



Community Profile

Meet our Community

Garrison MN is in the small town located in central MN located in Crow Wing County and is embraced by God's beauty of Mille Lacs Lake, which is a draw to many who visit our area. Here is some collected data from the 2020 US Census about our little community.

- Garrison, MN had a population of 148 people.
- Between 2019 and 2020 the population of Garrison, MN declined from 171 to 148, a -13.5% decrease
- Median age of 54.5
- Median household income of \$46,250.
- Median household income grew from \$45,682 to \$46,250, a 1.24% increase.
- 68.9% have a high school grad or higher education. 2.7% have a bachelor degree or higher.

History

Here is some interesting data about our area according to the Crow Wing County census report.



- Median age – 56.8. 64% of the population made up of ages 18-64.
- Predominant ethnicity is of Caucasian/white population.
- Per capita income is \$34,286 with median household income reported as \$49,063.
- It is reported 12.7% of the population is below the poverty line. Affecting children under the age of 18 and population age 65 and over.
- 50% of the reported population is married.
- Garrison is 1 square mile and is neighbor to the south with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, sovereign nation.
- Garrison is in the hub so transportation to any nearby cities of Onamia, Aitkin, Deerwood, Crosby, or Brainerd is approximately. 20 miles.
- Labor participant rate is 60.7% which is reportedly mid-range or other counties in the local area.

Mille Lacs Lake hosts numerous islands, many of which are an acre or smaller and are in private ownership. It is also known as Lake Mille Lacs with Mille Lacs meaning “thousand Lakes.” and is Minnesota’s second-largest inland lake. at 132,516 acres. Much of the main lake has depths ranging from 20- to 38-feet. This beautiful lake is in the counties of Mille Lacs, Aitkin, and Crow Wing.

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Crow Wing County is a large county with many attractions offering a multitude of venues for various hobbies and interests as well as excellent education options be able to support year-round sustainability.

Education options: There are **23 Public Schools** in Crow Wing County, Minnesota, serving a population of **63,505 people** in an area of **999 square miles**. There is **1 Public School per 2,761 people**, and **1 Public School per 43 square miles**. In Minnesota, Crow Wing County is ranked **83rd of 87 counties** in Public Schools per capita, and **34th of 87 counties** in Public Schools per square mile.

- **City of Brainerd – K-12 schools**
 - There are **13 Public Schools** in Brainerd, Minnesota, serving a population of **13,394 people** in an area of **12 square miles**. There is **1 Public School per 1,030 people**, and **1 Public School per square mile**. In Minnesota, Brainerd is ranked **310th of 1018 cities** in Public Schools per capita, and **246th of 1018 cities** in Public Schools per square mile.
- **City of Crosby – K-12**
 - Crosby Public Schools are tuition-free, publicly funded schools that are legally required to accept and provide an education to all children from Kindergarten age through Grade 12 in Crosby, MN.
- **City of Baxter – K-12**
 - There are **2 Public Schools** in Baxter, Minnesota, serving a population of **7,988 people** in an area of **19 square miles**. There is **1 Public School per 3,994 people**, and **1 Public School per 9 square miles**. In Minnesota, Baxter is ranked **490th of 1018 cities** in Public Schools per capita, and **497th of 1018 cities** in Public Schools per square mile.
- **City of Aitkin-K-12 (Aitkin County)**
 - There are **9 Public Schools** in Aitkin County, Minnesota, serving a population of **15,841 people** in an area of **1,822 square miles**. There is **1 Public School per 1,760 people**, and **1 Public School per 202 square miles**. In Minnesota, Aitkin County is ranked **44th of 87 counties** in Public Schools per capita, and **80th of 87 counties** in Public Schools per square mile.
- Rural busing is an option for school transportation arrangements would be location specific and would be worked out with the school district of choice on feasibility.
- **Continuing education:** Central Lakes College-Junior college – Brainerd, MN

Driving distance from Garrison to:

- Brainerd – 20 miles
- Crosby – 18 miles
- Deerwood – 14 miles
- Aitkin – 20 miles
- Onamia – 20 miles
- Baxter – 22 miles

Churches-There are multiple Alliance churches within our surrounding area, Aitkin, Baxter, Onamia, and Garrison all have an active Alliance Church within their communities. Within our surrounding community Garrison also has a Lutheran (ELCA), Catholic, and Lutheran Missouri Synod within a 5-mile radius. There is also a pastor networking opportunity for area pastors.

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Medical Services: Garrison has two medical and pharmacy clinics within its city limits. Aitkin Health Services and Mille Lacs Health System. Hospital locations are in neighboring cities of Aitkin, Crosby, Onamia, and Brainerd. All locations provide excellent health care and immediate responses to medical situations. Garrison also has a volunteer fire department which a number of its volunteers are certified emergency medical responders.

Dental and other health specialty services can be acquired within the cities of Crosby, Aitkin, Deerwood, Brainerd, Baxter.

Employment Opportunities: Because of the diverse business opportunities in place and in formation of self-employed businesses there are sufficient employment opportunities.

- Tourism
- Education
- Healthcare
- Local County and State
- Retail and Restaurant establishments

Area Activities: Our area's population triples during the peak months of May – November due to a great tourism base. Each city within our community has much to offer throughout the entire year. In the peak months you can find outdoor activities such as Garrison Play Days, Nisswa Fun Day, turtle races, and bass fishing contests in the land of 10,000 lakes. Parasailing on Mille Lacs Lake, and don't forget a visit to This Old Farm to visit Paul Bunyan and Babe, a fun amusement and gift shop location for all to enjoy and just 10-miles from Garrison. There are ATV trails or in the winter time snowmobile on the well-groomed trails. Visit the beautiful Croft mine in Crosby or take your bicycle on the newly extended Cuyuna Lakes State trail from one city to the next. We also have the much-attended Brainerd International Raceway. Huge attractant for car and car racing enthusiasts. For continued outdoor fun there are multiple locations for the golfing pro. In the winter time there is ample opportunity to go ice fishing and participate in the annual Fishing Extravaganza on Hole in the Day Lake. Or take in a movie at movie theaters located in Aitkin, Brainerd, or at the Grand Makwa Cinema located 9-miles from Garrison on the Mille Lacs Band reservation. While you are there visit the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post and learn of their history and culture. There are state parks nearby too Kathio State Park or Father Hennepin park. You can also travel to cities beyond our community like Duluth MN or Bemidji MN all within a day's drive. The metro area of Minneapolis/St. Paul is just 1.5 hours away and visit the Mall of America.