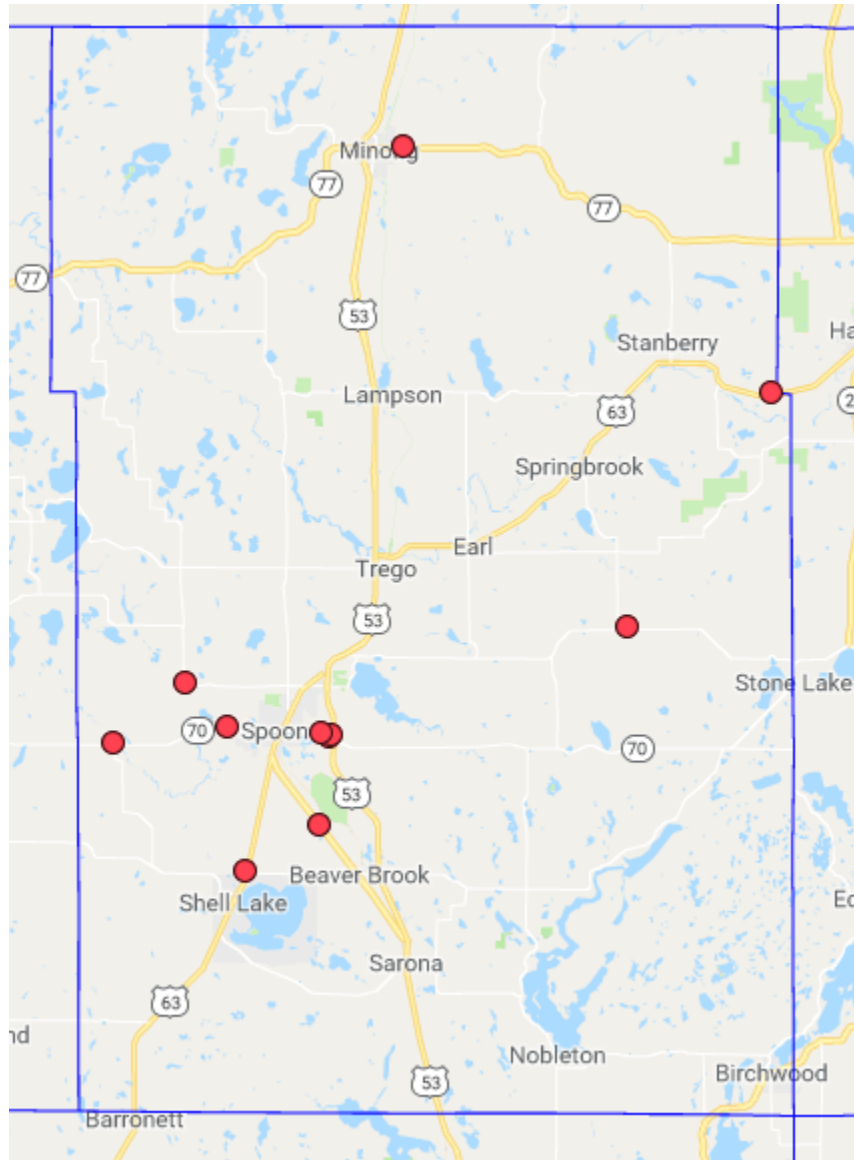


# ANATOMY OF WASHBURN COUNTY: A TRAFFIC SAFETY SUMMARY



There were 12 fatal crashes in Washburn County from 2012 to 2016.

## **THE PLACE**

### *Section Summary*

The principal routes in the county are USH 53 and USH 63. Washburn County is among the top ten counties in the state for VMT per capita and miles of roads per capita. It is among the bottom ten counties for the number of registered vehicles per VMT.

### *Urbanization*

Washburn County is adjacent to the Duluth metropolitan area. 16.80% of the county's population lives in urban areas, and 0.21% of the area of the county is urban.<sup>1</sup> The county contains 149,956 acres of county forest.<sup>2</sup>

### *Road Network*

U.S. Highway (USH) 53 is an expressway that runs south to north carrying traffic around Spooner and Minong. To the north, USH 53 travels to Solon Springs, Superior, and Duluth, Minnesota, and to the south, it heads to Rice Lake, Chippewa Falls, and Eau Claire. USH 63 is a north-south primary arterial traveling through Spooner and Shell Lake. To the north, USH 63 carries traffic to and from Ashland via Hayward and Mason, and to the south, it travels to Cumberland, Clear Lake, and Baldwin.

State Trunk Highway (STH) 70 runs east to west through Spooner. To the east, STH 70 runs to Couderay, Radisson, and Winter, and to the west, it carries traffic to and from Siren, Grantsburg, and Rock Creek, Minnesota. STH 77 runs east to west through Minong. To the east, STH 77 travels to Hayward, Mellen, and Hurley, and to the west, it carries traffic to and from Hinckley, Minnesota. STH 253 connects USH 63 on the south edge of Spooner with USH 53 just north of the community of Sarona. STH 48 cuts through the southeast corner of the county, traveling through Birchwood. To the east, STH 48 travels to Exeland, and to the west it heads to Rice Lake, Cumberland, and Luck.

### *Miles of Roadway*

There are 1,415 miles of roads in the county, of which 137 (9.7%) are state roads, 199 (14.1%) are county roads, 983 (69.5%) are local roads, and 96 miles are of another type.<sup>3</sup>

### *Vehicle Registrations and Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)*

In 2016, there were 6,069 autos, 1,068 cycles, 1,917 trailers, and 12,291 trucks registered in Washburn County.<sup>4</sup> VMT in 2016 was 326,908,965.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> United States Census Bureau. "Percent urban and rural in 2010 by state and county." Accessed Sept. 29, 2017.

<https://www.census.gov/geo/reference/ua/urban-rural-2010.html>

<sup>2</sup> Wisconsin County Forests Association. "Forest Acres." Accessed Nov. 6, 2017. <http://www.wisconsincountyforests.com/forest-resources/forest-acres/>

<sup>3</sup> Wisconsin Department of Transportation. "County Maps." Accessed Sept. 29, 2017. <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/travel/road/hwy-maps/county-maps/default.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> Wisconsin Department of Transportation. "Facts and Figures 2016, Vehicles Registered by County." Accessed Nov. 6, 2017.

<http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/about-wisdot/newsroom/statistics/factsfig/vehregcounty.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Wisconsin Department of Transportation. "2016 Vehicles Miles of Travel (VMT) by County." Accessed Nov. 6, 2017.

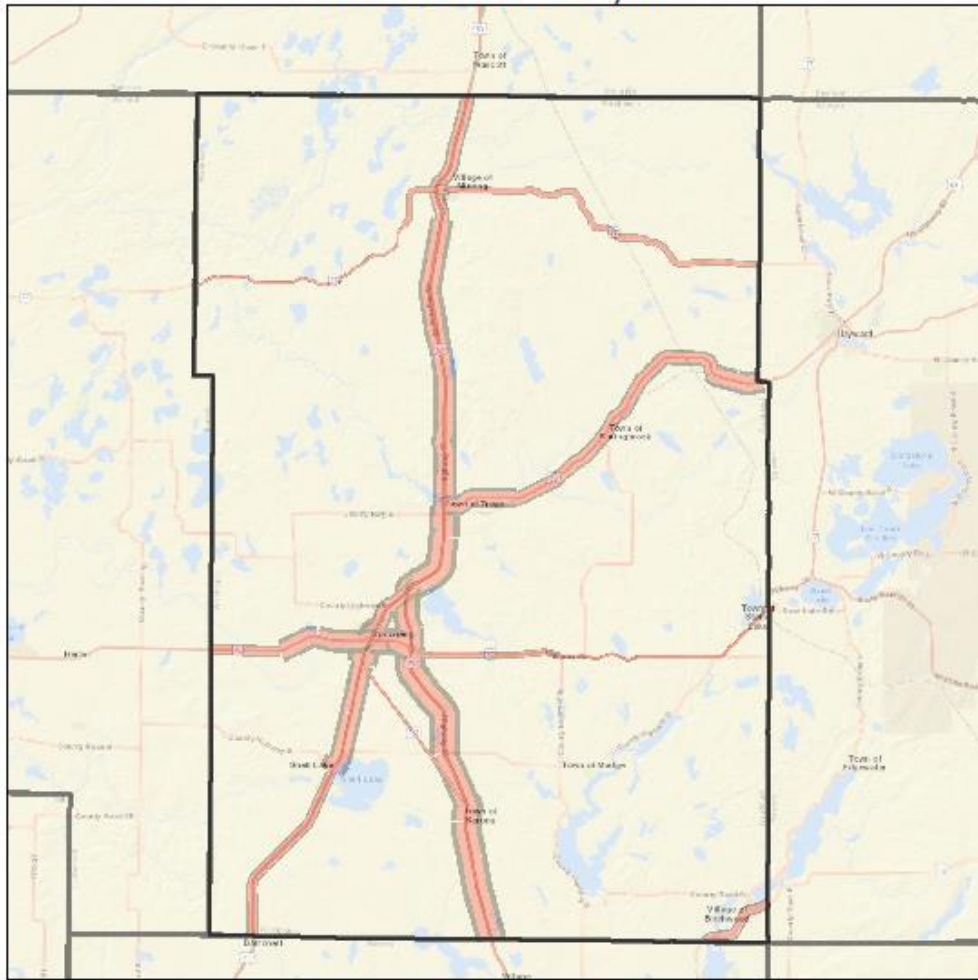
<http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/projects/data-plan/veh-miles/vmt2016-c.pdf>

### Traffic Volume

As can be seen in Figure 1, traffic volumes in Washburn County are highest in south-central portion of the county, near the intersection of Highways 53,63, and 70. The maximum daily VMT in the county is measured at slightly over 10,000.

**FIGURE 1:**

### TRAFFIC VOLUME ON THE STATE TRUNK NETWORK WASHBURN COUNTY, WI



Miles  
0 4.25 8.5

Map produced by Evan Moorman  
Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS)  
Data from the Wisconsin DOT wltasemaps  
from EBRI (2017)

#### Traffic Volume (Measured in Daily Vehicle-Miles Traveled)

- 0 - 1316
- 1317 - 2160
- 2161 - 3552
- 3553 - 4324
- 4325 - 4910
- 4911 - 5972
- 5973 - 7788
- 7789 - 10150

### Commuting Flows

As seen below in Figure 2, the majority of workers who reside in Washburn County also work in Washburn County, and vice versa.

**FIGURE 2: COMMUTING FLOWS AMONG COUNTIES**

Workers who Reside in Washburn County Work in:		People who Work in Washburn County Reside in:	
Washburn County	4,482	Washburn County	4,482
Barron County	767	Barron County	601
Sawyer County	729	Burnett County	429
Burnett County	163	Douglas County	246
Hennepin County, MN	74	Sawyer County	177
Chippewa County	63		
Douglas County	61		
Ramsey County, MN	26		
Polk County	26		
Eau Claire County	25		
St. Louis County, MN	24		
Others	228	Others	504

6

As seen below in Figure 3, the most common commuting flow between two different municipalities is between residences in the town of Evergreen and workplaces in Spooner.

**FIGURE 3: COMMUTING FLOWS BETWEEN MUNICIPALITIES (TOP 11)**

Residence	Place of Work	Number
Evergreen (Town)	Spooner	229
Beaver Brook (Town)	Spooner	159
Spooner (Town)	Spooner	134
Spooner	Shell Lake	130
Bashaw (Town)	Shell Lake	128
Bashaw (Town)	Spooner	123
Trego (Town)	Spooner	113
Shell Lake	Spooner	96
Long Lake (Town)	Rice Lake	83
Madge (Town)	Spooner	80
Cedar Lake (Town), Barron Co.	Birchwood	73

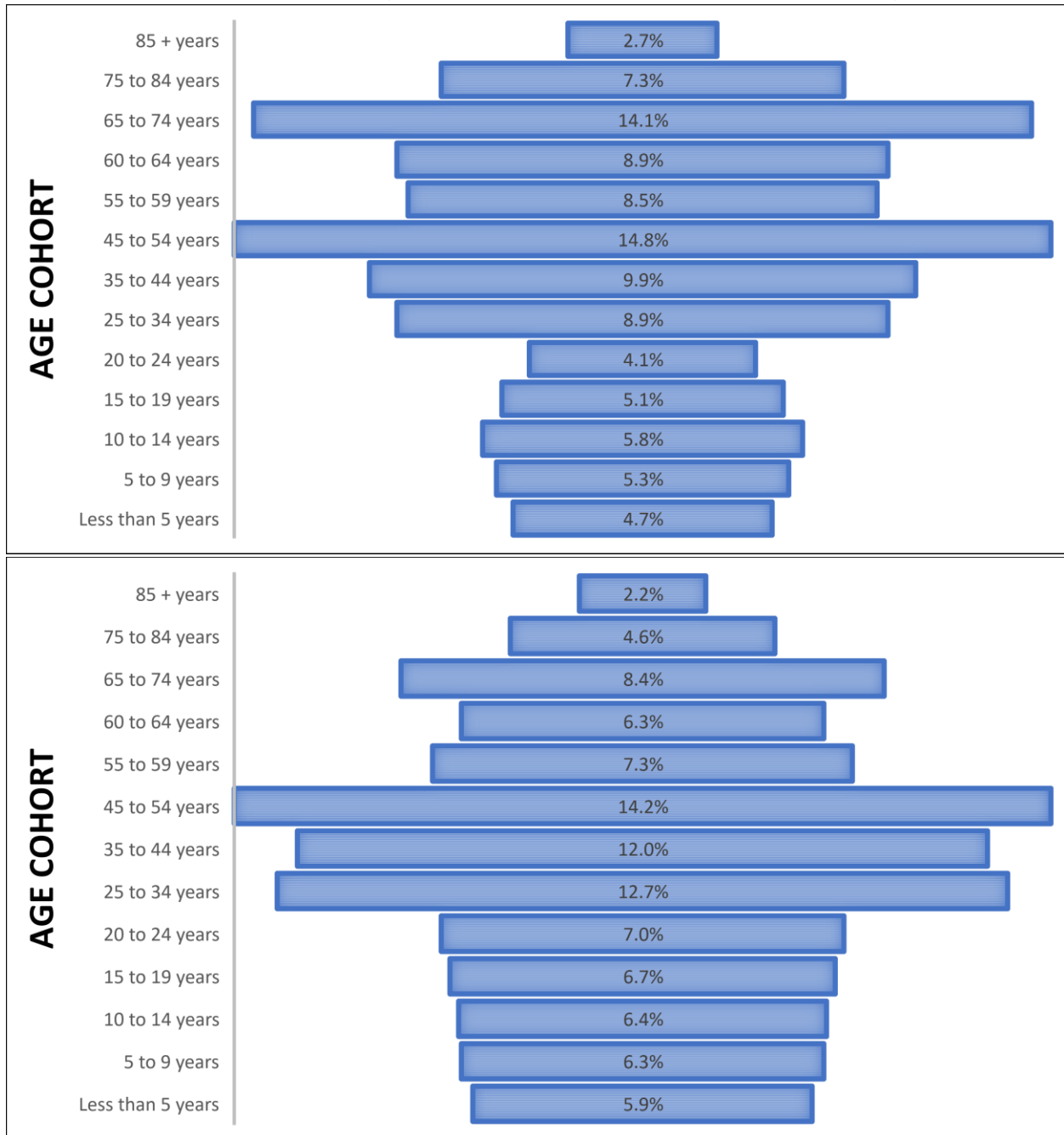
7

<sup>6</sup>United States Census Bureau. 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey Commuting Flows. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/commuting/commuting-flows.html> Accessed Sept. 29, 2017.

<sup>7</sup> United States Census Bureau. 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey Commuting Flows. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/commuting/commuting-flows.html> Accessed Oct. 5, 2017.



**FIGURE 5<sup>9</sup>: POPULATION PYRAMIDS (WASHBURN COUNTY ABOVE AND STATE BELOW)**

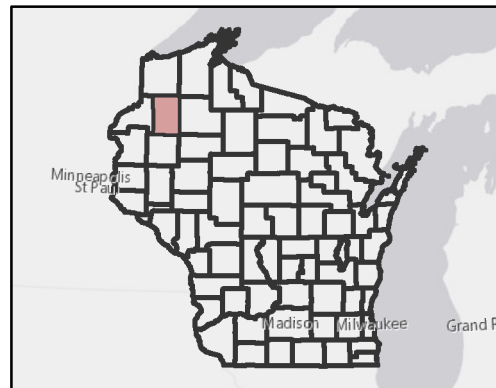
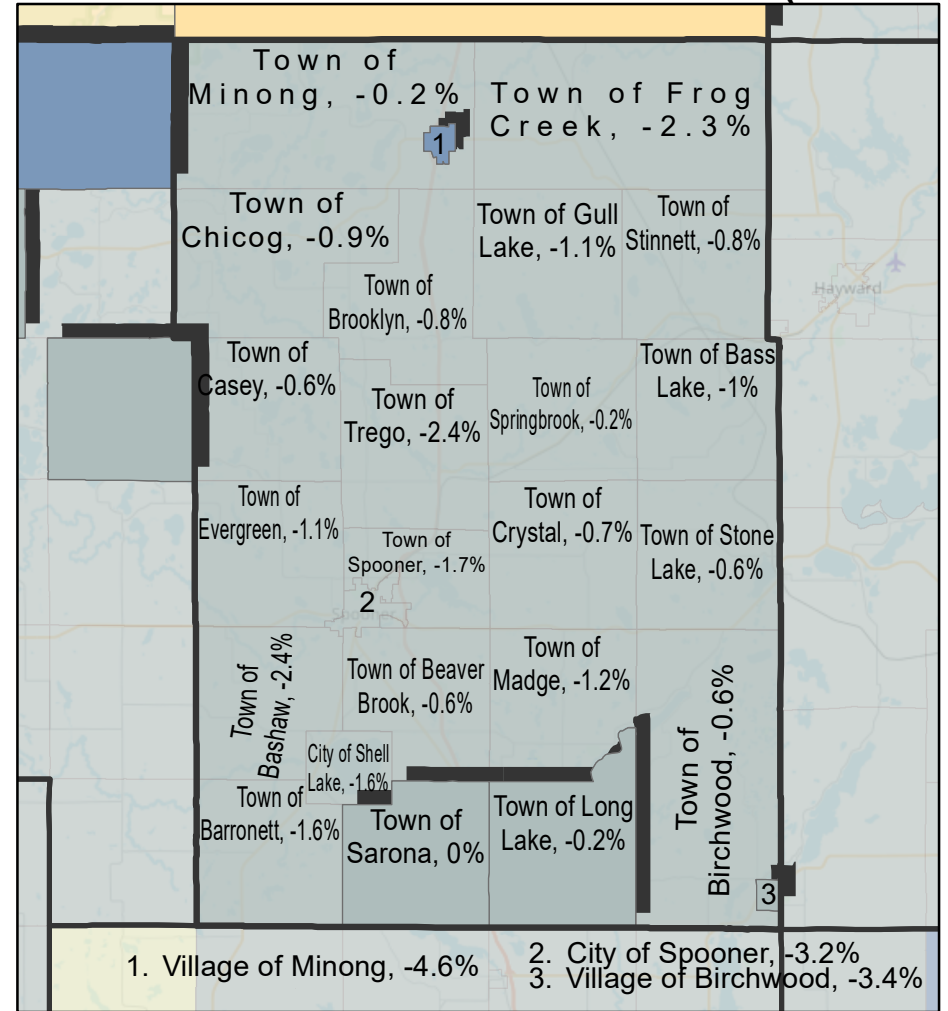
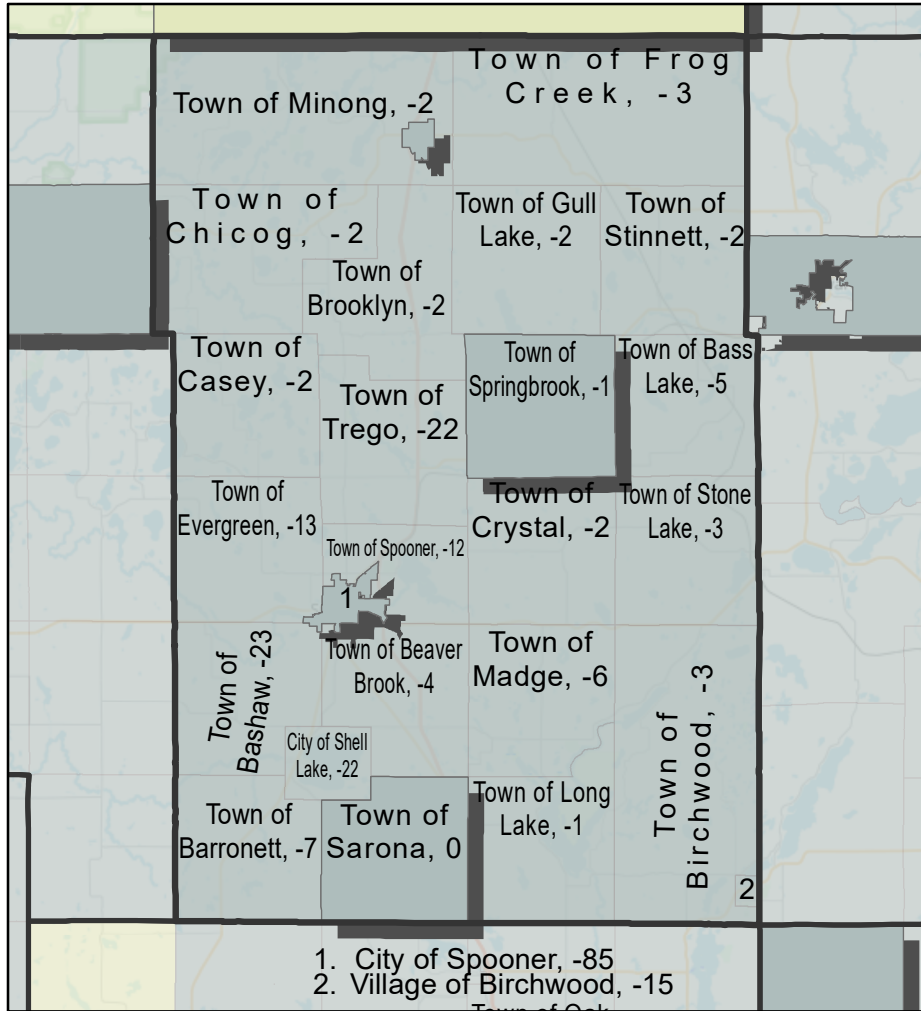


All jurisdictions in the county are losing population, with no clear geographic pattern to such declines. (In Figure 6, the measure of absolute population change merely shows the raw population changes between 2010 and 2016, while the measure of “relative population change” weights such absolute changes by the base population figures of 2010).<sup>10</sup>

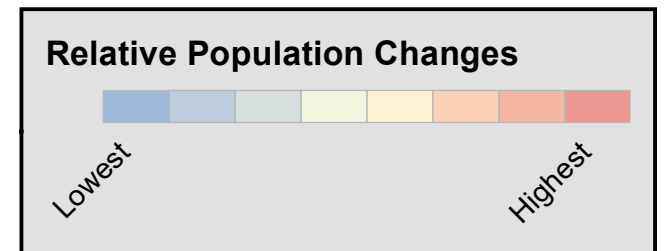
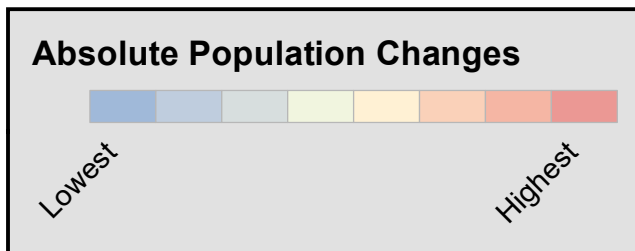
<sup>9</sup> United States Census Bureau. “Selected Economic Characteristics DP03, Employment Status.” 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_15\\_5YR\\_DP03&src=pt](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_5YR_DP03&src=pt) Accessed November 6th, 2017.

<sup>10</sup> The highlighted jurisdiction in the image shows the two jurisdictions that are growing fastest and the two jurisdictions growing the slowest.

# ABSOLUTE AND RELATIVE POPULATION CHANGES WASHBURN COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES (2010-2016)



Produced by E. Moorman, Bureau of Transportation Safety and the Division of State Patrol, Data from ESRI and the US Census Bureau, 2016

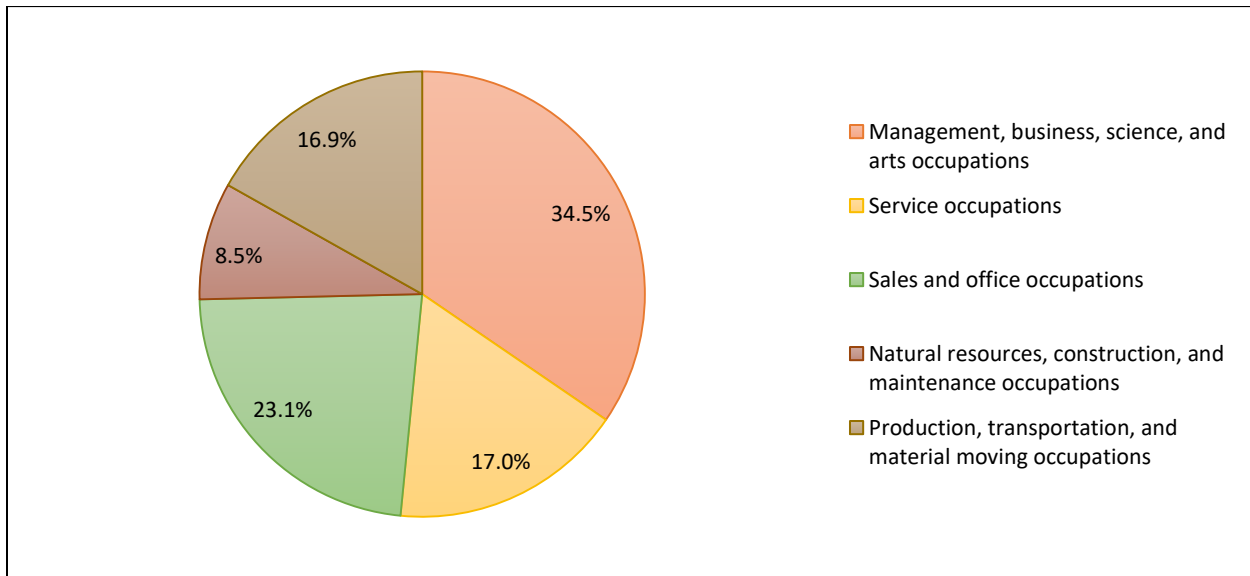
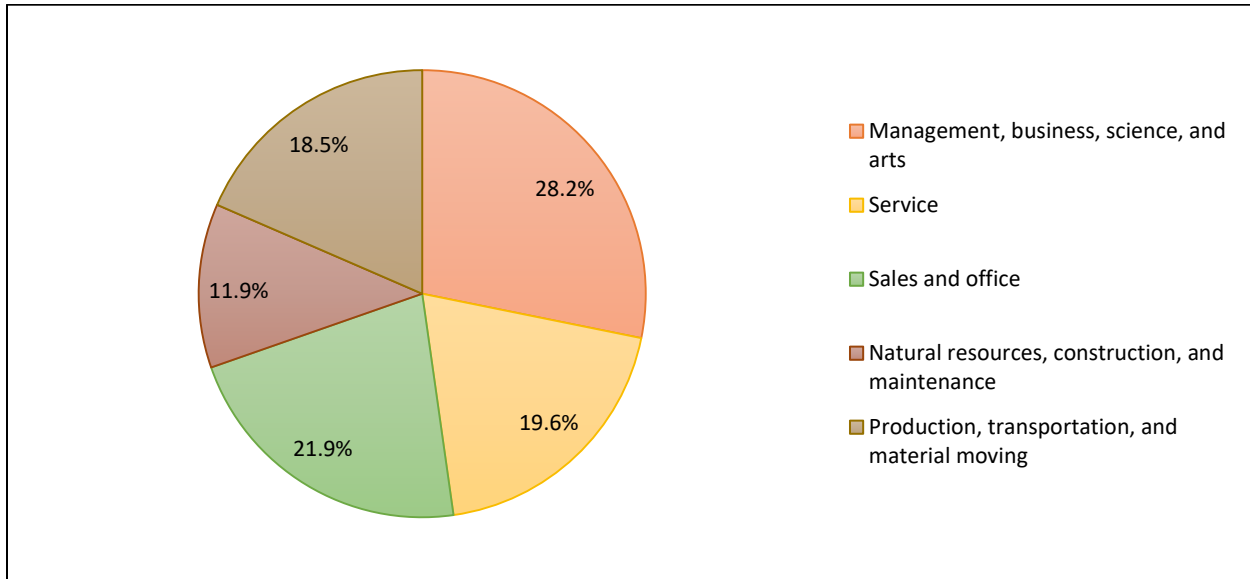


## **THE ECONOMY**

### *Section Summary*

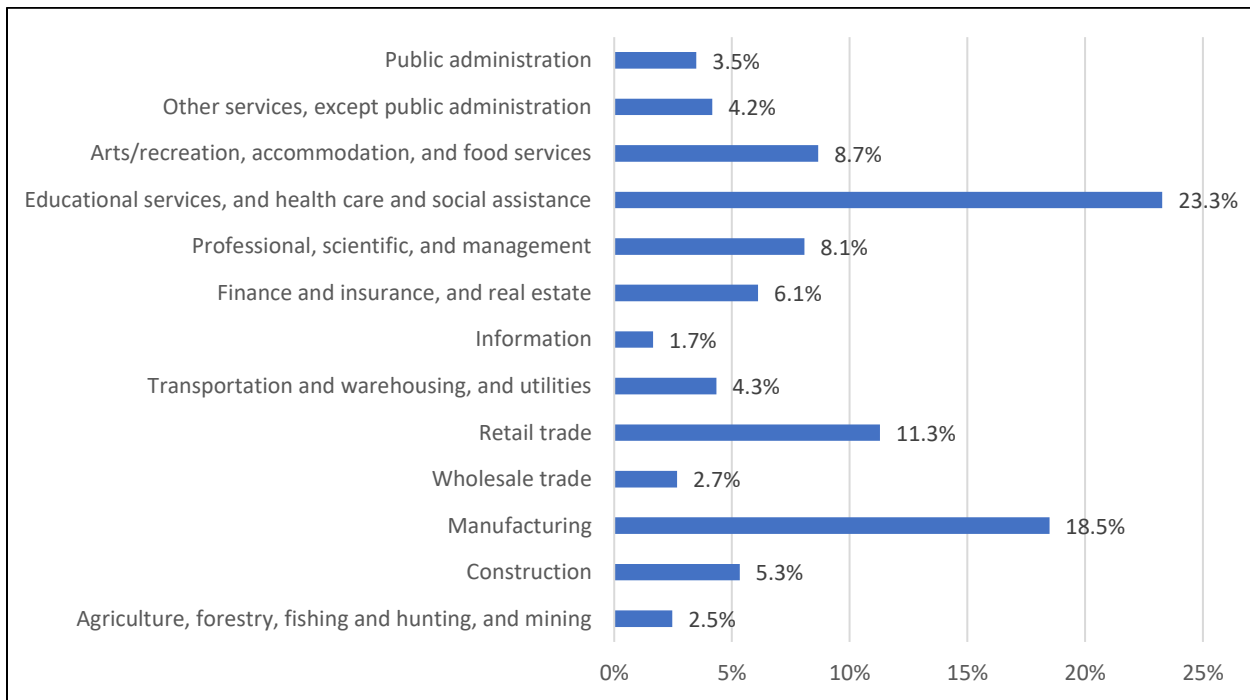
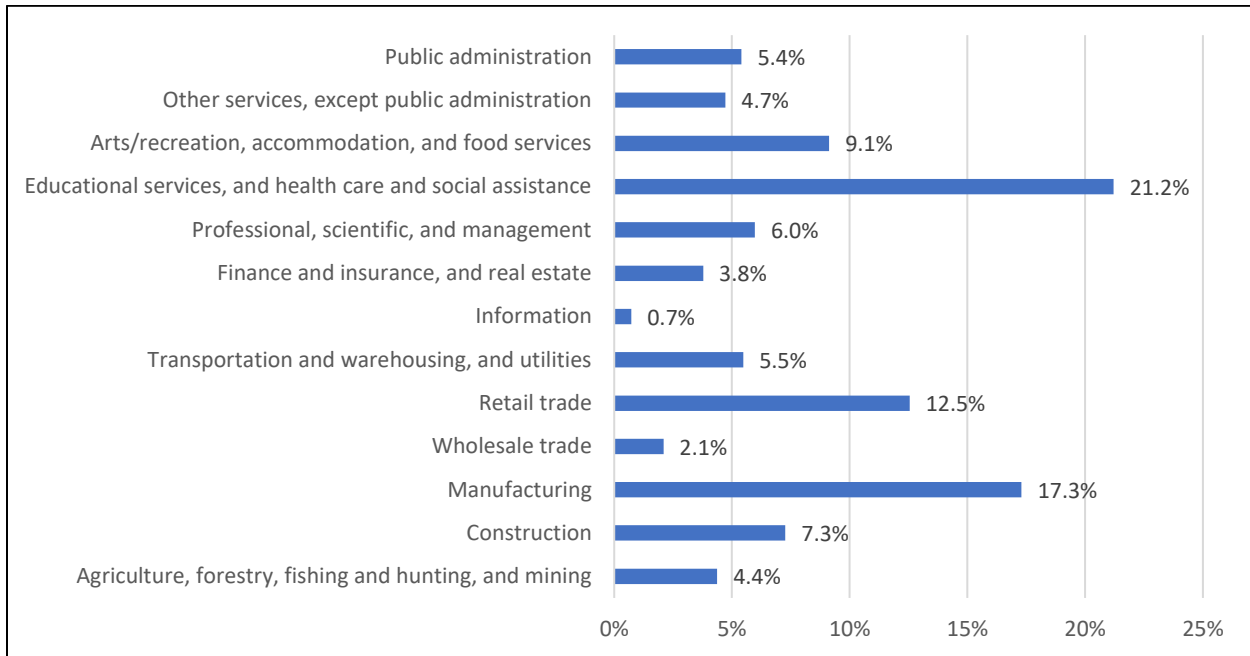
The unemployment rate in Washburn County has been, on average, 1.1% higher than that of the state over the last decade. Generally, the county has a comparatively low number of jobs in management, business, science, or the arts. The proportion of the population that works the information industry is small.

**FIGURE 7: EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION (WASHBURN ON TOP AND THE STATE BELOW) <sup>11</sup>**



<sup>11</sup> United States Census Bureau. "Selected Economic Characteristics DP03, Employment Status." 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_15\\_5YR\\_DP03&src=pt](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_5YR_DP03&src=pt) Accessed September 29, 2017.

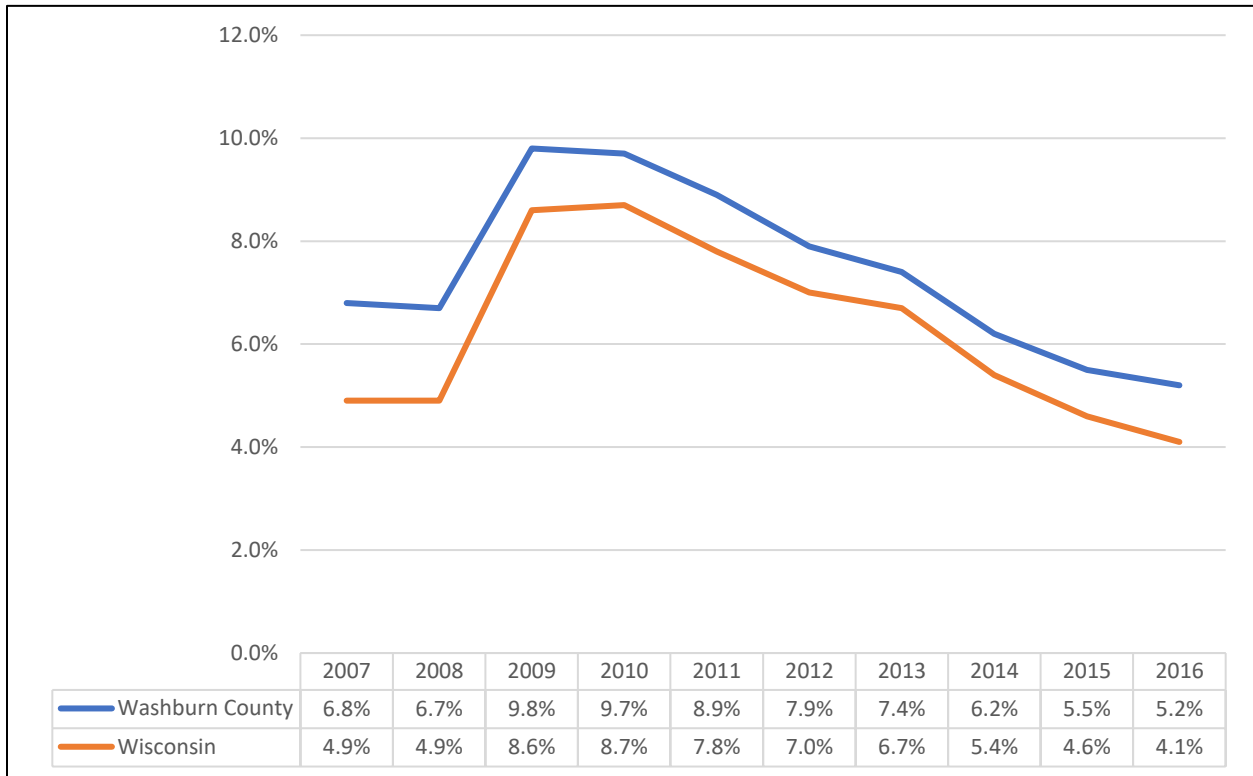
**FIGURE 8: EMPLOYED POPULATION BY INDUSTRY (WASHBURN ON TOP AND STATE BELOW)**



12

<sup>12</sup> United States Census Bureau. "Selected Economic Characteristics DP03, Employment Status." 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_15\\_5YR\\_DP03&src=pt](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_5YR_DP03&src=pt) Accessed September 29, 2017.

**FIGURE 9: UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, WASHBURN COUNTY AND WISCONSIN, 2007-2016**



13

<sup>13</sup> United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Local Area Unemployment Statistics. "Labor Force Data by County," annual averages. <https://www.bls.gov/lau/#tables> Accessed Sept. 29, 2017.

## ALCOHOL RISK FACTORS

### *Section Summary*

Sixty-one percent of licensees have liquor for sale for consumption on site. Twenty percent of the licenses are in Spooner, 10% are in Shell Lake, 8% are in Birchwood, and 55% are in towns.

**FIGURE 10: ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES BY JURISDICTION, WASHBURN COUNTY**

	Birchwood	Minong	Shell Lake	Spooner	Towns	Total (By Liq. License)
AB or AC			1	2	3	<b>6</b>
AL or ALB	3	3	2	4	7	<b>19</b>
BB or CW	1		1	5	3	<b>10</b>
BL or BLB	3	4	5	8	37	<b>57</b>
Others					2	<b>2</b>
<b>Total (By Municipality)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>94</b>

14

Establishments within a municipality but outside the county are not included in the table.

CODE	DESCRIPTION
AB	Beer for sale off site (convenience stores, grocery stores)
AC	Cider for sale off site (convenience stores, grocery stores)
AL	Liquor for sale off site (drug stores, wineries)
ALB	Beer, wine, or liquor for sale off site
BB	Beer for sale on site or off site
BL	Liquor for sale on site (winery)
BLB	Beer or liquor for sale on site (taverns, supper clubs)
CW	Wine for sale on site (restaurants) (usually in conjunction with BB)

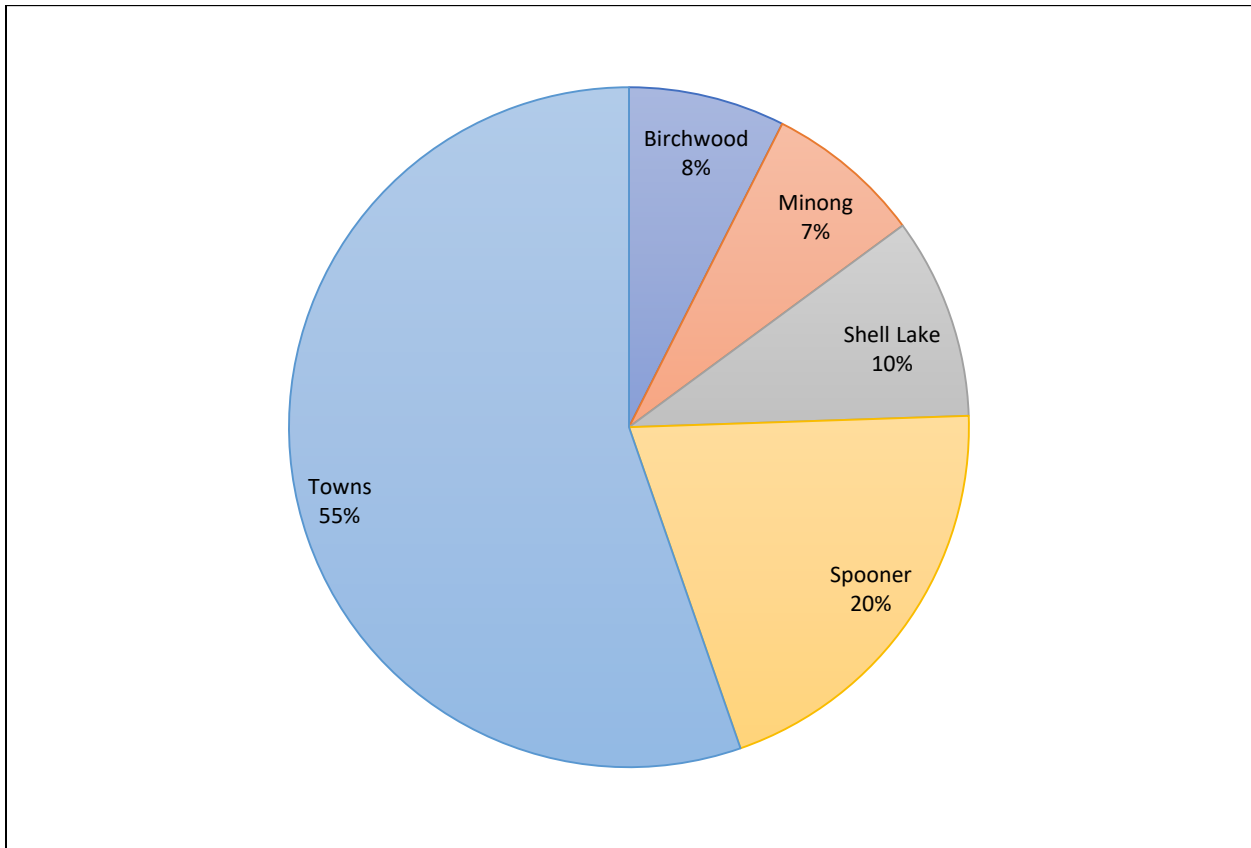
15

<sup>14</sup> Wisconsin Department of Revenue. Oct. 4, 2017. "WI Liquor Licenses 2017-18."

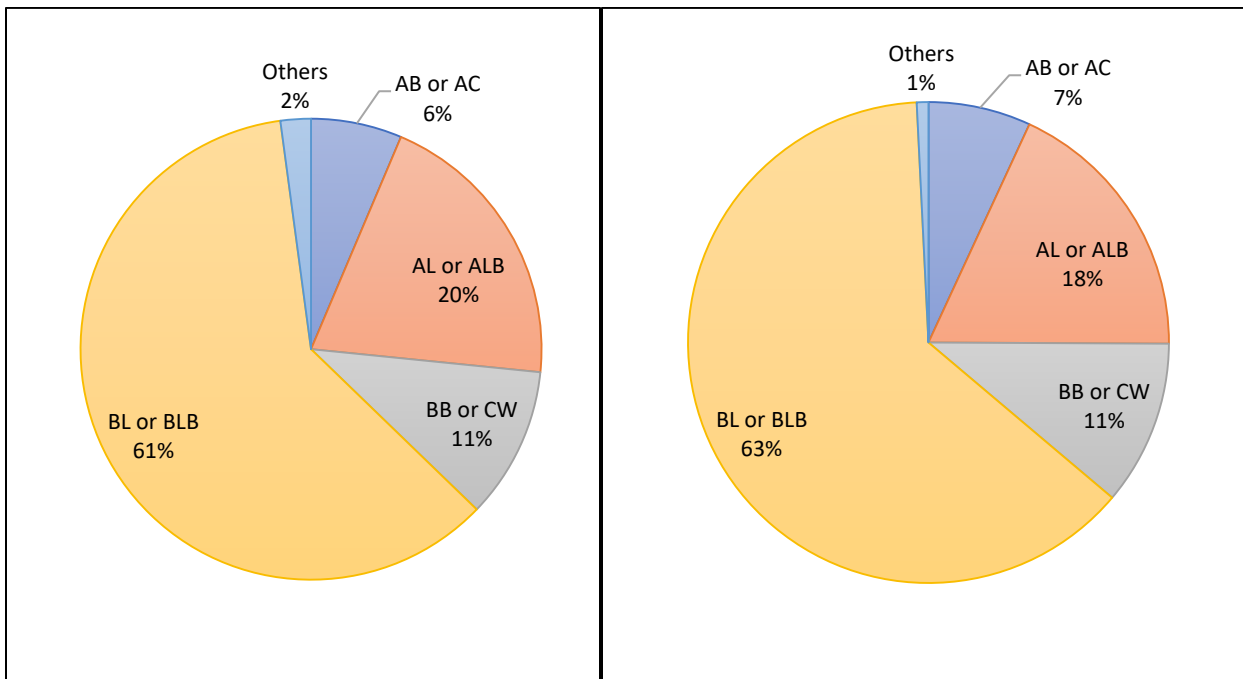
<sup>15</sup> Wisconsin Department of Revenue. "Liquor License Report, Liquor License Codes."

<https://www.revenue.wi.gov/Pages/OnlineServices/liqlicrpt.aspx>. Accessed Oct. 25, 2017.

**FIGURE 10.2: ALCOHOL LICENSES IN WASHBURN COUNTY BY JURISDICTION**



**FIGURE 11: ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES BY TYPE, 2017-2018 (WASHBURN COUNTY ON THE LEFT, STATE ON THE RIGHT)**



## **HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE**

### *Injury-to-Death Ratios*

Injury-to-death ratios are computed by dividing the total number of crash injuries by the crash fatalities. Higher rates are positive in that fatalities comprise a smaller percentage of crash victims. In general, higher rates are found in the state's urbanized southeastern and south-central regions and the Fox Valley, where crashes are more likely to occur in more developed areas (and thus at slower speeds). In rural areas, the converse is true (highways and county roads predominate, with crashes occurring at higher average speeds). Generally, rural areas also suffer from a relative lack of proximate hospitals and emergency response services, which means that some crashes which would be survivable in urban areas correspond to fatalities in more rural areas.

Between 2012 and 2017, as can be seen in Figure 12, Washburn County reported a far lower injury-to-death ratio than the state generally (40.4 vs. 73.1).

### *Emergency Services*

As can be seen in Figure 13, Washburn County contains two trauma centers within its borders, one of which is unclassified and one of which is ranked level IV.<sup>16</sup> The closest level III and level II trauma centers are located in Chippewa County and Douglas County respectively. The closest level I trauma center is in the Twin Cities.

Washburn County maintains four different emergency providers (Figure 14). This company employs 52 emergency personnel. Consequently, the county is the site of 3.35 emergency response personnel per 1,000 residents. This is somewhat lower than the state figure of 4.02 emergency response personnel per 1,000 residents.

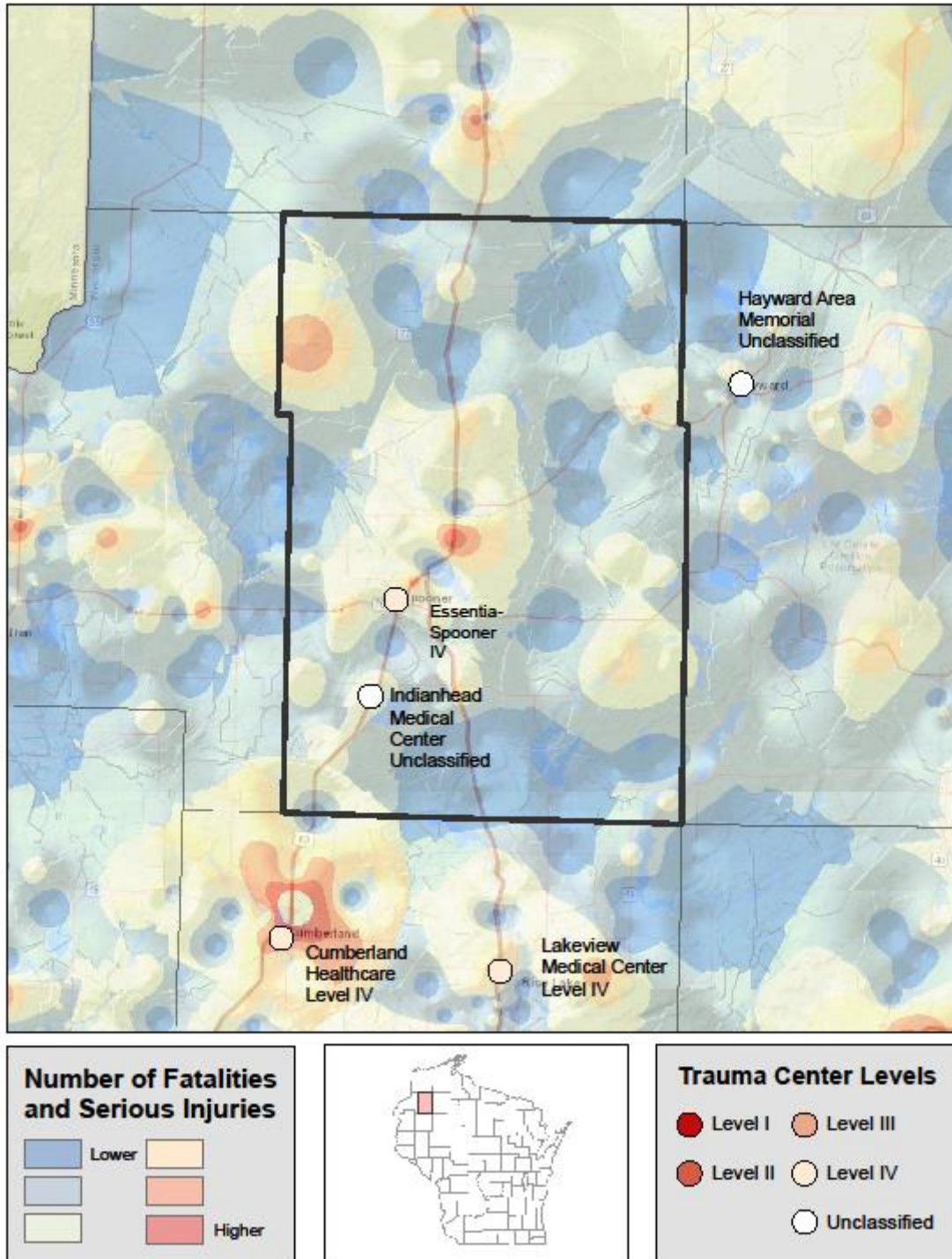
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<sup>16</sup> The trauma capacities of hospitals are rated on a I-IV scale, with some remaining unrated; Level I hospitals have the greatest capacity. In the image, brighter colors show hot spots, where crash numbers are (locally) concentrated.



FIGURE 13:

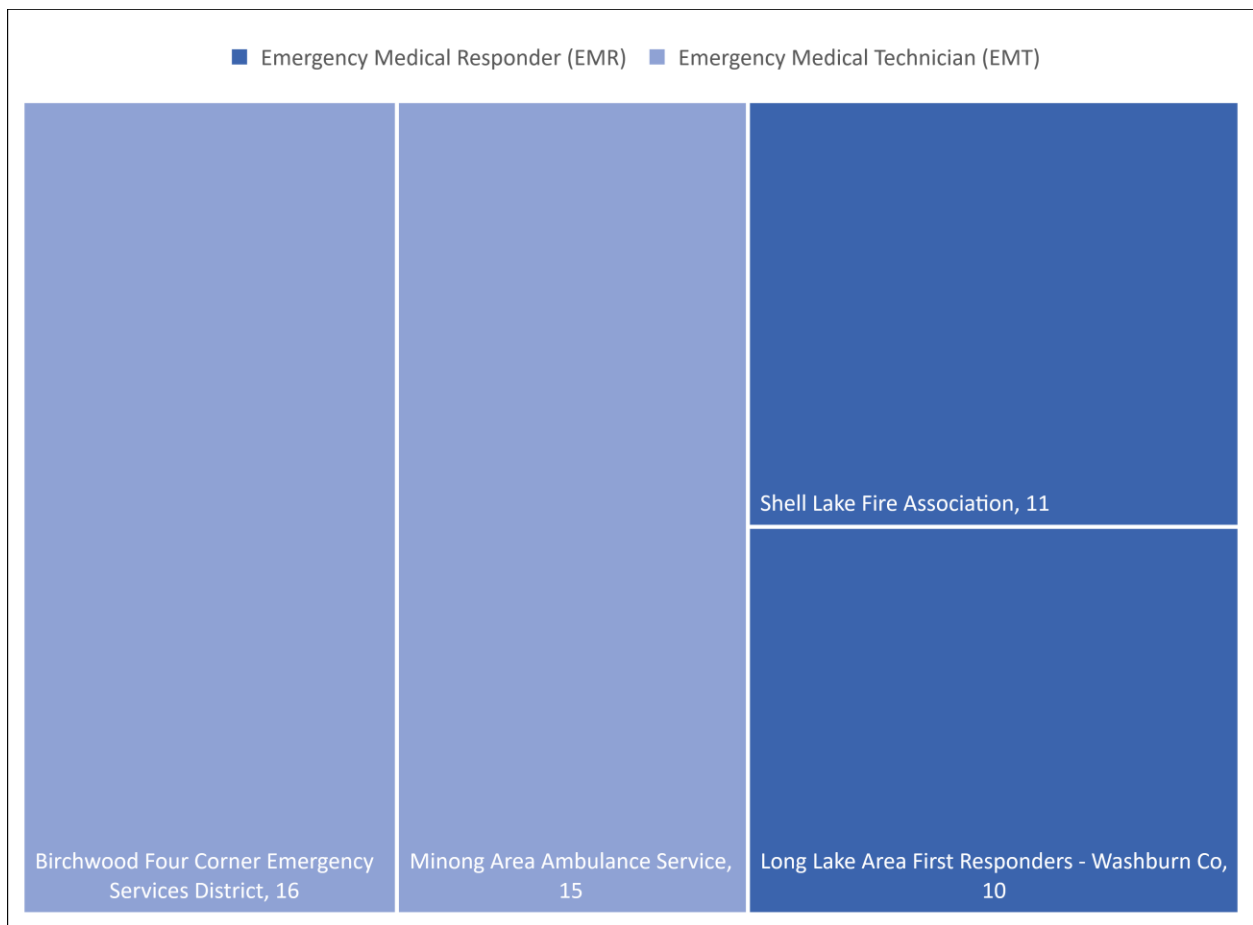
**WASHBURN COUNTY FATALITIES AND SERIOUS INJURIES (2014-2017)  
WITH MAP OF HOSPITALS**



**FIGURE 14: NUMBER OF EMT PERSONNEL/JURISDICTION <sup>17</sup>**

Service License Level	Service Name	Number of Personnel
Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)	Shell Lake Fire Association	11
Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)	Long Lake Area First Responders - Washburn Co	10
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	Birchwood Four Corner Emergency Services District	16
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	Minong Area Ambulance Service	15

**FIGURE 14.2: NUMBER AND LEVEL OF EMERGENCY RESPONDERS PER JURISDICTION**



<sup>17</sup> Department of Health Services, 2017, Received through Happel, C.

## **THE CRASHES**

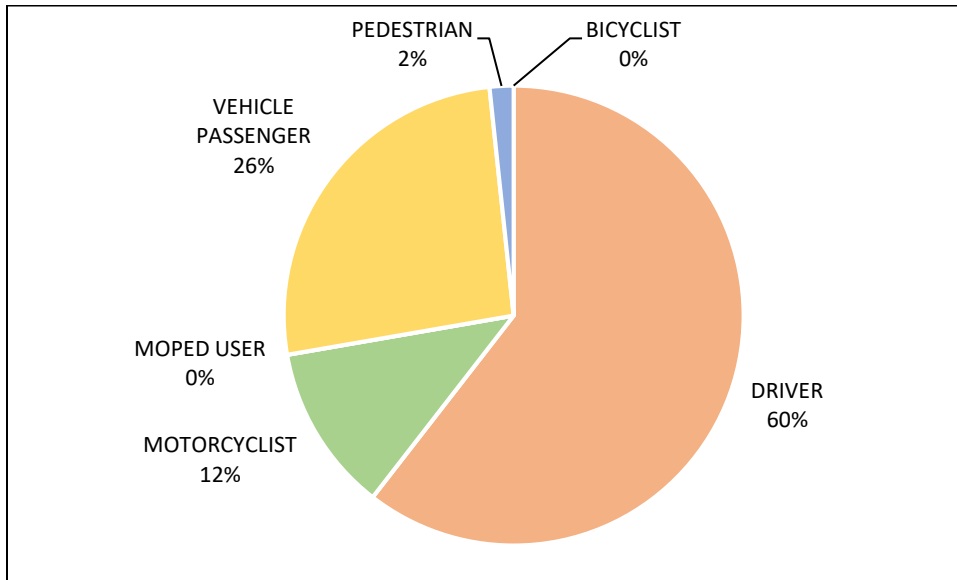
*The State of Wisconsin, in a months-long process, solicited input from a diverse variety of stakeholders to create the most recent version of our Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), a document that guides investment and safety decisions for three years. The plan has ten different issue areas. General crash-related statistics for Washburn County are listed below, and then facts and figures are organized to correspond with these ten issue areas.*

### **GENERAL CRASH-RELATED STATISTICS**

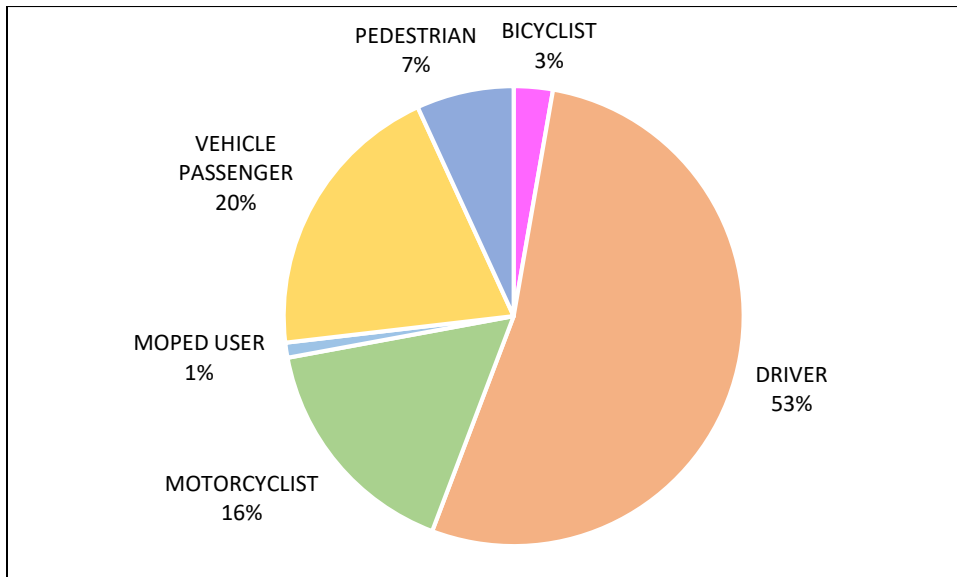
**FIGURE 15: NUMBER OF CRASHES BY MOST SEVERE INJURY IN THE CRASH AND PERSONS INVOLVED IN CRASHES BY INJURY SEVERITY**

	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2012-2016 Average	
	Crashes	Persons	Crashes	Persons	Crashes	Persons	Crashes	Persons	Crashes	Persons	Crashes	Persons
Fatality	4	4	3	4	1	1	3	3	1	1	2.4	2.6
Incapacitating Injury	14	19	12	15	11	18	21	30	20	24	15.6	21.2
Non-Incapacitating Injury	35	48	24	34	39	54	23	36	21	32	28.4	40.8
Possible Injury	29	52	18	33	32	58	23	39	31	47	26.6	45.8
No Apparent Injury	240	475	255	422	270	527	251	456	291	493	261.4	474.6
Totals	322	598	312	508	353	658	321	564	364	597	334.4	585.0

**FIGURE 16: FATALITIES AND INCAPACITATING INJURIES BY ROLE, WASHBURN COUNTY, 2012-2016**

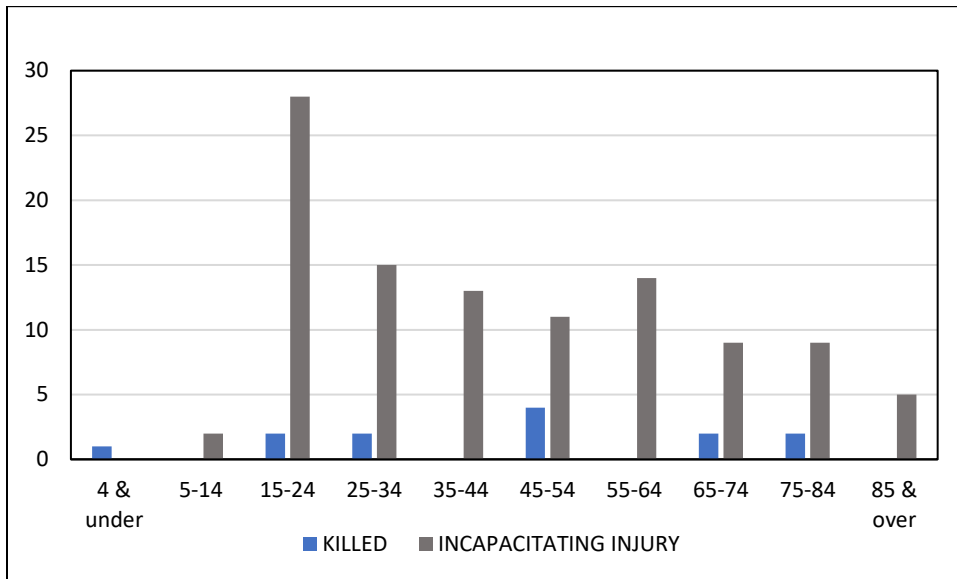


**FIGURE 17: FATALITIES AND INCAPACITATING INJURIES BY ROLE, WISCONSIN, 2012-2016**

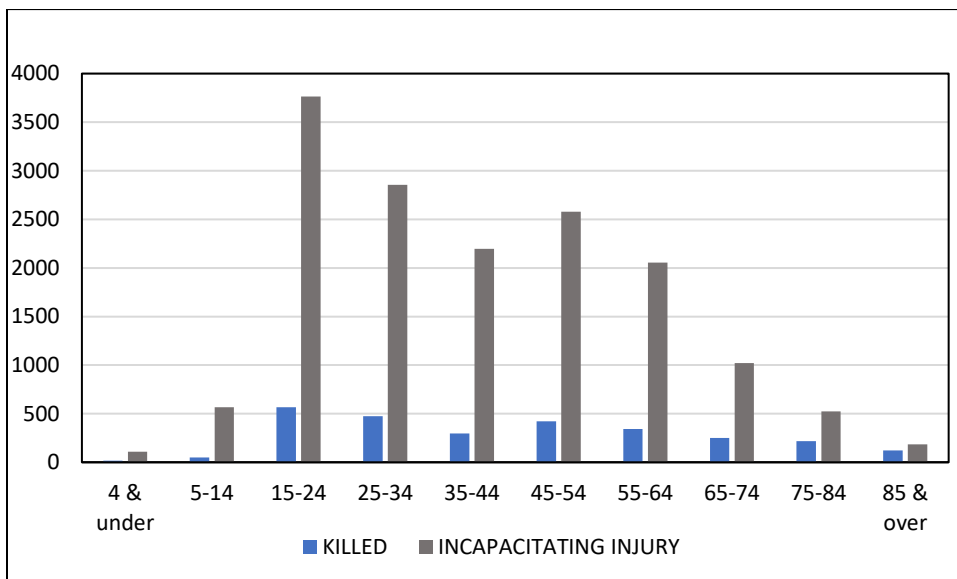


Vehicle drivers make up the highest percentage of fatalities and incapacitating injuries within Washburn County and the state of Wisconsin.

**FIGURE 18: FATAL AND INCAPACITATING INJURIES BY AGE IN WASHBURN COUNTY, 2012-2016**

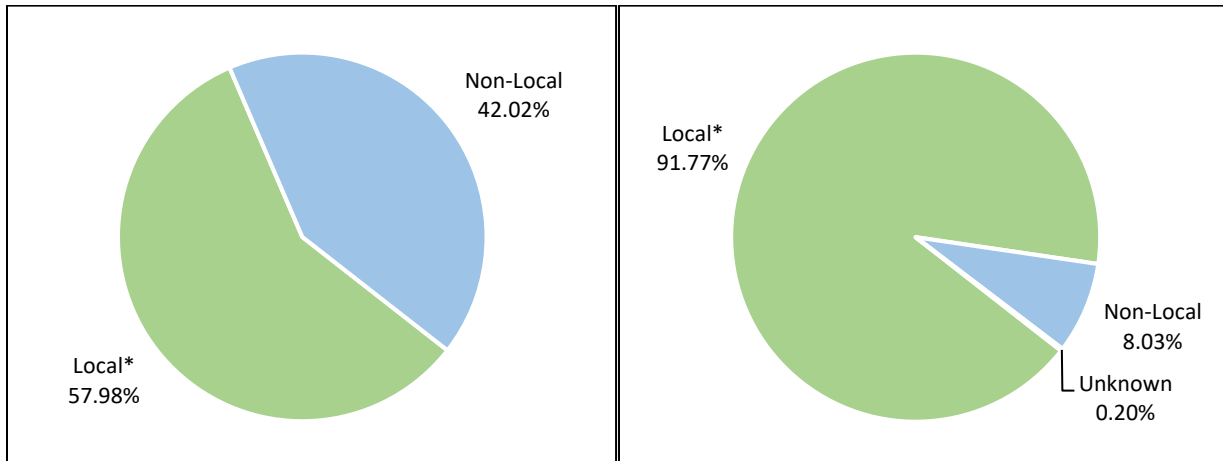


**FIGURE 19: FATAL AND INCAPACITATING INJURIES BY AGE IN WISCONSIN, 2012-2016**



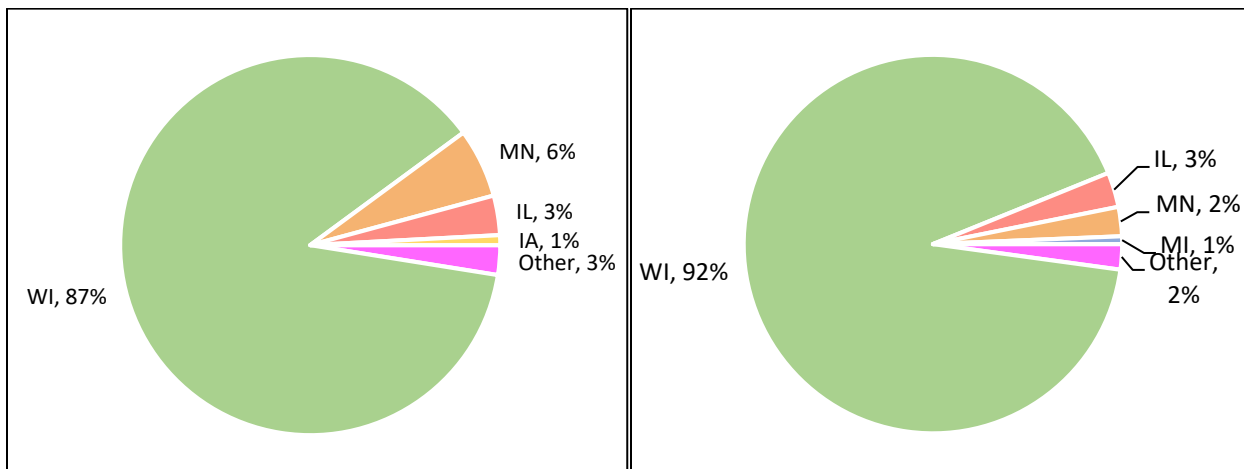
The highest number of incapacitating injuries occurred in the age group 15-24 within Washburn County, the same for the state of Wisconsin. The highest number of fatalities occurred in the age group 45-54 in Washburn County, compared to 15-24 for the state of Wisconsin.

**FIGURE 20: TOTAL FATALITIES AND INCAPACITATING INJURIES BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE (WASHBURN COUNTY ON LEFT AND STATE OF WISCONSIN ON RIGHT), 2012-2016**



\*Local is defined as persons with addresses that have ZIP codes fully or partially within the county. Over 40% of the fatalities and injuries in Washburn County occurred to non-local individuals.

**FIGURE 21: FATALITIES AND INCAPACITATING INJURIES BY STATE OF RESIDENCE (WASHBURN COUNTY ON LEFT AND STATE OF WISCONSIN ON RIGHT), 2012-2016**



87% of fatality and injury crashes in Washburn County occurred to Wisconsin residents.

**FIGURE 22: LOCATION OF CRASHES BY ROAD TYPE IN WASHBURN COUNTY, 2012-2016**

	Total Fatal Crashes	Total Non-Fatal Injury Crashes
Interstate Highways	N/A	N/A
US/State Highways	83.3%	55.8%
County Highways	16.7%	21.5%
Local Roads	0.0%	22.7%

The highest percentage of fatal crashes occurred on US/state highways within Washburn County.

**FIGURE 23: REPORTING OF FATAL AND SERIOUS INJURY CRASHES BY AGENCY, 2012-2016**

LEA	TOTAL
BIRCHWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT	2
MINONG POLICE DEPARTMENT	1
SPOONER POLICE DEPARTMENT	2
<b>WASHBURN COUNTY SHERIFF</b>	<b>74</b>
WISCONSIN STATE PATROL	11
TOTAL	90

Washburn County Sheriff’s Office had the highest reporting of fatal and serious injury crashes within Washburn County.

**ISSUE AREA: IMPROVE SAFETY CULTURE, SAFETY DATA, AND DATA TECHNOLOGY**

Because this information is difficult to quantify and visualize, we recommend that readers view the most recent edition of the Wisconsin Strategic Highway Safety Plan at the following location: <http://wisconsindot.gov/Documents/safety/education/frms-pubs/strategichwy-17-20.pdf>

**ISSUE AREA: REDUCE DRIVER DISTRACTION/IMPROVE DRIVER ALERTNESS**

**FIGURE 24: INATTENTION-RELATED FATAL AND INJURY-CAUSING CRASHES BY LOCATION, 2012-2016**

	Inattention-Related Fatal Crashes	Inattention-Related Non-Fatal Injury Crashes
Interstate Highways	N/A	N/A
US/State Highways	100.0%	72.0%
County Highways	0.0%	16.0%
Local Roads	0.0%	12.0%

The most common location for inattention-related fatal and serious injury crashes in Washburn County was on US/state highways.

**ISSUE AREA: REDUCE ALCOHOL & DRUG-IMPAIRED DRIVING**

**FIGURE 25: ALCOHOL OR DRUG-RELATED CRASHES BY LOCATION, 2012-2016**

	Alcohol or Drug-Related Fatal Crashes	Alcohol or Drug-Related Non-Fatal Injury Crashes
Interstate Highways	N/A	N/A
US/State Highways	66.7%	18.2%
County Highways	33.3%	54.5%
Local Roads	0.0%	27.3%

The most common location for alcohol/drug-related fatal crashes in Washburn County was on US/state highways.

**FIGURE 26: IMPAIRED DRIVING STATISTICS IN WASHBURN COUNTY, 2012-2016**

Average Total Fatal Crashes	Average Non-Fatal Injury Crashes	Average Alcohol or Drug-Related Fatal Crashes	Average Alcohol or Drug-Related Non-Fatal Injury Crashes
2.4	70.6	0.6	6.6

<b>Washburn County</b>	% of alcohol or drug-related fatal crashes to all fatal crashes	25.0%
<b>Wisconsin</b>	% of alcohol or drug-related fatal crashes to all fatal crashes	45.0%

Washburn County had a lower percentage of alcohol or drug-related fatal crashes than the state of Wisconsin.

**ISSUE AREA: REDUCE THE INCIDENCE AND SEVERITY OF MOTORCYCLE CRASHES**

**FIGURE 27: WASHBURN COUNTY MOTORCYCLISTS KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED, 2012-2016**

	% Killed	% Seriously Injured	5-Yr Ave Killed	5-Yr Ave Seriously Injured
County	0.0%	13.2%	0.0	2.8
State	15.3%	16.5%	84.8	525.6

Washburn County had a lower percentage of motorcyclists seriously injured when compared to the state. There were zero motorcyclist fatalities in Washburn County from 2012 to 2016.

**ISSUE AREA: IMPROVE NON-MOTORIST SAFETY**

**FIGURE 28: WASHBURN COUNTY PEDESTRIANS KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED, 2012-2016**

	% Killed	% Seriously Injured	5-Yr Ave Killed	5-Yr Ave Seriously Injured
County	7.7%	0.9%	0.2	0.2
State	8.1%	6.6%	44.8	211.2

Washburn County had lower percentages of crashes where pedestrians were killed and seriously injured, compared to the state.

**FIGURE 29: PEDESTRIANS INVOLVED IN CRASHES BY ACTION AND LOCATION, 2012-2016**

PEDESTRIAN ACTION	PEDESTRIAN LOCATION	TOTAL
	IN ROADWAY	
BLANK	1	1
WALKING NOT FACING TRAFFIC	1	1
DARTING INTO ROAD	1	1
DARK CLOTHING	1	1
WALKING FACING TRAFFIC	1	1
TOTAL	5	5

**FIGURE 30: WASHBURN COUNTY BICYCLISTS KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED, 2012-2016**

	% Killed	% Seriously Injured	5-Yr Ave Killed	5-Yr Ave Seriously Injured
County	0.0%	0.0%	0.0	0.0
State	1.8%	2.9%	10.2	92.4

Washburn County had zero bicyclist serious injuries or fatalities from 2012 to 2016.

**ISSUE AREA: IMPROVE SAFETY OF INTERSECTIONS**

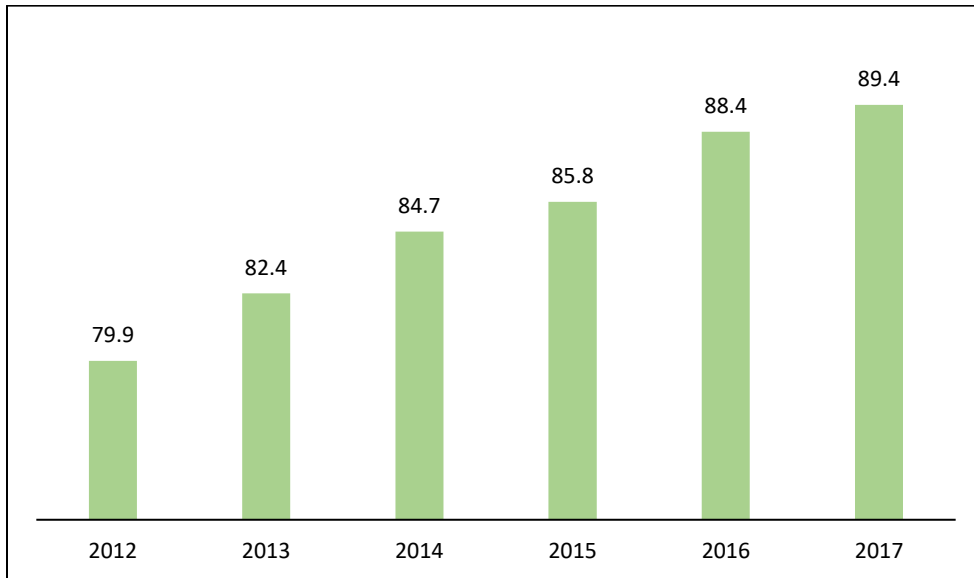
**FIGURE 31: WASHBURN COUNTY TOTAL CRASHES BY LOCATION, 2012-2016**

	County	State
% Intersection	24.1%	37.8%
% Non-intersection	75.9%	62.8%

There were fewer crashes at intersections in Washburn County, compared to the state of Wisconsin.

**ISSUE AREA: INCREASE OCCUPANT PROTECTION**

**FIGURE 32: SEATBELT USE STATEWIDE, 2012-2017**



Seatbelt usage statewide has increased over the past six years.

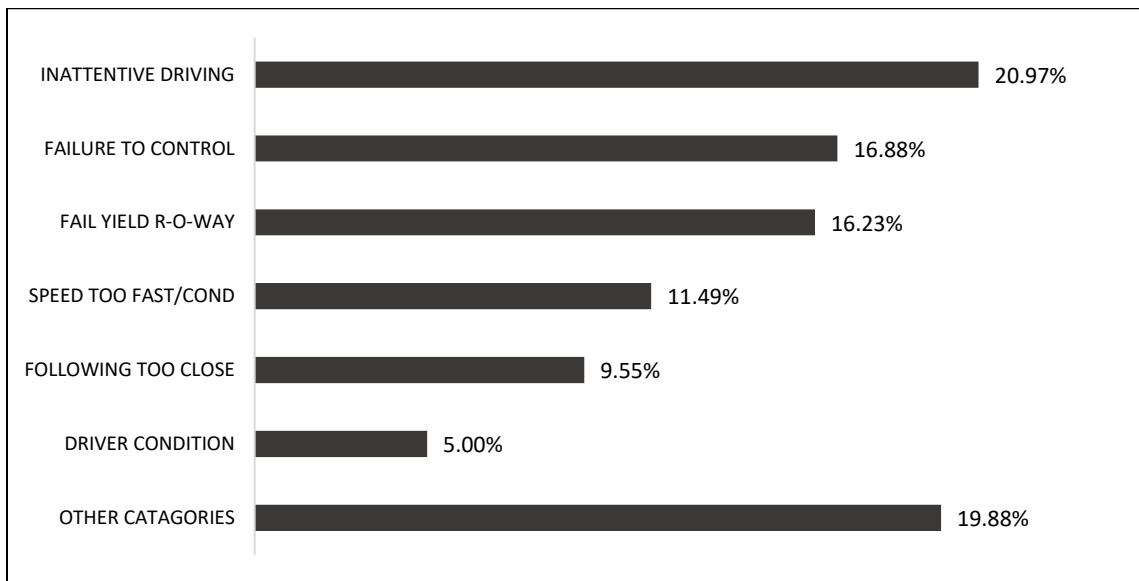
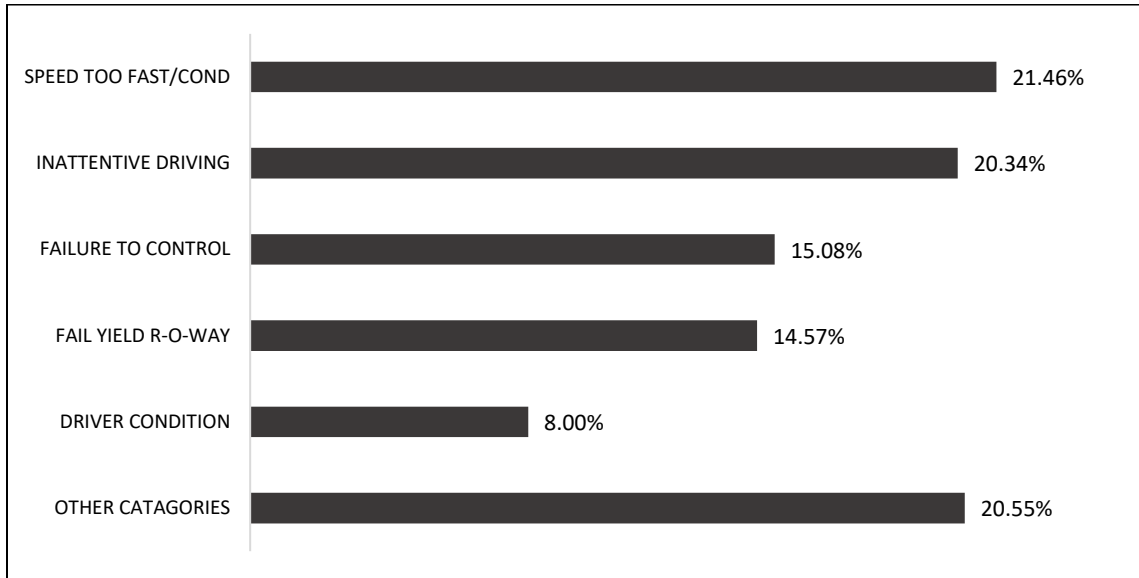
**FIGURE 32.2: SAFETY EQUIPMENT USAGE IN PASSENGER CAR AND LIGHT TRUCKS DURING CRASHES, 2012-2016**

	Belted	Unbelted
Fatalities and Serious Injuries	84.4%	15.6%

15% of the people killed or seriously injured in crashes in Washburn County were not wearing a seatbelt.

**ISSUE AREA: CURB AGGRESSIVE DRIVING/REDUCE SPEED-RELATED CRASHES**

**FIGURE 33: DRIVER POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTING CIRCUMSTANCES FOR CRASHES IN WASHBURN COUNTY (TOP) AND STATEWIDE (BOTTOM), 2012-2016**



**Speeding too fast for conditions** is the most significant contributing factor for all crashes within Washburn County.

**FIGURE 34: SPEEDING STATISTICS IN WASHBURN COUNTY, 2012-2016**

Average Speed-Related Fatal Crashes	Average Speed-Related Non-Fatal Injury Crashes
0.6	15.6

<b>Washburn County</b>	% of speed-related fatal crashes to all fatal crashes	25.0%
<b>Wisconsin</b>	% of speed-related fatal crashes to all fatal crashes	28.9%

	Speed-Related Fatal Crashes	Speed-Related Non-Fatal Injury Crashes
Interstate Highways	N/A	N/A
US/State Highways	66.7%	39.7%
County Highways	33.3%	25.6%
Local Roads	0.0%	34.6%

Washburn County has a lower percentage of speed-related fatal crashes than the state. The most common location for speed-related fatal crashes in Washburn County is on US/state highways.

**ISSUE AREA: REDUCE LANE DEPARTURE CRASHES**

**FIGURE 35: WASHBURN COUNTY RUN-OFF-THE-ROAD CRASHES, 2012-2016**

	5 Year Average of Run-Off-the-Road crashes	% of Run-Off-the-Road crashes to total crashes
County	105.0	31.4%
State	30,395.6	25.4%

Washburn County had a higher percentage of run-off-the-road crashes when compared to the state.

## **THE IMPACT**

Lost years of life due to traffic crashes is high.

### ***2011-2015 Annual Averages***

	Washburn County	Wisconsin
Average Annual Population	15,861	5,716,883
Persons in Crashes (per 1,000 residents)	35.9	46.0
Crash-Related Emergency Room Visits (per 100,000 residents)	420.9	407.3
Crash-Related Hospitalizations (per 100,000 residents)	39.1	49.3
Quality of Life Costs (per 100,000 residents)	\$51,714,026	\$36,819,900
Lost Years of Life (per 1,000 residents)	5.11	3.04
Medical Costs (per 100,000 residents)	\$12,905,812	\$10,482,526

<sup>18,19</sup>

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<sup>18</sup>University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Health Systems Research & Analysis. Wisconsin Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System Project. "Wisconsin CODES Report Builder Custom Reporting System," <http://www.chsra.wisc.edu/codes/query/overview.htm> Accessed Oct. 2, 2017.

<sup>19</sup>University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Health Systems Research & Analysis. Wisconsin Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System Project. "Community Crash Reports," <http://www.chsra.wisc.edu/codes/community/default.htm> Accessed Oct. 3, 2017.

**THE GRANTS**

The Bureau of Transportation Safety targets counties throughout the state based on crash frequency and severity, considering their size, location, and contributing behavioral factors as indicated on crash forms received from local law enforcement agencies. Overtime enforcement grants are offered to the law enforcement agencies of a county to form a high-visibility enforcement task force that will coordinate efforts with each other and locals to change the driving behavior in their county. If a county makes the targeting list for an enforcement grant to address a behavioral highway safety issue, all law enforcement agencies within the county are eligible to participate on a task force to address the problem. National priority issue areas include impaired driving, seat belt use, speeding, and distracted driving.

*2016 Grant Participation*

	Impaired Driving	Occupant	Speed
Washburn County Law Enforcement Agencies	no participation		

*2017 Task Force Participation and 2018 Task Force Eligibility*

	Impaired Driving	Occupant	Speed
Washburn County Law Enforcement Agencies	not eligible	not eligible	not eligible

*Agency Mobilizations 2016-2017*

	FY2016 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over- Winter Holidays	2016 Click It or Ticket	2016 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over – Labor Day	FY2017 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over- Winter Holidays	2017 Click It or Ticket	2017 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over – Labor Day
Washburn County Sheriff’s Office						
Birchwood Police Dept.		yes		yes		yes
Minong Police Dept.						
Shell Lake Police Dept.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spooner Police Dept.						

The Wisconsin State Patrol participates in all three mobilizations each year. Law enforcement agencies should participate for the chance to receive an equipment grant for ongoing high-visibility enforcement.