



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

DELIVERING FOR WOMEN ACROSS MICHIGAN



Governor Whitmer has centered Michigan's women and families by empowering them to build their lives and pursue their potential in Michigan while protecting their fundamental rights.

Investing in women and working families

- Quintupled the [Michigan Working Families Tax Credit](#) to give over 700,000 working families an average tax refund of \$3,150.
- [Eliminated state taxes](#) on tips, overtime pay, and Social Security income, saving hundreds of thousands of seniors and working families money on their taxes every year.
- Eliminated the [tampon tax](#).
- Signed [executive directive](#) requiring equal pay for equal work and [another](#) strengthening protections against gender identity or expression discrimination.
- [Directed](#) the Women's Commission to focus on building economic security for women and launched the [Women's Economic Recovery Tour](#).
- Led by example by [enacting paid parental leave](#) up to 12 weeks for state employees.
- [Signed legislation](#) protecting Michiganders' ability to qualify for unemployment benefits if they leave their job due to domestic violence.
- [Awarded grants](#) to community-based organizations to help women workers understand and exercise their rights and benefits in the workplace.
- [Launched RxKids](#), a program providing financial support to first-time parents throughout their babies first year of life. Now expanded across Michigan, [in Detroit](#) and [the U.P.](#)

Focusing on women's health and prosperity

- Extended [Healthy Michigan](#) to over 700,000 Michiganders.
- Filed a lawsuit to [protect abortion access](#) for 2.2 million women in Michigan.
- Signed an [executive directive](#) instructing state departments to protect reproductive freedom in Michigan by safeguarding the privacy of individuals seeking care, keeping reproductive healthcare providers safe, and protecting mental, physical, and reproductive health.
- [Repealed](#) Michigan's extreme 1931 abortion ban.
- Signed a [law](#) prohibiting employers from discriminating against women because they've had an abortion.
- [Signed](#) bills codifying Affordable Care Act protections into state law, protecting care for millions.
- [Signed](#) the Reproductive Health Act to decriminalize abortions and ensure access to reproductive healthcare.
- [Signed bills](#) giving thousands of Michiganders access to basic health care by allowing pharmacists to directly prescribe and dispense contraceptives to patients.
- Consistently [expanded](#) [Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies](#), an initiative to address disproportionate racial impacts of maternal and infant mortality and ensure moms have the support they need for healthy pregnancies, deliveries, and postpartum care.
- Signed legislation [banning child marriage in Michigan](#), [protecting minors](#).

Ensuring representation in state government

- Two-thirds of the Governor's office and cabinet are women or people of color.
- Appointed more than 1,280 women to boards, commissions, and full-time positions. Over 60% of appointees and 70% of judges appointed are women or people of color.

Lowering the cost of education and child care

- [Expanded](#) access to free pre-K to every four-year-old so every kid can arrive at kindergarten ready to thrive.
- Expanded access to affordable child care for [150,000 more children](#). Now, a family of four earning up to \$55,500 is eligible for free or low-cost child care.
- [Closed the funding gap](#), ensuring every school district has the same baseline funding and consistently dedicated more state resources to students with the highest needs.
- Funded programs like [Michigan Reconnect](#), [Community College Guarantee](#), and the [Michigan Achievement Scholarship](#) to provide hundreds of thousands of Michiganders tuition-free higher education or skills training that leads to a high-skill, good-paying job.

UPDATED: September 14, 2026