



Center for Urban Initiatives and Research



Because There's No **One Way**
To End Poverty

Community Relations - Social Development Commission: Community Services Block Grant Needs Assessment

Chapter I.3: Existing Data on Various Poverty-Related Indicators for Milwaukee County

Final Report

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Introduction

This report presents a summary of existing data and research related to poverty in Milwaukee County. This report is one of six research components of a comprehensive needs assessment for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) on behalf of the Community Relations-Social Development Commission (CR-SDC). CR-SDC was interested in obtaining data from a number of indicators related to poverty, service gaps, barriers, and possible solutions for Milwaukee County. The four goals of the CSBG Needs Assessment are to:

- (1) Identify and quantify the incidence or prevalence of individual need,
- (2) Identify gaps in human service provision,
- (3) Identify barriers to self-sufficiency; and
- (4) Identify strategies for overcoming barriers to self-sufficiency.

Results of the assessment will be used to advise and guide CR-SDC as they plan programming for low-income individuals.

Eight core poverty-related areas were identified and used throughout the assessment: employment, education, housing, food and nutrition, transportation, health and healthcare, use of available income, and family and relationships. This component seeks to provide a review of existing data across these eight core areas in Milwaukee County for the years 2002, 2005, and 2008, with data for 2009 presented as available.¹

Much of the information presented in this report comes from the American Community Survey (ACS), which is produced by the U.S. Census Bureau. Whereas the Census is collected every 10 years, the ACS seeks to provide estimates every year based on monthly sampling. If data on a certain topic was unavailable from the ACS, other sources were used and cited in the report.

¹ It should be noted that most of the data used for this paper was collected before the economic recession in the fall of 2008.

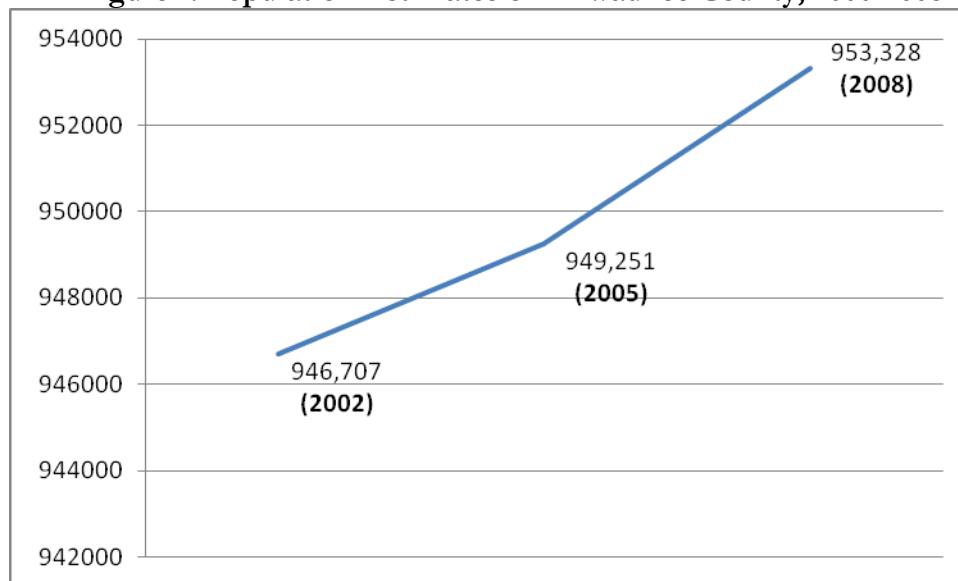
General Indicators

Milwaukee County Population Estimates

Overall Population. Milwaukee is the most diverse and most populous county in the state of Wisconsin. About one in six Wisconsin residents live in Milwaukee County. Milwaukee County's population has grown steadily over time, from approximately thirty thousand people in 1850 to over a million people in 1970. This peak in 1970 was followed by a few decades of small losses.

In the last several years, the population of Milwaukee County has seen a slight but steady increase in population; according to U.S. Census estimates, the population increased by 1% between 2002 and 2008. Figure 1 displays this data based on U.S. Census and ACS population change estimates from 2002 to 2008.

Figure 1: Population Estimates of Milwaukee County, 2000-2008



Race/Ethnicity of Population. As illustrated by Table 1 on the next page, Milwaukee County has a higher percentage of residents who are African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Asian American than the rest of the state.² For example, while the entire state of Wisconsin is 6% African American, Milwaukee County itself is 26% African American. The City of Milwaukee is a minority-majority city—that is, the total number of residents who are racial/ethnic minorities is greater than the number of residents who are Caucasian.

² Certain tables may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Table 1: Race/Ethnicity in Milwaukee County and State of Wisconsin (2008)

Race/Ethnicity	Milwaukee County	State of Wisconsin
African American/Black	26%	6%
Asian American	3%	2%
Native American/Alaskan Native	1%	1%
Caucasian/White, not Hispanic	68%	90%
Multi-Racial/Other Race	2%	1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%
Hispanic/Latino Origin*	12%	5%

* The ACS clarifies that “The concept of race is separate from the concept of Hispanic origin. Percentages for the various race categories add to 100 percent, and should not be combined with the percent Hispanic. People who are Hispanic may be of any race.”

Population increases by race/ethnicity are described in Table 2.³ Overall, racial/ethnic demographics in Milwaukee County have remained fairly stable since 2002, though there has been a slight increase in the number of minority residents and a slight decrease in the number of Caucasian residents

Table 2: Changes in Milwaukee County Population by Race/Ethnicity*

Race/Ethnicity	2002	2005	2008	Net Change 2002-2008
African American (Black)	25.2%	25.5%	25.7%	+0.5%
Hispanic / Latino	9.7%	10.8%	12.0%	+2.3%
Caucasian (White)	69.6%	69.0%	68.4%	-1.2%
Asian	2.8%	3.0%	3.1%	+0.3%
American Indian	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	+0.1%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	+0.0%

*Table adds the Hispanic/Latino Category. Due to the ACS using differing methodologies in different years to collect this information, the table above should be seen as a best estimate.

Age of Population. In recent years, the demographic of age has shifted in the population of Milwaukee County. As seen in Table 3, there were significant changes within several age groups between 2002 and 2008.

Notably, there was a sharp decline in the population of those aged 25 to 34. There was an even larger decline in the number of residents aged 70 to 79. In contrast, there was an increase in the number of residents aged 50 to 64, particularly those aged 55 to 64, a group who has reached or are approaching retirement.

³ Data on age, gender and race comes from the U.S. Census, available online at : <http://www.census.gov/popest/counties/asrh/CC-EST2008-alldata.html>

Table 3: Changes in Milwaukee County Population by Age*

Age Group (years)	2002	2005	2008	Net Change 2002-2008
0 – 4	69,758	72,058	74,434	+6%
5 – 9	67,904	65,452	68,595	+1%
10 – 14	70,983	69,466	65,547	-7%
15 – 19	66,786	68,086	70,070	+4%
20 – 24	69,948	65,488	64,220	-8%
25 – 29	67,406	63,032	57,730	-14%
30 – 34	71,254	67,966	62,094	-12%
35 – 39	69,021	67,894	68,033	-1%
40 – 44	72,865	71,898	68,487	-6%
45 – 49	68,198	71,660	72,296	+6%
50 – 54	58,925	64,083	69,202	+17%
55 – 59	42,991	52,762	58,847	+36%
60 – 64	32,780	35,991	43,350	+32%
65 – 69	28,192	28,390	30,300	+7%
70 – 74	27,982	24,777	23,258	-16%
75 – 79	25,899	23,748	20,908	-19%
80 – 84	18,810	18,945	17,643	-6%
85 or older	17,005	17,555	18,314	+7%

*Note: Rows shaded in red denote a decrease in population of 10% or more, while rows shaded in green denote an increase in population of 10% or more.

Table 4 collapses the distribution of age in Milwaukee County into three categories: 0 to 19, 20 to 64, and 65 or older. Although there were no dramatic changes between 2002 and 2008, it is clear that residents under age 65 account for most of the population growth.

Table 4: Milwaukee County Population by Age

Age Group	2002	2005	2008	Net Change 2002-2008
Age 0-19	29.1%	29.0%	29.2%	+0.1%
Age 20-64	58.5%	59.1%	59.2%	+0.7%
Age 65+	12.5%	12.0%	11.6%	-0.9%
Total	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	-

Milwaukee County Poverty Estimates

Poverty Estimates. Milwaukee County has one of the highest concentrations of poverty in the region. According to U.S. Census Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, the poverty rate in the county declined by about 1% between 2005 and 2008, from 18% to 17%.⁴

High levels of poverty inside the city of Milwaukee drive up the poverty rate for the entire county, counteracting the lower poverty rates in surrounding cities and villages. In 2008, roughly 23% of City of Milwaukee residents were considered to be living in poverty (based on income in the preceding 12 months), compared with poverty rates of 10% statewide. The data indicates that among U.S. cities of 250,000 people or more, Milwaukee is the 11th highest in terms of poverty.

The following sections include poverty estimates based on demographics. Data is drawn from the 2005 and 2008 American Community Survey (ACS). Because of slight differences in methodology, data from 2002 were not included in this section of the analysis. Poverty levels are based on income in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Age and Poverty. Poverty affects Milwaukee County residents of every age, as shown in Table 5. Despite the fact that the proportion of those in poverty amongst children as compared to adults declined slightly between 2005 and 2008, people under age 18 still accounted for more than one third of residents living in poverty in 2008. Of all those in poverty, 56% are between the ages of 18 and 64.

Table 5: Ratio of Those in Poverty in Milwaukee County by Age

Age Group	2005	2008	Net Change
Under 18	40%	36%	-5%
18-64	54%	56%	+2%
65+	5%	8%	+3%
Total	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	-

In 2008, about 22,800 children aged five years or younger were in poverty, as were roughly 39,050 children/teens aged six to seventeen.

Families and Poverty. Single female households account for 72% of all families in poverty, followed by 17% of married couples and 12% single male households.

Table 6 gives the ratio of all families in poverty based on the number of children they have. In 2008, 63% of those families in poverty had at least one child, while in 2005 this figure was 58%. The majority of families in poverty had one to two children.

⁴ Available at <http://www.census.gov/did/www/saie/index.html>

Table 6: Ratio of Those Families in Poverty by Number of Children⁵

Number of Children	2005	2008	Net Change
1-2 Children	58%	63%	+5%
3-4 Children	34%	29%	-5%
5+ Children	7%	7%	-

Gender and Poverty. Overall, women are more likely to be in poverty than men. Table 7 indicates that this gender disparity decreased by roughly 10% between 2005 and 2008. Of those in poverty, 55% were female while 45% were male in 2008.

Table 7: Ratio of Those in Poverty by Gender

Gender	2005	2008	Net Change
Men	40%	45%	+5%
Women	60%	55%	-5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	-

Race/Ethnicity and Poverty. Poverty rates for the four most populous racial/ethnic groups in Milwaukee County are presented below in Table 8.⁶ While the poverty rate among Caucasian residents has been fairly stable, the poverty rates for African American and Hispanic/Latino residents declined between 2005 and 2008—by more than 10% for Hispanic residents. There was a 5% increase in poverty among Asian residents during this time period.

Table 8: Poverty Rate in Milwaukee County by Racial Group

Race / Ethnicity	2005	2008	Net Change
African American (Black)	34%	33%	-1%
Hispanic/Latino	32%	20%	-12%
Caucasian (White)	10%	10%	-
Asian	14%	19%	+5

Additional Information Related to Poverty in Milwaukee County

According to a 2005 report by the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association, the state of Wisconsin had the largest increase of people living in poverty in the country in 2003 and 2004. The main causes of poverty were determined to be economic factors, including low wages, poor job training, and job loss. According to the report:

⁵ Families had a minimum of one child.

⁶ Sample sizes for other racial groups too small for ACS to estimate.

“A growing number of jobs available to less skilled workers in Wisconsin—especially those without college degrees—do not pay enough to lift a family of four out of poverty.”⁷

Another report, authored by the Institute for Research on Poverty in April 2009, found that the overall poverty rate and child poverty rate in Milwaukee County were the highest in the state.⁸ The report concludes:

“These data strongly suggests there has been deterioration in the economic conditions of low and formerly middle-income families since 2007...while need may be high and growing in the poorer areas of Milwaukee, increases in need were not spread evenly across the state.”

⁷ Full report available at <http://www.wiscap.org/pdfs/Poverty%20Matters%20%20Facing%20Poverty%20in%20Wisconsin.pdf>

⁸ Full report available at http://www.irp.wisc.edu/research/WisconsinPoverty/pdfs/First_Wisconsin_Poverty_Report_Final-2.pdf

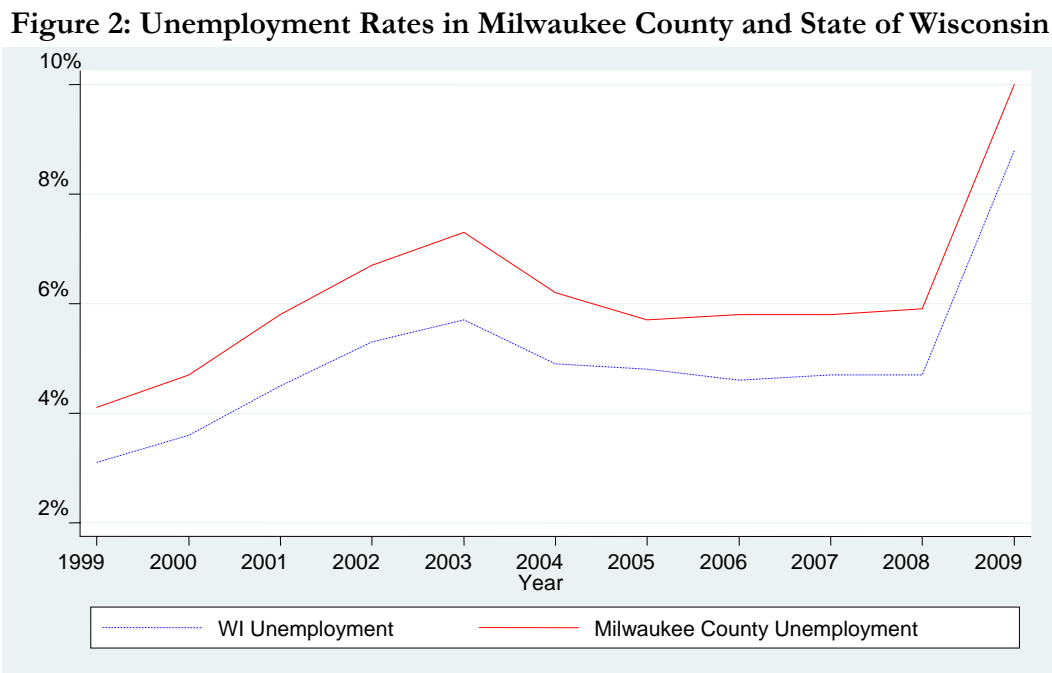
Employment Related Indicators

Numerous organizations, including the U.S. Census Bureau, determine poverty status by assessing personal or household income over the preceding 12 months. Because of the significant ways that employment affects income, this section reports trends related to unemployment, wages, child care, and other related factors in Milwaukee County.

Unemployment

Overall Unemployment. The unemployment rate in Milwaukee County has long been, and continues to be, higher than the statewide unemployment rate. According to the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, the unadjusted unemployment rate in October 2009 was 11% in the City of Milwaukee, 9% in Milwaukee County, and 8% statewide.⁹ One study estimates that the job gap in the inner-city is 25:1—that is, there is only one job available for every 25 inner-city Milwaukee resident looking for work.¹⁰

Figure 2 compares the unemployment rate of Milwaukee County to the state of Wisconsin over the past decade, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in August of each year. Milwaukee County continues to have higher levels of unemployment, which may contribute to the county's high poverty rate relative to the state.



Age and Unemployment. The unemployment rate varies by age groups. Residents aged 16 to 24 have the highest levels of unemployment compared to all other age groups.

⁹ Available at http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/2009/unemployment/1009_local_lmi.pdf

¹⁰ Full report available at <http://www4.uwm.edu/eti/2009/MilwaukeeSocioEconomicAnalysis.pdf>

Table 9 describes unemployment rates for six different age groups in 2002, 2005, and 2008. Note that these data were collected before the economic crises of fall 2008. The table is calculated by taking the number of individuals in the labor force divided into the number of unemployed for each age group. It is based on data including all Caucasian, Hispanic/Latino, and African American residents in Milwaukee County. Other racial/ethnic groups, including Asian Americans and Native Americans, had sample sizes which were too small to be included in the analysis

Table 9: Unemployment Rate in Milwaukee County by Age

Age Group	2002	2005	2008	Net Change 2002-2008
16 to 19 years	13%	16%	10%	-3%
20 to 24 years	17%	14%	11%	-6%
25 to 54 years	6%	7%	5%	-1%
55 to 64 years	8%	3%	3%	-5.0%
65 to 69 years	<i>N/A</i>	0.9%	2%	-none-
70 years and over	<i>N/A</i>	0.3%	0.3%	-none-

Unemployment rates for residents aged 20 to 24 changed the most, decreasing nearly 6% between 2002 and 2008. Those aged 25 to 54 saw the smallest decrease in unemployment; however, the rate for this group was relatively low to begin with. Because residents over the age of 65 have a relatively small sample size (in fact, they had no data for 2002), few conclusions about them can be drawn.

Gender, Age and Unemployment. Table 10 on the next page provides a more detailed look at unemployment rates among women and men. The data is also broken down by age as well. While men generally had higher levels of unemployment than women, differences in the unemployment rate between age groups were more dramatic than differences between genders. At the time these data were collected unemployment rates were generally in decline for both women and men of all age groups. The net change in unemployment for those women aged 35 to 44 was -5.6%, while for men of the same age group this figure was -1.2%. Men and women aged 45 to 54 both decreased their unemployment levels by roughly 2%.

Table 10: Unemployment Rate in Milwaukee County by Age and Gender

Age Group	2002		2005		2008		Net Change 2002-2008	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
16-19	26.5%	23.2%	29.2%	33.1%	25.7%	20.3%	-0.8	-2.9
20-21	27.5%	27.6%	28.2%	25.1%	14.7%	9.7%	-12.7	-17.9
22-24	14.4%	11.5%	15.0%	13.6%	15.4%	10.3%	+1.1	-1.2
25-29	8.9%	7.4%	11.8%	9.4%	6.4%	3.7%	-2.6	-3.7
30-34	9.6%	6.8%	12.0%	5.9%	7.6%	4.0%	-2.0	-2.8
35-44	7.8%	10.7%	7.4%	7.3%	6.6%	5.1%	-1.2	-5.6
45-54	7.5%	4.9%	7.5%	4.9%	5.8%	3.0%	-1.7	-1.9
55-59	23.2%	8.3%	4.1%	4.8%	6.7%	4.5%	-16.5	-3.8
60-61	10.1%	9.0%	3.3%	12.0%	2.7%	4.9%	-7.4	-4.2
62-64	N/A	N/A	3.5%	3.6%	4.7%	3.5%	-none-	-none-
65-69	N/A	N/A	1.7%	4.8%	3.5%	6.8%	-none-	-none-
70+	N/A	N/A	1.7%	5.4%	0.0%	6.1%	-none-	-none-

Race/Ethnicity and Unemployment. Table 11 describes the unemployment rate by racial/ethnic group for only those residents in the labor force.¹¹ As with previous sections, the sample size for smaller groups, including Native Americans, was too small to be included here.

Table 11: Unemployment Among Labor Force Members in Milwaukee County by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2002	2005	2008	Net Change 2002-2008
African American/Black	20%	17%	12%	-8%
Hispanic/Latino	10%	14%	8%	-2%
Caucasian/White	7%	6%	7%	- none -
Asian	N/A	N/A	4%	- none -

The unemployment rate for residents who are African American declined from 2002 to 2008, but still remained higher than other ethnic/racial groups. At 12% in 2008, African American unemployment was four percentage points higher than the next highest group which was Hispanics/Latinos at 8%. The unemployment rate among Hispanic/Latino residents also declined. For Caucasian residents, the unemployment rate stayed relatively stable, dropping to 6% in 2005 and returning to 7% in 2008.

¹¹ This includes all people classified in the civilian labor force plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). A full description of the labor force concept and others used in the 2008 ACS is available at <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2008/usedata/2008%20ACS%20Subject%20Definitions.pdf>

According to the ACS, African American residents experienced the greatest decline in the unemployment rate from 2002 to 2008. This group also still had the largest unemployment rate overall, followed in decreasing order by Hispanic/Latino, Caucasian, and Asian residents.

Hourly Wages and Yearly Salary Information

Like many urban areas in the Midwest, wages and salary are higher in the City of Milwaukee than other, more rural areas of the state or county. As illustrated below in Table 12, the mean (average) annual salary, the mean hourly wage, and the median hourly wage were higher in the Milwaukee metropolitan area than in the state of Wisconsin every year from 2003 to 2008.¹²

Table 12: Wage Comparisons of Metro Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin, 2003-2008

Milwaukee Metropolitan Area Wages				State of Wisconsin Wages			
Year	Median Hourly	Mean Hourly	Mean Annual	Year	Median Hourly	Mean Hourly	Mean Annual
2003	\$14.40	\$17.95	\$37,330	2003	\$13.31	\$16.34	\$33,980
2004	\$14.75	\$18.43	\$38,330	2004	\$13.72	\$16.77	\$34,870
2005	\$15.15	\$18.79	\$39,070	2005	\$14.11	\$17.15	\$35,660
2006	\$15.47	\$19.24	\$40,030	2006	\$14.49	\$17.66	\$36,730
2007	\$15.97	\$19.95	\$41,490	2007	\$14.91	\$18.30	\$38,070
2008	\$16.37	\$20.67	\$42,980	2008	\$15.29	\$18.92	\$39,350

Sustainable (Living) Wage Needed in Milwaukee County

A sustainable wage (or “living wage”) essentially describes the amount of income needed for an individual to meet minimum standards of living in a community. The best method for determining the living wage for a specific community is open to debate. Pennsylvania State University’s Living Wage Project has created a calculator that is updated periodically to adjust for various factors. Dr. Amy Glasmeier uses this calculator and manages various websites that report and discuss the results. The following data for Milwaukee County are taken directly from the Living Wage Calculator website.

Table demonstrates that neither the federal or state minimum wage provides the income needed to reach the minimum living standards for Milwaukee County. A third variable, “poverty wage,” describes the hourly wage that would put the household below the poverty level.

¹² Median is a measure of central tendency which indicates the point at which half of the values are above and half are below the middle value.

Table 13: Living, Poverty, and Minimum Wages in Milwaukee County, November, 2008¹³

Hourly Wages	One Adult, No Children	One Adult, One Child	Two Adults, No Children	Two Adults, One Child	Two Adults, Two Children
Living Wage	\$9.27	\$17.90	\$14.26	\$22.89	\$29.87
Poverty Wage	\$5.04	\$6.68	\$6.49	\$7.81	\$9.83
Minimum Wage	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25	\$7.25

For one adult with no children to simply have a living wage in Milwaukee County, he or she would have to make \$9.27 an hour. The disparity between actual and necessary wages increases as family size increases. For example, if a Milwaukee County resident attempted to support a spouse and two children on minimum wage, s/he would be making about a quarter of what is actually needed to meet minimum living standards.

Race/Ethnicity and Income. As is the case across the United States, the typical income of Milwaukee County residents varies among different racial/ethnic groups.¹⁴ Table 14 describes the 2008 per capita and median incomes for different racial/ethnic groups in the county.¹⁵

Table 14: Per Capita and Median Income in Milwaukee County by Race/Ethnicity, 2008

Race/Ethnicity ¹⁶	Per Capita Income (\$ in Past Year)	Median Income (\$ in Past Year)
Hispanic/Latino Origin	\$12,671	\$20,061
African American (Black)	\$14,539	\$21,422
Native American/Alaskan Nat.	\$15,856	\$21,735
Asian American	\$20,153	\$27,140
Caucasian (White, not Hispanic)	\$31,149	\$34,162

Residents who are Caucasian had the largest per capita income at \$31,149, followed in decreasing order by Asian American, Native American, African American, and Hispanic/Latino residents.

Gender and Income. There is a clear gender disparity in income in Milwaukee County; men make nearly 30% more money than women. In 2008, men had median earnings of \$32,295, compared to \$25,009 median earnings for women—a discrepancy of nearly \$7,000. This is in fact a decrease from 2005, when the discrepancy was over \$8,000. Table 15 on the next page displays this data.

¹³ “The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an individual must earn to support their family, if they are the sole provider and are working full-time (2080 hours per year). The state minimum wage is the same for all individuals, regardless of how many dependents they may have. The poverty rate is typically quoted as gross annual income.” Further info available at <http://www.livingwage.geog.psu.edu/pages/about>

¹⁴ The US Census has prepared an interesting report describing income inequality over the past several decades. This is available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2000pubs/p60-204.pdf>

¹⁵ Per capita income for a group is determined by dividing the aggregate income in an area by the total population of that area.

¹⁶ 2008 ACS data per capita income in past 12 months (Age 16+ covers all occupations).

Table 15: Median Earnings in Past Year by Gender

Gender	2005	2008
Men	32,131	32,295
Women	23,960	25,009

Child Care Costs

For many parents, a lack of access to affordable childcare is a difficult obstacle to overcome when looking for work; finding affordable childcare may be particularly burdensome for single parent households.

Statewide, there are 5,601 regulated childcare facilities. In Milwaukee County, there are roughly 1,633 childcare or child welfare facilities.¹⁷ Childcare costs are uniquely high in Wisconsin compared to other states. A 2009 report by the National Association of Child Care Research and Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA) found that the state of Wisconsin was the fifth least affordable state for the cost of full-time care for a four-year old at a childcare center and the ninth least affordable state for full-time care for an infant.¹⁸ These figures were based on the percentage of two-parent income spent on childcare. It follows that the percentage of income spent on childcare in single-parent (and, therefore, single-income) households is likely to be even higher.

Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program. The State of Wisconsin provides some assistance to cover the cost of childcare for struggling families through the Wisconsin Shares Childcare Subsidy Program. Milwaukee County uses over half of the statewide issuance of Wisconsin Shares dollars. Table 16 compares Wisconsin Shares spending in Milwaukee County and the rest of the state in 2002, 2005 and 2008. Figures are based on government data available from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families website.¹⁹ In the year 2008, Milwaukee County received \$199,468,244 in Wisconsin Shares Spending.

Table 16: WIShares Spending for Milwaukee County & State of Wisconsin, 2002-2008

Year	Amount Spent in Milwaukee County	Amount Spent in Rest of the State	Percentage of WI Share Spent in Milwaukee County
2002	\$145,890,244	\$117,818,491	55.3%
2005	\$167,410,939	\$139,555,453	54.5%
2008	\$199,468,244	\$147,203,176	57.5%

¹⁷ Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Year End Summary Reports available at <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/SummaryReports/2008.htm>

¹⁸ This report is available online at: <http://issuu.com/naccrra/docs/parents-and-the-high-price-of-child-care-2009?mode=embed&layout=white>.

¹⁹ See <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/WISHARES/pdf/served.pdf>.

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute reported that each month about 14,400 families in Milwaukee County receive public assistance for roughly 29,000 children.²⁰ Many of these parents keep their children enrolled full-time in publicly funded childcare programs rather than enroll their children in school; based on the 2009 Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) Child Census, it is estimated that roughly 15% of children of the appropriate age may not be in kindergarten.

²⁰ Report available at <http://www4.uwm.edu/eti/2009/MilwaukeeSocioEconomicAnalysis.pdf>. Report contains broader information on the socio-economic issues facing Milwaukee families, such as crime, lack of jobs, incarceration rates and the housing crisis.

Education Related Indicators

Milwaukee Public School District Data

Enrollment. The Milwaukee Public Schools District (MPS) is the largest school district in the state of Wisconsin, and the 33rd largest school district in the United States.²¹ Table 17 shows the total enrollment and enrollment by gender for the Milwaukee Public School District in the years 2002, 2005, and 2008.²²

Table 17: Milwaukee Public School District Enrollment Overall and by Gender, 2002-2008²³

Year	Total Enrollment	Male Students		Female Students	
		Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
2002	97,762	47,913	49%	49,849	51%
2005	93,654	46,100	49%	47,544	50%
2008	86,819	42,831	49%	43,988	50%

Although the population of Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee has grown, as has the number of children, the Milwaukee Public School District has lost students since 1998. There are a variety of potential causes for this disparity; one possibility is Wisconsin’s “open enrollment law,” a policy that has allowed many children from the City of Milwaukee to enroll in suburban schools outside MPS. School voucher programs, established in 1990, have also allowed more students to enroll outside of MPS.

Changes in Race/Ethnicity. The school district is very diverse, with a minority-majority makeup, as shown in Table 18. The majority of students in both 2002-2003 and 2007-2008 were African American, followed by Hispanic/Latino students. While the percentage of students who are Caucasian and African American decreased between 2002-03 and 2007-08, and the percentage of Asian and Native American students have remained relatively steady, the percentage of Hispanic students has increased by 5%. These gains and losses are generally consistent with overall county numbers, although the African American community has actually increased its size since 2002.

Table 18: Race/Ethnicity in Milwaukee Public School District, 2002-2008

Race/Ethnicity	2002-2003	2007-2008	Net Change 2002-2008
African American/Black	60%	57%	-3%
Hispanic	17%	22%	+5%
Caucasian/White	16%	12%	-4%
Asian	4%	4%	-
Native American	0.9%	0.8%	-0.1%

²¹ U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics. Information available online at: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009020.pdf>

²² Data is from the fall of each school year.

²³ http://www2.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/acctrep/0708/2008_district.pdf

Graduation Rate. One recent report puts MPS at the fourth lowest graduation rate of the fifty largest cities and their principle school districts.²⁴ During the past five school years, the graduation rate in MPS was at least 20% lower than the Wisconsin state average (see Table 19). In 2007-2008, the graduation/completion rate for MPS students was 68% as compared to 89% statewide.

Table 19: MPS and State High School Completion Rates, 2003-2008

	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
MPS Completion	66%	60%	66%	69%	68%
Statewide	91%	89%	89%	90%	89%

Dropout Rate. Figures on the national dropout rate vary. According to the National Center for Education Statistics the dropout rate has hovered around 10% over the last several years. This is well below the rate in MPS, as shown below in Table 20. The MPS dropout rate was consistently three times the national average, and also more than three times the statewide average. As with the graduation rate, the MPS dropout rate is among the worst in the nation.

Table 20: Dropout Rates for MPS Students as Compared to State Figures, 2003-2008²⁵

	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
MPS Dropout	34%	40%	34%	30%	32%
Statewide	7%	10%	9%	9%	10%

Attendance. The average attendance rates for MPS are lower than statewide averages, as illustrated below in Table 21. In the 2007-2008 school year MPS had an attendance rate of 87% as compared to 94% statewide.

Table 21: MPS and State Attendance Rates (All Grades), 2003-2008

	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
MPS Attendance	89%	89%	89%	89%	87%
Statewide	95%	95%	94%	95%	94%

Standardized Testing. Another measure of the state of education in Milwaukee County is scores on standardized tests. The Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE) is mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act, and is one of several criteria used in Wisconsin schools to determine who moves from fourth to fifth grade and eighth to ninth. The Wisconsin Alternate Assessment (WAA) is given to students with cognitive disabilities who cannot take the WKCE. The Department of Public Instruction states that the long-term goal is for students to meet either the proficient or advanced levels for the subjects tested.²⁶

²⁴ Information available at http://www.edweek.org/media/cities_in_crisis_2009.pdf

²⁵ WI data on dropouts, completion, attendance, and standardized test scores (WKCE/WAA and ACT) comes from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's district and school performance reports. Information on the calculation methods available at http://dpi.wi.gov/spr/grad_q&a.html

²⁶ There are five levels, those being advanced, proficient, basic, minimal performance, and pre-requisite skill.

Below, Table 22 displays percentages of both MPS and State of Wisconsin 10th graders on these tests who meet at least “proficiency” across various core subjects. As shown, MPS falls short of statewide averages, particularly in mathematics and language.

Table 22: Percentage of 10th Grade Students Meeting “Proficiency” Level, 2008

Subject	MPS	State of Wisconsin	Difference
Reading	27%	32%	-5%
Language	33%	55%	-22%
Mathematics	25%	48%	-23%
Science	21%	34%	-13%
Social Studies	27%	31%	-4%

ACT Results. The ACT assessment is the exam most accepted by universities in the Midwest, and thus an important step that many students must take to pursue higher education. Table 23 describes the average composite ACT scores for students in MPS compared to the state average. The data comes directly from the “Wisconsin's Information Network for Successful Schools” website, which is managed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Table 23: Composite ACT Scores in MPS Compared to State of Wisconsin

	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
MPS	18.1	17.5	17.8	17.7	17.5
Statewide	22.2	22.2	22.1	22.2	22.3

A perfect score on the ACT is a 36. MPS students consistently perform below the state average. While the state average ACT score remained at roughly 22 over the last decade, the MPS average score has declined from 19 in 1996-1997 to 17.5 in 2007-2008. For the graduating class of 2008, the average nationwide ACT composite score was 21.1.²⁷

Student Plans for Post-Secondary Education. Table 24 below reports the stated plans of MPS students after high school graduation between 2002 and 2008. Most graduates fall into the “miscellaneous” category or “plan to attend some kind of college” category, whether it be four year or vocational/technical. In 2007-2008, 31% of students stated that they planned on attending a 4-year college, 24% said vocational/technical college, and 27% fell into the miscellaneous category.

Table 24: Percentage of MPS Graduates Stated Plans After High School

School Year	Number of Graduates	4-Year College	Voc/Tech College	Emp.	Military	Job Training	Misc.
2002-03	3,536	33%	19%	14%	2%	1%	31%
2005-06	4,312	26%	21%	13%	1%	2%	36%
2007-08	4,800	31%	24%	15%	2%	1%	27%

²⁷ 2008 ACT report available at <http://www.act.org/news/data/08/pdf/National2008.pdf>

There is sometimes a difference between stated goals and what actually occurs. A March 2009 report tracked the post-graduation plans and activity of the MPS 2005-2007 graduating class.²⁸ Fifty-four percent of 2005-2007 MPS graduates did not have any post-secondary enrollment as of April 2008.²⁹

Of those who did attend college, 73% went to ten centrally located institutions (within an hour's drive). These higher education institutions were: Alverno College, Bryant and Stratton College, ITT Tech, Marquette University, Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC), Mount Mary College, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, and University of Wisconsin-Madison. A summary of these and other local institutions of higher learning is presented later in the report, beginning on page 22.

Of the students who do pursue higher education, about 25% of go to private institutions, while 74% go to public institutions. About 45% of students attend two-year programs, while four-year degrees make up 55% of enrollments. A little over half of enrollees (56%) are full time.

As far as gender is concerned, 6% more women enrolled in higher educational programs than men (44% of females to 38% of males from the 2007 cohort). Students were more likely to enroll in more schooling if they were Caucasian, did not have a disability, or did not use free/reduced lunch programs in high school.

Seventy-two MPS graduates from 2005 to 2007 had earned a post-secondary degree as of fall 2008, which accounts for less than 1% of all graduates. This low figure is in large part explained by the recent dates of high school graduation. One can look at the 2005 cohort, which is the earliest point in the study, to get some data on persistence. There were 8,432 records of enrollment as of April 2008, which averages out to about 4 enrollments per student.

Children with Special Needs

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction states that as of October 1, 2009, there were 15,318 students with special needs receiving services in Milwaukee County. This figure was down 464 students from the previous year.³⁰

In the Milwaukee Public Schools District, 66% of students with disabilities graduated high school in 2007-2008 with a regular diploma.³¹ This is about 13 percentage points below the state average of 79%. Suspension, expulsion, and dropout rates are also higher in MPS.³²

²⁸Available online at:

http://www.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_2_52905_0_0_18/PSReport_0325_2009.pdf

²⁹ At minimum, this is simply a record of an enrollment at some post-secondary institution.

³⁰ Child count data available at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/xls/cc-2008-to-2009.xls>

³¹ District comparisons at <https://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/DistrictProfile/Pages/MainMenu.aspx>

³² Information on Special Education resources can be found at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/hmresources.html>

According to the Kids Count Data Center from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the participation in the Birth-to-Three programs (mandated throughout Wisconsin for children with developmental disabilities) in Milwaukee County is about 27 per 1,000.³³ Each county is required to provide details on their compliance with various federal indicators related to the Birth to Three Program. Milwaukee County failed to meet all of the state's targets, though did perform better than the state in a few areas.³⁴

Higher Education Institutions in Milwaukee County

For qualified students, there are a plethora of local institutions of higher education. A variety of institutions throughout the county offer a wide range of degrees, certifications, and other schooling options for those looking to succeed in the job market. A list of such institutions, including a brief description of their programs and enrollment, follows. Information was gathered from each institution's website.

- Alverno College. Alverno is a Catholic women's college located in Southwest Milwaukee, offering the following degrees for undergraduate and graduate students: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, and Master of Science in Nursing. Fall 2009 enrollment was 2,815 students.
- Bryant and Stratton College. Bryant and Stratton College's Milwaukee program offers four year bachelor's degrees in financial services and criminal justice. The college also offers several associate's degree programs, which generally take four semesters (two years) of full-time study to complete. Enrollment in 2007 was 1,264.
- Cardinal Stritch University. A Roman-Catholic University, this private university has roughly 7,000 students enrolled. In addition to its Milwaukee location, the university has campuses in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and in Edina and Rochester, Minnesota.
- DeVry University. Geared toward working adults, DeVry University's downtown Milwaukee campus houses the College of Business & Management and the College of Engineering & Information Sciences. Both colleges offer bachelor's and master's degrees.
- Marquette University. Located near downtown Milwaukee, Marquette had an enrollment of 11,355 and granted 2,789 degrees in 2009. These figures are fairly steady since 2002. The university has 11 schools and colleges, including a law program.
- Medical College of Wisconsin. The Medical College of Wisconsin, located in Western Milwaukee, currently has about 400 graduate students and over 800 medical students enrolled. Additionally, MCW faculty oversees the residency and fellowships of over 800 physicians.
- Milwaukee Area Technical College. The largest technical college in Wisconsin, MATC is a public two-year institution. Enrollment in 2008 was 12,573, with 2,312 graduates.

³³ Data available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/Rankings.aspx?state=WI&ind=3488>

³⁴ Interactive data available at http://northcentralrrc.org/wisconsin/07_08_APR.aspx

- Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. MIAD offers Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees. The school has around 600 full-time students and is located in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward.
- Milwaukee School of Engineering. This private university offers full- and part-time degrees and certificates for both undergraduate and graduate students. MSOE has roughly 2,600 students enrolled and boasts a high post-graduation placement rate.
- Mount Mary College. A women's Catholic college with an enrollment of about 1,800, Mount Mary College is known for its arts and fashion programs. In conjunction with the Columbia College of Nursing, the college also offers nursing programs.
- Sanford-Brown College. This college provides career training for the fields of criminal justice and health care. The campus located on the western edge of the county, in the city of West Allis.
- Wisconsin Lutheran College. Located in Western Milwaukee, enrollment at Wisconsin Lutheran College totaled 784 students in 2009. The college offers 29 majors, 20 minors, and five pre-professional programs. WLC provides education from a Christian perspective.
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is located on Milwaukee's East Side. With 14 schools and colleges and an enrollment of just under 30,000, UWM granted 4,964 degrees in 2008. In addition to its bachelor's and master's degree programs, UWM is one of only two UW-system schools offering doctoral degrees.

Food and Nutrition Related Indicators

Many individuals and families with low incomes are unable to afford nutritious food. Poor nutrition can lead to obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and various other health problems. Given the costs of medical treatment for these and other illnesses, it is important that people living in poverty are able to access healthy foods. Presented below is information about various programs available to low income residents in Milwaukee County.

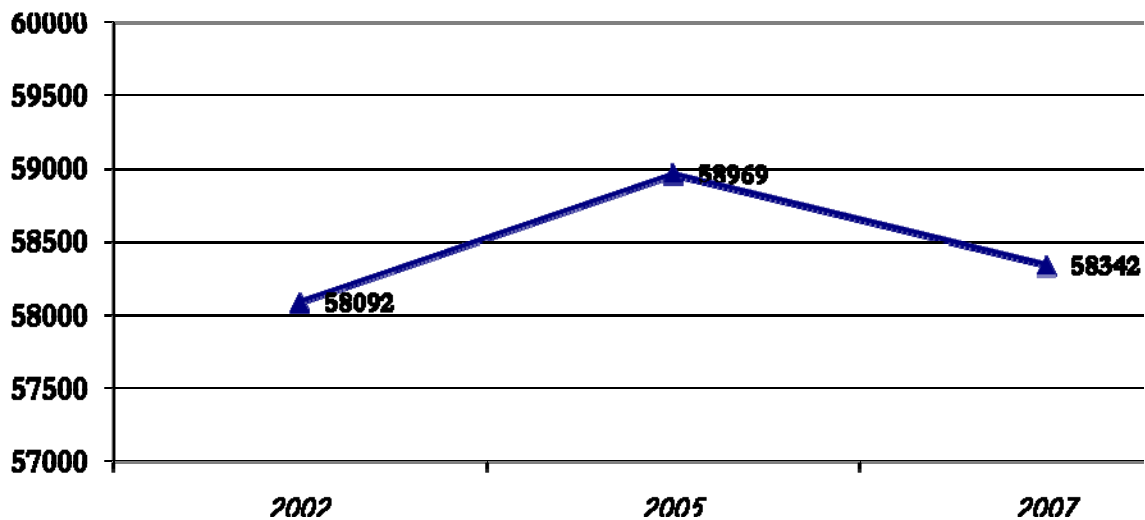
Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Usage

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services:

“The purpose of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is to promote and maintain the health and well-being of nutritionally at-risk pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children. WIC provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition and breastfeeding information, and referral to other health and nutrition services. WIC promotes and supports breastfeeding.”

Eligible participants include pregnant/postpartum women, infants, and children ages 1-4. Figure 3 shows the number of WIC users in Milwaukee County in 2002, 2004, and 2007 (information for 2008 was not available). In 2002, the number of WIC participants was 58,092, while in 2007 this number was 58,342.

Figure 3: Milwaukee County WIC Participants 2002-2007



Food Share and Food Stamps Usage

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services:

“Food Share Wisconsin was created to help stop hunger and to improve nutrition and health. Food Share helps people with limited money buy the food they need for good

health. Each month, people across Wisconsin get help from Food Share. They are people of all ages who have a job but have low incomes, are living on small or fixed income, have lost their job, retired or are disabled and not able to work.”³⁵

As seen in Figure 4, there has been a usage increase of about 16%, or 20,000 people, between 2002 and 2008.

Figure 4: Milwaukee County Food Stamps/Foodshare Recipients, 2002-2008

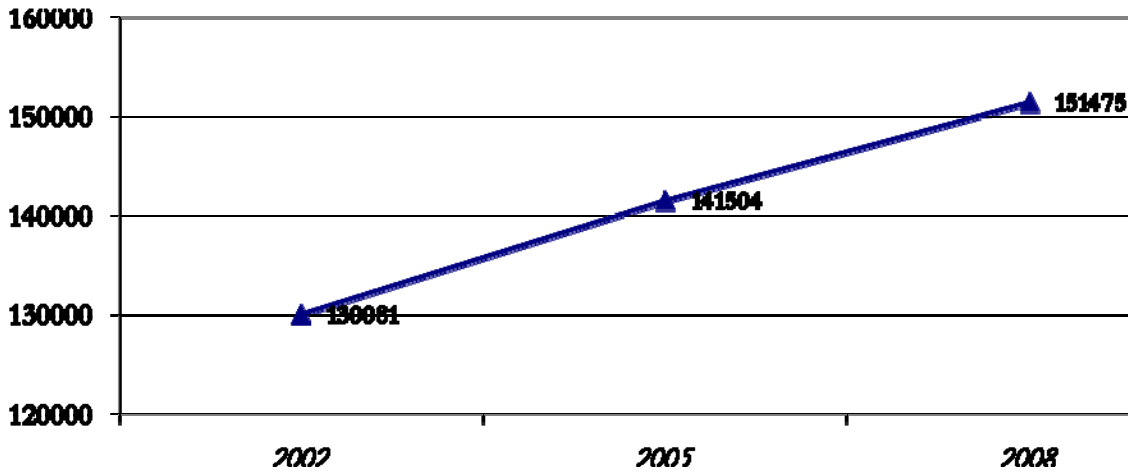
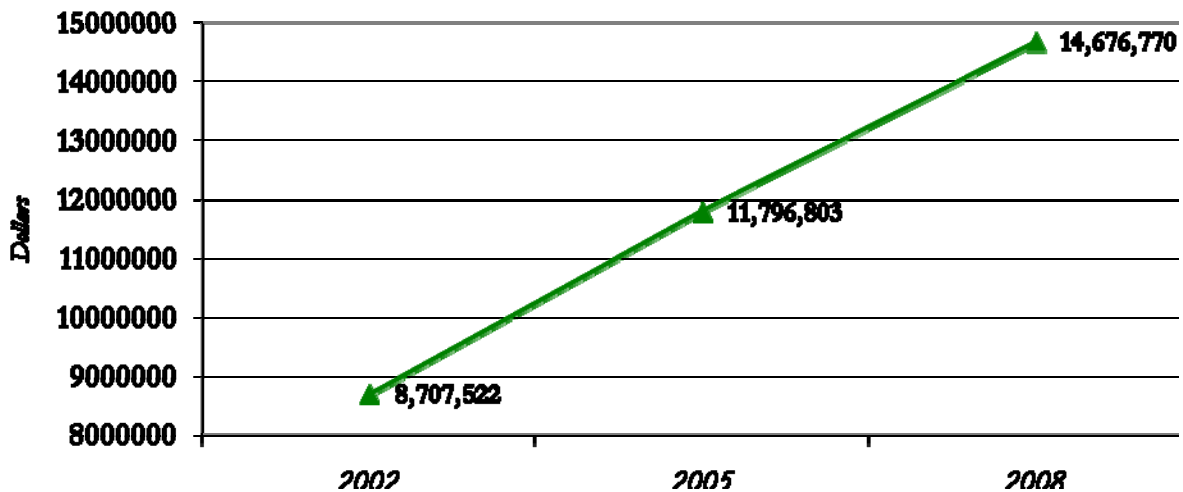


Figure 5 illustrates a 69% increase in Foodshare spending between 2002 and 2008.

Figure 5: Milwaukee County Food Stamps/Foodshare Spending, 2002-2008



³⁵ Full text available at: <http://dhs.wi.gov/foodshare/>. Data on Foodshare caseloads and spending available at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/em/rsdata/index.htm>

Table 25: Households Receiving Food Stamps in Milwaukee County, 2002-2008

	2002	2005	2008
Total Number of Households Receiving Food Stamps	30,724	36,588	39,699
• Percentage Below the Poverty Level	N/A	56%	61%
• Percentage with Children 18 or Under	75.3%	72%	62%
• Percentage with No Workers in family	N/A	26%	22%

As shown in Table 25 above, the number of households receiving food stamps grew by approximately 9,000 between 2002 and 2008. Out of all households receiving food stamps during this time period, the percentage of households with incomes below the poverty level increased from 56% to 61%. Moreover, there was a decrease in the percentage of households with children and households with no workers.

Similar to the Wisconsin Shares assistance program for childcare costs (described on page 16), Milwaukee County draws a large proportion of the state's spending on food stamp/Food Share benefits. In 2002, 51% of Food Share dollars were spent in Milwaukee County compared to 43% in 2005 and 38% in 2008. This is a decline of roughly 13% from 2002 to 2008.

Free and Reduced Lunch

Free and reduced lunch is available to students from low-income families meeting certain guidelines. Currently, a family of four with a yearly income of less than \$28,665 is eligible for free lunch, while a family of four making less than \$40,793 is eligible for reduced lunch. The percentage of MPS students using the free or reduced lunch program has increased over the years, although total daily participation has decreased. The most recent data indicates that 79% of MPS students qualified for free or reduced lunch.³⁶

Table 26: MPS Free and Reduced Food Program Participation and Approval, 2002-2008

	2002	2005	2008
Percent of MPS Students with Free or Reduced Lunch	71%	72%	79%
• Average Daily Participation in F/R	58,605	49,837	46,363
• Number of Free Lunch Approved	59,636	62,289	59,340
• Reduced Lunch Approved	9,681	8,542	8,387

Food Pantries in Milwaukee County

According to the Hunger Task Force's January 2010 report, an average of 38,834 clients per month use Hunger Task Force-affiliated food pantries in Milwaukee County. Between 2008 and 2009, there was a 23.4% increase in monthly average food pantry participation. About 58,855 meals are served at Task Force-affiliated soup kitchen and meal programs in a given month. Annually, the organization provides 9.5 million pounds of food throughout Milwaukee County.

³⁶ Data on the Free/Reduced Lunch program as well as detailed eligibility requirements can be found at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website. <http://dpi.wi.gov/lbstat/data.html>

Transportation Related Indicators

Means of Transportation to Work

Workers over the age of 16 overwhelmingly drove to work alone in a truck, car, or van. The second most popular method was to carpool. The numbers on carpooling and driving have remained relatively unchanged up to 2008.

The use of public transportation was small in comparison, though it was a more popular choice than bicycling or walking. Residents living in poverty make up the highest percentage of public transportation users. Of those who did use public transportation, they were generally under the age of 44. The numbers, according to the ACS, have remained mostly stable. It can be inferred that the use of public transportation has stayed around 6% while carpooling, though down from 2002's high of 13%, now stands at around 10% as of 2008 (see Table 27).

Table 27: Means of Transportation to Work for Milwaukee County Residents

Travel Means	2002	2005	2008
Car, truck, or van	87%	88%	87%
Drove alone	74%	79%	77%
Carpooled	13%	9%	10%
Public transportation:	6%	5%	6%
Walked	4%	3%	3%
Other means	<1%	<1%	<1%
Motorcycle	<1%	<1%	<1%
Bicycle	<1%	<1%	<1%
Taxicab	<1%	*	*
Worked at Home	2%	3%	2%

*Taxi use was dropped as a singular category by the ACS in '05 and '08.

Use of Milwaukee County Transit System. The Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS), a private not-for-profit company, serves about 1 out of every 12 Milwaukeeans every day. Interestingly, about 70% of public transit users report that they do have access to a vehicle, but choose to use the bus for a variety of reasons, including cost and environmental concerns. There are over 50 different bus routes available for the public's use.

Many area colleges and universities provide students with a "U-Pass" bus pass, which allows students to take bus rides throughout the semester without paying bus fare.³⁷ The cost of the U-Pass is built into tuition.³⁸

³⁷The 2008 Annual Report provides data on financing, why people ride the bus, miles traveled, bus information and other data on the Milwaukee County Transit System. Available online at: <http://ridemcts.org/files/2008AnnualReport.pdf>

Commute Time to Work

ACS data indicates that across the years 2002, 2005, and 2008, most people from Milwaukee County consistently began their commute to work sometime before 9am.

The average travel time to the workplace for Milwaukee County workers has increased, as illustrated below in Table 28. The number of workers with a commute of at least a half-hour has increased, as has the number of workers with travel times longer than an hour. In 2002, 3% of workers were spending an hour or more getting to work while in 2008 this rose to 4%. It should be noted that this measurement does not cover the time spent *returning* from work.

Table 28: Average Travel Time to Work in Milwaukee County, 2002-2008

Total Travel Time	2002	2005	2008
Less than 10 minutes	13%	14%	12%
10 to 14 minutes	16%	16%	15%
15 to 19 minutes	19%	19%	19%
20 to 24 minutes	20%	20%	20%
25 to 29 minutes	7%	8%	7%
30 to 34 minutes	14%	13%	15%
35 to 44 minutes	4%	5%	5%
45 to 59 minutes	2%	3%	4%
60 or more minutes	3%	3%	4%

Transportation and Poverty

The previously cited UWM Employment and Training Institute's report contains some interesting information regarding the problem of transportation for inner-city residents. Ninety-one percent of inner-city Milwaukeeans aged 16-17 do not have a driver's license and are not preparing to obtain one, as compared to 41% of 16-17 year olds in neighboring Milwaukee suburbs. Adults in the City of Milwaukee also have relatively low licensing rates compared to the rest of the county, often due to license suspension or revocation. It is possible that if jobs are located outside of a reasonable walking or biking distance, then this lack of driver's licensing can become a significant barrier to employment.

This data emphasizes the usefulness of public transit, particularly in a climate that is prone to inclement weather in the winter months. Though the Milwaukee County Transit System may be a solution for some residents in poverty, many jobs may be located beyond the bounds of MCTS bus routes.

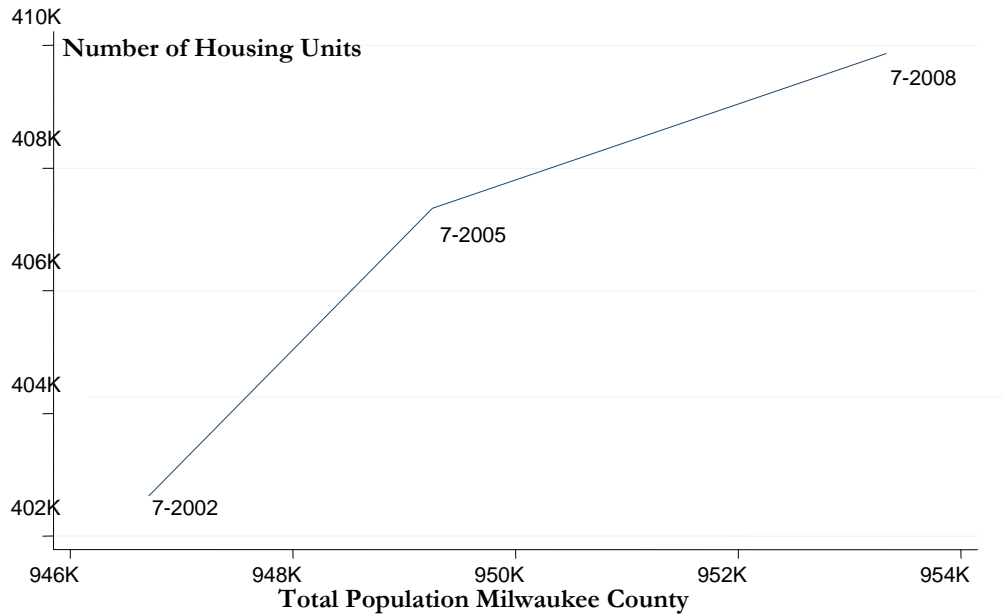
³⁸ See the Milwaukee County Transit System website's section on the U-Pass (<http://www.ridemcts.com/u-pass/>) for more information.

Housing Related Indicators

Housing in Milwaukee

Housing Units. Increases in Milwaukee County’s population have coincided with increases in available housing units. ACS data on population change and housing units are presented in Figure 6. In 2008, there were approximately 409,887 housing units in Milwaukee County.

Figure 6: Changes in Number of Housing Units and Population for Milwaukee County



Types of Housing. Using 2005-2007 ACS three-year estimates data, the characteristics of housing units in Milwaukee County are presented in Table 29. The majority of housing units are 1-unit detached, with 47% fitting this description.

Table 29: Characteristics of Housing in Milwaukee County, 2005-2007 Average

Unit Structure	Number of Units	Percentage of all Housing
1-unit, detached	193,555	47%
1-unit, attached	20,104	5%
2 units	72,178	18%
3 or 4 units	25,358	6%
5 to 9 units	24,978	6%
10 to 19 units	16,692	4%
20 or more units	54,655	13%
Mobile home	2,267	1%
Total	409,787	100%

About half (47%) of all housing structures in the county are one-unit, detached. The next most common housing type is a two-unit structure, or duplex. Thirteen percent of housing structures contain ten or more units, which can be assumed to be large apartment buildings.

Age of Housing. As shown in Table 30, the majority of Milwaukee County’s housing units are at least 40 years old. About two out of five units were built before 1950, and about the same amount were built between 1950 and 1979. Approximately 4% of housing units have been built since 2000.

Table 30: Housing Units in Milwaukee County by Year Built³⁹

Year Built	Number of Units	Percentage of all Housing Units
2005 or later	2,640	1%
2000 to 2004	10,727	3%
1990 to 1999	21,159	5%
1980 to 1989	22,675	6%
1970 to 1979	43,131	11%
1960 to 1969	49,749	12%
1950 to 1959	85,041	21%
1940 to 1949	38,727	9%
1939 or earlier	135,974	33%
Total	409,823	100%

Basic Facilities. Basic facilities for plumbing are considered by the U.S. Census to be hot- and cold-piped water, a flushable toilet, and a bathtub/shower; basic facilities for a kitchen are considered to be a kitchen sink, refrigerator, and either a cook stove, burners and microwave. In Milwaukee County, the vast majority of occupied housing units, whether rented and owned, have complete basic facilities. Plumbing and kitchen facilities are not a problem in Milwaukee County for most people.

Likelihood of Lead Paint. Data on the actual amount of lead paint in Milwaukee housing units are not available, although the amount can be estimated. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports:

“About two-thirds of the homes built before 1940 and one-half of the homes built from 1940 to 1960 contain heavily-leaded paint. Some homes built after 1960 also contain heavily-leaded paint.”⁴⁰

Based on the above information and available data on housing structure age, it is estimated that approximately 37% of Milwaukee County housing units contain heavily leaded paint.⁴¹

³⁹ All data on housing unit changes comes from the ACS available online at: http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/D/SubjectKeywordServlet?_ts=276533365488

⁴⁰ Full text of report available at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/5054.html>

This figure is consistent with national estimates. From 1998 to 2000, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) sponsored a representative survey of housing in which children may reside. The study reported:

“38 million housing units (40%) had lead-based paint and 24 million (25%) had significant lead-based paint hazards.”⁴²

Given that this study was conducted over a decade ago, actual occurrence of lead paint may be slightly lower today due to the construction of some new housing units since 2000.

Overcrowding. Measuring overcrowding is a difficult task which in the past has relied on inconsistent conceptual definitions that make trend analysis difficult. The Department of Housing and Urban Development published a paper in 2007 addressing some of these issues.⁴³ The report measures overcrowding by assessing an area’s “person-per-room” (PPR) value. The report states that a PPR value higher than 1 is considered to be overcrowded.

Using this measurement we can estimate that in the 2006-2008 three-year estimate, about 3% of households in Milwaukee County were overcrowded. This is slightly higher than the Wisconsin state average of just under 2%, though similar to the national average of about 3%.

Housing Affordability

According to a 2009 report by the Public Policy Forum, Milwaukee County is a relatively affordable rental market compared to other highly populated counties inside the U.S. Thus, problems with housing affordability stem from low incomes rather than excessive rent costs, and residents with very low incomes are affected the most. The report claims that about 18% of renter households in the year 2000 had a “severe housing burden,” which is defined as spending more than 50% of income on housing.

Complicating the issue, of the roughly 47,200 “extremely low income households” in Milwaukee County, only 30,700 housing units are affordable to those making less than 30% of the area’s median income. Furthermore, the report states that only a portion of low income renters are receiving public support, many current households are overcrowded, and public programs available can be confusing and “fragmented.”⁴⁴

⁴¹ Percent of Lead Paint calculated as: “Total number of housing units built in 1939 and earlier” multiplied by 2/3 which = 89743. This is added to “Total number of housing units built between 1940 to 1960” multiplied by 1/2 which =60384. Sum of 89743 and 60382 is equal to 150217, which was then divided by the total number of units, 409823, generating a figure of 36.63%

⁴² Links to the study and further information on this subject is available online at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/researchers.cfm>

⁴³ HUD study at http://www.huduser.org/Publications/pdf/Measuring_Overcrowding_in_Hsg.pdf

⁴⁴ Full report available at <http://www.publicpolicyforum.org/pdfs/2009AffordableHousing.pdf>

Foreclosures

The number of foreclosures in Milwaukee County has been rising, particularly since 2005 as the housing crisis unfolded. Figures 7a and 7b on the following page show the increase of foreclosed houses sold at auction. As seen, the number of foreclosed houses has increased in the northwestern corridor of Milwaukee County.

Based on a report prepared by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment & Training Institute, the rising rate of foreclosures was in no small part due to lending activity to lower income households.⁴⁵ The increase in subprime housing loans is great: in 1993, the number of these loans given throughout Milwaukee County was 206; by 2005, this jumped to 10,451. This problem has led to high homeownership costs and record-high eviction rates throughout the county, as people who were targeted by predatory lenders can no longer afford their houses and are forced out. From the report:

“If anything, the costs of homeownership have risen significantly since 2000 due to the high volume of subprime mortgages targeted to the poorest populations throughout Milwaukee County, the dramatic increases in the amounts of mortgages, rising utility costs, and rising property tax bills. Further increases in high-risk mortgages are fueled by unbelievable property assessments in the poorest city neighborhoods based on the growing volume of mortgage activity in neighborhoods which had previously shown only modest sales activity.”

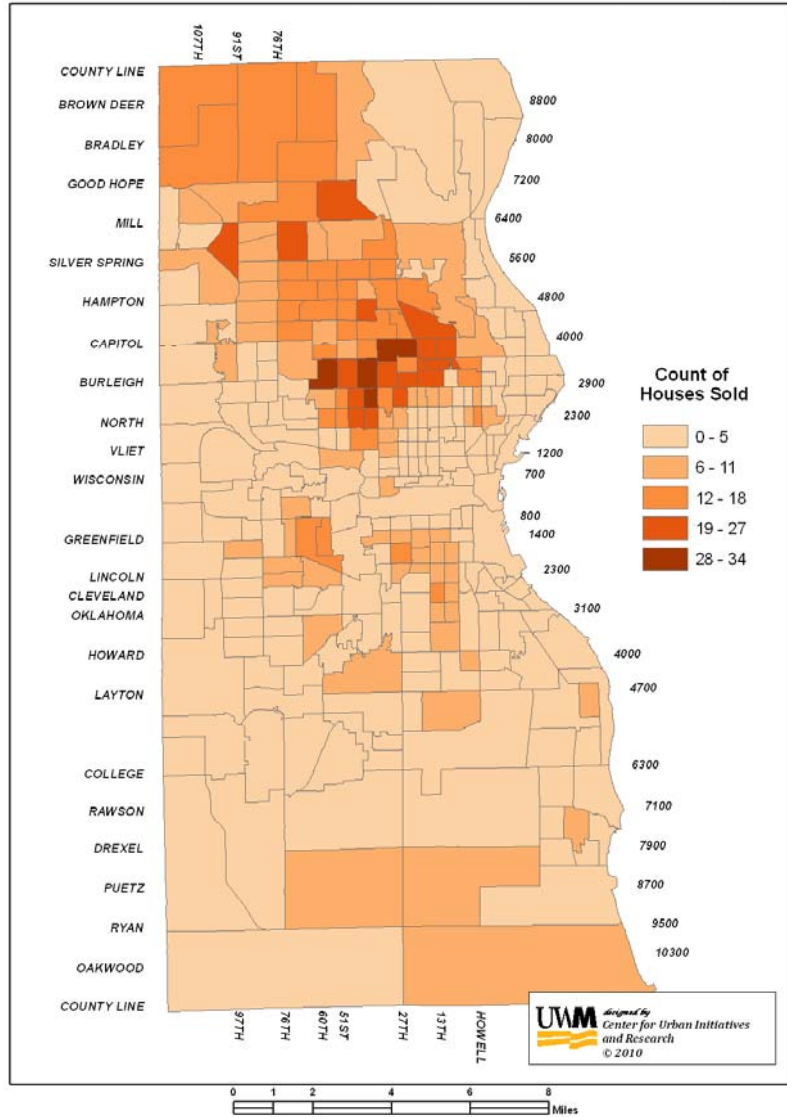
The consequences of foreclosure are felt not only by homeowners but by the surrounding community as well. Some of these problems include decreasing tax revenue and increases in blight, homelessness, and crime.

⁴⁵ This report is available at <http://www4.uwm.edu/eti/2007/LAWHousingReport.pdf>

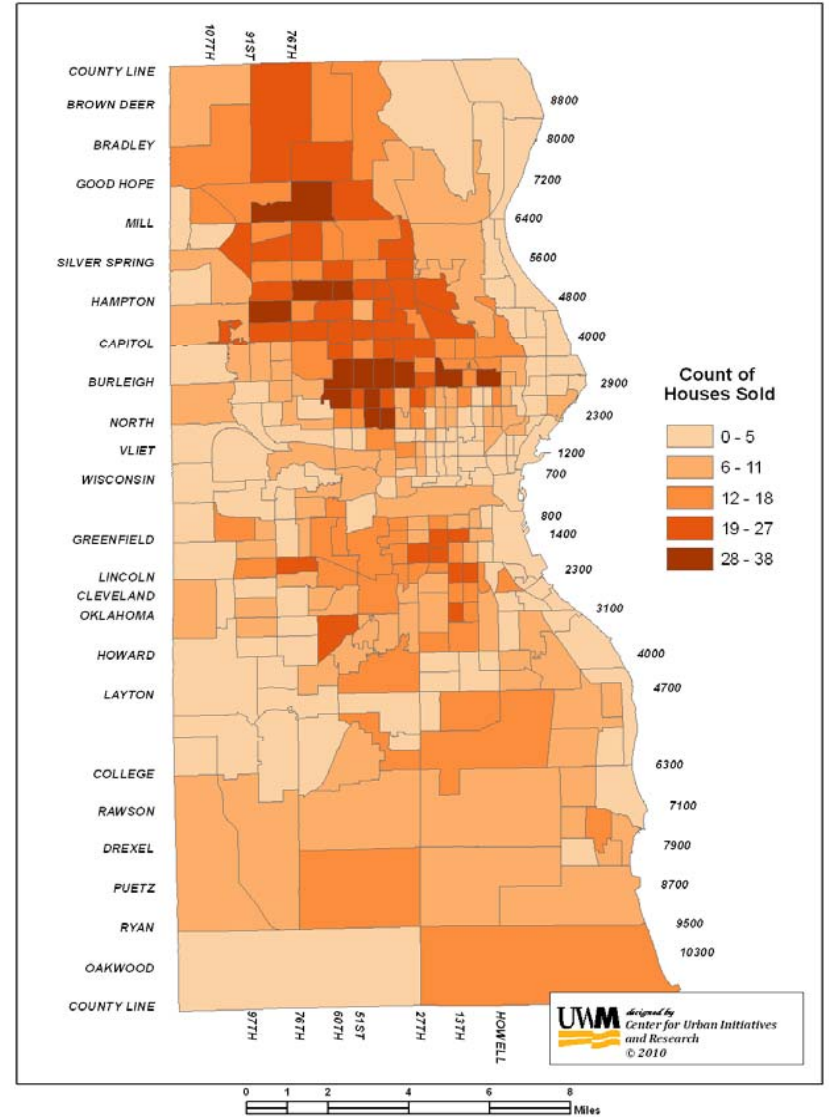
Figures 7a and 7b: Foreclosed Houses Sold at Auction in Milwaukee County – 2007 and 2009

**Please note that counts inside the legend vary slightly between years.*

Foreclosed Houses Sold at Auction by Census Tract - Milwaukee County, 2007



Foreclosed Houses Sold at Auction by Census Tract - Milwaukee County, 2009



Vacancies

Another possible consequence of this crisis is an increase in housing vacancies. As can be seen on the following page, the number of vacancies in Milwaukee County has risen over the past three years (2007-2009). The number of vacancies in the City of Milwaukee is growing faster than the rest of the county. See Figures 8a and 8b on the following page for a visual representation. It is clear that the percentage of vacancies has grown, particularly in the central city.

Note: The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by agreement with the US Postal Service (USPS) receives quarterly aggregate data on addresses identified by USPS as having been “vacant” or “No-Stat” in the previous quarter. Vacant is defined below:

An address may be classified as “no-stat” for several reasons:

1. Rural Route addresses vacant for 90 days or longer
2. Addresses for businesses or homes under construction and not yet occupied
3. Addresses in urban areas identified by a carrier as not likely to be active for some time

Legend percentages are calculated by taking as

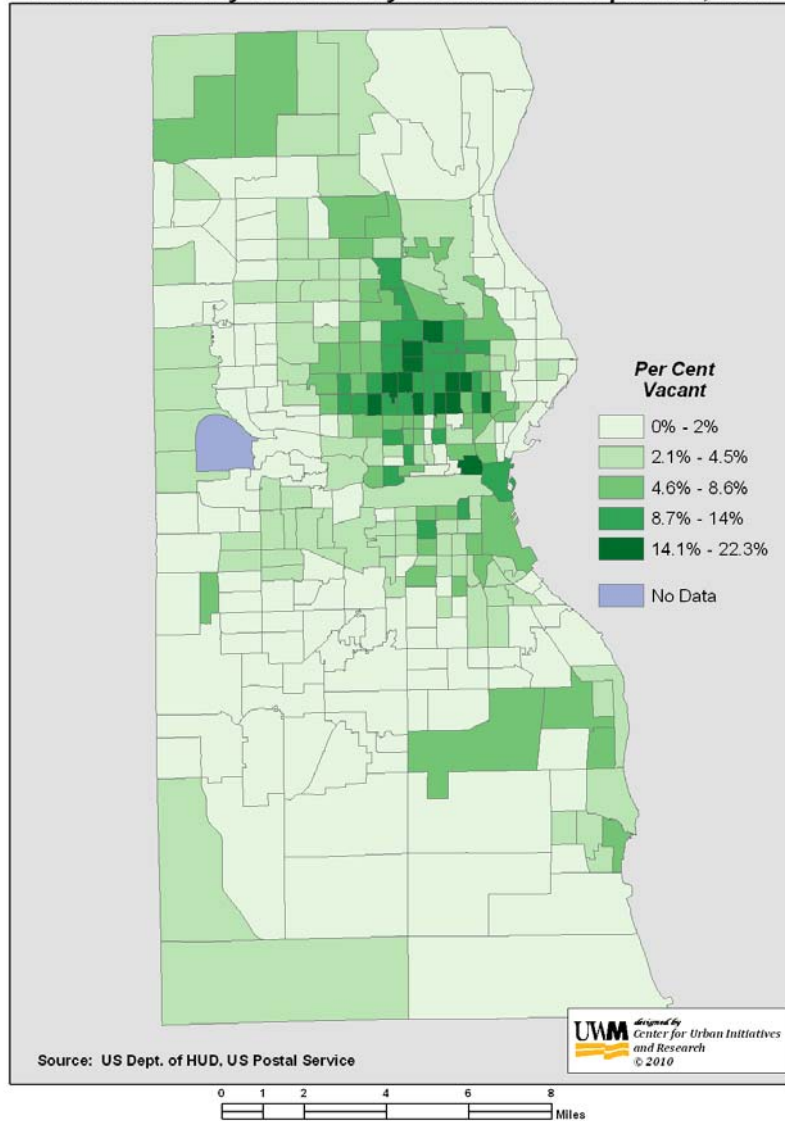
Numerator: Total Vacant Addresses-These are addresses that postal delivery staff on urban routes have identified as being vacant for 90 days or longer.

Denominator: Total number of addresses- All residential and commercial addresses that USPS has recorded in their database.

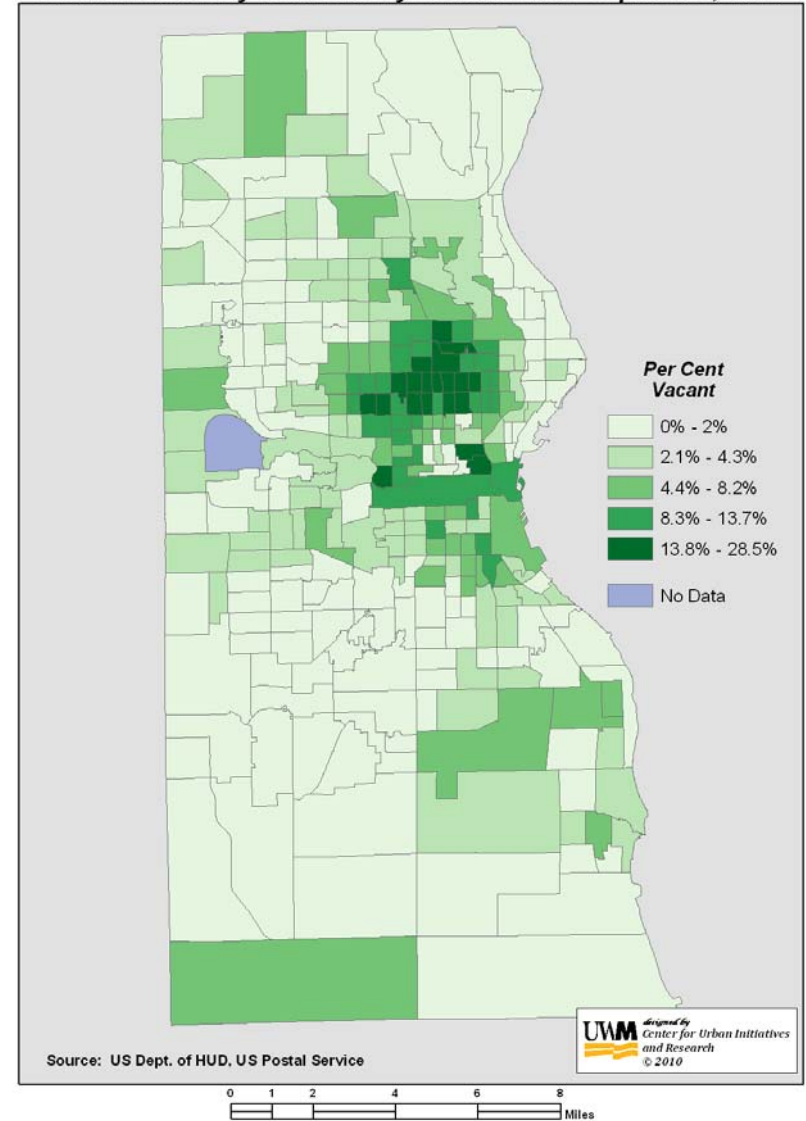
Figures 8a and 8b: Vacancies in Milwaukee County, September 2007 and September 2009

**Please note that counts inside the legend vary slightly between years.*

Milwaukee County Vacancies by Census Tract - September, 2007



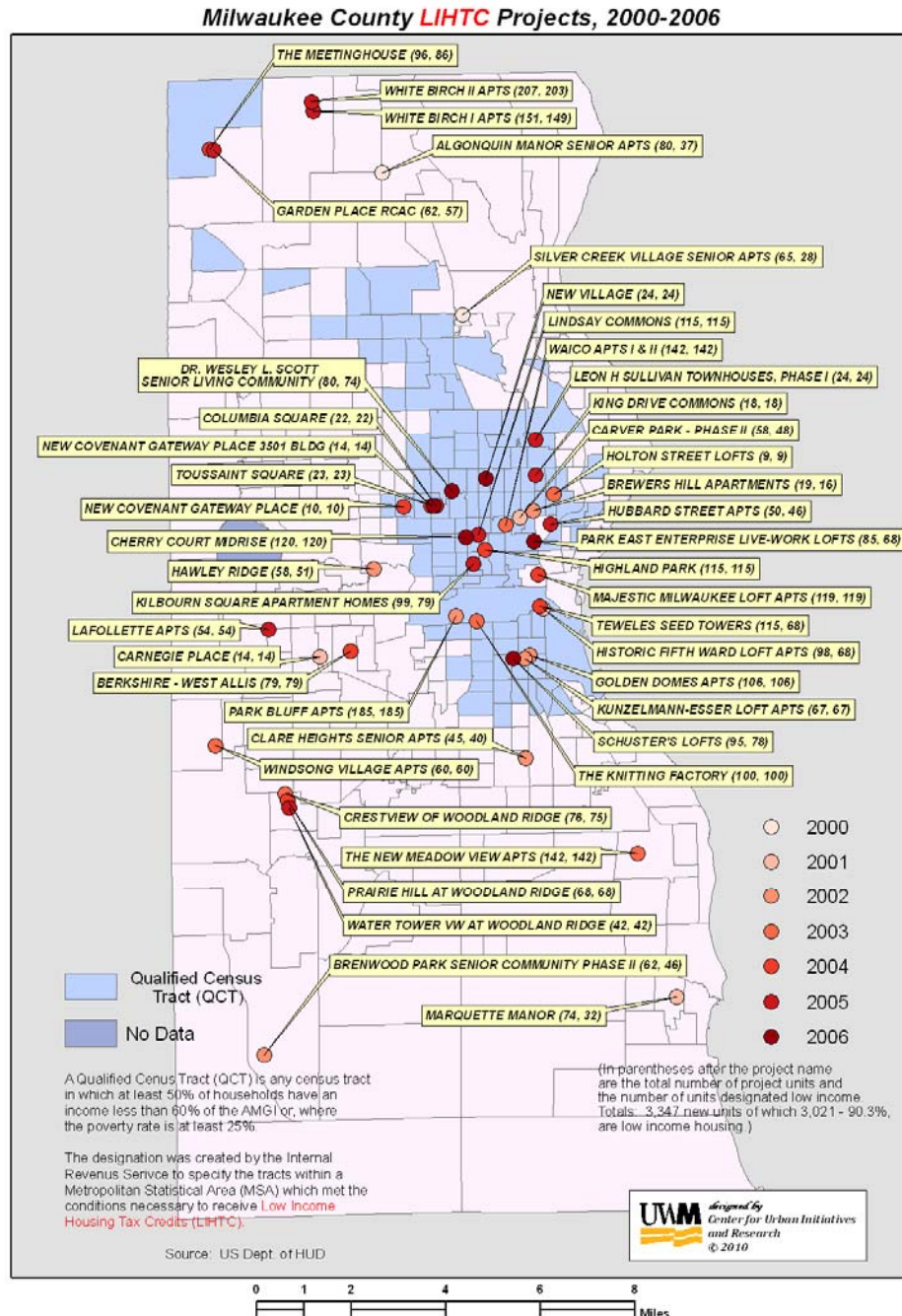
Milwaukee County Vacancies by Census Tract - September, 2009



Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Low-income housing tax credits are indirect federal subsidies used to create affordable housing units for those who may otherwise be unable to afford it. This resource has been used in Milwaukee County to assist those in need of housing at an affordable rate. Figure 10 below shows Milwaukee County LIHCT projects from 2000 to 2006. As can be seen, the Qualified Census Tracts are generally centralized in the middle of the county, largely within inner city Milwaukee.

Figure 10: Milwaukee County Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Projects 2000 - 2006



Homelessness

The National Alliance to End Homelessness reports that roughly 5,600 Wisconsinites are homeless. Wisconsin has a lower than average amount of homeless citizens per capita than in other states. In 2009, the Milwaukee Continuum of care released a study highlighting a survey that was conducted amongst 919 homeless individuals. The data show that over half were in the ages between 41 and 60. There was an increase from the 2007 survey in the percentage of homeless people in this age cohort. About 61% were males. Of those surveyed, 61% identified themselves as African American and 29% as Caucasian.⁴⁶ The most popular reasons given for homelessness were the loss of work (or couldn't find work), substance abuse, eviction/foreclosure and high housing costs. Other pertinent points from the study are listed below:

- The survey indicates a rise from 2007 in the number of homeless individuals who are single with no children, and a decline in the number of homeless individuals who were single with children under 18.
- Roughly 20% of all respondents said that they were veterans.
- In terms of education, 72.2% of respondents had at minimum a high school diploma.
- In terms of employment, 21% of respondents had a full-time or part-time job.

⁴⁶ The National Alliance to End Homelessness has both state and national level data on this topic. It can be found at <http://www.endhomelessness.org>. The Milwaukee Continuum of Care study can be found at <http://www.cr-sdc.org/DefaultFile/DefaultFile/PDF/Brochures/MilwaukeePointinTime2009.pdf>

Health and Healthcare Related Indicators

Physical Health and Well-Being

The relationship between poverty and early death has been clearly established; life expectancy for those in poverty is considerably lower than those of stable incomes. According to the most recently available public health profile for the county, life expectancy is also tied to race/ethnicity. Low birthrates occurred in 14% of African American births, compared to 7% of Hispanics/Latinos and just fewer than 7% of whites. Infant mortality rates differ among racial/ethnic groups, with a rate of 6 per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths for Caucasian mothers and 14 for African American mothers. Infant death is associated with underweight birth.⁴⁷

The most common cause of death in Milwaukee County in 2007 was heart disease and cancer. The number of hospitalizations in Milwaukee County was 136,761, with a small majority of those visits being for individuals aged 65 or older. Visits from this age group tend to be longer and more expensive.⁴⁸

Foregoing Medical Care. In a January 2009 article by the Milwaukee Business Journal, local physicians echo national concerns about health care: patients who are struggling financially are likely to forego preventive care and elective treatments, and to put off seeking medical attention until they are seriously sick or injured.⁴⁹ This problem can lead to increasing costs since the average emergency room visit costs roughly \$823, as compared to \$100 to \$150 for a primary care visit.⁵⁰ Furthermore, national data indicates that the rising costs of prescription drugs leads many poorer individuals to either cut down on their drug intake or forgo it altogether.⁵¹

Foregoing Dental Care. According to the Center for Urban Population Health's "Milwaukee Health Report 2009," Milwaukeeans with the lowest socioeconomic status receive the least dental care—while nearly 40% of low-socioeconomic status Milwaukeeans reported not visiting a dentist in the past year, only 28% of middle-socioeconomic status residents and 26% of high-socioeconomic status residents reported no dentist visits.^{52,53} Because BadgerCare Plus offers very little reimbursement for dental visits, even low-income children who have health insurance coverage may be unable to receive proper dental care.⁵⁴ The full report lists other disparities (such as vaccinations and obesity) along socioeconomic status.

⁴⁷ The national average for infant mortality is roughly 6.9 according to the Center for Disease Control.

⁴⁸ 2007 Milwaukee County Health Report data is available at:

<http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/localdata/pdf/07pubhlth/milwaukee07.pdf>

⁴⁹ "Economy Has People Putting off Medical Care," written by Corinne Hess, is available online at:

<http://milwaukee.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2009/02/02/focus1.html>.

⁵⁰ For more info see <http://milwaukee.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2004/10/25/story2.html>

⁵¹ National data on prescription drugs is from the Kaiser Family Foundation and is available at:

<http://www.kff.org/rxdrugs/3057.cfm>

⁵² For a pdf version of the complete report, "Milwaukee Health Report 2009: Health Disparities in Milwaukee by Socioeconomic Status," see <http://www.cuph.org/mhr/2009-milwaukee-health-report.pdf>.

⁵³ Socioeconomic status was determined by ranking the income and education level of Milwaukee resident in 29 zip-codes. See complete report for more information.

⁵⁴ See "Dental Care in Short Supply for Low-Income Wisconsin Children" by Guy Boulton of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel at <http://www.jsonline.com/business/44649342.html>.

Mental Health Issues

Psychological Distress and Depression. The information in Table 31 was taken from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) in the state of Wisconsin.

Table 31: Percent Reporting Psychological Distress and Depressive Episodes Past Year

Area	Reports of Serious Psychological Distress	Reports of a Major Depressive Episode
Statewide	12%	8%
Milwaukee	13%	8%
Northeastern	12%	9%
Northern	12%	8%
Southeastern	10%	7%
Southern	11%	8%
Western	12%	8%

Milwaukee County had the highest prevalence of serious psychological distress, with 13% reporting an incident in the past year.

According to the previously mentioned Milwaukee Health Report from CUPH, those in lowest socio-economic areas of the city were twice as likely to report that they had always or nearly always felt “sad or blue” in the past 30 days.⁵⁵

Milwaukee County offers a wide range of options for those seeking help with their addictions. Milwaukee County offers the SAIL-AODA programs for those seeking assistance with mental health and addiction problems.⁵⁶ Furthermore, there exist numerous private and non-profit facilities that offer help for those in need.

Suicide. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the Medical College of Wisconsin, and the non-profit Mental Health America of Wisconsin released a very comprehensive report in 2008 about suicide in Wisconsin entitled “The Burden of Suicide in Wisconsin.”⁵⁷ Information for the years 2001 through 2006 for each county was included as a supplement to the report.

According to the report, the suicide rate in Milwaukee County was generally below the state average for the years cited, except for 2001 and 2004. From 2001 to 2006, the suicide rate in Milwaukee

⁵⁵ Twice as likely in comparison to people in areas of middle or high socioeconomic status. This was based on the Aurora Community Health Surveys (ACHS). This informative data can be found at <http://www.aurorahealthcare.org/yourhealth/comm-health-reports/index.asp>

⁵⁶ Info on SAIL-AODA services can be found at <http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/SAILAODA8063.htm>. The Milwaukee Addiction Treatment Initiative also works on this issue. <http://ca-ppi.org/solutions/mati/>

⁵⁷ Paper available at <http://www.mhawisconsin.org/Uploads/prevention/bosfinal9.5.pdf>

County averaged about 10.9 per 100,000 residents, or about 109 per year. Of those who committed suicide, 41% used firearms.

Hospital visits from self-inflicted injury were also reported. The costs for hospitalization charges have gone up almost every year since 2001, when \$8.2 million was spent on self-inflicted injury treatment, to 2006, when the figure was \$10.5 million. While Milwaukee County has a lower suicide rate than the state average, as well as lower inpatient hospitalizations, emergency department visits due to self-inflicted injury in the county are significantly higher than the rest of the state. The average number of emergency room visits for self-harm each year from 2002 to 2006 in Milwaukee County was 139 per 100,000 people, compared to a statewide average of 74.

The report also breaks down some demographic information on suicide. Table 32 is directly from the study and shows the suicide numbers in Milwaukee County based on age. While suicide is not limited to certain age groups, the highest rate was among those aged 35 to 54. This age group had 192 suicides from 2001 to 2006.

Table 32: Suicide in Milwaukee County by Age, 2001-2006

Age Group	Suicides	Rate
5 to 14	5	0.6
15 to 24	65	7.9
25 to 34	113	13.5
35 to 44	152	18.6
45 to 54	140	18.3
55 to 64	64	13.3
65 to 74	31	9.4
75 to 84	33	12.3
85+	8	7.3
<i>Total</i>	<i>611</i>	<i>11.24⁵⁸</i>

A variety of factors have been determined to lead to suicide. The MHA report indicates three categories that are often present in a suicide: mental health/substance abuse issues, interpersonal problems, and life stressors. In these categories, the most prevalent factors were a depressed mood, mental health problems, intimate partner problems, and recent crisis. Toxicology results indicate that alcohol was found in the system of 38% of those tested. Other detected chemicals included anti-depressants (23%), marijuana (8%), and cocaine (6%).

Statewide, suicides tend to be committed more often by those who had a high school degree or less, with no post-secondary education. The report indicates that men commit suicide at a much higher rate than women, with men making up roughly 80% of suicides in the state. This is not unusual, as the suicide rate is higher for men in nearly every country that collects such data, including the United States.

⁵⁸ This figure is higher than the 10.88 suicide rate reported in the main report due in part to the fact that the calculation of suicide rates for age groups with 20 suicides or less is unstable. The 10.88 figure is more likely to be correct.

Finally, the MHA report states the following in regards to suicide and marriage:

“Approximately one-third of all suicide decedents were married at the time of their death, while 35-41% were never married...One fifth (21-23%) of decedents were divorced at the time of death. Nationally, trends indicate that more persons were married at the time of death (39.3%) and less were never married (29.5%).”

Several organizations comparing suicide rates of the 50 states have ranked Wisconsin near the middle. In 2005, “Suicide.org” put Wisconsin at #30 in terms of its suicide rate (from highest to lowest), an improvement from 2004’s ranking of 24 (a tie with North Carolina and Alabama). The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention put Wisconsin at #30 and #27 in the years 2005 and 2006, respectively.

The same report found that suicide rates among veterans are higher than among civilians. In Wisconsin, veterans account for only 8% of the population, but 21% of suicides.

Substance Abuse

The data described in Table is from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). The use and abuse of alcohol and/or other substances in Milwaukee County is compared with other portions of the state. The regional boundaries and demographic makeup are available at the OAS website. “Milwaukee” refers to Milwaukee County.⁵⁹

Table 33: Percent of Residents Reporting Illicit Substance and Tobacco Use (Past Month)

Area	Illicit Drug Use	Illicit Drug Use, Other than Marijuana	Tobacco Use
Statewide	7%	3%	33%
Milwaukee	9%	3%	35%
Northeastern	7%	3%	34%
Northern	7%	3%	32%
Southeastern	7%	3%	31%
Southern	8%	3%	30%
Western	7%	4%	33%

*All NSDUH figures fall within 95% confidence interval.

Those residents from Milwaukee County had the highest level of illicit drug (9%) and tobacco use (35%). Milwaukee County drug use other than marijuana is about the state average. Table 34 on the next page describes county rates of alcohol use, binge drinking, and substance dependence.

⁵⁹ Annual Averages Based on 2004, 2005, and 2006 NSDUH data. Full report on Wisconsin drug use available online at: <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/substate2k8/StateFiles/WI.pdf>

Table 34: Alcohol Use and Dependence on Illicit Drugs and Alcohol in Wisconsin (Region)

Area	Alcohol Use in Past Month	Perception of Great Risk of 5+ Alcoholic Drinks, 1-2x Per Week	Illicit Drug or Alcohol Dependence or Abuse in Past Year
Statewide	64%	31%	11%
Milwaukee	62%	31%	13%
Northeastern	67%	33%	11%
Northern	62%	28%	10%
Southeastern	70%	31%	11%
Southern	61%	30%	11%
Western	60%	30%	12%

Milwaukee County has been below the state averages in regards to alcohol use in the past month and at the state average for perceived risk of having five or more drinks weekly. However, at 13% the county was above state average in terms of dependence on either drugs or alcohol.

Milwaukee County has one of the highest rates of residents needing but not receiving treatment for alcohol use and illicit drug use in the past year. Estimates assert that there are roughly 82,000 Milwaukee County residents without access to treatment.⁶⁰ As seen in Table 35, the county has a higher percentage of people needing but not receiving treatment for addiction than other parts of the state.

Table 35: Percentage Needing but Not Receiving Treatment for Alcohol and Drug Use

Area	Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Alcohol Use in Past Year	Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Illicit Drug Use in Past Year
Statewide	9%	3%
Milwaukee	10%	3%
Northeastern	10%	2%
Northern	8%	2%
Southeastern	10%	2%
Southern	10%	2%
Western	9%	3%

⁶⁰ Figure based on a report by the Community Advocates Milwaukee Addiction Treatment Initiative available at <http://ca-ppi.org/docs/mati.pdf>

Milwaukee County offers a wide range of options for those seeking help with their addictions. Milwaukee County offers the SAIL-AODA programs for those seeking assistance with mental health and addiction problems.⁶¹ There are numerous private and non-profit facilities offering help for those in need.

Health Insurance Coverage

Government Health Coverage. Below, Table 36 presents Medicaid caseload data in Milwaukee County for the years 2002, 2005, and 2008. Data comes directly from Forward Health Wisconsin, which reports information on health care related topics for the state.⁶²

Table 36: Milwaukee County Average Monthly Medicaid Caseloads

Program	2002	2005	2008
BadgerCare Plus ⁶³	138,246	149,289	155,220
Elderly/Disability Coverage	47,237	49,324	50,824
Other Coverage	6,244	10,605	10,489

The average monthly caseloads for Milwaukee County have risen since 2002, with BadgerCare plus seeing the highest jump. In 2008, Milwaukee County accounted for a little less than a fourth (24%) of Medicaid cases.

Uninsured Population in Milwaukee. In 2008, the ACS estimates that 12% of Milwaukee County residents are uninsured—the largest in the state, which averaged 9%. For those under the age of 18, the figure was just over 6%, compared to the state average of slightly more than 5%.

Another source, the 2008 Wisconsin Family Health Survey, reported that approximately 6% of all Milwaukee County household residents were uninsured for the entire year, while 7% were uninsured for part of 2008.⁶⁴ The following tables reflect information from the 2008 Wisconsin Family Health Survey. Please note that the percentages presented do not include the confidence intervals as reported by the source for the sake of simplicity.

Age of the Uninsured. Those aged 18 to 44 years of age are the most likely to report being uninsured at any one time (17%), with 10% reporting being uninsured for the entire year. Three percent of children (age 17 or younger) were uninsured at some point in 2008, while 2% were uninsured for the entire year. See Table 37 on the following page.

⁶¹ Info on SAIL-AODA services can be found at <http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/SAILAODA8063.htm>. The Milwaukee Addiction Treatment Initiative also works on this issue. <http://ca-ppi.org/solutions/mati/>

⁶² Forward Health Wisconsin available online at: [:https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/portals/0/staticContent/Member/caseloads/481-caseload.htm](https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/portals/0/staticContent/Member/caseloads/481-caseload.htm)

⁶³ BadgerCare Plus was implemented in 2008 and simplifies eligibility requirement, though generally covers the same areas as previous years. Cases are most often found for children, parents/caretakers, and income extensions. In regards to elderly/disability coverage, most cases involved supplemental social security. Other coverage concerns such topics as foster care and family planning waivers. WI Medicaid eligibility requirements are detailed at <http://www.emhandbooks.wi.gov/meh-ebd/>

⁶⁴ Available at <http://dhs.wi.gov/stats/familyhealthsurvey.htm>

Table 37: Percent of Uninsured Milwaukee County Residents by Age

Age	Uninsured At Any Time in Year	Uninsured Entire Year
0 – 17	3%	2%
18 – 44	17%	10%
45 - 64	8%	7%
65 and older	1%	1%

Gender of the Uninsured. As illustrated by Table 38, men were more likely than women to be uninsured for any one time in 2008 (14% versus 9%, respectively), as well as uninsured for the entire year (10% of men and 6% of women).

Table 38: Percent of Uninsured Milwaukee County Adult Residents by Gender, 2008

Gender	Uninsured At Any Time in Year	Uninsured Entire Year
Women	9%	6%
Men	14%	10%

Race of the Uninsured. For this survey, race was only delineated as White, Non-Hispanic and Black, non-Hispanic. As seen below in Table 39, non-Hispanic Black residents are twice as likely as non-Hispanic White residents to be uninsured at any one time in 2008 (12% uninsured compared to 6%, respectively). Similarly, the rate of non-Hispanic Black residents who are uninsured for the entire year is 7%, nearly twice the 4% rate non-Hispanic White residents.

Table 39: Percent of Uninsured Milwaukee County Residents by Race (Non-Hispanic), 2008

Race	Uninsured At Any Time in Year	Uninsured Entire Year
Black (Non-Hispanic)	12%	7%
White (Non-Hispanic)	6%	4%

Poverty Status of the Uninsured. The survey also looked at poverty status and uninsured. As seen in Table 40 (next page), those who are deemed poor or near poor are more likely to be uninsured for part or all of the year. One in five of those categorized as poor are uninsured for part of the year, while one in seven of the near-poor and only one in sixteen of those who are not poor. The poor are more than five times more likely that those who are not to be uninsured for the entire year (17% versus 3%). Even the near-poor are three times more likely than those who are not to be uninsured for the entire year (9% compared to 3%).

Table 40: Percent of Uninsured Milwaukee County Residents by Poverty Status

Race	Uninsured At Any Time in Year	Uninsured Entire Year
Poor	20%	17%
Near- Poor	14%	9%
Not Poor	6%	3%

Employed and Uninsured. For those aged 18 to 64 years of age and employed full-time, 12% were uninsured at one time during 2008, and 9% reported being uninsured for the entire year.

Free/Community Clinics in Milwaukee County

According to a very substantive report by the Milwaukee Free Clinic Collaborative and the Milwaukee Health Care Partnerships, free and community clinics in Milwaukee County served approximately 73,700 people in 2008. Included clinics provided services related to medical, family planning, STD/AIDS related, and dental needs.⁶⁵

Of all clinics participating in a survey, the vast majority responded that their primary mission was to provide care for the underinsured or uninsured (or to provide low-cost care). Over 70% of medical clinics accept walk-in patients, while about 66% are free to users. About 60% of those who use the medical clinics are uninsured. Most clinics reported that the biggest challenge to their work was providing care that often can only be done at a hospital, or assisting patients with mental health needs. When asked what would be the biggest change in demand five years down the road, most clinics reported that demand for their services will only increase in time, though most also believed that BadgerCare Plus would have a positive impact. Some salient quotes from those surveyed are included below:

“...specialty care is ensconced in a system. Even if I had a private provider, they still couldn’t care for the patient because they don’t own the equipment. The hospital has ownership; it is a faceless bureaucracy that limits access.”

“I expect that there will be more people coming in because BadgerCare won’t cover them.”

“Free clinics provide services to those that are increasingly becoming marginalized in regards to access to medical services and treatment. This can be attributed to the overall increase in the cost of healthcare and a reduction in funding for many government-run programs.”

It is likely that many people using these clinics are suffering from the effects of poverty in Milwaukee County.

⁶⁵ Report available online at:

http://www.planningcouncil.org/docs/reports/Inventory_of_Free_and_Community_Clinics.pdf

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