



# Wadena County Statistical Data

## DEMOGRAPHICS

Wadena County has seen a **POPULATION INCREASE** of only 1.7% between 1990 and 2007 adding 228 people for a 2007 population of 13,382. The population is projected to grow another 8.3% by 2010.

County	Population			2010 Population Projection	Change		2010 Projected Change
	1990	2000	2007		1990-2000	2000-07	
Wadena	13,154	13,713	13,382	14,490	4.3%	-2.4%	8.3%
Region	501,503	610,149	709,386	719,850	21.7%	16.3%	1.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau AND Minnesota State Demographic Center, Metropolitan Council

- The county has an **older than average population** with 23.3% being under 18 and 20.7% being 65 or older.
- 3.2% of the population is **ethnically diverse**, compared to an average for our region of 5.7% and the state at 14.1%.
- As of 2000, 13.4% of the population had a **Bachelor's degree or higher** which is below average for the region (15%) and much lower than the state average (27.4%).
- **Mean travel time** to work was 19.3 minutes which is below average in our region (25.9 average mean) and lower than the state mean of 21.9.
- In 2004, **median household income** was \$34,615 which is significantly lower than the state median income (\$51,202) and the IF regional median income (\$46,682).
- The 2004 **poverty rate** was much higher than average in the region at 11.9% compared to the IF regional average of 8.4% and the state average of 8.1%.

	Persons under 18 years old, 2006	Persons 65 years old and over, 2006	Nonwhite Population Diversity, 2006	High school graduates, age 25+, 2000	Bachelor's degree or higher, age 25+, 2000	Mean travel time to work (minutes), age 16+, 2000	Median household income, 2004	Persons below poverty, 2004
Wadena	23.3%	20.7%	3.2%	79.5%	13.4%	19.3	\$34,615	11.9%
Region	23.8%	13.6%	5.7%	83.9%	15.0%	25.9	\$46,682	8.4%
State	24.3%	12.1%	14.1%	87.9%	27.4%	21.9	\$51,202	8.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The annual **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE** was 6.9% in 2006 and 8.7% in 2008, compared to an IF Region rate of 7.6% and a state average of 6.8%.

	2006	2007	2008	Difference 2006 - 2008
Wadena	6.9%	7.4%	8.7%	1.8%
Region	5.5%	6.2%	7.6%	2.1%
Statewide	4.0%	4.6%	6.8%	2.8%

Source: MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

The **FORECLOSURE RATE** in 2005 was 0.41% compared to a 2008 rate of 0.61%. The 2008 Wadena County rate is lower than the statewide rate of 1.26%.

	Foreclosure Rates by 2005 Households					07-08 Change	Owner/Renter Occupied (2000)	
	2005	2006	2007	2008	% Owner		% Renter	
Wadena	0.41	0.13	0.45	0.61	0.16	77%	23%	
Statewide	0.34	0.59	1.00	1.26	0.26	76%	24%	

Source: Greater Minnesota Housing – Foreclosures in Minnesota: A Report Based on Sheriff's Sale Data

## BUSINESS/INDUSTRY

As of 2006, there were a total of 421 **EMPLOYER BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS** with a total of 5,324 employees and a payroll of \$128,946,000. The five top non-farm business sectors in the county as of 2006 were:

Industry	Total Payroll	Total Employees	Avg. Annual Wage	# of Establishments
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$50,048,000	2,136	\$23,431	45
Wholesale Trade	\$25,079,000	633	\$39,619	19
Retail Trade	\$13,635,000	753	\$18,108	85
Manufacturing	\$12,242,000	453	\$27,024	26
Construction	\$6,299,000	152	\$41,441	66

Source: U.S. Census Bureau – 2006 Business Patterns

In 2006 there were 1,128 **NON-EMPLOYER ESTABLISHMENTS** in Wadena County with receipts of \$44.3 million.

	# of Non-employers Establishments			Receipts (\$1,000)
	2001	2006	Difference	2006
Wadena	1,055	1,128	73	\$44,252
Region	44,097	54,251	10,154	\$2,181,839
State	324,967	376,864	51,897	\$15,332,265

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Between 2004 and 2005 there were 23 more **BUSINESS DEATHS THAN BIRTHS** and an even number of business expansions and contractions.

	Births	Deaths	Difference	Expansions	Contractions	Difference	Constants
Wadena	19	42	-23	108	108	0	151
Region	3,267	2,764	503	8,092	7,833	259	10,423
Statewide	13,655	12,122	1,533	35,033	34,465	568	46,749

Source: 1989-2005 Business Information Tracking Series - <http://www.census.gov/epcd/susb/introusb.htm> and <http://www.census.gov/csd/susb/defterm.html>

From 2002 to 2007 the number of **FARMS** had decreased by 10.5% as the amount of total acreage had also decreased by 8.6%. The value of production had increased by 1.6% compared to an increase in the IF region of 43.4% and a 53.7% increase in the state.

	Number of Farms			Land in Farms			Average Size of Farm			Market Value of Production (Per \$1,000)		
	2002	2007	Change	2002	2007	Change	2002	2007	Change	2002	2007	Change
Wadena	734	657	-10.5%	165,519	151,212	-8.6%	226	230	1.8%	39,310	39,945	1.6%
Region	17,061	16,158	-5.3%	3,400,028	3,233,912	-4.9%	198	200	1.1%	1,034,064	1,483,172	43.4%
Statewide	80,839	80,992	0.2%	27,512,270	26,917,962	-2.2%	340	332	-2.4%	8,575,627	13,180,466	53.7%

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

**BUILDING PERMIT** comparisons between 2007 and 2008 show a drop from 44 to 29 in total permits (34.1%) and a value of construction decrease from \$5,298,900 to \$3,719,900 (29.8%).

	Buildings					Construction Cost				
	2004	2007	2008	Diff. 07-08	Percent	2004	2007	2008	Diff. 07-08	Percent
Wadena	67	44	29	(15)	-34.1%	8,905,989	5,298,900	3,719,900	(1,579,000)	-29.8%
Region	8,800	3,537	1,764	(1,773)	-50.1%	1,330,981,976	593,446,384	299,589,612	(293,856,772)	-49.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau – Annual New Privately-Owned Residential Building Permits

*This information has been compiled by the Initiative Foundation, an organization dedicated to building healthy communities within the 14 county central Minnesota area through nonprofit grants, business loans and leadership training programs.*

*For more information about this fact sheet or the foundation visit [www.ifound.org](http://www.ifound.org) or call (877) 632-9255.*