

Martin Township Master Plan
2018 Update of General Population, Social, & Economic
Characteristics

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Traffic Counts

Table 1 shows traffic counts on county primary roads in Martin Township over a 24-hour period. Overall, traffic counts have increased on each roadway for which data was gathered since the previous traffic counts listed in the 2013 Martin Township Master Plan Update, with the exception of 4th Street south of 124th Avenue, which showed a decrease in traffic. Traffic increases may be attributed to population growth, road improvements, decreases in gas prices, or job growth.

Table 1: 24 Hour Average Daily Traffic of Martin Township County Primary Roads, 2016.

Date	Location	24 Hour Count
2016	124th Ave. East of 6th St.	2851
	4th St. South of 124th Ave.	188
	10th St. South of 118th Ave.	2177
	116th Ave. East of 6th St.	2117
	112th Ave. West of Marsh Rd.	363
	2nd St. South of 118th Ave.	1329
	118th Ave. East of 2nd St.	1265

Rail Road. One rail line, the Grand Elk Railroad, exists in Martin Township, running in a north/south direction, through the western one-third of the Township. The Grand Elk Railroad (reporting mark GDLK) is a Class III railroad which operates in the states of Indiana and Michigan. It is one of several short-line railroads owned by Watco Companies of Pittsburg, Kansas.

The company leases 123 miles of rail line from the Norfolk Southern running south from Grand Rapids, Michigan through Kalamazoo, Michigan to Elkhart, Indiana. The railroad connects with three larger railroads: the Norfolk Southern (Elkhart and Kalamazoo), CSX (Grand Rapids) and Canadian National (Kalamazoo, Michigan) as well as three short line railroads: the Marquette Rail (Grand Rapids), Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad (Grand Rapids), and Michigan Southern Railroad (White Pigeon, Michigan).

Social and Economic Characteristics

Population. Table 2 shows the population of Martin Township, surrounding communities and Allegan County, from 2000-2016. From 2010 to 2016, Martin Township experienced a 0.76% increase in population, compared to 4.6% growth from 2000-2010. Allegan County as a whole experienced a lesser rate of population growth at 2.03% from 2010-2016 compared to 5.4% between 2000 and 2010. Watson Township has experienced an increase in a declining population, while Gun Plain Township grew at a lesser rate from 2010-2016 than the prior decade. Of note is that Martin Village increased from a -5.7% growth rate from 2000-2010 to a 1.71% growth rate from 2010-2016. Orangeville Township in Barry County shows a slightly increasing rate of growth from 2010-2016 compared to a slightly decreasing rate of growth from 2000-2010. Wayland Township, experienced the highest rate of population growth (2.98%) of the surrounding communities in 2016, a slight increase from the 2.5% rate of growth from 2000-2010.

From 2000 to 2010, the net gain in population for Martin Township and surrounding communities (not including the County population data) was 390 persons; the net gain in persons from 2010 to 2016 is 186 persons.

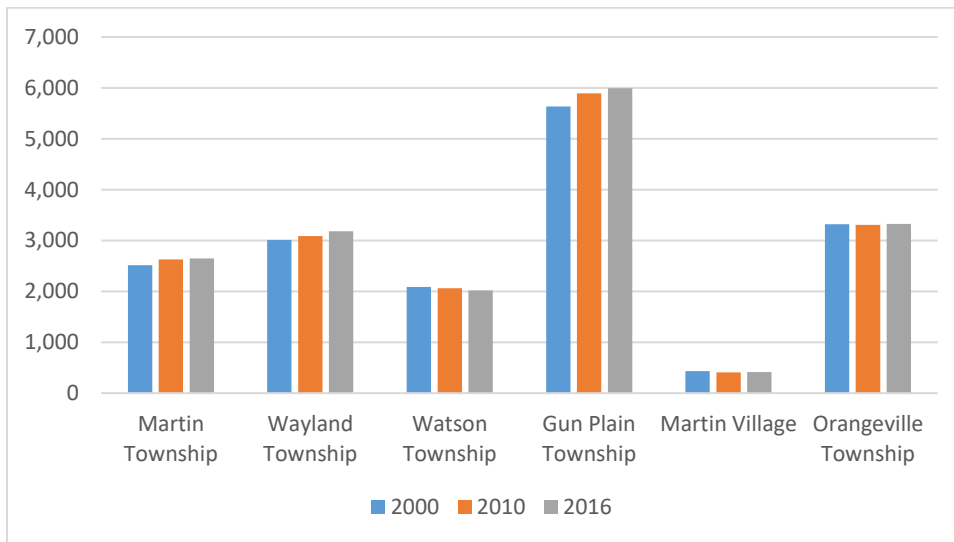
Figure 1 shows a comparison in population growth among Martin Township and surrounding communities.

Table 2: Population of Martin Township, Surrounding Communities, and Allegan County, 2000-2016.

	2000	2010	2016	2010-2016 Change in Persons	2010-2016 Change in Percent
Martin Township	2,514	2,629	2,649	20	0.76%
Wayland Township	3,013	3,088	3,180	92	2.98%
Watson Township	2,086	2,063	2,017	-46	-2.23%
Gun Plain Township	5,637	5,895	5,992	97	1.65%
Martin Village	435	410	417	7	1.71%
Orangeville Township (Barry County)	3,321	3,311	3,327	16	0.48%
Allegan County	105,665	111,408	113,666	2,258	2.03%

Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey; 2000 and 2010 Decennial Census

Figure 1: Population of Martin Township and Surrounding Communities 2000-2016.



Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey; 2000 and 2010 Decennial Census

Ages of Population. Table 3 and Table 3A show the ages of the population in Martin Township for 2016. Since 2010, Martin Township has experienced a small shift from the 5 to 44-year-old groups (5.9% decrease) to the 45 and older groups (3.7% increase). The median age for Martin Township residents increased slightly from 37.3 years in 2010 to 37.5 years in 2016. The median age in Allegan County increased from 39.2 years in 2010 to 40.0 years in 2016. This trend suggests that the younger population is more likely to leave the region while the aging population is more likely to remain in the region.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of age groups within Martin Township.

TABLE 3: Ages of Population, Martin Township, 2016.

Age	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	249	9.4%
5-19 Years	482	18.2%
20-44 Years	786	29.7%
45-64 Years	781	29.5%
65 to 84 years	294	11.1%
85 years and over	56	2.1%
Total Population	2,649	100.0%

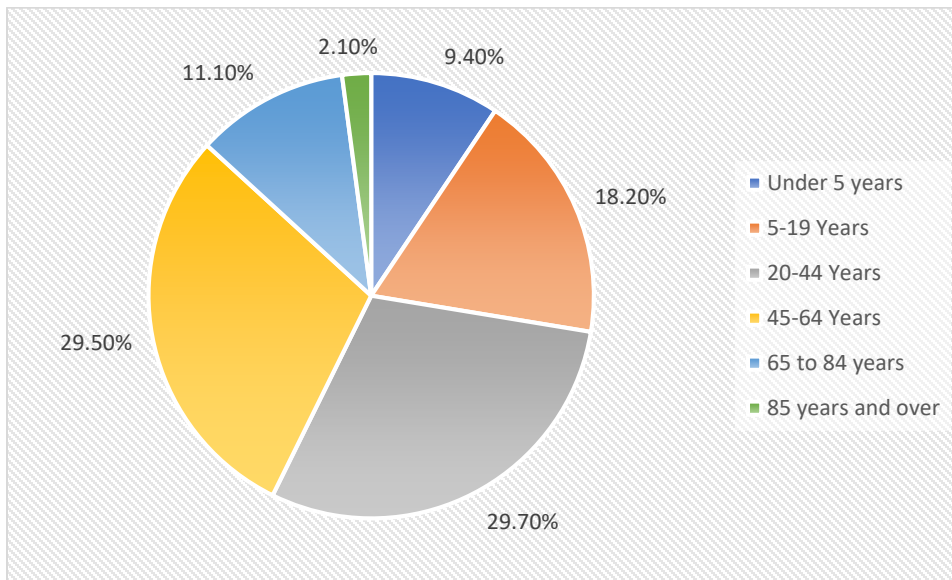
Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

TABLE 3A: Median Age, Martin Township and Allegan County, 2010-2016.

	2010	2016
Martin Township	37.3 years	37.5 years
Allegan County	39.2 years	40.0 years

Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey; 2010 Decennial Census

Figure 2: Distribution of Age, Martin Township, 2016.



Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

School Enrollment. Table 4 displays the distribution of school enrollment by grade levels for Martin Township and Allegan County. School enrollment is determined by counting the number of persons three years of age or older who are enrolled in a private or public school. Percentages are based on total number of persons enrolled in school; this total number has decreased from 757 persons in 2010 to 571 persons in 2016. Therefore, the percentage of persons enrolled in any one category may increase while the total number of persons may decrease.

From 2010 to 2016, Martin Township experienced a decrease in the enrollment of all grade levels except High School, which experienced an increase in percentage (23.9% to 24.7%) but a decrease in number (181 to 141); and an increase in College or Graduate School enrollment, which significantly increased in percentage (9.3% to 17.7%) and number (70 to 101). Martin Township has a greater percentage of Nursery/Preschool and Kindergarten enrollees than Allegan County as a whole; moreover, unlike in 2010, Martin Township has a greater percent of its population in College or Graduate School compared to Allegan County.

Probably the most important statistic illustrated by the data is the significant decrease in numbers of kindergarteners from 2010 to 2016, indicating a trend of fewer young families in the area. Another factor affecting this trend is a declining birth rate both state wide and nationally. Another trend of importance is the total number of those enrolled in preschool through high school, which has declined from 687 total students in 2010 to 470 students, a decrease of 217 students.

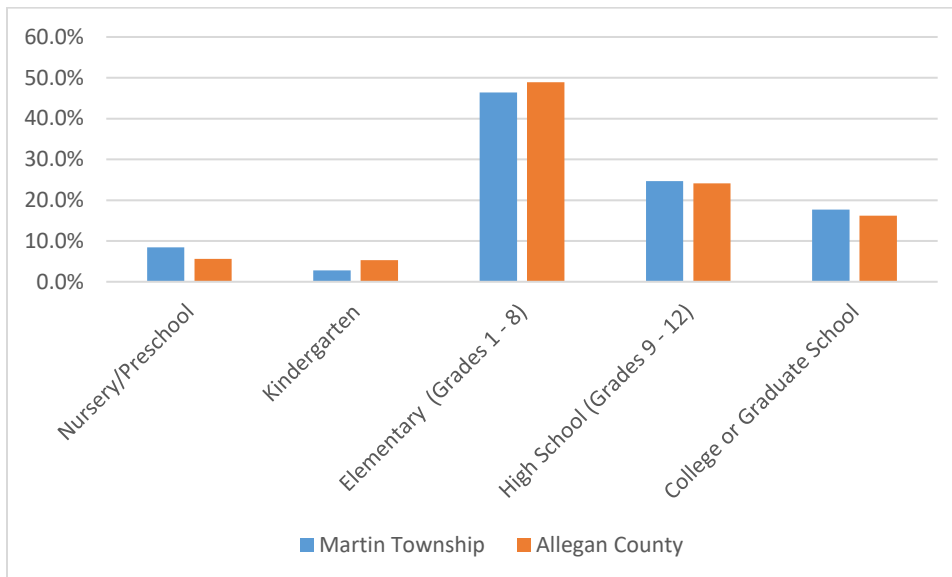
Figure 3 illustrates the distribution of school enrollment of Martin Township compared to Allegan County.

TABLE 4: School Enrollment, Martin Township and Allegan County, 2016.

Grade Levels	Martin Township		Allegan County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Nursery/Preschool	48	8.4%	1,518	5.6%
Kindergarten	16	2.8%	1,429	5.3%
Elementary School (Grade 1 - 8)	265	46.4%	13,277	48.9%
High School (Grades 9 - 12)	141	24.7%	6,537	24.1%
College or Graduate School	101	17.7%	4,388	16.2%
Population 3 years and older enrolled in school	571	100%	27,149	100%

Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Figure 3: Distribution of School Enrollment, Martin Township and Allegan County, 2016.



Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Households and Housing; Table 5 displays the number of households and housing units in Martin Township as reported by the 2016 American Community Survey. The total number of housing units has increased from 1,027 to 1,048 units since 2010, an increase of 21 units. Of the 1,048 housing units, 937 are occupied, and 111 are either vacant or seasonal. The percentage of occupied housing units has decreased slightly from 92.1% in 2010 to 89.4% in 2016.

Vacant units have somewhat increased, from 7.9% in 2010 to 10.6% in 2016. The 111 vacant or seasonal homes is a 37% increase from the 2010 US Census Data if raw numbers are compared. Comparing percentages between 2010 and 2016, the increase is 2.7%.

While the actual numbers of owner and renter occupied dwelling units has changed only slightly from 2010, the percentages of owner occupied units compared to renter occupied units in 2016 (82% to 18%) has remained unchanged since 2010. (Note that the percentage reported in the 2013 Master Plan was based on the total number of housing units including vacant units, rather than just on the number of occupied dwelling units.) This is typically considered a favorable trend in a community.

Of the 937 occupied housing units, 695 are Family Households and 242 units are Non-family Households. While the percentage of Family Households has increased somewhat, the percentage of Occupied Housing Units with children under 18 years of age has decreased. The percentage of Non-Family Households has also increased. This reflects a trend as illustrated by the population data of families with children decreasing overall in the Township.

The percentage of single-parent households was not reported in the 2013 Master Plan; however, in 2016, households with a Female Head with no spouse present made up 12.7% of all households. Households with a Male Head and no spouse present made up 2.9%.

The average owner-occupied household size is 2.79 while renter-occupied is 2.92; typically, owner-occupied housing units have larger household sizes than renter-occupied housing; Martin Township shows a slightly different trend.

TABLE 5: Housing and Households by Type, Martin Township, 2016

Housing/Household Type	Number	Percent of Housing Units
Total Housing Units	1,048	100.0%
1 unit detached	859	82.0%
1 unit attached	9	0.9%
2-or-more-unit structures	52	5.0%
Mobile Home	122	11.6%
Occupied Housing Units	937	89.4%
Vacant Housing Units	111	10.6%
		% of Occupied Housing Units
Occupied Housing Units	937	100.0%
Owner Occupied	770	82.2%
Renter Occupied	167	17.8%
Family Households	695	74.2%
-Married-couple Family Households	549	58.6%
-Male Heads w/no Spouse Present	27	2.9%
-Female Heads w/no Spouse Present	119	12.7%
With Own Children Under 18 Years	284	30.3%
Non-family Households	242	25.8%
One Person (Living Alone)	188	20.1%
Average Household Size (owner-occupied)	2.79	N/A
Average Household Size (renter-occupied)	2.92	N/A

Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Income and Employment. Table 6 and Table 7 display the employment status and income of the residents in Martin Township and Allegan County. Martin Township and Allegan County have similar employment statuses, with the Township having slightly higher rates of employment and persons in the labor force. Martin Township and Allegan County have equal unemployment rates when rounded to the nearest 10th (2.9%). The household and per capita incomes are higher in Allegan County, but Martin Township has a higher Median Family Income at \$66,868. The percentage of families with poverty status is higher in Martin Township (11.7%) than in Allegan County (8.8%).

Figure 4 shows the comparison of all income types between Martin Township and Allegan County.

TABLE 6: Employment Status, Martin Township and Allegan County, 2016.

	Martin Township		Allegan County	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population 16 Years and Over	2,003	---	88,751	---
- In Labor Force	1,312	65.5%	55,129	62.1%
- Employed	1,251	62.5%	52,518	59.2%
- Unemployed	58	2.9%	2,608	2.9%

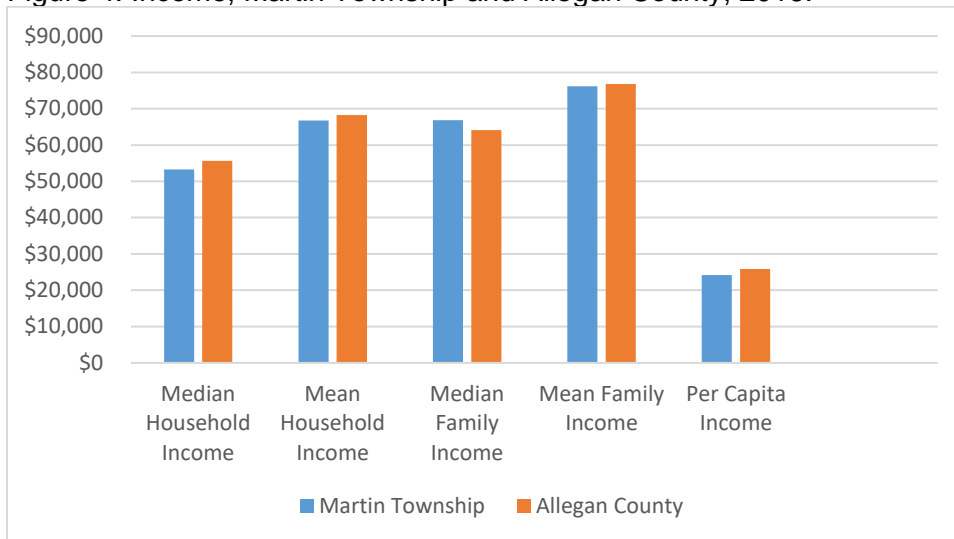
Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

TABLE 7: Income, Martin Township and Allegan County, 2016.

	Martin Township	Allegan County
Median Household Income	\$53,229	\$55,630
Mean Household Income	\$66,770	\$68,233
Median Family Income	\$66,868	\$64,133
Mean Family Income	\$76,178	\$76,768
Per Capita Income	\$24,203	\$25,840
-Percentage of Families with Poverty Status	11.7%	8.8%

Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Figure 4: Income, Martin Township and Allegan County, 2016.



Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Employment by Occupation: Table 8 displays the distribution of employment in Martin Township by occupation, industry, and class of worker for 2016. Management, business, science, and arts occupations provide the greatest number of jobs for residents in Martin Township. In 2010, Production, transportation, and material moving occupations provided the greatest number of jobs for residents of Martin Township. Whereas the number of jobs in the Production, transportation, and material moving has decreased only slightly, the number of jobs in the Management, business, science, and the arts has increased significantly since 2010, resulting in the high ranking.

Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations provide the fewest jobs, and have decreased significantly from 2010. This may be attributed to the fact that construction industries are still recovering from the recession of 2007-2009, and that fewer workers are employed in the agricultural and natural resources-based industries. Educational services, health care, and social assistance remains the industry responsible for providing the greatest number of jobs, with Manufacturing remaining a close second. Private wage and salary workers constitute the largest number of workers.

TABLE 8: Employment by Occupation, Industry, and Class of Worker, Martin Township.

Occupation		
Total Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over	1251	100%
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	402	32.1%
Service Occupations	226	18.1%
Sales and office occupations	210	16.8%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	130	10.4%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	283	22.6%
Industry		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	98	7.8%
Construction	78	6.2%
Manufacturing	288	23%
Wholesale trade	48	3.8%
Retail Trade	81	6.5%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	34	2.7%
Information	13	1%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	15	1.2%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	103	8.2%
Education services, and health care and social assistance	313	25%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	88	7%
Other services, except public administration	68	5.4%
Public administration	29	2.3%
Class of Worker		
Private wage and salary workers	1045	83.5%
Government workers	105	8.4%
Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers	101	8.1%
Unpaid family workers	0	0%

Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

Value of Housing Units. Table 9 displays the value of housing units in Martin Township based on a sample size of 770 owner occupied housing units. The majority of the homes are valued from \$100,000 to \$149,999, while the second largest category includes the homes valued from \$50,000 to \$99,999. In 2010, the second greatest number of homes were those in the \$150,000 to \$199,999 range. The change in housing values may be influenced by the particular sample taken in each instance where data was gathered, or may be a reflection of persons constructing houses in the lower value ranges.

The median value of houses has decreased since 2010 by \$5,500.

TABLE 9: Value of Owner Occupied Housing Units*, Martin Township

Value	Number of Units	Percent of Units
Owner-occupied units	770	100%
Less than \$50,000	62	8.1%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	196	25.5%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	270	35.1%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	129	16.8%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	60	7.8%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	41	5.3%
\$500,000 or more	12	1.5%
Median Value	\$127,200	N/A

Source: US Census Bureau 2012-2016 American Community Survey

*Values are based on a sample of 770 owner occupied housing units