

Chapter 2 – Socio-Economic Characteristics

One of the most important steps in understanding the future needs of a community is an analysis of population, households, housing, income, education and employment characteristics. Most of the information presented in this chapter is derived from the U. S. Census Bureau.

Population

The US Census showed that Mikado Township experienced a nine percent decrease of its population (losing 96 year round residents) from 2000 to 2010. In fact, all communities in Alcona County experienced population losses during the past decade, with the county as a whole losing 777 year round residents. **See Table 2.1.** With an area of 71.3 sq. mi., the township has a population density of 13.2 persons per square mile. By comparison, the County has a population density of 15.8 persons per square mile.

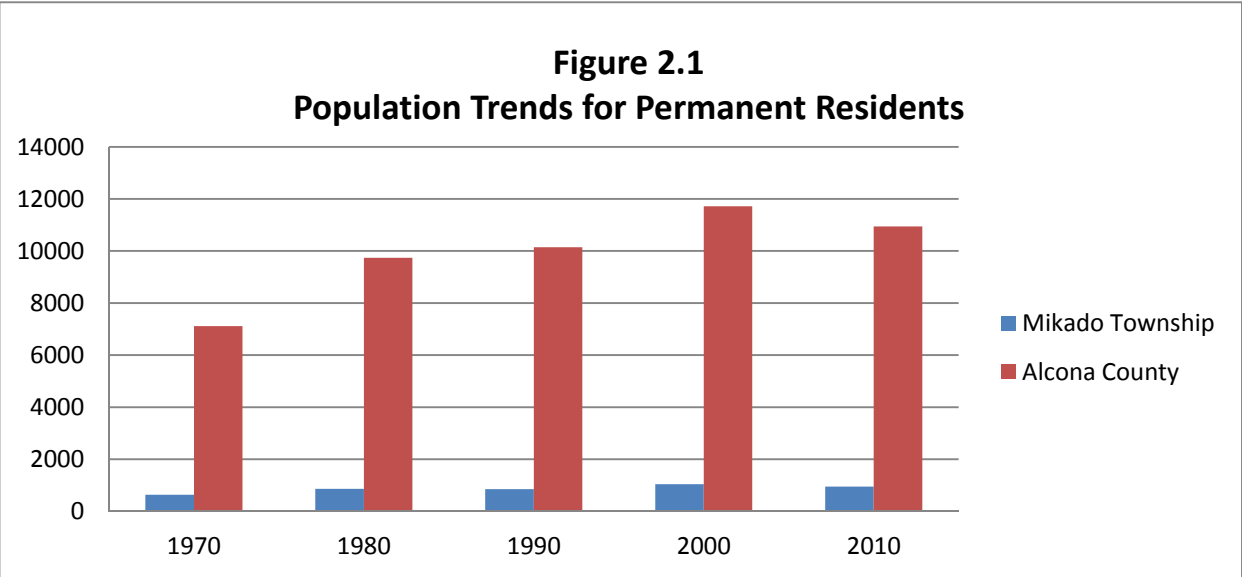
In comparison, the highest percentage losses were experienced by Millen Township (12.7 percent), Alcona Township (11.1 percent), Mitchell Township (11.1 percent), and Curtis Township (10.3 percent). While Curtis Township and Alcona Township lost the highest number of people (142 and 121 respectively). Haynes Township experienced the lowest percentage of population loss of only two people.

Municipality	2000 Population	2010 Population	Percent Change	Numeric Change
Mikado Township	1,043	947	-9.2%	-96
Alcona Township	1,089	968	-11.1%	-121
Caledonia Township	1,203	1,161	-3.5%	-42
Curtis Township	1,378	1,236	-10.3%	-142
Greenbush Township	1,499	1,409	-6.0%	-90
Gustin Township	832	795	-4.4%	-37
Harrisville Township	1,411	1,348	-4.5%	-63
Hawes Township	1,167	1,107	-5.1%	-60
Haynes Township	724	722	-0.3%	-2
Millen Township	463	404	-12.7%	-59
Mitchell Township	396	352	-11.1%	-44
City of Harrisville	514	493	-4.1%	-21
Village of Lincoln	364	337	-7.4%	-27
Alcona County	11,719	10,942	-6.6%	-777
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census				

It is important to note the U. S. Census population figures do not include the seasonal population of the township. Since the census is taken in April, persons whose primary home is elsewhere are not counted in Mikado Township. The figures presented for housing characteristics show that 29.4 percent or 192 housing units are listed as seasonal, recreational or occasional use homes. Therefore, it can be assumed that the Township's resident population can significantly increase during peak periods in the summer months. Using the 2.31 persons per household for Mikado Township and the 192 seasonal homes, peak seasonal population

could increase by approximately 400 persons.

Population trends for permanent residents of Mikado Township from 1970 to 2010 are shown in **Figure 2.1**. In 1970, the Township population was 636. By 2000, the population had increased to 1,043, a 64 percent increase over the 1970 population level. However, between 2000 and 2010 the Township experienced a nine percent population loss.



Age Distribution and Racial Composition

A community should consider the age distribution of its population when planning for community-wide services and special services targeting certain age groups. For example, younger families typically require access to rental housing or affordable housing as first homebuyers. An elderly population may need access to public transportation, senior housing facilities, nursing homes and in-home health care.

2010 US Census data shows that 60 percent of the township’s population was 45 years old or older. This percentage has increased over the past few decades and is likely to continue as current residents age in place. Combined with an out-migration of younger families and an in-migration of retirees, the median age for the township is increasing at a higher rate than the county, State of Michigan and US. The median age of residents in Mikado Township increased from 40.5 to 49.4 during the period 2000-2010, (see **Table 2.2**). By comparison, Alcona County increased from 49 to 55.2 and the State’s median age increased from 35.5 to 38.9 years during the period 2000-2010. Furthermore, the median age of the township is 12 years older than the US.

Governmental Unit	2000	2010
Mikado Township	40.5	49.4
Alcona County	49.0	55.2
Michigan	35.5	38.9
United States	35.3	37.2
Source: U. S. Bureau of the Census		

In conclusion, shifts in the township’s demographic make-up are changing the population structure. Long term trends indicate

Mikado Township MASTER PLAN

the median age will continue to increase at a faster rate than the State of Michigan and US. The rate has increased with the down turn in the economy, as young families move to other areas for employment. An aging population needs access to social and medical services. The community's emergency response services will likely experience an increase in demands.

According to the 2010 U. S. Census, the racial make up of the Township and County population is relatively homogeneous. Ninety-eight percent of the Township population was classified as white as compared to 79 percent of the State's population. Other races listed in the census included Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic.

Table 2.3													
Age Distribution By Municipality For Alcona County - 2010													
Community	< 5 Yrs.	%*	5-19 Yrs.	%*	20-24 Yrs.	%*	25-44 Yrs.	%*	45-64 Yrs.	%*	65 Yrs. & >	%*	Median Age
Mikado Township	27	2.9	174	18.4	32	3.4	165	17.4	342	36.1	207	21.8	49.4
Alcona Township	18	1.9	89	9.2	23	2.4	96	9.9	299	30.9	443	45.8	63.0
Caledonia Township	32	2.8	165	14.2	32	2.8	173	14.9	363	31.2	396	34.2	56.7
Curtis Township	33	2.7	155	12.6	35	2.8	161	13.0	437	35.4	415	33.6	56.4
Greenbush Township	53	3.8	148	10.5	32	2.3	200	14.1	482	34.2	494	35.0	57.9
Gustin Township	42	5.3	150	18.9	33	4.2	168	21.2	242	30.4	160	20.1	45.3
Harrisville Township	46	3.4	188	13.9	34	2.5	195	14.4	483	35.9	402	29.8	53.8
Hawes Township	31	2.8	168	15.2	35	3.2	182	16.5	378	34.1	313	28.3	52.9
Haynes Township	14	1.9	101	14.0	16	2.2	100	13.8	270	37.4	221	30.6	56.1
Millen Township	9	2.2	30	7.4	9	2.2	52	12.9	172	42.5	132	32.6	56.6
Mitchell Township	8	2.3	25	7.0	9	2.6	38	10.8	160	45.5	112	31.9	59.4
City of Harrisville	18	3.7	73	14.9	14	2.8	99	20.1	143	29.0	146	29.7	51.6
Village of Lincoln	18	5.3	57	16.8	23	6.8	78	23.1	74	21.9	87	25.8	43.2
Alcona Co.	331	3.0	1,466	13.4	304	2.8	1,629	14.8	3,771	34.5	3,441	31.5	55.2
Michigan		6.0		20.8		6.8		24.7		27.9		13.8	38.9

*Figure shows the percentage each age grouping represents of the local unit's total population.
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Household Characteristics

Table 2.4 presents information on household characteristics gathered in the 2010 US Census. Information includes total number of households, average household size, householder living alone, householder 65 years & older living alone, and households with an individual 65 years & older. According to the 2010 Census, of the 407 households in Mikado Township, 107 were reported as householders living alone and 39 householders 65 years and older living alone. The average household size was 2.31 as compared to Michigan where the average household size was 2.49.

U.S. Census data showed a total of 407 households in Mikado Township, of which 273 are family households and 134 are non-family households. A non-family household is a household with one person or a household with non-relatives living together. Some 54.3 percent of Mikado Township's households were classified as husband-wife families, while male household, no wife present accounted for 5.7 percent of households and female household, no husband present accounted for 7.1 percent. Over 23 percent of the households have individuals under 18 years and 34.9 percent of households have individuals 65 years and over. By comparison, in Michigan 31.6 percent of households had individuals under 18 years and 25.4 percent of households had individuals 65 years and over.

Table 2.4					
Mikado and Alcona County: Household Characteristics - 2010					
MUNICIPALITY	Total Households	Avg. Household Size	Householder Living Alone	Householder Alone 65 yrs. & Older	Household w/ Individual 65 yrs. & older
Mikado Twp.	407	2.31	107	39	142
Alcona Township	496	1.95	158	91	292
Caledonia Twp.	534	2.17	145	85	265
Curtis Township	595	2.08	189	94	285
Greenbush Twp.	676	2.08	203	112	336
Gustin Township*	339	2.33	108	59	124
Harrisville Twp.	588	2.19	149	71	237
Hawes Twp.*	497	2.22	136	76	215
Haynes Township.	342	2.11	98	50	151
Millen Township	200	2.00	68	28	87
Mitchell Twp.	184	1.91	63	30	79
City of Harrisville	231	1.96	89	47	106
Village of Lincoln	160	2.11	69	37	66
Alcona County	5,089	2.13	1,513	782	2,319
Michigan	-----	2.49	-----	-----	-----
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census					
* Count includes parts of Lincoln					

School Enrollment and Educational Attainment

According to the *2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*, 194 persons in Mikado Township over the age of three years were enrolled in school, 159 in kindergarten to 12th grade, and 35 in college. Of the 802 persons 25 years and older, 89.3 percent were high school graduates, while 6.0 percent attended school into the 9th- 12th grade with no diploma and 1.3 percent had completed less than the 9th grade. Nearly 29 percent had received some college with no degree, 12.8 percent had Associate's degrees, 6.1 percent had earned a Bachelor's degree, and 0.6 percent had earned a graduate or professional degree. Mikado Township has a lower percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher than Alcona County and State as a whole. (Table 2.5).

Table 2.5 Educational Attainment			
	Mikado Township	Alcona County	State of Michigan
Population 25 years and over	802	8,717	6,594,586
Less than 9 th grade education	1.4%	3.5%	3.4%
9 th – 12 th grade, no diploma	9.4%	9.6%	7.7%
High school graduate	41.1%	40.0%	30.4%
Some college, no degree	28.6%	25.8%	24.0%
Associate degree	12.8%	8.0%	8.6%
Bachelor's degree	6.1%	8.1%	15.9%
Graduate or professional degree	0.6%	5.0%	10.0%
Percent high school graduate or higher	89.3%	86.9%	88.9%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	6.7%	13.0%	25.9%

Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Disability Status

Data shown in **Table 2.6** from the *2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates* gives an indication of disabled people who reside in Mikado Township, Alcona County and Michigan. Persons with disabilities include those with a hearing difficulty, a vision difficulty, a cognitive difficulty, an ambulatory difficulty, a self-care difficulty and an independent living difficulty. The percent population of persons with disabilities is much higher for Mikado Township and Alcona County than Michigan as a whole. The same is true for the population 18 to 64 years of age. Statistics for 65+ years are comparable for all three entities.

Table 2.6 Disability Status of Civilian Non-Institutionalized Persons					
LOCAL UNIT	% Disabled persons	% Disabled under 5 Years	% Disabled 5-17 Years	% Disabled 18-64 Years	% Disabled 65+ Years
Mikado Twp.	23.9%	--	--	24.3%	49.2%
Alcona County	21.7%	--	7.2%	18.6%	33.9%
Michigan	13.7%	0.8%	6.3%	11.9%	36.5%

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Housing Characteristics

The US Census reports a wide variety of housing characteristics. Housing characteristics for Mikado Township are found in **Table 2.7**. In 2010, there were 653 housing units in the Mikado Township. Certain characteristics contrast sharply with the State as a whole. For example, 29.4 percent of the housing units in Mikado Township were seasonal as compared to 47.2 percent in Alcona County and only 5.8 percent statewide. Of the occupied housing units 74.5 percent (365 of the 407) were owner occupied as compared to 72.1 percent in the State as a whole. Within the County the percent of seasonal housing units ranged from 18.2 percent in the City of Harrisville to 72.3 percent in Mitchell Township. In Mikado Township, 62.3 percent (407 out of 653) of the total were occupied.

According to the US Census, 8.1% of the housing in Mikado Township was built prior to 1939, and 21.2 percent was built between 1940 and 1959. The decades between 1950 and 2000 saw a steady growth in housing units. The highest growth was during the 1990's when 23 percent of the housing units were constructed. Information reported in the *2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates* found 21.8% percent of the housing units were heated with natural gas, 34.2 percent heat with bottled, tank or LP gas and 3.6 percent heat with electricity and 38.7 percent heat with wood or other fuel. Data from *2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates* found the median house value was \$71,300 in Mikado Township as compared to \$102,800 for Alcona County and \$121,700 for the entire State.

Table 2.7						
Housing Counts and Occupancy Status in Alcona County						
Area Name	2010					
	Total	Occupied	Vacant	Percent Vacant	Seasonal	* Percent Seasonal
Mikado Township	653	407	246	37.7	192	29.4
Alcona Township	1,366	496	870	63.7	806	59.0
Caledonia Township	1,155	534	621	53.8	576	49.9
Curtis Township	1,700	595	1,105	65.0	1,013	59.6
Greenbush Township	1,496	676	820	54.8	680	45.5
Gustin Township	497	339	158	31.8	94	18.9
Harrisville Township	874	588	286	32.7	205	23.5
Hawes Township	1,071	497	574	53.6	489	45.7
Haynes Township	627	342	285	45.5	240	38.3
Millen Township	540	200	340	63.0	314	58.1
Mitchell Township	765	184	581	75.9	553	72.3
City of Harrisville	329	231	98	29.8	60	18.2
Village of Lincoln	236	160	76	32.2	47	19.9
Alcona County	11,073	5,089	5,984	54.0	5,222	47.2
* Percent of total housing - Source: 2010 US Census Bureau						

Income

According to the U.S. Census, American Community Survey, Mikado Township’s median household income is \$37,750, which is higher than the County, but lower than the State. The same pattern can be found for Median Family Income. Per Capita Income for Mikado Township is lower than Alcona County and Michigan. **See Table 2.8.**

Table 2.8			
Median Household Income for Mikado Township, Alcona County & State			
	Mikado Township	Alcona County	Michigan
Median Household Income	\$37,750	\$37,189	\$48,411
Median Family Income	\$50,833	\$45,424	\$60,793
Per Capita Income	\$18,146	\$22,719	\$25,681
Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau			

Poverty

Information from the American Community Survey shows poverty rates in Mikado Township, Alcona County and Michigan (**Table 2.9**). The percent of families, individuals and individuals 65 years and over living in poverty is higher in the township than in Alcona County and Michigan.

Table 2.9			
Poverty Rates: Mikado Township, Alcona County and Michigan			
	Mikado Township	Alcona County	Michigan
Families	14.4%	11.1%	12.0%
Families with female head of household	40.0%	26.4%	34.3%
Individuals	18.8%	15.1%	16.8%
Individuals 65 years and over	8.7%	8.2%	8.2%
Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau			

Labor Force

Employment and Unemployment

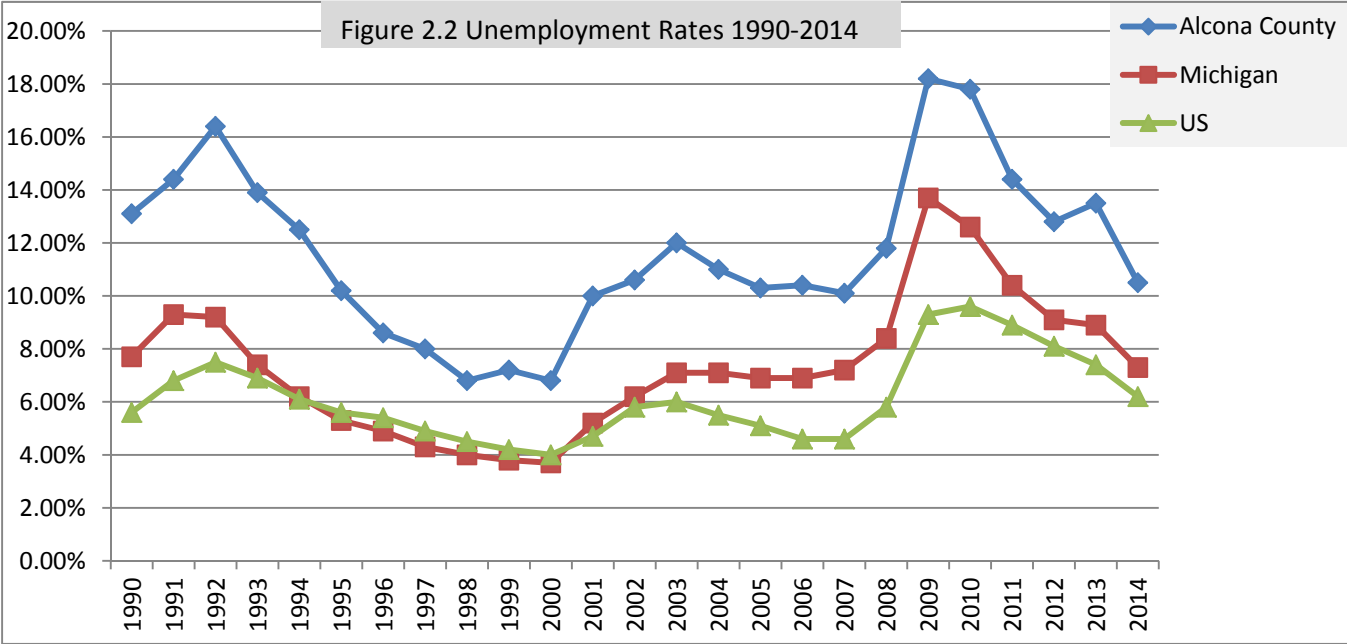
The civilian labor force is defined as all civilian individuals over age 16 who are employed or actively seeking employment. Labor force numbers can change rather quickly in response to economic conditions. During prolonged periods of unemployment, unsuccessful job seekers can drop out of the work force by going back to school, leaving the area in search of work elsewhere or by stopping the search for work.

Table 2.10 presents information on labor force, employment and unemployment for Alcona County from 2004 to 2014. Unemployment rates experienced a significant increase in 2009 as a result of the “Great Recession” in 2008. Jobless rates peaked in 2009 and have dropped to the typical long term rates. The number of persons in the labor force and employed began to fall in 2006. The economic

downturn continued to feed this trend. Even though jobless rates have fallen to 8.0% in 2015, the labor force and number of person employed has not returned to 2006 levels. As seen in **Figure 2.5**, unemployment rates in Alcona County generally mirror those in the State and U.S., however, they are consistently at a higher level.

Year	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Jobless Rate
2015	3,803	3,500	303	8.0%
2014	3,836	3,435	401	10.5%
2013	3,817	3,303	514	13.5%
2012	3,717	3,242	475	12.8%
2011	3,808	3,260	548	14.4%
2010	3,880	3,188	692	17.8%
2009	4,353	3,563	791	18.2%
2008	4,361	3,845	516	11.8%
2007	4,339	3,901	438	10.1%
2006	4,481	4,013	468	10.4%
2005	4,316	3,871	445	10.3%
2004	4,197	3,736	461	11.0%

Source: Michigan Labor Market Information



Wage and Salary Employment

For residents of the township and county, the largest employment sectors are retail trade, services and public administration. Note, the information reflects where township residents work, not job located within the township. Services in the number one employment sector for residents of the

township. Employment in "other" sectors ("other" includes construction, transportation and communications, wholesale trade, and finance, insurance and real estate accounted for much lower percentages of the wage and salary employment (**Table 2.11**).

Table 2.11 Total Employees by Major Employment Type (2014)				
Category	Mikado Township		Alcona County	
	Total	Percent	Total	Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing (SIC Range 01-09)	8	4.28	52	2.04
Mining (SIC 10-14)	0	0.00	4	0.16
Construction (SIC 15-17)	6	3.21	137	5.37
Manufacturing (SIC 20-39)	1	0.53	189	7.41
Transportation and Communications (SIC 40-49)	8	4.28	83	3.26
Wholesale Trade (SIC 50-51)	6	3.21	35	1.37
Retail Trade (SIC 52-59)	15	8.02	542	21.26
Finance, Insurance And Real Estate (SIC 60-69)	1	0.53	124	4.86
Services (SIC 70-89)	125	66.84	942	36.96
Public Administration (SIC 90-98)	15	8.02	423	16.59
Unclassified (SIC 99)	0	0.00	18	0.71
Source: NEMCOG				

Commuting to Work

The vast majority of residents of the Mikado Township drive alone to work (**Table 2.12**). According to the *2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*, 6.7 percent of workers worked from home, but due in advancements in technology allowing greater flexibility in worker location in the past decade, that number has increased and will likely continue to increase. The mean travel time to job was 23.5 minutes which shows many individuals travel outside the township for work.

Table 2.12 Mikado Township Work Commute		
Mode of Transportation	Number	Percent
Drove Alone	302	81.4%
Carpooled	41	11.1%
Walked	3	0.8%
Worked at home	25	6.7%
Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates U.S. Bureau of the Census		