

# COMPASS POINTS 2011

## TEN IN 10: TRENDS OF THE DECADE

### STRENGTHS: SMARTER, SAFER, MORE CONNECTED AND ENGAGED

- 4th** ..... Twin Cities' rank among the nation's 25 largest metros for educational attainment in 2009.
- 18%** ..... Drop in the state's serious crime rate between 2000 and 2009.
- 73%** ..... Students who say they feel connected to caring adults in 2010, compared to 69% in 2004.
- 2nd** ..... Minnesota's voter turnout among the 50 states in 2010.

### CHALLENGES: INCREASED POVERTY, OBESITY, DISPARITY

- 38%** ..... Increase in Minnesota's poverty rate since 1999; the increase among children under age 5 is nearly 50%.
- 1 in 4** .... Minnesota adults who are obese, up from around 1 in 6 a decade ago.
- 24%** ..... 3rd graders failing to meet state reading standards, including roughly 40% of students who are low-income, changing schools, or students of color.
- 20%** ..... Gap between the participation rate for U.S. born Blacks in the paid workforce (60%) compared with the rate for Whites (80%) in the Twin Cities.

### POPULATION CHANGES: GROWING OLDER, MORE DIVERSE

- 1 in 8** .... Minnesotans currently age 65+. That age group will grow to 1 in 5 Minnesotans by 2030.
- 39%** ..... Growth in the state's foreign-born population this decade, with the fastest-growing groups from Mexico and Somalia.

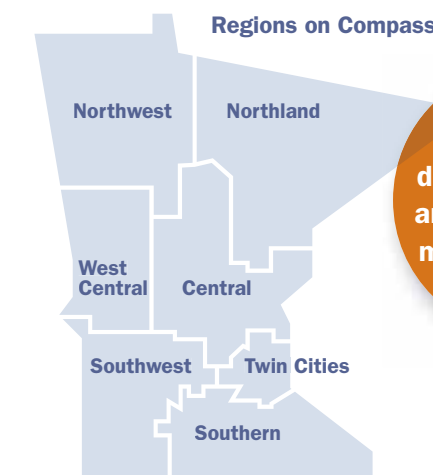
KEY MEASURE	TREND OVER DECADE	BEST REGION
<b>AGING</b>		
Median income (per older adult)	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES
Volunteerism (older adults)	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	N/A
<b>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH</b>		
Connection to caring adults	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	SOUTHWEST
Enrichment activities	N/A	SOUTHWEST
<b>CIVIC ENGAGEMENT</b>		
Perceived ability to improve community	WORSE   SAME*   BETTER	N/A
Sense of community	N/A	N/A
Volunteerism	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	N/A
Voter turnout	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES
<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD</b>		
Early childhood screening	WORSE   SAME   BETTER*	SOUTHWEST
Low birth weight	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	WEST CENTRAL
<b>ECONOMY &amp; WORKFORCE</b>		
Economic output (annual change)	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	N/A
Per capita income	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES
Proportion of adults working	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	SOUTHWEST
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
3rd grade reading	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	WEST CENTRAL
9th grade attendance	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	CENTRAL
11th grade math	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES
High school graduation	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	SOUTHWEST
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>		
Air quality	WORSE   SAME   BETTER*	N/A
Greenhouse gas emissions	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	N/A
Protected natural land	N/A	N/A
Water quality	WORSE*   SAME   BETTER	N/A
<b>HEALTH</b>		
Diabetes	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES
Health care coverage	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES
Mental health admissions	WORSE   SAME*   BETTER	N/A
Obesity	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	TWIN CITIES

KEY MEASURE	TREND OVER DECADE	BEST REGION
<b>HOUSING</b>		
Cost-burdened households	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	SOUTHWEST
Homeownership gap	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	CENTRAL
Homeless persons	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	CENTRAL, SOUTHERN
<b>IMMIGRATION</b>		
Proportion of foreign born adults working	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	WEST CENTRAL
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>		
Infrastructure preservation	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	CENTRAL
Transportation expenses	WORSE   SAME   BETTER*	N/A
Traffic injuries and deaths	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	NORTHWEST
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>		
Crime rate	WORSE   SAME   BETTER	WEST CENTRAL
Fear of crime	WORSE   SAME*   BETTER	N/A
Victimization rate	WORSE   SAME*   BETTER	N/A

\*Based on data for the Twin Cities region only.

"Best region" refers to comparisons in the latest year. It does not account for error margins that could effectively mean some regions are tied. Most recent data for Compass Points available as of January 7, 2011. See "By region" breakdowns for all Key Measures on [mncompass.org](http://mncompass.org) for details.

In addition to tracking statewide trends, Compass provides data by region, by county, and larger cities.



Find more data, discussion, and strategies at [mncompass.org](http://mncompass.org).

"Minnesota Compass provides the data and information we need to unite around issues at the local level."

- Katie Boone, director of community impact, Greater Mankato Area United Way

# COMPASS POINTS 2011

Last year, Compass expanded statewide – now you can see how regions, counties, larger cities, and school districts throughout the state are faring. To better serve residents and communities working to improve quality of life, Compass has added a new section on children and youth, focused on out of school time, profiles of different immigrant groups in Minnesota, and a host of other data and information.



Special thanks go to the foundations that govern the project and provide support for updating Compass, keeping this critical resource useful and accessible to all.

We also thank the nearly 450 volunteer advisors who have contributed their time and expertise to the development of the project.

“With caring adults and intentional opportunities, young people can fully develop their skills, discover their potential, and engage in being part of community solutions.”  
– Nou Yang, program manager, Youth Leadership Initiative, Wilder Center for Communities

**Compass is led by Wilder Research and funded and governed by a consortium of foundations**

- 3M Foundation
- Blandin Foundation
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation\*
- Bush Foundation
- Greater Twin Cities United Way Initiative Foundation
- The McKnight Foundation
- B.C. Gamble, P.W. Skogmo Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation

- Northland Foundation
- Northwest Minnesota Foundation
- The Saint Paul Foundation
- Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
- Southwest Initiative Foundation
- Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota
- West Central Initiative
- Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

\* We welcome Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation who recently joined the Compass consortium.

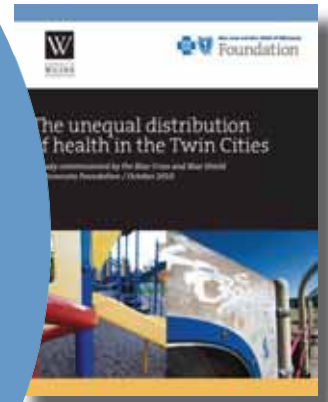
**I**mmigration will impact our state’s economic vitality for decades. A Compass conference brought together leaders in business, philanthropy, government, education, and nonprofits to address immigration, education and workforce trends. Key findings from *A new age of immigrants*, a Wilder Research report for The Minneapolis Foundation, helped inform this lively discussion.



“This information helps provide the groundwork for informed discussion to shape immigration-related programs and policies that work for all Minnesotans.”  
– Sandra L. Vargas, president & CEO, The Minneapolis Foundation

**P**roblems do not crop up in silos, and neither do solutions. A report for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation – *Unequal distribution of health in the Twin Cities* – reveals that socioeconomic characteristics affect health and life span in the metro region, including areas of residence, race, educational attainment, income, and others.

“All Minnesotans should have the opportunity to live a long, healthy life, regardless of their income, education or ethnic background.”  
– Marsha Shotley, president, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation



“Knowledge may well be our most powerful resource – one that increases in value when we share it with each other.”  
– Peter C. Hutchinson, president, Bush Foundation



**C**ommunities across the state often face similar challenges. Compass provides comparable data for regions, counties, and cities so that communities can see how others are faring. Compass also is partnering with the Bush Foundation InCommons initiative, which connects Minnesotans from around the state so they can find and share credible tools, knowledge, and resources to solve community problems.