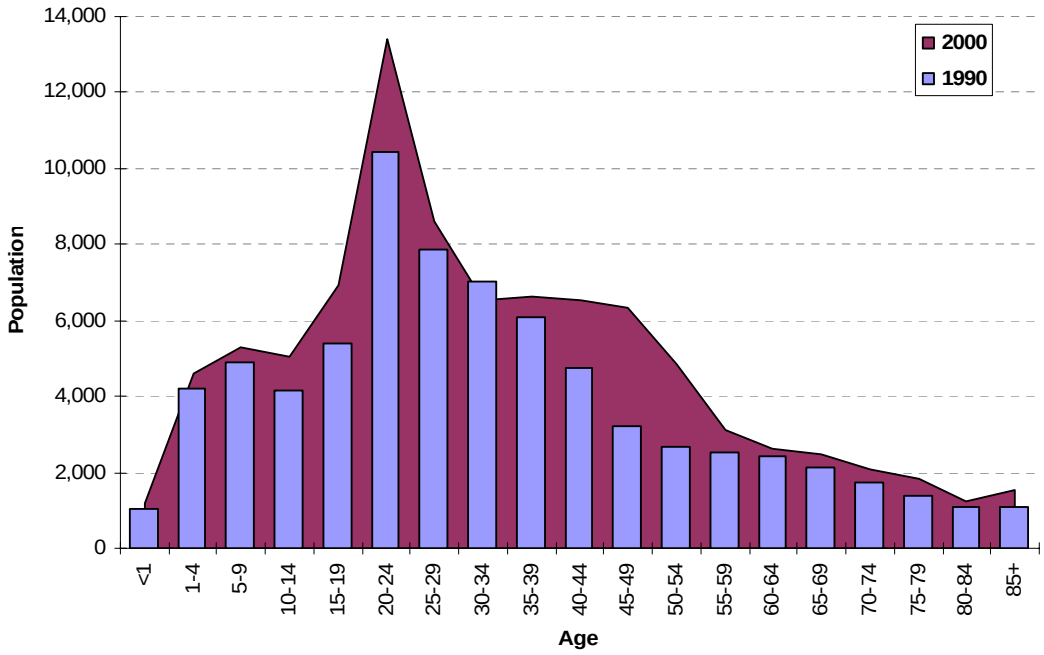
Age

The age profile of a city's population can answer some very basic questions about a city's ability to provide for its residents. For instance, the number of working-age residents from whom the city can raise revenue influences the level of services it can provide for more "dependent" residents like the elderly and children. Likewise, the city's ability to "compete" for younger workers may hint at its prospects for continued vitality in the future.

Adults age 20-24 are Fargo's largest age group in 1990 & 2000
Age 30-34 is the only group to lose population in the 1990s

Population by 5-year age groups, 1990-2000



Forty-five children and seniors in Fargo depend on every 100 working age adults, a ratio lower than the national average

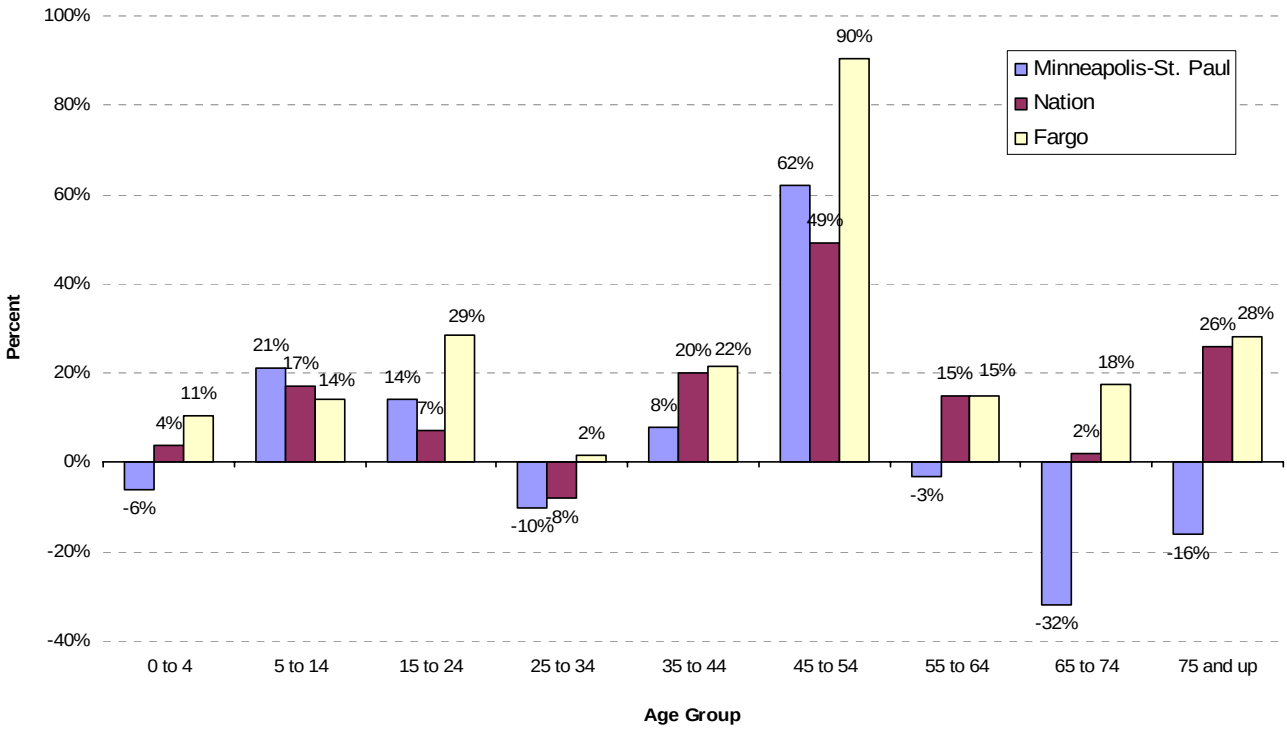
Dependency ratio and share of population by age group, 2000

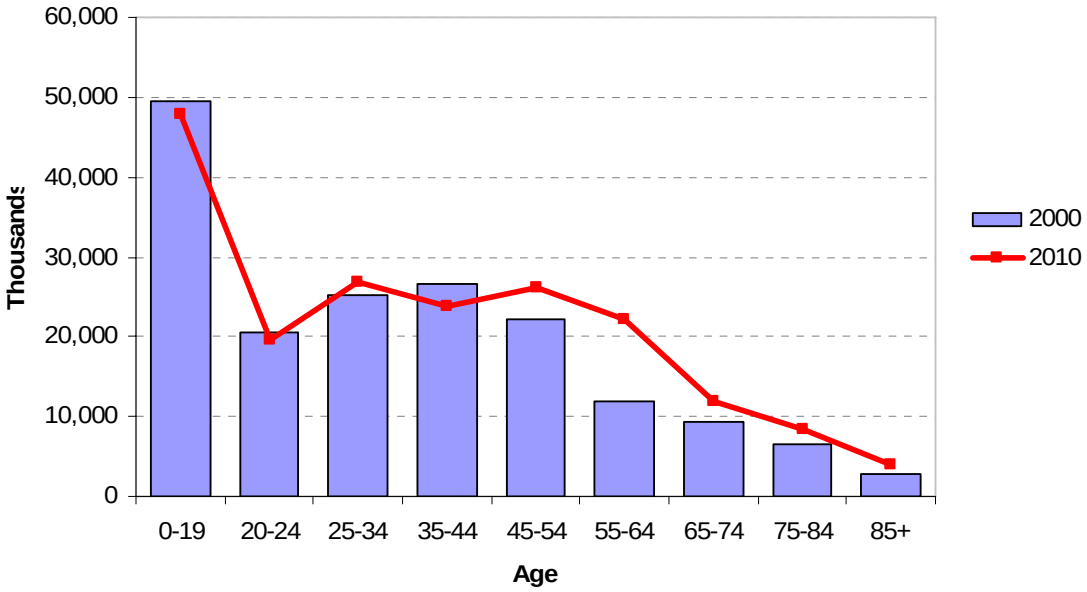
City	Dependency Ratio	Children (0-17)	Working age (18-64)	Elderly (65+)
Madison, WI	37	17.5%	73.2%	9.3%
Fort Collins, CO	41	21.3%	70.9%	7.8%
Fargo	**45**	**21.2%**	**68.7%**	**10.1%**
Columbus, OH	49	24.2%	67.0%	8.9%
Lincoln, NE	50	23.0%	66.6%	10.4%
Minneapolis St. Paul, MN	51	24.2%	66.2%	9.6%
Sioux Falls, SD	57	25.2%	63.8%	11.0%
Duluth, MN	57	21.2%	63.5%	15.2%
Indianapolis, IN	58	25.7%	63.4%	11.0%
Chicago, IL	58	26.2%	63.4%	10.3%
Kansas City, MO	59	25.4%	62.9%	11.7%
Nation	62	25.7%	61.9%	12.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, P8

College age, Baby-boomers & Seniors drive Fargo's growth

Percent population change by age group, 1990-2000



Adults 45 and older make up the largest part of Fargo Moorhead's future growth

Projection by Age 2000-2010, Fargo Moorhead MSA