State of the Detroit Child
2012 Report

Contents

Introduction 1
Demographic Overview 2
Family Economic Security 7
Early Childhood Development 11
K - 12 Education 15
Health & Safety 23
Considerations 30
At the Skillman Foundation, we live by the mantra “Kids Matter Here.” Our mission is to improve the well-being for the highest number of kids in Detroit we can reach and in the most impactful ways. To do that, we place tremendous value on having reliable, timely data to inform our decisions and drive our changemaking efforts. We can’t make the best decisions if we don’t know where kids are, what demographic shifts are underway, what populations are growing or falling, what the greatest needs are and what trends are emerging that should inform our thinking.

We commissioned Data Driven Detroit, or D3, as it is commonly known, to create the State of the Detroit Child Report, an annual comprehensive data view of Detroit children from birth to age 18. This report is as much about today’s child as it is about how well Detroit’s children will be prepared to navigate the Detroit of the future. Children can only thrive physically, emotionally and academically when parents, extended families, communities, and schools provide the complex network of supports they need. The 2012 State of the Detroit Child report is designed to provide baseline information for policy-makers, educators, child advocates, and community stakeholders to guide current benchmarking and future decision-making.

Targeted investment in Detroit kids today is necessary so they can be productive citizens and active participants in the city’s turnaround. D3 has once again created an excellent tool for us to glean valuable information about the state of our city’s youth. We rely on this report, and we think others invested in the city’s future should, too.

Carol Goss
The Skillman Foundation
Demographic Overview

State of the Detroit Child

Detroit Children by Age Group as a Percent of Total Child Population, 2000 to 2010
Source: US Census Bureau, SF1, 2000 and 2010 (QT-P2, P12)

Change & Percent Change by Age in Total Detroit Children, 2000 to 2010
Source: US Census Bureau, SF1, 2000 and 2010 (QT-P2, P12)

Detroit Child Population by Race and Ethnicity in 2010
Source: US Census Bureau, SF1, 2010 (P12H-O)

Living Arrangements for Detroit Children, 2000 to 2010
Source: US Census Bureau, SF1, 2000 and 2010 (P19, P20)

Percent of Detroit Households with One or More Children, 2000 to 2010
Source: US Census Bureau SF1, 2000 and 2010 (DP1, P19)

Percent of Detroit Families with Related Children, 2000 to 2010
Source: US Census Bureau SF1, 2000 and 2010 (QT-P11, QT-P10)

Distribution of Detroit Male Youth by Age & Race in 2010
Source: US Census Bureau, SF1, 2010 (P12H-O)
While the total population of Detroit fell by 25 percent over the decade, the population under 18 years of age fell by 35.6 percent. Births in Detroit decreased by 16 percent between 2006 and 2010; the larger outflow of older children resulted in an increase in the share of children represented by those 0-4 years of age. In other words, while children are making up less of the population as a whole, those children who are in Detroit tend to be younger.

The youngest school-age cohort, 5-9 years, experienced the greatest decrease at 47.2 percent, due to the overall population shift and parents who looked to the suburbs for new residences and education options.

Educational alternatives and public safety concerns lead families to move out of the city and contributed to the 36.8 percent decrease for 10-14 year olds.

The relatively small decrease in 15-17 year olds resulted from the aging forward of larger birth cohorts in the early 1980s and a reduced tendency for families of high school-age children to move out of the city.
In 2010, the share of African American children in Detroit mirrored the share of African Americans in the total population. The share for Latino children was higher, while that of white, non-Hispanics was proportionately lower.

The out-migration of African American families with younger school-age children resulted in decreasing shares with decreasing age. The 10-14 year cohort was larger than either of the two that follow.

Though not shown in the above graph, it is interesting to note that the largest share of 15-17 year olds across racial and ethnic groups was African Americans at 86.6%. This dropped to just 78.3 percent for those 0-4 years.

Latinos' overall younger age structure is clearly illustrated by their increasing share of children in younger age groups. In 2010, one third of Latino children were less than 5 years of age.

The white, non-Hispanic population, representing a broad range of ethnicities, including Arab Americans, showed a similar, though less extreme, pattern as that of Latinos.

The Other category represents a grouping that includes Asians, Native Americans, multi-race responders, and a variety of residents who felt unrepresented by standard Census categories.
Living Arrangements for Children

Overall, family households decreased by 25.4 percent over the decade and represent 3 out of 5 households in 2010 (60.5%). Households with children, including families and non-families, decreased by 33.7 percent in real numbers over the decade, while their percent as a share of the population decreased by 17.2 percent.

Married couples with children decreased by 16.2 percent between 2000 and 2010. With respect to living arrangements, married couple families represent just 28.9 percent of all households with children.

Children increasingly live in single parent family households. In 2010, nearly 3 out of 5 households with children (59.3 percent) were headed by a single female, up from 55.5 percent in 2000. Single male households with children increased from 8.8 to 10.8 percent of the total.
Because the vast majority of Detroit’s male youth population is comprised of boys and young men of color, it is important to highlight this demographic group. As will be seen in later sections of the report, African American and Latino young men are at a higher risk for a variety of negative educational and health outcomes.

Though not included in the above charts, the number of males dropped in every age group under 18 years between 2000 and 2010. Additionally, the share of total males represented by each group dropped for all but 15 to 17 year olds.

In 2010, over 90 percent of the total male youth population in the city of Detroit was comprised of African American and Latino boys and young men.
Detroit Food Assistance Program Participation, 2007 to 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2007-2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (DP03)

Detroit Children Living Below the Poverty Line in 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (B17001, S1701)

Change & Percent Change for Median Household & Family Income in Detroit, 1999 to 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3 (DP3) and 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (DP03)

Detroit Families in Poverty by Educational Attainment in 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (B17018)

Unemployment Rates for Detroit & Michigan, 1990 to 2011
Source: Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth, Labor Market Information, Data Explorer, Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Work Status in the Past 12 Months
Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (S2303)

Change in Median Monthly Housing Costs in Detroit, 2000 to 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Census, SF3 (DP4) and 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (B25064)

Detroit Households Spending 30% or More of their Income on Housing in 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (B25064)

Owner-Occupied Housing Rate in Detroit, 1990 to 2010
Source: US Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, and 2010 Census (DP1)

Vehicle Availability for Detroit Households in 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (B08201)
When adjusted to 2011 dollars, median household income in Detroit decreased by more than a third (36.8 percent) between 1999 and 2011. Half of all Detroit households had an annual income in 2011 of less than $25,000. Families, while losing a little less buying power than households, experienced a 33.2 percent decrease.

While the economic downturn was felt across the state, with large decreases in all areas, median household income in 2011 for the state was 1.8 times that of Detroit at $45,981 and the state’s median family income was 1.9 times higher at $56,068.

The percent of children and youth in poverty increased from 34.8 percent in 1999 to 57.3 percent in 2011. As shown above, the youngest children, 5 years and younger, had the highest rate of poverty - 62.7 percent. The poverty rate for children was driven by the high poverty rates of single parent, female-headed, families. While the poverty rate for married couple families with children was 29.7 percent in 2011, that for single parent, female-headed, families was 59.1 percent.
As shown in the chart above, Detroit’s unemployment rate has consistently been twice that of the state average since 2001. It began rising after 2000 and reached a high of 24.9 percent in 2009. Additionally, the city’s unemployment rate during the last decade has run well over twice that of the six-county Detroit metropolitan area.

Detroit’s high unemployment rate was further compounded by the fact that it had the highest percentage of working age people not participating in the labor force of any major city in the country.

Almost half (49.1%) of Detroiter’s between 16 and 64 years of age reported not working during 2010-2011. Only 27 percent of the working age population reported working full-time during the period (50-52 weeks and 35 hours of more per week).

The importance of education to the economic outcomes for families is very clear - income increases and poverty decreases as education increases. Of all family household types living below the poverty level, those with householders in possession of a bachelor’s degree or higher experienced dramatically lower poverty rates.

The poverty rate for married couple families tracked consistently at half or less that of single parent families. Married couple families had the lowest poverty rates across all educational attainment levels. Their lower poverty rates were due to the fact that they are more likely to have more than one earner in the household.

The highest poverty rates among family households were found among those headed by single females who lack advanced degrees. The poverty rate for single parent, female-headed, families, which was 46.4 percent overall, dropped to only 14.1 percent when the householder had at least a bachelor’s degree.

The chart below shows the family poverty rate by educational attainment for 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment</th>
<th>Married Couple</th>
<th>Single Male</th>
<th>Single Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school graduate</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td>60.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate (includes equivalency)</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, associate’s degree</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of Detroit’s families whose income in the past 12 months was below the poverty level.

As shown in the chart above, Detroit’s rate was twice that of the state average. It began rising after 2000 and reached a high of 24.9 percent in 2009. Additionally, the city’s unemployment rate during the last decade has run well over twice that of the six-county Detroit metropolitan area.

Almost half (49.1%) of Detroiter’s between 16 and 64 years of age reported not working during 2010-2011. Only 27 percent of the working age population reported working full-time during the period (50-52 weeks and 35 hours of more per week).
Median selected monthly housing costs, which include taxes, insurance, and some utilities, for homeowners with a mortgage increased 5.4 percent from 1999 to 2011. Median monthly rent also rose from $656 in 1999 to $741 in 2011, a 13.0 percent increase.

Housing affordability is defined as a household spending less than 30 percent of its annual income on housing. In 2011, 69.3 percent of renters in Detroit lived in housing that was unaffordable. Stagnant or decreasing wages, coupled with the increase in monthly housing costs, lead to over a half (52.0 percent) of homeowners with a mortgage in unaffordable housing situations in 2011.

Homeowners without a mortgage (those that are “free and clear” of debt) saw their housing costs rise 20.2 percent between 1999 and 2011. Many of these homeowners may be retirees who have paid off their mortgage and live on a fixed income, causing them to be affected by any increase in tax, utility, or insurance rates. This could explain why nearly one third of Detroit homeowners without a mortgage were living in unaffordable housing in 2011.

Owner-Occupied Housing

Detroit has experienced a great deal of change in its homeownership rate over the past two decades, a trend that has mirrored the city’s economic fortunes and been greatly affected by the foreclosure crisis beginning in 2007. The gains of the 1990s were more than eliminated during the last decade. In 2010, 51 percent of all Detroit households lived in owner-occupied housing, while only 45 percent of households with children did.

Vehicle Availability for Households in 2011

Nearly one in four Detroit households has no access to a vehicle. Those households with vehicles are subject to pay some of the highest insurance rates in the country, resulting in high rates of uninsured drivers.
Detroit Births by Mother's Marital Status, 2008 to 2010
Source: D3 analysis of Michigan Dept. of Community Health 2008, 2009, and 2010 Birth Files

Detroit Births by Mother's Education Level, 2008 to 2010
Source: D3 analysis of Michigan Dept. of Community Health 2008, 2009, and 2010 Birth Files

Detroit Births & Births Rate by Age of Mother, 2008 to 2010
Source: D3 analysis of Michigan Dept. of Community Health 2008, 2009, and 2010 Birth Files

Change in Number of Births for Detroit & Wayne County, 1990 to 2010
Source: Michigan Dept. of Community Health, Natality and Pregnancy Tables

Change in Low Birthweight in Detroit, 2000 to 2010
Source: D3 analysis of Michigan Dept. of Community Health 2008, 2009, and 2010 Birth Files

Number and Type of Child Care Facilities in Detroit in 2012
Source: D3 analysis of Michigan Dept. of Human Services 2012 child care licensing data
Births to unmarried women have remained steady at just under 4 of every 5 Detroit births (79.0%). This figure is in line with the increase in the percentage of children living with a single female householder and a decline in married couple households. Births to unmarried women at the state level have been increasing steadily and stand at 41.3% in 2010. Between 2008 and 2010, the total number of births in Detroit to both unmarried and married mothers actually decreased by 4.6 percent and 11.9 percent, respectively.

While demonstrating a slight decrease over time in total number of births (9.2 percent), over one-third of new mothers in Detroit had not graduated from high school or received a GED. The majority of births were to women who did not have any post-high school education. The trend of young mothers giving birth and not seeking post secondary education is continuing high rates of single parent households living in poverty.

Detroit has mirrored a national trend of a decreasing number and rate of births attributable to teens. The total number of single live births to teenage mothers dropped by 9.2 percent between 2008 and 2010. However, teen mothers still accounted for one of every five Detroit births. Interestingly, only women in their forties witnessed an increase (5.9 percent) in total births. Women in their twenties continued to have the largest share of single live births.

A birth rate is the average number of a type of birth per 1,000 live births. Here we are looking at the birth rate by age of the mother for Detroit. In comparison, the national rate for teen births was 34.2 in 2010. The state of Michigan ranked 33rd among states with a rate of 30.1. Michigan’s rate decreased by 13 percent between 2007 and 2010, while the national rate fell by 17 percent.
The number of Detroit births steadily decreased since 1990, falling by more than half (-54.5%) by 2010. This can be explained, at least in part, by Detroit’s population loss during the past 20 years. Additional factors contributing to the decrease have been the general aging of the population, accelerated by young families migrating out, and the downward trend in births to teenagers.

Detroit’s decrease in the total number of births has mirrored the state of Michigan’s declining birth totals over the same time-span. Though not as pronounced as Detroit’s population loss, the state of Michigan also experienced a rather stagnant total population, which actually decreased since 2005. This loss was driven by large numbers of outmigrants, many of whom are younger women in their childbearing years. The result is a state that has been aging faster than most states in the nation.
Birthweight is a strong indicator not only of a birth mother’s health and nutritional status, but also a newborn’s chances for survival, growth, long-term health and psychosocial development. Children born underweight (less than 2,500 grams or 5 pounds 2 ounces) tend to have cognitive disabilities and lower IQs, affecting their performance in school and their job opportunities as adults. Low birthweight is also a major predictor of infant mortality.

There exist perplexing racial disparities in birthweight and infant survival. Across the U.S., rates of low birthweight and preterm delivery have been higher among African American women than among whites for many years. African American babies are twice as likely to have a low birthweight, as well as twice as likely to die in the first year as compared to white babies.

Despite considerable research over the last 20 years, the reasons for these differences remain obscure. However puzzling, the numbers reveal that there exists a real vulnerability of African American women to preterm labor and delivery.

Detroit’s rate of 134 low birthweight babies per 1,000 births was 1.6 times that of the remainder of the county. Detroit’s rate has remained steady while the county’s has increased.
# K - 12 Education

## State of the Detroit Child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detroit Student Enrollment by School Governance, 1999 to 2011</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top Suburban School Districts Losing Students to Detroit Schools in 2011</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban Student Enrollment in Detroit Schools by Grade and School Type in 2011</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Detroit Students Scoring Proficient on the MEAP exam, 2007 to 2011</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit Students Scoring Partially Proficient on the MEAP exam, 2008 to 2011</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Results from the Detroit 5Essentials Survey in 2012</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduation Rates of Detroit Students Compared to ACT Scores &amp; College Enrollment, 2007 to 2012</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation Rates for Selected Groups of Detroit Students, 2007 to 2011</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Safety Indicators from a Survey of DPS Students, 1999 to 2011</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detroit Students Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch, 1995 to 2011</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source details:
- Detroit Student Enrollment by School Governance: D3 analysis of headcount, Non-Resident student, and Educational Entity Master Data from CEPI
- Top Suburban School Districts Losing Students to Detroit Schools in 2011: CEPI, Non-Resident by District 2011-12 file, by special request in Summer 2012
- Suburban Student Enrollment in Detroit Schools by Grade and School Type in 2011: CEPI, Non-Resident by District 2011-12 file, by special request in Summer 2012
- Percent of Detroit Students Scoring Proficient on the MEAP exam, 2007 to 2011: Michigan Department of Education, MEAP Downloadable Data Files, Fall 2007-2011 MEAP
- Detroit Students Scoring Partially Proficient on the MEAP exam, 2008 to 2011: Michigan Department of Education, MEAP Downloadable Data Files, Fall 2007-2011 MEAP
- Combined Results from the Detroit 5Essentials Survey in 2012: University of Chicago Urban Education Institute’s UChicago Impact
- Graduation Rates for Selected Groups of Detroit Students: CEPI, Michigan Cohort Graduation and Dropout Reports, 2007-2011 Cohort Four-Year
- School Safety Indicators from a Survey of DPS Students: Results from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s online Youth Risk Behavior Survey (1999-2011) administered to high school students in Detroit
- Detroit Students Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch: CEPI, Free and Reduced Lunch Counts, Building, Fall 1995 - Fall 2011
Detroit Student Enrollment by School Governance

Looking at the most recent enrollment data compared to previous data shows dramatic changes in where Detroit students go to school. Over this time period, the number of private schools fell from 83 to 24, Detroit Public Schools (DPS) schools fell from 267 to 131, and Detroit charter schools increased from 26 to 74. Our analysis includes only those legal school entities for which Michigan assigns a building code, not the number of physical school buildings.

In little more than a decade, DPS enrollment fell from 80.4 percent to 45.7 percent of all Detroit K-12 students. Students in the DPS self-governing schools and in the DPS charter schools open during the 2011-2012 school year were included in this count, while Education Achievement Authority (EAA) students were excluded.

The first charter schools in Michigan opened in fall 1995, following voters’ passage of Proposal A the previous fall. After compiling the most recent data, 2 out of 5 Detroit school-aged children attended charter schools. These students were spread across Detroit, including DPS-and EAA-run charter schools, as well as suburban charter schools.

Detroit’s precipitous population decline over the last decade contributed to the drop in DPS enrollment. Between 2000 and 2010, Detroit lost nearly half of its 5-9 year olds. Many families of school-aged children moved to inner-ring suburbs.

Detroit students can also attend suburban schools without relocating outside the city limits. Michigan’s inter-district school choice policy (a.k.a. open enrollment or schools of choice), first implemented in 1996-1997, allows traditional public school districts to enroll non-resident students if they have both the space and willingness to do so. Nearly 8 percent of Detroit resident K-12 students attended school in suburban traditional public school districts in 2011-2012.

See “Considerations” on page 30 for more detailed information about this data.
Suburban Students in Detroit Schools by Grade in 2011

The number of grade K-8 students coming into the city for school was relatively consistent by grade. However, the number of grade 9-12 students coming into the city for school declined steadily by grade.

Not all students who go to school in Detroit live in Detroit. Among all students coming into the city for school in 2011, 22.6% lived in Hamtramck, 9.1% lived in Highland Park, and 8.6% lived in Southfield. No other school district claims more than 5% of these non-resident students. There are a handful of other districts with more than 100 students leaving for Detroit schools: Redford Union, Oak Park, Warren Consolidated, East Detroit, River Rouge, Dearborn, and Harper Woods.

Top 10 Suburban School Districts Losing Students to Detroit Schools in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suburban School District</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harper Woods - City School District</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dearborn City School District</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Rouge - City School District</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Detroit Public Schools</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Consolidated Schools</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Park - City School District</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redford Union Schools, District No. 1</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southfield Public School District</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland Park City Schools</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamtramck - City School District</td>
<td>1,005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent of students enrolled in Detroit schools who live in the suburbs in 2011: 3.3%

Suburban Students in Detroit Schools by School Type in 2011

In 2011, 4,443 students living outside the city attended school in Detroit; 7 in 10 attended Detroit charter schools, nearly 3 in 10 attended DPS, and a handful attended private schools. 2 of 5 students who live outside the city and attend DPS traveled from a school district outside Wayne County.
In fall 2011, the Michigan Department of Education announced new, more rigorous scoring criteria for MEAP and MME performance levels. There are 4 performance levels: advanced, proficient, partially proficient, and not proficient. The state uses proficient and met/exceeded expectations interchangeably. Applying these new scoring criteria retroactively, the percent of Detroit students scoring proficient on the 3rd grade reading and 8th grade math MEAP has barely budged over the last 5 years. The jump in 2009 3rd grade reading scores appeared in reading scores across grades and was likely an artifact of that year's test.

Many students who have not yet reached proficiency may still be improving their test scores. Examining the raw scores students receive (as opposed to the number of students scoring at given levels) provides insight into the performance of all students, not just proficient students. For example, if a school is leaving behind the lowest performing students to focus on pushing a few students into proficient, the average of these raw scores will be lowered but the number proficient may actually increase. Alternatively, if a school's lowest performing students are scoring higher, the average scores will be raised but the number proficient will not change.

Looking at Detroit students' average scores on the MEAP shows scores have steadily, if slowly, improved over time. The scoring scales vary by subject and grade but they all range over several hundred points. Detroit students averaged gains between 2007 and 2011 ranged from 1.75 points to 19.72 points. Only 5th grade science students scored lower, on average, in 2011 than 2007.
Partial proficiency, along with average MEAP scores, is a leading indicator of whether students’ performance is improving. Students scoring at least partially proficient include those scoring at performance levels 1 (advanced), 2 (proficient), and 3 (partially proficient).

The number of Detroit students at least partially proficient in reading has been trending slightly up over time, while the number partially proficient in math has largely stayed stagnant. However, the number of 3rd graders partially proficient in math has declined slightly since 2007 suggesting that as students grow older the number of 4th-8th graders partially proficient in math might also drop.

The main barrier to both literate and numerate Detroit students is math. The MEAP math scores of Detroit students are consistently lower than MEAP reading scores across all grades. This disparity between subjects is apparent across tests—from the MEAP to the MME to the ACT to the NAEP.

The Combined Results from the 5Essentials Survey in 2012

Using nearly 20 years of survey data from Chicago teachers and students, researchers identified “5Essentials” of high-performing schools: effective leaders, collaborative teachers, involved families, supportive environment, ambitious instruction. Schools strong on 3 of the 5Essentials are 10 times as likely to improve their students’ test scores as schools weak on 3 of the 5Essentials.

As a whole, Detroit was neutral on all 5Essentials, compared to Chicago Public Schools. However, the Detroit “Involved Families” Essential score was just over the cut-off for weak.

Additionally, half of Detroit schools were not yet organized or well organized for improvement. 62 Detroit schools were ranked in the bottom 5 percent of schools statewide, some showed signs of improvement. Out of the 62 schools, 45 received a 5Essentials overall score: 4 were moderately organized, 4 were organized, and 5 were well organized for improvement.

See “Considerations” on page 30 for more detailed information about this data.
In spring 2007, all Michigan 11th graders began taking the ACT as part of the Michigan Merit Exam administration. The ACT followed its high school test-takers into college and found that students scoring a 21 on the ACT were college ready. College ready is defined as a 75 percent chance of a C or higher and a 50 percent chance of a B or higher in introductory college courses. Students are college ready in specific subjects if they score 18 on English, 22 on reading, 21 on math, or 24 on science.

In spring 2012, 1.6 percent of Detroit 11th graders—just 80 students—scored a college-ready 21 or higher on the ACT. On average, Detroit students score in the 13s, 14s, 15s, and 16s out of 36 on ACT subject tests.

Despite their low levels of college preparedness, many Detroit ninth graders graduate from high school and enroll in an institution of higher education, a term used to describe 2- and 4-year, public and private colleges and universities.

However, only 3 in 10 of these Detroit ninth graders finished a year’s worth of credits at an institution of higher education. Detroit students’ high school graduation rates and ACT scores have barely budged over the last 5 years, suggesting Detroit students will continue to struggle to obtain a post-secondary degree.

The state of Michigan recently began matching its high school students to their college enrollment records in the National Student Clearinghouse database. Spurred by the 2009 American Reinvestment and Recovery Act’s requirements for receiving education funds, and assisted by researchers in the Michigan Consortium for Education Research, the state released its first reports on college enrollment, persistence, and remedial coursework in summer 2011.

In 2009, 67.2% of Detroit high school seniors graduate.

68.3% of Detroit high school graduates enroll in post-secondary education.

58.3% of Detroit high school graduates enrolled in post-secondary education complete at least 1 year’s worth of credits.
K - 12 Education

Graduation Rates for Selected Student Groups:

In 2007, Michigan began using a cohort method to calculate graduation rates. The U.S. Department of Education recently announced all states have moved to this cohort method. The cohort method tracks individual students who enter 9th grade and determines whether they are “on-track” to graduate on time (in four years), “off-track” but still in school intending to graduate, or have dropped out of the cohort. The cohort four-year graduation rate incorporates three kinds of students likely to be left out in other methods: students who transfer between public schools anywhere in Michigan, students who leave school (permanently and temporarily), and students who graduate later than their original classmates. The data presented here are four-year (on-time) graduation rates.

Hispanic students narrowed their graduation rate gap with Detroit students from other races/ethnicities between 2007 and 2011.

Students with disabilities graduate at consistently lower rates than other students facing specific learning challenges. Students with limited English proficiency had higher graduation rates than all Detroit students in 2010 and 2011, and economically disadvantaged students outperform all students in 2011.

Female students consistently graduate at higher rates than their male counterparts. The large gap between male and female graduation rates narrowed between 2007 and 2010 before widening again last year.

See “Considerations” on page 30 for more detailed information about this data.
School Safety Indicators from a Survey of DPS Students

The biennial Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) is a national school-based survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in cooperation with state, territorial, and local education and health agencies and tribal governments. It provides a wealth of data on health risk behaviors for 9th through 12th grade students at the national, state, and district level. For the city of Detroit, a sample of Detroit Public School students completed the in-depth and methodologically sound survey instrument.

In response to questions concerning school safety, DPS high schoolers noted a decline in instances where they were involved in a fight, were threatened or injured, or carried a weapon to school. The sale of illegal drugs and a general feeling of a lack of safety when traveling to and from school increased between 2009 and 2011. 36.6 percent of student respondents were offered, sold, or given illegal drugs by someone on school property.

Students Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch Grades K - 12

Students in families at 135% of the poverty line qualify for free lunch; families at 185% of the poverty line qualify for reduced-price lunch. The share of Detroit students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch has never dipped below 60% and has risen steadily since the start of the recession in 2007 to a high of 82.5% today.

Recognizing this fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture made Detroit Public Schools a pilot district in fall 2011 for a program to provide all students, not just those who qualify, with free meals.

Prior to 2006, the Michigan Department of Education calculated free and reduced-price lunch data. It is not clear which groups of students (adult education, early childhood education, K-12 etc.) are included in those pre-2006 MDE data. However, from 2006 forward, CEPI separates free and reduced-price lunch data by student type; here, K-12 student data are included.
Infant Mortality for Detroit, Wayne County & Michigan:
Infant Deaths per 1,000 Live Births, 1990 to 2010
Source: Michigan Dept. of Community Health, Infant Mortality Tables

Detroit Births by Quality of Prenatal Care, Preterm Births and Mothers who Smoke, 2008 to 2010
Source: D3 analysis of Michigan Dept. of Community Health 2008, 2009, and 2010 Birthfiles

Percent of Detroit Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels, by Age, 2000 to 2010
Source: Michigan Department of Community Health Data Warehouse, Lead Specimen table, 2000-2010

Detroit Health Insurance Coverage by Age and Sex in 2011
Source: US Census Bureau, 2011 ACS, 1-year estimates (B27001)

Tobacco, Alcohol & Drug Use Among DPS Students, 1999 to 2011
Source: Results from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s online Youth Risk Behavior Survey (1999-2011) administered to high school students in Detroit

Youth Homicides in Detroit, 2008 to 2010
Source: D3 analysis of 2008, 2009, 2010 Death Files from Michigan Dept. of Community Health

Physical Activity & Eating Habits of DPS Students, 1999 to 2011
Source: Results from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s online Youth Risk Behavior Survey (1999-2011) administered to high school students in Detroit

Sexual Activity of DPS Students, 1999 to 2011
Source: Results from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s online Youth Risk Behavior Survey (1999-2011) administered to high school students in Detroit
While the infant death rate in Detroit has fallen by 28 percent since 1990, there has been little change since 1995, holding around 15 deaths per 1,000 births. Detroit’s rate also remains double that of the rest of Wayne County and the state.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation tracks a host of child related indicators across states and major cities as part of its national Kids Count program. Reported statistics for 2009 (their most recent year available) ranked Detroit 48th out of 49 major cities for infant mortality. Its rate of 14.8 was exceeded only by Memphis, TN at 14.9.

Digging a little deeper, a mother’s race plays a major role in infant mortality rates. In Detroit, Wayne County, and the state of Michigan, infant mortality occurs less often among white, non-Hispanic mothers. Infant mortality among African Americans living in Detroit and the state has declined, yet the rate for those living in Wayne County increased sharply between 2009 and 2010. This is repetitious of spikes seen in 1993 and 1994, as well as 1999-2000 and 2001-2. Detroit’s and the state of Michigan’s African American populations have not experienced such variations. In comparison, the African American infant mortality rate in Wayne County is almost 3 times that of white, non-Hispanics.
The percent of mothers in Detroit who received adequate prenatal care, increased by 11.5 percent between 2008 and 2010 according to the Kessner Index, a method of categorizing adequacy of prenatal care, based on month of pregnancy care started, number of visits, and length of gestation. Additionally, the numeric change saw an 8.7 percent overall increase.

Though the percent of mothers who received inadequate or intermediate care decreased between 2008 and 2010 (-11.3 percent and -2.8 percent, respectively), nearly half of all mothers in Detroit did not get adequate prenatal care in 2010 (46.2 percent). The respective numeric change percentages are included above.

The percent of births in Detroit described as preterm (less than 37 weeks of gestation) have remained fairly consistent at between 12 and 13 percent of the total. To contrast, the 2010 statewide average was 9.8 percent.

The percent of new mothers in Detroit who have smoked at any time during pregnancy is decreasing and is 4 percentage points below the state average - 16.4 and 20.8 percent, respectively.

Breaking it down further, white mothers reported smoking at the highest rate (22.6%), followed by African Americans (17.6%), Latinos (12.5%) and Asians (3.8%).
Long-term exposure to lead, a naturally occurring metal used in everything from construction materials to batteries, can cause serious health problems, particularly in young kids. Lead is toxic to everyone, but unborn babies and young children are at greatest risk for health problems from lead poisoning - their smaller, growing bodies make them more susceptible to absorbing and retaining lead.

Unsafe levels of lead in the blood can lead to a wide range of symptoms, from headaches and stomach pain to behavioral problems and anemia. Lead can also affect a child’s developing brain, leading to learning difficulties and failure in school.

The percent of children with elevated blood lead levels continued to trend downward in 2010 for all age groups (2.3 percent for all children 0 to 15 years old). The number of children tested over the last decade remained relatively constant, implying that the declines in lead-poisoned children are real.

See "Considerations” on page 30 for more detailed information about this data.

Access to health insurance continued to be a problem in Detroit in 2011, with 19.6 percent of the total population lacking coverage.

The overall percentage of uninsured males (23.3 percent) was higher than that of females (16.2 percent). Additionally, males had higher rates of no coverage than females in each age category except 65-74 year olds.

The age group in greatest need of healthcare coverage was 25 to 34 year old males. Nearly half (49.5 percent) of Detroit’s young men reported living without insurance, more than double the percentage of their female counterparts (23.7 percent). Uninsured rates for young and middle-aged men in three other age categories (18 to 24 years, 35 to 44 years, and 45 to 54 years) exceeded 30 percent in 2011.
Between 2009 and 2011, students who have used marijuana jumped from 36.4 percent to almost half of all student respondents. In 2011, the percent of students who used marijuana (47.9 percent) at least once nearly equaled that of students who had tried smoking cigarettes (48.6 percent).

Alcohol, drug, and tobacco use before the age of 13 has steadily declined among DPS high school students between 1999 and 2011.

Between 2008 and 2010, the youth homicide rate fluctuated, but saw an overall decrease of 4.5 percent. Youth who are murdered are significantly more likely to be older, with the 15-19 years age group comprising the bulk of cases.

The vast majority of Detroit homicides involve firearms. Guns and gun violence continue to be the prevalent issue in the city. In 2010, firearms were the underlying cause of 313 deaths in the city of Detroit. An overwhelming majority of those deaths (82.7 percent) were classified as assaultive homicides.

Whether accidental, assaultive, or due to intentional self-harm, 46 young Detroiters (0 to 19 years old) died because of firearms in 2010.

Between 2008 and 2010, a total of 167 people under the age of 20 died as a result of gun violence. 13.7 percent of all firearm-related deaths in 2010 were classified as instances of intentional self-harm or suicide.
Physical fitness continues to be an issue for Detroit youth. Though an increasing number of students attended physical education classes, the percentage of DPS high school students who are overweight increased slightly over the last decade (with a high of 22.7 percent).

The percent of students who watched television for more than 3 hours has declined since 2005 (with a low of 44.4 percent in 2011). However, as children increasingly turn to computers and other mobile media platforms for entertainment, the decline in television viewership rates is to be expected and does not translate to more time exercising, reading, or other healthier pursuits.

The weekly diets of DPS high schoolers have improved in the last ten years. Students reported eating more fruits and vegetables in 2011 than in previous years. Even with this improvement in healthy eating habits, over 20 percent of students had not eaten fruits or vegetables within a week of taking the survey.

The importance of healthy eating habits is well understood by the DPS Office of School Nutrition, which has initiated the Farm to School program, currently offered at every school. Each month local farmers are identified to deliver fresh fruits and/or vegetables to each school in an effort to support Michigan-based farmers and increase student exposure to fresh foods.

In addition, the program delivers educational opportunities in the cafeteria, classroom visits by local farmers, and school garden opportunities.
In 2011, 59.8 percent of DPS high school students surveyed by the CDC reported having sexual intercourse at least once. 35.2 percent of these same students did not practice safe sex, an increase from the previous survey year.

The instances of youth having multiple partners or having sexual intercourse before the age of 13 have declined. Additionally, students who had not received AIDS or HIV education did not climb above 20 percent between 1999 and 2011.

The Michigan Department of Community Health provides the following data on sexually transmitted diseases among high school-age (15 to 19 years) children in Detroit.

Chlamydia – The 15-19 years age group accounted for 44.4 percent of all chlamydia cases in Detroit. The total number of cases (8,567) represented 44.1 percent of the state’s total in that cohort.

Gonorrhea - The 15-19 years age group accounted for 37.0 percent of all gonorrhea cases in Detroit. The total number of cases (2,570) represented 60.5 percent of the state’s total in that cohort.
The University of Chicago Consortium on School Research expanded its 5Essentials survey to other U.S. cities during the 2011-2012 school year. 6th -12th grade students and teachers in 183 Detroit schools and 6 suburban schools were surveyed during spring 2012. Those schools with more than 50 percent of teachers or students responding received an overall score on a scale of very weak (not organized) to very strong (well organized).

Michigan reports two kinds of graduation rates: district rates and building rates. Students who show up for two or more count days during their high school career are included in a school’s building graduation rate. Students who show up for one or more count days during their high school career are included in a school district’s district graduation rate.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) reports data by demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of students. In order to protect a student’s privacy, the state does not report performance data for groups with fewer than 10 students. Thus the graduation rate for all students built from this “subgroup” dataset is slightly different than the graduation rate built from the school-level graduation dataset.

The MDE constructs its own measures of economic disadvantage (mostly from free and reduced price lunch data), students with disabilities (mostly from special education enrollments), and limited English proficiency (mostly from English Language Learner enrollments).
Readers should note that the American Community Survey (ACS) is a sample survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Because the data are compiled from a sample of the entire population, the estimates produced by the ACS have associated margins of error. For ease of reading and visualizing, ACS data presented in this report are not shown with margins of error. Interested readers should reference the ACS website for additional information.

The following visuals include data from the ACS:

**Family Economic Security - Page 8:**
- Detroit Children Living Below the Poverty Line in 2011.
- Change & Percent Change for Median Household & Family Income in Detroit, 1999 to 2011.

**Family Economic Security - Page 9:**
- Work Status in the Past 12 Months.

**Family Economic Security - Page 10:**
- Change in Median Monthly Housing Costs in Detroit, 2000 to 2011.
- Detroit Households Spending 30% or More of their Income on Housing in 2011.
- Vehicle Availability for Detroit Households in 2011.

**Health & Safety - Page 26:**
- Detroit Health Insurance Coverage by Age and Sex in 2011.