



Benchmarks Northwest

a comprehensive report containing data about the quality of life in Northwest Michigan.

Benchmarks Northwest is a citizen and policymakers' guide to assess and monitor quality of life issues in our regional community. The counties included in Benchmarks Northwest are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.

The community issues are categorized into the following areas of interest:

- Culture & Recreation
- Economy & Employment
- Education
- Government
- Health
- Infrastructure
- Natural Resources & Environment
- Population Dynamics

“Data indicators, such as Benchmarks Northwest, are especially useful when working on grant applications, annual reports, or business strategies.”

—Matt McCauley, Director of Regional Planning and Community Development, NWMCOG

Easy to read

Quick reference

Sample Data from the Regional Health Report:

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|----|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 3. | Population Over 60 Years | 55,833 (2000) | 66,339 (2008) | 72,142 (2009) | ↑ 29.2% (‘00 - ‘09) | ↑ 8.7% (‘08 - ‘09) |
| 4. | Percent of Population Uninsured | 13.78 % (2000) | 13.04 % (2006) | 10.67 % (2007) | ↓ -22.6% (‘00 - ‘07) | ↓ -18.2% (‘06 - ‘07) |
| 5. | Children 0-18 Insured By MiChild | 631 (2000) | 1,484 (2008) | 1,508 (2009) | ↑ 139.0% (‘00 - ‘09) | ↑ 1.6 % (‘08 - ‘09) |

Benchmarks Northwest is available online:

nwm.org/benchmarks