

# FiveCAP

## 2018 Community Assessment

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## INTRODUCTION

FiveCAP is one of 29 community action agencies in Michigan. As such, it is required by the state to conduct a community assessment every three years to identify the needs of the population it serves. FiveCAP serves a region consisting of Lake, Manistee, Mason, and Newaygo Counties. Its last community assessment was completed in October 2015. FiveCAP hired Public Sector Consultants (PSC) to collect and organize more recent data and provide a brief summary of the data.

Data were collected in eight categories: demographics, employment, income, health, nutrition, housing, transportation, and education. The data collected by PSC, as well as a summary of key findings, are provided below.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

None of the four counties in the FiveCAP region experienced a dramatic change in total population when comparing estimates from 2009–2013 and 2012–2016. During that period, Lake, Manistee, and Newaygo Counties saw only a slight decline in total population (of 2 percent or less). Mason County saw a slight increase in total population (less than a half of a percent), as did the state (see Exhibits 1 through 5). Larger changes occurred by age group. For example, the percentage of residents aged zero to 19 declined in all counties in the region (ranging from 9 to 25 percent), with the largest drop occurring in children aged ten to 14 living in Lake County (almost a 21 percent decline). There were also decreases in the number of children aged 15–19 in Manistee, Mason, and Newaygo Counties (between 6 and 11 percent), and in the state as a whole. Residents aged 65 and over, on the other hand, grew across the region, with increases ranging from 4 to 9 percent.

The population within FiveCAP, Inc.'s service area is predominately white. Of the minority populations, the largest decline was in the number of American Indian and Alaska Native residents (decreased by 6 percent in Mason County and almost 25 percent in Newaygo County). In addition, the number of black or African-American residents decreased by 15 percent in Lake County and by 8 percent in Manistee County. The greatest increases were in Lake County in the number of American Indian and Alaska Native residents (11 percent) and the number of residents who are multiracial (33 percent). The number of Asian residents increased by 75 percent in Manistee County. The number of black or African-American and multiracial residents also increased in Mason County, with gains ranging from 3 to 24 percent.

**EXHIBIT 1.** Lake County Population, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	5,619	5,574	–0.8%
Male	5,866	5,841	–0.4%
<b>Race</b>			
White	10,031	9,983	–0.5%
Black or African American	973	827	–15.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	73	81	11.0%
Asian	16	18	12.5%
Pacific Islander	0	4	400.0%
Multiracial	363	482	32.8%

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
<b>Age</b>			
0–4	479	475	–0.8%
5–9	531	575	8.3%
10–14	648	515	–20.5%
15–19	601	602	0.2%
20–64	6,352	6,251	–1.6%
65+	2,874	2,997	4.3%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>11,485</b>	<b>11,415</b>	<b>–1.8%</b>

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*.

### EXHIBIT 2. Manistee County Population, Five-Year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	11,865	11,774	–0.8%
Male	12,761	12,691	–0.5%
<b>Race</b>			
White	22,656	22,401	–1.1%
Black or African American	760	698	–8.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	462	483	4.5%
Asian	57	100	75.4%
Pacific Islander	0	9	900.0%
Multiracial	595	751	26.2%
<b>Age</b>			
0–4	1,028	1,004	–2.3%
5–9	1,393	1,208	–13.3%
10–14	1,254	1,386	10.5%
15–19	1,436	1,346	–6.3%
20–64	14,262	13,821	–3.1%
65+	5,253	5,700	8.5%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>24,626</b>	<b>24,465</b>	<b>–0.7%</b>

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*.

### EXHIBIT 3. Mason County Population, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	14,433	14,460	0.2%
Male	14,215	14,295	0.6%
<b>Race</b>			
White	27,346	27,466	0.4%
Black or African American	202	251	24.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	276	259	–6.2%
Asian	169	168	–0.6%

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%
Multiracial	520	536	3.1%
<b>Age</b>			
0–4	1,549	1,508	–2.6%
5–9	1,573	1,738	10.5%
10–14	1,737	1,630	–6.2%
15–19	1,891	1,682	–11.1%
20–64	16,288	16,133	–1.0%
65+	5,610	6,064	8.1%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>28,648</b>	<b>28,755</b>	<b>0.4%</b>

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*.

#### EXHIBIT 4. Newaygo County Population, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	23,955	23,814	–0.6%
Male	24,325	24,143	–0.7%
<b>Race</b>			
White	45,423	45,028	–0.9%
Black or African American	612	650	6.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	355	267	–24.8%
Asian	176	165	–6.3%
Pacific Islander	0	0	0.0%
Multiracial	764	888	16.2%
<b>Age</b>			
0–4	2,931	2,776	–5.3%
5–9	3,250	3,008	–7.4%
10–14	3,315	3,306	–0.3%
15–19	3,503	3,096	–11.6%
20–64	27,495	27,269	–0.8%
65+	7,786	8,502	9.2%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>48,280</b>	<b>47,957</b>	<b>–0.7%</b>

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*.

#### EXHIBIT 5. Michigan Population, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	5,034,793	5,039,715	0.1%
Male	4,851,302	4,869,885	0.4%
<b>Race</b>			
White	7,841,011	7,817,827	–0.3%
Black or African American	1,385,154	1,376,446	–0.6%

	2009–2013	2012–2016	Percentage Change
American Indian and Alaska Native	54,881	52,891	–3.6%
Asian	251,175	276,769	10.2%
Pacific Islander	2,230	2,492	11.7%
Multiracial	243,968	271,798	11.4%
<b>Age</b>			
0–4	585,258	573,965	–1.9%
5–9	628,571	607,459	–3.4%
10–14	666,478	641,499	–3.7%
15–19	718,686	682,572	–5.0%
20–64	5,881,869	5,876,407	–0.1%
65+	1,405,233	1,527,698	8.7%
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>9,886,095</b>	<b>9,909,600</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates*.

## CHILDREN IN THE REGION

The percentage of the population aged five and over who speak a language other than English at home changed very little between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016 across the region and the state. Estimates continue to range from about 2 to 5 percent across the region (see Exhibit 6).

### EXHIBIT 6. Percentage of Population Five Years and Over Who Speak a Language Other Than English at Home, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	2.1%	2.2%
Manistee County	4.1%	3.9%
Mason County	4.4%	4.5%
Newaygo County	5.2%	4.8%
Michigan	9.1%	9.3%

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics in the United States, Language Spoken at Home*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics in the United States, Language Spoken at Home*.

The Family Independence Program (FIP) provides temporary cash assistance to low-income families with minor children and/or pregnant women. The assistance helps these families pay for rent, utilities, food, and other necessities. The number of children aged 17 or younger in families receiving FIP payments decreased between 2015 and 2018 in all counties in the region except Manistee (see Exhibit 7). Across the counties, 18 to 31 percent of the children in families receiving FIP payments in July 2018 were aged five or younger (see Exhibit 8).

### EXHIBIT 7. Children Aged Zero to 17 in Families Receiving FIP Payments

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lake County	71	59	59	62
Manistee County	58	65	68	64
Mason County	94	103	85	67
Newaygo County	194	193	178	134
Michigan	49,156	39,926	36,105	32,062

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Green Book Report of Key Program Statistics, Table 14, 2015-2018. NOTE: Data represent the total number of children in households that received Family Independence Program (FIP) payments in July of each year.

### EXHIBIT 8. Children Aged Zero to Five in Families Receiving FIP Payments, July 2018

	Under 1 Year	Age 1	Age 2	Age 3	Age 4	Age 5	Total 0-5
Lake County	1	1	3	2	2	2	11
Manistee County	1	5	2	1	5	4	18
Mason County	6	5	0	2	6	2	21
Newaygo County	2	2	6	4	11	9	34
Michigan	2,584	1,915	1,847	2,065	1,936	1,909	12,256

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Green Book Report of Key Program Statistics, Table 67, 2018. NOTE: Data represent the total number of children in households that received FIP payments in July of 2018.

Data on the population of people experiencing homelessness in Michigan is collected using a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Local Housing Assessment and Resource Agencies (HARAs) provide a centralized intake and assessment process for communitywide housing resources and enter client information in the HMIS. The dramatic change between 2014 and 2017 in the number of children aged five and younger experiencing homeless is likely due to HUD updating the definition of homelessness and the efforts of the Michigan Coalition Against Homeless to improve the quality and consistency of the data collected.

### EXHIBIT 9. Number of Homeless Children Aged Five and Younger

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Lake County	54	9	21	27
Manistee County	24	4	7	8
Mason County	93	41	66	40
Newaygo County	126	98	51	70

SOURCE: Michigan Homeless Management Information Services, personal communication to PSC, July 2018.

Although the total number of children in the region aged five or younger who are in foster care has remained relatively low since 2015 (see Exhibit 10), there were notable fluctuations in certain counties. For example, the number of children in foster care in Lake County decreased from 13 children in 2015 to only three children in 2016 before climbing back up to 10 in 2017. The number in Manistee County nearly doubled (moving from 16 to 30) between 2016 and 2017 and then dropped to 19 in 2018. In July 2018, the most recent month for which data are available, the number of children aged five or younger in foster care ranged from a low of 11 in Lake County to a high of 35 in Newaygo County.



## EXHIBIT 10. Children Aged Five or Younger in Foster Care

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lake County	13	3	10	11
Manistee County	11	16	30	19
Mason County	37	21	22	16
Newaygo County	37	23	31	35
Michigan	5,877	5,457	5,645	5,848

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, personal email communication with PSC on July 30 of 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

The percentage of families living below the federal poverty level (FPL) changed very little across the region between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016 (see Exhibit 11). At nearly 19 percent, the percentage of families living in Lake County is higher than the other three counties in the region and the state.

## EXHIBIT 11. Percentage of Families with Income Below the Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	18.5%	18.7%
Manistee County	11.5%	10.5%
Mason County	11.1%	11.4%
Newaygo County	14.0%	13.8%
Michigan	12.0%	11.5%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics in the United States, Percentage of Families and People Whose Income in the Past 12 Months Is Below the Poverty Level; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics in the United States, Percentage of Families and People Whose Income in the Past 12 months Is Below the Poverty Level.

## EMPLOYMENT

The labor force across the region and in Michigan has fluctuated since 2014. For example, Manistee and Mason Counties experienced a decline in the labor force between 2016 and 2017, while Newaygo County experienced a slight increase and Lake County remained about the same (see Exhibit 12). Between 2015 and 2016, three of the four counties in the FiveCAP region (Lake, Manistee, and Newaygo) and the state showed an increase in the labor force.

## EXHIBIT 12. Labor Force

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Lake County	3,207	3,357	3,469	3,465
Manistee County	9,461	9,697	9,836	9,754
Mason County	13,555	13,510	13,435	13,340
Newaygo County	20,959	21,779	22,172	22,282
Michigan	4,750,000	4,493,000	4,599,000	4,657,000

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth, Michigan Labor Market Information (2014–2017 annual averages, not seasonally adjusted).

The jobless rate in each county and the state has declined between 2014 and 2016. Lake County had a slightly higher jobless rate between 2016 and 2017, while the other three counties in the region stayed relatively the same. Lake, Manistee, and Mason Counties had higher jobless rates than the state between 2014 and 2017, whereas the rates in Newaygo County were approximately the same or just slightly higher than the state rate during that time (see Exhibit 13).

### EXHIBIT 13. Number of Unemployed and Jobless Rate

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Lake County	404 (11.2%)	315 (8.6%)	281 (7.5%)	307 (8.1%)
Manistee County	879 (8.5%)	691 (6.7%)	690 (6.6%)	694 (6.6%)
Mason County	1,103 (7.5%)	879 (6.1%)	831 (5.8%)	823 (5.8%)
Newaygo County	1,630 (7.2%)	1,262 (5.5%)	1,136 (4.9%)	1,174 (5.0%)
Michigan	348,000 (7.3%)	258,000 (5.4%)	241,000 (5.0%)	227,000 (4.6%)

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth, Michigan Labor Market Information (2014–2017 annual averages, not seasonally adjusted).

## INCOME

All of the counties in the region and the state experienced a slight increase in the median household income when comparing the five-year estimates in 2009–2013 and 2012–2016 (see Exhibit 14). The median household income in each county is lower than the state median, ranging from about \$31,000 in Lake County to about \$44,000 in Newaygo County.

### EXHIBIT 14. Median Household Income, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	\$29,379	\$30,824
Manistee County	\$41,551	\$42,530
Mason County	\$41,136	\$43,497
Newaygo County	\$42,571	\$44,049
Michigan	\$48,411	\$50,803

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *B19013 Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months (2013 inflation-adjusted dollars)*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *B19013 Median Household Income in the Past 12 Months (2016 inflation-adjusted dollars)*.

Although Lake County experienced a decline in the population living in poverty between 2013 and 2016 (from 31 percent to almost 22 percent), the county continues to lead the region in the percentage of its population living in poverty as well as having the lowest median household income. In each of the other three counties, 14 to 18 percent of the total population lives below the FPL. In all four FiveCAP counties, the percentage of people living at low-income levels (i.e., up to 200 percent the FPL) is generally higher than in the state in 2012–2016 (see Exhibit 16). Exceptions include the percentage of people with incomes between 125 and 149 percent of the FPL in Manistee County and between 150 and 199 percent of the FPL

in Lake County. When looking at just young people, between 2013 and 2016, about half (between 40 and 52 percent) of children aged 17 or younger in Lake County lived in poverty compared to 23 to 29 percent of children aged 17 or younger living in the other counties (see Exhibit 17). In the state, almost one-quarter (between 21 and 24 percent) of children aged 17 or younger lived in poverty during the same time frame.

#### EXHIBIT 15. Population Living Below 100 Percent of the Federal Poverty Level

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Lake County	3,403 (31.0%)	3,194 (29.2%)	2,743 (24.8%)	2,430 (21.9%)
Manistee County	4,115 (17.9%)	3,822 (16.6%)	3,465 (15.0%)	3,255 (14.2%)
Mason County	4,420 (15.7%)	4,637 (16.3%)	4,745 (16.8%)	4,355 (15.3%)
Newaygo County	8,133 (17.2%)	9,922 (21.0%)	7,695 (16.3%)	8,101 (17.2%)
Michigan	1,646,038 (17.0%)	1,567,465 (16.2%)	1,524,330 (15.7%)	1,449,683 (14.9%)

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program. All Ages in Poverty 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016. Selected State and Selected Counties.

#### EXHIBIT 16. Ratio of Income to Federal Poverty Level, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
<b>100–124 Percent</b>		
Lake County	648 (5.8%)	802 (7.3%)
Manistee County	1,186 (5.1%)	1,146 (5.0%)
Mason County	1,670 (5.9%)	1,819 (6.4%)
Newaygo County	2,999 (6.3%)	2,640 (5.6%)
Michigan	441,197 (4.6%)	435,468 (4.5%)
<b>125–149 Percent</b>		
Lake County	934 (8.4%)	740 (6.7%)
Manistee County	1,261 (5.4%)	1,037 (4.5%)
Mason County	1,619 (5.7%)	1,949 (6.9%)
Newaygo County	3,128 (6.6%)	2,502 (5.3%)
Michigan	451,151 (4.7%)	442,495 (4.6%)
<b>150–199 Percent</b>		
Lake County	1,054 (9.5%)	987 (9.0%)
Manistee County	2,782 (11.9%)	2,793 (12.1%)
Mason County	3,451 (12.2%)	3,176 (11.2%)
Newaygo County	5,682 (12.0%)	5,660 (12.0%)
Michigan	896,825 (9.3%)	879,083 (9.1%)

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, C17002 Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, C17002 Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months.

### EXHIBIT 17. Population Under Age 18 Living Below 100 Percent of the Federal Poverty Level

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Lake County	989 (52.2%)	825 (44.4%)	850 (45.2%)	747 (40.2%)
Manistee County	1,220 (28.8%)	1,118 (26.6%)	1,087 (25.8%)	958 (23.4%)
Mason County	1,523 (26.8%)	1,577 (27.3%)	1,557 (26.9%)	1,407 (24.3%)
Newaygo County	2,875 (26.1%)	2,986 (27.5%)	2,476 (23.1%)	2,550 (24.1%)
Michigan	522,365 (23.7%)	492,257 (22.6%)	481,421 (22.2%)	444,100 (20.7%)

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program. Under Age 18 in Poverty. 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016. Selected State and Selected Counties.

ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) is a measurement developed by the United Way to determine the percentage of working households that have an income above the FPL, but not high enough to support the basic cost of living in a given community. The ALICE threshold represents the minimum amount of money a household needs to live in a county based on the average cost of living, including expenses for housing, child care, food, transportation, and healthcare, without allowing for any savings. Thus, ALICE households are those living below that threshold but above the FPL. Lake County was the only county in the region to have an increase in ALICE threshold between 2014 and 2016. In 2016, Lake County also has a higher percentage of households living between the FPL and the ALICE threshold than the state as a whole. The other three counties within the FiveCAP region have a similar percentage as the state (see Exhibit 18).

### EXHIBIT 18. Livable Wage, by Percentage of ALICE Households

	September 2014	September 2016
Lake County	28%	34%
Manistee County	28%	25%
Mason County	25%	25%
Newaygo County	25%	24%
Michigan	24%	25%

SOURCE: United Ways of Michigan, *Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE)*, September 2014. United Ways of Michigan, *Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE)*, Winter 2017

NOTE: The percentage of households below the ALICE Threshold does not include the percentage of families in poverty.

There are nearly 2,200 children aged zero to five living below 100 percent of the FPL in the region (see Exhibit 19). Lake, Manistee, and Newaygo Counties show a slightly lower percentage of children aged zero to five living below 100 percent of the federal poverty level from 2009–2013 and 2012–2016.

## EXHIBIT 19. Children Aged Zero to Five Living Below 100 Percent of the FPL, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	305 (52.8%)	298 (50.8%)
Manistee County	387 (31.6%)	362 (30.0%)
Mason County	652 (35.1%)	644 (35.2%)
Newaygo County	1,029 (29.8%)	882 (26.7%)
Michigan	194,286 (27.9%)	177,002 (26.1%)

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *B17024 Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, *B17024 Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months*.

## HEALTH

### LIVE BIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY, AND LOW BIRTHWEIGHT

The number of live births fluctuated across the FiveCAP region between 2007 and 2016 (see Exhibit 20). There was a decrease in the number of live births in Lake, Mason, and Newaygo Counties between 2007 and 2016. In Lake, Manistee, and Mason Counties, there was an increase in the number of live births between 2013 and 2016 after experiencing decreases between 2007 and 2013.

#### EXHIBIT 20. Live Births

	Lake County	Manistee County	Mason County	Newaygo County	Michigan
2007	114	226	313	674	125,172
2010	78	198	315	540	114,717
2013	96	173	271	542	113,732
2016	103	245	281	552	113,374

SOURCES: 1989–2016 Infant Deaths, Live Births, and Infant Death Rates by County of Residence, Michigan Resident Birth Files, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Infant mortality is often used as a measure of the health and well-being of children and the overall health of a community. It reflects the status of maternal health, the accessibility and quality of primary healthcare, and the availability of support services in the community. Because the number of infant deaths is so low in the four-county region, five-year averages must be used to obtain meaningful infant mortality rates. Also due to the low numbers of infant deaths, the confidence intervals for infant mortality rates at the county level are quite large.<sup>1</sup> The combination of these factors—running five-year averages and large confidence intervals—makes it difficult to meaningfully assess trends and/or differences among the counties. Infant mortality in the region has mostly remained lower than the state five-year average, except in Newaygo County, where it was slightly higher in 2010–2014 and 2011–2015.

<sup>1</sup> A confidence interval is the range within which the actual mean number of infant deaths would be expected to fall over the given time period.

### EXHIBIT 21. Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births, Five-year Moving Averages

	Lake County	Manistee County	Mason County	Newaygo County	Michigan
2009–2013	*	*	*	6.6 (±3.0)	7.0 (±0.2)
2010–2014	*	*	4.1 (±3.3)	8.0 (±3.3)	6.9 (±0.2)
2011–2015	*	*	4.8 (±3.5)	7.9 (±3.3)	6.8 (±0.2)
2012–2016	*	*	4.1 (±3.1)	6.5 (±3.0)	6.8 (±0.2)

SOURCES: 1989–2016 Infant Deaths, Live Births and Infant Death Rates by County of Residence, Michigan Resident Birth Files, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

NOTE: An \* indicates that a rate was not calculated. A rate is not calculated when there are fewer than six events, because the width of the confidence interval would negate any usefulness for comparative purposes.

Low birthweight (defined as less than 2,500 grams or 5.5 pounds) is associated with several maternal factors, including low socioeconomic status, smoking, alcohol and illicit drug use, inadequate maternal weight gain, and chronic health problems. As with infant mortality, the small numbers of low birthweight births necessitate the use of running five-year averages and caution should be used when making comparisons between counties. That said, Lake County has the highest percentage of low birthweight births in the region, with a 2012–2016 five-year average of 9.1 percent (see Exhibit 22). The 2012–2016 five-year averages in Manistee, Mason, and Newaygo Counties are between 7.3 percent and 7.9 percent, and the state average is 8.4 percent.

### EXHIBIT 22. Low and Very Low Birthweight Births, Five-year Moving Averages

	Lake County	Manistee County	Mason County	Newaygo County	Michigan
<b>Low Birth Weights</b>					
2009–2013	9.2 (9.6%)	13.0 (6.9%)	20.8 (7.2%)	39.6 (7.2%)	9,607.8 (8.4%)
2010–2014	8.6 (9.3%)	11.6 (6.3%)	20.6 (7.0%)	37.4 (6.7%)	9,557.0 (8.4%)
2011–2015	9.0 (9.1%)	11.4 (6.2%)	20.8 (7.1%)	37.4 (6.8%)	9,542.2 (8.4%)
2012–2016	9.0 (9.1%)	15.2 (7.6%)	23.4 (7.9%)	40.2 (7.3%)	9,568.6 (8.4%)
<b>Very Low Birth Weights</b>					
2009–2013	0.4 (*)	1.4 (0.7%)	2.6 (0.9%)	6.8 (1.2%)	1,861.0 (1.6%)
2010–2014	0.2 (*)	1.4 (0.8%)	2.4 (0.8%)	7.0 (1.3%)	1,817.8 (1.6%)
2011–2015	0.6 (*)	1.4 (0.8%)	2.2 (0.7%)	6.4 (1.2%)	1,785.4 (1.6%)
2012–2016	0.8 (*)	1.4 (0.8%)	2.2 (0.7%)	6.8 (1.2%)	1,759.8 (1.6%)

SOURCES: 1989–2016 Michigan Resident Birth Files, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

NOTE: Low birthweight is less than 2,500 grams and very low birthweight is less than 1,500 grams. Percentage is percentage of all births.

## HEALTHCARE

In poor economies, it is expected that the number of individuals who qualify for and enroll in programs intended to assist those with low incomes will increase. This has been the case for several years in the FiveCAP region and in Michigan overall. The number of medical assistance recipients remained fairly steady across the region and statewide between 2015 and 2018, and ranged from 3,030 in Lake County to 10,814 in Newaygo County in July 2018 (see Exhibit 23).

### EXHIBIT 23. Medical Assistance Recipients

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lake County	2,971	2,968	3,067	3,030
Manistee County	4,263	4,307	4,465	4,468
Mason County	5,571	5,619	5,545	5,510
Newaygo County	10,438	10,740	10,833	10,814
Michigan	1,767,736	1,786,108	1,813,237	1,795,545

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Green Book Report of Key Program Statistics, 2015–2018.

NOTE: Data represent the total number of individuals eligible for Medicaid in July of each year.

All of the counties in the FiveCAP region have a higher percentage of uninsured people than the state as a whole (see Exhibit 24). The percentage of uninsured decreased in each county between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016, which coincides with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid expansion through the Healthy Michigan Plan. Lake County continues to have the highest percentage of uninsured in the region (about 11 percent), as well as the highest percentage of people covered by Medicare (almost 33 percent) and Medicaid (31 percent) (see Exhibit 25). It also has the second-highest percentage of people covered by the Veterans Health Administration, at 3.2 percent.<sup>2</sup> Each of the counties in the region has a lower percentage of its population covered by private health coverage than the state, and significantly more covered by public health coverage.

### EXHIBIT 24. Healthcare Coverage, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
<b>Uninsured</b>		
Lake County	16.2%	11.4%
Manistee County	12.8%	9.5%
Mason County	13.6%	9.9%
Newaygo County	13.8%	9.2%
Michigan	11.6%	8.4%
<b>Insured</b>		
Lake County	83.8%	88.6%
Manistee County	87.2%	90.5%
Mason County	86.4%	90.1%
Newaygo County	86.2%	90.8%
Michigan	88.4%	91.6%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates S2701 Health Insurance Coverage Status; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates S2701 Selected Characteristics of Health Insurance Coverage in the United States.

<sup>2</sup> Medicare, Medicaid, and Veterans Administration healthcare are all forms of public healthcare coverage.

## EXHIBIT 25. Health Coverage by Type, Five-year Estimate

	Private Coverage	Medicare	Medicaid	VA Healthcare
<b>2009–2013</b>				
Lake County	48.9%	30.7%	31.6%	3.2%
Manistee County	65.1%	24.6%	21.5%	3.3%
Mason County	64.8%	22.3%	21.0%	2.7%
Newaygo County	61.4%	19.3%	24.9%	2.3%
Michigan	69.3%	16.6%	19.2%	1.8%
<b>2012–2016</b>				
Lake County	52.0%	32.5%	31.1%	4.5%
Manistee County	67.2%	27.2%	22.3%	3.9%
Mason County	65.6%	24.0%	24.0%	3.0%
Newaygo County	62.4%	21.7%	27.2%	2.9%
Michigan	70.4%	18.0%	20.9%	1.9%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates S2701 *Health Insurance Coverage Status*. U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates S2703 *Private Health Insurance Coverage By Type* and S2704 *Public Health Insurance Coverage by Type*.

NOTE: Percentages of health coverage by type do not equal 100 percent because some people have more than one type of health coverage.

## NUTRITION

### FOOD ASSISTANCE CASES

As part of a federal program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State of Michigan provides temporary food assistance to eligible low-income families and individuals. As the economy continued to improve between 2015 and 2018, the number of families and individuals receiving food assistance in each of the four counties decreased by anywhere from 8 to 17 percent. During the same period, the number of cases statewide declined by 17 percent (see Exhibit 26).

## EXHIBIT 26. Food Assistance Cases

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lake County	1,548	1,456	1,459	1,431
Manistee County	1,851	1,866	1,687	1,677
Mason County	2,191	2,021	1,948	1,825
Newaygo County	4,359	4,076	3,856	3,681
Michigan	811,481	761,703	710,617	672,544

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Green Book Report of Key Program Statistics, table 24, 2015–2018.

NOTE: Data represent the total number of cases receiving food assistance payments in July of each year.



## HOUSING

The estimated number of households increased slightly in Lake and Newaygo Counties between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016 and decreased in Manistee and Mason Counties (see Exhibit 27). Newaygo had the highest number of households across both periods. The average number of people per household remained stable between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016 (see Exhibit 28).

### EXHIBIT 27. Number of Households, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	4,096	4,394
Manistee County	10,571	9,977
Mason County	12,470	12,171
Newaygo County	18,156	18,394
Michigan	3,823,280	3,860,394

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics*.

### EXHIBIT 28. Average Household Size, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	2.72	2.51
Manistee County	2.20	2.31
Mason County	2.26	2.32
Newaygo County	2.61	2.57
Michigan	2.53	2.51

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics*.

The percentage of owner-occupied homes rose in Lake, Manistee, and Mason Counties between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016, while Newaygo County experienced a modest decrease (see Exhibit 29). The median value of owner-occupied homes stayed about the same in Lake and Manistee Counties during the same time frame (see Exhibit 30). The largest change in value occurred in Mason County, where home values increased by \$6,200, or 5 percent. Home values in Newaygo County decreased by nearly \$3,000. The statewide median home value increased by \$6,100 between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016 and was higher than median home values across the region in both time periods.

### EXHIBIT 29. Percentage of Owner-occupied Housing, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	81.3%	83.0%
Manistee County	79.1%	81.6%
Mason County	74.1%	75.9%
Newaygo County	84.1%	83.2%
Michigan	60.1%	70.8%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP04 Selected Housing Characteristics*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP04 Selected Housing Characteristics*.

### EXHIBIT 30. Median Value of Owner-occupied Homes, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	\$79,700	\$79,100
Manistee County	\$109,900	\$109,800
Mason County	\$117,000	\$123,200
Newaygo County	\$104,100	\$101,200
Michigan	\$121,700	\$127,800

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP02 Selected Social Characteristics*.

The 2012–2016 five-year estimates of homes lacking complete plumbing facilities are quite low across the region and statewide, with all estimates below 0.5 percent, and are very similar to the 2009–2013 five-year estimates (see Exhibit 31.) Approximately seven more houses in Manistee County and 22 more houses in Newaygo County are lacking complete plumbing facilities in 2012–2016. The number of houses lacking plumbing in Lake County dropped by an estimated eight houses between 2009–2013 and 2012–2016.

### EXHIBIT 31. Homes Lacking Complete Plumbing Facilities, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	27 (0.7%)	19 (0.4%)
Manistee County	34 (0.3%)	41 (0.4%)
Mason County	15 (0.1%)	16 (0.1%)
Newaygo County	51 (0.3%)	73 (0.4%)
Michigan	16,149 (0.4%)	13,104 (0.3%)

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP04 Selected Social Characteristics*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP04 Selected Social Characteristics*.

The vast majority of houses in the region and in the state are more than 18 years old. Nearly half of the houses in Manistee County were built at least 49 years ago, while more than two-thirds of homes in Lake and Newaygo Counties were built less than 49 years ago. Many houses in the region and across the state were built between about 19 and 48 years ago (see Exhibit 32).

### EXHIBIT 32. Age of Houses, 2012–2016 Five-year Estimates

	0–18 years old	19–48 years old	49–78 years old	79+ years old
Lake County	11.3%	59.5%	22.0%	7.3%
Manistee County	13.5%	38.8%	26.9%	20.8%
Mason County	15.1%	40.8%	23.1%	21.0%
Newaygo County	14.2%	49.2%	23.9%	12.8%
Michigan	11.3%	38.4%	35.2%	15.1%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP04 Selected Social Characteristics*.

## TRANSPORTATION

The mean travel time to work for individuals living in the FiveCAP counties has been relatively static over time. The 2012–2016 five-year estimate of mean travel time in Manistee County differs by only one minute from the 2009–2013 five-year estimate (see Exhibit 33). Mean travel time in the other three counties and the state differ by less than one-half of a minute.

### EXHIBIT 33. Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes) for Workers Aged 16+, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	25.2	25.6
Manistee County	19.5	20.4
Mason County	17.9	17.7
Newaygo County	28.7	28.7
Michigan	24.0	24.3

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics*; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics*.

There were, however, more notable changes in how people travel to work and where they work. For example, in that same time frame, the number of people using personal transportation increased in all four counties, with increases ranging from 10 to 16 percent (see Exhibit 34). The number of people walking or taking public transportation to work decreased slightly in Lake and Mason Counties, while in Manistee and Newaygo Counties there was a slight increase. In Lake and Mason Counties there was an uptick in the number of people working from home, while fewer people worked from home in the other two counties.

### EXHIBIT 34. Mode of Transportation to Work, Five-year Estimates

	2009–2013	2012–2016
<b>Public Transportation</b>		
Lake County	18 (0.6%)	14 (0.4%)
Manistee County	36 (0.4%)	40 (0.4%)
Mason County	72 (0.6%)	56 (0.5%)
Newaygo County	18 (0.1%)	33 (0.2%)
Michigan	58,050 (1.4%)	61,812 (1.4%)
<b>Personal Transportation</b>		

	2009–2013	2012–2016
Lake County	2,428 (79.7%)	2,979 (91.3%)
Manistee County	7,301 (80.7%)	8,075 (90.4%)
Mason County	9,722 (80.9%)	10,943 (90.4%)
Newaygo County	14,704 (81.1%)	17,050 (92.5%)
Michigan	3,429,677 (82.7%)	3,979,951 (91.3%)
<b>Walk</b>		
Lake County	94 (3.1%)	75 (2.3%)
Manistee County	262 (2.9%)	289 (3.2%)
Mason County	336 (2.8%)	284 (2.3%)
Newaygo County	308 (1.7%)	392 (2.1%)
Michigan	111,973 (2.7%)	95,720 (2.2%)
<b>Work at Home</b>		
Lake County	82 (2.7%)	142 (4.4%)
Manistee County	489 (5.4%)	401 (4.5%)
Mason County	517 (4.3%)	621 (5.1%)
Newaygo County	762 (4.2%)	598 (3.2%)
Michigan	149,297 (3.6%)	163,030 (3.7%)
<b>Other Means</b>		
Lake County	41 (1.3%)	54 (1.7%)
Manistee County	111 (1.2%)	127 (1.4%)
Mason County	180 (1.5%)	194 (1.6%)
Newaygo County	184 (1.0%)	359 (1.9%)
Michigan	50,028 (1.2%)	55,988 (1.3%)

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics*.; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics*.

## EDUCATION

The percentage of the population aged 25 and older with at least a high-school diploma in each county in the region compares favorably to the statewide average of almost 90 percent, with Lake County having the lowest percentage of people with at least a high-school diploma (82.1 percent) and Mason County having the highest percentage (91.5 percent) (see Exhibit 35).

When it comes to the percentage of the population with education beyond a high-school diploma, however, the region lags behind the state considerably. While 60 percent of the adult population statewide has at least some college experience, the percentage of the population in each county in the region with at least some college experience ranges from 39.5 percent (Lake County) to 57.5 percent (Mason County). The percentage of the population in any county in the region with a bachelor's degree or greater is significantly lower than the state. Lake County fares the worst on this metric, with only 9 percent of its adult population having at least a bachelor's degree, which is substantially lower than the 27 percent of Michigan adults estimated to have at least a bachelor's degree.

**EXHIBIT 35. Level of Educational Attainment for the Population Aged 25 and Over, Five-year Estimates**

	2009–2013	2012–2016
<b>High-school Diploma or Greater</b>		
Lake County	80.4%	82.1%
Manistee County	88.8%	90.3%
Mason County	89.5%	91.5%
Newaygo County	85.95	85.8%
Michigan	88.9%	89.9%
<b>Some College or Greater</b>		
Lake County	39.3%	39.5%
Manistee County	52.4%	53.4%
Mason County	55.4%	57.5%
Newaygo County	44.8%	45.1%
Michigan	61.5%	60.3%
<b>Bachelor’s Degree or Greater</b>		
Lake County	8.4%	9.0%
Manistee County	19.1%	19.9%
Mason County	19.9%	20.8%
Newaygo County	12.9%	14.3%
Michigan	28.9%	27.4%

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009–2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DPO2 Selected Social Characteristics*.; U.S. Census Bureau, 2012–2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates *DPO2 Selected Social Characteristics*.

In fiscal year 2017, there were 402 funded slots for Head Start and Early Head Start across the four counties in the FiveCAP region, even though poverty levels indicate that many more children and families would be eligible to participate in these programs (see Exhibit 36). In September 2017, however, FiveCAP was awarded a \$1.27 million grant to greatly expand Early Head Start in the region. The award was made to allow FiveCAP to deliver center-based Early Head Start services in addition to the home visiting services already provided.

**EXHIBIT 36. Head Start and Early Head Start Enrollment, Fiscal Year 2017**

	Funded Enrollment	Total Families Served	Total Children Served
Head Start	356	411	431
Early Head Start	46	52	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>505</b>

SOURCE: FiveCAP Head Start/Early Head Start Annual Report 2016-2017. <http://www.fivecap.org/head-start.html>.  
 Note: The total number of children served by Early Head Start includes 65 children and 9 pregnant women.

Enrollment in the Newaygo County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) and the West Shore Educational Service District (ESD) declined each year between 2014 and 2017 (see Exhibit 37), with the exception of a very small uptick between 2016 and 2017 for the West Shore ESD. Conversely, enrollment in schools in the Manistee Intermediate School District (ISD) shows slight increases each year in that same time period.

### EXHIBIT 37. Intermediate School District K–12 Enrollment Trends

	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
Manistee ISD	4,893	5,247	5,534	5,555
Newaygo County RESA	7,868	7,602	7,550	7,472
West Shore ESD	7,941	7,859	7,781	7,786

SOURCE: Center for Educational Performance and Improvement, Michigan Department of Education, *District-level Public School Headcount Data* (Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017).

Of the 21 school districts in the FiveCAP region, 11 have high-school graduation rates that are higher than the state average of 80 percent (see Exhibit 38). In the Baldwin School District (in Lake County), there was a significant increase in the graduate rate since the 2015 community assessment was completed: 53 percent of students graduated in 2013–2014 compared to 73 percent in 2016–2017. The graduation rates were lowest for the charter academies in the region, for example, only 21 percent of students at the Gateway to Success Academy graduated on track in 2016–2017. Casman Alternative Academy saw a decline in percent of students graduated in 2016–2017 (12 percent) compared to 2013–2014 (22 percent). Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy saw a significant increase between 2013–2014 (12 percent) and 2016–2017 (29 percent) in the percentage of students graduating, but still remains far below the state average.

Considerable percentages of students in every school district in the region are eligible for the free and reduced-price lunch (FRL) program. Of the 21 districts in the FiveCAP region, 19 have a larger percentage of FRL-eligible students than the state (see Exhibit 38). In the Baldwin School District (in Lake County), 95 percent of students qualified for the FRL program in the 2017–2018 school year.

### EXHIBIT 38. School Statistics

School District	K–12 Enrollment Fall 2017	Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch Fall 2017	Graduation Rate 2016–17 Cohort	Drop-out Rate 2016–17 Cohort
<b>West Shore Educational Service District</b>				
Baldwin Community Schools	535	510 (95.3%)	73.3%	20.0%
Gateway to Success Academy	106	86 (81.1%)	20.7%	44.8%
Hart Public School District	1,312	968 (73.8%)	91.7%	4.8%
Ludington Area School District	2,154	1,100 (51.1%)	86.4%	9.0%
Mason County Central Schools	1,286	760 (59.1%)	88.3%	6.7%
Mason County Eastern Schools	439	337 (76.8%)	95.5%	4.6%
Pentwater Public School District	280	144 (51.4%)	100.0%	0.0%
Shelby Public Schools	1,318	1,043 (79.1%)	81.6%	8.2%
Walkerville Public Schools	269	229 (85.1%)	100.0%	0.0%
<b>Manistee Intermediate School District</b>				
Bear Lake Schools	272	155 (57.0%)	88.9%	5.6%
Casman Alternative Academy	63	55 (87.3%)	11.8%	41.2%
Kaleva Norman Dickson Schools	521	399 (76.6%)	75.0%	14.6%
Manistee Area Public Schools	1,442	794 (55.1%)	78.0%	11.9%

School District	K-12 Enrollment Fall 2017	Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch Fall 2017	Graduation Rate 2016-17 Cohort	Drop-out Rate 2016-17 Cohort
Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy	2,773	2,148 (77.5%)	29.1%	49.3%
Onekama Consolidated Schools	437	232 (53.1%)	100.0%	0.0%
<b>Newaygo Regional Educational Service Agency</b>				
Big Jackson School District	14	11 (78.6%)	N/A	N/A
Fremont Public School District	2,105	1,164 (55.3%)	79.3%	8.3%
Grant Public School District	1,846	1,101 (59.6%)	77.8%	13.5%
Hesperia Community Schools	956	659 (68.9%)	86.2%	6.9%
Newaygo Public School District	1,573	1,017 (64.7%)	82.1%	7.3%
White Cloud Public Schools	959	715 (74.6%)	78.7%	8.2%
Michigan	1,468,256	771,239 (52.5%)	80.2%	8.7%

SOURCE: Center for Educational Performance and Improvement, Michigan Department of Education. *State of Michigan 2016-17 Cohort 4-year Graduation and Dropout Rate Report; 2017-18 District-level Public School Headcount Data; and Fall 2017 District-level Free and Reduced-price Lunch Counts.*

NOTE: N/A means data were not available. Some percentages may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

Between fall 2014 and fall 2017, the number of children aged five and younger who received special education services has remained fairly stable in each of the region's education districts (see Exhibit 39). In fall 2017, all three education districts experienced nominal increases.

#### EXHIBIT 39. Number of Children Aged Five and Younger Served by Special Education Services

	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
Manistee ISD	59	55	51	55
Newaygo County RESA	227	212	228	238
West Shore ESD	151	150	144	146
Michigan	24,904	25,087	25,958	26,617

SOURCE: Center for Educational Performance and Improvement, Michigan Department of Education, *Data Portrait: Special Education ISD Summary Report* (Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017).

The school districts with the largest shifts upward in the percentage of students with disabilities are the Ludington Area School District (increase from 16 to 23 percent), Manistee Area Public Schools (increase from 15 to 26 percent), Fremont Public Schools (increase from 15 to 25 percent), and Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy (increase from 8 to 45 percent) (see Exhibit 40). Pentwater Public School District, Walkerville Public Schools, and Casman Alternative Academy experienced the largest decreases in the percentage of students with disabilities, ranging from 14 to 26 percent. In 2017, about half of the districts (10 out of 21) have a greater percentage of students with disabilities than the state as a whole (13 percent).

## EXHIBIT 40. Percentage of Students with Disabilities

School District	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
<b>West Shore Educational Service District</b>				
Baldwin Community Schools	14.5%	6.0%	6.1%	6.4%
Gateway to Success Academy	N/A	N/A	1.9%	1.7%
Hart Public School District	15.8%	13.9%	12.3%	12.3%
Ludington Area School District	15.5%	23.2%	23.9%	23.1%
Mackinac Preparatory Academy	**	**	N/A	N/A
Mason County Central Schools	12.6%	13.0%	14.0%	13.8%
Mason County Eastern Schools	13.9%	4.8%	4.9%	5.1%
Pentwater Public School District	17.4%	3.6%	3.2%	3.2%
Shelby Public Schools	14.9%	15.3%	15.1%	15.6%
Walkerville Public Schools	20.2%	4.4%	3.2%	3.2%
<b>Manistee Intermediate School District</b>				
Bear Lake Schools	12.0%	4.8%	3.0%	3.5%
Casman Alternative Academy	28.1%	2.0%	2.1%	1.7%
Kaleva Norman Dickson Schools	17.8%	11.0%	9.4%	8.6%
Manistee Area Public Schools	14.6%	26.5%	24.5%	25.1%
Michigan Great Lakes Virtual Academy	8.1%	37.0%	44.5%	45.0%
Onekama Consolidated Schools	17.2%	9.2%	7.9%	8.1%
<b>Newaygo Regional Educational Service Agency</b>				
Big Jackson School District	**	**	**	**
Fremont Public School District	14.7%	24.7%	22.4%	20.2%
Grant Public School District	10.3%	18.0%	17.8%	18.1%
Hesperia Community Schools	14.6%	13.3%	14.0%	14.0%
Newaygo Public School District	12.5%	15.55	14.9%	14.4%
White Cloud Public Schools	14.8%	12.2%	12.8%	14.3%
Michigan	12.9%	12.9%	13.0%	13.1%

SOURCE: Michigan Compliance Information System, Michigan Department of Education; Center for Educational Performance and Improvement, Michigan Department of Education. *Special Education Data Portrait: Disability Snapshot* (Fall 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017).

Notes: (1) N/A means there were no data available and (2) \*\* means ten or fewer students were reported.

## CONCLUSION

The four-county region served by FiveCAP continues to lag behind the state on several indicators of prosperity, health, and education. The median income in all four counties continues to be lower than that in the state; all of the counties also have a higher percentage of their population living in poverty. All counties in the region have a higher jobless rate than the state, and the rate in Lake County is almost double that of the state.



The number of people receiving medical assistance increased in all FiveCAP counties except Mason since 2015, which may reflect the expansion of Medicaid coverage to adults with incomes up to 138 percent of the FPL. At the same time, the number of people receiving cash assistance remained relatively steady and those receiving food assistance decreased. Other indicators suggest that the level of assistance being provided to those who remain in need may not be adequate.

The percentage of the adult population with at least some college or a bachelor's degree or higher continue to lag in the region compared to the rest of the state. In many school districts in the region, a far higher percentage of students are eligible for the free and reduced-price lunch program compared to the state as a whole, and much smaller percentages of students are graduating from high school on time (particularly from the charter schools in the region).

Lake County appears to still be the most problematic county in the region. It (1) has the lowest median household income, (2) continues to lead by a substantial margin in the percentage of children living in poverty (40.2 percent in 2016), and (3) has the highest percentage of families in the region (almost one-third) who do not have an income high enough to support the basic cost of living in the community. In addition, Lake County has the highest five-year average percentage of low birthweight births (which is often associated with several maternal lifestyle and health factors), and it has the lowest level of educational attainment for adults aged 25 and older (while 82 percent of people in that age group graduated from high school, only 9 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher).

The challenge remains, therefore, for FiveCAP and its regional partners to weave a strong safety net—one that supports the region's residents and helps them achieve self-sufficiency. The data presented in this report can be used by the FiveCAP board and community stakeholders to inform upcoming strategic planning discussions and identify areas of priority.



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