

Free and Reduced Lunch Program

	Percentage Eligible 2000	Percentage Eligible 2005	Percent Change	Percentage Eligible 2005 County/ISD	City vs. ISD Percent Difference 2005	City vs. State Percentage Point Difference 2005
Ann Arbor Public Schools	17.1	18.0	5.3	22.1	-18.6	-16.7
Battle Creek School District	50.2	66.0	31.5	40.1	64.6	31.3
Detroit Public Schools	68.5	72.0	5.1	48.0	50.0	37.3
Flint Community Schools	64.2	70.0	9.0	38.8	80.4	35.3
Grand Rapids Public Schools	65.4	77.0	17.7	37.6	104.8	42.3
Kalamazoo School District	59.6	61.0	2.3	35.9	69.9	26.3
Lansing School District	51.7	63.0	21.9	35.0	80.0	28.3
Muskegon Public Schools	66.5	80.0	20.3	48.3	65.6	45.3
Pontiac School District	63.9	74.0	15.8	18.7	295.7	39.3
Saginaw City School District	63.3	74.0	16.9	46.8	58.1	39.3
Traverse City Area Public Schools	23.1	28.0	21.2	30.5	-8.2	-6.7
Warren Consolidated Schools	14.8	24.0	62.2	22.6	6.2	-10.7
Wyoming Public Schools	30.9	48.0	55.3	37.6	27.7	13.3
Average (unweighted)	49.0	58.1	18.1	35.5	63.4	23.4
State	28.9	34.7	12.5			

The percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunches in public schools serves as a measure of socio-economic status of students in the district.

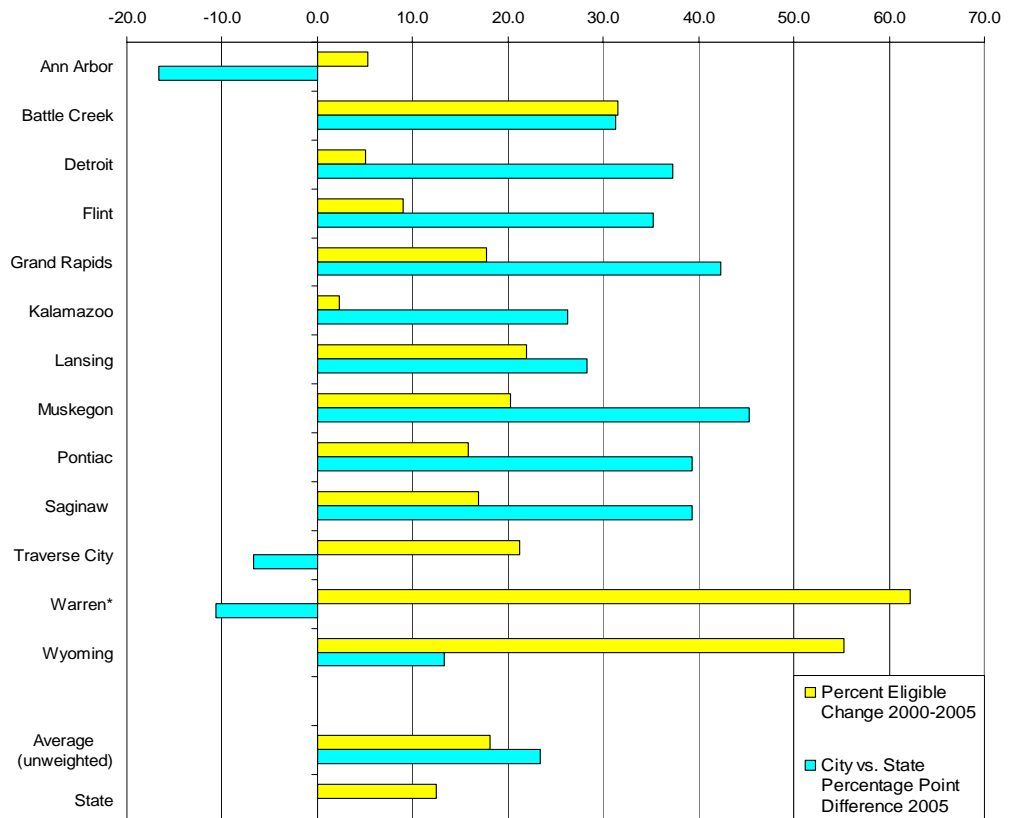
On average, the 13 school districts had an increase of 18.1 percent in students eligible for free and reduced lunches over the 2000-2005 period.

Note: School districts and their cities are rarely coterminous; all schools data are presented by district, not city.
 Source: Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI); Michigan Department of Education.

A number of districts saw a significant increase in eligible students including Warren 62.2 percent, Wyoming 55.3 percent, and Battle Creek 31.5 percent.

Arguably, this measure is the best proxy available to assess poverty for families with children, and the working poor.

Only Ann Arbor, Warren and Traverse City had lower rates of eligible students than their Intermediate School Districts.



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