

Michigan Highlights from the 2021 American Community Survey One-Year Estimates

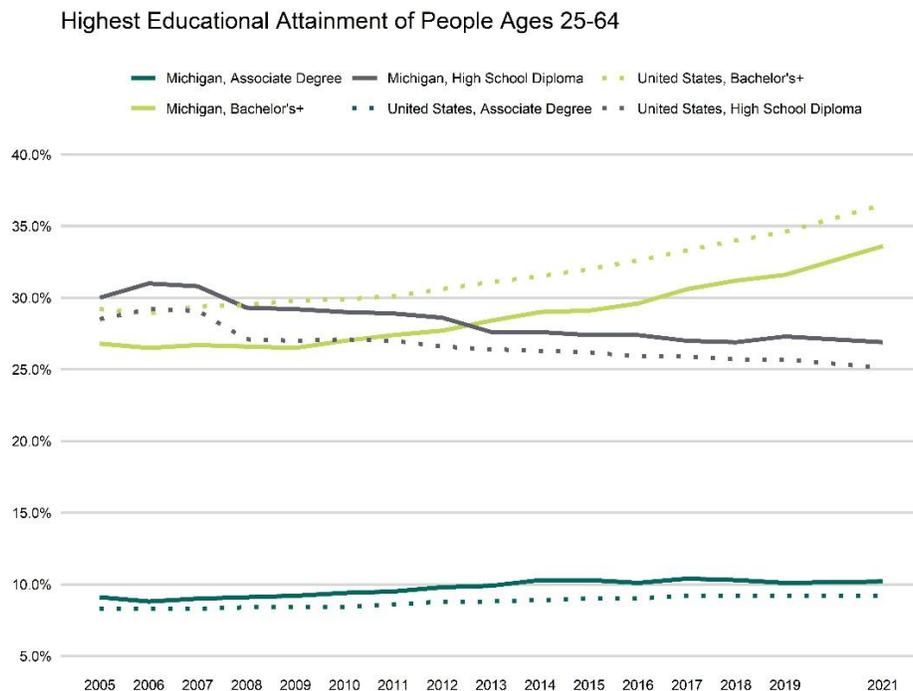
SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

Note on the ACS 1-Year Data

Due to the challenges of conducting a household survey during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the response rate to the American Community Survey (ACS) was lower than usual in 2020. Lower-income households were less likely to respond to the survey than higher-income households. Since this non-response resulted in biased estimates, the Census Bureau only released experimental estimates for the ACS 2020 1-year estimates and discourages comparisons between 2020 and 1-year estimates in other years. Accordingly, the 2020 ACS 1-year estimates are excluded from the time series in this data release. More information on non-response bias in the 2020 1-year estimates and the implementation of an experimental weighting scheme is available on the [U.S. Census Bureau website](https://www.census.gov).

Educational attainment

Figure 1 provides data on the highest degree obtained for people ages 25 to 64 from 2005 to 2019 and in 2021. This figure includes six series representing the percentage of Michigan and U.S. residents who have obtained a high school diploma, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree or more (bachelor's +). These data are sourced from ACS Table B15001.

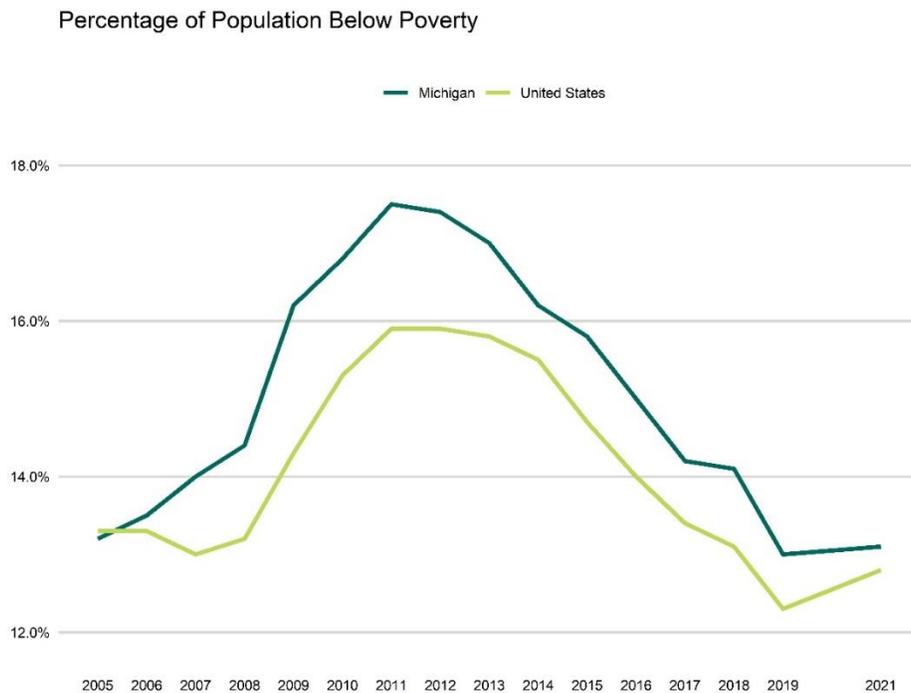


In 2021, 25.1 percent of the U.S. had obtained a high school diploma, 9.2 percent had obtained an associate degree, and 36.5 percent had obtained a bachelor’s degree or more. Michigan slightly exceeded national rates of associate degree attainment but lagged in the attainment of bachelor’s degrees or more. In Michigan specifically, 26.9 percent of residents had obtained a high school diploma, 10.2 percent had obtained an associate degree, and 33.6 percent had obtained a bachelor’s degree or more as their highest degree.

In terms of longitudinal trends from 2005 to 2021, Michigan has generally tracked closely to the United States in the attainment of high school and associate degrees. There has been a consistent gap, however, in the attainment of bachelor’s degree or more. Although Michigan has a consistently lower percentage of residents who have obtained bachelor’s degrees or more, higher degree attainment has increased in both Michigan and the United States over time.

Poverty

Figure 2 provides the poverty rates in Michigan and the United States from 2005 to 2019 and in 2021. These data are sourced from ACS Table B17001.



In 2021, 12.8 percent of the U.S. total population and 13.1 percent of Michigan’s population lived below poverty. Although Michigan and the United States had similar poverty rates in 2005, the gap between Michigan and the United States started as early as 2006 and Michigan’s poverty rate has remained consistently higher over the remainder of the time series. From 2008 to 2011, poverty rates increased in Michigan and nationwide, and the gap between Michigan and the United States was largest in 2009. Although 2011 was peak poverty in both Michigan

and the United States, 2011 was also the year with the second largest gap between Michigan and the United States. Poverty rates have consistently declined in Michigan and the United States from 2013 onward and have returned to pre-Recession lows. However, although the gap between Michigan and the United States narrowed between 2019 and 2021, Michigan continues to have a higher poverty rate than the United States in 2021.

Median Household Income

Figure 3 provides estimates of median household income in the United States and Michigan from 2005 to 2019 and in 2021. These data are sourced from ACS Table B19013 and are adjusted to 2021 dollars. The median household income was \$69,717 in the United States in 2021. Michigan households had a median income of \$63,498.



Trends in income share many similarities with poverty trends in Michigan and the United States. In 2005, Michigan's household income was only slightly lower than the United States. Incomes diverged from 2006 onward, however, with Michigan consistently having a lower income than the United States from 2006 to 2019 and in 2021. Median household income in Michigan and the United States declined from 2007 to 2011 and recovered from 2012 to 2019. Although U.S. income in 2021 has recovered to and exceeded its previous peak in 2007, the 2021 real income in Michigan remains slightly below its previous peak in 2005.