking, Cargo Thefts, Coin Operated Machines & Livestock.

Motor Vehicle Theft

Motor vehicle theft is the larceny or attempted larceny of a motor vehicle. This includes all vehicles that can be registered as such. "Joyriding" thefts are included under this category.

In 2013, there were 8,252 reported thefts; 379 were unfounded (total of 7873 actual thefts) in Minnesota. Of the 7,873 thefts, 1,482 were cleared by arrest; 143 of which were cleared by arrest of juvenile. Motor vehicle theft accounted for 6% of total crimes, averaging 22 motor vehicle thefts per day. 3,598 of the locally stolen vehicles were recovered, and 278 vehicles that were stolen in other jurisdictions were recovered locally. Of the 7,873 stolen vehicles, 6,212 were automobiles, 635 were trucks/buses, and 1026 were vehicles such as snowmobiles, motorcycles, motorscooters, etc.

Stolen Vehicles by Type: Minnesota

■ Autos   ■ Trucks/Buses   ■ Other Vehicles

Year	Autos	Trucks/Buses	Other Vehicles
2009	6633	661	1085
2010	6635	671	1092
2011	6239	653	1035
2012	6419	655	1177
2013	6212	635	1026

(Y-axis: # of Vehicles Stolen)

Source: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report

Arson

Arson is defined as any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc. Fires of suspicious or unknown origins are excluded. This crime category is distinctive from other offenses in that all crimes of arson are to be reported, even if they occur in conjunction with another crime. During 2012, 830 offenses were recorded on the UCR.

In 2013, there were a total of 930 arsons in the state of Minnesota. Of these, 213 (23%) were cleared by arrest, of which 33 were cleared by the arrest of a juvenile. Of the 930 arson offenses, 486 (52%) were structural fires, 206 (22%) were arsons of mobile property and 238 offenses were for arson of other property such as crops, timber, fences, signs, etc. (26%). Of the 486 structures burned, 78 (16%) were uninhabited. It is estimated that the total dollar value lost to arson in 2013 was $6,640,317, with structural fires accounting for 85 % of the loss ($5,623,087).

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The table below shows the total value of property stolen and recovered in Minnesota in 2013. The 'miscellaneous' category accounts for the largest loss due to stolen property. The stolen value of 'currency' resulted in $12,211,522 lost. The recovered value of this currency was only 2.5% of the original stolen value, the lowest of all categories.

Total Value of Property Stolen/Recovered in Minnesota-2013		
Property Type	**Stolen Value**	**Recovered Value**
Currency/Notes	$12,211,522	$301,135 2.5
Jewelry/Metals	$12,533,304	$480,171
Clothing/Furs	$1,904,712	$580,641
Locally Stolen Autos	$26,760,248	$14,115,845
Office Equipment	$5,501,301	$416,001
TV/Radio/Stereo	$6,473,685	$576,076
Firearms	$994,582	$147,459
Household Items	$1,345,525	$64,809
Consumer Items	$2,185,293	$417,128
Livestock	$227,166	$20,652
Miscellaneous	$47,577,184	$3,662,608
Total	**$117,522**	**$20,782,525**

Source: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report
- Stolen Values are based on the "fair market value" at the time of the theft. Recovered Values are determined by "fair market value" at the time of the recovery less any damage or depreciation.

Property Crime and Organized Retail Theft in Great Rivers Region

The table on the next page shows the number of property offenses in the Great Rivers Region from 2008 to 2012. La Crosse County had the largest number of total property offenses, likely due to the much larger amount of property. The number of property offenses decreased for all counties except La Crosse and Monroe. Moreover, Houston County saw the largest decrease from 207 property offenses in 2008 to only 48 in 2012. The number of motor vehicle theft offenses decreased for all counties over this five-year time period.

Number of Property Offenses in Great Rivers Region, 2008-2012					
Type of Offense and Year	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon	Houston
Property					
2008	3,056	955	326	319	207
2009	3,073	599	361	329	187
2010	2,799	1,026	399	256	128
2011	2,880	855	290	313	81
2012	3,181	1,130	298	261	48
Burglary					
2008	462	187	66	72	45
2009	522	82	73	79	53
2010	531	168	102	67	24
2011	552	188	70	100	14
2012	656	175	68	56	12
Theft					
2008	2,462	728	238	217	151
2009	2,430	507	268	236	129
2010	2,157	813	280	173	46
2011	2,225	634	212	202	62
2012	2,449	917	221	194	32
MV Theft					
2008	119	35	22	30	11
2009	108	7	20	11	4
2010	101	40	17	15	58
2011	99	32	8	10	4
2012	73	31	9	10	4
Arson					
2008	13	5	0	0	0
2009	13	3	0	3	1
2010	10	5	0	1	0
2011	4	1	0	1	1
2012	3	7	0	1	0
Sources: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, *Uniform Crime Report* from 2009 through 2013; Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network, *Crime in Wisconsin Report* for years 2008 through 2013					

BACKGROUND

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 1.24 million people die each year as a result of traffic crashes worldwide. By 2020, this number is estimated to rise to 1.9 million.

Who is at Risk?

Half of those dying on the world's roads are "vulnerable road users" such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists.

Socioeconomic Status

More than 90% of deaths that result from road traffic injuries occur in low- and middle-income countries[7]. 91% of the world's fatalities on the roads occur in low-income and middle-income countries, even though these countries have approximately half of the world's vehicles. Even within high-income countries, people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds are more likely to be involved in a road traffic crashes than their more affluent counterparts[7].

Age

Young adults aged between 15 and 44 years old account for 59% of global road traffic deaths[7]. More specifically, young people ages 15-24 represent only 14% of the U.S. population, however, they account for 30% ($19 billion) of the total costs of motor vehicle injuries among males and 28% ($7 billion) of the total costs of motor vehicle injuries among females[21]. Road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death among young people aged 15-29 years.

Sex

From a young age, males are more likely to be involved in road traffic crashes than females. More than 77% of all road traffic deaths occur among men[7]. Among young drivers, young males under the age of 25 years are almost 3 times as likely to be killed in a car crash as young females[7].

Risk Factors

Some risk factors for traffic crashes include[7]:

- Speed—increasing average speed is directly related to both the likelihood of a crash and the severity of the consequences of the crash. The Great Rivers Region may experience more traffic crashes and fatalities because of the recent increase in highway speed limits throughout the state of Wisconsin
- Drinking and driving—the combination increase both the risk of a crash and the likelihood that death or serious injury will result
- Motorcycle helmets—correctly wearing a motorcycle helmet can reduce the risk of death by almost 40% and the risk of serious injury by 70%
- Seatbelts and child restraints—wearing a seat-belt reduces the risk of a fatality among front-seat passengers by 40–50% and of rear-seat passengers by between 25–75%

Revised on 10/14/2015

Distracted Driving

One of the biggest risk factors for traffic crashes is distracted driving. Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving[8] (i.e. using a cell phone, eating and drinking, talking to passengers, grooming), but with the increased use of mobile phones by drivers, this is becoming a growing concern. Mobile phone distractions can impair driving performance in a number of ways including longer reaction times (notably braking reaction time, but also reaction to traffic signals), impaired ability to keep in the correct lane, and shorter following distances[7]. Text messaging also results in considerably reduced driving performance, with young drivers at particular risk of the effects of distraction resulting from this use. Drivers using a mobile phone are approximately four times more likely to be involved in a crash than when a driver does not use a phone. It is important to note that hands-free phones are not much safer than hand-held phone sets[7].

Cost of Motor Vehicle Accidents

In addition to the individual impacts of motor vehicle accidents, they also impact the community financially. In 2010, there were a total of 33,687 deaths in the U.S. due to motor vehicle deaths. The combined cost of these accidents cost our country $41,007,911,000. This number does not take into account the cost of non-fatal motor vehicle accidents; therefore, the cost of all motor vehicle accidents is much higher.

Financial Impact of Motor Vehicle Deaths, U.S., 2010			Intent
			Unintentional
Mechanism			
Motor Vehicle-Traffic	**Deaths**	--	33,687
	Medical Cost	**Average**	$11,114
		Total	$374,396,000
	Work Loss Cost	**Average**	$1,206,210
		Total	$40,633,595,000
	Combined Cost	**Average**	$1,217,324
		Total	$41,007,911,000
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Data and Statistics (WISQARS): Cost of Injury Reports			

Cost of Traffic Crashes in Wisconsin

The cost of crash-related death in Wisconsin in one year amounts to approximately $751 million[9]. $9 million of this is related to medical costs and $742 million is related to work loss costs. Bicyclist and pedestrian categories include deaths that are motor vehicle traffic-related and non-motor vehicle traffic-related. Other categories include only motor vehicle traffic-related deaths. Cost is based on fewer than 20 deaths and may be unstable. The dollar figures on the left column of the graph represent the total amount of money spent on that type of road user. See figure on next page for further details.

Revised on 10/14/2015

Total Cost of Traffic Crashes by Type of Road User: Wisconsin, 2005

Type of Road User

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

	Type of Road User
■ Motor Vehicle Occupants ($572 M)	76%
■ Motorcyclists ($88 M)	12%
■ Pedestrians ($46 M)	6%
■ Bicyclists ($16M)	2%
■ Unspecified/Other ($29 M)	4%
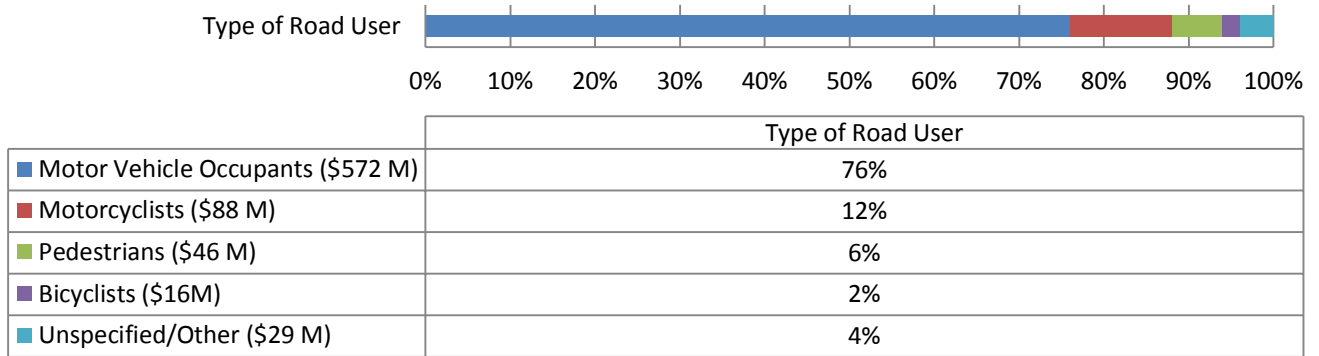
Source: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

Cost of Traffic Crashes in Minnesota

The costs of crash-related death in Minnesota in one year amounts to approximately $527 million[22]. $5 million of this is related to medical costs and $522 million is related to work loss costs. Bicyclist and pedestrian categories include motor vehicle traffic-related and non-motor vehicle traffic-related deaths. Other categories include only motor vehicle traffic-related deaths. Cost is based on fewer than 20 deaths and may be unstable.

Total Cost of Traffic Crashes by Type of Road User: Minnesota, 2005

Type of Road User

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

	Type of Road User
■ Motor Vehicle Occupants ($572 M)	67%
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■ Pedestrians ($46 M)	8%
■ Bicyclists ($16M)	2%
■ Unspecified/Other ($29 M)	12%
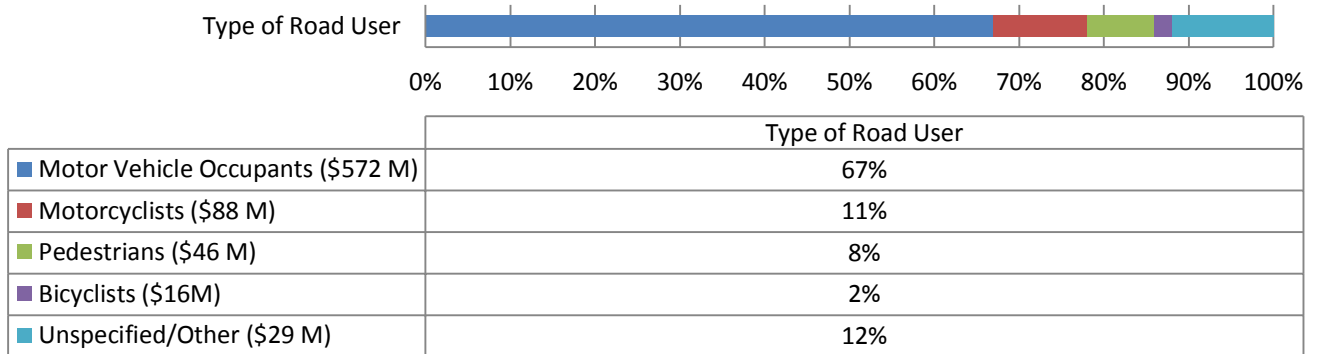
Source: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

Motor Vehicle Deaths

In 2012, there were 3,328 people killed in distraction-related crashes. Additionally[8]:

- 10% of all people under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of crash.
- Drivers in their 20s make up 27% of the distracted drivers in fatal crashes.
- At any given daylight moment, approximately 660,000 Americans are using cell phones or manipulating electronic devices while driving.
- 5 seconds is the average time one's eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55mph, this is enough time to cover the length of a football field (blindfolded).
- A quarter of teens respond to a text message at least once every time they drive. 20 percent of teens and 10% of parents admit that they have extended multi-message text conversations while driving.

Motor Vehicle Occupant Death Rates by State, 2012

■ Wisconsin ■ Minnesota

	Age 0-20	Age 21-34	Age 35-54	Age 55+	All Ages	Male	Female
Wisconsin	4.8	10.9	7.4	8	7.4	9.6	5.1
Minnesota	2.9	7.8	4.3	6.5	5.1	6.2	4

Age/Gender per 100,000 Population
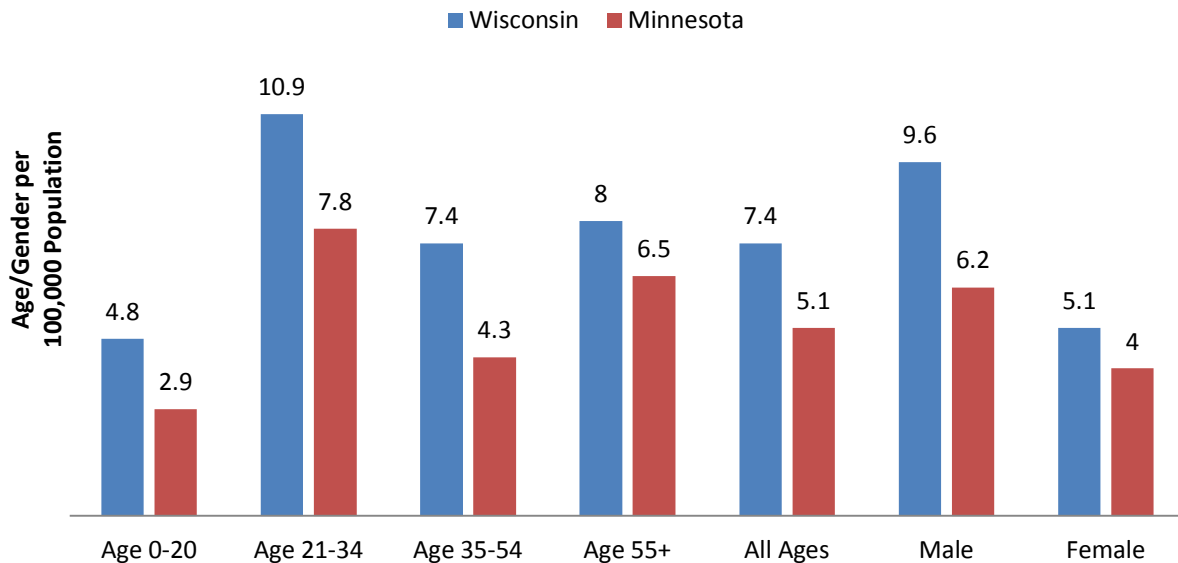
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012 Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System

Traffic Crashes in the Great Rivers Region

The table below shows details specific to the Great Rivers Region. Monroe, Trempealeau, Vernon, and Houston counties all have higher crude death rates due to traffic crashes than the state averages. Trempealeau County has the highest rate at 25.72 deaths per 100,000 population, nearly double the Wisconsin average of 13.16. La Crosse County has the lowest at 7.41 deaths per 100,000.

Crude Death Rate per 100,000 Population, U.S. 2004-2010			
Region	**Deaths**	**Total Population**	**Crude Death Rate**
La Crosse	58	783,245	7.41
Monroe	42	305,037	13.77
Trempealeau	51	198,318	25.72
Vernon	41	204,910	20.01
Houston	29	135,290	21.44
Wisconsin	5,165	39,245,868	13.16
Minnesota	4,081	36,410,215	11.62
Source: NCHS National Vital Statistics System for numbers of deaths, US Census Bureau for population estimates			
• This data includes all races, ethnicities, both sexes, and all ages.			

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, during 2012 there were 9.4 deaths per 100,000 people in the U.S. for all ages. Both nationally and locally, more males died in motor vehicles crashes than females. Wisconsin had higher rates of death due to motor vehicle crashes compared to U.S. rates for all age groups except the 55 years and older category. Minnesota had lower rates of death among all ages groups when compared to national averages.

Motor Vehicle Death Rate, by Age and Gender per 100,000 Population, 2012
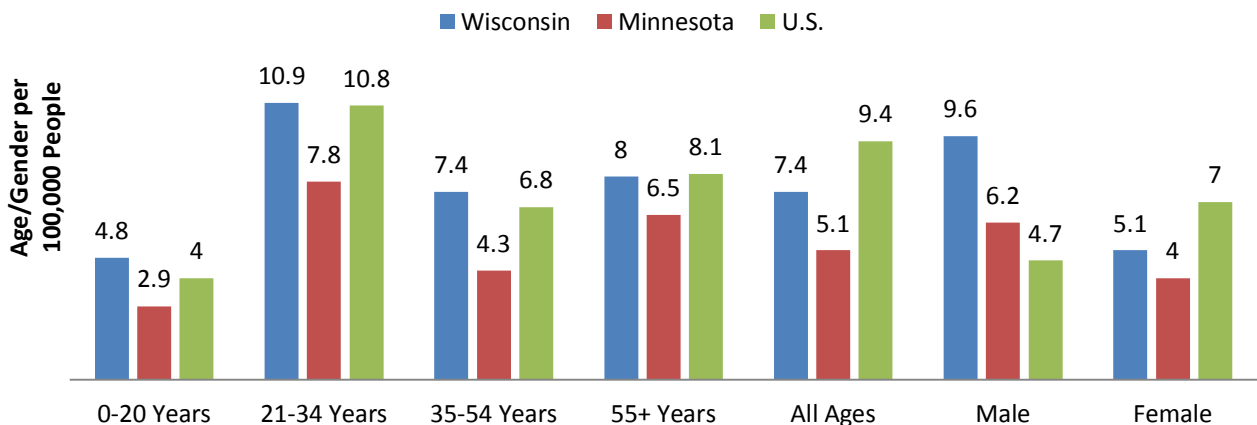
Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System

BACKGROUND

Although the U.S. is experiencing the lowest youth crime rates in 20 years, there are still hundreds of thousands of youth locked away every year in our nation's secure detention centers. The intent of detention centers is to temporarily house youth who pose a high risk of re-offending before their trial, or who are deemed likely to not appear for their trial. However, the use of these facilities is steadily rising and facilities are filled with young people who do not meet the high-risk criteria. In fact, approximately 70% are detained for nonviolent offenses[23].

Detention of youth has a profoundly negative impact on young people's mental and physical well being, their education, and their employment. One-third of incarcerated youth that are diagnosed with depression experienced the onset of the depression after they began their incarceration[24]. Poor mental health, combined with the conditions of confinement, conspire to make it more likely that incarcerated teens will engage in suicidal or self-harm behaviors[25]. Economists have shown that the process of incarcerating youth will reduce their future earnings and their ability to remain in the workforce, and could change formerly detained youth into less stable employees. Educational researchers have found that upwards of 40% of incarcerated youth have a learning disability and they will face significant challenges returning to school after they leave detention. Moreover, there is credible and significant research that suggests that the experience of detention may make it more likely that youth will continue to engage in delinquent behavior and that the detention experience may increase the odds that youth will further compromise public safety[25].

The table on the next page shows risk and protective factors of juvenile arrest by domain. There are some risk factors that remain consistent over the lifespan including being male, aggression, low IQ, and antisocial attitudes and beliefs. Regardless of the risk factor or stage of life, it appears that the overall protective factor is having a family and social support system.

Risk and Protective Factors, by Domain

Domain	Early Onset (Ages 6-11)	Late Onset (Ages 12-14)	Protective Factor*
Individual	- General offenses - Substance use - Being male - Aggression** - Hyperactivity - Problem (antisocial) behavior - Exposure to television violence - Medical, physical problems - Low IQ - Antisocial attitudes, beliefs - Dishonesty**	- General offenses - Restlessness - Difficulty concentrating** - Risk taking - Aggression** - Being male - Physical violence - Antisocial attitudes, beliefs - Crimes against persons - Problem (antisocial) behavior - Low IQ - Substance use	- Intolerant attitude toward deviance - High IQ - Being female - Positive social orientation - Perceived sanctions for transgressions
Family	- Low socioeconomic status/poverty - Antisocial parents - Poor parent-child relationship Harsh, lax, or inconsistent discipline - Broken home - Separation from parents - Abusive parents - Neglect	- Poor parent-child relationship - Harsh or lax discipline - Poor monitoring, supervision - Low parental involvement - Antisocial parents - Broken home - Low socioeconomic status/poverty - Abusive parents - Family conflict**	- Warm, supportive relationships with parents or other adults - Parents' positive evaluation of peers - Parental monitoring
School	- Poor attitude - Poor performance	- Poor attitude - Poor performance - Academic failure	- Commitment to school - Recognition for involvement in conventional activities
Peer group	- Weak social ties - Antisocial peers	- Weak social ties - Antisocial, delinquent peers - Gang membership	Friends who engage in conventional behavior
Community		- Neighborhood crime, drugs - Neighborhood disorganization	

Source: Adapted from Office of the Surgeon General, 2001. * Age of onset not known. ** Males only.

Circumstances that Increase Likelihood of Juvenile Arrests

- Being abused or neglected as child increases the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 59%, as an adult by 28%, and for violent crime by 30%[21]
- Black children who are abused and neglected show significantly increased rates of violent arrest compared to black children who were not maltreated[21]
- Female victims of abuse aging out of foster care are more likely to be involved in criminal behavior. One study found that the number of female foster youth who reported ever being arrested by age 19 is higher than females and males in the general population—34% of female foster youth compared to 3% of general female youth population[22]

The figure below shows juvenile arrest rates between 1990 and 2012. The juvenile arrest rate for all offenses reached its highest level in the last two decades in 1996, and then declined 54% by 2011.

National Arrests per 100,000 Juveniles Ages 10-17
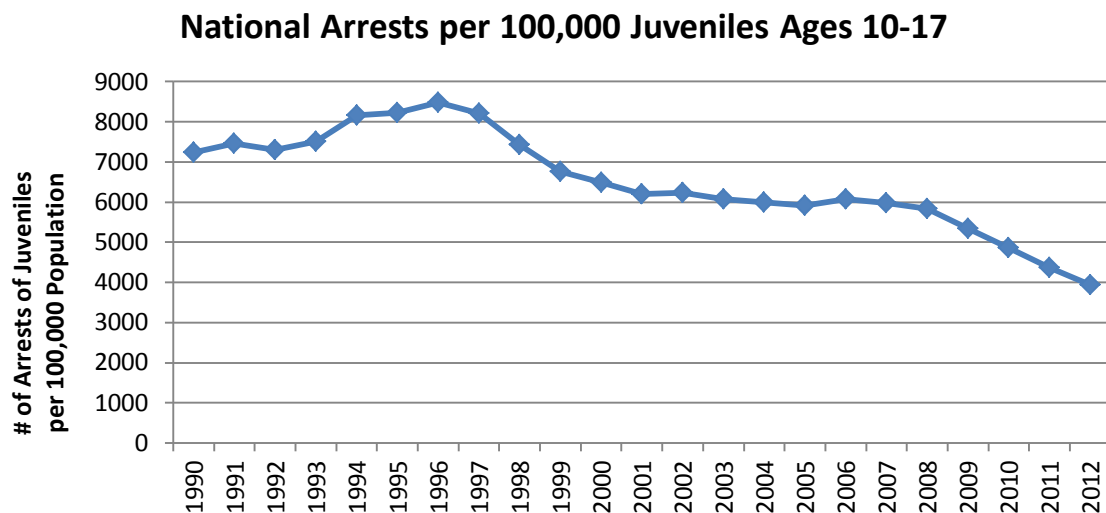
Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Wisconsin

According to the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, the number of juvenile arrests has gradually declined over the past five years. In 2008, there were 88,083 juveniles arrested and by 2013, this number had decreased to 57,086 juvenile arrests.

Number of Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Series 1	88,083	74,856	71,297	68,385	57,086
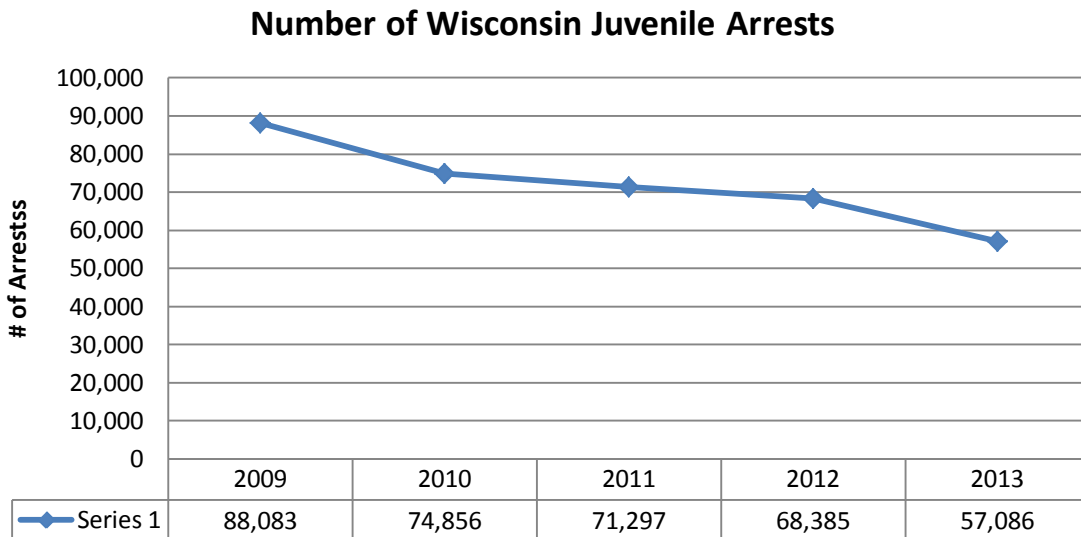
Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families

Minnesota

According to the State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, in 2013 Minnesota juvenile arrests totaled 26,780, compared to 2012 when there were 32,756 juveniles arrested. In 2013, juveniles constituted 17% (26,780) of all arrests and accounted for 21% (7,067) of the Part I arrests. See table below for juvenile and adult comparison of Part I arrests.

Part I Arrests, Juveniles and Adults: Minnesota, 2013		
Part I Arrest Type	**Percent Juveniles Arrested**	**Percent Adults Arrested**
Murder	7%	93%
Rape	16%	84%
Robbery	29%	71%
Aggravated Assault	12%	88%
Burglary	17%	83%
Larceny	22%	78%
Vehicle Theft	18%	82%
Arson	41%	59%
Source: State of Minnesota Department of Safety		

The adult population made up the majority of all arrests in Minnesota in 2013. However, juveniles were responsible for 27% of arrests. The white juvenile population represented the largest juvenile arrest racial group at 78% of all juvenile arrests, followed by African Americans making up 16% of arrests.
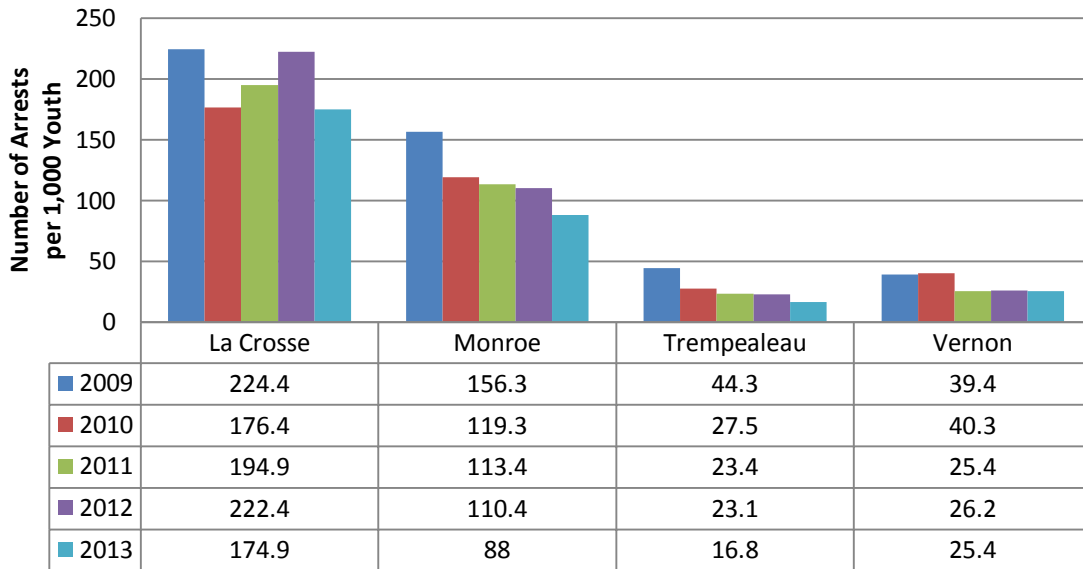
Number of Arrests by Race: Minnesota, 2013				
Race	Total	Percent	Number of Juvenile Arrests	Number of Adult Arrests
Total	19,190	100%	2,718	16,472
White	14,057	73%	2,132	11,925
African American	4,009	21%	439	3,570
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	588	3%	73	515
Asian/Pacific Islander	536	3%	74	462
Source: State of Minnesota Department of Safety				

The table below shows the juvenile arrest offences by race for Minnesota in 2013. Larceny was the most common offense.

Juvenile Offense and Race of Persons Arrested: Minnesota, 2013					
Offenses	White	African American	Indian/Alaskan	Asian	Total
Murder/Non-Negligent	5	1	-	-	6
Negligent Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	0
Rape	65	20	5	1	91
Robbery	55	279	9	3	346
Aggravated Assault	214	191	20	13	438
Burglary	263	158	12	12	445
Larceny	2798	2361	163	196	5518
Motor Vehicle Theft	96	67	10	8	181
Arson	29	10	3	-	42
Source: State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety, 2013 Uniform Crime Report					

Revised on 10/14/2015

The figure below shows the juvenile arrest rate for the Great Rivers Region between 2009 and 2013. The juvenile arrest rate is the number of juvenile arrests per 1,000 population. The average juvenile arrest rates by county for this time period are as follows: La Crosse (198.6), Monroe (117.5), Trempealeau (27.0), and Vernon (31.3). La Crosse has a substantially higher juvenile arrest rate than the rest of the Great Rivers counties. Trempealeau County has the lowest juvenile arrest rate.

Juvenile Arrests per 1,000 Population

	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
2009	224.4	156.3	44.3	39.4
2010	176.4	119.3	27.5	40.3
2011	194.9	113.4	23.4	25.4
2012	222.4	110.4	23.1	26.2
2013	174.9	88	16.8	25.4

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, Juvenile Arrest Data from Wisconsin Justice Data Portal: http://sac.oja.wisconsin.gov/sacapps/jdp.aspx.; Puzzanchera, C., Sladky, A., and Kang, W. (2014). "Easy Access to Juvenile Populations: 1990-2013." Online. Available http.://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/

- Juvenile Arrest Rate per 1,000 youth was calculated by taking the number of arrests in a specific year, dividing that number by the population of the corresponding year, and multiplying it by 1,000.
- Data for Houston County unavailable.

The table below shows the total violent juvenile arrests by county in the Great Rivers Region between 2008 and 2012. The number of juvenile arrests decreased in La Crosse County over this five-year time period and stayed the same for the other three Wisconsin Great Rivers Region counties.

Total Number of Violent Juvenile Arrests by County				
Type of Arrest and Year	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
Violent				
2008	28	5	1	1
2009	21	5	0	0
2010	17	8	1	0
2011	14	6	1	2
2012	19	6	1	2
Murder				
2008	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0
2011	0	0	0	0
2012	0	0	0	0
Type of Arrest and Year	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
Rape				
2008	2	2	0	0
2009	6	2	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0
2011	1	2	0	0
2012	2	11	0	0
Robbery				
2008	6	1	0	0
2009	3	0	0	0
2010	5	0	0	0
2011	4	0	0	0
2012	7	2	0	0
Aggravated Assault				
2008	20	2	1	1
2009	12	3	0	0
2010	11	1	1	0
2011	9	4	1	2
2012	10	23	1	2
Sources: Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network, *Arrests in Wisconsin Report* for years 2008 through 2013				
• Data unavailable for Houston County.				

Revised on 10/14/2015

The table below shows the total juvenile arrests by county in the Great Rivers Region between 2008 and 2012. In general, property theft was the arrest type juveniles were most often arrested for. Juveniles were least likely to be arrested for embezzlement.

Total Non-Violent Juvenile Arrests by Jurisdiction				
Type of Arrest and Year	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
Property				
2008	622	177	47	20
2009	566	105	34	23
2010	382	64	18	16
2011	356	61	11	8
2012	329	125	30	19
Type of Arrest and Year	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon
Burglary				
2008	30	18	2	5
2009	33	4	8	3
2010	29	0	3	1
2011	23	10	0	1
2012	17	8	0	1
Theft				
2008	407	94	7	4
2009	336	50	13	14
2010	220	33	8	19
2011	239	34	10	3
2012	208	84	26	5
MV Theft				
2008	26	10	3	1
2009	26	2	7	2
2010	8	1	1	2
2011	10	6	0	0
2012	9	2	0	4
Arson				
2008	3	0	0	0
2009	5	3	0	0
2010	5	3	0	0
2011	1	0	0	0
2012	2	1	0	0
Forgery				
2008	9	0	0	0
2009	4	1	0	0

2010	1	0	2	0
2011	1	0	0	0
2012	1	0	0	0
Fraud				
2008	0	2	0	0
2009	6	0	0	0
2010	5	1	0	0
2011	2	1	0	0
2012	3	1	0	1
Embezzlement				
2008	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0
2011	0	0	0	0
2012	1	0	0	0
Stolen Property				
	La Crosse	**Monroe**	**Trempealeau**	**Vernon**
2008	22	2	1	0
2009	16	0	1	2
2010	7	2	0	3
2011	2	0	1	0
2012	11	2	0	0
Vandalism				
2008	125	51	34	10
2009	140	45	5	2
2010	105	24	4	20
2011	77	10	0	18
2012	77	27	4	8
Sources: Wisconsin Law Enforcement Network, *Arrests in Wisconsin Report* for years 2008 through 2013 • Data unavailable for Houston County.				

The table below shows the co-occurring conditions that were reported by CPS in La Crosse County for 2008 and 2012 for both children and their parents. The vast majority of children were exposed to trauma for both reported years.

Child Protective Services (CPS): Case Findings of Co-Occurring Conditions, La Crosse County				
	Child 2008	Child 2012	Parent 2008	Parent 2012
Trauma Exposed	84%	92%	83%	75%
Behavior Disorder	17%	8%	-	-
Mental Illness	25%	42%	42%	42%
Learning Disability	8%	17%	-	8%
Substance Exposed	17%	33%	-	-
Developmental Disorder	8%	8%	-	-
Chronic Health Condition	8%	-	8%	8%
Suicide Risk	-	-	25%	16%
Substance Abuse/Addiction	-	-	50%	66%
Pregnant	-	-	8%	-
Autism Spectrum Disorder	-	17%	-	-
Source: Quality Service Reviews from DCF				
• Data unavailable for other counties.				

The table below shows the arrest rate disparity ratio for the City of La Crosse. The disparity ratio is one of the measures of a socioeconomic gap, dividing the rate of the lowest neighborhood income group by the rate of the highest neighborhood income group. For all years reported, 2010 through 2012, the African American arrest rate was drastically more disproportionate than the Asian arrest rate. Data for other counties was unavailable.

Arrest Rate Disparity Ratio, City of La Crosse			
	2010	2011	2012
African American	8.97	9.15	7.65
Asian	1.37	0.95	2.12
Source: Juvenile Justice Arrest and Disproportionate Minority Contact Full Report			
• Data for other counties was unavailable.			

The table below shows the percent of suspensions by race/ethnicity for the School District of La Crosse from 2010 through 2013. The black demographic is drastically more likely to be suspended than any other race/ethnic group. Moreover, the suspension rate among the black students appears to be rising.

Percent of Suspensions by Race/Ethnicity: School District of La Crosse			
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
White	3.61%	-	-
Asian	-	2.61%	3.89%
Hispanic	3.63%	3.33%	5.26%
Black	13.54%	14.56%	14.16%

Revised on 10/14/2015

Abuse of Persons with Disabilities   Indicator 10

BACKGROUND

The CDC reported that approximately 21 million U.S adults aged 18 to 64 have a disability[14]. Unfortunately, some of these vulnerable adults suffer abuse by family members, service providers, care assistants and others. This abuse places the victim's health, safety, emotional wellbeing, and ability to engage in daily life activities at risk.

Below are some statistics about abused adults with disabilities:

- Institutionalized adult women with disabilities reported a 33% prevalence of having ever experienced interpersonal violence (IPV) versus 21% for institutionalized adult women without disabilities[12].
- One study found that 67% of women with disabilities had experienced physical abuse and 53% had experienced sexual abuse[11].
- In a study, 55% of men experienced physical abuse by any person after becoming disabled. Nearly 12% of these men stated they experienced physical abuse by a personal assistance service provider over their lifetime[10].
- In a comprehensive review of literature, lifetime prevalence of any type of IPV against adult women with disabilities was found to be 26–90%. Lifetime prevalence of IPV against adult men with disabilities was found to be 28.7–86.7%.

Information about the abuse of people with disabilities can be difficult because disability is defined in a number of ways and does not only occur among the older populations. In addition, many people with disabilities are unable to recognize abuse and/or report it. Therefore, this responsibility falls on those close to the person and/or the public in general. Nonetheless, this lack of data only emphasizes the need for further monitoring and research to be conducted.

Revised on 10/14/2015

Foster Care   Indicator 11

BACKGROUND

Foster care is a temporary arrangement in which adults provide care of a child or children whose birthparent is unable to care for them. This placement occurs for a variety of reasons, which may include but are not limited to abuse or neglect of child, incarceration of parent, truancy, death of a parent, or the voluntary/temporary placement of child in foster care by parent/guardian. In situations of abuse and neglect, children may be removed from their parents' home by a child welfare agency and placed in foster care.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in 2013, there were an estimated 402,378 children in foster care in the U.S. More than a quarter of these children (28%) were in relative homes, and nearly half (47%) were in nonrelative foster family homes. About half (53%) had a case goal of reunification with their families. About half (51%) of the children who left foster care in 2013 were discharged and then reunited with their parents or primary caretakers. Close to half of the children (46%) who left foster care in 2013 were in care for less than one year.

The table on the next page shows a variety of measurements reported by CPS for La Crosse County between 2010 and 2014. Some of these measurements include the number of CPS referrals, the reasons they were screened in, how many children were adopted during those years and what ages these children were. It is interesting to note that the number of out-of home placements increased during this time period, yet the umber of CPS referrals declined slightly. Neglect was the primary reason for CPS referrals, increasing 67% between 2010 and 2014.

Child Protective Services, La Crosse County					
	2010	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Number of Child Protective Service Referrals	1,194	1,278	1,261	1,503	1,524
Number of Screened-In Referrals due to Physical Abuse*	124	114	113	103	152
Number of Screened-In Referrals due to Neglect*	207	250	231	234	346
Number of Screened-In Referrals due to Sexual Abuse*	94	81	69	100	86
Number of Screened-In Referrals due to Emotional Damage*	5	6	9	8	14
Number of Screened-In Referrals due to Manufacturing Methamphetamine*	3	0	0	0	0
Number of Referrals that were Substantiated	52**	67 (5.24%**)	47 (3.73%**)	60 (3.9%**)	68 (4.46%**)
Number of Out of Home Care Placements (includes both CPS and JJ Placements)***	126	141	170	166	169
Percent of Children Adopted between the ages of 0-4 for WI	N/A	45.5%	50.5%	52.4%	48.0%
Percent of Children Adopted between the ages of 5-9 for WI	N/A	33.5%	29.9%	30.3%	33.0%
Percent of Children Adopted between the ages of 10-13 for WI	N/A	14.5%	11.5%	10.6%	11.9%
Percent of Children Adopted older than 14 for WI	N/A	6.7%	8.0%	6.7%	7.0%
Source: eWISACWIS SM02X100 Access Report, eWISACWIS Aging Out and Older Youth Outcomes Dashboard; pulled from the SM10a119 Youth Outcomes Report, eWISACWIS Adoption Outcomes Dashboard; pulled from the SM10a114 Adoption Outcomes Report • JJ: Juvenile Justice *The number is based on the screened-in referral, not the number of alleged victims; one referral can have multiple allegations tied to it ** To calculate the substantiation rate, take the number of referrals that were substantiated and divide by the total number of referrals ***Data is averaged for the federal fiscal year (Oct-Sep.) **** Note: Percent is unable to be calculated					

Sex Trafficking and Children of the Foster Care System

In 2014, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline, operated by Polaris, received reports of 3,598 sex trafficking cases inside the United States. Children in the foster care system are very often prey for sex traffickers, because they often feel that no one cares about them so they crave attention and stability. Because of this, children can easily find themselves seduced by traffickers who initially make them feel care for. Many children in foster care have been previously abused, putting them at further risk. In addition, children who are placed into foster care as adolescents are automatically placed into group homes since foster parents generally are only willing to take young children. In fact, traffickers will often send one of their female victims into group homes to recruit other girls by convincing them they will be well taken care of financially and will have a "family" who will care for them.

The average age of children who are trafficked into prostitution that have contact with law enforcement for the first time is 14. Experts have estimated that girls in this scenario have generally entered the sex trade at least two years prior to police contact.

Because of these similarities, there is a disturbing link between children in the foster care system and victims of sex trafficking. In 2013, 60% of the child sex trafficking victims recovered as part of a FBI nationwide raid from over 70 cities were children from foster care or group homes.

Homelessness   Indicator 12

BACKGROUND

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, in 2014 there were over 570,000 experiencing homelessness on any given night in the U.S. Of those, over 216,000 are people in families and over 360,000 are alone. About 15% of the homeless population is considered chronically homeless, meaning that individuals have been continuously homeless for over a year and have had at least three bouts of homelessness in the past four years. About 9% of homeless people are veterans.

Homelessness in Wisconsin and Minnesota

According to a 2013 report by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, there were 3,005 homeless people in the state of Wisconsin and 3,728 in the state of Minnesota in 2013. Below is a list of statistics for both Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Minnesota

- Minnesota is among the top five states whose homeless population has increased in number between 2012 and 2013 in which the homeless population rose by 282 individuals, a 6.7% increase[6].
- Minnesota has a high percent (32%) of families who are chronically homeless[6].
- However, Minnesota has an overall lower rate of homeless veterans (7%) than the national average 9%)[6].

Wisconsin

- Only 4.4% of Wisconsin's unsheltered homeless are veterans[6].
- Overall, Wisconsin is one of the top 5 states in the nation with low rates of unsheltered individuals with only approximately 10% of the homeless population living unsheltered[6].
- The rate of chronic homelessness in Wisconsin dropped 10% between 2012 and 2013[6].

Revised on 10/14/2015

Race/Ethnicity and Homelessness

African-Americans represent about 6.5% of the population of Wisconsin over all, but comprise approximately 41% of homeless clients in Wisconsin Department of Administration-Division of Housing's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). African Americans are six times more likely to take advantage of a homeless shelter or similar homelessness-related service than the general population[4]. This is a persistent racial disparity, which has declined slightly in recent years as more white people experience homelessness[4].

Hispanic clients appeared roughly in proportion to their representation in the state at large. According to the U.S. Census, 6.1% of Wisconsinites are of Hispanic origin[4]. Of the 23,194 homeless clients whose ethnicity was recorded in HMIS, 6.6% (or 1,526 clients) were of Hispanic or Latino origin[4].

BACKGROUND

Poverty is a condition in which a person or group of people lack the ability to meet basic human needs because of the cost. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention categorize human needs as clean water, nutrition, health care, education, clothing, and shelter. Families or individuals with incomes below a certain limit are considered to be below the poverty level.

The chart below represents the percentage of the population in a county living below the Federal Poverty Line (FPL). The population living below the FPL is divided by the total population of a county to calculate the percentage of people living below the poverty line. Vernon County had the highest average poverty rate at 15.5%. This was also higher than the state average during this same time period (13.3%).

Percent of Population for Whom Poverty is Determined, by County

	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon	Houston
■ 2009	14.6	12.5	10.3	15.3	9.0
■ 2010	13.5	14.1	11.5	13.6	9.2
■ 2011	14.0	14.8	12.0	14.6	9.0
■ 2012	13.7	15.0	12.0	15.2	9.8
■ 2013	14.0	14.4	11.9	14.5	10.9
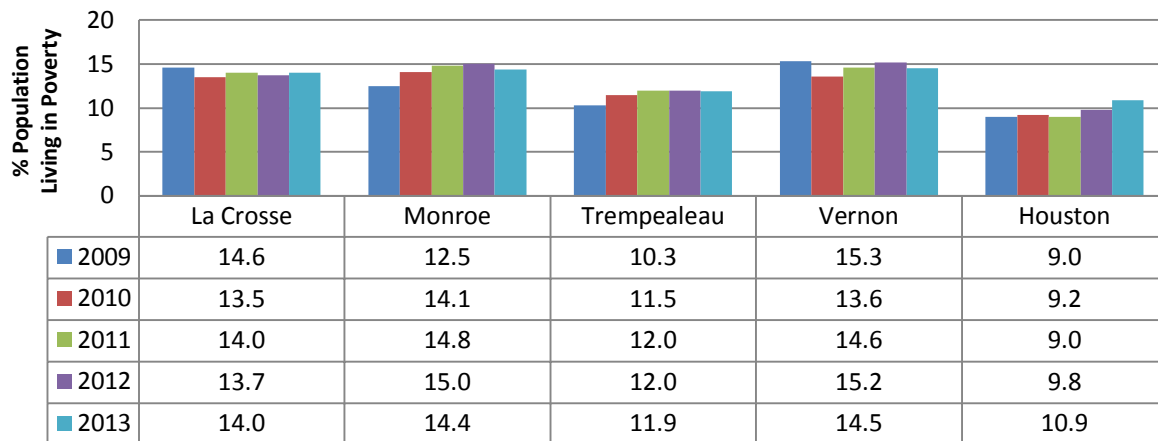
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey

The number of children living in poverty is measured as the percentage of children under age 18 living in poverty. Poverty status is defined for a family unit, not by individual. The characteristics of the family used to determine the poverty threshold are: number of people, number of related children under 18, and whether or not the primary householder is over age 65. Family income is then compared to the poverty threshold. Families below that threshold are considered to be in poverty. The figure below shows the percent of children living in poverty in the Great Rivers Region. Overall, Vernon County consistently had higher rates than other county and state averages. La Crosse County had the lowest rates.

Percent of Children Under 18 Years Old Living in Poverty

	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon	Houston
2009	15.9	19.2	15.1	24.9	14.7
2010	13.6	22.6	16.5	21.1	12.9
2011	13.9	24.8	18.8	22.9	12.1
2012	12.7	24.0	18.8	23.1	13.3
2013	13.2	22.3	19.2	21.3	16.1
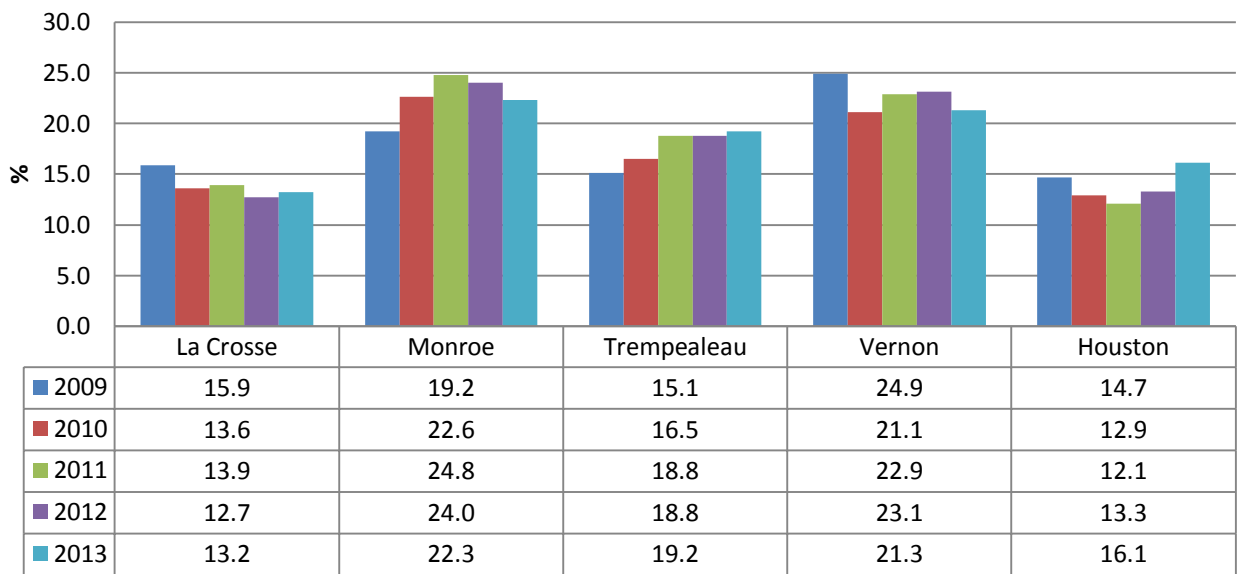
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

BACKGROUND

The United States Environmental Agency (EPA) explains that air pollution comes from numerous sources and that these sources can create a variety of pollutants. Stationary sources include factories, power plants, and smelters. Smaller sources of air pollution include dry cleaners and mobile sources (e.g. cars, buses, planes, trains). In addition to manmade pollution sources, there are also natural sources that include windblown dust and volcanic eruptions. The EPA classifies pollutants into six principal pollutants and are monitored by the EPA, as well as national, state, and local organizations.

The Clean Air Act (CAA), put into law in 1970, is a comprehensive federal law that regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources. Among other things, this law authorizes the EPA to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and welfare, as well as to regular emissions of hazardous air pollutants.

Air Quality and the Great Rivers Region

According to the *Wisconsin Environmental Health Profile*, two important pollutants to consider for the health of a community are fine particulate matter and ozone. Particulate matter is microscopic particles that settle in the lunges after being inhaled. The "2.5" in "particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)" refers to the size of the particles, which are smaller than the width of human hair. Ozone is created as a result of emissions from vehicles and industrial facilities. Both particulate matter and ozone can trigger health problems, especially for those already suffering from breathing conditions, such as asthma. These levels are monitored by monitoring stations throughout the state. The region consistently has some of the lowest Air Quality Index (AQI) numbers in both Wisconsin and Minnesota, generally ranging in the teens, which is "GOOD."

The figure on the next page shows the rate of asthma-related ER visits per 100,000 people by county for the Great Rivers Region. All counties in the Great Rivers Region had less asthma-related ER visits than the state average.

Rate of Asthma-Related ER Visits by County

	La Crosse	Monroe	Trempealeau	Vernon	Wisconsin
■ 2014	186	344	180	277	376

Y-axis: Vists per 100,000 People (0, 100, 200, 300, 400)
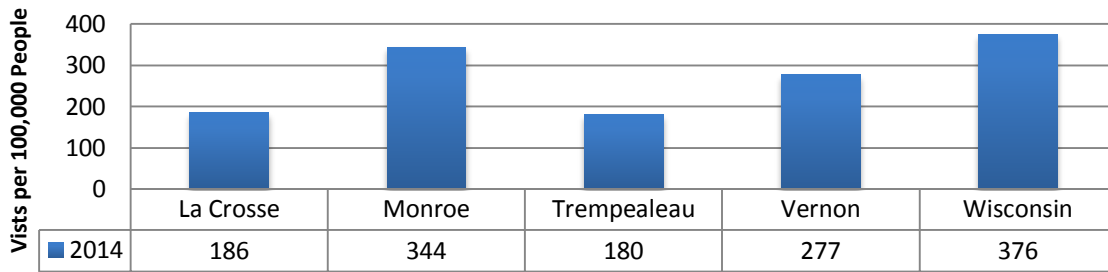
Source: Wisconsin Environmental Public Health Tracking Program, Environmental Health Profiles, 2015

Hydraulic Fracturing and the Great Rivers Region

According to the EPA, hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is the process of producing fractures in the rock formation to stimulate the flow of natural gas or oil. Wells are drilled vertically below the land surface and horizontal or directional sections extending thousands of feet. Fractures are then created by pumping large quantities of fluids, the contents of which can range from water and sand to complex polymeric substances with multiple additives both meant to initiate and/or expand fractures. After the injection process is complete, the internal pressure of the rock formation causes fluid to return to the surface through the wellbore. This is known as "flowback." Other than the original fluid used for fracturing, the flowback can contain fluids and minerals that were in the fractured formation. Flowback is regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which requires flowback to be treated prior to discharge into surface water or underground injection. Before shipment, the frac sand is washed, sorted to ensure uniformity, and dried.

Although sand is found worldwide, the sandstones in the Upper Midwest are unique for several reasons. The composition of the sand in the Upper Midwest contains nearly 95% quartz. All in all, Wisconsin has some of the best frac sand in the country because of the numerous geologic formations that meet these particular specifications and are found near the surface[26]. As of 2014, there were a total of 164 active frac sand facilities and another 20 that have been proposed throughout Wisconsin and Minnesota[27]. Wisconsin extracts approximately 50 million tons of frac sand a year, the equivalent to 9,000 semi-truck loads per day and enough to fill the nation's second tallest building, Willis Tower in Chicago, 21 times a year[27].

According to the Environmental Working Group (EWG), some of the top concerns around frac sand mining include[27]:

- *Water Issues*. Individual mining operations withdraw between 420,000 and 2 million gallons per day. The volume of water used is significant and added chemicals to process the same compound water related problems with sand mining.
- *Health Issues*. Silica dust is of great concern for those living near sand operations because the smallest participle of dust, 2.5 microns or a fraction of the width of human hair, can cause extreme lung damage. This happens when these small

particles evade the body's natural defense mechanisms and penetrate deeper into the lungs and potentially the bloodstream. Crystalline silica dust, slightly larger than silica dust measuring 4 microns or less, is also very harmful. Prolonged exposure to frac sand can increase the chances one develops silicosis of the lungs, tuberculosis, emphysema, bronchitis, autoimmune diseases (i.e. scleroderma, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, chronic thyroiditis, hyperthyroidism), and kidney-related diseases.

- *Financial Issues*. There is also potentially a negative economic impact from frac sand mining. Real estate properties located near frac sand mines have been shown to decrease in value by 25%. In addition, there is a decreased lifespan for roads and other infrastructure which result in substantial replacement costs.

Surface Water Quality   Indicator 15

BACKGROUND

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1948, also referred to as the Clean Water Act (CWA), was the first major U.S. law to address water pollution. It established a basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the U.S. by regulating quality standards for surface waters, such as ponds, lakes, and streams. The CWA made it unlawful to discharge any pollutant into navigable waters unless first obtaining a permit.

Water Quality Standards are the foundation of water quality-based pollution control program mandated by the Clean Water Act. These standards define goals for a waterbody by designating its uses, setting criteria to protect t those users, and establishing provisions such as antidegradation policies to protect waterbodies from pollutants.

The table below shows the bodies of water that were impaired due to pollutants in 2014. Mercury was the most common pollutant in the Great Rivers Region in 2014.

Impaired Waters, Regional Bodies of Water, 2014		
County	Body of Water	Pollutant
La Crosse	Mississippi River	Phosphorus, PCBs, Mercury
	Neshonoc Lake	Mercury, PCBs, Phosphorus
	Black River	Mercury, PCBs, Phosphorus
	Adams Valley Creek, Fleming Creek, Gill Coulee Creek, Halfway Creek, Johnson Coulee Creek, Long Coulee Creek	Sediment
Monroe	Black River	Mercury, PCBs
	Tomah Lake	Phosphorus
	Angelo Pond, North Flowage, Ranch Creek	Mercury
	Clear Creek	Elevated water temperature
	Creek 23-13b, Printz Creek, Stillwell Creek	Sediment
	South Fork Lemonweir River	BOD, Phosphorus
Trempealeau	Black River	PCBs, Mercury, Phosphorus
	Trempealeau River	Mercury, Phosphorus
	Marinuka Lake	Mercury, Phosphorus

	Hardies Creek, Irvin Creek, Newcomb Valley Creek, North Creek, Tappen Coulee Creek, Welch Coulee Creek	Sediment, Unknown Pollutant
	Trump Coulee Creek	Phosphorus, Sediment
Vernon	Mississippi River	Phosphorus, PCBs, Mercury
	Baraboo River (West Branch)	Phosphorus, Sediment, BOD
	Jug Creek	Sediment
Houston	Mississippi River	PCBs, Mercury
	Money Creek	Bacteria, Sediment
	Root River	Mercury, Bugs, Sediment, Bacteria
	Root River South	Mercury, Bugs, Sediment, Bacteria
	Thompson River	Bacteria
Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Impaired Water List		

Wastewater Discharge	Indicator 16

BACKGROUND

The contamination of waters (e.g. lakes, rivers, aquifers, and groundwater) results in water pollution. Water pollution occurs when pollutants are directly or indirectly discharged into bodies of water before being properly treated by removing harmful compounds. As a way to regulate water discharge, the Clean Water Act authorized the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to regulate the point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. These point sources include discrete transports such as pipes or man-made ditches. Individual homes are not connected to the municipal system because they use a septic system. Therefore, they do not have surface discharge, therefore, do not require a permit. However, industrial, municipal, and other facilities must obtain permits if their discharges go directly to surface waters. The NPDES program is credited for the multitude of improvement to our Nation's water quality since its inception in 1972.

Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permits are issued by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for specific categories of industrial, municipal, and other wastewater discharges. Individual WPDES permits are issued to municipal and industrial facilities discharging to surface water and/or groundwater. As of 2012, approximately 358 industrial facilities require individual WPDES permits and approximately 649 municipalities held individual WPDES permits. The WPDES is overseen by the EPA.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) plays an active role in wastewater treatment and disposal for the state. MPCA water quality permits establish specific limits and requirements to protect Minnesota's surface and groundwater quality for a variety of uses, including drinking water, fishing and recreation. Permits are regularly reviewed and updated as they expire, allowing the MPCA to incorporate new information about the impacts of pollutants to the environment in subsequent permits. Permits are enforced through a combination of self-

reporting (reports to the MPCA, U.S. EPA or both) and compliance monitoring. The MPCA is overseen by the U.S. EPA.

Municipal and Private Well Water Quality	Indicator 17

BACKGROUND

Water that is piped into a home, school, or workplace comes from either a public water system or a private well. Two important water contaminants to consider for the health of a community are arsenic and nitrate. Potential health effects of drinking water with high levels of arsenic include skin damage, circulatory system problems, and cancers (such as bladder and lung cancer). Some studies have also found evidence of a link between exposure to high nitrate levels in drinking water early in pregnancy and certain birth defects. Infants who consume drinking water with high nitrate levels are at risk of shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome[4]. All Wisconsin counties in the Great Rivers Region were the same as or below state averages for nitrate and arsenic comparing the mean concentration levels between 2011 and 2013[4].

In most developed countries, water is supplied to households and industries using underground pipes. This water is processed and treated to meet drinking water standards, even though only a very small proportion is consumed or used in food preparation. In the United States, less than 1% of municipal water is used for human consumption. The rest is used for things like bathing, watering gardens, cleaning, and cooking[3].

Municipal Water

The table below is a list of the municipal water systems in Wisconsin counties of the Great Rivers Region.

Municipal Water System	County
Cashton Waterworks	Monroe
Kendall Waterworks	Monroe

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Norwalk Waterworks	Monroe
Oakdale Waterworks	Monroe
Sparta Waterworks	Monroe
Tomah Waterworks	Monroe
Warrens Waterworks	Monroe
Wilton Waterworks	Monroe
Arcadia Waterworks	Trempealeau
Blair Waterworks	Trempealeau
Dodge Sanitary District #1	Trempealeau
Eleva Waterworks	Trempealeau
Ettrick Waterworks	Trempealeau
Galesville Waterworks	Trempealeau
Independence Waterworks	Trempealeau
Lincoln Town of Sanitary District #1	Trempealeau
Osseo Waterworks	Trempealeau
Pigeon Falls Waterworks	Trempealeau
Strum Waterworks	Trempealeau
Trempealeau Waterworks	Trempealeau
Whitehall Waterworks	Trempealeau
Bangor Waterworks	La Crosse
Holmen Waterworks	La Crosse
La Crosse Waterworks	La Crosse
Mindoro Sanitary District #1	La Crosse
Onalaska Waterworks	La Crosse
Rockland Waterworks	La Crosse
Shelby Town of Sanitary District #2 Arbor Hills	La Crosse
Shelby Town of Sanitary District #2 Skyline	La Crosse
Shelby Town of Wedgewood Valley	La Crosse
St Joseph Sanitary District #1	La Crosse
West Salem Waterworks	La Crosse
Chaseburg Waterworks	Vernon
Coon Valley Waterworks	Vernon
Genoa Waterworks	Vernon
Hillsboro Waterworks	Vernon
La Farge Waterworks	Vernon
Ontario Waterworks	Vernon
Readstown Waterworks	Vernon
Stoddard Waterworks	Vernon
Viola Waterworks	Vernon
Viroqua Waterworks	Vernon
Westby Waterworks	Vernon

Private Well Water

About one-third of Wisconsin residents obtain water from private wells. Private water wells are those that are owned by individuals. Private well owners are responsible for monitoring and testing their wells. Regulations are in place to guide the creation of new wells, but requirements are limited once a well is in place. As a result, not all private wells are regularly monitored for contamination. All tested private well water systems in the Wisconsin counties of the Great Rivers Region were the same as or below state averages for nitrate and arsenic comparing the mean concentration levels between 2011 and 2013[4]. La Crosse County tested slightly high for arsenic but it was still lower than state averages.

The Great Rivers Region is primarily rural, thus, many residents rely on private wells to provide water for household use. Nearly all-rural residents rely on private wells as their source for domestic drinking water. However, many private well users know very little about the quality of the water in their well. Moreover, the only way to determine the safety of the water for consumption is to have it water collected by the well user and then sent to a certified laboratory in the region for analysis. Within the Great Rivers Region, water can be tested at Davy Laboratories in La Crosse or the La Crosse Public Health Laboratory. Water testing should be a regular routine for private well users since water quality can change over time. In total, there are. There were 660 active wells in Houston County, 2,846 in Vernon, 4,825 in La Crosse, 4,738 in Monroe, and 3,245 in Trempealeau as of 2010.
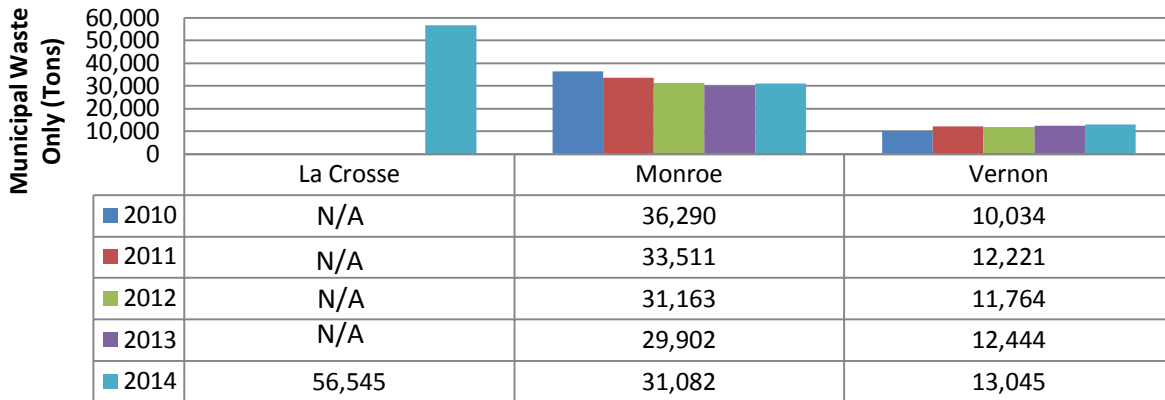
There are a number of different reasons private wells may become contaminated or observe changes in water quality. Some of these reasons occur during the building stages or through the aging process of the well. Although some changes in water quality are due to natural causes, the majority is a direct result of human activity. Because groundwater is actually precipitation that has infiltrated into the soil and rock, what we do on the land surface can often have a large effect on the quality of our groundwater resource and private wells. Private wells, if not properly maintained, can provide a direct route for contamination from the surface to the groundwater.

Solid Waste	Indicator 18

BACKGROUND

The amount of waste produced in community can potentially have a significant impact on the natural environment and the quality of life. Today's modern landfills are designed with environmental controls, and must meet the Department of Natural Resources requirements. The DNR regulates landfills to prevent negative impacts to people and the environment. Landfills must collect and treat liquids and gases they generate before releasing them to the environment. Landfill operators must monitor their facilities to detect any contamination, report monitoring data to the DNR and respond quickly to any problems.

La Crosse, Monroe and Vernon counties each have their own county landfill and La Crosse County has a waste-to-energy plant operated by Xcel Energy. The waste to energy plant produces enough energy to serve approximately 10,000 homes a year. This displaces over 10,000 tons of coal annually. Trempealeau County does not have its own landfill, nor does Houston County. Their refuse goes to La Crosse County. The majority of municipal waste in the Great Rivers Region is collected at the La Crosse County Landfill. However, over the past five years Vernon County has seen an increase of the municipal waste received at their landfill.

Tons of Municipal Waste Received in Landfills

	La Crosse	Monroe	Vernon
■ 2010	N/A	36,290	10,034
■ 2011	N/A	33,511	12,221
■ 2012	N/A	31,163	11,764
■ 2013	N/A	29,902	12,444
■ 2014	56,545	31,082	13,045

Data unavailable for other counties.

La Crosse County has a Household Hazardous Wastes Facility where residents and businesses can take their paints, batteries, chemicals, etc. Electronic waste can also be recycled there for a small fee.

The most effective way to divert waste from our landfills is to recycle and compost. The average person in our region generates 4.7 pounds of trash (residential and their share of commercial trash) and changes less than 1.8 pounds of that trash per day.

Recycling	**Indicator 19**

BACKGROUND

Depositing all waste into landfills is an inefficient use of resources, and since there is no national law that mandates recycling, state and local governments often introduce recycling requirements.

Recycling is the process of separating, collecting and remanufacturing or converting used or waste products into new materials. The recycling process involves a series of steps to produce new products. The benefits of recycling include the conservation of materials, saving energy, and reducing the garbage that ends up in landfills.

The vast majority of the municipalities in La Crosse County fund their solid waste and recycling program services via their general funds rather than user fees. Four municipalities in La Crosse County have user fees – three through bag sales and one via the water bill. Grant funding from the DNR covers about 1/3 of the cost of operating a recycling facility in the Great Rivers Region, and if this funding were revoked, the City/County would either have to bear more of the burden, or the life expectancy of landfills would sharply decrease.

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Problematic recyclable materials include appliances, tires, batteries (lead acid), used oil, oil filters, fluorescent and HID lamps, and antifreeze. Non-problematic recyclable materials include textiles, cardboard, paper, aluminum, glass, plastic, carpet, pallets, latex paint, and organics.

Research by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources found the following results:

- 94% of Wisconsin households recycle and feel it is worthwhile
- 58% of Wisconsin households recycle at least as much as they did two years ago and 32% are recycling more now
- More than 50% of Wisconsin households compost yard waste
- 73% leave grass clippings on their lawns.
- Rigorous recycling efforts keep almost 1.7 million tons of material out of Wisconsin landfills and incinerators each year.
- Wisconsin citizens have saved landfill space equivalent to the size of five average landfills since 1990.

A report published in 2013 by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency found that over 41% of all municipal solid waste in Minnesota was recyclable. Overall, the recycling and composting rate in Minnesota has generally been increasing over recent years.

Hunger and Food Availability	Indicator 20

BACKGROUND

Most people have experienced hunger at some point in their lives. However, not everyone has experienced chronic hunger. The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations defines chronic hunger as undernourishment caused by not ingesting enough energy to lead a normal, active life. The definition of hunger has been a subject of debate, especially as it is linked to food security.

Having access to food is often the first barrier those living in hunger face. The table below shows the number of grocery stores per 100,000 population. Grocery stores are defined as supermarkets and smaller grocery stores primarily engaged in retailing a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables; and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Convenience stores and large general merchandise stores that also retail food, such as supercenters and warehouse club stores are excluded. This indicator is relevant because it provides a measure of healthy food access and environmental influences on dietary

behaviors. Houston County has the highest rate of establishments per 100,000 people in the Great Rivers Region.

Grocery Store Access, 2013		
County/State	Number of Establishments	Number of Establishments per 100,000 Population
La Crosse	11	9.6
Monroe	8	17.9
Trempealeau	6	20.8
Vernon	7	23.5
Houston	5	26.3
Wisconsin	1,027	18.1
Minnesota	969	18.3
Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2013.		

This table below reports the percentage of the population living in census tracts designated as food deserts. A food desert is defined as a low-income census tract (where a substantial number or share of residents has low access to a supermarket or large grocery store. This indicator is relevant because it highlights populations and geographies facing food insecurity. Vernon County has the highest percent of their population (20.2%) with low food access. However, this is still lower than the state average of 23.2%. Houston County has a drastically lower percent (13.7%) of their population with low food access than the state rate of 31%.

Population with Low Food Access, 2010		
County/State	Population with Low Food Access	Percent Population with Low Food Access
La Crosse	24,108	21%
Monroe	6,677	15%
Trempealeau	3,092	10.7%
Vernon	6,022	20.2%
Houston	2,610	13.7%
Wisconsin	1,317,596	23.2%
Minnesota	1,641,890	31%
Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns. Additional data analysis by CARES. 2013.		

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Limited access to healthy foods is the percentage of the population who are low income and do not live close to a grocery store. Living close to a grocery store is defined differently in rural and nonrural areas; in rural areas, it means living less than 10 miles from a grocery store; in nonrural areas, less than 1 mile. Low income is defined as having an annual family income of less than or equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold for the family size. According to the United States Department of Agriculture Food Environment Atlas, approximately 3.8% of counties within the Great Rivers Region were low income and did not live close to a grocery store. The average for Wisconsin was 5%, while the average for Minnesota was 6%.

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