

Social Equity Indicator: Pre-School Enrollment

Why: Education has been shown to provide economic benefits such as increased earnings potential and worker productivity, and societal benefits such as enhanced civic participation and reduced crime. The percent of three to four year olds enrolled in nursery or pre-school serves to indicate the value a community places on school readiness and its overall commitment to education.

What: Percent of 3 to 4 year olds reported as being enrolled in a nursery or pre-school program during the indicated year.

Where: U. S. Census Bureau. 2000 Data: "Table QT-P19. School Enrollment." 2005 and 2006 Data: "Table S1401. School Enrollment." <http://www.census.gov/>

Pre-School Enrollment								
Geography	2000		2005		2006		2007	
	%	Index Score	%	Index Score	%	Index Score	%	Index Score
Muskegon County	49.0%	3.6	32.3%	1.5	38.9%	2.4	50.0%	3.8
Kent County	47.0%	3.4	45.9%	3.2	46.7%	3.3	48.4%	3.6
Ottawa County	43.6%	3.0	38.1%	2.3	52.0%	4.0	51.7%	4.0
West MI Average	46.5%	3.3	38.8%	2.4	45.9%	3.2	50.0%	3.8
Bay County	50.1%	3.8	50.7%	3.8	54.0%	4.3	61.8%	5.0
Genesee County	47.0%	3.4	34.0%	1.8	38.7%	2.3	34.2%	1.8
Saginaw County	48.4%	3.6	53.9%	4.2	41.0%	2.6	39.4%	2.0
East MI Average	48.5%	3.6	46.2%	3.3	44.6%	3.1	45.1%	3.1
Michigan	48.9%	3.6	45.5%	3.2	46.0%	3.3	46.4%	3.3
U.S.	49.3%	3.7	45.2%	3.2	46.1%	3.3	47.3%	3.4

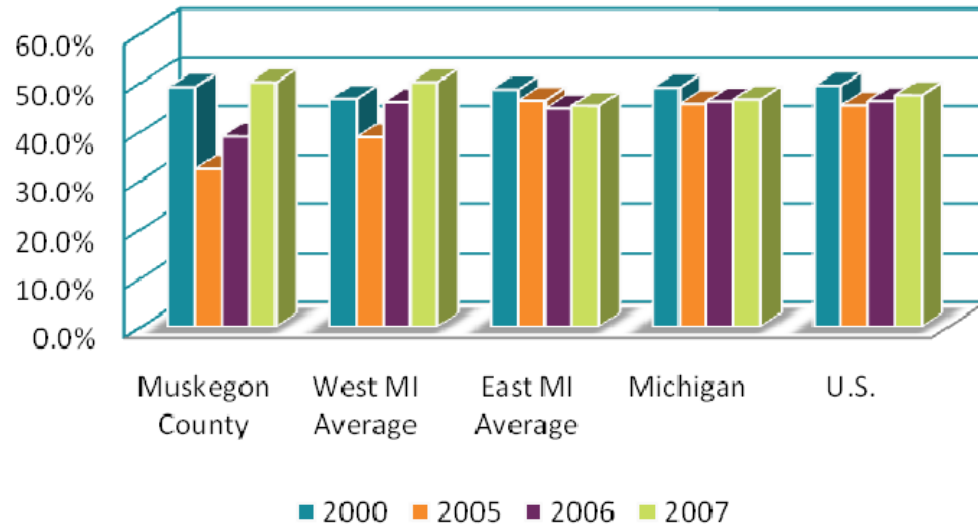
Index Scores

Rubric: There is no definitive standard for appropriate levels of pre-school enrollment. The top of the scale was set to approximate highest reported percentages among U.S. States (Hawaii, 56%; Massachusetts, 60%; New Jersey, 63%; and District of Columbia, 66%).

Scale: Simple scale of declining percentages with 8% between each level.

Rubric: Pre-School Enrollment		
Level	Index	% Enrolled
Thriving	5	60.00
Advancing	4	52.00
Sustainable	3	44.00
Needs Improvement	2	36.00
Failing	1	28.00

Pre-School Enrollment



- *Pre-school Enrollment in Muskegon County increased sharply between 2006 and 2007, and above the previous sustainable level in 2000.*
- *Pre-school enrollment was higher in Muskegon County in 2007 than in Michigan and the U.S.*
- *The average percentage enrollment for West Michigan Counties was higher than the percentage reported for East Michigan Counties in 2007.*