



# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## GROWING THE ECONOMY AND CREATING GOOD-PAYING JOBS



Governor Whitmer is laser-focused on growing Michigan's economy and ensuring every community can thrive. She has created over 21,600 auto jobs, including the first Detroit plant in 30 years, and established and funded two game-changing workforce development programs—Michigan Reconnect and Futures for Frontliners—putting tens of thousands of Michiganders on a tuition-free path to a good-paying, high-skill job. The Governor's decisive leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic, guided by science and data, helped Michigan's economy recover quickly. Today, Michigan is stronger than ever, bolstered by billions in federal stimulus dollars, a \$7 billion budget surplus, and the third-highest GDP growth in the country. Governor Whitmer will continue pursuing investments in infrastructure, higher education and skills program, and industries of the future to create even more good-paying jobs and ushering in a new era of prosperity for Michigan.

*"We need to stay laser-focused on growing Michigan's economy, creating more good-paying jobs, and lowering costs for families, seniors, and small businesses. Together, we can build an economy that works for every worker, every business, and every community. We will continue investing in the kitchen-table economic issues to ensure that Michiganders have more money in their pockets and spend less to get by."*

*- Governor Gretchen Whitmer*

### Creating over 21,600 new good-paying auto jobs

- GM announced a \$2.2 billion investment to build Factory Zero, creating 2,000 jobs and a \$7 billion investment in Lansing and Orion Township creating 4,000 jobs.
- Stellantis announced the first new plant in Detroit in 30 years, creating 6,000 jobs.
- Ford announced production of the first-ever full electric F-150, creating 3,000 jobs.
- LG Energy solutions announced a \$1.7 billion investment in Holland, creating 1,200 jobs
- 5,000 more jobs in automotive manufacturing, mobility, and electrification.

### Ushering a strong economic recovery

- Led the [best economic recovery](#) in Michigan history. No state economy has performed better than Michigan's over the last year.
- Made Michigan a standout state for investors with [better than ever bond returns](#).
- Outlined an economic vision with a [\\$2.1 billion plan](#), MI New Economy, to grow Michigan's middle class, support small businesses, and invest in communities.
- Added [220,000 jobs](#) in 2021 and took Michigan from a projected \$3 billion deficit to a \$7 billion surplus.
- Set up [23 COVID-19 economic relief programs](#) that delivered over \$240 million to small businesses in all 83 Michigan counties, supported over 25,000 companies, and retained over 200,000 jobs.
- Signed [bipartisan economic development bills](#) and a billion-dollar budget to empower Michigan to win large manufacturing projects and create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs and deliver nearly \$400 million in support to businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- Proposed an [additional \\$500 million investment](#) in the Strategic Outreach and Attraction Reserve fund to attract billions in private investment and create thousands of good paying jobs.
- Enacted a [bipartisan tax cut](#) for small businesses, enabling them to grow and create jobs.
- Made historic investments in infrastructure, supporting over 112,000 jobs rebuilding our roads, bridges, and water infrastructure.
- Created [Office of Rural Development](#) and proposed investments in [rural economic development](#) to empower economic growth in every region.

## Cutting costs for consumers and families

- Proposed a [roll back of Michigan's retirement tax](#) to save half a million households an average of \$1,000 a year.
- Proposed tripling [the Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit](#) to give over 730,000 working families an average combined federal and state tax refund of \$3,000.
- Proposed [\\$2,500 rebate](#) for electric vehicles—\$2,000 for the vehicle and \$500 for in-home charging equipment—knocking nearly \$10,000 off the price of an electric vehicle when combined with the \$7,500 federal credit.
- [Signed bipartisan legislation to put money back in people's pockets](#) and bring down the cost of car insurance, [saving](#) drivers at least \$120 per car [in 2020](#).
- Delivered refunds of [\\$400 per vehicle](#) back in the pockets of Michigan drivers.
- Eliminated the [tampon tax](#), saving families from paying taxes on up to \$4,800 in spending over the course of a lifetime.
- Signed bipartisan legislation to protect Michiganders against [surprise medical billing](#).
- Expanded state assistance programs to help hundreds of thousands of families stay in their homes and pay for their groceries, internet, and utility bills.
- Announced the [MI Open Account Coalition](#) to offer low or no-cost financial services for unbanked and underbanked Michiganders, saving them an average of \$3,000 a year and helping them build wealth.

## Paving pathways for opportunity

- Proposed [historic investments in workforce development](#) with a focus on talent retention and expansion in key industries, removing barriers and providing employment supports for marginalized communities, and expanding public-private partnerships with union and business partners.
- Proposed [bonuses, raises, and retention payments](#) for Michigan workers including first responders, frontline workers, healthcare professionals, and educators.
- Set the [Sixty by 30 Goal](#) to have at least [60% of Michiganders](#) earn a postsecondary degree or technical certificate by 2030.
- Established and fully funded programs to provide hundreds of thousands of Michiganders tuition-free higher education or skills training that leads to a high-skill, good-paying job.
  - [Michigan Reconnect](#), a program that pays tuition of Michiganders 25 and up to pursue an associate degree or earn a skills certificate in high-demand careers.
  - [Futures for Frontliners](#), a program that provides a tuition-free path to postsecondary education or skills training for Michiganders who served on the frontlines of the pandemic.

## Ensuring Michigan's taxpayer dollars to [put Michigan jobs and workers first](#)

- Signed a directive to [fight payroll fraud](#), ensuring companies can't misclassify employees and deny them pay and benefits. This incentivized the state to increase contracts with companies that create good-paying jobs in Michigan and are good stewards of the state.
- Reinstated [prevailing wage](#) for state construction projects, ensuring working people in Michigan receive a fair wage.