

Resources on Public Finance and Fiscal Policy Issues For Michigan

The organizations listed here do not represent an exhaustive catalog of available resources on public finance and fiscal policy issues.

MICHIGAN'S PRIMARY PUBLIC POLICY ORGANIZATIONS

Anderson Economic Group, LLC (<http://www.andersoneconomicgroup.com/index.php>)

Anderson Economic Group, LLC, is a consulting firm with expertise in economics, finance, market research, and public policy. Anderson Economic Group's experts combine real-world experience with advanced analytical tools to provide public- and private-sector clients with the following services: public policy, fiscal, and economic analysis; market research and land use economics; and expert testimony and litigation support.

The Center for Michigan (<http://www.thecenterformichigan.net/website/>)

As part of its mission of nourishing a robust dialogue on policy issues facing Michigan, the center occasionally posts policy papers of general interest on its Web page. Texts of speeches, academic papers, and policy papers produced by other organizations but deemed to be of interest to members of the center can be found in the "papers" section of its website.

The Citizens Research Council of Michigan (<http://crcmich.org/>)

The Citizens Research Council of Michigan (CRC) is a privately funded, not-for-profit public affairs research organization. CRC monitors trends in state and local finances, analyzes the structure and organization of government, and conducts in-depth studies of major public policy issues. The publications of CRC can be obtained from <http://crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/pubs.html>.

The Detroit Regional Chamber (<http://www.detroitchamber.com>)

Although the chamber stays heavily involved in public policy and maintains strong ties to local, state, and federal government, it is not a part of any one municipality. Instead, through its offices in Detroit, Lansing, and Washington, D.C., the chamber lobbies on behalf of businesses throughout the 10-county region of southeast Michigan when pending legislation may have an impact. The Detroit Regional Economic Partnership serves as the chamber's business development arm. In this capacity, the partnership works to develop the region's economic sustainability by attracting people, dollars, and jobs to the region.

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce (<http://www.grandrapids.org/>)

The Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce is the premier business membership organization in west Michigan. Chamber membership connects members to more than 3,000 other businesses throughout the Grand Rapids area.

House Fiscal Agency (<http://house.michigan.gov/hfa/home.asp>)

The House Fiscal Agency (HFA) reviews the governor's budget recommendation and assists legislators in developing budgetary alternatives; reviews and prepares budget bills, supplemental appropriations, and certain transfer requests; provides fiscal impact statements on legislative proposals; monitors state and national situations that may have budgetary implications;

researches and analyzes fiscal issues; prepares reports and documents to assist legislative deliberations; and prepares special reports at the request of representatives. HFA publishes a range of reports (as does the Senate Fiscal Agency), which are available on the agency's Web page.

Inside Michigan Politics (<http://insidemichiganpolitics.com/>)

Inside Michigan Politics (IMP) is self-described as "the fastest growing state-based bi-weekly political newsletter in the country."

The Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (<http://www.ippsr.msu.edu/default.asp>)

The Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) at Michigan State University applies research to pressing public policy issues and builds problem-solving relationships between the academic and policy maker communities. To this end, the institute promotes and conducts research on issues of public policy, provides survey research services, produces public policy education and training programs, and initiates discussion of society's most pressing needs among diverse audiences.

Mackinac Center for Public Policy (<http://www.mackinac.org/>)

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy is a nonpartisan research and educational institute devoted to improving the quality of life for all Michigan citizens by promoting sound solutions to state and local policy questions. The Mackinac Center assists policy makers, scholars, business people, the media, and the public by providing objective analysis of Michigan issues. The goal of all center reports, commentaries, and educational programs is to equip Michigan citizens and other decision makers to better evaluate policy options.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce (<http://www.michamber.com/>)

The Michigan Department of Treasury (<http://www.michigan.gov/treasury>)

The Michigan Department of Treasury is the central organization for the state's fiscal policy issues. The treasury's website provides a great deal of information though it is somewhat opaque. To obtain various reports, bulletins, and other legal proceeds, the reference library of the treasury can be reached at

<http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,1607,7-121-44402---,00.html>.

The Michigan Fiscal Responsibility Project (<http://www.mitaxtruth.com/>)

The Michigan Fiscal Responsibility Project and the MichiganTaxTruth Web site provide citizens, policy makers, elected officials, and the media with information about state government taxes and spending in Michigan. The project helps audiences better understand the programs and services that are funded by state taxes and how those programs and services shape quality of life in Michigan.

Michigan Future Inc. (<http://www.michiganfuture.org/index.html>)

Michigan Future, Inc. is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization. Michigan Future's mission is to be a source of new ideas on how Michigan's people, enterprises, and communities can succeed in the Information Age. Its work is funded primarily by Michigan foundations.

Michigan League for Human Services (<http://www.milhs.org/>)

To facilitate consensus building and informed decision making, Michigan League for Human Services (MLHS) compiles resources for local planners; service providers; federal, state, and local policy makers; and the general public. MLHS utilizes many different vehicles for disseminating information to its members and constituents. The Human Services Connection provides regular information bulletins that include the following: county-focused health and human services data; information about available grants and contracts; up-to-date information on important issues for managers of nonprofit organizations; analyses and summaries of legislation pending in the State Legislature; and alerts on human service developments of significant local interest.

The Michigan Nonprofit Association (<http://www.mnaonline.org/index.asp>)

The Michigan Nonprofit Association enhances the effectiveness of the Michigan nonprofit sector in serving society.

Michigan Prospect (<http://www.michiganprospect.org/>)

The mission of the Michigan Prospect is to connect citizens and government in order to advance a just and humane democratic society. It encourages the development of sound public policies and effective public institutions through informed debate and is committed to shaping the future of the state.

The Millennium Project (<http://milproj.ummu.umich.edu/>)

The Millennium Project is a laboratory where new paradigms of learning institutions can be designed, constructed, and studied. The mission of the Millennium Project is to provide an environment in which creative students and faculty can join with colleagues from beyond the campus to develop and test new paradigms of the university. In some ways, the Millennium Project is the analogue to a corporate R&D laboratory, an incubation center, where new paradigms concerning the fundamental missions of the university can be developed and tested. Rather than being simply a think-tank where ideas are generated and studied, the Millennium Project is a do-tank where ideas lead to the actual creation of working models or prototypes.

Public Sector Consultants Inc. (<http://www.pscinc.com>)

Public Sector Consultants Inc. (PSC) is a private Michigan corporation providing policy research in the areas of health, education, economics, the environment, and technology; survey research; program evaluation; and strategic planning. PSC strives to improve our clients' ability to meet the challenges of a changing world and communicate effectively with their constituencies. Since its inception in 1980, PSC's services have been commissioned by hundreds of state and local government agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, professional associations, hospitals, foundations, and private corporations. Some of the firm's reports have attracted national and regional attention, and many have had a substantial effect on public policies and attitudes.

Senate Fiscal Agency (<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa/>)

The Senate Fiscal Agency (SFA) produces a wide variety of work products that are designed to provide the Michigan Senate with unbiased information regarding a wide range of public policy issues. These work products are generally available for public distribution unless the work

product is subject to confidentiality restrictions specified in the SFA enabling legislation. Work products of the SFA include the following:

- Analysis of all proposed legislation considered in Senate Committees
- A wide variety of specific issue research projects
- Detailed forecasts of the U.S. and Michigan economies
- Detailed forecasts of State revenues
- Monthly reports on State revenue collections and economic conditions
- Analysis of the Governor's Budget Recommendation
- Enacted and Year-End State Appropriations
- State Spending by County
- Status of Lawsuits against the State
- A variety of fiscal data that can be obtained freely

A full listing with descriptions can be found by clicking on the Publications menu at the SFA's main Web page. SFA also provides the Senate with State budget analysis materials as the annual State budget is debated by the Legislature.

The Upjohn Institute (<http://www.upjohninst.org/>)

The institute has nearly 60 employees working in two divisions. The Research Division analyzes the dynamics of the labor market and conducts evaluations of employment programs around the world. The Employment Management Services Division is the administrative entity for the local Workforce Development Board, administering all of the federal and state employment programs for our part of Michigan. The publications program disseminates research conducted by institute staff, grant recipients, and other outside experts through a variety of publications. Books are the institute's main vehicle for informing researchers, practitioners, and policy makers about important research findings. To provide a frequent overview of the institute's research, a newsletter titled *Employment Research* is published four times a year. The institute also prints and makes available online staff working papers, technical reports, and *Business Outlook for West Michigan*, a quarterly review that features information on current economic conditions and near-term forecasts for metropolitan areas in west Michigan.

ORGANIZATIONS OUTSIDE MICHIGAN

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (<http://www.cbpp.org/state/index.html>)

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) is one of the nation's premier policy organizations working at the federal and state levels on fiscal policy and public programs. CBPP conducts research and publishes various reports.

Congressional Budget Office (<http://www.cbo.gov/>)

The mandate of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) is to provide the Congress with objective, nonpartisan, and timely analyses to aid in economic and budgetary decisions on the wide array of programs covered by the federal budget and the information and estimates required for the Congressional budget process. In fiscal year 2006, CBO issued 39 studies and reports, four briefs, 12 Monthly Budget Reviews, 30 letters, and five background papers. CBO also

testified before the Congress 21 times on a variety of issues. In calendar year 2005, CBO completed nearly 600 formal federal cost estimates as well as approximately 1,000 estimates of the impact of unfunded mandates on state and local governments and the private sector. CBO's resources are essential in order to analyze any issue related to public finance and fiscal policy.

The Council on State Taxation (<http://www.statetax.org/COSTHome.cfm>)

The Council on State Taxation (COST) is the premier state tax organization representing taxpayers. COST is a nonprofit trade association consisting of nearly 600 multistate corporations engaged in interstate and international business. COST publications (distributed to COST members for free) are generally limited to members only. However, two important reports by COST on the state and local taxes can be freely obtained from the links below:

[http://www.statetaxes.net/YY1758_50%20State%20Tax%20Study_March%202006%20\(F\).pdf](http://www.statetaxes.net/YY1758_50%20State%20Tax%20Study_March%202006%20(F).pdf)
and

http://www.statetax.org/Content/ContentGroups/Home_Page_Content/Right_Column_Area/2005TotalStateAndLocalBusinessTaxes.pdf.

The Federal Funds Information for States (<http://www.ffis.org/401.html>)

The Federal Funds Information for States (FFIS) is a joint subscription service of the [National Governors Association](#) and the [National Conference of State Legislatures](#). The primary mission of FFIS is to track and report on the fiscal impact of federal budget and policy decisions on state budgets and programs. This information is maintained in a database of more than 200 federal grant-in-aid programs and is disseminated to subscribers through a regular series of reports and briefs. Most of FFIS's publications are available only to subscribers. See available publication services at this link: <http://www.ffis.org/1801/index.html>.

The Federation of Tax Administrators (<http://www.taxadmin.org/>)

Tax rates and other taxation related data for states:

http://www.taxadmin.org/fta/rate/tax_stru.html

The Internal Revenue Service (<http://www.irs.gov/>)

Among other services and tasks, the Internal Revenue Service produces tax statistics on a variety of issues. A wide range of tables, articles, and data that describe and measure elements of the U.S. tax system can be found at <http://www.irs.gov/taxstats/index.html>.

The National Association of Budget Officers (<http://www.nasbo.org/>)

The National Association of Budget Officers (NASBO) serves as the professional organization for all state budget officers of the 50 states and U.S. territories. NASBO disseminates its research through publications and through exchange with other state associations and government entities. NASBO's publications fall into several categories. Reports include ongoing research such as the semi-annual Fiscal Survey of States, the annual State Expenditure Report, and the biennial Budget Processes in the States. Other reports present research and comparative analysis on topics such as capital budgeting.

State Fiscal Analysis Initiative (<http://www.statefiscal.org/>)

The State Fiscal Analysis Initiative brings together nonpartisan, independent, nonprofit organizations in 29 states. These organizations have diverse backgrounds and missions, but they

share a commitment to rigorous policy analysis, responsible budget and tax policies, and a particular focus on the needs of low- and moderate-income families. The organizations broaden the debate on budget and tax policy through public education and the encouragement of civic engagement on these issues.

The Streamlined Sales Tax Project (<http://www.streamlinedsalestax.org/>)

The Streamlined Sales Tax Project will develop measures to design, test, and implement a sales and use tax system that radically simplifies sales and use taxes. The Streamlined Sales Tax Project is created by and comprised of participating governments of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The Tax Foundation (<http://www.taxfoundation.org/>)

The Tax Foundation is a nonpartisan tax research group based in Washington, D.C. The Tax Foundation offers a wide range of publications aimed at educating journalists, lawmakers, and taxpayers about sound tax policy, and examining the size and impact of state and federal taxes and spending. See its publications and data services at <http://www.taxfoundation.org/publications/>.

The U.S. Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov/govs/www/estimate.html>)

The Census Bureau conducts a census of governments at five-year intervals, and an annual survey for the intervening years. The state and local government finances are available in files and viewable tables. The statistics cover government financial activity in four broad categories of revenue, expenditure, debt, and assets.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury (<http://www.ustreas.gov/>)

The Department of the Treasury is the primary federal agency responsible for the economic and financial prosperity and security of the United States, and as such is responsible for a wide range of activities including advising the president on economic and financial issues, promoting the president's growth agenda, and enhancing corporate governance in financial institutions.

The U.S. House Joint Tax Committee on Taxation (<http://www.house.gov/jct/>)

Among other things, the Joint Committee staff (1) prepare hearing pamphlets, committee reports, and conference reports (statements of managers), (2) assist the office of legislative counsel in the drafting of statutory language, (3) assist Members of Congress with the development and analysis of legislative proposals, (4) assist Members of Congress in addressing constituent issues and problems, (5) prepare revenue estimates of all revenue legislation considered by the Congress, (6) review proposed large income tax refunds, and (7) initiate investigations of various aspects of the Federal tax system.

MISCELLANEOUS ORGANIZATIONS

The Council on Competitiveness (<http://www.compete.org/>)

The Council on Competitiveness is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy action group that sets an agenda to drive U.S. competitiveness and economic leadership domestically and in world markets. The council focuses on innovation as the engine of the U.S. competitiveness on cutting edge workforce development and in benchmarking national economic performance in a global economy.

The Great Lakes Information Network (<http://www.great-lakes.net/econ/>)

The Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN) is a partnership that provides one place online for people to find information relating to the bi-national Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region of North America. GLIN offers a wealth of data and information about the region's environment, economy, tourism, education, and more. Thanks to its strong network of state, provincial, federal, and regional partner agencies and organizations, GLIN has become a necessary component of informed decision making, and a trusted and reliable source of information for those who live, work, or have an interest in the Great Lakes region.

Michigan Electronic Library (<http://web.mel.org/viewtopic.jsp?id=2648&pathid=3060>)

There are many links for data and other information resources related to Michigan.

The National Summit on Competitiveness (<http://www.usinnovation.org>)

At the request of Congress, the leaders of major corporations, universities, and industry associations hosted a conference on "Investing in U.S. Innovation" in Washington, D.C. in December 2005. The summit statement recognized three primary actions needed to maintain the country's competitive advantage – revitalize research, expand the talent pool, and lead the world in developing new technologies.

Reference List

- Austin, John, and Britany Affolter-Caine. November 2006. *The Vital Center: A Federal-State Compact to Renew the Great Lakes Region*. The Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program.
Available: http://www.brookings.edu/metro/pubs/20061020_renewgreatlakes.htm
- Ballard, Charles L. July 2006. *Michigan's Economic Future*. East Lansing, Mich.: Michigan State University Press.
- Bartik, Timothy J, George Erickcek, Wei-Jang Huang, and Brad Watts. August 2006. *Michigan's Economic Competitiveness and Public Policy*. The W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. Available: <http://www.upjohninst.org/michreport.pdf>.
- Blank, Rebecca M., and James M. Sallee. February 2006. *Labor Markets and Human Capital Investment in Michigan: Challenges and Strategies*. University of Michigan. Available: <http://closup.umich.edu/research/conferences/wdwgfh/blank.pdf>
- Braun, Kenneth M. September 2006. *The Stop Overspending Michigan Initiative: A Review and Analysis*. Policy Brief of Mackinac Center for Public Policy. Available: <http://www.mackinac.org/article.aspx?ID=7935>
- Citizens Research Council of Michigan. March 2006. Michigan's budget crisis and the prospects for the future. *State Notes*. Available: <http://www.crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2000s/2006/sbn200601.pdf>
- . February 2006. *Outline of the Michigan Tax System*. Available: <http://www.crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/1990s/1999/rpt327d.pdf>.
- . June 2006. *Tax Revenue Comparison: Michigan and the U.S. Average*. Available: <http://www.crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2000s/2006/memo1080.pdf>.
- Cline, Robert, Tom Neubig, and Andrew Phillips. March 2006. *Total State and Local Business Taxes*. Ernst & Young LLP. Available: [http://www.ey.com/global/download.nsf/US/Total_State_and_Local_Business_Taxes-March_2006/\\$file/50_State_Tax_Study_03-2006.pdf](http://www.ey.com/global/download.nsf/US/Total_State_and_Local_Business_Taxes-March_2006/$file/50_State_Tax_Study_03-2006.pdf)
- Cornia, Gary, Kelly D. Edmiston, David L. Sjoquist, and Sally Wallace. December 2004. *The Disappearing State Corporate Income Tax*. Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Working Paper 06-27. Available: http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=895140.
- Drake, Douglas C. October 2006. *A Look at Michigan's Emerging New Economy*. Public Policy Associates Inc. Available: <http://www.pccsum.org/CC-Images/PPANewEconomyStudy10-06.pdf>
- Fosdick, David, and Steve Angelotti. February 2006. *A Review of Medicaid Reform Efforts in Other States*. Senate Fiscal Agency. Available: <http://mahp.org/Policy/Medicaid/2006/Senate%20Fiscal%20Agency%20-Reform%20in%20other%20states.pdf>
- Fulton, George A., and Donald R. Grimes. March 2006. *Michigan's Industrial Structure and Competitive Advantage: How Did We Get into This Pickle and Where Do We Go from*

- Here?* Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics, University of Michigan. Available:
<http://closup.umich.edu/research/conferences/wdwgfh/fulton.pdf>.
- Goddeeris, John H., and Yong Li. February 2005. *Effects of Changes in Medicaid on Incomes and Jobs in Michigan: Estimates from the RIMS II Model*. Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Michigan State University. Available:
<http://ippsr.msu.edu/Publications/MedicaidAnalysis.pdf>
- Grand Rapid Area Chamber of Commerce Tax and Regulatory Affairs Committee. September 2006. *Single Business Tax and Personal Property Tax Replacement Alternative*. Available: <http://www.grandrapids.org/advocacy/documents/SBT-PPTAlternativePlan2006.pdf>
- House Fiscal Agency. January 2007. *State of Michigan Revenue Estimates, State and Local Spending Pressures, and the FY 2006-07 Budget*. Available:
<http://house.michigan.gov/hfa/PDFs/FINAL%20JAN%2022%20present.pdf>
- Jeffries, Ellen, and Kyle Jen. January 2007. *State University Profile Sheets FY 2006-07 Budget Cycle*. Available: <http://house.michigan.gov/hfa/PDFs/Hied%20profiles%2006-07.pdf>
- Johnson, Nicholas, and Sarah Farkas. October 2006. *Tax Cuts on Layaway: The Short- and Long-term Fiscal Implications of 2006 State Tax Actions*. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Available: <http://www.cbpp.org/10-10-06sfp.pdf>.
- Joint Committee on Taxation. January 2007. *Overview of the Federal Tax System As in Effect for 2007*. Available: <http://www.house.gov/jct/x-2-07.pdf>
- Lynch, Robert G. 2004. *Rethinking Growth Strategies: How State and Local Taxes and Services Affect Economic Development*. Economic Policy Institute. Available:
[http://www.epinet.org/books/rethinking_growth_\(full\).pdf](http://www.epinet.org/books/rethinking_growth_(full).pdf)
- McHugh, Jack P. January 2007. *How to Replace the SBT with Nothing*. Mackinac Center for Public Policy. Available: <http://www.mackinac.org/article.aspx?ID=7602>.
- Michigan Chamber of Commerce. *Proposals for Replacement of the SBT and Personal Property Tax Relief*. Available:
<http://www.michamber.com/ba/MCC%20Business%20Tax%20Proposal%20Final.pdf>
- Michigan Department of Treasury. January 2007. *Executive Budget Appendix on Tax Credits, Deductions, and Exemptions Fiscal Year 2007*. Available:
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ExecBudgAppenFY2007_164822_7.pdf
- Michigan Department of Treasury, Economic and Revenue Forecasting and Tax Policy Divisions. December 2006. *2006 Economic Report of the Governor*. Available:
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/taxes/2006EconReportGov_181443_7.pdf
- Michigan Future Inc. June 2006. *A New Agenda for a New Michigan*. Available:
<http://www.michiganfuture.org/Reports/NewAgendaFinalReportComplete.pdf>
- Millennium Project, the University of Michigan. 2005. *A Roadmap to Michigan's Future: Meeting the Challenge of a Global Knowledge-Driven Economy, Strategic Roadmapping Exercise*. Available:

<http://milproj.ummu.umich.edu/publications/roadmap/download/Michigan%20Roadmap.pdf>

National Conference of State Legislatures, Fiscal Affairs Department. November 2006. *State Budget Update*. Available: <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/fiscal/sbu200611.htm>

National Governors Association and the National Association of State Budget Officers. December 2006. *The Fiscal Survey of States*. Available: <http://www.nasbo.org/Publications/PDFs/Fall%202006%20Fiscal%20Survey%20of%20States.pdf>

Olson, Gary S., and Talat Mangla. July 2005. *The Michigan Economy and State Budget FY 1994-95 to FY 2003-04: Ten Years of Significant Changes*. Available: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa/Publications/Issues/EconomyBudget/MiEconomyBudget10yr.pdf>

Public Sector Consultants Inc. *Michigan in Brief: 2002-2003*. Available: <http://www.michiganinbrief.org/>

Senate Fiscal Agency. January 2007. *Michigan's Economic Outlook and Budget Review FY 2005-06, FY 2006-07, & FY 2007-08*. Available: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa/Publications/BudUpdates/EconomicOutlookJan07.pdf>

Wortley, Jay, David Zin, and Randall Juras. November 2006. *Business Taxes in Michigan: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*. Senate Fiscal Agency. Available: <http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa/Publications/Issues/BusinessTaxes/BusinessTaxes.pdf>