



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Bob Taft  
Governor

Bruce Johnson  
Director

## Ohio's Economy

**Prepared by the Office of  
Strategic Research**

### Economic Outlook

Ohio's economy is reflecting the slow national economy. Unemployment rates have climbed over the last six months to 5.0%, seasonally adjusted, which remains below the U.S. national rate of 5.6%.

Total employment in Ohio is expected to increase 12.5% over the 10-year period from 1998 to 2008-- a projected gain of nearly 740 thousand jobs.

Personal income in Ohio grew at a 4.0% rate, unadjusted for inflation, in 1999 and is forecasted to grow at a 5.5% rate for 2001, according to RFA. Ohio's per capita income currently is \$27,914.

### Gross State Product

Ohio's gross state product was \$386 billion in 2000, making Ohio the seventh largest state economy. If Ohio were a nation, its economic output would rank 20th in the world.

### Leading Industries

Ohio's manufacturing sector employs one million people, ranking Ohio third in the nation. The state's factories lead the nation in the manufacture of steel, rubber and plastics, and fabricated metals. Ohio also is a leading producer of autos and trucks.

### Location

Located in the heart of the nation's industrial region, Ohio is strategically situated on the great inland waterways and crisscrossed by the interstate roadway system. Sixty percent of all U.S. households lie within 600 miles of Ohio, and more than 50 percent of the Canadian market is within the same range.

### Population Centers

Seventh in the nation in total population, Ohio's population of 11,353,140 people are concentrated in eight large urban centers and 15 micro-metropolitan centers.

The largest metropolitan area in Ohio is the Cleveland-Akron consolidated area with 2,945,831 people. Other metropolitan areas with populations in excess of 500,000 include Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Toledo, and Youngstown.

### Wage and Salary Employment January 2002

Industry	Employment	Percent
Total for Ohio.....	5,550	100.0%
Mining.....	13	0.2%
Construction.....	235	4.2%
Manufacturing.....	1,004	18.1%
Trans/Utilities.....	247	4.5%
Wholesale Trade...	286	5.2%
Retail Trade.....	1,038	18.7%
Fin/Ins/Real Estate	314	5.7%
Services.....	1,613	29.1%
Government.....	800	14.4%

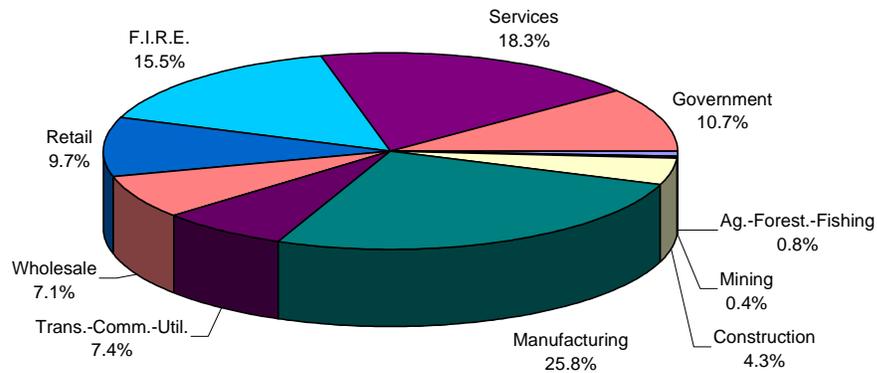
Note: Nonfarm payroll employment in thousands.  
Source: Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information.

## The Structure of Ohio's Economy

Manufacturing is the largest of Ohio's ten major sectors, based on gross state product. These ten sectors and their contribution to Ohio's economy are presented in the chart below. About 67 percent of the state's manufacturing output consists of durable goods--compared to 58 percent for the nation.

The state's two leading export commodities are machinery and motor vehicles--accounting for 51 percent of the value of Ohio's merchandise exports. Ohio firms ship products to 197 countries, and the state accounts for about 3.7% of the U.S. export total. Ohio merchandise exports were \$26.3 billion in 2000.

**Gross State Product by Sector**



The importance of durable goods to Ohio's economy can be seen in the list of the top three manufacturing industries: transportation equipment, industrial machinery, and fabricated metals. These three industries are closely identified with a number of nationally recognized firms with a major presence in Ohio, including: General Motors, DaimlerChrysler, Ford, Honda, General Electric, Milacron, Illinois Tool Works, AK Steel, Timken, WHX, and Worthington Industries.

Other notable firms include: Procter & Gamble, NCR, The Limited, Sherwin-Williams, and numerous financial institutions such as Banc One, KeyCorp, National City Corp., Huntington Bancshares, and Fifth Third Bancorp.

Ohio leads the nation in rubber and plastics--a sector supported by a \$10 billion chemicals industry. Goodyear, Cooper Tire, and PolyOne are a few of the more notable Ohio-based firms in this sector.

Companies such as JM Smucker, General Mills, Heinz, Nestle, and Campbell Soup contribute to Ohio's \$6.8 billion food processing industry, an industry supported by a large and diverse farm sector.

The service-producing sector produces 6 percent of the state GSP and currently is the major source of job growth. This sector employs 75 percent of Ohio's workers and is expected to employ 78 percent by 2008.