

# Ann Arbor SPARK Sector Report

## Automotive Technology & Mobility



<http://annarborusa.org/>

Ann Arbor SPARK will advance the economy of the Ann Arbor region by establishing the area as a desired place for business expansion and location... by identifying and meeting the needs of business at every stage, from those that are established to those working to successfully commercialize innovations.

# Why Ann Arbor?

Ann Arbor's automotive technology and mobility sector has always been strong, and has seen rapid growth in the past 5-7 years specifically in the automated and connected vehicle technology industry. Today the sector includes 200+ firms and employs 20,000+ people.

## Population

<b>351,113</b>	Washtenaw County
<b>117,734</b>	Ann Arbor City
<b>1,109,000</b>	Within a 30 mile commute

## Median Age

<b>33.4</b>	Washtenaw County
<b>27.8</b>	Ann Arbor City
<b>39.5</b>	Michigan
<b>37.6</b>	US

## Median Household Income

<b>\$64,360</b>	Washtenaw County
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## Education Level: Washtenaw County

<b>52.6%</b>	Bachelor's Degree or Higher
<b>29.8%</b>	United States

## Rankings

<b>#1</b>	Best Cities to Live in America, 2017
<b>#1</b>	Best College Cities, 2017
<b>#3</b>	Top 100 Best Places to Live, 2017
<b>#9</b>	Best Cities for Small Business, 2017
<b>#1</b>	Most Educated Cities, 2016
<b>#2</b>	Best Colleges, 2016
<b>#5</b>	Best Cities for Millennials, 2016
<b>#7</b>	Best Cities for Women in the Workforce, 2016

Source: <http://www.annarborusa.org/live-here/facts-rankings>



The Detroit MSA is a world center for automotive headquarters operations, research, design, and manufacture. The headquarters of Ford Motor Company, GM, and Chrysler are within 60 miles of Ann Arbor.

Toyota, Hyundai, Honda, Subaru, Mercedes, Mitsubishi, and Lotus all have an Ann Arbor presence. Ann Arbor USA is where business intersects with advanced research, out-of-the-box thinkers, abundant financial resources, a vibrant economic development initiative and an immense talent pool.

# Ann Arbor Business Community Profile

In addition to many established industries, the area has become a magnet for emerging and rapidly growing sectors such as: Automotive Technology & Mobility, Software/IT, and Life Sciences.

## TOP 25 REGIONAL EMPLOYERS (JAN 2017)

COMPANY NAME	BUSINESS DESCRIPTION	EMPLOYEES
University of Michigan	Public university and medical center	30,835
Trinity Health	Medical center	7,169
General Motors Milford Proving Grounds	OEM proving grounds	5,500
Ann Arbor Public Schools	Public school district	1,907
Faurecia Interior Systems	Automotive component manufacture	1,850
Eastern Michigan University	Public university	1,617
Integrated Health Associates (IHA)	Medical center	1,268
Washtenaw County	Local government	1,260
Thomson Reuters	Software	1,200
Truven Health Analytics - IBM Watson Health	Healthcare information solutions	850
Grupo Antolin Interiors USA	Automotive component manufacture	800
Thai Summit America	Automotive component manufacture	800
Ford - Rawsonville	Automotive component manufacture	784
Domino's Pizza Inc.	Headquarters	734
City of Ann Arbor	City Government	729
Zingerman's Family of Businesses	Food production	700
JAC Products	Automotive component manufacture	674
Edwards Brothers Malloy East	Book printer and binder	650
ProQuest	Data and information	650
Toyota Technical Center	OEM research	619
Citizens Insurance of America	Headquarters	600
Terumo Cardiovascular Group	Surgical and medical instruments	600
NSF International	Testing, inspection and certification	578
Washtenaw Community College	Higher education	565

# Regional Mobility Companies

## Ann Arbor Automotive Industry Sector

The Ann Arbor region has a strong automotive industry sector. Approximately 100 automotive firms are in Washtenaw County. The largest sectors are those related to component manufacture and research. Southeast Michigan is the country's center of automotive research. The state employs 1,176,924 people in the automotive industry, twice as many as second place Ohio. Michigan is also the number one state for automotive R&D spending at \$11.8 billion annually.

## SAMPLE OF ANN ARBOR AUTOMOTIVE COMPANIES

COMPANY NAME	BUSINESS DESCRIPTION	EMPLOYEES
American Honda	OEM research	10
Asahi Kasei Plastics	Automotive component manufacture	260
AW Technical Center	Research, develop transmission and guidance systems	35
Balance Technology	Balance control instruments	90
Bosal	Automotive component manufacture	135
Condat Corporation	Automotive component manufacture	50
Eberspächer North America, Inc.	Automotive component manufacture	170
ESCRYPT	Automotive cybersecurity	10
ETAS	Automotive embedded control systems	65
Faurecia Interior Systems	Automotive component manufacture	1,850
Ford Labs	Connected vehicle research	75
Hyundai America Technical Center	Research and development	250
Karamba Security	Automotive cybersecurity	5
Lear Corporation	Automotive component design	7
Lotus Engineering	Powertrain and emissions testing	32
May Mobility	Autonomous shuttle design and assembly	12
Martinrea	Automotive component manufacture	520
Mercedes-Benz Emissions Test Lab	Automotive emissions testing	25
Navya Technology	Autonomous shuttle design and assembly	5
Phoenix Contact	Software – PC based controls	50
SPLT	SaaS enabled ride-sharing platform	15
Subaru Research and Development	Research and Development	33
TG Fluid Systems	Automotive component manufacture	428
Thai Summit America Corporation	Automotive component manufacture	800
Toyota Technical Center (Ann Arbor and York Township)	Research and development for North American market	1,661

## An Educational Powerhouse

Ann Arbor’s automotive and mobility community benefits from regional colleges and universities, foremost of which is the University of Michigan. In 2015, U-M awarded over 1,000 degrees in mechanical, electrical, and industrial engineering.

### University of Michigan

The University of Michigan ranks among the world’s top universities and its graduate and professional programs are consistently listed among the nation’s top ten. University of Michigan’s College of Engineering offers degree programs in:

- Integrative Systems + Design
- Automotive Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Industrial and Operations Engineering

### Eastern Michigan University

The College of Technology at Eastern Michigan University, located in downtown Ypsilanti, offers four year degrees in areas of computer aided engineering, computer electronic and mechanical engineering technology, polymers and coatings, and quality management.

### Regional Universities

In addition to University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University, Ann Arbor area employers can recruit from universities within an hour’s drive of Ann Arbor—Wayne State University, Lawrence Tech, Kettering, and Michigan State University. All four have degree programs in engineering and auto-related disciplines.

**University of Michigan Ranks #6 Nationally for Undergraduate Engineering.**

*Source: US News & World Report*

## University of Michigan Research Spending in 2015

**\$1.4 billion**  
#2 in the nation

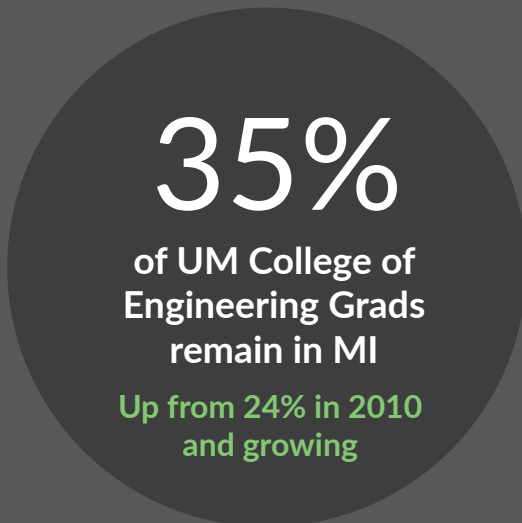
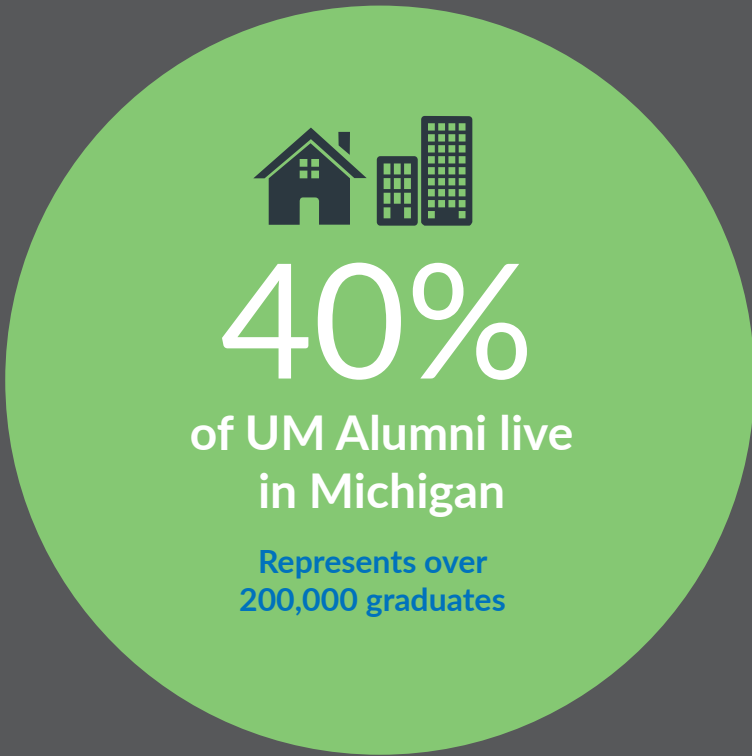
## University Graduates

University of Michigan Graduates (2015)	Number
Total graduates	13,858
Mechanical engineering	433
Electrical engineering	324
Industrial engineering	324

Eastern Michigan University Graduates (2015)	Number
Total graduates	4,542
CAE/CAD	24
ME Technician	13

Washtenaw Community College Enrollment (2014)	Number
	12,327

# University Graduate Retention Rates



# Talent

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Ann Arbor SPARK realizes that talent acquisition and training is the top factor in a successful business. SPARK partners with University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, MichiganWorks!, and other resources to help identify and recruit staff.

Some examples of how SPARK helps your talent needs are:

**Training Grants:** SPARK will work closely with you to maximize utilization of worker training programs and funds that are available for companies in our region.

**Targeted Job Mixers/Open Houses:** Job mixers hosted by the company are targeted to the exact positions the firm is seeking.

## The SPARK Talent Portal:

Ann Arbor USA offers companies a multitude of access points to talent. One of the most popular is the Talent Portal - a free online job posting system that spotlights executive and knowledge-based positions as well as internships and positions for new college graduates. In 2016, the SPARK Job portal had over 1200 jobs posted, over 106K views and nearly 1000 resumes submitted. Employers can view resumes submitted by becoming a "job manager" here: <http://annarborusa.org/find-talent>



## Tech Trek:

Ann Arbor SPARK launched [Tech Trek](#) in 2015 to connect the community with the burgeoning tech scene in their hometown, allow companies to showcase their innovations, and enable job seekers to explore potential employers.

The event has nearly tripled in scope since its inception - 2017 was a banner year, with over 2,400 attendees.

Ann Arbor Tech Trek is a free community event and a terrific opportunity to see the real gems located inside the doors of many area tech companies. It's also a chance to see what's unique about downtown Ann Arbor.

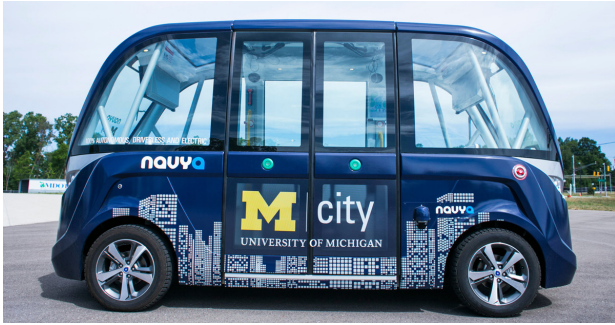
Leading technology companies open their doors to the public and showcase their latest innovations. Whether you're a **job seeker**, **student**, **professional**, or someone **curious** about the Ann Arbor tech community, anyone is welcome to attend.

Each stop on the trek creates a fun, educational experience that reflects each company's unique culture. Those on the tour will also enjoy refreshments, prizes, t-shirts and giveaways.

Tech Trek is a win-win for companies and the community.

Check out the [Tech Trek website](#) for more information including a list of participating companies and photos from 2016 and 2017, along with a [recap video](#) for 2017.

# Mobility



## Mcity

University of Michigan maintains Mcity, a 32-acre controlled environment designed to test real-world urban and suburban driving conditions for autonomous and connected vehicles. In addition, V2V and V2I communications, network security, and related concerns related to autonomous vehicles are being developed. <https://mcity.umich.edu/>

## EPA National Fuel and Vehicle Laboratory

The US EPA's center for testing vehicles, engines and fuels is located in Ann Arbor. The laboratory tests light-duty cars and trucks, heavy duty trucks for emissions and fuel economy.

## UMTRI

The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute is dedicated to achieving safe and sustainable transportation for a global society. With a multimillion-dollar research program, broad faculty expertise, and multiple collaborators, UMTRI is committed to interdisciplinary research that will ultimately increase driving safety and further transportation systems knowledge. <http://www.umtri.umich.edu/>

## The Future of Automotive Cybersecurity

The University of Michigan was part of the ARPANET research effort that was the forerunner of today's Internet. Since then, the tech sector (and in particular network security) has continued to evolve and grow. In the last few years, the Ann Arbor region has attracted several companies focused on automotive embedded control systems, specifically automotive cybersecurity.

## American Center for Mobility

The American Center for Mobility is 335-acre driverless car testing and development site located adjacent to Willow Run airport. When completed, the Center will test, verify, and certify connected and automated vehicles. Designated as a Federal Connected Vehicle Testing site in 2016, construction began in earnest in Q1 2017.

<http://www.acmwillowrun.org/>



## Other resources

[Washtenaw Community College Advanced Transportation Center](#)  
[UM Tech Lab](#)



# Workforce and Location

## TECH WORKFORCE

The Ann Arbor labor market extends into the adjacent Detroit/Livonia/Dearborn MSA, providing a labor pool of 1,109,000 within a 30-minute commute of Ann Arbor.

Job Title	Ann Arbor MSA	Detroit/Livonia/ Dearborn MSA	Total both MSAs
Electrical engineers	220	2,450	2,670
Mechanical engineers	930	11,270	12,200
Mechanical engineer tech	100	660	760
Machinists	660	3,410	4,070
Team assemblers	2,900	21,470	24,370
First line supervisors	610	4,780	5,390

Source: BLS, May 2016

## LOCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Ann Arbor provides close and central proximity to major Midwest travel and business destinations. Located 33 miles from the city of Detroit, Ann Arbor is also only 200 miles from Chicago. The Ann Arbor area is an easy commute for employees and business travelers. Well maintained highways, toll-free interstates and tree-lined streets keep Washtenaw County connected and accessible.

## SITE SELECTION ASSISTANCE

Ann Arbor SPARK can help you locate the right business location. The region has a supply of existing office, research and flex space, as well as build-to-suit options, that offer adequate power and telecommunications infrastructure.

## LOCAL TAX STRUCTURE

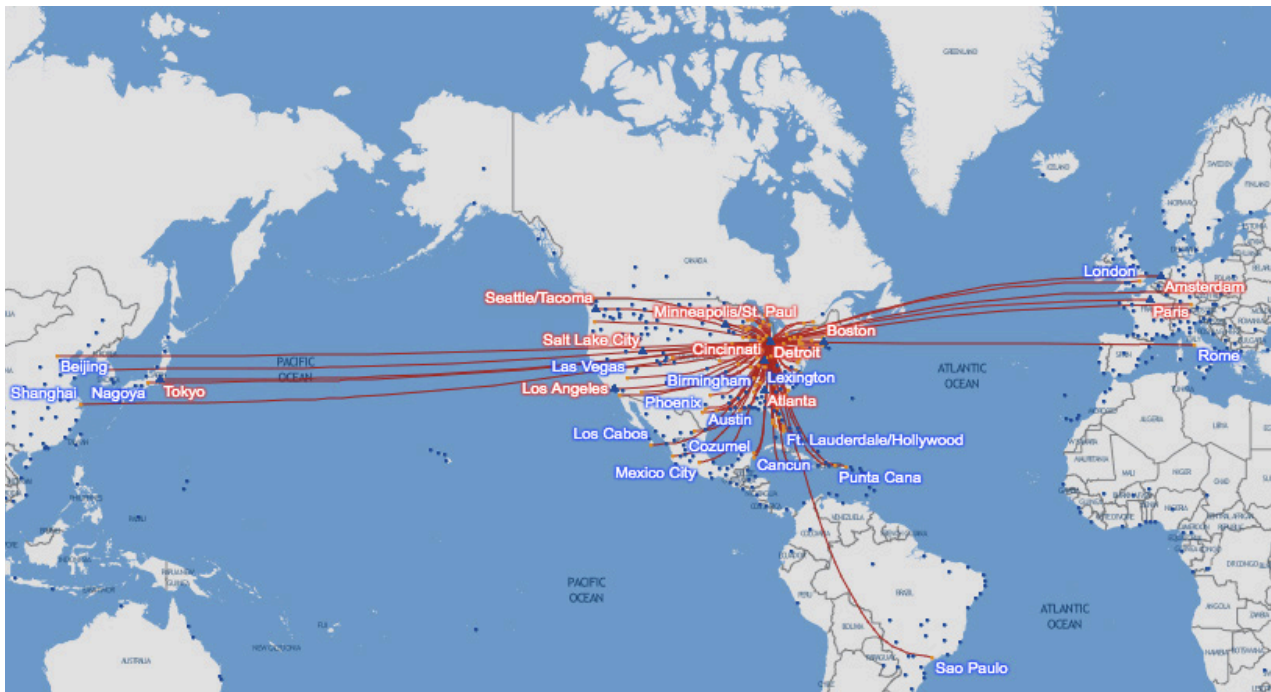
Property tax is levied on real property only, not personal property for industrial producers. Local sales taxes are not allowed anywhere in Michigan.

# International Connection

Ann Arbor has a large international presence. People of all nationalities feel welcomed in the Ann Arbor area. Firms headquartered in Germany, Japan, Korea, Belgium, Great Britain, and Canada find Ann Arbor a welcoming place for business. In 2016, foreign direct investment totaled over \$130,000,000 and resulted in over 450 new jobs.

Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) is less than 30 miles from downtown Ann Arbor. Detroit Metropolitan Airport is ranked #11 nationally and is the major Delta hub. Annual business passengers equal 19,996,045 and annual international passengers equal 2,973,308. Primary international destinations are Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London, Toronto, and Tokyo.

## MAP OF NONSTOP FLIGHTS FROM DETROIT METRO AIRPORT



# Doing Life Different

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Every community offers something unique to its residents, but the Ann Arbor area offers much more than the usual quality of life indicators. From recreation to culture, we offer large city amenities with a small town feel. Read on to learn more about living here.

## Recreation

In Michigan, you're never more than a few miles from water. In Washtenaw County, we can top that by saying you're never more than a few miles from a lake, river, park, golf course, cross-country trail, or other recreational option.

Washtenaw County boasts 4,000 acres of parkland, of which 2200 acres are natural areas ideal for hiking, bird watching, or mountain biking. The Border-to-Border trail, kayaking liveries, and golf courses add to the county's recreation inventory.

The city of Ann Arbor has 157 parks totaling 2,090 acres, 1,200 acres of which are natural areas. An additional 2,000 acres of farmland and open space surround the city of Ann Arbor, purchased with a Greenbelt millage.

Ann Arbor parks offer baseball and softball diamonds and leagues, soccer fields, disc golf, ice skating, and an excellent skateboard park.

## Housing

County residents can find housing options and locations: Cities, towns, country, and suburban. Housing options include single family houses, downtown lofts, condos, and apartments. Housing costs in Washtenaw County are lower than east and west coast housing: The median sale price of single family house is \$245,000 (source: Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors - April 2017 report).

## Schools

Public, charter, and private schools are found in Washtenaw County. A list of recent test scores by school and district is found [here](#), MEAP scores [here](#).

## Culture

The University Musical Society brings national and international cultural performances to Ann Arbor. Our local cultural venues include the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, the Ann Arbor Civic Theater, the Ark, The Purple Rose Theater, along with independent dance and music performance staged in the historic Michigan Theater.

## Fun

The Ann Arbor area isn't all high-brow. We like to have fun too! Here is a smattering of the festivals and activities that take place throughout the county.

*Ann Arbor FestiFools*

*Ann Arbor Summer Festival*

*Ann Arbor's Rolling Sculpture Car Show*

*Chelsea's Sounds & Sights Festival*

*Dexter Daze*

*Manchester Chicken Broil*

*Manchester's Riverfolk Music and Arts*

*Milan Bluegrass Festival*

*Milan Fliers model aircraft flights*

*Saline Celtic Festival*

*Ypsilanti's Summer Beer Festival*

*Ypsilanti Heritage Festival*

## Shopping

You'll find independent retailers, wine shops, bakeries and delis in the downtowns.

*Local grocery stores* - People's Food Coop, Arbor Farms, By the Pound, Monahan's Seafood Market, Zingerman's Bakery and Creamery. You'll also enjoy farmers' markets, cider mills, you-pick berry and apple farms, and CSAs.

*Regular grocery stores* - Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, Busch's, Meijer, Kroger.

*Clothing, sporting goods, sundries* – Local clothing stores and gift shops are found in downtowns. Arborland, Briarwood mall, big box stores offer brand name shopping

### Dining

Nearly every kind of cuisine can be found in Ann Arbor. You'll discover something for every palate, and every price range. You're on your way to enjoying some of the best food in the Midwest – or in the whole country, for that matter. Ann Arbor restaurants have been featured in national publications like the New York Times and Bon Appetit, for a reason!

As you now see, we may be a small towns and cities, but we offer lots of activities for all ages. For more info, explore the Ann Arbor Visitors Bureau, <https://www.visitannarbor.org/>.

We think we have a great place to live, but don't take our word for it. Ann Arbor is recognized every year for its high quality of place:

## Rankings

### 2017

**#1** "Best College Cities" - Ann Arbor [Aier.org](http://Aier.org)

**#1** "Best Cities to Live in America" - Ann Arbor [Niche](http://Niche)

**#3** "Top 100 Best Places to Live" - Ann Arbor [Livability](http://Livability)

### 2016

**#6** "Best Cities for Entrepreneurs" - Ann Arbor [Livability](http://Livability)

**#1** "Best Places to Live in MI" - Ann Arbor [Nichebeta](http://Nichebeta)

**#7** "Best Cities for Women in the Workforce" - Ann Arbor [Nerdwallet](http://Nerdwallet)

**#1** "Most Educated Cities" - Ann Arbor [Wallethub](http://Wallethub)

**#5** "Best Cities for Millennials" - Ann Arbor [Forbes](http://Forbes)

**#5** "U.S Towns Most Worthy of a Day Trip" - Ann Arbor [Esquire](http://Esquire)

**#2** "Best Colleges" - University of Michigan - Ann Arbor [Time](http://Time)

**#4** "Best Cities to Live in America" - Ann Arbor [Niche](http://Niche)

### 2015

**#1** "Best States in the Country" - Michigan [Thrillist](http://Thrillist)

**#1** "Best College Cities and Towns in America" - Ann Arbor [Wallethub](http://Wallethub)

**#13** "Top 100 Best Cities to Live" - Ann Arbor [Livability](http://Livability)

**#6** "Cities that are Secretly Great for Tech Grads" - Ann Arbor [Datafox](http://Datafox)

**#1** "Most Educated Cities" - Ann Arbor [Wallethub](http://Wallethub)

**#3** "Top Cities for IT Talent" - Ann Arbor [CareerBuilder](http://CareerBuilder)



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