Clare County had 31,252 people in 2000, ranking as the 48th most populous county in Michigan. The population increased by 6,300 persons, or 25.2% since 1990.

Freeman Township showed the largest percentage gain from 1990 to 2000 at 82.4 percent. Hayes Township showed the largest number gain of 1,105 people.

There were 348 live births in Clare in 2000, of which 50 were to mothers age 19 and under, 267 to mothers age 20 to 34 and 31 to mothers age 35 and over.

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

The median age of Clare residents continues to go up:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1980</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clare</td>
<td>33.4</td>
<td>36.2</td>
<td>40.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>35.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Of the 31,252 people who lived in Clare in 2000, 58.3 percent were between 18 and 64 years of age; the remaining 41.7 percent included 3.8 percent children under the age of 5, 18.6 percent youth ages 5 to 17 and 17.3 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 2,819 or 52.0 percent since 1990.
- “Seasoned citizens,” those age 65 and over, grew by 1,039 or 23.8 percent since 1990. One in six Clare residents is age 65 or older.

**Multiculturalism**

- In 2000, Clare County’s population included 15,401 males and 15,851 females, or 49.3 percent and 50.7 percent respectively. For Michigan, males represent 48.7 percent and females 51.3 percent.
- Of the 12,686 households living in Clare County in 2000, 10,437 or 82.3 percent owned their own home and 2,249 or 17.7 percent rented. For Michigan, the rate of home ownership was 73.8 percent and 26.2 percent rented.
- 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Clare County</th>
<th></th>
<th>Michigan</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White*</td>
<td>30,210</td>
<td>96.7%</td>
<td>31,586</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black*</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian*</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian*</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more races*</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino*</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not Hispanic or Latino.
**Education**

- High school graduation rates increased significantly from 1990 to 2000 for persons age twenty-five and over – by 9.2 percentage points in Clare County and 6.6 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.

- Clare County lags behind Michigan for those persons age 25 and over with a college degree. In 2000, 21.8 percent in Michigan had a college degree; in Clare County the rate was 18.8 percent. Clare ranks 80th among Michigan’s 83 counties for persons age 25 and over with a college degree.

- 134 teenagers age 16 to 19 in Clare County were not enrolled in school and not high school graduates for a rate of 9.7 percent. This compares with a Michigan rate of 8.7 percent and a national rate of 9.8 percent.

**Educational Attainment**

**Persons 25 and Over**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduate</td>
<td>83.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Inc. equivalency)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some College (Inc.)</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate's Degree</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's Degree (or higher)</td>
<td>30.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Labor Force**

**Where Clare County Residents Work**

- Clare County residents who worked in their own county:
  - Percent: 57.4 1990, 70.7 1980, 68.4 1970

- Clare County residents who worked outside their own county, but in Michigan:
  - Number: 2,213 1990, 1,664 1980, 1,536 1970
  - Percent: 42.0 1990, 28.4 1980, 31.6 1970

- Clare County residents who worked outside Michigan:
  - Percent: 0.6 1990, 0.9 1980, 0.4 1970

- 74.9 percent of all Clare County women with school age children were in the labor force in 2000, over 11 percentage points higher than in 1990. 67.9 percent of women with children under the age of six were working in 2000 compared to 49.4 percent in 1990.

- The Labor Force consists of those who are employed and those currently unemployed but seeking employment. Clare’s labor force has grown from 9,250 in 1990 to 11,275 in 2000.

- 46.0 percent of Clare’s population age 16 and over were in the labor force in 2000, down from 48.4 percent in 1990.

**Total Number of Clare County Persons Employed**

- In 1990, 88.9 percent of the labor force was employed. In 2000 that increased to 93.3 percent employed.
2001 Unemployment Rate

- Even though Michigan's overall unemployment rate was low in 2001, many counties continue to experience high rates.

- Clare County's annual average unemployment rate in 2001 was 8.9 percent, compared to 6.6 percent in 2000 and 11.0 percent in 1990. 975 people were unemployed in 2001, compared to 1,025 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 - 2001

- The total number of full- and part-time jobs has increased in Clare from 9,326 in 1990 to 13,332 in 2000, a 45.1 percent increase.

- The services industry saw the largest number gain since 1990, adding 1,199 jobs. The construction industry had the largest percentage increase at 144.3 percent, adding 736 jobs.

Employment 2000 Employment by Industry in Clare County

- Wholesale Trade: 22.5%
- Construction: 10.2%
- Manufacturing: 9.2%
- Retail Trade: 6.9%
- Government: 5.8%
- Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate: 4.4%
- Services: 3.6%
- Other: 1.7%
- Farm Employment: 1.3%

Jobs in Manufacturing & Services
Households & Families

- There were 12,686 households in Clare County in 2000 with an average size of 2.4 persons and 8,749 families with an average family size of 2.9 persons.

- There were 237 marriages in Clare County during 2000, down from 1990 when 241 marriages occurred. Across the state, marriage numbers and rates have fallen since the ’70s.

- The divorce rate in Clare County in 1990 was 10.5 when 132 divorces occurred. In 2000, the rate was 10 when 150 marriages ended in divorce.

- In 2000, 36,922 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.

- 211 grandparents were responsible for their grandchildren in Clare County in 2000, representing 48.6 percent of all grandparents living with their own grandchildren.

- In 2000, 1,954 children in Clare County under age 18 lived with a single parent. This represented 20.7 percent of all children in Clare. In Michigan, 25.1 percent of all children lived in single parent families.

Types of Households in Clare County

- Married Couples without Children
- Single Parent Families with Children
- Single Person Living Alone
- Married Couples with Children

Household Income

Median Household Income

- Between 1990 and 2000, households in Clare County experienced an increase in real median income of 29.5 percent, from $22,275 to $28,845. Real income is adjusted for inflation based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.

- Compared to other Michigan counties, Clare County ranked 77th in 2000 in median household income.

- Michigan leads most other Mid-West states in median household income at $44,467 ranking 3rd among the 12 states in the region. Nationally, we rank in the top third. The U.S. median income was $41,984.

- Per Capita income in Clare County in 1998 was $16,549, compared to $15,676 in 1990 (in 1998 dollars), a 5.6 percent increase.

Household Income Distribution in 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Clarence County</th>
<th>Michigan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - $24,999</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - $49,999</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 - $74,999</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 - $100,000</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Poverty**

- In 2000, 4,918 persons in Clare County were below the poverty line, decreasing from 5,815 persons in 1990.
- The poverty threshold for a family of four in 2000 was $17,603. In 1990, it was $13,360.
- Though poverty rates for most groups were down in 2000 compared to 1990, female-headed families with related children still experienced very high rates. In Clare County, 100 female-headed families with children under age 3 were below poverty, a rate of 69.4 percent.
- Children represent the highest poverty rate of any age group. 1,667 kids (ages 0-17) in Clare County were below the poverty level in 2000. This represents one child in four. In 1990, 2,285 kids were poor.
- The poverty rate for Seniors (persons age 65 and over) in 2000 was 10.7 percent. This was down from the previous two decades when the poverty rate for Seniors was 13.2 percent (1990) and 12.5 percent (1980).

**Poverty Rates of All Persons**

![Poverty Rates of All Persons Chart]

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For more information contact:

MSU Extension - Clare County
County Extension Director
County Building
PO Box 439
Harrison, MI 48625
Phone: 989-539-7805
E-mail: clare@msue.msu.edu

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