



The Facts: Michigan Poverty, Income, and Health Insurance, 2007

The Census Bureau released 2007 data regarding income, poverty, and health insurance coverage in the United States on August 26, 2008.¹ Below is a snapshot of poverty, income, and health insurance trends from 2001 to 2007.

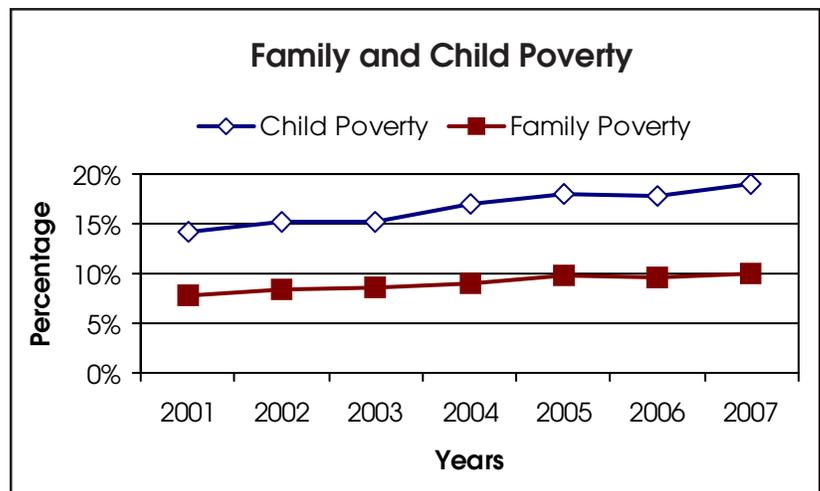
Poverty

Overall, poverty is on the rise in Michigan. The 2007 poverty rate, as calculated by the American Community Survey (ACS) was 14 percent, which is significantly higher than the United States poverty rate of 13.0 percent. Michigan's 2007 poverty rate is also statistically significant over the 2006 ACS Michigan poverty rate of 13.5 percent.

In addition, family and child poverty is on the rise. In 2001, the family poverty rate was 7.9 percent; in 2007, it jumped to 10.1 percent. This represents an increase of just over 51,000 families. Child poverty has also increased in the same period from 14.2 percent in 2001 to

19.0 percent in 2007, which is significantly higher than the 2007 United States poverty rate of 17.6 percent. The increase in child poverty between 2001 and 2007 represents 115,110 children.

However, Michigan remains below the national average when it comes to individuals aged 65 and over living in poverty. The Michigan rate is 8.0 percent, while nationally, the rate is 9.5 percent.

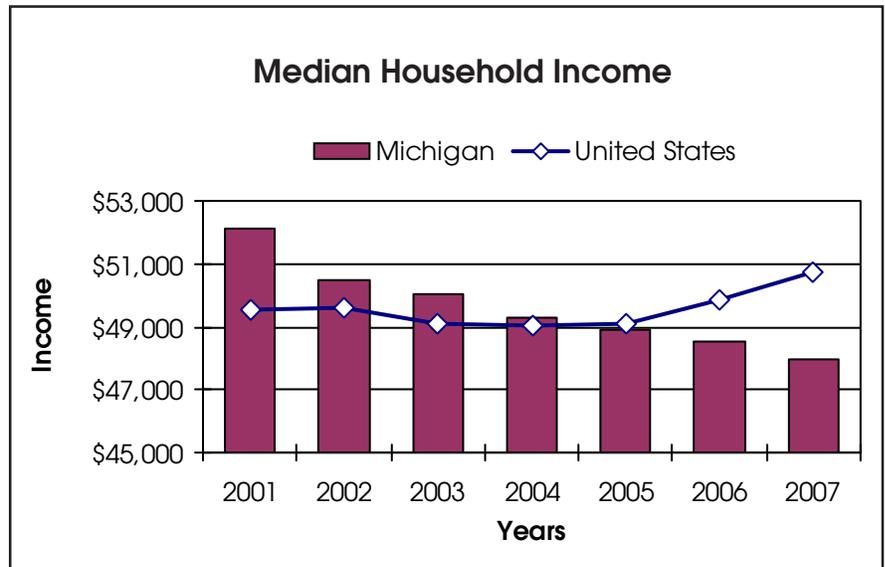


¹ The American Community Survey 2006 includes individuals residing in Group Quarters which were not included in previous years. Group Quarters are defined by the Census as all people not living in households such as institutions (nursing homes, correctional facilities and mental hospitals) and non-institutional facilities (college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, shelters and missions). In addition, weighting methodologies were modified to ensure that estimates were consistent across multiple measures. A more detailed explanation may be found at: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/compACS.htm>

Income

Median household income (when adjusted for inflation to 2007 dollars) in Michigan continues to decline. In 2007, Michigan's median household income was \$47,950 which is statistically significantly lower than the national median household income of \$50,740 and statistically significantly lower than Michigan's 2006 inflation adjusted median household income of \$48,520.

In addition Michigan's median household income continues to decline, while nationally, median household income has been increasing since 2005.



Health Insurance

Using 2006-2007 two-year averages published by the 2007 Current Population Survey, just over 1 million people living in Michigan were without health insurance, or 11 percent of the state's total population. This is not a significant change from the 2004-2005 average of 10.7 percent. The share of people in Michigan without health insurance continues to be smaller than the national average of 15.5 percent in 2006-2007.