



“This \$185 million investment will bolster our economy, attract innovative talent to Michigan, and help us continue to lead the world in advanced mobility and manufacturing.”

— Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, April 27, 2021, as Ford announced a new, 200,000-sq.-ft. global battery center of excellence called Ford Ion Park, later confirmed for a site in Romulus

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Michigan

Pop. (2021): 10,105,078
Median household income (2021): \$58,537
Credit Rating: AA / Stable

Pop. growth 2021–2026: 0.21%
Median age (2021): 40.9
Right-to-work state: Yes

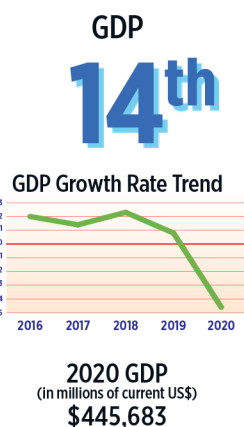
Legislative Update

Senate Bill 0816 updates Michigan's Industrial Hemp Growers Act (Public Act 220 of 2020) to ensure the state's hemp program is in alignment with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) final hemp rule, which went into effect on March 22, 2021.

Senate Bill 157, Senate Bill 312, House Bill 4376, and House Bill 4377 will remove barriers to help veterans and their families continue their careers in Michigan, accelerating Michigan's economic recovery.

Senate Bill 27 appropriates \$384.7 million in supplemental relief funding to support the recovery of individuals, families, and small businesses to help them emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic in a stronger position.

Senate Bill 501 allows workers temporarily laid off due to a manufacturing shutdown to continue to receive unemployment benefits without looking for a new job.



12th
Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2021–2022: +1



8th
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure in \$000s: 2,604,342



1st
Number of NCRCs: 643,801 | Percent Improvement 2020–2021: 0.30%



37th
2021 Workers' Comp Index Rate: 1.14



33rd
Industrial power cost per kWh: \$8.04



38th
Total Revenue as Share of Total Expenses, FY 2004–2019: 101.5%

PROJECT WATCH



Lansing, Michigan
Photo: Getty Images

EQ United, a logistics provider and RV components manufacturer, is establishing new operations in the village of Cassopolis with support from the Michigan Strategic Fund. The project is expected to generate a total capital investment of \$6.2 million and create up to 175 jobs, supported by a \$350,000 Michigan Business Development Program performance-based grant. Michigan was chosen for the project over competing sites in Indiana.

Founded in Elkhart, Indiana in 1914, EQ United, has two divisions: distribution and logistics and its manufacturing operations, providing components

for RVs, trailers, and specialty markets. The company currently has three campuses in Indiana.

EQ United is planning to consolidate its manufacturing operations, EQ Systems, into one facility in the village of Cassopolis where it will house office space, retail and installation space and additional manufacturing areas. The company will also add manufacturing capacity with the expectation of increasing its overall ability to produce cylinders it is currently purchasing from vendors in Minnesota and Canada.



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