

Data Line Ohio

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Ohio Department of Development

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OHIO'S ECONOMY

Ohio's economy created 188 thousand new jobs between March 1998 and March 1999. As of March 1999, the state's unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, was 3.9%--compared to 4.2% for the U.S. Ohio's per capita income currently is \$25,134. Personal income in the state grew at a 4.2% rate in 1998, and is projected to grow at a 3.9% rate for 1999.

If Ohio were a nation, its economic output would rank 17th in the world. The Ohio gross state product (GSP) was approximately \$342 billion in 1998, making it the seventh largest state economy. While the service-producing sectors produce two-thirds of the state GSP, manufacturing claims the lion's share among the ten major sectors. The manufacturing sector plays an important role in Ohio's economy. Employing 1.1 million people, Ohio is the third largest manufacturing state in the country.

The State's two leading export industries, transportation equipment and industrial machinery, account for 53% of the value of Ohio's exports. Ohio firms shipped \$27 billion in merchandise to 200 countries in 1998.

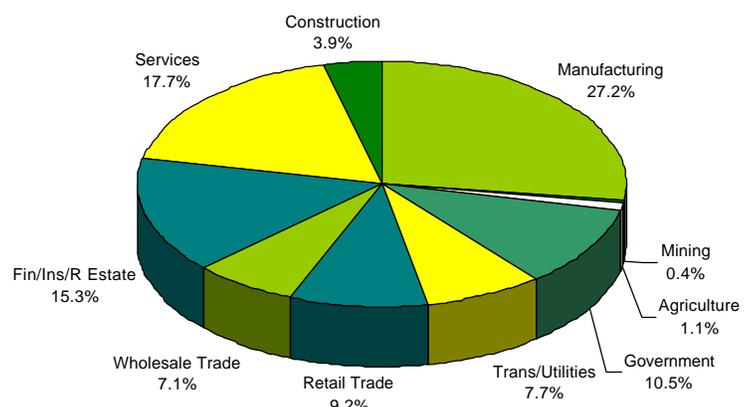
For further details about Ohio's economy, contact the Office of Strategic Research, Ohio Department of Development, P.O. Box 1001, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001, 614-466-2115, email: osr@odod.ohio.gov. Or visit our web site at www.odod.ohio.gov/osr.

Wage and Salary Employment March 1999

Industry	Employment	Percent
Total for Ohio	5,499	100.0%
Mining	13	0.2%
Construction	227	4.1%
Manufacturing	1,088	19.8%
Trans/Utilities	243	4.4%
Wholesale Trade	301	5.5%
Retail Trade	1,034	18.8%
Fin/Ins/R Estate	303	5.5%
Services	1,525	27.7%
Government	765	13.9%

Note: Nonfarm payroll employment **in thousands**.
Source: Ohio Bureau of Employment Services.

Gross State Product By Sector 1996



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Bob Taft, Governor
State of Ohio

C. Lee Johnson, Director
Ohio Department of Development

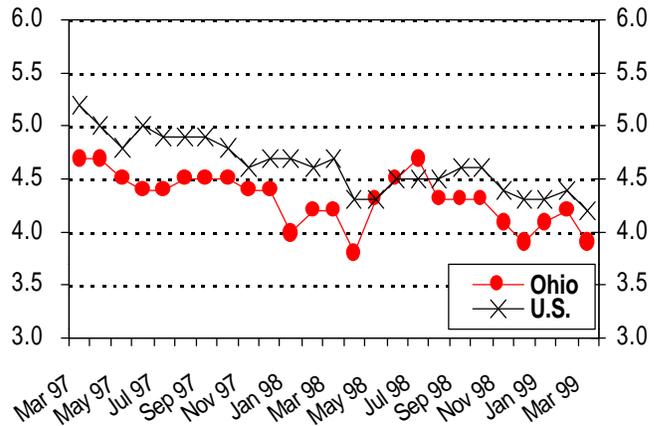


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: March 1997 To March 1999

The unemployment rate in Ohio dropped from 4.2 recorded in February to 3.9 in March. The number of unemployed workers decreased 8.9 percent for the month, and is 10.1 percent lower than a year ago.

The U.S. unemployment rate for March declined to 4.2 from its February level of 4.4. The number of unemployed workers has decreased 5.6 percent since February and 10.1 percent since March 1998.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION	Ohio			U.S.		
	Mar 99	Feb 99	Mar 98	Mar 99	Feb 99	Mar 98
Monthly Data (000)						
Civilian Labor Force	5,801	5,820	5,627	138,816	139,271	137,340
Employment	5,577	5,575	5,389	133,033	133,144	130,908
Unemployment	224	246	238	5,783	6,127	6,432
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.7



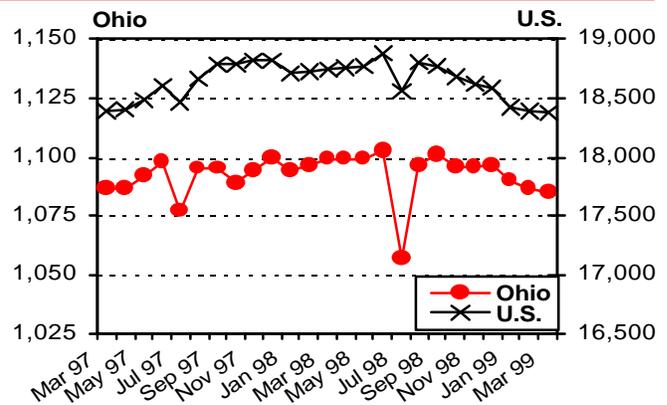
Seasonally adjusted.
SOURCE: Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, LMI Division.



MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT: March 1997 To March 1999

March employment in Ohio's manufacturing industry dropped a slight 0.1 percent for the month with 1,084,700 workers. This was a decrease of 1.3 percent for the year. Production workers in Ohio's manufacturing industries earned an average of \$690.55 per week in March, down \$0.57 from February. This was \$12.74 more than a year ago, a 1.9 percent increase over March 1998.

The March manufacturing employment in the U.S. declined 0.1 percent for the month with 18,374,000 employees. This was a 2.0 percent decrease for the year. Average weekly earnings for production workers rose \$3.85 to \$568.01 in March 1999. This amounted to a 1.1 percent increase of \$6.31 over March 1998.



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



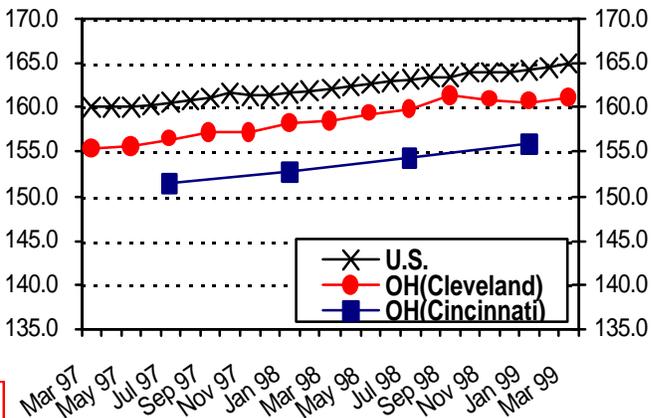
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: March 1997 To March 1999

The March U.S. average city consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.3 percent to 165.0 from 164.5 in February. This was a 1.7 percent increase over March 1998.

The Cleveland all urban consumers CPI for March was 161.2. This was an increase of 0.4 percent from two months ago, and a 1.6 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.

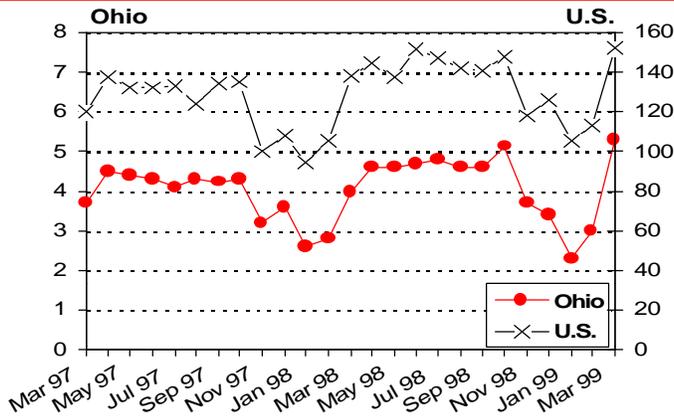
CPI-U Annual % Change	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98
U.S. Average City	2.8%	3.0%	2.3%	1.6%
OH (Cleveland)	2.4%	2.8%	2.7%	2.4%
OH (Cincinnati)	2.7%	2.3%	1.7%	2.0%



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: March 1997 To March 1999



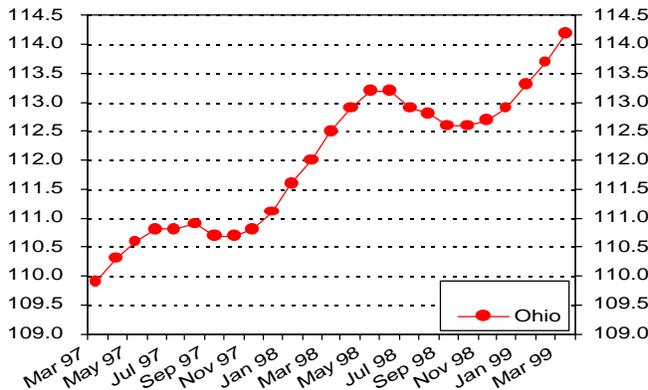
Number of units in thousands.
Percent of imputed data is greater than 25 percent.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The construction of new, privately-owned housing units in Ohio grew 78.5 percent between February 1999 and March 1999, to a total of 5,338 units. This was an increase of 34.9 percent from the March 1998 figure. The average value per single-family dwelling was \$137,307, 0.9 percent higher than last month, and 5.6 percent more than in March 1998.

In the U.S., the number of units authorized in March 1999 was 152,097, an increase of 34.2 percent from the February figure. This was 10.2 percent more than in March 1998. The average construction valuation per single-family building was \$122,083, 1.5 percent higher than last month, and 5.4 percent more than a year ago.



INDEX OF LEADING INDICATORS: March 1997 To March 1999



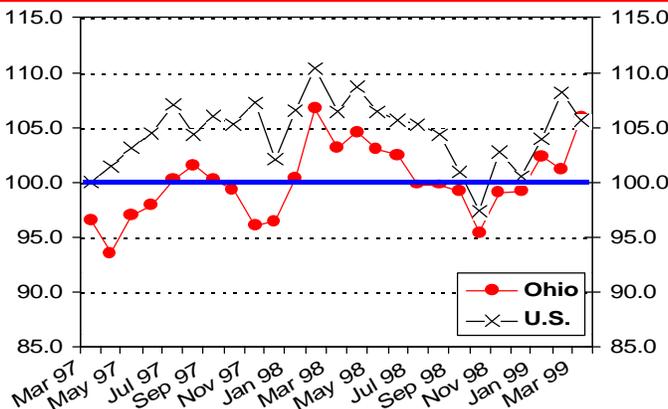
1990=100 Components are not seasonally adjusted.
Components used in index: 1. valuation of housing permits; 2. Initial claims for unemployment insurance; 3. average weekly hours in manufacturing; 4. U.S. domestic auto production; and the national composite index of leading economic indicators.
SOURCE: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

The composite index of leading economic indicators for Ohio increased 0.4 percent in March to 114.2. This was 1.5 percent higher than a year ago. Initial claims for unemployment insurance rose 3.3 percent for the month and increased 0.8 percent from March 1998. Valuation of housing permits rose 63.9 percent over the month, and was 29.3 percent higher than at this time last year. Average weekly hours for manufacturing have decreased 0.7 percent since February and were 1.4 percent fewer than in March 1998.

The national composite index of leading indicators rose 0.1 percent in March to 107.3. This was 1.8 percent higher than in March 1998. Domestic auto production increased 8.3 percent to 6.5 million units on an annual basis. This was 3.2 percent more than a year ago.



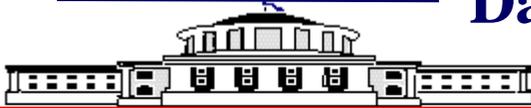
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDEX: March 1997 To March 1999



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 rose 4.6 percent to 105.9 in March from the February figure of 101.2. For the third month in a row, the index has registered above the 100.0 mark indicating good economic times. The March 1999 Index was 2.7 percent higher than in March 1998.

The U.S. **Index of Consumer Sentiment** declined to 105.7 in March from 108.1 in February, a 2.2 percent decrease. This was a drop of 0.8 percent from the March 1998 index of 106.5.

**CENSUS 2000 DRESS REHEARSAL**

The U.S. Bureau of the Census recently released both adjusted and unadjusted data from last year's Census 2000 Dress Rehearsals in Sacramento, California, Menominee County, Wisconsin, and Columbia, South Carolina. The results show that the undercount, measured since the 1940 Census, persists today. In Sacramento, where sampling and estimation methods were used, the totals were 6.3 percent higher than the unadjusted numbers. In Menominee County the difference was 3.9 percent higher for adjusted totals. The adjustment methods were not applied in the Columbia Dress Rehearsal.

Sacramento Results	Unadjusted	Adjusted
White	185,478	195,046
Black, African American	58,443	63,826
American Indian/Alaskan	11,270	12,327
Asian	56,877	60,529
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2,388	2,596
Some Other Race	42,972	47,023
Two or More Races	20,313	21,965
Hispanic/Latino(any race)	77,320	84,192

For further information, contact the Census Bureau's Customer Services Office at 301-457-4100; or visit the Bureau's web site at <http://www.census.gov>.

CENSUS 2000 UPDATE

On April 15, 1999, the U.S. House of Representatives approved legislation to require a 45-day local review of preliminary housing unit counts as part of the 2000 Census. H.R. 472 would require the Census Bureau to send preliminary household counts and jurisdictional boundaries to more than 39,000 local and Tribal governments by August 1, 2000. Local officials would have 45 working days to review and challenge the information. The Bureau is then required to investigate all challenges, and do whatever is necessary, including canvassing neighborhoods, to correct any problems. All this must be completed and the results reported to the local officials by November 1, 2000.

The fate of H.R. 472 is uncertain, as it still must pass the Senate and be signed by the President before it becomes law.

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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