

Michigan State University Extension



Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) helps people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

Since its beginning, Extension in Michigan has focused on bringing knowledge-based educational programs to the people of the state to improve their lives and communities. Today, community based agents supported by on-campus faculty members are serving every county, providing base programs focusing on agriculture and natural resources; children, youth and families; and community and economic development.

For more information contact:

MSU Extension - Allegan County
Human Services Bldg
Suite 101
3255 122nd Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: 269-673-0370
E-mail: allegan@msue.msu.edu

A portrait of **Allegan County**



Bringing Knowledge to Life!

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

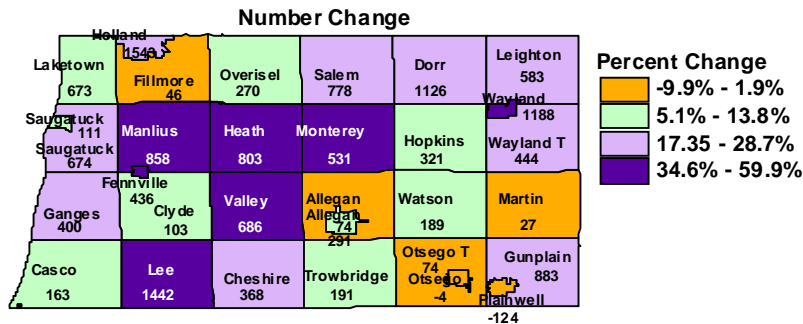
Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status or family status.

Michigan State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties cooperating. Michigan State University is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity institution.

Population

Allegan County

Change from 1990 to 2000

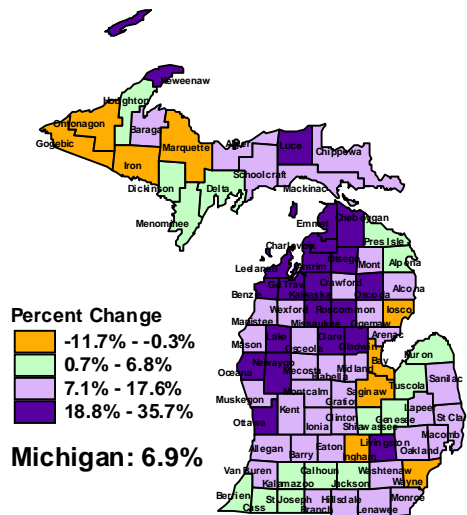


Allegan County had 105,665 people in 2000, ranking as the 19th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 15,156 persons, or 16.7% since 1990.

Valley Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 59.9 percent. The city of Holland showed the largest number gain of 1,543 people.

There were 1,397 live births in Allegan in 1998, of which 145 were to mothers age 19 and under, 1,094 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 157 to mothers age 35 and over.

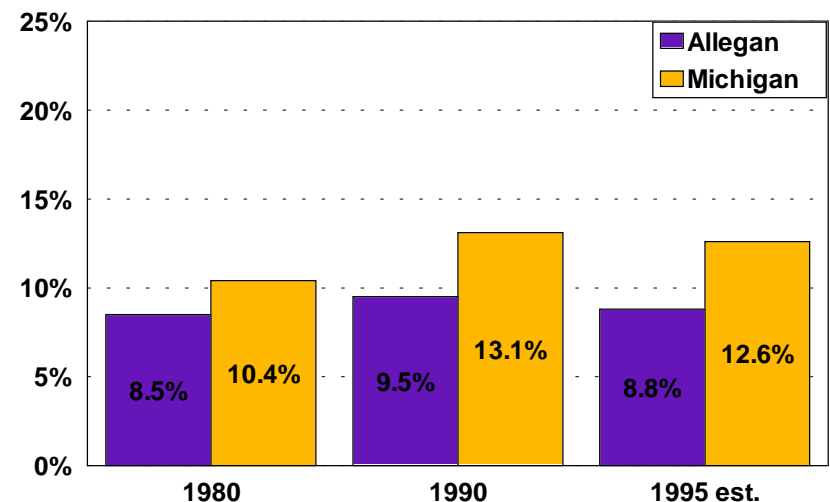
Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



Poverty

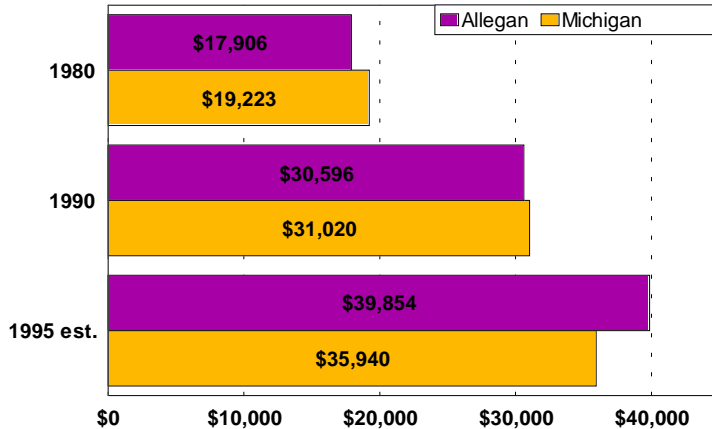
- In 1995, 8,835 persons in Allegan County were below the poverty line, increasing from 8,442 persons in 1990.
- The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- Allegan County ranked 20th among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 71th on the poverty rate.
- Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 3,608 kids (ages 0-17) in Allegan County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in eight. In 1990, 3,155 kids were poor.
- The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 10.9 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 14.2 percent.

Poverty Rates of All Persons



Household Income

Median Household Income



- Between 1990 and 1995, households in Allegan County experienced an increase in real median income of 11.7 percent, from \$35,676 to \$39,854. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Compared to other Michigan counties, Allegan County ranked 11th in 1995 in median household income.
- Michigan leads most other Mid-West states in median household income at \$38,127 (1996 est.) ranking 4th among the 12 states in the region. Nationally, we rank in the top third. The U.S. median income was \$35,492.
- PerCapita income in Allegan County in 1998 was \$24,356, compared to \$20,005 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 21.7 percent increase.

Household Income Distribution*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
Allegan County	39.4%	41.0%	19.6%
Michigan	40.6%	34.1%	25.5%

* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

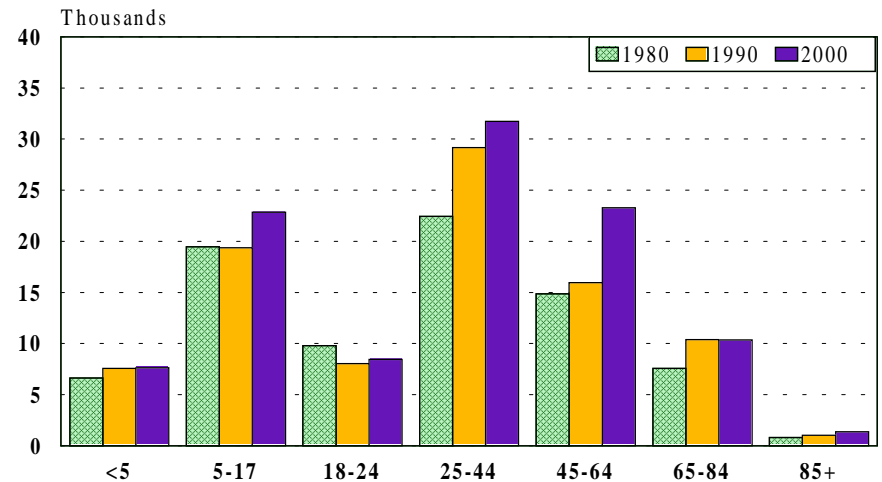
Age

The Median age of Allegan residents continues to go up:

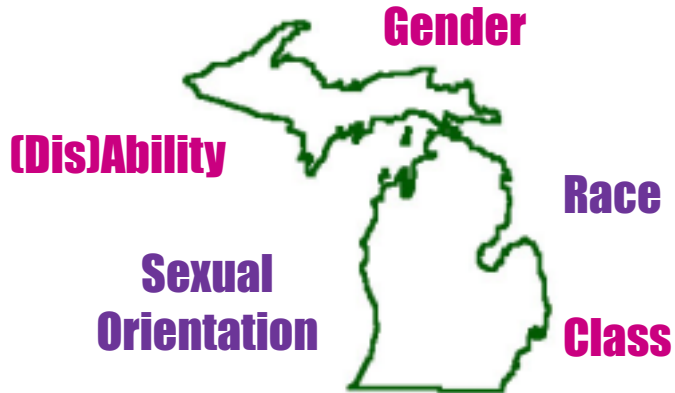
	1980	1990	2000
Allegan	28.5	31.9	35.2
Michigan	28.8	32.6	35.5
U.S.	30.0	33.0	35.3

- Of the 105,665 people who lived in Allegan in 2000, 60.0 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 40.0 percent included 7.2 percent children under the age of 5, 21.6 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 11.1 percent over the age of 65.
- The fastest growing age group is the 45 to 64 year -olds, which includes the oldest of the “baby boomers.” This group grew by 7,329 or 46.0 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 1,337 or 12.9 percent since 1990. One in nine Allegan residents is age 65 or older.

Age Distribution in Allegan County



Multiculturalism



- .. In 2000, Allegan County's population included 52,730 males and 52,935 females, or 49.9 percent and 50.1 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- .. Of the 38,165 households living in Allegan County in 2000, 31,652 or 82.9 percent owned their own home and 6,513 or 17.1 percent rented. For Michigan, the rate of home ownership was 71.0 percent and those renting 29.0 percent.
- .. Six to ten percent of the U.S. population are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered persons according to the *Cultural Diversity Sourcebook*.
- .. One out of five Michigan citizens, approximately two million people, experience a disability according to the Michigan Centers for Independent Living.

Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin: 2000

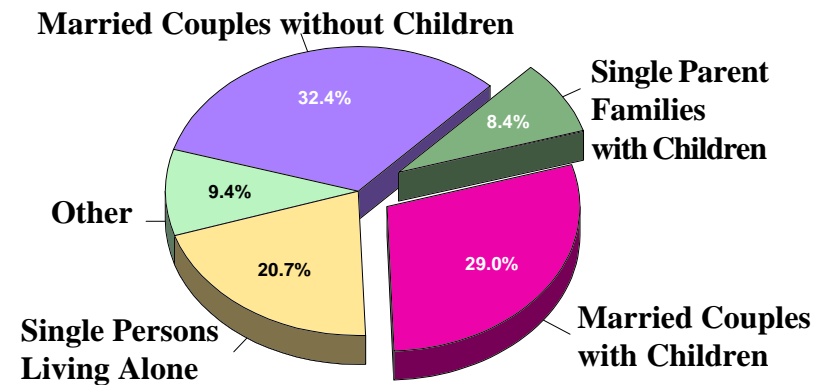
	Allegan County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	96,167	91.0	78.6
Black*	1,315	1.2	14.1
American Indian*	520	0.5	0.5
Asian*	562	0.5	1.8
Other*	82	0.1	0.1
Two or more races*	979	0.9	1.6
Hispanic or Latino*	6,040	5.7	3.3

* Not Hispanic or Latino

Households & Families

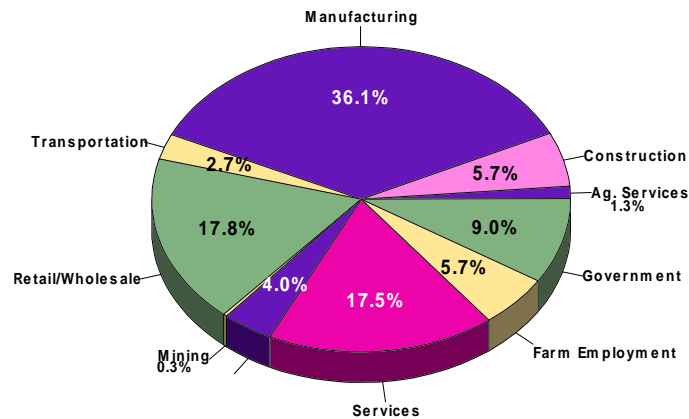
- .. There were 739 marriages in Allegan County during 1998, up from 1990 when 707 marriages occurred. Across the state, marriage numbers and rates have fallen since the '70s.
- .. In Michigan, median age at marriage continues to go up, from age 25 for males and 23 for females in the mid'70s, to age 28 for males and 26 for females in 1998.
- .. 65.1 percent of all marriages in Michigan in 1998 were first marriages, down from 66.8 percent a decade earlier.
- .. The divorce rate in Allegan County in 1990 was 9.1 when 415 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 7.9 when 403 marriages ended in divorce.
- .. In 1998, 37,210 Michigan children were impacted by divorce of their parents. These numbers have declined since 1976 when Michigan reached a peak of 49,555 children involved in divorce.
- .. In 1990, 3,952 children in Allegan County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 14.7 percent of all children in Allegan. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

Types of Households in Allegan County



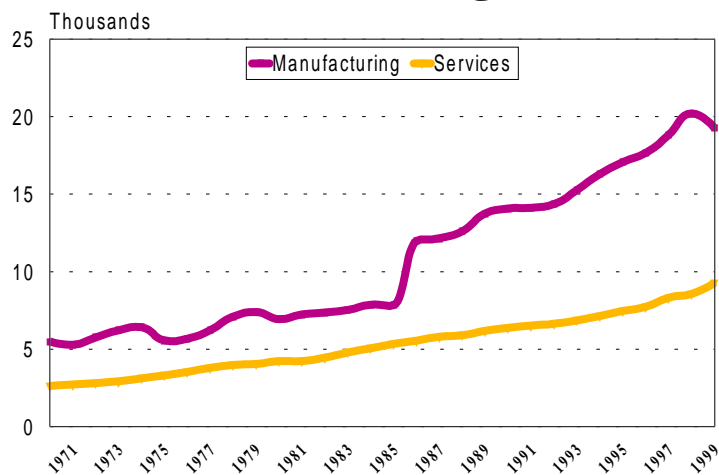
2000 Census of Population and Housing

1999 Employment by Industry in Allegan County



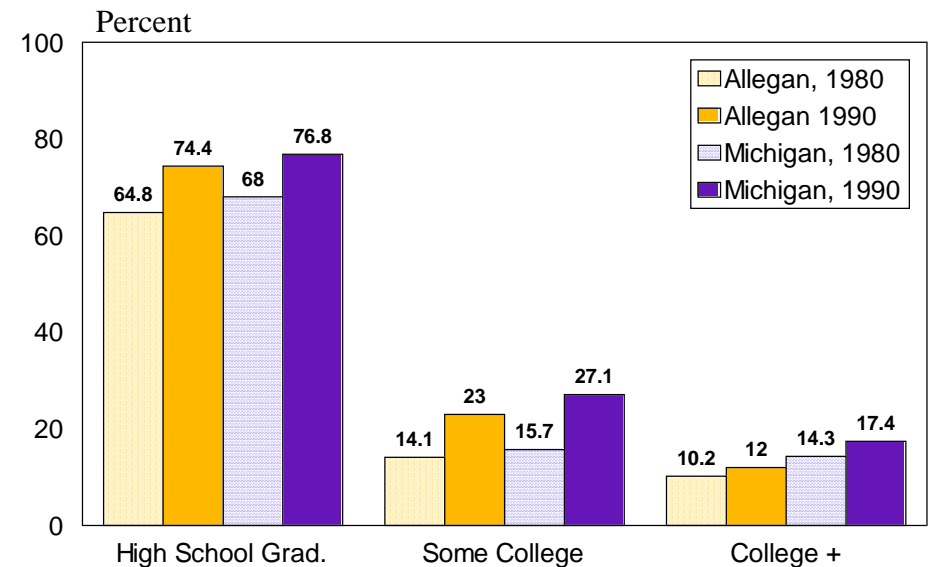
- The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Allegan from 38,355 in 1990 to 53,214 in 1999, a 38.7 percent increase.
- Manufacturing accounted for 36.2% of all employment in 1999, leading the Retail and Wholesale Trade industry by 18.4 percentage points. Jobs in Wholesale have risen the fastest of all industries, climbing 51.2 percent since 1990.

Jobs in Manufacturing & Services

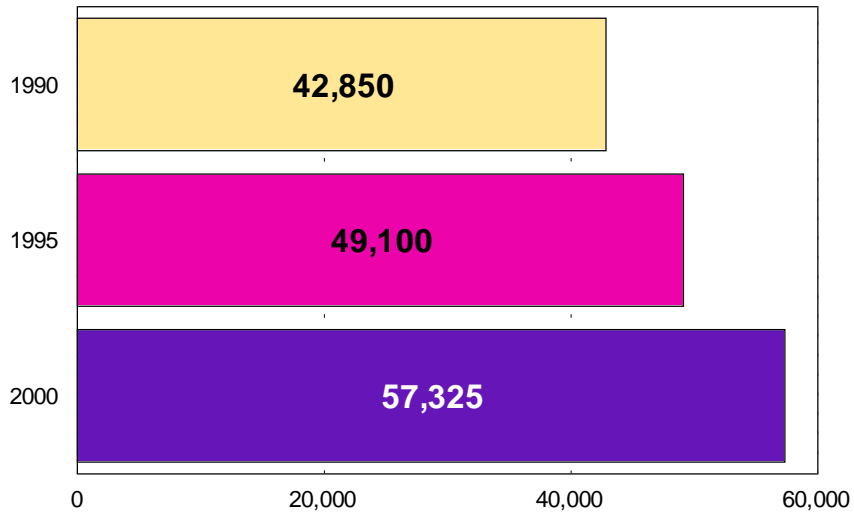


- High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 9.6 percentage points in Allegan County and 8.8 percentage points in Michigan. This is due largely to the fact that a much higher rate of young adults (age 25-29) has completed high school than those in older age groups.
- Allegan County lags behind Michigan for those persons age 25 and over with a college degree. In 1990, 17.4 percent in Michigan had a college degree; in Allegan County the rate was 12.0 percent. Allegan ranks 34th among Michigan's 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- 224 students dropped out of high school in Allegan County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 4.4 percent. This is up from 1990-91 when 181 students dropped out (4.1 percent).

Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



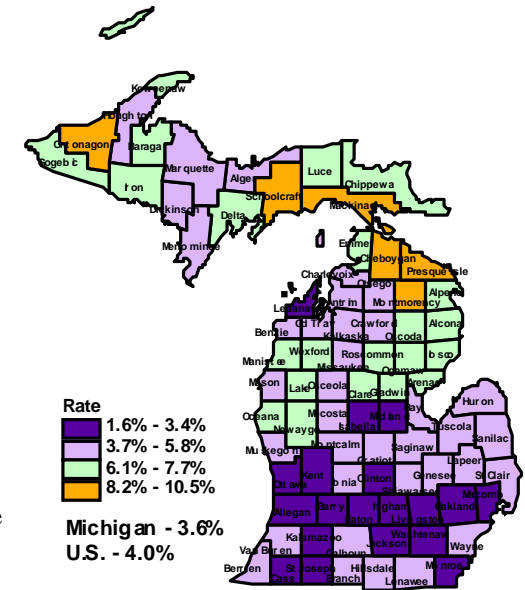
Total Number of Persons Employed in Allegan County



- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Allegan's labor force has grown from 45,725 in 1990 to 59,075 in 2000.
- In 1990, 93.7 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 97.0 percent employed.
- 75.1 percent of Allegan's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, up from 69.0 percent in 1990.
- Seventy-six percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 15 percentage points higher than in 1980. Over six out of ten women with children under age six were in the work force in 1990, compared to less than five out of ten in 1980.

2000 Unemployment Rate

- Even though Michigan's overall unemployment rate was low in 2000, many counties continue to experience high rates.
- Allegan County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 3.0 percent, compared to 2.9 percent in 1999 and 6.3 percent in 1990. 1,750 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 2,875 in 1990.
- Michigan experienced high unemployment rates during the early '90s. In 1994 for the first time Michigan's rate was lower than the U.S. rate.



Unemployment Rate: 1980 - 2000

