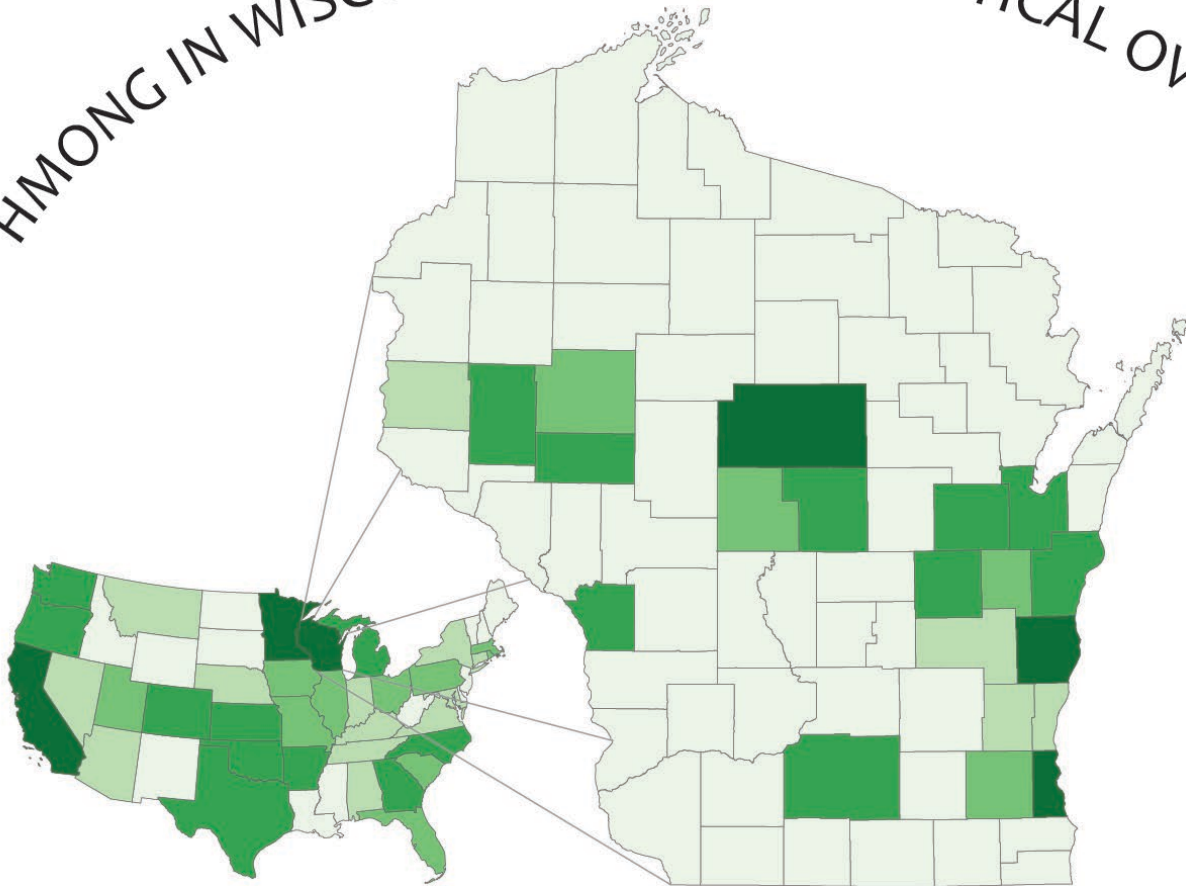




# HMONG IN WISCONSIN

A 2020 STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

# HMONG IN WISCONSIN: A 2020 STATISTICAL OVERVIEW



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## ABOUT THIS REPORT

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We are pleased to present this report on the Hmong population in Wisconsin prepared by the Applied Population Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

The charts and figures in this report are based mostly on the U.S. 2020 Decennial Census and the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS). The report presents characteristics of the Hmong population such as size and distribution, age, types of households and families, education, income and poverty, employment, housing, and health care.

Short explanations accompany each chart and map, highlighting details in the data that might be of interest to readers. Each explanation also contains information about the original data source. At the end of the report is a table section that provides additional data for selected figures.

We want to note that the Census data are based on total population counts, but the ACS data are from smaller “samples” of the Hmong population. For the ACS data, the numbers listed are estimates. The true numbers could be smaller or larger than the estimate. You can get more information on the reliability of the ACS estimates and their “margins of error” by following the source link provided for the ACS tables.

Additionally, beginning with Census 2000, people could identify themselves as multiracial and could identify multiple countries of origin under the Asian race category. However, to keep the information in this report succinct and consistent with the previous chartbook, most of the Census and ACS sourced charts, maps, and tables show those who identified as Hmong alone. Very few people who identified as Hmong also identified as multiracial, so the statistics on the multiracial Hmong population are very similar to statistics that include people who identify as Hmong alone.

The principal author of this report is Roz Klaas (rmklaas@wisc.edu) of the Applied Population Laboratory. With appreciation and thanks, the author acknowledges the advice and assistance provided by Raeven Chandler, Dave Long, David Egan-Robertson, Caitlin Bourbeau and Randy Stoecker of the APL, as well as Peng Her, Mai Zong Vue, and Cua Xiong with The Hmong Institute, Inc. Each of them lent immense skills and talents in preparing data, constructing tables and charts, and editing text. The Hmong Institute provided the cover photograph. For more information about this report, please visit <https://apl.wisc.edu>.

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## 2020 Executive Summary

Members of the Hmong population continue to play an important role in Wisconsin's communities. Our report highlights the most recent demographic, social, and economic changes among Wisconsin's Hmong residents, and where possible, provides comparisons to Wisconsin's total population. Data for the report come mostly from Decennial Censuses (2000, 2010, and 2020) and the 2021 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) estimates. These and other data sources are noted in the major findings below and throughout the full report.

**Hmong Population and Identity** – based on the 2020 Decennial Census and 2021 5-year ACS estimates.

- In 2020 the Wisconsin population of persons who identified as Hmong alone or Hmong in combination with some other race was 62,331.
- Wisconsin's Hmong alone population increased from 47,127 persons in 2010 to 59,238 in 2020.
- The Hmong population increased from 0.8% of the Wisconsin population in 2010 to 1.0% in 2020.
- In 2020, the Hmong population was the largest Asian racial ethnic group in Wisconsin, comprising 33% of all Asian persons in the state. The next largest Asian group, Asian Indian, accounted for 21% of the Asian population.
- Nine counties had Hmong populations of more than 2,000 people in 2020: Brown, Dane, Eau Claire, La Crosse, Marathon, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Sheboygan, and Winnebago.
- Milwaukee County had the largest total Hmong population with 13,653 people, up from 10,917 ten years prior.
- Marathon County continued to have the highest proportion of Hmong residents (5.1%).
- Five additional counties had Hmong populations that made up greater than 2% of the total population: Sheboygan (4.5%), La Crosse (3.2%), Eau Claire (2.7%), Outagamie (2.3%), and Dunn (2.3%).
- Most Hmong residents in Wisconsin were born in the United States (62%), and 90% of those born outside of the U.S. have been here at least a decade.

**Age, Household Composition, and Housing** - based on the 2020 Decennial Census and 2021 5-year ACS estimates.

- The median age for the Hmong population was 25.6 years, whereas the median age for the total Wisconsin population was 39.6.
- Between the 2010 Census and the 2021 5-year ACS estimates, the average Hmong family size shrank from 5.4 to 4.7 persons. The average Hmong household shrank from 5.0 to 4.0 persons.
- Hmong women aged 15 to 50 were almost twice as likely to have had a birth in the past year, compared to all Wisconsin women in that age range (9% and 5%, respectively).
- Four percent of Hmong women between ages 15 and 19 were married, compared to one percent of Wisconsin women in that age range.
- Compared with the total population in Wisconsin, Hmong households were much more likely to be comprised of family households (these are households made up of related individuals).

**Income, Poverty, and Employment** - based on 2021 5-year ACS estimates.

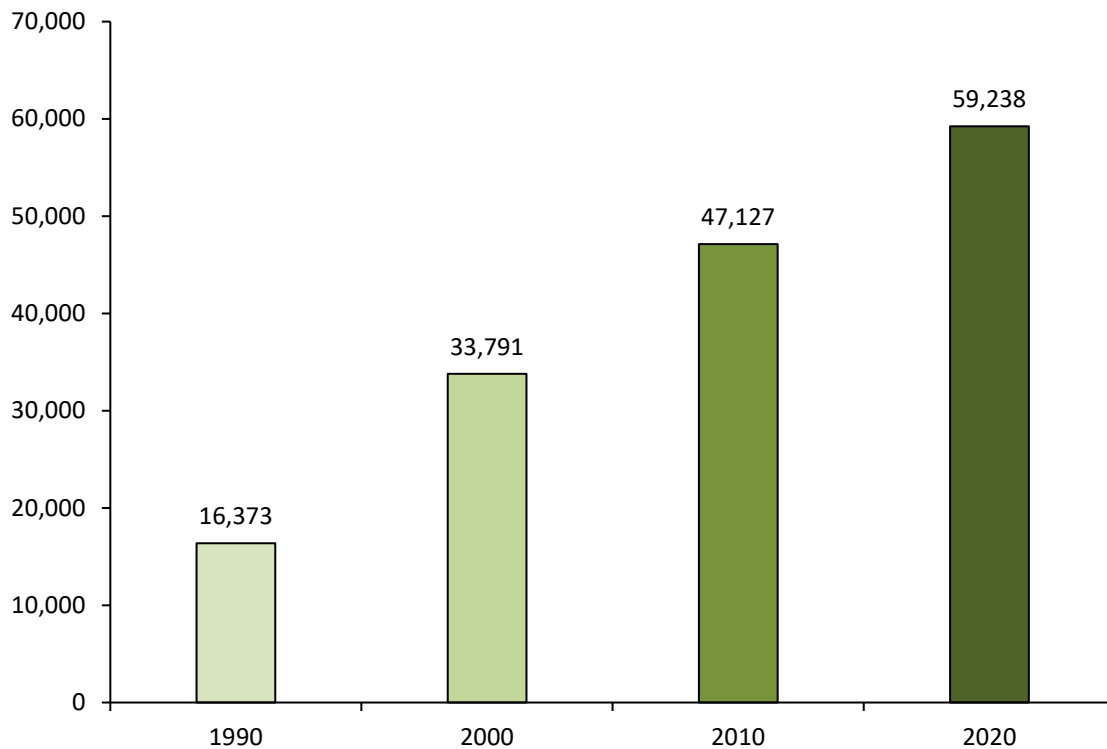
- Median income for Hmong households was greater than for total population households, \$72,698 compared to \$67,080, respectively. However, Hmong households tended to be larger, so household incomes typically supported more individuals.
- Compared to all Wisconsin men, median earnings for Hmong men were \$15,855 less. Compared to all Wisconsin women, Hmong women earned \$8,031 less.
- The share of the Hmong population in poverty declined to 13%. Eleven years earlier the share of the Hmong population in poverty was 20%.
- Hmong unemployment decreased to 3% (2021 5-year ACS) compared with 8% eleven years earlier.
- Compared with the total Wisconsin population, Hmong workers were more than twice as likely to be employed in Manufacturing (38% of Hmong workers, 18% of all workers).

**Education and Language** - based on 2021 5-year ACS estimates.

- Twenty-two percent of Hmong females aged 25 and older had not completed any schooling. Eleven percent of Hmong males aged 25 and older had not completed any schooling.
- Twenty-one percent of the Hmong Population aged 25 and older had a bachelor's degree or higher, up from 13% eleven years prior.
- Among Hmong people who did not speak English at home, 83% spoke English *well* or *very well*. Seventeen percent spoke English *not well* or *not at all*.



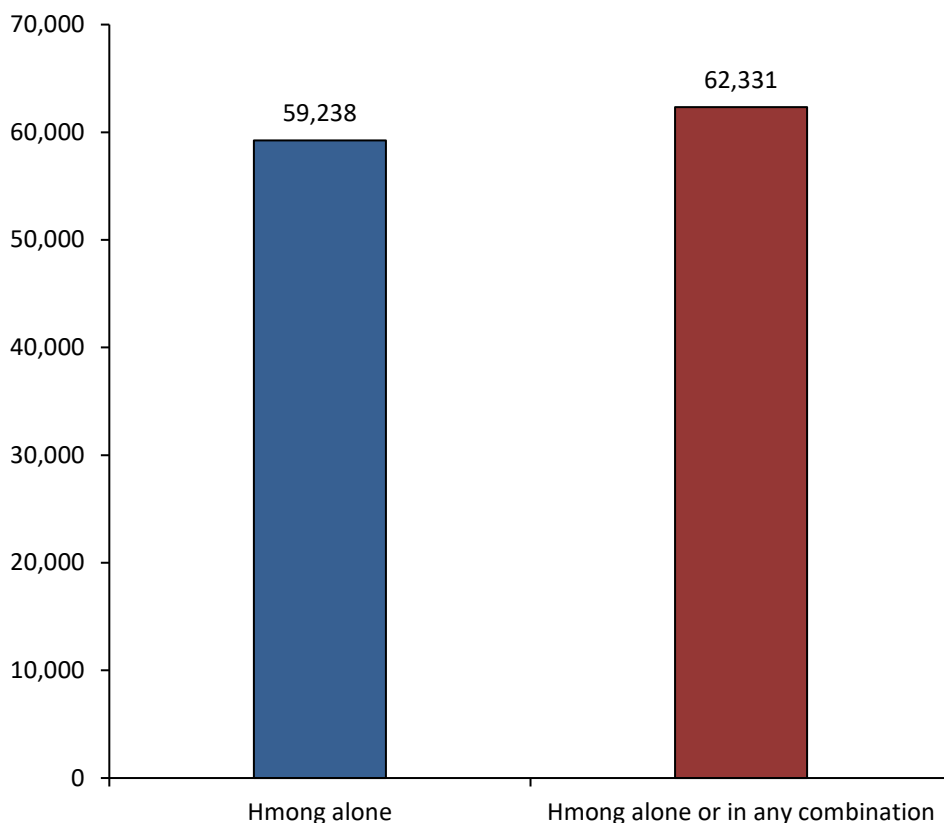
**Chart 1a. Hmong Population, Wisconsin: 1990-2020**



In the 2020 Census there were 59,238 people in Wisconsin who identified as Hmong. Between 1990 and 2000 the Hmong population in Wisconsin increased by more than 17,400, and the increase from 2000-2010 was approximately 13,300. Over the next ten years the Hmong population grew by 12,000 people.

Source: 1990 Census, 2000 Census, 2010 Census, & 2020 Census [Table 01001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

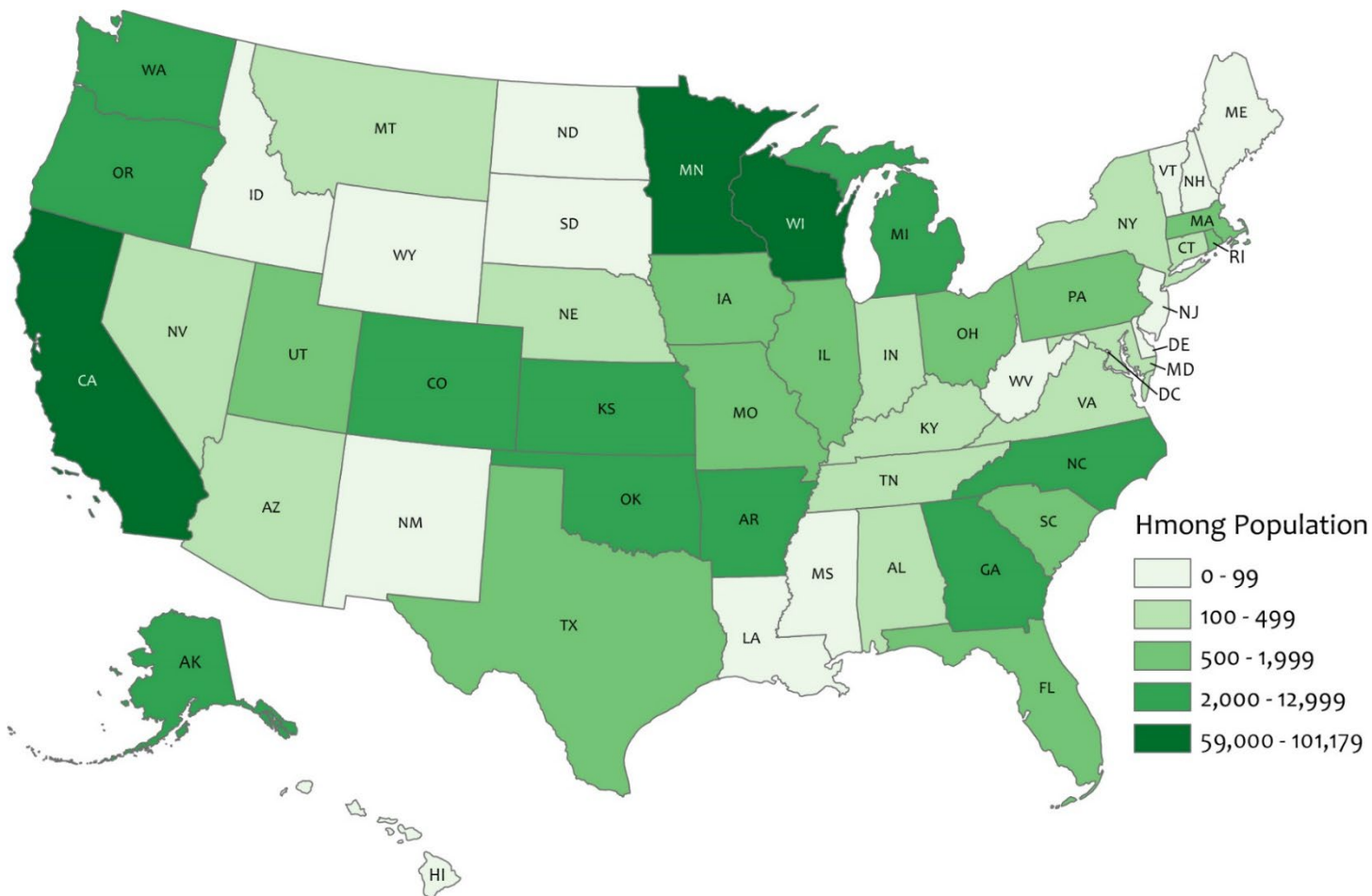
**Chart 1b. Hmong Identification, Wisconsin: 2020**



In the 2020 Census respondents could identify themselves as belonging to one race category or multiple categories. Of the respondents that identified as Hmong, very few identified with additional race groups. This report uses figures based on persons who identified as “Hmong Alone.”

Source: 2020 Census [Table 01001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

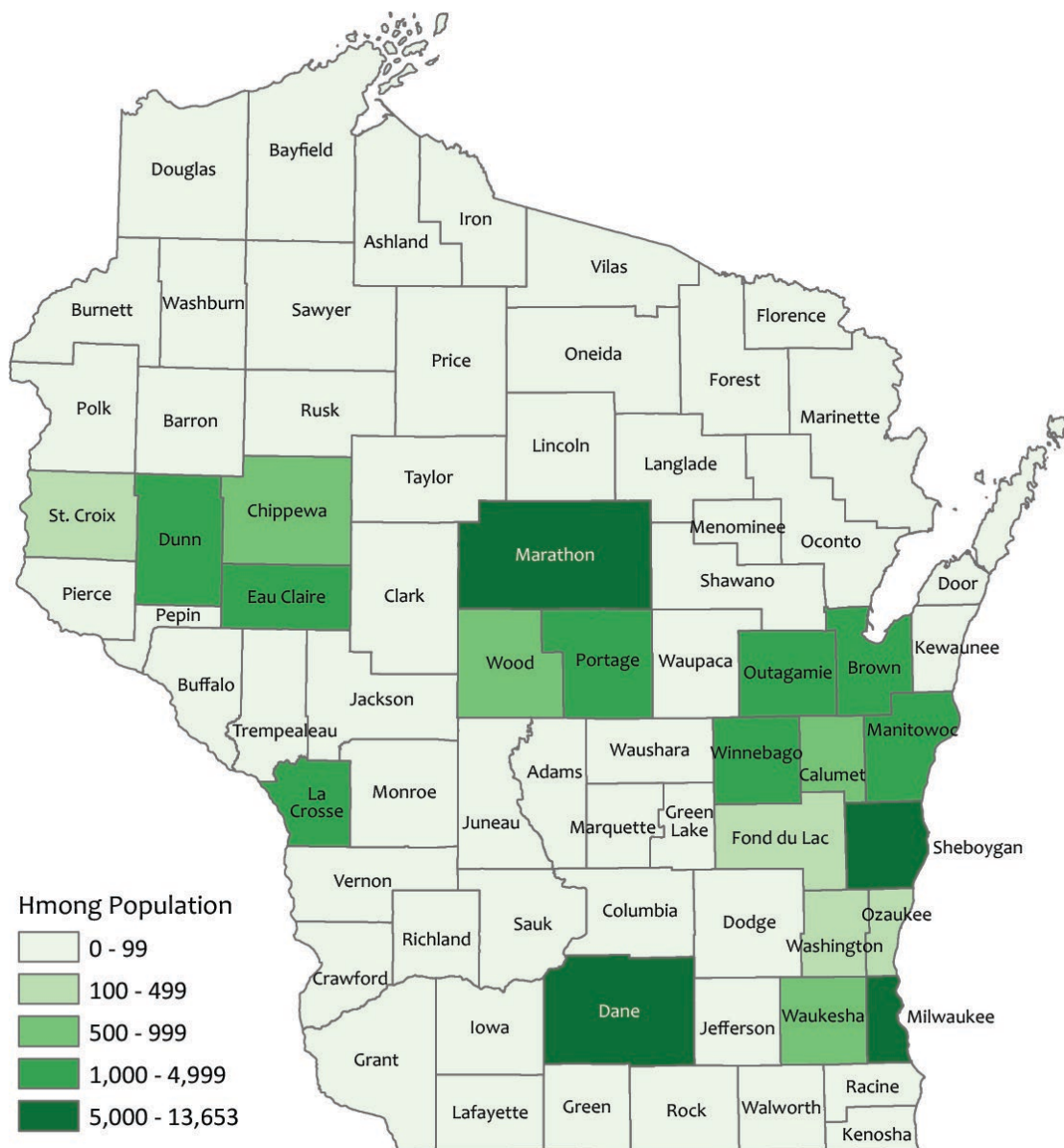
### Map 1. Hmong Population, U.S. States: 2020



Map 1 shows the number of Hmong people in all states. Among all the states, Wisconsin had the third largest Hmong population (59,238), after California (101,179) and Minnesota (91,311).

Source: 2020 Census [Table 01001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

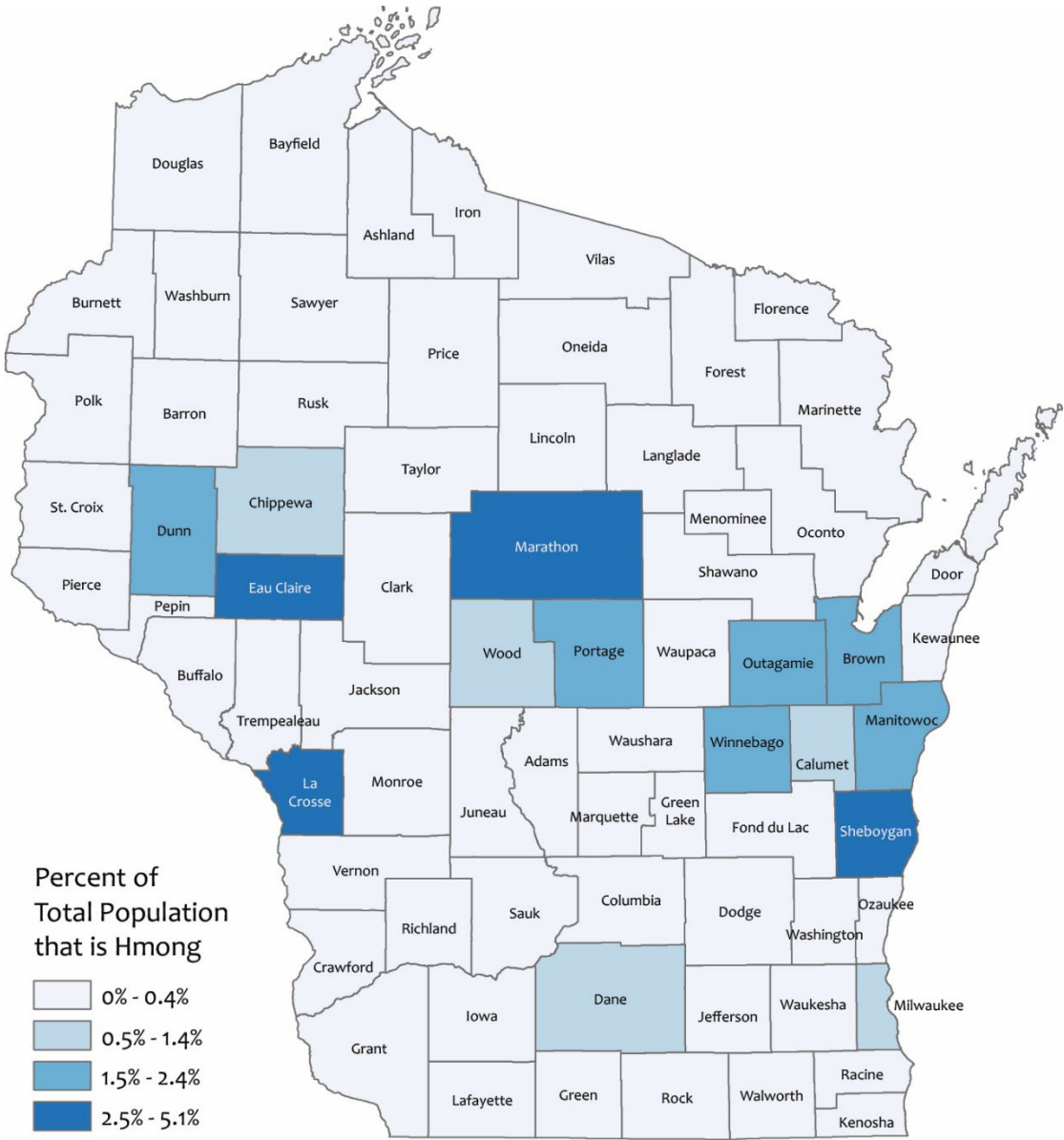
**Map 2. Hmong Population, Wisconsin Counties: 2020**



Map 2 shows the number of Hmong people in Wisconsin counties in 2020. Milwaukee County was distinct in having greater than 6,000 more Hmong residents than the second highest county, Marathon County.

Source: 2020 Census [Table 01001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

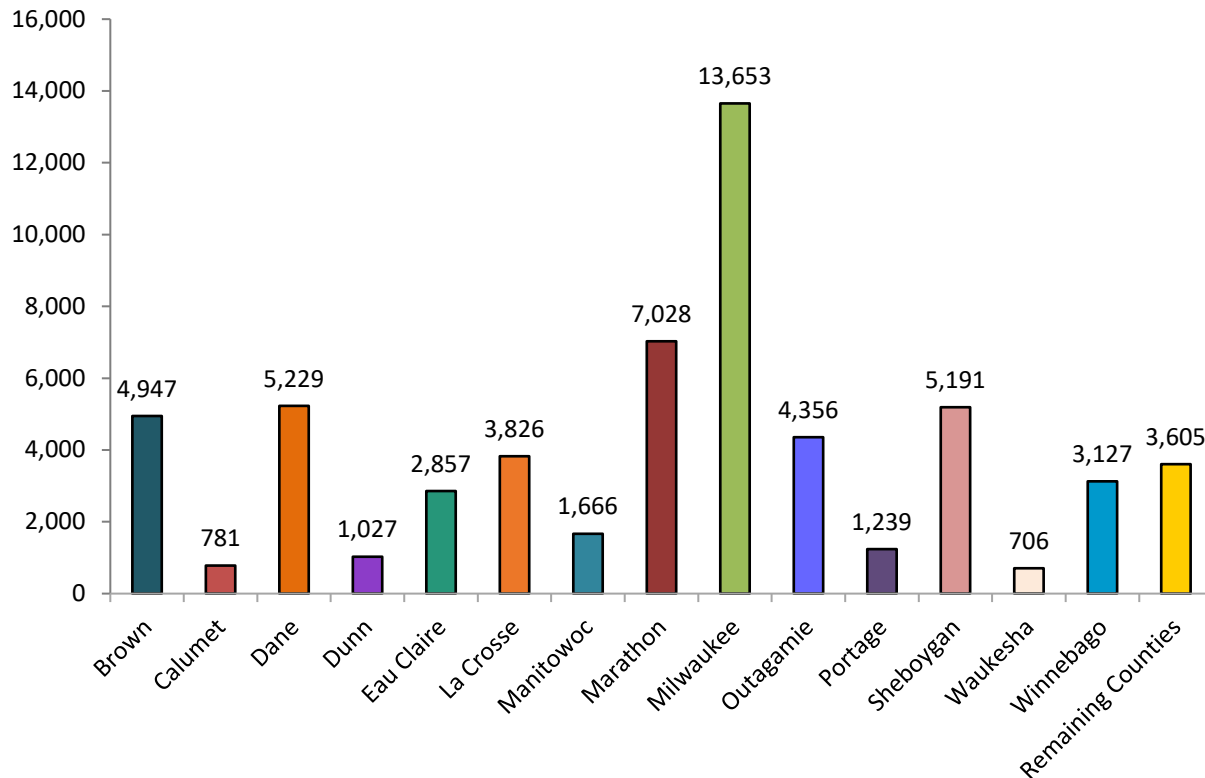
Map 3. Percent Hmong, Wisconsin Counties: 2020



Map 3 shows Hmong persons as a percent of each county’s total population in 2020. Although Milwaukee County had the largest Hmong population numerically, eleven counties had higher percentages of Hmong persons.

Source: 2020 Census [Table 01001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 2. Distribution of Wisconsin’s Hmong Population, Wisconsin Counties: 2020**



In 2020 several Wisconsin counties had large Hmong populations. Milwaukee County was home to the largest Hmong population in the state, but Marathon, Sheboygan, Dane, Brown, and Outagamie counties also had sizable Hmong populations. Marathon County had the largest proportion of Hmong persons, at 5.1% of the total county population.

Source: 2020 Census [Table 01001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

### Chart 3. Racial Composition, Wisconsin: 2020

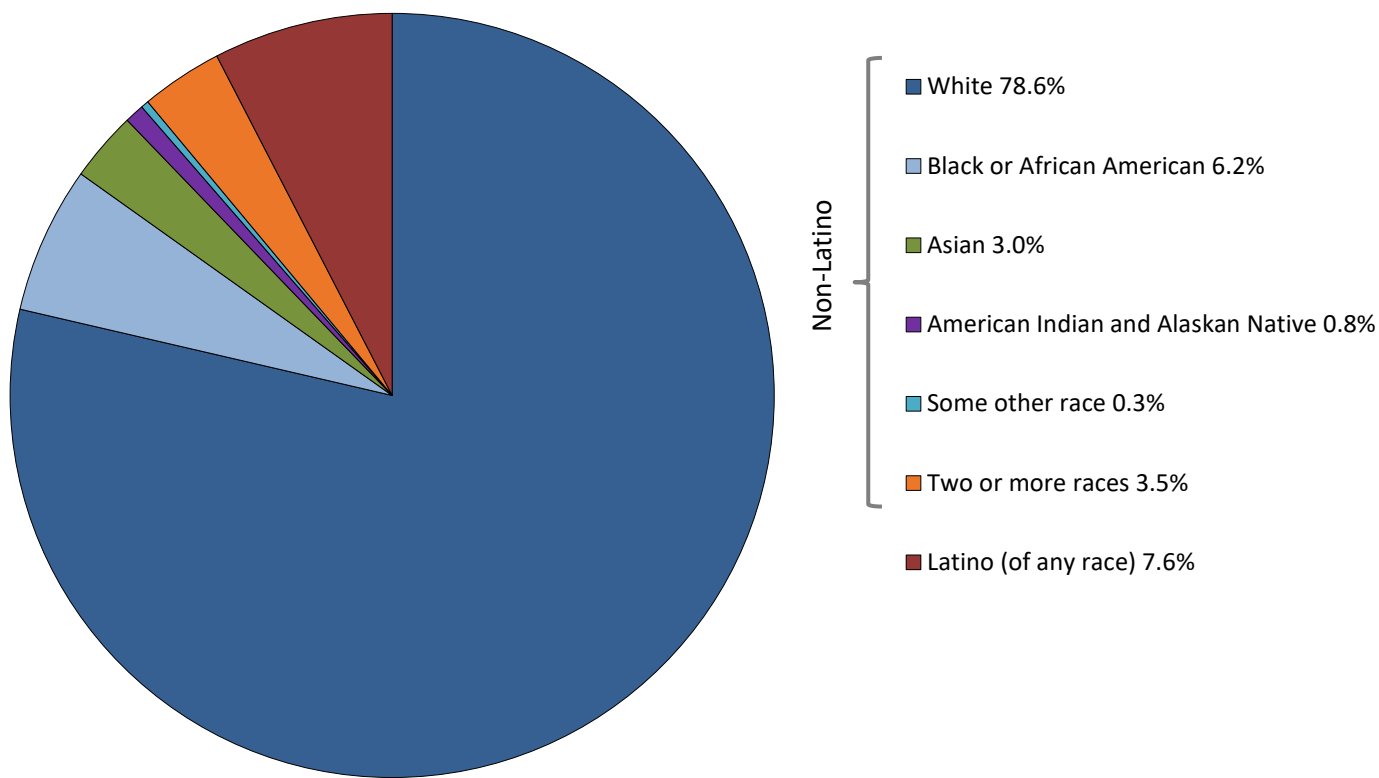
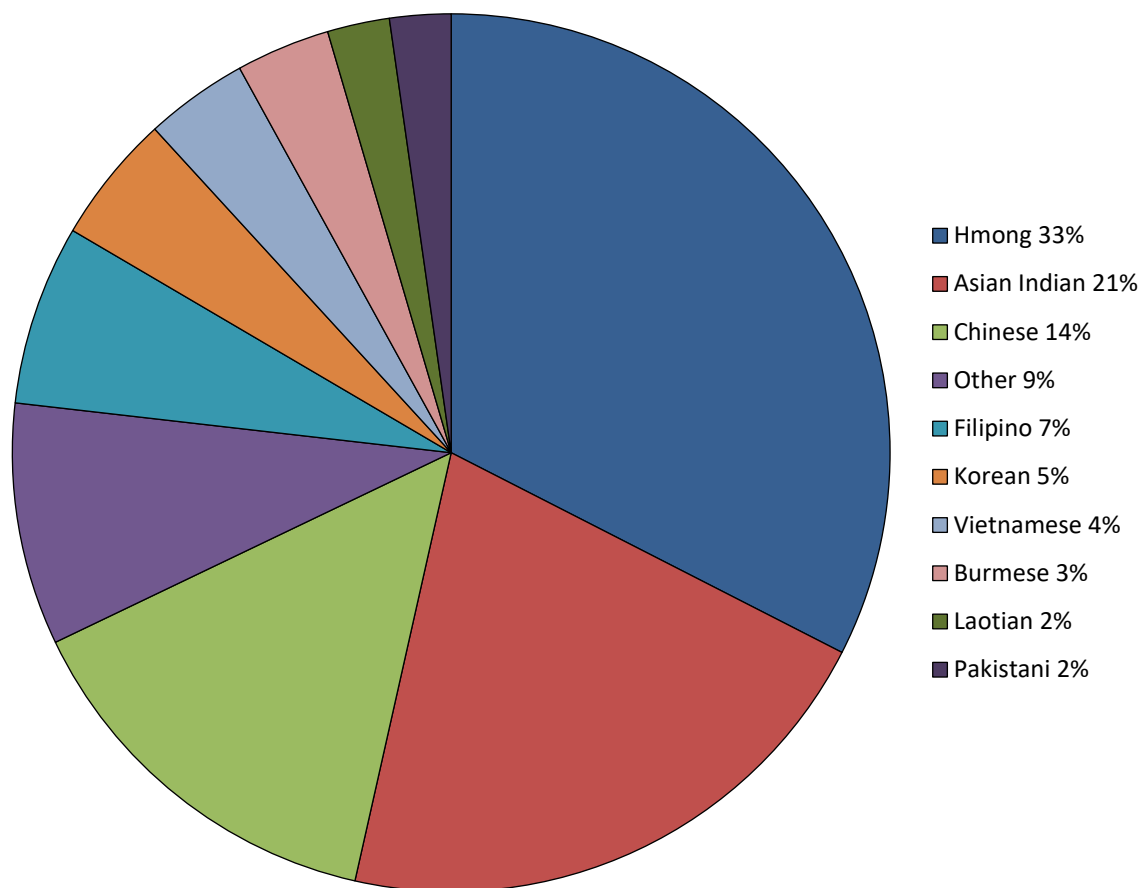


Chart 3 shows the racial composition of the Wisconsin population. In 2020 the “Asian alone” population in Wisconsin accounted for 3.0% of the total population. The Asian population remained small in 2020, but increased since 2010.

Source: 2020 Census: P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File [Table P2](#)

**Chart 4. Asian Population Composition, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

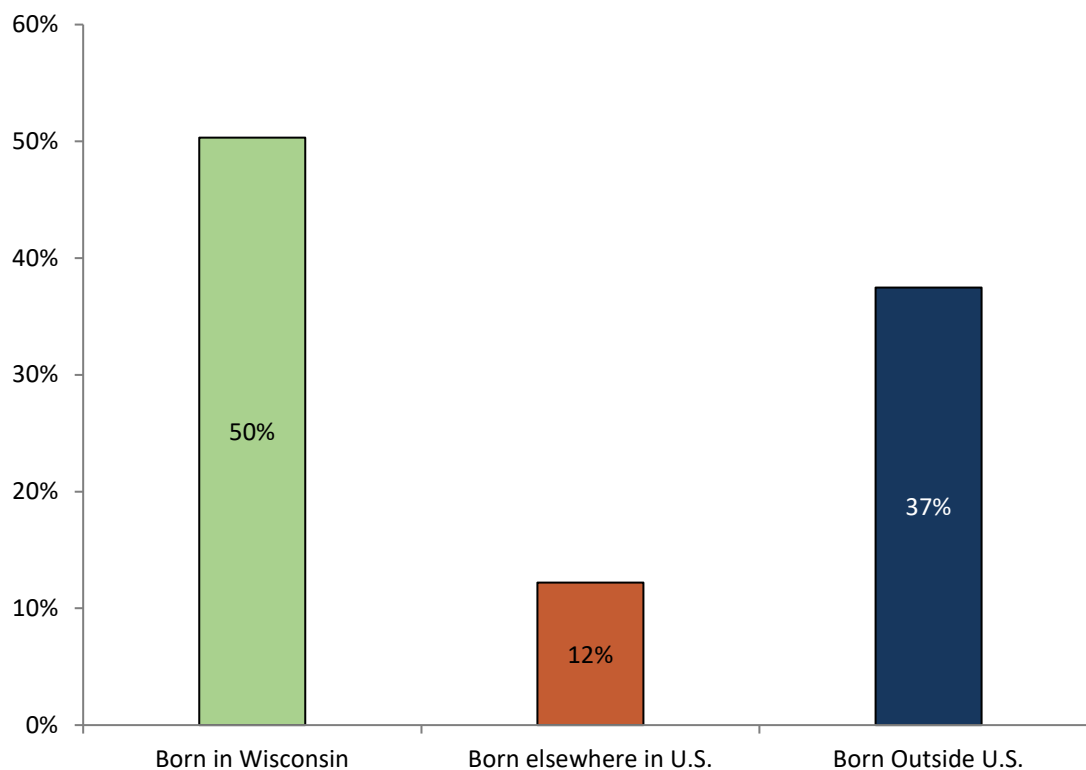


In the 2017-2021 dataset, Hmong made up the largest Asian ethnic group in Wisconsin, accounting for 33% of the total Asian population. The next largest Asian ethnic group, Asian Indians, was considerably smaller and comprised only 21% of the state’s Asian population.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B02015](#), U.S. Census Bureau



**Chart 5a. Birthplace of the Hmong Population, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



In the 2017-2021 period, over 60% of Wisconsin’s Hmong population was born in the United States, 8 percentage points higher than in 2006-2010. When the Hmong first began relocating to the US, Hmong population growth was driven primarily by immigration. However, as the Hmong have become more established and immigration has slowed, childbearing in the US has become a more important driver of Hmong population change.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B05002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 5b. Birthplace of the Hmong Population, Wisconsin: 2000-2021**

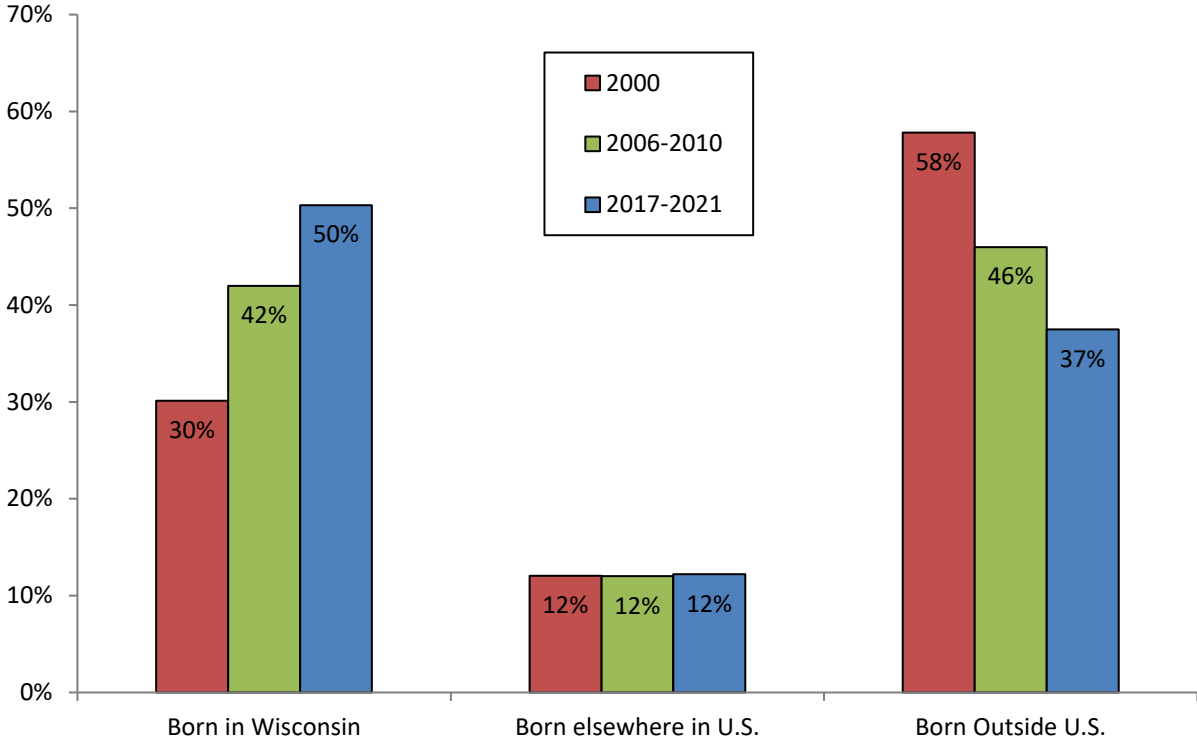


Chart 5b shows the birthplace of the Hmong population over the course of 20 years. The percentage born in Wisconsin continues to increase while the proportion of those born outside of the U.S. decreased.

Source: 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 6. Year of Entry for Hmong Persons Foreign Born, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

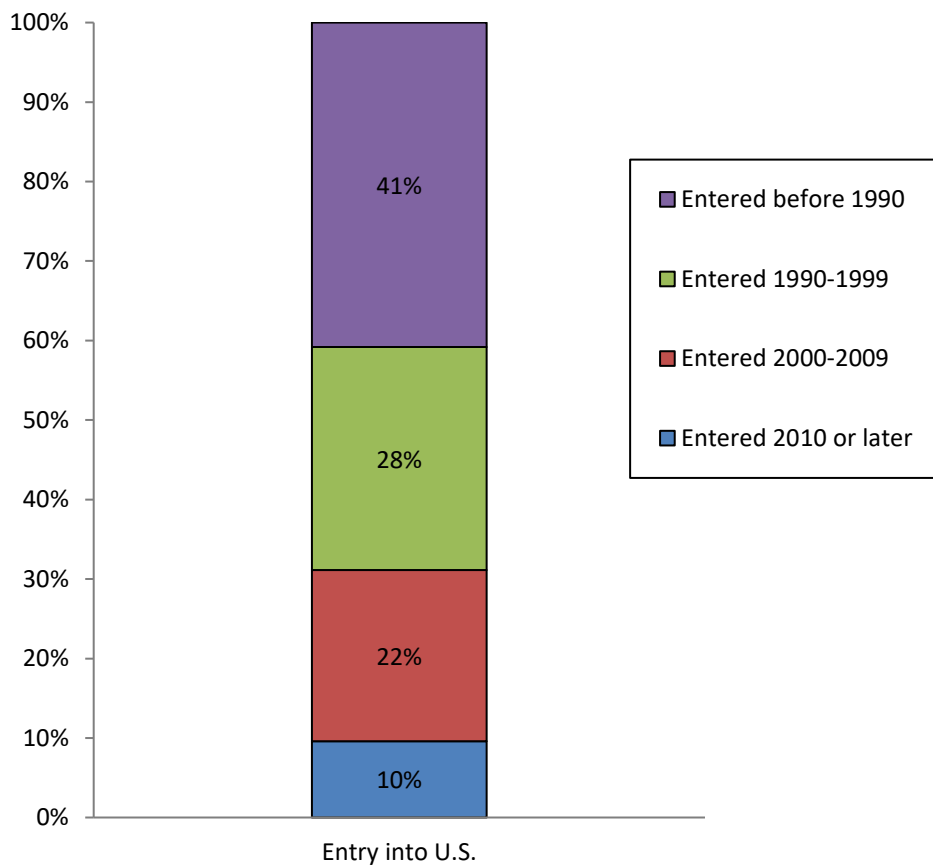


Chart 6 shows when Wisconsin’s Hmong immigrants relocated to the United States. Ten percent of the Hmong population entered the United States after 2010, with the majority (69%) entering the country before 2000.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B05005](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 7. Population by Age and Sex, Wisconsin: 2020**

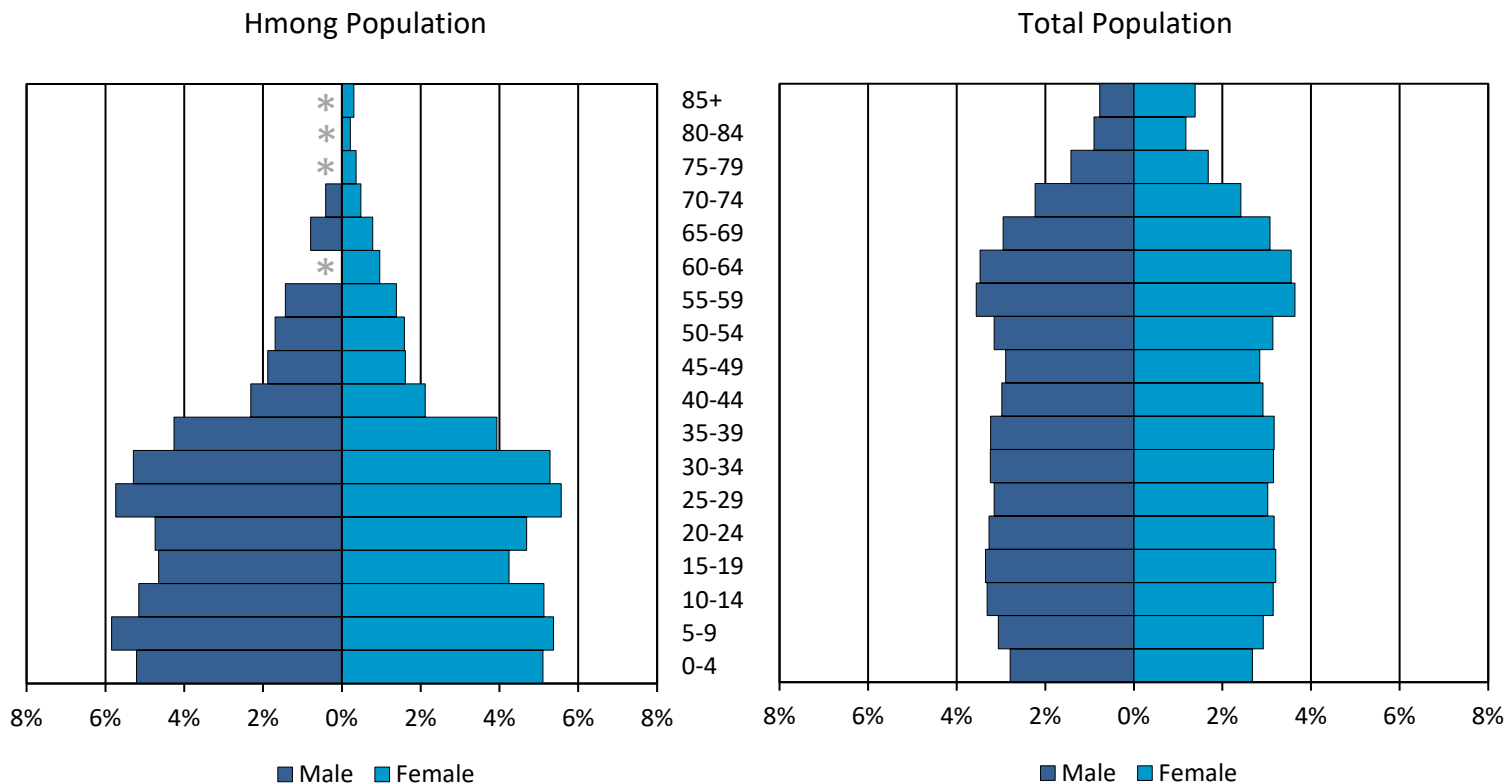


Chart 7 illustrates the age differences between the Hmong population in Wisconsin (left) and total Wisconsin population (right) in 2020. Age groups with an asterisk were suppressed in the dataset due to low population numbers. The Hmong pyramid bulges out at the 25-29 age range, the largest age group. The pyramid is widest in the middle: 31% of the Hmong population was 20-34 years old, and 32% were under the age of 15.

Comparatively, the Wisconsin total population was much older. The largest shares of the population were in the 50 to 64 age range. Only 18% of the total Wisconsin population was under the age of 15. The population 60 and older accounts for 25% of the total population, more than four times greater than the percentage of Hmong persons over age 60.

Source: 2020 Census [Table 02003](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 8. Median Age by Sex, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

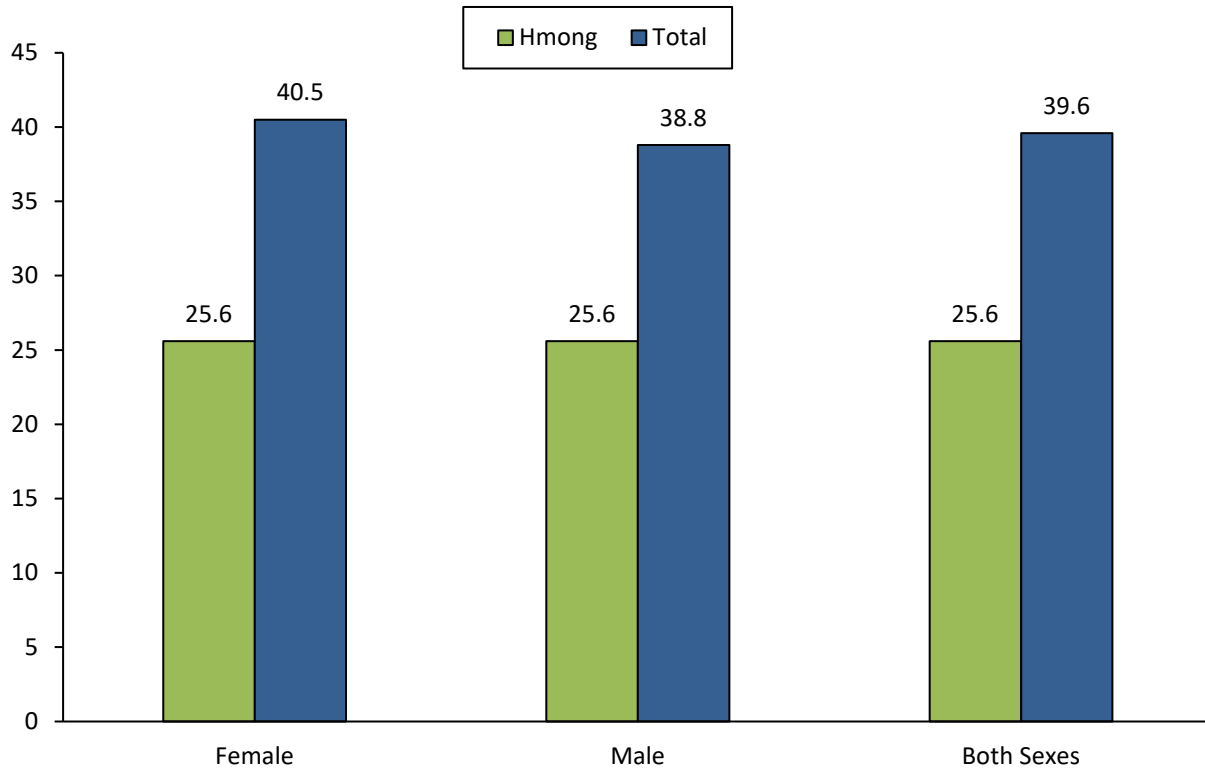


Chart 8 shows median age by sex. In 2017-2021 the median age for the total population was significantly higher than the median age for Hmong persons. However, in 2000 the median age of the Hmong population was approximately 16 years, and in 2010 it was 20 years, so it has steadily increased since prior decades.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B01002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 9. Marital Status of Females Age 15 and Over, Wisconsin: 2006-2010 & 2017-2021**

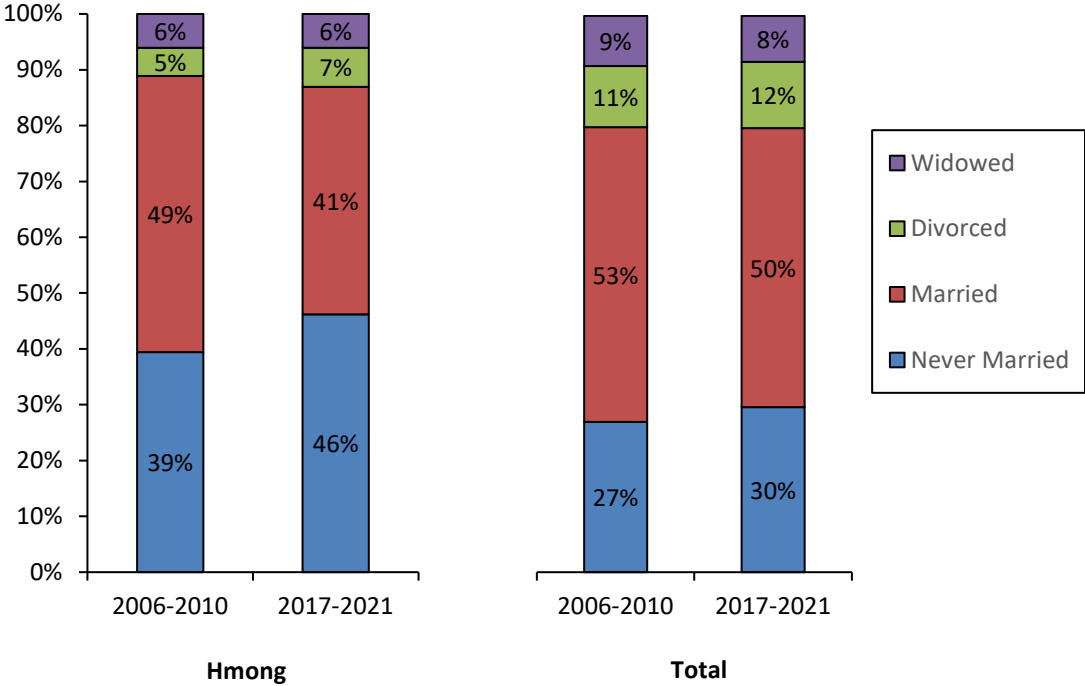


Chart 9 shows the marital status of women for the 2006-2010 and 2017-2021 period. Since 2006-210 the proportion of married Hmong and total women has decreased, although the decrease was more significant for Hmong women. The percentage of divorced Hmong women increased from 5% in 2006-2010 to 7% in 2017-2021. The proportion divorced among all Wisconsin women increased slightly over the same period.

Source: 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B12001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 10. Marital Status of Females by Age Group,  
Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

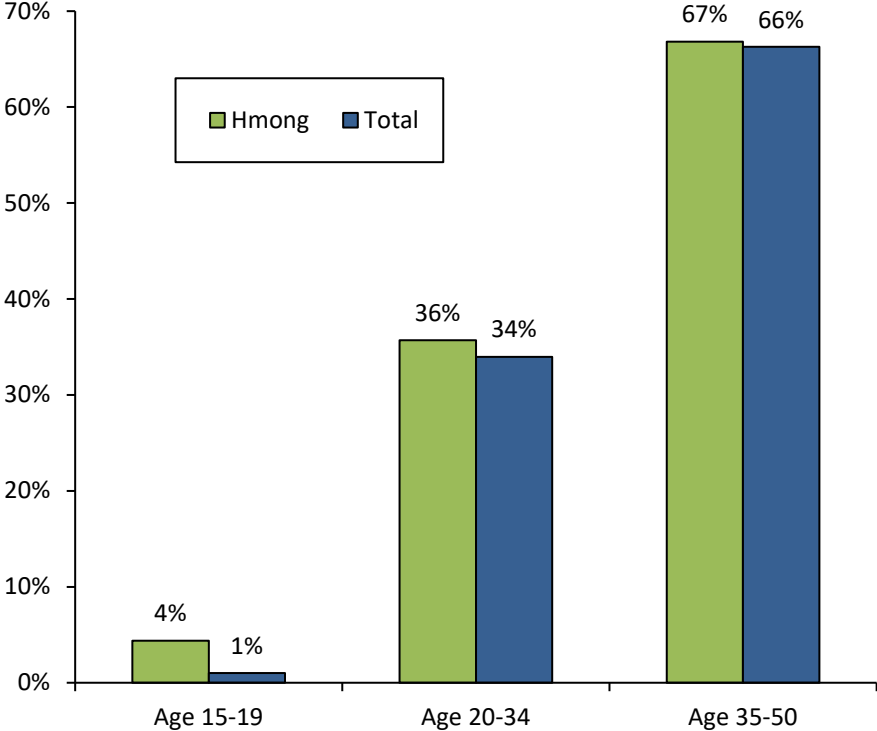


Chart 10 illustrates the proportion of females who were married by age group. Teen marriage has become less prevalent in the Hmong population in recent years, but in 2017-2021 the percentage of teenage girls who were married was still much larger than for the total population.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B13002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 11. Women Age 15-50 who had a Birth in the Past 12 Months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

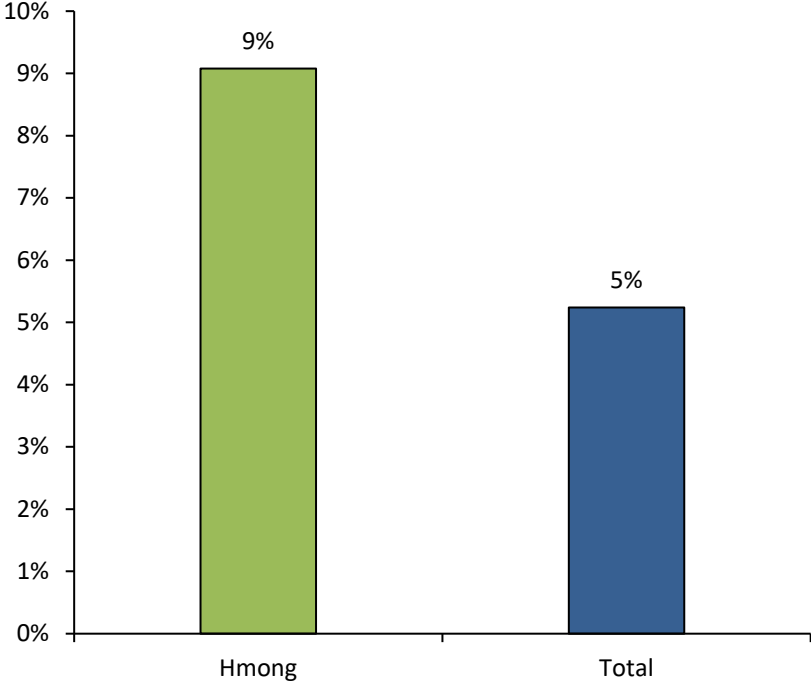


Chart 11 shows the percentage of women between age 15 and 50 who had a birth in the last 12 months for the 2017 to 2021 period. Nine percent of Hmong women aged 15 to 50 had a birth in the past 12 months, almost double the rate for women in total (5%).

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B13002](#), U.S. Census Bureau



**Chart 12. Married Women Age 15-50 who had a Birth in the Past 12 Months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

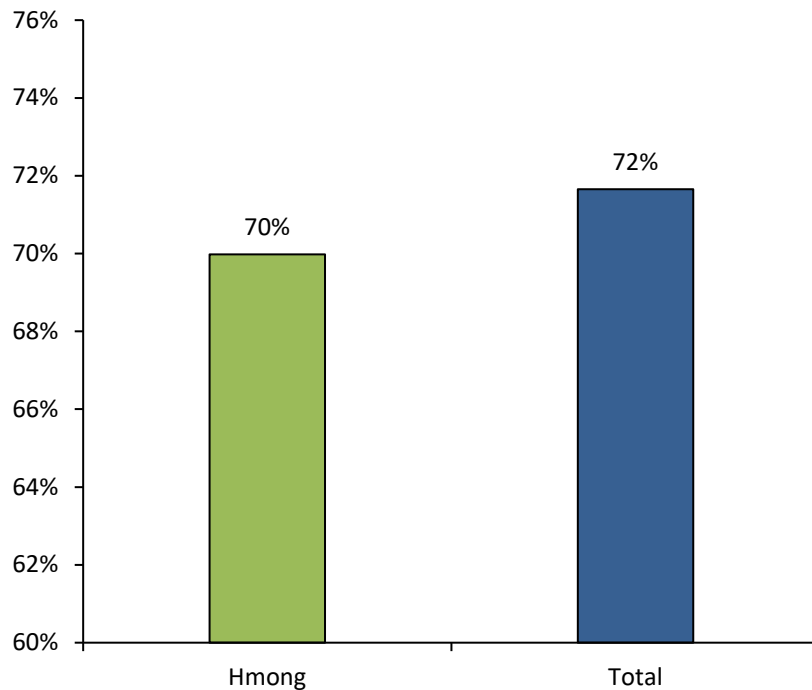
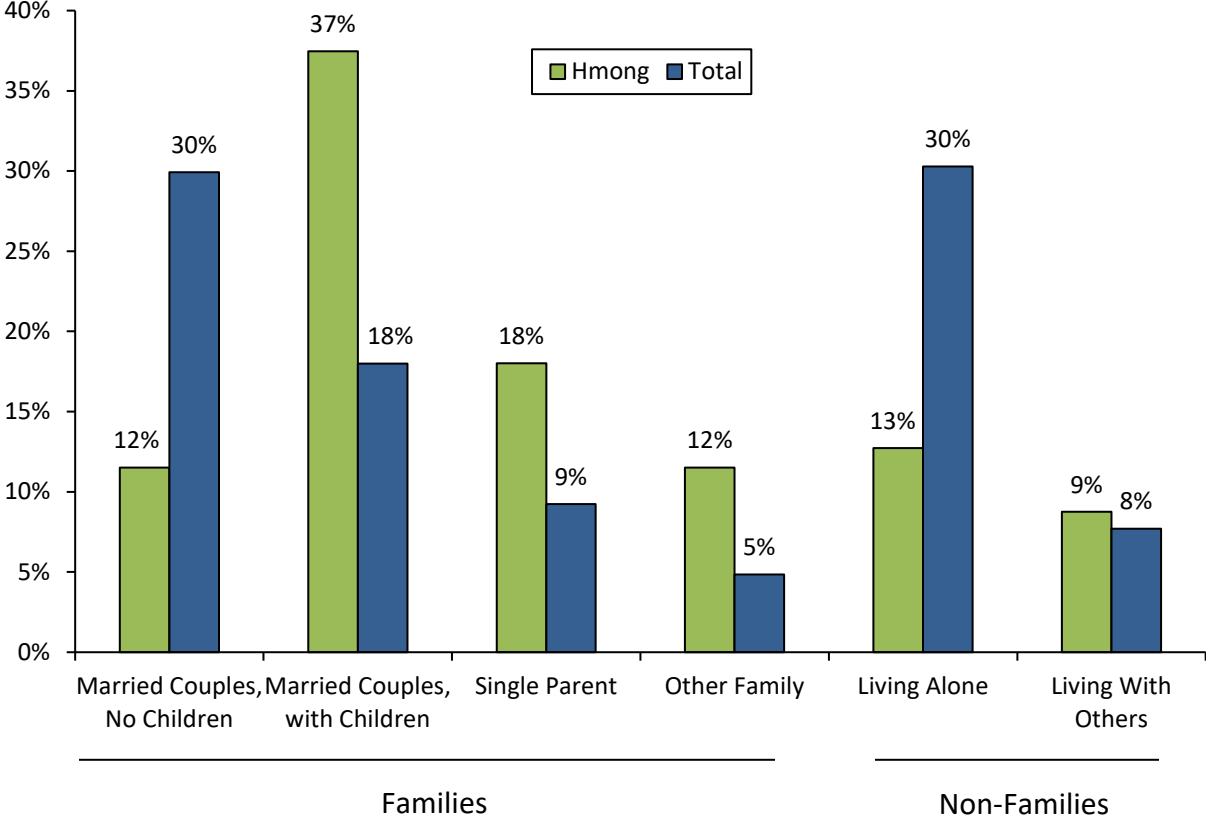


Chart 12 shows the percentage of births that were to married women. Among Hmong births in the prior year, 70% of the births were to married women, while the total population was slightly higher at 72%.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B13002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 13. Types of Family and Non-Family Households, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



During the 2017-2021 period, Hmong were far more likely than the total population to live in family households with children and in family households in general. Only 22% of Hmong households were comprised of people living alone or with unrelated people. Eighteen percent of Hmong households were headed by single parents, compared to 9% of total households.

Nearly one in three total households were people living alone and less than 20% of households were married couples with children.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimate [Table B11005](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 14. Occupants Per Room, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

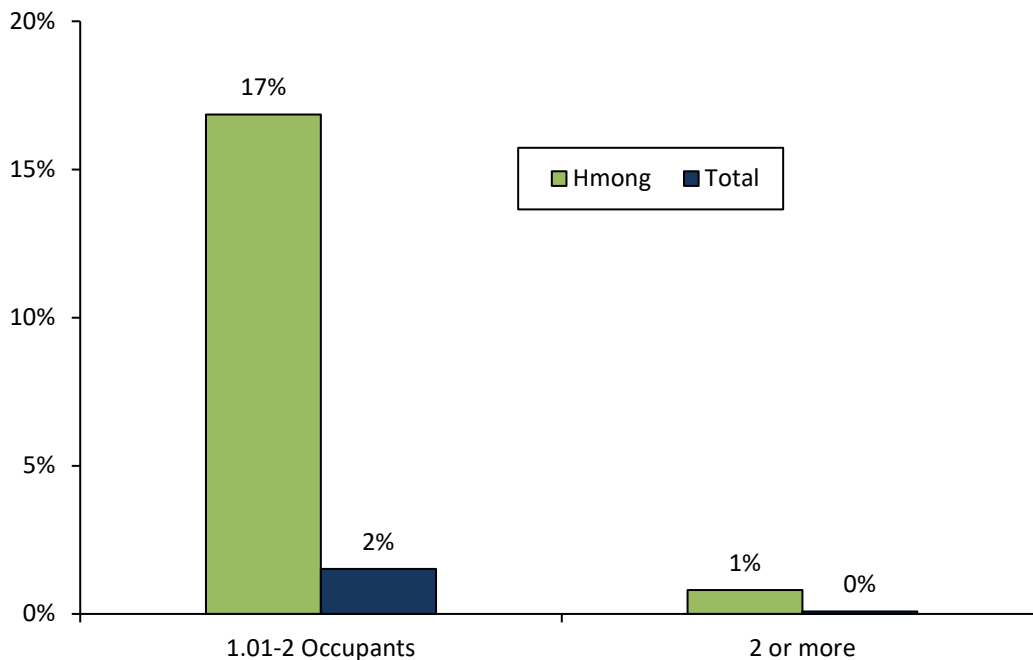


Chart 13 shows the average number of occupants per room in households. On average Hmong households were more likely to have more than one occupant per room compared to the total population.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B25014](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 15. Average Family Size, Wisconsin: 2000-2021**

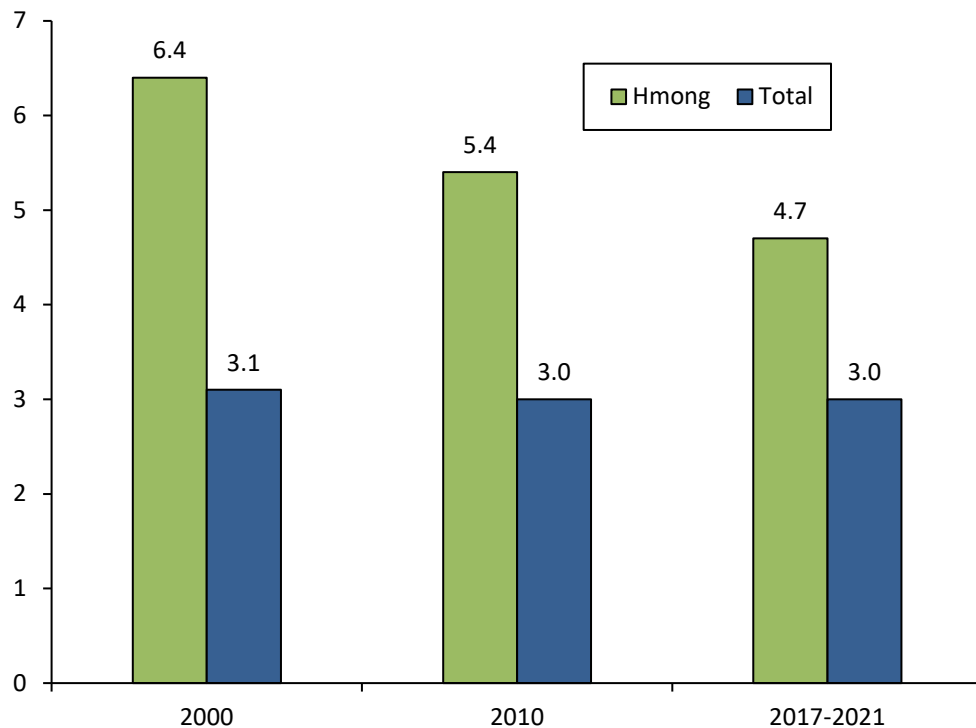


Chart 14 shows how the average family size has changed over time. The Census Bureau defines a family as “two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage or adoption residing in the same housing unit.” On average Hmong families were significantly larger than their total population counterparts.

Source: 2000 Census, 2010 Census, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 16. Average Household Size, Wisconsin: 2000-2021**

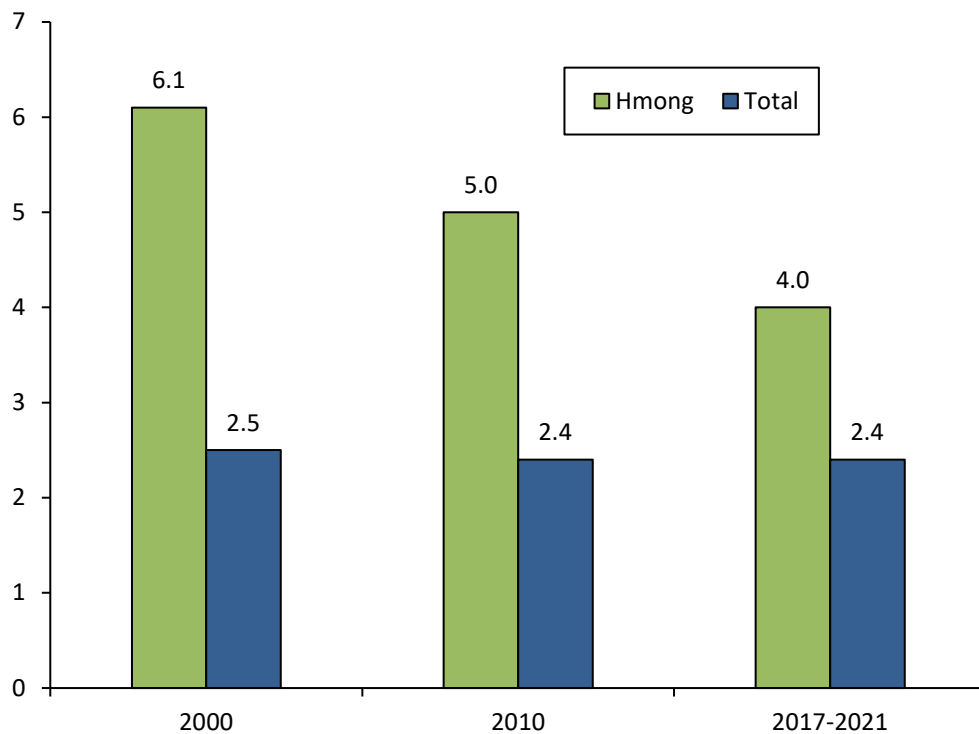
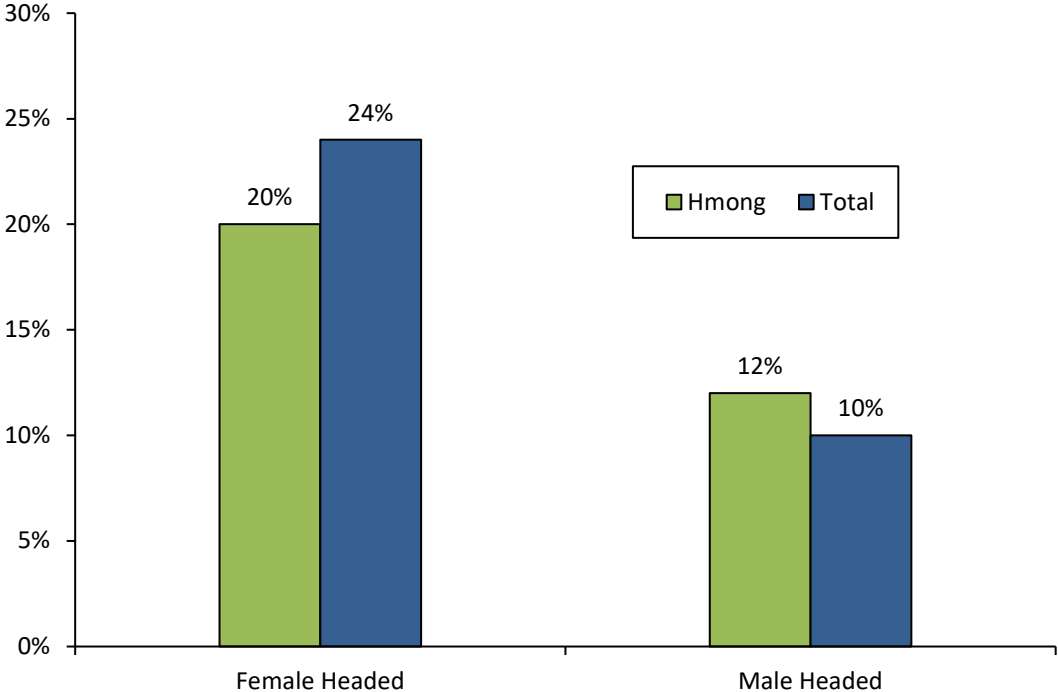


Chart 15 shows average household sizes since 2000. A household is defined as “all people who occupy a housing unit regardless of relationship... [and] may consist of a person living alone or multiple unrelated individuals or families living together.” On average Hmong households were significantly larger than their total population counterparts.

*Source: 2000 Census, 2010 Census, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau*

**Chart 17. Households with Children that were Female Headed and Male Headed (no spouse present), Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



Among families with children, female headed households (with no husband present) were slightly less common in the Hmong population than in the total population. About 20% of Hmong families with children were female headed versus 24% among the total population. Male headed families with children (no wife present) comprised a slightly larger share for the Hmong population than for the total population (12% versus 10%).

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B11005](#), U.S. Census Bureau

### Chart 18. Median Housing Unit Value, Wisconsin: 2000-2021

Values are in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars

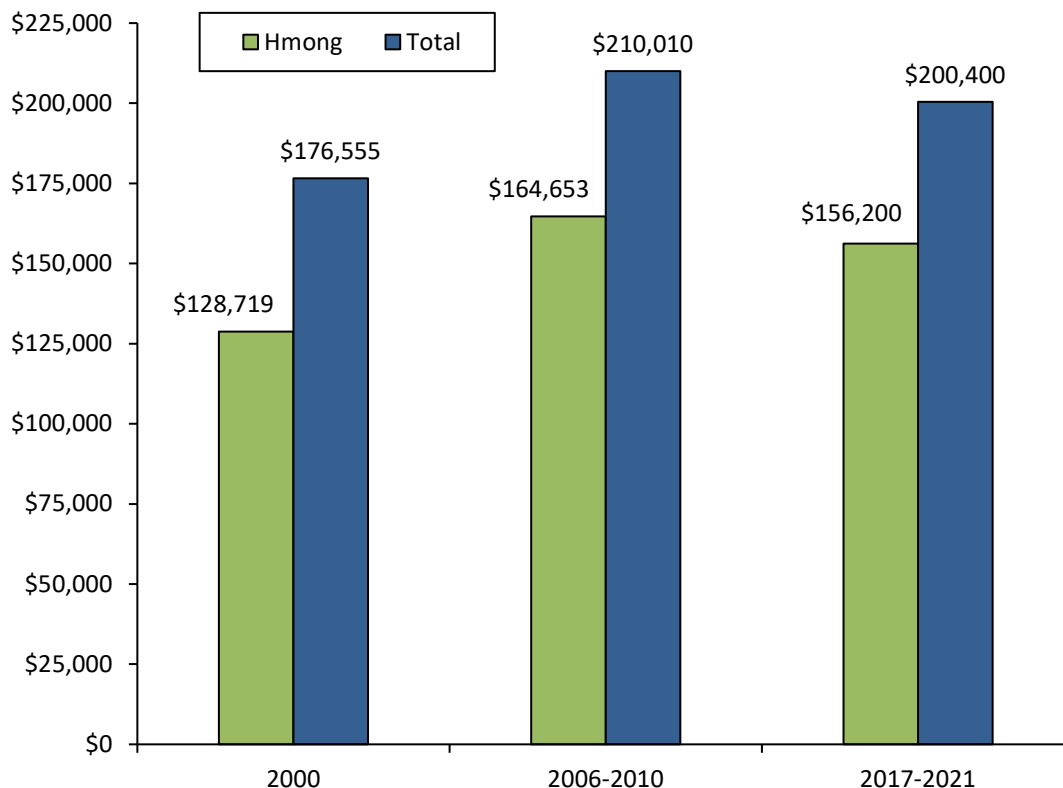
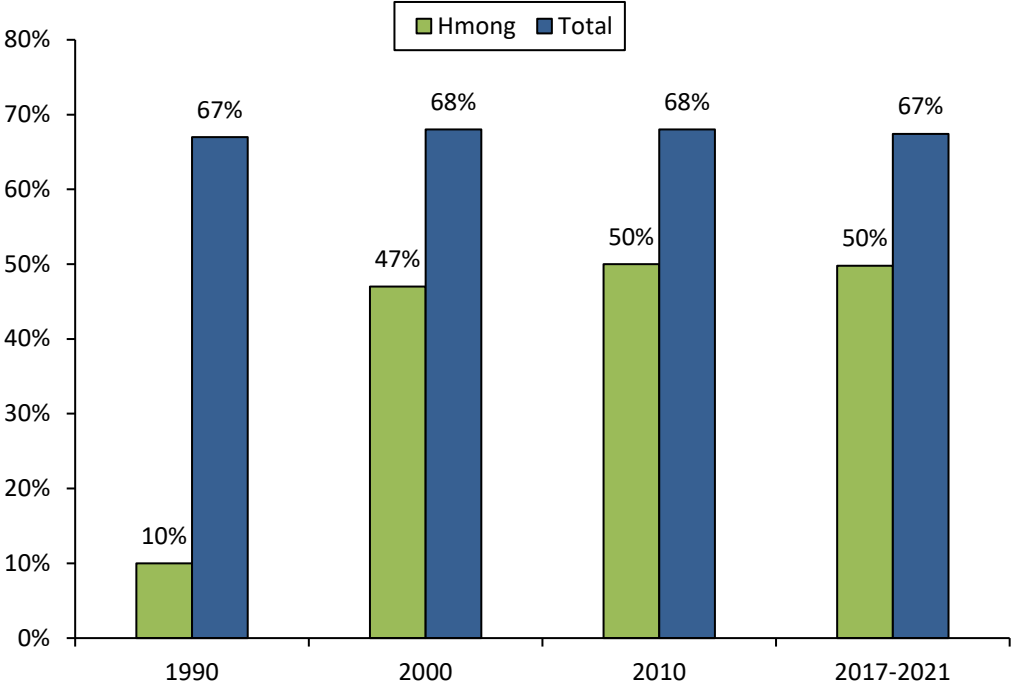


Chart 17 shows the value of owner-occupied housing units. During 2017-2021, the Hmong lived in homes that were worth around \$44,000 less than those of the total population. The gap in home values has decreased slightly since 2006-2010.

Source: 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B25077](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 19. Owner Occupied Housing Units, Wisconsin: 1990-2021**



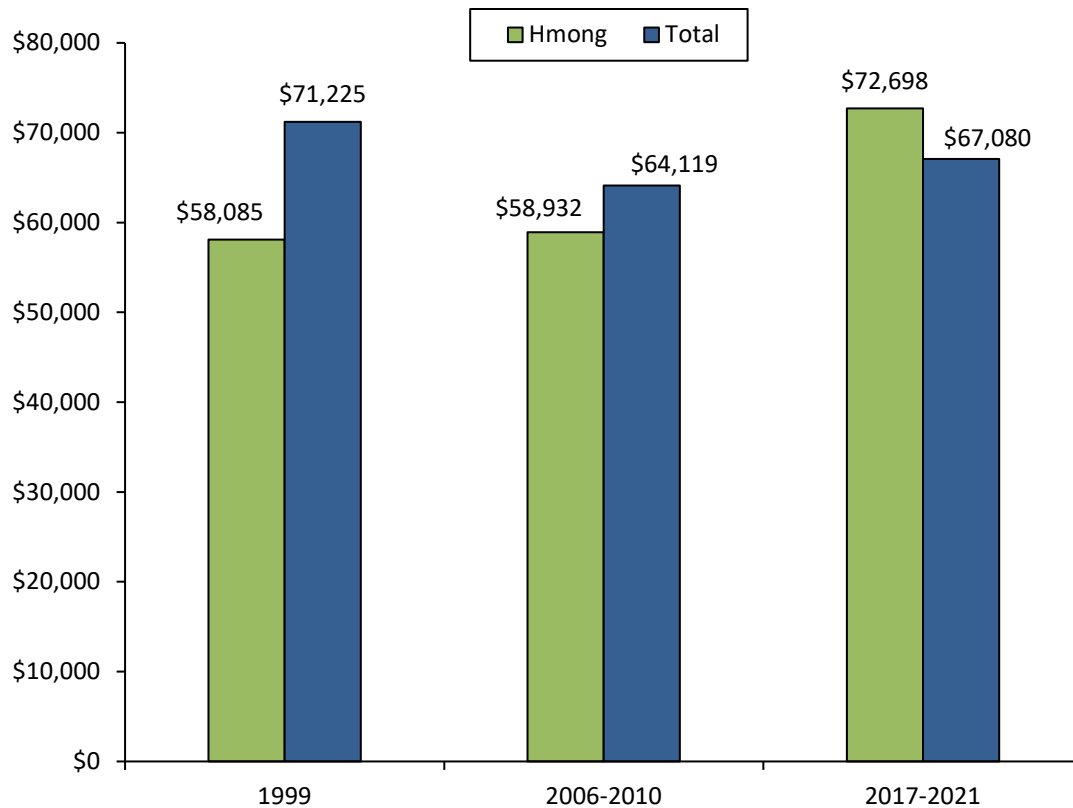
The percentage of Hmong households that lived in owner-occupied units nearly quintupled between 1990 and 2000. Between 2000 and 2017-2021 Hmong homeownership has remained steady and was considerably lower than homeownership rates for the total population, which remained stable at around 68% across all four periods.

Source: 1990 Census, 2000 Census, 2010 Census, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B25003](#), U.S. Census Bureau



**Chart 20. Median Household Income in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2000-2021**

*Values are in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars*



When adjusting for inflation, median household income for the total population in the 2017-2021 period was less than in 1999. During the same interval, median household income for the Hmong increased. As a result, Hmong households had a median income that was higher than that of the total population in the 2017-2021 period. Nevertheless, Hmong households were significantly larger on average, meaning that the Hmong households' income typically supported more people.

Sources: 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B19013](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 21. Median Household and Family Income in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

*Values are in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars*

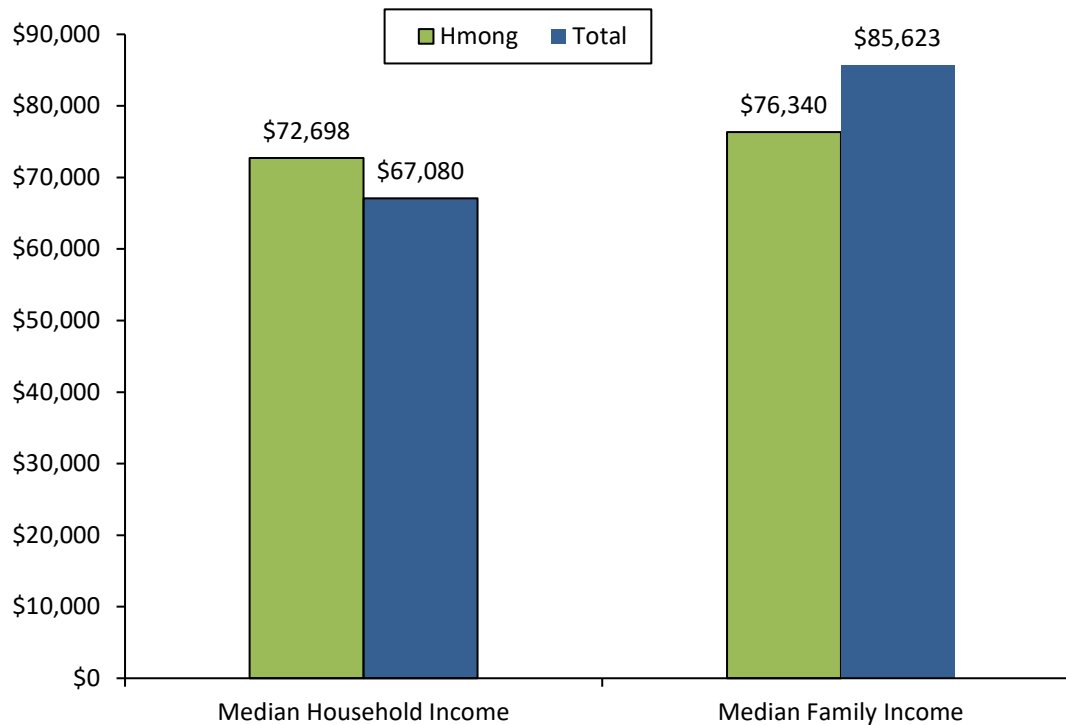
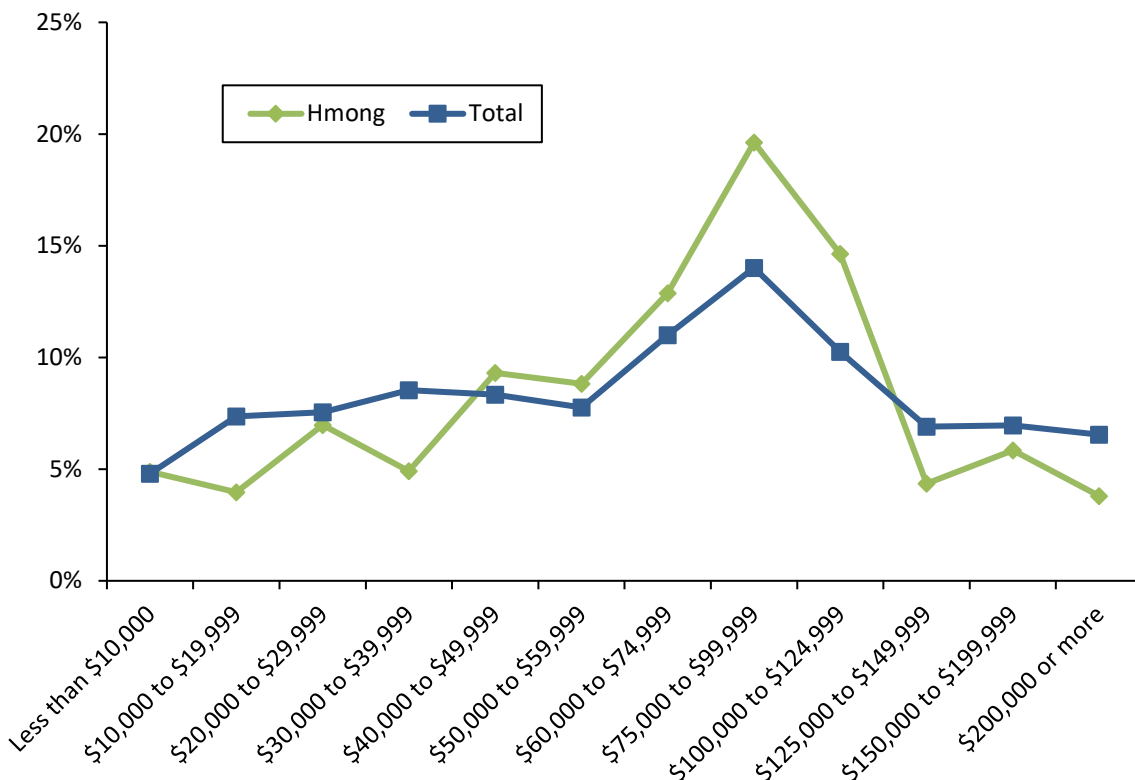


Chart 20 displays the differences in median family and household income for the Hmong and Wisconsin populations. In 2017-2021, the Hmong population had a higher median household income than the total population. The median family income was still less for the Hmong population than the total population, but the difference has decreased since the 2006-2010 period.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B19113](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 22. Household Income Distribution in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

Values are in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars



In 2017-2021 the distribution of household income followed a somewhat similar pattern for both the Hmong and total populations. However, a much larger percentage of Hmong households fell into the middle income range, \$60,000 to \$124,999. The Wisconsin population tended to have more households that earned \$125,000 or more, driving up median household income.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B19001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 23. Median Earnings by Sex Among Year-Round, Full-Time Workers in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

*Values are in 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars*

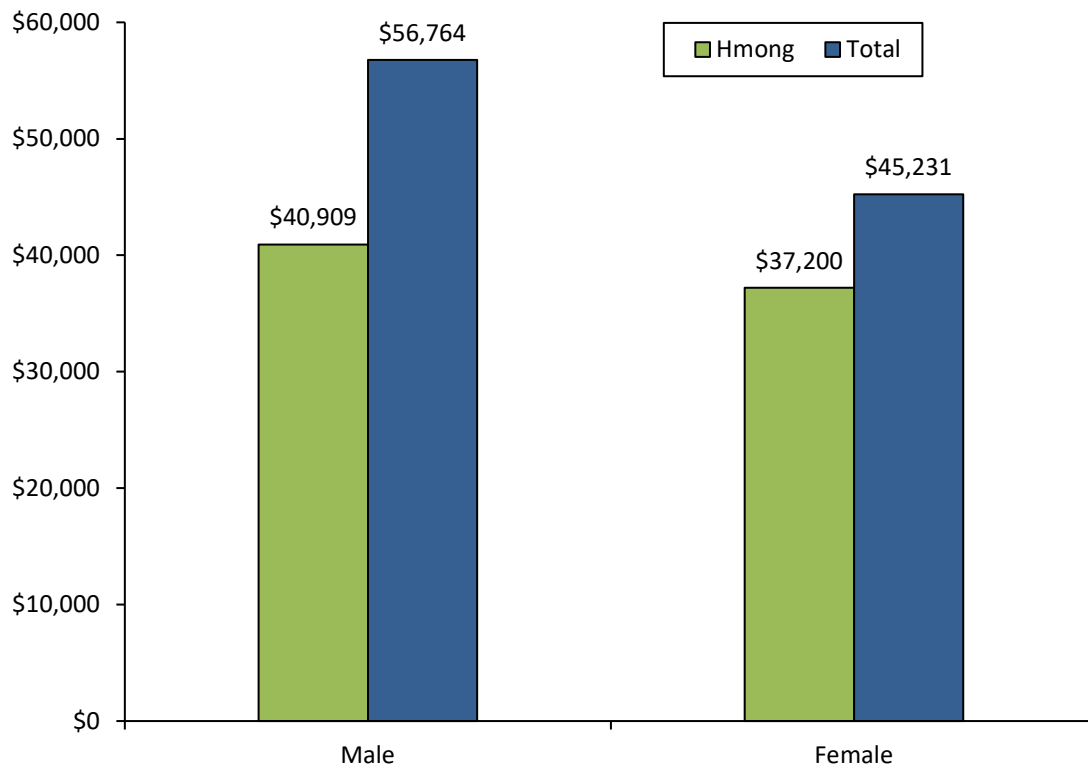
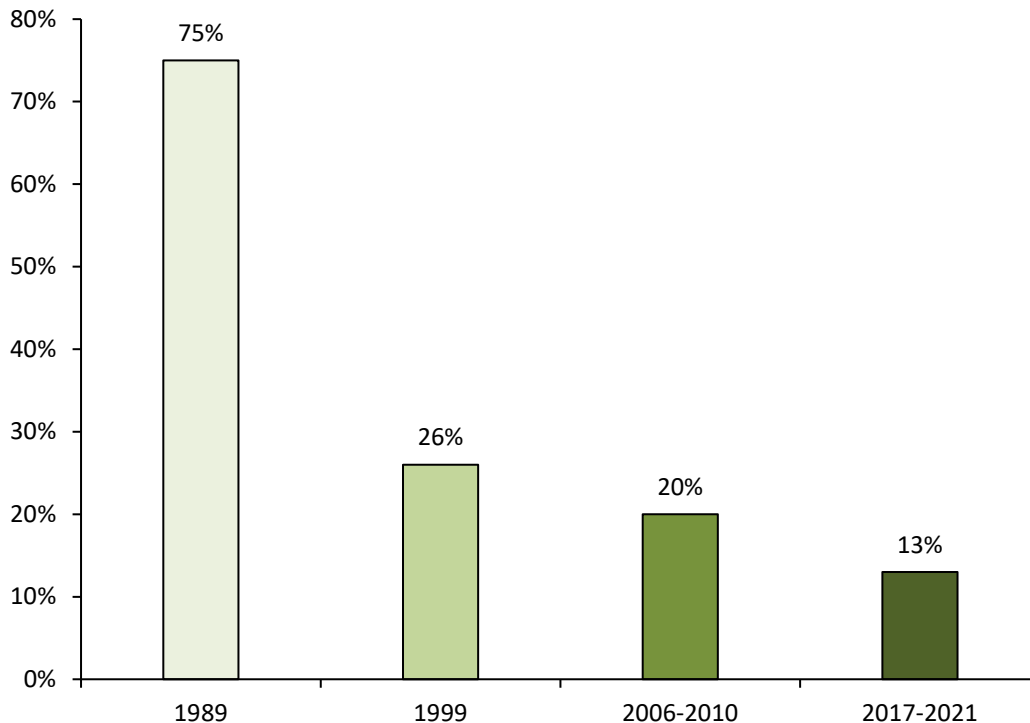


Chart 22 illustrates the difference in income for men and women who were working year-round and full-time. For both males and females, median earnings were lower for the Hmong than for the total population. Median earnings for Hmong males were about \$16,000 less than the median of the total male population. Among Hmong women the median was about \$8,000 less than the median for the total female population.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B20017](#), U.S. Census Bureau

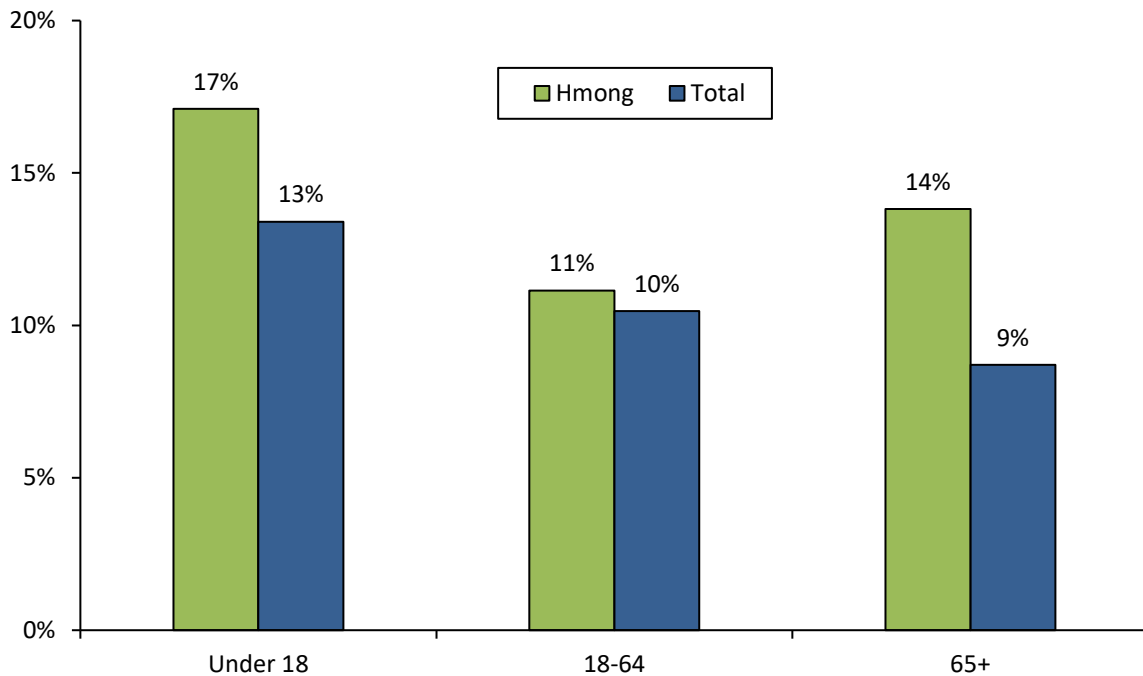
**Chart 24. Percent of Hmong Below Poverty Level in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 1990-2021**



The percentage of the Hmong population living below the poverty level has declined dramatically over the past two decades. In 1989, three-quarters of the Hmong population lived below the poverty level. In 2017-2021 period 13% of Hmong persons lived in poverty. Despite the decrease the percentage of Hmong persons in poverty remained higher than that of the total population (11% in 2017-2021).

Source: 1990 Census, 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table C17002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 25. Percent in Poverty by Age in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



In 2017-2021 the poverty rate for children was much higher for the Hmong population than the total population. For the age group 18-64 the Hmong population had only a slightly higher poverty rate, while poverty rates among persons age 65 and older were also quite a bit higher for the Hmong population (14% versus 9%).

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B17001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 26. Hmong Percent in Poverty by Age in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2000-2021**

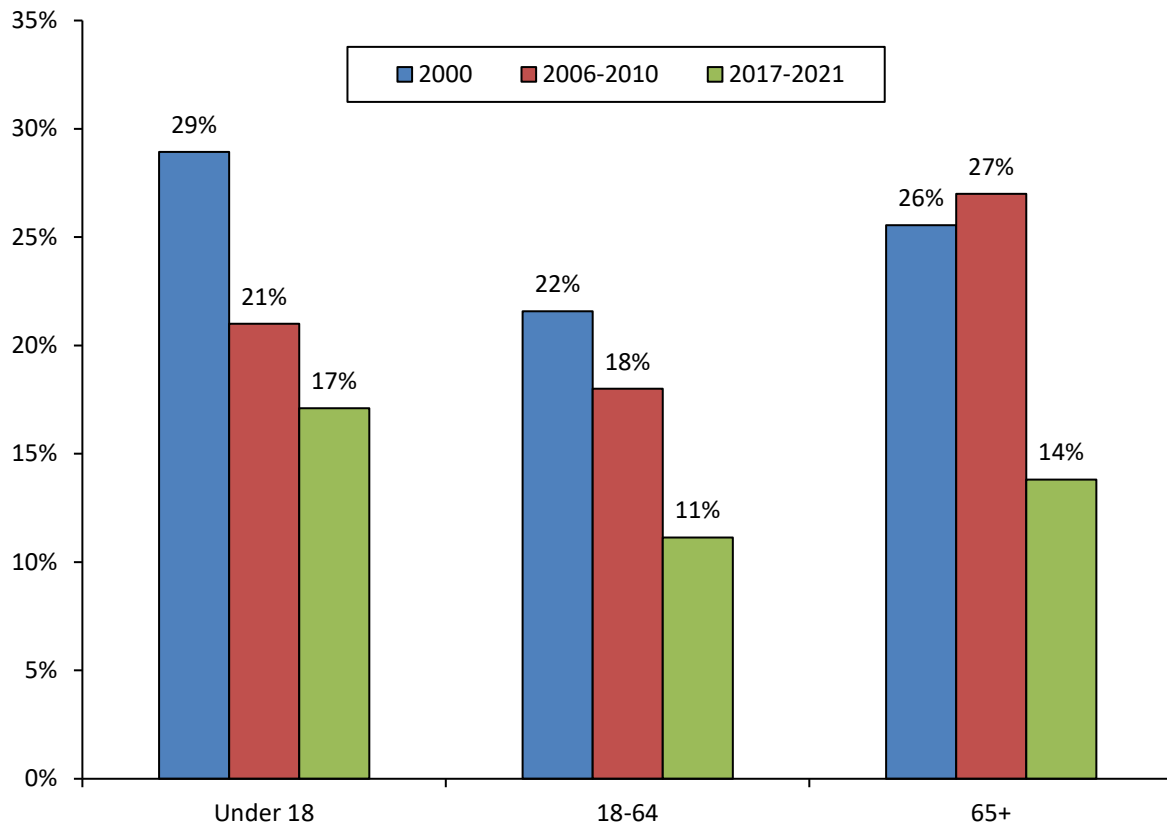


Chart 26 shows poverty rates by age through three different time periods. For all three age groups poverty rates have drastically dropped since 2000, but most notably for children and the age group 65 and over.

Source: 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 27. Percent of Families Below Poverty Level by Family Type in the Past 12 months, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

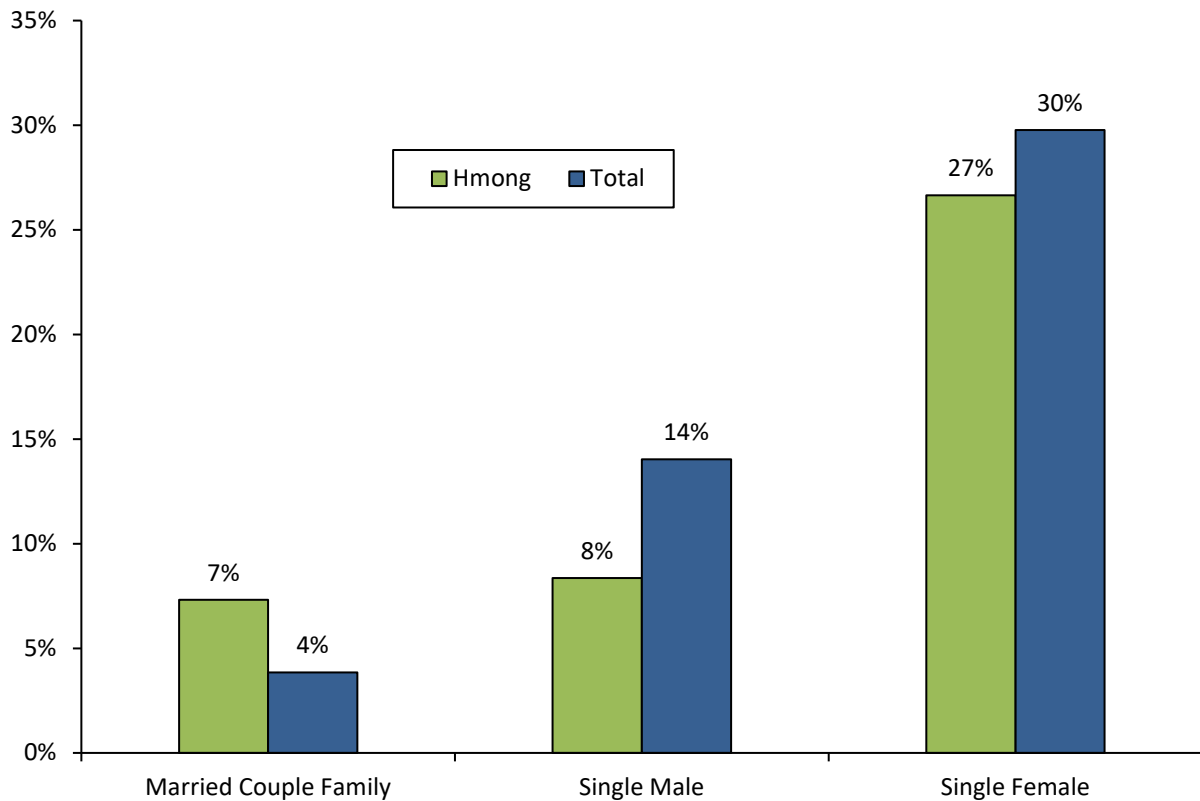


Chart 27 shows poverty rates for three types of families. Figures shown here include only families with related children living at home. Hmong married couple families had a higher poverty rate than the total population, but for both single male and single female families the total population poverty rates were higher.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B17010](#), U.S. Census Bureau



**Chart 28. Public Assistance Income For Households in the Past 12 Months, Wisconsin: 2006-2010, 2017-2021**

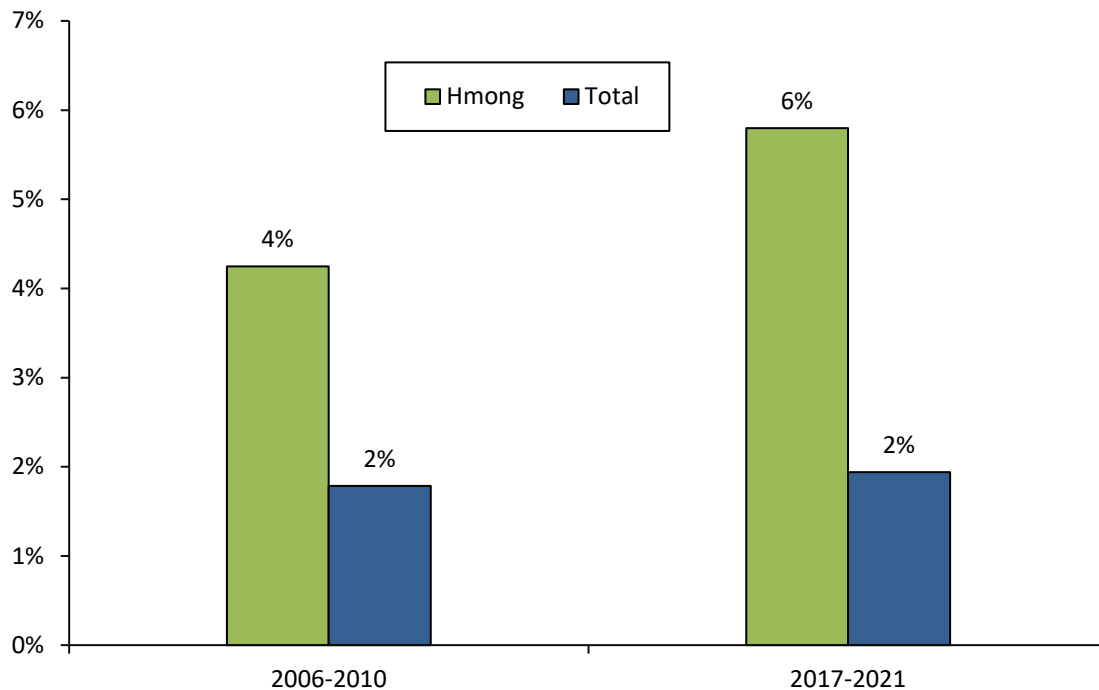


Chart 28 shows the percentage of all households receiving public assistance. In both time frames the Hmong population had significantly higher percentages receiving assistance. The total population remained the same over the time period, while the Hmong population increased by 2 percentage points.

Source: 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B19057](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 29. Employment Status for Hmong Persons Age 16 and Over, Wisconsin: 1990-2021**

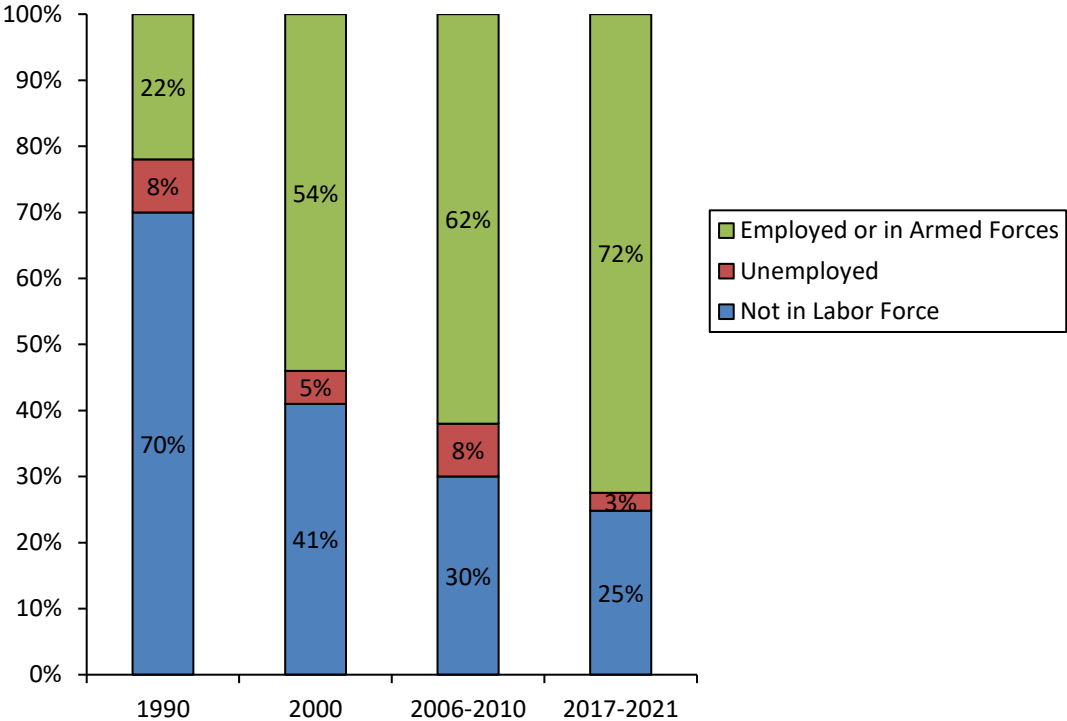


Chart 29 shows employment status for the Hmong population from 1990 to 2017-2021. Labor force participation rates have increased dramatically since 1990 when only 30% of the Hmong population was in the labor force (employed or looking for employment). The percentage of Hmong persons who were employed increased more than three-fold from 22% in 1990 to 72% in the 2017-2021 period.

Source: 1990 Census, 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, & 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B23025](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 30. Employment Status for the Hmong Population Age 16 and Over by Sex, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

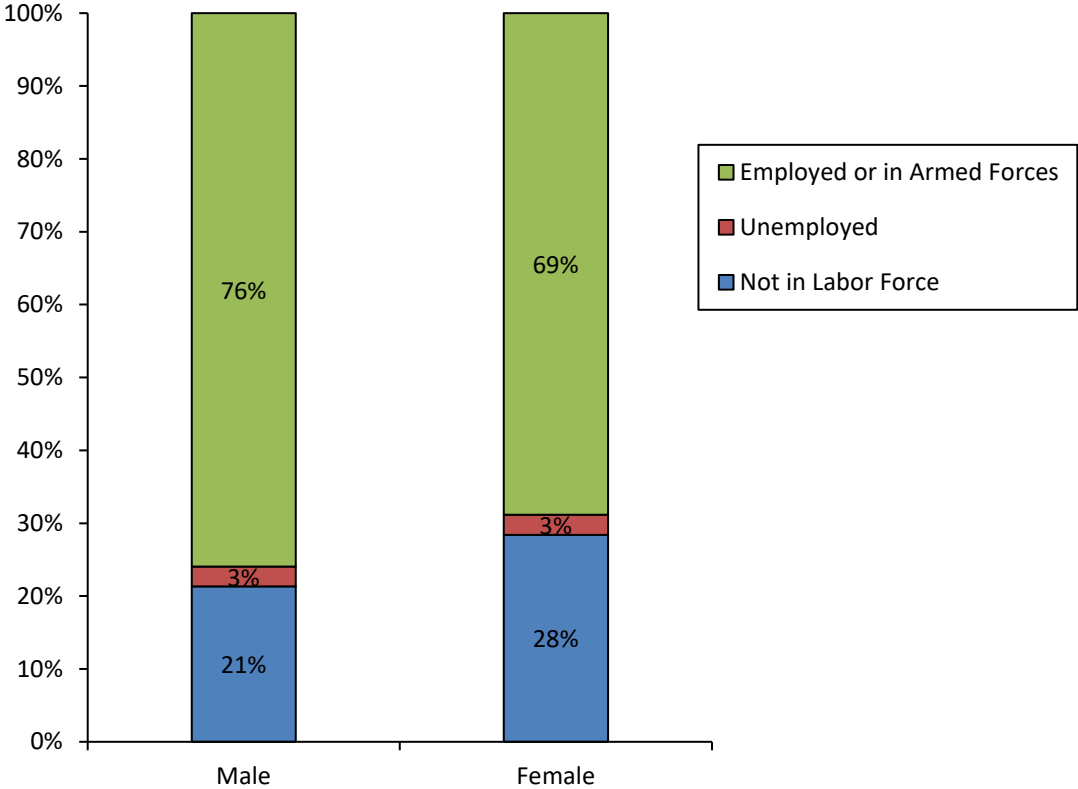
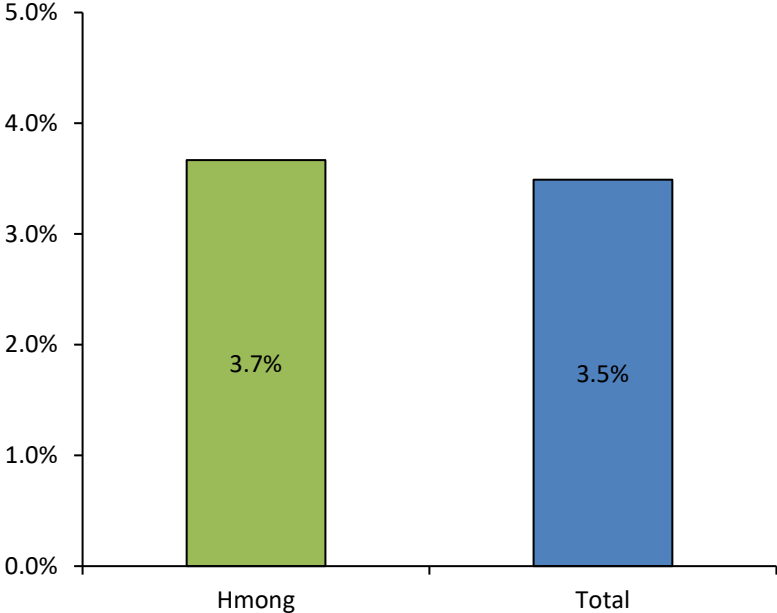


Chart 30 shows the differences in labor force participation for the Hmong population by sex. Females (28%) were more likely than males (21%) to not be in the labor force, and the percentage of males that were employed or in the armed forces was 7 percentage points higher than for females.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B23001](#), U.S. Census Bureau

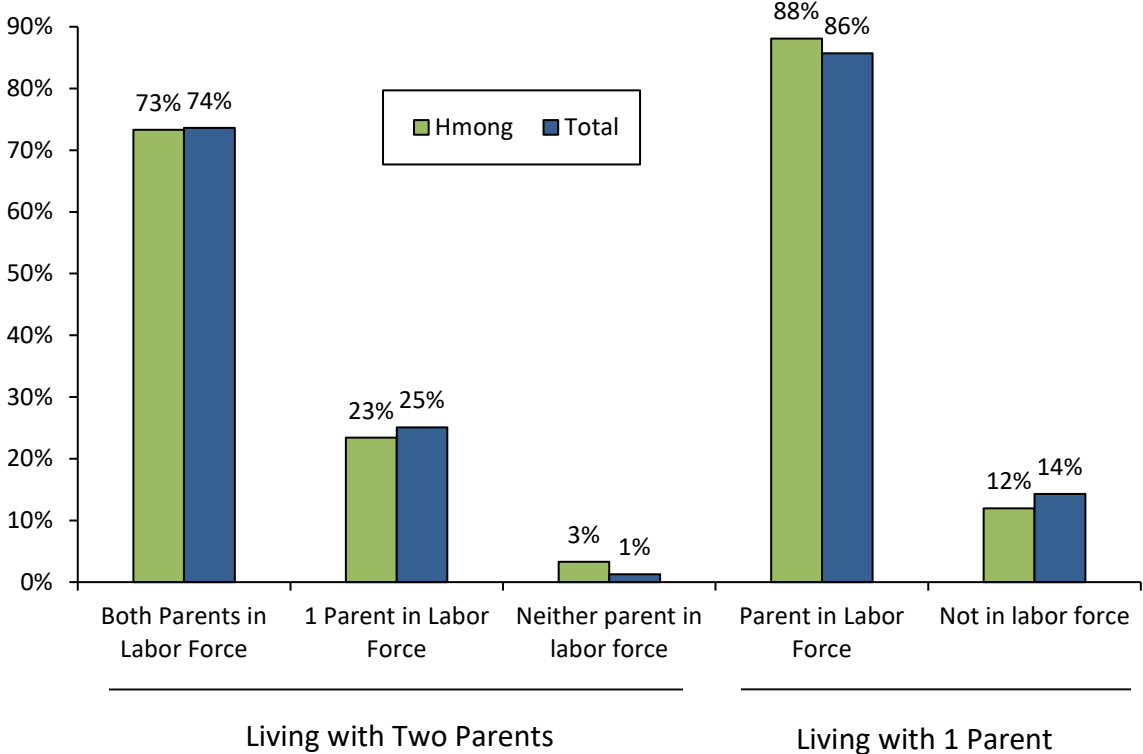
**Chart 31. Unemployment Status for Persons Age 16 and Over, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



In the 2017-2021 period the Hmong population had a slightly higher unemployment rate than the total population: 3.7% versus 3.5%.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B23025](#), U.S. Census Bureau

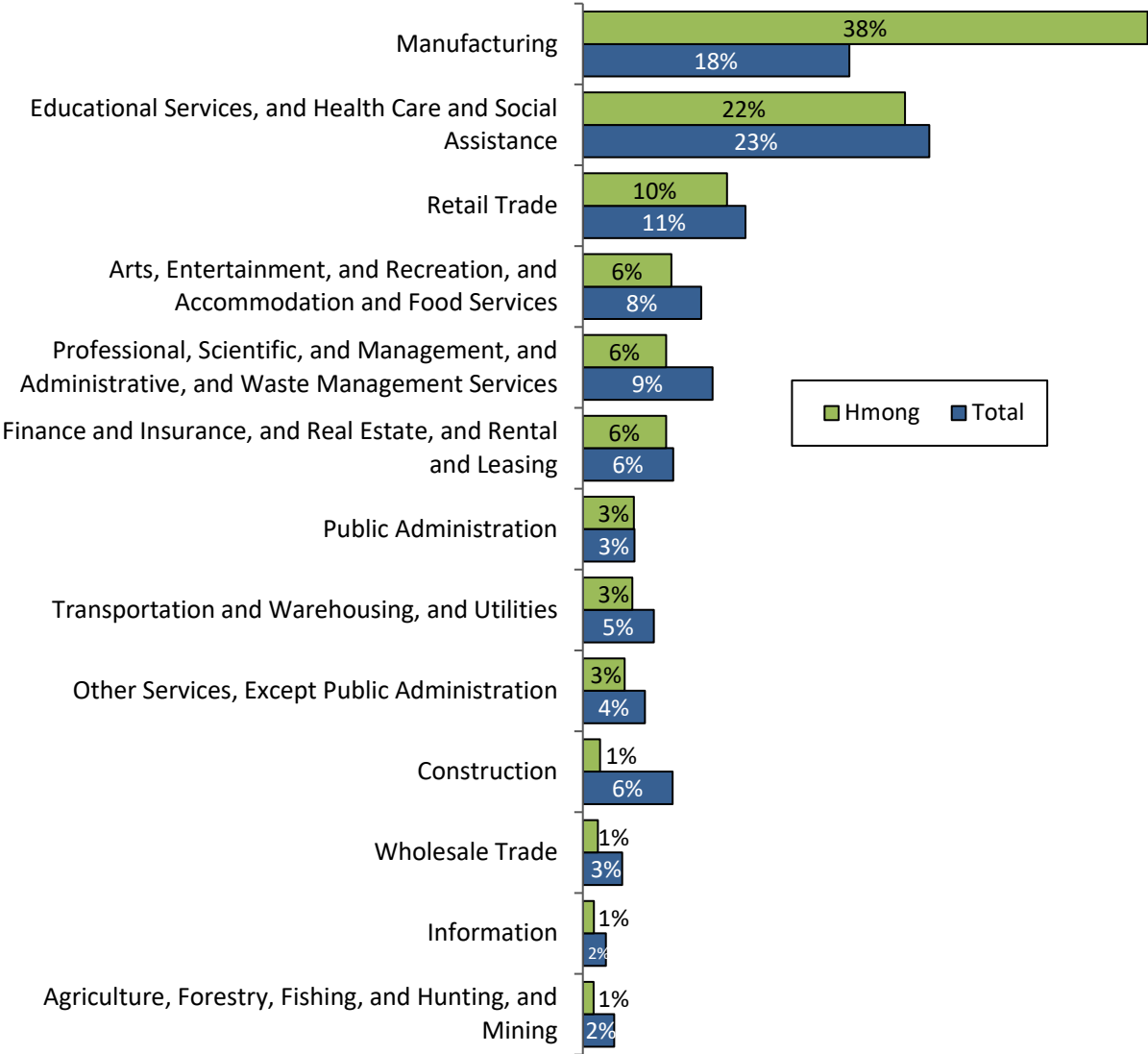
**Chart 32. Labor Force Participation for Parents by Living Arrangement of Own Children Under 18, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



In 2017-2021, children under the age of 18 in Hmong families had similar parent labor force participation compared to the total population. Hmong families did have a slightly higher percent of neither parent working (3% vs 1%), but a lower percentage of a single parent not being in the labor force (12% vs 14%)

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B23008](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 33. Industry for the Employed Civilian Hmong Population Age 16 Years and Over, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



In 2017-2021 the two industries that employed the largest percentage of Hmong workers were ‘manufacturing’, and ‘educational services, and healthcare and social assistance.’

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table C24030](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 34. Educational Attainment for the Hmong Population 25 Years and Over, Wisconsin: 1990-2021**

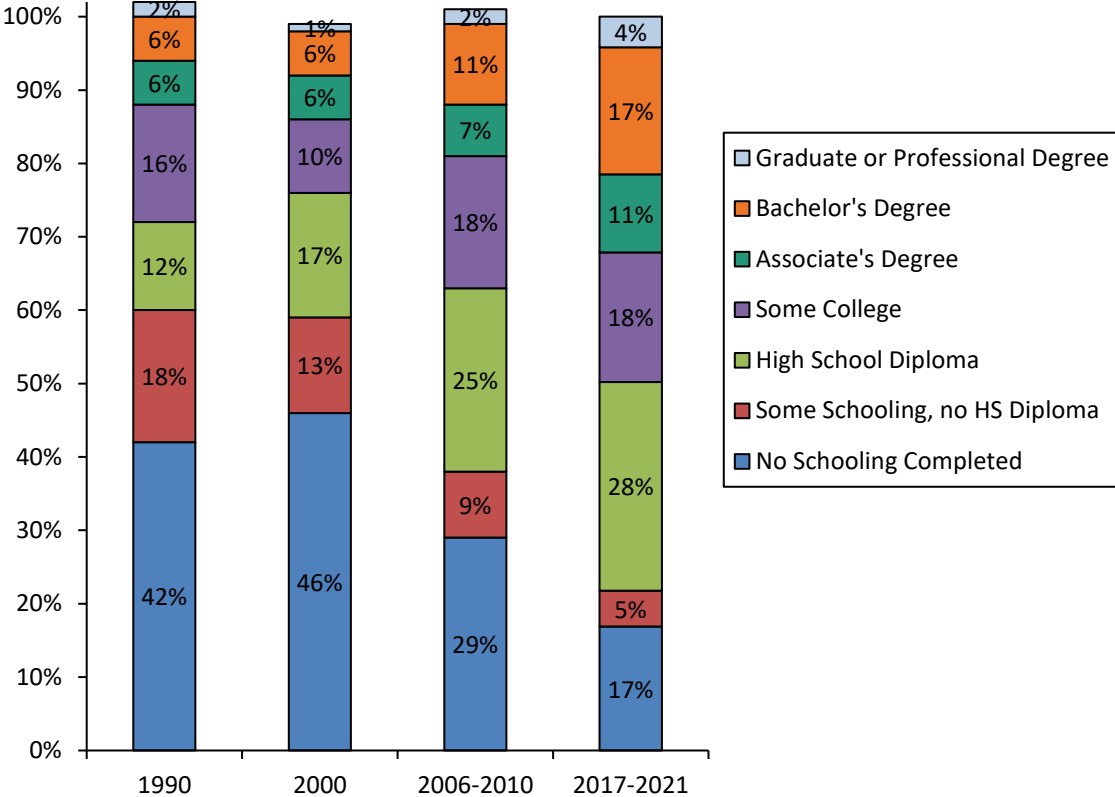


Chart 35 shows how Hmong educational attainment changed from 1990 to 2017-2021. In 2017-2021 about 21% of the population had a bachelor’s degree or higher, more than double the percentage in 2000. While educational attainment increased over the period shown, a significant percentage of the population remained without formal schooling in the 2017-2021 period estimate (17%).

Source: 1990 Census, 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B15002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 35. Educational Attainment for the Hmong Population 25 Years and Over by Sex, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**

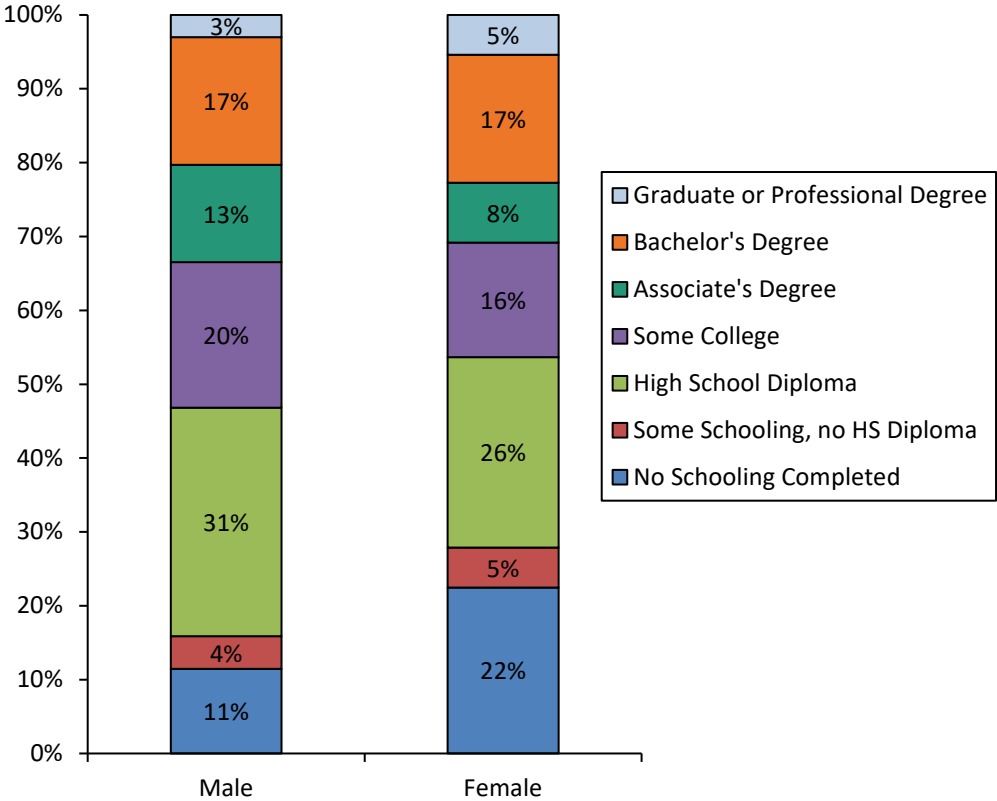
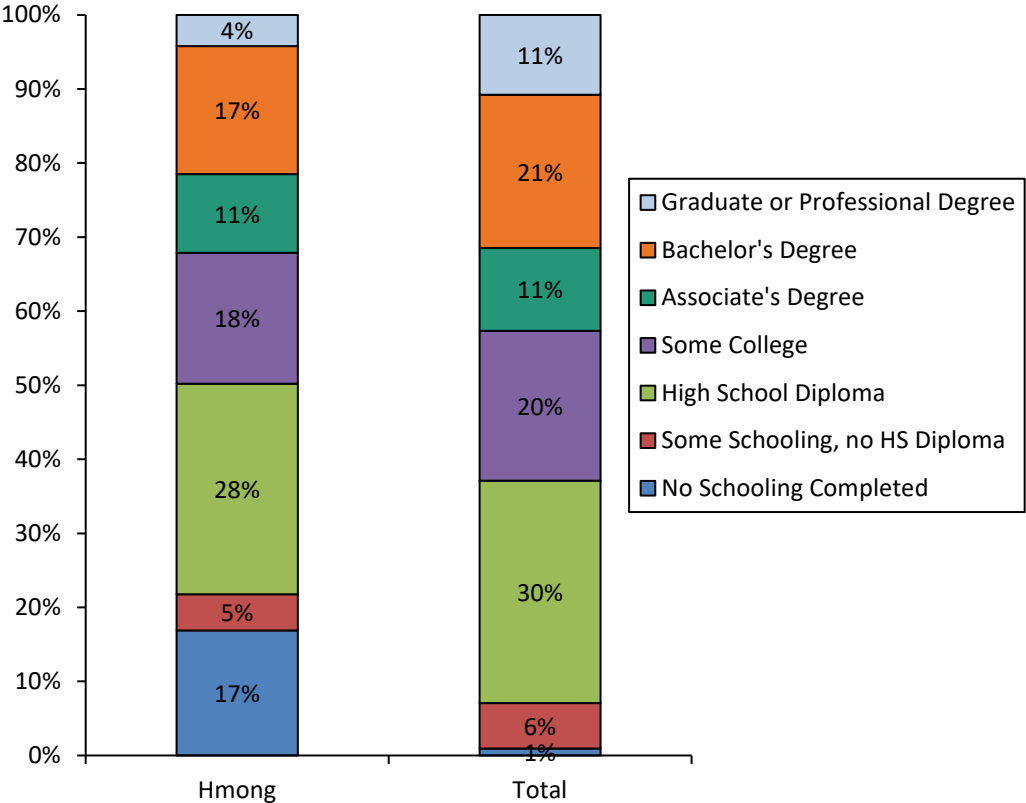


Chart 34 displays the differences in educational attainment for Hmong men and women. While both sexes have lower levels of educational attainment compared to the total Wisconsin population, Hmong females had especially low levels. In 2017-2021 the percentage of females who had not completed any schooling (22%) was double that of males (11%). There was also a gap between the sexes among higher levels of education, as 53% of Hmong females had a high school education or less, compared to 46% of males. Low educational attainment among older women accounts for much of the difference between sexes.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B15002](#), U.S. Census Bureau



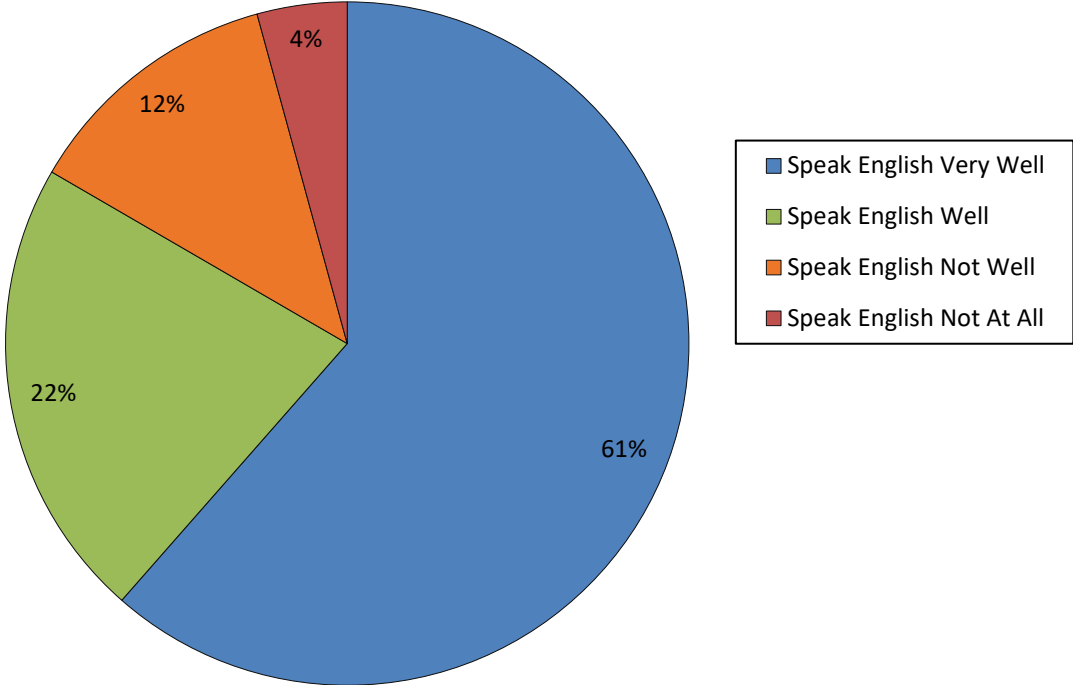
**Chart 36. Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



Educational attainment levels were higher for the total population than for the Hmong population. Lower levels of educational attainment among older Hmong immigrants were an important contributor to these differences.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B15002](#), U.S. Census Bureau

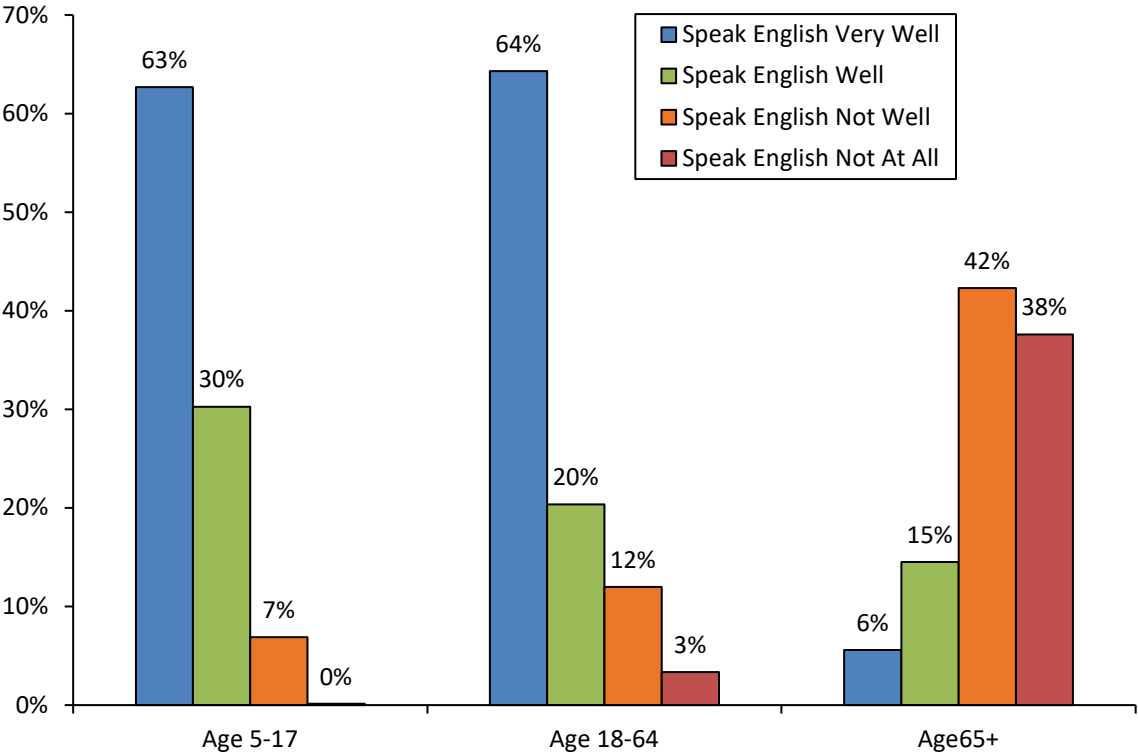
**Chart 37. Ability to Speak English for the Hmong Population 5 Years and Over Who Do Not Speak English at Home, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



For Hmong persons age 5 and over in the 2006-2010 period, 91% did not speak English at home. By the 2017-2021 period that share had dropped to 77%. Among those who did not speak English at home in 2017-2021, 83% spoke English well or very well, a 3-percentage point increase since 2006-2010.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates [Table B16004](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 38. Ability to Speak English for the Hmong Population 5 Years and Over Who Spoke an Asian Language at Home by Age, Wisconsin: 2017-2021**



The ability to speak English differed among age groups. Younger Hmong persons tended to speak English better than their older counterparts. Hmong persons age 65 and over consisted largely of immigrants and most continued to speak only their native language, though the percentage that speak English not at all decreased from 68% in 2006-2010 to 38% in 2017-2021.

Source: 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimate [Table B16004](#), U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 39. Ability to Speak English for the Hmong Population 5 Years and Over Who Do Not Speak English at Home, Wisconsin: 2000-2021**

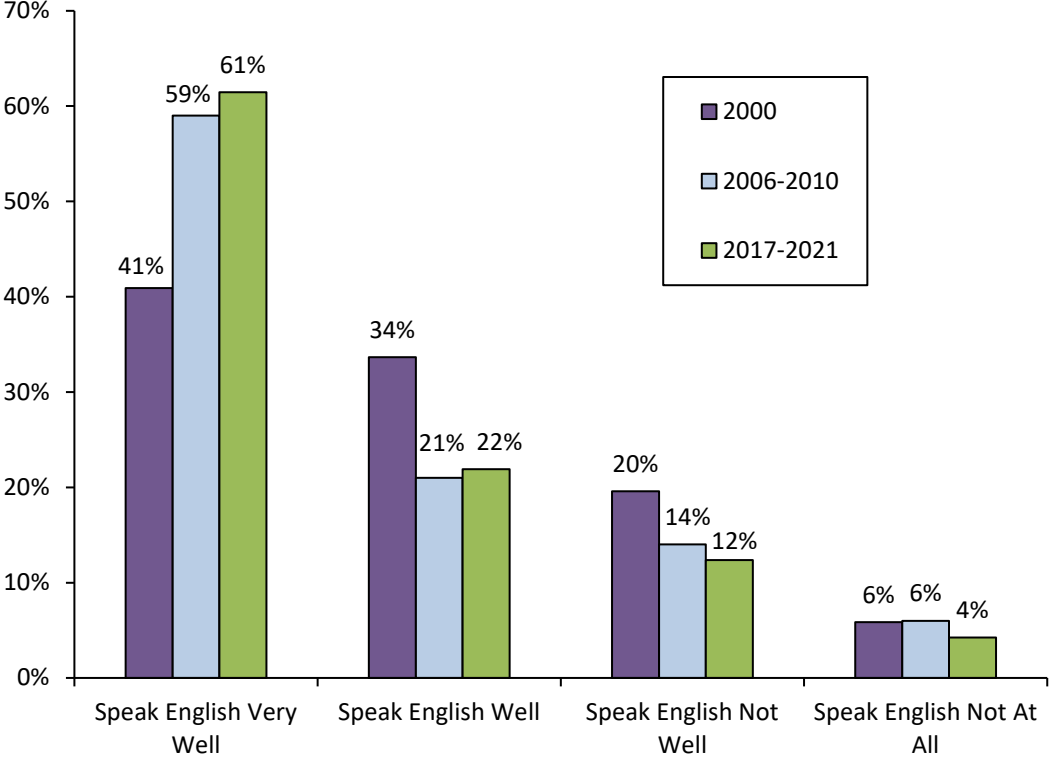
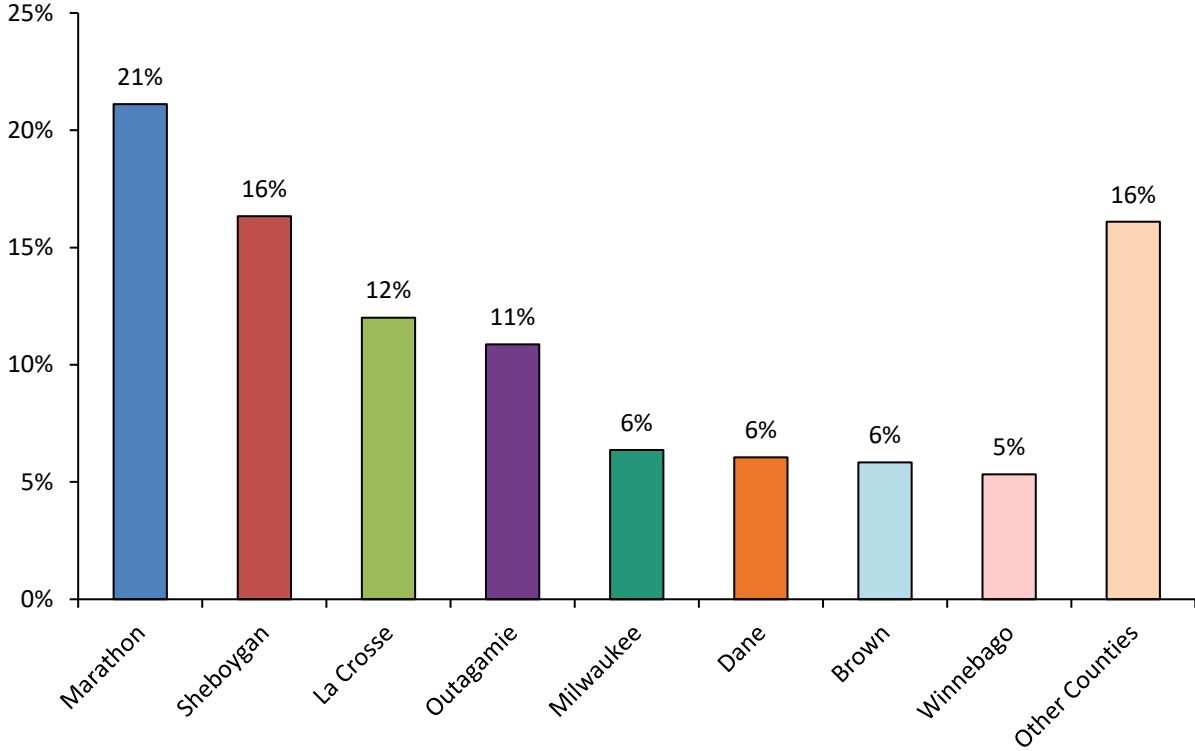


Chart 39 shows the ability to speak English since the year 2000. The proportion who speak English very well has increased greatly since 2000, while each other category has decreased since that time.

Source: 2000 Census, 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

**Chart 40. Share of State’s English Learners Hmong Students in Wisconsin Counties: 2021**



According to the Department of Public Instruction’s 2021 report on bilingual education programs, there were just over 5,000 Hmong students who were English learners. In 2021, four out of five Hmong English learner students were concentrated in eight Wisconsin counties, with Marathon and Sheboygan counties accounting for the largest shares.

Source: Report on the Status Bilingual-Bicultural Education Programs In Wisconsin, December 2021, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction <https://dpi.wi.gov/english-learners>

<b>Table 1. Hmong Population by State, 2020</b>				
<b>Rank</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Hmong Population</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent Hmong</b>
1	California	101,179	39,538,223	0.26%
2	Minnesota	91,311	5,706,494	1.60%
3	Wisconsin	59,238	5,893,718	1.01%
4	North Carolina	12,606	10,439,388	0.12%
5	Michigan	6,435	10,077,331	0.06%
6	Oklahoma	5,859	3,959,353	0.15%
7	Alaska	4,334	733,391	0.59%
8	Georgia	4,274	10,711,908	0.04%
9	Colorado	4,145	5,773,714	0.07%
10	Oregon	3,409	4,237,256	0.08%
11	Washington	2,975	7,705,281	0.04%
12	Arkansas	2,253	3,011,524	0.07%
13	Kansas	2,100	2,937,880	0.07%
14	South Carolina	1,625	5,118,425	0.03%
15	Missouri	1,606	6,154,913	0.03%
16	Florida	1,476	21,538,187	0.01%
17	Texas	1,474	29,145,505	0.01%
18	Pennsylvania	1,030	13,002,700	0.01%
19	Massachusetts	982	7,029,917	0.01%
20	Rhode Island	890	1,097,379	0.08%

<b>Table 2. Hmong Population of Wisconsin Counties, 2010-2020</b>				
<b>County</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Change 2010-2020</b>	
			<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Adams	5	NA	NA	NA
Ashland	1	NA	NA	NA
Barron	11	NA	NA	NA
Bayfield	8	NA	NA	NA
Brown	3,912	4,947	1,035	26%
Buffalo	1	NA	NA	NA
Burnett	6	NA	NA	NA
Calumet	662	781	119	18%
Chippewa	425	555	130	31%
Clark	27	NA	NA	NA
Columbia	45	NA	NA	NA
Crawford	0	NA	NA	NA
Dane	4,016	5,229	1,213	30%
Dodge	40	56	16	40%
Door	10	NA	NA	NA
Douglas	51	NA	NA	NA
Dunn	795	1,027	232	29%
Eau Claire	2,181	2,857	676	31%
Florence	5	NA	NA	NA
Fond du Lac	496	497	1	0%
Forest	0	NA	NA	NA
Grant	46	NA	NA	NA
Green	25	NA	NA	NA
Green Lake	33	NA	NA	NA
Iowa	10	NA	NA	NA
Iron	1	NA	NA	NA
Jackson	7	NA	NA	NA
Jefferson	84	99	15	18%
Juneau	36	26	-10	-28%
Kenosha	80	44	-36	-45%
Kewaunee	18	NA	NA	NA
La Crosse	3,058	3,826	768	25%
Lafayette	27	NA	NA	NA
Langlade	3	NA	NA	NA
Lincoln	22	NA	NA	NA

*Continued on next page*

<b>Table 2 (Continued). Hmong Population of Wisconsin Counties, 2010-2020</b>				
<b>County</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Change 2010-2020</b>	
			<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Manitowoc	1,518	1,666	148	10%
Marathon	5,644	7,028	1,384	25%
Marinette	22	NA	NA	NA
Marquette	0	NA	NA	NA
Menominee	0	NA	NA	NA
Milwaukee	10,917	13,653	2,736	25%
Monroe	36	24	-12	-33%
Oconto	25	NA	NA	NA
Oneida	15	NA	NA	NA
Outagamie	3,249	4,356	1,107	34%
Ozaukee	74	152	78	105%
Pepin	0	NA	NA	NA
Pierce	72	46	-26	-36%
Polk	9	26	17	189%
Portage	1,232	1,239	7	1%
Price	6	NA	NA	NA
Racine	95	75	-20	-21%
Richland	11	NA	NA	NA
Rock	40	65	25	63%
Rusk	0	NA	NA	NA
St. Croix	417	380	-37	-9%
Sauk	5	NA	NA	NA
Sawyer	0	NA	NA	NA
Shawano	45	NA	NA	NA
Sheboygan	4,046	5,191	1,145	28%
Taylor	0	NA	NA	NA
Trempealeau	43	52	9	21%
Vernon	6	NA	NA	NA
Vilas	7	NA	NA	NA
Walworth	64	53	-11	-17%
Washburn	0	NA	NA	NA
Washington	137	380	243	177%
Waukesha	302	706	404	134%
Waupaca	16	34	18	113%
Waushara	19	NA	NA	NA
Winnebago	2,223	3,127	904	41%
Wood	685	634	-51	-7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,127</b>	<b>59,238</b>	<b>12,111</b>	<b>26%</b>



<b>Table 3. Hmong Population in Top 20 Wisconsin Counties, 2010 &amp; 2020</b>				
<b>Rank</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Percent Change, 2010-2020</b>
1	Milwaukee	10,917	13,653	25%
2	Marathon	5,644	7,028	25%
3	Dane	4,016	5,229	30%
4	Sheboygan	4,046	5,191	28%
5	Brown	3,912	4,947	26%
6	Outagamie	3,249	4,356	34%
7	La Crosse	3,058	3,826	25%
8	Winnebago	2,223	3,127	41%
9	Eau Claire	2,181	2,857	31%
10	Manitowoc	1,518	1,666	10%
11	Portage	1,232	1,239	1%
12	Dunn	795	1,027	29%
13	Calumet	662	781	18%
14	Waukesha	302	706	134%
15	Wood	685	634	-7%
16	Chippewa	425	555	31%
17	Fond du Lac	496	497	0%
18	St. Croix	417	380	-9%
19	Washington	137	380	177%
20	Ozaukee	74	152	105%

<b>Table 4. Percent Hmong Population in Top 20 Wisconsin Counties, 2020</b>				
<b>Rank</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Hmong Population</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent Hmong</b>
1	Marathon	7,028	138,013	5.1%
2	Sheboygan	5,191	118,034	4.4%
3	La Crosse	3,826	120,784	3.2%
4	Eau Claire	2,857	105,710	2.7%
5	Outagamie	4,356	190,705	2.3%
6	Dunn	1,027	45,440	2.3%
7	Manitowoc	1,666	81,359	2.0%
8	Brown	4,947	268,740	1.8%
9	Winnebago	3,127	171,730	1.8%
10	Portage	1,239	70,377	1.8%
11	Calumet	781	52,442	1.5%
12	Milwaukee	13,653	939,489	1.5%
13	Dane	5,229	561,504	0.9%
14	Wood	634	74,207	0.9%
15	Chippewa	555	66,297	0.8%
16	Fond du Lac	497	104,154	0.5%
17	St. Croix	380	93,536	0.4%
18	Washington	380	136,761	0.3%
19	Waukesha	706	406,978	0.2%
20	Trempealeau	52	30,760	0.2%

**Table 5. Hmong Population in Top 20 Wisconsin Municipalities, 2010 & 2020**

Rank	Municipality	2010	2020	Percent Change, 2010-2020
1	Milwaukee city	9,862	11,851	20%
2	Sheboygan city	3,618	4,550	26%
3	Wausau city	3,569	4,014	12%
4	Appleton city	2,428	3,432	41%
5	Green Bay city	2,876	3,375	17%
6	Madison city	2,637	2,981	13%
7	Eau Claire city	1,895	2,695	42%
8	Oshkosh city	1,420	1,762	24%
9	La Crosse city	1,475	1,655	12%
10	Weston village	1,067	1,508	41%
11	Manitowoc city	1,204	1,350	12%
12	Onalaska city	658	994	51%
13	Sun Prairie city	410	907	121%
14	Holmen village	528	673	27%
15	Brown Deer village	278	668	140%
16	Bellevue village	396	539	36%
17	Stevens Point city	734	511	-30%
18	Plover village	336	488	45%
19	Wisconsin Rapids city	550	473	-14%
20	Fox Crossing village	270	440	63%

**Table 6. Top 20 Wisconsin Municipalities for Percent Hmong, 2020**

Rank	Municipality	Hmong Population	Total Population	Percent Hmong
1	Wausau city	4,014	39,994	10.0%
2	Weston village	1,508	15,723	9.6%
3	Sheboygan city	4,550	49,929	9.1%
4	Holmen village	673	10,661	6.3%
5	Rothschild village	316	5,567	5.7%
6	Brown Deer village	668	12,507	5.3%
7	Onalaska city	994	18,803	5.3%
8	Rib Mountain CDP	318	6,061	5.2%
9	Whiting village	82	1,601	5.1%
10	Appleton city	3,432	75,644	4.5%
11	Elk Mound village	44	985	4.5%
12	Kronenwetter village	344	8,353	4.1%
13	Manitowoc city	1,350	34,626	3.9%
14	Eau Claire city	2,695	69,421	3.9%
15	Plover village	488	13,519	3.6%
16	Bellevue village	539	15,935	3.4%
17	Green Bay city	3,375	107,395	3.1%
18	La Crosse city	1,655	52,680	3.1%
19	French Island CDP	114	4,284	2.7%
20	Oshkosh city	1,762	66,816	2.6%

<b>Table 7. Hmong Population of Wisconsin Counties, 2000-2020</b>					
County	2000	2010	2020	Change 2000-2020	
				Number	Percent
Adams	0	5	NA	NA	NA
Ashland	1	1	NA	NA	NA
Barron	0	11	NA	NA	NA
Bayfield	0	8	NA	NA	NA
Brown	2,957	3,912	4,947	1,990	67%
Buffalo	8	1	NA	NA	NA
Burnett	10	6	NA	NA	NA
Calumet	412	662	781	369	90%
Chippewa	321	425	555	234	73%
Clark	19	27	NA	NA	NA
Columbia	11	45	NA	NA	NA
Crawford	9	0	NA	NA	NA
Dane	2,235	4,016	5,229	2,994	134%
Dodge	36	40	56	20	56%
Door	9	10	NA	NA	NA
Douglas	75	51	NA	NA	NA
Dunn	551	795	1,027	476	86%
Eau Claire	1,599	2,181	2,857	1,258	79%
Florence	7	5	NA	NA	NA
Fond du Lac	388	496	497	109	28%
Forest	8	0	NA	NA	NA
Grant	38	46	NA	NA	NA
Green	8	25	NA	NA	NA
Green Lake	29	33	NA	NA	NA
Iowa	0	10	NA	NA	NA
Iron	0	1	NA	NA	NA
Jackson	0	7	NA	NA	NA
Jefferson	30	84	99	69	230%
Juneau	41	36	26	-15	-37%
Kenosha	15	80	44	29	193%
Kewaunee	6	18	NA	NA	NA
La Crosse	2,282	3,058	3,826	1,544	68%
Lafayette	20	27	NA	NA	NA
Langlade	22	3	NA	NA	NA
Lincoln	16	22	NA	NA	NA
Manitowoc	1,157	1,518	1,666	509	44%
Marathon	4,453	5,644	7,028	2,575	58%

*Continued on next page*

<b>Table 7 (Continued). Hmong Population of Wisconsin Counties, 2000-2020</b>					
County	2000	2010	2020	Change 2000-2020	
				Number	Percent
Marinette	0	22	NA	NA	NA
Marquette	0	0	NA	NA	NA
Menominee	0	0	NA	NA	NA
Milwaukee	7,883	10,917	13,653	5,770	73%
Monroe	37	36	24	-13	-35%
Oconto	26	25	NA	NA	NA
Oneida	20	15	NA	NA	NA
Outagamie	2,504	3,249	4,356	1,852	74%
Ozaukee	21	74	152	131	624%
Pepin	0	0	NA	NA	NA
Pierce	20	72	46	26	130%
Polk	15	9	26	11	73%
Portage	861	1,232	1,239	378	44%
Price	0	6	NA	NA	NA
Racine	53	95	75	22	42%
Richland	1	11	NA	NA	NA
Rock	17	40	65	48	282%
Rusk	10	0	NA	NA	NA
St. Croix	81	417	380	299	369%
Sauk	0	5	NA	NA	NA
Sawyer	1	0	NA	NA	NA
Shawano	35	45	NA	NA	NA
Sheboygan	2,706	4,046	5,191	2,485	92%
Taylor	8	0	NA	NA	NA
Trempealeau	1	43	52	51	5100%
Vernon	0	6	NA	NA	NA
Vilas	0	7	NA	NA	NA
Walworth	40	64	53	13	33%
Washburn	0	0	NA	NA	NA
Washington	45	137	380	335	744%
Waukesha	76	302	706	630	829%
Waupaca	6	16	34	28	467%
Waushara	37	19	NA	NA	NA
Winnebago	1,825	2,223	3,127	1,302	71%
Wood	689	685	634	-55	-8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,791</b>	<b>47,127</b>	<b>59,238</b>	<b>25,447</b>	<b>75%</b>

NA = suppressed data (1) the count was negative or (2) it is an alone count larger than its equivalent alone or in any combination count.

Source: 2000, 2010, and 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing, U.S. Census Bureau

