

**2013 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY DATA  
FOR  
ARENAC COUNTY, MI.**



**Prepared by:  
East Michigan Council of Governments  
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# East MI Council of Governments

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## General Facts About Arenac County

County Seat: City of Standish  
 Land Area: 366.84 square miles  
 Local Governments: 3 cities, 3 villages; 12 townships  
 2010 Population: 15,899  
 Population Density: 43.3 persons per square mile  
 Median Age: 44.6

**Table 1: Business Establishments In Arenac County<sup>1</sup>**

Type of Establishment	Self Employed & Stage 1				Total	Percent
	(1-9)	Stage 2 (10-99)	Stage 3 (100-499)	Stage 4 (500 +)		
Natural Resource & Mining	2				2	0.6%
Construction	29	3			32	9.4%
Manufacturing	17	10			27	8.0%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	74	22			96	28.3%
Information	6				6	1.8%
Financial Activities	15	2			17	5.0%
Professional and Business Services	29	4	2		35	10.3%
Educational & Health Services	27	8	2		37	10.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	38	17			55	16.2%
Public Adm. & Other Services	29	3			32	9.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>339</b>	

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from U.S. Census Selected Statistics by Economic Sector, based on 2011 County Business Patterns

## POPULATION TRENDS

Past, present and future growth patterns are a driving force and indicator of the future health and sustainability of a region. They help to define existing problems along with available socioeconomic resources and represent the current and future demands for those available resources. The sustainability of a region is dependent on how well the region meets the future needs of its residents. Future needs depend on a myriad of things including changes in population and households (both numbers and the details of those numbers) combined with existing development patterns and policy choices.

Table 2 presents a population history of Arenac County. Between 1980 and 2000 the County experienced a 17.4% population increase from 14,706 persons in 1980 to 17,271 persons in 2000. The County's population growth was much greater than the experience of both the EMCOG Region and the State of Michigan. The 2010 U.S. Census results show that Arenac County experienced a population loss of **-7.9%** since 2000 resulting in a population of 15,899.

<sup>1</sup> The County Business Data in Table 1 is lower than the same type of data in Tables 8 and 9 due to the different sources for the data: Table 1 data is based upon ES-202 filings as compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; Tables 8 and 9 data are based upon National Establishment Time-Series [NETS] as compiled by Walls and Associates using Dun & Bradstreet's Market identifier files. The NETS data includes businesses and jobs that the ES-202 data does not capture such as many smaller businesses and part time proprietors and jobs. Further information on the differences in the two data sources can be found at <http://youreconomy.org/pages/insights.lasso#insights-NETS%20versus%20ES-202>

**Table 2: Historic Population**

Jurisdiction	Census 1980	Census 1990	Census 2000	Census 2010	% Change 1980 - 2000	% Change 2000 - 2010
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>14,706</b>	<b>14,906</b>	<b>17,271</b>	<b>15,899</b>	<b>17.4%</b>	<b>-7.9%</b>
State	9,262,078	9,295,297	9,938,823	9,883,640	7.3%	-0.6%
EMCOG Region	769,929	753,723	796,598	780,869	3.5%	-2.0%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from U. S. Census

Table 3 presents population estimates for Arenac County through the year 2040. These population estimates are based on a combination of average growth trends over the last four Decennial Censuses (1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010) and population estimates provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation.<sup>2</sup>

The average annual growth rate from 2010 to 2040 is shown on the right side of the table. Based on the population estimates Arenac County will experience a modest increase in population from the year 2010 to 2040 of 0.13% per year.

What is interesting to note in Table 3 are the Population subsets that make up the projections. In Arenac County there is a projected population decline of **-1,420** from the “Natural Increase” subset (births and deaths) and the “Domestic Migration Age 65 and Older” subsets. These losses are more than offset by the projected growth in the “Domestic Migration Under The Age of 65” population subset into the County. The population changes in Arenac County regarding overall growth as well as the population subset changes contrast with the EMCOG Region as a whole.

**Table 3: Population Projections: 2010 - 2040**

Jurisdiction	Census 2010 (1,000's)	MDOT 2020 (1,000's)	MDOT 2030 (1,000's)	MDOT 2040 (1,000's)	Change 2010-2040 (1,000's)	Percent Change 2010-2040	Annual Growth Rate 2010-2040
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>0.13%</b>
<b>Population Subsets</b>							
Natural Increase		<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>		
International Migration		-	-	-	-		
Domestic Migration 65+		<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>		
Domestic Migration Under 65		<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>2.0</b>		
<b>EMCOG</b>	780.8	774.0	766.1	773.7	<b>-7.1</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>-0.03%</b>
<b>Population Subsets</b>							
Natural Increase		5.9	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>-16.0</b>	<b>-13.5</b>		
International Migration		5.6	7.0	8.6	21.2		
Domestic Migration 65+		<b>-0.2</b>	.06	0.9	0.8		
Domestic Migration Under 65		<b>-21.6</b>	<b>-0.05</b>	6.1	<b>-15.6</b>		

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from Michigan Department of Transportation Planning

<sup>2</sup> The population numbers are shown in 1,000s for ease of reading the table.

Table 4 provides further detail of population forecasts for each city/village/township within Arenac County. The percent changes in population from 2010 to 2020 and from 2020 to 2040 are shown on the right side of the table. Based on population estimates most local units in Arenac County are estimated to experience a slight decrease in population from the 2010 Census to 2020 ranging from -0.3% to -0.7%. The population for all local units is forecast to grow from 2020 to 2040 by as much as 6.8% in Whitney Township.

NOTE: for the purpose of transportation planning the population forecasts as provided by MDOT were done by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) within Arenac County. A TAZ boundary may include a city or village as well as a township. The Cities of Au Gres and Omer along with the Villages of Sterling, Turner and Twining were embedded within larger township TAZs) in the MDOT forecasts. EMCOG prepared forecasts for these cities and villages based on their 2010 Census population and using the same growth assumptions that were used by MDOT for the TAZ in which they are located. The resulting balance of the affected TAZs were adjusted accordingly in the following table.

**Table 4: Arenac County City, Village and Township  
Population Projections: 2010 – 2040**

<b>Local Unit</b>	<b>Census 2010</b>	<b>MDOT 2020</b>	<b>MDOT 2040</b>	<b>Percent Change 2010-2020</b>	<b>Percent Change 2020-2040</b>
Adams Township	563	559	577	-0.7%	3.2%
Arenac Township	903	896	922	-0.7%	2.9%
Au Gres City	889	885	917	-0.4%	3.6%
Au Gres Township	953	949	984	-0.4%	3.6%
Clayton Township	1,097	1,091	1,129	-0.5%	3.5%
Deep River Township	1,619	1,622	1,701	0.2%	4.9%
Lincoln Township	942	936	966	-0.7%	3.2%
Mason Township	748	744	770	-0.5%	3.5%
Moffatt Township	1,184	1,184	1,237	0.0%	4.5%
Omer City	313	310	320	-0.8%	3.2%
Sims Township	1,095	1,092	1,134	-0.3%	3.9%
Standish City	1,509	1,503	1,559	-0.4%	3.7%
Standish Township	1,900	1,894	1,967	-0.3%	3.9%
Sterling Village	530	531	557	0.2%	4.9%
Turner Township	358	356	368	-0.5%	3.4%
Turner Village	114	113	117	-0.5%	3.4%
Twining Village	181	180	186	-0.5%	3.5%
Whitney Township	1,001	1,013	1,081	1.2%	6.8%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>15,899</b>	<b>15,859</b>	<b>16,494</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from Michigan Department of Transportation Planning;  
MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan

Another element of population trends is the age of the population as it directly impacts availability of a workforce and the experience of the workforce and types of both public and private services needed by the population. Table 5 identifies the median age<sup>3</sup> for Arenac County for 4 decennial censuses (1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010).

**Table 5: Median Age 1980 - 2010**

Jurisdiction	Census 1980	Census 1990	Census 2000	Census 2010	Percent Change 1980 - 2000	Percent Change 2000 - 2010
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>16.5%</b>
EMCOG Region	28.8	33.2	37.2	39.7	29.2%	6.7%

Source: Median Age per County: Compiled by EMCOG from U.S. Census

Source: Median Age per Region: calculated weighted average median age based on county Census population as compiled by EMCOG

Table 6 presents household (HH) estimates for the cities, villages and townships within Arenac County through the year 2040. From 2010 to 2020 the number of households is projected to increase by 2.7% countywide compared to a small decrease in population of **-0.2%** indicating a shift to smaller household size or perhaps some other trends such as an increase in vacation homes. From 2020 to 2040 all of the local units in the County are forecast to experience a further increase in the number of households ranging from 0.2% in the City of Omer and Arenac Township to a high of 7.3% in Whitney Township

As noted earlier these estimates along with the population estimates in Tables 4 were developed by MDOT for transportation planning purposes and therefore were done by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) within Arenac County. A TAZ boundary may include a city or village as well as a township. The Cities of Au Gres and Omer along with the Villages of Sterling, Turner and Twining were embedded within larger township TAZs) in the MDOT forecasts. EMCOG prepared forecasts for the villages based on their 2010 Census households and using the same growth assumptions that were used by MDOT for the TAZs in which they are located. The resulting balance of the affected TAZs were adjusted accordingly in the following table.

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<sup>3</sup> The mid-point or the age at which 50% of the population is younger and 50% is older

**Table 6: Arenac County City, Village and Township Household (HH) Projections: 2010 – 2040**

<b>Local Unit</b>	<b>HH 2010</b>	<b>HH 2020</b>	<b>HH 2040</b>	<b>Percent Change 2010-2020</b>	<b>Percent Change 2020-2040</b>
Adams Township	212	216	217	1.8%	0.5%
Arenac Township	380	386	387	1.6%	0.2%
Au Gres City	435	445	451	2.3%	1.4%
Au Gres Township	420	430	436	2.3%	1.4%
Clayton Township	419	428	433	2.1%	1.1%
Deep River Township	663	686	712	3.5%	3.7%
Lincoln Township	387	394	396	1.8%	0.5%
Mason Township	308	315	318	2.1%	1.1%
Moffatt Township	514	530	546	3.1%	3.0%
Omer City	131	133	133	1.6%	0.2%
Sims Township	526	539	549	2.5%	1.9%
Standish City	619	634	643	2.4%	1.6%
Standish Township	765	784	799	2.5%	1.8%
Sterling Village	185	191	199	3.5%	3.7%
Turner Township	163	166	168	2.1%	1.0%
Turner Village	43	44	44	2.1%	1.0%
Twining Village	68	69	70	2.1%	1.1%
Whitney Township	463	488	524	5.5%	7.3%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>6,701</b>	<b>6,879</b>	<b>7,026</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from Michigan Department of Transportation Planning;  
MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan.

### **EMPLOYMENT, JOBS AND SALES**

Economic activity and sustainability is reflected to a large degree by the number and types of jobs available. Labor force data indicate the extent to which people are able to find jobs, the rate at which they are dropping out of the labor force, and the percent of people unable to find work. “Labor Force” consists of those employed and those without a job but actively looking for one (unemployed). Those who are without a job and not looking for one and are no longer receiving unemployment compensation and services are not considered a part of the labor force.

Table 7 shows the 24-month average labor force and unemployment data for Arenac County and the EMCOG Region, along with the State and National data, for the years 2011 and 2012. The County's unemployment rate of 11.3% is higher than the National, the State and EMCOG rates.

**Table 7: 24-Month Labor Force and Unemployment**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Total Labor Force</b>	<b>Total Employed</b>	<b>Total Unemployed</b>	<b>24 Month Average Unemployment Rate</b>
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>6,907</b>	<b>6,154</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>11.3%</b>
National	154,329,000	141,769,500	12,559,500	8.1%
State	4,650,500	4,249,000	402,000	8.6%
EMCOG Region	356,608	309,295	29,627	8.3%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from Mich. Department of Labor Market Information 2011 – 2012, Data Explorer

The Arenac County unemployment rate of 11.3% is lower than the County’s 2010-2011 rate of 13.0%. The unemployment rate is a mathematical calculation of dividing the number of unemployed (those people within the system of looking for work) by the labor force. As noted above, those who are without a job and are no longer in the system for receipt of unemployment and services are not included in the calculation of the unemployment rate. Since 2010-2011 the labor force and the number of unemployed has decreased while the number of employed has remained the same. There can be several reasons for the decreased labor force and number of unemployed ranging from an out migration of workers to other areas of Michigan and the nation for jobs to dropping out of the system as unemployment benefits end.

The following two tables show the working population in Arenac County and where they work in relation to where they live.

Table 8 shows the impact on the daytime population of workers commuting into and out of Arenac County. The 6,026 workers (defined as the amount of the resident population age 16 and older who were employed either full time or part time) who live within Arenac County (regardless of the location of their employment) is compared to the 5,154 people who work within Arenac County to derive an estimated daytime population. The result is that Arenac County’s resident population decreases by **-5.3%** when factoring in workers who commute to work from inside and outside of the county.

**Table 8: Commuter Adjusted Daytime Population  
Arenac County**

County/MCD (a)	Total County/MCD Resident Population	Total Workers Living in The County/MCD	Total Workers Working in the County/MCD	Estimated Daytime Population In the County/MCD	Daytime Population Change Due to Commuting	Percent of Daytime Population Change Due to Commuting
Arenac County	16,487	6,026	5,154	15,615	-872	-5.3%
(a) MCD or Minor Civil Divisions are local unit of government with either 2,500 workers living in or 2,500 workers working in. There are no MCDs within Arenac County						

Source: Compiled by EMCOCG from U.S. 2006-2010 Census Bureau American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates

Table 9 computes the Employment/Resident ratio by comparing the number of workers who both live and work within Arenac County to the number of workers employed within the County. As shown below, there are fewer workers employed in Arenac County (5,154) than total workers who reside in Arenac County (6,026). Of the 5,154 working population living in the county, 3,523 actually work in the county which equates to 58.5% of the workforce employed in Arenac County. This is reflected in the countywide Employment/Resident ratio of 0.86 which indicates that Arenac County exports workers living within the county for jobs outside of the County. There could be many reasons for this which this data does not provide insight into.



**Table 9: Labor Export/Import Analysis  
Arenac County**

County/MCD (a)	Total Workers Working in the County/MCD	Total Workers Living in The County/MCD	Workers Who Both Live <u>and</u> Work in the County/MCD	Percent of Workers Who Both Live and Work in the County/MCD	Employment/ Resident Ratio
Arenac County	5,154	6,026	3,523	58.5%	0.86
(a) MCD or Minor Civil Divisions are local unit of government with either 2,500 workers living in or 2,500 workers working in. There are no MCDs within Arenac County					

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from U.S. 2006-2010 Census Bureau American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates

The next three tables focus on the types of business establishments in Arenac County and the number of jobs these businesses provide. Table 10 includes some further information about the business establishments<sup>4</sup> that are included in Table 1 (see page 1). The data in Table 10 is broken down into the following business sectors:

**Non-Commercial Sectors** are educational institutions, post offices, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations.

**Non-Resident Sectors** are businesses that are located in the Region but whose headquarters are located in a different state. Note: Residents have more influence on job creation than establishments headquartered outside of the state.

**Resident Sectors** are either stand-alone businesses in the region or businesses with headquarters in either the County or in the state of Michigan.

Non-commercial sectors make up 7% of the businesses in Arenac County. Less than 1% of the businesses fall into the non-resident sector. The majority of businesses (92%) are in the resident sector. Data for both Arenac County and EMCOG as a whole is also included in Table 10.

**Table 10: Business Establishments By Sector**

Jurisdiction	Total	Non-Commercial	Non-Resident	Resident
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1,118</b>
EMCOG Region	53,338	3,723	1,668	47,947

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) 2009 data

Table 11 provides a different perspective of the resident sector data from Table 10 (i.e., the businesses that are headquartered either within the county or the state). The resident sector businesses are further broken down into the following business stages:

**Self-employed** (1 employee) consists of small-scale business activity that can be conducted in homes (i.e., cottage establishments) as well as sole proprietorships.

<sup>4</sup> An establishment is defined as an economic unit that produces goods or services at a single physical location.

**Stage 1 (2-9 employees)** includes partnerships, lifestyle businesses and startups. Stage 1 companies are generally focused on defining a market, developing a product or service, obtaining capital and finding customers.

**Stage 2 (10-99 employees)** are typically at a phase where the company has a proven product, and survival is no longer a daily concern. Stage 2 companies generally begin to develop infrastructure and standardize operational systems. Company leaders delegate more and wear fewer hats.

**Stage 3 (100-499 employees)** companies are typically at an expansion stage as a company broadens its geographic reach, adds new products and pursues new markets. Stage 3 companies introduce formal processes and procedures, and the founder is less involved in daily operations and more concerned with managing the business culture and change.

**Stage 4 (500+ employees)** companies are typically at the point of dominating their industry and are focused on maintaining and defending their marketing position. Key objectives at this stage are controlling expenses, productivity, globalization and managing market niches.

These stages help to define the needs of businesses to support their growth which can help Arenac County and the EMCOG Region to better leverage resources. Regardless of their industry sector, companies in the same developmental stage experience similar challenges. Also, as companies move through these stages, not only do their internal needs change but their external needs such as what services they need from the community, also change.

The data in Table 11 shows that 89% of the resident sector businesses in Arenac County are either self-employed or Stage 1 businesses. The balance of the resident businesses are Stage 2 businesses (8%), less than 1% are Stage 3 businesses (100-499 employees), and only 0.1% are Stage 4 businesses (500+ employees).

**Table 11: Resident Sector Businesses by Stage**

Jurisdiction	Self Employed	Stage 1 2-9 employees	Stage 2 10-99 employees	Stage 3 100-499 employees	Stage 4 500+ employees
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>
EMCOG Region	18,858	25,040	3,800	223	26

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) 2009 data

The previous two tables (10 and 11) focus on the number of business establishments by sector and by stage for the dominant Resident Sector. The following two tables focus on the jobs that these business sectors and stages provide.

Table 12 shows the allocation of jobs by business sector (i.e., non-commercial, non-resident and resident) in Arenac County and for the EMCOG Region as a whole. The data is consistent with the findings in Table 6: the majority of jobs within Arenac County are in the resident sector (77%). The smallest portion of jobs (less than 2%) is associated with businesses in the non-resident sector.

**Table 12: Resident Jobs By Business Sector**

Local	Total Jobs	Jobs Non-Commercial	Jobs Non-Resident	Jobs Resident
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>8,348</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>6,411</b>
EMCOG Region	349,831	59,136	44,101	246,594

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) 2009 data

In Table 13 the resident sector jobs are further broken down by business stage (see the text for Table 7 for an explanation of Business Stages).

The majority of jobs from resident businesses in Arenac County are at Stage 1 and Stage 2 companies (63% combined) while 23% of jobs are from Stage 3 businesses (with 100 to 499 employees), and 8% are from Stage 4 businesses (500+ employees). Over 6% of jobs are through self employment.

**Table 13: Resident Business Jobs By Stage**

Jurisdiction	Self Employed Jobs	Stage 1 Jobs 2-9 employees	Stage 2 Jobs 10-99 employees	Stage 3 Jobs 100-499 employees	Stage 4 Jobs 500+ employees
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>2,888</b>	<b>2,134</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>500</b>
EMCOG Region	18,858	77,210	87,808	39,893	22,825

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) 2009 data

The next two tables (14 and 15) show the annual sales (2009) by business type in Arenac County. Table 14 identifies sales by business sector. Resident Businesses make up 92% of businesses (see Table 10) and generate 89.5% of sales within Arenac County.

**Table 14: Sales by Business Sector**

Local	Total Sales (1,000s)	Sales Non-Commercial (1,000s)	Sales Non-Resident (1,000s)	Sales Resident (1,000s)
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>627,282.0</b>	<b>42,465.8</b>	<b>23,182.3</b>	<b>561,633.9</b>
EMCOG Region	37,113,736.1	2,596,650.7	6,846,775.5	27,670,309.9

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) 2009 data

In Table 15 the Resident Business sector sales are broken down by Stage. Stage 2 businesses make up 41.0% of sales within Arenac County. The Self-Employed and Stage 1 businesses make up an impressive 35% of all sales; a higher portion than the Stage 3 businesses at 21.0%. These

numbers demonstrate the importance of the self-employed and smaller businesses (less than 10 employees) to the County's economy.

**Table 15: Resident Sales by Stage**

Jurisdiction	Self Employed Sales (1,000s)	Stage 1 Sales (1,000s) 2-9 employees	Stage 2 Sales (1,000s) 10-99 employees	Stage 3 Sales (1,000s) 100-499 employees	Stage 4 Sales (1,000s) 500+ employees
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>26,171.5</b>	<b>169,284.8</b>	<b>227,901.3</b>	<b>115,311.7</b>	<b>22,964.6</b>
EMCOG Region	1,352,333.2	6,893,406.6	10,550,013.8	5,476,659.6	3,397,897.7

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) 2009 data

Table 16 demonstrates how businesses in Arenac County have fared regarding their sales during the economic downturn from 2006 through 2009 by showing the percent change in sales during this four year period. The numbers are red (negative) for all size businesses except for the larger Stage 3 and Stage 4 companies. In contrast to the majority of the Region the Arenac County Self-Employed and Stage 1 and 2 companies fared worse than the larger Stage 3 and 4 companies. *The majority of the counties within the EMCOG Region experienced very slight reductions in sales from smaller companies (less than 10 employees) and in some cases sales for these smaller companies grew during the 2006-2009 timeframe.*

**Table 16: Percent Change from 2006-2009: Resident Sales by Stage**

Jurisdiction	Self Employed Sales	Stage 1 Sales 2-9 employees	Stage 2 Sales 10-99 employees	Stage 3 Sales 100-499 employees	Stage 4 Sales 500+ employees
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>	<b>-7.7%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
EMCOG Region	-0.3%	-1.1%	-10.1%	-21.9%	-21.0%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from [www.youreconomy.org](http://www.youreconomy.org) data

Tables 17 through 19 present business establishment data for openings and closures; expansions and downsizing; and movement of businesses in and out of Arenac County during the period 2006 – 2009.

Table 17 presents the number of establishments that opened and closed from 2006 through 2009 and calculates the net increase of establishments.

Within Arenac County 259 business establishments opened and 266 closed. The closed establishments equal 103% of the opened establishments, resulting in a net loss of **-3%** opened establishments. In other words, for every 1 establishment that opened in Arenac County 1.03 establishments closed. Arenac County's experience is similar to the experience of the EMCOG Region and the State as a whole which both experienced close to a 1 to 1 ratio.

**Table 17: Establishments Opened and Closed 2006 - 2009**

Jurisdiction	Opened 2006-2009	Closed 2006-2009	Net Opened 2006-2009	Net Percent Opened 2006-2009
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>-266</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>-102.7%</b>
State of Michigan	213,007	-201,869	11,138	5%
EMCOG Region	13,038	-12,621	417	3%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from www.youreconomy.org

Establishments: non commercial, non resident, resident

Net Opened = the difference between openings and closings of establishments

Table 18 presents the number of establishments that either expanded (i.e., increased jobs) or contracted (i.e., downsized/reduced the labor force) from 2006 through 2009, and calculates the net increase of business expansions.

Within Arenac County 88 business establishments expanded while 44 contracted during 2006–2009. The contracted (downsized) establishments equal 50% of the expanded establishments resulting in a net gain of 50% of expanded establishments. In other words, for every 1 establishment that expanded in Arenac County, 0.5 establishments contracted or downsized. The EMCOG Region also experienced 0.5 business contractions per 1 business expansion and the State experienced 0.4 businesses contractions per 1 business expansion.

**Table 18: Establishments Expanded or Contracted 2006 - 2009**

Jurisdiction	Expanded 2006-2009	Contracted 2006-2009	Net Expanded 2006-2009	Net Percent Expanded 2006-2009
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>-44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>50%</b>
State of Michigan	58,800	-25,818	32,982	56%
EMCOG Region	3,718	-1,949	1,769	48%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from www.youreconomy.org

Establishments: non commercial, non resident, resident

Net Expanded = the difference between establishments that increased jobs and those that downsized.

Table 19 shows a different data set for business activity during the 2006 – 2009 timeframe: the number of establishments that either moved in or out of Arenac County.

Within Arenac County 17 business establishments moved in and 18 moved out during 2006 – 2009 for a net loss of **-1** business establishments. In other words, for every 1 business establishment that moved into the County 1.1 moved out. The County's experience is the same as the EMCOG Region. Both Arenac County and the Region fared better than the State which experience of 1.7 business establishments moving out for every one moving in.

**Table 19: Establishments Moving Into and Out of the Area 2006 - 2009**

Jurisdiction	Move In 2006-2009	Move Out 2006-2009	Net Move In 2006-2009	Net Percent Move In 2006-2009
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-18</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-6%</b>
State of Michigan	1,687	-2,927	-1,240	-74%
EMCOG Region	618	-702	-84	-14%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from www.youreconomy.org

Establishments: non commercial, non resident, resident

Net Moved In = the difference between establishments that moved in and those that moved out.

Tables 20 through 22 present the **job impact** of business establishment activity regarding openings and closures; expansions and downsizing; and moving in and out of the area (from Tables 17 through 19)

Table 20 shows the number of jobs impacted by the opening and closing of business establishments from 2006 through 2009 (from Table 17) and calculates the net increase of jobs.

Within Arenac County 444 jobs were created due to opened business establishments and 831 jobs were lost due to business closures. The job losses due to closures equal 187% of the jobs created resulting in a net loss of **-87%** of the opened establishment jobs. In other words, for every 1 job gained by a business opening, 1.87 jobs were lost due to business closures. Arenac County's experience of net job loss is better than the experience for EMCOG (2.2 jobs lost for every 1 job gained) and the State as a whole (2.1 jobs lost for every 1 job gained) during the same time period.

**Table 20: Jobs Impacted By Opening and Closing Establishments 2006 - 2009**

Jurisdiction	Opened Jobs 2006-2009	Closed Jobs 2006-2009	Net Opened Jobs 2006-2009	Net Percent Opened Jobs 2006-2009
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>-831</b>	<b>-387</b>	<b>-87%</b>
State of Michigan	551,322	-1,138,029	-586,707	-106%
EMCOG Region	28,168	-62,488	-34,320	-122%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from www.youreconomy.org

Establishments: non commercial, non resident, resident

Net Opened Jobs = the difference between jobs created from opened establishments and jobs lost due to closures.

Table 21 shows the number of jobs impacted by the expansion and contraction (downsizing) of business establishments from 2006 through 2009.

Within Arenac County 248 jobs were created due to expansion of business establishments while 142 jobs were lost due to business downsizing. The job losses equal 57% of the jobs created, resulting in a net increase of 43% of the expanded establishment jobs. In other words, for every 1 job created 0.57 jobs were lost. The County's experience is worse than for the EMCOG Region (0.46 jobs lost for every 1 job created) and similar to the State (0.6 jobs lost for every 1 job created).

**Table 21: Job Impact of Establishment Expansions and Contractions (downsizing)  
2006 - 2009**

Jurisdiction	Expanded Jobs 2006-2009	Contracted (downsized) Jobs 2006-2009	Net	
			Expanded Jobs 2006-2009	Net Percent Expanded Jobs 2006-2009
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>-142</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>43%</b>
State of Michigan	437,688	-246,613	191,075	44%
EMCOG Region	22,383	-10,196	12,187	54%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from www.youreconomy.org

Establishments: non commercial, non resident, resident

Net Expanded Jobs = the difference between jobs impacted by expansion and downsizing of establishments

Table 22 shows the impact that the number of establishments either moving in or out of the County had on jobs during 2006 – 2009.

Within Arenac County 59 jobs were created by business establishments moving in. At the same time 55 jobs were lost by businesses moving out. In other words, for every 1 job created due to a business moving in to the County, 0.9 jobs were lost due to a businesses moving out. The County's experience of net job loss is slightly better than both EMCOG and the State which experienced about 1 job lost for every 1 job created during the same time period.

**Table 22: Jobs Impacted By Establishments Moving In and Out of the Region  
2006 - 2009**

Jurisdiction	Move In Jobs 2006-2009	Move Out Jobs 2006-2009	Net Move In Jobs 2006-2009	Net Percent
				Move In Jobs 2006-2009
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>-55</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7%</b>
State of Michigan	26,734	-26,727	7	0%
EMCOG Region	2,806	-3,063	-257	-9%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from www.youreconomy.org

Establishments: non commercial, non resident, resident

Net Move In Jobs = the difference between jobs from business moving in and out of the region.

The next set of tables shows employment forecasts for the following occupational categories:

Table 23: Manufacturing

Table 24: Other Basic (farm, forestry/fish/agriculture and mining)

Table 25: Retail

Table 26: Wholesale

Table 27: Other (utilities, construction, transport, warehouse, information, finance, insurance, real estate, government)

Table 28: Services

Table 29: Total for All Categories

The forecasts are for the 30-year period 2010 to 2040. Each Table shows growth rates by type of occupation. Employment within Arenac County is forecast to increase by 25.7% within the 30 year period 2010–2040 compared to a 10.7% increase within the EMCOG Region and a 13.6% increase Statewide (Table 29). The occupational sector with the highest forecast of growth in Arenac County from 2010 to 2040 is “Services” at 22.1% from 2010 to 2020 and an additional

growth of 27.5% from 2020 to 2040 for a 30 year growth of 56% (Table 28). Three of the occupational sectors, Other Basic (Table 24), Retail (Table 25) and Wholesale (Table 26) are forecast with reductions in employment over the 30 year time frame.

**Table 23: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2040  
MANUFACTURING**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>Percent Change 2010-2020</b>	<b>Percent Change 2020-2040</b>
Michigan	503,751	499,375	450,679	-0.9%	-9.8%
EMCOG Region	33,223	32,310	28,946	-2.7%	-10.4%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013

**Table 24: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2040  
OTHER BASIC**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>Percent Change 2010-2020</b>	<b>Percent Change 2020-2040</b>
Michigan	97,511	90,828	82,498	-6.9%	-9.2%
EMCOG Region	15,963	14,698	13,137	-7.9%	-10.6%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>	<b>-13.6%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013

**Table 25: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2040  
RETAIL**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>Percent Change 2010-2020</b>	<b>Percent Change 2020-2040</b>
Michigan	541,315	511,317	495,708	-5.5%	-3.1%
EMCOG Region	44,768	42,029	40,202	-6.1%	-4.3%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>-5.7%</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013



**Table 26: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2040  
WHOLESALE**

Jurisdiction	2010	2020	2040	Percent	Percent
				Change	Change
				2010-2020	2020-2040
Michigan	166,559	162,998	154,786	-2.1%	-5.0%
EMCOG Region	8,607	8,169	7,638	-5.1%	-6.5%
<b>Gratiot County</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>-3.6%</b>	<b>-3.0%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013

**Table 27: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2020  
OTHER**

Jurisdiction	2010	2020	2040	Percent	Percent
				Change	Change
				2010-2020	2020-2040
Michigan	1,536,596	1,623,614	1,697,672	5.7%	4.6%
EMCOG Region	109,826	114,316	119,908	4.1%	4.9%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>2,293</b>	<b>2,516</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013

**Table 28: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2040  
SERVICES**

Jurisdiction	2010	2020	2040	Percent	Percent
				Change	Change
				2010-2020	2020-2040
Michigan	2,194,496	2,496,969	2,842,633	13.8%	4.6%
EMCOG Region	141,039	158,728	181,560	12.5%	14.4%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>3,219</b>	<b>3,932</b>	<b>5,012</b>	<b>22.1%</b>	<b>27.5%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013

**Table 29: Occupational Employment Forecasts 2010 - 2040  
ALL OCCUPATIONS**

Jurisdiction	2010	2020	2040	Percent	Percent
				Change	Change
				2010-2020	2020-2040
Michigan	5,040,226	5,385,100	5,723,975	6.8%	6.3%
EMCOG Region	353,426	370,250	391,390	4.8%	5.7%
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>7,717</b>	<b>8,480</b>	<b>9,142</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from MDOT Planning; MDOT Source: Institute for Research, Employment and the Economy, University of Michigan, 2013

## INCOME, POVERTY AND EDUCATION

Per capita personal income (PCPI) is widely used as an indicator of the economic well-being of residents in an area. Changes in PCPI provide a statistical measurement of an area's wealth and sustainability compared to regional or national benchmarks. PCPI is measured by totaling all income sources, wages and salaries, asset income and transfer payments and dividing that total by the total population.

Table 30 shows the National, State and Arenac County PCPI for December of 2011. The State and County is compared to the National PCPI of \$41,560. The PCPI for Arenac County and the State of Michigan are both below the National average.

**Table 30: Per Capita Personal Income  
and  
Percent of National Average**

Area	December 2011 PCPI	Percent of National PCPI
National	41,560	
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>30,335</b>	<b>73.0%</b>
State	36,264	87.3%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from STATS America, January, 2013

Poverty is another strong indicator of the economic health and sustainability of the population of an area. Table 31 shows the level of poverty within Arenac County for the years 2000 and 2011 as compared to the EMCOG Region, the State and the Nation.

As a point of reference when reviewing Table 31, the 2012 preliminary estimated average U. S. Census poverty thresholds for annual income within the 48 contiguous states based on the size of the family unit are as follows:

Size of Family Unit	Annual Income
One person (unrelated individual)	\$ 11,722
Under 65 Years	11,945
65 Years and Over	11,011
Two People	14,960
Householder Under 65 Years	15,452
Householder 65 Years and Over	13,891
Three People	18,287
Four People	23,497
Five People	27,815
Six People	31,485
Seven People	35,811
Eight People	39,872

Source: [www/census.gov](http://www/census.gov)

As shown below, the National percentage of the population at the poverty level has increased by 2.8 percentage points since 2000 compared to 4.8 percentage points in Arenac County and 6.5 percentage points for the Region. Some of the increase in the percent of population at the poverty level could be attributed to the reduction in overall population of **-7.9%** in Arenac County since 2000 (i.e., the population at the poverty level represents a percentage of a smaller base). However there has not been a reduction in the poverty rate in the Nation the State of Michigan, or the EMCOG Region since the 2000 Census.

**Table 31: Percent of Population At Poverty Level 2000 – 2011**

Area	2000 Percent of Population	2011 Percent of Population	2011 Ratio of Persons in Poverty
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>1 Out of Every 5.3 Persons</b>
National	12.2%	15.0%	1 Out of Every 6.7 Persons
Michigan	11.3%	17.5%	1 Out of Every 5.7 Persons
EMCOG Region	12.3%	18.8%	1 Out of Every 5.3 Persons

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from U. S. Census Bureau American FactFinder

Another indicator of the economic viability of an area is the educational attainment of the population living there. Table 32 presents a comparison of Arenac County's educational attainment for 2000 and 2010 by identifying the percent of the population age 25 and older that does not have a high school diploma and the percent of the same population that has a degree (high school diploma or higher).

For Arenac County, as well as the EMCOG Region and the State, the numbers have been going in a positive direction for the past ten years. The portion of population without a high school diploma has decreased while the educational attainment at all levels has increased.

**Table 32: Education Attainment of Population 25 and Older 2000 - 2011**

Area	2000 Percent Without High School Diploma	2011 Percent Without High School Diploma	2000 Percent With Diploma Or Higher	2011 Percent With Diploma or Higher	2000 Percent with Bachelors or Higher	2011 Percent with Bachelors or Higher
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>23.2%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>76.8%</b>	<b>81.1%</b>	<b>9.1 %</b>	<b>10.8%</b>
Michigan	16.6%	11.6%	83.4%	88.4%	21.8%	25.3%
EMCOG	18.3%	13.1%	81.7%	86.9%	15.2%	17.7%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from Factfinder.census.gov

## TAXABLE VALUES, TAX RATES AND HOUSING

The economic health of a community is, in many ways, tied to the health of its tax base. Without a healthy tax base essential services are difficult to deliver and the quality of life amenities that keep residents and businesses and attract new, become threatened. Without a

sustainable tax base, bonds and tax initiatives for everything from public safety, education, local roads to water and sewer, are also be at risk.

Table 33 presents a comparison of taxable values for Arenac County, the EMCOG Region, and Michigan for the years 2000, 2005 and 2011. During the period 2000–2005 Arenac County’s taxable value increase of 29% was greater than the increase for the EMCOG Region but less than for the State as a whole. During the years 2005–2011 the rate of growth of taxable value slowed for Arenac County (14.6%) but still grew at a greater rate than for the EMCOG Region (10.0%) and especially the State as a whole (0.6%).

**Table 33: Property Tax Valuation 2000 - 2011**

Jurisdiction	2000 Taxable Valuation (million’s)	2005 Taxable Valuation (million’s)	Percent Change 2000 - 2005	2011 Taxable Valuation (million’s)	Percent Change 2005 - 2011
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>371.9</b>	<b>479.7</b>	<b>29.0%</b>	<b>549.7</b>	<b>14.6%</b>
State	240,647.5	321,653.1	33.7%	323,615.6	0.6%
EMCOG Region	17,393.6	22,078.3	26.9%	24,285.3	10.0%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from 2000, 2005, and 2011 Ad Valorem Property Tax Report, Michigan Department of Treasury

Table 34 presents a comparison of the average tax rates levied for Arenac County, the EMCOG Region and for Michigan for the years 2000, 2005 and 2011. The tax rates are a calculation that represents an overall average millage rate based on total taxable values and total taxes levied. Tax millage rates are based on \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

During the years 2000–2005 the County's overall millage rate decreased by **-0.1%** compared to a decrease of **-1.7%** in EMCOG and an increase of 1.4% for the State. During the next six years (2005–2011) the millage rate within the County decreased by another **-2.4%** compared to modest increases in the tax millage rates for both the EMCOG Region and the State.

**Table 34: Property Tax Rates 2000 - 2011**

Jurisdiction	2000 Average Tax Rate	2005 Average Tax Rate	Percent Change 2000 - 2005	2011 Average Tax Rate	Percent Change 2005 - 2011
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>37.61</b>	<b>37.58</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>36.66</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
State	39.32	39.88	1.4%	40.00	0.3%
EMCOG Region	35.58	34.99	<b>-1.7%</b>	35.05	0.2%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from 2000, 2005, and 2011 Ad Valorem Property Tax Report, Michigan Department of Treasury  
Average Tax Rate: calculation based on total taxes levied and total taxable valuation

Another indicator of the economic health of an area is the status of the growth of the housing stock and vacancy rates. Table 35 shows the 2000 and 2011 housing units and the rate of growth in housing units since the 2000 Census for Arenac County, the EMCOG Region, and the State. During this eleven-year time frame Arenac County experienced a 2.6% increase in housing units, which is lower than the increase in the EMCOG Region as a whole (4.7%) and the statewide increase of 7.0%

**Table 35: Housing Units 2000 - 2011**

Jurisdiction	2000 Total Housing Units	2011 Total Housing Units	Percent Change 2000 - 2011
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>9,563</b>	<b>9,807</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
State	4,234,279	4,532,215	7.0%
EMCOG Region	345,374	396,223	4.7%

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from U.S. Census StatsAmerica 2007-2011 Estimates

While Arenac County experienced modest gains in housing units during the past 11 years, the vacancy rate data in Table 36 provides further information: the number of vacant housing units in 2000 and 2011 and the percent those vacant units are of the total housing for the same time period.

Note: the vacancy rates are based on U. S. Census data. The Census determines a housing unit as vacant *if no one is living in it at the time of the interview, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. A vacant unit may be one which is entirely occupied by persons who have a usual residence elsewhere* ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)). Based on this definition, second homes are counted as vacant.

As shown below (Table 36), the increase in housing in Arenac County from 2000 - 2011 (2.6% from Table 35) is less than the increase in vacancies during the same time frame (3.7 percentage points) for the County. The overall vacancy rate for Arenac County has increased from 29.8% in 2000 to 33.5% in 2011.

**Table 36: Housing Vacancies 2000 - 2011**

Jurisdiction	2000 Vacant Housing Units	2000 Vacancy Rate	2011 Vacant Housing Units	2011 Vacancy Rate	Change In Housing Vacancy Rate Percentage Points 2000 - 2011
<b>Arenac County</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>29.8%</b>	<b>3,281</b>	<b>33.5%</b>	<b>3.7</b>
State	448,618	10.6%	707,033	15.6%	5.0
EMCOG Region	70,702	18.7%	88,348	22.3%	3.6

Source: Compiled by EMCOG from U.S. Census StatsAmerica 2007-2011 Estimates

## SUMMARY OF DATA FOR ARENAC COUNTY

The following is a list of highlights of findings of the economic data for Arenac County:

### POPULATION TRENDS

- Arenac County lost **-7.9%** of its population since 2000 (Table 2).
- Arenac County population is forecast to increase slightly through 2040 at a rate of 0.13% per year (Table 3).
- In spite of the projection of population loss from births and deaths as well as the out-migration of persons age 65 and older, the in-migration of population under the age of 65 will increase by 700 by the year 2030 and a total of 2,000 by the year 2040 (Table 3)
- The rate of population growth is forecast to decrease by **-0.2%** by from 2010-2020 and then increase by 4.0% from 2020-2040 (Table 4).
- Arenac County's population is getting older. The median age has increased from 31.3 in 1980 to 46.7 in 2010 (Table 5).
- The number of households is forecast to increase from 2010-2040 at a greater rate than the population growth, indicating a trend to smaller household size (Table 6).

### EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

- The 24-month (2011-2012) average unemployment rate for Arenac County of 11.3% is significantly higher than the National rate of 8.1% and the EMCOG rate of 8.3%. (Table 7).
- Arenac County's population is estimated to decrease by **-5.3%** during the daytime due to the net impact of workers commuting to jobs in and out of the County (Table 8).
- Overall, workers are "exported" out of the County for employment (Table 9).
- Resident sector businesses (i.e., either stand alone businesses or businesses headquartered with the County or state) make up 92% of businesses within Arenac County (Table 10).
- Approximately 89% of the resident sector businesses in Arenac County are either self-employed (1 employee) or Stage 1 (2-9 employees) (Table 11).

- Stage 2 companies (10-99 employees) make up 8% of businesses in Arenac County (Table 11).
- 77% of jobs in Arenac County come from resident sector businesses; the least amount of jobs (less than 2%) are from the non-resident sector (Table 12).
- Nearly 63% of resident sector jobs in Arenac County are from either Stage 1 or Stage 2 businesses (Table 13).
- Resident businesses generate 89.5% of sales within Arenac County (Table 14).
- The Self-Employed and Stage 1 businesses (2-9 employees) generate an impressive 35% of sales within Arenac County (Table 15).
- Stage 2 businesses (10-99 employees) generate 41.0% of sales within Arenac County (Table 15).
- During the four year period 2006 – 2009 the Self-Employed businesses in Arenac County experienced a reduction in sales of **-4.6%** while Stage 1 businesses experienced a smaller decrease in sales of **-3.8%**.(Table 16).
- During the four year period 2006 – 2009 the Stage 2 businesses in Arenac County experienced a reduction in sales of **-7.7%** and Stage 3 businesses experienced a growth in sales of 6.6%. (Table 16).
- Stage 4 businesses which make up 0.1% of businesses and 8% of jobs in Arenac County experienced a 5% increase in sales during the same 4 year period (2006-2009) (Table 16).
- From 2006 to 2009 the following business activity occurred in Arenac County:
  - For every 1 business that opened, 1.03 businesses closed (Table 17).
  - For every 1 job created from businesses opening, 1.87 jobs were lost due to business closures (Table 20).
  - For every 1 business that expanded, 0.5 businesses downsized (Table 18).
  - For every 1 job created from business expansion, 0.6 jobs were lost due to business downsizing (Table 21).

- For every 1 business that moved in to the County, 1.1 businesses moved out of the County (Table 19).
- For every 1 job created from businesses moving in to the County, 0.9 jobs were lost due to businesses moving out of the County (Table 22).
- Arenac County Employment Sector Forecasts: 2010-2040
  - The largest employee occupation sector is “Services” (Table 28).
  - The second largest employee occupation sector is “Other” (Table 27).
  - The largest forecast increase in jobs at 56% is in “Services” (Table 28) followed by “Other” at 20% (Table 27).
  - The “Other Basic” (Table 24), “Retail” (Table 25) and “Wholesale” (Table 26) sectors in Arenac County are forecast to lose jobs by 2040.

#### **INCOME, POVERTY AND EDUCATION**

- Arenac County's 24-month 2011 PCPI (per capita personal income) is 73% of the National average. (Table 30).
- 18.7% of Arenac County's population (2011) is at the poverty level, an increase of 4.8 percentage points since 2000 (Table 31).
- The portion of Arenac County's population with a high school diploma has been increasing steadily since 2000 (Table 32).
- The portion of Arenac County's population that has a college degree or higher has been increasing steadily since 2000 (Table 32)

#### **TAXABLE VALUES, TAX RATES AND HOUSING**

- Taxable values in Arenac County grew from 2000 to 2005 but have grown at a slower rate since 2005 (Table 33).
- Taxable values in Arenac County grew at approximately a 50% greater rate than the EMCOG Region and at a significantly higher rate than the State as a whole (Table 33).



- The overall average tax levy rate for Arenac County has decreased by **-2.4%** since 2005 (Table 34).
- The number of housing units in Arenac County grew by 2.6% from 2000 to 2011. (Table 35).
- The housing vacancy rate <sup>5</sup> for Arenac County is 33.5% (an increase of 3.7 percentage points since 2000); a similar vacancy rate to the EMCOG Region both of which are lower than the vacancy rate for the State as a whole. (Table 36).

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<sup>5</sup> According to the U. S. Census a housing unit is considered vacant if no one is living in it at the time of the interview, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. A vacant unit may be one which is entirely occupied by persons who have a usual residence elsewhere.