

Data Line Ohio

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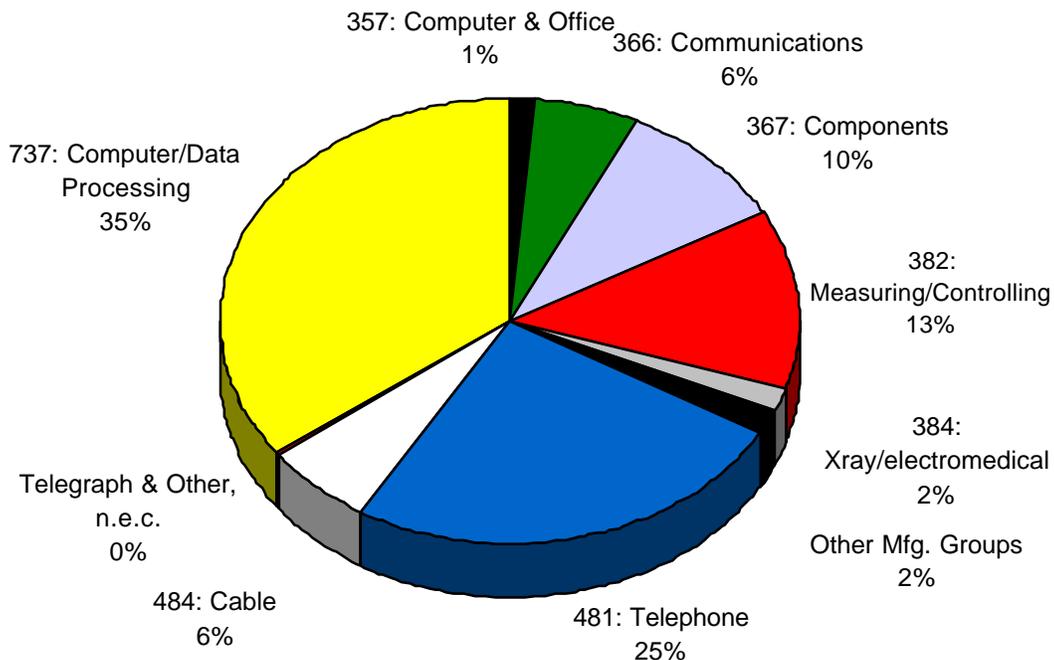
April, 1999

OHIO'S ADVANCED ELECTRONICS AND RELATED INDUSTRIES

Over 4,500 establishments in Ohio employed more than 118,000 people in advanced electronics and related industries during 1996. This was about three percent of the U.S. industry's establishments and work force. Foreign investment plays an important part in this industry. In 1992, 95 of the 3,594 establishments, employing approximately 13,000 Ohio workers, had at least 10 percent direct or indirect foreign-based ownership. Ohio ranked 14th overall in the production of advanced electronics in 1996 as measured by the value added in the Census Bureau's Annual Survey of Manufactures. The state's greatest relative contribution to advanced electronics manufacturing is in measuring and controlling devices. Manufacturers in Ohio averaged 4.8 percent of the value added for the U.S. during the 1988--1996 period.

The Office of Strategic Research has prepared a report, **Advanced Electronics and Related Industries in Ohio**, containing detailed information about the industry in Ohio. It examines its size, industry trends since 1988, and the geographic location of its establishments. It also profiles the state's notable advanced electronics producers. The report is available for \$20.00 by contacting the Office of Strategic Research, Ohio Department of Development, P.O. Box 1001, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001, 614-466-2115.

Employment in Ohio's Advanced Electronics & Related Industries: 1996 (SIC Group & Percentage of 118,736 Jobs)



Bob Taft, Governor
State of Ohio

C. Lee Johnson, Director
Ohio Department of Development

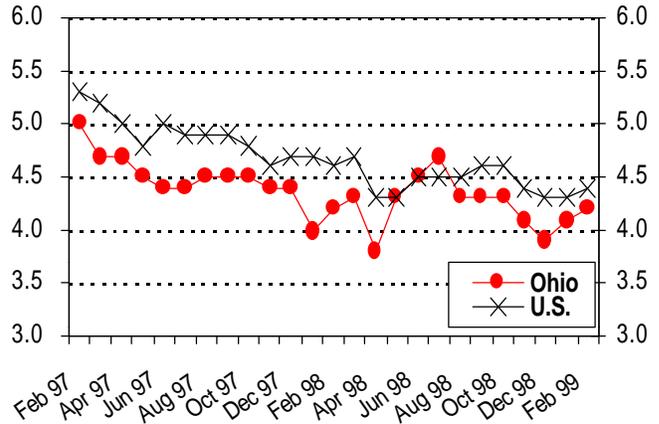


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: February 1997 To February 1999

The unemployment rate in Ohio rose slightly from 4.1 recorded in January to 4.2 in February. The number of unemployed workers increased 3.0 percent for the month, and is 3.0 percent higher than a year ago.

The U.S. unemployment rate for February rose to 4.4 from its January level of 4.3. The number of unemployed workers has increased 3.0 percent since January but has decreased 3.7 percent since February 1998.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION	Ohio Feb 99	Ohio Jan 99	Ohio Feb 98	U.S. Feb 99	U.S. Jan 99	U.S. Feb 98
Monthly Data (000)						
Civilian Labor Force	5,820	5,803	5,634	139,271	139,347	137,384
Employment	5,576	5,566	5,397	133,144	133,396	131,021
Unemployment	244	237	237	6,127	5,950	6,363
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.6



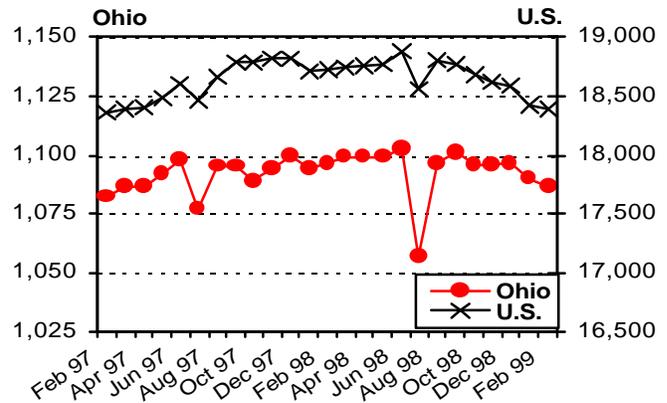
Seasonally adjusted.
SOURCE: Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, LMI Division.



MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT: February 1997 To February 1999

February employment in Ohio's manufacturing industry dropped 0.2 percent for the month with 1,087,200 workers. This was a decrease of 0.9 percent for the year. Production workers in Ohio's manufacturing industries earned an average of \$690.69 per week in February, up \$15.94 from January. This was \$19.19 more than a year ago, a 2.9 percent increase over February 1998.

The February manufacturing employment in the U.S. declined 0.2 percent for the month with 18,395,000 employees. This was a 1.8 percent decrease for the year. Average weekly earnings for production workers declined \$0.41 to \$564.16 in February 1999. This amounted to a 0.9 percent increase of \$4.96 over February 1998.



Employment in thousands. Not seasonally adjusted.
SOURCES: Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, LMI Division; U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.



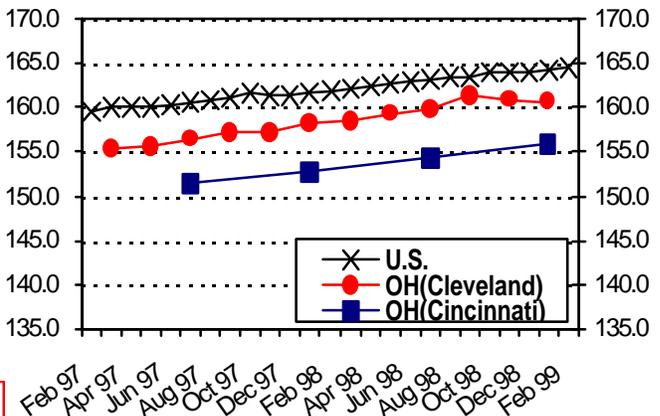
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: February 1997 To February 1999

The February U.S. average city consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.1 percent to 164.5 from 164.3 in January. This was a 1.6 percent increase over February 1998.

The Cleveland all urban consumers CPI for January was 160.6. This was a decrease of 0.1 percent from two months ago, and a 1.5 percent increase over a year ago.

For the second half of 1998, Cincinnati's CPI-U increased 1.0 percent over the first half of 1998 with 155.9. This was 2.0 percent higher than the second half of 1997.

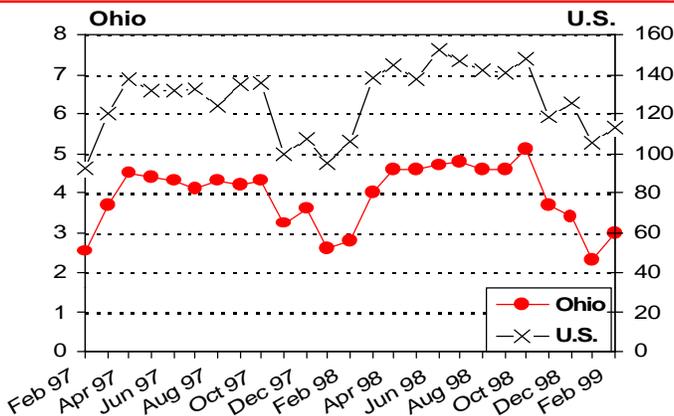
CPI-U Annual % Change	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98
U.S. Average City	2.8%	3.0%	2.3%	1.6%
OH (Cleveland)	2.4%	2.8%	2.7%	2.4%
OH (Cincinnati)	2.7%	2.3%	1.7%	2.0%



Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U), 1982-84=100.
US updated monthly; Cleveland, bi-monthly; Cincinnati, semi-annually.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.



RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION: February 1997 To February 1999



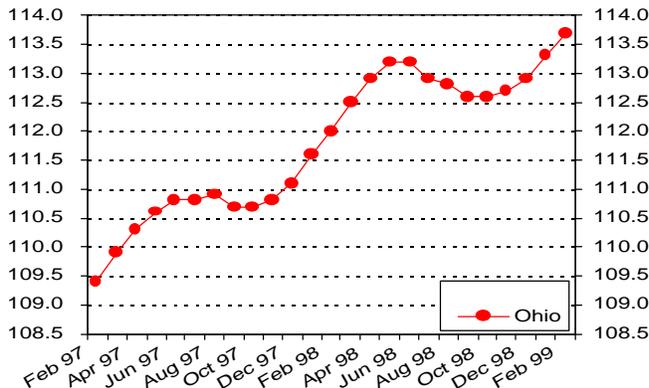
Number of units in thousands.
Percent of imputed data is greater than 25 percent.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The construction of new, privately-owned housing units in Ohio grew 29.2 percent between January 1999 and February 1999, to a total of 2,990 units. This was an increase of 6.0 percent from the February 1998 figure. The average value per single-family dwelling was \$136,041, 9.2 percent higher than last month, and 2.5 percent more than in February 1998.

In the U.S., the number of units authorized in February 1999 was 113,335, an increase of 7.6 percent from the January figure. This was 7.3 percent more than in February 1998. The average construction valuation per single-family building was \$120,234, 0.2 percent lower than last month, and 4.7 percent more than a year ago.



INDEX OF LEADING INDICATORS: February 1997 To February 1999



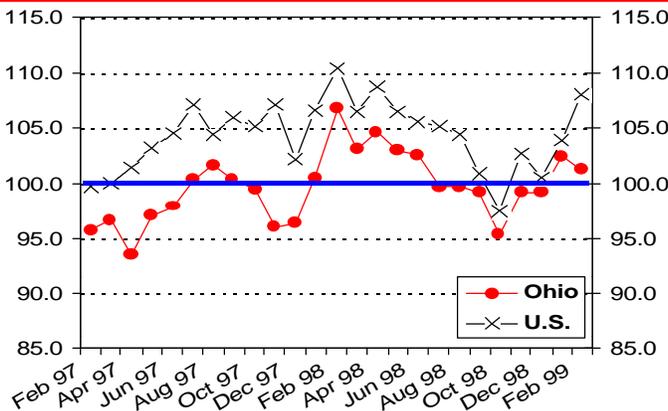
1990=100 Components are not seasonally adjusted.
Components used in index: 1. valuation of housing permits; 2. Initial claims for unemployment insurance; 3. average weekly hours in manufacturing; 4. U.S. domestic auto production; and the national composite index of leading economic indicators.
SOURCE: Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, LMI Division.

The composite index of leading economic indicators for Ohio increased 0.4 percent in February to 113.7. This was 1.5 percent higher than a year ago. Initial claims for unemployment insurance dropped 50.9 percent for the month and decreased 7.1 percent from February 1998. Valuation of housing permits rose 45.3 percent over the month, and was 7.3 percent higher than at this time last year. Average weekly hours for manufacturing have increased 3.1 percent since January but were 0.5 percent fewer than in February 1998.

The national composite index of leading indicators rose 0.2 percent in February to 107.1. This was 1.8 percent higher than in February 1998. Domestic auto production increased 0.2 percent to 6 million units on an annual basis. This was slightly lower than a year ago.



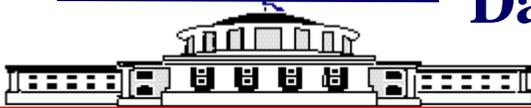
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDEX: February 1997 To February 1999



Index of 100.0 is benchmark for good economic times.
SOURCE: Ohio - Ohio State University Center for Survey Research for the Columbus Dispatch/WBNS-TV; U.S. - University of Michigan.

The Ohio **Consumer Confidence** index dropped 1.2 percent to 101.2 in February from the January figure of 102.4. This is above the 100.0 index indicating good economic times. The February 1999 Index was 5.2 percent lower than in February 1998.

The U.S. **Index of Consumer Sentiment** rose to 108.1 in February from 103.9 in January, a 4.0 percent increase. The index, however, dropped 2.1 percent from the February 1998 figure of 110.4.



MIDWEST ECONOMIC UPTURN

In a U.S. Bureau of the Census Brief, "**Rust Belt Rebounds**," Author Glenn King finds reason to believe that the economic downturn during the 1970s and early 1980s, in the major metropolitan areas of the Midwest has snapped-back during the 1990s. According to the Census Bureau's **State and Metropolitan Area Data Book: 1997-98**, these metro areas have followed the U.S. lead in shifting from a mostly goods-related economy to a service-based economy, generating hundreds of thousands of new jobs. Some areas have entered the global marketplace and increased exports significantly. The Cleveland-Akron Consolidated Metropolitan Area, for example, increased exports by 27 percent during 1994-96, more than 5 percent above the nation as a whole. During the same period the area experienced a 6.3 percent growth in business establishments and a 4 percent increase in job growth. In most of the so called "Rust Belt," unemployment is down, welfare rolls are down, crime is down, wages are up, and the population is either up or stable.

For further information, contact the Census Bureau's Public Information Office at 301-457-3030; or visit the Bureau's web site at <http://www.census.gov>.

CENSUS 2000 UPDATE

In a change of policy, the Census Bureau announced that it will allow households that receive Census 2000 short forms to report their answers via the Internet as long as they can supply a legitimate short-form identification (ID) number. It was previously felt that concerns about Internet security might compromise the public's faith in the confidentiality of their responses. So, use of the Internet was ruled out for this Census. However, it is now believed that by using the unique short-form ID number, confidentiality will not be compromised. The Census Bureau will be taking every known security precaution to protect the responses. If any unforeseen security problems develop in Census 2000, the Internet form may be removed.

The Census Bureau also plans to offer assistance on the Internet to help respondents complete their paper form. The address for obtaining on-line help will be <http://www.2000.census.gov>.

Information about Census 2000 may be found at the Bureau's web site, <http://www.census.gov>, or call Detroit Regional Census Center at 248-967-9524.

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