

OLMSTED COUNTY COMMUNITY INDICATORS

April 15, 2025

*Building a sustainable foundation for a safe, healthy, and welcoming
community through public service excellence.*

Olmsted County Community Indicators

- Community Indicators is a report of measures reflecting the social, economic, health, and environmental status of Olmsted County. It may assist leaders in better understanding the community's current well-being.
- Data compare Olmsted County's measures to Minnesota and the nation. This report is not intended to be an organizational performance report.
- Data sources include: the United States Census & American Community Survey, Minnesota DEED, EPA, and more as listed in references. This data was pulled from federal and state sources in January 2025 and validated in March 2025.
- Data for this report is primarily pulled from the U.S. Census. The most recent data available from the Census at the time of this report is for 2023, [as it's released on a rolling schedule.](#)



The value of community indicators

Olmsted County Strategic Priorities



- Understanding broad indicators in Olmsted County can help better understand **population trends**.
- Community Indicators help measure the **quality of life** in Olmsted County.
- Trends in indicators **support data-driven decision-making** for the organization, residents, and local municipalities over time.
- Indicators reflect Olmsted County's Mission, Vision, and Values and strategic priorities **and help our organization set goals and quantify impact**.

Note: the strategic priority of Effective & Engaged Workforce section is not covered within this presentation.

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Community Trust and Engagement

- Transparent population data helps Olmsted County build trust and engagement within the community by sharing insights into trends and progress.

Responsible Growth and Development

- Data captured around economic and personal income growth metrics within the county can assist in planning for future growth initiatives and progress on current programs.

Community Safety and Wellbeing

- Data supporting safety and wellbeing initiatives spotlight impact. This data also details trends for proactive decision making and to better understand community disparities.

Environmental Sustainability

- Data on how the air, soil, and water metrics are trending help reflect successes and opportunities for improvement within the county's sustainability efforts.

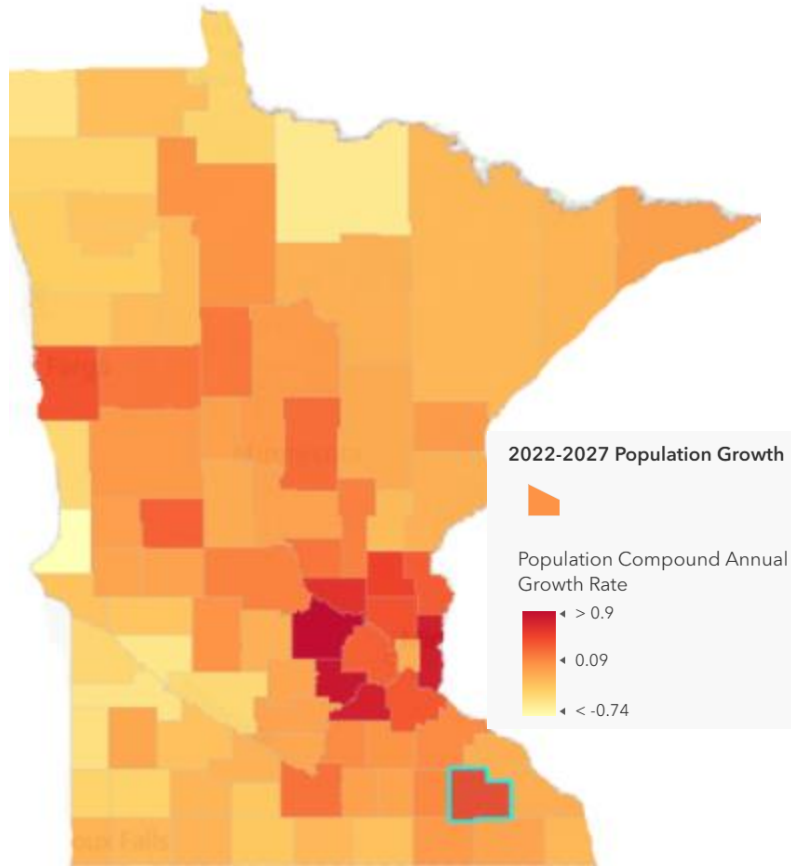
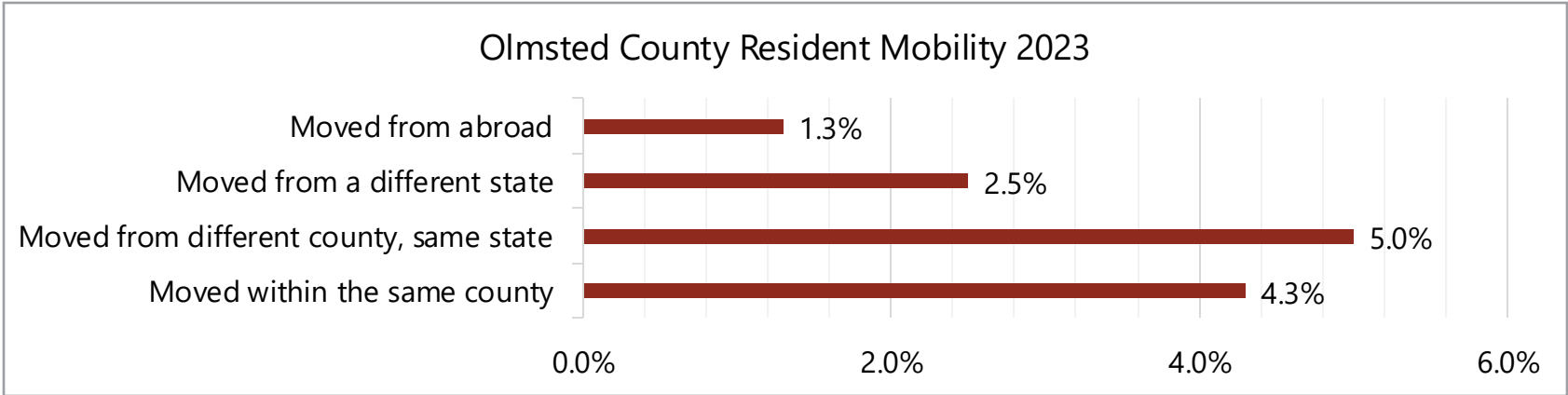
Community trust and engagement

Olmsted County earns community trust through engagement, collaboration, and reliable public service.

Olmsted County demographics

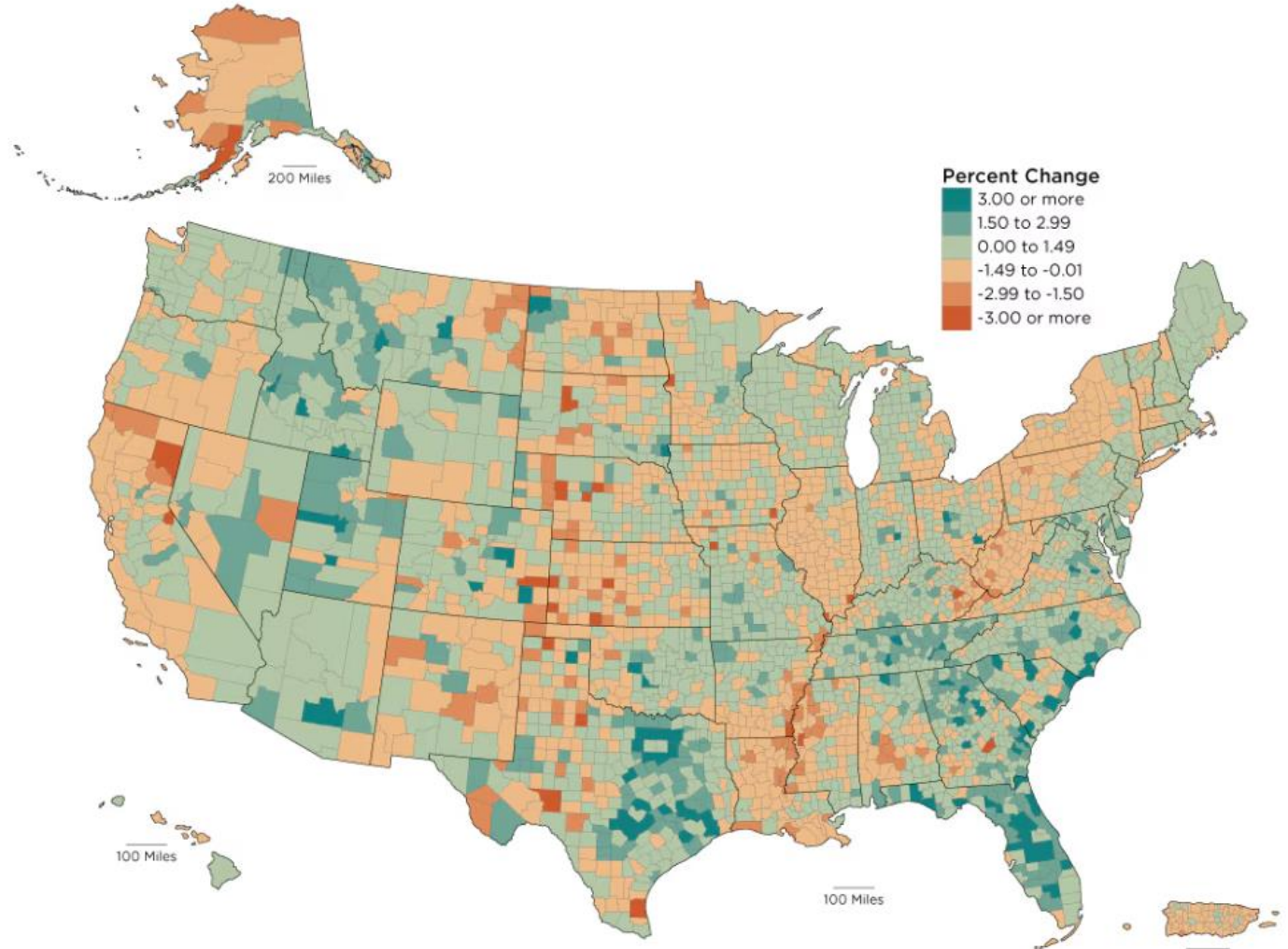
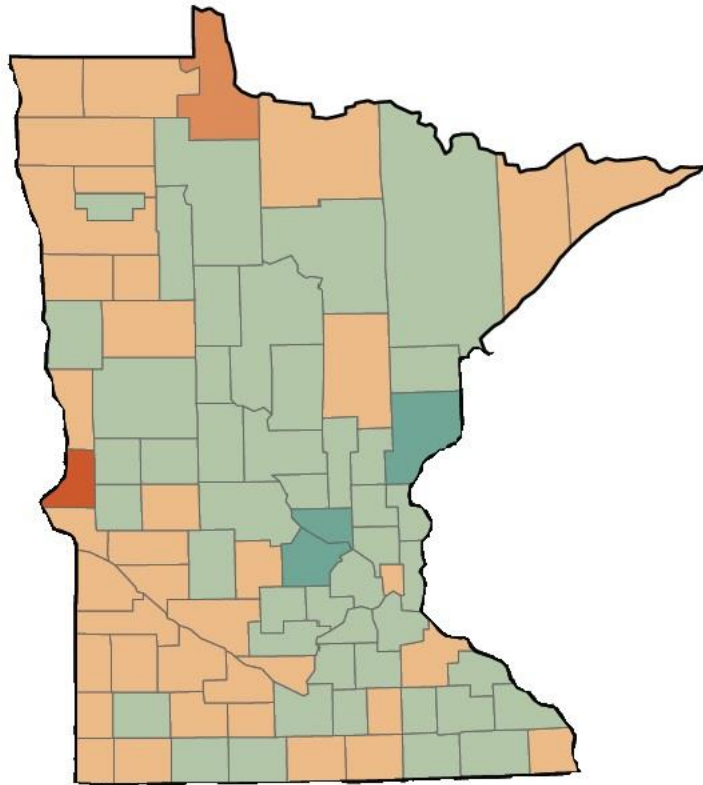
- The county's population grew by 14.2% since 2010 and 1.2% since 2020. Continued growth is projected. 5.0% of Olmsted County residents moved here from a different county in MN in 2023.

2023 Measures	Olmsted County	Minnesota	United States
Population	164,784 0.5% increase in 1 yr. 10.6% increase in 10 yrs.	5.74 M 0.4% increase in 1 yr. 5.9% increase in 10 yrs.	334.91 M 0.5% increase in 1 yr. 5.9% increase in 10 yrs.
Foreign born	11.4%	8.6%	13.9%
Older Population (65+)	17.4%	17.8%	17.7%
Veterans	4.5%	4.7%	4.9%



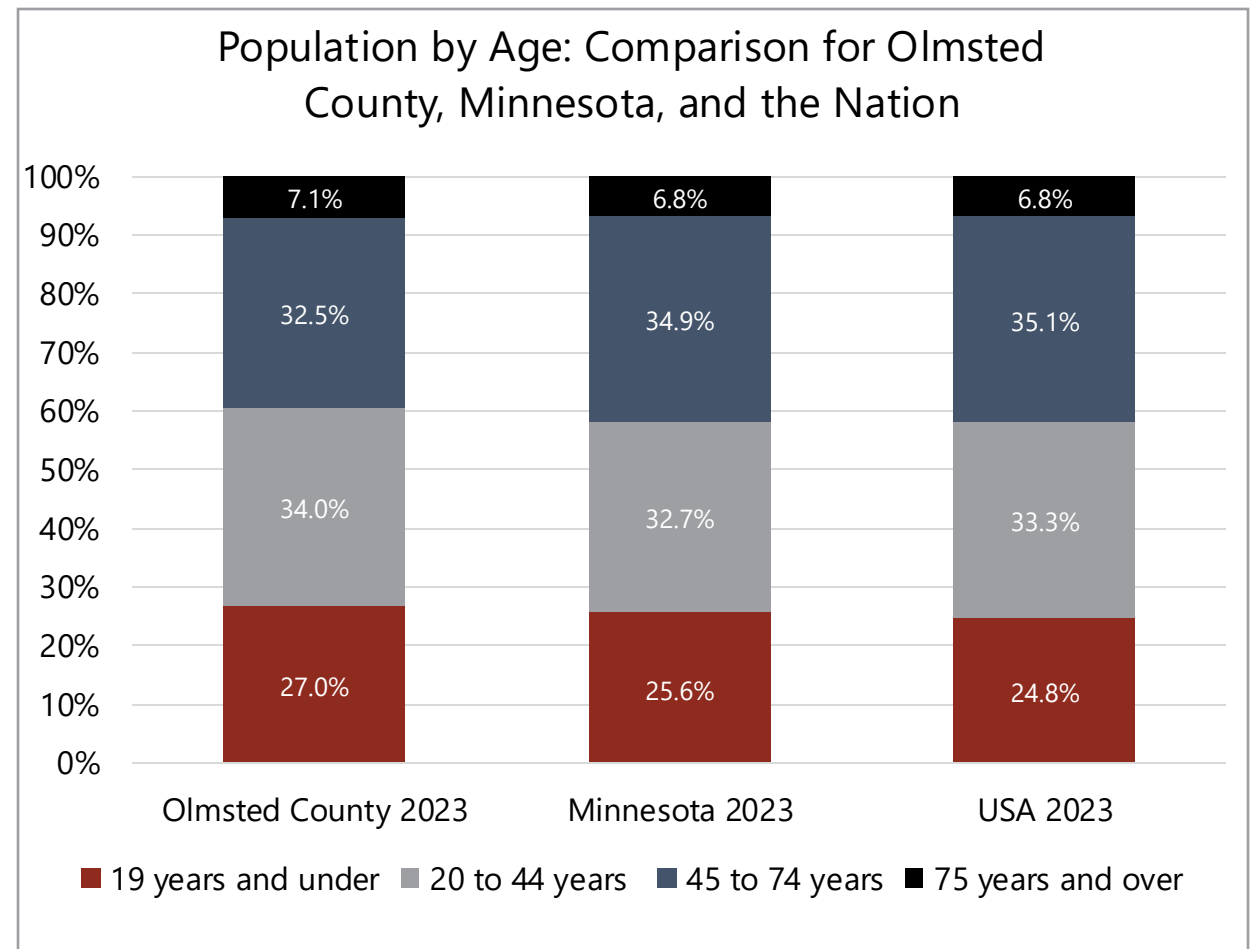
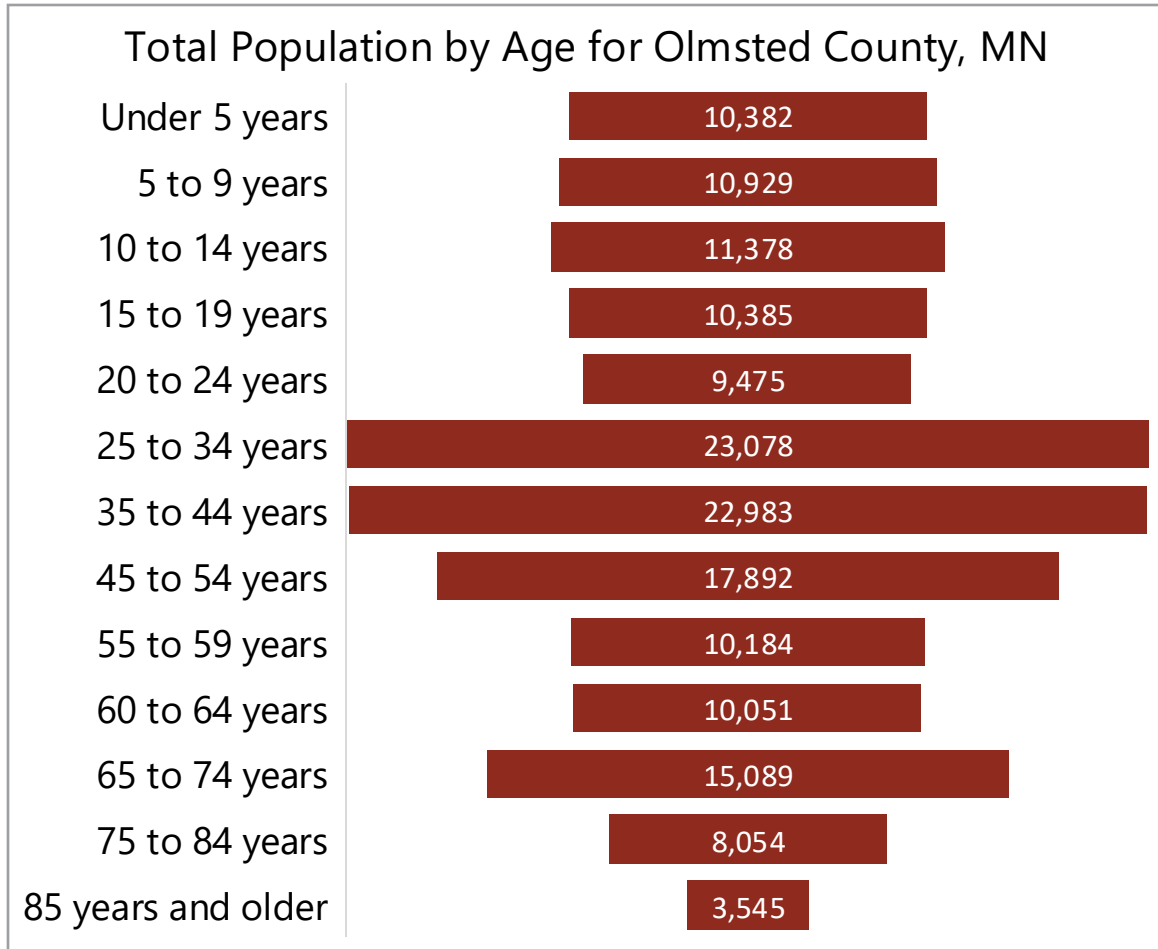
Percent change in county population: July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023

Olmsted County is in the 0.00% to 1.49% change category for 2023.



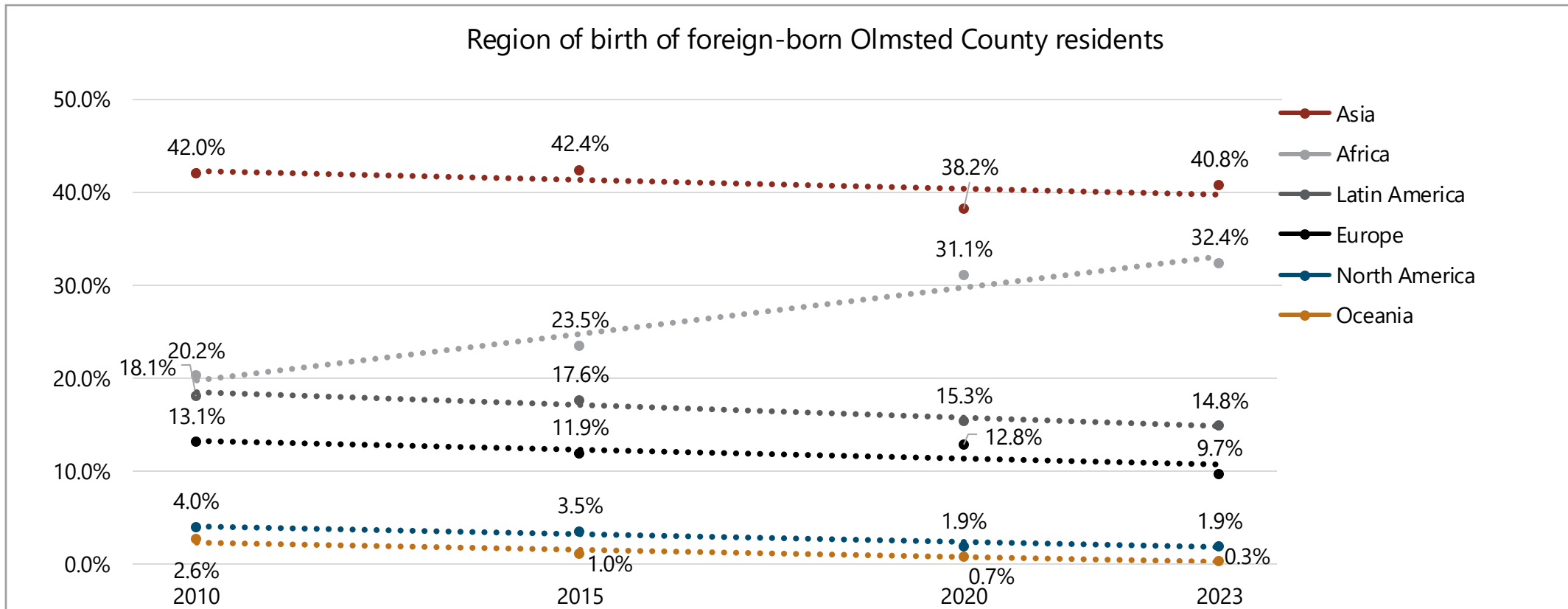
Population by age

- Olmsted County's largest population group is between 25 and 34-year-old.
- Olmsted County consists of a larger population of those 19 and below than the state and nation.



Foreign-born resident information

- 11.4% of Olmsted County's population are foreign-born in 2023, a slight increase from 11.2% in 2022.
 - As of 2023, 67.4% have become naturalized US citizens.
 - Of the 11.4% of foreign-born residents, nearly two of three arrived from Asian and African countries.
- As of 2023, 95.4% of Olmsted County residents were US citizens, which is higher than the national average of 93.4%.



Languages spoken

- In 2023, 15.6% Olmsted County residents ages five years and older spoke a language other than English.
 - This percentage has increased from 14.7% in 2022.
 - In 2023, Olmsted County residents spoke another language than English at a higher rate than the state at 12.5% and lower than the nation at 22.5%, with both the state and the nation increasing slightly over time as well.
- Students in Rochester Public Schools (the largest community within Olmsted County) spoke 96 languages in 2023. The rate of languages spoken has been steadily increasing by nearly 10 languages per year for the past three years.

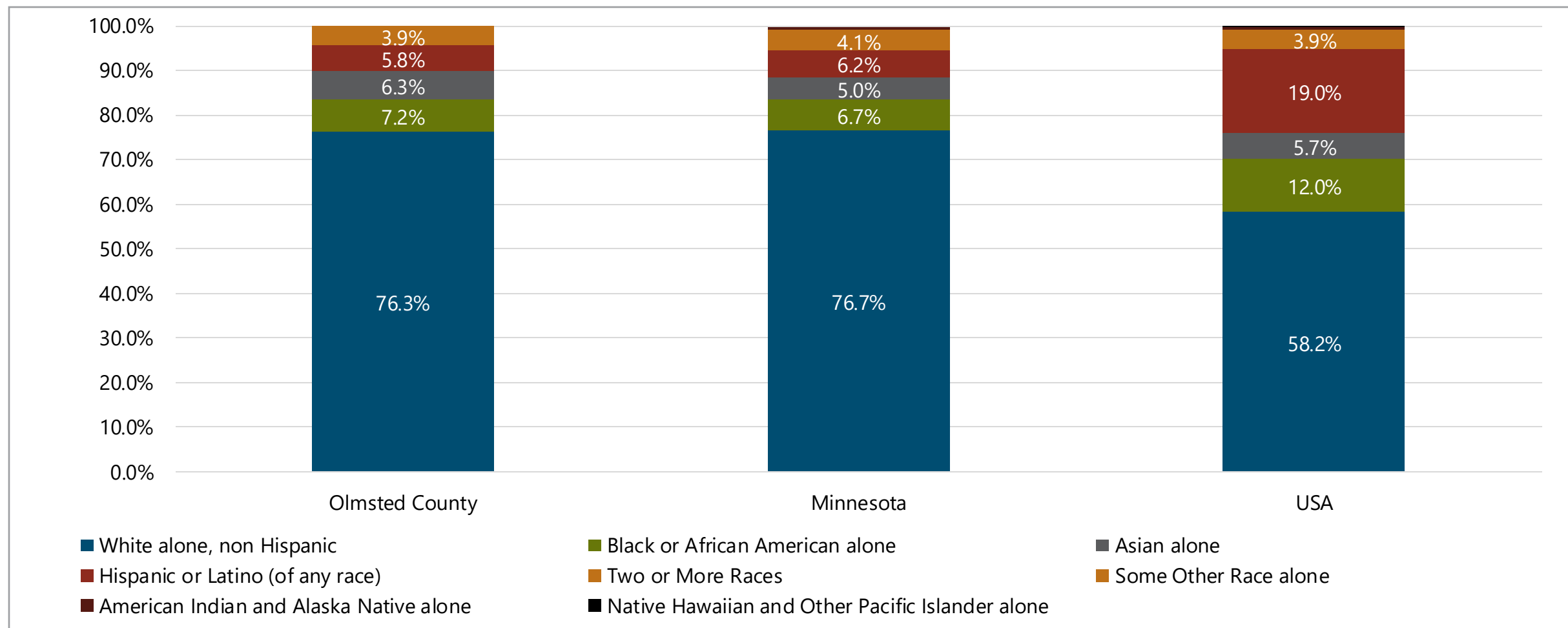
Types of Language Spoken at Home in Olmsted County	2022	2023
English only	85.8%	84.4%
Other languages	4.7%	5.2%
Asian and Pacific Island languages	4.6%	4.2%
Spanish	3.6%	3.5%
Other Indo-European languages	1.8%	2.7%

Racial and ethnic diversity

Population by Race and Ethnicity in Olmsted County (2023)

Population = 164,784

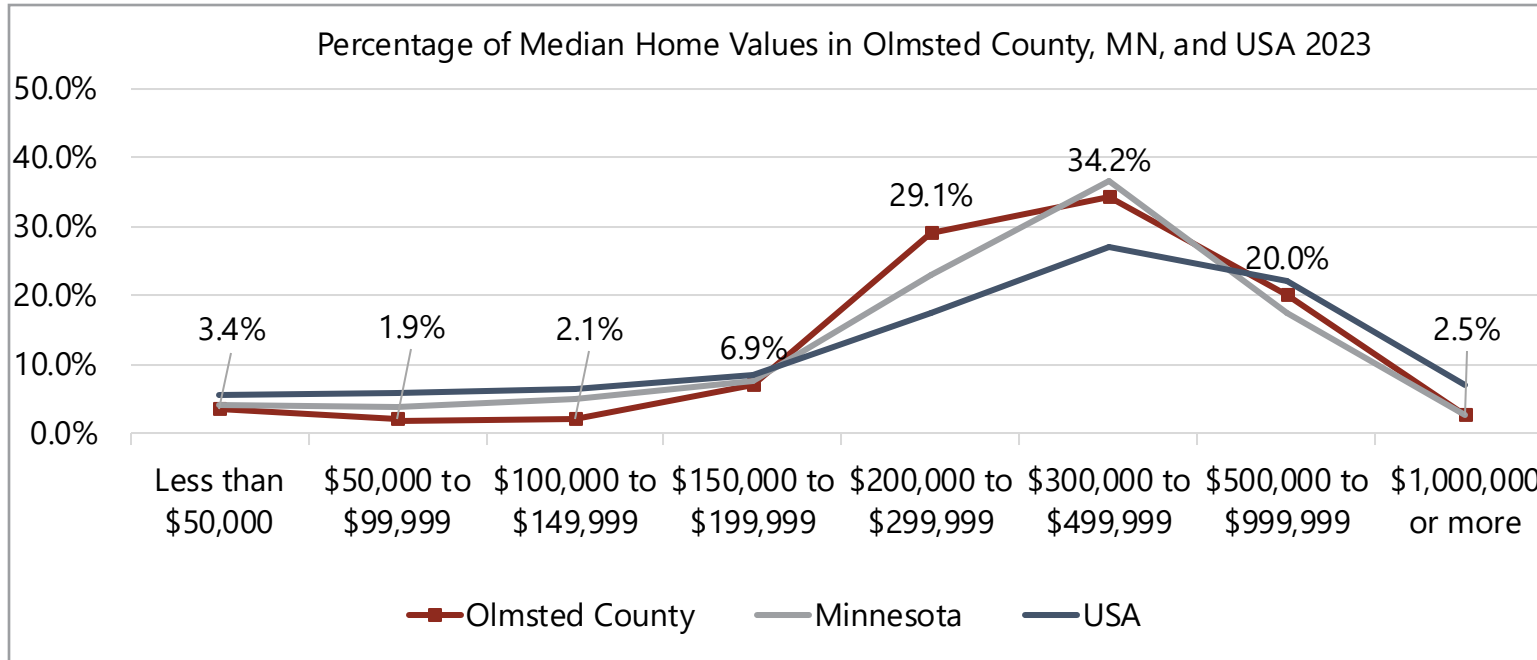
- Olmsted County's non-white, non-Latino population grew from 14.0% in 2020 to 15.9% in 2023.
- Olmsted County's non-white, non-Latino population is in line with MN percentages but lower than the nation.



Responsible growth and development

Olmsted County anticipates and adapts to the needs of a growing
community.

Housing and living

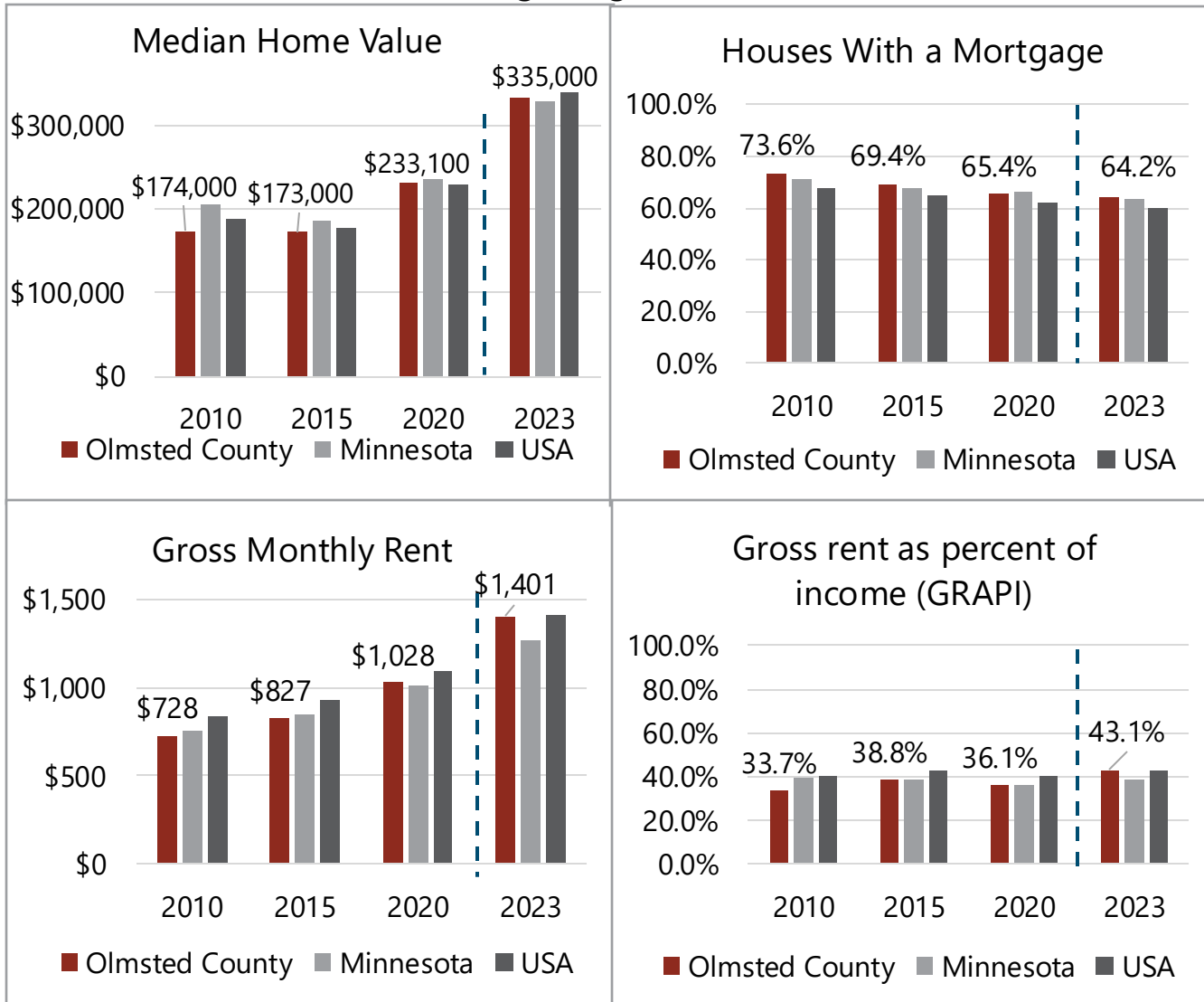


- Olmsted County homes valued under \$200,000 make up a smaller percent of total homes than the state and the nation.
- There is a higher percentage of homes between \$200,000-300,000 in Olmsted County than the state and nation.
- Olmsted County's percent of homes over \$300,000 fall between the state and the nation.

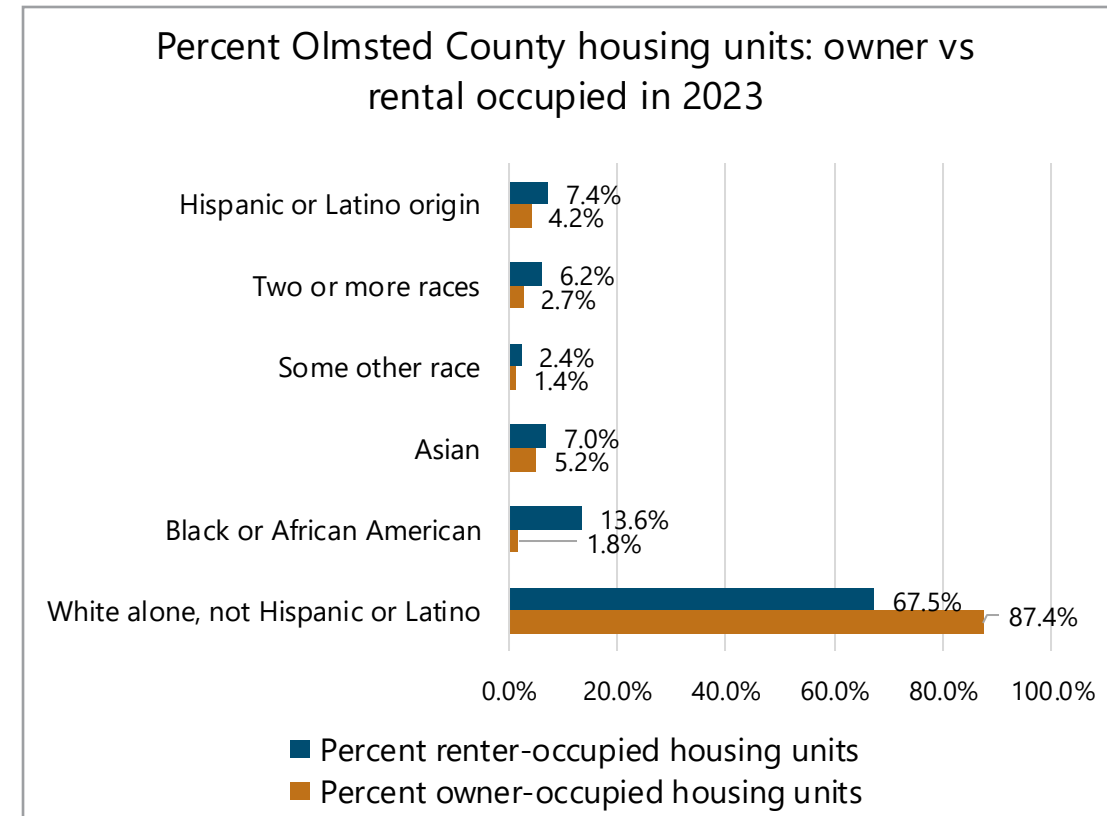
MEASURES	OLMSTED COUNTY	MINNESOTA	UNITED STATES
Persons per household 2019-2023	2.41	2.44	2.54
Median home value 2019-2023	\$304,500	\$305,500	\$303,400
Median gross monthly rent 2019-2023	\$1,283	\$1,235	\$1,348
Household heating fuel (utility gas)	70.2%	68.7%	51.7%
Households without a broadband internet connection	8.6%	7.0%	7.8%
Households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of income	23.0%	24.2%	28.6%
Household renters spending 30% or more of income	45.9%	42.2%	53.9%
Owner-occupied housing unit rate 2019-2023	70.7%	72.4%	65.0%

Housing trends

The dotted line signifies the start of the Census adjusting values for inflation beginning in 2022.

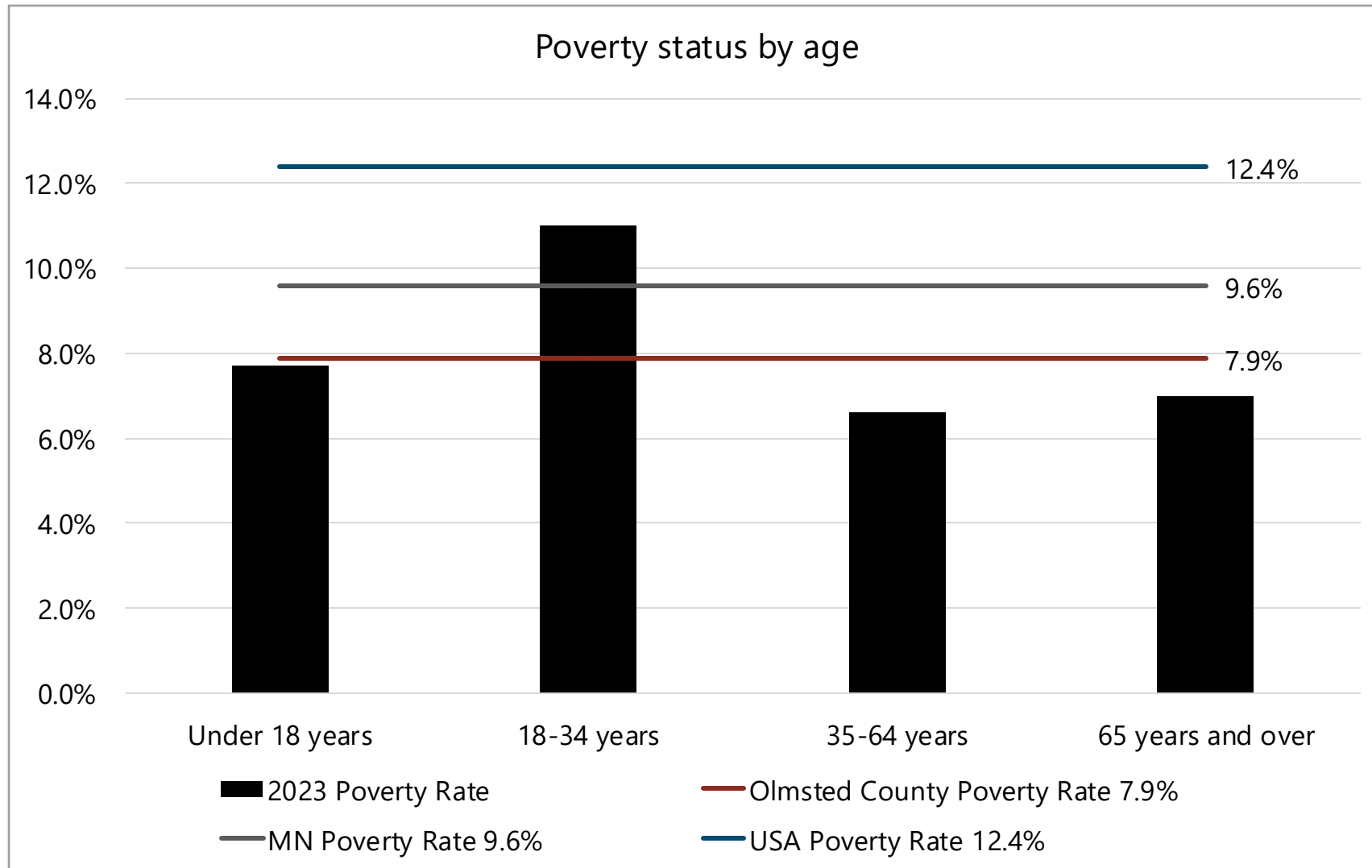


- Rental prices and housing values doubled in Olmsted County between 2010 and 2023, outpacing the state and in line with the nation.
- Units lived in by white residents are more likely to be owner-occupied.
- American Indian and Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander account for less than 1% occupied units in Olmsted County.



Poverty status

- **7.9%** of Olmsted County residents live below the poverty line (according to federal poverty guidelines), less than the national average of 12.4% in 2023 and state average of 9.6%. People between the ages of 18-34 are the most likely to live in poverty in Olmsted County.

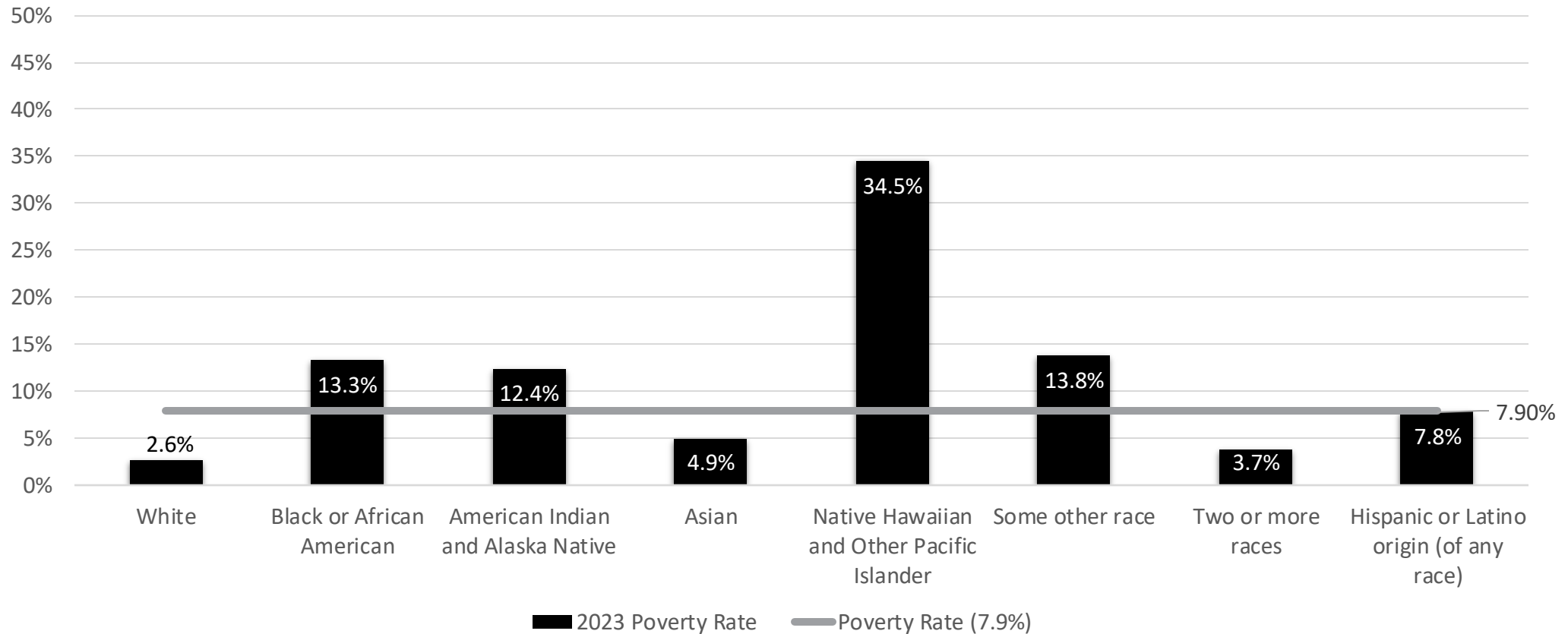


Citation: U.S. Census Bureau (2023) American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Poverty status continued

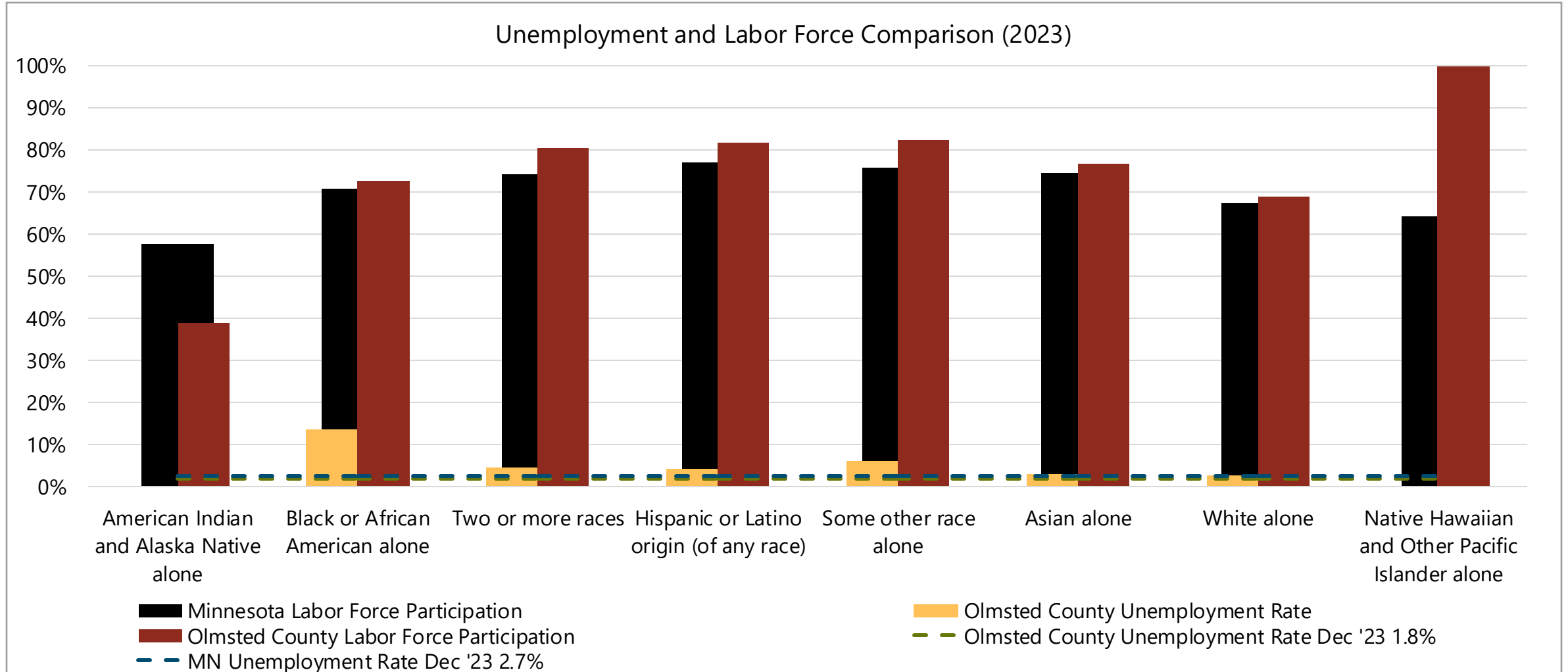
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (34.5%, 8.3% increase from 2022) residents are most likely to fall below the poverty line in Olmsted County by race and ethnicity and was the largest increase between 2022 and 2023.
- American Indian and Alaska Native residents under the poverty line dropped 6.8% between 2022 and 2023.

Olmsted County Poverty Status By Race and Ethnicity (2023)



Labor force and unemployment rate

- Olmsted County had a higher labor force participation rate (69.2%) than MN (68.4%) and the nation (63.8%) in 2023.
- Labor force includes those age 16 and older either working or looking for work. Unemployment include those without a job seeking work.



Community Safety and Wellbeing

Olmsted County strives to keep our community safe and ensures equitable access to programs and services that improve quality of life.

Health factors

Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Top 3 Community Health Priorities for 2024-2026

A Collaborative Community Effort Led by: Olmsted County Health, Housing & Human Services, Olmsted Medical Center, and Mayo Clinic

Mental health

- **34%** of Olmsted County adults reported having any mental health issue in 2021.
- Increase from 29.0% in 2019.

Access to healthcare

- **32%** of adults report delaying any type of access to healthcare.
- Increase from 27.0% in 2019.

Drug use

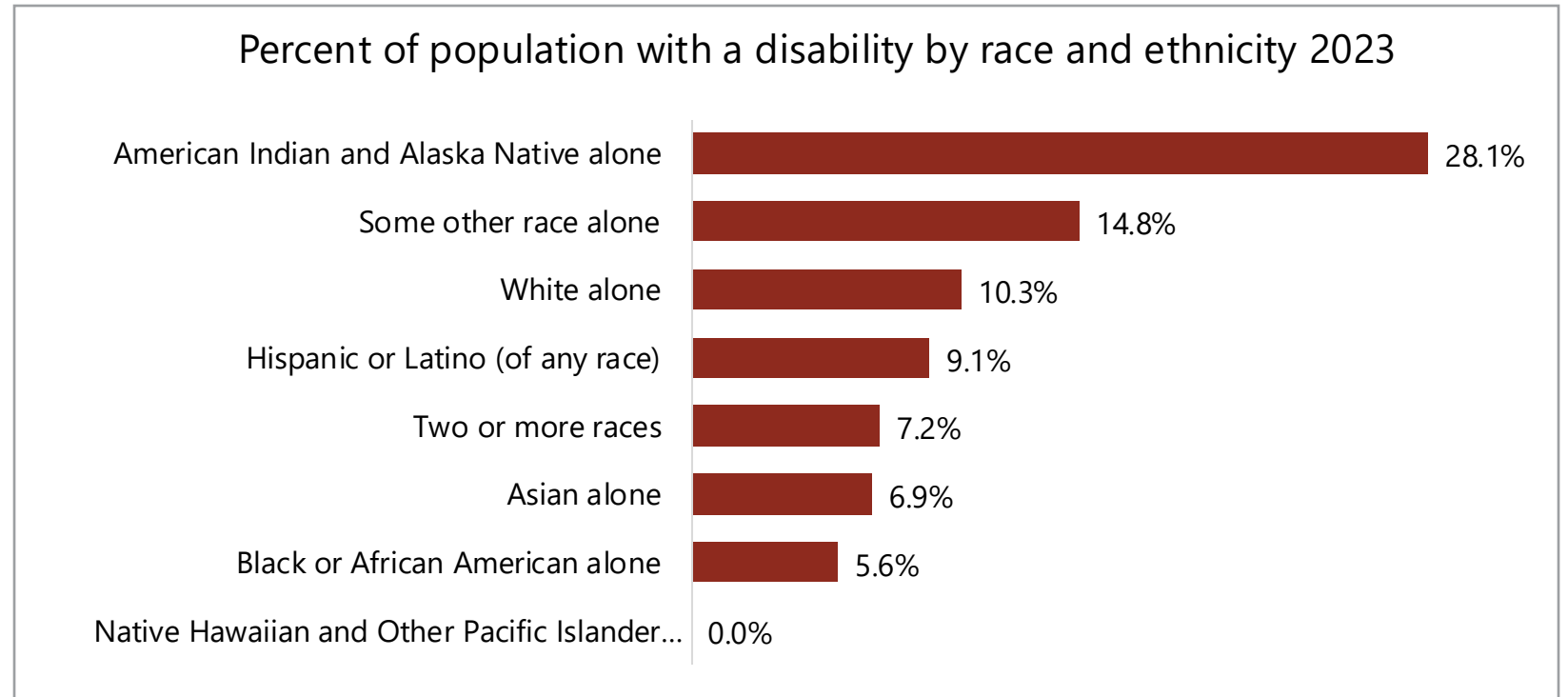
- **17%** of Olmsted County adults reported using drugs within the past 30 days in 2021.
- Increase from 14.5% in 2018.

Every three years, CHAP partners conduct a CHNA. This assessment aims to learn about the health status of Olmsted County residents and identify areas for improvement. Olmsted County works with citizens, community groups, healthcare providers, and legislators. Partners help prioritize health issues in our county, then develop action plans to improve health across priority health issues. The next cycle of the CHNA will be available in the fall of 2025.

Health factors continued

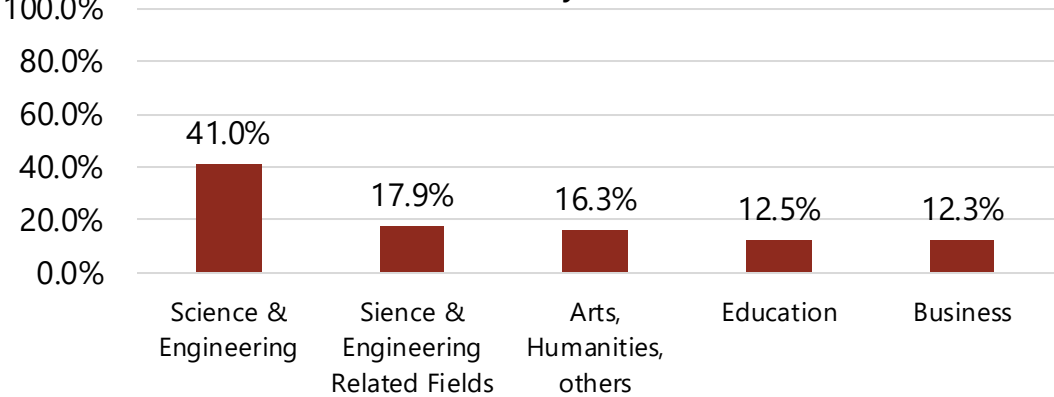
- Olmsted County has fewer people with disability compared to the state and the nation.
- Olmsted County residents are more likely to have health insurance compared to the state and the nation.
- Of those with a disability within Olmsted County, nearly 1 in 3 identify as American Indian or Alaska Native.

2023 MEASURES	OLMSTED COUNTY	MN	USA
Total population with a disability	9.7%	11.4%	13.0%
Percent of adults with a disability age 35-64	8.3%	11.8%	12.4%
Percent of adults with a disability age 65 and over	23.9%	30.0%	36.4%
Total population without health insurance	2.2%	4.2%	7.9%



Olmsted County educational trends

Secondary education focus for Olmsted County residents over 25 years old 2023





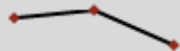



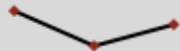
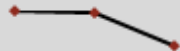








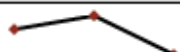



- High school and bachelor’s degree attainment continues to improve post-pandemic, with most racial and ethnic groups either maintaining or improving graduation rates.
- Racial and ethnic groups with significant change (over 5%):
 - High School: Students identifying as some other race improved 21%. Students identifying as Hispanic or Latino improved 6%.
 - Bachelor’s Degree: Students identifying as Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Island dropped 82%. Students identifying as of some other race improved 16%. Students identifying as Hispanic or Latino origin increased 11%.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT	High school graduate or higher		Bachelor's degree or higher	
	2019	2023	2019	2023
Total Graduation Rate	94.0%	95.0%	45.0%	48.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	100.0%	100.0%	81.7%	0.0%
White (not Hispanic or Latino)	97.1%	97.2%	46.0%	49.2%
Two or more races	95.9%	92.9%	49.1%	51.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	93.6%	97.3%	11.4%	8.3%
Asian	84.4%	85.8%	59.4%	61.3%
Black	77.4%	74.0%	18.8%	25.9%
Hispanic or Latino Origin	75.5%	81.6%	26.7%	37.8%
Some other race	73.8%	94.8%	21.3%	37.5%

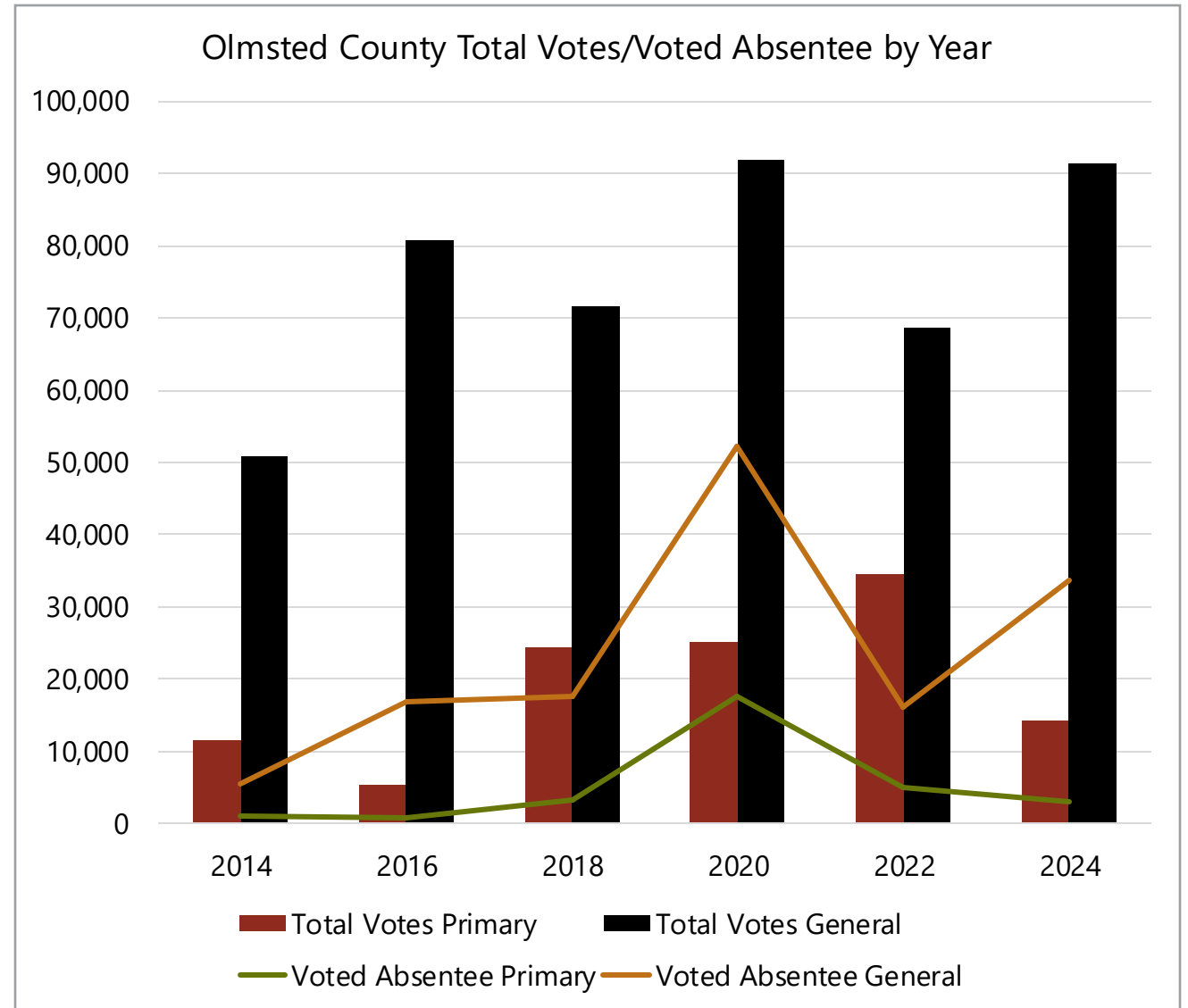
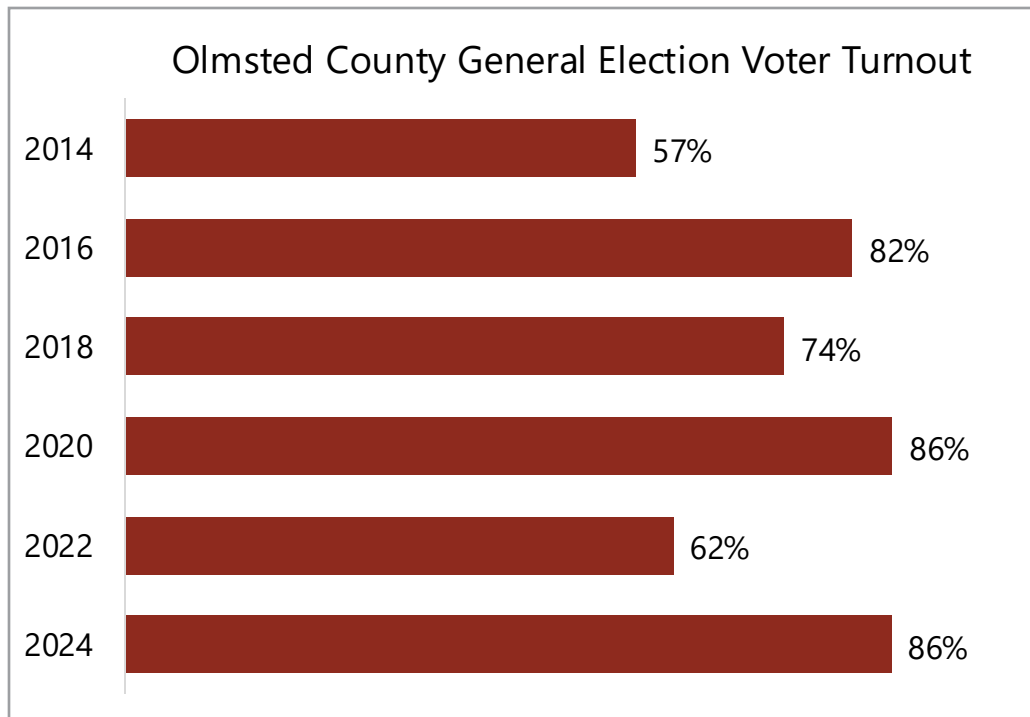
Community safety

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) collects data on crime trends split by services division.
- Olmsted County Sheriff's Office data does not overlap with the Rochester Police Department data.
- The location type for crimes was highest at residential home, followed by highway/alley/street/sidewalk for 2021, 2022, and 2023.
- Nationally, both violent crime (3.0% reduction) and property crime (2.4% reduction) trended down in 2023. Olmsted County and the City of Rochester also decreased in total offenses year over year, with a 25% reduction in property crime offenses in Olmsted County and 23% reduction in violent crime offenses for the City of Rochester between 2022 and 2023.

Crime Reporting- Count of Offenses	Olmsted County				City of Rochester			
Year	2021	2022	2023	Trends	2021	2022	2023	Trends
All Violent Crime	43	30	29		292	271	210	
Homicide	0	1	0		1	1	1	
Rape	12	14	5		75	69	44	
Robbery	1	3	1		45	22	28	
Aggravated Assault	30	12	23		171	169	137	
All Property Crime	281	240	180		2,453	2,276	1,945	
Arson	3	2	2		6	5	2	
Burglary	49	55	49		304	277	223	
Larceny-theft	205	155	107		1,982	1,855	1,566	
Motor Vehicle Theft	27	30	22		167	144	154	

Election trends

- Voter turnout in Olmsted County was comparable in 2024 (86%) to 2020 (86%).
- Absentee voting in the 2024 General Election (37%) was higher than the 2022 General Election (23%) but lower than the 2020 General Election (70%).



Citation: Olmsted County Election Data 2024

Environmental sustainability

Olmsted County leads in sustainable practices.

Environmental factors

Indoor Air Quality

44% of homes tested for radon were above the health action limit, needing remediation.

Outdoor Air Quality

87% of days are considered good air quality days in Olmsted County.

Average Time To Work

Olmsted County 18.5 mins
Minnesota 22.7 mins
USA 26.8 mins

Private Well Water Quality in Olmsted County

Approximately 9,000 households were served by private wells in Olmsted County in 2023.

20% of our population gets their drinking water from a private well, which can be shared by 3-4 homes.

54% of Olmsted County private wells are of unknown construction or constructed prior to the 1974 MN State Well Code.

- 9% of well owners tested their water.
- 15% were positive for bacteria.
- 35% impacted by nitrates.
- 3% tested above acceptable limits for nitrates.
- 18% tested above acceptable limits for Arsenic.
- 16% tested above acceptable limits for Manganese.

Summary

Olmsted County highlights

- Highlights and notable trends in Olmsted County include:
 - Population has grown 14.2% since 2010 and continued growth is anticipated.
 - Non-white population growth continues.
 - Median home values have increased significantly.
 - Languages other than English spoken at home continue to increase.
 - Election participation and absentee voting is high.
 - Health insurance rates are higher than the state/nation.
 - Disparities still exist, including in disproportional poverty and homeownership by race/ethnicity.

References

1. U.S. Census Bureau (2023). American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates.
2. American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates ACS 2023 (S-tables).
3. U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census (P1) (Olmsted County, MN, U.S. data).
4. Minnesota State Demographic Center: DEED – Department of Employment and Economic Development.
5. Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Survey 2024-2026.
6. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2023.
7. FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) 2023.
8. US Bureau of Labor Statistics 2023.

Note: Data was pulled January 2025 from the above sources.

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