



Minneapolis
living well

2009 Sustainability Report

Minneapolis *living well*

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Minneapolis

living well

Executive Summary

For the fourth year in a row, the 2009 Living Well sustainability report highlights how the City of Minneapolis continues down the path of developing accurate, reliable sustainability indicators and data sets that track performance and highlight the interconnections required for a healthy, safe and vibrant city. We are collectively learning to operate in ways that protect our resources and well-being for generations to come while inspiring each other to perform the business of government in innovative ways. It is our hope that the information in this report will also continue to engage our residents and businesses in embracing what it means to live sustainably in every action every day.

The report is divided into three sections. Highlights of 2008 include:

A Healthy Life

- Achieved a 22-percent decrease in the number of children identified with lead poisoning and made the standard that triggers mandatory home inspections for lead more stringent.
- Supported the development of six mini farmers markets that provided 58 market days of locally grown, fresh produce and served 3,200 residents in primarily low-income neighborhoods.

GreenPrint

- Added a Green Jobs indicator as part of an effort to define, develop and track the green economy in the city.
- Met the target for no combined sewer overflows during rainstorms all year for the second year in a row.
- Met the water quality improvement target for Lake Calhoun for the fourth year in a row while Brownie Lake reached the goal for the first time.
- Increased biking options in the city with more new trails, the new Midtown Bike Center, and the launching of the Bike Walk Ambassador program.

A Vital Community

- Facilitated \$4.35 million in grants to clean up a record number of brownfield sites (26) and acres (62).
- Met the target for reducing homicides and reached the lowest number of homicides since 1985.
- Continued multifaceted efforts to prevent youth violence and saw a 29-percent decrease in violent crime with juvenile suspects.

A number of other important efforts are already under way for 2009 including implementing an environmental purchasing policy for City staff in making purchasing decisions, advancing the Homegrown Minneapolis initiative to increase local food production in the city, generating more sources of clean energy, and accelerating the cleanup schedule of certain highly contaminated residential sites in the City using federal stimulus dollars.

Thank you to the many involved in producing this report including the City's Citizen Environmental Advisory Committee and Environmental Coordinating Team, City staff, Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, the Minneapolis City Council and businesses, nonprofits, other organizations and residents working with us toward a sustainable city.

Learn more about the Minneapolis sustainability initiative at the City and join us in achieving its vision.

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability



Minneapolis a healthy life

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Healthy Infants



Reduce Infant Mortality and Low Birth Weights

In the U.S., the five leading causes of infant death are birth defects, disorders related to low birth weight (less than 5.5 pounds), Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), pregnancy complications, and accidental injuries. Infants born too small and/or too soon are at a higher risk of death and disability. Preterm birth (before 37 weeks) is the No. 1 cause of low birth weight. Infants born to teenage mothers have the highest rate of mortality. Infant mortality is death from any cause during the first year of a baby's life.

Target

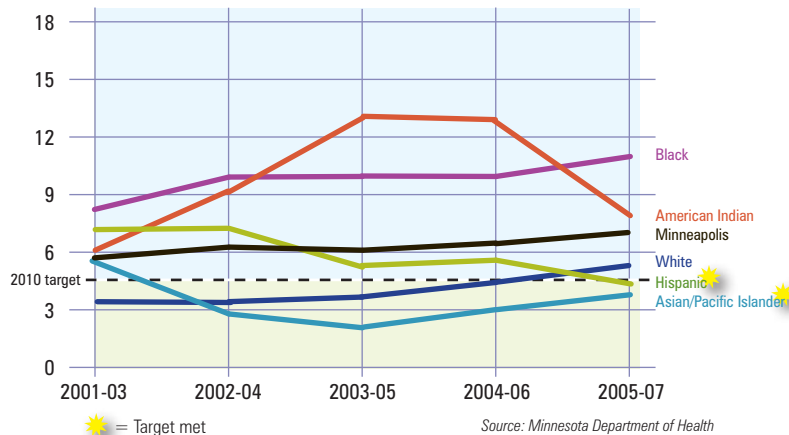
- Reduce infant mortality rates overall and within each racial/ethnic subgroup to 4.5 deaths per 1,000 live births by 2010.
- Reduce the proportion of infants born at low birth weight to 5 percent by 2010.

Trend Analysis

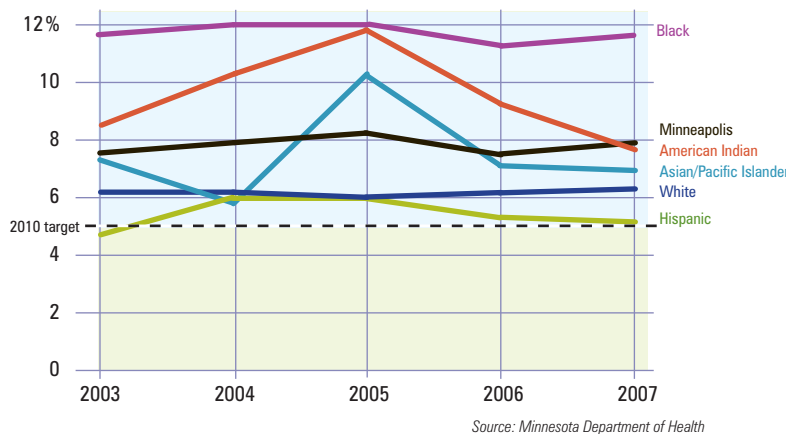
The infant mortality rate overall – the number of deaths per 1,000 live births – continues to rise in Minneapolis. The average rate from 2005 to 2007 was 6.8, up from 6.5 for the previous three-year period. The total number of deaths from 2005 to 2007 was 129 compared with 117 from 2002 to 2004. While the target was met for the Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander populations, infant mortality increased in the black, Asian/Pacific Islander and white populations.

The percentage of Minneapolis infants born with low birth weight was 7.8 percent in 2007. The rate has declined the most consistently within the Hispanic population, which is closest to the target. Low birth weight remains highest within the black population.

Infant mortality rates among Minneapolis residents¹
per 1,000 live births in three year rolling average rates



Low birth weight babies among Minneapolis residents¹



¹ Race/ethnicity categories are mutually exclusive

Recent City & Community Activities

- Screened 1,015 pregnant women in Minneapolis clinics and provided case management services to 635 through the Twin Cities Healthy Start program.
- Conducted home visits with 3,252 pregnant or parenting teens through the Minnesota Visiting Nurse Association.
- Conducted 1,436 home visits with pregnant women through Way to Grow. www.mplswayatogrow.org
- Continued the prenatal and postpartum Breathe Free Campaign at Twin Cities Healthy Start program sites to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Conducted focus groups with black and American Indian women to elicit their perspectives on prenatal care and substance use during pregnancy.
- Conducted a series of classes to improve bonds between parents and children and prevent child abuse.
- Promoted safe sleep environments for infants in the American Indian and African American communities by providing 96 portable cribs for families in need. www.cribsforkids.org

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support: Twin Cities Healthy Start www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/healthy-start.asp
- U.S. Department of Health www.healthierus.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov
- Minnesota SIDS Center www.childrensmn.org/Communities/SIDs.asp
- Minnesota March of Dimes www.marchofdimes.com/minnesota

Teen Pregnancy



Reduce Teen Pregnancy

Teen parents face greater challenges than older parents do. They have a higher risk of premature birth and low birth weights and ongoing difficulties such as long-term poverty, lower levels of education and poorer job prospects. Children born to teen parents are at a higher risk for abuse, neglect and poor school performance.

Target

Reduce the pregnancy rate among 15- to 17-year-olds to 46 pregnancies per 1,000 by 2010.

Trend Analysis

In 2007, 308 teen pregnancies were reported in Minneapolis. The pregnancy rate¹ among 15- to

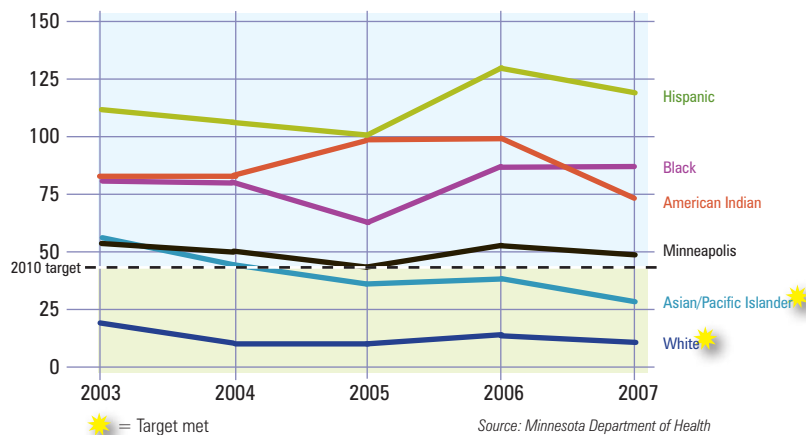
17-year-olds residing in Minneapolis decreased to 49.4 pregnancies per 1,000 girls, but it remains above the target rate of 46. Hispanic and black teens had the highest teen pregnancy rates.² The target was met for the Asian/Pacific Islander and white populations.

Despite an increase in 2006, the teen pregnancy rate decreased by 11 percent between 2003 and 2007. The largest decline in recent years occurred among American Indian teens with a decrease from 99 pregnancies per 1,000 girls in 2005 to 73 per 1,000 in 2007.

1 The pregnancy rate includes live births, abortions and fetal deaths.

2 Pregnancy rate calculations use population counts from the 2000 U.S. Census.

Teen pregnancies in Minneapolis³
per 1,000 teenagers ages 15 to 17



3 Race/ethnicity categories are mutually exclusive

Recent City & Community Activities

- Provided adolescent health services to 2,046 students through school-based clinics at six Minneapolis public schools, including Broadway High School for pregnant teens and teen parents. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/school-home.asp
- Collaborated with community-based agencies, the University of Minnesota, state advocacy groups and local governmental agencies to advocate for the Minneapolis Urban Initiative. This initiative was funded by the National Institute for Reproductive Health to create and promote policy solutions to address reproductive health problems facing cities across the nation.
- Received a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education to provide technical assistance and training to teachers in Minneapolis alternative schools on teen pregnancy prevention and healthy youth development resources.
- Awarded \$166,000 in contracts to community-based agencies to provide youth development activities, parenting education for teen parents and case management services aimed at reducing teen pregnancy.
- Provided health education to high school students selected to participate in the STEP-UP program.
- Produced the 2008 Teen Parent Report Card to track services helping teen parents in Minneapolis. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/research-home.asp
- Contracted with local community-based clinics for a sixth year to provide outreach, reproductive health education and testing for sexually transmitted diseases primarily to young black men through the Seen on da Streets initiative. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/seenondastreet.asp

Web Links & Resources

Teen Health 411 pregnancy information
www.teenhealth411.org/pregnancy.php

National Institutes of Health
www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/teenagepregnancy.html

HIV and Gonorrhea



Reduce the Rates of HIV and Gonorrhea

HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) and gonorrhea have immense consequences for public health and the economy, and they have a higher prevalence in Minneapolis than in other areas in Minnesota. The public health response focuses on efforts to reduce behavior that puts people at risk for HIV and gonorrhea, but recent studies show that individual-level behavior changes alone are not enough to significantly reduce disease in high-prevalence communities. It is also necessary to screen individuals at risk for infection and assure treatment of infected individuals.

Target

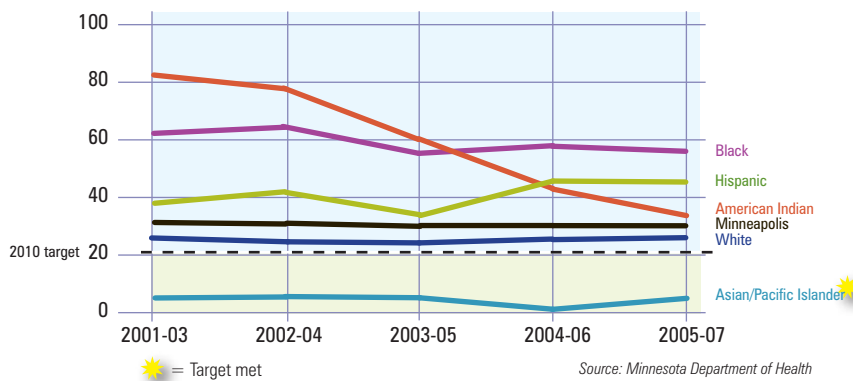
- Reduce the rate of new HIV cases in Minneapolis to 21 cases per 100,000 people by 2010.
- Reduce the rate of new gonorrhea cases in Minneapolis to 161 cases per 100,000 people by 2010.

Trend Analysis

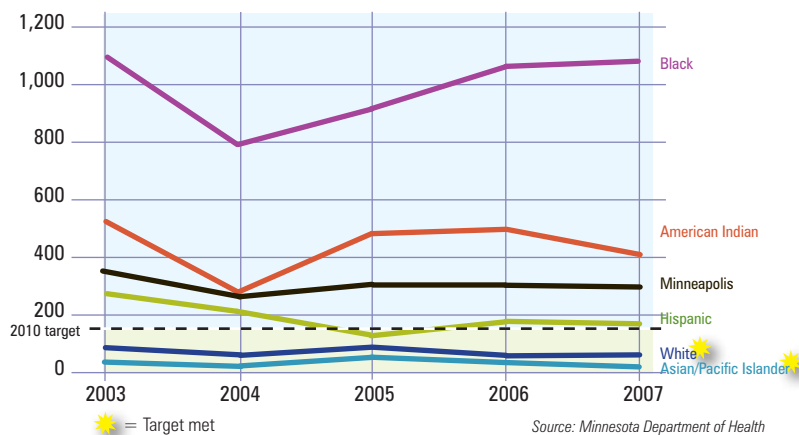
In 2007, 124 new cases of HIV were reported in Minneapolis. The three-year rolling average rate of new HIV cases was 31 cases per 100,000 people.¹ Between 2001 and 2007, HIV rates fell among blacks and American Indians, but appeared to be rising among Hispanics.²

In 2007, 1,190 cases of gonorrhea were reported in Minneapolis. From 2003 to 2007, gonorrhea rates fell 10 percent in Minneapolis. This counters a trend elsewhere in Minnesota where the rate climbed 21 percent. Among blacks, rates dipped in 2004 but in 2007 approached 2003 levels. This trend occurred at the same time that intensive outreach and testing efforts targeted this community, so the rise in reports might be caused by more outreach and testing.³ The gonorrhea rate fell 35 percent among Hispanics.

New cases of HIV^{1,2,4} in Minneapolis
per 100,000 people



Gonorrhea cases in Minneapolis^{3,4}
per 100,000 people



Recent City & Community Activities

- Awarded \$200,000 in state public health funds to continue the Seen on da Streets project at two clinics through 2010. In the first nine months of 2008, this project provided outreach and education about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) to more than 1,700 young men, provided outreach and education about HIV prevention to 708 men, and tested those 708 for HIV. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/seenondastreet.asp
- Tested uninsured people for STDs and HIV through Neighborhood Health Care Network clinics.
- City-funded school-based clinics provided adolescents with 2,044 family planning visits and 712 STD tests. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/school-home.asp

Web Links & Resources

Some of the sites below contain explicit information about prevention and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases and are not appropriate for all viewers.

Minnesota AIDS Project
www.mnaidsproject.org

Minnesota Department of Health sexually transmitted diseases statistics
www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/stds/stdstatistics.html

Red Door Clinic
www.reddoorclinic.org

1 Minneapolis has a small number of HIV cases, so rolling averages from 2001 to 2007 are presented to interpret trends in HIV rates.

2 These rates were calculated based on 2000 U.S. Census population counts. Because the population may have increased since 2000, the reported rates may be higher than the actual rates of the disease.

3 These rates represent identified cases. While people with symptoms typically seek treatment, screening programs targeting high-risk individuals without symptoms have been implemented in recent years resulting in improved case-finding. This increases the rate of reported disease, so how much a reported increase represents an actual increase in disease incidence is unknown.

4 Race/ethnicity categories are mutually exclusive

Healthy Weight



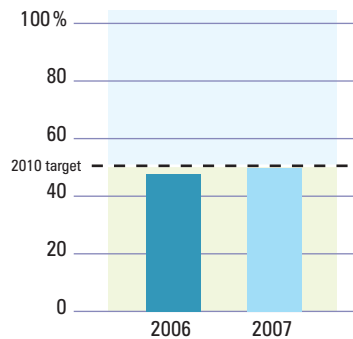
Increase the Proportion of Adults at a Healthy Weight

Healthy weight for adults reflects an individual's health and the general health of a community. Access to healthy food and opportunities for physical activity influences a person's diet and exercise behaviors, which largely determine a person's weight. People at a healthy weight are less likely to suffer from chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and high cholesterol. Women at a healthy weight in their childbearing years have fewer problems than overweight women with fertility, pregnancy and birth.

Target

Increase the proportion of Minneapolis adults who are at a healthy weight to 52 percent by 2010.

Minneapolis adult residents at a healthy weight



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey 2007



Farmers markets in Minneapolis provide fresh, locally grown produce for residents.

Trend Analysis

The percentage of Minneapolis adults at a healthy weight in 2007 was 48 percent,¹ compared with 44 percent² in 2006.³ U.S. and Hennepin County surveys have found that black, American Indian and Hispanic/Latino adults are more likely to be overweight or obese than Asian or white adults. Adults with lower levels of education and lower incomes are at a greater risk of obesity.

1 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey

2 This difference is not statistically significant.

3 Assessment of healthy weight for adults is based on a Body Mass Index (BMI). BMI is a number calculated from a person's weight and height and is a reliable indicator of body fat for most people. People are considered to be at a healthy weight if they have a BMI of less than 25.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Launched Homegrown Minneapolis, an initiative focused on improving the local food system by increasing the growth, sales and consumption of local, healthy and fresh food for all Minneapolis residents.
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/homegrown-home.asp
- Supported the development of mini – meaning five or fewer vendors – farmers markets by implementing a free food permit and providing a how-to guide for mini farmers market development. The first six mini farmers markets provided 58 market days of locally grown, fresh produce and served 3,200 residents in primarily low-income communities.
- Conducted Get Fit Twin Cities, a team-based fitness challenge that attracted 7,408 metro area participants, 2,957 of whom live or work in Minneapolis.
- Started I Can Prevent Diabetes programs in community organizations and clinics to help people diagnosed with pre-diabetes to adopt healthy eating and exercise behaviors that will help them lose weight and prevent diabetes.
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/ican.asp
- Provided funding for community-based physical activity and nutrition projects in Somali, Hispanic and American Indian communities.

Web Links & Resources

Steps to a Healthier Minneapolis
www.stepstohealthiermn.org

List of local farmers markets
www.mda.state.mn.us/mngrown/farmersmarkets.htm

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy's Local Foods Program
www.iatp.org/localFoods

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Nutrition for Everyone
www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/nutrition/nutrition_for_everyone/index.htm

National Heart Lung and Blood Institute's Obesity Education Initiative
www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/public/heart/obesity/lose_wt

Asthma



Reduce the Asthma Hospitalization Rate

Asthma has been associated with a variety of indoor and outdoor environmental factors, including smoking. Asthma hospitalization rates often increase when air pollution from fine particles is high; this comes primarily from burning fossil fuels.

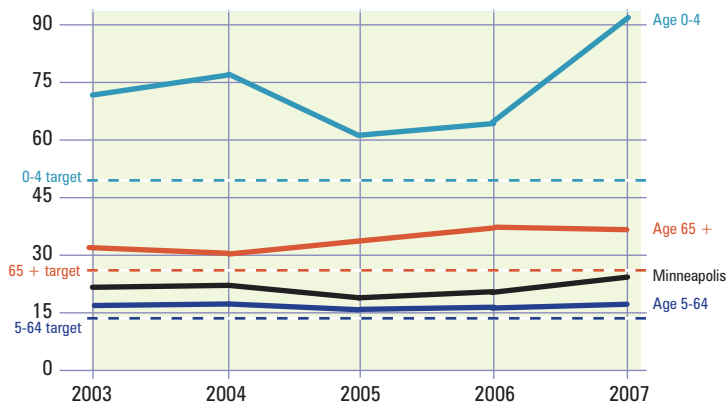
Target

- Reduce asthma-related hospitalizations by 2010:
 - 0 to 4 years old – reduce to 51 per 10,000 people
 - 5 to 64 years old – reduce to 14 per 10,000 people
 - 65 and older – reduce to 24 per 10,000 people

Trend Analysis

Overall, there were 942 asthma hospitalizations in Minneapolis during 2007, up 12 percent from 841 the year before. The asthma hospitalization rate increased the most in children up to age 4 by rising from 70 to 93 hospitalizations per 10,000 children in that age group. Similar to 2006, the rate for people ages 5 to 64 was 18 hospitalizations per 10,000 people and for people 65 and older was 37 hospitalizations per 10,000 people.

Hospitalizations from asthma among Minneapolis residents per 10,000 people



Source: Minnesota Department of Health



Children’s lungs are particularly vulnerable to air pollution, secondhand smoke, mold and other asthma triggers.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Issued 87 housing violation orders for water-damaged surfaces. Water damage contributes to the growth of mold, and mold aggravates asthma.
- Enforced pest control of cockroaches and mice, which also trigger asthma, resulting in 58 housing orders requiring pest control.
- Inspected every licensed tobacco dealer in the city and issued 74 citations for selling tobacco products to minors, a decrease from 108 citations the prior year.
- Inspected all 1,112 restaurants and bars for violations of the smoking ordinance and found extremely high compliance rates. Only one citation had to be issued.
- Enrolled 400 children in Hennepin and Ramsey counties in the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Healthy Homes Project and assessed 107 Minneapolis homes for environmental health.
- Performed radon testing in 25 households and day-care sites and referred 46 properties for rental housing code violations to Housing Inspections, Section 8 and the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority.
- Mailed asthma education information to 400 families.
- Supported targeted efforts to educate mothers living at the Little Earth housing complex about the effects of secondhand smoke and supported the adoption of a smoke-free apartment policy for new tenants.
- Distributed DVDs in Spanish, Somali, Hmong and Vietnamese to parents with limited English proficiency to help them understand and address their children’s asthma.

Web Links & Resources

- Minnesota Department of Health asthma program www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpcd/cdee/asthma/index.html
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention asthma program www.cdc.gov/asthma
- American Lung Association of Minnesota www.alamn.org/americancities

Lead Poisoning



Keep Children Lead Safe

Childhood lead poisoning is one of the most common yet preventable health problems in the U.S. Lead is highly toxic and can be found in chipping and peeling paint, soil and unregulated products. Children usually have no overt symptoms, but the damage is irreversible and can be profound – including brain damage, learning problems and antisocial behavior. Ensuring that all children are tested will promote prevention, education and early intervention and can reduce lead poisoning. Inspecting the homes of lead-poisoned children identifies lead sources so they can be removed to prevent future exposures.

Target

- Test all 1- and 2-year-old children for lead by 2010.

- Inspect all homes of children with elevated blood-lead levels (10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood) by 2010.

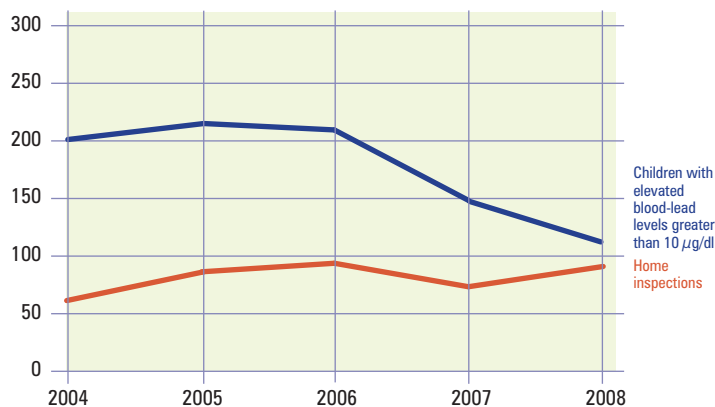
Trend Analysis

Between 2002 and 2007, lead testing of 1- and 2-year-olds in Minneapolis increased 30 percent to 72 percent.¹ Between 2002 and 2008, elevated blood-lead cases in children under 6 years old declined 65 percent. In 2008, 116 Minneapolis children were identified as having lead poisoning (10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood or higher), a decrease from 149 the year before.

In 2008, 78 percent of poisoned children’s homes received inspections, up from 26 percent in 2002.

¹ Reliable racial/ethnic data for those tested are not available.

Number of children who have elevated blood-lead levels and home inspections²



Source: City of Minneapolis

² As of July 2008, the City inspects the homes of children with a blood-lead level greater than 10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood (µg/dl).

Minneapolis 1- and 2-year-olds tested for lead

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
58 %	64 %	65 %	69 %	72 %

Source: Minnesota Department of Health

Testing is recommended for all Minneapolis 1- and 2-year-olds plus anyone up to age 6 not previously tested.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Required repair of deteriorating painted surfaces in 2,453 homes in 2008.
- Changed the standard for triggering mandatory home inspections from 15 to 10 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood, resulting in 30 additional risk assessments and protecting children who would not have received services under the old standard.
- Issued 76 housing orders that required the person performing the work to be certified in lead-safe work practices.
- Conducted 173 lead risk assessments and made 143 homes lead-safe to protect the children living there.
- Made 192 housing units lead-safe during redevelopment.
- Worked on lead testing goals with 18 Minneapolis clinics and visited their patients at home with free in-home lead detection kits and lead education.
- Received \$1.25 million in grants from federal and state agencies to control lead in homes, train contractors in lead-safe work practices, relocate families displaced by emergency lead abatement, and research improvements in lead-abatement practices. The City has been awarded nearly \$14 million in federal lead hazard control grants over the last 10 years.

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Project for Lead-Safe Kids www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/kids-home.asp
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lead information www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/default.htm
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development www.hud.gov/offices/lead/index.cfm
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency www.epa.gov/lead
- Minnesota Department of Health, Environmental Health www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/lead/index.html



Testing a child’s blood for lead is as easy as a finger prick. This child is being tested at an outreach event where families learn about lead hazards in the home.



Minneapolis *greenprint*

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Climate Change



Reduce Carbon Dioxide Emissions

The science is clear – climate change is real, we are responsible, and it is a threat. 2008 was Earth’s eighth warmest year on record, and all 10 of the warmest years on record have occurred since 1997. Carbon dioxide pollution (“greenhouse gas”) causes climate change, and transportation and coal-burning power plants are the largest sources of carbon dioxide pollution in the U.S.

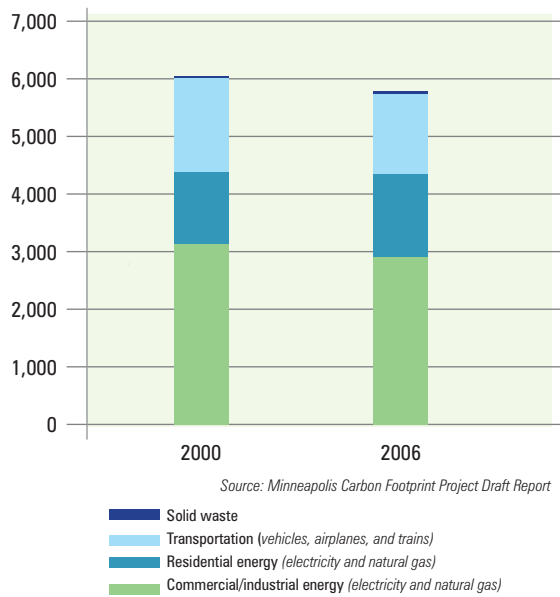
Target

- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions from City operations by 12 percent by 2012 and by 20 percent by 2020.
- Reduce citywide carbon dioxide emissions by 12 percent by 2012 and by 20 percent by 2020.

Trend Analysis

In 2008, the City analyzed greenhouse gas emissions from City operations and from the entire community within the city limits for the first time. Within the city limits, carbon emissions declined 4 percent between 2000 and 2006. Major contributing factors were milder winter weather, more wind-produced electricity and less driving. City operations’ emissions data was only available for 2006, so this will serve as the baseline for future data comparisons.

Minneapolis community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory in 1,000 carbon dioxide equivalent tonnes



Recent City & Community Activities

- The Minnesota Energy Challenge has more than 6,600 Minneapolis businesses and residents pledging to reduce carbon dioxide emissions compared to 2,500 in 2007 and 700 in 2006. They are committed to saving more than \$4.2 million in energy costs annually. www.mnenergychallenge.org
- The City awarded 25 climate change microgrants for activities that encourage immediate action to reduce the carbon footprint. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/ClimateChangeGrants_home.asp
- City utility billing began offering an easy, online, paperless billing option, saving trees and energy. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/utility-billing
- To foster more walkable, community-oriented commercial areas and discourage the use of cars, the City reduced many off-street parking requirements for development citywide and rezoned the 38th Street light rail transit area. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/lrtrezoning/tod-haiwatha.asp
- The City tested energy-saving, light-emitting-diode (LED) streetlights for use citywide, installed energy-efficient lighting at the Hilton Parking Ramp and installed a high-efficiency boiler at Parking Ramp A.



Saint Anthony Falls in downtown provides enough clean electricity for approximately 13,200 homes annually through a hydropower plant operated by Xcel Energy.

Web Links & Resources

- City of Minneapolis Carbon Footprint Project Draft Report www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/carbon.asp
- The Center for Energy and Environment www.mncee.org
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Energy Star Program www.energystar.gov
- Xcel Energy www.xcelenergy.com/mpplsconserves

Renewable Energy



Increase the Use of Renewable Energy

In the face of climate change and harmful pollution levels created by our current energy consumption, it is critical to increase our use of renewable energy including solar, wind, biomass and hydropower. Renewable energy contributes to energy security, stable energy pricing, climate change solutions and green jobs. Minnesota regulations require Xcel Energy to obtain 30 percent of its electricity from renewable resources by 2020 – most of it coming from Minnesota-generated wind power.

Target

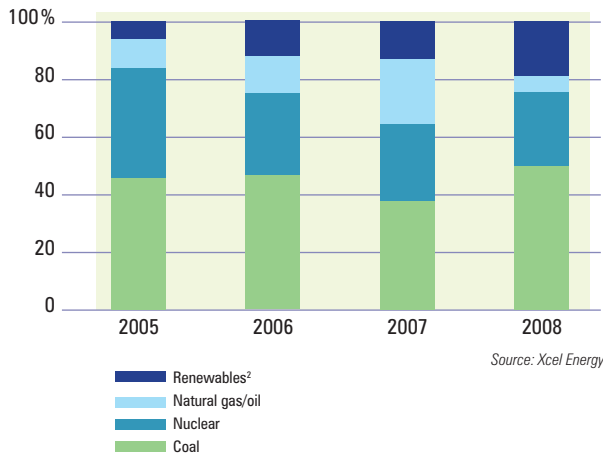
- In City operations, by 2008 increase use of electricity from renewable sources to 10 percent

- above the renewable electricity supply provided by Xcel Energy.
- Citywide, by 2015 increase renewable energy use to 10 percent above state and federal mandates.

Trend Analysis

Xcel Energy increased the amount of renewable energy used to furnish electricity in Minnesota from 13 percent in 2007 to 19 percent in 2008. A City-owned fire station and two Public Works buildings have solar systems helping to supply their electricity. The City is evaluating other solar options, although this was not enough to meet the 2008 target.

Xcel Energy electric power sources¹



¹ Includes sources owned by and purchased from other companies
² Includes 8 percent hydro, 7 percent wind, 2 percent biomass and 0.5 percent other renewables

Recent City & Community Activities

- The City received a \$200,000 U.S. Department of Energy grant with Saint Paul to increase solar capacity by improving city and state policies and increasing public awareness, training and education. www.solaramericacities.energy.gov/Cities.aspx
- The City began testing solar-powered parking meters in the Dinkytown area.
- The City issued permits for 10 new solar installations in 2008, 12 in 2007 and 18 in 2006.
- To better assist residents, City staff received extensive training in sustainable construction practices including solar installations, Minnesota GreenStar and Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design (LEED).
- HOURCAR, a Twin Cities-based car-sharing organization that uses mostly Prius hybrids, recently plugged in its first Minneapolis solar-powered hybrid car at the 46th Street Hiawatha light rail station, where electricity is provided by a 2kW grid-tied solar system on the roofs of nearby buildings. www.HOURCAR.org
- More than 7,650 Minneapolis customers participated in Xcel Energy's Windsource program, buying enough wind-generated electricity for almost 3,300 homes for a year. This ensures additional Minnesota-produced wind power, which helps our economy and environment. www.xcelenergy.com/COMPANY/ENVIRONMENT/Pages/Environment.aspx
- Patrick's Cabaret now obtains part of its electricity from 36 new solar panels (6.6 kW). www.patrickscabaret.org



This retrofit, incorporating solar shingles into the design of a Minneapolis business, demonstrates how solar energy can be both practical and visually appealing.

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Solar www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/solar.asp
- Minnesota Renewable Energy Society www.mnrenewables.org
- Fresh Energy www.fresh-energy.org

Air Quality



Improve Air Quality Levels

Air quality in Minneapolis is among the best of major metropolitan areas in the U.S. Still, the area has air quality issues that contribute to health problems such as asthma, lung disease and heart disease. Most air pollution comes from cars and trucks releasing fossil-fuel emissions.

Target

- Reduce “moderately unhealthy” days in Minneapolis to fewer than 35 per year by 2015, compared to 191 in 2005.
- Reduce all monitored air toxins to levels within state health guidelines by 2015.

Air Quality Index for Minneapolis and the metro area¹

Year	Good days	Moderately unhealthy days	Unhealthy for sensitive groups days	Unhealthy days
2003	161	191	13	0
2004	187	172	7	0
2005	166	191	5	3
2006	193	169	3	0
2007	178	178	9	0
2008	195	166	5	0

Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

¹ Please note: data for a Minneapolis-only air quality index do not exist.



Idling can harm today’s fuel injection engines while wasting fuel and polluting our air.



A City inspector uses a new all-electric, no-emissions vehicle.

Trend Analysis

The number of “moderately unhealthy” air quality days declined from 178 in 2007 to 166 in 2008. The number of days that had even worse air quality improved from nine days in 2007 to five days in 2008. The number of “good” days improved by 10 percent in 2008 over the previous five-year average. Apart from weather, which has a large impact upon our air quality, contributing factors include a decrease in gasoline and diesel use.

The yearly average levels of benzene, a dangerous air toxin, have been within health benchmarks citywide for the past six years, declining 51 percent since 2003.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Purchased 43 new hybrid-electric vehicles, totaling 68, and 131 new E85 flex fuel vehicles for a total of 263 in the City’s fleet.² Added two all-electric neighborhood vehicles, four electric three-wheel chariots and bicycles for downtown inspections.
- Decreased City operations’ overall fuel consumption by 3.8 percent from two years ago. Increased use of cleaner burning E85 by 140 percent. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/news/20070523E85FuelStn.asp
- Revised the air quality ordinance to require commercial and industrial spray painting to be performed in fume-filtering paint booths and new coffee roasters to have afterburners.
- Took enforcement action on 72 air quality violations and collected more than \$8,000 in fines.
- Adopted an ordinance restricting vehicle idling. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/airquality/AntiIdling_home.asp
- Reduced idling times and vehicle emissions by removing “no turn on red” signs at 13 intersections. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/traffic/NTOR.asp
- Retrofitted seven heavy-duty diesel trucks, and advocated for retrofitting 62 school buses and six private heavy vehicles through the Minnesota Environmental Initiative’s (MEI) Project Green Fleet. www.projectgreenfleet.org
- MEI and Mulroy’s Body Shop trained auto body refinishers at Dunwoody Institute in cost-saving, pollution-reducing techniques. www.mn-ei.org/cam/autobody.html

² The City supports policies, funding and research for the next generation of clean fuels using perennial crops.

Web Links & Resources

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency air quality www.pca.state.mn.us/air/index.html
- City of Minneapolis air quality www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/airquality
- Minnesota Department of Health air quality www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/air/index.htm

Bikeways



Increase Bicycle Lanes and Trails

Bicycling is good for our health, economy and environment. Nearly 15,000 people bike in the City of Minneapolis on an average spring, summer or fall day. Approximately 25 percent bike year-round, which is remarkable given Minnesota winters. The City encourages bicycling through promotion, education and infrastructure. Minneapolis has an aggressive goal for adding miles of bicycle lanes and trails, and Minneapolis has the highest number of bicycle parking spaces per capita of any city in the U.S.

Target

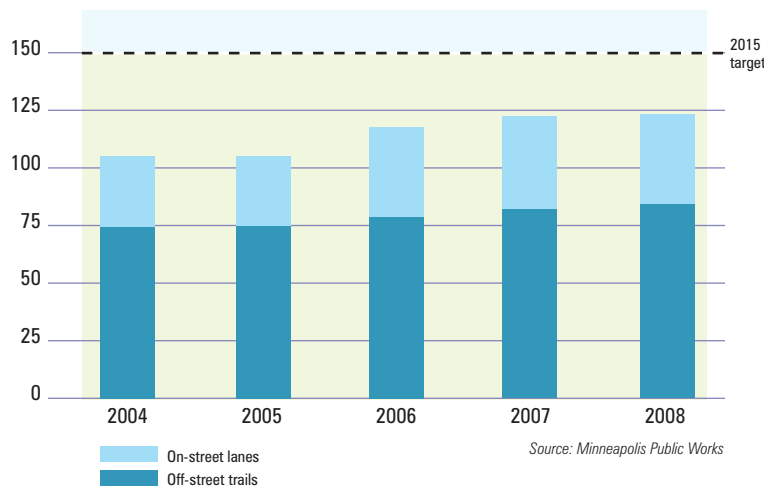
Add 14 miles of on-street bicycle lanes and 30 miles of off-street trails to the 2004 level for a total of 150 miles of bikeways in the city by 2015.

Trend Analysis

In 2008, the city gained one mile of off-street bike trails and 0.9 miles of on-street bike lanes, but lost 1.6 miles of on-street bike lanes due to downtown street reconstruction. Since 2004, eight miles of on-street bicycle lanes and eight miles of off-street trails have been added for a total of almost 123 miles of bikeways.

Bicycling is going up in Minneapolis. The U.S. Census Bureau reported that among the 50 largest U.S. cities in 2007, Minneapolis had the second highest percentage of people biking to work. Of all trips to work, 3.8 percent are on bikes, up from 2.5 percent in 2006. From 2003 to 2007, bicycling rose 50 percent at nine downtown locations. From 2007 to 2008, the number of bicyclists increased 30 percent on the Midtown Greenway (April through June).

Bikeways¹ in Minneapolis²
in miles



- 1 Bikeways are multi-use paths, bike lanes and marked shared lanes.
- 2 The 2004-2007 figures are corrected from last year's report.



The City encourages residents to bike to dinner or work or for other short trips.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Opened the Midtown Bike Center offering bike sales and rentals, parts and repairs, bathrooms, showers, a drinking fountain, and a coffee shop. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/MidTownBikeCenter.asp
- The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board completed reconstruction on the existing East River Parkway and St. Anthony Parkway trails.
- Launched the Bike Walk Ambassador program offering bike education, promoting new bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects, supporting work and worship place outreach, and coordinating activities to encourage people to bike more, walk more and drive less. www.bikewalktwincities.org/ambassadors
- Revised zoning codes to require bicycle parking for most development and included incentives for incorporating bicycle or transit facilities in development design.
- Totaled 3,591 publicly accessible bike racks with 15,111 bike parking spaces and 29 locker locations with 249 bike locker spaces citywide in 2007. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/bikerack-lockers.pdf
- Hosted a multistation bike sharing program sponsored by Humana and Bikes Belong for the Republican National Convention.
- Annual bicycle events include the Minneapolis Bike Tour, Great River Energy Bicycle Festival, and Bike Walk to Work Day.

Web Links & Resources

- City of Minneapolis biking information www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/index.asp
- Bike Walk Twin Cities www.bikewalktwincities.org
- Metro Transit Biking Resources www.metrotransit.org/bike
- Online biking forum www.mpls bikelove.com

**Downtown
Transportation
Alternatives**



**Increase Use of
Alternative Transportation into Downtown**

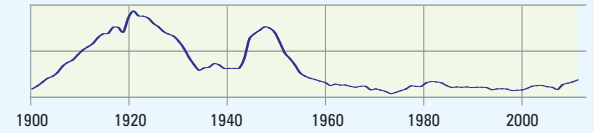
Getting around using transportation other than driving is good for our hearts, lungs and budgets. Today in Minneapolis, alternative transportation includes busing, riding light-rail transit, bicycling and walking. The City plays important roles in making transit affordable and convenient, promoting its use, and creating dynamic urban corridors that are safe and convenient for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Target

Increase the percentage of people who enter downtown via alternative transportation (bus, light rail, bicycle, walking, carpool) from 55 percent in 2003 to 67 percent by 2013.

Trend Analysis

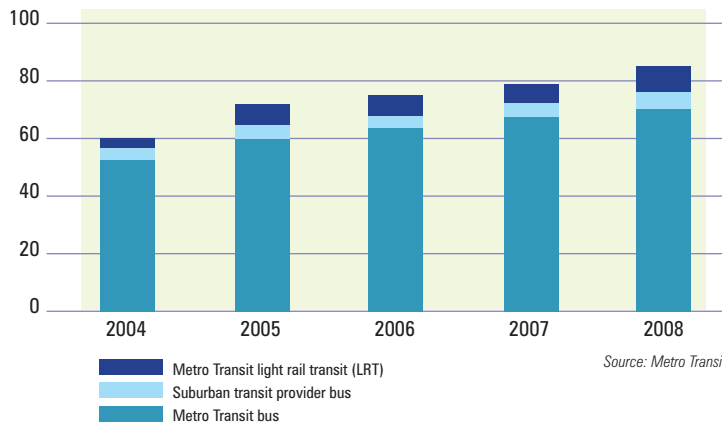
The total number of people entering downtown via alternative transportation was 55 percent when last measured in 2003. Recent bus, light rail and biking data show increases downtown. In 2008, light-rail transit (LRT) ridership grew 12 percent (in part due to the reopening of the Humphrey Terminal station), and system-wide bus ridership grew 5 percent, resulting in Metro Transit's highest ridership since 1982.



Historic regional transit service ridership (1900-present)

Source: Metropolitan Council

Annual regional transit ridership
in millions of rides



Source: Metro Transit



In 2008, light-rail transit ridership grew 12 percent over 2007.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Increased use of downtown Metropass, a discount transit pass, by 15 percent to more than 20,000 users. Increased City employee Metropass use by 27 percent to more than 500 users. www.metrotransit.org/groupDiscProg/metropass.asp
- Registered 1,340 carpools and vanpools for free or discounted parking in City-owned or operated facilities, a decrease from 1,811 in 2007.
- Completed Phase I construction of the Marquette Avenue and Second Avenue South Transit Project (MARQ2). This project provides double-width bus lanes, new bus shelters, wider sidewalks, trees, and real-time transit information. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/marq2
- Worked with regional partners to construct the multi-modal transportation improvements associated with Northstar Commuter Rail, the Hiawatha light-rail transit (LRT) extension, and the Twins ballpark. www.northstartrain.org
- Metro Transit purchased 45 new hybrid electric buses, bringing the hybrid fleet's size to 67 of a planned total of 172 by 2012. www.metrotransit.org/news/stories/04_07_gogreener.asp
- Enrolled 58 new downtown employers in transit programs (Metropass, Transitworks! and GoTo College).
- Downtown commuters registered in carpool, vanpool, or transit pass programs (Metropass and GoTo College) reduced their vehicle miles traveled by almost 29 million miles and carbon dioxide emissions by more than 6,000 tons.

Web Links & Resources

Downtown Minneapolis Transportation Management Organization www.mplstmo.org

Airport Noise



Reduce Airport Noise and the Environmental Impacts of the Airport

The Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) plays an important role in our region's economy and livability. But the airport also changes the environment, producing noise and air pollution, affecting the quality of life for nearby residents.

Target

By 2009, reduce the average noise levels by at least three decibels, the minimum change that is perceptible to the average person's ear, from 2004 levels at all nine monitored locations in Minneapolis.

Trend Analysis

The number of airplane flights at MSP declined by 0.59 percent in 2008, 4.6 percent in 2007 and 10.6 percent in 2006. Total landings and takeoffs in 2008 were 450,044 (approximately 17 percent fewer

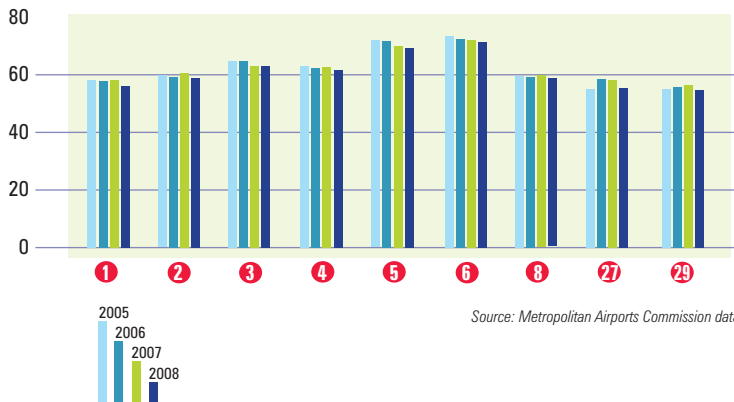
operations) compared to the peak of 541,093 in 2004. This is largely because of Northwest Airlines and other airlines reducing capacity.

The overall reduction in flights and the continued phasing out of older planes have caused noise levels in Minneapolis to decline slightly at seven of the nine monitors (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 27) while two monitors remained essentially the same as in 2004 (8 and 29). Although numbers from the seven monitors suggest improvement, more change is necessary to achieve a three decibel reduction.

Eight of the nine monitors in Minneapolis show at least a 2.5 "day-night level" (DNL)¹ decrease in the noise impact area from 2000 to 2008.

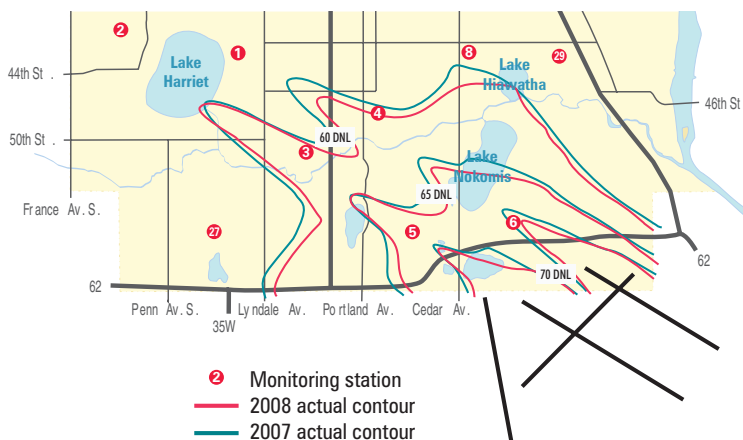
¹ Day-night level is the cumulative average annual noise exposure of a 24 hour period with a night time penalty of 10 decibels for operations between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Average noise levels at Minneapolis monitoring stations in decibels



Source: Metropolitan Airports Commission data

Airport noise monitoring stations in Minneapolis



Source: Metropolitan Airports Commission data

Recent City & Community Activities

- Coordinated with the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) to implement the sound insulation program resulting from the 2007 settlement agreement. Nearly 100 Minneapolis homes impacted by noise levels of 60 to 64 decibels were in various stages of the mitigation program by mid-January 2009. The program reduces sound by five decibels for residents in the highest noise areas. Settlement maps and details can be found on the City's Web site. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/airportnoise
- Received bids and selected contractors for Phase 2 of the settlement agreement's insulation program beginning in 2009 for homes in 60, 61 and 62 day-night level areas.
- Advocated with the MAC for abatement measures to manage day-to-day noise at the airport by working with the Noise Management Office and the Noise Oversight Committee.
- Developed an Airport Overlay District and ordinance addressing height limitation zoning, land use safety zoning and noise reduction in impacted areas. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/zoning/maps

Web Links & Resources

- Metropolitan Airports Commission www.msairport.com/mac
- To file a noise complaint call (612) 726-9411 www.macnoise.com/complaint
- Residents Opposed to Airport Racket (ROAR) and South Metro Airport Action Council (SMAAC) www.quiettheskies.org
- City of Minneapolis airport noise www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/airportnoise

Tree Canopy



No Net Loss to the Urban Tree Canopy

Our urban forest cleans the air, shelters wildlife, catches water runoff, cools our homes and makes our city more beautiful. As in other large cities, however, insects, disease and construction are taking a toll on our trees, decreasing our urban tree canopy. An impending threat is the emerald ash borer. Since its discovery in 2002, this insect has killed more than 40 million ash trees in seven states. In early 2008, the emerald ash borer was discovered in Wisconsin, and in May it was found in Saint Paul.

Target

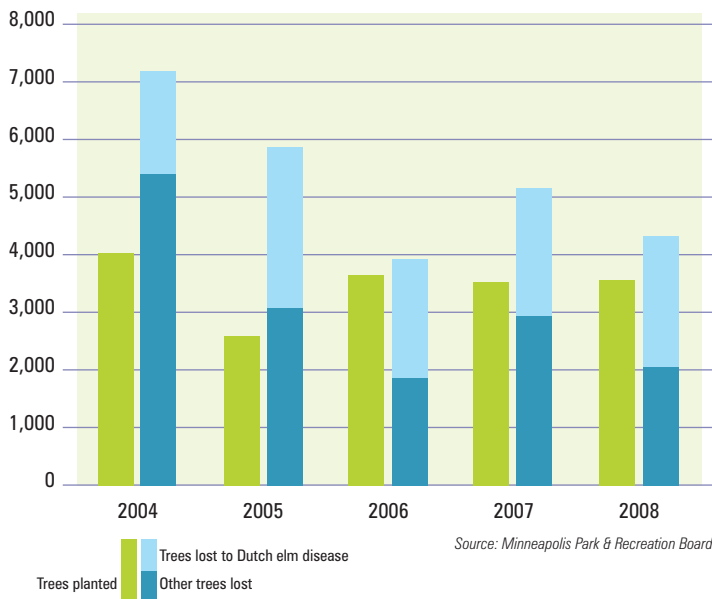
- No net loss to the citywide tree canopy cover by 2015, compared to 26 percent in 2004.
- Plant at least 2,500 trees on public land annually through 2015.

Trend Analysis

The tree canopy, last measured in 2004, covers 26 percent of the city. Since then, more than 15,000 public elm trees have died from Dutch elm disease. Because of their age and large stature, their loss had a disproportionate impact upon the city's tree canopy.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) met the tree planting target for the fourth year in a row by planting 3,589 trees. Since 2003, the MPRB has planted an average of 3,419 trees per year along streets and in parks. In addition, more than 1,175 additional trees were planted by the City and its partners on public and private land in 2008. There has still been a net loss of nearly 9,000 public trees in the city over the past five years.

Trees lost¹ and trees planted on boulevards and in public parks



¹ This includes trees in natural areas that were not planted or maintained by the MPRB such as remote locations at Theodore Wirth Park or Minnehaha Park.



Elmer the Elm Tree teaches children from the Cityview Performing Arts Magnet School about the benefits of trees.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Provided 1,050 trees to city residents for planting in their own yards through a partnership with Tree Trust, a local nonprofit. www.treetrust.org
- Provided 45 permits to residents requesting to plant a new tree in the city's boulevard.
- In addition to planting trees on boulevards and in parks, the MPRB controlled the spread of oak wilt disease in Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden, pruned thousands of trees, and removed stumps.
- Hosted the City's official Arbor Day celebration at Lake of the Isles where more than 900 school children helped plant 125 trees. www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=986
- Continued a research partnership with the University of Minnesota to find new trees for use as ash tree replacements. A new research partnership was started with Rainbow Treecare to improve tree health. www.tre.umn.edu www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=52&prid=766&SearchID=217799
- Cooperated with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture by serving on the Emerald Ash Borer Planning Task Force and by providing trees that are monitored for the presence of the emerald ash borer.
- Converted a vacant City lot into a productive tree nursery at the Hawthorne Ecovillage. www.northsidehomefund.com

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board's Forestry Division www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=28
- Minneapolis Urban Forest www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/urbantreecanopy.asp
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2004 UFORE tree canopy study of Minneapolis www.fs.fed.us/ne/syracuse/Data/State/downloads/CityReports/Minneapolisrb166.pdf
- USDA, urban tree canopy assessment www.nrs.fs.fed.us/urban/utc/about

Combined Sewer Overflow



Eliminate Combined Sewer Overflows

Heavy rains can fill sanitary sewers beyond capacity and make them overflow into adjoining storm sewers, which then convey stormwater contaminated with raw sewage into the Mississippi River. This is called a combined sewer overflow (CSO) and it can cause health and environmental problems.

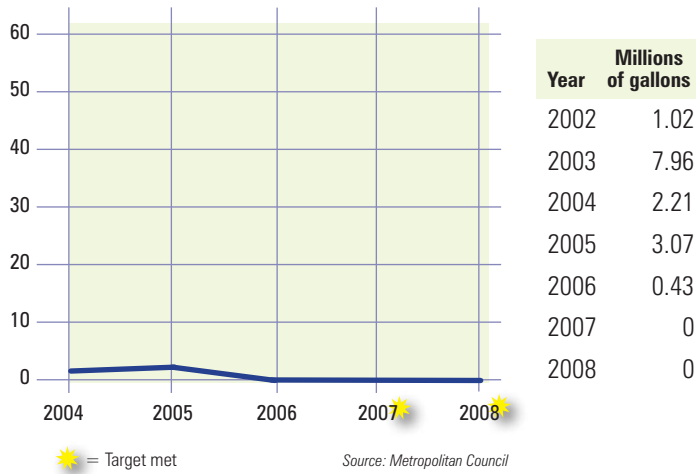
Target

Eliminate combined sewer overflows by 2014.

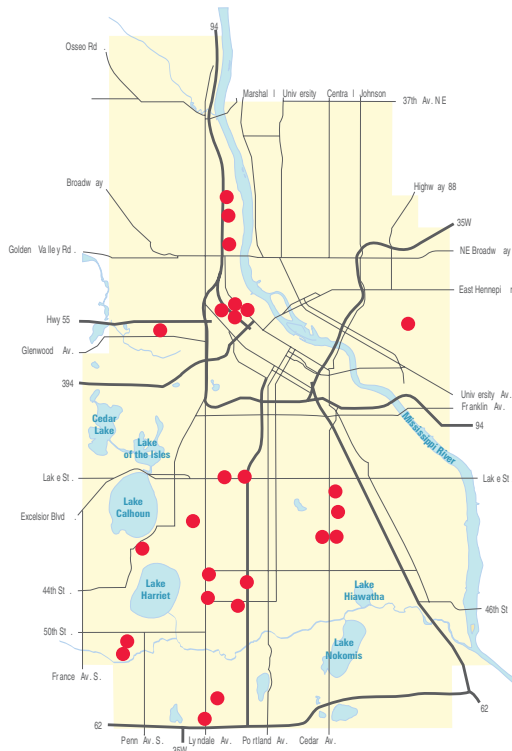
Trend Analysis

The City's earliest sewers were designed for both sewage and rainwater. The City began building new systems separately in the early 1900s and began separating combined sewers in the 1960s. Most of the connections that remain to be separated are the toughest to locate or resolve. Upgrades to the sewer system in Minneapolis have resulted in a dramatic reduction in overflows, and in 2008 for the second year in a row, there were no overflow events. While this shows very good progress gained by City and Metropolitan Council projects, it is likely also due to the lack of heavy precipitation or a water table generally lower than normal.

Combined sewer overflows into the Mississippi River in millions of gallons



2008 projects separating sanitary and storm sewers



Recent City & Community Activities

- In the past, it was permissible to connect residential downspouts and open standpipes to the sanitary system. These “rainleader” connections are no longer allowed in Minneapolis, and 78 percent of the residential properties required to disconnect rainleaders from the sanitary sewer system have done so. Under the second year of a two-year grant by the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, materials were provided to 230 homeowners to redirect rainwater onto their lawns. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cso/rainleader-ordinance.asp
- Some property owners are managing stormwater onsite by routing newly separated rainleader water to rain gardens. This strategy improves water quality in Minneapolis lakes, streams and the Mississippi River, and it can save businesses and residents money if they qualify for a Stormwater Utility Fee credit. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater/fee

- Installed meters in the area served by one of the major “interceptor” sewers in the city. An interceptor sewer is a large pipe that brings waste from smaller pipes to the wastewater treatment plant. The meters are part of an ongoing effort to identify the remaining clear water that is entering the sanitary sewer system. Clear water is primarily stormwater that should go to the stormwater system, not the sanitary sewer system. Removing clear water from the sanitary sewer system is essential for eliminating overflows.

Web Links & Resources

- City of Minneapolis combined sewer overflow information www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cso
- City of Minneapolis storm and surface water management www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater
- City of Minneapolis rainleader ordinance www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cso/ordinance.asp

Permeable Surfaces



Increase Permeable Surfaces in Minneapolis

Taking a lesson from nature, the City is working to manage rainwater where it falls. By allowing rain and melting snow to soak into the ground close to its source, the City reduces the rate and amount of water running off, makes the runoff cleaner, replenishes groundwater and reduces erosion.

Target

- If feasible, measure the baseline amount of rainwater and melting snow runoff that leaves the city or a pilot area, then set targets for reducing it.
- By 2015, increase the number of large stormwater management amenities (such as ponds and wetlands) that treat multiple properties and large areas to 50, and increase the number of smaller amenities (such as rain gardens) that treat single properties to 500.
- By 2015, increase the number of large underground stormwater treatment chambers (that treat multiple properties) to 165 and the number

of small underground stormwater treatment chambers (that treat single properties) to 200. These include grit chambers and swirl separators.

- By 2015, increase the number of green roofs to 150.

Trend Analysis

Progress toward original targets exceeded expectations, so new aggressive targets were set in 2007. The 2015 target for private rain gardens and other small area stormwater amenities has also been exceeded, so a new target will be set in 2009 once an inventory is completed.

The City has made progress increasing permeable surfaces by using the Stormwater Management Ordinance, the Stormwater Utility Credit Program, and community outreach programs.

Stormwater management facilities

in cumulative totals, includes private residential, commercial and public projects

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2015 Target
Large area amenities (such as ponds and wetlands)	20	28	28	29	50
Small area amenities (such as rain gardens)	327	753	776	832*	500*
Large area underground treatment chambers	128	142	149	150	165
Small area underground treatment chambers	93	127	143	158	200
Green roofs	29	35	39	39	150

= Target met

Source: Minneapolis Public Works

* The target for small area amenities will be increased after completion of a new, comprehensive inventory.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Trained 578 Minneapolis residents how to design and install rain gardens at 10 workshops held by Metro Blooms. www.metroblooms.org
- Completed a new green roof on the historic City Hall and Courthouse building in partnership with Hennepin County, which owns the building jointly with the City. Installed plants and a landscaping system that will allow the plants to thrive on an approximately 5,800-square-foot area. This project will save energy and reduce stormwater runoff from the rooftop. www.municipalbuildingcommission.org/Green_Roof2.html
- Under the City’s permit review process, more than 50 projects for managing stormwater were implemented on 30 large construction projects.
- Partnered with the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization to film an educational stormwater and water quality DVD designed for non-English speaking Minneapolis residents, presented in four non-English languages. It will be released in 2009.

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Stormwater and Surface Water Management www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Stormwater Manual, Chapter 12, best management practices www.pca.state.mn.us/water/stormwater/stormwater-manual.html
- Metro Blooms www.metroblooms.org
- Minnesota Water – Let’s Keep It Clean www.cleanwatermn.org
- Minnesota Green Roofs Council www.mngreenroofs.org/image/tid/2



This Minneapolis rain garden was installed by a resident trained at Metro Blooms workshop. Rain gardens reduce the rate and amount of runoff, improve water quality, promote stormwater awareness, and add habitat and visual interest.

Water Quality



Improve the Water Quality of Lakes, Streams and the Mississippi River

As the City of Lakes, Minneapolis is known for its lakes and waterways. City residents and visitors enjoy swimming, boating, fishing and walking along the lakeshores and riverbanks. Keeping our lakes, streams and rivers clean is critical to a healthy urban environment and safe recreation. Practices that manage stormwater to keep pollutants out of our waterways include rain gardens, pervious pavers and wetland areas.

Target

Water quality is measured using the Trophic State Index (TSI). The TSI measures water quality based on clarity, phosphorus level and the amount of algae. A lower TSI means clearer water.

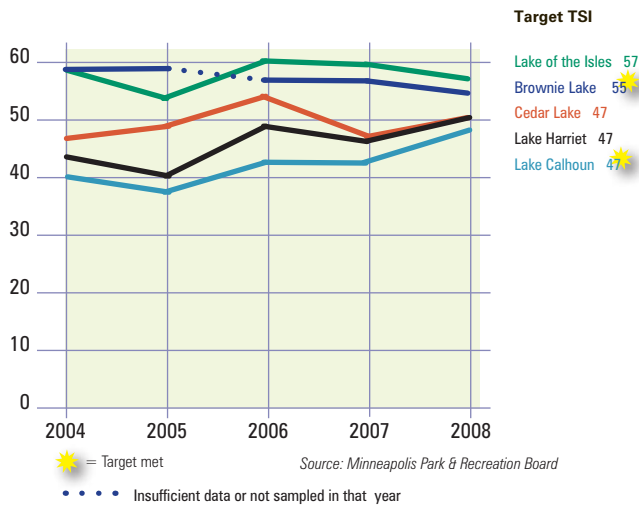
By 2014, keep Trophic State Index (TSI) levels at or below:

Brownie Lake	55 TSI	Lake Harriet	47 TSI
Lake Calhoun	47 TSI	Lake of the Isles	57 TSI
Cedar Lake	47 TSI		

Trend Analysis

Lake Calhoun remained within the TSI goals for 2014 for the fourth year in a row. Brownie Lake met the target for the first time. Cedar Lake, Lake Harriet and Lake of the Isles did not reach their targets. The TSI can vary from year to year due to a number of factors – climate, timing of rain, wind direction, temperature, aquatic plants, fish, alum treatment, watershed loading and many others. Lake Nokomis’ and Wirth Lake’s Total Maximum Daily Loads for phosphorus are being determined, and then their TSI targets will be set.

Water quality of Minneapolis lakes
in Trophic State Index (TSI) units



Recent City & Community Activities

- Improved treatment of stormwater runoff by adding rain gardens and an underground treatment unit to the new parking area at East River Flats Park.
- Built a new pervious parking area at North Mississippi Park.
- Completed the new rain gardens and pervious paving demonstration project in the Wabun area at Minnehaha Park.
- Completed three stabilization projects including the Mississippi River bluffs between 38th and 42nd streets, the Mississippi River shorelines between Plymouth and Broadway avenues, and the banks of Minnehaha Creek.
- Improved stormwater infrastructure and erosion control near Brownie Lake.
- Removed sediment from the Lake Harriet outflow area and improved a wetland treatment area that filters stormwater before it enters the lake.
- Issued permits to seal five residential wells to prevent potential groundwater contamination.
- Picked up a total of 22,500 pounds of trash at 36 sites with the help of 2,859 volunteers as part of the annual Earth Day Watershed Cleanup activities.
- Participated in the first Lake Street water festival produced by the Heart of the Beast Theater.



A barley straw installation project helps control algae in Powderhorn Lake.

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board annual report www.minneapolisparke.org/default.asp?PageID=942
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Lake Finder www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Water Resources www.pca.state.mn.us/water/index.html
- Minneapolis Stormwater Utility Fee www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/stormwater/fee

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

Green Jobs



Growing a Green Economy

This new indicator reflects the City’s intention to capture and measure the benefits of the emerging green economy. Investments in solving critical economic and environmental challenges provide strategic job opportunities for our future in areas such as green construction, transportation, food production, energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy.

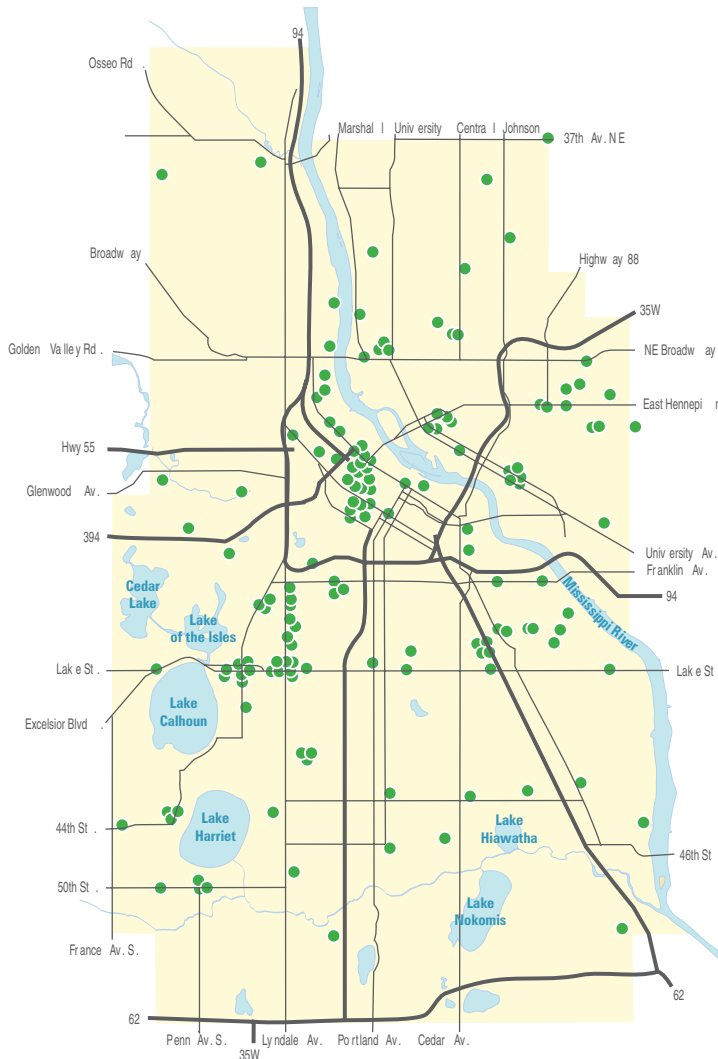
Target

A target has not yet been established as staff are still refining the definition of a green business/job and gathering baseline information on the local green economy.

Trend Analysis

The definitions of green businesses and “green-collar” jobs include activities in industries that reduce environmental impact and resource consumption. Examples include renewable energy (*solar, wind, geothermal, hydropower, biomass and biofuels*), green products (*green building, sustainable transportation and consumer and industrial products*), green services (*recycling, green retail, professional services supporting green industries such as sustainable architecture/design, renewable energy finance, legal, etc.*), and environmental conservation (*energy efficiency, water conservation and treatment, sustainable land management landscaping and local/organic farming*). Green collar jobs also provide a living wage and career ladder to move low-income workers into higher skilled occupations.

Minneapolis green business locations



Recent City & Community Activities

- Mayor Rybak co-chaired the Mayors’ Green Manufacturing Initiative in partnership with the national Blue-Green Alliance, the City of Saint Paul and more than 60 business, labor, economic development, state, university, nonprofit and public stakeholders. The collaborative developed recommendations for growing green manufacturing businesses and green-collar jobs in the Twin Cities. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/docs/MakingItGreenReport2008.pdf
- The City Council passed a resolution supporting the Minneapolis Good Jobs – Green Jobs Initiative.
- Participated in the Minnesota Green Jobs Task Force charged with developing a statewide action plan to grow the green economy. www.mngreenjobs.com
- Researched, compiled and mapped more than 150 green businesses located within Minneapolis.
- Co-hosted a Green Business Networking Event with the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce for local companies that manufacture green products and provide green services.
- Minneapolis has four Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design (LEED) certified buildings and 46 registered LEED projects. www.usgbc.org

Web Links & Resources

- Blue-Green Alliance www.bluegreenalliance.org
- Making It Green, report on green manufacturing www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/docs/MakingItGreenReport2008.pdf
- Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped
- The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/comp_plan_update.asp
- Eco metro www.ecometro.com/twincities



Minneapolis is a vital community

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Affordable Housing



Increase Affordable Housing Units

A safe place to live is among our most basic needs, but for some it is out of reach. Minneapolis works to ensure that families and individuals can live in housing that is safe and affordable. Sustainable affordable housing integrates practices such as land recycling, higher densities, proximity to transit and energy-efficient building technology.

Target

- By 2009¹:
- New construction of 960 rental housing units affordable to families with incomes up to 50 percent of median family income (MFI).
 - New construction of 250 rental housing units affordable to families with incomes up to 80 percent of MFI.
 - Renovation of 1,340 rental housing units affordable to families with incomes up to 50 percent of MFI.

- Renovation of 350 rental housing units affordable to families with incomes up to 80 percent of MFI.
- New construction of 260 ownership housing units affordable to families with incomes up to 80 percent of MFI.
- Renovation of 90 ownership housing units affordable to families with incomes up to 80 percent of MFI.

Trend Analysis

Minneapolis has significantly increased the production and preservation of affordable housing since 2003. Between 2003 and 2008, the City helped build or renovate 4,562 affordable housing units. Of these, 242 new affordable housing units were created in 2008.

¹ Condensed target, from the 2005 to 2009 Consolidated Plan.

Affordable housing units in Minneapolis

Rental	Completed in 2007	Completed in 2008	2005-2008 totals	2009 target
New units affordable at 0-30% MFI ²	45	60	452	520
Renovated units at 0-30% MFI	154	175	791*	740
New units at 31-50% MFI	96	114	456*	440
Renovated units at 31-50% MFI	28	92	259	600
New units at 51-80% MFI	143	56	433*	250
Renovated units at 51-80% MFI	1	121	371*	350

Ownership	Completed in 2007	Completed in 2008	2005-2008 totals	2009 target
New units affordable at 31-50% MFI	43	4	91	110
Renovated units at 31-50% MFI	0	4	97*	30
New units at 51-80% MFI	13	8	118	150
Renovated units at 51-80% MFI	2	8	31	60

* = Target met

Source: Minneapolis Community Planning & Economic Development

² Median family income (MFI). In 2008 the Twin Cities metro MFI was \$80,900.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Completed redevelopment of the historic Ivy Tower hotel that now includes 18 units of affordable housing. www.ivympls.com
- Completed 37 units of new affordable housing as part of the Vantage Flats development including green design features and easy access to the Hiawatha light-rail transit (LRT) line with walking access to the Veterans Administration Medical Center. www.vantageflats.com
- Worked with developers to increase production of affordable housing using tools such as the low-income housing tax credits, housing revenue bonds and the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Combining these resources with other county, state and federal resources is critical to the production of decent, safe and affordable housing.
- Completed 14 federal environmental reviews for future affordable housing projects.
- Received environmental cleanup grants for 13 future affordable housing developments.
- Encouraged housing developers to incorporate Minnesota Green Communities building criteria city-funded housing proposals. Housing developers are required to do so for new multifamily construction projects. www.mngreencommunities.org



Van Cleave Apartments is a new affordable housing project in the Como neighborhood.

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Affordable Housing Programs www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/housing-development.asp
- Higher Density Corridor Program www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/higher_density_home.asp

Homelessness



Ending Homelessness

Homelessness is a difficult problem facing communities across the U.S. and on any given night 9,200 people are experiencing homelessness in Minnesota.¹ Not only does homelessness destabilize the lives of these individuals, it also creates additional costs in emergency health care, shelter and food services. Innovative strategies at the state, county and city levels focus on preventing homelessness and providing housing opportunities linked with supportive services such as chemical dependency treatment, employment assistance and mental health resources.

¹ Wilder Statewide Survey 2006

Target

End homelessness by the end of 2016.

Trend Analysis

More individuals and families are falling into homelessness in Hennepin County with the economy's decline. In 2008, there were 1,251 families in county-funded shelters compared to 1,032 in 2007, a 21-percent increase. Families are also staying in shelters longer with the average length of stay increasing from 35 to 38 days, partly due to the lack of employment opportunities.

The most recent street count² of unsheltered people in Minneapolis found 235 people in January 2009, a 22-percent improvement from 300 the year before. While factors such as the weather may have impacted the number, it could represent a decline in people sleeping outside due to targeted housing and outreach efforts.

² Heading Home Hennepin

Affordable³ housing opportunities developed in Hennepin County during 2008^{4,5}

	Youths	Singles	Families	Total
Benchmark	100	250	390	740
Achieved	36	313	70	419

Source: Hennepin County

³ Affordable to people with income 30 percent and below the Metro Median Income.

⁴ This includes both new construction and access to existing rental units.

⁵ Please note: Minneapolis-only data do not exist.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Worked in collaboration with Hennepin County to provide more than 2,600 households with homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services.
- Housed 43 people directly off the streets at St. Stephen's Shelter and reduced downtown arrests of people with no permanent address by 14 percent through a City-funded street outreach initiative.
- Created 419 new housing opportunities in Hennepin County for people experiencing homelessness at 30 percent and below the Metro Median Income through new construction and use of rental subsidies. This is in addition to the 1,128 total housing opportunities created during the first two years of the Heading Home Hennepin initiative.
- Partnered with hundreds of service providers and thousands of volunteers to hold two Project Homeless Connect events serving more than 4,000 people who were homeless or near homeless. Attendees received customized housing referrals, on-site dental and medical care, employment and education contacts, state identification, and other hard-to-come-by services.



A mom and her child come to Project Homeless Connect to access dental assistance and other services.

Web Links & Resources

For more information on Project Homeless Connect or to sign up, donate or volunteer
www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org

The 10-Year Plan, reports and video
www.headinghomehennepin.org

Block Clubs



Block Clubs

Minneapolis has a long tradition of active apartment and block clubs working together to prevent crime, build relationships between those who live and work on a block, and improve neighborhood quality of life. Minneapolis has been a national leader in block club participation for more than 25 years, with National Night Out (NNO) providing the structure for maintaining existing block clubs and encouraging new ones to form.

Target

Increase the number of block clubs to 875.

Trend Analysis

The number of block clubs in the city continues to grow, exceeding the target. All neighborhoods currently participate in the Minneapolis Police Department's block club program. In some neighborhoods, there is a block club on nearly every block. There were 2,310 block clubs by the end of 2008, of which 891 achieved active status by holding at least two events during the year. More than 60,000 Minneapolis residents gathered at 1,111 National Night Out events last summer.

Block clubs in Minneapolis in 2008

by precinct

Precinct	Active ¹	Not active	Total
1	12	9	21
2	56	120	176
3	320	559	879
4	226	303	529
5	277	428	705
Total	891	1,419	2,310*

* = Target met

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

¹ A block club is considered "active" if it holds at least two events during the year.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Sponsored a citywide home security demonstration to teach residents about the important role of block clubs, the basics of preventing crime through environmental design, and how to effectively secure their homes.
- Facilitated a citywide workshop training more than 100 residents on personal safety skills and nonviolent communication.
- The 1st Precinct partnered with business block clubs to reduce crime and opened the Block E Safety Center, which resulted in a 15-percent decrease in violent crime and a 22-percent decrease in robberies.
- The 2nd Precinct strengthened relationships with homeowners, students and property managers by meeting quarterly with student housing managers and training 15 students to be block club leaders.
- Reduced violence in the 3rd Precinct by building partnerships with police, probation officers, block clubs, neighborhood associations and licensing staff and implementing strategies such as improving lighting, community impact statements, addressing problem properties and increasing use of 911.
- Worked with block clubs in the 4th Precinct to achieve a 30-percent decrease in homicides, a 14-percent decrease in aggravated assaults and a 10-percent decrease in robberies.
- The 5th Precinct partnered with the Nicollet Avenue Revitalization project, Lyndale and Kingfield neighborhood groups, Nicollet-East Harriet Business Association and community block club members to reduce crime and increase business activity.



Neighborhood block events offer a chance for the community and Minneapolis police officers to interact.

Web Links & Resources

Minneapolis block clubs www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach/blockclubs-home.asp

Minneapolis Community Crime Prevention/Safety for Everyone www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/safe

National Night Out www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno

Brownfield Sites



Clean Up Brownfield Sites

Brownfields are current or former commercial or industrial properties that are difficult to redevelop because of actual or suspected contamination. Minneapolis was among the first cities in the country to recycle land by cleaning it up for redevelopment, open space or parks.

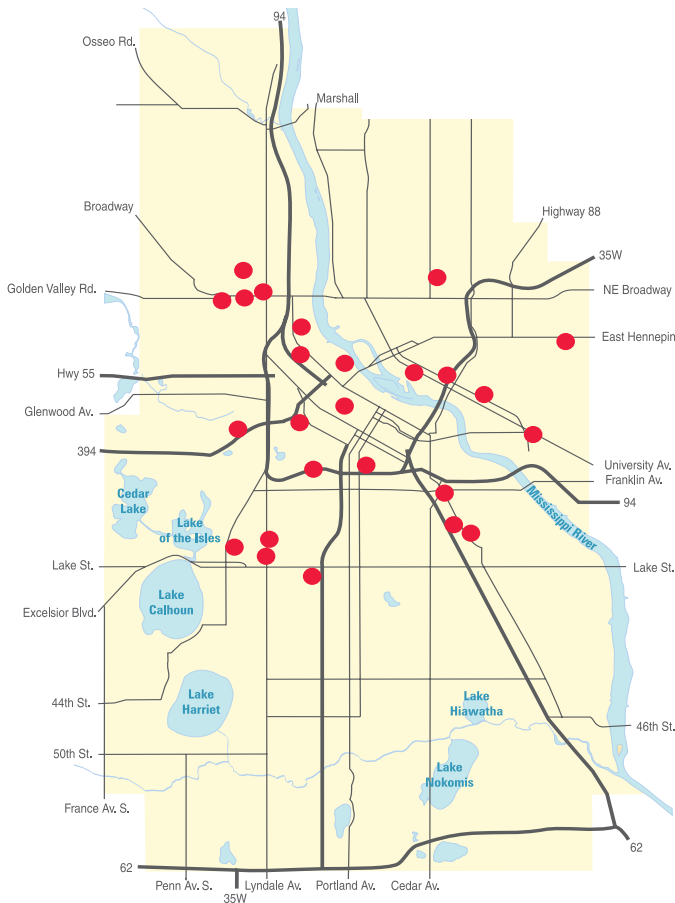
Target

Clean up 100 sites from 2004 to 2014.

Minneapolis brownfields grants summary

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total	Target
Number of sites	11	11	17	17	26	82	100
Total acres	46.5	36.0	39.1	56.1	61.9	239.6	N/A
Total awarded (in millions)	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.1	\$ 5.7	\$ 4.3	\$ 22.7	N/A

2008 remediation grant recipient locations



The remediation grant recipients are Broadway Plaza, Dunwoody Flats, Crown Iron/1361 Tyler Street NE, 807-817 Fourth St. SE, Bassett Creek Valley-Linden Yards, Bystrom/Franklin Station, Former Acme Tag & Label Site, North Branch Library (Emerge Community), Salem Lutheran Church, Standard Heating & Air Conditioning, Impact Mailing, [Former] Ken's Metal Finishing, 747-800 N. Third St., Walker Apartments, 200 First St. N., East Bank Mills, Sydney Hall & Dinkydome, Huron Flats, 2600 Minnehaha, Digigraphics, Exodus Apartments, 2900 Lyndale Ave. S., Soo Line Building II, Alliance Addition, Como Student Community Cooperative, and Fremont Flats.

Trend Analysis

Minneapolis continues its strong brownfield redevelopment program. Property owners and developers increasingly turn to grantors such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, the Metropolitan Council and Hennepin County for the type of financial assistance needed to reduce the cost of reusing urban brownfield sites. Since 2004, projects located in Minneapolis have been awarded grants to clean up 82 sites totaling 240 acres.

Recent City & Community Activities

- Facilitated \$4.35 million in grants to clean up a record number of individual sites (26) and a record number of acres (61.9) of contaminated land. When cleaned, the new construction activity on these sites will result in new or retained jobs, new or renovated commercial and industrial space, and new housing units (many of which will be affordable).
- Received \$400,000 in grant funds from the EPA that will be used to conduct preliminary assessments of contaminated sites located anywhere within the city's boundaries.
- Worked with the EPA to designate the South Minneapolis Residential Soil Contamination Site as a federal Superfund site. This accomplishment will result in a three- to four-year EPA cleanup project, scheduled to start in 2009, to remove and dispose of the top 12 inches of arsenic-contaminated soil from approximately 500 Minneapolis residential properties. The designation also positioned the site to benefit from \$10 to \$25 million in 2009 federal Recovery Act funding that will accelerate the hazardous waste cleanup already underway and stimulate the local economy by creating jobs. www.epa.gov/region5/sites/cmcheartland

Web Links & Resources

- Minneapolis Brownfields Program www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/brownfields.asp
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's Contamination Investigation and Cleanup Program www.deed.state.mn.us/Community/contam/index.htm
- Metropolitan Council's Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA) www.metrocouncil.org/grants/tbra/TBRAFAQ.htm
- Hennepin County's Environmental Response Fund (ERF) www.hennepin.us/ERF

Homicide



Reduce the Homicide Rate

Violent crime is tragic and one of the most critical ways a community assesses its public safety. To address violent crime, the City is focusing on seizing guns and reducing gang violence by increasing collaboration with criminal justice agencies, community groups and corporate partners. The City is committed to violence prevention programs and initiatives that expand cultural understanding and focus on our youths and communities.

Target

Based on a five-year baseline and the estimated impact of new and ongoing prevention activities, the preliminary goal is to reduce the annual homicide rate to no more than 11 homicides per 100,000 city residents.

Trend Analysis

☀ Minneapolis' homicide rate met the target by reducing homicides from 15 per 100,000 residents in 2001 to 9.7 per 100,000 residents in 2008.

There were 39 homicides in 2008, down 17 percent from 2007 and the lowest number since 1985. Investigators solved 60 percent of the 2008 Minneapolis homicide cases, which is slightly below the national average of 61 percent. Violent crime with juvenile suspects was down 29 percent since 2007, and overall juvenile crime was down 17 percent.

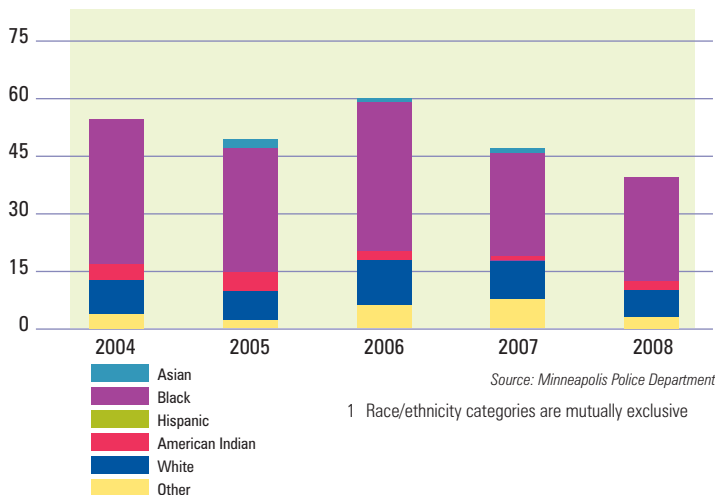
☀ = Target met

2008 homicides by neighborhood

Bryant	1	Longfellow	1
Cedar-Riverside	3	Near North	3
Cleveland	1	North Loop	2
Cooper	1	Phillips West	2
Downtown East	1	Powderhorn Park	1
East Phillips	1	Standish-Ericsson	2
Elliot Park	1	Ventura Village	1
Folwell	4	Waite Park	1
Harrison	1	Webber-Camden	1
Hawthorne	5	Whittier	1
Jordan	2	Willard-Hay	1
Kingfield	2	Total	39

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Homicide victims in Minneapolis¹



Recent City & Community Activities

- The Juvenile Criminal Apprehension Team (JCAT) participated in the Minneapolis Anti-Violence Initiative to ensure that juvenile probationers comply with their probation. JCAT resources focus on juveniles with a history of violent behaviors and misdemeanor assaults with the goal of holding them accountable at the first sign of risk for violence.
- Minneapolis police worked cooperatively with Somali community members to solve three homicides involving Somali men and to decrease shootings.
- The Police Department added two new detectives to form the Homicide Cold Case Unit. The unit has submitted DNA to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for testing and matching on 30 cold cases and successfully matched DNA to a 1989 homicide.
- Police confiscated 1,003 firearms citywide.
- The Police Department continued to target repeat violent offenders with the Violent Offender Task Force (VOTF) by addressing sources of illegal guns entering the city. Almost 70 guns were seized and the people responsible for the gun trafficking were indicted federally.
- VOTF established a greater working relationship with similar task forces in Chicago. Increased coordination has helped interrupt the cycle of gang violence retaliations and solve additional crimes.
- Used the public safety camera and Shot Spotter systems to identify suspects and provide evidence in court against offenders.

Web Links & Resources

Minneapolis Community Crime Prevention
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/outreach

Minneapolis Police Department
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police

Students in the Arts



Increase the Number of High School Students Involved in the Arts

The challenges of the 21st century are placing greater demands on our graduates to imagine, create and innovate. The arts play an important role in developing these skills in our students, and they provide lifelong benefits. Involvement in the arts increases student achievement and builds a thriving community.

Target

Ensure that 95 percent of Minneapolis Public High School students take at least one arts class in high school by 2014. Art classes include the visual arts such as painting, the performing arts such as theater, dance and music or media arts such as graphic design.

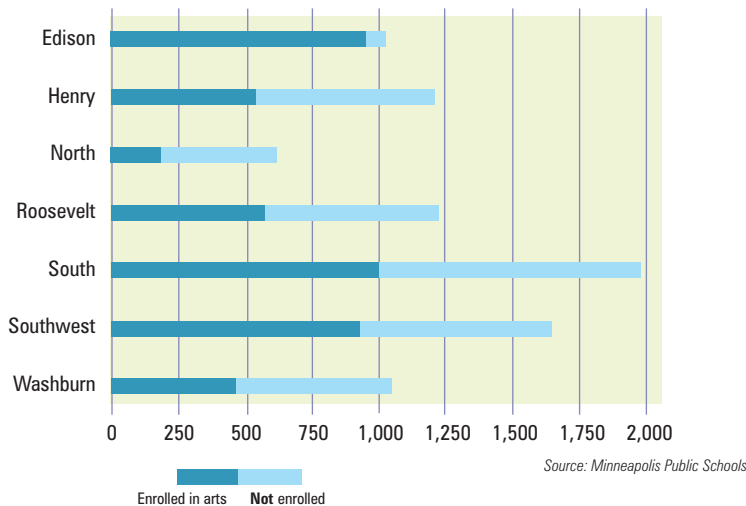
Trend Analysis

Beginning in 2008, the state of Minnesota requires each graduating senior to have completed one credit in an arts course (one full year) during four years in high school.

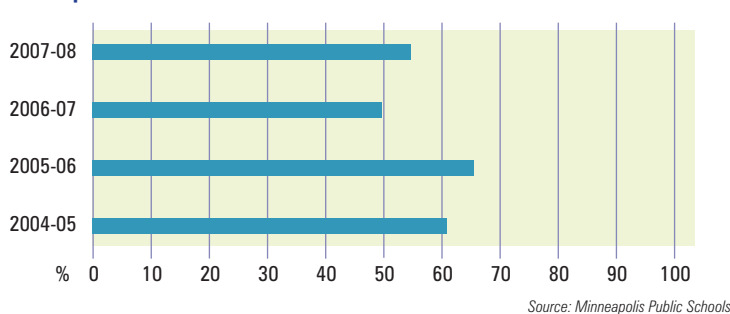
Of the students enrolled at the seven Minneapolis public high schools, 54 percent were enrolled in at least one arts class during the 2007-2008 school year, up from 49 percent the prior year. Notably, at Edison High School, the percentage of students participating in arts classes rose to 94 percent in 2007-2008, up from 50 percent the prior year. This was the result of adding a music program to the curriculum.

Recent City & Community Activities

Minneapolis Public Schools arts class enrollments, 2006-2007 school year in students



Minneapolis Public Schools arts class enrollment



- The Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) Board of Education and the VHI Save The Music Foundation supported the rebuilding of district instrumental music programs. In 2008, band and orchestra programs were reintroduced to Nellie Stone Johnson and Windom Elementary. www.vh1savethemusic.com/about
- The MPS Comprehensive Arts program received its second Department of Education Professional Development for Arts Educators grant. This grant partners MPS and the University of Minnesota to provide music and visual art specialists in 30 high poverty, kindergarten through fifth grade and kindergarten through eighth grade schools. The partnership will help ensure all students achieve the state and national music and visual art standards.
- MPS offered an arts focus to summer school curriculum at several sites to increase summer school enrollment.
- MPS sponsored the 14th annual Viva City Arts Festival featuring dance and choir performances at Orchestra Hall to celebrate the artistic achievements of its kindergarten through 12th-grade students. A visual arts and poetry exhibition at the Minneapolis Central Library showcased standards-based artwork and poetry from students in grades six through 12. Community partners for this event included Achieve Minneapolis, The Family Housing Fund, the Louvre It or Leave It Gallery and Utrecht Art Supply. finearts.mpls.k12.mn.us/printview/Basic.html

Web Links & Resources

- Arts for Academic Achievement
aaa.mpls.k12.mn.us
- MPS Arts Education Minnesota
finearts.mpls.k12.mn.us

Graduation Rate



Increase the High School Graduation Rate in Minneapolis Public Schools

The high school graduation rate is an important measure of a community's success in one of its most important responsibilities: educating children and preparing them for successful futures. City government, though not primarily responsible for schools, plays an important role by partnering with schools, residents and employers to improve student achievement.

Target

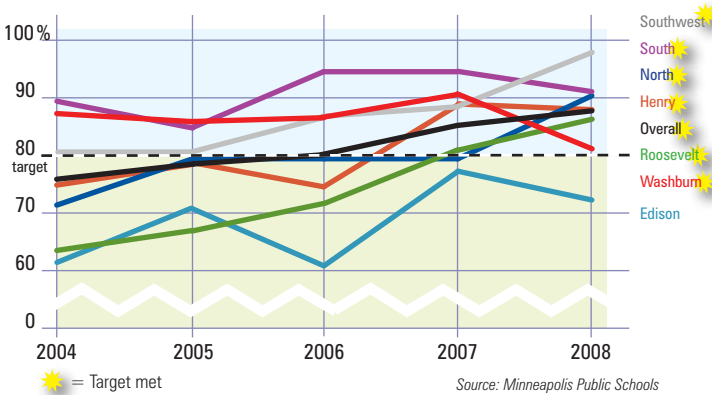
Increase the average high school graduation rate to 80 percent by 2008 for students at the seven largest public high schools: Edison, Henry, North, Roosevelt, South, Southwest and Washburn.

Trend Analysis

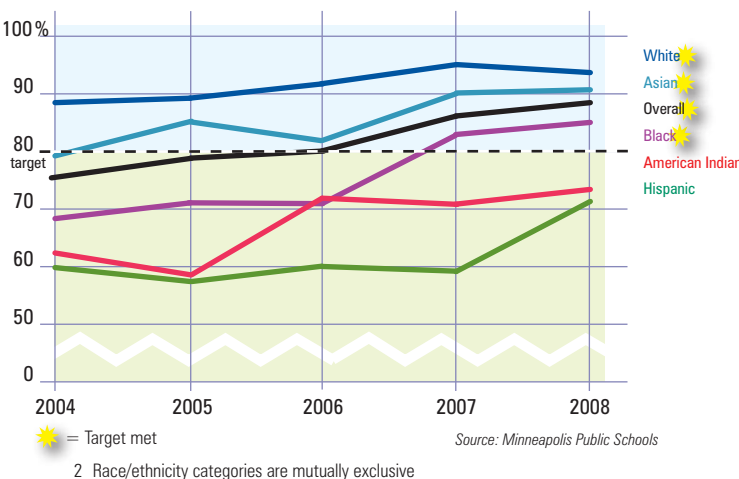
The overall graduation rate of the seven high schools exceeded the target with an average of 88 percent in 2008. The graduation rates for individual schools ranged from 73 percent to 97 percent. Despite improvements, racial and ethnic disparities persist.¹

¹ The graduation rate is computed by dividing the number of graduates in a given year by the number of graduates plus dropouts during the four years of high school.

Graduation rate of Minneapolis public high schools



Graduation rate of Minneapolis public high school students ²



Recent City & Community Activities

- Sponsored the summer employment of 1,850 youths. Of those, 1,232 youths participated in the STEP-UP program. Youths that participate in summer employment programs tend to have higher school attendance and are more likely to graduate. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/stepup.asp
- Hired 11 teenage students for the Tobacco Compliance Program and referred these students to the Alcohol Compliance Program for hire with the Minneapolis Police Department after graduation.
- Funded 14 minigrants and hired a part-time coordinator to expand the Safe Routes to Schools initiative by promoting biking and walking at Minneapolis Public Schools. The initiative aims to increase physical activity, improve student attendance and academic achievement, and reduce parental driving and school transportation costs. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/saferoutes.pdf
- The Minnesota Visiting Nurse Agency offered pilot flu shot clinics at eight Minneapolis public schools to vaccinate more children.
- City leaders and staff participated in the I Know I Can: College Awareness Day by reading a nationally acclaimed children's book about going to college to third graders in Minneapolis public elementary schools. The event connected youths with adults from the community and motivated students to think about how adults can help them succeed.

Web Links & Resources

Minneapolis Public Schools
www.mpls.k12.mn.us

Workers Earn a Livable Wage



Ensure Workers Earn A Living Wage

When workers earn enough money to support themselves and provide for their families' basic needs, the entire community benefits. City policies and jobs programs are designed to increase the skills of residents and the number of households earning a living wage. The Job Linkage program encourages city employers receiving City financial assistance to hire city residents. The Minneapolis Living Wage Ordinance and Minnesota Business Subsidy Act require recipients of business subsidies and contractors to create living wage jobs if the value of assistance or contract meets a certain dollar threshold.

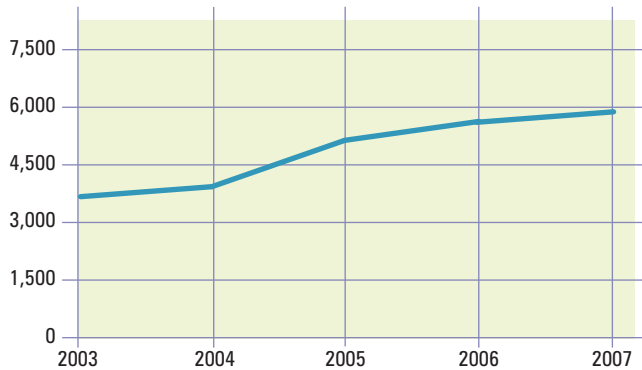
Target

The City has not yet established a target for this indicator. The proposed goal is to increase the percentage of Minneapolis residents earning a living wage (of those working full time or at least 35 hours per week) to 75 percent.

Trend Analysis

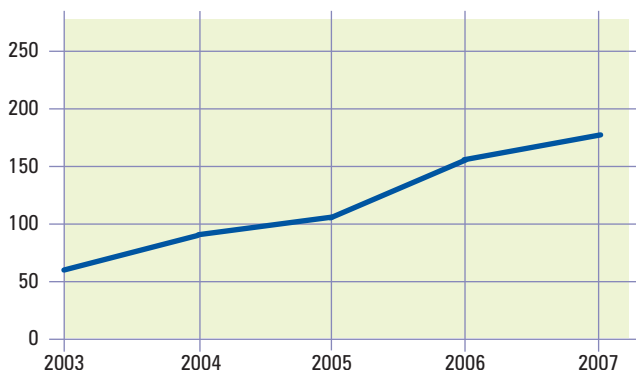
Census data for 2007 indicate that approximately 117,000 residents earned at least \$26,850 that year for full-time work, corresponding to the City's living wage rate of at least \$12.91 per hour. This was 71 percent of the 164,600 residents who reported working at least 35 hours per week. These numbers are down slightly from 2006, when approximately 129,000 residents (81 percent of those employed full time) earned a living wage. This decline is partly due to the increase in the living wage threshold, from \$10.58 per hour in 2006 to \$12.91 in 2007. By City Council resolution, the living wage rate changes annually to correspond to 130 percent of the poverty rate for a family of four as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

New hires at or above living wage via City job-linkage agreements
in number of workers



Source: Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development

Businesses participating in City job-linkage agreements
in number of businesses



Source: Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development

Recent City & Community Activities

- Placed 1,076 people into full-time jobs through the City's job placement programs. Eliminated the gap between the city's and the metro area's unemployment rates by the end of 2008.
- Executed four new job-linkage agreements with Minneapolis companies that receive assistance from the City. These agreements set five-year hiring goals for the companies and connect them with neighborhood organizations. Linkage agreements emphasize living-wage jobs for Minneapolis residents.
- Surveyed 175 job-linkage companies that reported hiring 7,933 people during 2007. Of those, almost 75 percent made the area's living wage of \$12.91 per hour. Of those hired, 27 percent lived in Minneapolis and 72 percent of those Minneapolis residents earned at least the area's living wage.
- Visited 53 Minneapolis businesses with job-linkage agreements to promote living-wage hiring and training.

Web Links & Resources

Minneapolis Employment and Training Program
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/metp

Minneapolis Employment and Training Program annual report
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/metp-reports-home.asp

Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department
www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/economic_development_home.asp

Minneapolis

living well

Published May 2009

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Cover photos of biking on the parkway and farmers market
courtesy of Meet Minneapolis



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