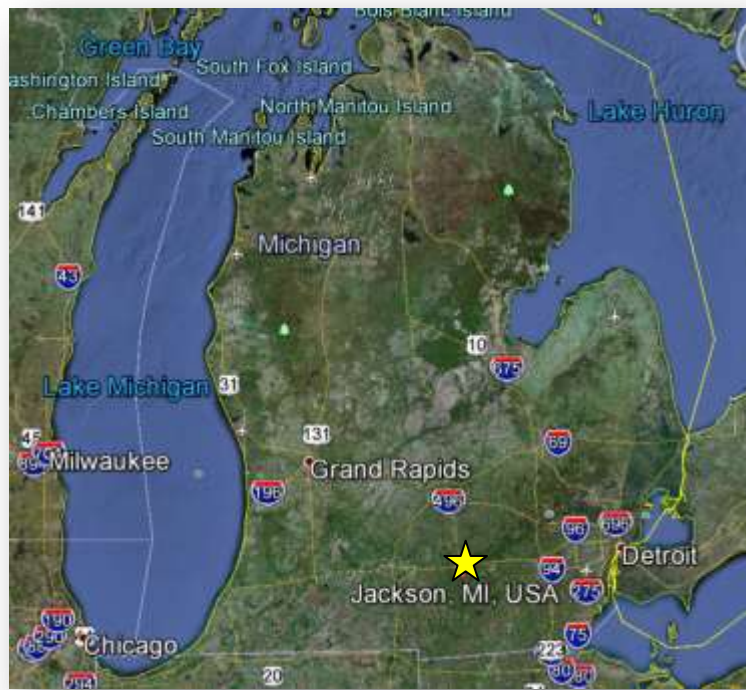


## About Jackson County

The 2010 Census counted 160,248 residents in Jackson County spread over more than 700 square miles. The people of Jackson County enjoy the association of a small town, but the amenities of a place much larger than it feels. Jackson County is located at the cross roads of State Highway 127 and Interstate 94 only half an hour from Lansing, Ann Arbor, and Battle Creek and just over an hour from Detroit.

Residents and visitors enjoy thousands of acres of open space, 188 lakes, over 500 holes of golf, a county airport, and many other amenities. The county hosts many special events including the Rose Festival, Hot Air Jubilee, Race Week, Shakespeare Festival, Civil War Muster, and the NASCAR and Sprint Cup Series.

Within the county are 19 townships, 7 villages, and the City of Jackson. The County is home to Spring Arbor University, Jackson Community College, and a branch of Baker College.



### Jackson County, Michigan

The Jackson County Government provides a wide range of services, which includes law enforcement, a court system, health department, services for the aging, veteran's services, and much more. The County is governed by a board of twelve county commissioners. Five other elected officials preside over specific services including the Sheriff, Prosecuting Attorney, County Clerk/Register of Deeds, Drain Commissioner, and County Treasurer. Both the Circuit and District Court are presided over by a Chief Judge. Four other judges are elected in the Circuit Court and 3 more elected judges serve in the District Court.

# Introduction

## Other Demographic Information

The largest employers in Jackson County are Allegiance Health System, Consumers Energy, Michigan Department of Corrections, Great Lakes Home & Health, and local government. Unemployment fluctuated throughout 2013 between 7.2% and 10%. The largest tax payers in the County are Consumers Energy, Kinder Morgan Michigan LLC, MACI, Gerdau MAC Steel, and Ramco Jackson LTD. Median Household income in the most recent American Community Survey was \$42,653. Per capita income was \$21,311.

## Jackson County's Mission, Vision, and Values are as follows:

### MISSION STATEMENT:

Jackson County government, in cooperation with the community and local government units, strives through a planned process to deliver quality services that address public needs.

### VISION STATEMENT:

Jackson County government shall strive to assure the provision of those services its constituents cannot provide themselves, to protect the public health, safety, welfare and environment for all without discrimination, efficiently and economically, to encourage economic development and to promote education in a safe and secure environment, with the end goal of creating the healthiest and most prosperous community in the nation.

### CORE VALUES:

#### QUALITY

We strive to do good work, to get it right the first time.

#### INTEGRITY

We will ensure public trust through honesty, fairness, consistency and follow-through.

#### COMMUNITY

We are working together organizationally, but also Jackson County the place we live, work, play, and raise our children.

#### TEAMWORK

We can do more together than we can individually.

#### EFFICIENCY

Our goal is to derive a good value for the citizen's tax dollar.

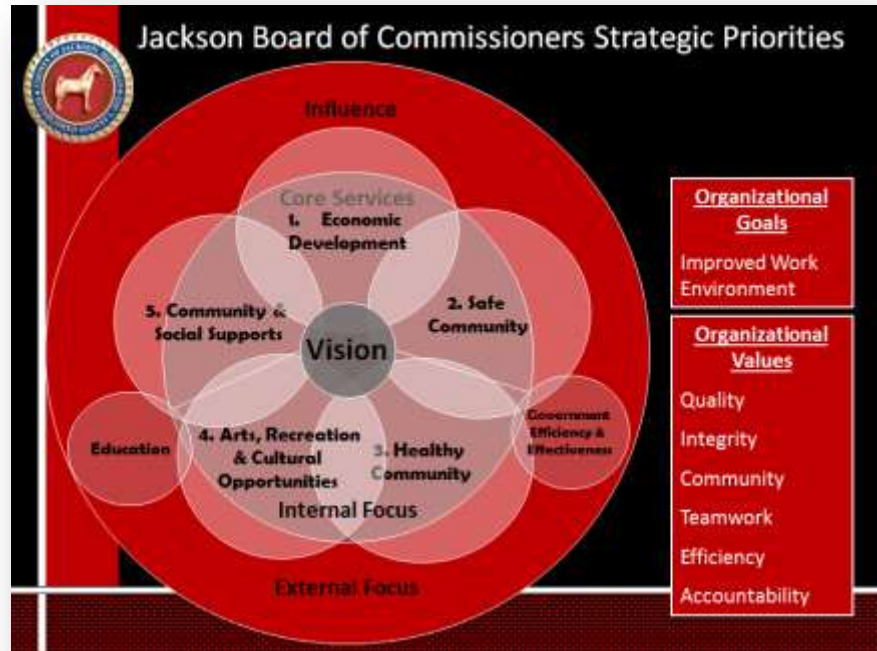
#### ACCOUNTABILITY

We will prudently and openly manage tax dollars to the standard expected by the people.

## Jackson County Strategic Plan

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners adopted its second strategic plan in August 2013 in conjunction with a community planning effort called Jackson 2020.

The strategic plan goals can be divided into three focuses, internal focus, external focus, and organizational goals. The internal focus strategic goals guide how we allocate resources toward programs provided directly by the county. The external focus strategic goals describe how the Board of Commissioners prefers to use their external focus to improve the county. The last organizational goal focuses on what type of employer the county wishes to be.



**The Internal Focus Vision Statements in priority order are as follows:**

**Economic Development** – Jackson County’s diverse economy and innovative economic development efforts ensure continued growth and vibrancy within the local, regional, state, and global marketplace.

**Safe Community** – Jackson County is a partnership of self-sustaining people with shared values where residents peacefully coexist and participate in all aspects of life. Citizens know how to access a wide variety of services when needed. Jackson is a safe community where public safety presence is felt but not needed – a great place to live, work, and play.

**Healthy Community** – Jackson County residents enjoy phenomenal health through affordable, accessible healthcare; a community commitment to wellness; and increased public recreation options.

## Introduction

**Arts, Recreation, & Cultural Opportunities** – Jackson County’s wealth of cultural opportunities, recreational activities, community amenities, and neighborly environment makes it one of Michigan’s most desirable places to live, work, and play.

**Community & Social Supports** – To ensure a system of support for members of our community. The value and intent of Human Services Collaborating Alliance (HSCA) is to serve as a leader to the human services community and as the “one roof”, in an effort to coordinate/ facilitate sufficient delivery and improve access to services within a person centered framework.

### **The External Focus Vision Statements are as follows:**

**Government Efficiency & Effectiveness** – Jackson County provides effective and economical services for all citizens by working cooperatively and collaboratively with other units of government.

**Education** – Jackson County recognizes education fuels a thriving community and provides a progressive environment that promotes education at all levels to give residents a competitive advantage.

### **Organizational Focus Vision Statement:**

**Improved Work Environment** – Jackson County employees are a cohesive and conscientious team of people empowered by committed, effective leadership to serve the public.

In formally adopting the Jackson County Strategic Plan, the Board of Commissioners and Administration use work teams to progress the goals and objectives of each strategic area. Those groups continue to make progress towards accomplishing the mission of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Strategic Implementation Team, a group composed of co-chairs for each strategy and the Administrator/Controller’s Office, is responsible for keeping the Strategic Plan relevant. They meet monthly to review progress on objectives and metrics. They also present progress on the performance measures and goals to the Board of Commissioners during the annual Board retreat.

### **Strategic Budgeting**

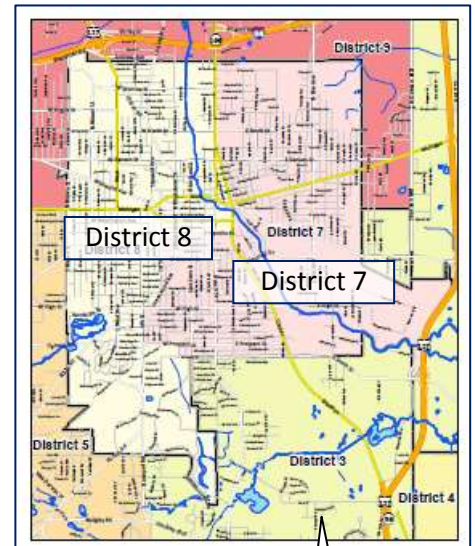
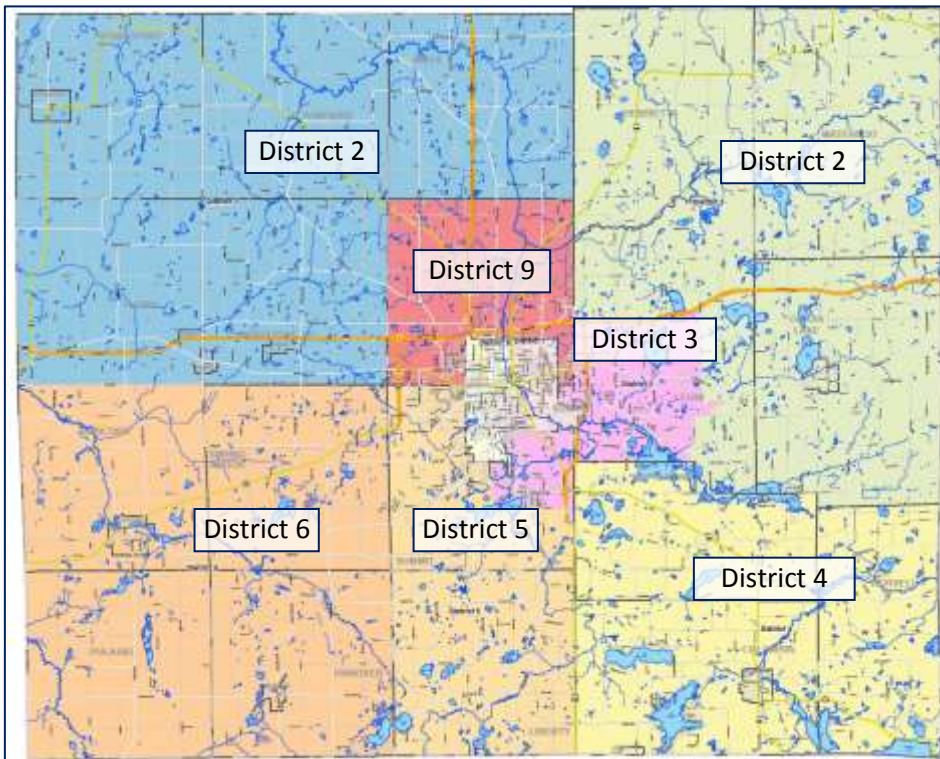
The Board of County Commissioners uses a retreat process to connect the strategic plan with the budgeting process. Session one of the retreat focuses on progress of each of the priorities. The co-chairs of the strategies present data to the Board of Commissioners. The Commissioners reestablish the priorities at the end of the presentation. After the revenue and expenditure forecasts are given in session two, the Administrator/Controller presents a recommended target for approval in session three. With priorities and a target, department heads and elected officials are



given the charge to meet the target based on the priorities. A budget meeting the target goals and priorities is returned to the Board of Commissioners at the end of the budget process. The capital budget is done congruent with the operating budget with the same emphasis on priorities.

## Governing Body

The Governing Body for Jackson County government is the Board of Commissioners. As of January 1, 2013 the Board of Commissioners consists of nine (9) Commissioners elected by district. The Board of Commissioners holds the fiduciary authority needed to operate the County Government. The work is accomplished through professional administrators and elected officers.



City of Jackson  
Detail