Ohio now has 11,209,493 residents. The U.S. Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates Program’s recently released 1998 population estimates show the state has increased its population by 362,378 people over the past eight years. Details of Ohio’s components of population change indicate that much of Ohio’s growth can be attributed to a natural increase (births minus deaths). The U.S. population increased by 21,533,354 people for a total of 270,298,524. With the seventh highest population in the country, Ohio made up more than four percent of the U.S. total. The nation’s population is projected to grow less during 1999 than during 1998, primarily because the aging population will result in an expected rise in the number of deaths.

Nevada has shown the largest population increase over the past eight years, growing 45.4 percent. Rhode Island ranked last in population growth, having lost 1.5 percent of its residents since the 1990 Census.

For further information on the state-level 1998 estimates, contact Dr. Jane Wang, State Demographer, Office of Strategic Research, Ohio Dept of Development, P.O. Box 1001, Columbus, OH 43216-1001, 614-466-2115.
The unemployment rate in Ohio dropped from 4.3 recorded in October to 4.1 in November. The number of unemployed workers decreased 4.0 percent for the month, and is 6.6 percent lower than a year ago.

The U.S. Unemployment rate for November dropped to 4.4 from its October level of 4.6. The number of unemployed workers has declined 3.2 percent since October and 3.2 percent since November 1997.

**Data Line Ohio**

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: November 1996 To November 1998**

The November U.S. average city consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) remained at its October level of 164.0. This was a 1.5 percent increase over November 1997.

The Cleveland all urban consumers CPI for November was 160.8. This was a decrease of 0.4 percent from two months ago, and a 2.4 percent increase over a year ago.

For the first half of 1998, Cincinnati’s CPI-U increased 1.0 percent over the second half of 1997 with 154.4. This was 2.0 percent higher than the first half of 1997.

**MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT: November 1996 To November 1998**

November employment in Ohio’s manufacturing industry showed little change for the month with 1,091,700 workers. This was a decrease of 0.2 percent for the year. Production workers in Ohio’s manufacturing industries earned an average of $695.27 per week in November, up $4.93 from October. This was $1.09 more than a year ago, a 0.2 percent increase over November 1997.

The November manufacturing employment in the U.S. declined 0.3 percent for the month with 18,633,000 employees. This was a 1.0 percent decrease for the year. Average weekly earnings for production workers rose $5.65 to $572.98 in November 1998. This amounted to a 0.7 percent increase of $3.84 over November 1997.

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: November 1996 To November 1998**

Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U), 1982-84=100.

US updated monthly; Cleveland, bi-monthly; Cincinnati, semi-annually.

October retail sales for the U.S. have increased 5.9 percent since September with $230,679 million. This was 6.0 percent more than a year ago. Sales in durable goods have grown 4.0 percent since September, and have increased 7.9 percent since October 1997. Nondurable goods sales increased 7.2 percent for the month, and rose 4.7 percent for the year.

Due to budget constraints, the U.S. Bureau of the Census has discontinued publication of its monthly retail trade data for states.

The construction of new, privately-owned housing units in Ohio decreased 26.8 percent between October 1998 and November 1998, but has increased 17.2 percent since November 1997. Permits were issued for 3,722 units within 3,044 buildings. Of those buildings authorized, 2,890 were single family dwellings, and 51 contained five or more units each.

The number of units authorized in the U.S. for November 1998 was 118,246, a decrease of 19.9 percent from the October 1998 figure. This was 18.5 percent more than in November 1997. Permits were issued for 89,187 buildings, 85,563 were single-unit buildings, and 1,797 contained five or more units.

The November 1998 average valuation per single family dwelling in Ohio was $135,060. This was 4.9 percent higher than last month, and 1.0 percent more than in November 1997. The total value of all permit-authorized residential construction in Ohio was $429,268,000.

In the U.S., the average construction valuation per single-family building was $120,237, 0.5 percent higher than the October 1998 figure, and 5.3 percent more than a year ago. The total U.S. residential construction valuation for November 1998 was $12,114,081,000.
The 1996 County Business Patterns for Ohio were recently released by the Bureau of the Census. Ohio showed an overall increase over 1995 of 1.2 percent in the number of establishments and 2.0 percent in the number of employees. The majority of the establishments, 226,577 or 84.9 percent, employed fewer than 20 workers.

Government officials aren’t the only ones who will be using the 2000 Census data. Besides the Constitutional requirements for congressional and state legislative redistricting, Census data will be used daily by a myriad of individuals and organizations. To name a few of the many uses: for market studies for business investments; for target advertising; for development planning; to locate citizens in need of disaster relief; for school district planning; for finding the best location for child-care centers, hospitals, and senior centers; and, one of the most important uses, for establishing eligibility for a number of federal, state and local government programs.

Preliminary calculations by this office indicate that, on average, Ohio receives about $450 per household per year via funding to Ohio state and local governments that is based on population formula allocation.

Beginning mid-March 2000, Census questionnaires will go out to every household in the U.S., with April 1, 2000 the designated CENSUS DAY. On December 31, 2000, Apportionment counts will be delivered to the President, and on April 1, 2001, all states will receive redistricting counts. At that time, first counts should be available to all who wish to use them.

The state of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT
77 South High Street, P.O. Box 1001
Columbus, OH 43216-1001