

# Michigan State University Extension



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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* **Eaton County**



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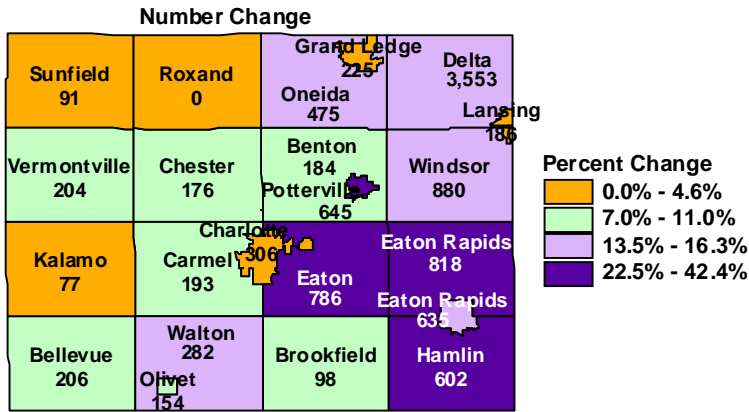
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# Population

## Eaton County

Change from 1990 to 2000

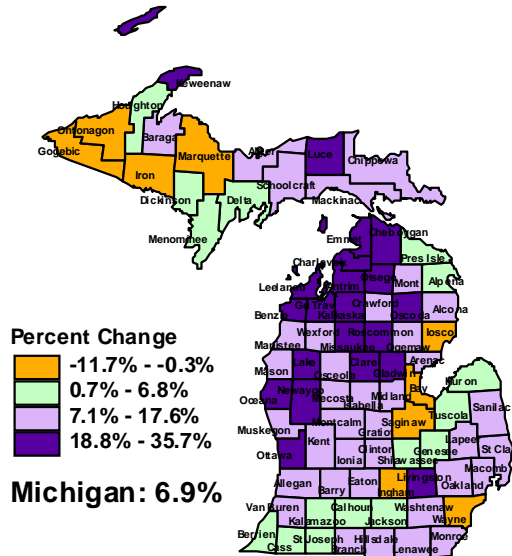


Eaton County had 103,655 people in 2000, ranking as the 20th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 10,776 persons, or 11.6 percent since 1990.

Pottersville showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 42.4 percent. Delta Township showed the largest number gain of 3,553 people.

There were 1,185 live births in Eaton County in 1998, of which 134 were to mothers age 19 and under, 937 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 114 to mothers age 35 and over.

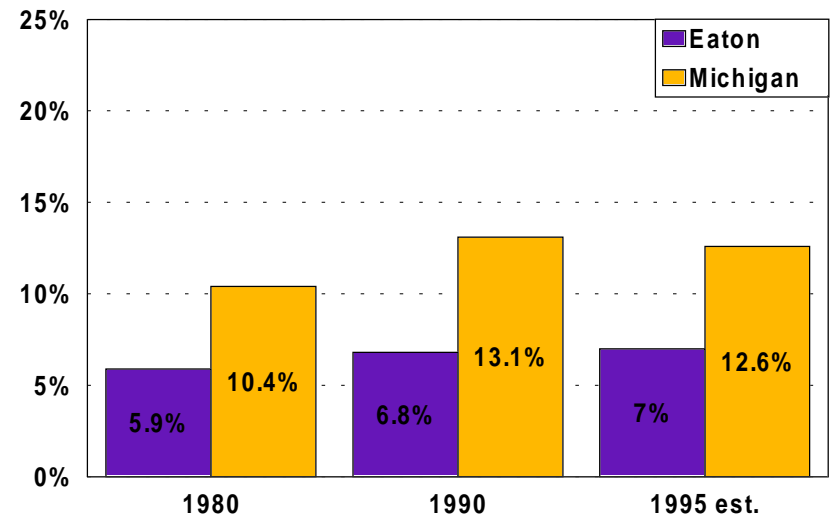
Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



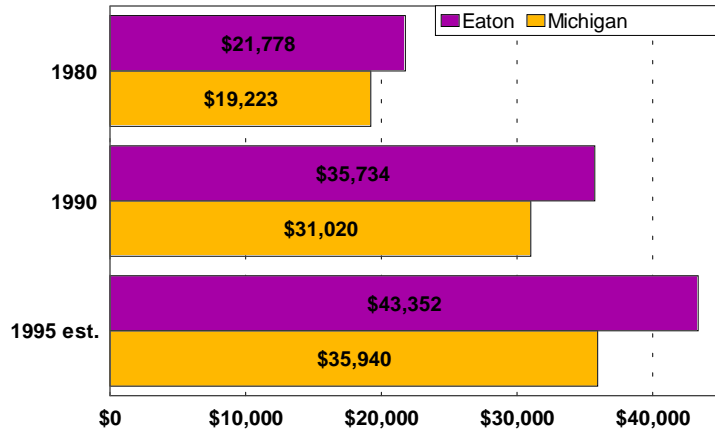
# Poverty

- In 1995, 7,035 persons in Eaton County were below the poverty line, increasing from 6,240 persons in 1990.
- The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- Eaton County ranked 26th among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 78th on the poverty rate.
- Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 2,821 kids (ages 0-17) in Eaton County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in ten. In 1990, 2,258 kids were poor.
- The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 8.5 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 10.8 percent.

## Poverty Rates of All Persons



## Median Household Income



- Between 1990 and 1995, households in Eaton County experienced an increase in real median income of 4.0 percent, from \$41,667 to \$43,352. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Compared to other Michigan counties, Eaton County ranked 10th 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 Eaton County in 1998 was \$23,978, compared to \$22,330 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 7.4 percent increase.

### Household Income Distribution\*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
<b>Eaton County</b>	32.3%	38.1%	29.6%
<b>Michigan</b>	40.6%	34.1%	25.5%

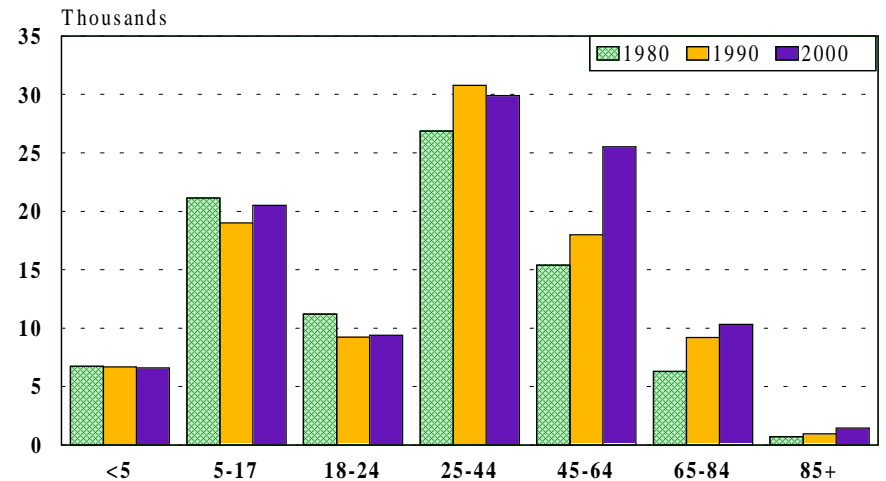
\* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

## The Median age of Eaton residents continues to go up:

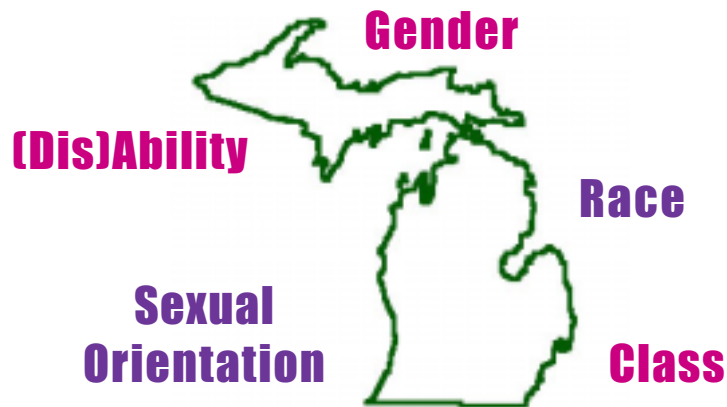
	1980	1990	2000
<b>Eaton</b>	28.3	32.9	36.4
<b>Michigan</b>	28.8	32.6	35.5
<b>U.S.</b>	30.0	33.0	35.3

- Of the people 103,655 who lived in Eaton in 2000, 62.5 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 37.5 percent included 6.4 percent children under the age of 5, 19.8 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 11.3 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 7,529 or 41.9 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 2,552 or 27.7 percent since 1990. One in nine Eaton residents is age 65 or older.

## Age Distribution in Eaton County



# Multiculturalism



- In 2000, Eaton County's population included 50,381 males and 53,274 females, or 48.6 percent and 51.4 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- Of the 40,167 households living in Eaton County in 2000, 29,791 or 74.2 percent owned their own home and 10,376 or 25.8 percent rented. For Michigan, the rate of home ownership was 73.8 percent and 26.2 percent rented.
- 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.

## Racial and Hispanic or Latino Origin: 2000

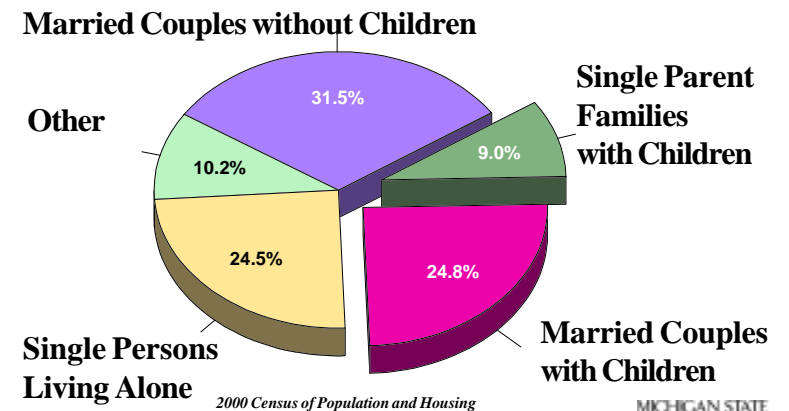
	Eaton County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	91,895	88.7	78.6
Black*	5,397	5.2	14.1
American Indian*	418	0.4	0.5
Asian*	1,150	1.1	1.8
Other*	135	0.1	0.1
Two or more races*	1,337	1.3	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	3,323	3.2	3.3

\* Not Hispanic or Latino

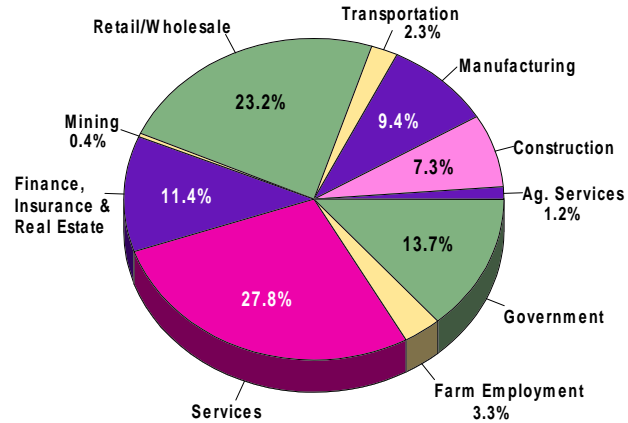
# Households & Families

- There were 718 marriages in Eaton County during 1998, down from 1990 when 766 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 Eaton County in 1990 was 9.1 when 423 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 9.5 when 481 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, 4,294 children in Eaton County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 16.8 percent of all children in Eaton. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

## Types of Households in Eaton County

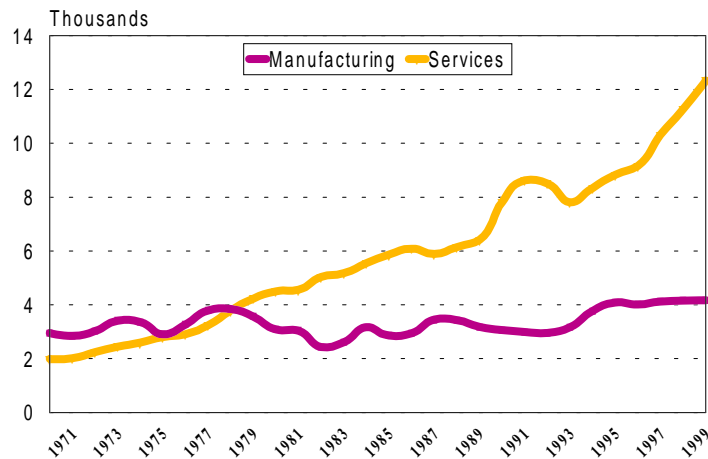


## 1999 Employment by Industry in Eaton County



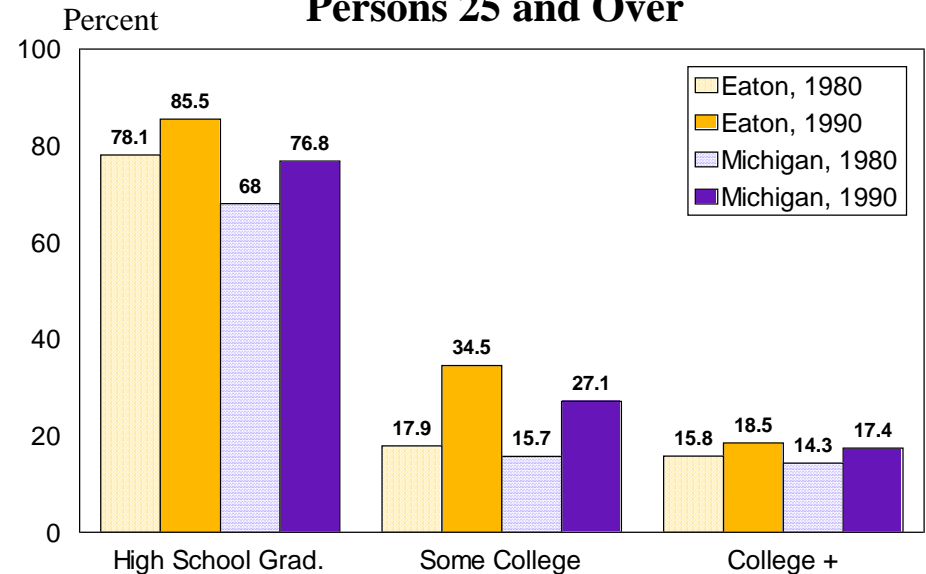
- The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Eaton from 31,282 in 1990 to 44,352 in 1999, a 41.8 percent increase.
- The Services industry accounted for 27.8% of all employment in 1999, leading Retail and Wholesale Trade by 2.2 percentage points. Jobs in Services have risen the fastest of all industries, climbing 44.0 percent since 1990.

## Jobs in Manufacturing & Services

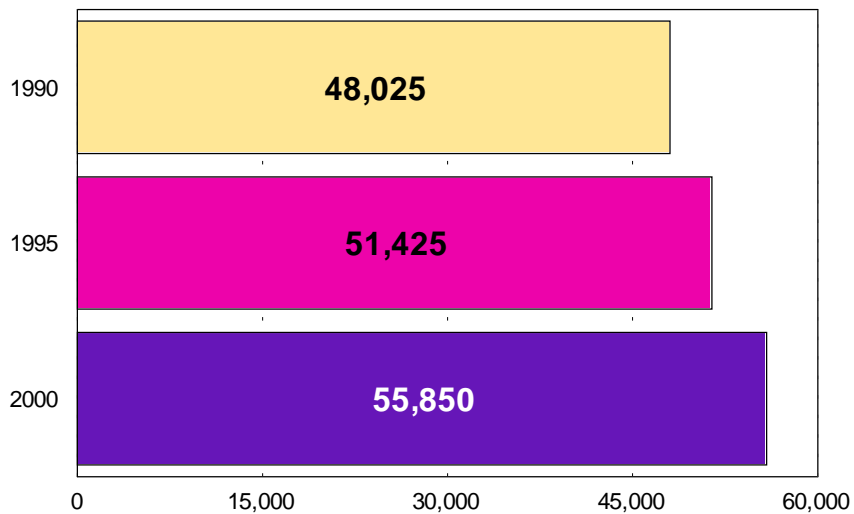


- High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 7.4 percentage points in Eaton County and 8.8 percentage points in Michigan. This is due largely to the fact that a much higher rate of young adults (age 25-29) has completed high school than those in older age groups.
- Eaton County exceeds Michigan for those persons age 25 and over with a college degree. In 1990, 17.4 percent in Michigan had a college degree; in Eaton County the rate was 18.5 percent. Eaton ranks 14th among Michigan’s 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- 195 students dropped out of high school in Eaton County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 4.1 percent. This is up from 1990-91 when 88 students dropped out (2.0 percent).

## Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



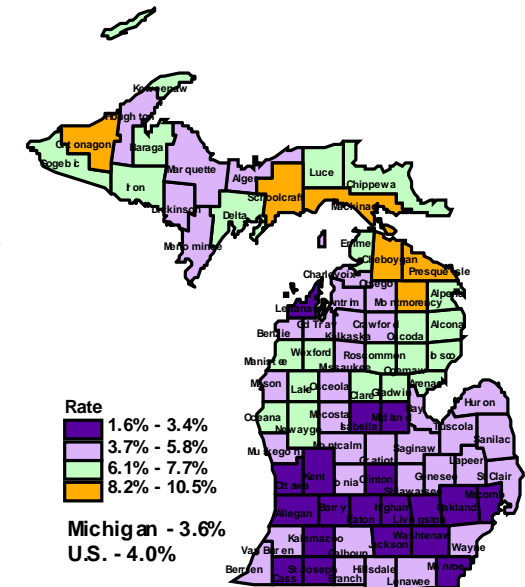
## Total Number of Persons Employed in Eaton County



- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Eaton's labor force has grown from 51,150 in 1990 to 57,250 in 2000.
- In 1990, 93.9 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 97.6 percent employed.
- 71.6 percent of Eaton's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, down from 73.0 percent in 1990.
- Eighty-one percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 11 percentage points higher than in 1980. Nearly seven 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.
- Eaton County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 2.4 percent, same as in 1999 and compared to 6.1 percent in 1990. 1,400 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 3,125 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

