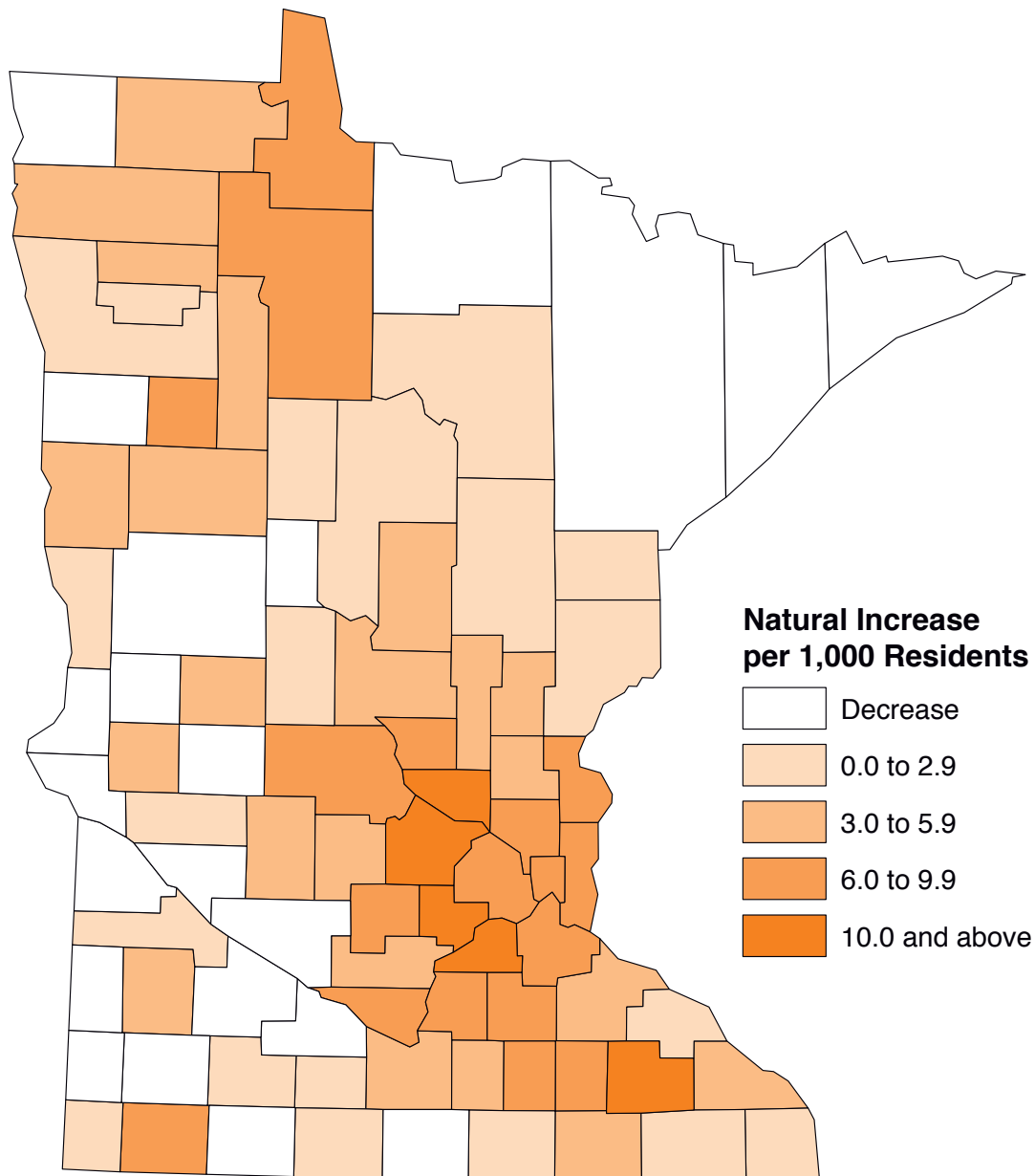


Natural Rate of Increase, 2004

Natural increase shows the rate at which the population is increasing (or decreasing) due to natural causes – births minus deaths divided by the population. The highest increase for 2004 can be seen in the western suburbs, Olmsted County and in the north central counties, while several northeast, southwest and western counties showed a natural decrease: more deaths than births. This does not, however, take into consideration immigration, which is driving population growth in many rural counties.



Data source: Minnesota Department of Health
 2004 Minnesota Health Statistics Annual Summary
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