

Watonwan County Fact Sheet

Poverty Statistics

Watonwan County – declining population

**Ranks 79 of 87 counties with the loss of population (only 8 counties in MN
with higher population loss)**

Loss of 6% of population since 2000

2006 population – 11,164

St. James 10.8 % poverty rating

State of Minnesota poverty rating 7.9%

County Schools range of Free & Reduce Lunch average is 40 – 50 %

Leading Industries: Food Processing and Agriculture (low income jobs)

Minority status of community 20%

Minority Status of Elementary Schools 50%

High Senior Citizen population (people over 65)

Watonwan population:

under 18 25.8%

18 – 64 55%

Over 65 19.1% State average 12.1%

Unemployment rate

Watonwan : 4.4 5 (increase from past year at 4.1 %)

State: 4.1 %

Per capita income in 2005

Watonwan \$30,526

State \$38,491

**Over the past 10 years we have been in the top percent of the state in per capita teen
birth rates**

Watonwan County population with incomes below 200% poverty – 31%

****Statistics from the Northwest Area Foundation**

www.indicators.nwaf.org