

“In the past 12 months, our unemployment rate has been at its lowest rate in 15 years, our labor force has grown, and more Michiganders have found jobs. As we look ahead to 2017, we need to build on our momentum and create opportunities for success in all areas of the state.”

— Gov. Rick Snyder, December 14, 2016

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Gov. Rick Snyder (R)

Michiganbusiness.org

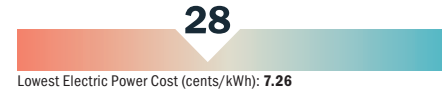
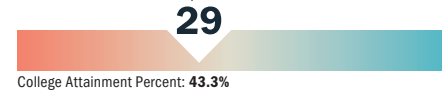
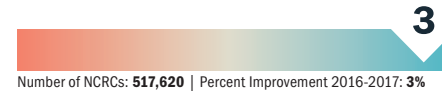
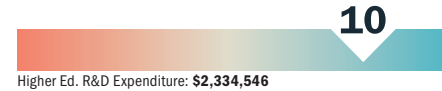
Michigan

Pop. (2016): 9,954,631
Median household income: \$50,744
Credit Rating: AA-/Stable

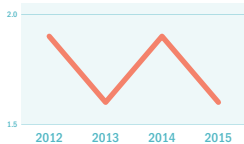
Pop. growth 2016–2021: 0.23%
Median age: 39.9
Right-to-work state: Yes

Legislative Update

- Gov. Snyder on Dec. 15 signed “landmark” energy legislation that he said “will save Michigan residents millions of dollars on their electric bills, alleviate concerns about having enough capacity to power the daily activities of 10 million people and find new ways to use our existing energy grid more efficiently. This policy also allows for more consumer choice in our growing market. The bills protect our environment by making it easier for Michigan to develop its own energy sources, instead of buying coal from various states.”
- A package under consideration at year-end included a new tax abatement that would allow companies to keep a portion of the payroll taxes they would otherwise owe to the state for the jobs they create.
- A new package also signed into law in December, in addition to other autonomous vehicle measures, allows operation of autonomous vehicles on Michigan roads whereas before only testing of these vehicles by manufacturers was permitted. (See Michigan Spotlight, p. 70.)



GDP
13th



2015 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$468,334

Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015

COMPANY	CITY	COUNTY	TYPE	NEW/ EXPANDED	PRODUCT	INVESTMENT (US\$ M)	EMP
Switch	Grand Rapids	Kent	DT	N	Data Center	5,000	1,000
Ford Motor Co.	Livonia	Wayne	MF	E	Auto Parts	1,400	
General Motors Co.	Bay City	Bay	MF	E	Auto Parts	118	29
Flex-N-Gate Corp.	Detroit	Wayne	MF	N	Auto Parts	95	400
FCA US	Trenton	Wayne	MF	E	Engines	75	
Kautex	Detroit	Wayne	MF	N	Auto Parts	45	90
Cosworth Group Holdings	Shelby	Macomb	MF	N	Auto Parts	43	110
Kent Quality Foods	Jamestown Charter Twp.	Ottawa	MF	N	Meat Processing	35	140
Rivian Automotive	Livonia	Wayne	RD	N	Auto Parts	29	174
McLaren Health Care Corp.	Grand Blanc	Genesee	HQ	N	Hospitals	25	

DT = Data Center | MF = Manufacturing | OF = Office | HQ = Headquarters | RD = Research & Development | DW = Distribution/Warehouse

Did You Know?

The 2016 Innovation Scorecard from the Consumer Technology Association awarded Michigan an Innovation Champion ribbon, noting the tech startup scene in revitalized Detroit as well as right-to-work status (A+), tax friendliness (B+), tech workforce (B) and granting of STEM degrees (B).

Gov. Snyder signed an agreement with Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne to collaborate on attracting automotive R&D and investment.

The Skilled Trades Training Fund provides funds for employers to upskill their current workers or train someone who needs a job for a hard-to-fill opening. “This current fiscal year over 350 companies are benefiting from the program,” Stephanie Comai, director of Michigan’s Talent Investment Agency, told Site Selection. “Around 3,200 jobs have been created and 10,000 jobs were retained with greater skill level.”

Top 5

Reasons to Invest in Bay County

2 *Low Cost of Living & Doing Business*

- Michigan is a Right to work state.
- Restructured Tax Policies
- Multigenerational skilled trade Work Force.
- Bay City is one of the top 5 most affordable cities*



*Forbes

1 *We've got the smarts*

High school graduation rates in Bay County are 89% which is 4% above the national average. Smarter people = better workers.

4 *We Make Stuff*

Bay County is strategically located in the great manufacturing belt, within a 500 mile radius of 52% of all U.S. Manufacturing, and of 45% of Canadian Personal Income. 187 manufacturing companies and three Fortune 500 companies are established in Bay County.



5 *We Have Water*

While many regions suffer through historic droughts and pundits prognosticate about the water wars of the future, Bay County straddles Tobico Marsh, an integral part of the largest contiguous freshwater coastal wetland in the U.S., and Saginaw Bay watershed is the largest drainage basin in Michigan.



3 *Yes! We're Hiring.*

Bay County's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is the best in the state, and .4% below the national average.



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