

Mystery donor gives WMU \$100M for medical school

BUSINESS, 1C

Tigers cut Sizemore; Rhymes to start at 2nd

SPORTS, 1B

Troubled cornerback impresses Lions

SPORTS, 1B

State's west, northwest see modest growth

BY CATHERINE JUN
The Detroit News

Patches of growth emerged in Michigan's northwestern and western counties since 2000, even though the overall state population declined, according to census figures released Tuesday.

Grand Traverse County led the population surge in the northwest, increasing 12 percent from 2000-10 to 86,986 people. Emmet County grew 4 percent to 32,694 people, and Leelanau County 2.8 percent to 21,708 people.

"We still have people moving in from all over the U.S.," said Carol Franklin, a Realtor in Grand Traverse County. Families of all ages — young couples to retirees — have moved in from New York, Georgia, Texas and California, looking for year-round homes and the amenities up north.

"We don't have crime, we don't have graffiti, you can have kids play in the yard."

The uptick reflects a trend that emerged from otherwise sobering statewide census numbers: Larger cities from Flint and Grand Rapids to Warren and Livonia lost residents, while populations grew in bedroom communities, vacation hotspots and rural enclaves.

In southeastern Michigan, Livingston County experienced the fastest growth, increasing 15.3 percent to 180,967 — mostly from residents leaving Wayne and Oakland counties. Macomb County also grew 6.7 percent to 840,978 residents, as African-Americans moved to southern suburbs and longtime county residents moved farther north.

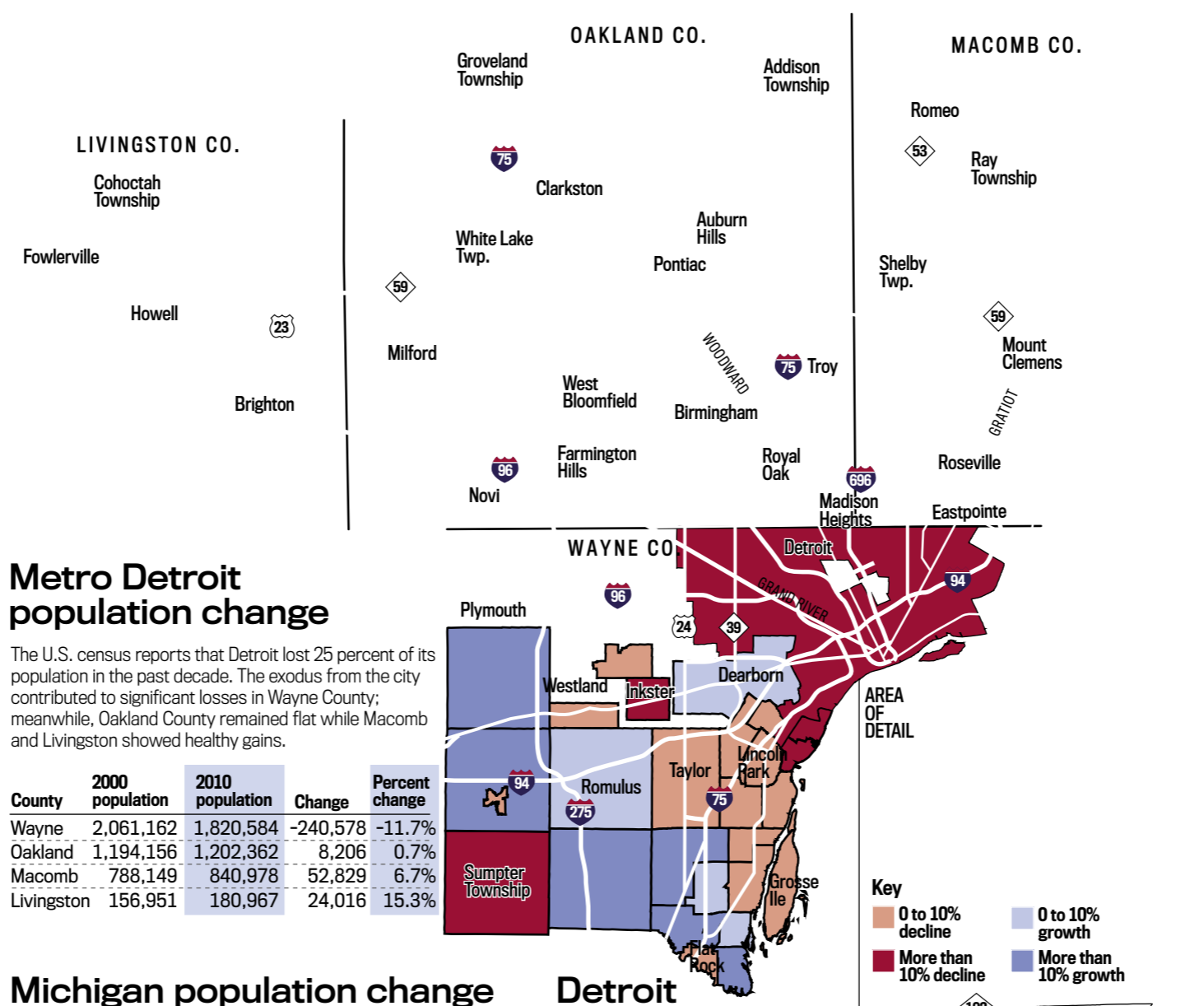
Sprawl also was a factor in Clinton County outside Lansing,

Please see State, Page 10A

Census will cost Mich. one seat in Congress

Detroit's population loss will push major changes for two political districts.

PAGE 10A



Macomb gains 6.7%, Oakland flat, Wayne down 11.7%

BY RON FRENCH,
LEONARD N. FLEMING
AND MIKE WILKINSON
The Detroit News

Michigan population change

Detroit

Key
■ 0 to 5% growth
■ More than 5% decline
■ 0 to 5% decline
■ More than 10% growth

"UNTIL PEOPLE ARE COMFORTABLE WITH THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, UNTIL INSURANCE RATES AND TAXES ARE LOWER, UNTIL PEOPLE FEEL THERE'S A VALUE TO LIVING IN DETROIT, PEOPLE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO LEAVE."

Demographer Kurt Metzger

Berman: Smaller can be better. **7A**

Oakland: Population gain includes diversity. **8A**

Wayne: Older suburbs lose, outer ring gains. **9A**

Macomb: Black population grows by 240%. **9A**

Washtenaw: County numbers up; Ann Arbor's flat. **10A**

Please see Census, Page 7A

Today's weather HIGH 38 LOW 30

Contact us
 Delivery questions: 800-395-3300
 Classified: 800-926-8237

A MediaNews Group NEWSPAPER

137th year, No. 213 © The Detroit News
 Printed in the USA

\$1.00

6 40788 21000 2

Index

- Advice.....12A
- Arts&Style.....11A
- Business.....1C
- Classified.....7B
- Comics.....6C
- Deaths.....15A
- Horoscope.....12A
- Lottery.....2A
- Metro.....3A
- Movies.....14A
- Nation/World.....5A
- Opinion.....16A
- Sports.....1B
- TV/Puzzles.....4-5C
- Weather.....2A

Kilpatrick probe used texts, bank records
 METRO, 3A

UAW's King vows to boost global membership
 BUSINESS, 1C

Gadhafi forces attack civilians
 NATION & WORLD, 5A



A rebel prepares to fight Tuesday in Zwitina, Libya. Moammar Gadhafi's forces continued attacks.
 Luis Sinco
 L.A. Times

Granholm pushes clean, green jobs
 BUSINESS, 1C

FOCUS: 2010 CENSUS

Detroit can turn numbers to its advantage

Has it occurred to anyone that smaller might be beautiful? For over a year, Detroit Mayor Dave Bing has insisted that he has no plans to downsize the city. Even so, the population has done an excellent job of clearing out on its own: 237,493 people have left since 2000, and the U.S. census numbers memorialize their absence.

Let City Council President Charles Pugh and others express their official faux shock at a situation that's readily observable to any city dweller. Statistical assistance isn't required. The emptiness is as obvious here as the crowds in New York's Times Square: occasional pedestrians on once teeming avenues, drifts of weeds where neighborhoods

once stood, and the near dearth of for-profit business of any kind.

The census provides a get-real wake-up call to politicians who would prefer to pretend. They'd rather deem themselves deserving of the perks and salaries of three decades ago, when the city's population was 1.2 million. With big numbers come federal and state money, respect and social status.

These numbers give the lie to delusional thinking and endless gazing in the rearview mirror. The bygone era of Detroit greatness is 60 years out of date. New numbers arrive just in time to usher in a new era.

Census numbers aren't Shakespearean tragedies. They are devoid of emotion even as they tell us who we are. On



Laura Berman

Tuesday, Bing and the council president predictably called for recounts, as Pugh described thousands of uncounted prisoners and insurance fraudsters pretending to live elsewhere. (He urged them to 'fess up, saying, "We want your numbers so we can get federal dollars and state dollars.")

Such recount calls have been tried before. Over the past century, Detroit's population soared from 466,000 in 1910 to 1.85 million in 1950. Ever since, it's been falling.

Detroit's growth in the first half of

the 20th century was "one of the great growth stories in American history," says Charles Ballard, an economics professor at Michigan State University.

But its subsequent slide is equally unprecedented.

It's easy to be pessimistic about the city's future — but there is reason for optimism.

Detroit's cheap land, access to a great riverfront and developed streets and expressways could be enticing to new residents. Its historical buildings are irreproducible structures with power and grandeur.

With great parks, an abundance of new gardens, major universities and the initiative of a few bold corporations and their leaders, Detroit can seize this

moment as the city that's fallen back to Earth.

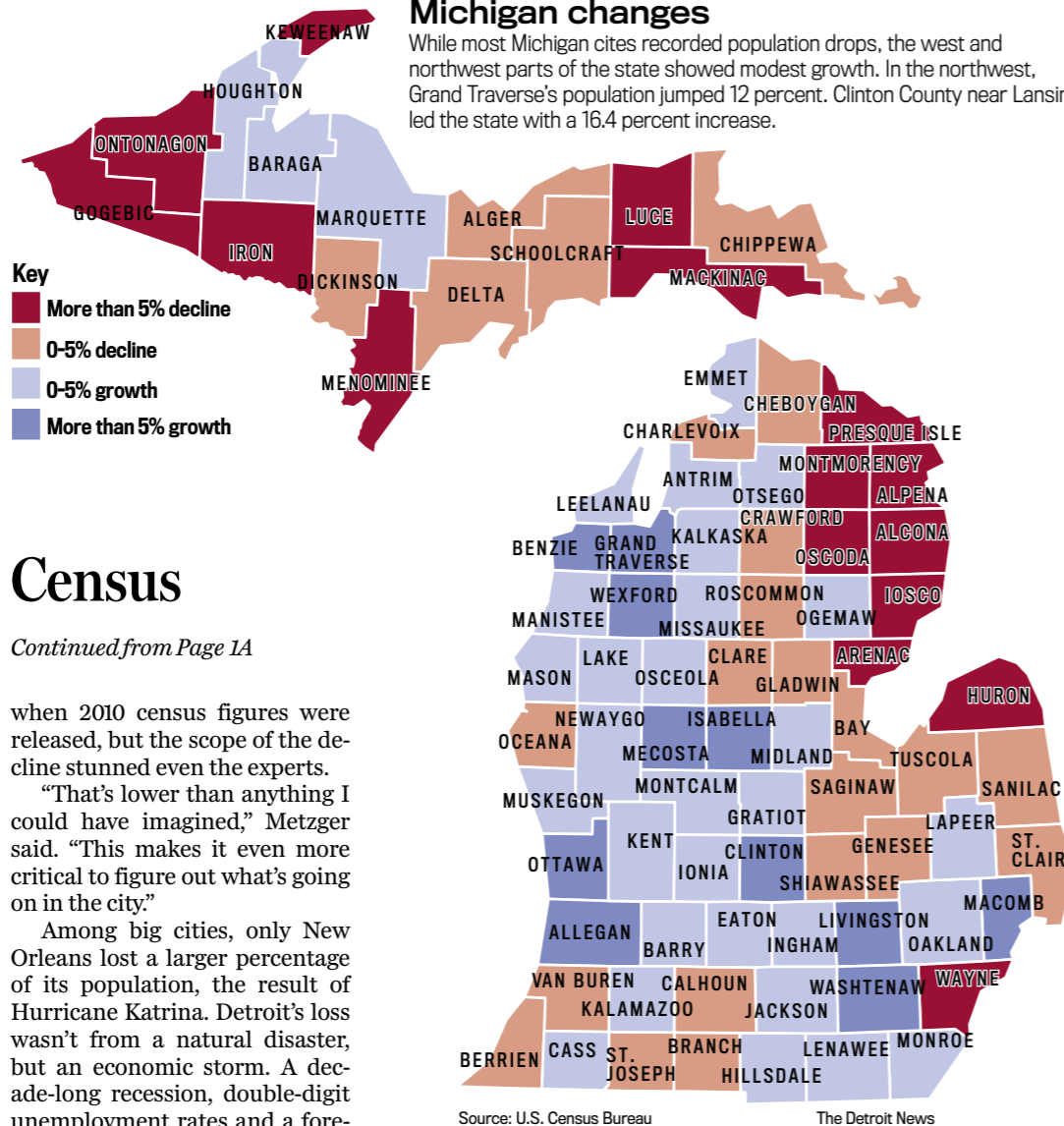
The census numbers need not be taken as a death toll. They can be construed as a shove of encouragement, a push toward reimagining the city, as Bing is trying to do, reconfigured into dense neighborhoods rather than half-vacant tracts.

Detroit is smaller. That's now been pronounced reality. So let's not spend years arguing about a futile recount. It's time to move forward because nobody can plan the future by pining for the past.

lberman@detnews.com
(313) 222-2032
Laura Berman's column typically appears Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Michigan changes

While most Michigan cities recorded population drops, the west and northwest parts of the state showed modest growth. In the northwest, Grand Traverse's population jumped 12 percent. Clinton County near Lansing led the state with a 16.4 percent increase.



Census

Continued from Page 1A

when 2010 census figures were released, but the scope of the decline stunned even the experts.

"That's lower than anything I could have imagined," Metzger said. "This makes it even more critical to figure out what's going on in the city."

Among big cities, only New Orleans lost a larger percentage of its population, the result of Hurricane Katrina. Detroit's loss wasn't from a natural disaster, but an economic storm. A decade-long recession, double-digit unemployment rates and a foreclosure crisis that left thousands of homes abandoned combined to push more people out of the city.

"People were tired of lack of services," Metzger said. "They wanted to be able to shop in their neighborhood and feel safe."

A decade of change

Middle-class whites had been moving to Detroit's sprawling suburbs for a half-century. Middle-class African-Americans followed, beginning in the 1990s, Metzger said. When housing prices plummeted in recent years, more Detroiters could afford to flee.

"It's the crime, the insurance rates, it's so overwhelming for people trying to be legal and honest and work and live in the city," said Darryl Gaddy, 44, who was born and raised in East Detroit and recently moved to Harper Woods.

Gaddy is the minister of Victory Fellowship Church on the city's east side. "We do a lot of community work," he said. "But the community has gotten so bad, while I still serve the community, I can't live in it."

"It saddens me because I know the possibilities and the opportunities that exist. But investment left the city."

Oakland County's black population grew 35 percent, while Macomb County's grew a whopping 240 percent.

Eastpointe's black population grew five-fold in the decade; St. Clair Shores and Warren's black populations grew about four-fold.

Charilyn Goolsby, 45, left the city in 2009 with her 15-year-old daughter for Southfield. Between crime, City Hall corruption, insurance costs and schools, "it just got to be too much," Goolsby said.

"Detroit just got too messy for me," said Goolsby, a business consultant. "I was not getting the benefits of those tax dollars. The city services are poor and I could not use the school system. And you look at the cost of living and the corruption, we had to leave."

Detroit lost 44 percent of its white residents, and 24 percent

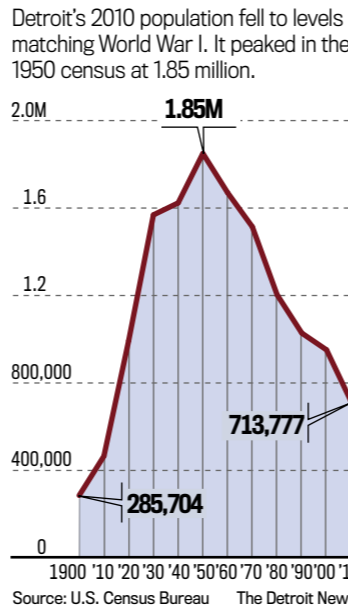
Profile plummets

Detroit dropped from the nation's 11th largest city to the 18th.

City	2010 population
1. New York	8.4M*
2. Los Angeles	3.8M
3. Chicago	2.7M
4. Houston	2.1M
5. Philadelphia	1.5M
6. Phoenix	1.4M
7. San Antonio	1.3M
8. San Diego	1.3M
9. Dallas	1.2M
10. San Jose, Ca.	945,942
11. Jacksonville, Fla.	821,784
12. Indianapolis	820,445
13. San Francisco	805,235
14. Austin, Tex.	790,390
15. Columbus, Oh.	787,033
16. Fort Worth, Tx.	741,206
17. Charlotte, N.C.	731,424
18. Detroit	713,777

* Not released yet, estimate from 2009
Source: U.S. Census Bureau The Detroit News

Detroit's decline



of its black residents. The Hispanic population was stable. Detroit now has about the same number of white residents as St. Clair Shores.

"If you don't have a job, your tendency is to move out and try to find areas where they do have jobs, and I think that dramatically hurt this region overall," said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. "It's disappointing in the numbers. Looking to the future, there are a lot of opportunities that if we do this right, people will not only have jobs here but will be attracted to the state. What we have to do is focus on the future."

Detroit to protest count

Detroit Mayor Bing said the city will challenge the results "immediately."

"Personally, I don't believe that the number is accurate and I don't believe it will stand up as we go through with our challenge," he said. "The census has a history of undercounting residents in urban cities like Detroit."

City Council President Char-

les Pugh appealed to the census to count Detroit's lawbreakers. There are thousands of Detroiters in prisons around the state who should be counted as city residents, he said. Pugh argued that Detroit's population is also undercounted because "we know that there are thousands of people, because of car insurance, that have addresses in the suburbs."

If the numbers aren't revised, the low census count is "potentially devastating" to the city, Pugh said.

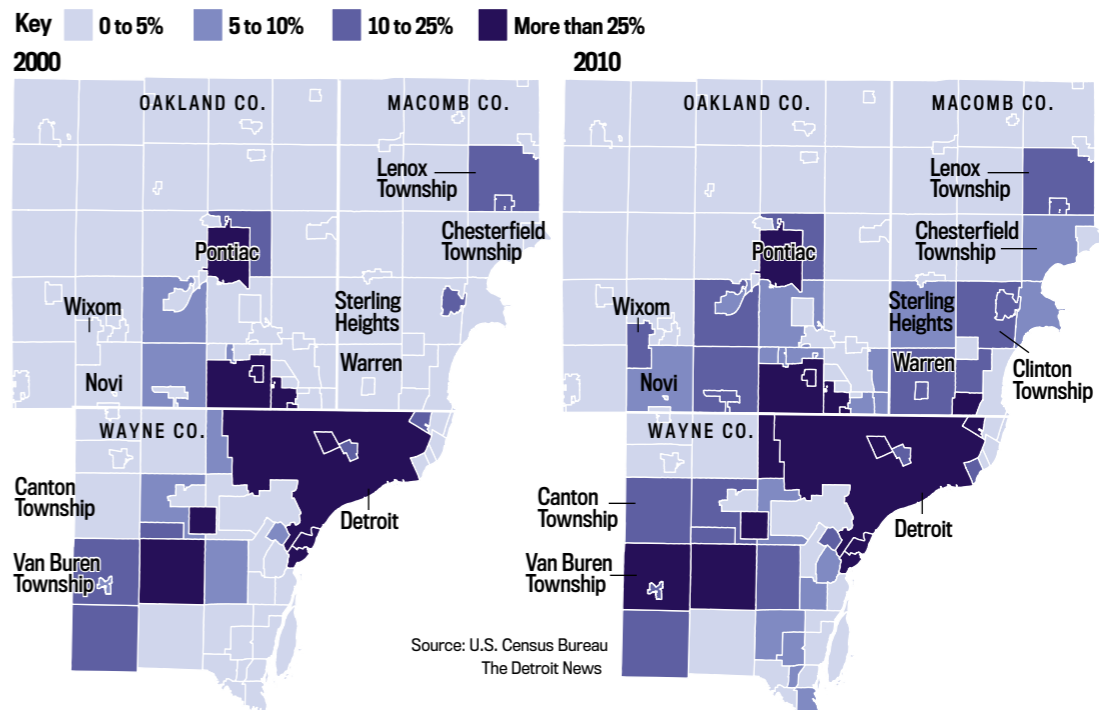
Part of the revenue sharing cash given to cities by the state is based on population. Detroit's share of that pot of money was \$60.3 million in the 2009-10 budget year. While the formula is complex, the cash-strapped city could lose millions of dollars each year because of the new census figures, said Jim Stansell, economist with the Michigan House Fiscal Agency.

That loss will be felt as early as next month, when the state sends out its next bimonthly revenue sharing checks to cities.

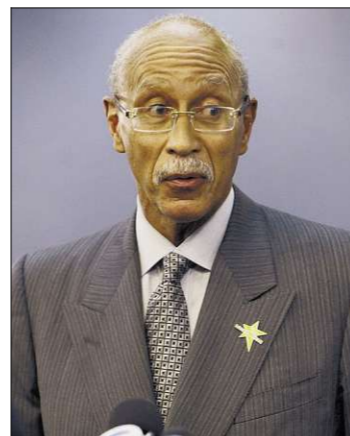
Because the budget year is half over, the remaining state checks sent to Detroit not only will reflect the lower revenue sharing figures, but will be cut even more to make up for the cash that De-

Diversifying the suburbs

Tens of thousands of African-American Detroiters moved to the suburbs during the 2000s, creating an unprecedented shift in the region's population.

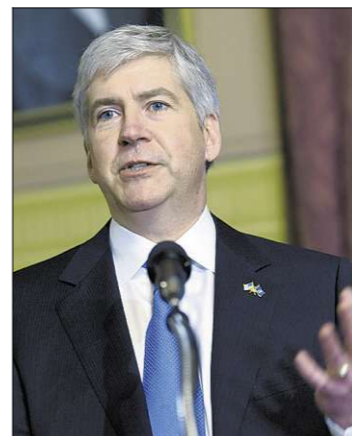


The Rev. Darryl Gaddy has moved to Harper Woods: "We do a lot of community work. But the community has gotten so bad, while I still serve the community, I can't live in it."



Clarence Tabb Jr. / The Detroit News

Detroit Mayor Bing said Tuesday that the city will challenge the census results "immediately."



Dale G. Young / The Detroit News

"The census figures clearly show how crucial it is to reinvent Michigan," Gov. Rick Snyder said.

troit was overpaid.

"We are in a fiscal crisis and we have to fight for every dollar," Bing said. "Every person that's counted in the census brings approximately \$10,000 to Detroit over the next decade for schools, roads, hospitals and social services programs like Medicaid."

Bing said the city needs to find another 40,000 residents to bring the population to 750,000. That threshold could "make a difference in terms of what we can get from the federal government as well as the state government," he said.

Demographer Reynolds Farley, professor emeritus at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, says census count appeals generally only increase figures marginally. "They may get 2,000 or 3,000, but nothing significant," Farley said.

Loss of cash, clout

The number also could be significant in other ways. For example, state law allows communities with populations of at least 750,000 to levy income taxes of 3 percent for residents and 1.5 percent for nonresidents who work in the city. It wasn't immediately clear what impact Detroit's population loss would have on its income tax or the law.

That's just one of as many as 100 state bills will potentially have to be rewritten because of the new census figures. Because cities cannot be mentioned by name, they are identified by pop-

ulation, said Burton Leland, a Wayne County commissioner and former state representative.

Laws meant to apply only to Detroit already were rewritten once, to change from "cities over 1 million" to "cities over 750,000." Now, they will need to be rewritten again, said Leland.

Detroit also is likely to lose clout in Lansing, because state House and Senate districts will be redrawn based on the 2010 census.

The Skillman Foundation, which is in the midst of a 10-year, \$100 million investment in six Detroit neighborhoods, will not change its commitment because of the declines, said Sharnita Johnson, a senior program officer for Skillman.

"We still know there are a significant number of families living in the areas we are working in," she said. "We hope our work will encourage and inspire folks to remain or move back to the city."

Katy Locker, a vice president of programs for the Hudson-Webber Foundation, said the group was surprised by how low the number dipped.

But she said the foundation, which spends about \$6 million a year in Detroit, is convinced that a significant number of Detroit neighborhoods remain strong and worth investing in.

rrench@detnews.com
(313) 222-2175
Detroit News Staff Writer
Christine MacDonald contributed.

OAKLAND COUNTY

Growth hopscotches; diversity gains

28.4
Percent of growth in Oxford Township

13
Percent of vacant housing units in Hazel Park

2,419
Population of Royal Oak Twp., down from 5,446 in the 2000

-10.3
Percent of population drop in Pontiac

-8.4
Percent of population drop in Southfield

280K
Combined Asian, black and Hispanic populations

8,206
County's population gain since 2000 census

77
Percent of white residents, whose numbers dropped by 68,354

Rich Hopcroft of Royal Oak says: "I've started looking at moving my business to Chicago or Dallas or Atlanta." He owns a Troy-based call center.

Charles V. Tines
The Detroit News

North, west rise; other suburbs shrink

BY MICKI STEELE
The Detroit News

Detroit's loss is Oakland County's gain, as more residents moved in than out, some leaving densely populated cities in the county for more rural areas and increasing diversity, according to U.S. census figures released Tuesday.

"We took a beating because of the implosion of the auto industry," County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said. "But we offer a good quality of life with good schools, good employment and thriving downtowns. Frankly, it's a good place to live, work and raise a family."

Southeastern suburbs such as Hazel Park, Ferndale, Southfield and Royal Oak saw their populations drop in the past 10 years by about 5 percent to 13 percent.

Many of those who left likely went looking for opportunities outside the state or moved in with family, real estate agent Pat Teeley said, in reaction to the economic downturn and housing bust.

Royal Oak resident Rich Hopcroft believes some of his neighbors "strategically defaulted" on their mortgages, making it difficult for him to sell his home.

Still, he plans to leave the state and head south or west to find a better quality of life.

"I've started looking at moving my business to Chicago or Dallas or Atlanta," said Hopcroft, 39, who owns a call center in Troy. "There's a reason why those places are so dense. There's more diverse industry, more robust business and residential communities, better transportation and more world-class entertainment."

But some northern and western townships grew as much as 32 percent, leaving the county with 8,206 more residents than in the 2000 census figures.

"Some call it sprawl, I call it natural migration," Patterson said.

Many people are buying more house for less money farther out in the county, Teeley said, and "cute little downtown areas and a country feel" are attractive.

Meanwhile, the county's population grew more diverse. The combined Asian, black and Hispanic populations rose sharply to about 272,000, going from 16.5 percent to 22.6 percent of the total population. The number of white residents dropped by 68,354 from more than 1 million to 903,398, 75.1 percent of the total.

"We welcome diversity," Patterson said. "We consider it a strength. The schools are outstanding and people want to come here to get a good education for their kids."

Pontiac and Southfield bid goodbye to the most residents of any city, township or village in the county. Pontiac fell 10.3 percent, or 6,822 people, and Southfield lost nearly 8.4 percent, or 6,557. Nearly 1 in 5 housing units is vacant in Pontiac. In Southfield, the rate is 12 percent.

"For sale" signs dot entire sections of Hazel Park, where the population dropped 10 percent and nearly 13 percent of the housing units are vacant.

Neighboring cities, including Berkley, Ferndale, Lathrup Village, Madison Heights and Royal Oak, all experienced population declines from about 4 percent to nearly 10 percent.

Meanwhile, Oakland and Oxford townships in the northern part of the county grew about 28 percent to 16,779 and 20,526, respectively.

In the southwestern part of the county, Lyon Township's population rose nearly 32 percent from 11,041 to 14,545.

msteele@detnews.com
(313) 222-2620



Oakland County

Community	Population			Race					Age Under 18		Housing units (2010)	
	2000	2010	Change	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	2000	2010	Occupied	Vacant	
Oakland County	1.19M	1.2M	0.7%	81.4%	13.5%	4.1%	2.4%	25.2%	23.5%	91.7%	8.3%	
Addison Twp.	6,439	6,351	-1.4	95.7	0.9	0.2	1.9	29.2	22.9	91	9	
Auburn Hills	19,837	21,412	7.9	73.5	13.1	1.1	4.5	20.4	19.4	88.8	11.2	
Berkley	15,531	14,970	-3.6	95.2	0.7	1.3	1.3	22.8	21.4	95.1	4.9	
Beverly Hills	10,437	10,267	-1.6	92.3	3	1.8	1.4	1.7	24.6	25.1	95.9	
Bingham Farms	1,030	1,111	7.9	91	5.4	1.5	0.5	0.9	15.9	15.2	96	
Birmingham	19,291	20,103	4.2	95.3	0.9	1.5	1.2	2.1	21.2	24.6	90.6	
Bloomfield Hills	3,940	3,869	-1.8	89.8	1.6	6.7	1.1	1.5	19.7	19.9	89.8	
Bloomfield Twp.	43,023	41,070	-4.5	86.6	4.3	6.7	1.4	1.8	23.8	22.5	92.5	
Brandon Twp.	14,765	15,175	2.8	96.6	0.4	0.3	1.6	3.1	30.6	26.3	92.8	
Clawson	12,732	11,825	-7.1	95.2	0.8	1.9	1.1	2.1	20.6	17.9	94.3	
Commerce Twp.	34,764	40,186	15.6	95.9	0.5	1.6	1.2	2.6	29.5	26	94.6	
Farmington	10,423	10,372	-0.5	84.8	2.7	11.3	1.2	2.1	20	22	93.2	
Farmington Hills	82,111	79,740	-2.9	81.9	6.9	17.3	1.5	1.9	23.1	21.5	92.8	
Fenton	10,582	11,756	11.1	95.2	0.6	1.3	1.8	2.5	25.4	24.1	90.9	
Ferndale	22,105	19,900	-10	90.3	3.4	9.4	1.8	2.8	20.4	16.5	91.2	
Franklin	2,937	3,150	7.3	89	5	6.6	0.9	1.3	28.3	28.4	95	
Groveland Twp.	6,150	5,476	-11	95.5	0.8	1.1	1.7	2.2	27.6	24	90.1	
Hazel Park	18,963	16,422	-13.4	90.4	1.6	9.7	2.1	2.7	27.7	24.2	87.3	
Highland Twp.	19,169	19,202	0.2	96.5	0.3	0.4	1.3	1.9	29	24.3	92.7	
Holly Twp.	10,037	11,362	13.2	92.8	2.1	2.1	2.9	3.2	26.6	24.2	91	
Holly	6,135	6,096	-0.8	93.3	1.1	1.1	3.3	3.6	27	25.5	90.8	
Huntington Woods	6,151	6,238	1.4	96.3	0.7	1	0.9	1.6	26.6	27.4	96.9	
Independence Twp.	32,581	34,681	6.4	94.2	0.8	1.8	2.5	4.5	27.7	26.4	93.6	
Keego Harbor	2,769	2,970	7.3	91.2	0.6	5.9	4.4	10.8	24.9	24.8	87.7	
Lake Angelus	326	290	-11	95.1	0.9	0.3	1.2	0.3	20.2	12.1	86.1	
Lake Orion	2,715	2,973	9.5	95.7	0.3	1.5	2.4	3.5	20.3	20.6	87.9	
Lathrup	4,236	4,075	-3.8	96.3	49.7	60.9	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.5	24.6	
Leonard	332	403	21.4	93.1	0.3	0.2	5.7	2.2	26.2	24.6	94.4	
Lyon Twp.	11,041	14,545	31.7	96.1	0.4	1.4	1.5	2.9	28.8	27.2	93.1	
Madison Heights	31,101	29,694	-4.5	88.5	1.8	6.3	1.6	2.5	22.1	20.4	92.9	
Milford Twp.	15,271	15,736	3	96.6	0.4	0.9	1.2	2.2	28.5	24	92.7	
Milford	6,272	6,175	-1.5	96.5	0.2	0.6	1.3	2	28.6	23.5	93.2	
Novi	47,386	55,224	16.5	86.1	1.9	8.1	1.8	3	27.6	25.5	91.9	
Novi Twp.	193	150	-22.3	94.8	0	0	0	4	30.1	16.7	98.3	
Oak Park	29,793	29,319	-1.6	96.4	45.7	57.1	1.3	1.4	28.2	24.9	91.7	
Oakland Twp.	13,071	16,779	28.4	93.3	2	2.3	1.2	2.1	30.5	27.8	95.1	
Orchard Lake	2,215	2,375	7.2	91.2	3.8	6.3	0.9	1.1	26.9	23.2	92.3	
Orion Twp.	33,463	35,394	5.8	93.7	1.2	2.6	2.6	4	28.5	27.6	92.7	
Ortonville	1,535	1,442	-6.1	97.1	0.1	0.6	1.7	2.6	32.4	27.5	89	
Oxford Twp.	16,025	20,526	28.1	95.5	0.4	1.3	2.2	3.1	29.2	28.1	93.2	
Oxford	3,540	3,436	-2.9	95.1	0.6	1.8	2.7	4.4	28.2	25	90.9	
Pleasant Ridge	2,594	2,526	-2.6	95.3	0.8	1.9	1.8	1.7	22	20.3	96.7	
Pontiac	66,337	59,515	-10.3	94.5	47.4	51.1	12.8	16.5	30.6	27.2	82	
Rochester	10,467	12,711	21.4	91.1	2.2	3.6	1.7	2.7	23.1	25.1	92	
Rochester Hills	68,825	70,995	3.2	87.1	2.4	4.5	2.3	3.1	26	23.7	93.5	
Rose Twp.	6,210	6,250	0.6	95.5	0.9	1.1	2.2	2.8	26.5	22.4	91.4	
Royal Oak Twp.	5,446	2,419	-55.6	22.6	1.2	71.1	1.2	0	1.2	2.4	92.2	
Royal Oak	60,062	57,236	-4.7	93.9	1.5	4.2	1.3	2.3	17.8	16.7	92.9	
South Lyon	10,036	11,327	12.9	95.6	0.4	0.8	1.6	2.7	24.8	26.9	90.7	
Southfield	78,296	71,739	-8.4	38.3	34.4	69.9	1.2	1.3	21.6	20.5	88.3	
Southfield Twp.	14,430	14,547	0.8	91.5	3.6	6.7	1.2	1.5	24.7	25.1	95.7	
Springfield Twp.	13,338	13,940	4.5	95.2	1	1.1	2.9	2.8	26	93.3	6.7	
Sylvan Lake	1,735	1,720	-0.9	94.5	1.1	2.2	1.1	1.5	18	20.1	93.6	
Troy	80,959	80,980	0	81.3	2.1	4	1.5	2.1	26.2	23.8	93.3	
Clarkston	962	882	-8.3	96.3	0.3	0.2	1	1.8	25.7	21.4	91.4	
Walled Lake	6,713	6,999	4.3	94.3	0.7	4.4	1.7	3.9	21.3	19.9	90.7	
Waterford Twp.	73,150	71,707	-2	90.3	2.8	4.6	3.9	6.4	23.2	23	92.3	
West Bloomfield Twp.	64,860	64,690	-0.3	83.2	5.1	11.3	1.4	1.6	26.4	23.6	93.4	
White Lake Twp.	28,219	30,019	6.4	95.4	0.8	1.1	1.8	3	27.7	24.6	92.2	
Wixom	13,263	13,498	1.8	88.9	2.5	11	3.2	5.1	24.9	25.4	87	
Wolverine Lake	4,415	4,312	-2.3	97	0.4	0.7	1	2.4	25.5	21.6	94.2	

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Population rise in 'oasis' is second fastest in state

Livingston County

Community	Population			Race					Age Under 18		Housing units (2010)	
	2000	2010	Change	White	Black	Asian	Hispanic	2000	2010	Occupied	Vacant	
Livingston County	156,951	180,967	15.3%	96.3%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	1.2%	28.8%	25.5%	92.5%	7.5%
Brighton	6,701	7,444	11.1	95.7	0.3	0.6	1.3	1.1	1.5	2.3	21.7	19
Brighton Twp.	17,673	17,791	0.7	96.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.7	30	24.6
Cohoctah Twp.	3,394	3,317	-2.3	97.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.9	1.4	29	24.6
Conway Twp.	2,732	3,546	29.8	95.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.8	1.3	1.7	31.3	28.9
Deerfield Twp.	4,087	4,170	2	97.2	0	0.3	0.1	0.6	1.2	1.3	29.9	25.6
Fowlerville	2,972	2,886	-2.9	94.9	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.7	2.3	29.7	26.9
Genoa Twp.	15,901	19,821	24.7	96.6	0.2	0.6	0.7	1	1	2.1	27.2	24.2
Green Oak Twp.	15,618	17,476	11.9	95	1.6	0.7	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.9	29.2	25.1
Hamburg Twp.	20,627	21,165	2.6	96.5	1	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.1	1.3	29.6	25.3
Handy Twp.	7,004	8,006	14.3	96.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	1.1	2.2	30.9	27.6
Hartland Twp.	10,996	14,663	33.3	97.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	1	1.1	2.3	30.4	28.6
Howell	9,232	9,489	2.8	94.7	0.3	0.4	1.2	1.1	2.2	3.5	24.1	23.2
Howell Twp.	5,679	6,702	18	97	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.9	28	23.3
Iosco Twp.	3,039	3,801	25.1	94.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.2	3.7	1.3	32.6	28.1
Marion Twp.	6,757	9,996	47.9	97	0	0.1	0.3	0.8	1	1.6	29.3	27
Oceola T												

WAYNE COUNTY

Inner-ring towns lead big decline

Wayne County

Community	Population			Race					Age Under 18		Housing units (2010)				
	2000	2010	Change	White 2000	White 2010	Black 2000	Black 2010	Asian 2000	Asian 2010	Hispanic 2000	Hispanic 2010	2000	2010	Occupied	Vacant
Wayne County	2,06M	1,82M	-11.7%	49.9%	49.6%	41.9%	40.3%	1.7%	2.5%	3.7%	5.2%	28%	25.4%	85.5%	14.5%
Allen Park	29,376	28,210	-4	92.5	87.4	0.7	2.1	0.8	0.8	4.7	8.1	22.2	21.7	94.9	5.1
Belleville	3,997	3,991	-0.2	86.3	78.5	7.9	13.8	1.1	0.8	2.5	3.8	21.9	21.9	89.3	10.7
Brownstown Twp.	22,989	30,627	33.2	86.6	79	3.8	8.5	3.8	5.2	3.6	5.2	28.7	26.4	93.3	6.7
Canton Twp.	76,366	90,173	18.1	82.3	70	4.5	10.1	8.7	14.1	2.3	3.1	29	27.2	94.1	5.9
Dearborn	97,775	98,153	0.4	84.8	86.7	1.3	4	1.5	1.7	3	3.4	27.8	29.7	90.7	9.3
Dearborn Heights	58,264	57,774	-0.8	89.3	83	2.1	7.8	3.4	4.7	3.4	4.7	22.5	25	92.5	7.5
Detroit	951,270	713,777	-25	10.5	7.8	81.2	82.2	1	1	5	6.8	31.1	26.7	77.2	22.8
Ecorse	11,229	9,512	-15.3	47.3	36.5	40.4	46	0.2	0.3	8.9	13.4	27.8	27.1	80.2	19.8
Flat Rock	8,488	9,878	16.4	93.4	87.8	1.4	4	0.5	0.8	2.7	4.4	29.3	27.4	94	6
Garden City	30,047	27,692	-7.8	94.6	90.2	1.1	3.4	0.7	0.8	2	3.3	25.1	22.4	93.8	6.2
Gibraltar	4,264	4,656	9.2	95.6	92.7	0.5	2	0.4	0.7	1.8	2.9	23.5	22	87.8	12.2
Grosse Ile Twp.	10,894	10,371	-4.8	94	93.4	0.4	0.4	2.7	2.4	1.6	2.6	24.9	21.6	92.8	7.2
Grosse Pointe	5,670	5,421	-4.4	96.1	91.7	0.8	3.2	1	1.5	1.5	1.8	25.4	26.4	91.4	8.6
Grosse Pointe Fms.	9,764	9,479	-2.9	96.6	93.9	0.6	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.1	2	26.5	25.8	94.1	5.9
Grosse Pointe Park	12,443	11,555	-7.1	91.2	83	2.9	10.5	1.8	1.8	1.7	2.5	27.5	26.5	90.4	9.6
Grosse Pointe Wds.	17,080	16,135	-5.5	95.5	90	0.6	4.5	2.1	2.4	1	1.7	26.1	23.7	94.1	5.9
Hamtramck	22,976	22,423	-2.4	60.4	53	14.9	19.1	10.3	21.4	1.3	1.5	27.8	31.7	81.2	18.8
Harper Woods	14,254	14,236	-0.1	84.9	48.5	10.2	45.3	1.7	1.4	1.6	2	22.4	25.9	89.4	10.6
Highland Park	16,746	11,776	-29.7	4	2.9	93.1	93	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.3	29.1	23.7	76.3	23.7
Huron Twp.	13,737	15,879	15.6	94.3	90.8	1	2.5	0.3	0.7	2.5	3.2	28.4	25.2	94.7	5.3
Inkster	30,115	25,369	-15.8	24.5	19.5	67.3	72.6	3.4	1.6	1.6	2.6	29.8	27.9	84.3	15.7
Lincoln Park	40,008	38,144	-4.7	89.2	76.3	2	5.7	0.5	0.5	6.4	14.9	24.3	24.8	90.3	9.7
Livonia	100,545	96,942	-3.6	94.1	90.1	0.9	3.4	1.9	2.5	1.7	2.5	23.8	20.8	95.8	4.2
Melvindale	10,735	10,715	-0.2	81.7	66.6	5.2	10.8	1.3	0.8	8.9	18.3	24.4	24.7	89.9	10.1
Northville	6,459	5,970	-7.6	95.1	92.1	0.4	1.6	1.8	2.6	1.6	2.2	23.8	22	93.8	6.2
Northville Twp.	21,036	28,497	35.5	88.1	80.9	4.3	3.6	4.2	11.2	1.8	2.4	21.4	24.4	94.1	5.9
Plymouth	9,022	9,132	1.2	95.5	92.7	0.6	1.6	1.1	2.2	1.3	1.8	18.7	21.5	92.7	7.3
Plymouth Twp.p	27,798	27,524	-1	91.2	90.4	2.9	2.1	2.7	3.5	1.6	2.4	22.6	22.3	95.7	4.3
Redford Twp.	51,622	48,362	-6.3	86.7	64.7	8.5	28.7	0.7	0.8	2	2.9	25.3	23.9	92.3	7.7
River Rouge	9,917	7,903	-20.3	49.9	34.8	41.8	49.8	0.2	0.2	5	11.2	31.2	29.2	77.6	22.4
Riverview	13,272	12,486	-5.9	92.1	90	2.1	3	1.9	1.5	2.5	4.1	21.3	19.6	93.5	6.5
Rockwood	3,442	3,289	-4.4	93.9	92.6	0.6	1.6	0.6	0.9	2.5	2.7	24.7	23	93.4	6.6
Romulus	22,979	23,989	4.4	64.3	49	29.8	42.7	0.6	1.1	2	3	29.2	26.8	90.2	9.8
Southgate	30,136	30,047	-0.3	90.9	84.5	2.1	5.4	1.7	1.6	4	6.5	21.5	20.3	93.7	6.3
Sumpter Twp.	11,856	9,549	-19.5	83.5	82.1	12.3	11.9	0.2	0.2	1.8	2.6	29.8	23.9	86.7	13.3
Taylor	65,868	63,131	-4.2	84	74.7	8.7	15.7	1.6	1.8	3.2	5.1	27.2	24.7	92.2	7.8
Trenton	19,584	18,853	-3.7	95.4	93.1	0.4	1.3	0.8	0.7	2	3.2	23.3	21.3	93.5	6.5
Van Buren Twp.	23,559	28,821	22.3	81.2	63	12	28.5	1.9	2.5	2.2	2.7	23.9	23.9	88.8	11.2
Wayne	19,051	17,593	-7.7	83	74.3	11.3	16.8	1.4	2	1.9	3.4	26.4	23.5	90.2	9.8
Westland	86,602	84,094	-2.9	85.6	73.5	6.7	17.1	2.8	3	2.5	3.8	23.3	21.1	91.5	8.5
Woodhaven	12,530	12,875	2.8	90.8	85.2	2.3	5.2	1.6	2.3	3.5	5.5	24.6	22.3	93.7	6.3
Wyandotte	28,006	25,883	-7.6	94.3	91	0.5	1.3	0.3	0.5	2.9	5.1	22.6	21.4	91	9

Northville Twp. bright spot with 35.5% growth

-29.7
Percent population drop in Highland Park, the county's biggest percentage decline

13,807
Number of additional residents in Canton Township, the largest gain

45.3
Percent of Harper Woods residents who are African-American, up from 10 percent in 2000

55,604
Number of whites in Detroit, Livonia, Dearborn, Canton Township and Westland all have more

95.8
Percent of occupied units in Livonia; highest percentage in county

BY STEVE PARDO
The Detroit News

Pockets of Wayne County are seeing spikes in the number of residents, while droves of people left Detroit's older, inner-ring suburbs in the past 10 years.

The county lost 240,578 residents between 2000 and 2010. In Detroit alone, 237,493 left the city — a 25 percent decrease. That number helped bring the county's losses overall to 11.7 percent. Most of the county's largest suburbs also lost people, but the percentage losses tended to be less severe.

The biggest winner was Northville Township, which added 7,461 people, increasing 35.5 percent to 28,497.

The township went through its own tough times — layoffs and furloughs for employees — but Chip Snider, township manager, believes the future is bright. He credits an outstanding school system and township leaders who persuaded voters to approve a millage during the height of the recession.

The township benefits from its ties to the city of Northville, Snider said. "People love small towns, but there's not a lot of room for new growth," he said. "Plus the housing tends to be more expensive. We're expanding our connectivity to the bike path so people can bike downtown from the township. We consider the city as part of our formula for success."

The township is even seeing new housing starts, such as Pulte Homes' Arcadia Ridge development at Six Mile and Ridge.

"This is one of the busiest subdivisions we have in the nation right now," said Todd Santomauro of Pulte Homes of Michigan. "We sold 28 homes last year

and eight homes in the last month."

One of those homes was sold to Rajat Jain, who plans to move his family into Arcadia Ridge in three weeks. Jain, 45, is moving from Canton. He likes the small class sizes in the Northville Public Schools and enjoys the relative lack of congestion on the roadways.

"It's more open," said Jain, who works in the information technology field. "Canton seems to be getting a little more commercial. The traffic is increasing and access in the area is more challenging."

In Wayne County's inner-ring suburbs, the news is far from rosy.

Embattled Highland Park lost 4,970 people in the 2000s, or 29.7 percent of its population. It was a bigger decline than predicted by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

City officials in Hamtramck, the other city encompassed inside Detroit, also feared huge declines. City Manager William Cooper said Tuesday he didn't know if he should "wince or truly cringe" before the numbers came out.

By late afternoon, he could afford to merely wince. The projections of a nearly 15 percent decline didn't come true. The city lost 553 people, a relatively modest 2.4 percent of its population.

City officials sought to file for bankruptcy in December, a request the state denied. Hamtramck may not have enough in its coffers to meet the March 30 payroll, Cooper said.

Van Buren Township's proximity to Belleville may have helped that community bring in more people. It added 5,262 people — a 22.3 percent jump.

spardo@detnews.com
(313) 222-2112

Workers build a development this month at Arcadia Ridge Estates in Northville Township. The community added 7,461 people since the last census.



David Coates
The Detroit News

MACOMB COUNTY



Ricardo Thomas / The Detroit News

People work out at a health club in Macomb Township, which grew 57.7 percent to 79,580 people, according to the census data. New Haven also saw large growth, rising 51.2 percent to 4,642.

Blacks drive largest gain in Metro area

Upswing pads northern part while southern population drops

BY CHARLES E. RAMIREZ
The Detroit News

Warren — LaToya Jackson became part of a trend when she traded her Detroit address for one in Macomb County just north of Eight Mile about two years ago.

"I left Detroit because I felt it was just getting too dangerous for me and my children," said Jackson, 21, a single mother of two. "The houses are better, and I can take my kids to the park to play and not worry. I know I didn't move far from Detroit, but being across Eight Mile makes a big difference."

She wasn't alone.

According to U.S. census figures released Tuesday, Macomb County's African-American population grew more than 240 percent, from 21,151 in 2000 to 72,053 in 2010. Six Macomb County communities added a total of 45,000 African-American residents over the past 10 years.

Overall, the county gained the most population in Metro Detroit in the last 10 years, adding nearly 53,000 people. Macomb's population rose 6.7 percent from 788,149 to 840,978.

African-Americans now account for 8.5 percent of the county's population, instead of 3 percent.

"We're seeing a racial and ethnic change across the region, especially since housing values are so low," said Kurt Metzger, director of Data Driven Detroit, a demographic research nonprofit. "But Macomb County is changing faster than any other county."

Some residents say they worry about a loss of stability caused by people moving in and out.

Dave Brune, 38, of Warren said he's seen his neighborhood near Groesbeck and Toepfer change a lot since he moved in 12 years ago. "It isn't getting better," he said. "There are a lot of homes in foreclosure, a lot of others for sale. I'd move, too, if I could."

County Executive Mark Hackel said Macomb's "historic" growth is great news.

"It shows that people recognize the county offers great values in homes and great school systems," he said. "Now we have to come up with a plan to build on

the growth."

The county's two largest communities, Warren and Sterling Heights, also saw some changes over the past decade, the census shows.

Warren lost more than 4,000 residents, or 3 percent of its population, in the last 10 years. Despite the drop, the city remains Michigan's third largest, behind Detroit and Grand Rapids.

"We're elated and ecstatic that we've been able to hold our place," said Warren Mayor Jim Fouts. "We've been working very hard to do the things that encourage residents to stay in the community and attract others to move here."

Fouts said among those things are efforts to keep neighborhoods safe and minimize blight.

Meanwhile, Sterling Heights added 5,228 residents and has moved up to being the state's fourth largest city instead of the fifth.

City Manager Mark Vanderpool said Sterling Heights' growth reflects continued business investment, the city's high level of services and its low water and tax rates. He said it helps that the city is served by two good public school districts, Utica Community Schools and Warren Consolidated Schools.

Most of the communities on Macomb County's northern end saw growth, while some older municipalities on its southern end lost residents, according to the census data.

For example, New Baltimore's population of 12,084 is up 63 percent — the biggest rise of any city in the county. Macomb Township grew 57.7 percent to 79,580, New Haven's population rose 51.2 percent to 4,642, and Washington Township added more than 6,000 residents, a 31.8 percent gain.

Macomb Township Supervisor Mark Grabow called the news about his community's growth "fantastic."

The growth also presents challenges, he said. "Growth definitely puts a strain on our systems, so we have to make sure we're managing our infrastructure to keep pace and plan for the future accordingly."

cramirez@detnews.com
(313) 222-2058

Macomb County

Community	Population			Race					Age Under 18		Housing units (2010)				
	2000	2010	Change	White 2000	White 2010	Black 2000	Black 2010	Asian 2000	Asian 2010	Hispanic 2000	Hispanic 2010	2000	2010	Occupied	Vacant
Macomb County	788,149	840,978	6.7%	91.6%	83.9%	2.7%	8.6%	2.1%	6%	1.6%	2.3%	24.1%	23%	93%	7%
Ash Twp.	7,610	7,783	2.3	95.9	95.3	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.4	1.7	2	27.5	22.5	93.6	6.4
Armada Twp.	5,246	5,379	2.5	97.1	96.7	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	1.5	1.8	29	24.7	95	5
Armada	1,573	1,730	10	96.4	95.9	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.7	2.6	29.2	27.9	92.5	7.5
Bruce Twp.	8,158														

WASHTENAW COUNTY

Ann Arbor holds steady amid growth

U-M jobs, migration credited with helping the county grow

BY KIM KOZLOWSKI
The Detroit News

Population in Washtenaw County grew while it remained flat in Ann Arbor, as the university community weathered the economic downturn and loss of a major employer.

Census figures released Tuesday show the county's population increased 6.8 percent to 344,791 in 2010, even though it endured a major hit when Pfizer Inc. shuttered its research facilities in Ann Arbor, cutting more than 2,000 jobs between 2007 and 2008.

Washtenaw's population grew from 322,895 in 2000 — a stark contrast to Michigan and Detroit, which lost residents.

Meanwhile, Ann Arbor's population was 113,934 in 2010, less than a 1 percent decline from the 2000 population of 114,024.

"It's all about education," said Kurt Metzger, director of Data Driven Detroit, a data analysis think tank. "If you've got an educated work force, you're going to have an employed work force.

You are going to attract businesses; you are going to develop businesses. And unless those people want to live outside the county, that's going to grow the population."

The county's growth was helped by jobs at the University of Michigan, a major research center, and the U-M Hospitals and Health Centers, said Lisa Neidert, a senior research associate at U-M's Population Studies Center.

"These jobs are well-paying jobs in the sectors of the economy that are growing," Neidert said.

Not everyone who works for U-M lives in Ann Arbor, where housing can be a challenge for families, she added.

Census figures show that more than half of the 172,871 people employed in Washtenaw County live outside the county. Neidert pointed to people who travel from Wayne County, Toledo and other regions to work at U-M.

Others, especially families, move to the nearby bedroom

communities of Dexter, Chelsea and Saline, adding to Washtenaw County's natural growth of births exceeding deaths.

Another factor contributing to the county's growth is migration. Although more people left compared with those who moved in from other states, that was offset by those who moved to Washtenaw County from other counties.

Kevin Zalanowski moved to Ann Arbor from Iowa in December.

Zalanowski, 31, landed a job as the assistant director of academic affairs in the U-M School of Public Health. His wife, Sarah, got a job soon after they moved, as an optician at U-M Kellogg Eye Center. The couple are leasing an apartment in Ann Arbor and plan to buy a home this summer.

"We moved here for my job," Zalanowski said, "but we were very fortunate to both find employment very quickly."

kkozowski@detnews.com
(313) 222-2024



Robin Buckson / The Detroit News

Kevin and Sarah Zalanowski recently moved to Ann Arbor after Kevin landed a job as the assistant director of academic affairs in the U-M School of Public Health. Sarah got a job soon after at the U-M Kellogg Eye Center.



John L. Russell / Special to The Detroit News

Brian Beauchamp rides in Traverse City. He moved there from Ann Arbor in 2008, drawn by a new job as well as a thriving community.

State

Continued from Page 1A

which led the state with a 16.4 percent increase to 75,382 residents. One bedroom community, Bath Township, alone gained about 4,000 residents — almost as much as Lansing lost. The capital city's population fell 4,831 to 114,297.

Counties up north grew because residents from throughout the state — and nation — were attracted to their scenic vistas, quality of life and jobs, experts say.

They're folks like Brian Beauchamp, 33. He moved to Traverse City in June 2008, drawn by his new job as well as a thriving community known for vacationers, summer festivals and downtown dining.

"There's a lot going on," said Beauchamp, who relocated from Ann Arbor.

Even so, Traverse City wasn't immune to problems plaguing cities statewide: Its population remained flat at 14,674, as smaller communities surrounding it grew.

In west Michigan, which includes seven counties as well as the Grand Rapids area, the population grew by 6 percent.

Retirees may be driving growth, as well as an agricultural economy that keeps farmers in the area, said Reynolds Farley, a social researcher at the University of Michigan.

Ottawa County expanded by 10.7 percent, recording its fifth decade of double-digit percentage growth.

Al Vanderberg, the county administrator, attributed the growth to sprawl from nearby Grand Rapids, which remains the state's second-largest city even though its population fell 4.9 percent to 188,040.

But the farming boom has

also drawn an eager work force to the rural county, he said. The market value of agricultural production grew by 41 percent between 2002 and 2007 to \$391 million, said Mark Knudsen, the county's director of planning and grants.

"That means jobs," Vanderberg said.

Kalamazoo County grew by 5 percent to 250,331. The promise of paid college tuition, observers said, appears to have fueled some of that growth. Enrollment at Kalamazoo Public Schools grew 22 percent since 2006 to about 12,400 students. In 2006, anonymous donors promised to pay tuition at a Michigan college for all high school graduates in the district. The campaign is called the Kalamazoo Promise.

Collectively, the four communities that send at least some students to the district — the city of Kalamazoo, plus the townships of Kalamazoo, Texas and Oshtemo — grew by 4.6 percent.

A year after the campaign was launched, Allen Edwin Homes, a Portage-based home builder, began building homes for the first time within the district.

To date, it has constructed 225 single-family homes. All of them sold, at an average price of \$140,000, said Jessica Wilcox, a company spokeswoman.

"They have all been purchased," she said.

Meanwhile, the Upper Peninsula, with 15 counties, lost 2 percent of its population.

With the loss of mining jobs, and few expressways to enable commutes to jobs elsewhere, the drop is not surprising, said Farley, the U-M researcher.

"It's a very isolated area," Farley said. "There's been very little to drive growth."

cjun@detnews.com
(313) 222-2019

Drop will bring changes to Detroit's political map

2 districts affected; gains may redraw other area districts

BY KAREN BOUFFARD AND NATHAN HURST
The Detroit News

Lansing — Mirroring the precipitous decline of population in Detroit, two congressional districts that cover part of the city likely will see major adjustments.

Both have fallen far below the average number of people required for a district and in the remapping process will have to be either eliminated or expanded. Michigan is going to lose one congressional seat, anyway, because the state lost population since the 2000 census. States in the south and west will gain seats.

Two other Metro Detroit districts will see changes, as well, since they've grown in population. That puts them over the ideal ratio of voters to representative. Rep. Candice Miller's 10th District has 719,712 residents, and fellow Republican Rep. Mike Rogers' 8th District has 707,572 — the most populous districts in the state — and they might have to be redrawn to bring their numbers down.

Democratic Rep. Hansen Clarke's 13th District has 519,570 residents while John Conyers' 14th District has 550,465, the two least populous in the state. Both cover parts of the state's largest city, which saw its population dive to just under 714,000, according to the census figures.

"If you look at the 13th, its population is almost 200,000 below what it's supposed to be," said state Rep. Pete Lund, R-Shelby Township, chair of the House Redistricting and Elections Committee. "It's going to force that district to look a lot different than it used to be."

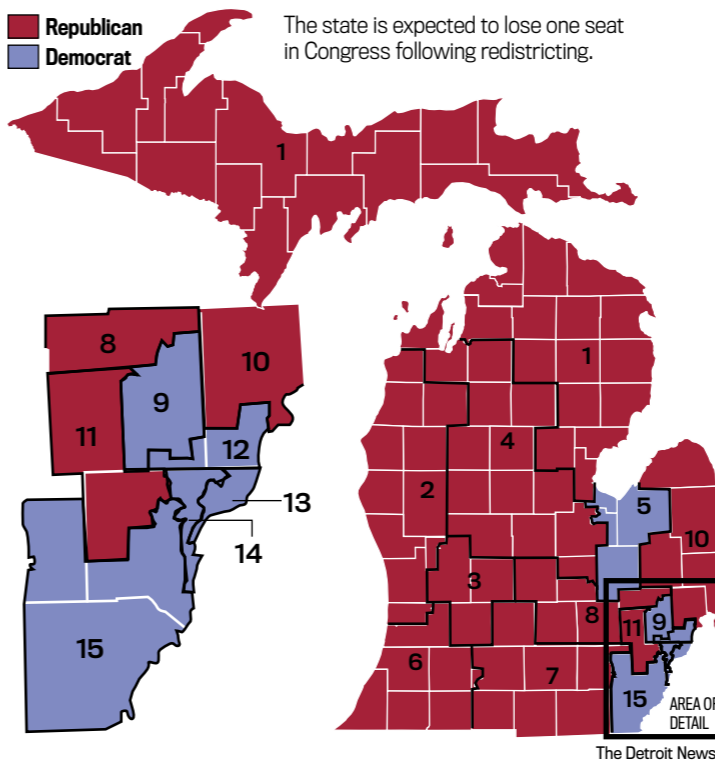
"We're going to have to look at this data and see if it (still) means two minority-majority districts," he said. "We may have to go out into the suburbs if that's where minorities live in order to create another minority-majority district."

Lund noted that District 10, represented by Miller, R-Harrison Township, experienced the largest gain of any district in the state.

"Her district has to shrink," he said. "But we don't know exactly how it will shrink because we don't know how the change in the districts around it will affect it."

Federal standards allow for a deviation in size among congressional districts of plus or minus 5 percent. States have to come up with districts that are racially

Michigan's 15 congressional districts



The Detroit News



John T. Grellick / The Detroit News

Hansen Clarke's 13th District has 519,570 residents, the fewest in Michigan behind...



Manuel Balce Ceneta / Associated Press

...John Conyers' 14th District, with 550,465. Neither meet district population requirements.

representative, but can't make racial demographics the predominant reason for shaping a district. Other considerations include Voting Rights Act rules that prevent race-based gerrymandering among other prohibitions.

The greatest challenge, lawmakers say, will be meeting the detailed set of requirements set down in state and federal law — when a change in one district can affect the shape of every district adjoining it.

Within that framework, the party in power may shift boundaries to split off blocks of voters, or establish new districts to weaken support for incumbent opponents. But partisan gamesmanship can land the whole plan in

court — not a desired outcome, according to Lund.

The redistricting plan must be passed by the House and Senate, and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder, to become law. It has to be completed by Nov. 1.

The Republican majorities in the state House and Senate will be in charge of drawing new maps for congressional and state legislative districts — just as they were following the 2000 census — with Democrats hoping the process doesn't leave them vulnerable until the 2020 census.

When it comes to the intricacies of redrawing political maps, there's plenty of room to maneuver, according to Michael MacDonald, associate professor of gov-

ernment and politics at George Mason University and an expert on redistricting.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that gerrymandering, or deliberately manipulating districts to affect political power, is illegal. But every change in the shape of a district has political impact, intentional or not, and the court has never established standards for determining exactly when the legal line is crossed, MacDonald said.

"The rules themselves may not be neutral," he said. "I'll bet you if you ask the Democrats if those are fair rules, they're going to say they're not."

"I doubt if the Republicans will do something that would jeopardize their control of the state Legislature through redistricting."

Besides losing a congressional seat, some Michiganian voters also will find themselves with a new representative or senator in the Legislature in the next election as boundaries are adjusted to account for population shifts throughout the state.

The congressional redistricting could force two incumbents to face each other in a primary next year, either Clarke and Conyers, or Rep. Sander Levin, D-Royal Oak, and Rep. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, or Conyers and Rep. John Dingell, D-Dearborn.

EPIC-MRA pollster and political analyst Bernie Porn said short of any established Democrat bowing out early, "a big, expensive primary," is almost a given.

Most states give their legislatures control over the redistricting process, to one degree or another. But critics often oppose allowing self-interested legislators draw the lines of the districts where they run for office. But 23 states have commissions that either run the entire redistricting process, work with the Legislature and governor or act in an advisory role.

Senate Democrats announced Monday they will introduce legislation this week to create an independent commission that would lead the state's redistricting process and ensure that the public has a voice in it.

"District maps should not be drawn up behind closed doors and finalized before voters ever see them," Sen. Vincent Gregory, D-Southfield, said in a press release. "This plan makes the redistricting process more transparent for our citizens and guarantees them an opportunity to be involved and voice their concerns."

kbouffard@detnews.com
(517) 371-3660

Census online

- Explore a database showing deep population information for any Michigan city, county, school district or congressional district.
 - Watch video of Detroit Mayor Dave Bing's comments.
 - Browse a photo gallery of the 12 largest cities in Michigan.
- Go to detnews.com/census.