



## POPULATION

**758K**



## RACE/ETHNICITY

- 91% White
- 3% Black or African American
- 1% American Indian and Alaskan Native
- 1% Asian
- 2% Two or More Races
- 3% Hispanic or Latino

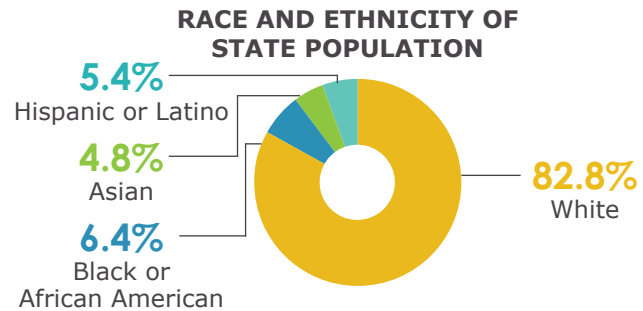
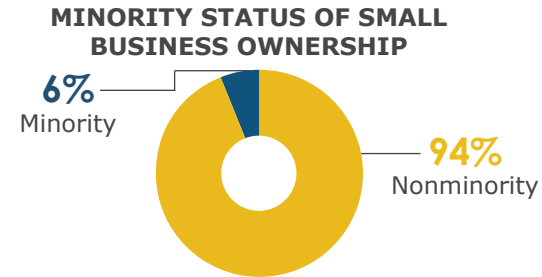
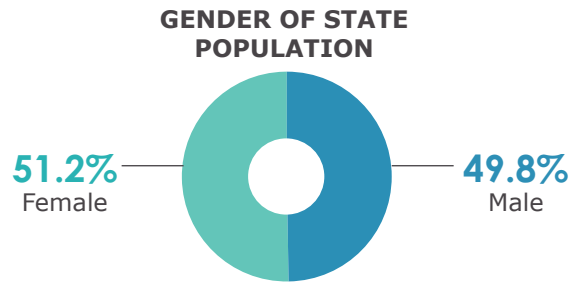
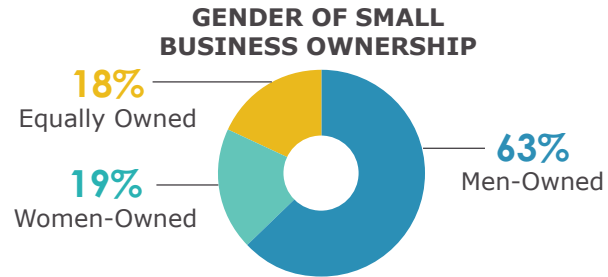
## WEALTH AND ACCESS TO CREDIT\*

**\$34K** Median Debt

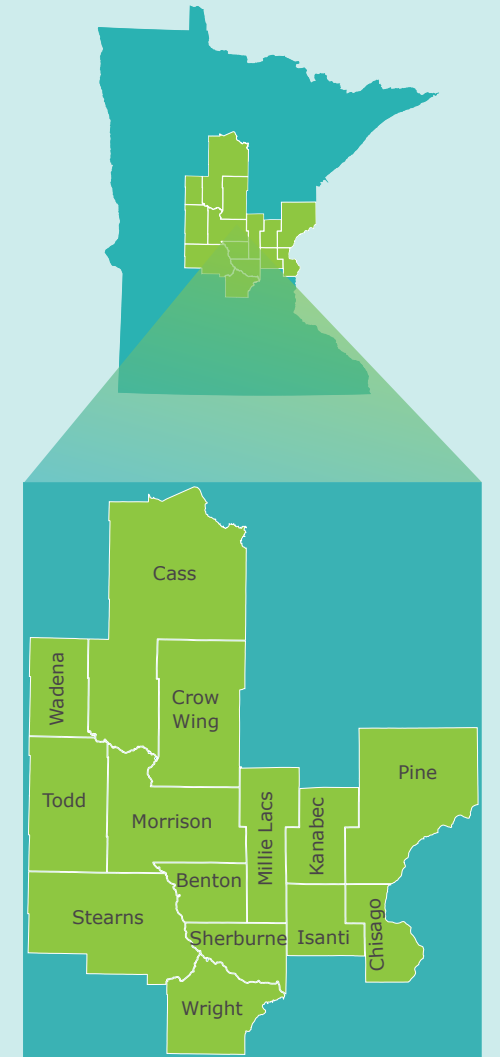
- 78% Residents with Debt
- 26% Residents with Student-Loan Debt

\*This data is comprised of the State of Minnesota less the Minneapolis-Saint Paul MSA.

## STATE LEVEL DATA FOR MINNESOTA



## MAP



“Collaboration is essential to our mission to empower people throughout Central Minnesota to build a thriving economy, vibrant communities, and a lasting culture of generosity. We’re excited to plan for our region’s future alongside great partners like the Fed and our community stakeholders.”

**Matt Varilek**  
Initiative Foundation, *cohort lead*



## COMMUNITY NARRATIVE

Fourteen counties in Greater Minnesota represent 163 communities and 750,000 residents, of which 91 percent are White and 9 percent are Black, indigenous, and people of color. These communities share sovereign territory with the sovereign native nations of the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Bands of Ojibwe. And among those, three communities will be the focus of this cohort: the St. Cloud metropolitan statistical area, the Mille Lacs Tribal Economy, and Latino populations in Todd and Stearns counties, all of which share richly diverse African American, East African, Hispanic and Latino, and Mille Lacs Band member citizens, as well as unique challenges for small business development. Collaborative efforts across the communities have been under way since 2018, including the Enterprise Academy, which aims to bring experts and partners together to educate, train, and fund underserved entrepreneurs.

## COMMUNITY GOALS

### Support and Access

Build the capacity of organizations to support and accelerate the success of underserved entrepreneurs in their respective localities

### Building Relationships

Enhance peer learning and strengthen collaboration across the three cohort communities served

### Systems Change

Expand partnerships in Enterprise Academy to focus on unique opportunities and on-the-ground resources that help address each community's distinct challenges

## PARTNERS

### Shirwa Adan

Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization

### James Alberts II

Higher Works Collaborative

### Dr. King Banaian and Dr. Monica Garcia-Perez

St. Cloud State University

### Enrique Blanco and Henry Jimenez

Latino Economic Development Center

### Luan Thomas-Brunkhorst

Long Prairie Chamber of Commerce

### Leslie Dingmann and Patti Gartland

Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation

### Dustin Goslin

Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures

### Scott Lahr and Jim Sathre

US Bank

### Matt Varilek

Initiative Foundation

Learn more about the Reinventing Our Communities (ROC) Cohort Program  
[www.philadelphiafed.org/roc-cohort-program](http://www.philadelphiafed.org/roc-cohort-program)

