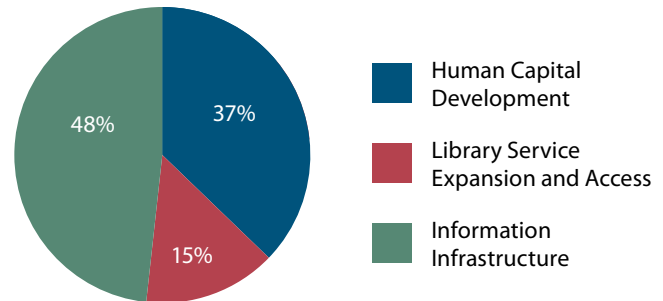


# LSTA GRANTS TO STATES PROFILE: MICHIGAN



## Projects by Strategy, FY 2003–2006



This fact sheet provides information about the State Library Administrative Agency, LSTA Grants to States programs by category, expenditures by fiscal year (2003–2006), interview highlights with the chief officer, and the program goals for 2008–2012.

## State Library Administrative Agency Information

<b>Agency name</b>	Library of Michigan
<b>Agency governance</b>	Under the Department of History, Arts, and Libraries
<b>Population served in 2006</b>	10,083,878
<b>FY 2006 total expenditures</b>	\$23,654,000
<b>Grants to States allotment total for FY 2003–2006</b>	\$20,051,987
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Nancy Robertson, State Librarian
<b>Web site</b>	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan">www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan</a>

## Interview Highlights with the Chief Officer, Nancy Robertson

### Greatest Program Impact in the Last Five Years:

“LSTA funding has enabled Michigan to provide its signature service to all residents in the state, the Michigan eLibrary (MeL at [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org)). MeL is the state’s virtual library and statewide resource sharing system. It provides quality databases and shared resources to level the playing field statewide.”

### Delivery of Library Services:

“The Library of Michigan works with all types of libraries via an assortment of channels. We work with regional cooperatives to assist local public libraries with a range of continuing education opportunities and technical and administrative support. The state appropriates state aid funding for public libraries; however, this is a very small percentage of their operating budgets. Staff in the Library Development area work with academic, school, public, and special libraries to provide consultation, continuing education, and programming. When funds are available, we run

## Program Data by Fiscal Year, FY 2003–2006

Michigan	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	All Years
<b>Total allotment</b>	\$4,875,315	\$5,023,914	\$5,059,705	\$5,093,053	\$20,051,987
<b>Number of projects reported</b>	75	38	20	21	154
<b>Largest project amount</b>	\$1,650,000	\$1,533,002	\$1,666,167	\$1,699,239	
<b>Median project amount</b>	\$1,500	\$21,584	\$61,099	\$19,829	

a competitive subgrant program, open to all libraries in the state. The majority of our LSTA funds are spent to continually enhance the Michigan eLibrary, which now has a statewide resource-sharing system allowing patron-initiated loans with speedy delivery to the home library. MeL also includes “Michigana,” a collection of digitized historical materials; “MORE” (Michigan Online Resources for Educators), curriculum support materials aligned with and searchable by Michigan’s educational standards; and a vast array of licensed databases providing full-text articles, e-books, practice tests and more.”

**Challenges in the Coming Five Years:**

1. Funding is number one. All types of libraries in the state are at risk; the lack of funds affects services, staffing, equipment, etc.
2. Fighting the concept that libraries are a quality-of-life service, a value added, is a major challenge. It’s hard to document that libraries are essential. We need to be able to show/quantify what libraries do.
3. The State Library Agency has IT limitations in that we do not have lots of autonomy in that area. Related to that is limited bandwidth connectivity around the state. We are working collaboratively to improve this situation.

**Program Goals for 2008–2012**

- **Equity of Access:** Increase equity of information access and library resources by providing basic state-wide access to information and resources and special assistance to libraries in underserved rural and urban communities, and to libraries that are working to provide service to persons having difficulty using a library.
- **Equity of Service:** Increase equity of service to Michigan residents by providing professional development resources and opportunities to libraries throughout the state to improve public services, programming, and outreach, especially to underserved rural and urban populations.
- **Equity in Innovation:** Foster new, innovative services and programs by funding scalable pilot projects for use

by libraries statewide to meet and anticipate Michigan residents’ constantly changing needs for library services and information.

**Exemplary Project: Library of Michigan**

<b>Project title</b>	MeL Databases—Newsbank
<b>Library</b>	Library of Michigan
<b>LSTA Funds Expended FY06</b>	\$95,000
<b>Total Cost FY06</b>	\$95,000
<b>Program Category</b>	Library Service Expansion and Access

As part of the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), the fulltext of three major Michigan newspapers, the *Detroit Free Press*, the *Grand Rapids Press*, and the *Lansing State Journal*, are made available free to Michigan residents for use at their local libraries, from their homes, or from “anywhere, anytime.” This “anywhere, anytime” access offers opportunities to Michigan citizens to advance and enhance their lives as workers, students, citizens, family members, and lifelong learners. Local newspaper availability is a resource that allows research into local events and communities, supporting local communities and strengthening the cultural heritage of local areas. The subscription has been important because the local newspapers are not carried by other vendors, leaving a large gap in access for those libraries and schools that have not been able to contract with the smaller, more specific vendors.