

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

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Weekly News and Opinion from Ohio's Newspapers September 23-29, 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

[Cleveland's Green Rankings Improve](#) (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 23, 2008) Cleveland -- cited by researchers for doing "a heck of a job" in taking its ecological health seriously -- jumped 12 places from a year ago to finish 16th among the 50 largest U.S. cities, according to online environmental advocate, SustainLane.

[Cleveland Area's Economy Shrank While Most of Country Grew](#) (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 26, 2008) While most metropolitan economies grew in 2006, Cleveland's five-county region shrank a bit as manufacturing and construction lagged, top federal economists say.

[Ohio to Receive More than \\$258 Million to Fight Foreclosure Crisis](#) (Akron Beacon Journal, Sept. 26, 2008) Ohio will receive more than \$258 million in federal money to help rebuild neighborhoods damaged by foreclosures, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, has said.

[Columbus Economy Grew 4% in 2006](#) (Business First of Columbus, Sept. 25, 2008) Central Ohio's economy grew about half as fast as the national average in 2006 as the value of its goods and services produced totaled about \$86 billion, according to data released Thursday by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis as part of a new effort to track cities' economic output.

State Cuts Services for Poor (Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune, Sept. 25, 2008) The safety net for poor Ohioans is unraveling. Just as more low income Ohioans are seeking help with buying food, paying utility bills and meeting medical expenses, the state is cutting almost \$80 million from the agency that provides those services.

Still Wary, City Secures Money for 2008 Deficit (Youngstown Vindicator, Sept. 26, 2008) Between a firefighter buyout program and the sale and lease of its assets, the city has found the money needed to eliminate its projected deficit for this year.

Toledo Area Economy Found Stagnant in 2006 (Toledo Blade, Sept. 26, 2008) The metro Toledo economy was stagnant in 2006, but that was better than in most major cities in Ohio, new figures show.

Leaders Pleased with Plan (Chillicothe Gazette, Sept. 27, 2008) The state's new economic development blueprint received a warm reception from leaders from all over southeast Ohio Friday.

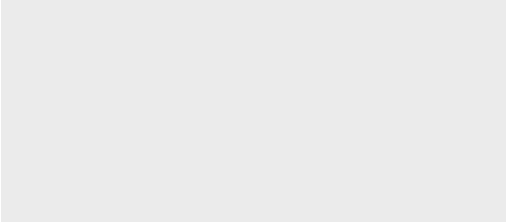
As the Decade Dawned, Signs of the Financial Crisis to Come Were Plentiful Here (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 28, 2008) While millions of people may be shocked by the financial crisis that is rocking the United States, Clevelanders like Jim Rokakis, Chip Bromley and Tony Stevenson saw it coming 10 years ago.

Cities Have to Cut Back on Road Repairs (Dayton Daily News, Sept. 28, 2008) Cities around Ohio are trying to stretch paving dollars to balance budgets. Some, simply don't have enough money at all.

Editorial: Sharing the Pain (Toledo Blade, Sept. 28, 2008) Toledo is facing the prospect of a \$3 million to \$7 million revenue shortfall this year, brought on by higher-than-expected overtime and fuel costs and lower-than-expected income-tax, traffic citation, and parking violation collections.

Low Office Vacancy Rate Puts Economy in Positive Light (Youngstown Vindicator, Sept. 29, 2008) Office vacancy rates in Northeast Ohio are running close to the nation's average, another sign that the region's economy is not as bad as some think, an economic development group said.

Editorial: Ohio Makes Push for Innovation



(Cincinnati Enquirer, Sept. 29, 2008) Referring to the Buckeye State as Rust Belt makes Lee Fisher see red. The image of "a state stuck in the past, that hasn't adapted ... is dead wrong," Fisher told the Enquirer Editorial Board last week. "I would instead say we are the Innovation and Opportunity Belt."

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