

# MICHIGAN'S UPPER PENINSULA



FutureMark Paper Group, Manistique



Keweenaw Brewing Company, Houghton



Enstrom Helicopter Corporations, Menominee

## EXPECT MORE.

You can expect more in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. 1,700 miles of Great Lakes fresh water shoreline and 16,500 square miles of pristine land consume a third of the entire state of Michigan – expect plenty of **room to grow**.

4 universities, 5 community colleges, 2 business incubators, 15 counties that make 1 vibrant economy and over 20 economic development and business resources at your fingertips – expect more **innovation and creative solutions**.

Michigan's top-ranked public schools, rich with arts and culture, low crime rates and a unique lifestyle – expect a **great place to call home**.

[www.upcdc.net](http://www.upcdc.net)

PURE  MICHIGAN®



MICHIGAN'S  
UPPER  
PENINSULA

# EXPECT SUCCESS

Over 200 major employers in the region have gained momentum with a diverse workforce that delivers both technology and skilled labor. Companies can grow and be successful in the Upper Peninsula knowing that they're integrated into a supportive business community.

## 15 REASONS WHY MICHIGAN MEANS BUSINESS.

No other state in the nation is making bold changes and hard decisions like Michigan. Reinvention is taking place across the state, incentives are immediate, and a skilled, technically proficient workforce of makers and doers is ready to go to work for you.

- 1 Michigan's economy is at a 10-year high.
- 2 Michigan's 2013 unemployment rate is at 9.0%.
- 3 Personal income is up 3.5%, matching the national average.
- 4 Michigan has saved \$20 billion in long-term liability, averaging about \$2,000 per resident.
- 5 A new, flat 6% Corporate Income Tax improved the state's tax ranking in 2013 from #49 to #7.
- 6 An obsolete personal property tax has been phased out.
- 7 State taxes have been reduced by at least 80% for businesses of all sizes.
- 8 Workers' compensation premiums decreased by 7% during 2012-13, the best in the Midwest.
- 9 Michigan's Unemployment Trust Fund (2013) holds a \$1.5 billion surplus, versus a previous \$3.9 billion unfunded liability, eliminating tax penalties.
- 10 The state's Rainy Day Fund (2013) has grown to over \$505 million.
- 11 Every year, \$150 million is available in incentives and assistance.
- 12 Every year, \$100 million is available in loans to small and mid-size businesses.
- 13 Michigan's high-tech workforce is fourth largest in the country with over 87,000 engineers, 70,000 research professionals and 75,000 skilled trades people.
- 14 Statewide procurement database connects businesses to billions of dollars in opportunity to help companies increase supply chains, identify new opportunities and provide free or reduced professional services.
- 15 Michigan is committed to strengthening successful businesses.



# SUCCESS STORIES

## WHAT UPPER PENINSULA BUSINESSES ARE SAYING

### Alger County

#### PICTURED ROCKS CRUISES



"Our business thrives on the many outdoor adventurers who experience the wonder of our national lakeshore each year. Like our guests, our employees are equally passionate about the recreation opportunities available in our backyard. The Upper Peninsula's beauty is everlasting. Between the changing of the seasons and abundant natural resources, our area is geared toward recreational tourism."

### Chippewa County

#### SUPERIOR FABRICATION



"The people who work for us don't live here because they have to, they live here because they want to. They're surrounded by what they love — family, outdoor recreation, changing of the seasons, or all of the above — and they will do whatever it takes to sustain it."

### Dickinson County

#### M.J. ELECTRIC



"Starting our business in the U.P. offered a solid foundation to become a nationally recognized electrical services contractor. Community support, first-class education systems, and quality of life are the reasons our corporate office continues to thrive in Iron Mountain, Michigan."

### Houghton County

#### KEWEENAW BREWING COMPANY



"We proudly serve our microbrew beers across Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota — yet the majority of our craft brews stay right here in the U.P. From our cozy taproom in historic downtown Houghton, locals, students and visitors alike pass through our doors to enjoy our beverages, barn-wood interior and crackling fireplace. "KBC," as locals call it, is without a doubt a neighborhood favorite."

### Baraga County

#### L'ANSE MANUFACTURING, INC.



"Our highly talented workforce of driven employees is the cornerstone of our success and growth. We are centrally located to the U.S. market and supported by three neighboring universities. The small-town atmosphere and close-knit community complements our corporate culture as we strive toward international business."

### Delta County

#### ENGINEERED MACHINE PRODUCTS



"As a company that relies on innovation, we benefit from our close proximity to talent at Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University and Lake Superior State University. We provide family-sustaining jobs, which enables us to attract dispersed local engineering and manufacturing talent back to the area. Our success in the U.P. is evidenced by employee attraction and retention."

### Gogebic County

#### JACQUART FABRIC PRODUCTS



"Never in a million years would we trade working, living and playing in the U.P. for anywhere else in the world — not even on the stormiest of days. In fact, blustery winter winds are what we thrive on when hand-stitching our rugged outdoor clothing — in particular our Stormy Kromer cap — for customers, friends and family. We are proud of our small town of Ironwood, where we know our neighbors by name."

### Iron County

#### CONNOR SPORTS FLOORING



"We are centrally located in the heart of the best hard maple areas in the country. Hard maple is the preferred choice for basketball courts around the world. Our team is second to none. Like the residents of the U.P., our craftsmen in general have a very strong work ethic. More than half of our employees have been with the company for more than a decade, while others are nearing 30-plus years of service."





# SUCCESS STORIES

## WHAT UPPER PENINSULA BUSINESSES ARE SAYING



### Keweenaw County

#### **KEWEENAW SPECIALTY WOODS INC.**

"We have a natural connection to the community. Growing up, living, and working here allowed us to establish a solid client base and reputation. Our success is grounded by the availability of timber and hand-crafted products made to last a lifetime."



### Luce County

#### **NORTHERN WINGS REPAIR INC.**

"The U.P. has room to grow, not just in regard to land, but overall economic opportunities. That means we compete on an equal footing for manpower, access and space. That access gives small business the opportunity to grow, chart their own direction and help build up the community around them."



### Marquette County

#### **BIOGENIC REAGENTS**

"Biogenic Reagents' flagship production facility, Michigan Renewable Carbon, is located in Marquette, Michigan, and has the capacity to process more than 300,000 tons of sustainable biomass into carbon products. Our company's highly efficient, high-yield process and use of sustainably-sourced woody biomass allows production of low-cost, high-performance, renewable carbon products."



### Menominee County

#### **ENSTROM HELICOPTER CORPORATION**

"Enstrom Helicopter Corporation was founded in Menominee, Michigan, in 1959. Our recent expansion demonstrates our long-term commitment to the local economy and honors the dedication of our employees, who enjoy the low cost of living and excellent recreational opportunities in the area."



### Schoolcraft County

#### **FUTUREMARK PAPER**

"When you think about it, the logistics work well for us – a lot of new paper is exported out of the U.P. and the returning trucks and rail bring in the recycled materials we need. Our multi-generational workforce also gives us an upper hand. Since the mill opened in 1920, making paper has been in our DNA."



# WHY THE UPPER PENINSULA?

## 2013 – DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

**POPULATION:** 310,289

**EMPLOYMENT:** 153,798

**AVERAGE EARNINGS:** \$38,576

**GRP:** \$9.3 billion

**POPULATION WITH  
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:** 51.1%



### Major Industries

Healthcare  
Manufacturing  
Natural Resources Extraction  
Tourism



### Universities

Finlandia University – Hancock  
Lake Superior State University – Sault Ste. Marie  
Michigan Technological University – Houghton  
Northern Michigan University – Marquette



### Proximities

Chicago, IL – 270 miles  
Detroit, MI – 300 miles  
Milwaukee, WI – 170 miles  
Minneapolis, MN – 270 miles  
U.S. Customs and International border  
crossing – Sault Ste. Marie



### Community Colleges

Bay College – Escanaba  
Bay College West – Iron Mountain  
Bay Mills Community College – Brimley  
Gogebic Community College – Ironwood  
Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College – Baraga



### Class C Ports

Lake Michigan – Port of Escanaba  
Lake Michigan – Port of Menominee  
Lake Superior – Houghton Harbor  
Lake Superior – Port of Marquette  
Lake Superior – Port of Ontonagon  
Lake Superior & Huron – Port of Sault Ste. Marie



### Airports

**ANJ** Sanderson Field Airport, Sault Ste. Marie  
**ESC** Delta County Airport, Escanaba  
**CIU** Chippewa County International Airport, Kincheloe  
**DRE** Drummond Island Airport, Drummond Island  
**IMT** Ford Airport, Iron Mountain/Kingsford  
**IWD** Gogebic-Iron County Airport, Ironwood  
**CMX** Houghton County Memorial Airport, Hancock/Calumet  
**ERY** Luce County Airport, Newberry  
**83D** Mackinac County Airport, St. Ignace  
**MCD** Mackinac Island Airport, Mackinac Island  
**MMN** Menominee-Marinette Twin County Airport, Menominee  
**OGM** Ontonagon County Airport, Ontonagon  
**MQT** Sawyer International Airport, Gwinn  
**ISQ** Schoolcraft County Airport, Manistique



### Railways

Canadian National Railway  
Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad



### National Parks

Isle Royale National Park  
Keweenaw National Historical Park  
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore



Biogenic Reagents, Marquette



Jacquart Fabric Products, Ironwood



Superior Fabrication, Kincheloe

# M I C H I G A N ' S U P P E R P E N I N S U L A