

Berrien County facts

Berrien County has five parks totaling 353 acres. These are Madeline Bertrand, Love Creek, Rocky Gap, Silver Beach and Indian Bowl. Local governmental units with the county operate approximately 120 parks on 1,300.3 acres. Counting state parks, private parks and golf courses, Berrien County has more than 4,300 acres of recreational land. Berrien County is ranked 18th on *Golf Digest* list of best cities in the nation to live and golf. Additionally, the community has gained recognition from *Money Magazine* for fastest commute times.



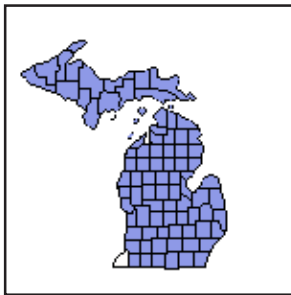
Michigan's Great Southwest is the **Napa Valley of the Midwest** with over 11,500 acres of vineyards in Michigan. The area has numerous local wineries.

Lake Michigan is the greatest natural resource for Michigan's Great Southwest. The big lake is the largest body of water in the United States. It stretches more than 300 miles north/south and 118 miles east/west. Additionally, our community is blessed to have 60 miles of Lake Michigan coastline, five rivers, and more than 300 inland lakes.

Some other points of interest:

- Located along 60 miles of Lake Michigan Shoreline.
- Is a popular tourism destination.
- Offers unique farm markets which abound within the area.
- Surrounding counties to Berrien County, Michigan include Cass and Van Buren.

What makes Berrien County unique?



Berrien County is located in the Southwestern most corner of Michigan.



Berrien County has a diversified economic base with its manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, and service industries.



- The County's central location is serviced by major highways, airports, rail and commercial ports, which contribute to maintenance of the strong diversification of the economic base.
- 54% percent of U.S. manufacturing and 65% of Canadian manufacturing are within 500 miles.

Berrien County Cities, Townships, and Villages

Bainbridge Township	Harbert - Chikaming Township	New Buffalo	Stevensville
Baroda	Coloma	New Buffalo Township	Three Oaks
Baroda Township	Coloma Charter Township	Niles	Three Oaks Township
Benton Charter Township	Dowagiac	Niles Township	Watervliet
Benton Harbor	Eau Claire	Oronoko Charter Township	Watervliet Township
Berrien Springs	Galien	Pipestone Township	Weesaw Township
Berrien Township	Galien Township	Royalton Township	
Bertrand Township	Grand Beach	Saint Joseph	
Bridgman	Hagar Township	Saint Joseph Charter Township	
Buchanan	Lake Charter Township	Shoreham	
Buchanan Township	Lincoln Charter Township	Sodus Township	



“Top 10” – Berrien County

The ten most populated municipalities in Berrien County

2000 Rank	Municipality	Population	1990 Rank
1	Benton Charter Township	16,404	1
2	Lincoln Township	13,952	2
3	Niles Township	13,325	3
4	Niles City	12,199	5
5	Benton Harbor City	11,182	4
6	St. Joseph Charter Township	10,042	7
7	Oronoko Township	9,843	6
8	St. Joseph City	8,789	8
9	Coloma Township	5,217	9
10	Berrien Township	5,075	10

Population by
District Number:

1. 12,470
2. 12,796
3. 13,048
4. 11,756
5. 12,394
6. 13,160
7. 12,205
8. 12,223
9. 12,307
10. 12,388
11. 12,182
12. 13,202
13. 12,322

Berrien County

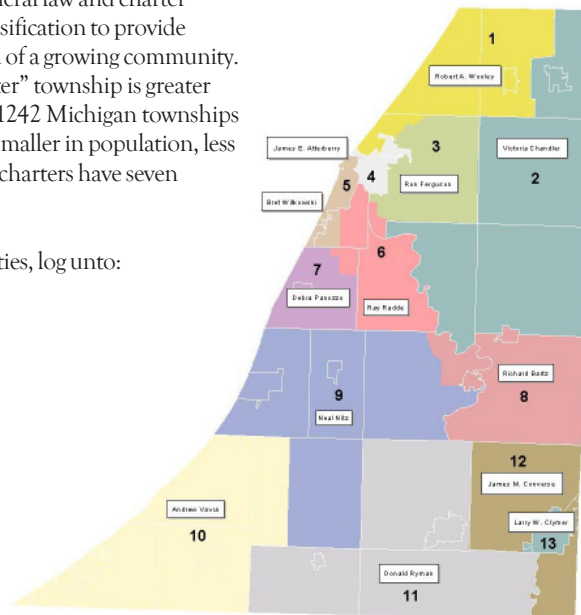
Address: 701 Main Street • St. Joseph, MI 49085
Phone: (269) 983-7111 • Web address:
www.berriencounty.org

Berrien County is comprised of cities, villages and townships.

There are two types of townships in Michigan—general law and charter townships. Charter township status is a special classification to provide additional powers and streamlined administration of a growing community. A primary motivation for townships to be a “charter” township is greater protection against annexation from a city, 127 of 1242 Michigan townships are charter townships. General law townships are smaller in population, less than 3,000 people, and have five member boards, charters have seven members and can levy more millages.

For complete community profiles on all communities, log onto:

www.berriencounty.org



**Population
 Information**

Community	Population		Population change 1990 to 2000	
	2000	1990	Number	Percent
Berrien County	162,453	161,378	1,075	0.7
Benton Harbor	11,182	12,818	-1,636	-12.8
Bridgman	2,428	2,140	288	13.5
Buchanan	4,681	4,992	-311	-6.2
Coloma	1,595	1,679	-84	-5.0
New Buffalo	2,200	2,317	-117	-5.0
Niles	12,199	12,456	-257	-2.1
St. Joseph	8,789	9,214	-425	-4.6
Watervliet	1,843	1,867	-24	-1.3
Bainbridge	3,132	2,865	267	9.3
Baroda	2,880	2,731	149	5.5
Benton	16,404	17,163	-759	-4.4
Berrien	5,075	4,697	378	8.0
Bertrand	2,380	2,228	152	6.8
Buchanan	3,510	3,402	108	3.2
Chikaming	3,678	3,717	-39	-1.0
Coloma	5,217	5,123	94	1.8
Galien	1,611	1,591	20	1.3
Hagar	3,964	4,113	-149	-3.6
Lake	3,148	2,487	661	26.6
Lincoln	13,952	13,604	348	2.6
New Buffalo	2,468	2,419	49	2.0
Niles	13,325	12,828	497	3.9
Oronoko	9,843	9,819	24	0.2
Pipestone	2,474	2,303	171	7.4
Royalton	3,888	3,135	753	24.0
Sodus	2,139	2,065	74	3.6
St. Joseph	10,042	9,613	429	4.5
Three Oaks	2,949	2,952	-3	-0.1
Watervliet	3,392	2,926	466	15.9
Weesaw	2,065	2,114	-49	-2.3

Township figures include residents living in villages and in those townships.

All figures according to 2000 census.

