Data Line Ohio

Prepared by the Office of Strategic Research

Ohio Department of Development

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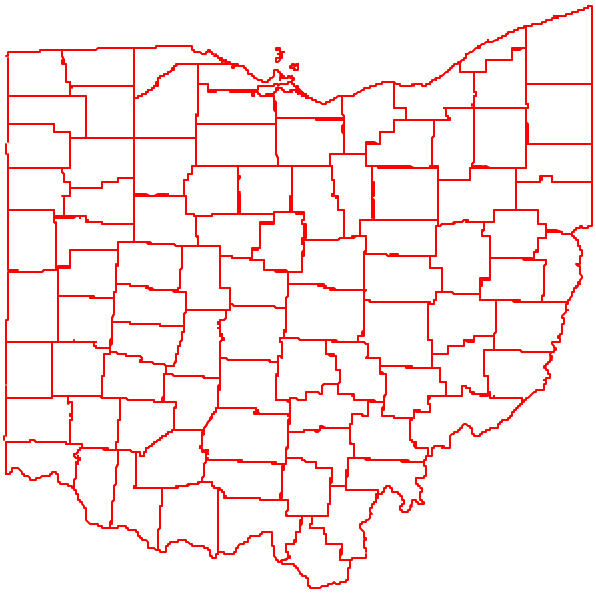
Ohio's County Indicators

Many Ohioan natives are familiar with that all to frequent question one was asked in elementary school: How many counties are in the state of Ohio. The answer (of course) is 88. But maybe you have always craved to know more about these counties. Maybe, like many others, you have unanswered questions about the states counties. Where are they? How many people do they have living in them? What are the current civilian labor force and unemployment rates?

All of these question and more can be answered by one source: The new Ohio County Indicators. Whether you need information on population, income, employment, building permits and property values, or business indicators, it is all contained in one comprehensive booklet. Also included are tables, charts, graphs, and color maps for easy and concise research. All information in the report is based on the most current annual data.

These exciting and informative county statistics can all be found in the latest edition of Ohio County Indicators, issued June 1998. It is available at the pre-paid price (check or credit card) of $25.00 from the Office of Strategic Research, Ohio Department of Development, P.O. Box 1001, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001. Phone orders may be placed by calling (614) 466-2115.

Selected County Rankings



Most Populated County: Cuyahoga (pop.1,386,331)
Least Populated County: Vinton (pop. 12,034)

Highest Average Income: Delaware ($29,664)
Lowest Average Income: Adams ($13,391)

Lowest Unemployment Rate: Franklin (2.7%)
Highest Unemployment Rate: Jefferson (13.2%)

Highest # of Building Permits: Franklin (6,160)
Lowest # of Permits: Vinton/ Harrison/ Morgan (0)

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

George V. Voinovich, Governor
State of Ohio

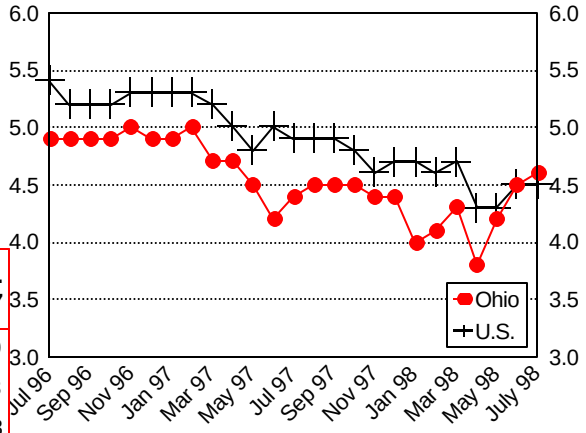
Joseph C. Robertson, Director
Ohio Department of Development

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: July 1996 To July 1998

The July unemployment rate in Ohio rose from 4.5 recorded in June to 4.6. The number of unemployed workers increased 3.4 percent for the month, and is 12.5 percent higher than a year ago.

The U.S. unemployment rate held steady at 4.5 percent for the month of July. The number of unemployed workers has decreased 0.1 percent since June, but has declined 5.4 percent since July 1997.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION Monthly Data (000)	Ohio July 98	Ohio Jun 98	Ohio July 97	U.S. July 98	U.S. Jun 98	U.S. July 97
Civilian Labor Force	5,810	5,805	5,730	137,296	137,447	136,290
Employment	5,540	5,544	5,490	131,067	131,209	129,708
Unemployment	270	261	240	6,230	6,237	6,583
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.5	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.8

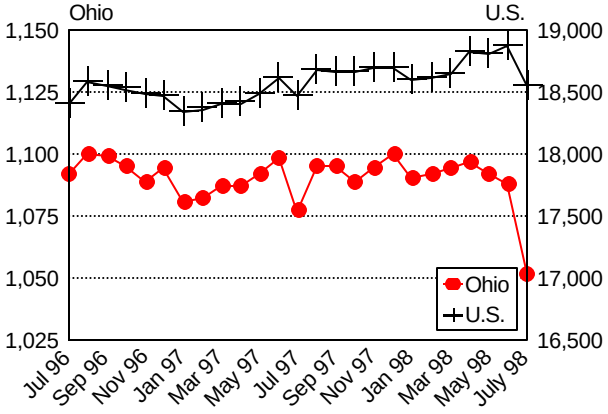


Seasonally adjusted.
SOURCE: Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, LMI Division.

MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT: July 1996 To July 1998

July employment in Ohio's manufacturing industry decreased 3.3 percent for the month with 1,052,000 workers. Production workers in Ohio's manufacturing industries earned an average of $640.65 per week in July, down $29.17 from June. This was $7.00 more than a year ago, a 1.1 percent increase over July 1997.

The July manufacturing employment in the U.S. decreased 1.7 percent for the month with 18,552,000 employees. This was a 0.4 percent decrease for the year. Average weekly earnings for production workers went down $11.45 to $549.92 in July 1998. These earnings amounted to a 1.6 percent increase of $8.55 over July 1997.



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: July 1996 To July 1998

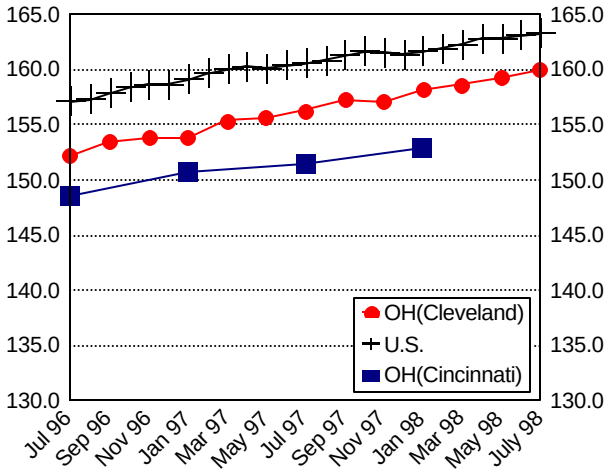
The July U.S. average city consumer price index for urban wage earners (CPI-U) rose 0.1 percent to 163.2 from 163.0 in June. This was a 1.7 percent increase over July 1997.

The Cleveland urban wage earners consumer price index for July was 159.9. This was an increase of 0.4 percent from two months ago, and a 2.3 percent increase over a year ago.

For the second half of 1997, Cincinnati's CPI-U showed a 0.9 percent increase over the first half of 1997 with 152.8. This was 1.4 percent higher than the second half of 1996.

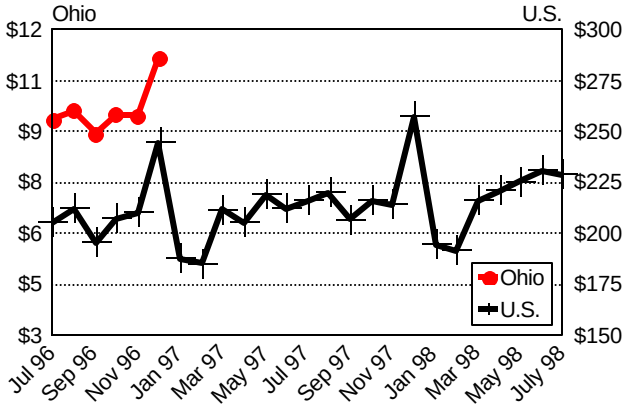
The "market basket of goods and services" has been updated as of January 1998 to better reflect current consumer buying habits. See Data Line Ohio, March 1998, Page 4.

CPI-U Annual % Change	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97
U.S. Average City	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%	2.3%
OH (Cleveland)	2.9%	2.4%	2.8%	2.7%
OH (Cincinnati)	3.3%	2.7%	2.3%	1.7%



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

ESTIMATED RETAIL SALES: July 1996 To July 1998

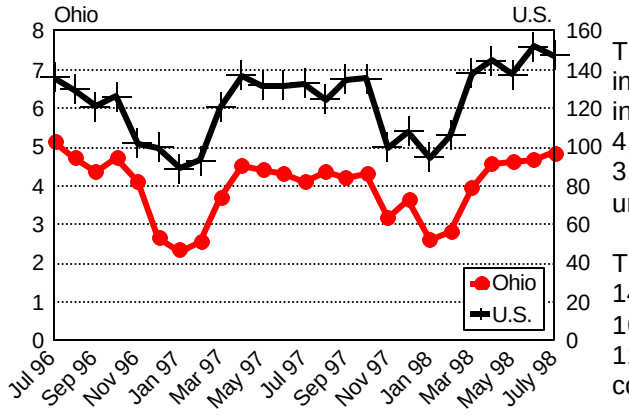


Sales in billions of dollars. Figures are unadjusted.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Due to budget constraints, the U.S. Bureau of the Census has discontinued publication of its monthly retail trade data for states. For the time being, Data Line Ohio will continue the Estimated Retail Sales section, displaying Ohio's sales through December, 1996, and updating the U.S. figures as they are released.

July retail sales for the U.S. have dropped 0.6 percent since June with $229,214 million. This was 5.1 percent more than a year ago. Sales in durable goods have decreased 4.0 percent since June to 99,106 million, and have increased 6.7 percent since July 1997. Nondurable goods sales increased 2.0 percent for the month, and rose 4.0 percent for the year.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION: July 1996 To July 1998



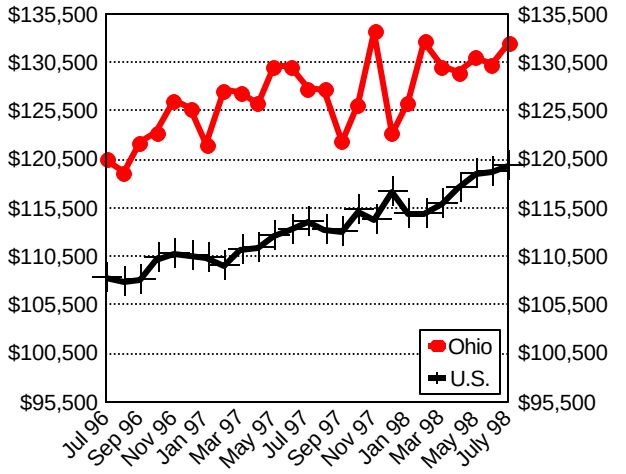
Number of units in thousands.
Percent of imputed data is greater than 25 percent.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The construction of new, privately-owned housing units in Ohio in increased 4.0 percent between June 1998 and July 1998, and has increased 17.9 percent since June 1997. Permits were issued for 4,848 units within 3,647 buildings. Of those buildings authorized, 3,384 were single family dwellings, and 103 contained five or more units each.

The number of units authorized in the U.S.,for July 1998 was 146,766 a decrease of 3.3 percent from the June 1998 figure, and 10.8 percent more than June 1997. Permits were issued for 114,412 buildings, 109,923 were single-unit buildings, and 1,994 contained five or more units.

Third quarter 1998 monthly numbers have been revised.

AVERAGE CONSTRUCTION COSTS: July 1996 To July 1998



One-unit residential buildings only.
Percent of imputed data is greater than 25 percent.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The July 1998 average valuation per single-family dwelling in Ohio was $132,385. This was 1.6 percent higher than last month, and 3.5 percent more than in July 1997. The total value of all permit-authorized residential construction in Ohio was $520,692,000.

In the U.S., the average construction valuation per single-family building was $119,783, 4.2 percent higher than the June 1998 figure, and 5.0 percent more than a year ago. The total U.S. residential construction valuation for June 1998 was $15,230,585,000.

Third quarter 1998 monthly numbers have been revised.

Data Line Ohio
Notes and New Products

Household Composition Affects the United States' Distribution of Income

The Census Bureau Report Changes in Median Household Income: 1969 to 1996 by John McNeil reveals the significance of changing household characteristics when studying household income trends. From 1969 to 1996 the United States' median household income rose a modest 6.3 percent. However, when considering median income by a household's composition the changes were significantly larger.

In the past few decades household composition and size has been altered, drastically affecting the growth in overall household income. One of the most important changes in household composition was the 13 percent increase in single-parent and single person households. The result of the growth in single-parent and single-person households was a 15 percent decline in the total number of married-couple households with children. Because single-parent households experienced much less income growth than dual-income households, this slowed the overall growth of median household income. But, the overall result was stable ,due to the fact the majority of the other household types showed substantial growth. For example, the median income for elderly men and women living alone showed very substantial gains of 63 percent for each group. On a positive note for single-income households, nonelderly women living alone saw a 35 percent gain their incomes from $15, 929 to $21,432.

Education attainment is an additional factor associated with changes in household income. However, the impact of changes in the educational attainment level was unclear. Over the 1969 to 1996 period, educational attainment levels of individuals grew dramatically regardless of the income position of the household. In fact, all but one of the household types studied saw higher proportions of college degrees.

Women's increased participation in the labor force has become an important element when discussing median household income. The report states the median income of married-couple households with children increased a noticeable 25 percent ($41,453 to $50,830), while the median income of married-couple households without children saw even greater gains of 34 percent ($43,645 to $58,656). However, when the wives' incomes were excluded the gains in median income were much lower.

According to Business Week's article by Gene Kuritz, Wives With Fat Paychecks, the American married-couple with a bread winner husband and stay-at home wife is rare in existence. Although on average wives earn 70 percent as much of their spouses, the difference between male and female earnings among married-couples is significantly small. The shrinking gap between male and female earnings among married-couples may be attributed to women's increased educational attainment and experience. Kuritz points out that there were almost as many high-earning wives paired with low-earning husbands as high-earning husbands with low earning wives. The article refers to Census Bureau data that showed dual-income couples earned $19.1 million more than single-income couples during 1997.

CENSUS 2000 UPDATE

On the 10th day of September 1998, the United States Supreme Court announced that it would hear oral arguments in the case of U.S. House of Representatives v. U.S. Department of Commerce, on November 30. A special three-judge federal district court ruled in the case last month that the Census Act barred the use of sampling and statistical methods to derive the census counts used for congressional apportionment. Congress provided for a speedy review of census challenges and a direct appeal to the Supreme Court. Both sides in the case asked the high court to review the case quickly.

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