

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.

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A portrait of Arenac County



Bringing Knowledge to Life!

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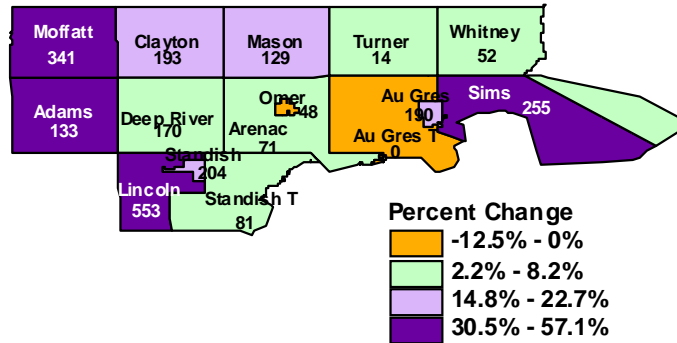
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Population

Arenac County Change from 1990 to 2000 Number Change

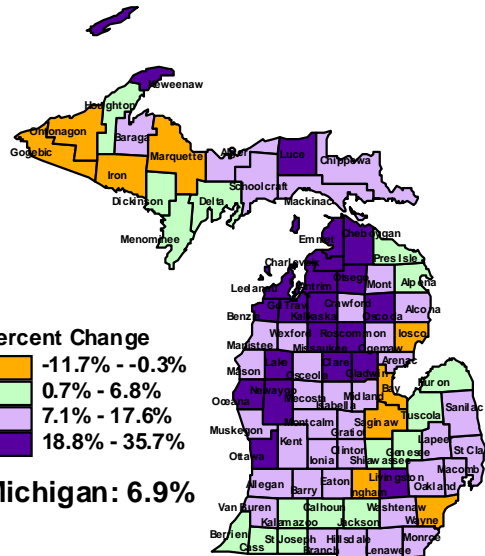


◆ Arenac County had 17,269 people in 2000, ranking as the 66th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 2,338 persons, or 15.7% since 1990.

◆ Lincoln Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 57.1 percent. Lincoln Township also showed the largest number gain of 553 people.

◆ There were 182 live births in Arenac in 1998, of which 30 were to mothers age 19 and under, 135 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 17 to mothers age 35 and over.

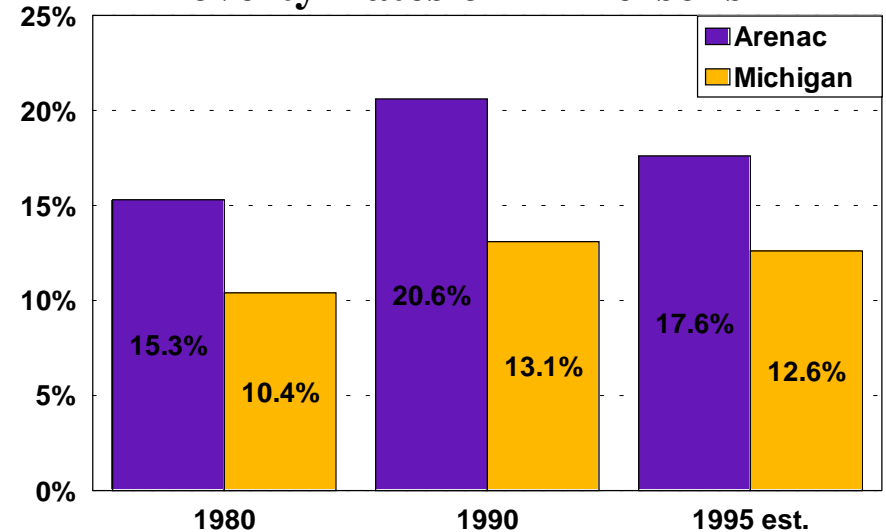
◆ Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



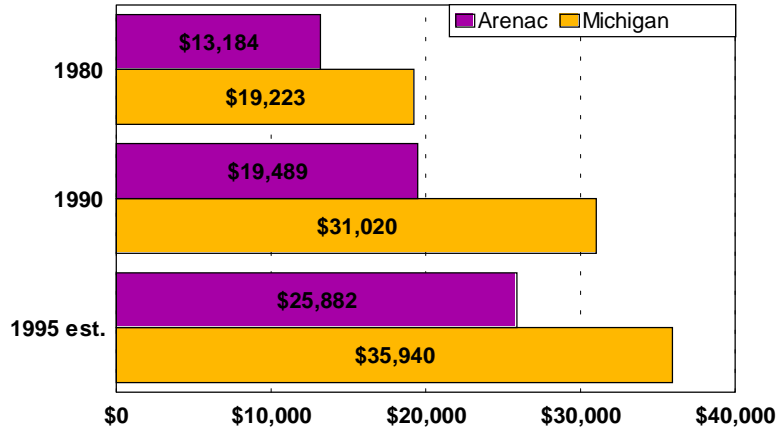
Poverty

- ◆ In 1995, 2,889 persons in Arenac County were below the poverty line, decreasing from 3,028 persons in 1990.
- ◆ The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- ◆ Arenac County ranked 58th among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 6th on the poverty rate.
- ◆ Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 1,145 kids (ages 0-17) in Arenac County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in four. In 1990, 1,143 kids were poor.
- ◆ The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 18.3 percent. This was up from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 16.5 percent.

Poverty Rates of All Persons



Median Household Income



- ◆ Between 1990 and 1995, households in Arenac County experienced an increase in real median income of 13.9 percent, from \$22,725 to \$25,882. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- ◆ Compared to other Michigan counties, Arenac County ranked 72nd 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.
- ◆ Per Capita income in Arenac County in 1998 was \$18,452, compared to \$17,425 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 5.9 percent increase.

Household Income Distribution*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
Arenac County	61.5%	27.6%	10.9%
Michigan	40.6%	34.1%	25.5%

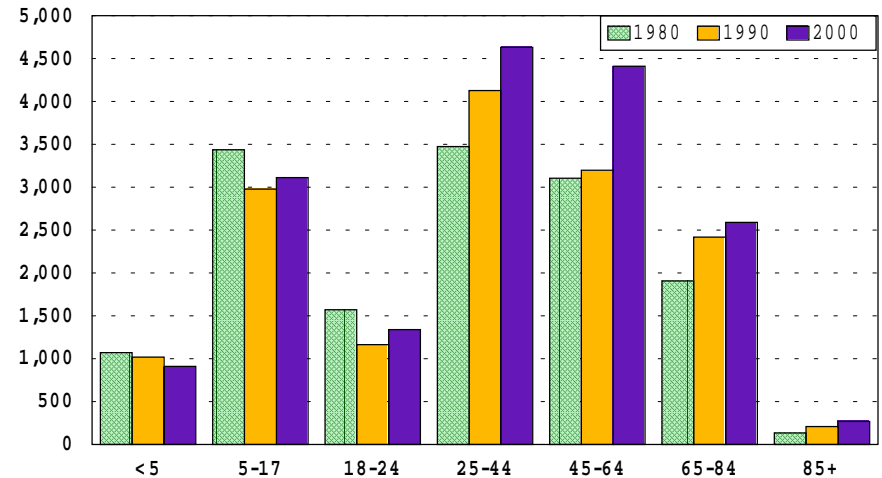
* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

The Median age of Arenac residents continues to go up:

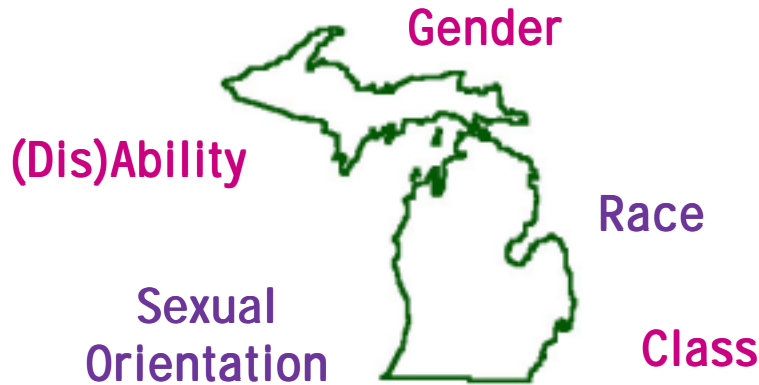
	1980	1990	2000
Arenac	31.3	35.7	40.1
Michigan	28.8	32.6	35.5
U.S.	30.0	33.0	35.3

- ◆ Of the 17,269 people who lived in Michigan in 2000, 60.1 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 39.9 percent included 5.3 percent children under the age of 5, 18.0 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 16.6 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 1,213 or 37.9 percent since 1990.
- ◆ “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 442 or 18.3 percent since 1990. One in six Michigan residents is age 65 or older.

Age Distribution in Arenac County



Multiculturalism



- ◆ In 2000, Arenac County's population included 8,863 males and 8,406 females, or 51.3 percent and 48.7 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- ◆ Of the 6,710 households living in Arenac County in 2000, 5,676 or 84.6 percent owned their own home and 1,034 or 15.4 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

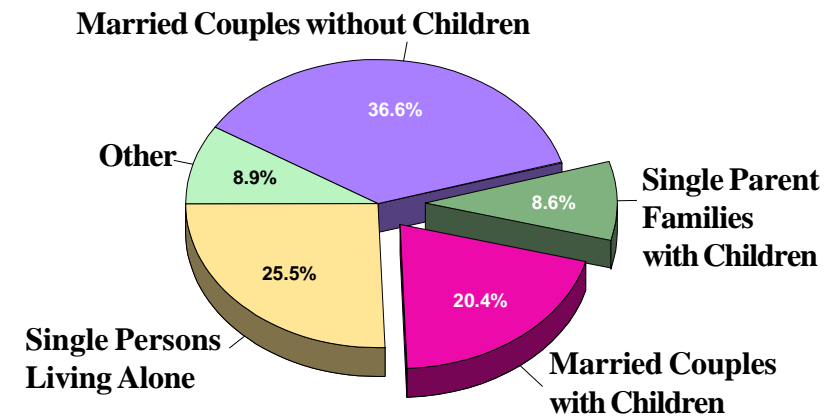
	Arenac County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	16,298	94.4	78.6
Black*	309	1.8	14.1
American Indian*	159	0.9	0.5
Asian*	50	0.3	1.8
Other*	70	0.0	0.1
Two or more races*	208	1.2	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	238	1.4	3.3

* Not Hispanic or Latino

Households & Families

- ◆ There were 126 marriages in Arenac County during 1998, up from 108 marriages occurred in 1990. 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 Arenac County in 1990 was 7.0 when 52 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 7.1 when 58 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, 783 children in Arenac County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 19.6 percent of all children in Arenac. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

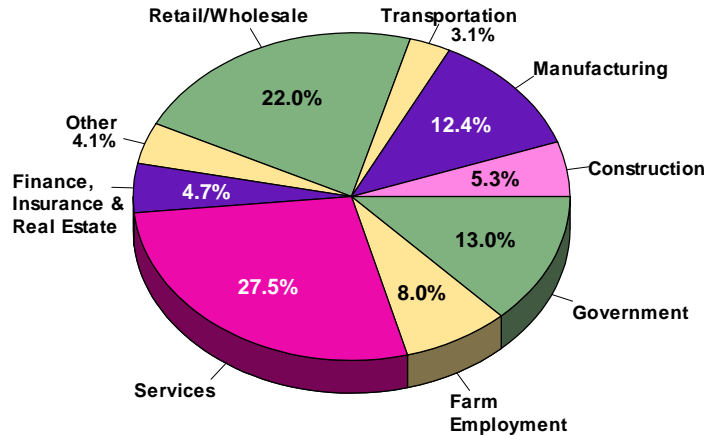
Types of Households in Arenac County



2000 Census of Population and Housing

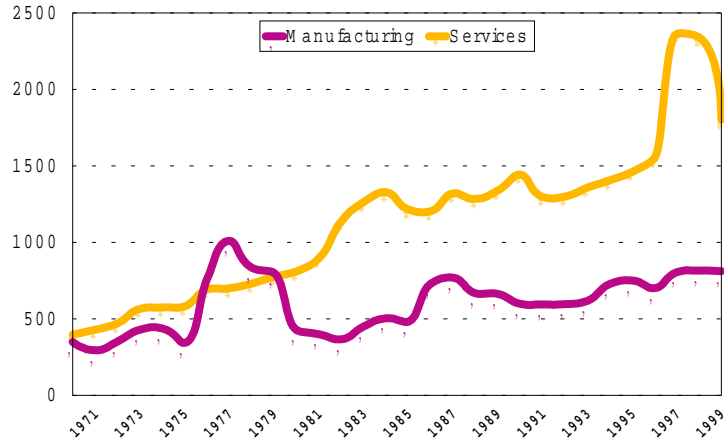
Employment

1999 Employment by Industry in Arenac County



- ◆ The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Arenac from 5,882 in 1990 to 6,546 in 1999, a 11.3 percent increase.
- ◆ The Services industry accounted for 27.5% of all employment in 1999, leading Retail and Wholesale Trade by 5.6 percentage points. Jobs in Manufacturing have risen the fastest of all industries, climbing 35.6 percent since 1990.

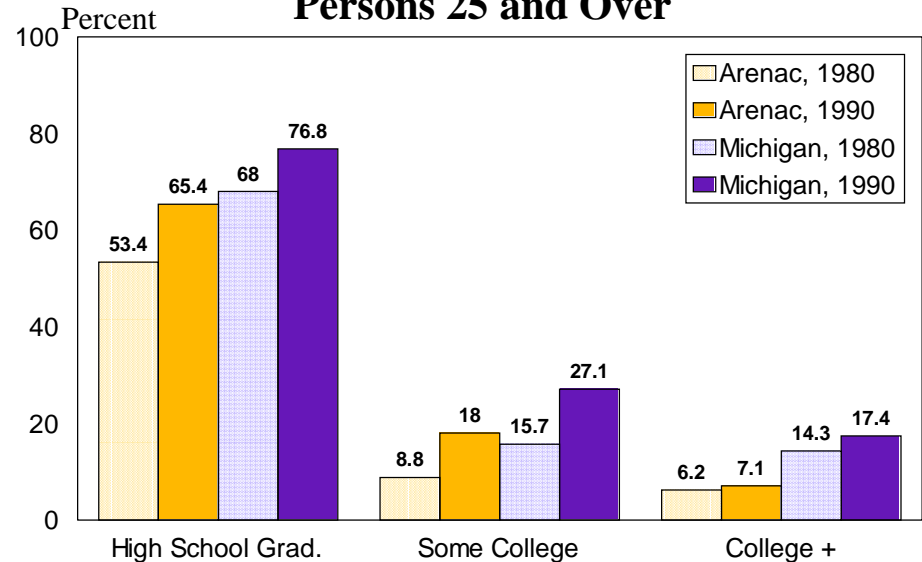
Jobs in Manufacturing & Services



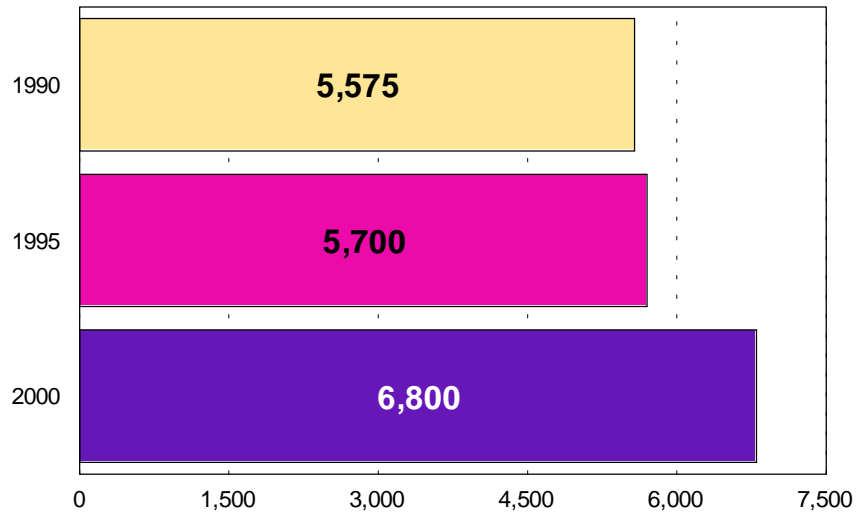
Education

- ◆ High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 12.0 percentage points in Arenac 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.
- ◆ Arenac 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 Arenac County the rate was 7.1 percent. Arenac ranks 80 among Michigan's 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- ◆ 83 students dropped out of high school in Arenac County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 8.5 percent. This is up from 1990-91 when 54 students dropped out (6.2 percent).

Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



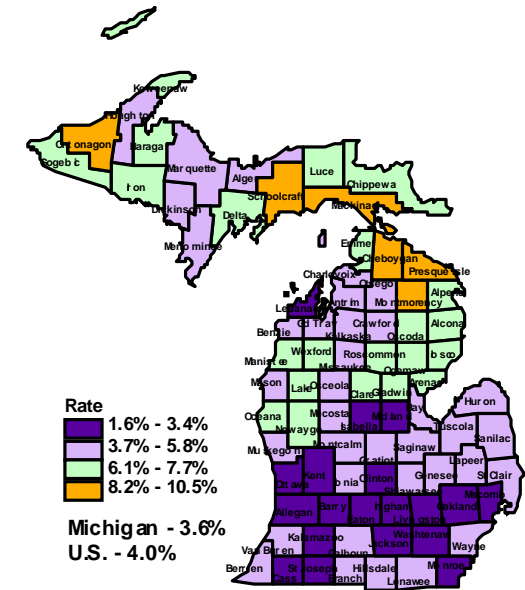
Total Number of Persons Employed in Arenac County



- ◆ The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Arenac's labor force has grown from 6,150 in 1990 to 7,300 in 2000.
- ◆ In 1990, 90.7 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 93.2 percent employed.
- ◆ 53.0 percent of Arenac's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, down from 54.1 percent in 1990.
- ◆ Seventy percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 16 percentage points higher than in 1980. Over five out of ten women with children under age six were in the work force in 1990, compared to nearly four 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.
- ◆ Arenac County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 7.0 percent, compared to 7.3 percent in 1999 and 9.3 percent in 1990. 500 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 575 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

