

Data Brief: Disparities across Michigan

Population:

- There are eight counties with fewer than 10,000 people in them, and only two with more than a million (Wayne and Oakland).
 - Six of the eight least populated counties are on the Upper Peninsula, where the most populated county, Marquette, has just over 66,000 people, ranking it 29/83 counties.

Median Income:

- Wayne County, often thought of as one of the low-income hubs of the state due to its association with Detroit, has a median income of over \$45,000. This is higher than 27 other counties, but the lowest in the Southeast Michigan region by more than \$2,000.
- The lowest household median income is \$35,005 in Lake County.
- The highest median income is \$82,076 in Livingston county.

Percent below poverty:

- Livingston County has the lowest poverty rate (and highest median income), at 5.3%.
- Only one county out-ranks Wayne county's poverty rate of 22.6%- Isabella county, with 23.8% of its residents living in poverty..

Under 18 below poverty:

- Lake County, where the adult poverty rate is 22.1% - the fourth highest in the state - has a child poverty rate of over 38%.
- Half of the counties in the top 10 child poverty rate do not rank in the top 10 overall poverty rate: Iosco, Montmorency, Alcona, Oscoda and Crawford.

ALICE:

- Seven counties have ALICE rates of more than 33% - meaning that more than a third of households there struggle to make ends meet, despite being employed. These counties are: Schoolcraft, Iron, Montmorency, Lake, Alger, Baraga, and Luce counties.
- In Wayne, Schoolcraft, Houghton, Isabella, Lake, Luce, Alger, Baraga, and Clare counties, more than 50% of residents live below the ALICE threshold. This includes families living in poverty, and families who are not making enough to survive.

Life expectancy:

- The lowest life expectancy is Wayne County, home to Detroit, at 75.3 years and the highest is Leelanau county at 83.1 years. Kent County, which is home to Grand Rapids, has a life expectancy of 79.8 years.

SNAP

- Lowest SNAP: Ottawa County, 4.7%
- Highest SNAP: Wayne County: 22.6%