



GRATIOT COUNTY EMPLOYMENT PROFILE OF SIGNIFICANT FIRMS 2007

“Significant”, defined by GGDI, is a firm with significant employment numbers, one that there is a high demand for their product/service, or representing an important Standard Industrial Classification (SIC). This is not intended to be all inclusive.

1. Gratiot County's 10 Largest Employers in both the Private and Public Sector, and combined:

PRIVATE SECTOR (City)	FTE	PUBLIC/NON-PROFIT SECTOR (City)	FTE	TOP 10 IN GRATIOT COUNTY	FTE
Alma Products (Alma)	302.5	Gratiot Medical Center (Alma)	1134.5	Gratiot Medical Center	1134.5
IAC (formerly LEAR) (Alma)	284.0	Mich. Correctional Facilities (St. Louis)	833.0	Mich. Correctional Facilities	833.0
Wal-Mart (Pine River Twp.)	176.0	Masonic Pathways (Alma)	360.5	Masonic Pathways	360.5
Avalon & Tahoe Mfg. (Alma)	146.0	Alma College (Alma)	341.0	Alma College	341.0
Contech (Alma)	138.0	Alma Public Schools	259.0	Alma Products	302.5
Consumers (Alma)	134.5	Ithaca Public Schools	168.0	IAC (formerly LEAR)	284.0
Barry Controls (Ithaca)	134.0	Gratiot County Courthouse (Ithaca)	140.0	Alma Public Schools	259.0
Firstbank (Alma)	124.0	St. Louis Public Schools	112.5	Wal-Mart	176.0
Bear Truss (St. Louis)	124.0	Fulton Public Schools	108.0	Ithaca Public Schools	168.0
Garr Tool (Pine River Twp.)	123.0	Breckenridge Public Schools	99.5	Avalon & Tahoe Mfg.	146.0
	1,686.0	TOTAL:	3,556.0	TOTAL:	4,004.5

2. The above table demonstrates Gratiot County's labor force as a high concentration amongst top non-profit/public sector firms. Using the summary table above, it can be determined that the average number of employees per non-profit/public firm is greater than the average number of employees per private firms. Public sector employees account for **77.3%** of the employees at the top firms, leaving **22.7%** of private sector employees located at a firm in the top ten in the county. The **4,004.5** employees in the top ten significant firms account for **54.8%** of the total significant labor force. Thus, **3,298.5** employees are dispersed amongst the remaining significant firms.

Accordingly, the numbers in the above table can also be examined in light of Michigan Economic Security Agency's figure of **18,915** employed people in Gratiot County. Using the MESA figure, the top ten significant firms in the *private sector* represent **8.9%** of the total Gratiot County labor force; whereas, the top ten significant firms in the *public sector* represent **18.8%** of the total labor force in Gratiot County. Concluding, the top ten significant firms *overall* represent **21.2%** of the total labor force in Gratiot County.

3. Top Ten Employers, by City:

ALMA	FTE	ITHACA	FTE	ST. LOUIS	FTE	BRECKENRIDGE & TWP.	FTE
Gratiot Medical Center	1134.5	Ithaca Public Schools	168.0	MI Correctional Facilities	833.0	Wal-Mart	176.0
Masonic Pathways	360.5	Gratiot Co. Courthouse	140.0	Bear Truss	124.0	Garr Tool Company	123.0
Alma College	341.0	Barry Controls	134.0	Schnepf's Health Care	121.5	Fulton Public Schools	108.0
Alma Products	302.5	Ithaca Coatings, LLC	100.0	St. Louis Public Schools	112.5	Breckenridge Public Schools	99.5
IAC (formerly LEAR)	284.0	Commercial Bank	85.5	Plasti-Paint	64.0	Ashley Public Schools	48.0
Alma Public Schools	259.0	Danly IEM	85.0	Alpha Plastics	50.0	Powell's Fabrication & Mfg.	40.0
Avalon & Tahoe Mfg.	146.0	Aircraft Precision Prod.	63.0	Crippen Manufacturing Co.	41.0	Farmer's State Bank	30.5
Consumer's Energy Co.	134.5	Cartridges Are Us	55.5	JER-DEN Plastics	31.0	Mich. Agricultural Comm..	26.0
Contech	138.0	Dufrene Machinery	42.5	City of St. Louis	27.5	Janson Equipment	25.0
Great Lakes Petroleum	128.0	Road Commission	40.0	Apex Marine	27.5	Petticoat Junction	18.5
TOTAL:	3228.0	TOTAL:	913.5	TOTAL:	1432.0	TOTAL:	694.5

4. Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions at significant Gratiot county firms, categorized by city, as of May 2007.

ALMA	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE	ALMA CONTINUED	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE
Gratiot Medical Center		1134.0	ADW Industries	29.5	
Alma Products	302.5		Alma Iron & Metal	29.5	
Alma College		341.0	Alma Tire	29.0	
IAC (formerly LEAR)	284.0		Liquipak	27.5	
Masonic Pathways		360.5	Production Machining of Alma	26.5	
Alma Public Schools		259.0	Medler Electric	23.0	
Avalon & Tahoe Manufacturing	146.0		Liquid Transport, Inc.	20.0	
Contech	138.0		Verizon	18.0	
Consumer's Energy	134.5		ABC Fastener	16.0	
Great Lakes Petroleum **	128.0		Alma Container	24.0	
Firstbank of Alma	124.0		Traffic Management Services	15.0	
City of Alma		96.5	Terry Materials of Michigan	15.0	
Glens	61.5		ConAgra Foods	11.5	
K-Mart	39.0		Mid-Michigan Industries	13.0	
JCPennys	37.0		Alma Concrete Products	9.0	
			TOTAL:	1,701.0	2,191.5

ITHACA	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE	ITHACA CONTINUED	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE
Ithaca Public Schools		168.0	City of Ithaca		24.5
Gratiot County Courthouse		140.0	Precision Plastics & Die, Co.	21.0	
Barry Controls***	134.0		Mid-Michigan District Health Dept.		19.5
Ithaca Coatings, LLC	100.0		Davis Machine & Manufacturing	14.0	
Commercial Bank of Ithaca	85.5		Schrader Environmental	12.0	
Danly IEM	85.0		Gratiot County Herald	11.0	
Aircraft Precision Products	63.0		Parousia Plastics	8.0	
Cartridges Are Us	55.5		Mid-State Printing	8.5	
Dufrene Machinery, Inc.	42.5		E & S Graphics	7.0	
Gratiot County Road Commission		40.0	C & S Steel	8.0	
Family Independence Agency		29.0	Ithaca Manufacturing	6.0	
Craig Frames***	25.0		TOTAL:	686.0	421.0

ST. LOUIS	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE	ST. LOUIS	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE
Mich. Correctional Facilities		833.0	Apex Marine	27.5	
Bear Truss & Components	124.0		Michigan Chloride Sale, Inc.****	16.8	
Schnepf's Health Care Center	121.5		Chemical Bank & Trust	15.0	
St. Louis Public Schools		112.5	Momentum Industries	12.0	
Plasti-Paint	64.0		United Producers	16.5	
Alpha Plastics, Inc.	50.0		Mid-State Asbestos Removal	12.0	
Crippen Manufacturing Co.	41.0		Americast	4.0	
JER-DEN Plastics, Inc.	31.0		TOTAL:	535.3	973.0
City of St. Louis		27.5			

BRECKENRIDGE & TOWNSHIPS	PRIVATE FTE	PUBLIC/NON PROFIT FTE
Wal-Mart	176.0	
Garr Tool Company	123.0	
Fulton Public Schools		108.0
Breckenridge Public Schools		99.5
Ashley Public Schools		48.0
Powell's Fabrication & Mfg.	40.0	
Baders & Sons	36.0	
Farmer's State Bank	30.5	
Mich. Agricultural Commodities	26.0	
Janson Equipment	25.0	
Petticoat Junction	18.5	
Brink's Machine Co, Inc.	15.0	
Crop Production Services****	14.0	
Kalmbach Feed	11.0	
Pioneer Research Station****	10.0	
North West Energy	8.0	
Sparks Pickle Company***	7.0	
TOTAL:	540.0	255.5

* Full Time Equivalent (FTE) is equated by adding full time employees and part time employees, where one part time is equal to one-half a full time employee (FTE = FT + ½ PT).
 ** Great Lakes Petroleum has employees in both Alma and St. Louis, but their main office is in Alma . All employees are counted together.
 *** These FTE figures include full time - temporary, workers as part time help.
 **** These FTE figures include seasonal help. The seasonal employees work only 2 months of the year. When adding these employees to the full-time employees for that business, the seasonal employment numbers are counted as 1/6 of a regular full-time employee since they are only there for 1/6 of the year. Totals for those businesses are rounded to the nearest whole number.

5. Summary Table

CITY	PRIVATE FTE (% of Total Private)		PUBLIC/NON-PROFIT FTE (% of Total Public)		OVERALL (% of Total)	
	FTE	%	FTE	%	FTE	%
Alma	1,701.0	49.1%	2,191.5	57.1%	3,892.5	53.3%
Ithaca	686.0	19.8%	421.0	11.0%	1,107	15.2%
St. Louis	535.3	15.5%	973.0	25.3%	1,508.3	20.7%
Breckenridge & Townships	540.0	15.6%	255.5	6.7%	795.5	10.9%
TOTAL:	3,462.3	47.4%	3,841.0	52.6%	7,303	

6. Accordingly, Full Time Equivalent for significant firms in Gratiot County is **7,303** employees, as of May 2007. According to Michigan Employment Security Agency (MESA), Gratiot County's total employment is **18,915** for the 2006 calendar year. Therefore, an estimated **38.6%** of the total employees in Gratiot County work for significant firms. This supports GGDI's assertion that Gratiot County's market is a mixture of "big business" or corporations, and "personal business", or single/partner owned businesses.

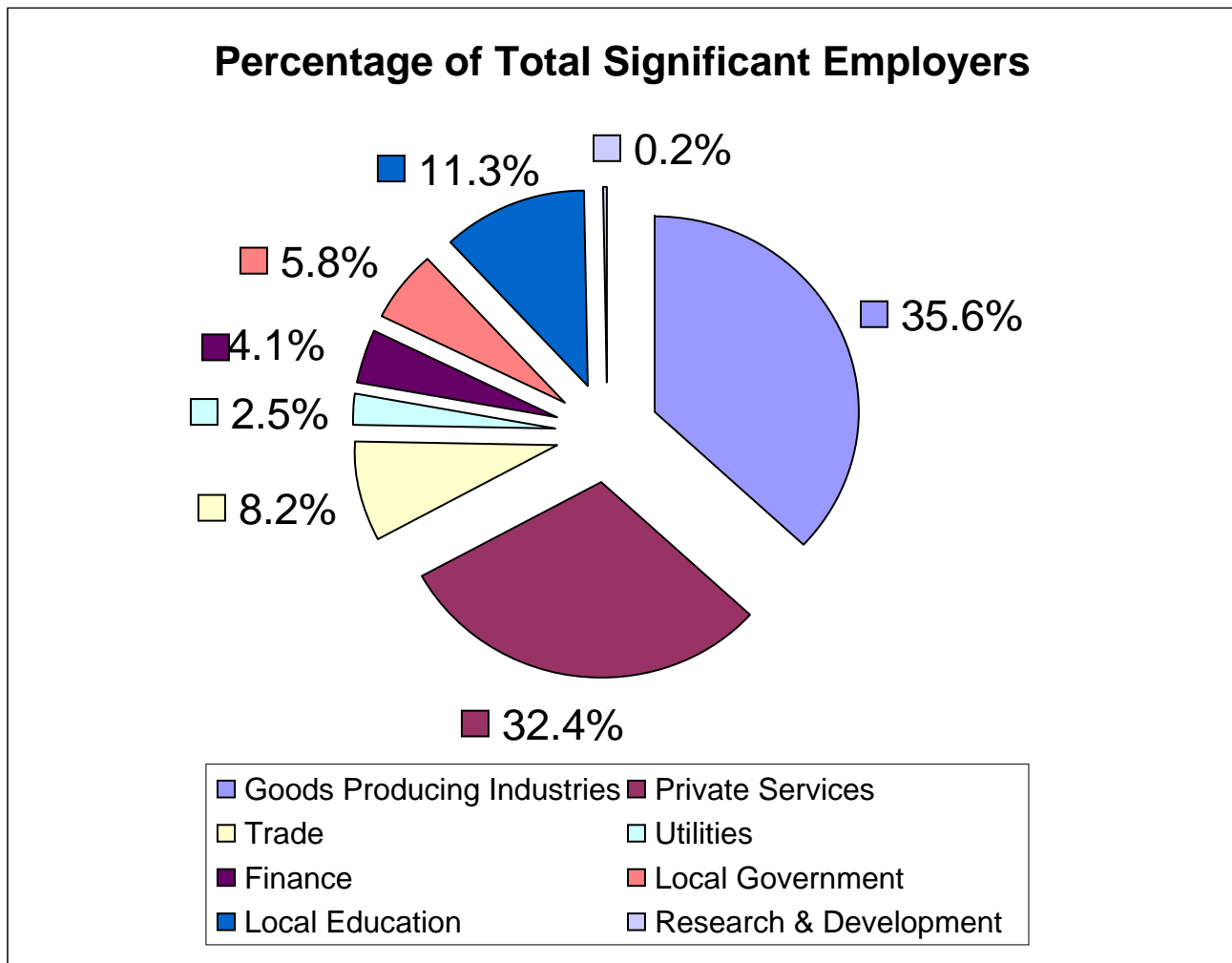
7. Total Employment by industry, as reported in the 2000 Census for Gratiot County.

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYEES	PERCENT OF TOTAL
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining	773	4.3%
Construction	1,015	5.7
Manufacturing	3,908	21.9
Wholesale trade	365	2.0
Retail trade	1,964	11.0
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	806	4.5
Information	281	1.6
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental/leasing	683	3.8
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	588	3.3
Educational, health and social services	4,159	23.4
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	1,352	7.6
Other services (except public administration)	815	4.6
Public administration	1,097	6.2
TOTAL:	17,806	

8. The table below shows the number of employees in the significant firms in Gratiot County, separated by their different fields of work.

TYPE OF WORK	SIGNIFICANT EMPLOYERS
Goods Producing Industries	2,200.2
Private Services	2,005.0
Trade	504.3
Utilities	152.5
Finance	255.0
Local Government	357.5
Local Education	695.5
Research & Development	10.0
TOTAL:	6,180

9. This chart is representative of the above table.



10. Union Employees in Gratiot County, as of May 2007:

FIRM (City)	PRIVATE UNIONS	PUBLIC/ NON-PROFIT UNIONS	UTILITY UNIONS	UNION(S)
Michigan Correctional Facilities (St. Louis)		693		Food Service Workers (FSW) Michigan Correctional Officers (MCO) United Auto Workers (UAW)
Alma Products	250			United Steel Workers (USW)
Gratiot County Public Schools		628		Michigan Education Association (MEA) Paper Allied Industrial Chemical & Energy (PACE) International Union (PACE) International Union of Operating Engineers
Gratiot Medical Center (Alma)		185		American Federation of State & County Municipality Employees (AFSCME) Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Registered Nurse Association (RNA)
IAC (Alma)	237			Paper Allied Industrial Chemical & Energy (PACE)
Masonic Pathways (Alma)		135		Teamsters
Consumer's Energy Co. (Alma)			105	Utility Workers of America (UWOA)
Danly IEM (Ithaca)	60			United Auto Workers (UAW)
Verizon (Alma)			15	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)
Gratiot County Courthouse (Ithaca)		56		American Federation of the State & County Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Fraternal Order of Police
Family Independence Agency (Ithaca)		24		United Auto Workers (UAW)
City of Alma		13		Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM)
City of Ithaca		2		Police Officers Labor Consul (POLC) American Federation of the State & County Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
City of St. Louis		16		International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM)
County Road Commission (Ithaca)		28		American Federation of the State & County Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
MMDHD (Ithaca)		20		Michigan Nurses Association Teamsters
ConAgra (Alma)	9			Teamsters
SUB TOTALS:	556	1,800	120	GRAND TOTAL: 2,476

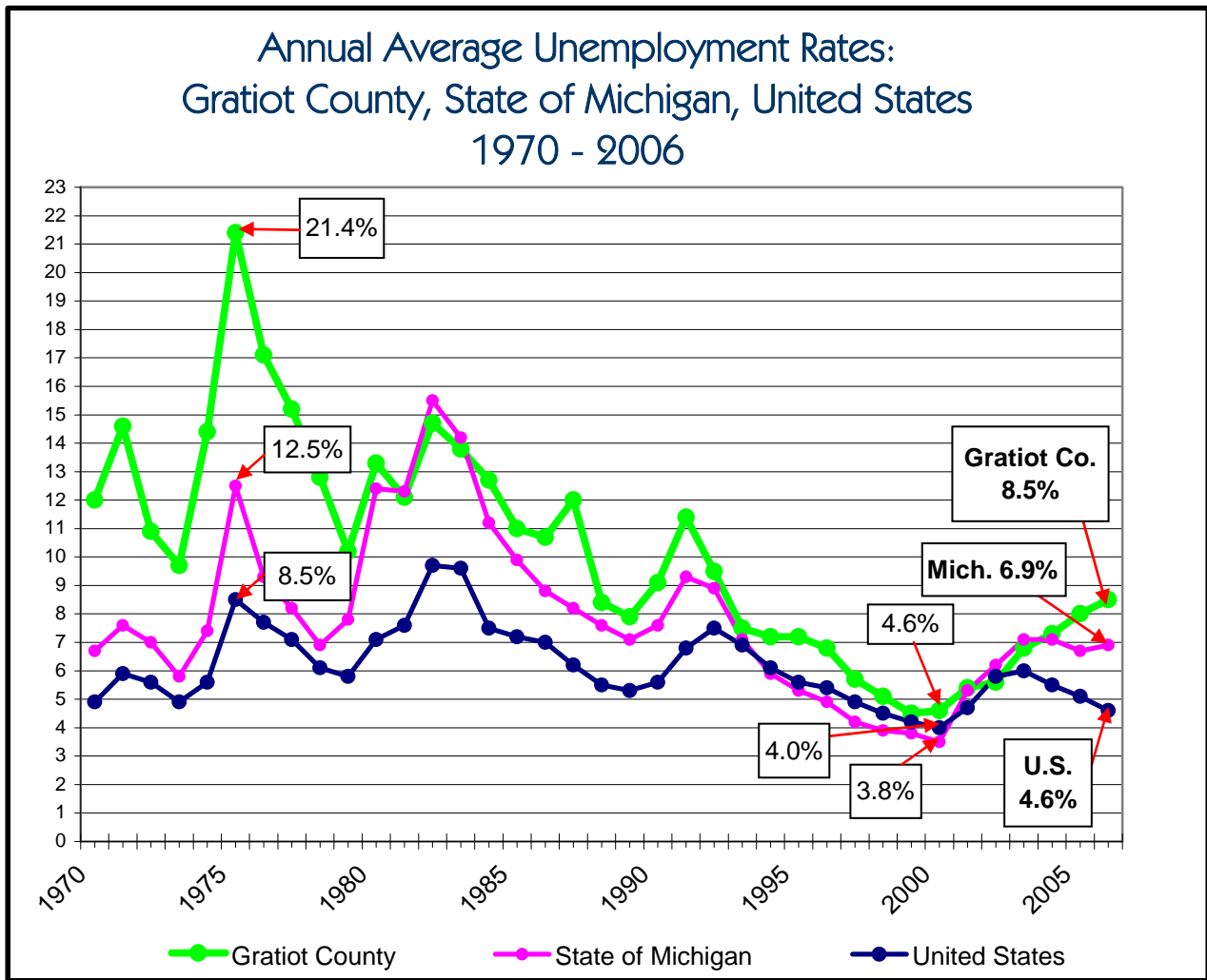
11. With reference to significant firms in Gratiot County, the **2,476** union employees are **33.9%** of the total significant firms' workforce of **7,303**. Subsequently, only **13.1%** of the total number employed in Gratiot County are union employees.

The utilities industry sector, as of May 2007, has a total of **120** union workers, or **4.8%** of the significant firms total union workers, **1.7%** of the significant firm's total workers, and **0.6%** of the total number employed in Gratiot County. *These figures include the businesses of Verizon and Consumer's Energy's union workforce.

The non-profit/public sector, as of May 2007, has a total of **1,800** union workers, or **72.7%** of the significant firms total union workers, **25.4%** of the significant firm's total workers, and **9.5%** of the total number employed in Gratiot County. *These figures include the businesses of Michigan Correctional Facilities, Gratiot Medical Center, Masonic Pathways, Family Independence Agency, Gratiot County Public Schools, Gratiot County Courthouse, City of Alma, Ithaca, & St. Louis, Mid Michigan District Health Department, and Gratiot County Road Commission's union workforce.

The private industry sector, as of May 2007, has a total of **556** union workers, or **22.5%** of the significant firms total union workers, **7.9%** of the significant firm's total workers, and **2.9%** of the total number employed in Gratiot County. * These figures include the private businesses of ConAgra, International Automotive Components (IAC), and Danly IEM's total union workforce.

12. This Chart Compares Various Unemployment Rates:



This table shows the unemployment rate trends between Gratiot County, the State of Michigan, and the United States over the past 36 years. Although, in the 1970's Gratiot County's unemployment rate was significantly higher than the state and the nation it has always experienced similar fluctuations. Gratiot County experienced an unemployment rate of 21.4% in 1975 which is 2.5 times higher than in 2006. Since GGDI was established in 1978, unemployment rates have declined tremendously.

The labor force for the 2006 fiscal year was 20,666 people, 1,751 of those people were unemployed. This results in the unemployment rate of 8.5% as of May 2007.

The relative small size of Gratiot's labor force has a large impact on the degree to which unemployment rates swing up or down. Approximately 200 people gaining or losing employment moves the average one full percentage point for the county. A small change in Gratiot's labor force causes significant impacts to the Gratiot unemployment rate where the same change has a much less significant impact to the state and is statistically irrelevant to the national rate. Historically, the size of the labor force has remained fairly constant in Gratiot County.