

Economic News from Ohio's Regions

Brought to you by The Ohio Urban University Program
The Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University

In This Issue

News From Around Ohio

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Weekly News and Opinion from Ohio's Newspapers Sep 02- 08, 2008

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

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[Survey: Midwest Hiring Dickey for Finance Professionals, Better for IT](#) (Business Courier of Cincinnati, Sep 3, 2008) There will be more finance-sector job cuts than hires in some Midwest markets, while the picture looks better for information technology workers, according to the latest Robert Half surveys.

[Governor's Office Unveils Plan to give Ohio Economic Shot in the Arm](#) (Business First of Columbus, Sep 3, 2008) The plan, which includes at least 10 new programs from the Ohio Department of Development, pledges to grow the income of Ohioans, create and retain jobs in the state and expand productivity through innovation.

[Almost Half of Employees Live Paycheck to Paycheck](#) (Dayton Business Journal, Sep 3, 2008) A survey of 7,192 workers released Wednesday by online job-search Web site CareerBuilder.com shows 47 percent of working Americans claim they always or usually live paycheck to paycheck just to make ends meet. This marks a jump from 43 percent in 2007.

[Fed: Economic Conditions in Ohio, Surrounding Areas Weaker](#) (Business Courier of Cincinnati, Sep 4, 2008) In its Beige Book economic analysis, the Cleveland district, which encompasses Ohio, eastern

Kentucky and western Pennsylvania, said economic activity has declined slightly since mid-July.

Sick Leave Plan Being Dropped from Ohio

Ballot (Business First of Columbus, Sep 4, 2008) A proposal that would require Ohio employers to provide paid sick leave for their workers is headed off the state November ballot, its supporters opting to back a federal bill that calls for a mandate on the issue

Most Employees to Pay More for Health Care in 2009

(Dayton Business Journal, Sep 5, 2008) Fifty-nine percent of companies intend to keep down rising health-care costs in 2009 by raising workers' deductibles, copays or out-of-pocket spending limits, according to a survey by the Mercer consulting firm.

Ohio Among Top for Mortgage Delinquencies

(Business Courier of Cincinnati, Sep 5, 2008) The state had one of the highest rates for loans in foreclosure during the quarter, at 4 percent, behind Florida at 6 percent and Nevada at 4.9 percent. About 7 percent of mortgage loans are past due, with about 2 percent of that number 90 days or more overdue.

Cleveland Clinic's Success Continues to be a Boon for Region

(The Plain Dealer, Sep 7, 2008) The \$506 million heart center, known as the Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Pavilion, is cutting-edge evidence that health care in general -- and the Cleveland Clinic in particular -- is a top job driver and economic engine in the region.

Wooster Group Backs Foreign Investment Center for Region

(The Plain Dealer, Sep 8, 2008) The Wooster Growth Corp. voted last week to pay up to \$50,000 for a Cleveland non-profit group to apply for a program that could draw millions of dollars from foreign investors who seek citizenship in the United States.

Feds Take Over Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac

(Dayton Business Journal, Sep 8, 2008) Federal regulators on Sunday took over the failing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage companies, quasi-government entities that got into trouble with subprime lending.

Editorial: Keep the CAT Tax; Ohio Needs the Money

(The Plain Dealer, Sep 8, 2008) Unless the Ohio Supreme Court overrules the appeals court, estimated

CAT collections during the first year of Strickland's 2009-11 budget could fall from the \$1.7 billion originally estimated, to \$1.51 billion. That's a \$188 million hit.

Ohio Housing Finance Agency's Funding Capacity Bolstered by Federal Bill (Business First of Columbus, Sep 8, 2008) The Ohio Housing Finance Agency, which provides tax credits for housing developments, mortgages and down-payment assistance to buyers, will be allowed to raise more money from bonds, offer millions of dollars more in tax credits and will have a chance to access funds it can distribute to counseling agencies.

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