

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INDICATOR: FULL- AND PART- TIME JOBS

MEASURE

The number of full- and part-time employees in Montcalm County and the number of those jobs in manufacturing.

WHY IS THIS INDICATOR IMPORTANT?

The key to improving and sustaining positive economic and social growth in Montcalm County is the retention of existing jobs, particularly in the manufacturing sectors and the creation of new job opportunities.

The failure to have a growing availability of job opportunities results in high unemployment, increased out-commuting of Montcalm residents and an unacceptable loss of our graduating high school and college students who move elsewhere for employment.

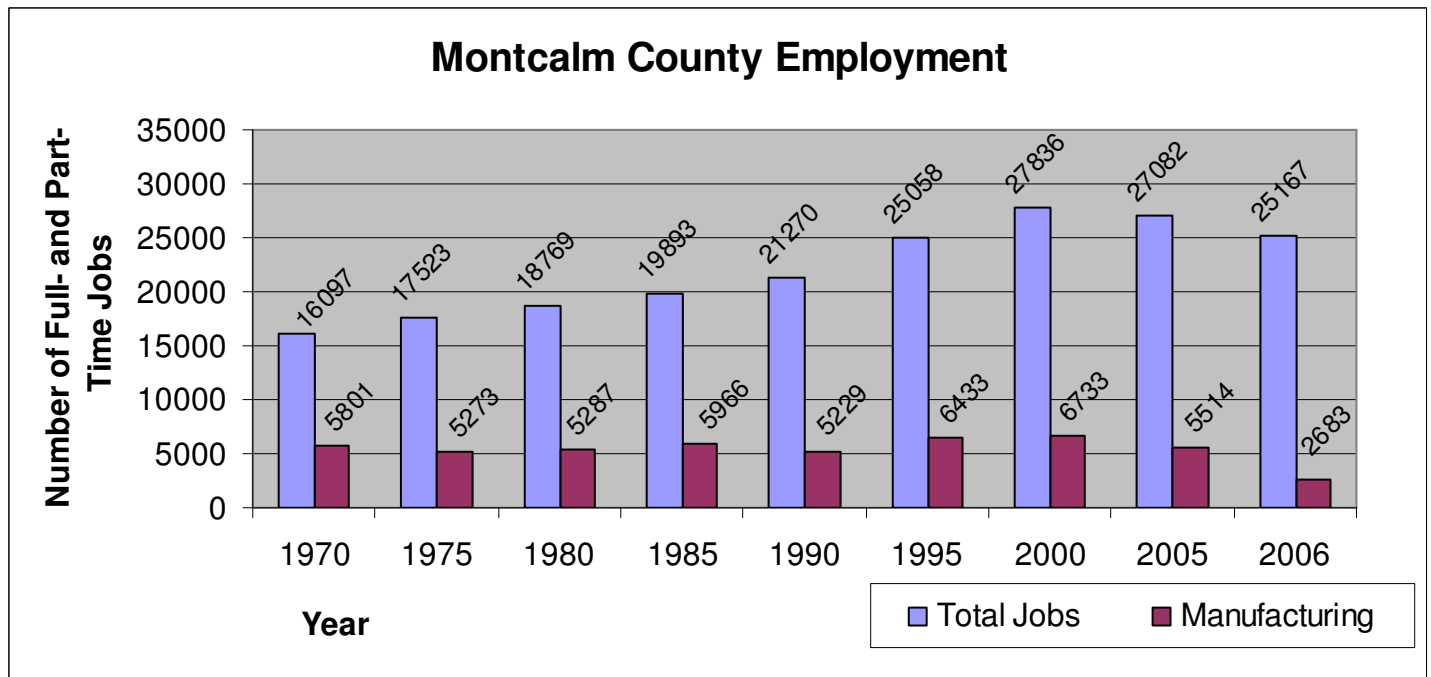
HOW WELL IS THE MONTCALM COMMUNITY DOING?

Montcalm County has had a significant increase in the number of available jobs in the last 30 years. This increase is significantly higher than the State of Michigan average. However, almost all the new jobs that have been created have been in the service sector. An increase in manufacturing jobs for the same thirty year period has been almost non-existent. With the closing of the Electrolux facility in 2005-2006, and the loss of its 2700 manufacturing jobs, as well as the loss of other manufacturing jobs county-wide, it is imperative that we aggressively pursue development of a diverse manufacturing base.

GOALS FOR MONTCALM COUNTY

Goal One) To increase total available jobs annually by 2%

Goal Two) To stabilize the number of manufacturing jobs at 5,000 by 2010.



NOTE: The total number of full and part time employees in Montcalm County and the number of those jobs that are in the manufacturing sector. **SOURCE:** Area labor statistics, Michigan Bureau of Labor Statistics, State of Michigan. Last updated April, 2007.