

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 **Hillsdale County**



Bringing Knowledge to Life!

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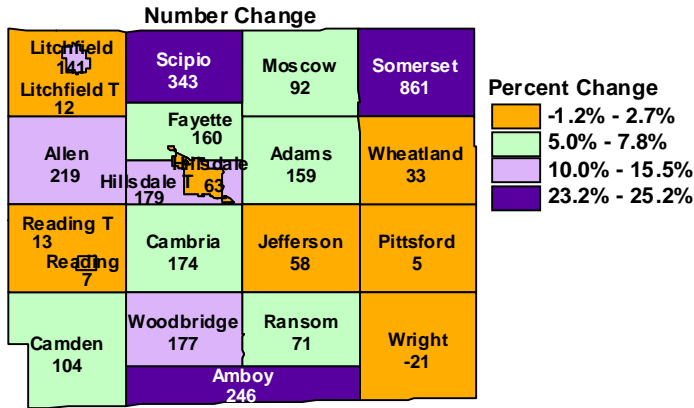
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Population

Hillsdale County

Change from 1990 to 2000

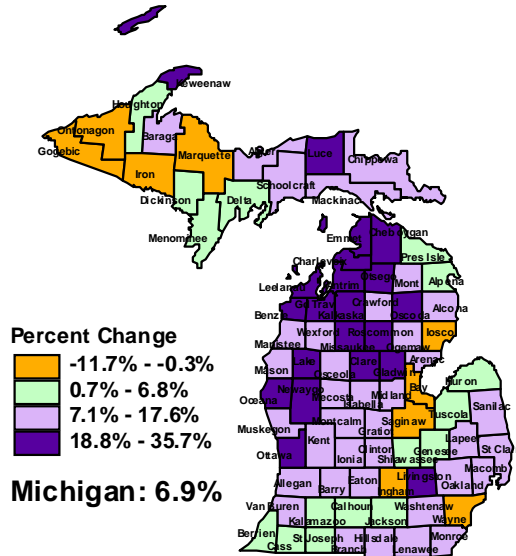


Hillsdale County had 46,527 people in 2000, ranking as the 37th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 3,096 persons, or 7.1% since 1990.

Amboy Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 25.2 percent. Somerset Township showed the largest number gain of 861 people.

There were 582 live births in Hillsdale in 1998, of which 86 were to mothers age 19 and under, 446 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 50 to mothers age 35 and over.

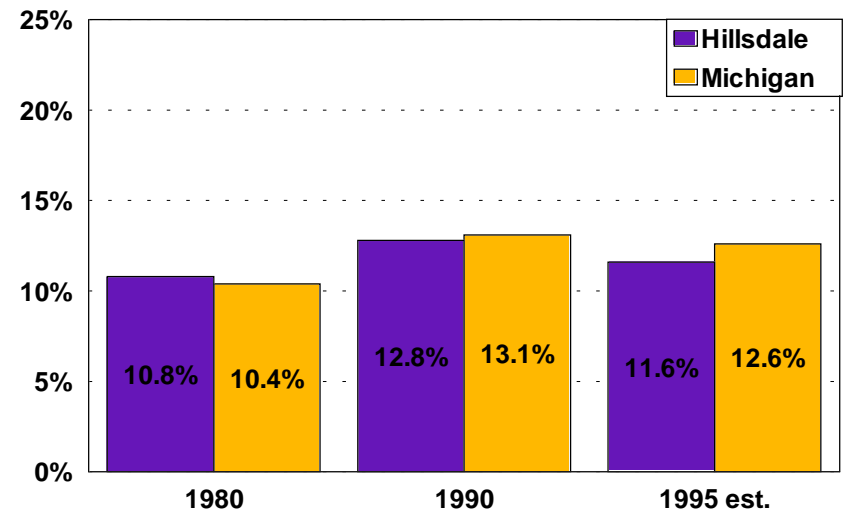
Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



Poverty

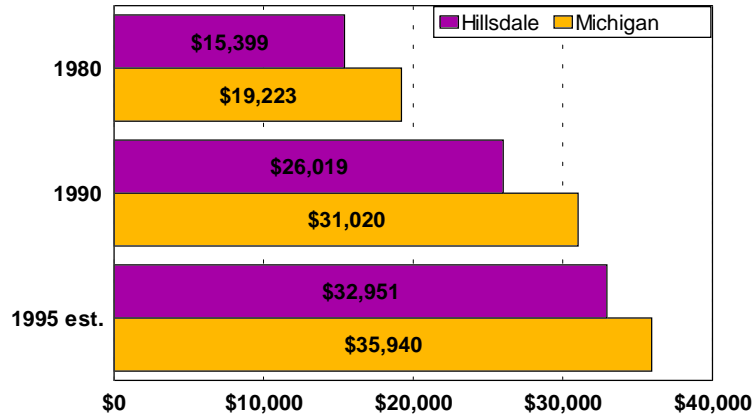
- In 1995, 5,262 persons in Hillsdale County were below the poverty line, decreasing from 5,395 persons in 1990.
- The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- Hillsdale County ranked 40th among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 55th on the poverty rate.
- Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 2,137 kids (ages 0-17) in Hillsdale County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in six. In 1990, 1,988 kids were poor.
- The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 13.1 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 14.8 percent.

Poverty Rates of All Persons



Household Income

Median Household Income



- Between 1990 and 1995, households in Hillsdale County experienced an increase in real median income of 8.6 percent, from \$30,339 to \$32,951. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Compared to other Michigan counties, Hillsdale County ranked 36th 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 Hillsdale County in 1998 was \$20,361, compared to \$17,991 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 13.2 percent increase.

Household Income Distribution*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
Hillsdale County	47.8%	37.7%	14.5%
Michigan	40.6%	34.1%	25.5%

* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

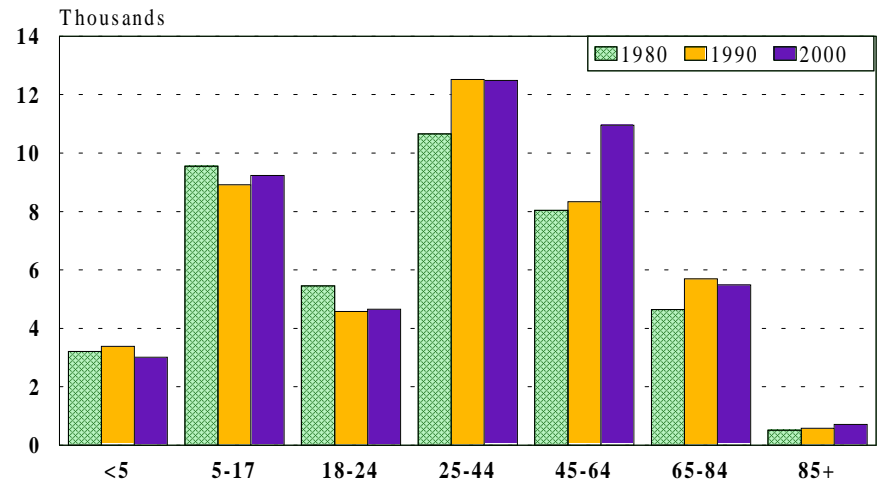
Age

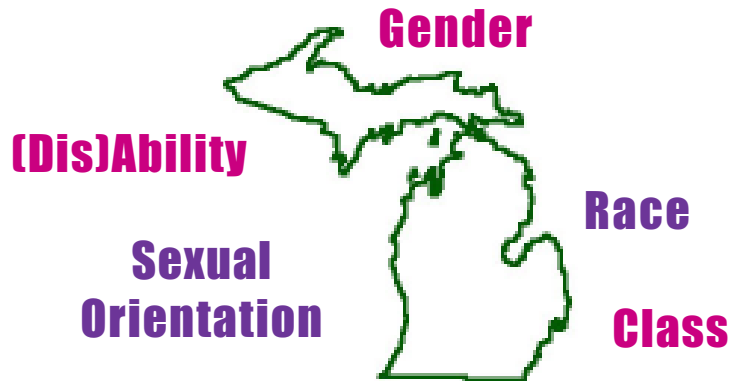
The Median age of Hillsdale residents continues to go up:

	1980	1990	2000
Hillsdale	29.6	32.6	36.5
Michigan	28.8	32.6	35.5
U.S.	30.0	33.0	35.3

- Of the 46,527 people who lived in Hillsdale in 2000, 60.4 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 39.6 percent included 6.5 percent children under the age of 5, 19.9 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 13.3 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 2,612 or 31.3 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 493 or 8.7 percent since 1990. One in seven Hillsdale residents is age 65 or older.

Age Distribution in Hillsdale County





- In 2000, Hillsdale County's population included 23,151 males and 23,376 females, or 49.8 percent and 50.2 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- Of the 17,335 households living in Hillsdale County in 2000, 13,850 or 79.9 percent owned their own home and 3,485 or 20.1 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.

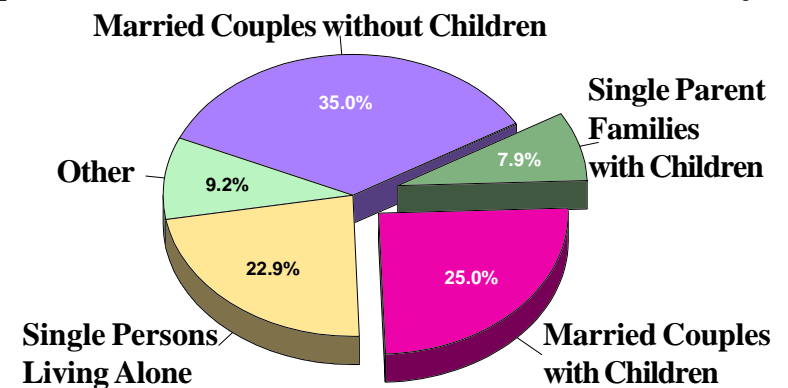
Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin: 2000

	Hillsdale County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	45,042	96.8	78.6
Black*	197	0.4	14.1
American Indian*	157	0.3	0.5
Asian*	151	0.3	1.8
Other*	38	0.1	0.1
Two or more races*	384	0.8	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	558	1.2	3.3

* Not Hispanic or Latino

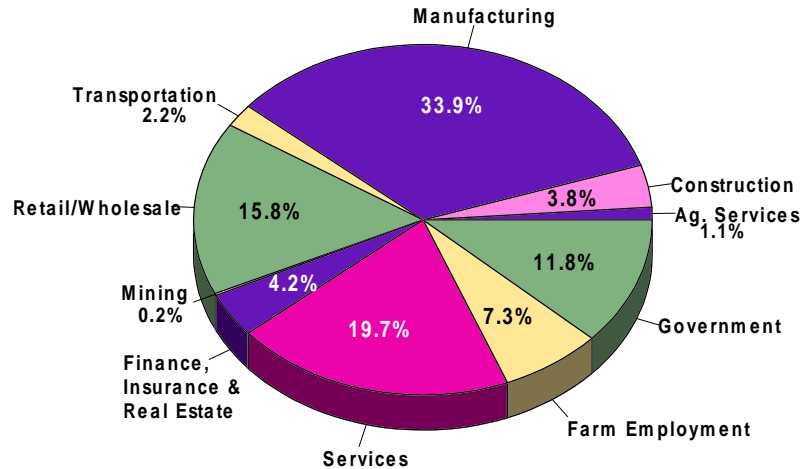
- There were 383 marriages in Hillsdale County during 1998, up from 1990 when 347 marriages occurred. Across the state, marriage numbers and rates have fallen since the '70s.
- In Michigan, median age at marriage continues to go up, from age 25 for males and 23 for females in the mid-'70s, to age 28 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 Hillsdale County in 1990 was 10.7 when 233 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 10.3 when 241 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, 2,079 children in Hillsdale County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 17 percent of all children in Hillsdale. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

Types of Households in Hillsdale County



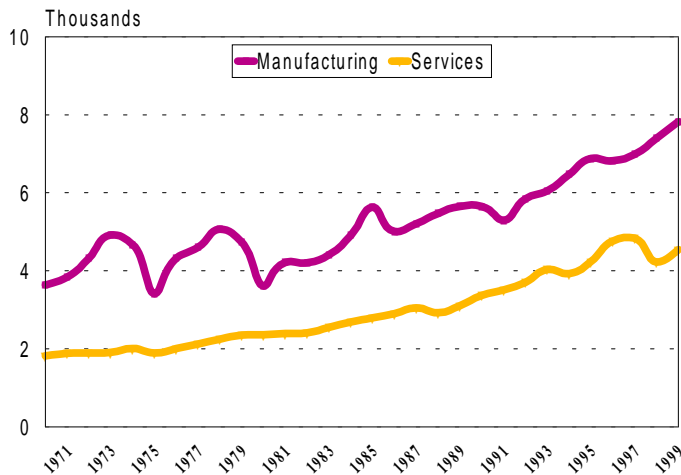
2000 Census of Population and Housing

1999 Employment by Industry in Hillsdale County



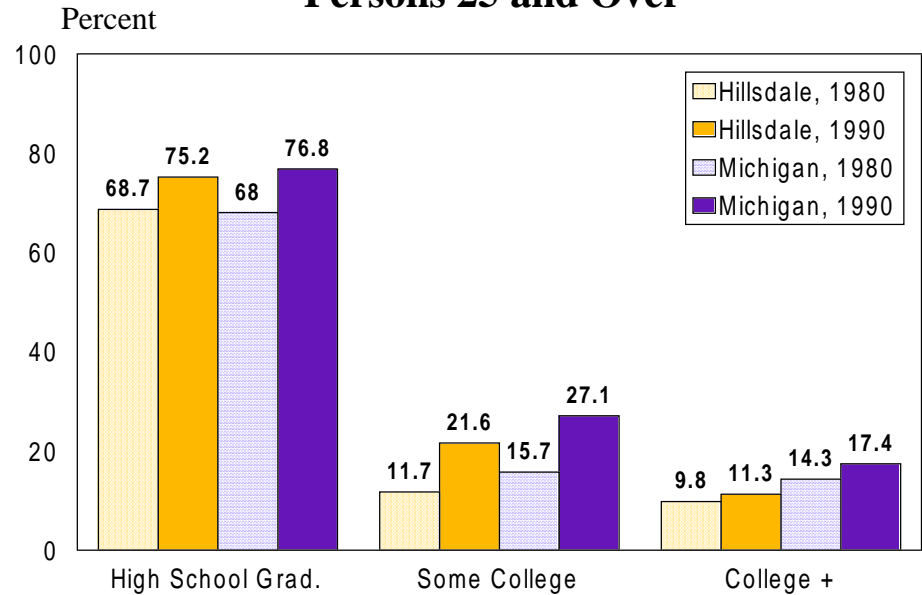
- .. The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Hillsdale from 18,165 in 1990 to 23,103 in 1999, a 27.2 percent increase.
- .. Manufacturing accounted for 33.9% of all employment in 1999, leading the Services industry by 14.2 percentage points. Jobs in Manufacturing have risen the fastest of all industries, climbing 38.5 percent since 1990.

Jobs in Manufacturing & Services

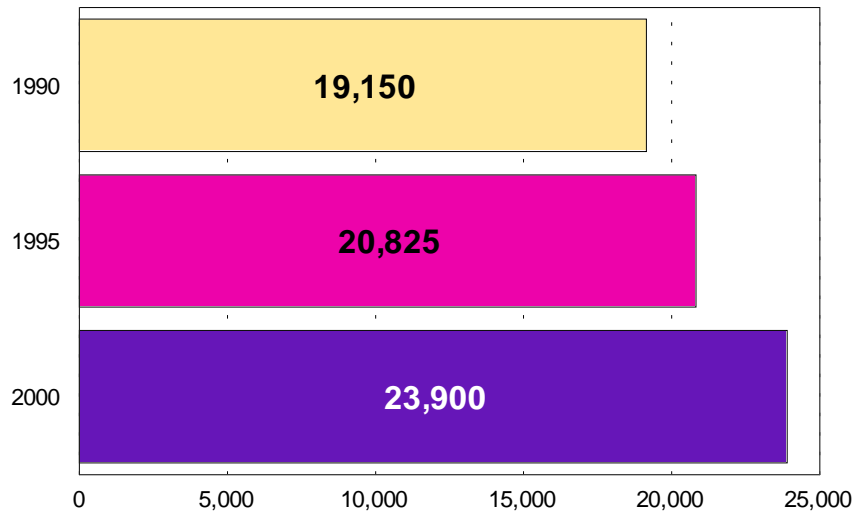


- .. High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 6.5 percentage points in Hillsdale County and 8.8 percentage points in Michigan. This is due largely to the fact that a much higher rate of young adults (age 25-29) has completed high school than those in older age groups.
- .. Hillsdale 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 Hillsdale County the rate was 11.3 percent. Hillsdale ranks 39th among Michigan’s 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- .. 138 students dropped out of high school in Hillsdale County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 6.3 percent. This is down from 1990-91 when 156 students dropped out (7.3 percent).

Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



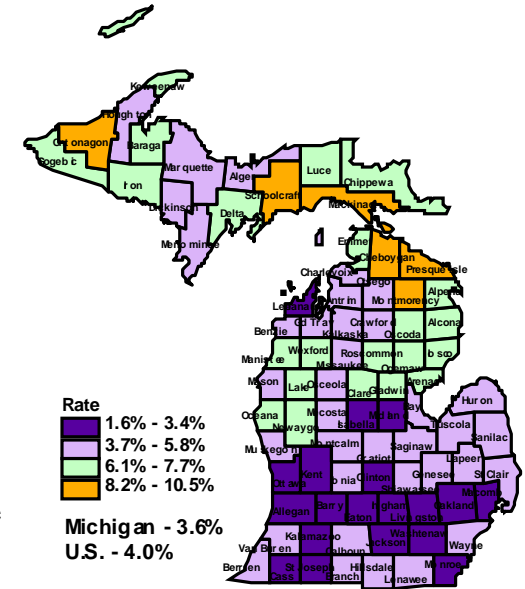
Total Number of Persons Employed in Hillsdale County



- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Hillsdale's labor force has grown from 21,000 in 1990 to 24,850 in 2000.
- In 1990, 91.2 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 96.2 percent employed.
- 69.4 percent of Hillsdale's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, up from 64.7 percent in 1990.
- Seventy-seven percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, nearly 9 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 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.
- Hillsdale County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 3.8 percent, compared to 3.3 percent in 1999 and 8.9 percent in 1990. 925 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 1,850 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

