

DATA AND TREND ANALYSIS

Youth Experiences



Adolescents (ages 10 to 17) and young adults (ages 18 to 24) make up 20% of Ramsey County's population. The behavioral patterns established during these developmental periods help determine young people's current health status and their risk for developing chronic diseases during adulthood. Their families, peer groups, schools, and neighborhoods can either support or threaten young people's health and well-being.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

DESCRIPTION

An adverse childhood experience (ACE) describes a traumatic childhood experience that is remembered as an adult. They can have negative, lasting effects on health and well-being in both childhood or later in life.¹ ACEs have been linked to numerous negative outcomes in adulthood including: alcoholism, drug addiction, depression, suicide, poor physical health and obesity, lower educational attainment, unemployment and poverty.² In childhood, children who have experienced ACEs are more likely to struggle in school and have emotional and behavioral challenges.² People who have experienced multiple ACEs are much more likely to be negatively affected than those who have experienced only one.³ The original ACE study¹ in 1998 asked a large sample of adults about seven childhood experiences (guardian in jail, lives with someone who drinks too much alcohol or uses illegal drugs, verbally or physically abused by guardian, adults in home abuse one another, sexually abused by adult). Since then, the list of ACEs used in several studies has expanded, therefore, ACE scores can be hard to compare. The ACE score, as calculated from the Minnesota Student Survey, ranges from 0 to 7, and is based on the number of the ACE conditions experienced by a student.

HOW WE ARE DOING

Despite increasing attention and resources devoted to preventing ACEs and building resilient individuals and communities, ACEs remain common in the U.S. Over half (55 percent) of Minnesota adults report experiencing at least one ACE during childhood, and of those, most reported more than one.⁴ Among all Ramsey County 8th, 9th and 11th graders, 24.7 percent reported an ACE and within that group, 47 percent reported two or more ACEs. The most common ACE among Ramsey County youth was having a parent or guardian in the past, or currently in jail/prison. This is followed by verbal abuse, physical abuse and living with someone who drinks too much.⁵

DISPARITIES

Black and Hispanic youth in all regions of the U.S. are more likely to experience ACEs than their white and Asian peers.⁷ When comparing ACEs prevalence between groups of Ramsey County students, disparities are evident. Among all Ramsey County students of color surveyed, 25 percent reported one or more ACEs, while among white students the rate was 21 percent. Among all Ramsey County females surveyed, 26 percent reported one or more ACEs, while among the male students surveyed the rate was 23 percent.⁵

RISK FACTORS

ACEs' negative effects can be transmitted from one generation to the next.⁸ Toxic stress experienced by women during pregnancy also negatively affects genetic "programming"

Information to note

- ACEs can make people physically and mentally ill.⁶
- 24.7% of the Ramsey County students surveyed reported one or more ACEs.
- The most common ACE reported among Ramsey County youth was having a parent/guardian in jail.

Community voice

"Lack of peace at home, child abuse, lack of good job, lack of income."
- Black/African American Female, age 25-34

¹ Felitti VJ et al. Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults: The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study. *Am J Prev Med.* 1998;14(4):245-258. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9635069>. Accessed February 2018.

² Bethell CD, Davis MB, Gombojav N, Stumbo S, Powers K. A national and across state profile on adverse childhood experiences among children and possibilities to heal and thrive. 2017. <http://www.cahmi.org/projects/adverse-childhood-experiences-aces/>. Accessed February 2018.

³ Chartier MJ, Walker JR, Naimark B. Separate and cumulative effects of adverse childhood experiences in predicting adult health and health care utilization. *Child Abuse Neglect.* 2010;34(6), 454-464. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0145213410000955>. Accessed March, 2018.

⁴ Minnesota Department of Health. Stress and ACEs. <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/program/ace/stress.cfm>. Accessed March, 2018.

⁵ Minnesota Student Survey 2016, Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public Health data base.

⁶ Priest N, Paradies Y, Trenerry B, Truong M, Karlsen S, Kelly Y. A systematic review of studies examining the relationship between reported racism and health and wellbeing for children and young people. *Soc Sci Med.* 2013;95:115-127. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277953612007927>. Accessed March, 2018.

⁷ Child Trends. The prevalence of adverse childhood experiences, nationally, by state and by race or ethnicity. 2018. <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/prevalence-adverse-childhood-experiences-nationally-state-race-ethnicity/>. Accessed February, 2018.

⁸ Monk C, Feng T, Lee S, Krupska I, Champagne FA, Tycko B. Distress during pregnancy: epigenetic regulation of placenta glucocorticoid-related genes and fetal neurobehavior. *Am J Psychiat.* 2016;173(7), 705-713. <https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/abs/10.1176/appi.ajp.2015.15091171>. Accessed March, 2018.

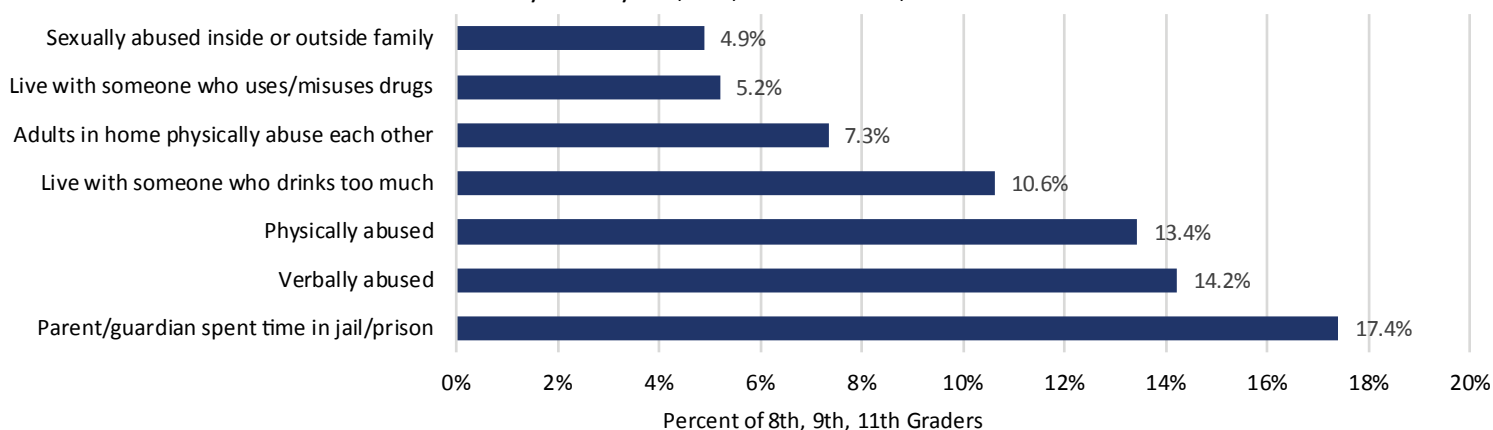
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

during fetal development, which can contribute to a host of bad outcomes, sometimes much later in life. Infants born to women who experienced four or more childhood adversities were two to five times more likely to have poor physical and emotional health outcomes by 18 months of age.⁹

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

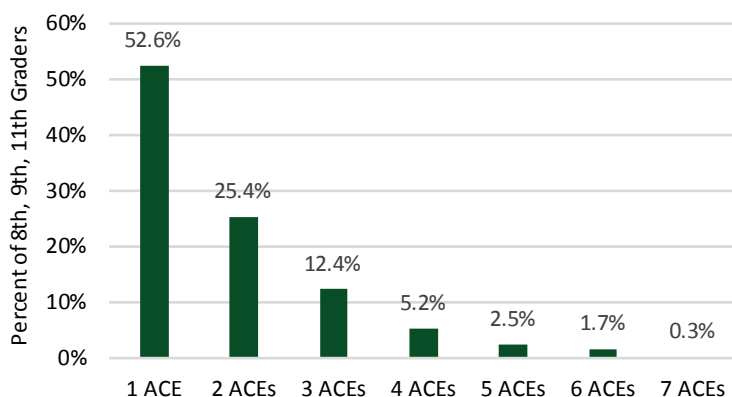
Preventing child abuse and neglect and improving economic stability for families is a priority for Ramsey County. The county's cross departmental Youth Continuum of Care (YCC) initiative is a long-term effort to look at the big picture of the county's programs and systems impacting youth. The YCC is the place where leaders from the county and community partners who serve youth ages 0-24 to discuss, collaborate, coordinate, prioritize and review our efforts to improve outcomes for Ramsey County youth.

Most Common ACEs Reported Among Students Experiencing ACEs, Ramsey County 8th, 9th, 11th Graders, 2016



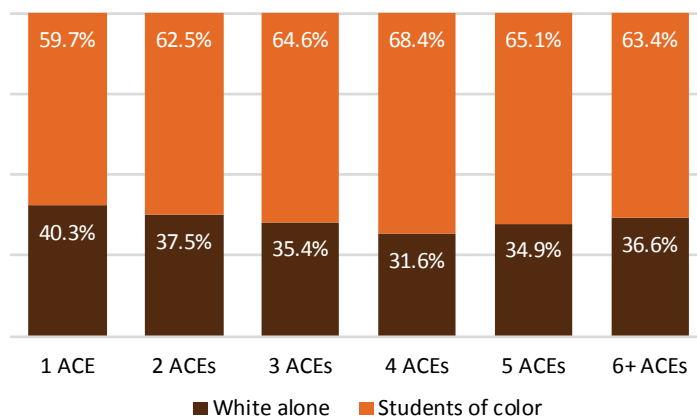
Source: Minnesota Student Survey, 2016; Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public Health.

Number of ACEs Among Students Reporting Any ACEs, Ramsey County 8th, 9th, 11th graders, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey 2016, Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public

Number of ACEs by Race, Ramsey County 8th, 9th, 11th Graders, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey 2016, Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public Health.

⁹ Madigan S, Wade M, Plamondon A, Maguire JL, Jenkins JM. Maternal Adverse Childhood Experience and Infant Health: Biomedical and Psychosocial Risks as Intermediary Mechanisms. *J Pediatr.* 2017;187, 282-289.e1. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0022347617305991>. Accessed March, 2018.

Bullying Among Youth

DESCRIPTION

Bullying is a type of youth violence that can be described as any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths, who are not siblings or current dating partners, involving an observed or perceived power imbalance. The behaviors are repeated multiple times or highly likely to be repeated. These instances of violence, either physical, psychological, social or educational, threaten the well-being of youth and can cause a multitude of issues. The harmful effects of bullying are frequently felt by friends and families and can hurt the overall health and safety of schools, neighborhoods, and society.¹

HOW WE ARE DOING

In Ramsey County in 2016, 16 percent of students reported being pushed, shoved, slapped, hit or kicked by other students in the 30 days preceding the survey. Of these, four percent experienced this behavior at least once a week. Bullying, overall, tends to decrease as grade levels increase. For example, about 28 percent of 5th graders reported being bullied, while only six percent of 11th graders reported the same.² However, looking at individual age groups, 40.6 percent of 12-year-olds reported experiencing this behavior, the highest of all surveyed ages. The percent of students who report that they bullied someone else is lower than the percent of students who report being bullied, for every grade. For those who report that they bullied others, threatening and violent behaviors decrease with age, following the trend of responses for the victims of bullying. Along with this, the gap between students reporting being bullied and those reporting bullying shrinks as grade level increases.²

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Healthy People 2020³: Reduce bullying among students in grades 9-12.

U.S. Target: 17.9 percent of students.

DISPARITIES

Gender minority and transgender students are far more likely to experience violence, bullying and exclusion within Ramsey County schools. In 2016, 40 percent of 11th graders and 42 percent of 9th graders reported being bullied for their gender expression at least once in the 30 days preceding the survey.² Somali students are three times more likely to report being the target of bullying due to their ethnicity (20.5 percent) than are white students.

RISK FACTORS

While there is no single major predictor for a young person becoming violent, children who have these factors are more likely to bully others⁴: are aggressive or easily frustrated, have less parental involvement or have difficulties at home, think badly of others, have difficulty following rules, view violence in a positive way, and have friends who bully others. There are also risk factors that may help identify children at risk of being bullied: they are perceived as different from their peers in an outward way (being overweight or underweight, being new to a school or environment, or wearing different clothing), seen as weak or unable to defend themselves, are depressed, anxious or have low self-esteem, are less popular and/or have few friends and do not easily get along with others, are seen as annoying or provoking, or antagonize others for attention.

(continued on back)

Information to note

- Bullying, overall, tends to decrease as grade levels increase.
- 12-year-olds reported experiencing physical violence in Ramsey County schools most often.
- 40.6 percent of 12-year-olds in Ramsey County schools reported being bullied in 2016.

¹ Bullying Research. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/bullyingresearch/index.html>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

² Minnesota Student Survey 2013-2016. Minnesota Department of Education. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

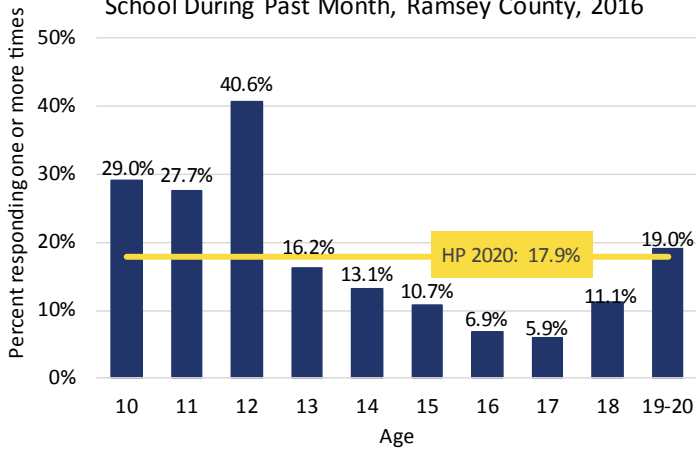
³ Injury and Violence Prevention. Healthy People 2020. https://www.healthypeople.gov/node/4773/data_details. Accessed August 2018.

⁴ Who is at Risk. Stop Bullying. <https://www.stopbullying.gov/at-risk/index.html>. Accessed March 28, 2018.

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

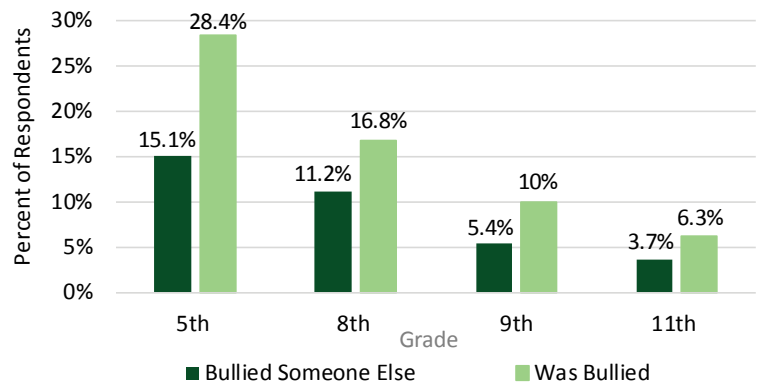
Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public Health provides data monitoring and reporting for this topic in order to better understand the overall health and current conditions in the community. The information may help inform community partners, policy makers or county program leadership.

Youth Who Were Bullied (pushed, shoved, slapped, hit, or kicked) by Other Students at School During Past Month, Ramsey County, 2016



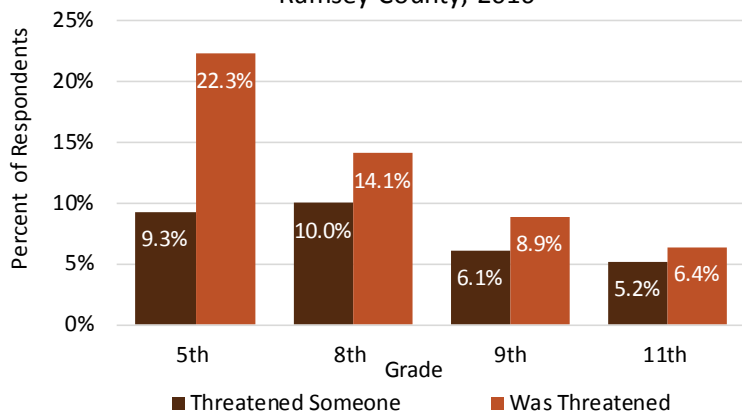
Source: Minnesota Student Survey.⁵

Students Reporting Being Bullied or Bullying Someone Else at School (pushing, shoving, hitting, or kicking) Ramsey County, 2016



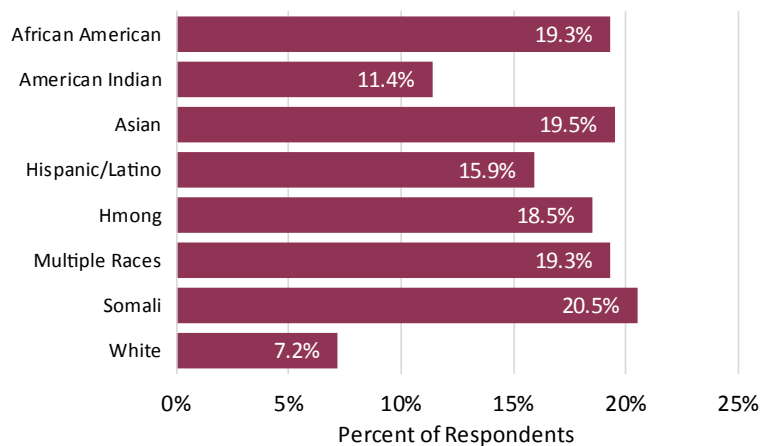
Source: Minnesota Student Survey.⁵

Students Reporting Threatening to Beat Someone Up, or Being Threatened, in Past 30 Days, Ramsey County, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey.⁵

Students Being the Target of Bullying Due to Their Race, Ramsey County, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey.⁵

⁵ Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Website. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed March 23, 2018.

DESCRIPTION

With 61.1 percent of American families having two parents in the workforce, child care has become a necessity for many growing families.¹ When parents are trying to decide what type of child care to use, there are many factors to consider. Two popular options are family child care and commercial child care centers.²

Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive child care, health and social service programs for low-income families. Over 1400 children, from prenatal through age 5, are enrolled in programs each year throughout Ramsey County.³

HOW ARE WE DOING

Licensed family child care most often takes place in someone's home. Children are cared for by one or two main providers, and are usually kept in a mixed age group of children. In 2016, there were 512 licensed family child care providers in Ramsey County. Infant prices averaged \$177 per week. Toddler and preschool-age care fell between \$160 and \$170. School-age care was about \$145 every week.

Licensed child care centers are often similar to school and usually have a more structured environment. Due to licensing and staff numbers, groups of children in center child care tend to be much larger and are usually separated by age. For center care, average prices are almost double family child care in the same year. For the 207 facilities, the weekly cost for an infant averaged \$331. Toddler care was \$283 and preschooler care, \$199.

Each type has its own advantages. In family child care, children are cared for in an environment that feels more like home with an adult they get to know well. This familiarity along with the sizable price difference makes family based child care a popular option. Center child care tends to be a good option for parents who have children that will soon be starting school. The educational environment, larger staff numbers and age based grouping gives a child a chance to get accustomed to more structure.

Each type also has disadvantages. One negative to family child care can be schedule related. Since there are usually only one or two providers, if they get sick or have a schedule conflict, it can be difficult for parents to find a backup. On the other hand, center based child care tends to be the more expensive option which deters many parents. Schedule flexibility may also be a difficult challenge as there is less likely to be nonstandard hours, holiday or last-minute care options.⁴

DISPARITIES

Parents choose center based child care for a multitude of reasons; these facilities are more regulated and inspected than family-based programs, children are usually grouped with others of the same age, and staff in these programs more commonly found to have previous education or experience in child care. Research has shown that low-income parents, parents of infants and toddlers, and Hispanic families prefer family and home-based care.⁵ (continued on back)

Information to note

- In 2016, there were 512 licensed family child care providers and 207 child care centers in Ramsey County.
- The average weekly cost in 2016 for family based infant care was \$177, compared to the cost of center based infant care of \$331.

Community voice

"Sometime child care gets in the way."
- Somali Female, age 25-34

Although child care was rarely specifically mentioned, many of the respondents identified time, stress and lack of resources for children and support as barriers to being healthy.

¹ Economic Characteristics of Families. Bureau of Labor Statistics Webs site. <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/famee.nr0.htm>. Accessed July 31, 2017.

² Family Child Care and Day Care Center: What's the Difference. Care.com Web site. <https://www.care.com/c/stories/3438/family-child-care-and-day-care-center-whats/>. Accessed July 31, 2017.

³ Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties. Web site. <http://www.capr.org/community-action-services/head-start/> Accessed January 04, 2018.

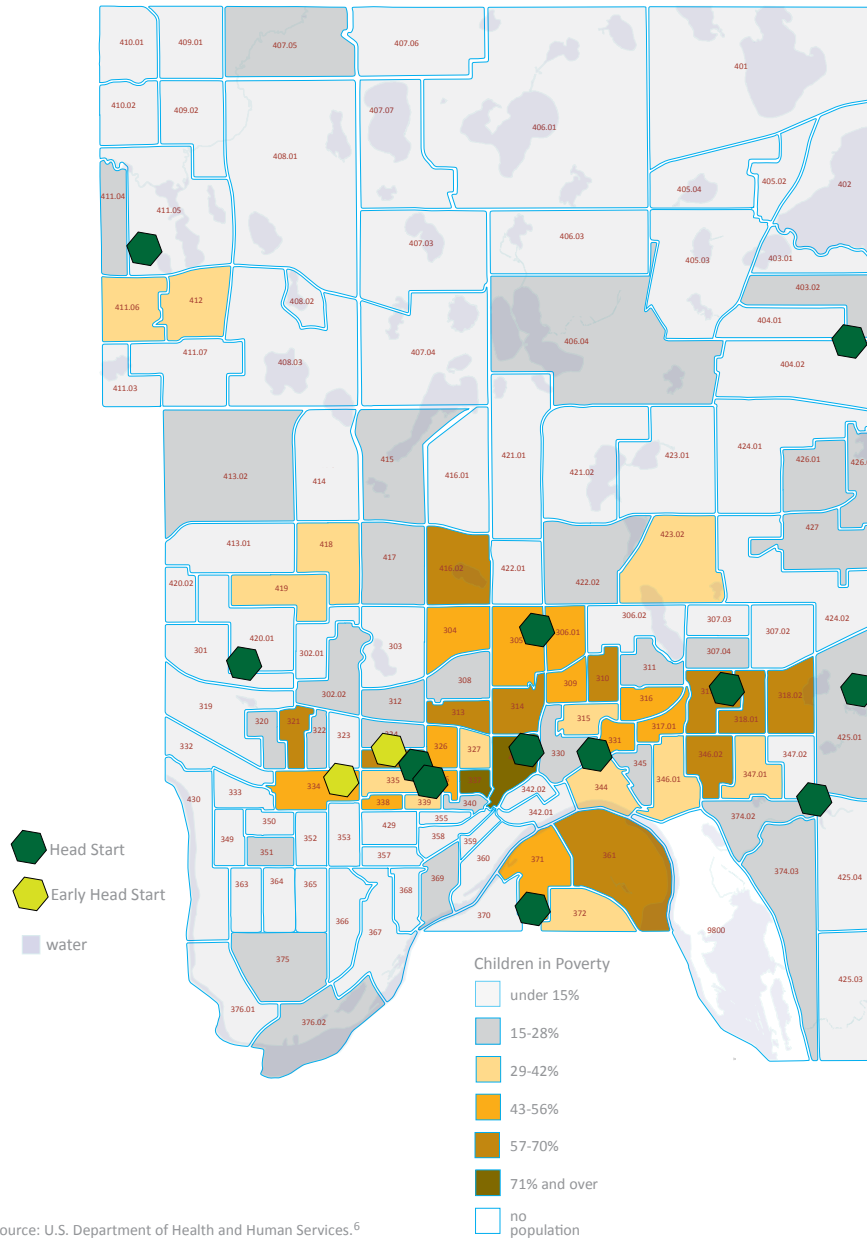
⁴ Ramsey County Licensed Family Child Care Homes Average Rates by City and Total Centers Average Rates. Think Small Web site. https://www.thinksmall.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/2016-Ramsey-average-rates_2.pdf. Accessed July 29, 2017.

⁵ Unequal Access: Barriers to Early Childhood Education for Boys of Color (2016) Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Accessed June 28, 2017 from: https://usa.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/UnequalAccess_BoysOfColor.pdf.

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Ramsey County provides financial assistance through the Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to parents who can't afford child care. CCAP provides child care assistance to families who have been on the Minnesota Family Investment Program or Diversionary Work Program in the last 12 months and to others who meet income guidelines on a sliding scale. Funds are available for children up to age 12, and for children with special needs up to age 15. Parents receiving child care assistance may pay part of the child care cost based on income and size of family. Ramsey County also licenses in-home child care homes, offers training, and monitors child care homes to support the health and safety of children.

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs by Percent of Children Age 0-4 Below Poverty Level by Census Tracts, Ramsey County, 2016



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.⁶

⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families; U.S. Census American Community Survey 2012-2016.

DESCRIPTION

Licensed family-based child care makes up the majority of child care providers in Minnesota. With the growing number of families who speak a language other than English at home, it is becoming more important for services, especially child care, to become linguistically diverse.

HOW ARE WE DOING

Parent Aware, a child care rating system administered by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, conducts a survey of child care providers in Minnesota. In the 2017 survey, participating providers were asked “What languages do you or your helper speak fluently?” The majority of family child care providers in Minnesota (97 percent) spoke English. The other languages most spoken included Spanish, Somali and Hmong.¹ Altogether, providers speaking languages other than English only made up about 3 percent of all family child care providers in Minnesota. In the seven county metro area, this percentage triples with 9 percent of family child care providers reporting that they speak languages other than, or in addition to English.

DISPARITIES

Families who do not primarily speak English at home are more likely to use family members for child care who may not be licensed. Some parents equate lack of recognition for their language as a lack of respect for their culture. Although unintended by providers, parents may feel rejected and may isolate themselves further.² A 2016 survey of child care providers in Minnesota identified a great need for cultural diversity training, and a desire for easier communication with parents.³

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Ramsey County Child Care Licensing welcomes providers from diverse language backgrounds to serve families who speak languages other than English. We collaborate with ThinkSmall because they have connections in the community that are trained to work with these providers. Ramsey County CCL staff is from diverse backgrounds and collectively speak several languages including but not limited to Spanish, Hmong, and East African Languages. Ramsey County also has interpreters’ services in several languages. Please call our intake Social Worker at (651) 266-4166 if you speak any language other than English and would like to become a Licensed Child Care Provider.

Information to note

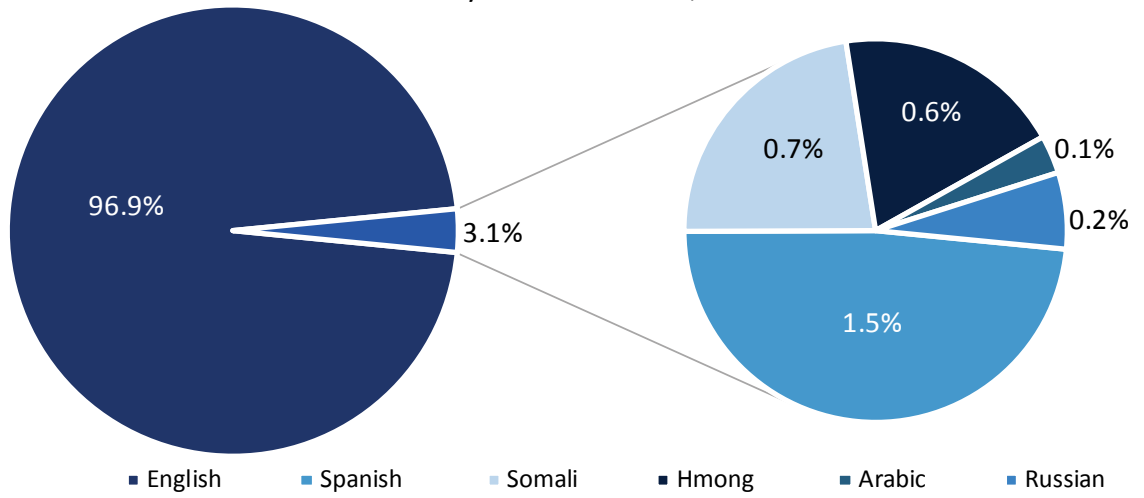
- The most common languages spoken in child care facilities (other than English) were Spanish, Somali and Hmong.
- Family based child care providers speaking languages other than English only made up about 3 percent of providers in Minnesota and 9 percent in the metro area which does not adequately meet the needs of Ramsey County parents.

¹ Diversity of child care programs participating in Parent Aware: An equity lens. Minnesota Department of Human Services Web site. <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfsrserver/Public/DHS-7086Ca-ENG>. Accessed July 20, 2017.

² Lee, L. Working with Non-English-Speaking Families. Teaching For Change. 2012. http://www.teachingforchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/ec_nonenglishspeakingfamilies_english.pdf. Accessed July 20, 2017.

³ An Important Partnership in Child Development: Child Care Providers and Screening Programs. Minnesota Department of Health Web site. <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/topic/devscreening/content/document/pdf/childcaresurveyrpt.pdf>. Accessed July 20, 2017.

Languages Spoken in Minnesota
Family Child Care Sites, 2016



Source: Diversity of child care programs participating in Parent Aware: An equity lens.⁴

⁴Diversity of child care programs participating in Parent Aware: An equity lens. Minnesota Department of Human Services Web site. <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-7086Ca-ENG>. Accessed July 20, 2017.

DESCRIPTION

Maltreatment not only disrupts children's current development but, if not addressed appropriately, can also have long-term consequences on their development, health and well-being.¹ Child maltreatment can negatively impact communities, schools, the economy, and future generations through the transmission of maltreatment from one generation to the next.¹ Minnesota Statutes recognize six types of maltreatment: neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, mental injury, emotional harm, medical neglect and threatened injury.² Once a report of maltreatment is received, child protection staff review the information and determine if the alleged maltreatment meets the statutory threshold. If it does, staff "screen-in" the maltreatment report for assessment or investigation.

HOW WE ARE DOING

Local child protection agencies across Minnesota received 75,624 reports of child maltreatment in 2016-an 11.2 percent increase over 2015.³ There were 26 child deaths and 36 life-threatening injuries resulting from maltreatment in 2016 in the state.¹ In 2016, there were 3,300 unique Ramsey County children in screened-in maltreatment reports.³ Most children were ages birth to two, followed by children six to eight. Just over 37 percent of children were African-American, 4.4 percent were American Indian, 13.3 percent were Asian, 28.8 percent were white, 13.4 percent were two or more races. Hispanic/Latino children of any race made up 11.3 percent of screened-in reports. Neglect was the most common maltreatment type (63.3 percent) in Ramsey County in 2016 followed by physical abuse (33.7 percent) and sexual abuse (12.5 percent).³

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Minnesota performance standards:⁴

- 1) Percentage of alleged victims who were seen in face-to-face visits within the time limit. Target: 100%
- 2) Percent of children who had a subsequent maltreatment report within 12 months. Target: Under 15.2%

DISPARITIES

Racial disparities in child maltreatment reporting have persisted in Minnesota many years. As of 2016, American Indian children were 5.2 times more likely to be involved in a child protection assessment/ investigation than white children while children who identify with two or more races and African-American children were both about three times more likely.¹

RISK FACTORS

Risk factors for child maltreatment include the age and number of children in the family, special needs of children, the mental health of caregivers, low socio-economic status, rural residence, race/ethnicity of children, family structure and family stressors.⁵ Parental alcohol and substance use is a known risk factor for child maltreatment.⁶

Information to note

- Ramsey County had the second highest rate of child maltreatment in the 7-county Metro in 2016.
- There are large racial disparities related to child maltreatment.

¹ Harvard Center on the Developing Child. InBrief. <https://46y5eh11fhgw3ve3ytpwxt9r-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/inbrief-adversity-1.pdf>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

² 2017 Minnesota Statutes 626.556. <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=626.556>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

³ Minnesota Department of Human Services. Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report 2016. <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfservlet/Public/DHS-54081-ENG>. Published October 2017. Accessed May 29, 2018.

⁴ Minnesota Department of Human Services. Child Welfare Dashboard. <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/child-protection-foster-care-adoption/child-welfare-data-dashboard/>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

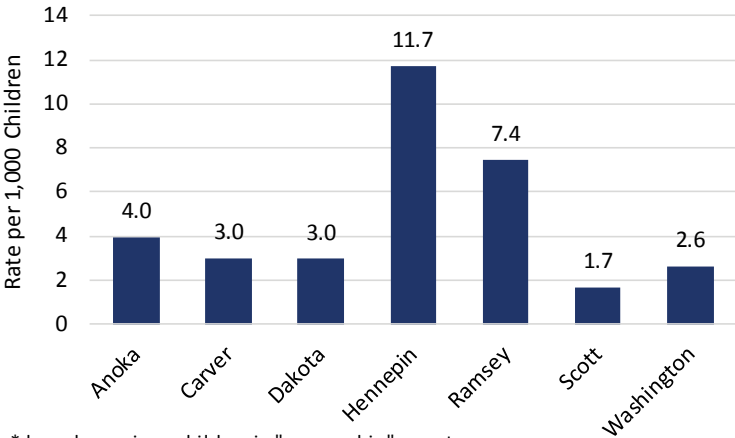
⁵ Fourth national incidence study of child abuse and neglect. National Incidence Study of Child Maltreatment (NIS4) https://ncwwwi.org/files/Cultural_Responsiveness__Disproportionality/NIS-4_Executive_Summary.pdf. Accessed May 2018.

⁶ Children's Bureau. Parental drug use as child abuse. 2015. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/drugexposed.pdf>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

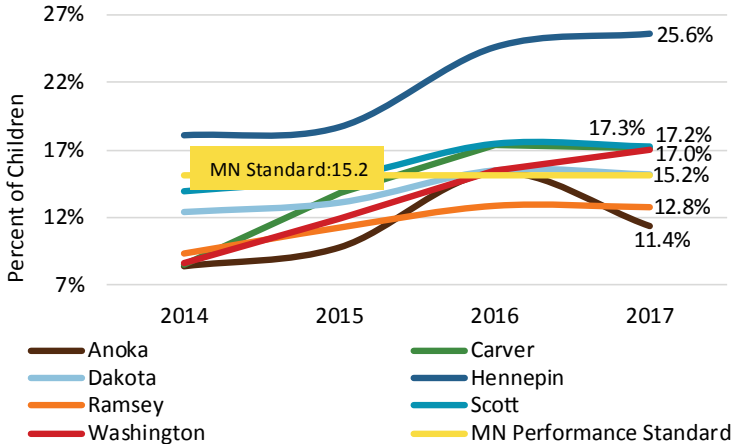
Ramsey County takes protection of children very seriously. The County Board’s strategic priorities include advancing racial and health equity, building economic prosperity for County residents and enhancing the continuum of care for youth and families which should all contribute to reducing child maltreatment. Ramsey County continues to make timely response to child protection reports a high priority and is working to increase services and supports available to families. The County is also continuing efforts to identify and reduce racial disparities while children and families are receiving County services.

Rate of Child Maltreatment* by Metro County, 2016



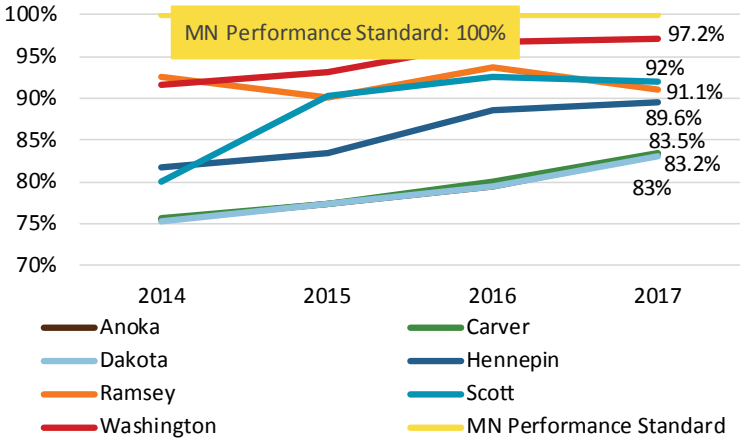
* based on unique children in "screened-in" reports
Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁷

Children with a Subsequent Maltreatment Report Within 12 Months by Metro County



Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁸

Alleged Victims of Child Maltreatment with a Face to Face Visit Within Time-Limit Specified in State Statute by Metro County



Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁸

⁷ Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services. Minnesota’s Child Maltreatment Report 2016.

⁸ Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services. Child Welfare Dashboard. <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/child-protection-foster-care-adoption/child-welfare-data-dashboard/>. Accessed May 29, 2018.

DESCRIPTION

This indicator reports on the educational attainment of Ramsey County residents 25 years or older. Educational attainment is defined as the highest level of education an individual has successfully completed. These levels tend to correlate not only with the health and success of an individual, but also of the surrounding population and community. Paying attention to educational attainment is a critical part of successful social and economic development.¹

HOW ARE WE DOING

According to U.S. Census data, the percent of Ramsey County residents (25 years or older, all races aggregated) who reported having a high school degree or higher was 90 percent compared to the Minnesota rate of 93 percent. The percent of Ramsey County residents (25 years or older, all races aggregated) who had a bachelor's or higher was 41 percent, compared to the Minnesota rate of 34 percent. Looking at other metro counties, Ramsey County has the lowest percentage of residents who have education beyond high school. Demographically, the population with the lowest percentage obtaining a high school diploma or higher were those who identified as being of 'other race' at 58.7 percent, followed by those in the Hispanic population at 66.4 percent, then Asian at 67.6 percent. Compared to the 2025 Minnesota Higher Educational Attainment goal to have at least 70 percent of residents (age 25 to 44 years old) with an obtained postsecondary degree or certificate, Ramsey County was far below this goal at 43.8 percent, which was still above the national rate of 38.2 percent.² Since 2011, the percentage of Ramsey County residents reporting to have obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher has raised 1.6 percent from 42.2 to 43.8 percent. This is still 26.2 percent below the MN Higher Education goal for 2025 of 70 percent.³

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Minnesota Higher Education Attainment Goal: Increase the number of residents age 25 to 44 years old who hold postsecondary degrees or certificates.

Minnesota Target: 70 percent by 2025.⁴

DISPARITIES

Males ages 25 to 29 have lower educational attainment across all educational categories than females in the United States.⁵ In Ramsey County, those who identified as "other race," Hispanic or Asian reported the lowest percentage of obtaining a high school diploma or more and lowest percentage of those who had obtained a bachelor's degree or higher.² In 2017, most residents reported that a high school diploma was their highest level of education.⁶

RISK FACTORS

Research indicates that children from low-income households and communities develop academic skills more slowly compared to children from higher income households.⁷

Information to note

- Among Ramsey County residents age 25 to 44 years old, 40.9% have bachelor's degrees compared to the national rate of 36%.
- Compared to other Minnesota counties, Ramsey County has the lowest percentage of residents who have education beyond high school.



Community voice

"No further education to earn decent pay to live a healthy life."

- Asian Male, age 65-74

Many respondents stated that lack of education kept them, their family and community from being healthy.

¹ Population Health: Behavioral and Social Science Insights. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Web site. <https://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/population-health/.html>. Accessed June 15, 2017.

² American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau Web site. <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>. Accessed December 17, 2017.

³ Source: American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau Web site. <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>. Accessed June 15, 2017.

⁴ 2015 Minnesota Session Laws. The Office of the Revisor of Statutes Web site. <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=69&year=2015&type=0>. Accessed June 15, 2017.

⁵ Educational Attainment of Young Adults. National Center for Education Statistics Web site. https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_caa.asp. Accessed June 15, 2017.

⁶ Educational Attainment in the United States: 2017. United States Census Bureau Web site. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2017/demo/education-attainment/cps-detailed-tables.html>. Accessed December 17, 2017.

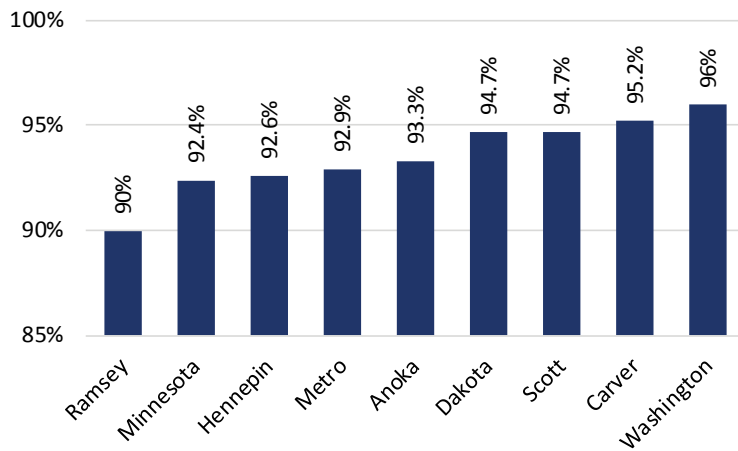
⁷ Morgan, P. Risk Factors for Learning-Related Behavior Problems at 24 Months of Age: Population-Based Estimates. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*. 2009. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2F978-1-4020-0082-0-08>. Accessed June 15, 2017.

High tuition costs can also be attributed to low academic achievement in communities. Four-year public colleges have raised tuition rates by 33 percent since the 2007-08 school year.⁸

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

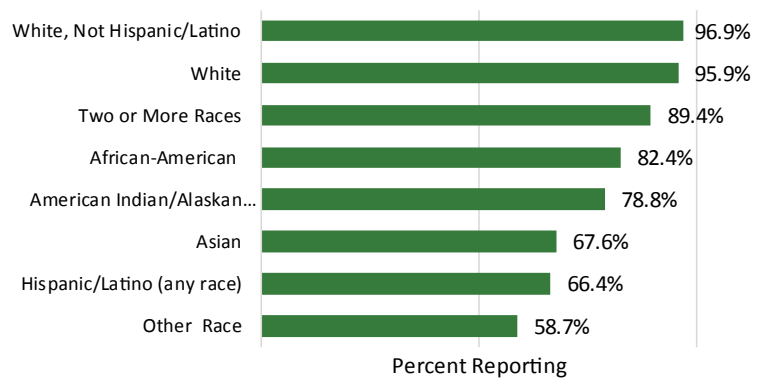
Over the past five years, Ramsey County Workforce Solutions has partnered directly with the three public colleges located within the county to increase educational opportunities for parents on public assistance and for dislocated workers and others seeking to enhance their skills in high-demand industries across the region. Ramsey County is also developing opportunities for full-family services to broaden the available resources to family members previously not served directly by county programming. These efforts have already shown increased earnings for families and will continue to be developed and delivered as part of the county's ongoing workforce development programming.

Residents 25 Years or Older with Education Beyond a High School Degree, 2016



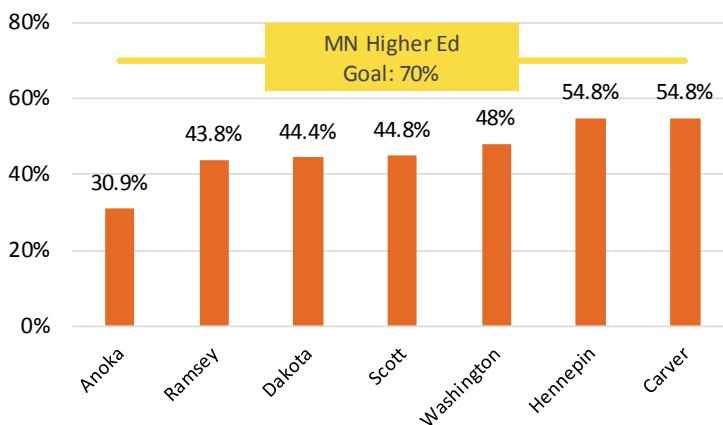
Source: American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau.⁹

High School Diploma or Higher Among Residents 25+ Years, Ramsey County, 2016



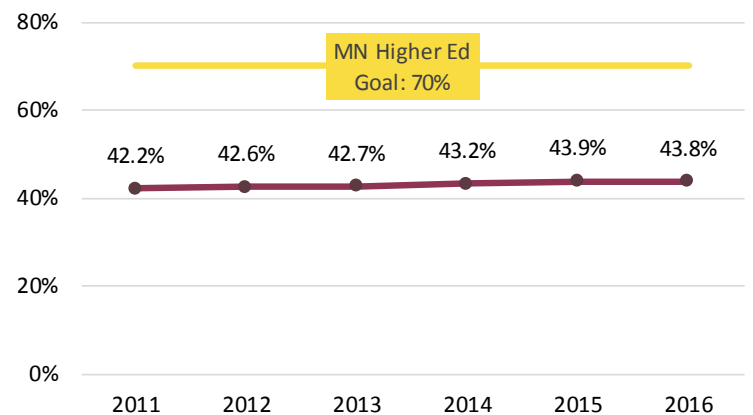
Source: American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau Web site.⁹

Residents 25-44 years with a Postsecondary Degree or Certificate, 2016



Source: American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau Web site.¹⁰

Residents 25-44 years with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Ramsey County



Source: American Fact Finder. The United States Census Bureau Web site.⁹

⁸Trends in College Pricing. College Board Web site. <https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing>. Accessed June 15, 2017.

⁹American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau Web site. <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>. Accessed June 15, 2017.

¹⁰American Fact Finder [data set]. The United States Census Bureau Web site. <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>. Accessed September 15, 2017.

Out-of-Home Placement - Youth

DESCRIPTION

Children are placed in out-of-home care when a child protective services worker and a court have determined that it is not safe for the child to remain at home, because of a risk of maltreatment, including neglect and physical or sexual abuse. Arrangements include non-relative foster homes, relative foster homes (also known as “kinship care”), group homes, institutions, and pre-adoptive homes.

Because of their history, children in foster care are more likely than other children to exhibit high levels of behavioral and emotional problems. They are also more likely to be suspended or expelled from school, and to exhibit low levels of school engagement and involvement with extracurricular activities. Children in foster care are also more likely to have received mental health services in the past year, to have a limiting physical, learning, or mental health condition, or to be in poor or fair health.¹ One study found that almost 60 percent of young children (ages two months to two years) in foster care were at a high risk for a developmental delay or neurological impairment.² Nearly half of children in foster care, according to another study, had had four or more “adverse family experiences”- potentially traumatic events that are associated with multiple poor outcomes in childhood and adulthood.³

HOW WE ARE DOING

There were 829 Ramsey County children who were removed from their homes in 2017 (6.6 per 1,000 children).⁴ This was the highest rate among metro counties. Similarly, from 2014 to 2016, Ramsey County had the highest rates of children in care among all metro counties.⁵ Ramsey County meets the federal standard for children removed from their homes to be reunited with their family or in a permanent home within 12 months but disparities exist. In 2016, Ramsey County African-American children removed from their homes were most likely to achieve permanency within 12 months (65%) and American Indian children were least likely to achieve permanency (33%) and fell below the federal standard. Asian, white, Hispanic/Latino and multi-racial children met the standard. In 2015 American Indian children achieved permanency 38% of the time and were again below the federal permanency standard.⁵

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Federal standards expect that all children removed from their homes be in a permanent home within 12 months (usually by reunification or adoption).¹

U.S. Target: 40.5% or greater

DISPARITIES

Ramsey County children of color are overrepresented in the out-of-home placement system compared to the number in the general population. African- American/black children were almost twice as likely to be in out-of-home care than their white counterparts during 2014-2016.⁵

(continued on next page)

Information to note

- Ramsey County has the highest rates of children in out-of-home care in the metro area.
- In Ramsey County during 2014-2016, there were almost twice the number of black children in out-of-home care than their white counterparts.

¹Kortenkamp K, Ehrle J. The well-being of children involved with the child welfare system: A national overview. The Urban Institute. 2002; Series B, No. B-43. http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/310413_anf_b43.pdf. Published January 15, 2002. Accessed May 2018.

²Vandiver S, Chalk R, Moore K. Children in foster homes: How are they faring? Trends Child. 2003;2003-23. <https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/FosterHomesRB.pdf>. Published December 1, 2003. Accessed May 2018.

³Bramlett MD, Radel LF. Adverse family experiences among children in nonparental care, 2011-2012. National Health Statistics Reports. 2014; 74, 1-8. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr074.pdf>. Published May 7, 2014. Accessed May 2018.

⁴Minnesota Department of Human Services. Child Welfare Dashboard. <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/child-protection-foster-care-adoption/child-welfare-data-dashboard/>. Accessed May 2018.

⁵Minnesota Department of Human Services. Child Welfare Reports and Out-of-home Care and Permanency Reports.

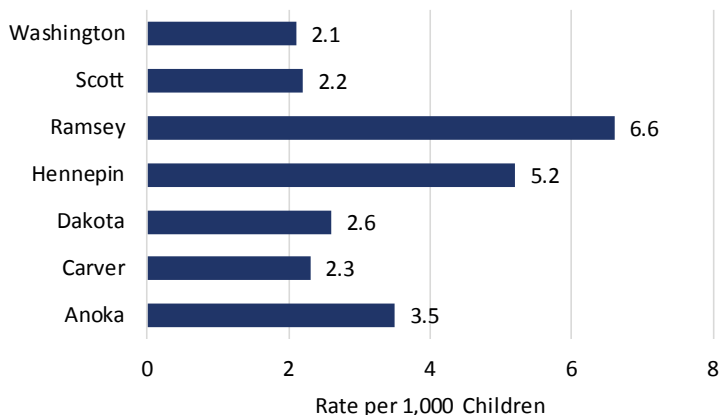
RISK FACTORS

Risk factors for out-of-home placement include the age and number of children in the family, special needs of children, the presence of alleged perpetrators in the household and the capacity of caregivers to provide a safe environment.

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

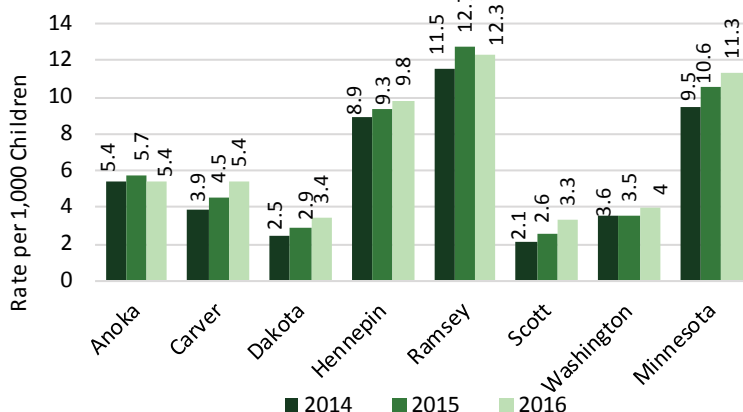
Ramsey County is focusing on ways to safely decrease entries into our child welfare system and to increase timely exits from care.

Rates of New Out-of-Home Placements by Metro County, 2017



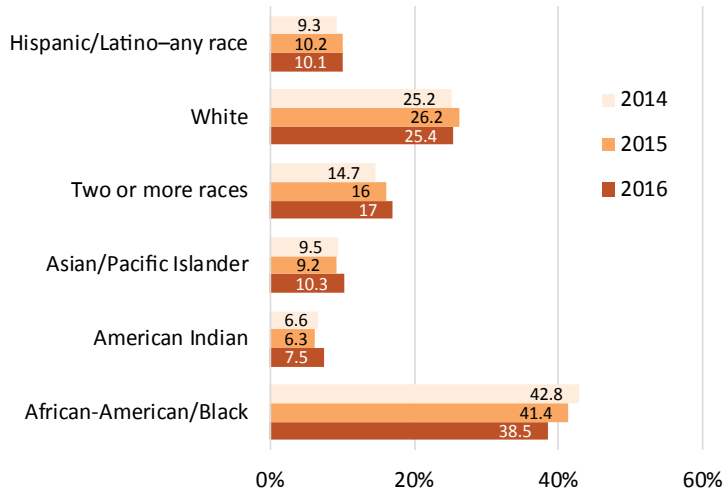
Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁶

Rates of All Out-of-home Placements by Metro County and Minnesota



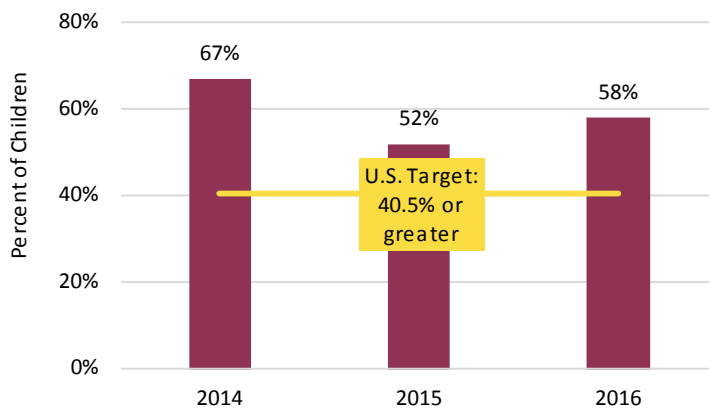
Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁷

Children in Out-of-Home Care, Ramsey County



Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁷

Children in Placement Who Are Reunited With Family or Placed in Permanent Homes Within 12 Months, Ramsey County



Source: Minnesota Department of Human Services.⁸

⁶ Minnesota Department of Human Services. Child Welfare Dashboard.

⁷ Department of Human Services. Child Welfare Reports.

⁸ Minnesota Department of Human Services Child and Family Service Review. <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-54081a-ENG>. Accessed May 23, 2018.

Pregnancy Prevention and Condom Use - Youth

DESCRIPTION

Used consistently and correctly, condoms are 98 percent effective and can protect against HIV, unintended pregnancy and most sexually transmitted diseases.¹ Condoms and female condoms are the only methods of birth control that also help prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including HIV. Condoms are readily available at local stores, some community health centers, and on the internet.

HOW ARE WE DOING

In Ramsey County in 2016, 13 percent of males and 9 percent of females in 9th-grade and 33 percent of males and 31 percent of females in 11th-grade reported being sexually active. When asked if they had ever spoken to their sexual partner(s) about preventing pregnancy, 31 percent of 9th-graders and 21 percent of 11th-graders said they never had. Among sexually active 11th-graders, the most common birth control method reported was condoms (48 percent). Over 9 percent of students took no action to prevent pregnancy.

Between 88- 91 percent of students used some type of contraceptive to prevent pregnancy in 2016. This does not meet the Healthy People target of 91.6 percent. Among sexually active 11th-graders, about 69 percent of males and 56 percent of females reported using a condom the last time they had sex.² This does not meet the Healthy People goal of 81.5 percent for males, and barely reaches the 55.6 percent goal for females.

Among sexually active Minnesota college students in 2015, about 48 percent reported using a condom the last time they had vaginal intercourse.³ Six percent took no action to prevent pregnancy.

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Healthy People 2020:

1) Increase the proportion of females at risk of unintended pregnancy or their partners who used contraception at most recent sexual intercourse.

U.S. Target: 91.6 percent.

2) Increase the proportion of sexually active males aged 15 to 19 years who used a condom at last intercourse.

U.S. Target: 81.5 percent

3) Increase the proportion of sexually active females aged 15 to 19 years who used a condom at last intercourse.

U.S. Target: 55.6 percent⁴

DISPARITIES

Nationally, young, gay and bisexual males have disproportionately high rates of HIV, syphilis and other STDs. Adolescent, lesbian and bisexual females are more likely to have ever been pregnant than their heterosexual peers.⁵

RISK FACTORS

Ineffective use of a condom is a risk factor for pregnancy, HIV and STDs. To ensure

Information to note

- Among sexually active Ramsey County youth in 2016, about 31% of 9th-graders and 21% of 11th-graders report that they've never spoken with their sexual partner(s) about preventing pregnancy.
- In a 2015 survey, 6% of college students in Minnesota reported taking no action to prevent unintended pregnancy.
- Ramsey County is not meeting the Healthy People 2020 target for youth who report using a contraceptive to prevent unintended pregnancy.

¹ Condom Effectiveness. Centers for Disease Control Web site. <https://www.cdc.gov/condomeffectiveness/index.html> Accessed April 2018.

² Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed October 9, 2017.

³ College Student Health Survey Report 2015. University of Minnesota Web site. <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/resources/2015-college-student-health-survey-report-health-and-health-related-behaviors-university> Accessed April 2018.

⁴ Healthy People 2020. <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/data-search/search-the-data#topic-area=3521>. Accessed April 2018.

⁵ Health Risks among Sexual Minority Youth. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/disparities/smy.htm>. Accessed April 2018.

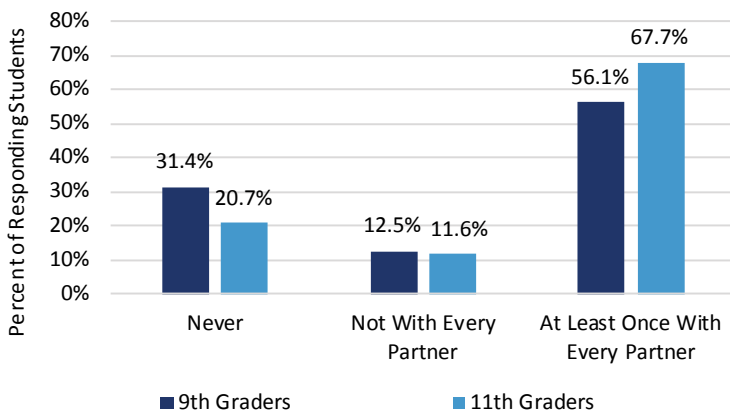
Pregnancy Prevention and Condom Use - Youth

effectiveness of a condom, they should not be reused or doubled up; should not be exposed to heat/friction (e.g., in wallet); and should not be used with oil-based products like baby oil, lotion, petroleum jelly or cooking oil.⁶

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

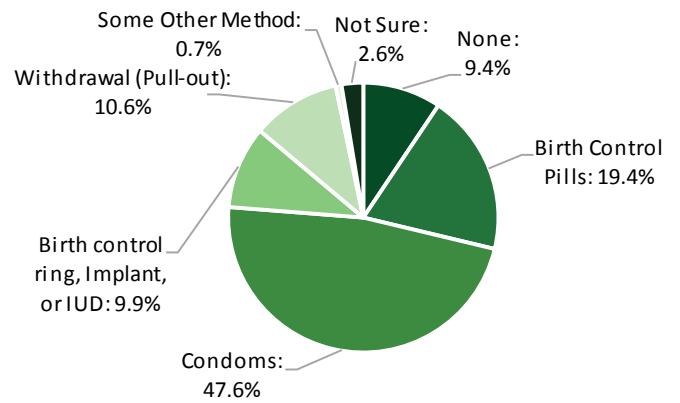
Through Clinic 555, Ramsey County offers confidential, low-cost sexual and reproductive health services for adults and teens. Clinic 555 Provides all medically accepted methods of birth control, physical exams, pregnancy tests and screening, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV. Sage services provide free annual Pap tests and mammograms for women age 40 and older. These services charge a sliding fee based on income and ability to pay.

Students Discussing Pregnancy Prevention with Partners(s), Ramsey County, 2016



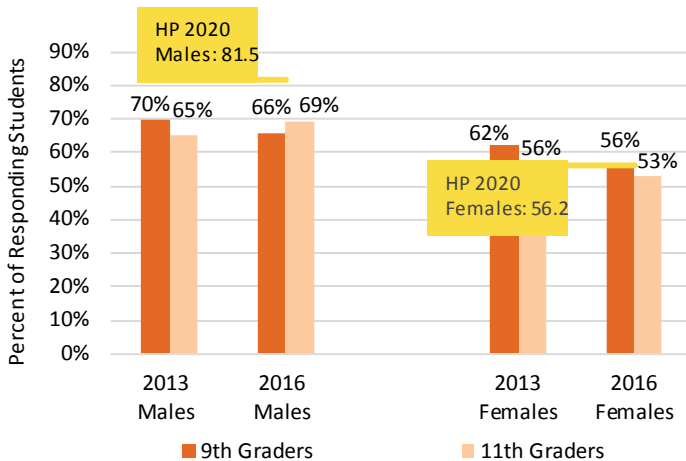
Source: Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Web site.⁷

Birth Control Method Last Used by Sexually Active 11th graders, Ramsey County, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Web site.⁷

Students Using a Condom at Last Sexual Intercourse, Ramsey County



Source: Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Web site.⁷

⁶ Condom Effectiveness. Centers for Disease Control Web site. <https://www.cdc.gov/condomeffectiveness/index.html> Accessed April 2018.

⁷ Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed April 2018.

DESCRIPTION

School attendance rates are a significant factor for high school graduation. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) classifies three levels of attendance. An attendance level of 94.5- 100 percent for a given school year is considered low risk for dropping out, and is the attendance-goal for all schools. The moderate risk classification is 89- 94.4 percent attendance, and the highest risk for dropping out of school is 89 percent or lower attendance for a given school year per student.¹

HOW WE ARE DOING

Over an eight-year period, Ramsey County's public schools have an average attendance of 94.4 percent per student; just on the cusp of the MDE low risk category. Average rates of attendance drop around grade 5, and reach their lowest point during the senior year of high school for most students. By grade 12, attendance rates for students in Ramsey County were 88.7 percent in 2016. This is 5.8 percentage points below the Minnesota target and 6.5 percentage points below the attendance rate of elementary school students in Ramsey County.²

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Minnesota Department of Education: Increase the average public school student attendance rate by year

Minnesota Target: 94.5%-100%

DISPARITIES

School attendance rates by grade tend to decrease after grade 5, and then decline rapidly once a student reaches 9th grade. The rates continuously decrease, with 12th graders having the lowest rates. Minnesota has the lowest amount of funding dedicated to non-classroom support in the U.S. This can add barriers for schools and teachers attempting to help students who are having difficulty with attendance.³

RISK FACTORS

The educational attainment of the parent or guardian of a child is very influential on their views toward school. If a parent finds school a waste of time, the student is going to attend less often and spend less energy on their academic performance. The Minnesota Department of Education identified a link between maternal education and student attendance in the early years. The lower the mother's education at the time of the child's birth, the more likely the child was to accrue numerous absences.⁴

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

The Youth Engagement Program (YEP) works with teens age 12-18 who are identified as truants from public schools. YEP staff address issues causing truancy and provide resources to youth and their families. Child Protection staff work in a similar manner with children under 12. Child Protection staff work with school districts to provide educational stability for children placed in foster care. This may include transportation to ensure children are able to attend their original school.

Information to note

- Between 2008 – 2016, Ramsey County public school students had an average attendance rate of 94.4%.
- The lower the mother's education at the time of a child's birth, the more likely the child will accrue numerous absences.

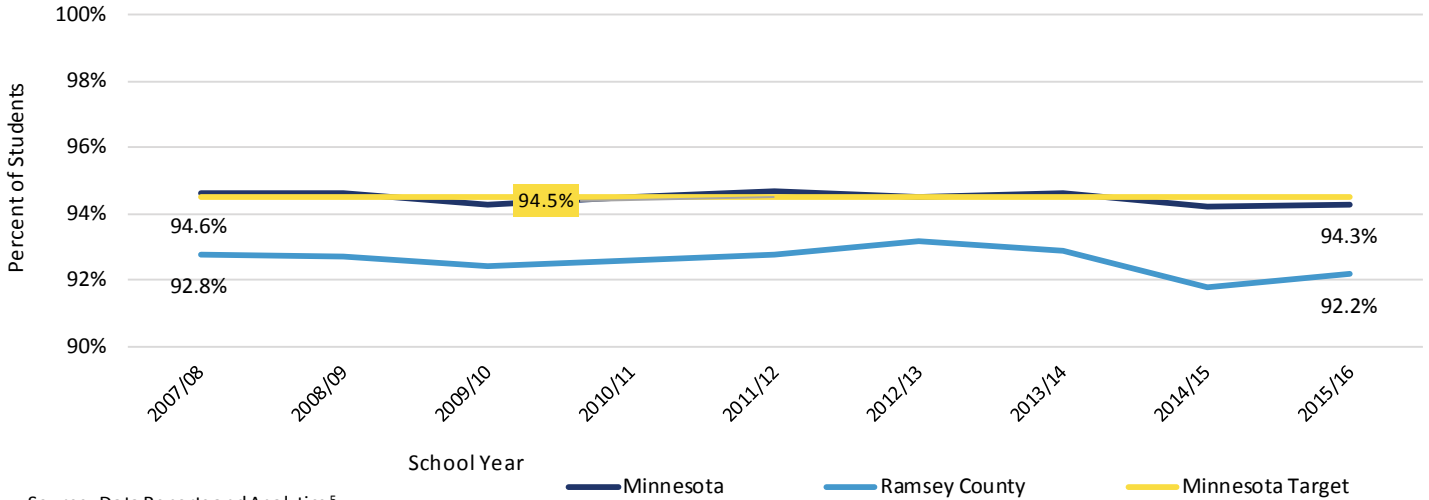
¹ Chang HN, Romero M. Present, engaged, and accounted for. The critical importance of addressing chronic absence in the early grades. National center for Children in Poverty. 2008. http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_837.html. Published September 2008. Accessed July 12, 2017.

² Data & Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed July 12, 2017.

³ Public Education Finances: 2014. United States Census Bureau. <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2016/econ/g14-aspef.pdf>. Updated June 9, 2016. Accessed July 12, 2017.

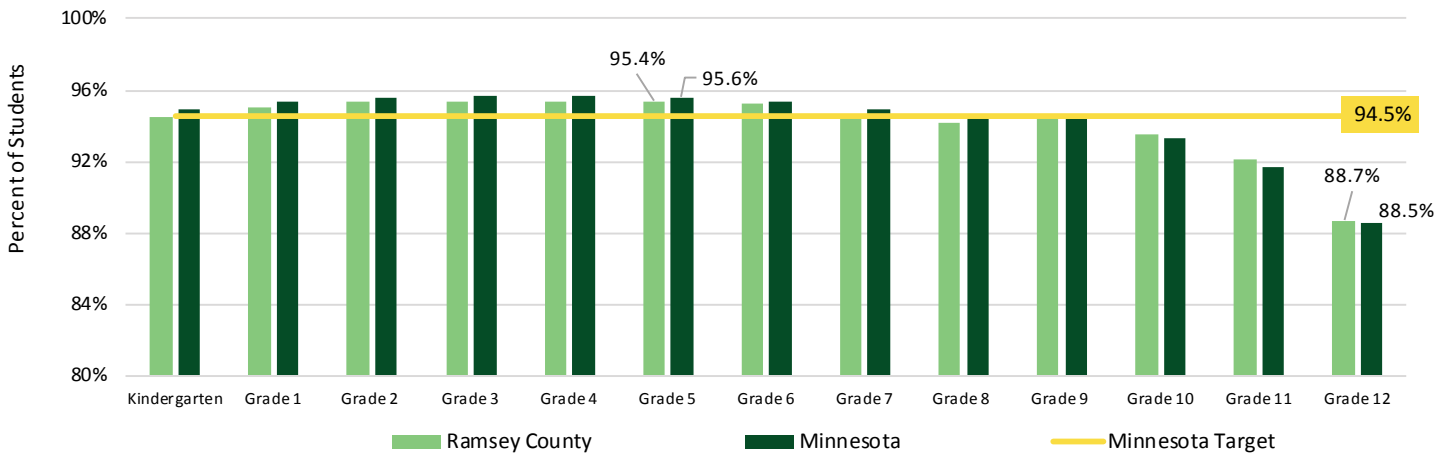
⁴ Minnesota Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System. Minnesota Department of Education. <http://ecls.mn.gov/>. Accessed July 12, 2017.

K-12 Public School Attendance Rates



Source: Data Reports and Analytics.⁵

K-12 Public School Attendance by Grade, 2015-16



Source: Data Reports and Analytics.⁵

⁵ Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed July 19, 2017.

DESCRIPTION

This indicator describes dropout rates for students attending high school in Ramsey County. This information is valuable, as it describes who is dropping out and from which schools, and potentially why students are not finishing high school. Efforts to reduce high school dropout rates are important because it is well known that youth who don't have a high school degree have a more difficult time finding employment.

HOW ARE WE DOING

Between 2003 and 2016, Ramsey County school districts saw a decrease in dropout rates of about 1.2 percent, although there has been fluctuation over time. The average rate over 13 years is 8.4 percent, with the lowest rate occurring in 2011 at 6.9 percent. Compared to state levels, Ramsey County has consistently higher dropout rates. During the same 13-year period, the Minnesota dropout rate decreased 2.7 percent. The Minnesota average rate was 5.8 percent, with the lowest rate also occurring in 2011 at 4.8 percent.¹

DISPARITIES

There are higher dropout rates among African-American students, English language learners, Hispanic students, and students who utilize the Free and Reduced Price Lunch program compared to other students. Males are more likely to drop out of high school than females.²

RISK FACTORS

An attendance rate below 89 percent for a school year increases the likelihood that a student will drop out.³

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Ramsey County Workforce Solutions provides multiple services from prevention to resources for residents interested in finishing their high school education. Workforce Solutions provides career counselor interns in four of Saint Paul's public schools to mentor students on their education and career options. These mentors work with students directly by supporting the efforts of the schools' professional guidance counselors. Ramsey County also provides GED services through partnering with community non-profits that assist residents in achieving their GED. For nearly five years, Ramsey County has provided culturally specific employment services to communities experiencing significant outcome disparities. These services directed at African American and American Indian MFIP families have been successful at improving literacy for children and improving parent engagement in education and increasing parent earnings which are each key risk factors associated with students dropping out of high school.

Information to note

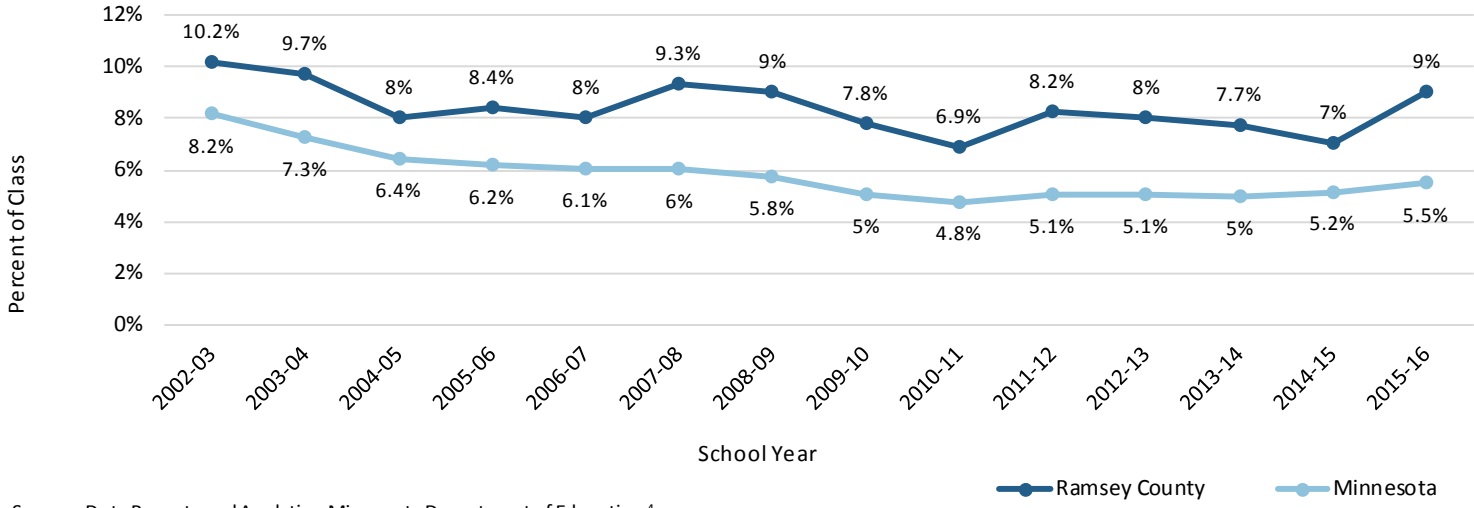
- Between 2003 and 2016, Ramsey County's high school dropout rate decreased from 10.2% to 9%.
- An attendance rate below 89% for a school year increases the likelihood that a student will drop out.

¹ Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

² Minnesota Report Card. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://rc.education.state.mn.us/#>. Accessed

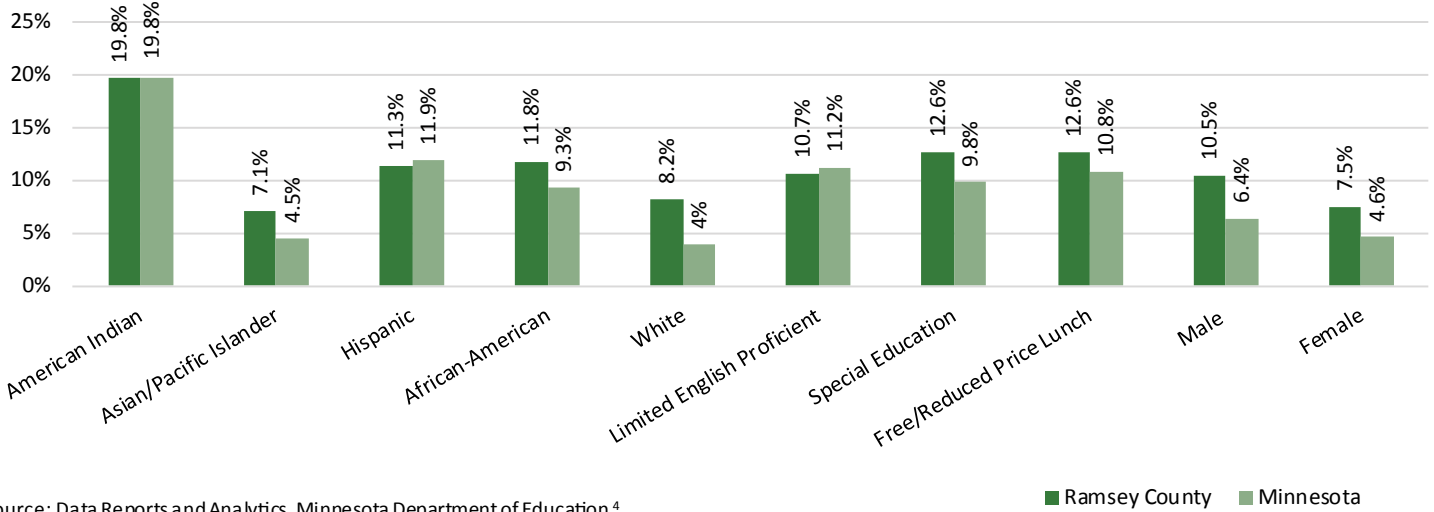
³ Chang, H. & Romero, M. Present, engaged, and accounted for. The critical importance of addressing chronic absence in the early grades. 2016. Columbia University: National center for Children in Poverty. http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_837.html. Accessed June 13, 2017.

Four-Year High School Drop Out Rates



Source: Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education.⁴

School Dropout Rates by Select Populations, 2015-16



Source: Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education.⁴

⁴ Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

DESCRIPTION

On-time graduation is calculated using first time ninth-grade students, including incoming transfers, and subtracting transfers out of a school within a four-year period. These rates are an important piece of determining the health of the community, as research has heavily linked education to health and longevity.¹ Research has also shown that students who do not earn a high school diploma have fewer job opportunities and lower earning potential which affects them throughout their lives, and negatively impacts their families and the community.²

HOW ARE WE DOING

The method of determining graduation rates has changed over the past few years, and the Healthy People 2020 target has shifted upward from 82.4 percent to 87 percent due to new research methods that obtain more accurate data. Ramsey County's on-time graduation rate increased 14.4 percent between 2003 and 2017. In the 2016-2017 school year, there was an on-time graduation rate within Ramsey County public schools of 77.1 percent. Minnesota graduation rates also increased, growing from 72.5 percent in 2003, to 82.2 percent in 2016.³ Compared to the Healthy People 2020 target of 87 percent, Ramsey County still has room for improvement.³

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Healthy People 2020: Increase the number of students who graduate with a regular diploma four years after starting ninth grade.

U.S. Target: 87 percent

DISPARITIES

American Indian students had the lowest on-time graduation rate at 50 percent in 2016. Statewide in the past five years, English learning students, African-American students, students receiving free and reduced priced meals, and Hispanic students experience lower rates of on-time graduation and higher dropout rates than other students.⁴

RISK FACTORS

The following demographic indicators have been shown to be most common in students at highest risk of not completing high school on time, or graduating: being male; being older than the average student; being a member of a low-income family; or being a member of a racial or ethnic minority group.⁵

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Since the program's inception in 2003, the graduation rate for teen parents enrolled in the Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health MFIP Teen Parent Program has continued to increase from 33% initially, to the 2017 rate of 77%. Total number of teen parents enrolled in the program have decreased, to a large degree as a result of the significant decline in teen pregnancies in Ramsey County. Teen parents report that consistent public health nursing and social work staff who establish positive, trusting relationships with them and who are knowledgeable about school options, child care alternatives, and support their successes, assist them in accomplishing their goals while also helping them through pregnancy and understanding their infant's and toddler's needs and development.

Information to note

- On-time graduation rates for Ramsey County school districts have increased by about 17% since 2003, yet still do not meet national targets.
- Statewide over the past five years, English learning students, African-American students, students using free and reduced priced meals, and Hispanic students continue to experience lower rates of on-time graduation and higher dropout rates than other students.

¹ Why Does Education Matter so Much to Health? Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. http://www.rwjf.org/content/dam/farm/reports/issue_briefs/2012/rwjf403347. Accessed June 13, 2017.

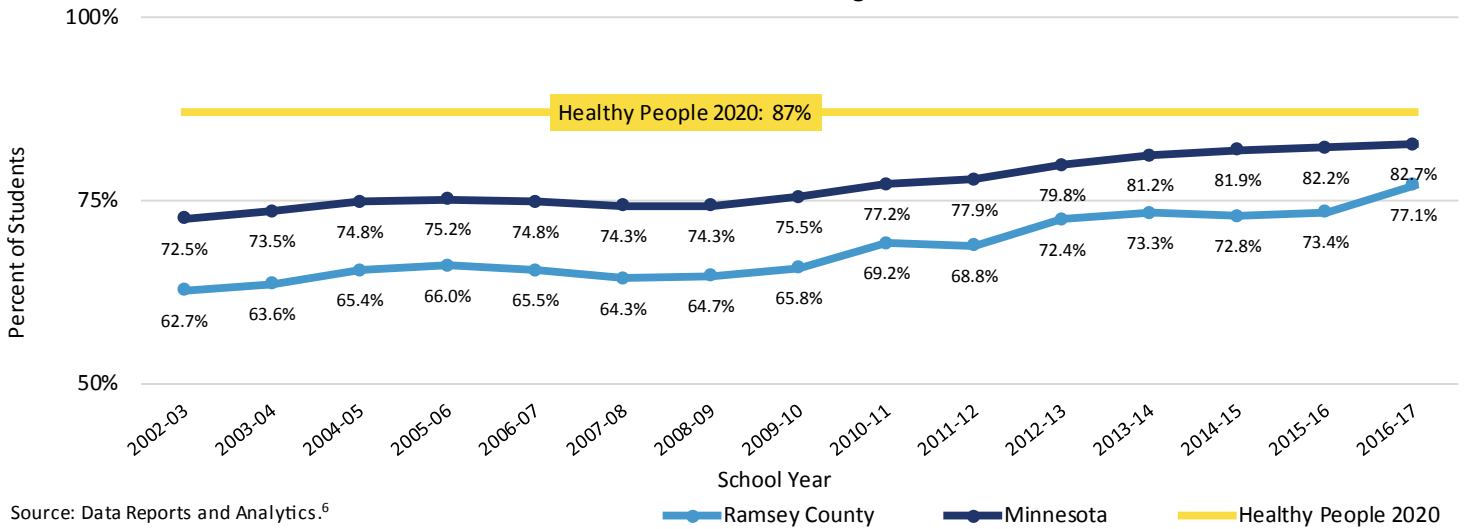
² Healthy People 2020. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Web site. <http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/LHI/socialDeterminants.aspx?tab=data#AH-5.1>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

³ Minnesota Report Card. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://rc.education.state.mn.us/#>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

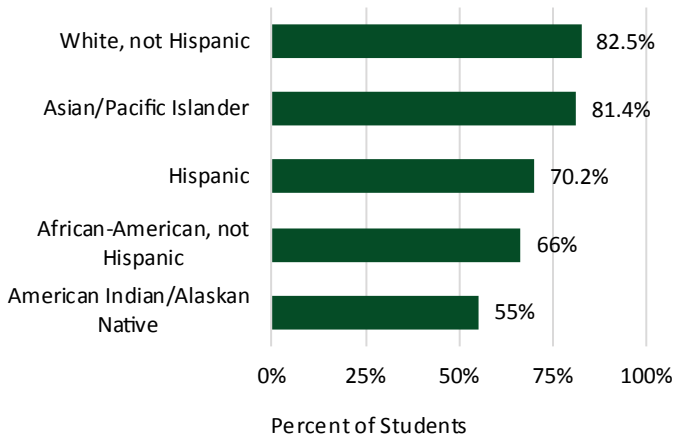
⁴ Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

⁵ Dropping Out of High School: Prevalence, Risk Factors, and Remediation Strategies. R & D Connections Web site. https://www.ets.org/Media/Research/pdf/RD_Connections18.pdf. Accessed June 13, 2017.

On-Time Graduation from High School

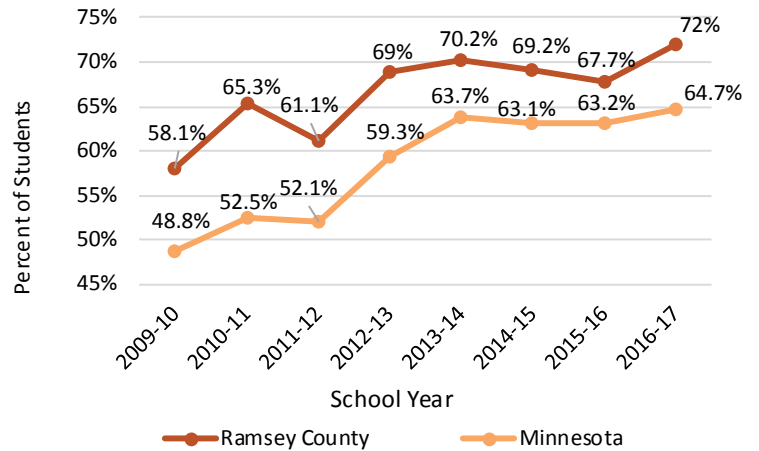


On-Time Graduation by Population Group, Ramsey County, 2017



Source: Data Reports and Analytics.⁶

Limited English Proficient Students Who Graduated On Time



⁶ Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=2>. Accessed May 2018.

DESCRIPTION

Student school mobility is defined as anytime a student changes schools for reasons other than grade promotion within an academic year. States have been granted individual flexibility on identifying what is considered an academic year, and Minnesota has defined that period as Oct. 1 of every school year, to the date of test administration; a time span of only seven months.¹ Students who frequently change schools between kindergarten and twelfth grade are less likely to complete high school on time, complete fewer years of school, attain lower levels of occupational prestige, are more likely to experience symptoms of depression, and are more likely to be arrested as adults.² Increased school mobility also tends to correlate with lower achievement.³ The majority of elementary and secondary school children in America make at least one nonpromotional school change over their educational careers, with many children making multiple moves.⁴

HOW ARE WE DOING

During an academic year, transfers out of a Ramsey County school district are much more common than transfers into or within a district for both public and charter schools. In 2016, the midyear transfer rate for public school students were about 18 percent, and about 19 percent for students attending charter schools. Mobility rates do not seem to be dropping significantly, but since 2012, the timing of transfers has increased during the summer.

DISPARITIES

In most cases, charter school students have almost double the mobility rates of public schools and changing schools during the current school year is most common among sixth-graders. In sixth and ninth grades, students of color are three to four times more likely than white students to have changed schools during the school year.⁵

RISK FACTORS

Mobility most often occurs because of changes in a parent's employment, or financial instabilities that heavily impact a family.⁶

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

The McKinney-Vento Act requires schools to remove barriers to enrollment and attendance for students experiencing homelessness, including transportation to their school of origin. This is the responsibility of schools, but Ramsey County works through contracts with community agencies that support families experiencing homelessness to assist schools in providing educational continuity.

Information to note

- Students of color in 6th and 9th grade are three to four times more likely than white students to have changed schools during the school year.
- During the academic year, transfers out of a school district in Ramsey County are much more common than transfers into or within a district for both public and charter schools.

¹ Student Mobility. Parents United for Public Schools Web site. <http://www.parentsunited.org/to-be-filed/student-mobility/>. Accessed January 2018.

² Herbers, J., Reynolds, A., Chin-Chin, C. School Mobility and Developmental Outcomes in Young Adulthood. *Developmental Psychopathology*. 2016. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4139923/>. Accessed January 2018.

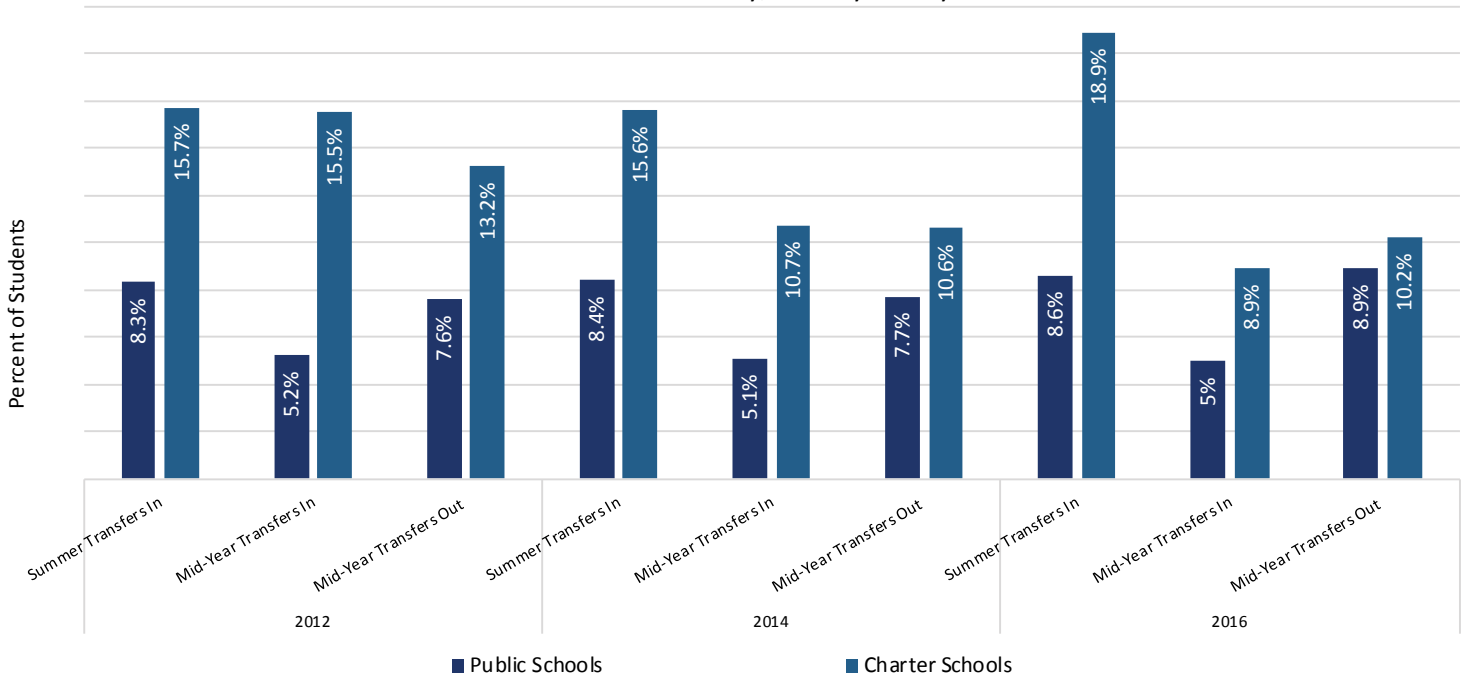
³ Mehana, M., Reynolds, A.; School Mobility and Achievement: a Meta-Analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review*. 2012. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0190740903001191>. Accessed July 10, 2017.

⁴ Rumberger, R.; Student Mobility: Causes, Consequences, and Solutions. National Education Policy Center. 2015. <http://nepc.colorado.edu/publication/student-mobility>. Accessed January 2018.

⁵ The Health and Well-Being of Minnesota's Adolescents of Color and American Indians: A Data Book. Minnesota Department of Health Web site. http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/mss/specialreports/AdolescentsOfColor_REPORT120412.pdf. Accessed January 2018.

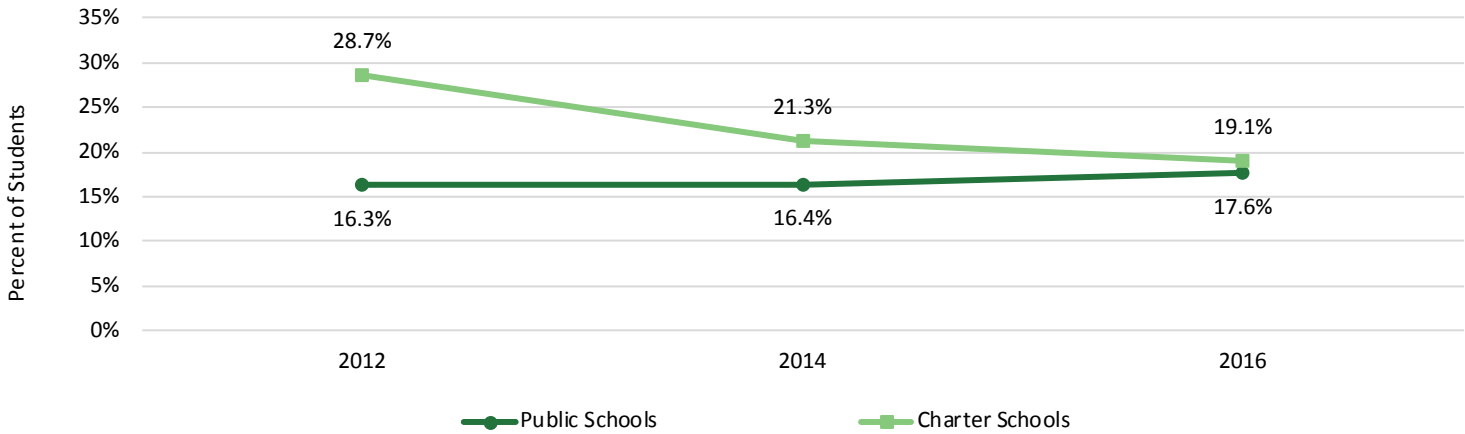
⁶ Sparks, S., Student Mobility: How it Affects Learning 92016) *Education Weekly*. <http://www.edweek.org/ew/issues/student-mobility/index.html>. Accessed January 2018.

Student Mobility, Ramsey County



Source: Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education.⁷

Mid-Year Student Transfers In and Out, Ramsey County



Source: Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education.⁷

⁷ Data Reports and Analytics. Minnesota Department of Education Web site. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/Data.jsp>. Accessed February 2018.

DESCRIPTION

There is a link between youth engagement and positive development that underscores the importance of community involvement.¹ This indicator reports how involved the youth of Ramsey County are in the community, after-school activities and sports. Involvement is assessed by looking at participation in quality out-of-school activities which are associated with better school attendance, grades, test scores and interpersonal skills, as well as higher aspirations for college and reduced dropout rates.²

HOW WE ARE DOING

In Ramsey County, 61.1 percent of students reported participation in enrichment activities, such as sports, music, community activities, leadership activities and religious activities, at least 3 times per week during 2016.³ Among Ramsey County 9th graders in 2016, sports and school-sponsored non-sport clubs were the most common activities.³

BENCHMARK INDICATOR

Healthy People 2020⁴: Increase the proportion of adolescents who participate in extracurricular and/or out-of-school activities.

U.S. Target: 90.6 percent.

DISPARITIES

Disparities exist in relation to racial/ethnic group and income level.² Hispanic students fare the worst, with an activity participation rate of 52.2 percent compared to whites with the highest level at 71 percent. Similarly, only 52.1 percent of low income students participate in enrichment activities compared to 71.3 percent of higher income students.²

RISK FACTORS

Risk factors that may have a negative impact on involvement in enrichment activities include, though are not limited to, violence in the community, economic deprivation, use of illicit drugs, family history, trauma, marginalization, stressful life situations, lack of social support, and genetic or physiological factors.⁴ A child's connection to a caring adult, their home environment, education of parents, and peer networks also affect their willingness to engage with the community in a positive manner.⁴

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public Health provides data monitoring and reporting for this topic in order to better understand the overall health and current conditions in the community. The information may help inform community partners, policy makers or county program leadership.

Information to note

- In 2016, Ramsey County had the lowest percentage of students participating in after-school enrichment activities among Metro Area counties.
- Hispanic students and low income students have a much lower participation rate in extracurricular activities.

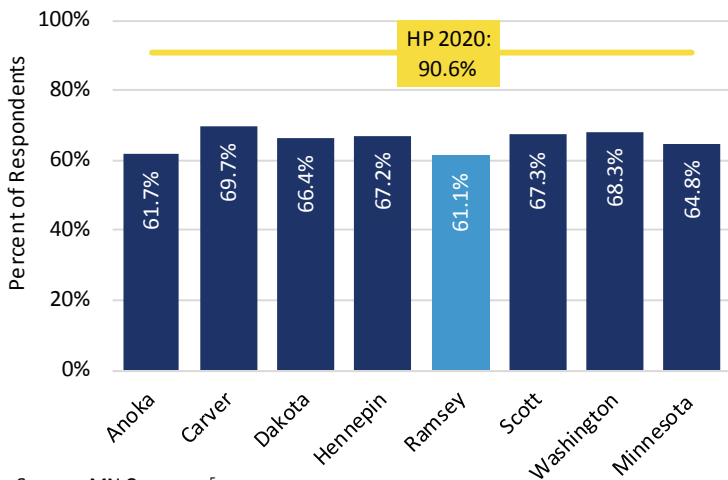
¹ Brennan M, Barnett R, Baugh E. Youth involvement in community development: Implications and possibilities for extension. *Journal of Extension*. 2007;45(4):203-213. <https://joe.org/joe/2007august/a3.php>. Published August 2007. Accessed July 2018.

² Enrichment Activities. *Minnesota Compass*. <http://www.mncompass.org/children-and-youth/enrichment-activities#7-3704-g>. Accessed July 2018.

³ Minnesota Student Survey. *Minnesota Department of Education*. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed May 21, 2018.

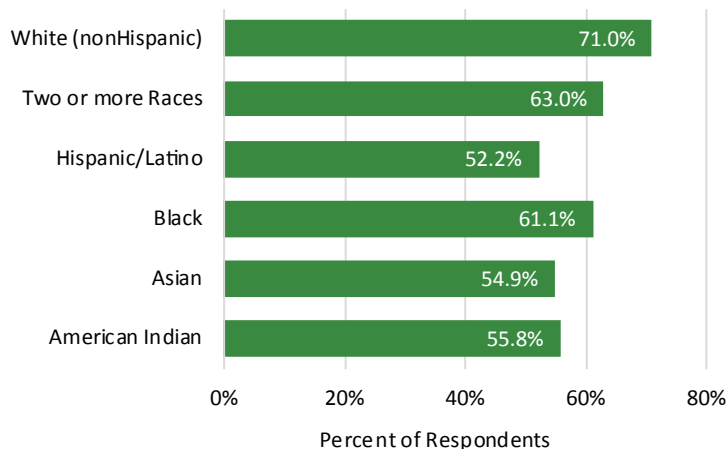
⁴ Adolescent Health. *Healthy People 2020*. <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/Adolescent-Health/objectives>. Accessed July 2018.

Student Engagement in Enrichment Activities at Least 3 Times per Week, 2016



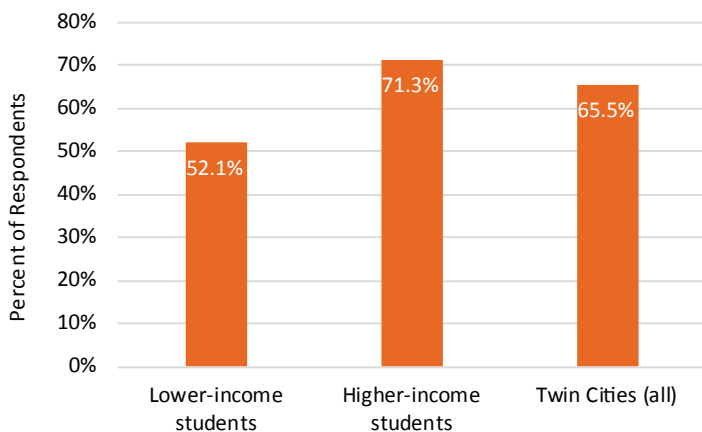
Source: MN Compass.⁵

Student Engagement in Enrichment Activities by Race, 7-County Metro, 2016



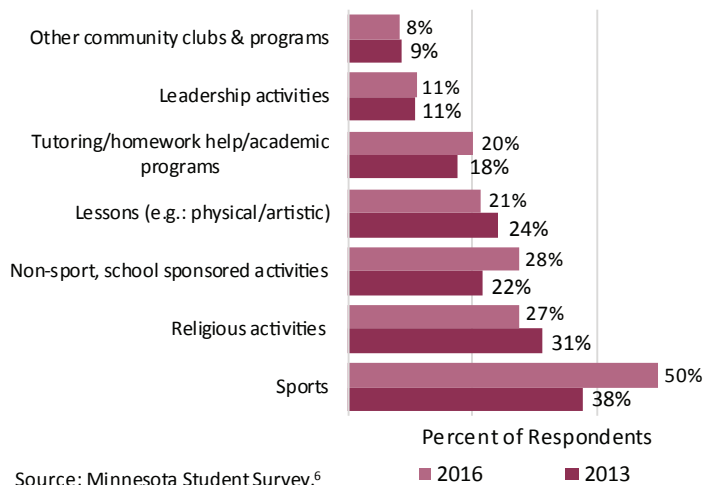
Source: MN Compass.⁵

Student Engagement in Enrichment Activities by Income, 7-County Metro, 2016



Source: MN Compass.⁵

Participation in Activities Outside of the School Day at Least One Day per Week, 9th Graders, Ramsey County



Source: Minnesota Student Survey.⁶

⁵ MN Compass. <http://www.mncompass.org/children-and-youth/enrichment-activities#1-3710-g>. Accessed June 2018.

⁶ Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Website. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed May 21, 2018.

DESCRIPTION

Youth not feeling safe in school or in their community hurts well-being, development and undermines academic achievement.¹ Youth who fear for their safety within their neighborhoods, at home, or at school are more likely to develop health problems, social and emotional problems, skip class and have poor academic performance. Additionally, fear at school can contribute to an unhealthy school climate, and can lead to negative student behaviors.² For example, one study found that students who witnessed violence at school were more likely to perpetrate violent behaviors.³ Students who are fearful may also feel they need to protect themselves through actions that can actually increase the likelihood of violence, such as carrying weapons at school.²

Having a safe neighborhood is important for positive child and youth development.⁴ Neighborhoods that are unsafe are associated with high rates of infant mortality and low birthweight, juvenile delinquency, high school dropout, child abuse and neglect, and poor motor and social development among pre-school children.⁵ People can be exposed to violence in many ways. They may be victimized directly, witness violence or property crimes in their community, or hear about crime and violence from other residents.

HOW WE ARE DOING

In 2016, most Ramsey County students felt safe at home with over 97 percent of students in 5th, 8th, 9th or 11th grade agreeing or strongly agreeing to the statement “I feel safe at home” which is very similar to what Minnesota students in those grades report. Ramsey County youth feel a little less safe when the setting is their neighborhoods with about 90 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing that they feel safe, which compares to statewide results of 95 percent. In school settings, 93 percent of Ramsey County students agreed or strongly agreed to the statement “I feel safe at school”, which is very similar to the Minnesota results.⁶

DISPARITIES

In Minnesota, students of color are more likely than white students to have missed school due to concerns for their safety. Males are more likely to report strong feelings of safety than females.⁶ Ramsey County students who self-identified as transgender or a gender minority were less likely than other students to feel safe at school. In 2016, Ramsey County African-American 9th graders reported the lowest levels of feeling safe. Ramsey County 5th graders report feeling safest going to and from school, at school and at home, although they reported feeling most unsafe in their neighborhoods.⁶

RISK FACTORS

Fearing for personal safety is associated with missing school activities or classes.¹ Exposure to poverty is associated with youth feeling unsafe at school.⁵ Nationally, foreign-born children and native-born children with foreign-born parents are about twice as likely as the children of native-born parents to live in a neighborhood that is described as never or only sometimes safe.⁴

Information to note

- In school, at home or in their neighborhood, over 90% of 5th, 8th, 9th, and 11th graders in 2016 reported feeling safe or very safe.
- Ramsey County youth who self-identified as transgender or a gender minority were less likely than other students to feel safe at school.

Community voice

“No parks where I live, no playground, unsafe.”
- Asian Female, age 10-14

Children recognized the effect safety has on their health and associated safety with physical activity and health.

¹When Youth Feel Unsafe. America's Promise Alliance. <http://www.americaspromise.org/sites/default/files/d8/POV-WhenYouthFeelUnsafe.pdf>. Published February 2018. Accessed July 2018.

²Unsafe at School: Indicators of Child and Youth Well Being. Child Trends. https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/38_Unsafe_At_School.pdf. Updated December 2015. Accessed July 2018.

³Flannery D, Wester K, Singer M. Impact of exposure to violence in school on child and adolescent mental health behavior. *Am J Community Psychol*. 2004;32(5):559-573. DOI: 10.1002/jcop.20019.

⁴Neighborhood Safety: Indicators of Child and Youth Well-Being. Child Trends. <https://www.childtrends.org/indicators/neighborhood-safety>. Accessed July 2018.

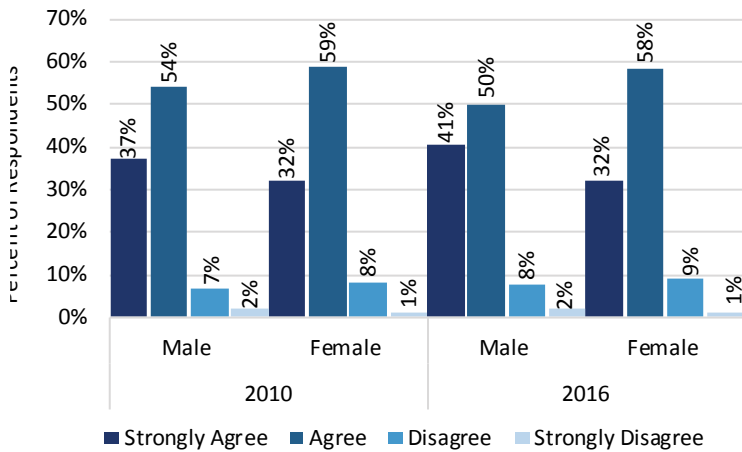
⁵Cote-Lussier C, Fitzpatrick C, Seguin L, Barnett TA. Poor, Unsafe, and Overweight: The Role of Feeling Unsafe at School in Mediating the Association Among Poverty Exposure, Youth Screen Time, Physical Activity, and Weight Status. *American Journal of Epidemiology*. 2015;182(1):67-79. doi: 10.1093/aje/kwv005.

⁶Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed July 2018.

WHAT RAMSEY COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS DOING

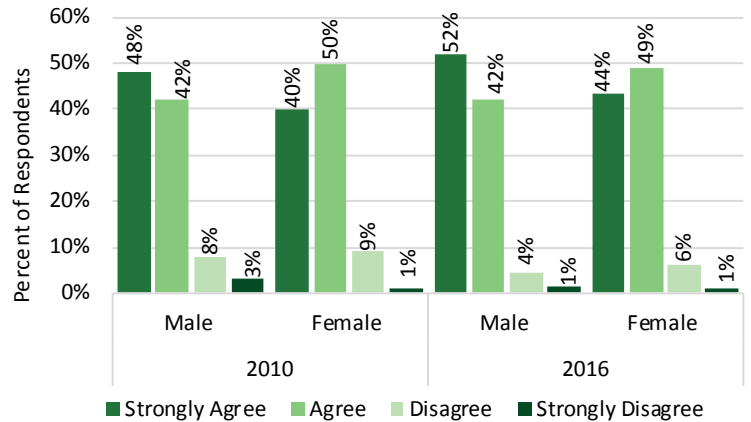
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Students Feeling Safe in School, 9th Graders, Ramsey County



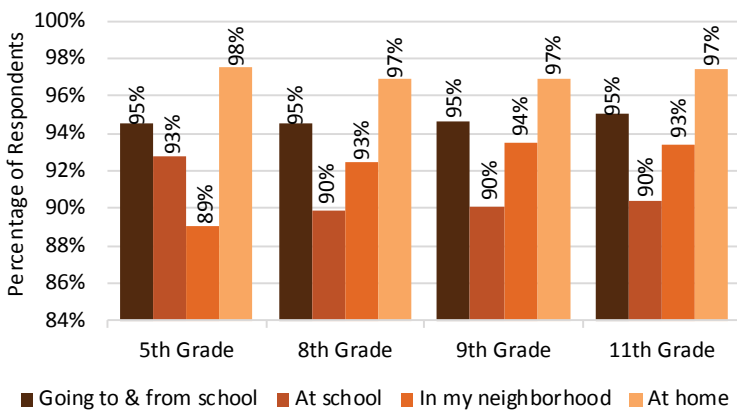
Source: Minnesota Student Survey⁷

Students Feeling Safe in Neighborhood, 9th Graders, Ramsey County



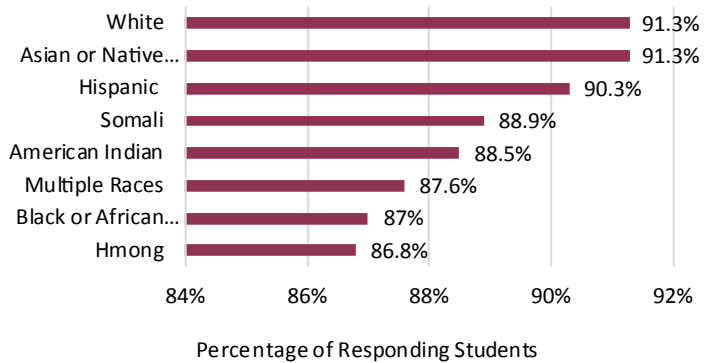
Source: Minnesota Student Survey⁷

Students Feeling Safe by Setting, Ramsey County, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey⁷

Students Feeling Safe at School by Race/Ethnicity, 5th, 8th, 9th, 11th Graders, Ramsey County, 2016



Source: Minnesota Student Survey⁷

⁷ Minnesota Student Survey. Minnesota Department of Education Website. <http://w20.education.state.mn.us/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>. Accessed July 2018.