

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 **Washtenaw County**



Bringing Knowledge to Life!

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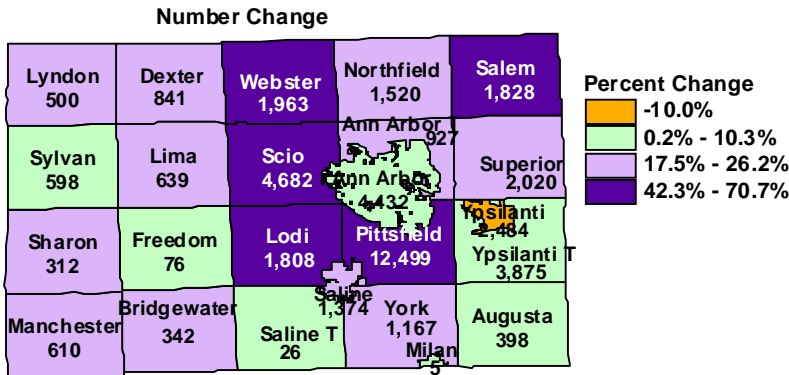
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Population

Washtenaw County

Change from 1990 to 2000

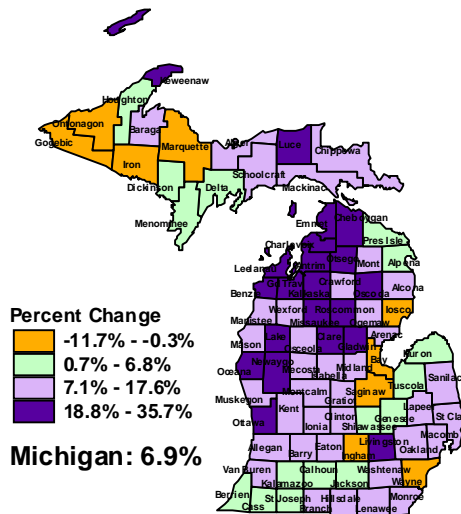


Washtenaw County had 322,895 people in 2000, ranking as the 6th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 39,958 persons, or 14.1% since 1990.

Pittsfield Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 70.7 percent. Pittsfield Township also showed the largest number gain of 12,499 people.

There were 3,979 live births in Washtenaw in 1998, of which 292 were to mothers age 19 and under, 2,981 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 706 to mothers age 35 and over.

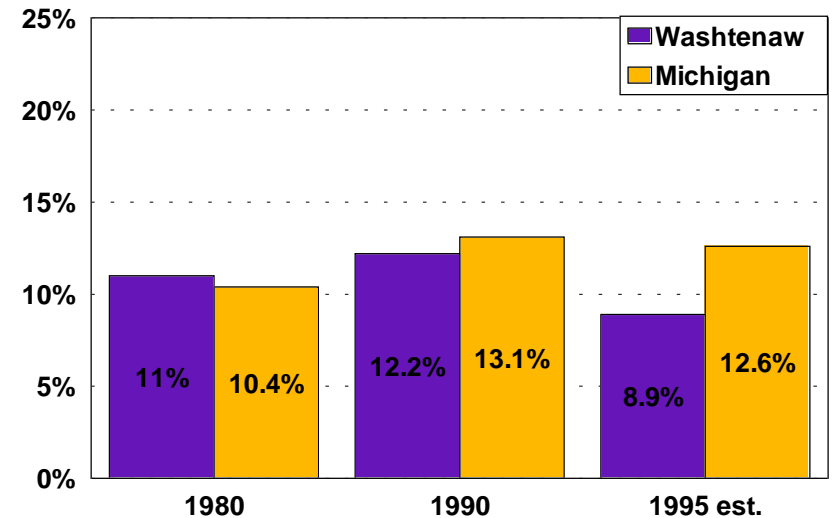
Population change (based on percent change) varied widely across Michigan counties.



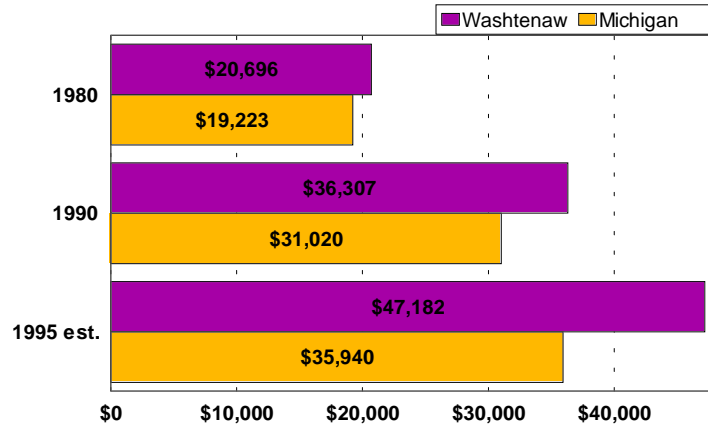
Poverty

- In 1995, 25,069 persons in Washtenaw County were below the poverty line, decreasing from 31,777 persons in 1990.
- The poverty threshold for a family of four in 1995 was \$15,569. In 1990, it was \$13,360.
- Washtenaw County ranked 9th among all Michigan counties on the number of persons in poverty in 1995 and 70th on the poverty rate.
- Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 7,636 kids (ages 0-17) in Washtenaw County were below the poverty level in 1995. This represents one child in eight. In 1990, 6,468 kids were poor.
- The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 1990 was 8.0 percent. This was down from the previous decade when the poverty rate for Seniors was 8.8 percent.

Poverty Rates of All Persons



Median Household Income



- Between 1990 and 1995, households in Washtenaw County experienced an increase in real median income of 11.4 percent, from \$42,335 to \$47,182. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- Compared to other Michigan counties, Washtenaw County ranked 5th 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 Washtenaw County in 1998 was \$34,751, compared to \$28,935 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 20.1 percent increase.

Household Income Distribution*

	\$ 0 - \$24,999	\$25,000 - 49,999	\$50,000 +
Washtenaw	33.7%	32.3%	34.0%
Michigan	40.6%	34.1%	25.5%

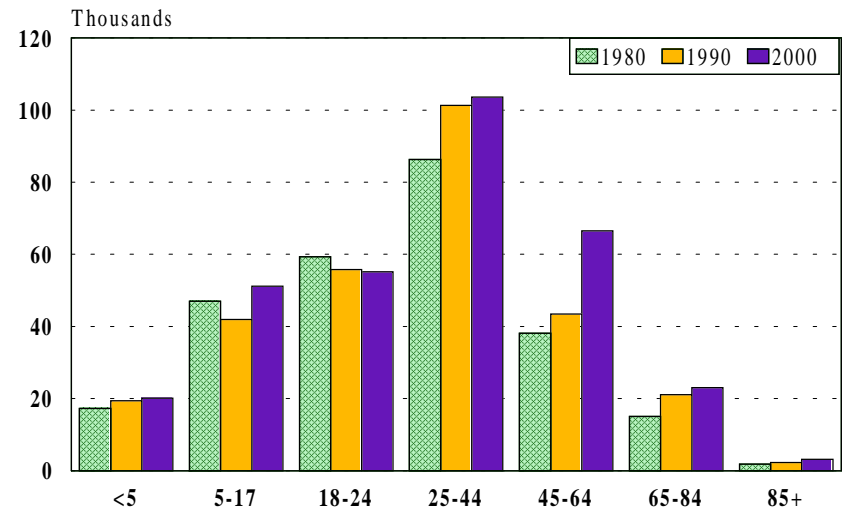
* 1990 Census of Population & Housing

The Median age of Washtenaw residents continues to go up:

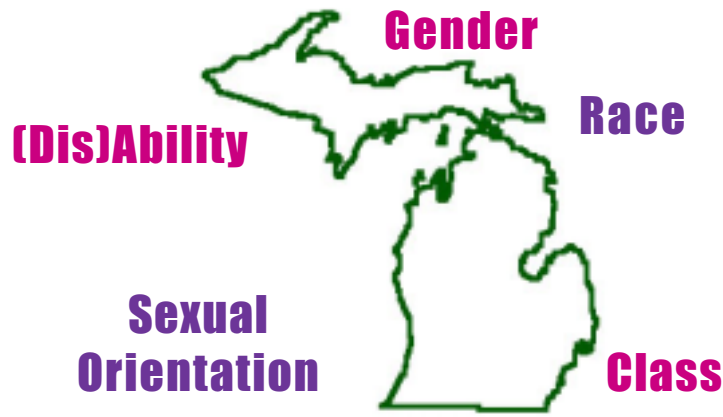
	1980	1990	2000
Washtenaw	26.3	29.2	31.3
Michigan	28.8	32.6	35.9
U.S.	30.0	33.0	36.5

- Of the 322,895 people who lived in Washtenaw in 2000, 69.8 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 30.2 percent included 6.2 percent children under the age of 5, 15.8 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 8.1 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 23,050 or 53.1 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 5,165 or 24.5 percent since 1990. One in twelve Washtenaw residents is age 65 or older.

Age Distribution in Washtenaw County



Multiculturalism



- In 2000, Washtenaw County's population included 160,558 males and 162,337 females, or 49.7 percent and 50.3 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- Of the 125,327 households living in Washtenaw County in 2000, 74,830 or 59.7 percent owned their own home and 50,497 or 40.3 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

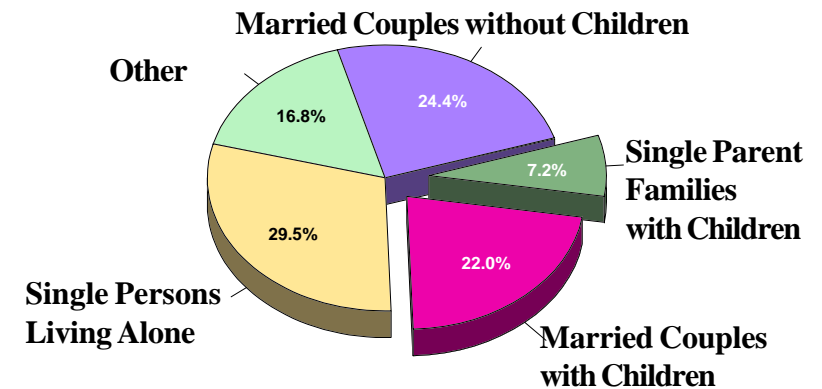
	Washtenaw County		Michigan
	Number	Percent	Percent
White*	245,033	75.9	78.6
Black*	39,326	12.2	14.1
American Indian*	1,042	0.3	0.5
Asian*	20,270	6.3	1.8
Other*	971	0.3	0.1
Two or more races*	7,414	2.3	1.6
Hispanic or Latino	8,839	2.7	3.3

* Not Hispanic or Latino

Households & Families

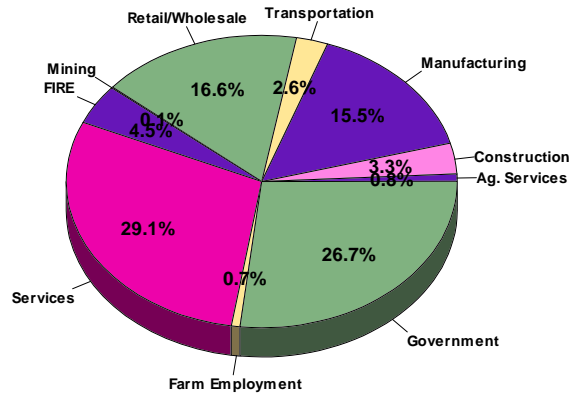
- There were 1,983 marriages in Washtenaw County during 1998, down from 1990 when 2,348 marriages occurred. Across the state, marriage numbers and rates have fallen since the '70s.
- In Michigan, median age at marriage continues to go up, from age 25 for males and 23 for females in the mid-'70s, to age 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 Washtenaw County in 1990 was 8.8 when 1,254 divorces occurred. In 1998, the rate was 7.4 when 1,127 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, 11,546 children in Washtenaw County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 18.9 percent of all children in Washtenaw. In Michigan, 22.5 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

Types of Households in Washtenaw County



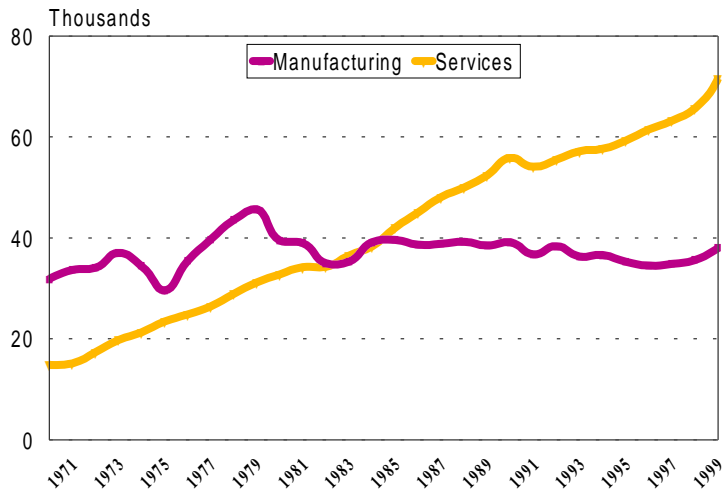
2000 Census of Population and Housing

1999 Employment by Industry in Washtenaw County



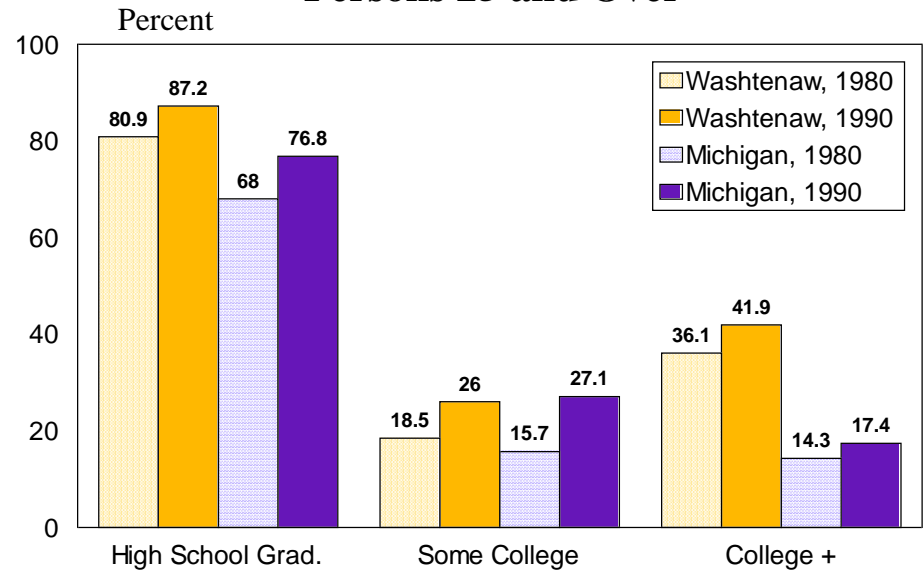
- The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Washtenaw from 214,978 in 1990 to 246,068 in 1999, a 14.5 percent increase.
- The Services industry accounted for 29.1% of all employment in 1999, leading Government by 2.4 percentage points. Jobs in Services have risen the fastest of all major industries, climbing 28.2 percent since 1990.

Jobs in Manufacturing & Services

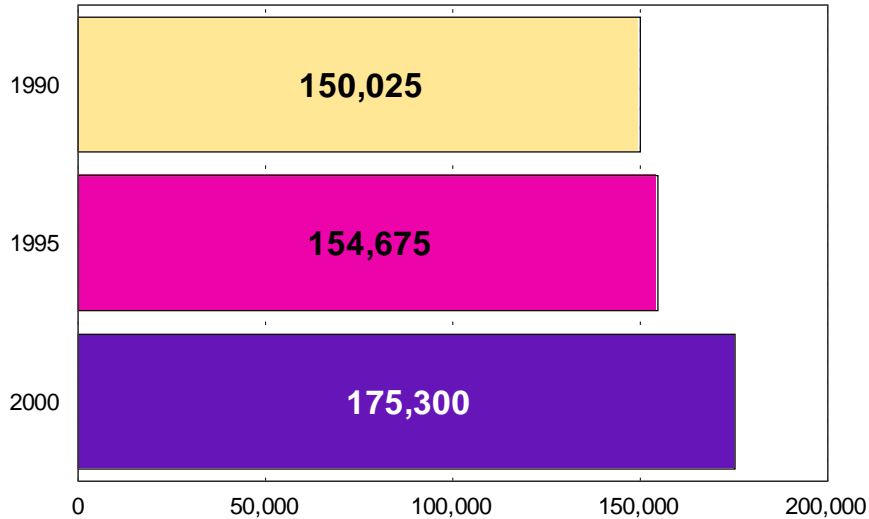


- High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1980 to 1990 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 6.3 percentage points in Washtenaw County and 8.8 percentage points in Michigan. This is due largely to the fact that a much higher rate of young adults (age 25-29) has completed high school than those in older age groups.
- Washtenaw 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 Washtenaw County the rate was 41.9 percent. Washtenaw ranks 1st among Michigan's 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.
- 408 students dropped out of high school in Washtenaw County during the 1997-98 school year for a rate of 3.6 percent. This is up from 1990-91 when 388 students dropped out (3.9 percent).

Educational Attainment Persons 25 and Over



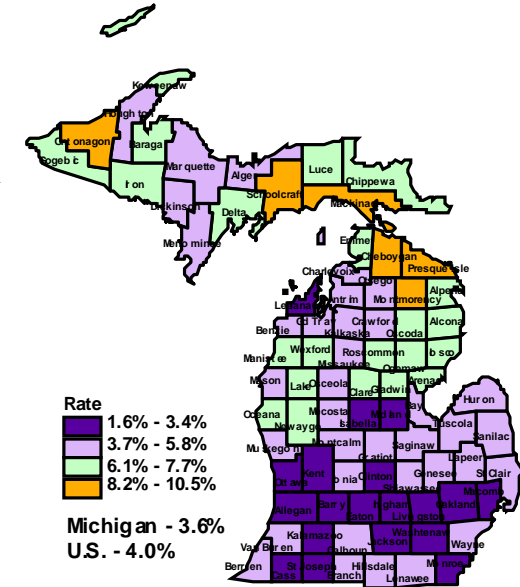
Total Number of Persons Employed in Washtenaw County



- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Washtenaw's labor force has grown from 157,900 in 1990 to 178,225 in 2000.
- In 1990, 95.0 percent of the labor force was employed; in 2000 that increased to 98.4 percent employed.
- 68.8 percent of Washtenaw's population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 1999, down from 69.3 percent in 1990.
- Eighty percent of all women with school age children worked in 1990, over 11 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.
- Washtenaw County's annual average unemployment rate in 2000 was 1.6 percent, compared to 1.8 percent in 1998 and 5.0 percent in 1990. 2,925 people were unemployed in 2000, compared to 7,850 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

