

**Economic
Profile 2017**

Center of The Lower Peninsula

Discover Gratiot County



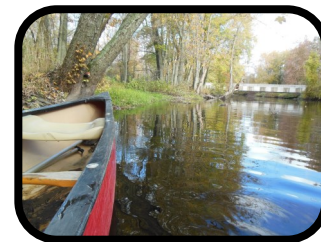
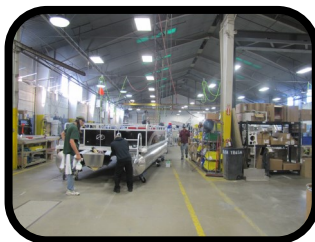
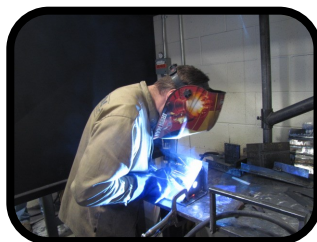
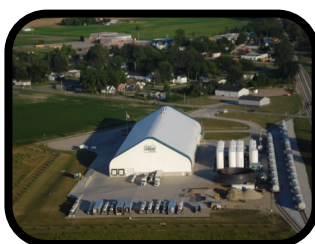
Overview of Gratiot County

Founded 162 years ago, Gratiot County is located in the middle of Michigan's lower-peninsula. Gratiot County is a perfect blend of Michigan's commercial and industrial elements from the south and the rural, recreational features of the north, ensuring a superior quality of life.

Gratiot County is also home to many manufacturing companies. Products manufactured here include pontoon boats, molded plastic parts, aircraft engine parts, auto parts, custom machines, and many fabricated and machined products large and small. Gratiot County's diverse industry base provides numerous job opportunities and a stable economy.

Gratiot County has an excellent health care system as well as two correctional facilities that increase the employment opportunities for its citizens. Recently, Gratiot County has realized significant new investment from the alternative energy industry. It is home to two wind farms: Gratiot County Wind, LLC (Michigan's largest wind farm) with 133 turbines, and Beebe Renewable Energy, LLC with 55 turbines.

Throughout the County, there are many different types of recreational activities to take part in. These include three state game areas, the two non-motorized trail pathways, as well as multiple county parks used for camping, swimming, and hiking. Gratiot County is also home to Alma College, an acclaimed private liberal arts college with 1,400 students, a 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio, and an average incoming freshman GPA of 3.5. They have an 80% retention rate, and more than 50 academic programs. Gratiot County is looking to the future and expanding upon the history and culture that have made it a wonderful place to work, live, and play generation after generation.



Demographics

Population Statistics		
Race	Number	Percent
White	35,681	86.6%
Black or African American	2,349	5.7%
American Indian & Alaska Native	247	0.6%
Asian	247	0.6%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Value greater than 0 but less than .5 unit of measure	
Hispanic/Latino	2,349	5.7%
Two or more races	536	1.3%
Age	Number	Percent
Under 5	2,101	5.1%
Ages 5-18	8,405	20.4%
18 - 64	23,815	57.8%
65 and older	6,881	16.7%
Gender	Number	Percent
Male	21,961	53.3%
Female	19,241	46.7%

Labor Force and Education	
Labor force 16 and older:	17,486
Mean travel time to work	22.4 min.
Percentage who work at home	5.6%
Educational Attainment	
Persons 25 years of age or older	28,340
Percentage with High School Diploma or higher (25 or older)	88.9%
Percentage with Bachelor Degree or higher (25 or older)	14.1%

Annual Average Unemployment Rate	
2016	5.0%
2015	5.4%
2014	7.1%
2013	9.0%
2012	9.0%

Land Usage		
	Acres	Percent
Land in Farms	289,376	79.5%
Harvested Cropland	259,530	89.7%
Pastureland, All Types	5,528	1.9%
Woodland	15,100	5.2%
Other	9,218	3.2%
Remaining Land (not farmland)	74,440	20.5%
Total Land (approx.)	363,816	100%

Population	
2016	41,202
2015	41,540
2014	41,633
2013	42,035
2012	42,151

Access to Markets/Transportation	
Main Highways	US-127, M-46, M-57
Bus Lines	1
Truck Transportation Lines	28
Rail Lines	Mid-Michigan Railroad Great Lakes Central Railroad
Marine Ports	Bay City: 40 mi-Lake Huron
Airports	Gratiot Community Airport (Alma) MBS (30 mi- Saginaw) Capital City (40 mi- Lansing)
Foreign Trade Zone	Port of Lansing- FTZ #275
Elevation	230m above sea level (754 ft.)

Distance to Major Cities from Ithaca, MI			
City	Time	Miles	Kilometers
Lansing	45 min.	45	72
Saginaw	1 hr.	42	66
Grand Rapids	1 hr. 30 min.	74	119
Detroit	2 hr.	130	216
Chicago	4 hr. 15 min.	261	420
Cleveland	4 hr. 20 min.	272	438
Indianapolis	4 hr. 45 min.	293	472
Toronto	5 hr. 20 min.	332	534

Commuting Labor Force (GGDI-estimated)	
30 Mile / 45 Minute Radius:	138,631
60 Mile / 75 Minute Radius:	1,208,473

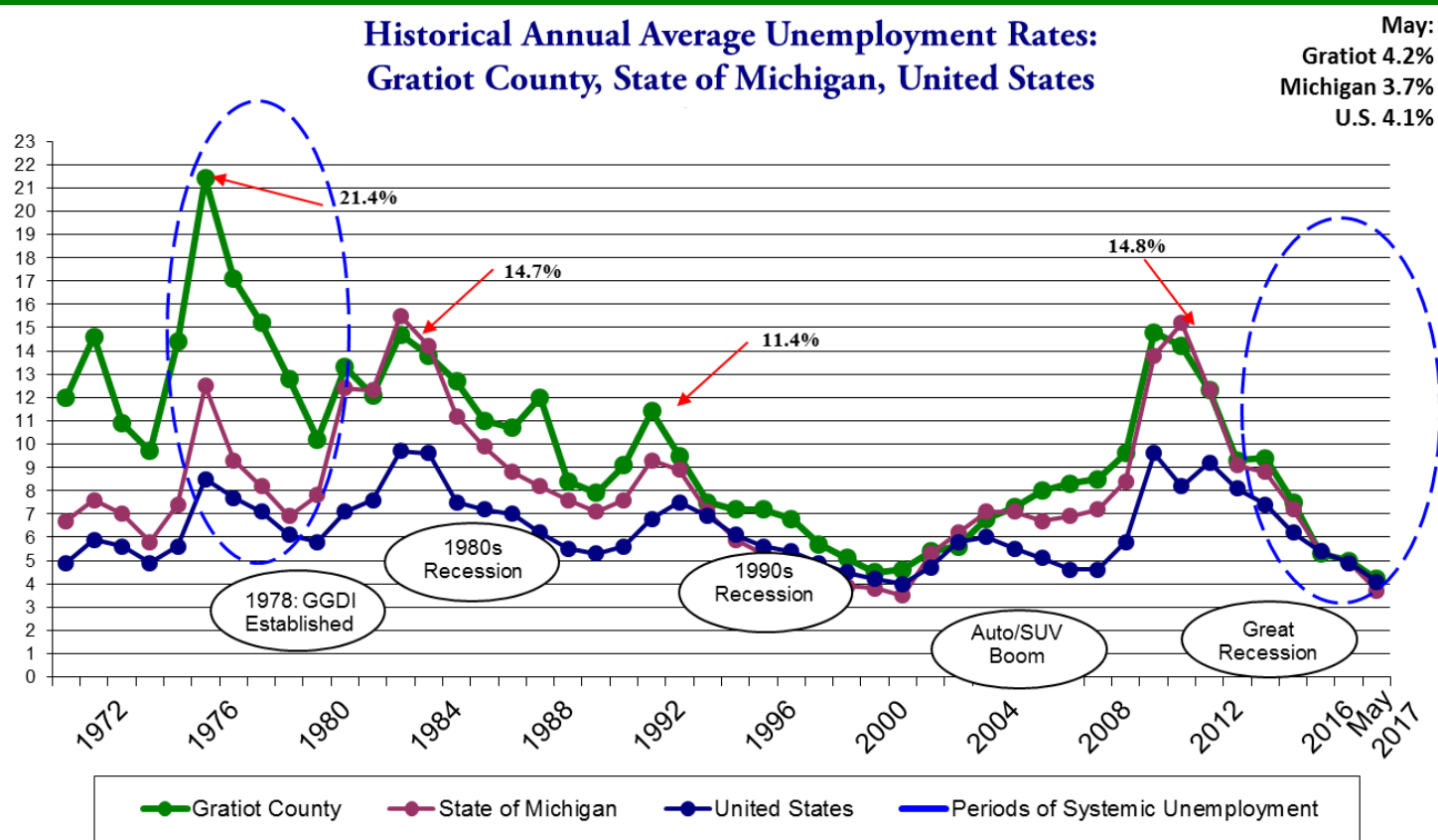
Sources:

www.census.gov
www.bls.gov
www.agcensus.usda.gov/index.php
www.factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml

Employment	
Total Labor Force of 2016:	18,254
Total Employed:	17,346
Unemployed:	908
Unemployment Rate:	5.0%

Income & Employment

**Historical Annual Average Unemployment Rates:
Gratiot County, State of Michigan, United States**



Median Household Income

Year	County	State	National
2015	\$41,912	\$49,576	\$53,889
2014	\$41,833	\$49,087	\$53,482
2013	\$40,359	\$48,411	\$53,046
2012	\$40,224	\$48,471	\$53,046
2011	\$39,867	\$48,669	\$52,762
2010	\$40,114	\$48,432	\$51,914

Per Capita Income

Year	County	State	National
2015	\$19,618	\$26,607	\$28,930
2014	\$18,992	\$26,143	\$28,555
2013	\$18,836	\$25,681	\$28,155
2012	\$18,992	\$25,547	\$28,051
2011	\$18,936	\$25,482	\$27,915
2010	\$18,388	\$25,135	\$27,334

Source:
American
Community
Survey (2014 5-
Year Estimates)
www.census.gov

Six Month Employment Snapshot

Period	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
May 2017	18,176	17,407	769	4.2
April 2017	18,344	17,578	766	4.2
March 2017	18,367	17,381	986	5.4
Feb 2017	18,545	17,399	1,146	6.2
Jan 2017	18,373	17,250	1,123	6.1
Dec 2016	18,296	17,467	829	4.5

Source:
Michigan
Labor Market
Information
www.milmi.org

Industry Employment, Wages, and Earnings — Past 12 months

	Total Employees	Median Employee Wage	Average Industry Earnings (Thousands)
Civilian Employed population 16 years & over	15,980	\$27,575	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, and mining	756	\$26,929	(D)
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	727	\$26,411	(D)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	29	\$70,625	(D)
Construction	716	\$40,774	\$24,951
Manufacturing	2,806	\$32,204	\$149,745
Wholesale trade	237	\$37,656	\$54,125
Retail trade	1,445	\$19,756	\$41,058
Transportation and warehousing, and Utilities	811	\$44,799	(D)
Transportation and warehousing	596	\$40,811	(D)
Utilities	215	\$63,750	(D)
Information	216	\$18,125	\$2,408
Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Rental/Leasing	551	\$26,632	\$27,748
Finance and Insurance	389	\$28,693	\$18,923
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing	162	\$25,370	\$8,825
Professional, Scientific, & Mgmt, & Admin & waste mgmt services	792	\$26,735	\$32,976 + (D)
Professional, scientific, and technical services	431	\$35,208	(D)
Management of companies/enterprises	0	-	(D)
Administrative and support and waste management services	361	\$22,986	\$32,976
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	4,596	\$26,244	(D)
Educational services	1,733	\$30,269	(D)
Health care and social assistance	2,863	\$25,128	(D)
Arts, entertainment, & recreation, & accommodation & food services	1,368	\$11,432	\$15,435
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	434	\$12,850	\$1,553
Accommodation and food services	934	\$11,167	\$13,882
Public administration	988	\$48,316	\$157,327
Other services	698	\$17,857	\$21,4258

(D)-denotes undisclosed information due to confidentiality

“-” indicates that no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution

Sources:

Bureau of Economic Activity www.bea.gov and ACS estimates from U.S. Census Bureau www.census.gov

Principal Base Employers/Demonstrating Select Significant Industry and Diversity by Sector (ordered by location)

Firm	FTE*	Product/Service	NAICS**
ALMA			
Alma Bolt Company	26.5	Industrial fasteners	332722
ADW Industries	13.5	Custom machinery & material handling systems	421830
Alma College	333.0	Higher education	611310
Alma Concrete Products	8.0	Ready mixed concrete supplier	327390
Alma Container Corp.	19.0	Fabricating corrugated containers	322211
Alma Products	191.0	OEM manufacturing & remanufacturing of automotive parts	336322
Alma Tire	20.0	Wholesale retail and retreading of tires	326212
Armour Eckrich	15.5	Meat and meat products merchant wholesale	424470
Avalon & Tahoe Manufacturing	282.0	Recreational pontoon boats	336612
Consumers Energy Co.	145.0	Electricity and gas/telephone call center	22121
<i>Frontier</i>	71.0	Telephone service	513310
Great Lakes Petroleum	98.0	Gasoline wholesale and distribution	422720
International Automotive Components	496.0	Plastic products & injection automotive parts	326199
Liquipak	35.0	Manufacturing of flexible pouch and contract packaging	326112
Masonic Pathways	496.0	Retirement community	623312
Medler Electric	25.0	Wholesale electric components	42161
Merrill Fabricators	122.0	Fabricator, machining and custom equipment	332000
Merrill Institute	3.0	Manufacturing trade school	611519
MidMichigan Medical Center - Gratiot	493.5	Regional medical care	622110
Mid-Michigan Upholstery	10.0	Canvas and Related Product Mills	314912
Padnos of Central MI	8.0	Metal scrap & waste wholesaling	423930
Production Machining of Alma	23.0	Machining of steel castings and other automotive parts	336399
Shiloh Industries	129.0	Aluminum die-castings, automotive parts	331521
Michigan Paving & Materials Co.	12.0	Various grades of asphalts for road paving, repaid and general construction	324121
Tri-Lakes Petroleum	61.0	Gasoline wholesale and distribution	422720
ASHLEY			
Agro Liquid	12.0	Liquid fertilizer producer	325314
BETHANY TOWNSHIP			
Bader & Sons	49.0	Farm machinery and equipment wholesale	421820
St. Louis Correctional Facility	328.0	Correctional Institution	92214
Powell Fabrication & Manufacturing	36.5	Bleach and chlorine machines/systems	313312

Firm	FTE*	Product/Service	NAICS**
NEWARK TOWNSHIP			
Sparks Pickle Company	30.5	Pickle sorting, grading, and processing	115114
PINE RIVER TOWNSHIP			
Brink's Machine Co, Inc.	14.5	Custom machine building, tools and dies	333514
Garr Tool Company	142.0	Machine tools and carbide cutting tools	333512
Legend Manufacturing	100.5	Manufactures all-aluminum and steel trailers	336214
ITHACA			
Aircraft Precision Products	66.0	Parts and components for jet aircraft engines	336413
Anchor Danly	79.0	Presses, machine tools, die sets and die maker supplies	33514
C & S Steel	23.0	Steel sales and fabrication	331111
Clean Harbors	16.0	Environmental remediation equipment	562910
Cartridges Are Us (a division of Clover Tech. Group)	168.0	Inkjet cartridge refilling and OEM supply	325910
Craig Frames	49.0	Manufacturer of wood and metal picture frames	339999
Dufrene Machinery, Inc.	23.0	Manufacturing of corrugated container machines & general equipment rigging	333291
DuPont Pioneer	13.5	Genetic research and development	541710
E & S Graphics	7.0	Printing, photo-offset	323110
<i>Exelon Wind</i>	4.0	Wind farm maintenance and operations facility	221115
<i>Hutchinson Aerospace & Industry</i>	147.5	OEM anti-vibration components for the transportation industry	336399
Ithaca Manufacturing Corporation	10.0	Custom manufactured steel products	336999
Mid-MI Specialty Crops	5.0	Grain and Field Beans	424510
Misenhelder Welding	3.0	Welding services	811310
Powder Coat of Central Michigan	4.0	Powder coating of metal parts	332812
Precision Machine and Manufacturing	18.5	Custom machining and fabrication	33271
<i>Tractor Supply Co.</i>	7.5	Retail of agricultural supplies and equipment	444220
Universal Bearings	5.5	Thermoset compression and injection molded plastic parts	326199
ZFS Ithaca, LLC	4.0	Soybean and Other Oilseed Processing	311224
MIDDLETON			
Seiler Machine, LLC	2.0	Precision agricultural planters	333111

**Aircraft
Precision
Products**

Gratiot County Wind/DTE

**Apex
Marine**


Firm	FTE*	Product/Service	NAICS**
BRECKENRIDGE			
Crop Production Services	12.0	Custom agricultural services	115112
DTE	7.0	Wind farm maintenance and operations facility	221115
Gratiot County Wind, LLC	8.0	Wind farm maintenance and operations facility	221115
Huron Pork	5.0	Sanitizing truck wash for livestock transportation	115210
Integrity Fab & Machine	76.0	Fabrication and machining	332312
Janson Equipment	24.5	Farm implement sales and services	421820
Kalmbach Feed	10.5	Farm Supplies Merchant Wholesalers	424910
Kenny Inc.	25.0	Pickle sorting, grading, and processing	115114
Michigan Agricultural Commodities (also in Middleton and Wheeler)	28.0	Bean and grain elevator, farm supplies	422510
Suburban Propane (formerly Northwest Energy)	10.0	Propane bulk stations and terminals	444710
ST. LOUIS			
A & E Ag.	15.0	Farm services and supplies	444220
Alpha Custom Extrusions	24.5	Profile extruded plastic parts	326199
Americast	4.0	Countertops, sinks and related manufacturing	327911
Apex Marine	129.5	Recreational pontoon boats	336612
<i>Bear Truss & Components</i>	106.5	Engineered roof, floor trusses and wall panels	321214
Central Michigan Correctional Facility	411.0	Correctional Institution	92214
Crippen Manufacturing Co.	15.0	Grain cleaning, sorting and transfer equipment	333294
<i>DuBar Drilling Fluids</i>	4.0	Drilling Oil and Gas Well Services	213111
Jer-Den Plastics, Inc.	51.0	Rotational molding	326199
Michigan Chloride Sales	20.5	Distribute chloride products	422690
Momentum Industries, Inc.	11.0	Manufacturing of tools and other products	333514
Plasti-Paint, Inc.	88.5	Class A painting of plastic parts and components	332812
Schnepp Health Care Center	105.5	Nursing home	623312
<i>United Producers</i>	12.5	Livestock Merchant Wholesalers	424520

*FTE (full-time equivalent) = # full-time employees + (1/2 * # part-time employees) + (% of year worked * # temporary/seasonal employees)

**NAICS (North American Industry Classification System) is the identification of what this industry does

**Alma Bolt
Company**



Alma Products



**Avalon
& Tahoe**



Business and Commercial Services



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma (2)
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$99,714,100
Employment (FTE):
10.00



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma & St. Louis
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$17,355,179
Employment (FTE):
15.50



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma (3) & Ithaca
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$3,082,571
Employment (FTE):
84.75



Offices in Gratiot County:
Breckenridge & Ithaca
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$1,732,151
Employment (FTE):
23.00



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$17,273
Employment (FTE):
9.00



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$8,079,229
Employment (FTE):
7.00



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma (3), Ithaca, Middleton
& St. Louis
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$399,832
Employment (FTE):
65.33



Offices in Gratiot County:
Alma & Ithaca
Total Assets (Thousands):
\$32,489
Employment (FTE):
14.00

Sources: Company websites (click picture to go to website) & www.usacreditunions.com

Michigan Certified Business Parks

Industrial Parks	Total Acres	Developed Acres	Percent Developed	Occupied Acres	Percent Occupied
Alma Industrial Park	67	67	100%	57	85%
Breckenridge Industrial, Technology, and Agribusiness Park	138	26	19%	30	22%
Ithaca Industrial Park	67	67	100%	47	70%
St. Louis Woodside Industrial Centre	74	74	100%	58	78%
South Ithaca Industrial Park	137	95	69%	52	38%

Building Permits

Year	Alma	Breckenridge	Ithaca	St. Louis	Gratiot County	Total
2016	81	13	30	68	232	424
2015	85	6	38	79	190	398
2014	117	12	25	98	195	447

Housing Information

Total number of housing units	16,258	Owner Occupied	10,852
Housing units occupied	14,716	Rent Occupied	3,864
Housing units vacant	1,542	% of Vacant units (Gratiot)	9.5%
Median home value	\$88,900	% of Vacant units (Michigan)	15.4%
Median gross rent	\$607	Median monthly owner cost	\$1,022

Source:
U.S. Census Bureau
www.census.gov

Municipal Services

Utilities

Community	Electricity Supplier	Gas Supplier
City of Alma	Consumers Energy	Consumers Energy
City of Ithaca	Consumers Energy	Consumers Energy
City of St. Louis	Municipal Electric Utility	Consumers Energy
Elba Township	Consumers & Tri-County	Consumers Energy
Fulton Township	Consumers & Tri-County	DTE Gas
Hamilton Township	Consumers & Tri-County	Consumers Energy
New Haven Township	Consumers & Tri-County	Consumers Energy
North Shade Township	Consumers & Tri-County	DTE Gas
Seville Township	Consumers & Tri-County	Consumers Energy
Sumner Township	Consumers & Tri-County	Consumers & DTE
Washington Township	Consumers & Tri-County	Consumers & DTE
All other Townships	Consumers Energy	Consumers Energy



Source:

http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/mpsc/electric-gas-townships.cgi?townsearch=g*



Water

Community	Source	Capacity (millions of gallons)	Usage/day (millions of gallons)	Pressure (lbs./sq. inch)
Alma	20% River/ 80% Well	6	1.4	55
Ashley	Well	.165	.056-.066	54-56
Breckenridge	Well	.3	.12	60
Ithaca	Well	1.95	.25	65
St. Louis	Well	3	.87	55-65

*Alma and St. Louis are partners in the Gratiot Area Water Authority.

Sewer

Community	Type	Capacity (millions of gallons)	Load (millions of gallons)
Alma	Aerobic Digestion	4	1.5/day
Ashley	Lagoon	21.1	.05/day
Breckenridge	Lagoon	100	.14/day
Ithaca	Lagoon	214.23	.331/day
St. Louis	Tertiary Class C	5	1.6/day

Telecommunications

Local Phone Companies	Frontier Communications, Winn Telecom, Charter Communications
Digital Switching	Available
Fiber Optics	Available
Cable Modem	Offered in all municipal areas
Wireless internet	Offered in most municipal areas

Economic Profile 2017

Gratiot County employs a central dispatching system for all public safety needs. Municipal, county, and state police departments serve the area as well as municipal fire departments. Municipal services are provided in Alma, Breckenridge, Ithaca, and St. Louis but are available to all Gratiot County municipal units.

Law Enforcement

Gratiot County Sheriff's Office

226 E Center St. Ithaca, MI

- 24-hour road patrol services available to all municipals
- 24-hour Enhanced 911 Program



Ambulance Services

Mobile Medical Response (MMR)

- Operates 24-hours/day
- Emergency vehicles stationed all around county



Local Government

Community	Phone #	Web Page
Gratiot County Admin.	(989) 875-5261	http://www.gratiotmi.com/Departments/Administration
Gratiot County Clerk	(989) 875-5215	http://www.gratiotmi.com/Departments/County-Clerk
City of Alma	(989) 463-8336	http://www.ci.alma.mi.us
City of Ithaca	(989) 875-3200	http://www.ithacami.com
City of St. Louis	(989) 681-2137	http://www.stlouismi.com
Village of Ashley	(989) 847-3050	http://www.ashleyvillage.org
Village of Breckenridge	(989) 842-3109	http://www.breckenridgemi.com
Village of Perrinton	(989) 236-5161	http://fultontwp.com/village-of-perrinton
Arcada Township	(989) 463-3628	http://www.arcadatownship.webs.com/
Bethany Township	(989) 842-1099	http://www.bethanytownship.com
Elba Township	(989) 847-2210	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=25120
Emerson Township	(989) 875-5041	http://www.emersontwp.com
Fulton Township	(989) 236-5102	http://fultontwp.com/
Hamilton Township	(989) 847-4060	https://hamiltontownshipmi.wixsite.com/home
Lafayette Township	(989) 842-5529	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=44080
Newark Township	(989) 875-2130	http://www.newarktownship.com
New Haven	(989) 584-3707	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=57360
North Shade Township	(989) 236-5294	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=58800
North Star Township	(989) 875-3352	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=58880
Pine River Township	(989) 681-5523	http://www.pinerivertwp.org/
Seville Township	(989) 463-2881	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=72580
Sumner Township	(989) 833-2286	http://www.sumnertownship.com/
Washington Township	(989) 620-1906	http://www.michigantownships.org/twp_details.asp?fips=84080
Wheeler Township	(989) 842-3428	http://www.wheelertownship.com

Areas of Interest in Gratiot

Gratiot County Wind Farms

Currently, there are two farms located in Gratiot County: Gratiot County Wind, LLC and Beebe Community Wind Farm, LLC. Gratiot County Wind, LLC operates 133 turbines, making it the largest wind farm in Michigan to date. This is combined with Beebe's 55 to make a total of 188 turbines in Gratiot County alone!

Why Gratiot?

- Gratiot County is able to facilitate complex projects thanks to the coordination efforts from GGDI and its many partners.
- A Countywide Master Plan as well as a Countywide Model Wind Energy Ordinance (first in the state of Michigan) eliminated contradictive regulations and established a unified regulatory structure.
- Gratiot has many flat, open areas that are ideal for wind collection.
- Gratiot offered a strong ability to connect the wind power to the existing power grid, which is essential for wind power generation.

There is a permit already approved for a third wind farm in the county, located in the southwest corner of Gratiot.



For more information, videos, and photos of the wind farms in Gratiot please visit:
http://www.gratiot.org/1/292/utility_scale_wind_development.asp

Gratiot Community Airport

The Gratiot Community Airport is located at 3999 W. Seaman Road between Alma and Ithaca. It offers flight services to business, individual, and freight patrons. The airport features a 5,000 foot east-west primary runway and a 3,200 foot north-south cross wind runway. The runways handle commercial aircrafts as well as small jets. The facility also provides private charters. In total, 9,500 operations are overseen by the airport each year.

Three Point Aviation, LLC is the Fixed Base Operator at the Airport and handles the day-to-day operations. Self-serve fuel 100LL and jet A is available at the airport twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Courtesy cars are also available, as well as hangar and aircraft rentals. Consider utilizing the Gratiot Community Airport for fast and easy service to and from the Gratiot area.

For more information, contact the airport at:
(989) 463-5430



Quality of Life

Education

Public Schools	Number of Students	Instructional Staff/ Total Employees*	Facilities in District
Alma Public Schools	2,116	123/277	5
Ashley Community Schools	267	20/39	3
Breckenridge Community Schools	718	44/90	4
Fulton Schools	743	44/101	3
Ithaca Public Schools	1,186	83/143	3
St. Louis Public Schools	1,074	72/109	5
Private Schools	Number of Students	Instructional Staff/ Total Employees*	Facilities in District
Countryside Christian School (Ithaca)	77	9/9	1
Seventh Day Adventist (Ithaca)	18	3/6	1
St. Mary School (Alma)	111	10/14	1

*Note: This is the total number of employees (not FTE)
**For public schools, the foundation grant for 2016/2017 is \$7,511 per pupil

For private schools, contact the school to find out tuition rate

Colleges and Universities

There is one college in Gratiot County which is located adjacent to beautiful downtown Alma, prestigious Alma College. This college is a private, four-year liberal arts institution of higher learning. Alma College's 2016 fall headcount was 1,451. Within one hour of Gratiot County, there are three community colleges, two colleges, and five universities. Each college/university is represented on the map by the school's logo/mascot. The square outlined in black is representing Gratiot County.



Mid-Michigan Community College



Northwood University



Montcalm Community College



Ferris State University



Lansing Community College



Delta College



Central Michigan University



Michigan State University



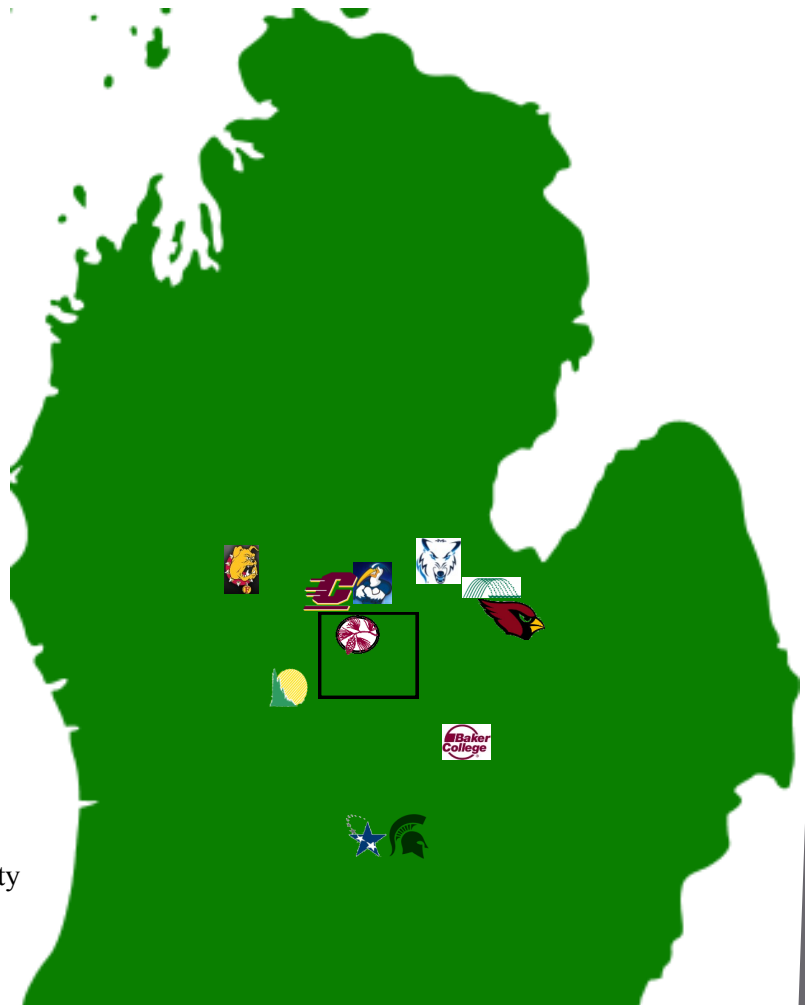
Baker College



Alma College



Saginaw Valley State University



Gratiot County Health Care, Nursing Care, and Retirement Facilities



Sparrow Carson Hospital is located just outside of Gratiot County's southwestern corner. It contains 61 licensed beds and a full network of physicians and professional medical staff with the technical skills you expect and deserve. Clinic services are provided at the Ashley Family Care Center and the Ithaca Family Care Center. Some of the services include:

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| ♦ Allergy | ♦ OB/GYN | ♦ Emergency Room | ♦ Pediatrics |
| ♦ Asthma | ♦ Oncology | ♦ Anesthesiology | ♦ Dermatology |
| ♦ Cardiology | ♦ Neurology | ♦ Immunology | ♦ Hematology |
| ♦ Urology | ♦ Optometry | ♦ Internal Medicine | ♦ Orthopedic Surgery |



MidMichigan Medical Center — Gratiot is a 93 bed, acute care facility affiliated with the University of Michigan. The main facilities are located in Alma with clinics and specialty offices scattered throughout the county. The medical staff comprises over 130 of the 621 total employees as well as 250 volunteers. They provide specialty services which include:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| ♦ Cardiology | ♦ Obstetrics/
Gynecology | ♦ Substance Abuse Center | ♦ Clinic Cardiac &
Pulmonary Rehab |
| ♦ Pediatrics | ♦ Occupational Health | ♦ Cancer Center
(radiation/oncology) | ♦ Orthopedic Surgery |
| ♦ Urology | ♦ Pain management
Network | ♦ Psychiatric Services (in
& outpatient) | ♦ Rehabilitation (varies) |
| ♦ Immunization | ♦ Renal Dialysis | ♦ Industrial Med, Services
& Travel | ♦ Diagnostic Imaging
(routine/interventional) |
| ♦ Room Surgical
Services | ♦ 24-hour Emergency | | |

FTE: 496.08
Beds: 384

FTE: 67.00
Beds: 63

FTE: 105.50
Beds: 101

FTE: 58.50
Beds: 81

FTE: 48.50
Beds: 50

NOTE: Click on any of the logos on this page to visit company's website.

Attractions, Fairs, and Festivals



COME GROW WITH US! Ithaca may be a small city but it knows how to put on fantastic events.

- Dust Off Car Show-May
- Gratiot County Ag Expo-June
- Cyclocross Bike Race-July
- Ithaca Kids Day Camp-July
- Fall Festival-Sept.

MAKE IT YOURS! In Alma, there are many festivities that take place each year.

- Highland Festival-May
- Rural Urban Day-July
- Gratiot County Fair for Youth-July/Aug.
- Lucky MacDuck Day-Sept.
- Grand Prix of Cyclocross-Sept.



ENTERTAINING! Top left: Mud volleyball at Perrinton Summerfest which takes place in August. Bottom left: Czechoslovak Harvest Festival in Bannister in August. Right: Horse Pulls at Summer Daze in August.

MIDDLE OF THE MITTEN! In St. Louis, these are some of the main events that happen every year.

- Fishing Derby-June
- Blues Festival-Aug
- Classic Car Cruise-ins-summer months



WOW! These are activities you can go see in multiple places in Gratiot County.

- Farmer's Market—May-Oct.
⇒ Alma, Ithaca, Breckenridge, & St. Louis
- Old US 127 Car Cruise August
⇒ Alma, Ithaca, & St. Louis
- 4th of July Fireworks
⇒ Breckenridge & St. Louis



COMMITTED TO OUR FUTURE! Relay for life takes place in Breckenridge in August.



HOME OF THE ASHLEY BEARS! The small village of Ashley has put on an annual festival for many years (Ashley Trading Days-June). This festival is not nearly as large as the Ashley Country Christmas that takes place for 5 weekends (middle of Nov.—middle of Dec.). Many people ride the Polar Express Train (Pere Marquette 1225) into Ashley and take part in the Christmas celebration.

Community & Area Culture/Recreation

SPLASH!

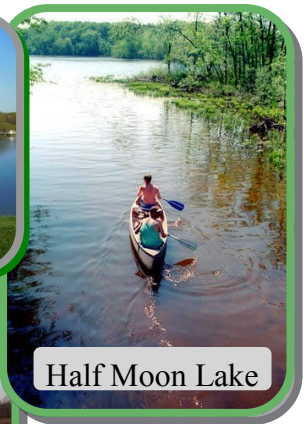
Visit any of the following locations to go swimming in a pool on a hot summer day. Alma College and Alma High School each have an indoor pool. W.T. Morris Community Pool located in St. Louis has an outdoor pool.



Rainbow Lake



Maple River



Half Moon Lake



Luneack County Park-Alma



Pine River

SUMMER FUN!

Have free time and wonder what to do in Gratiot County? Grab a friend and visit any of the following locations for water recreation: Half Moon Lake, Maple River, Rainbow Lake, or Pine River.



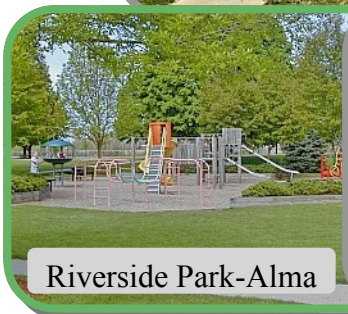
Reed County Park-North Star



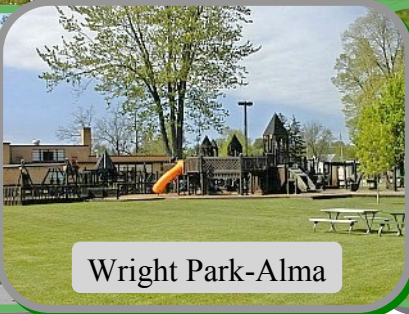
Leppien Park-St. Louis



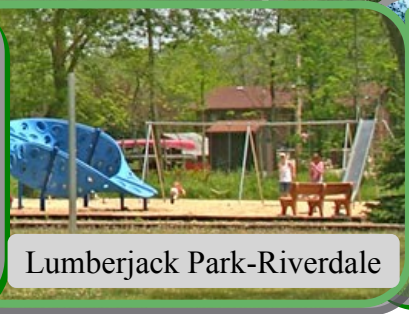
Hubscher County Park-Summer



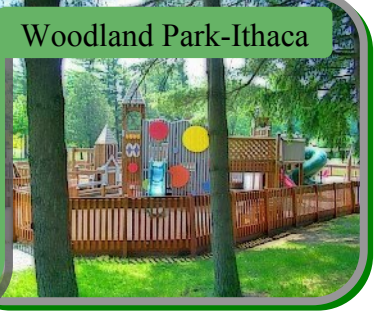
Riverside Park-Alma



Wright Park-Alma



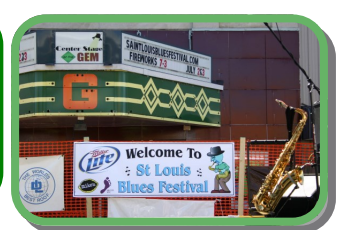
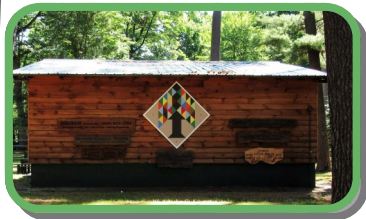
Lumberjack Park-Riverdale



Woodland Park-Ithaca

COME ON! COME ON! Have bored or energetic children? Take them to any of these parks to run around, swing, go down the slide, etc. Hubscher County Park and Reed County Park even have a place for people of any age to swim. Pack a cooler to have a picnic at any of the parks.

Economic Profile 2017



FAMILY NIGHT! Stop by The Hardwoods in Ithaca to go bowling.

ACE! Come to any of the following locations to see if you can get a hole in one!

18 Holes

- Hidden Oaks Golf Club—St. Louis
⇒ Middle of the Mitten Community Golf Outing—June
- North Star Gold Course—North Star
- Pine River Country Club—Alma
⇒ Spring Fling Golf Outing—May
- The Fields Golf Course—Ithaca
⇒ GCFY Golf Outing—June
⇒ Sport Shirt Golf Outing—August

9 Holes

- Overbrook Golf Course—Middleton
- The Ridge—Breckenridge



TRAILS! There are various canoe, bicycle, and linear trails throughout Gratiot County. Notably, the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail runs from Alma to Greenville for a total of over 41 paved miles of pathway. A new bike trail was completed Fall 2016 and it runs alongside US Highway-127 from Ithaca to Alma.

**IF YOU WANT
TO GET FIT,
YOU HAVE TO GIVE AWAY
ONLY ONE THING.**

YOUR EXCUSES.

READY? If you are ready to give away the excuses today, there are many great places you can go.

Alma

- Brickk
- Curves for Women
- Endurance Fit Stop
- SNAP Fitness
- Alma College Stone Recreation Center

Ithaca

- Stay Fit Gratiot County

St. Louis

- Extreme Fitness
- LEAN



League Sports

offered on a community basis consist of:

- Basketball
- Bowling
- Golf
- Softball
- Tennis

Spectator Sports

- Local area high school athletics
- Alma College—NCAA Division III
- Central Michigan University—NCAA Division I (Mt. Pleasant)
- Michigan State University—NCAA Division I (East Lansing)

Collaborative Development Partners

Gratiot-Isabella RESD (GIRESD): A Michigan Works! Partner Agency



Michigan Works! service centers provide services to businesses of all sizes who recruit and employ entry-level, skilled, and professional employees. Located in Alma, this service center is operated by the GIRESD and provides vocational and employment assistance that is coordinated to meet the needs of the private sector. It offers training through classes and education brokering to provide business and industry education solutions with state-of-the-art efficiencies. A computer laboratory provides multi-media computer training opportunities. Classroom space is available for business use. This facility is an office of the Michigan Works! system. The website can be found at www.giresd.net

Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce



The Chamber was formed in 1995 by the merger of the Alma, St. Louis, and Ithaca Chambers. Its two primary responsibilities are to act as an advocate for business and to improve programs for quality of life in Gratiot County. Greater Gratiot Development works closely with the Chamber, placing a high priority on job development and training, providing appropriate growth space for business and industry, and promoting a more efficient use of the county's assets. The Chamber and Greater Gratiot Development share a web address at www.gratiot.org

Gratiot County Community Foundation



Established by a group of caring and forward-thinking people in 1992, the Gratiot County Community Foundation is a local non-profit organization with the primary goal of improving the quality of life for those who live and work in Gratiot County. To that end, hundreds of thousands of dollars are awarded each year to support programs and organizations key to its mission. Permanently endowed, tax-deductible contributions ensure a new stream of dollars available each year to make a difference. For more information, visit www.gratiotfoundation.org or contact (989) 875-4222.

Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)



MEDC is a public body corporation (private/public partnership) created in 1999. The highly successful MEDC administers and provides guidance and counsel to link business retention and attraction, job creation, job training programs & business competitiveness issues. The MEDC's mission is to continually improve Michigan's overall business climate. The MEDC provides all economic development services at the State level. The services are categorized under three general areas: economic/business development services (including attraction and retention of business & industry); coordination for workforce development; and business competitiveness issues. All MEDC services may be accessed in conjunction with GGDI. The MEDC's website can be found at <http://www.michiganbusiness.org>

Region 5 Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC)



Established in 1985, the PTACs of Michigan have assisted businesses to succeed under local, state, and federal government contracts. The U.S. government spends over \$460 billion annually on goods and services which developed a need for collaborative assistance, leading to the formation of PTAC. Gratiot County recently joined the Region 5 PTAC which includes the counties of Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland, and Saginaw. PTAC works directly with the business owner in the process of obtaining a government contract as well as completing the contract. For more information, please visit their website at www.ptacsofmichigan.org or call (989) 754-8222 ext: 233 to reach the Region 5 office.

Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.

Incorporated in 1978, GGDI was established to coordinate economic development and related services on behalf of the area municipalities and the County of Gratiot. GGDI acts as a countywide clearinghouse for information and assistance in retention, expansion, and location of businesses in Gratiot County. Additionally, GGDI initiates and participates in other activities designed to improve the economic climate in the Gratiot community. Operating as a public/private partnership, GGDI is recognized for participating and initiating collaborative relationships. This holistic approach to community development results in many affiliations and partnerships including:

- Gratiot County Strategic Planning Committee
- Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
- Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works!
- Michigan Economic Developers Association
- Michigan Certified Development Corporation (SBA 504 Lending Co.)
- East Michigan Council of Governments
- Breckenridge/Wheeler Chamber of Commerce
- Gratiot Area Chamber of Commerce

Due to GGDI's coordinated approach to providing development services, virtually all requests for assistance, services, referrals, and answers to development questions can be addressed at this office. For more information, check out the website- www.gratiot.org

Strong support for economic development services

The citizens of Gratiot County have supported a wide range of economic development services for over 40 years. The practice of providing collaborative professional services throughout the county is a point of community pride. In 2013, Gratiot citizens passed a small countywide millage to assure consistent funding for private and public development services as well as agriculture education for youth through 4-H and Michigan State University Extension. This unique blend of services is designed to promote a diverse economy and make the best use of all the County's assets now and in the future.

Gratiot County Unified Tax Abatement Policy

All the municipalities in Gratiot County adopted a unified tax abatement formula under State of Michigan law (P.A. 198 of 1974) in 1982. This generous policy established a minimum number of years a company will be granted tax abatement for qualified projects. A copy of the policy may be found on the website, faxed or mailed upon request.

Frequently used programs:

- Access to state and federal programs
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Employee training programs
- Financial packaging
- Industrial tax abatement
- SBA lending programs
- Small business counseling
- Taxable and tax exempt revenue bonds

Frequently requested assistance:

- Credit Lines or enhancement
- Employee recruitment, screening, and training
- Environmental related issues
- Expansion/Location assistance
- New business start-ups
- New product development
- Permits
- Spin-off Ventures of existing firms
- Strategic planning

Collaborating for diversity, opportunity, stability, and progression in the Gratiot Community.



**President
Jim Wheeler**

jim.wheeler@gratiot.org

**Project Manager
Kasey Zehner**

kasey.zehner@gratiot.org

**Finance Officer
Shelly Brown**

shelly.brown@gratiot.org



Phone:
(989) 875-2083
Fax:
(989) 875-2990
Email:
info@gratiot.org
Website:
www.gratiot.org

Address:
136 South Main St.
Ithaca, MI 48847
Hours of Operation:
Mon—Fri 8:00AM-4:30PM

*GGDI economic development services are supported through a Gratiot County millage.
*All information current as of May/June 2017