

Future of the Great Lakes Michigan State Facts

Michigan unquestionably has faced the strongest headwinds of states in the region. Between 2000 and 2015, it lost the highest proportion of manufacturing jobs among the states. Its dependence on declining employment sectors has been especially devastating to the state's economy, as its manufacturing workers earn 20 percent more on average than its other workers, compared with between 5 and 13 percent more in the other Great Lakes states. Michigan experienced the steepest loss in total employment between 2000 and 2015 among the six Great Lakes states. This has been coupled with population decline: the state registered the smallest population growth in the Great Lakes states between 1990 and 2000, and has lost population since. And though all of these states' populations are aging, Michigan has had the sharpest decline in the proportion of its population younger than 25 and between 25 and 34 years old. If these trends continue, Michigan will be the only state in the Great Lakes region to lose population in each of the next three censuses.

FIGURE 1

Job and Income Loss Hit Michigan Harder than the Rest of the Region, but Recovery Has Been Strong

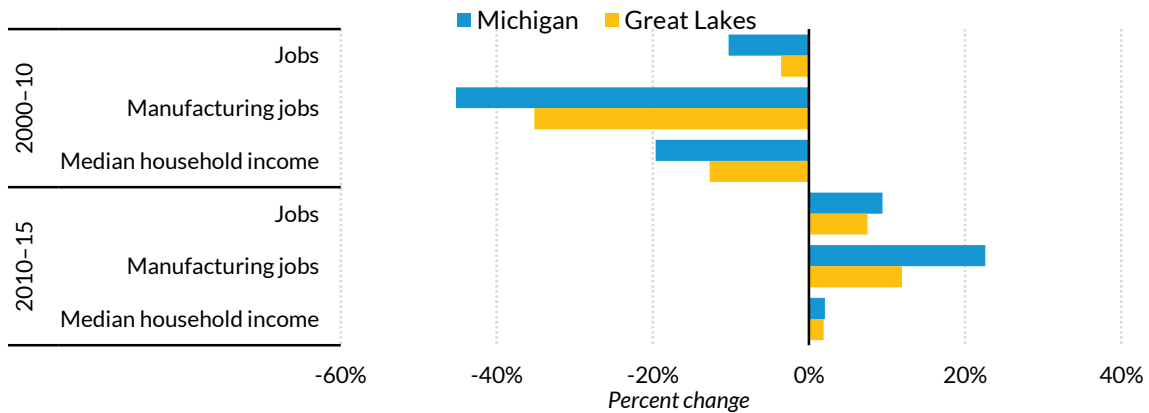


FIGURE 2

Seniors Are the Only Age Group Expected to Grow From 2015 to 2030

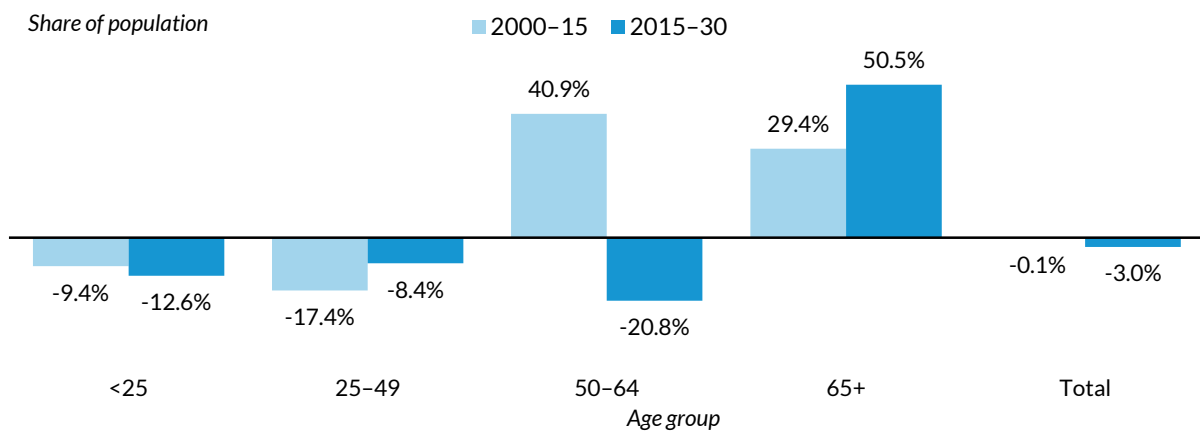


FIGURE 3

While Hispanics and People of Other Races Are Growing in Michigan, Its White Population is Declining too Fast to Avoid Population Loss

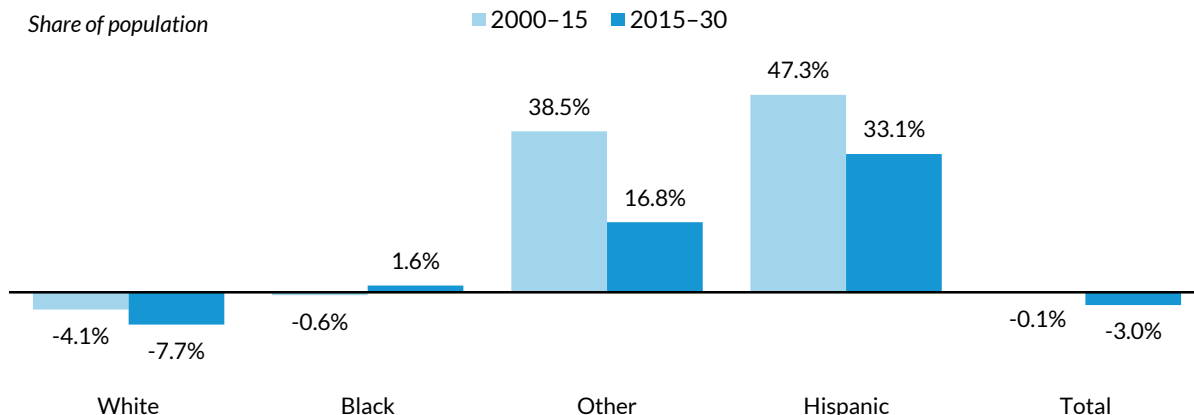


Figure Sources

FIGURE 1

Median household income data from 2000 US Census 5 percent sample and 2015 American Community Survey 1 percent sample, extracted by Urban Institute from Steven Ruggles, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Josiah Grover, and Matthew Sobek, *Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 6.0* [Machine-readable database] (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 2015); Jobs data from US Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Economic Accounts, series CA25 and CA25N.

FIGURES 2 AND 3

For 2000–10, Richelle Winkler, Kenneth M. Johnson, Cheng Cheng, Jim Beaudoin, Paul R. Voss, and Katherine J. Curtis, “Age-Specific Net Migration Estimates for US Counties, 1950–2010,” (Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin–Madison, Applied Population Laboratory, 2013), <http://www.netmigration.wisc.edu/>; for 2020–40, Urban Institute projections using Rolf Pendall, Nan Marie Astone, Steven Martin, H. Elizabeth Peters, Austin Nichols, Kaitlin Franks Hildner, Allison Stolte, and Pam Blumenthal, “Mapping America’s Futures,” August 2015, <http://apps.urban.org/features/mapping-americas-futures/#map>, assuming average birth, death, and migration rates.

Acknowledgments

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