



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 December 16 - 22, 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

[Thousands of Layoff Hit Wilmington, OH](#) (USA Today, December 16, 2008) As hard times go, this is about as hard as it gets. The town of fewer than 13,000 people is in the worst financial crisis in generations.

[Higher Education in Ohio Survives Another Round of Cuts](#) (The Post Online, December 19, 2008) Although the governor announced another round of state budget cuts yesterday, he again largely spared higher education, a trend administrators appreciate but are not sure can continue.

[State Cuts Must Go Deeper](#) (Columbus Dispatch, December 20, 2008) Hundreds of millions of dollars more in state spending must be slashed in the next six months to plug a growing shortfall in Ohio's budget. With tax revenue from Ohio's crumbling economy shrinking, Gov. Ted Strickland yesterday ordered an additional \$640 million in cuts.

[Editorial: Warren is Making the Tough, Right Decision to Downsize](#) (Youngstown Vindicator, December 20, 2008) The city of Warren, like many communities in the Mahoning Valley, is struggling financially from population loss, dwindling revenues and increased costs of operations.

[Editorial: Ducks Fly the Pond](#) (Akron Beacon Journal, December 21, 2008) Few areas of the country face as severe an array of challenges as Cleveland

and Cuyahoga County, from loss of population and jobs, to foreclosed housing, to scandal and inefficiency in local government. As a result, the entire region suffers.

[We Could Be Center of Digital Ad World](#) (Cincinnati Enquirer, December 21, 2008) A new effort is under way to position Cincinnati as a center for the growing world of digital advertising and marketing, building on the city's strengths in advertising and brand design.

[Citizens Weigh in on Education Funding Change](#) (Zanesville Times Recorder, December 21, 2008) During the past few months, Strickland has traveled around the state to discuss various facets of the educational system including teaching, learning and funding. The last forums were held in Mansfield and Cincinnati, with Saturday's finale taking place in Athens - here are some thoughts from attendees.

[Tomorrow's Fuel Powers Dreams in Eastern Ohio](#) (Dayton Daily News, December 20, 2008) A company aims to convert coal and biomass into clean-burning liquid fuel as one Ohio community is seeking to become a showplace for America's energy independence.

[Ohio Prepares Next Generation of Green Collar Workers](#) (PR Newswire, December 22, 2008) Ohio is pioneering the development of "green collar" workers and creating new business opportunities by offering the state's first masters degree program in advanced energy.

[Cleveland Port President Ready to Start Projects](#) (The Plain Dealer, December 21, 2008) After two years on the job and a flurry of hires, Cleveland port President Adam Wasserman says he's ready to make the port a more powerful economic engine by beefing up cargo lines at an underused port, prepare for a daunting relocation and foster multimillion-dollar projects in growth industries.

[Editorial: A Model to Follow](#) (Toledo Blade, December 22, 2008) ALL OF Hancock County is breathing a little easier following the announcement by Cooper Tire & Rubber that the 1,100 workers at the company's manufacturing plant in Findlay will keep their jobs. Had the plant closed, the effect on the local economy could have been devastating.

[Planners Ready with Stimulus Projects](#) (Youngstown Vindicator, December 22, 2008) If and

when President Barack Obama makes good on his pledge to jump start the U.S. economy by authorizing billions in public works projects, Trumbull County will be ready.

Investing in the Future (Toledo Blade, December 21, 2008) One of the most important considerations for businesses considering where to set up shop is the availability of a well-trained work force. That requirement is even more important in high-tech firms such as those involved in the green technologies in which northwest Ohio is gaining an international reputation.

Clean-Coal Plan Could Gain New Life (Toledo Blade, December 21, 2008) Nearly every state wanted the project when it was announced in 2003, especially Ohio. Ohio - though disappointed in being the bridesmaid and not the bride - will continue to support Illinois to keep the project in the Great Lakes region. After all, the next best thing to winning a lottery is being friends, relatives, or neighbors with someone who did.

Smaller Community Banks Flourishing (The Wooster Daily Recorder, December 21, 2008) While many large banks are seeking government bailout funds to stay afloat, smaller community banks are quietly flourishing in the current marketplace, according to Robert Palmer, president and chief executive officer of the Community Banking Association of Ohio.

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