

## Michigan Agriculture Facts & Figures

Michigan grows a wide variety of crops each year and our farmers take pride in growing high-quality, diverse products. The state leads the nation in the production of several crops, including asparagus; black and cranberry beans; cucumbers; tart cherries; Niagara grapes; and squash. Michigan agriculture contributes more than \$104.7 billion annually to our state's economy, second in diversity only to California. We invite you to learn more about our state's agriculture production and to enjoy all the bounty and beauty Michigan's agriculture industry has to offer.

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Lansing, MI 48909  
Toll-Free: 800-292-3939  
[Michigan.gov/AgDevelopment](https://Michigan.gov/AgDevelopment)

The facts and figures in this booklet are sourced from USDA NASS for 2016 and 2018.

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## Apples

[Graphic: Apples]

Apples are one of the largest and most valuable fruit crops grown in Michigan. In 2018, 1.050 billion pounds of apples were harvested in Michigan, ranking third in the nation. About 50 percent of the harvest was used for processing. There are more than 11.3 million apple trees in commercial production, covering 35,500 acres on 825 family-run farms. Orchards are trending to super high-density planting (approximately 1,000 or more trees per acre) which come into production and bring desirable varieties to market quickly. While Michigan is best recognized for its fresh apples in autumn, the state's apples are typically shipped from mid-August all the way through the following June. About 55 percent of all Michigan apples are processed into other products. Michigan uses more apples than any other state for pies and fresh-cut slices and processing into applesauce, fresh and shelf-stable apple cider, apple juice, and apple cider vinegar.

### Seasonality

Michigan apples are harvested August through October, but with controlled-atmosphere storage technology, they are available nearly year-round. Processed apples are available throughout the year in juice, canned, fresh slices, and applesauce forms.

### Nutrition

Apples are naturally free from fat, cholesterol, and sodium. They are an excellent source of fiber.

### Contact

Michigan Apple Committee  
13750 S. Sedona Parkway, Suite 3  
Lansing, MI 48906  
Phone: 517-669-8353  
Toll-Free: 800-456-2753  
Fax: 517-669-9506  
[www.michiganapples.com](http://www.michiganapples.com)

[Graphic: Michigan Apple Committee logo]

## Asparagus

[Graphic: Asparagus]

Michigan ranks first in the nation for asparagus production, producing up to 23 million pounds annually. In fact, in 2019 Michigan asparagus production was valued at more than \$23.2 million. Michigan growers harvest approximately 9,500 acres annually.

The long green stalks are one of Michigan's first crops to appear in the spring. Much of Michigan's asparagus is grown near the Lake Michigan shoreline where the moderate

temperatures and soils make for excellent production conditions. Michigan asparagus, unlike asparagus from other states, is hand-snapped above the ground. This method yields a more tender and flavorful product.

#### Seasonality

The season in Michigan for fresh asparagus is late April through June. Asparagus lovers can enjoy canned or frozen Michigan asparagus throughout the year, as 30 percent of the crop is processed.

#### Nutrition

Asparagus is the leading supplier among vegetables of folic acid. A 5.3-ounce serving provides 60 percent of the recommended daily allowance for folacin which helps blood cell formation, growth, and prevention of liver disease. Asparagus spears contain no fat or cholesterol and provide potassium, fiber, vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, and glutathione. It's also the ideal vegetable for low-sodium diets, with only one milligram of sodium per 100 grams of cooked asparagus spears.

#### Contact

Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board  
12800 Escanaba Drive, Suite A  
PO Box 550  
DeWitt, MI 48820  
Phone: 517-669-4250  
Fax: 517-669-4251  
[www.michiganasparagus.org](http://www.michiganasparagus.org)

[Graphic: Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board logo]

#### Beef

[Graphic: Cooked beef]

Cattle and beef production are the largest sectors of the United States' agriculture industry. Michigan's cattle herd totals 1.15 million, of which 108,000 are beef cows and 422,000 are dairy cows. Cattle are raised throughout Michigan on 12,000 farms and ranches. In 2018, Michigan cattle and calves cash receipts totaled \$575 million.

Raising beef is a complex process, but throughout the entire journey, one thing remains constant – the shared commitment to raising cattle in a safe, humane, and environmentally sustainable way by using the latest technology and resources.

#### Seasonality

Year-round, Michigan's farmers and ranchers work hard to care for their cattle because raising healthy cattle is the first step in providing delicious, wholesome beef.

## Nutrition

When it comes to beef and your health, you can rest easy knowing that along with being tasty, beef contains important nutrients that your body needs. In just one 3-ounce cooked serving, you're getting 10 essential nutrients, including about half your daily value for protein!

## Contact

Michigan Beef Industry Commission  
2145 University Park Drive  
Suite 300 Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: 517-347-0911  
[www.mibeef.org](http://www.mibeef.org)

[Graphic: Michigan Beef Industry Commission logo]

## Blueberries

[Graphic: Blueberries]

Michigan is one of the top producing states in growing these sweet, juicy, and high-quality berries. In an average year, our state blueberry farmers produce more than 100 million pounds of more than 30 mouthwatering varieties of highbush blueberries. More than 50 percent of all Michigan blueberries are shipped to the fresh market; the rest are frozen, pureed, concentrated, or canned to be used in a myriad of value-added products.

Modern-day blueberry farming began in Michigan in the early 1900s and today this perennial crop is harvested from more than 20,000 acres. Michigan blueberries are grown, harvested, packed, and processed by 575 family farms annually, contributing nearly \$132 million to the state's economy.

## Seasonality

Fresh Michigan blueberries are available from July through October. Frozen, dried, and juiced blueberries can be enjoyed throughout the year in a variety of forms and products.

## Nutrition

A one-cup serving of blueberries contains only 80 calories and virtually no fat. Blueberries have consistently been recognized as the fruit with the highest antioxidant activity. They are full of dietary fiber and packed with vitamins C and K and manganese. One serving of blueberries delivers almost 25 percent of the daily requirement of vitamin C.

## Contact

Michigan Blueberry Commission  
PO Box 338  
Grand Junction, MI 49056  
Phone: 734-716-8960



[www.michiganblueberrycommission.org](http://www.michiganblueberrycommission.org)

[Graphic: Michigan Blueberry Commission logo]

## Cabbage

[Graphic: Cabbage]

Michigan produces several varieties of cabbage in staggered harvests, producing a longer season in which consumers may find fresh cabbage. In 2016, Michigan farmers across the state produced 115.5 million pounds of cabbage worth \$17 million.

### Seasonality

Fresh and fresh-cut Michigan cabbage is available to consumers from June through December.

### Nutrition

Cabbage is low in saturated fat and cholesterol while being high in dietary fiber, vitamins C and K, folate, potassium, manganese, iron, and magnesium.

### Contact

Michigan Vegetable Council

PO Box 367

Mason, MI 48854

Phone/Fax: 517-663-6725

[www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org](http://www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org)

## Carrots

[Graphic: Carrots]

In 2018, Michigan produced 152 million pounds of carrots worth \$14.5 million. This made Michigan the fourth-highest fresh carrot producing state in the country. Michigan carrots are primarily found in the west central counties of Newaygo and Oceana.

### Seasonality

Carrots are grown in Michigan for processing and fresh market use. Fresh market carrots are harvested from late July through November. Carrots for processing are harvested from early October through late November and are available throughout the year.

### Nutrition

One 2.8-ounce carrot has 40 calories and provides more than twice the recommended daily allowance of vitamin A for a healthy adult. High in fiber, potassium, and vitamin C, this crisp-textured root breaks down into calcium and is easily absorbed by the body when eaten.

## Contact

Michigan Carrot Commission  
12800 Escanaba Drive, Suite A  
PO Box 550  
DeWitt, MI 48820  
Phone: 517-669-4250  
Fax: 517-669-4251

## Celery

[Graphic: Celery]

Michigan's celery production began in Kalamazoo County. Today, the majority of Michigan's celery is still grown in the southwest counties of the state. In 2018, celery generated \$19.5 million from 110 million pounds grown in Michigan, ranking the state second among the top celery producing states in the country.

## Seasonality

Fresh celery is available from June through October, and available throughout the year in processed forms.

## Nutrition

Celery is a great source for vitamin C, potassium, and dietary fiber while being very low in calories and cholesterol.

## Contact

Michigan Celery Promotion Cooperative, Inc.  
PO Box 306  
Hudsonville, MI 49426  
Phone: 616-669-1250  
Fax: 616-669-2890  
[www.michigancelery.com](http://www.michigancelery.com)

## Cherries

[Graphic: Cherries]

Michigan grows 70 percent of the supply of tart cherries in the United States. In 2018, Michigan produced 201 million pounds of tart cherries with a value of \$280.1 million. The northwest counties of Michigan are so well known for cherries that Traverse City hosts the annual National Cherry Festival. Michigan is the largest producing region in the world for Montmorency tart cherries. This unique variety is known as "America's Superfruit."

### Seasonality

Fresh sweet cherries are available from late June through August; however, processed tart and sweet cherries are available throughout the year in canned, frozen, dried, or juice form.

### Nutrition

Montmorency tart cherries grown in the United States have among the highest levels of disease-fighting antioxidants when compared to other fruits. They also contain other important nutrients such as beta carotene, vitamin C, potassium, magnesium, iron, and fiber.

### Contact

Cherry Marketing Institute  
12800 Escanaba Drive, Suite A  
DeWitt, MI 48820  
Phone: 517-669-4264  
Fax: 517-669-3354  
[www.choosecherries.com](http://www.choosecherries.com)

[Graphic: Montmorency U.S. Tart Cherries logo]

### Chestnuts

[Graphic: Chestnuts]

Michigan chestnuts are sold fresh, peeled, frozen, sliced, or as flour. Chestnut flour is a gluten-free alternative to wheat flour. The natural sweetness of chestnut flour enhances the delicate flavors of many baked goods. Chestnut slices are a great additive to breads or salads and have a shelf life of two years. Chestnuts can be used in a wide variety of dishes, from soups, stews, and stuffing to fancy desserts.

In 2017, chestnuts were grown on 143 farms, covering 675 acres. Michigan ranks first in the nation for production of chestnuts.

### Seasonality

Michigan chestnuts are available in their fresh form from October through December, while peeled frozen and peeled dehydrated chestnuts are found throughout the year.

### Nutrition

Chestnuts are an excellent source of iron and, unlike other nuts, chestnuts are low in fat. They are also a good source of thiamin, potassium, riboflavin, and phosphorus.

### Contact

CGI: Chestnut Growers, Inc.  
Phone: 800-667-6704  
Fax: 810-797-3299

[www.chestnutgrowersinc.com](http://www.chestnutgrowersinc.com)

## Christmas Trees

[Graphic: Christmas trees]

Michigan ranks third in the nation in the number of Christmas trees harvested, supplying approximately 1.55 million fresh Christmas trees to the national market each year. Michigan also produces and sells more than nine major Christmas tree species on a wholesale level, which is more species than any other state. Our state has approximately 37,000 acres in commercial Christmas tree production, with an annual farm gate value of more than \$27 million.

The industry receives an additional \$1.3 million in sales of wreaths, cut boughs, garland, and other cut greens. For every Christmas tree harvested, Michigan Christmas tree farmers plant three new trees for future harvests.

### Contact

Michigan Christmas Tree Association

PO Box 252

Durand, MI 48429-0252

Phone: 517-545-9971

Toll-free: 800-589-TREE (8733)

Fax: 517-545-4501

[www.mcta.org](http://www.mcta.org)

## Corn

[Graphic: Corn kernels]

At 2.3 million acres, cornfields are tied with soybean fields for the most coverage in Michigan crops. The majority of Michigan corn is exported out of the state, while the corn that stays is used for animal feed and ethanol.

Corn production is concentrated in the Lower Peninsula with Saginaw and Lenawee counties as Michigan's largest producers. In 2018, Michigan produced 297 million bushels of corn grain, worth \$1 billion.

### Seasonality

Corn is planted in spring and harvested in the fall, starting in October and lasting until November. Processed corn may be consumed throughout the year.

### Contact

Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

13750 S. Sedona Parkway, Suite 5

Lansing, MI 48906  
Phone: 517-668-2676  
Toll-Free: 888-323-2673  
Fax: 517-668-2670  
[www.micorn.org](http://www.micorn.org)

[Graphic: Corn Marketing Program of Michigan logo]

## Cucumbers

[Graphic: Cucumbers]

Michigan ranks first nationally in the production of cucumbers for pickling. In 2016, Michigan produced 236,700 tons of pickling cucumbers with a value of \$47 million. In addition, the state produced 68 million pounds of cucumbers for the fresh market worth \$15 million.

### Seasonality

Fresh cucumbers are available in July, August, and September, while pickles are available throughout the year.

### Nutrition

The fresh cucumber is a very good source of vitamins A and C and the mineral molybdenum. Cucumbers are also rich in potassium, manganese, folate, dietary fiber, and magnesium.

### Contact

Michigan Vegetable Council  
PO Box 367  
Mason, MI 48854  
Phone/Fax: 517-663-6725  
[www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org](http://www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org)

## Dairy

[Graphic: Milk]

Michigan is home to 424,000 dairy cows on nearly 1,800 dairy farms located throughout the state. With each cow producing on average 26,340 pounds of milk per year, Michigan is first in the United States for production of milk per cow.

Michigan also ranked fifth in the nation for total production. In 2018, 11.17 billion pounds of milk were produced at a value of \$1.66 billion, which comes in at sixth in the United States. Dairy farms contribute \$15.7 billion to the state's economy.

### Seasonality

Milk and other Michigan dairy products can be enjoyed year-round.

## Nutrition

Dairy products such as milk, cheese, and yogurt are good sources of calcium, potassium, vitamin D, and protein.

## Contact

United Dairy Industry of Michigan  
2163 Jolly Road  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: 517-349-8923  
Fax: 517-349-6218  
[www.milkmeansmore.org](http://www.milkmeansmore.org)

[Graphic: United Dairy Industry of Michigan logo]

## Dry Edible Beans

[Graphic: Beans]

Michigan producers grow several classes of dry edible beans, including adzuki beans; black beans; cranberry beans; great northern beans; dark red, light red, and white kidney beans; navy beans; pinto beans; small red beans; and yellow eye beans.

Rich farmland in Michigan's Thumb counties grow more beans than any other place in the state. In fact, Huron County is one of the top dry bean producing counties in the country. In 2016, Michigan produced roughly 400 million pounds of dry edible beans with a value of \$126 million.

## Seasonality

Dry edible beans are ready for harvest in late August through October and are available throughout the year in canned and packaged form.

## Nutrition

With the exception of meat products, dry beans are the highest source of protein available. Beans also have more fiber than any other unprocessed food. They are low in sodium and fat and high in calcium, phosphorus, potassium, thiamin, and niacin. They help reduce blood cholesterol levels and their low amounts of sodium and fat help protect against heart disease.

## Contact

Michigan Bean Commission  
516 S. Main Street, Suite D  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734  
Phone: 989-262-8550

[www.michiganbean.org](http://www.michiganbean.org)

[Graphic: Michigan Bean Commission logo]

## Eggs

[Graphic: Eggs]

The Michigan poultry industry raises chickens for their eggs and turkeys primarily for their meat. Michigan ranks seventh in production of eggs with more than 15.4 million laying hens that produce 4,548 million eggs per year. There are eight farmers with 17 farms spread throughout Michigan. Egg production contributes approximately \$655 million to the Michigan economy annually.

### Seasonality

Eggs and other Michigan dairy products can be enjoyed year-round.

### Nutrition

One egg contains only 70 calories, yet is home to all nine essential amino acids and six grams of high-quality protein. Eggs are helpful during pregnancy, contribute to the growth and development of children, assist in the function of aging adults, and aid in muscle building.

### Contact

Michigan Allied Poultry Industries

PO Box 144

Hamilton, MI 49419

Phone: 517-372-5250

[www.mipoultry.com](http://www.mipoultry.com)

[Graphic: Michigan Allied Poultry Industries logo]

## Floriculture

[Graphic: Pink flowers]

In 2018, the wholesale value of Michigan's floriculture totaled \$467 million, only behind California and Florida. Michigan's floriculture industry is incredibly diverse. There were 569 floriculture producers in Michigan in 2018. Michigan leads the nation in six floriculture crops, including impatiens, begonias, Easter lilies, geraniums, hostas, and petunias.

### Seasonality

Michigan produces a variety of floriculture products available seasonally through the year ranging from fats, annual and perennial pots, hanging baskets, and fall mums to poinsettias and many more.

## Contact

Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council  
120 N. Washington Square  
Suite 1000  
Lansing, MI 48933  
Phone: 517-367-2033  
Fax: 517-372-1501  
[www.mifgc.org](http://www.mifgc.org)

[Graphic: Grapes]

## Grapes

[Graphic: Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council logo]

Michigan utilized 93,400 tons of grapes for production of wine and juice in 2016, with a total value of \$30.2 million. Michigan has 13,100 acres of vines, making Michigan the eighth-largest grape producing state in the nation. About 3,050 of those acres are devoted to wine grapes, ranking Michigan the eighth-highest state for wine grape production in the nation.

Michigan has more than 100 commercial wineries producing more than 1.4 million gallons of wine annually. Michigan wineries make many varieties of wine, including red, white, and specialty wines such as ice wine, sparkling, fortified, and brandies. Concord and Niagara grapes are grown primarily in the southwest part of the state and are used for juice production.

## Seasonality

Harvest for early hybrid varieties of wine grapes begins at the end of August in the southwest and may extend into November for late-ripening vinifera varieties in the northwest.

## Nutrition

Grapes for juice are an excellent source of vitamin C and have antioxidants that help to protect against free radicals that can damage healthy cells and may weaken the immune system.

## Contact

Michigan Craft Beverage Council (wine grapes)  
PO Box 30017  
Lansing, MI 48909-7517  
Phone: 517-284-5733  
Fax: 517-355-0950  
[www.michiganwines.com](http://www.michiganwines.com)

National Grape Cooperative (juice grapes)  
400 Walker Street



Lawton, MI 49065  
Phone: 269-624-2821  
[www.welchs.com](http://www.welchs.com)

## Honey

[Graphic: Honey comb]

Producers across Michigan gathered a total of 5.3 million pounds of honey in 2016, ranking Michigan eighth in the nation in honey production with a value of \$12 million.

The color of honey is a good indicator of how it will taste; the lighter the honey, the milder the flavor, and the darker the honey, the stronger the flavor. Raw or unfiltered honey has more enzymes and nutrients than heated, filtered honey. Local honey has pollens of local flowers that sometimes help allergy sufferers.

## Seasonality

Beekeepers usually harvest in summer or early fall, but some continue throughout the year, making Michigan honey available for consumers year-round.

## Nutrition

Vitamin B6, thiamin, niacin, riboflavin, pantothenic acid, and certain amino acids are all present in honey.

## Contact

Michigan Beekeepers Association  
Phone: 248-921-6601  
[www.michiganbees.org](http://www.michiganbees.org)

## Hops

[Graphic: Hops]

Since its commercial resurgence in approximately 2007, hops have become a fast-growing agricultural commodity in the state of Michigan. Starting with only a few acres and farmers, now there are more than 1,000 acres of hops and 50 farms in the state.

Michigan is now the fourth-largest hop growing state in the United States, and ranks 14th in the world for hop production. Michigan's latitude geographically is ideal for optimum growing conditions and allows for top quality hop production, leading to Michigan hops being sold and used in beer making all over the United States, and throughout many regions of the world.

### Seasonality

Hops are a perennial crop that are harvested once each year between early August and late September. More than 20 different varieties of hops are grown commercially in the state.

### Nutrition

In ancient times, hops were used as a sedative and to control inflammation, diarrhea, and other muscle spasms. Many people have used hops to cure insomnia and anxiety. Hops have many antimicrobial and antibacterial properties.

### Contact

Hop Growers of Michigan

PO Box 122

Cedar, MI 49621

Phone: 248-795-8940

[www.hopgrowersofmichigan.com](http://www.hopgrowersofmichigan.com)

## Maple Syrup

[Graphic: Maple Syrup Pancakes]

The production of pure maple syrup is the oldest agricultural enterprise in the United States. Forty gallons of maple sap are required to make one gallon of syrup, and maple syrup production in 2016 for Michigan was 90,000 gallons. Michigan is the seventh-largest maple syrup producing state.

### Seasonality

Maple syrup is the first farm crop to be harvested in Michigan each year. The maple syrup season in Michigan starts in February in the southern counties and extends into April in the Upper Peninsula.

### Nutrition

Pure Michigan maple syrup has 50 calories per tablespoon and is fat-free. It has no additives, no added coloring, and no preservatives. Maple syrup has many minerals per tablespoon: 20 milligrams of calcium, 2 milligrams of phosphorus, 0.2 milligrams of iron, 2 milligrams of sodium, and 5 milligrams of potassium.

### Contact

Michigan Maple Syrup Association

[www.mi-maplesyrup.com](http://www.mi-maplesyrup.com)

## Nursery & Landscape

[Graphic: Plants]

Michigan's nursery, landscaping, retail garden center, and lawn care industries contribute \$5.715 billion to the economy.

The economic impact of nursery, perennial plant, Christmas tree, and sod producers is \$1.2 billion with distribution to 35 states, Mexico, and Canada, making them the largest specialty crop in Michigan and the fourth-largest nursery industry in the nation. The landscape services and retail sectors in Michigan have an economic impact of \$4.5 billion.

#### Contact

Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association  
2149 Commons Parkway  
Okemos, MI 48864  
Phone: 517-381-0437  
Fax: 517-381-0638  
[www.mnla.org](http://www.mnla.org)  
[www.plantmichigangreen.com](http://www.plantmichigangreen.com)

[Graphic: Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association logo]

#### Onions

[Graphic: Onions]

A majority of Michigan onion production occurs in south central and southern Michigan in the counties of Allegan, Barry, Eaton, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo, Ottawa, and Van Buren. Michigan onion production in 2015 was 79 million pounds. This yielded a total value of \$10 million.

#### Seasonality

In a normal year, early-maturing onions (90 to 100 days) that are seeded in April are ready for harvest by late August. Late-maturing onions (110 to 120 days) mature in mid- to late-September.

#### Nutrition

Onions are rich in vitamin C, vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, and potassium.

#### Contact

Michigan Onion Committee  
PO Box 367  
Mason, MI 48854  
Phone: 517-663-6725  
[www.michiganonion.com](http://www.michiganonion.com)

## Peaches

[Graphic: Peaches]

Most Michigan peaches are grown in the west central to southwest corner, close to Lake Michigan, with additional production in the east along Lake St. Clair and in the northwest Grand Rapids area. In 2016, Michigan produced more than 21.2 million pounds of peaches valued at more than \$9.2 million.

Michigan's Red Haven peaches are famous throughout the country, with recent new Michigan varieties including the southwest Michigan Flamin' Fury and Stellar peach series gaining popularity.

### Seasonality

Fresh peaches are available from early July through mid-September, but processed peaches are available throughout the year.

### Nutrition

Peaches are a tasty treat with modest calories; a good source of potassium, as well as vitamin A and vitamin C; low sodium; and contain no saturated fat. Peaches are a healthy snack and a smart, low-calorie way to end a meal.

### Contact

Michigan Peach Sponsors  
PO Box 1035  
Coloma, MI 49038  
[www.michiganpeach.org](http://www.michiganpeach.org)

## Pork

[Graphic: Pork]

In 2018, Michigan was home to more than 1.18 million hogs on more than 2,000 farms; the value of Michigan hogs and pigs was \$373 million. The Michigan pork industry contributes more than \$500 million to the state's economy each year.

Over the last 50 years, the way Michigan pig farmers raise pigs has changed through advancements in technology, economics, and farming methods. Pig farmers have reduced water use by 41 percent, land use by 78 percent, and their carbon footprint by 35 percent. Yet one thing remains constant for farmers: their mission to produce safe, nutritious food in a responsible manner.

### Seasonality

Year-round, Michigan's pig farmers work hard to care for their pigs because raising healthy animals is the first step in providing safe, wholesome pork.

### Nutrition

Pork is an excellent source of thiamin, niacin, riboflavin, vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, phosphorous, protein, zinc, and potassium. The healthiest cuts of pork are loin roast, tenderloin, chop, and Canadian-style bacon.

### Contact

Michigan Pork Producers Association  
3515 West Road, Suite B  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517-853-3782  
[www.mipork.org](http://www.mipork.org)

[Graphic: Michigan Pork Producers Association logo]

### Potatoes

[Graphic: Potatoes]

Potatoes are Michigan's second leading produce commodity, generating \$182.4 million in farm gate sales in 2018 and nearly 1.82 billion pounds of potatoes harvested from as far south as Monroe County to as far north as Iron County in the Upper Peninsula.

Michigan is the nation's leading producer of potatoes for potato chip processing. Montcalm had more harvested acres than any county in Michigan.

### Seasonality

The Michigan potato harvest begins in July and ends in October. Potatoes from storage facilities extend the availability of Michigan potatoes almost year-round.

### Nutrition

Potatoes are fat-free, rich in potassium, and an excellent source of fiber. Additionally, this vegetable contains half of the daily requirement of vitamin C.

### Contact

Michigan Potato Industry Commission  
3515 West Road, Suite A  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517-253-7370  
Fax: 517-253-7373

[www.mipotato.com](http://www.mipotato.com)

[Graphic: Michigan Potato Industry Commission logo]

## Poultry

[Graphic: Cooked meat]

The Michigan poultry industry raises chickens and turkeys for their meat. Michigan produces 8.87 million chicken broilers and 5.3 million turkeys per year. There are 20 chicken farms throughout Michigan; several of them are Amish farms. There are 17 turkey farmers with 53 turkey farms in the state, which all raise toms (males), mostly located in Ottawa County. The turkey industry has a total economic impact of \$2.9 billion.

### Nutrition

Chicken and turkey are lean, low-fat foods packed with protein. Chicken is a good source of iron and is low in sodium. Turkey is noted as being “the perfect protein” since it has the highest protein level of any meat and is also typically the lowest in fat per serving.

### Contact

Michigan Allied Poultry Industries

PO Box 144

Hamilton, MI 49419

Phone: 517-372-5250

[www.mipoultry.com](http://www.mipoultry.com)

[Graphic: Michigan Allied Poultry Industries logo]

## Pumpkins & Squash

[Graphic: Pumpkin and squash]

In 2016, Michigan generated \$9.8 million from the production of 79 million pounds of pumpkins. Michigan pumpkins are used for processing and jack-o-lanterns.

In 2016, Michigan produced 146 million pounds of squash for fresh or processed use, totaling \$23.9 million.

### Seasonality

Pumpkins are typically harvested in Michigan beginning in September through October. Fresh squash season is June through October, but squash can be found throughout the year in processed form.

## Nutrition

Pumpkin is full of the antioxidant beta-carotene. Beta-carotene is one of the plant carotenoids converted to vitamin A in the body. In the conversion to vitamin A, beta-carotene performs many important functions in overall health. Squash is very low in saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium. It is also a good source of vitamins A, B<sub>6</sub>, C, and E, thiamin, niacin, folate, calcium, magnesium, potassium, beta-carotene, and manganese.

## Contact

Michigan Vegetable Council  
PO Box 367  
Mason, MI 48854  
Phone/Fax: 517-663-6725  
[www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org](http://www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org)

## Snap Beans

[Graphic: Green beans]

Michigan snap beans are grown in green, purple, and yellow varieties throughout the July through September season. Michigan produces fresh and processed snap beans.

In 2016, 19,300 acres were planted, with 18,400 harvested, amounting to a total value of \$32.1 million. 25.4 million pounds of fresh beans totaling \$15.1 million were sold. 70,650 tons were then processed for a total value of \$17 million.

Snap beans are one of Michigan's largest crops and are shipped all around the Midwest.

## Seasonality

Snap beans are a warm temperature crop. This type of bean is planted and harvested between June and October.

## Nutrition

Snap beans are typically harvested while still in their pods, but can be eaten out of the pods. Snap beans are rich in vitamins, containing vitamins A, C, and K. Snap beans are a great source of micronutrients such as iron and potassium and contain trace amounts of protein.

## Contact

Michigan Vegetable Council  
PO Box 367  
Mason, MI 48854  
Phone/Fax: 517-663-6725  
[www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org](http://www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org)

## Soybeans

[Graphic: Soybeans]

Michigan produced 109 million bushels of soybeans in 2018; a value of \$941 million. Soybeans are also Michigan's top food export. In 2018, \$185 million of Michigan soybeans were exported around the world.

Popular soybean products include soy milk, soy flour, soy protein, and tofu. Soybeans are processed for animal feed, human consumption, and industrial products.

### Seasonality

Soybeans are planted in spring and are harvested in late fall. Processed soyfoods can be consumed year-round.

### Nutrition

Soybeans are an excellent source of protein and are packed with vitamins and nutrients such as folate and potassium. Soyfoods can be used as a replacement for meat as a source of protein in vegetarian diets.

### Contact

Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee  
PO Box 287  
Frankenmuth, MI 48734  
Phone: 989-652-3294  
Toll-Free: 877-769-6424  
[www.michigansoybean.org](http://www.michigansoybean.org)

[Graphic: Soybean Promotion Committee logo]

## Sugarbeets

[Graphic: Sugarbeets]

Each year, up to 160,000 acres of sugarbeets, totaling roughly 4.5 million tons, are planted and harvested by the nearly 900 grower-owners of Michigan Sugar Company. The sugarbeets are processed at factories in Bay City, Caro, Croswell, and Sebawaing, and turned into 1.3 billion pounds of sugar. The company has a direct economic impact of approximately \$500 million for the state of Michigan and an indirect impact of \$1.5 billion.

At the processing facilities, a series of separations extract the naturally occurring sugar from the beets. The extraction process involves washing, slicing, diffusion, filtration, crystallization, drying and cooling. The resulting sugar is packaged into bags of various weights and shipped to customers.



Michigan Sugar Company is the third-largest of nine sugarbeet processing companies in the United States, and Michigan is one of 11 states where sugarbeets are grown.

#### Seasonality

Sugarbeet seeds are planted in the early spring and reach maturity in about six months. Michigan Sugar Company has growers in about 20 Michigan counties, as well as Ontario, Canada.

#### Nutrition

The sugar extracted from sugarbeets has 15 calories per teaspoon with zero grams of fat. Sugar is used to make baked goods, cereals, yogurt, and many other sweet treats.

#### Contact

Michigan Sugar Company  
122 Uptown Drive, Suite 300  
Bay City, MI 48708  
Phone: 989-686-0161  
Fax: 989-671-3719  
[www.michigansugar.com](http://www.michigansugar.com)

[Graphic: Michigan Sugar Company logo]

#### Sweet Corn

[Graphic: Corn]

Michigan sweet corn is enjoyed throughout the state in several varieties. In 2016, Michigan produced 86 million pounds of sweet corn for the fresh market worth \$21.8 million.

#### Seasonality

Fresh Michigan sweet corn is available July through September.

#### Nutrition

Sweet corn is rich in vitamin C, iron, thiamin, riboflavin, and fiber.

#### Contact

Michigan Vegetable Council  
PO Box 367  
Mason, MI 48854  
Phone/Fax: 517-663-6725  
[www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org](http://www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org)

## Tomatoes

[Graphic: Tomatoes]

Michigan grows tomatoes for both fresh and processed uses. In 2016, Michigan produced 120,100 tons of tomatoes for processing and 74 million pounds of tomatoes for fresh market. The total value was \$48.4 million.

### Seasonality

Fresh tomatoes are available in August and September. Processed tomatoes can be purchased throughout the year.

### Nutrition

Tomatoes are an excellent source of vitamins C and A as well as high in the antioxidant lycopene. They are low in sodium, saturated fat, and cholesterol. Tomatoes are also a good source of vitamin E (alpha tocopherol), thiamin, niacin, vitamin B6, folate, magnesium, phosphorus, copper, dietary fiber, vitamin K, potassium, and manganese.

### Contact

Michigan Vegetable Council  
PO Box 367  
Mason, MI 48854  
Phone/Fax: 517-663-6725  
[www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org](http://www.michiganvegetablecouncil.org)

## Wheat

[Graphic: Wheat]

Michigan farmers produced 35.7 million bushels of wheat in 2018 for an economic impact of \$180 million. Wheat is grown on about 500,000 acres across the Great Lakes State and in 75 of Michigan's 83 counties. Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola, Lenawee, and Shiawassee are Michigan's top wheat-producing counties.

Michigan harvests both red and white varieties of wheat, which are used for baked goods, cookies, crackers, and pastries. Wheat is also a thickening ingredient for foods like licorice, gravies, soups, and sauces.

### Seasonality

Michigan farmers grow winter wheat. Both red and white wheat are planted in the fall and harvested the next summer. Michigan has six large commercial mills that process wheat into a variety of products.

## Nutrition

Wheat grains, both enriched and whole, are great sources of folic acid, fiber, iron, magnesium, vitamin E, B vitamins, antioxidants, thiamin, riboflavin, and other vitamins and minerals. The complex carbohydrates found in grains (such as wheat) supply energy and are low in fat, cholesterol, and sodium. The *2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* recommends consumption of 6-ounces of grain a day, with at least half of those in the form of whole grains.

## Contact

Michigan Wheat Program

PO Box 25065

Lansing, MI 48909

Phone: 517-625-9432

Toll-Free: 888-943-2801

Fax: 517-625-6061

[www.miwheat.org](http://www.miwheat.org)

[Graphic: Michigan Wheat Program logo]

## Wood

[Graphic: Wood]

With a rich history of forests and forest products, Michigan boasts 20 million acres of sustainably managed forests and the 5th largest timberland in the nation, growing nearly twice what is harvested.

Michigan's four million acres of state-owned forests, the most in the lower 48 states, are sustainably managed with dual certification to the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) standards.

Forests in Michigan are managed for timber production, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, biodiversity conservation, and recreation.

Michigan's growing forest product sector contributes \$20 billion to Michigan's economy annually and supports 91,000 total jobs, 6 percent of Michigan's manufacturing jobs. In 2018, Michigan exported more than \$560 million of wood and paper products to the rest of the world.

## Contact

Michigan Forest Products Council

110 W. Michigan Ave Suite 100

Lansing, MI 48933

Phone: 517-853-8880

Fax: 517-853-1093

[www.michiganforest.com](http://www.michiganforest.com)

## Sponsors

[Graphic: GreenStone Farm Credit Services logo]

GreenStone Farm Credit Services supports rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services throughout Michigan and northeast Wisconsin.

800-444-FARM (3276)

[www.greenstonefcs.com](http://www.greenstonefcs.com)

[info@greenstonefcs.com](mailto:info@greenstonefcs.com)

[Graphic: Michigan State University Extension logo]

For more than 100 years, MSU Extension has helped grow Michigan's economy by equipping Michigan residents with the information that they need to do their jobs better, raise healthy and safe families, build their communities, and empower our children to dream of a successful future.

[www.msue.msu.edu](http://www.msue.msu.edu)

[Graphic: Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom logo]

Through sponsorship by the Michigan Foundation for Agriculture, Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom works to increase agricultural literacy; the understanding of the value of agriculture as it affects our daily lives, through providing educational resources to teachers and farmer volunteers.

[www.miagclassroom.org](http://www.miagclassroom.org)

[Graphic: Cherry Marketing Institute logo]

Cherry Marketing Institute

[Graphic: Corn Marketing Program of Michigan logo]

Corn Marketing Program of Michigan

[Graphic: Michigan Allied Poultry Industries logo]

Michigan Allied Poultry Industries

[Graphic: Michigan Apple Committee logo]

Michigan Apple Committee

[Graphic: Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board logo]

Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board

[Graphic: Michigan Bean Commission logo]

Michigan Bean Commission

[Graphic: Michigan Beef Industry Commission logo]

Michigan Beef Industry Commission

[Graphic: Michigan Blueberry Commission logo]

Michigan Blueberry Commission

[Graphic: Michigan Craft Beverage Council logo]

Michigan Craft Beverage Council

[Graphic: Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council logo]

Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council

[Graphic: Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association logo]

Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association

[Graphic: Michigan Pork Producers Association logo]

Michigan Pork Producers Association

[Graphic: Michigan Potato Industry Commission logo]

Michigan Potato Industry Commission

[Graphic: Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee logo]

Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee

[Graphic: Michigan Sugar Company logo]

Michigan Sugar Company

[Graphic: Michigan Wheat Program logo]

Michigan Wheat Program

[Graphic: United Dairy Industry of Michigan logo]

United Dairy Industry of Michigan

For additional information on commodity sponsors, including their web address and contact information, please see their individual commodity pages.

[Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#)

[Graphic: Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development logo]

[Michigan.gov/mdard](http://Michigan.gov/mdard)

Toll-Free: 800-292-3939

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[Linkedin.com/company/michigan-department-of-agriculture-&-rural-development](https://Linkedin.com/company/michigan-department-of-agriculture-&-rural-development)

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[Youtube.com/MIAGriculture](https://Youtube.com/MIAGriculture)

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