

# A SNAPSHOT OF **KENT** **COUNTY**





## About the Data

This County Profile is to be used with the 2015-2016 Issue Identification process for Michigan State University Extension. Unless otherwise noted, the data in the profile are drawn from the most recent 2000 U.S. Census and the 2013 American Community Survey. When information from one of the following sources is used, the source is indicated by the source number in parentheses. For example, information drawn from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will be noted like this: (1).

1. Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. (2014). *Michigan food and agricultural systems profiles*. Retrieved from <http://www.michigan.gov/mda rd/0,4610,7-125-1568-220573--,00.html>
2. United States Department of Agriculture. (2012). *USDA Census of Agriculture*. Retrieved from [http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Online\\_Resources/County\\_Profiles/Michigan/index.asp](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Online_Resources/County_Profiles/Michigan/index.asp)
3. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. (2013). *Community profiles: definitions, rates and ratios*. Retrieved from [www.mdch.state.mi.us/pha/osr/CHI/profiles/frame.html](http://www.mdch.state.mi.us/pha/osr/CHI/profiles/frame.html)
4. University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2013). *County health rankings & roadmaps*. Retrieved from <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/michigan/2015/overview>
5. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources. (2015, June). *Forestry state ownership by county*.
6. Index Mundi. (2006-2010). *Michigan Poverty Rate by County*. Retrieved from <http://www.indexmundi.com/facts/united-states/quick-facts/michigan/percent-of-people-of-all-ages-in-poverty#map>

A SNAPSHOT OF

# Kent County



## Fast Facts

**Population** ..... 609,544 people

**Median age** ..... 34.6 years

**Percent of people in poverty** ..... 14.3%

**Median household income** ..... \$51,667

**Median home value** ..... \$137,500

**Top three economic sectors:**

Educational services, health care and social assistance.....27.9%

Retail ..... 13.5%

Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accomodation  
and food services..... 13.1%

**Acres in:**

Farmland.....157,493 acres



## GENERAL POPULATION

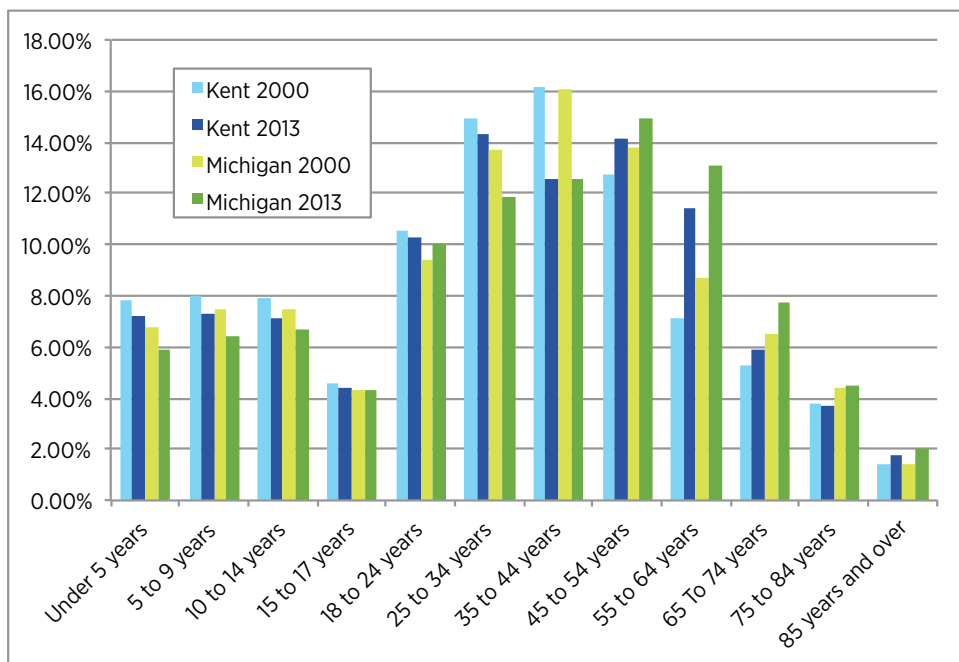
Year	Kent County Population	Michigan Population
2000	574,335	9,938,444
2013	609,544	9,883,640

» The population in Kent has increased from 2000 to 2013, while overall Michigan saw a decrease in total population.

## Population Density (per sq. mile)

Year	Kent Population Density (per sq. mile) / Area (Land)	Michigan Population Density (per sq. mile) / Area (Land)
2000	670.8 / 856.17	175.0 / 56,803.82
2013	719.7 / 846.95	174.9 / 56,538.90

## Age Distribution



## General Population, Continued

### Gender

Year	Kent County		Michigan	
	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female
2000	49.2%	50.8%	49.0%	51.0%
2013	49.0%	51.0%	49.1%	50.9%

### Race & Ethnicity

	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
White alone	80.3%	75.7%	78.6%	76.3%
Black or African American alone	8.7%	9.3%	14.1%	13.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%
Asian alone	1.8%	2.3%	1.8%	2.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0%	0%	0.0%	0.0%
Some other race alone	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Two or more races	1.6%	2.5%	1.6%	2.1%
<b>Hispanic or Latino</b>	7.0%	9.8%	3.3%	4.5%



## ECONOMY

### Median Household Income

Median Household Income	Kent County	Michigan
In 1999 dollars	\$45,980	\$44,667
In 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars	\$51,667	\$48,411

### Per Capita Income

Per Capita Income	Kent County	Michigan
In 1999 dollars	\$21,629	\$22,168
In 2013 inflation-adjusted dollars	\$25,889	\$25,681

» Per capita income is the average per-person income and is derived by dividing all the sources of income in an area by the total population.

### Poverty

» **Kent Poverty Rate:** 14.3% (6)  
**Michigan Poverty Rate:** 14.8% (6)

Poverty Status	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
<b>Children under age 18:</b>				
Living in poverty	10.7%	21.8%	13.9%	23.6%
Not living in poverty	89.3%	78.2%	86.1%	76.4%
<b>Age 18 to 64:</b>				
Living in poverty	8.2%	14.5%	9.6%	16.2%
Not living in poverty	91.8%	85.5%	90.4%	83.8%
<b>Age 65 and over:</b>				
Living in poverty	7.5%	7.0%	8.2%	8.2%
Not living in poverty	92.5%	93.0%	91.8%	91.8%

## Economy, Continued

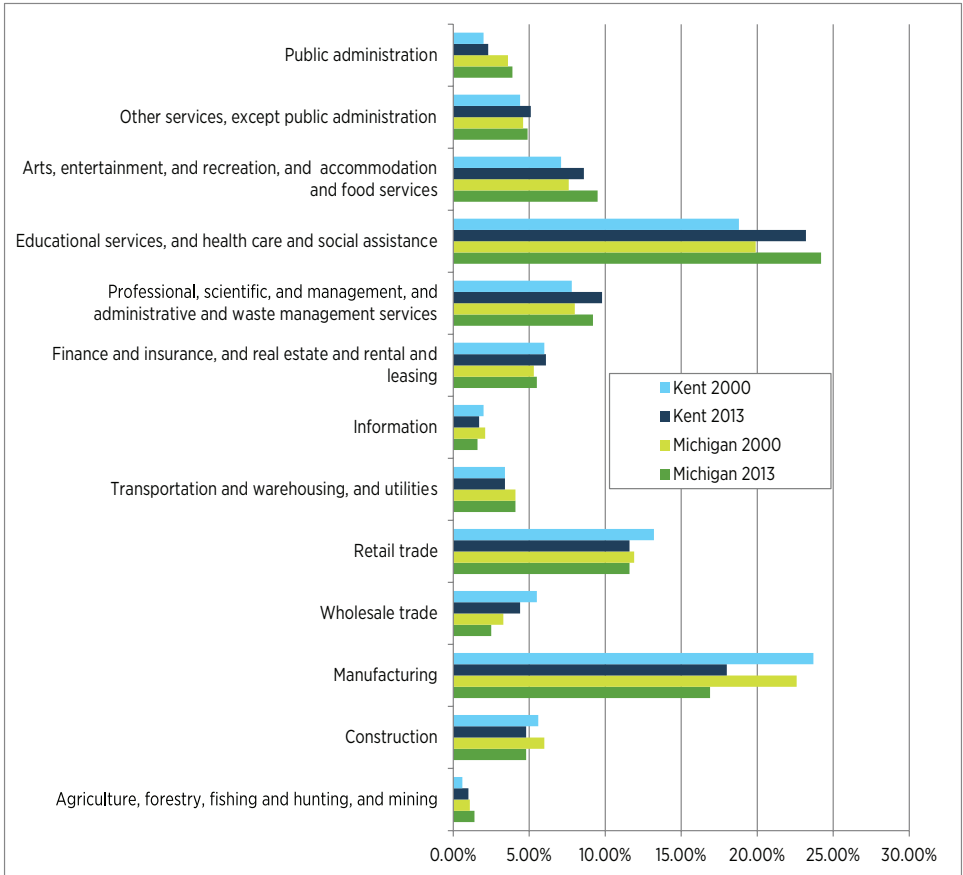
### Labor Force

Employment Status for Total Population 16 Years and Over (2000)	Kent County		Michigan	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 16 years and over:	429,573		7,630,645	
In labor force	302,688	70.5%	4,926,463	64.6%
In armed forces	160	0%	4,010	0.1%
Civilian:	302,528	70.4%	4,922,453	64.5%
• Employed	289,158	67.3%	4,637,461	60.8%
• Unemployed	13,370	3.1%	284,992	3.7%
Not in labor force	126,885	29.5%	2,704,182	35.4%

Employment Status For Total Population 16 Years And Over (2013)	Kent County		Michigan	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 16 years and over:	469,335		7,865,350	
In labor force	323,029	68.8%	4,864,014	61.8%
In armed forces	234	0.1%	4,597	0.1%
Civilian:	322,795	68.8%	4,859,417	61.8%
• Employed	290,110	61.8%	4,242,948	53.9%
• Unemployed	32,685	7 %	616,469	7.8%
Not in labor force	146,306	31.2%	3,001,336	38.2%

## Economy, Continued

### Industry



» From 2000 to 2013, manufacturing decreased and the educational, health and social services sector increased in Kent County. The same trend occurred for Michigan during that time.



## Economy, Continued

### Means of Transportation to Work (Age 16 Years and Over)

Means of Transportation to Work	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
Car, truck, or van	92.9%	91.2%	92.9%	91.6%
Public transportation	1.2%	1.7%	1.4%	1.4%
Motorcycle	0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Bicycle	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%
Walked	2.1%	1.7%	2.2%	2.2%
Other means	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%
Worked at home	3.0%	4.2%	2.8%	3.6%



## AGRICULTURE

Highlights	Kent County	Michigan
Acres in ag production (2)	157,493 acres	9,948,564 acres
Acres of state forest (5)	0 acres	3,907,504 acres
Number of farms (2)	1,159 farms	52,194 farms
Average size of farm (2)	136 acres	191 acres
Average age of principal operator of farm (2)	57.1 years	57.6 years
Farm gate sales (2)	\$231,861,000	\$8,678,050,000

Kent top three areas of agriculture production (by volume of sales) (1):

- » Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod
- » Milk and other dairy products from cows
- » Fruits, tree nuts, and berries

## FAMILIES & HOUSEHOLDS



### Housing Units

	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
Housing Units	224,000	246,946	4,234,279	4,529,311

### Average Household Size

	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
Average Household Size	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5

### Household Type

Household Type	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
<b>Family households:</b>	67.7%	67.1%	68.0%	65.7%
• Married couple family	52.3%	50.4%	51.5%	48.5%
• Other family	15.4%	16.7%	16.5%	17.2%
- Male householder, no wife present	3.8%	4.2%	4.1%	4.4%
- Female householder, no husband present	11.6%	12.5%	12.4%	12.8%
<b>Nonfamily households:</b>	32.3%	32.9%	32.0%	34.3%
• Male householder	15.1%	14.8%	15.0%	16.0%
• Female householder	17.2%	18%	17.0%	18.4%

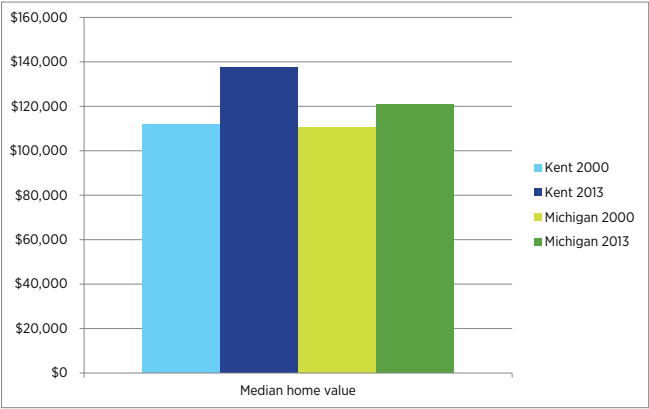
### Marriages & Divorces

	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
Marriages filed (3)	4,384	55,396
Divorces and annulments granted (3)	2,174	31,687

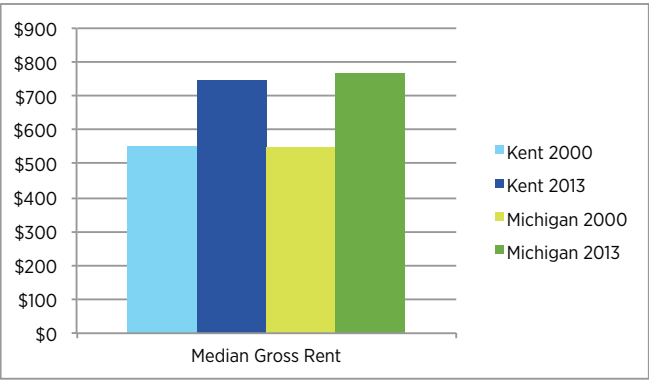


# HOUSING

## Median Home Value



## Median Rent in Dollars per Month



## Median Year Structure Built

	Kent County		Michigan	
	2000	2013	2000	2013
Median year structure built	1968	1972	1965	1969

## Type of Ownership

	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
Owner-occupied housing units	160,844	2,757,062



## HEALTH & MORTALITY

### Leading Causes of Death – Adults

Causes of Death (3)	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
Heart disease	1081	24,143
Cancer	988	20,395
Chronic lower respiratory disease	208	5,547
Stroke	206	4,365
Accidents	269	4,194
Alzheimer's	130	3,228
Diabetes mellitus	86	2,821
Pneumonia/flu	112	1,892
Kidney disease	67	1,665
Suicide	69	1,296

### Leading Causes of Death – Children Ages 1-19

Causes of Death (3)	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
Accidents	21	213
Assault (homicide)	1	90
Suicide	6	88
Cancer	7	56
Congenital malformations	3	42

### Obesity & Diabetes

	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
Obesity (4)	30%	32%
Diabetic (4)	9%	10%

# Health and Mortality, Continued

## Children

	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
Live births (3)	8,839	113,732
Teen births (3)*	531	7,944
Children eligible for free lunch (4)	40%	41%

\* Age of mother between 10–19.

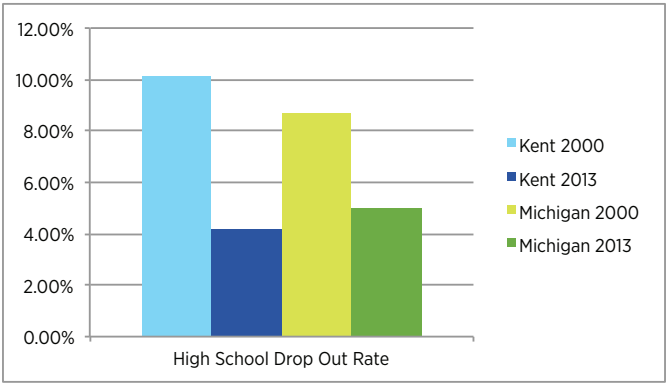
## Health Insurance

	Kent County	Michigan
	2013	2013
No health insurance coverage	10.6%	11.6%
With health insurance coverage:	89.4%	88.4%
• Public Health Coverage	28.7%	33.3%
• Private Health Insurance	72.3%	69.3%

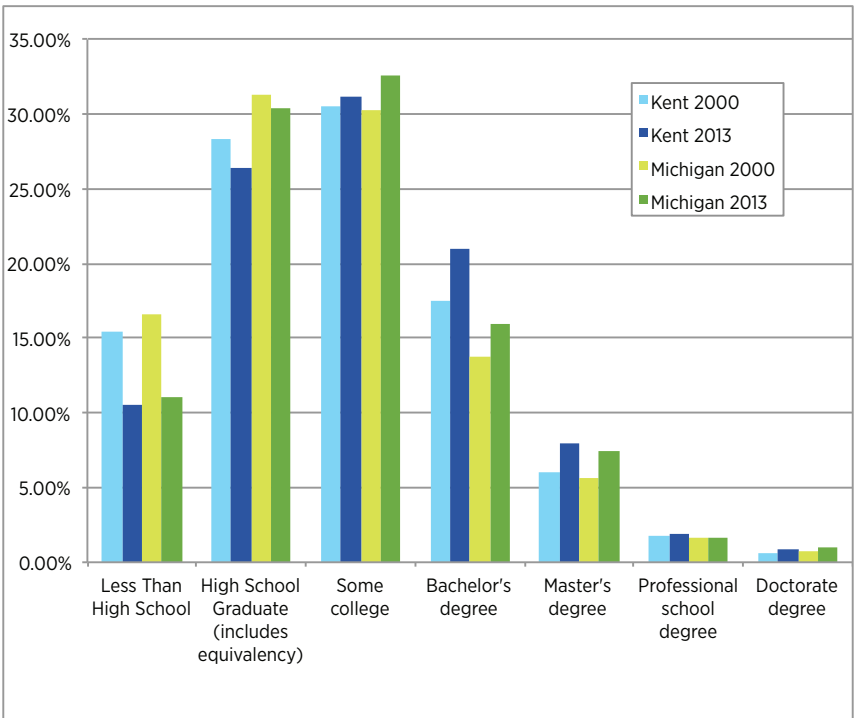
EDUCATION



High School Dropout Rate



Education Attainment



» The percentage of Kent County residents with a bachelor's degree or more is 30.8% compared to Michigan residents with 25.9%



MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Ray Hammerschmidt, Interim Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned. Produced by ANR Communications. 7:2015-PA/MR