

# 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.

## **For more information contact:**

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Note: The prison in Pentland Township was incorrectly coded in the 2000 Census erroneously placing 934 inmates in Newberry Village, McMillan Township. The map on page 2 displays the adjusted numbers and rates.

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# **A portrait of Luce County**



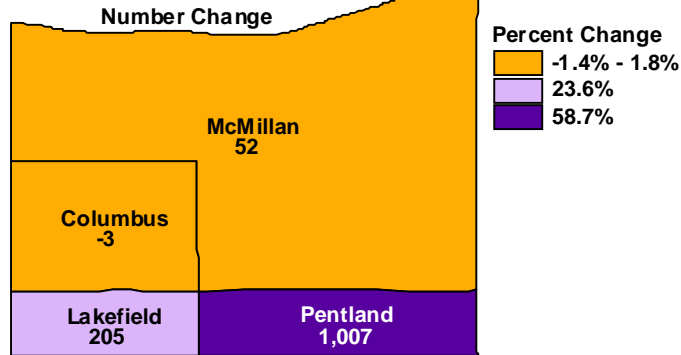
## **Bringing Knowledge to Life!**

**MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION**

# Population

## Luce County

Change from 1990 to 2000



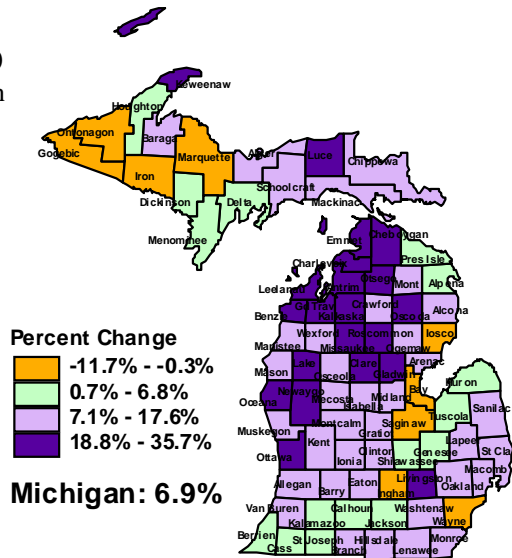
Source: 1990 and 2000 Census of Population and Housing, adjusted for prison geocoding errors. See back cover.

Luce County had 7,024 people in 2000, ranking as the 82nd most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 1,261 persons, or 21.9% since 1990.

McMillan Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 33.3 percent. McMillan Township showed the largest number gain of 986 people.

There were 49 live births in Luce in 1998, of which 2 were to mothers age 19 and under, 41 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 6 to mothers age 35 and over.

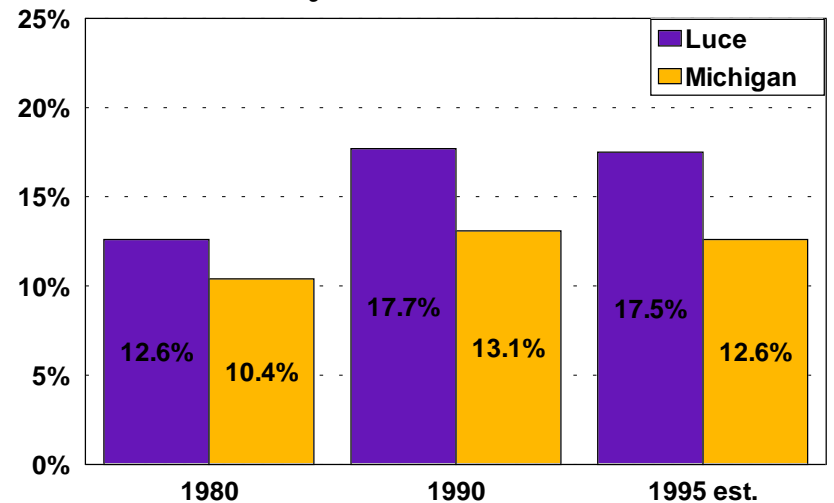
Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



# Poverty

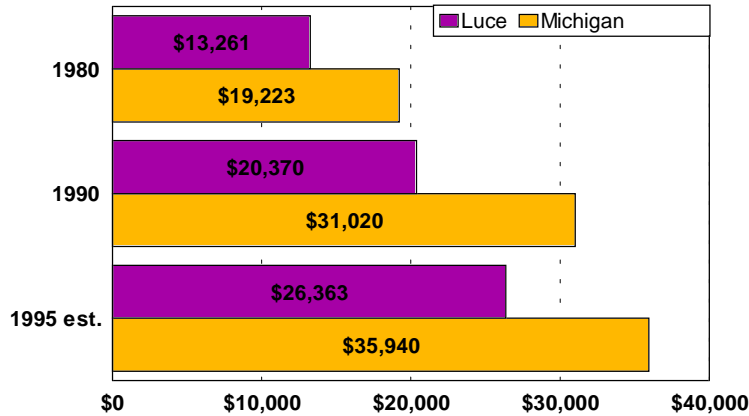
- In 1995, 1,013 persons in Luce County were below the poverty line, increasing from 984 persons in 1990.
- The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- Luce County ranked 82nd among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 8th on the poverty rate.
- Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 391 kids (ages 0-17) in Luce County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in four. In 1990, 357 kids were poor.
- The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 14.5 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 15.1 percent.

## Poverty Rates of All Persons



# Household Income

## Median Household Income



- Between 1990 and 1995, households in Luce County experienced an increase in real median income of 11.0 percent, from \$23,752 to \$26,363. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Compared to other Michigan counties, Luce County ranked 70th 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 Luce County in 1998 was \$18,135, compared to \$19,787 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), an 8.3 percent decrease.

### Household Income Distribution\*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
<b>Luce County</b>	<b>60.3%</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>40.6%</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>25.5%</b>

\* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

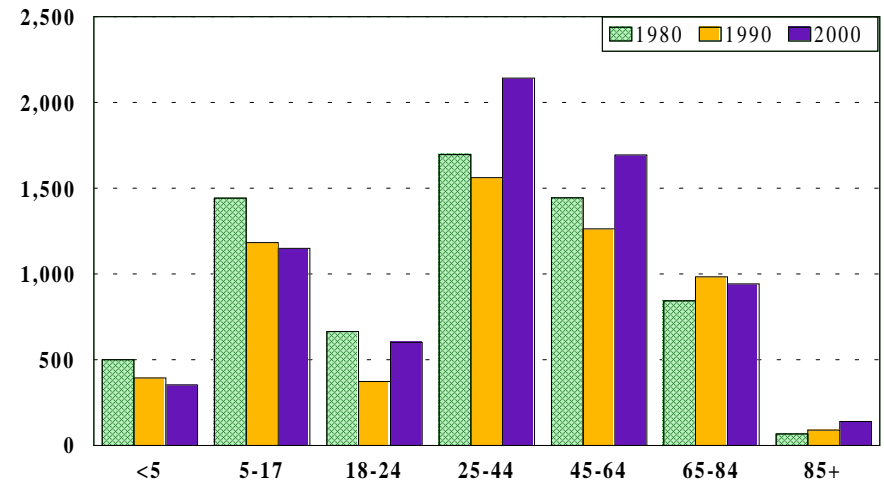
# Age

The Median age of Luce residents exceeds state and national levels.

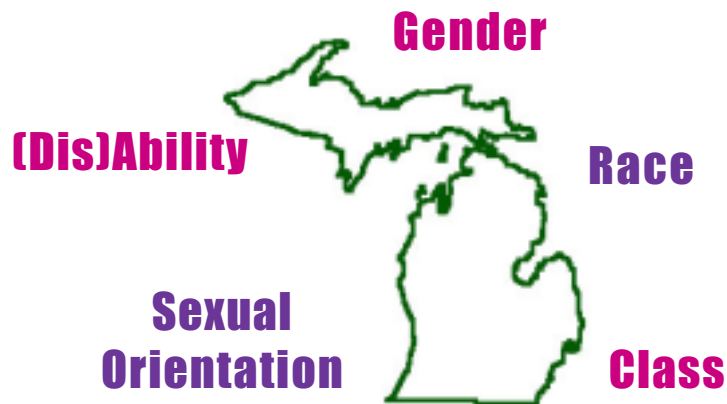
	1980	1990	2000
<b>Luce</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>38.6</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>35.5</b>
<b>U.S.</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>35.3</b>

- Of the 7,024 people who lived in Luce in 2000, 63.2 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 36.8 percent included 5.0 percent children under the age of 5, 16.4 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 15.4 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 430 or 34.0 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 98 or 10.0 percent since 1990. One in seven Luce residents is age 65 or older.

## Age Distribution in Luce County



# Multiculturalism



- In 2000, Luce County's population included 3,898 males and 3,126 females, or 55.5 percent and 44.5 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- Of the 2,481 households living in Luce County in 2000, 1,992 or 80.3 percent owned their own home and 489 or 19.7 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 or Hispanic or Latino Origin: 2000

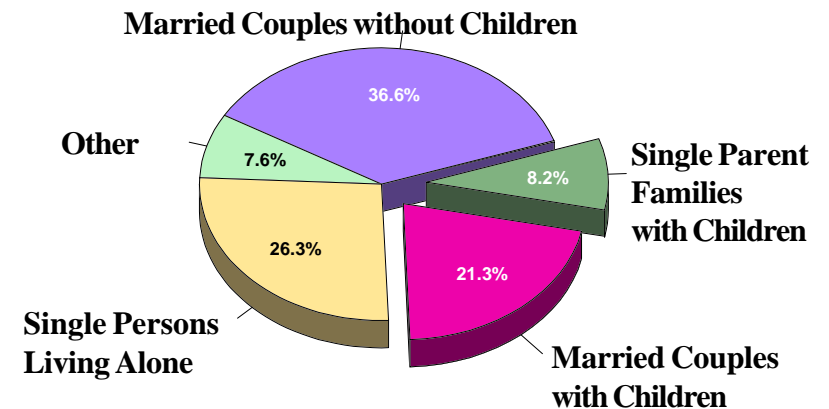
	Luce County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	5,787	82.4	78.6
Black*	505	7.2	14.1
American Indian*	377	5.4	0.5
Asian*	24	0.3	1.8
Other*	4	0.1	0.1
Two or more races*	204	2.9	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	123	1.8	3.3

\* Not Hispanic or Latino

# Households & Families

- There were 52 marriages in Luce County during 1998, up from 43 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 Luce County in 1990 was 12.5 when 36 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 6.5 when 22 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, 263 children in Luce County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 16.8 percent of all children in Luce. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

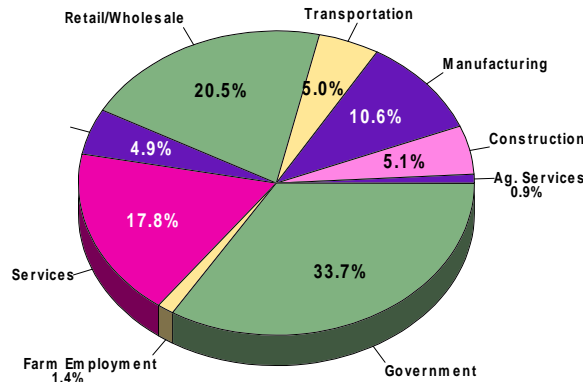
## Types of Households in Luce County



2000 Census of Population and Housing

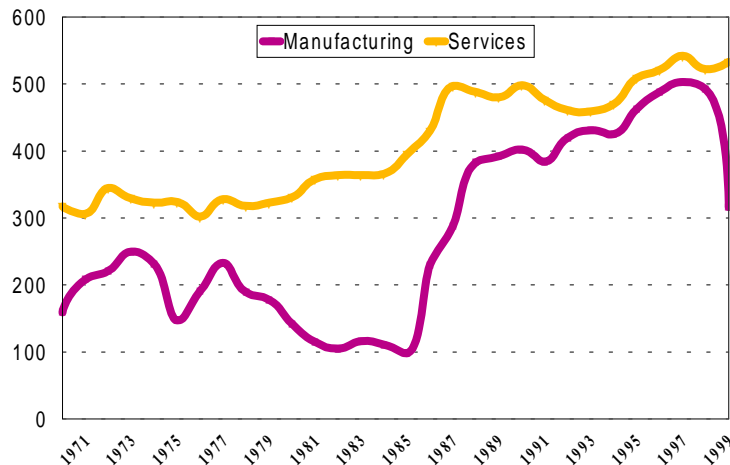
# Employment

## 1999 Employment by Industry in Luce County



- The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Luce from 2,840 in 1990 to 2,989 in 1999, a 5.2 percent increase.
- The Government accounted for 33.7% of all employment in 1999, leading Retail and Wholesale Trade by 13.1 percentage points. Jobs in Retail have risen the fastest of all major industries, climbing 9.9 percent since 1990.

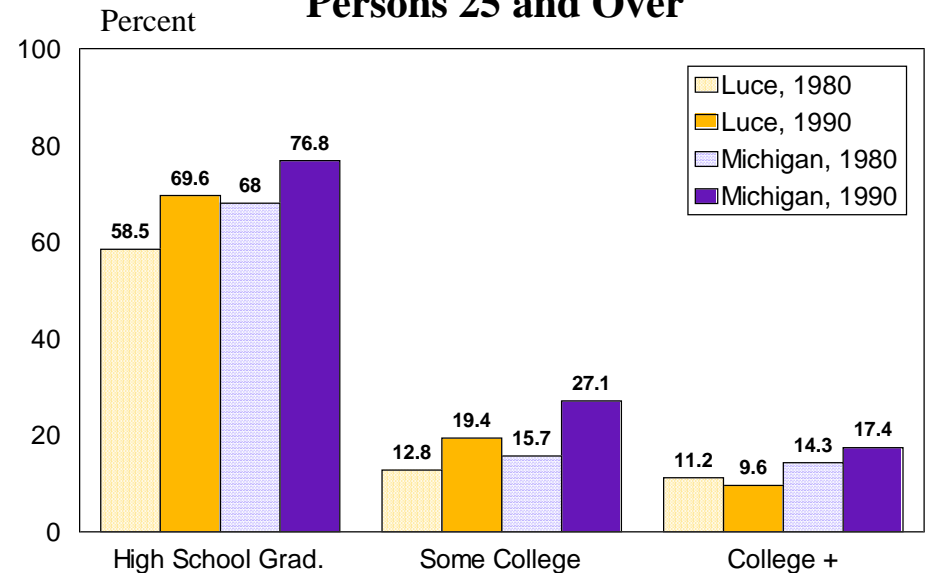
## Jobs in Manufacturing & Services



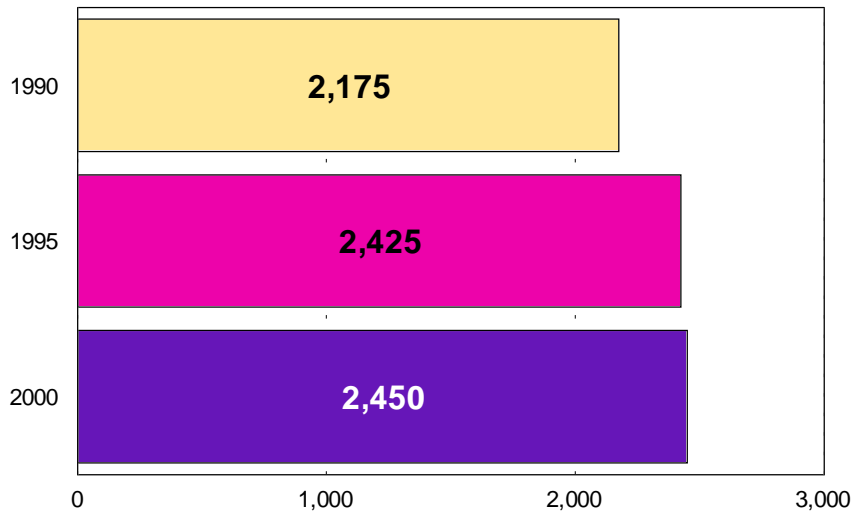
# Education

- High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 11.1 percentage points in Luce 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.
- Luce 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 Luce County the rate was 9.6 percent. Luce ranks 59th among Michigan's 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- 23 students dropped out of high school in Luce County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 6.6 percent. This is up slightly from 1990-91 when 22 students dropped out (5.6 percent).

## Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



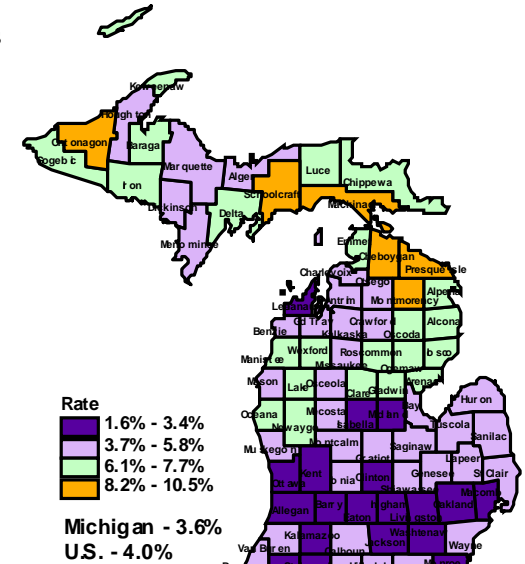
## Total Number of Persons Employed in Luce County



- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Luce's labor force has grown from 2,400 in 1990 to 2,600 in 2000.
- In 1990, 90.6 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 94.2 percent employed.
- 45.3 percent of Luce's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, up from 55.1 percent in 1990.
- Seventy percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 2 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 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.
- Luce County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 6.6 percent, compared to 8.2 percent in 1999 and 9.4 percent in 1990. 175 people were unemployed in 2000, approximately the same as 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

