

Ohio

Department of
Job and Family Services

TO STRENGTHEN OHIO'S FAMILIES WITH SOLUTIONS TO TEMPORARY CHALLENGES

State of Ohio Workforce

4th QUARTER

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Quarterly Report on the State of Ohio's Workforce

Reference Period: Fourth Quarter 2008

(Per Ohio Revised Code 6301.10)

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Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Office of Workforce Development
Bureau of Labor Market Information
Release date: March 13, 2009

Analyst Summary

Ohio's unemployment rate increased to 7.1 percent during the fourth quarter of 2008, up from 6.7 percent during the third quarter of 2008 and higher than the 5.7 percent for the fourth quarter of 2007. The average number of Ohioans unemployed per month increased over the quarter from 402,000 to 426,000.

The U.S. unemployment rate for the fourth quarter averaged 6.9 percent, up from 6.0 percent during the third quarter of 2008 and higher than the 4.8 percent of one year ago.

The number of initial claims for unemployment insurance filed in Ohio from August 2008 through January 2009 were substantially higher than for the same months in 2007 and 2008.

Ohio's nonagricultural wage and salary employment fell 43,900 over the fourth quarter, from 5,406,200 to 5,362,300 on a seasonally adjusted basis. During the fourth quarter, service-providing industries dropped 19,000 jobs. Professional and business services lead the decline with a loss of 10,900 jobs; trade, transportation, and utilities lost 10,700 jobs. Losses in goods-producing industries were higher, with 24,000 jobs during the fourth quarter. Durable-goods manufacturing lost 15,500 jobs, and construction employment was down 6,000.

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2007, Ohio's nonagricultural wage and salary employment declined by 53,300. Goods-producing industries fell 39,400, with losses concentrated in durable-goods manufacturing. Service-providing industries dropped 13,900 compared to the fourth quarter of 2007.

Unemployment Rates and Related Data

Employment Situation: Ohio and U.S. (Seasonally Adjusted)

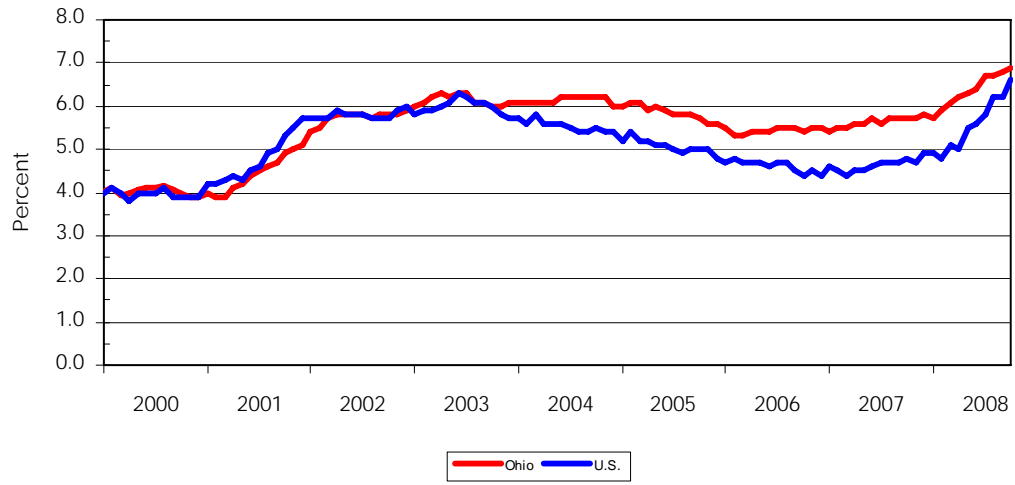
Ohio's unemployment rate for the fourth quarter of 2008 was 7.1 percent, up from third quarter 2008 rate of 6.7 and up from 5.7 a year ago. The U.S. unemployment rate for the fourth quarter was 6.9 percent, up from the third quarter 2007 rate of 6.0 percent and up from 4.8 a year ago. The average number of Ohioans unemployed per month has increased over the quarter from 402,000 to 426,000.

Employment Situation Indicators for Ohio and U.S.

	Quarterly Data (in thousands)			Change (in thousands)		Percent Change	
	4th Qtr. 2008	3rd Qtr. 2008	4th Qtr. 2007	From Last Quarter	From Last Year	From Last Quarter	From Last Year
Seasonally Adjusted							
	Ohio						
Civilian Labor Force	5,970	5,975	5,985	-5	-15	-0.1%	-0.3%
Employment	5,544	5,573	5,641	-29	-97	-0.5%	-1.7%
Unemployment	426	402	344	24	82	6.0%	23.8%
Unemployment Rate	7.1%	6.7%	5.7%	0.4%	1.4%		
	U.S.						
Civilian Labor Force	154,648	154,650	153,667	-2	981	0.0%	0.6%
Employment	144046	145299	146,291	-1253	-2,245	-0.9%	-1.5%
Unemployment	10602	9351	7376	1251	3226	13.4%	43.7%
Unemployment Rate	6.9%	6.0%	4.8%	0.8%	2.1%		

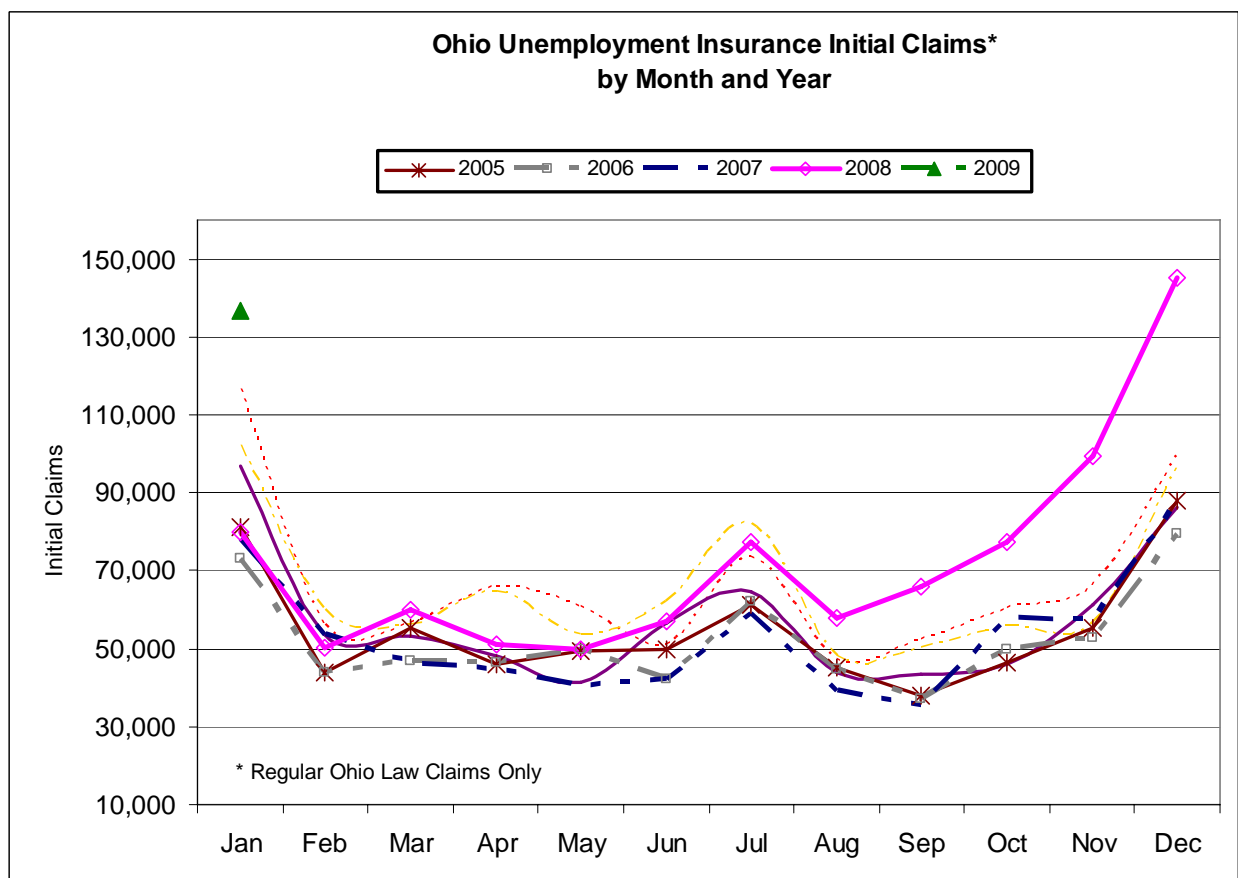
- Ohio and U.S. unemployment rates closely mirrored each other through mid-2003.
- During the latter half of 2003, the rates began to diverge as Ohio's unemployment rate remained high while the U.S. unemployment rate steadily declined.
- During the last six months, Ohio's unemployment rate has average 0.4 percentage point higher than the U.S. rate.

Ohio and U.S. Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates



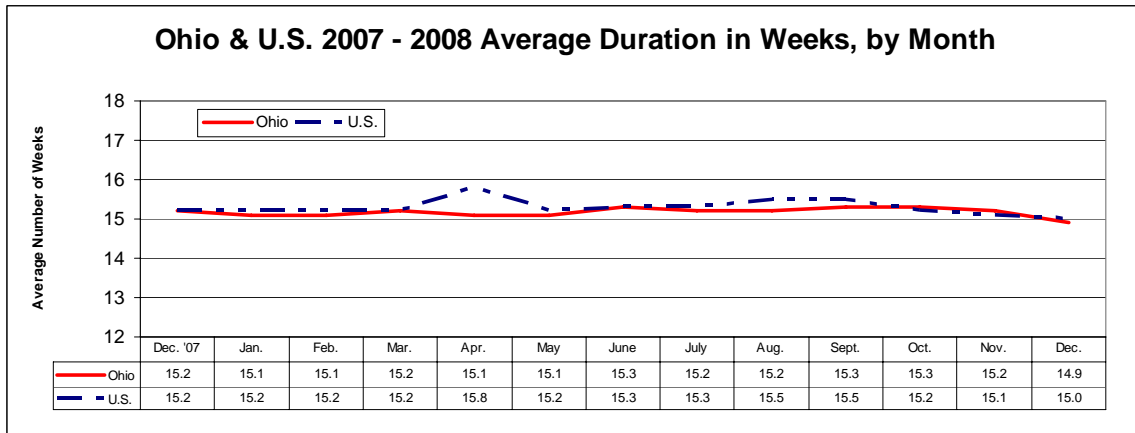
Ohio Monthly Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims

- Monthly initial claims for unemployment insurance follow a typical seasonal pattern every year, with major increases in claims activity occurring in January, July and December.
- Initial claims in January 2009 were substantially higher (70.9%) than the level recorded in January 2008.



Average Duration of Unemployment: Ohio and U.S.

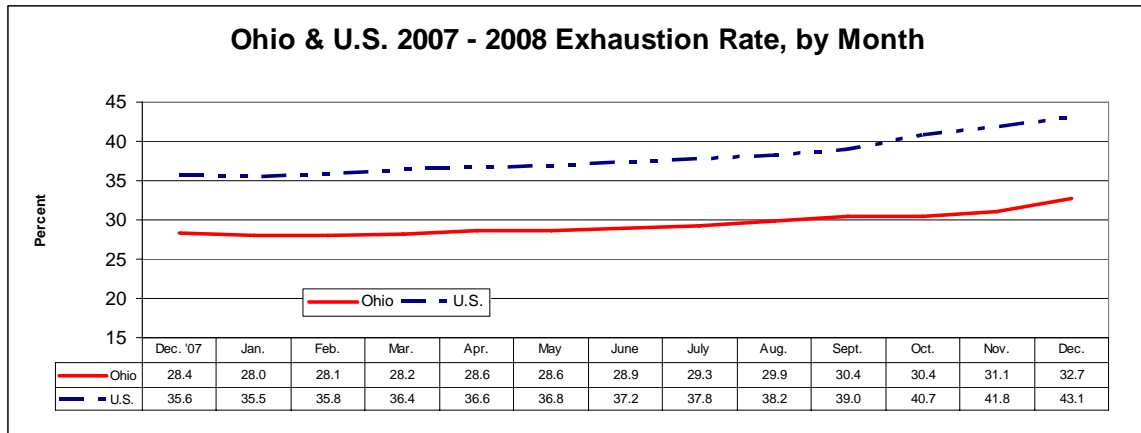
Average duration represents the average number of weeks of compensation received by unemployed claimants during the represented period.



- Ohio's average duration of unemployment closely mirrored the U.S. for the past 12 months.
- The Ohio average duration dropped to 14.9 for December 2008 while the U.S. average dropped to 15.0 for the same period.

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Exhaustions: Ohio and U.S.

The exhaustion rate represents a measure of the proportion of unemployment insurance recipients who ultimately exhaust their benefits.



- Ohio and national exhaustion rates have been increasing over the past 12 months.
- Ohio's exhaustion rate stayed consistently lower than that of the U.S.
- Ohio's exhaustion rate increased to 32.7 percent, while the U.S. rate increased to 43.1 percent in December 2008.

Employment Data

Ohio Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)

Ohio's nonagricultural wage and salary employment fell 43,900 over the quarter, from 5,406,200 in the third quarter of 2008 to 5,362,300 in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Employment in goods-producing industries, at 963,900, was 24,900 lower. Declines in durable goods (-15,500) and nondurable goods (-3,300) lowered manufacturing employment 18,800. Construction was down 6,000, while natural resources and mining slipped 100. Service-providing industries dropped 19,000 to 4,398,400. The largest losses were in professional and business services (-10,900) and trade, transportation, and utilities (-10,700). Employment was also down in other services (-1,900) and information (-100). Educational and health services advanced 2,000. Smaller increases were noted in government (+1,600), financial activities (+500), and leisure and hospitality (+500).

Over the year, nonfarm wage and salary employment decreased 53,300. Goods-producing industries fell 39,400. The loss was concentrated in manufacturing (-27,300) due chiefly to a drop of 23,200 in durable-goods industries. Construction lost 12,400 jobs. Natural resources and mining advanced 300. Service-providing industries dropped 13,900 from fourth quarter, 2007. A decline of 7,000 in retail trade helped lower trade, transportation, and utilities 11,700. Professional and business services fell 8,900. Also down were other services (-3,000), government (-1,600), information (-1,300), and financial activities (-700). Educational and health services rose 9,600, while leisure and hospitality increased 3,700.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Estimates for Ohio^a

Seasonally Adjusted

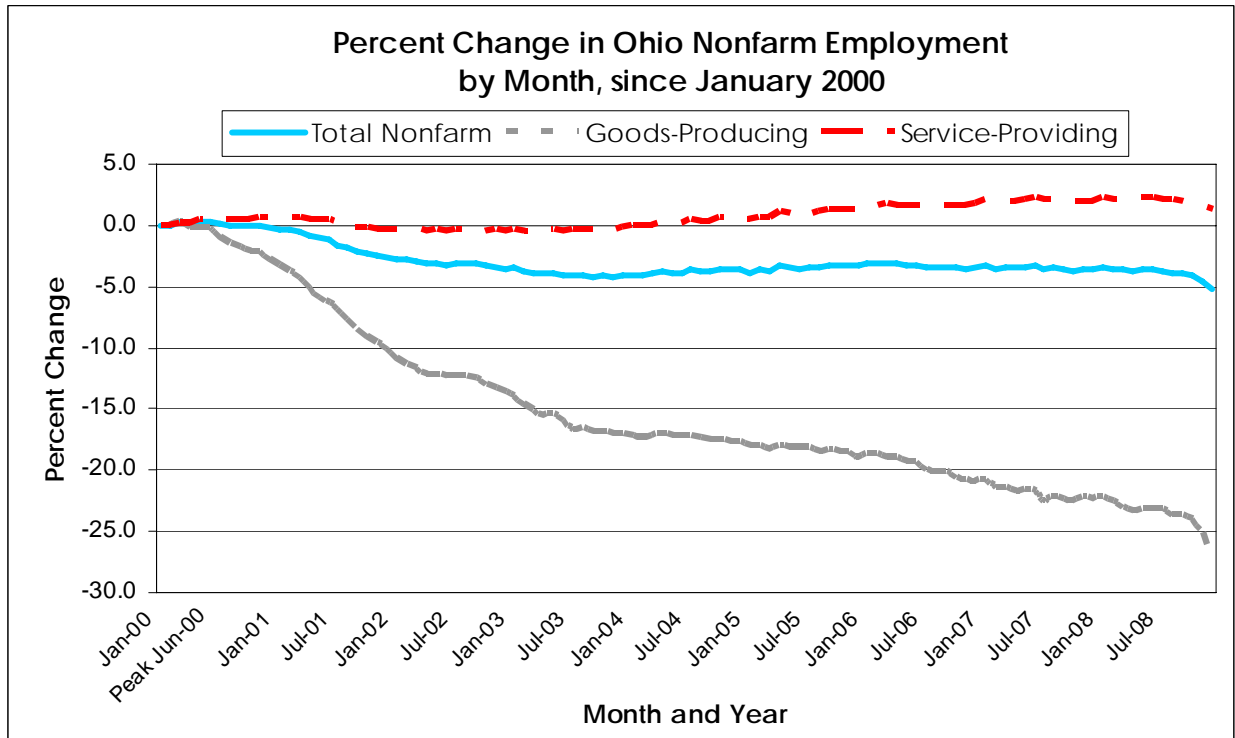
Employer Survey Data^b

	Employment (in thousands)			Change (in thousands)		Percent Change	
	4th Qtr. 2008	3rd Qtr. 2008	4th Qtr. 2007	From Last Quarter	From Last Year	From Last Quarter	From Last Year
Total	5,362.3	5,406.2	5,415.6	-43.9	-53.3	-0.8%	-1.0%
Goods-Producing Industries	963.9	988.8	1,003.3	-24.9	-39.4	-2.5%	-3.9%
Natural Resources and Mining	12.1	12.2	11.8	-0.1	0.3	-0.8%	2.5%
Construction	212.1	218.1	224.5	-6.0	-12.4	-2.8%	-5.5%
Manufacturing	739.7	758.5	767.0	-18.8	-27.3	-2.5%	-3.6%
Durable Goods	502.9	518.4	526.1	-15.5	-23.2	-3.0%	-4.4%
Nondurable Goods	236.8	240.1	240.9	-3.3	-4.1	-1.4%	-1.7%
Service-Providing Industries	4,398.4	4,417.4	4,412.3	-19.0	-13.9	-0.4%	-0.3%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,037.5	1,048.2	1,049.2	-10.7	-11.7	-1.0%	-1.1%
Wholesale Trade	237.3	239.0	238.6	-1.7	-1.3	-0.7%	-0.5%
Retail Trade	592.9	597.5	599.9	-4.6	-7.0	-0.8%	-1.2%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	207.3	211.7	210.7	-4.4	-3.4	-2.1%	-1.6%
Information	85.8	85.9	87.1	-0.1	-1.3	-0.1%	-1.5%
Financial Activities	298.9	298.4	299.6	0.5	-0.7	0.2%	-0.2%
Finance and Insurance	232.5	231.8	232.2	0.7	0.3	0.3%	0.1%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	66.4	66.6	67.4	-0.2	-1.0	-0.3%	-1.5%
Professional and Business Services	656.1	667.0	665.0	-10.9	-8.9	-1.6%	-1.3%
Professional and Technical Services	247.6	248.6	247.5	-1.0	0.1	-0.4%	0.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	104.6	105.7	106.4	-1.1	-1.8	-1.0%	-1.7%
Administrative, Support, and Waste Services	303.9	312.7	311.1	-8.8	-7.2	-2.8%	-2.3%
Educational and Health Services	804.7	802.7	795.1	2.0	9.6	0.2%	1.2%
Educational Services	100.2	99.4	99.8	0.8	0.4	0.8%	0.4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	704.5	703.3	695.3	1.2	9.2	0.2%	1.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	500.6	500.1	496.9	0.5	3.7	0.1%	0.7%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	66.5	65.2	65.4	1.3	1.1	2.0%	1.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	434.1	434.9	431.5	-0.8	2.6	-0.2%	0.6%
Other Services	217.9	219.8	220.9	-1.9	-3.0	-0.9%	-1.4%
Government	796.9	795.3	798.5	1.6	-1.6	0.2%	-0.2%
Federal Government	79.1	79.4	77.7	-0.3	1.4	-0.4%	1.8%
State Government	166.8	164.7	169.4	2.1	-2.6	1.3%	-1.5%
Local Government	551.0	551.2	551.4	-0.2	-0.4	0.0%	-0.1%

^aSubtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. All data exclude military personnel.

^bFrom the Current Employment Statistics Survey, a monthly survey of approximately 12,100 employers conducted by ODJFS in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Estimates represent nonagricultural wage and salary jobs by place of work.

Trends in Ohio Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

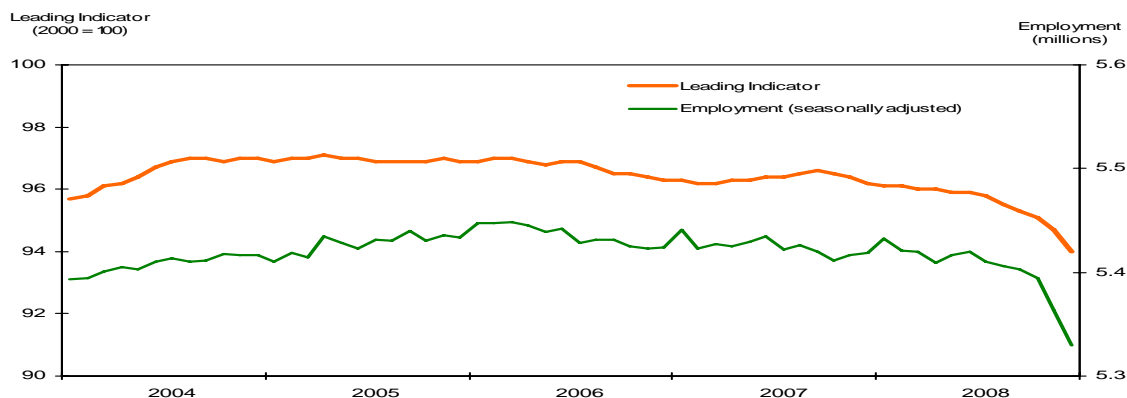


- Since January 2000, Ohio's goods-producing industries (manufacturing, construction and natural resources and mining) have lost 27.1 percent of their employment while service-providing industries have risen 1.3 percent.
- In comparison, the U.S. has lost 16.3 percent of the employment in goods-producing industries while service-providing industries increased 8.2 percent.

Leading Indicators: Ohio and U.S. (Seasonally Adjusted)

Ohio's composite index of leading indicators declined from 95.5 to 94.6 in the fourth quarter of 2008. The composite index was lower than for the fourth quarter of 2007. The national composite index of leading economic indicators decreased to 99.4, and this was lower than the fourth quarter of 2007.

Ohio Leading Indicator and Employment



The fourth quarter averages of individual Ohio index components (not seasonally adjusted) were poorer than one year ago. Permits and valuation for new housing construction were lower, initial claims for unemployment insurance were higher, and the average weekly hours for manufacturing production workers were lower than for the fourth quarter of 2007.

Economic Indicators	Data			Change		Percent Change	
	4th Qtr. 2008	3rd Qtr. 2008	4th Qtr. 2007	From Last Quarter	From Last Year	From Last Quarter	From Last Year
Ohio							
Leading Indicator Index (2000=100)	94.6	95.5	96.4	-0.9	-1.8	-0.9%	-1.9%
Average Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance	113,215	76,046	71,382	37,169	41,833	48.9%	58.6%
Average Weekly Hours for Manufacturing	40.2	40.8	42.2	-0.6	-2.0	-1.5%	-4.7%
Average Valuation of Housing Permits (millions of dollars)	203.386	327.225	350.683	-123.839	-147.297	-37.8%	-42.0%
Average Number of Housing Permits	1,419	2,008	2,203	-589	-784	-29.3%	-35.6%
National Data							
National Composite Index of Leading Economic Indicators (1996=100)	99.4	100.9	103.0	-1.5	-3.6	-1.5%	-3.5%
U.S. Domestic Auto Production (annualized in millions)	3.254	3.899	3.843	-0.645	-0.589	-16.5%	-15.3%
Difference between 10-Year and 1-Year Treasuries, Constant Maturities	2.26	1.74	0.64	0.52	1.62	29.9%	253.1%
Average Number of Housing Permits	47,273	75,412	87,585	-28,139	-40,312	-37.3%	-46.0%

Jobs Gained or Lost

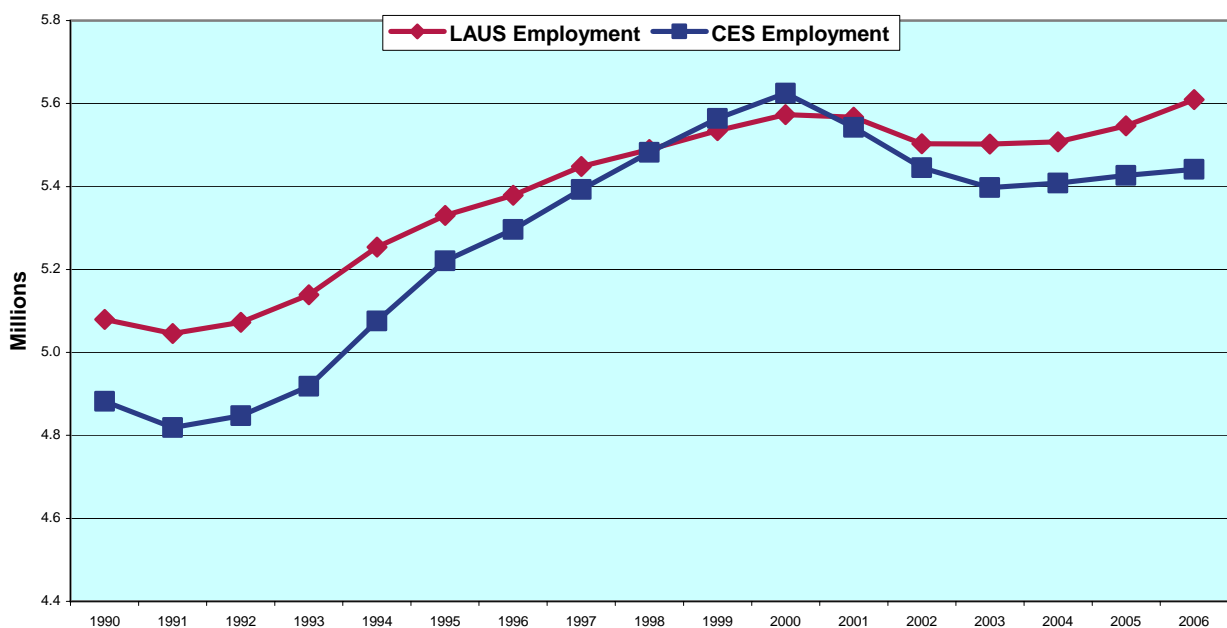
Current Employment Survey (CES)

The most reliable and most easily understood statistic on jobs is the nonagricultural wage and salary employment which comes from the Current Employment Survey (see the Technical Notes section for more detail). This business establishment survey tracks most closely with business cycle changes and is the statistical source most heavily relied on by labor economists, including those at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It provides information on jobs lost or gained from month-to-month and over the year. The trend in nonagricultural employment is CES data. Of course, there is considerable dynamic activity behind these figures in respect to job changes, layoffs and hiring activity, which in themselves are not represented in the net job statistic.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) and Current Population Survey (CPS)

The employment numbers published under the Employment Situation Indicators chart for Ohio (LAUS data) earlier in this packet are heavily dependent on the Current Population Survey (often referred to as the "Household" survey). These figures are useful for understanding the unemployment rate and can be useful for the labor economist's analysis of what is happening in the labor market. However, as a general measure of job growth or decline and corresponding public announcements, it has proven problematic. The CPS for Ohio contains a small sample of households, tends to be highly volatile and is benchmarked (i.e., controlled to a known universe) only once every 10 years with the decennial census. It has not proven to be a good measure of business cycles. For example, the LAUS employment numbers showed only a slight decline at the onset of the 2001 recession and a much more rapid recovery in 2005 and 2006 than indicated by the CES data (see chart below). The LAUS data have no measure of job loss or gain by industry.

Ohio LAUS and CES Employment Trends, 1990-2006



Mass Layoff Announcements

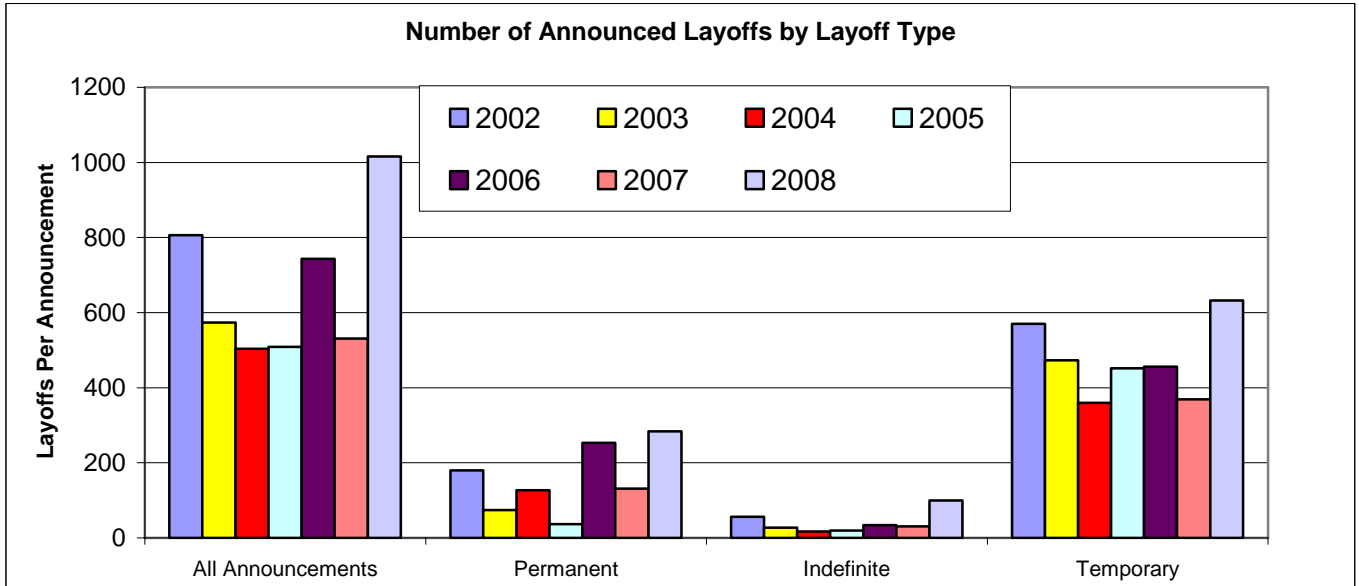
Mass layoff announcements are reported by the business entity. These statistics have proven useful to explain major shifts in the employment situation that may occur at the local level from one month to another. However, they must be used with caution, particularly when considering them at a summary level or as a state-wide indicator. These statistics have the following caveats.

- ODJFS requests employers to provide the greatest number of workers potentially affected and actual numbers are normally less.
- Any employer may announce mass layoffs multiple times and/or for multiple locations over the year.
- There is no formal process or monitoring to assure consistent reporting.
- These numbers are reported “intent” and are never independently verified.
- They may be reported but then circumstances change that decrease the size of the layoff or eliminate the need for a layoff.
- Even if a layoff materializes, it does not necessarily mean people are unemployed as a result. They may retire, work part time, take severance pay or find another job.
- A number of the reported layoffs are part of a normal business cycle, where the business normally restricts operations for product change-over, inventory processes or because of seasonal demand cycles.
- Some layoffs are very short lived, while others could take a year or more to complete. There is no precise measure of timing.

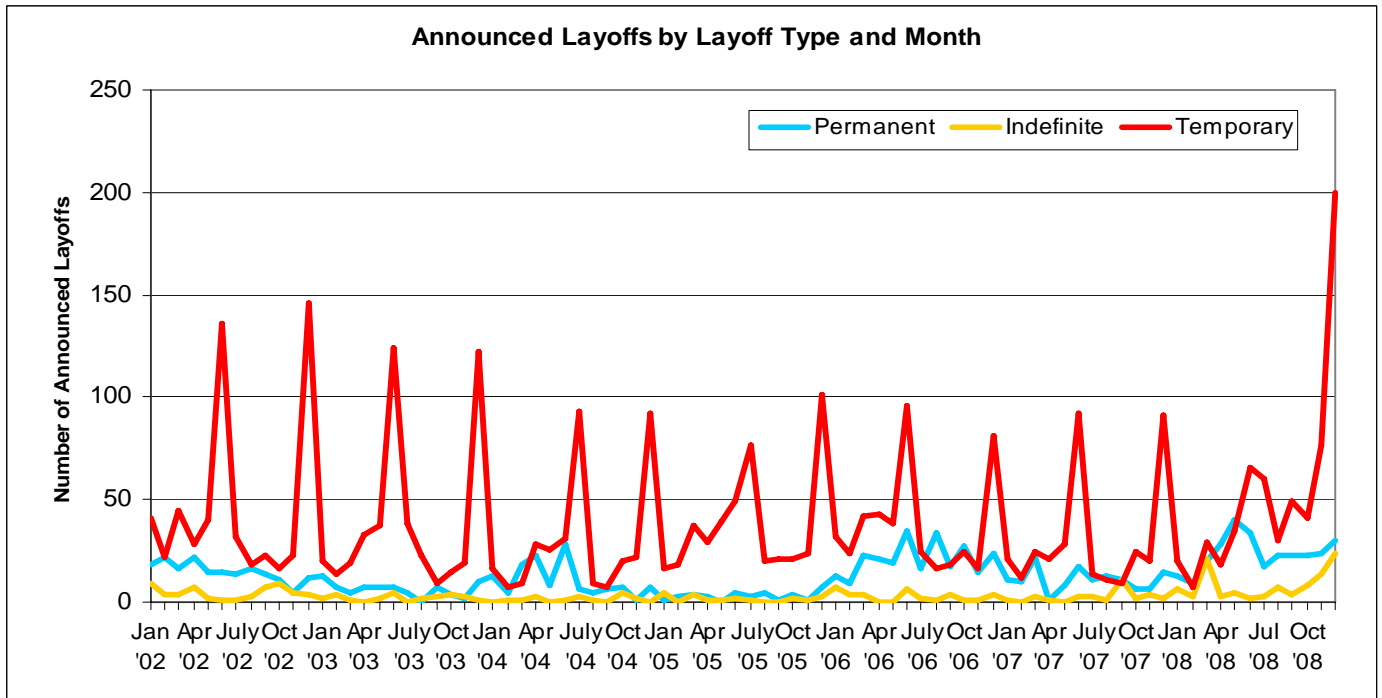
See Mass Layoff Announcements table and graph on next page.

Mass Layoff Announcements, 2002 to December 2008

Year	Layoff Announcements	Announced Laid Off	Permanent Layoffs		Indefinite Layoffs		Temporary Layoffs	
			Events	Employees	Events	Employees	Events	Employees
2002	806	147,385	180	14,563	56	6,969	570	125,853
2003	574	128,497	74	9,187	27	3,201	473	116,109
2004	504	100,098	127	12,240	17	1,781	360	86,077
2005	509	131,712	37	4,894	20	2,072	452	124,746
2006	743	131,628	253	13,481	34	3,224	456	114,923
2007	531	95,454	131	6,822	31	3,331	369	85,301
2008	1,016	202,657	284	12,305	100	20,671	632	169,681



The graph below is an example of the highly seasonal nature of these mass layoff announcements.



Related Information

Related Information

IHS Global Insight Analysis: IHS Global Insight, an international economic analysis firm, continues to revise its estimates for 2009. They currently predict the economy will contract by 2.7 percent in 2009 and national unemployment will reach 9.3 percent by the end of the year. U.S. exports are expected to fall by 9.4 percent in 2009 because of global economic conditions coupled with the increasing value of the U.S. dollar. Global Insight expects the East North Central region, which includes Ohio, to have worse employment growth than the nation as a whole. Manufacturing in the region is expected to shed 10 percent of jobs in 2009. Global Insight expects Ohio's recovery to be weaker than the rest of the nation. Although Ohio manufacturing is expected to recover some jobs, employment is not expected to reach the levels that had been previously forecast.

Other Economic Indicators: The Conference Board's Consumer Confidence Index fell to another all-time low in January, 25.0. The index was set to 100 in 1985. The last time the index was above 100 was August, 2007. Both the Present Situation and the Expectations Indexes, which are components of the Consumer Confidence Index, fell sharply in January. About 48 percent of consumers surveyed say jobs are "hard to get."

The three-month moving average of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's National Activity Index dropped to -3.41 in January from -2.70 in December reaching its lowest point since 1975. Nationally, manufacturing production of durable goods decreased 4.8 percent in January, the largest one-month decline since December 1974. The National Activity Index is a weighted average of 85 economic indicators.

The Conference Board's Employment Trends Index was down 1.0 percent for January and is down 18.6 percent from January 2008. This index has been declining for 18 months, and its recent declines have been faster than at any time since 1974. The Conference Board also reported that the number of job vacancies posted online dropped by more than 1 million postings during December and January.

The Conference Board's Leading Economic Index has increased slightly over the past two months, but several of the index components are weak. The Coincident Economic Index continues on the downward trend that started in November 2007 and that has accelerated in recent months.

Technical Notes

Data Sources and Additional Resources Links

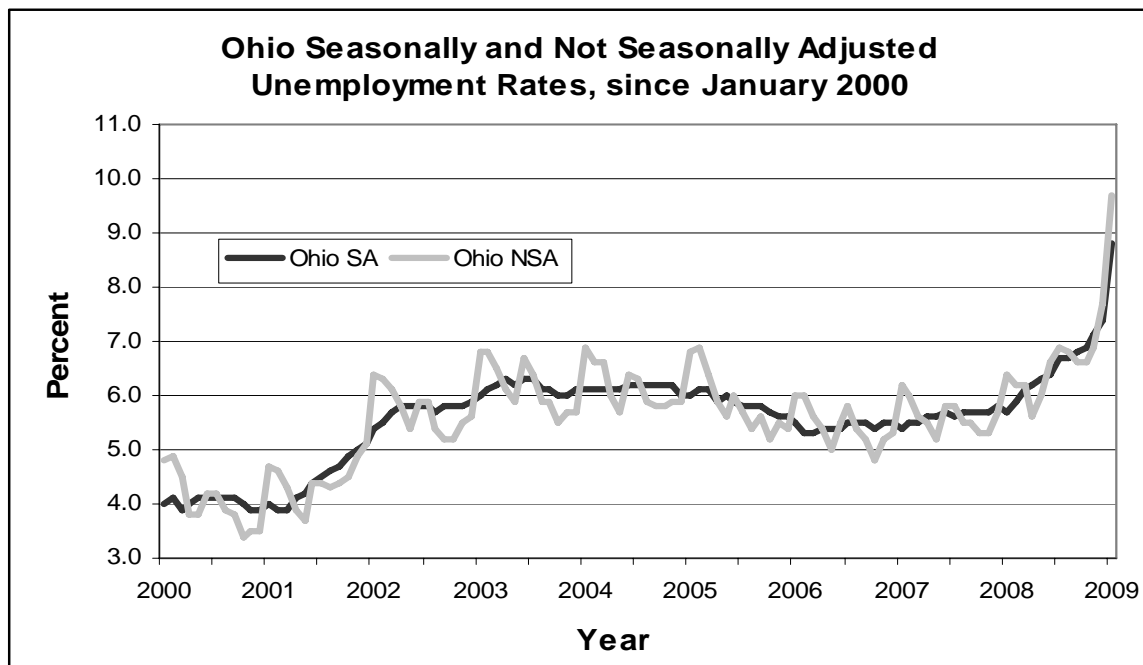
Seasonal Adjustment

Ohio and U.S. unemployment rates and labor force data are published monthly by the BLS. Two sets of data are published: seasonally adjusted data and not seasonally adjusted data. County data are not seasonally adjusted because seasonal adjustment factors tend to be unreliable for small areas.

Seasonal adjustment is used to remove fluctuations in unemployment and labor force trends that normally occur with changes in the season. The removal of seasonal variation allows evaluation of the unemployment rates as an indicator of economic change.

Seasonal variation in the employment situation occurs for a variety of natural and institutional reasons. Examples include reduction of employment involving outdoor activities during winter, large changes in labor force and unemployment levels with opening and closing of schools, and employment reductions during the automobile model changeover period. The overall impact of such events is a seasonal rise in unemployment rates during the winter months, usually peaking in January and February, and a drop in unemployment rates during the spring and late summer with May and September typically the low months.

The graph below presents the wide month-to-month changes that occur in the not seasonally adjusted data which reinforces our use of seasonally adjusted data, when available.



Unemployment Rates and Related Data

Employment Situation: Ohio and U.S

U.S. data are derived from a national household survey known as the Current Population Survey (CPS). This survey is conducted monthly by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The survey collects data on the demographic characteristics and labor force status of household members, including employment and unemployment from approximately 60,000 households.

Ohio data are developed in cooperation with the BLS using the State Time Series Analysis and Review System (STARS). This method relies heavily on monthly unpublished CPS data as well as current wage and salary employment and unemployment insurance statistics. The time series model is designed to provide data on employment of all types of workers, based on place of residence.

Ohio Monthly Unemployment Insurance Initial Claims

Initial claims information was obtained from administrative records of the Ohio unemployment compensation program, operated by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

An initial claim is defined as any notice of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation, or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within a benefit year. Initial claims counts presented in this report include new, additional, transitional, and interstate agent claims. Beginning in January 2005, transitional claims are excluded from counts since they do not represent newly unemployed workers.

Average Duration of Unemployment and Unemployment Insurance Benefit Exhaustions: Ohio and U.S

Average duration of unemployment was calculated as the total number of weeks compensated for the previous 12 months divided by the total number of first payments for the same 12 month period. First payment is defined as the first payment in a benefit year for a week of unemployment.

Exhaustion rates were calculated as the number of claimants exhausting benefits divided by the number of claimants' first receiving benefits two quarters earlier.

Quarterly totals for average duration of unemployment and number of exhaustions in the U.S. and Ohio were obtained from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA). The national ETA office collects unemployment data from the states, then compiles and redistributes state and national unemployment insurance statistics through a required reporting mechanism in which all states participate.

The Claims and Payment Activities report (ETA-5159) serves as the basis for these figures. The DOL-ETA site is listed below.

<http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/content/data.asp>

Unemployment Rates for U.S. and Eight Largest States

The unemployment rates presented are the most recent seasonally adjusted data available from BLS for the nation's eight most populated states. This graph includes data for the three months prior to the current reference month because some the states presented release data after the Ohio release date. URL web links for each State are present below and are the quickest source of the most current data.

California	http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov
Florida	http://www.labormarketinfo.com/laus/
Illinois	http://lmi.ides.state.il.us/laus/illaus_seasadj.htm
Michigan	http://www.milmi.org/
New York	http://www.labor.state.ny.us/
Ohio	http://OhioLMI.com/LAUS/Current.htm
Pennsylvania	http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us
Texas	http://www.tracer2.com/?PAGEID=67&SUBID=120

Ohio County Unemployment Rates

Ohio sub-state employment and unemployment estimates are developed using a complex "building-block" methodology, prescribed by BLS. The methodology creates first approximation estimates of the employed and unemployed which are then proportionately adjusted so that they add to the state totals. A more complete statement of methodology may be found at: <http://OhioLMI.com/LAUS/Concepts.htm>.

Data for Ohio's sub-state areas are not seasonally adjusted because seasonal adjustment factors for small areas tend to be unreliable.

Employment Data

Ohio Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Ohio nonfarm employment data are derived from an employer survey known as the Current Employment Survey (CES). This survey is conducted monthly by ODJFS/BLMI, in cooperation with the BLS. The data are compiled from voluntary reports from 11,800 Ohio employers. The employer survey provides data on total employment, and on hours and earnings of production workers, by type of industry.

The employer survey does not include the self-employed, unpaid family workers, private household workers, agricultural workers, or those on strike or unpaid vacation and are based on place of work. Analysts generally regard the nonfarm data as the most reliable indicator of the current economic conditions due to its large sample size and the fact that the data are benchmarked annually to the complete count of employment from administrative unemployment insurance records.

Trends in Ohio Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Goods-producing industries include natural resources and mining, construction, and manufacturing. Service-providing industries include trade, transportation and utilities, information, financial activities, professional and business services, educational and health services, leisure and hospitality, other services, and government.

Web Links for additional information

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics site: <http://www.bls.gov>

Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information site: <http://OhioLMI.com>

Office of Workforce Development
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Columbus, OH 43216-1618

Bureau of Labor Market Information
Business Principles for Workforce Development

Partner with the workforce and economic development community.

Develop and deploy new information solution tools and systems for the workforce and economic development community.

Provide products and services that are customer and demand driven.

Be known as an important and reliable source for information solutions that support workforce development goals and outcomes.

This quarterly report was prepared by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to meet the requirements of the Ohio Revised Code 6301.10.

For further information, visit us on the web at <http://lmi.state.oh.us> or <http://OhioWorkforceInformer.org> or contact the Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information at 1-888-296-7541.

Ted Strickland, **Governor**
State of Ohio

Douglas E. Lumpkin, **Director**
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Office of Workforce Development
Bureau of Labor Market Information
(3/2009)

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