



## Economic News from Ohio's Regions

Provided by The Ohio Urban University Program and the  
Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at CSU

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## Weekly News and Opinion from Ohio's Newspapers March 24 - 30, 2009

### Greetings!

Welcome to the latest issue of *Economic News from Ohio's Regions*, a new weekly newsletter from the [Ohio Urban University Program](#) and the [Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University](#). We'll search Ohio's papers to bring you economic news and key happenings that impact Ohio's regions.

### News From Around Ohio

[Draft of federal environmental impact statement finds no problems with Inner Belt overhaul](#) (The Plain Dealer, March 24, 2009) The authorities found no environmental problems with the project, which includes rebuilding portions of several interstates into downtown and closing some entrance and exit ramps between the Inner Belt Bridge and Dead Man's Curve.

[Ohio income growth slows with nation](#) (Columbus Business First, March 24, 2009) Per-capita personal income growth nationwide routinely has outpaced change in Ohio, but the flagging economy brought the two neck-and-neck last year, says preliminary data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

[Lawsuit threat ends secrecy over medical mart](#) (The Plain Dealer, March 25, 2009) Under threat of a lawsuit from The Plain Dealer, Cuyahoga County commissioners Tuesday promised not to approve a development agreement on the taxpayer-funded \$425 million medical mart project until the public has at least a week to review the deal.

[Mansfield awarded \\$3M in economic recovery funds](#) (Mansfield News Journal, March 26, 2009) The city will be awarded close to \$3 million through three different federal economic recovery grants which includes \$1.6 million to finish building the new Airport West Industrial Park.

[Team NEO launches multicultural business effort](#)

(Akron Beacon Journal, March 28, 2009) Team NEO, a nonprofit business attraction organization, has launched an initiative to lure multicultural businesses to Northeast Ohio.

**[Train plan gains speed](#)** (Springfield News Sun, March 29, 2009) After years of officials just talking about returning widespread passenger train service to Ohio, motivation and money may be coming together behind a cross-state line running from Cleveland to Columbus through Dayton to Cincinnati.

**[Innovation Fund in Lorain County awards \\$375,000 to six technology companies](#)** (The Plain Dealer, March 27, 2009) The Innovation Fund in Lorain County wants to recreate the entrepreneurial atmosphere that existed in Northeast Ohio after World War II.

**[Lake, Geauga holding their own](#)** (The News Herald, March 28, 2009) So, how has the region fared in the last six months?

A sampling of local leaders seem to agree that, all things considered, Lake and Geauga counties have held their own.

**[Experts say ailing economy isn't worst since 30's](#)** (Akron Beacon Journal, March 29, 2009)

Unemployment rates in Ohio and the nation are, to put it kindly, abysmal as hundreds of thousands of job losses mount by the month. So, is this the worst recession since the Great Depression? Well, no. And yes.

**[Editorial: Ohio ready for the green economy](#)**

(Fremont News Messenger, March 28, 2009) Three Ohio metropolitan areas in the top 100 places in the country that offer green jobs, according to a report from the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

**[Editorial: Supporting public education is important](#)**

(Newark Advocate, March 29, 2009) With all the turmoil in financial markets and uncertainty in our economy these days, we spend a great deal of time communicating to our associates and to the public about the state of the current economy. Clearly, these times are challenging and difficult for many in our communities to understand and successfully navigate.

**[Editorial: Jobless, by the numbers](#)** (Toledo Blade,

March 29, 2009) Unemployment rates dropped in Toledo, Lucas County, and several surrounding counties in northwest Ohio in February. That's good news, especially in light of increases last month in the

jobless rates for Ohio as a whole and the nation.

**Ohioans slow to receive stimulus money** (Dayton Daily News, March 30, 2009) For a federal bureaucracy, it's as close to lightning-speed as it gets. But what the state actually has in hand is far less than what the press releases suggest.

**Nanotech firms tout long-term potential** (Crain's Cleveland Business, March 30, 2009) Northeast Ohio can become a major force in the nanotechnology field, even if it takes more than a microscope to see the region's potential in the midst of the current global economic upheaval, according to local nanotech companies and experts from outside the region.

**Ohio sees money in thinking green** (The Plain Dealer, March 30, 2009) Talk about green energy and energy efficiency in Ohio heated up last week. And the reason has a lot to do with money.

**Lack of 'green' delays city initiatives** (Columbus Dispatch, March 30, 2009) Funding problems have forced the city to delay environmental work. Budget cuts have forced cutbacks on several programs and plans, some outlined in the mayor's 2005 Get Green Columbus plan, which is intended to reduce air and water pollution, add to the city's greenery and encourage recycling.

**Center seeking new direction** (Cincinnati Enquirer, March 30, 2009) Darkening storefronts in Western Hills' once bustling Glenway Crossing retail corridor have forced Westwood community leaders and real estate brokers to consider a new path for the area's future.

**Editorial: Solar Solutions** (Toledo Blade, March 30, 2009) Let the sun shine on solar research and development in the Toledo area. Growth in the solar components industry has become a bright prospect in a dark economy.

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