New 2010 census data show minority populations in the Milwaukee metro area reaching 50% among youth.
The white populations are peaking in their fifties, with a modest baby boom echo among 20-year-olds while minority populations are showing steady growth by age. Engagement of African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans and other non-whites will be key for the coming-of-age labor force.

Growing Minority Population in Milwaukee MSA: Age in 2010 Census

Youth under Age 15: 2010 Census, Metro Milwaukee

African Americans and Latinos remain highly concentrated in the city of Milwaukee where 83% of youth under age 15 are minorities. The 2010 Census showed growing diversity in the Milwaukee County suburbs where 27% of the youth under age 15 are now minorities. In Ozaukee and Washington counties, however, only 11% of youth under age 15 are minorities, as are 16% of youth in Waukesha County.

Racial isolation of African American youth is continuing, according to the 2010 Census. In the metro area, 92% of the African American youth under age 15 live in the city of Milwaukee, while only 5% live in the Milwaukee County suburbs, and even fewer (3%) live in the three WOW counties.

For the Hispanic population, the 2010 Census reported 69% of the youth under age 15 living in the city of Milwaukee, 16% in the Milwaukee County suburbs, and 15% in the WOW counties.

Meanwhile, 60% of white youth under age 15 live in the WOW counties, 26% live in the Milwaukee County suburbs, and only 14% live in the city of Milwaukee.

Data Sources: 2010 U.S. decennial census; Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (8/10/2011)

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in June 2011 jumped to 9.7%.

Plant closings: No new plant closings or mass layoffs were announced in July.

Unemployment insurance: 34,384 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments at the beginning of August, down substantially from last year.

Families receiving W-2: 10,702 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash assistance in July 2011.

Wisconsin Shares: 26,903 children from 14,258 Milwaukee County families received $18 million in subsidized child care in July. The number of children served in July was the highest level for the county since July of 2010.

FoodShare: 222,633 county residents (another monthly high) received $27.7 million in FoodShare benefits in June.

BadgerCare Plus: 203,293 county residents were in the BC+ program in July. The number of non-parent adults allowed in the Core Plan is continuing to decline.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drill photo courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation