

History

Before 1826, the Wabasha area was inhabited by the Sioux, led by Chief Wa-pa-shaw who would later give the county and city their names.

When the Minnesota Territory was divided into nine counties in 1830, Wabasha County was one of these first counties.

When Wabasha County was first formed it ran across Minnesota from the western border of the Missouri River, within present day South Dakota, to the eastern border of Wisconsin along the Mississippi River.

Wabasha is the oldest city in Minnesota, officially recognized in 1830 with the Prairie du Chien Treaty.

Geographic Size

550 sq mi*

*Approximate

Residents' average travel time to work is 22.4 minutes.

Adjacent MN counties are Winona (SE), Olmsted (S), and Goodhue (W/NW).

Population

21,443*

*Estimated 2013

In population, the county ranks 45th out of the 87 Minnesota counties.

The median age is 43.3 years.

95.4% of the residents consider themselves white; 2.8% hispanic.

7.8% of residents live at or below the poverty level. (2012)

92.2% of the residents age 25 years+ have a high school degree or higher.

6% of Wabasha's population is enrolled in a South Country program.

Communities

Wabasha is the county seat.

The county is divided into 17 townships.

Area cities and towns include Hammond, Lake City, Mazeppa, Plainview, Wabasha, and Zumbro Falls.



Wabasha