

Data and Demographic Work Group – Memo to City of Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission, May 2023

The data and demographic work group was created by the Human Rights Commission for the City of Grand Rapids to:

- *Gather or develop demographic data.* From this data we are to identify the most significant human rights concerns in our community, and
- *Develop strategies, activities, and policy recommendations* to address said concerns.

The work group utilized several sources to review data and demographics for Grand Rapids and surrounding area, including:

- MN Compass. (n.d.-a) *Northland Region Data*. MN Compass (Wilder Research). <https://www.mncompass.org/profiles/region/northland>
- MN Compass. (n.d.-b) *Grand Rapids Data*. MN Compass (Wilder Research). <https://www.mncompass.org/profiles/city/grand-rapids>
- Egbert, A. (2017). *Minnesotans with Disabilities: Demographic and Economic Characteristics*. MN State Demographic Center, MN Department of Administration. https://mn.gov/admin/assets/minnesotans-with-disabilities-popnotes-march2017_tcm36-283045_tcm36-283045.pdf
- Data USA. (n.d.) *Grand Rapids MN*. Data USA (Deloitte & Datawheel). <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/grand-rapids-mn>

After reviewing the data, this work group recommends to the Human Rights Commission to further investigate two areas of interest:

- **Disability** – defined as including, but not limited to: hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, independent living difficulties. *Further explanation of these can be found in Egbert (2017).*
 - 18.7% of the City of Grand Rapids population has a disability (MN Compass, n.d.-b).
 - This is higher than what is reported at the County level, Northland Region and state level, at 17%, 15.3% and 12% respectively
 - Ambulatory and Cognitive disabilities are the most prevalent disabilities in Minnesota (Egbert, 2017)
- **Poverty & Income** – including workforce, housing, education, and other connections that impact those experiencing poverty
 - Gender gap between median earnings (Data USA, n.d.)
 - Men = \$40,649 (+/- \$6,100)
 - Women = \$26,050 (+/- \$5,523)
 - 48.5% of households in GR make \$49,999 or less for household income (MN Compass, n.d.-b)
 - 14.1% of people have income below the poverty level
 - 22.5% of people have income 100-199 of poverty level (still qualify for most aid and assistance programs)

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- 18.2% of the population for whom poverty status is determined live below the poverty line, a number that is higher than the national average of 12.8% (Data USA, n.d.)
- Cost-burdened households – *homes that spend more than 30% of their income on rent, mortgage and other housing needs* (MN Compass, n.d.-b)
 - Owner households – 22.2%
 - Rent households – 56.5%

Possible Recommendations

- How might we use social media or our web page as a place for resource compilation with accessible links?
- Inviting local speakers
 - Workforce – IEDC
 - Local businesses that provide mental health services
- Connecting more intentionally with the other City commissions
 - Possible opportunity for the programming & presentations group?
- City Council Presentation
 - How has the City used 2020 Census Data?
 - Notice or information flow from us?

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Demographic Overview / Profile

Population – 11,126

AGE	COUNT	PERCENT
Under 5 years	554	5.0%
5-9 years	760	6.9%
10-14 years	642	5.8%
15-17 years	412	3.7%
18-24 years	672	6.1%
25-34 years	1,154	10.4%
35-44 years	1,676	15.2%
45-54 years	1,203	10.9%
55-64 years	1,463	13.2%
65-74 years	1,361	12.3%
75-84 years	802	7.3%
85 years and older	357	3.2%
SEX	COUNT	PERCENT
Male	5,296	47.9%
Female	5,760	52.1%
RACE / ETHNICITY	COUNT	PERCENT
White	10,257	92.8%
Of Color	705	6.4%
Black or African American alone	suppressed	
American Indian and Alaskan Native alone	183	1.7%
Asian or Pacific Islander alone	suppressed	
Other alone	suppressed	
Two or more races alone	370	3.3%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	156	1.4%
DISABILITY	COUNT	PERCENT
Population w/ a disability	1,985	18.7%