

# 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.*

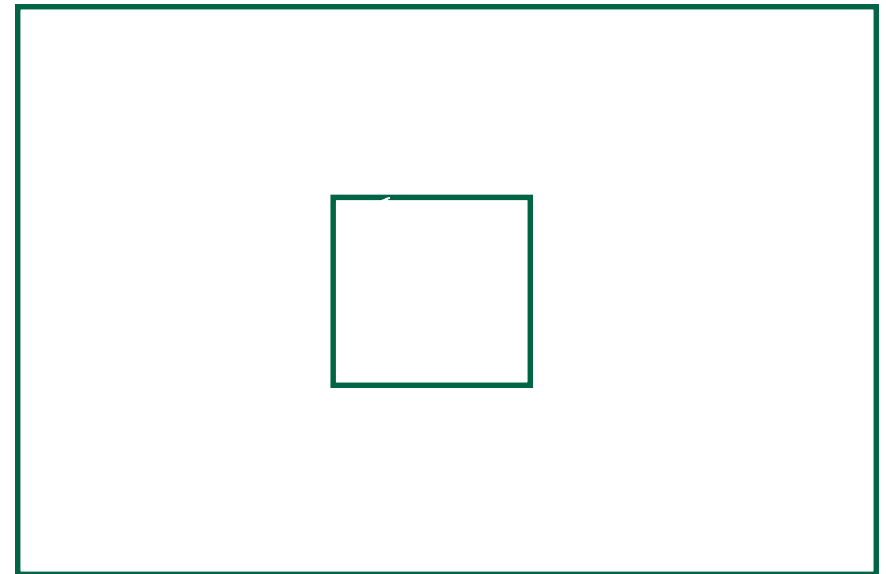
Since its beginning, Extension in Michigan has focused on bringing knowledge-based educational programs to the people of the state to improve their lives and communities. Today, community based agents supported by on-campus faculty members are serving every county, providing base programs focusing on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

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## *A portrait of*

# Kalamazoo County



## Bringing Knowledge to Life!

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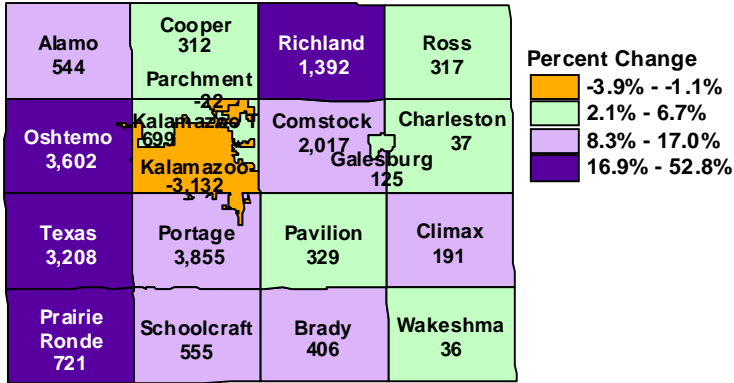
Michigan State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties cooperating.  
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# Population

## Kalamazoo County

Percent Change from 1990 to 2000

Number Change

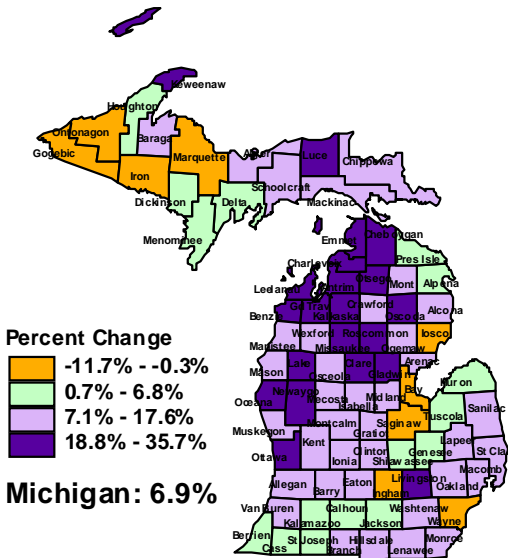


.. Kalamazoo County had 238,603 people in 2000, ranking as the 8th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 15,192 persons, or 6.8% since 1990.

.. Prairie Ronde Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 52.8 percent. Portage showed the largest number gain of 3,855 people.

.. There were 3,183 live births in Kalamazoo in 1998, of which 407 were to mothers age 19 and under, 2,424 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 352 to mothers age 35 and over.

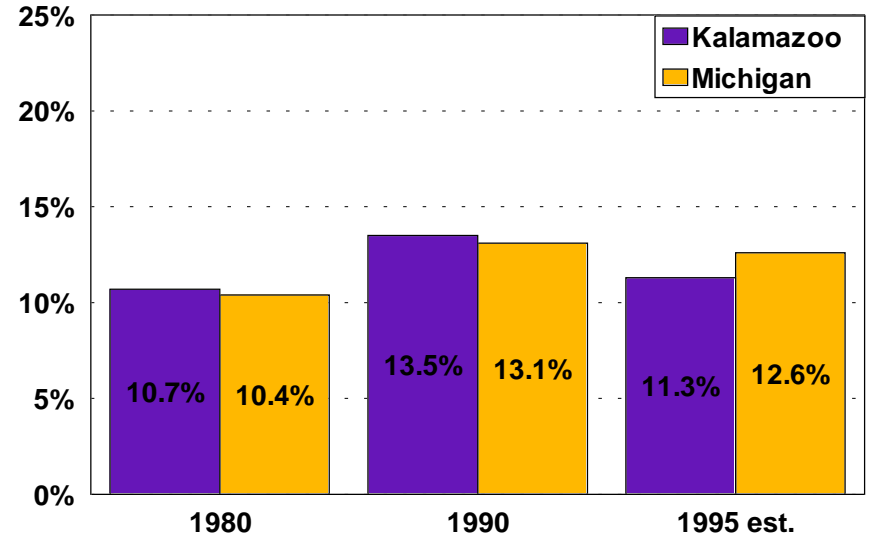
.. Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



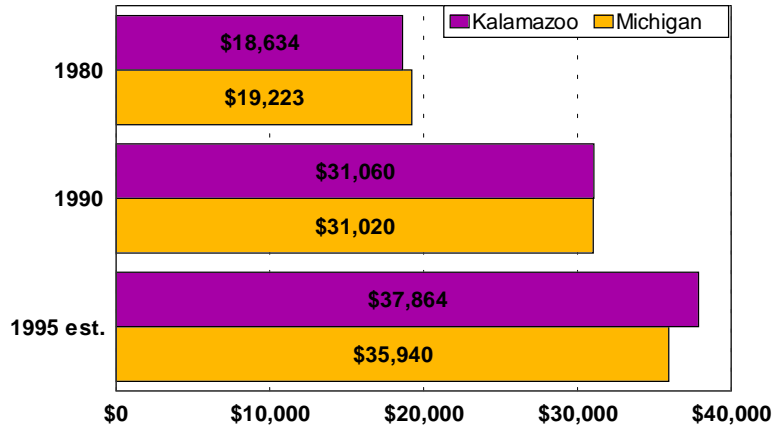
# Poverty

- .. In 1995, 25,340 persons in Kalamazoo County were below the poverty line, decreasing from 28,657 persons in 1990.
- .. The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- .. Kalamazoo County ranked 8th among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 56th on the poverty rate.
- .. Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 9,369 kids (ages 0-17) in Kalamazoo County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in six. In 1990, 8,665 kids were poor.
- .. The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 9.2 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 9.6 percent.

## Poverty Rates of All Persons



## Median Household Income



- Between 1990 and 1995, households in Kalamazoo County experienced an increase in real median income of 4.5 percent, from \$36,217 to \$37,864. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Compared to other Michigan counties, Kalamazoo County ranked 17th 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 Kalamazoo County in 1998 was \$27,364, compared to \$24,186 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 13.1 percent increase.

### Household Income Distribution\*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
<b>Kalamazoo</b>	<b>40.1%</b>	<b>34.7%</b>	<b>25.1%</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>40.6%</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>

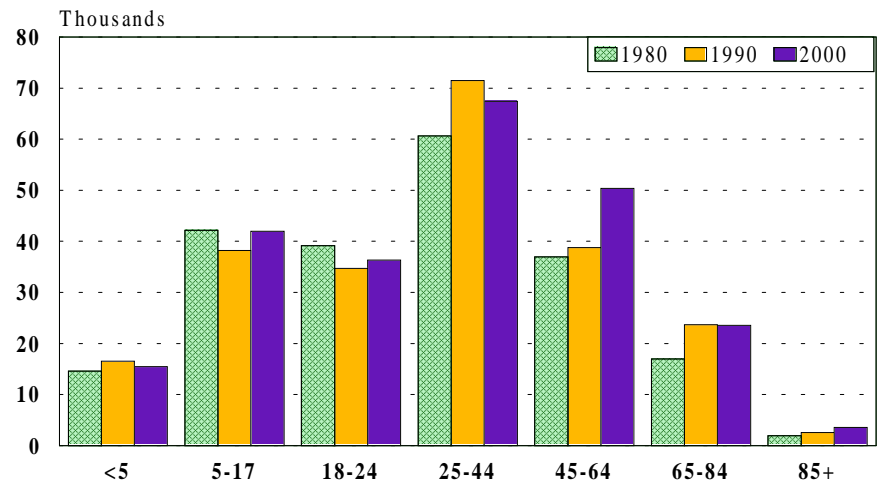
\* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

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

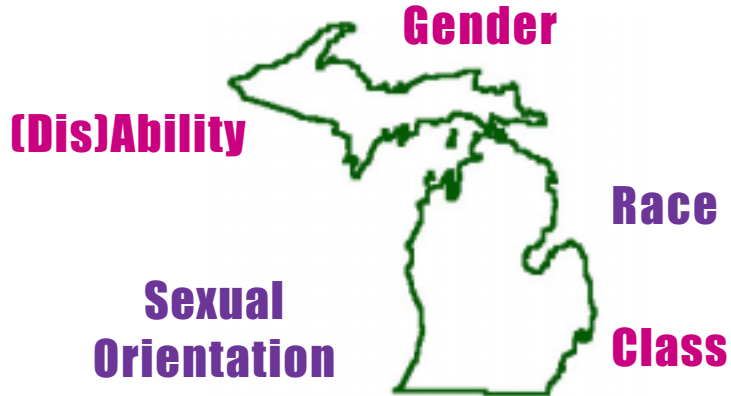
	1980	1990	2000
<b>Kalamazoo</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>32.7</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>35.5</b>
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>35.3</b>

- Of the 238,603 people who lived in Kalamazoo in 2000, 64.6 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 35.4 percent included 6.5 percent children under the age of 5, 17.6 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 11.4 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 11,534 or 29.7 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 3,489 or 14.7 percent since 1990. One in eight Kalamazoo residents is age 65 or older.

## Age Distribution in Kalamazoo County



# Multiculturalism



- In 2000, Kalamazoo County's population included 115,376 males and 123,227 females, or 48.4 percent and 51.6 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- Of the 93,479 households living in Kalamazoo County in 2000, 61,458 or 65.7 percent owned their own home and 32,021 or 34.3 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

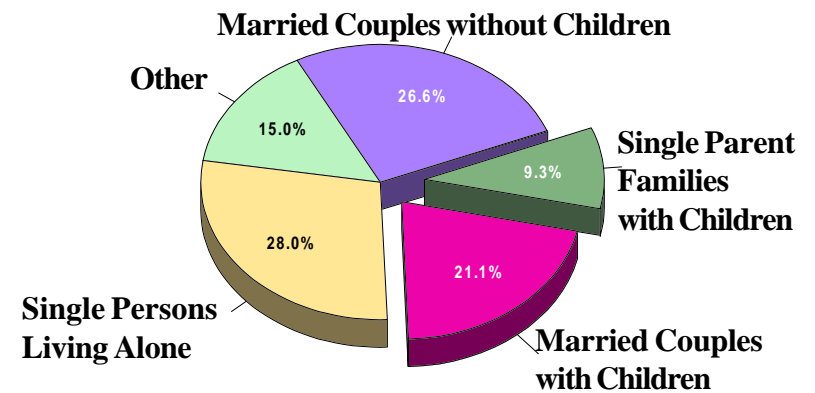
	Kalamazoo County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	199,180	83.5	78.6
Black*	22,968	9.6	14.1
American Indian*	892	0.4	0.5
Asian*	4,343	1.8	1.8
Other*	548	0.2	0.1
Two or more races*	4,361	1.8	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	6,311	2.6	3.3

\* Not Hispanic or Latino

# Households & Families

- There were 1,696 marriages in Kalamazoo County during 1998, down from 1,992 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 Kalamazoo County in 1990 was 9.3 when 1,042 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 8.3 when 950 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, 12,078 children in Kalamazoo County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 22.2 percent of all children in Kalamazoo. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

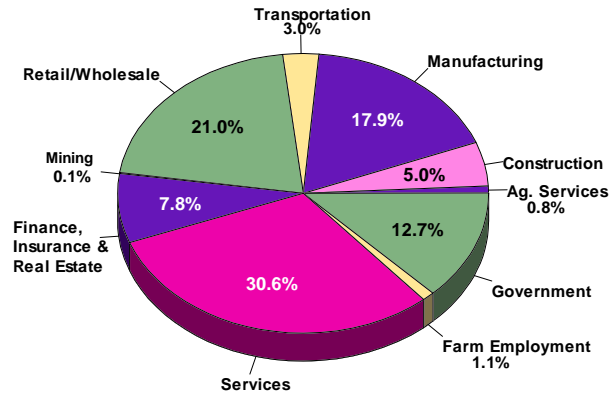
## Types of Households in Kalamazoo



2000 Census of Population and Housing

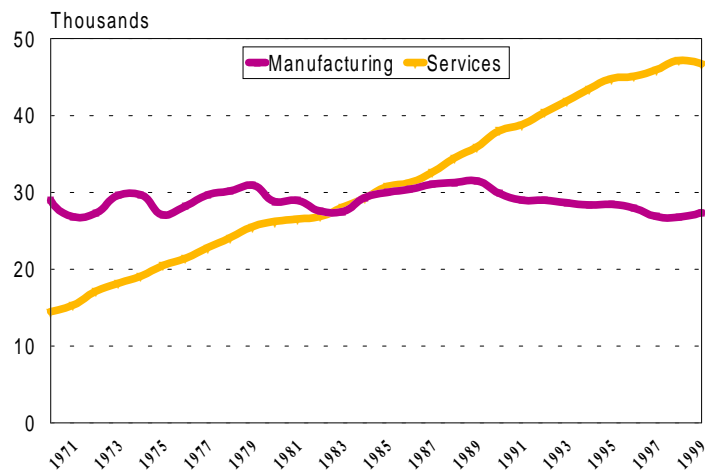
# Employment

## 1999 Employment by Industry in Kalamazoo County



- The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Kalamazoo from 136,574 in 1990 to 152,822 in 1999, a 11.9 percent increase.
- The Services industry accounted for 30.6% of all employment in 1999, leading Retail and Wholesale Trade by 9.5 percentage points. Jobs in Services have risen the fastest of all industries, climbing 22.8 percent since 1990.

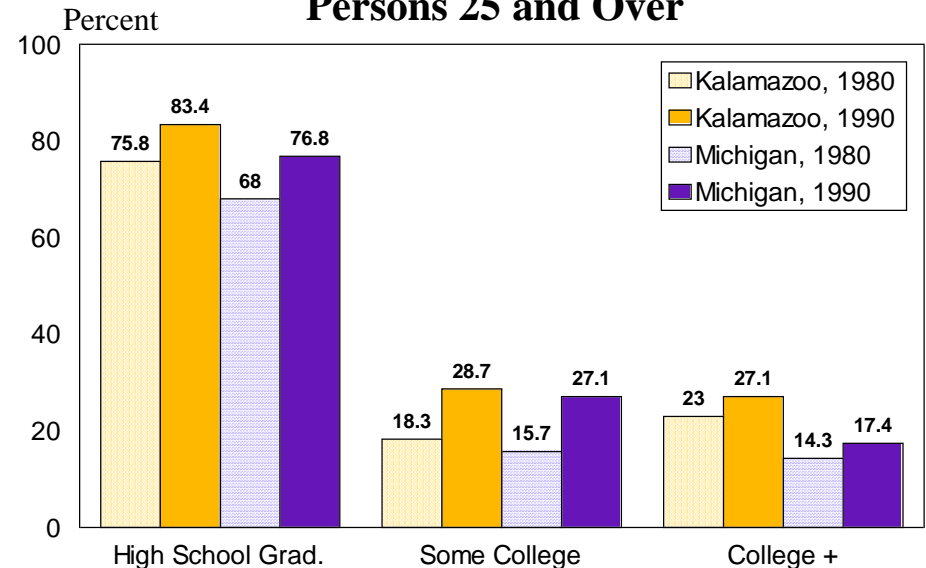
## Jobs in Manufacturing & Services



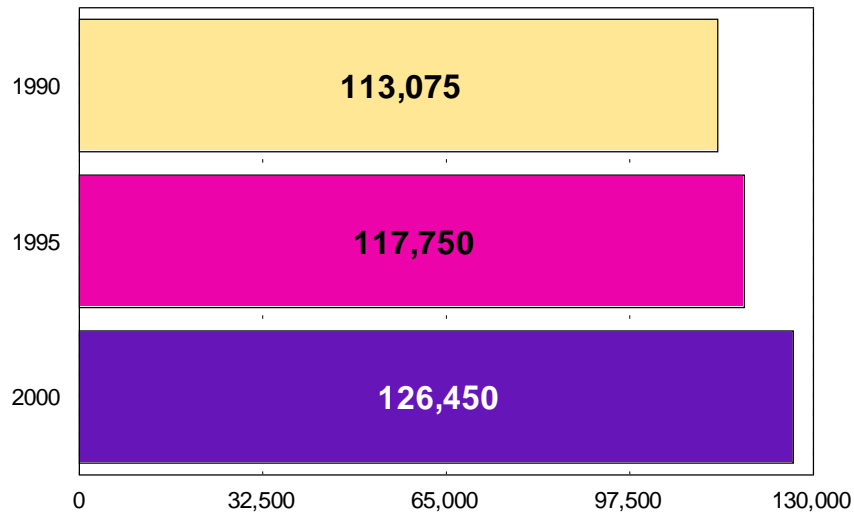
# Education

- High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 7.7 percentage points in Kalamazoo 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.
- Kalamazoo 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 Kalamazoo County the rate was 27.1 percent. Kalamazoo ranks 5th among Michigan's 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- 261 students dropped out of high school in Kalamazoo County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 3.1 percent. This is up from 1990-91 when 194 students dropped out (2.5 percent).

## Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



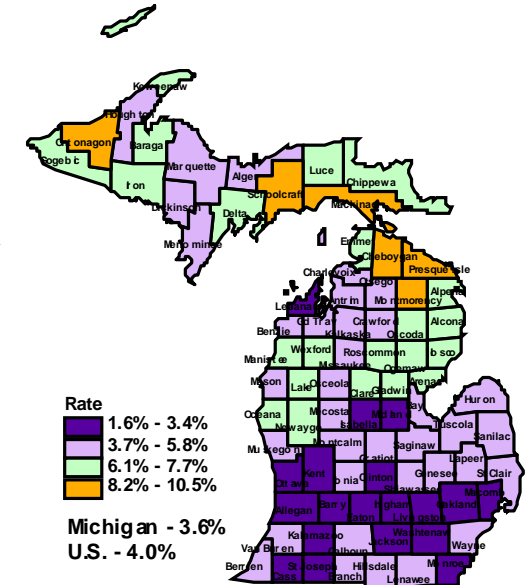
## Total Number of Persons Employed In Kalamazoo County



- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Kalamazoo's labor force has grown from 119,525 in 1990 to 130,150 in 2000.
- In 1990, 94.6 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 97.1 percent employed.
- 69.5 percent of Kalamazoo's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, up from 68.6 percent in 1990.
- Seventy-eight percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 13 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.
- Kalamazoo County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 2.8 percent, compared to 2.9 percent in 1999 and 5.4 percent in 1990. 3,700 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 6,450 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

