

Gratiot County, Michigan, USA



Located in the middle of Michigan's lower peninsula, Gratiot County is a perfect blend of Michigan's commercial and industrial elements of the south and the rural and recreational features of the north. The County boasts a diversified economy with a strong presence from agriculture, manufacturing, and alternative energy. The community is also fortunate to have excellent healthcare systems and impressive educational opportunities. Finally, the area is rich with recreational opportunities including the Pine River, multiple county parks, non-motorized trails, and community events.

Demographics

Population*	
Gratiot County	40,916
Alma (City)	8,976
St. Louis (City)	7,189
Ithaca (City)	2,797
Breckenridge (Village)	1,206
Ashley (Village)	525
Pine River (Twp.)	2,241
Remaining townships	17,982

*American Community Survey 2015-2019 5-Year Estimates

Gratiot County Demographics*	
Total Population	40,916
Gender	
Male	21,928
Female	18,988
Age	
Under 15	6,614
15-19	2,921
20-54	19,041
55 and over	12,340
Education	
Percent high school graduate or higher	91.1%
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	15.4%

*American Community Survey 2015-2019 5-Year Estimates

Gratiot County Demographics*	
Income	
Total households	15,035
Median household income	\$47,848
Mean household income	\$63,319
Poverty rate	16.7%
Race	
White	37,227
Black of African American	2,346
American Indian & Alaska Native	242
Asian	183
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	30
Other	92
Two or more races	796

*American Community Survey 2015-2019 5-Year Estimates

Workforce

Major economic sectors in Gratiot County include agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare, and education. Vocational education opportunities to support these industries are plentiful in Gratiot; Alma High School offers a recently updated career and technical educational center, the Merrill Institute of Welding is located in Alma, and three community colleges are in the region. Additionally, the area is home to Alma College and is in close proximity to seven universities.

2020 Annual Employment Data ¹	
Labor force	17,927
Employed	16,493
Unemployed	1,434
Jobless rate	8.0%

¹Data from Michigan Labor Market Information: www.milmi.org

Annual Jobless Rate ²	
2020	8.0%
2019	4.4%
2015	5.7%
2010	11.8%
2005	8.3%

²Data from Michigan Labor Market Information: www.milmi.org

2020 Commuting Labor Force ³	
30-mile radius (30 minutes)	125,221
60-mile radius (60 minutes)	1,205,375

³Data from GIS/Zoom Prospecter

Top 10 Gratiot County Employers ⁴	FTE
MidMichigan Medical Center-Gratiot (Healthcare-Alma)	698
Central Michigan Correctional Facility (St. Louis)	446
Masonic Pathways (Healthcare-Alma)	426
Avalon & Tahoe Mfg., Inc. (Manuf.-Alma)	391
Alma College (Higher Education-Alma)	344
St. Louis Correctional Facility (Bethany Township)	332
International Automotive Components (Manuf.-Alma)	280
Alma Public Schools	265
Gratiot-Isabella RESD (Education-Ithaca)	213
Clover Technology Group (Manuf.-Ithaca)	179

⁴Data from GGDI-conducted survey in Summer 2019

Transportation

Gratiot County is centrally located in Michigan's lower peninsula, making it an accessible location for any industry. The County is centered along the U.S. Highway 127 north and south corridor. Michigan Highway 46 runs east and west in the northern portion of Gratiot, while Michigan Highway 57 does the same in the southern portion. These main routes allow Gratiot to be accessed from many major highways and interstates. The County is also accessible by rail; Great Lakes Central Railroad, a regional railroad, provides a north-south line through Gratiot, and Mid-Michigan Railroad, a short line railroad, provides an east-west line.

Major routes to/from Gratiot County:

(Approximate distance from Ithaca, Michigan)

- U.S. Highway 127: In County
 - Michigan Highway 46: In County
 - Michigan Highway 57: In County
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- Michigan Highway 20: 26 miles / 42 kilometers
 - U.S. Highway 131: 53 mi. / 85 km.
 - Interstate 75: 44 mi. / 71 km.
 - Interstate 96: 45 mi. / 72 km.
 - Interstate 69: 39 mi. / 63 km.

Major airports to/from Gratiot County:

(Approximate distance from Ithaca, Michigan)

- Gratiot Community Airport (Alma): In County
- MBS International (Saginaw): 43 mi. / 69 km.
- Capital City Airport (Lansing): 46 mi. / 74 km.

Major destinations to/from Gratiot County:

(Approximate distance from Ithaca, Michigan)

- Saginaw, Michigan: 42 mi. / 66 km.
- Lansing, Michigan: 45 mi. / 72 km.
- Grand Rapids, Michigan: 74 mi. / 119 km.
- Detroit, Michigan: 130 mi. / 216 km.
- Windsor, Ontario: 134 mi. / 216 km.
- Chicago, Illinois: 261 mi. / 420 km.
- Cleveland, Ohio: 272 mi. / 438 km.
- Indianapolis, Indiana: 293 mi. / 472 km.
- Toronto, Ontario: 332 mi. / 534 km.

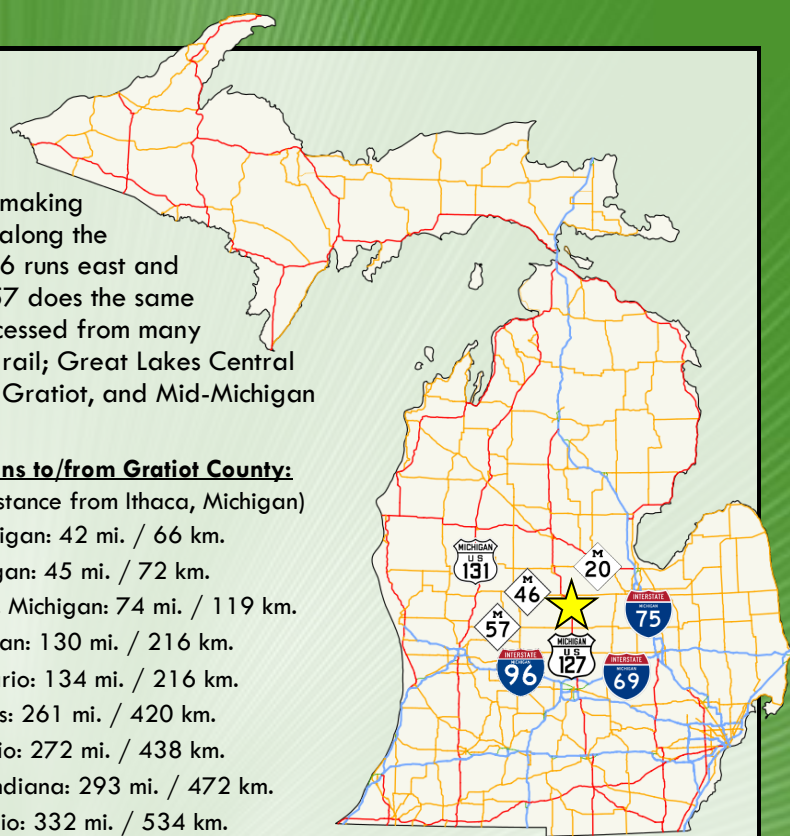
Railroads in Gratiot County:

(All routes connect to major national and international markets)

- Great Lakes Central Railroad (Regional)
- Mid-Michigan Railroad (Short line-G&W)

Ports near Gratiot County:

- Bay City (marine): 55 mi. / 88.5 km.
 - Lansing* (air): 46 mi. / 74 km.
- *Gratiot County is a member of Foreign Trade Zone #275 (Lansing).



Site Availability

Gratiot County is home to five industrial parks, for a total of 482 industrial park acres. Properties within the Parks are typically government-owned and have readily available municipal services and aesthetically pleasing features. The Parks have high-quality standards and offer the components necessary for success. Available properties in each industrial park are listed in the chart below.

Additional industrial and commercial properties are available. For a complete listing of available commercial and industrial properties, please visit www.greatlakesbaysites.com and select Gratiot County.

Location	Available Lots
Alma West Hoffman Road	163 acres
Alma Industrial Park	1 – 3.6 acres
Breckenridge Industrial, Technology and Agribusiness Park	2 – 96 acres
Ithaca Industrial Park	2 acres
St. Louis Woodside Industrial Centre	2 – 6.7 acres
South Ithaca Industrial Park	3.37 – 39 acres

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