

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 Keweenaw County



Bringing Knowledge to Life!

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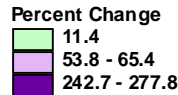
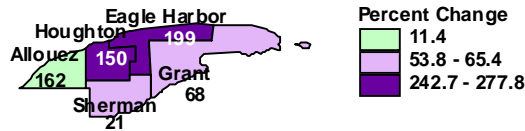
Michigan State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties cooperating.
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Population

Keweenaw County

Change from 1990 to 2000

Number Change

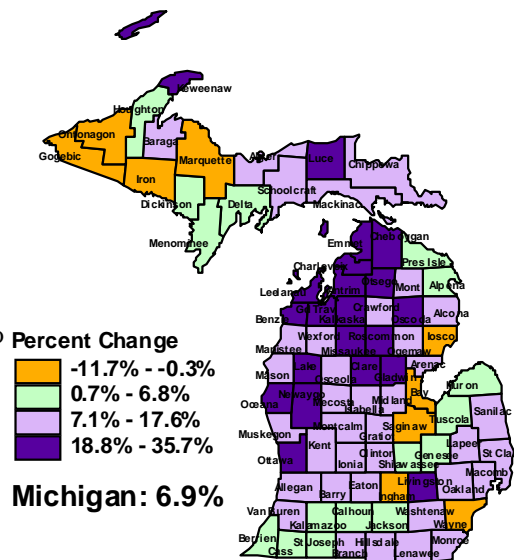


- ◆ Keweenaw County had 2,301 people in 2000, ranking as the 83rd most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 600 persons, or 35.3% since 1990.

- ◆ Houghton Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 277.8 percent. Eagle Harbor Township showed the largest number gain of 199 people.

- ◆ There were 30 live births in Keweenaw in 1998, of which 1 were to mothers age 19 and under, 25 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 4 to mothers age 35 and over.

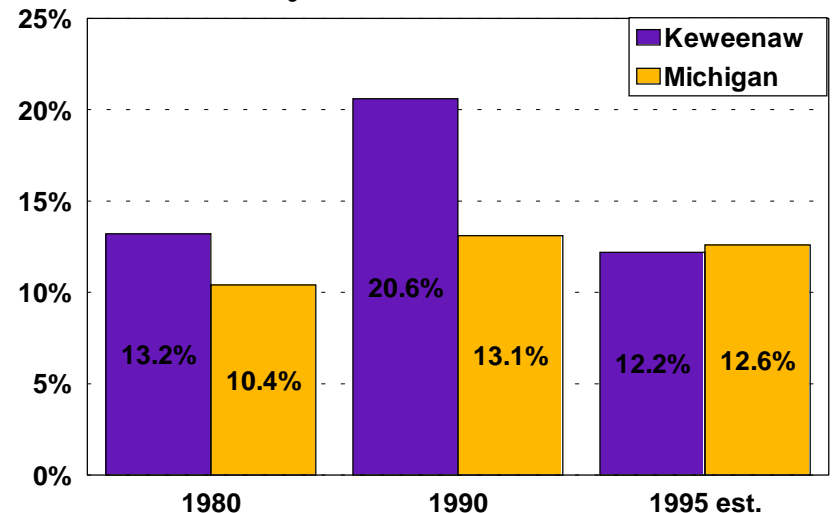
- ◆ Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



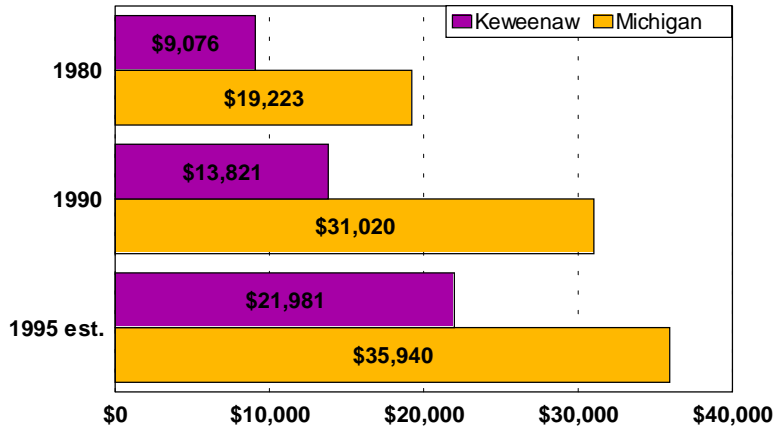
Poverty

- ◆ In 1995, 251 persons in Keweenaw County were below the poverty line, decreasing from 349 persons in 1990.
- ◆ The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- ◆ Keweenaw County ranked 83rd among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 52nd on the poverty rate.
- ◆ Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 71 kids (ages 0-17) in Keweenaw County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in five. In 1990, 72 kids were poor.
- ◆ The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 19.6 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 20.3 percent.

Poverty Rates of All Persons



Median Household Income



- ◆ Between 1990 and 1995, households in Keweenaw County experienced an increase in real median income of 36.4 percent, from \$16,116 to \$21,981. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- ◆ Compared to other Michigan counties, Keweenaw County ranked 82nd 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 Keweenaw County in 1998 was \$17,968, compared to \$18,006 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a (0.2) percent decrease.

Household Income Distribution*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
Keweenaw	76.3%	18.7%	5.0%
Michigan	40.6%	34.1%	25.5%

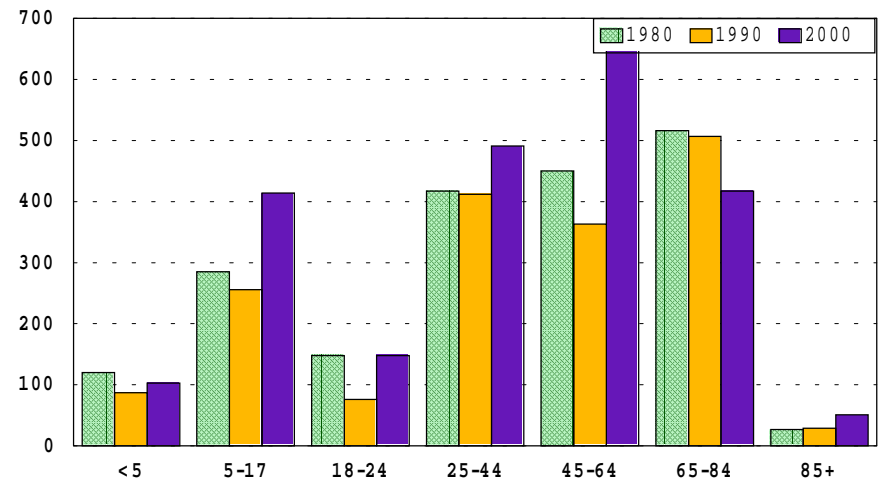
* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

The Median age of Keweenaw residents continues to go up:

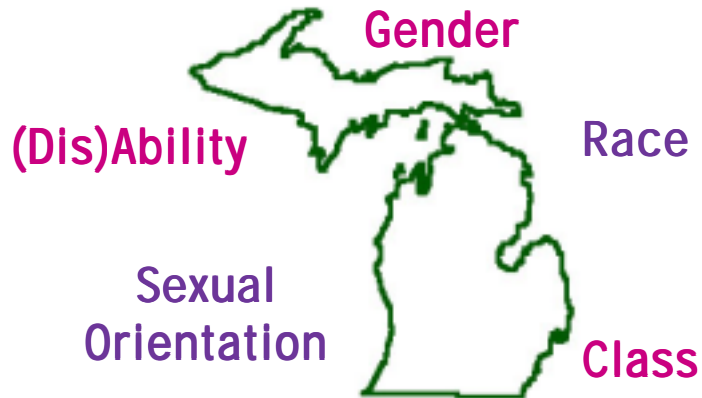
	1980	1990	2000
Keweenaw	46.0	46.4	44.9
Michigan	28.8	32.6	35.5
U.S.	30.0	33.0	35.3

- ◆ Of the 2,301 people who lived in Keweenaw in 2000, 57.2 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 42.8 percent included 4.5 percent children under the age of 5, 18.0 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 20.3 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 314 or 86.5 percent since 1990.
- ◆ “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, decreased by 39 or 7.7 percent since 1990. One in five Keweenaw residents is age 65 or older.

Age Distribution in Keweenaw County



Multiculturalism



- ◆ In 2000, Keweenaw County's population included 1,238 males and 1,063 females, or 53.8 percent and 46.2 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- ◆ Of the 998 households living in Keweenaw County in 2000, 886 or 88.8 percent owned their own home and 112 or 11.2 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.

Racial and Ethnic Diversity: 1999 est.

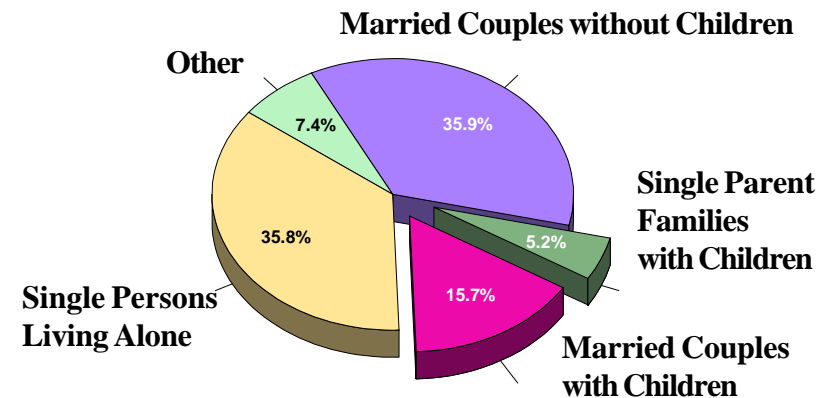
	Keweenaw County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	2,177	94.6	78.6
Black*	79	3.4	14.1
American Indian*	2	0.1	0.5
Asian*	2	0.1	1.8
Other*	0	0.0	0.1
Two or more races*	23	1.0	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	18	0.8	3.3

* Not Hispanic or Latino

Households & Families

- ◆ There were 20 marriages in Keweenaw County during 1998, up from 13 marriages in 1990 when 13 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 Keweenaw County in 1990 was 4.7 when 4 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 16.2 when 17 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, 52 children in Keweenaw County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 15.3 percent of all children in Keweenaw. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

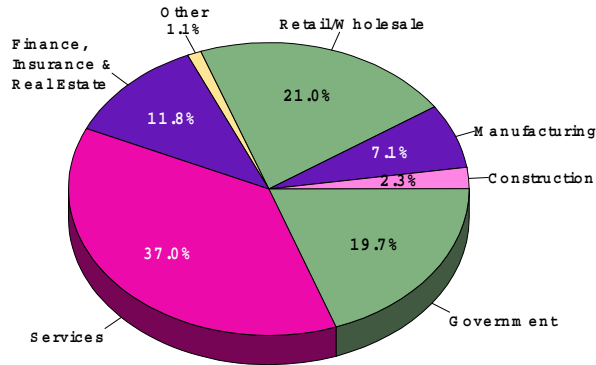
Types of Households in Keweenaw County



2000 Census of Population and Housing

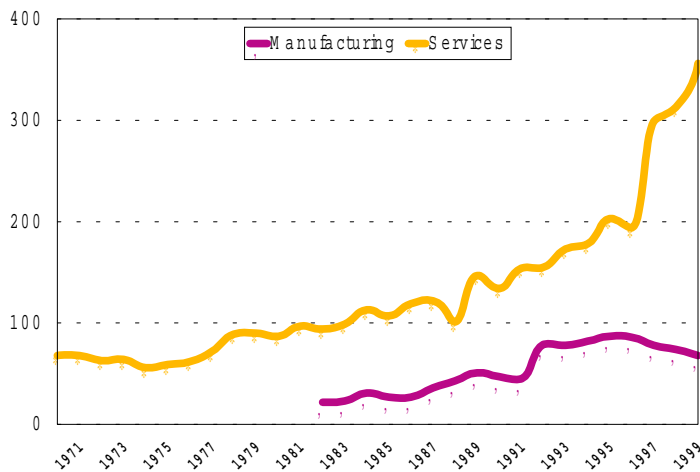
Employment

1999 Employment by Industry in Keweenaw County



- ◆ The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Keweenaw from 441 in 1990 to 963 in 1999, a 118.4 percent increase.
- ◆ The Services industry accounted for 37.0% of all employment in 1999, leading Retail and Wholesale Trade by 16.0 percentage points. Jobs in Services have risen the fastest of all industries, climbing 165.7 percent since 1990.

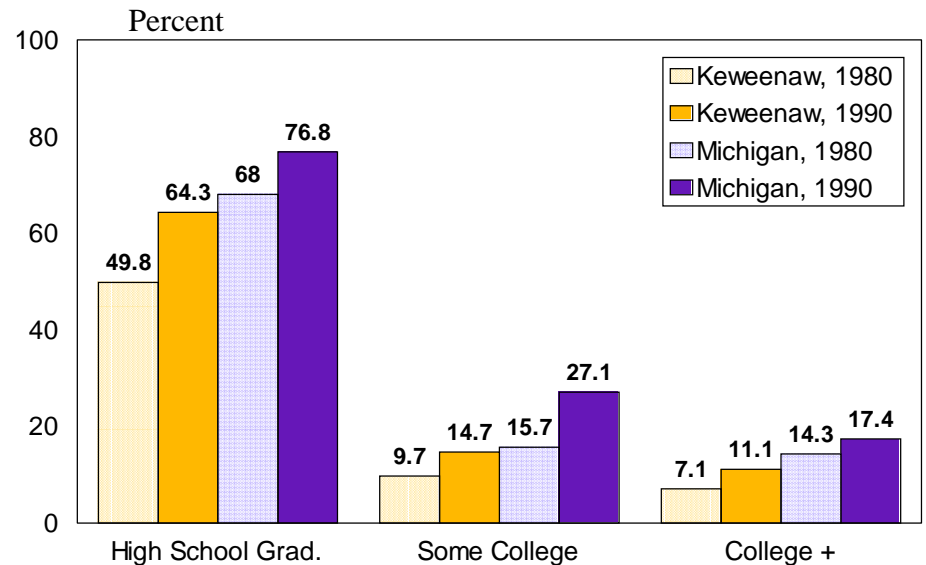
Jobs in Manufacturing & Services



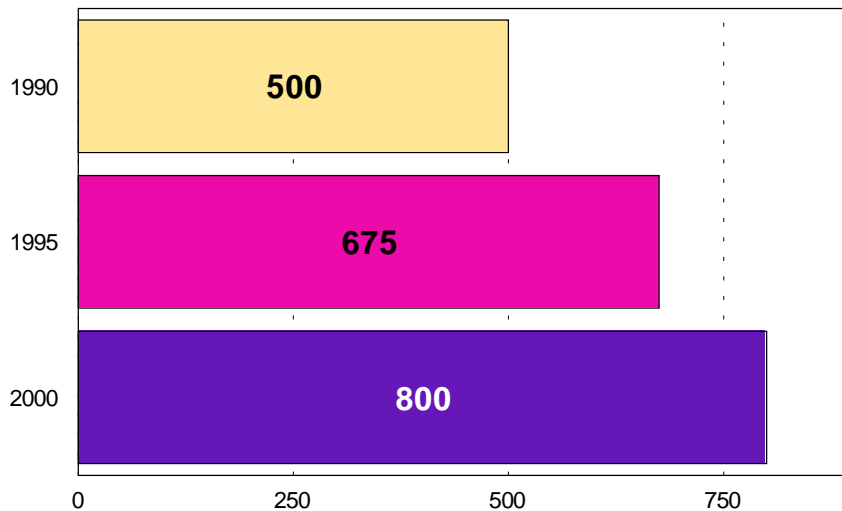
Education

- ◆ High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 14.5 percentage points in Keweenaw 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.
- ◆ Keweenaw 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 Keweenaw County the rate was 11.1 percent. Keweenaw ranks 42nd among Michigan's 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.

Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



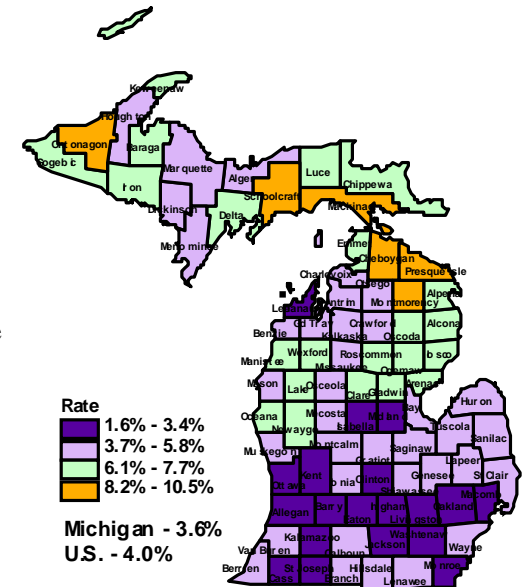
Total Number of Persons Employed in Keweenaw County



- ◆ The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Keweenaw's labor force has grown from 600 in 1990 to 875 in 2000.
- ◆ In 1990, 83.3 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 91.4 percent employed.
- ◆ 45.8 percent of Keweenaw's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, up from 42.9 percent in 1990.
- ◆ Seventy-five percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 27 percentage points higher than in 1980. Nearly five 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.
- ◆ Keweenaw County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 7.7 percent, compared to 8.8 percent in 1999 and 15.2 percent in 1990. 75 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 100 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

