

2005 Highlights

In her 2005 State of the State, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm laid out a clear, bold vision for Michigan's future. The "**Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow**" plan she unveiled has been Michigan's roadmap this year, and her efforts to create jobs, protect our families and educate our children are paying off. It's no wonder *Governing Magazine* recognized Michigan as one of the nation's best managed states.

Growing Our Economy

Governor Granholm has a comprehensive, detailed plan to create jobs and boost Michigan's economy. She has proven she will go anywhere and do anything to create jobs for Michigan workers, meeting face to face with businesses from across the country and around the world. Thanks to her plan and her direct involvement, Michigan is creating new jobs, protecting the jobs we have, and making our state friendly to job providers.

Creating New Jobs

- In November, the Governor signed legislation creating the 21st Century Jobs for Michigan Fund to **invest billions of dollars to diversify our economy** and create good-paying jobs that won't be outsourced.
- 132 companies announced more than **\$3.7 billion in new investments** this year.
- Granholm Administration efforts **created or retained more than 93,000 jobs in 2005**, bringing the total to more than 279,000 since 2003.
- The Governor continued her efforts to attract international investment, embarking on a **trade mission to Japan** in July. The trip resulted in 10 companies choosing to expand here, bringing 630 new jobs and \$116 million in additional investment. Since 2003, German and Japanese companies have invested more than \$1.6 billion and protected or created more than 8,300 jobs in Michigan.
- More than **1,650 small businesses were started** in Michigan in 2005.
- Michigan is **#2 in the nation in capital investment** with more than \$6.5 billion in total investment and 32,000 new jobs, according to a 2005 study from Ernst and Young.
- The Governor's Jobs Today initiative is generating millions in investment, creating jobs, and strengthening our quality of life. Already, the program has generated **more than \$2.7 billion in investment**, including:
 - \$760 million in accelerated road and bridge projects;
 - \$44 million in accelerated environmental cleanup projects;
 - \$538 million to upgrade state buildings and community college and university campuses;
 - \$473 million to provide affordable housing;
 - \$900 million to upgrade municipal sewer systems; and,
 - \$300 million to modernize 57 long-term care facilities.

Protecting the Jobs We Have

- The Governor has been a strong and clear voice on behalf of Michigan's struggling manufacturers this year. She has taken a number of steps to protect these critical job providers:

- The Governor called for and has signed critical legislation to help protect manufacturing jobs by **cutting business taxes by \$600 million** and creating incentives for manufacturers to locate jobs in Michigan.
- The Governor **convened a meeting of the Michigan Congressional delegation** in which a bipartisan strategy was developed for federal action to help our manufacturers. The Governor has repeatedly called on her fellow governors and leaders in Washington to assist in this effort.
- The Administration is working closely with Delphi Corporation in the wake of their bankruptcy to **protect our jobs** and encourage them to consolidate here.
- The Governor's MI Opportunity Partnership is putting people back to work now by matching unemployed workers with existing job vacancies – to date, **more than 17,000 people have found jobs** through the pledge drive alone.
- MEDC officials made **more than 4,800 visits to Michigan job providers** this year to help companies retain and create jobs.
- 25 Regional Skills Alliances across Michigan are providing **critical job training** to provide unemployed workers with the skills they need to fill existing job vacancies.

Making Michigan Business-Friendly

- Michigan became the first state in the nation to implement a **streamlined, web-based permitting process**, MiTAPS, to cut down on processing time. Information on more than 200 permits is currently available via MiTAPS, and processing time has been cut by more than 60 percent.
- Since the Governor's call to "in-source" state government contracts, **more than 86% of all contracts have been awarded to Michigan companies**, representing almost \$3 billion in work. At the same time, the state has ended the practice of no-bid contracts, assuring taxpayers their money is being spent wisely.
- Governor Granholm's efforts were recognized by *Governing Magazine* when they named Michigan **one of the country's best managed states** (tied for third) and invited the Governor to speak at their annual conference in New York.

Protecting Our Families

Governor Granholm knows that building a high quality of life and secure future for all our families has to start with making sure our children are safe in our neighborhoods, in their homes, and at school.

- The Governor called for, and signed, legislation **expanding background checks** on employees in our schools and child care centers.
- The Governor called for, and signed, legislation **protecting children from violent and sexually-explicit video games**.
- A new partnership between the Michigan State Police and the Department of Human Services will provide **automated periodic background checks** to ensure that children in foster care are safe.
- **Project S.A.F.E. Streets** continues to make our communities safer by removing violent felons from our streets. To date, more than 1,650 fugitives have been returned to prison.

- The state's Sex Offender Registry is now linked to the U.S. Department of Justice's National Sex Offender Registry, providing Michigan residents with greater access to critical information, and the state's first **Sex Offender Sweep** took more than 840 sex offenders off the street.
- The Governor took swift action in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to protect Michigan consumers by **increasing the number of gas station inspectors** to ensure that consumers were getting what they paid for. The Governor also worked closely with Michigan oil companies to **protect against price gouging**.
- The Governor's MIRx card provided **discount prescription drug coverage** to more than 32,000 citizens in 2005.
- The Governor is working to **protect families from the skyrocketing cost of insurance**. Early this year, the Governor banned the use of credit scores in setting insurance rates. Group Purchasing initiatives underway in Detroit and Flint are reducing costs for urban residents, and the Governor has called for a 20 percent rollback on auto and homeowners insurance.
- The Governor signed an agreement recently with other Great Lakes Governors and Canadian Premiers to **prohibit diversion of Great Lakes water** and to provide for state management and conservation of resources within the Great Lakes Basin. The agreement is needed to implement the 2001 Annex to the Great Lakes Charter.
- The Governor's "**Talk Early, Talk Often**" program provided parents with valuable resources to help their children avoid unintended pregnancies and sexually-transmitted disease. In 2005, sixty workshops were held, helping hundreds of families. The program is so popular that there is a waiting list of organizations wanting to host workshops.
- More than 1,000 police officers across Michigan have been trained to **better prevent identity theft**.

Educating Our Kids

Governor Granholm has made improving education in Michigan a top priority of her administration and has said it is critical to the state's economic future. She believes that increased investment in education will pay big dividends for both Michigan's economy and our quality of life as long as it is linked to both higher expectations for our schools and cost cutting measures that maximize spending in the classroom.

- In FY 2006, **funding for public education increased to record levels**.
- 88 percent of Michigan schools met Adequate Yearly Progress standards in 2005 – up from 78 percent last year.
- Governor Granholm has called for **rigorous new standards** for high school students to ensure that they are prepared for higher education which the State Board of Education recently adopted.
- **20 new Family Resource Centers** were opened in schools in 2005 to improve access to services that help students learn by making families stronger.
- The Early Childhood Investment Corporation, which the Governor announced in her State of the State address, is developing the framework for **effective early childhood development programs** and is partnering with local Intermediate School Districts to implement.