

Gaylord, Michigan

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Gaylord is a city in and the county seat of Otsego County, Michigan, United States.^[6] The population was 3,645 at the 2010 census. The city is also the seat of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Gaylord; it is by far the smallest settlement serving as the location of an active Roman Catholic cathedral in the United States.

Gaylord styles itself as an "Alpine Village"^[7] and the city center features many buildings with Tyrolean traverse style motifs. Receiving abundant snowfall and experiencing mild summer temperatures, for many years the area around Gaylord has become known for its many skiing and golf resorts, one of the largest such concentrations in the Midwest. The city has a sister city: Pontresina, Switzerland. The annual event in July, Alpenfest (<http://www.gaylordalpenfest.com/>), encourages participants to dress in traditional Swiss fashions. This event brings in numerous people from all around and provides a vast array of activities. Some of these activities include carnival rides and games, music, shops, and a local 'Queen's Pageant'. A parade takes place on the final day.

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Gaylord, Michigan	
City Nickname(s): The Alpine Village Location of Gaylord, Michigan Coordinates: 45°1′29″N 84°40′36″W﻿ / ﻿	
Country	United States
State	Michigan
County	Otsego
Area ^[1]	
 • Total	4.83 sq mi (12.51 km ²)
 • Land	4.80 sq mi (12.43 km ²)
 • Water	0.03 sq mi (0.08 km ²)
Elevation	1,348 ft (411 m)
Population (2010)^[2]	
 • Total	3,645
 • Estimate (2012^[3])	3,622
 • Density	759.4/sq mi (293.2/km ²)
Time zone	Eastern (EST) (UTC-5)
 • Summer (DST)	EDT (UTC-4)
ZIP codes	49734-49735
Area code(s)	989
FIPS code	26-31720 ^[4]
GNIS feature ID	0626696 ^[5]

History

Gaylord was named for an attorney employed with the Michigan Central Railroad.^[8]

Geography

- According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total area of 4.83 square miles (12.51 km²), of which, 4.80 square miles (12.43 km²) is land and 0.03 square miles (0.08 km²) is water.^[1]
- Gaylord experiences heavy lake effect snow during the winter and is in the middle of the Northern Michigan snowbelt.
- Highway signs denote that Gaylord rests on the 45th parallel line^[9] – halfway between the equator and the North Pole. This is one of 29 places (six are in Michigan) in the U.S.A. where such signs are known to exist.^[10]
- It is considered to be part of Northern Michigan.
- Hartwick Pines State Park is just 28 miles (45 km) to the south, and is one of the last remaining stands of old growth virgin Eastern white pine forest.
- The Huron-Manistee National Forests is nearby.

Climate

This climatic region has large seasonal temperature differences, with warm to hot (and often humid) summers and cold (sometimes severely cold) winters. According to the Köppen Climate Classification system, Gaylord has a humid continental climate, abbreviated "Dfb" on climate maps.^[11]

Climate data for Gaylord													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average high °F (°C)	25.5 (−3.6)	29.1 (−1.6)	39.2 (4)	54.3 (12.4)	66.6 (19.2)	75.7 (24.3)	79.4 (26.3)	77.0 (25)	68.8 (20.4)	55.7 (13.2)	41.6 (5.3)	29.5 (−1.4)	53.5 (11.9)
Daily mean °F (°C)	18.2 (−7.7)	20.3 (−6.5)	28.9 (−1.7)	42.4 (5.8)	53.9 (12.2)	63.5 (17.5)	67.7 (19.8)	65.8 (18.8)	58.1 (14.5)	46.3 (7.9)	34.5 (1.4)	23.4 (−4.8)	43.58 (6.43)
Average low °F (°C)	10.9 (−11.7)	11.6 (−11.3)	18.5 (−7.5)	30.5 (−0.8)	41.3 (5.2)	51.3 (10.7)	55.9 (13.3)	54.5 (12.5)	47.4 (8.6)	36.9 (2.7)	27.4 (−2.6)	17.2 (−8.2)	33.6 (0.9)
Average precipitation inches (mm)	2.68 (68.1)	1.95 (49.5)	2.10 (53.3)	2.36 (59.9)	3.02 (76.7)	2.91 (73.9)	2.99 (75.9)	3.64 (92.5)	3.67 (93.2)	3.70 (94)	3.23 (82)	3.05 (77.5)	35.31 (896.9)
Average snowfall inches (cm)	37.3 (94.7)	24.8 (63)	15.8 (40.1)	7.4 (18.8)	0.5 (1.3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.2 (8.1)	19.4 (49.3)	35.1 (89.2)	143.5 (364.5)
Avg. precipitation days (≥ 0.01 in)	16.1	11.6	10.3	9.2	9.5	8.8	8.5	9.4	10.7	12.5	13.3	16.2	136.1
Avg. snowy days (≥ 0.1 in)	15.8	11.5	7.2	3.1	0.2	0	0	0	0	1.6	7.2	14.4	61
Source: NOAA ^[12]													

Demographics

2010 census

As of the census^[2] of 2010, there were 3,645 people, 1,610 households, and 826 families residing in the city. The population density was 759.4 inhabitants per square mile (293.2/km²). There were 1,847 housing units at an average density of 384.8 per square mile (148.6/km²). The racial makeup of the city was 94.8% White, 0.9% African American, 0.8% Native American, 1.0% Asian, 0.2% from other races, and 2.3% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 1.8% of the population.

There were 1,610 households of which 27.8% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 33.7% were married couples living together, 13.5% had a female householder with no husband present, 4.1% had a male householder with no wife present, and 48.7% were non-families. 42.0% of all households were made up of individuals and 19.1% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.14 and the average family size was 2.95.

The median age in the city was 39.3 years. 22.7% of residents were under the age of 18; 10.9% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 23.2% were from 25 to 44; 23.2% were from 45 to 64; and 20% were 65 years of age or older. The gender makeup of the city was 45.9% male and 54.1% female.

2000 census

As of the census^[4] of 2000, there were 3,681 people, 1,584 households, and 888 families residing in the city. The population density was 932.8 per square mile (359.8/km²). There were 1,773 housing units at an average density of 449.3 per square mile (173.3/km²). The racial makeup of the city was 96.50% White, 0.30% African American, 0.95% Native American, 0.30% Asian, 0.08% Pacific Islander, 0.33% from other races, and 1.55% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 1.71% of the population.

There were 1,584 households out of which 29.0% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 38.8% were married couples living together, 13.4% had a female householder with no husband present, and 43.9% were non-families. 38.1% of all households were made up of individuals and 19.0% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.22 and the average family size was 2.97.

In the city the population was spread out with 24.9% under the age of 18, 9.4% from 18 to 24, 26.6% from 25 to 44, 18.6% from 45 to 64, and 20.4% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 38 years. For every 100 females there were 79.4 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 76.0 males.

The median income for a household in the city was \$28,770, and the median income for a family was \$36,654. Males had a median income of \$33,264 versus \$19,815 for females. The per capita income for the city was \$17,313. About 8.8% of families and 9.7% of the population were below the poverty line, including 8.8% of those under age 18 and 13.6% of those age 65 or over.

Schools

Historical population

Census	Pop.	%±
1880	292	—
1890	661	126.4%
1900	1,561	136.2%
1910	1,538	−1.5%
1920	1,701	10.6%
1930	1,627	−4.4%
1940	2,055	26.3%
1950	2,271	10.5%
1960	2,568	13.1%
1970	3,012	17.3%
1980	3,011	0.0%
1990	3,256	8.1%
2000	3,681	13.1%
2010	3,645	−1.0%
Est. 2014	3,648 ^[13]	0.1%

U.S. Decennial Census^[14]

Gaylord has two high schools: Gaylord High School, which is one of the largest high schools in Northern Michigan and competes in the Big North Conference along with the five other large high schools in that area of the state. Its 2007 enrollment of 1,076 pupils places it in Class A (large schools) of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. St. Mary Cathedral School is a Pre K-12 school which, despite its small size, has a successful athletic tradition. It is the only private school in the nine-member Ski Valley League and its 2007 high school enrollment of 110 places it in MHSAA's Class D.

Elected officials

City of Gaylord offices are at 305 E. Main Street, Gaylord, MI 49735 (989) 732-4060

- City Manager: Joe Duff
- Mayor: John Jenkins
- City Council: Todd Sharrard; Bill Wishart; Jerry Campbell; Steve Johnson; Patrick Mankowski; Pam Duczkowski;

[15]

Famous people from Gaylord

- Gaylord is the childhood home of the "father of information theory", Claude Shannon.
- Gaylord is the childhood home of Harry W. Lange, Magellan Fund Manager, 2005-2011.

Transportation

-  I-75 passes to the west of the city and connects with the Mackinac Bridge to the north and Saginaw and Detroit to the south
-  BL I-75 is a loop route running through Gaylord. It follows the former route of US 27, in part, and was commissioned in 1986. The highway returns to I-75.^[16]
-  M-32 passes east–west through the city. Although it is not a true 'cross-peninsular' highway—crosses the lower peninsula from Lake Michigan to Lake Huron—it is close.^[17]
-  C-42 terminates at M-32 west of the city. It originates at US 131 in Alba.
-  F-42 begins at BL I-75 (Old US 27) south of the city and proceeds easterly to M-32 southeast of Gaylord.
-  F-44 begins at M-32 east of the city and continues easterly through Sparr to F-01.
- Old 27 is the former route of US 27 and is a major north–south local route through the city and the rest of Otsego County.^[18]
- Gaylord Regional Airport is located at 1100 Aero Drive, Gaylord, MI 49735. (989) 732-4218 Phone. It is owned and operated by the County of Otsego. The Airport is licensed by the Michigan Aeronautics Commission as a General Utility Airport. It is listed as a tier one airport in all categories of the Michigan Airport System Plan.^{[19][20]}
- Indian Trails provides daily intercity bus service between St. Ignace and East Lansing, Michigan.^[21]

Recreation

Due to the distance from Lake Michigan and the elevation, snowfall is greatly increased referred to as Lake Effect Snow. The affected area is known as the snow belt and has prodigious snowfall. Combined with local Terrain and Topography many Winter Recreation opportunities abound.

- Much of the old train system has been converted to trails for biking or Snow Mobile riding. The North Central State Trail north to Mackinaw City is a Rails to trails converted remnant of a spur line of the Michigan Central Railroad that used to serve Gaylord.
- Falls colors and snowshoeing are highlights in several of the local parks.
- Cross country skiing is an important tourist activity near Gaylord. With two of the top-rated cross country venues in Michigan, namely Hartwick Pines State Park Trails and Mason Tract Pathway nearby.^[22] Forbush corners in nearby Frederic, Michigan is a world-recognized center for education and training in cross country skiing, and benefits from early and late snow due to a 'snow belt micro climate.' Accomplished amateur ski racer David Forbush designed, maintains, and grooms "one of the finest privately owned systems in the Midwest."^[23]
- Downhill Skiing and Snowboarding are also highly accessible with several Resorts operating in the area.
- Water Skiing, Wakeboarding, and Jetskiing are also available on Otsego Lake.
- Otsego Lake State Park, swimming, boating, and camping.
- Otsego Club & Resort

Media

- Local newspaper *Gaylord Herald Times* (<http://www.gaylordheraldtimes.com>) serves the area.^[24]
- Regionally available is the Weekly Choice Publication.
- WMJZ, "Eagle" 101.5 FM, features a classic hits format and is the primary local (Gaylord/Otsego County-focused) commercial radio station.
- Also licensed to Gaylord are WBLW 88.1 FM and WPHN 90.5 FM (The Promise FM), which both feature non-commercial Christian religious programming. Also, Charlevoix-based Catholic radio station WTCK operates a translator in Gaylord at 92.1 FM.
- WSRT 106.7 FM, a talk radio station (formerly WKPK "The Peak," a locally legendary top 40 station) which, although licensed to Gaylord, is based in Traverse City.

Gaylord is also served by radio and TV broadcasts from Traverse City, Petoskey, Charlevoix, Cadillac, Grayling, Houghton Lake, Cheboygan, and Alpena.

Others

South of town, the US National Weather Service has an office responsible for issuing public, aviation and marine forecasts for northern Michigan, eastern upper Michigan and surrounding waters. It is equipped with a NEXRAD weather radar and twice a day (00 and 12 UTC) launch a weather balloon sounding the atmosphere.

Notes



US National Weather Service office,
just south of town

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3. "Population Estimates" (<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/cities/totals/2012/SUB-EST2012.html>). United States Census Bureau. Retrieved 2013-06-03.
4. "American FactFinder" (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>). United States Census Bureau. Retrieved 2008-01-31.
5. "US Board on Geographic Names" (<http://geonames.usgs.gov>). United States Geological Survey. 2007-10-25. Retrieved 2008-01-31.
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7. <http://www.michigan.org/City/Default.aspx?city=G3073>
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10. "45th Parallel North America" (<http://www.wurlington-bros.com/Museum/45th/NAmer.html>). *wurlington-bros.com*.
11. "Gaylord, Michigan Köppen Climate Classification (Weatherbase)" (<http://www.weatherbase.com/weather/weather-summary.php3?s=690302&cityname=Gaylord%2C+Michigan%2C+United+States+of+America&units=>). *Weatherbase*.
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14. "Census of Population and Housing" (<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html>). Census.gov. Retrieved June 4, 2015.
15. "City of Gaylord - The Alpine Village of Michigan" (<http://www.cityofgaylord.com>). *cityofgaylord.com*.
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17. Christopher J. Bessert. "Michigan Highways: Route Listings: Routes 30-39" (<http://www.michiganhighways.org/listings/MichHwys30-39.html>). *michiganhighways.org*.
18. Old US 27 history (<http://www.cqql.net/us-27.htm>)
19. Gaylord Airport, County page. (<http://www.otsegocountymi.gov/airport/airport.htm>)
20. *Gaylord Regional Airport Information (<http://www.airnav.com/airport/KGLR>)
21. "EAST LANSING-PETOSKEY-ST. IGNACE" (<http://www.indiantrails.com/sites/default/files/1488.pdf>) (PDF). Indian Trails. January 15, 2013. Retrieved 2013-02-27.
22. Rankings of best cross country skiing in Michigan. (<http://www.trails.com/stateactivity.asp?area=13715>)
23. Rankings and Discussion of Forbush corners (http://www.trails.com/tcatalog_trail.asp?trailid=SGM005-037) Forbush Corners website (<http://www.forbushcorner.com/>)

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External links

- Chamber of Commerce (<http://www.gaylordchamber.com>)
- Gaylord City website (<http://www.infomi.com/city/gaylord/gov.html>)
- The Gaylord Area Convention & Tourism Bureau (<http://www.gaylordmichigan.net>)
- Michigan Travel: Gaylord (<http://www.michigan.org/City/Default.aspx?city=G3073>)
- Gaylord Herald Times (<http://www.gaylordheraldtimes.com>)
- Gaylord Regional Airport Information (<http://www.airnav.com/airport/KGLR>)
- Gaylord Streaming Webcam (<http://www.snowmancam.com>)
- National Weather Service Gaylord (<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/apx>)
- Gaylord Guide and Business Information (<http://www.gaylordguide.com>)

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