



**Department of
Job & Family
Services**

Labor Market Information In Review: 2022 Annual Economic Report





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Executive Summary

Ohio's unemployment rate was stable during 2022. The year started and ended at 4.1% (seasonally adjusted), with declines to 3.9% and increases to 4.2% during the year. County annual average unemployment rates ranged from 2.7% in Mercer County to 6.4% in Monroe County. All but one county saw a decline in its annual unemployment rate.

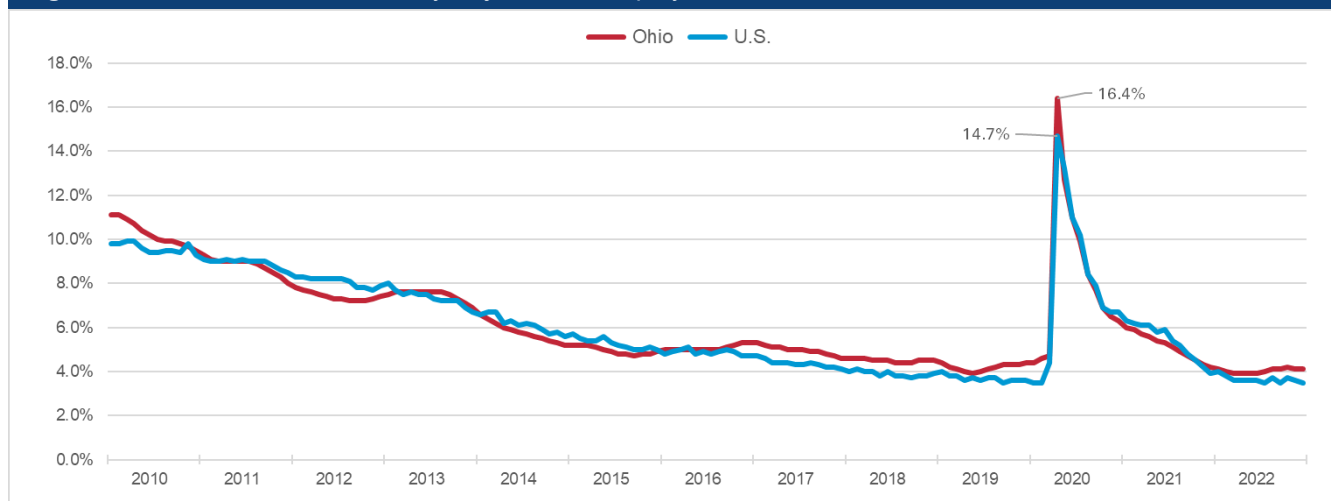
Monthly initial claims for unemployment benefits (not seasonally adjusted) ranged from 62,312 in March 2022 to 28,412 in October. More workers under the age of 45 filed initial claims in 2022 compared to 2021. Labor demand, as indicated by online job ads, increased in 2022 over 2021. On average, there were almost 35,000 more jobs ads per month in 2022 than in 2021. Registered nurses and heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers were the two most heavily advertised occupations.

Ohio's annual average nonfarm employment for 2022 was 5,529,300, an increase of 141,600 or 2.6% over 2021. Total private employment increased by 132,700 over 2021, to 4,763,800, a 2.9% increase. Goods-producing and private service-providing employment both increased in 2022. The leisure and hospitality sector saw the largest increase, gaining 34,900 jobs over 2021. Only federal government employment had a decline in employment, losing 200 jobs over 2021. All the state's metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) saw increases in annual total nonfarm and total private employment from 2021 to 2022. The Columbus MSA saw the largest increases, gaining 4.0% for total private employment and 3.5% for total nonfarm employment.

The Labor Force and Unemployment Rates

The U.S. and Ohio's unemployment rates peaked in April 2020 amid COVID-19. Both fell sharply soon afterward and continued to fall. Historically, Ohio's unemployment rate has closely mimicked the U.S. unemployment rate.

Figure 1. U.S. and Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates, 2010 – 2022



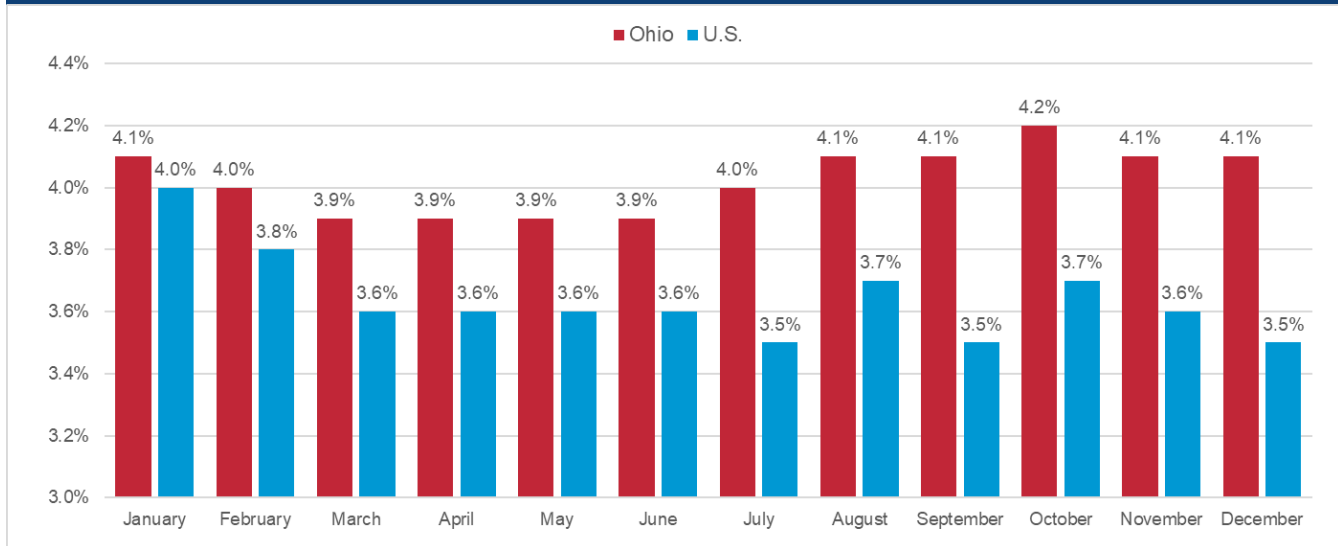
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

In 2022, Ohio's annual average unemployment rate began the year at 4.1%, decreased to 3.9%, then rose to 4.1% at the end of the year. Ohio's

Year	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Avg-2021	5,434,800	294,000	5.1%
Avg-2022	5,510,300	231,000	4.0%
Change	75,500	-63,000	-1.1%

unemployment rate was higher than the U.S. unemployment rate for 2022. The average number of unemployed Ohioans decreased 63,000 over the year to 231,000; the average number of employed Ohioans increased 75,500 to 5,510,300.

Figure 2. Ohio and U.S. Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates, 2022

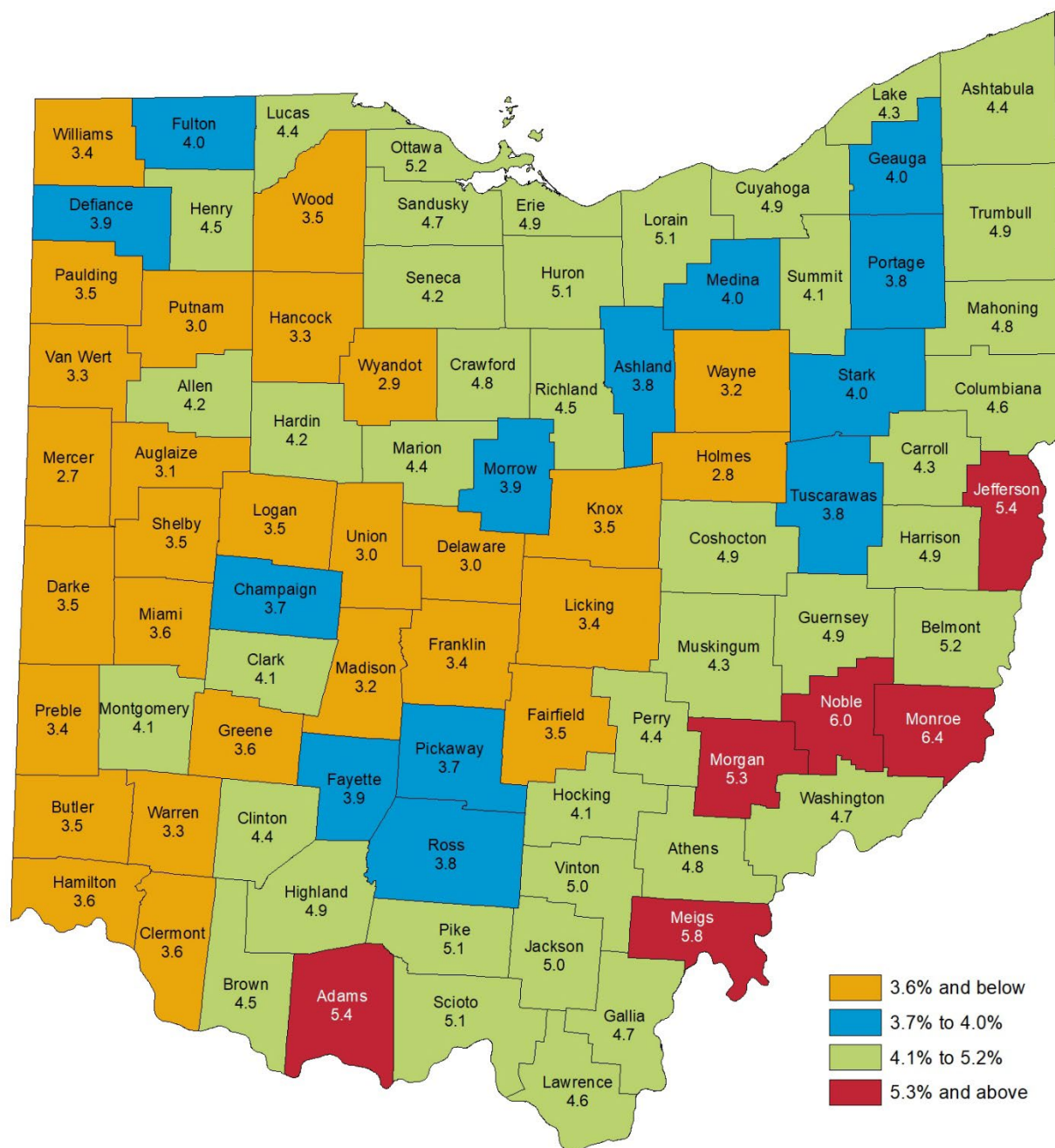


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Every county in Ohio saw a decrease in its annual average unemployment rate from 2021 to 2022, except for Holmes County, which had the same annual average unemployment rate in 2022 as in 2021, 2.8%. Twenty-eight counties had unemployment rates equal to or less than the national unemployment rate of 3.6%. Nine counties had unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate and lower than the state unemployment rate. Forty counties had unemployment rates at or below the state unemployment rate of 4.0%. Sixty counties had unemployment rates above the national unemployment rate.

County unemployment rates ranged from 2.7% to 6.4%. Mercer County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.7%. Monroe County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.4%.

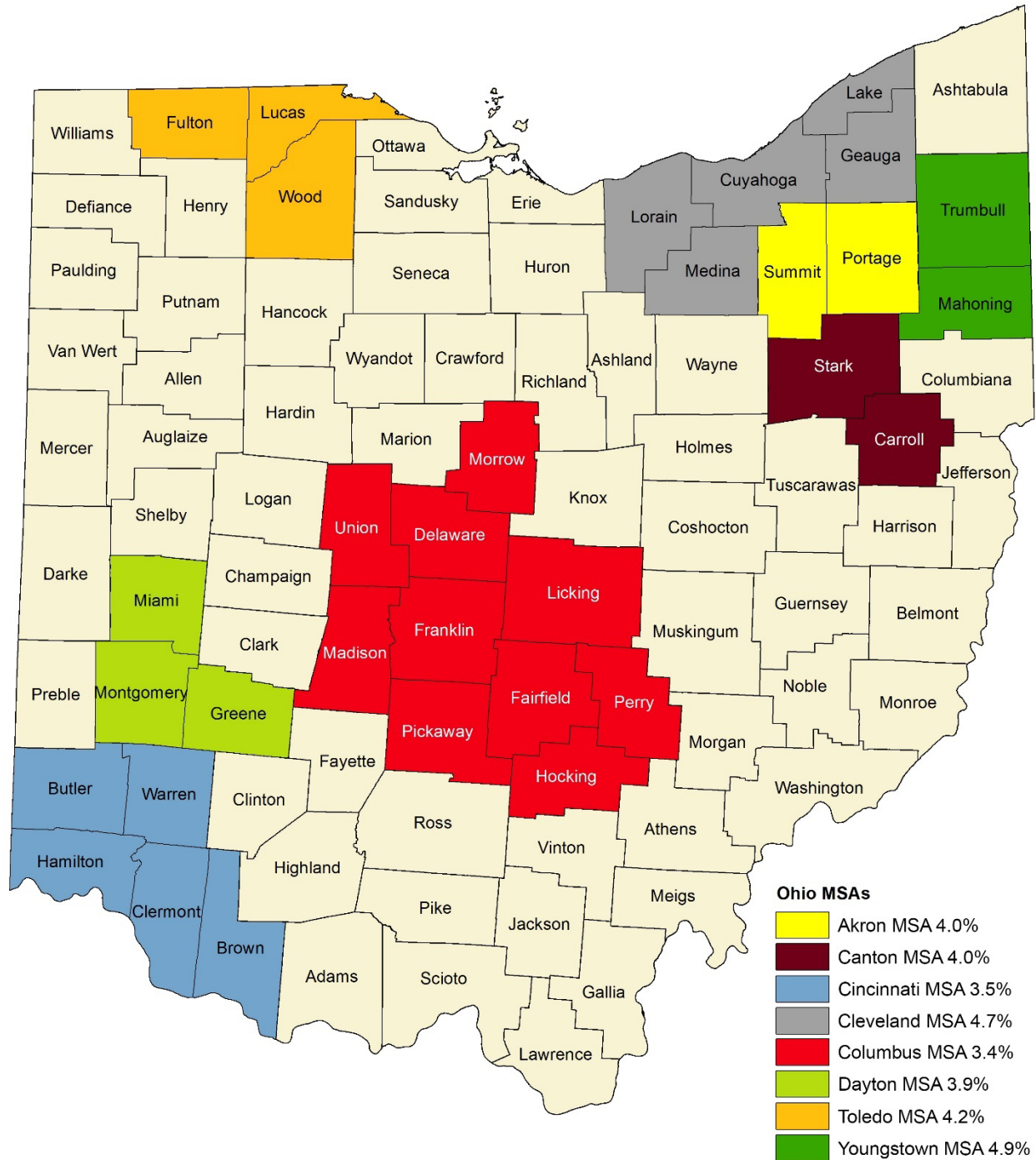
Figure 3. 2022 Annual Average Unemployment Rates by County



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics

The major Ohio MSAs had lower annual unemployment rates for 2022 than for 2021. The Cincinnati and Columbus MSAs had unemployment rates below the national rate of 3.6%. Three MSAs had unemployment rates above the national unemployment rate and at or below the 2022 Ohio unemployment rate of 4.0%: Akron, Canton-Massillon, and Dayton. The Cleveland, Toledo, and Youngstown MSAs had average unemployment rates for 2022 that were above both the national and the state annual unemployment rate. The Youngstown MSA saw the largest change in average annual unemployment, dropping 1.6 percentage points from 6.5% in 2021 to 4.9% in 2022.

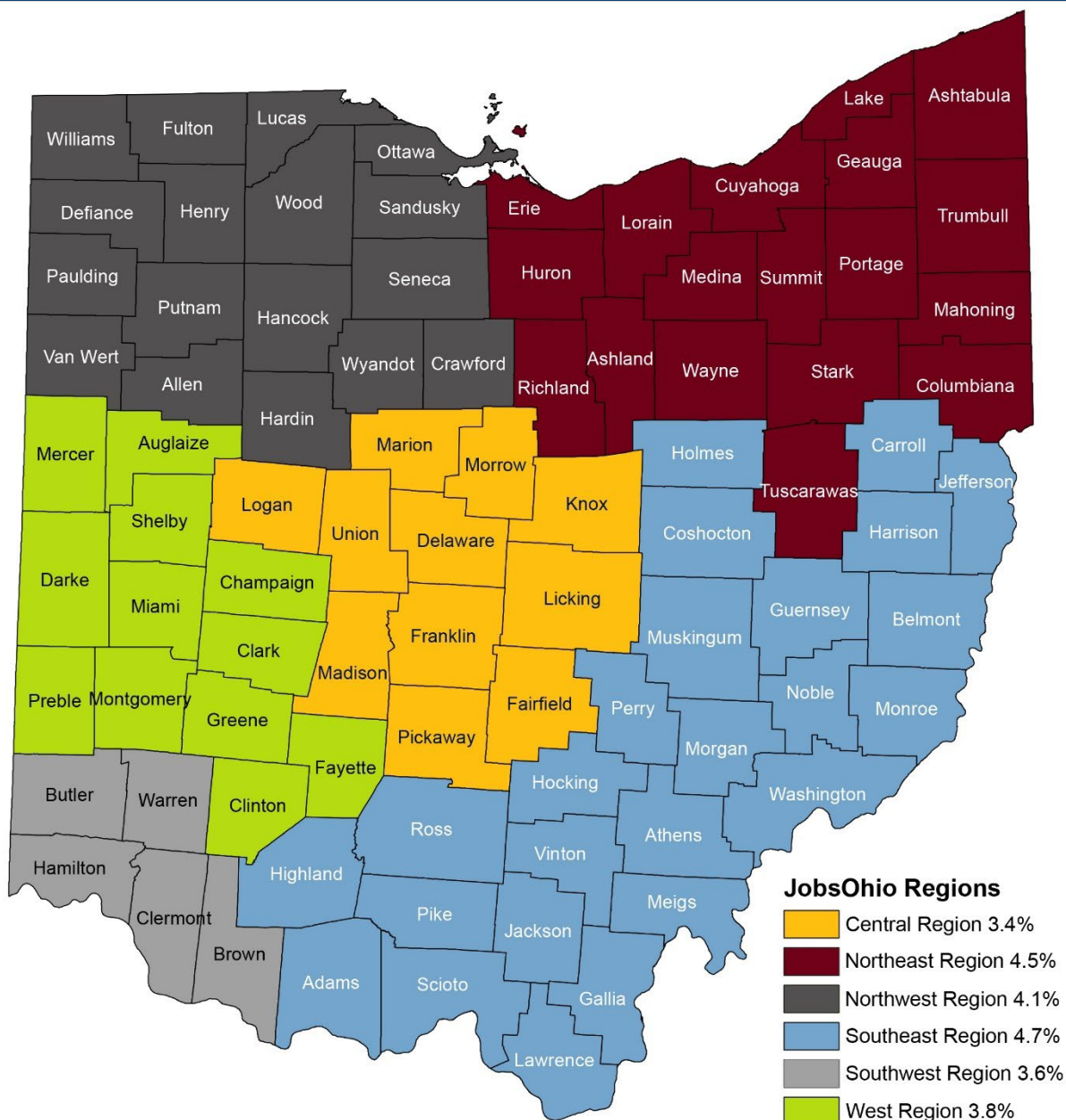
Figure 4. 2022 Annual Average Unemployment Rates by MSA



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Ohio has six JobsOhio regions, each with unique strengths and resources. In 2022, the Southeast region had the highest annual unemployment rate at 4.7%. In addition to the Southeast region, two other regions had annual unemployment rates above the state annual unemployment rate for 2022: Northeast and Northwest. The West region had an annual unemployment rate below the state annual unemployment rate of 4.0% and above the national annual average of 3.6% for 2022. The Southwest region had an unemployment rate equal to the national annual average. Only the Central region had an annual average unemployment rate lower than the national annual average; the rate for the Central region was the lowest in the state at 3.4%. The Central region also saw the largest drop in annual unemployment, from 4.6% in 2021 to 3.4% in 2022. The Southeast region, which had the highest annual unemployment rate for 2022, had the smallest decline in its unemployment rate, dropping from 5.6% in 2021 to 4.7% in 2022.

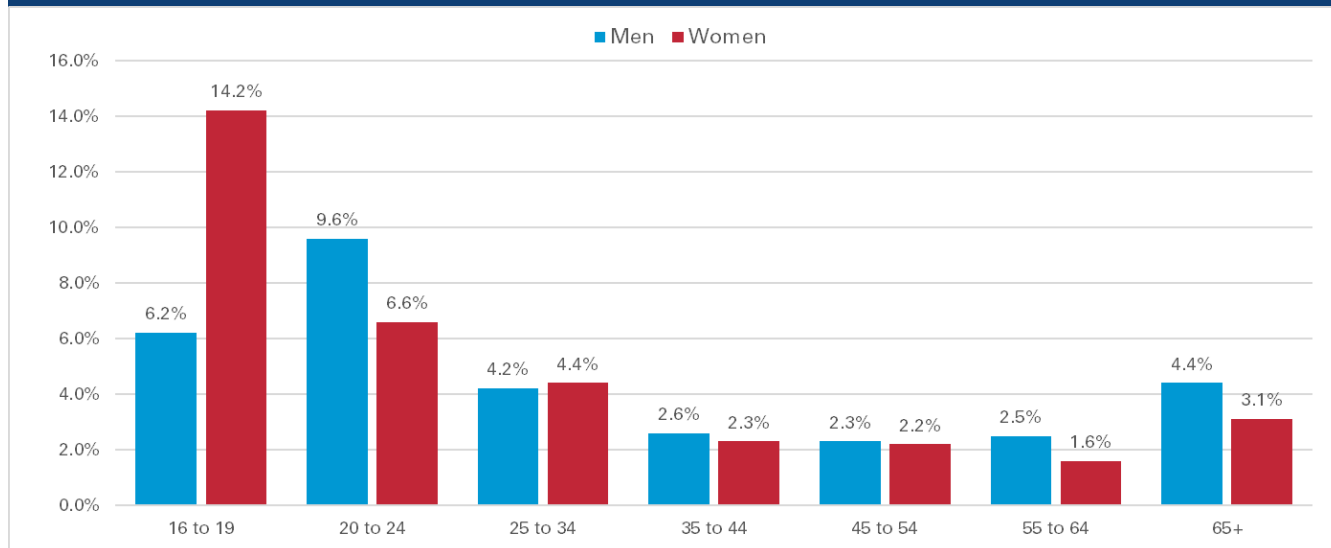
Figure 5. 2022 Annual Average Unemployment Rates by JobsOhio Regions



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics

For both men and women in 2022, the highest unemployment rates were for younger workers. Women's unemployment was highest for the 16- to 19-year-old age group at 14.2%. Women aged 20 to 24 had the next highest unemployment rate at 6.6%; the lowest unemployment rate for women was for the 55- to 64-year-old age group at 1.6%. The highest unemployment rate for men was for the 20- to 24-year-old age group at 9.6%. The lowest unemployment for men was for the 45- to 54-year-old age group at 2.3%.

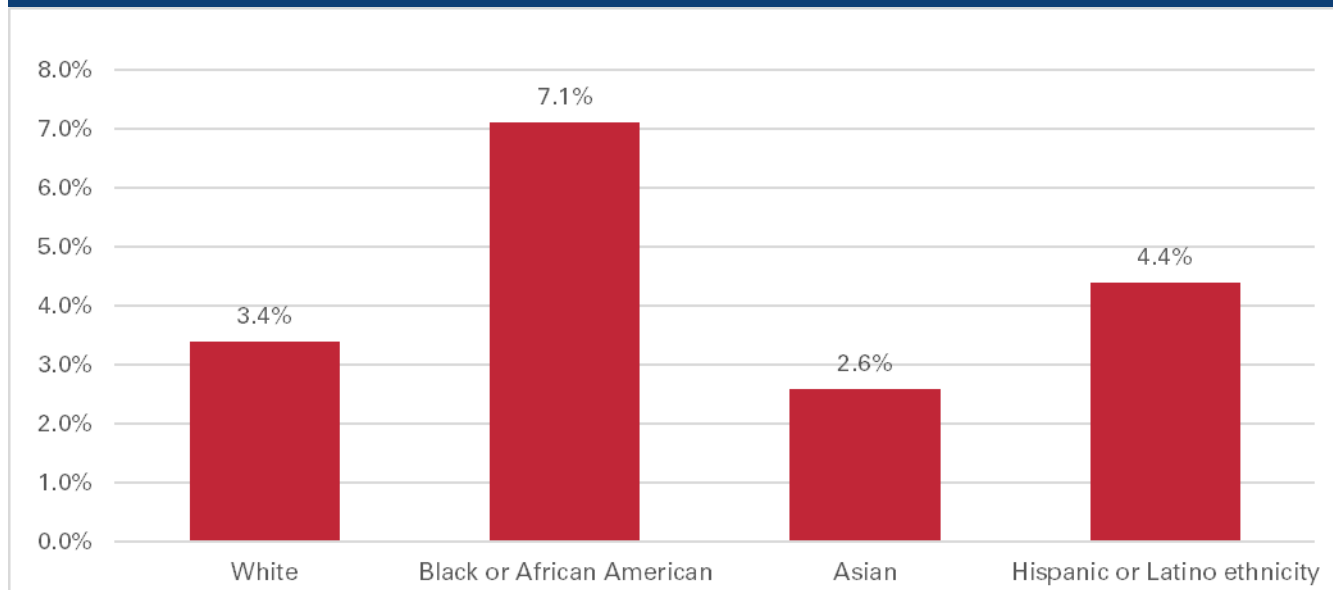
Figure 6. 2022 Ohio Annual Average Unemployment Rates by Sex and Age



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment

Among race and ethnic groups, Black or African Americans had the highest annual average unemployment rate in 2022 at 7.1%. Asians had the lowest rate at 2.6%.

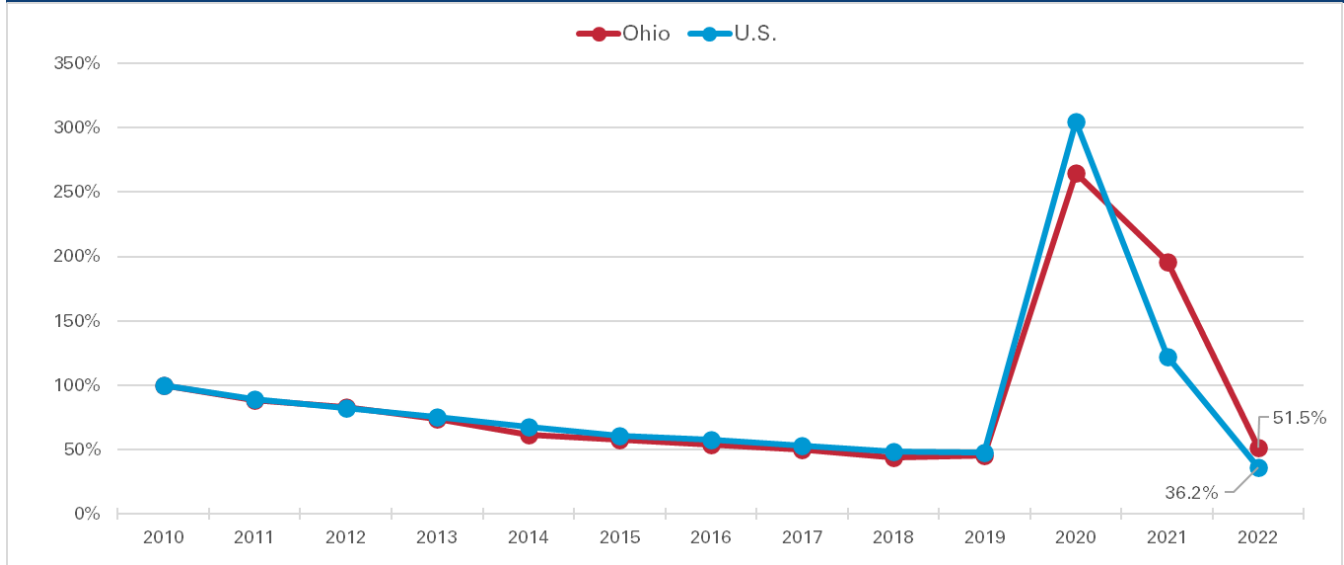
Figure 7. 2022 Ohio Annual Average Unemployment Rates by Sex and Race/Ethnicity



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment

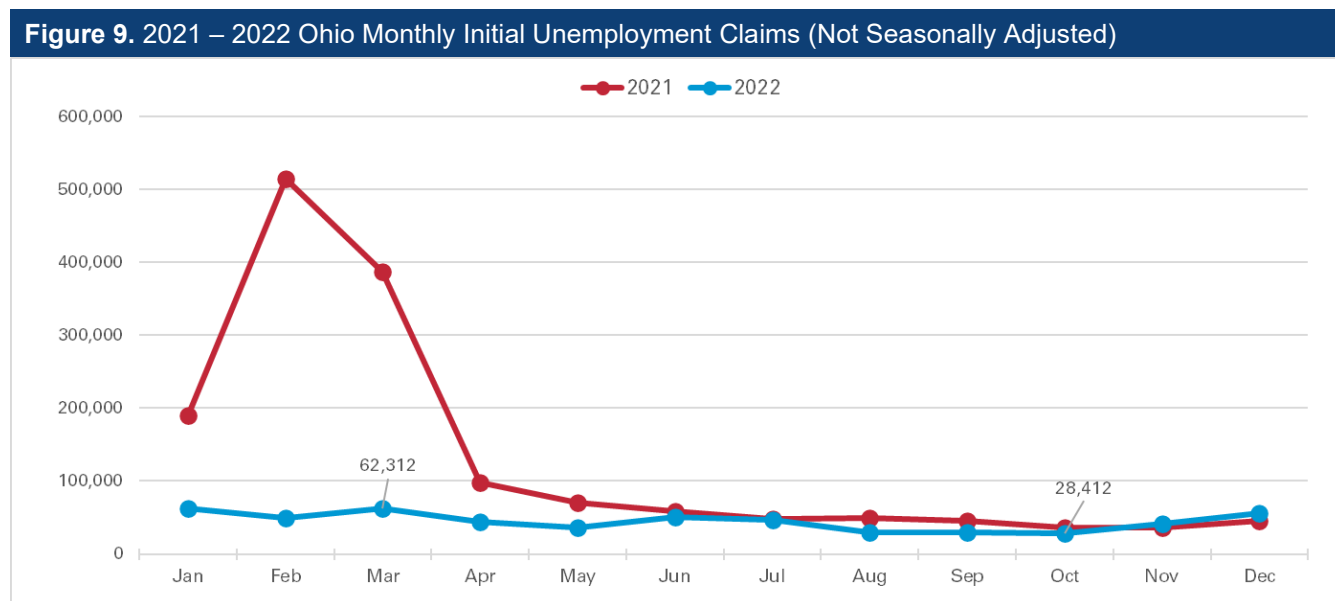
The number of initial unemployment insurance claims can provide insight into the number of people affected by layoffs and business closings. Figure 8 shows U.S. and Ohio annual initial unemployment claims as a percentage of 2010 levels. From 2010 to 2019, Ohio and U.S. initial claims declined at the same rate. In 2020, initial claims increased in both Ohio and the U.S. In 2022, U.S. initial claims decreased and were 36.2% of 2010 levels. Ohio initial claims also decreased but were 51.5% of 2010 levels.

Figure 8. Change in U.S. and Ohio Annual Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (2010 = 100%)



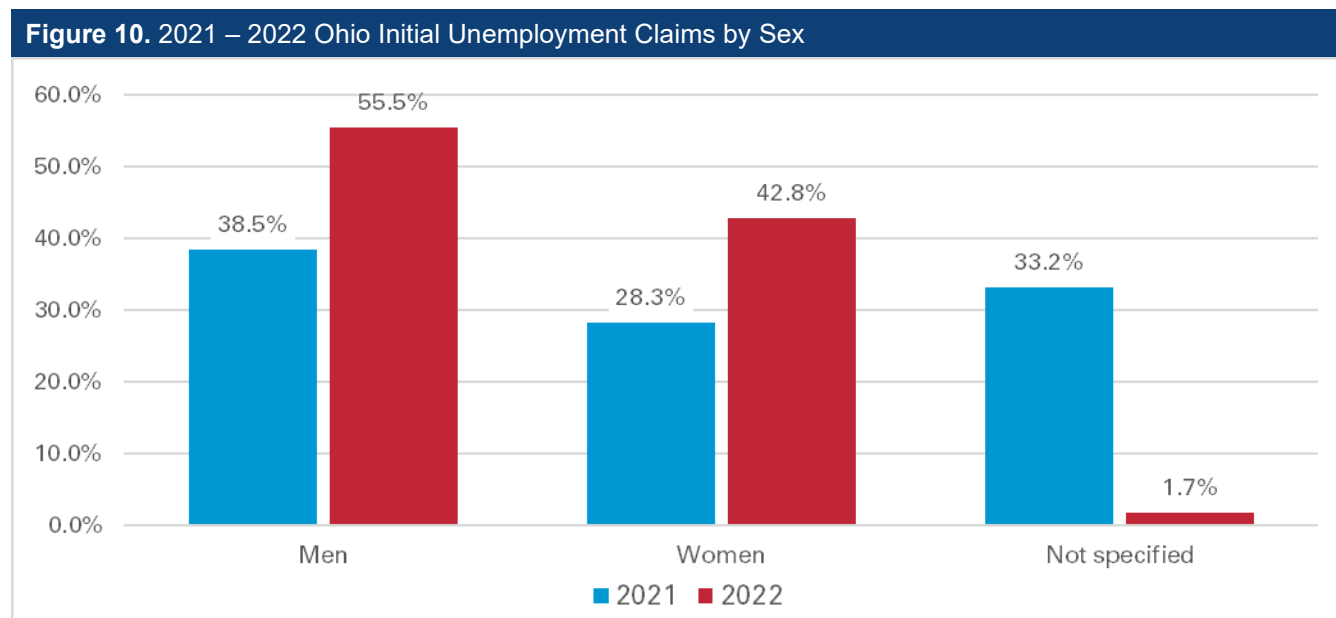
Source: U.S. Employment and Training Administration and the Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations

Figure 9 shows Ohio monthly initial claims for 2021 and 2022. These are not seasonally adjusted and show typical seasonal fluctuations. Monthly initial claims during 2022 were highest in the month of March (62,312 claims) and lowest in the month of October (28,412 claims).



Source: Ohio Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations

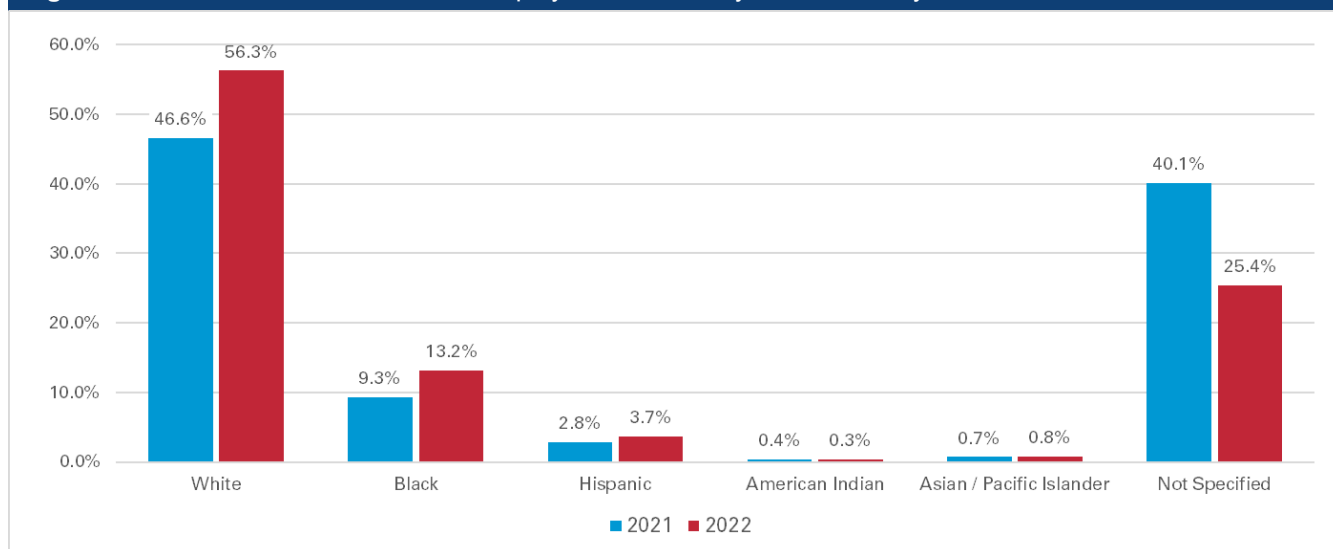
In 2021 and 2022, men accounted for a larger percentage of initial claims than did women. In 2022, 1.7% of initial claims included no gender information, compared to 33.2% in 2021. Fraudulent claims were far more likely to omit or exclude gender information than legitimate claims.



Source: Ohio Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations

Among the initial claims for which demographic information was available, the 2022 distribution by race and ethnicity was similar to the 2021 distribution. The percentage of initial claims lacking race or ethnicity information was 25.5% in 2022, a drop from the 40.1% in 2021. Fraudulent claims were more likely to be missing race or ethnicity information.

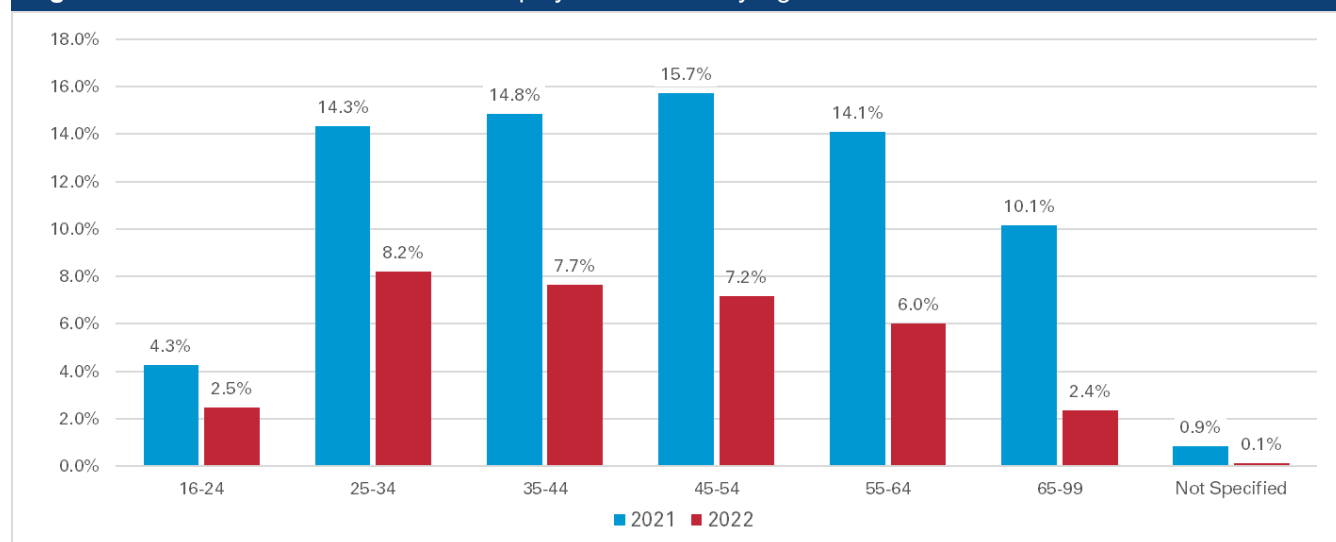
Figure 11. 2021 – 2022 Ohio Initial Unemployment Claims by Race/Ethnicity



Source: Ohio Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations

The number of initial claims declined from 2021 to 2022 for all age groups. The proportion of initial claims filed by those 44 and younger increased from 2021 to 2022. The largest decline in the proportion of initial claims was in the 65- to 99-year-old age group.

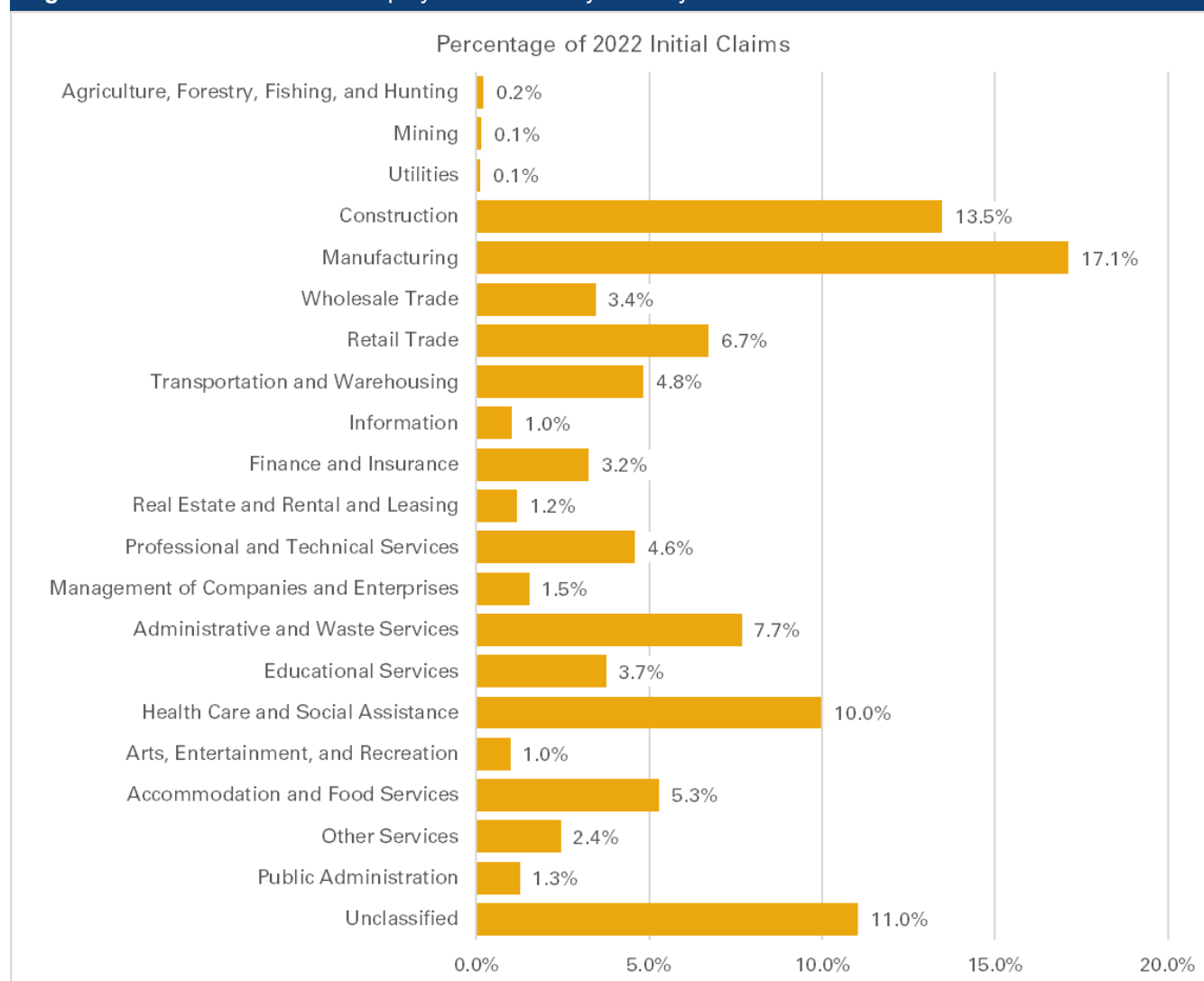
Figure 12. 2021 – 2022 Ohio Initial Unemployment Claims by Age



Source: Ohio Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations

Among the initial claims that included the industry of most recent employment, *manufacturing* had the highest percentage of initial claims, followed by *construction*, and *health care and social assistance*. However, 11% of initial claims in 2022 did not include an industry of employment and were reported as unclassified, down from 43.7% in 2021. Fraudulent claims were more likely to be missing industry information.

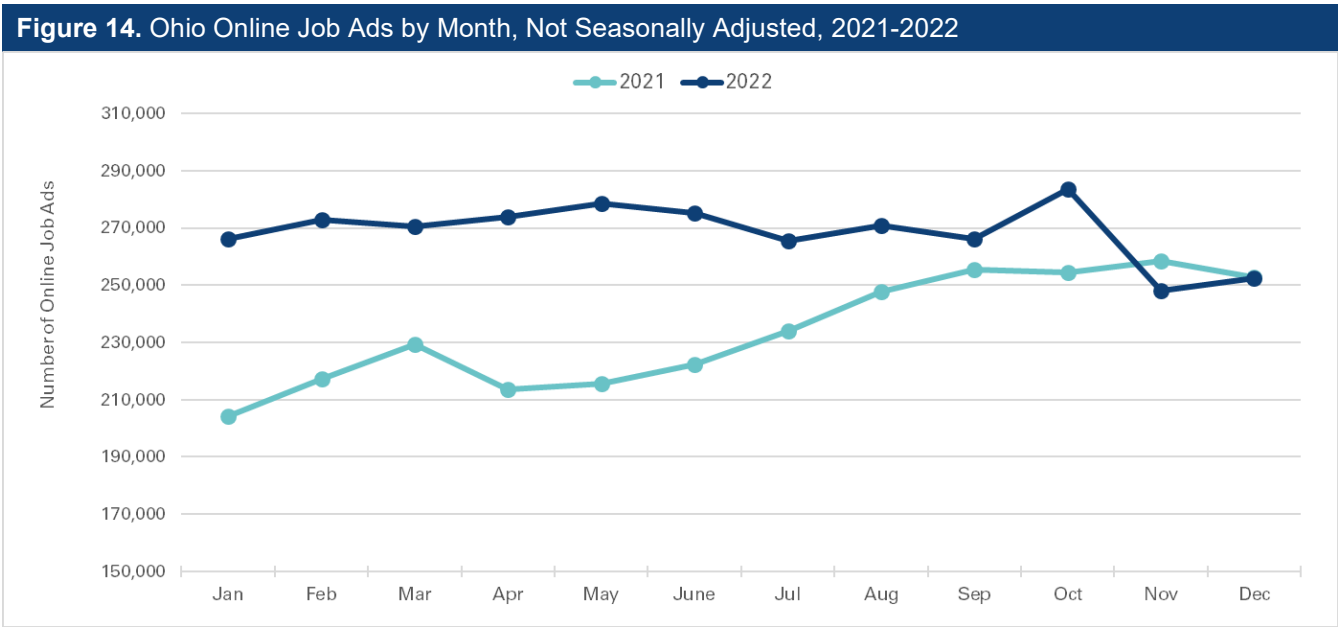
Figure 13. 2022 Ohio Initial Unemployment Claims by Industry Sector



Source: Ohio Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations

Labor Demand – Online Job Ads

One indicator of labor demand is the number of job ads posted online. On average, 34,924 more ads were posted monthly in 2022 than in 2021. Overall, the number of job postings increased in 2022 to 3,226,205, which was 13.0% higher than in 2021.

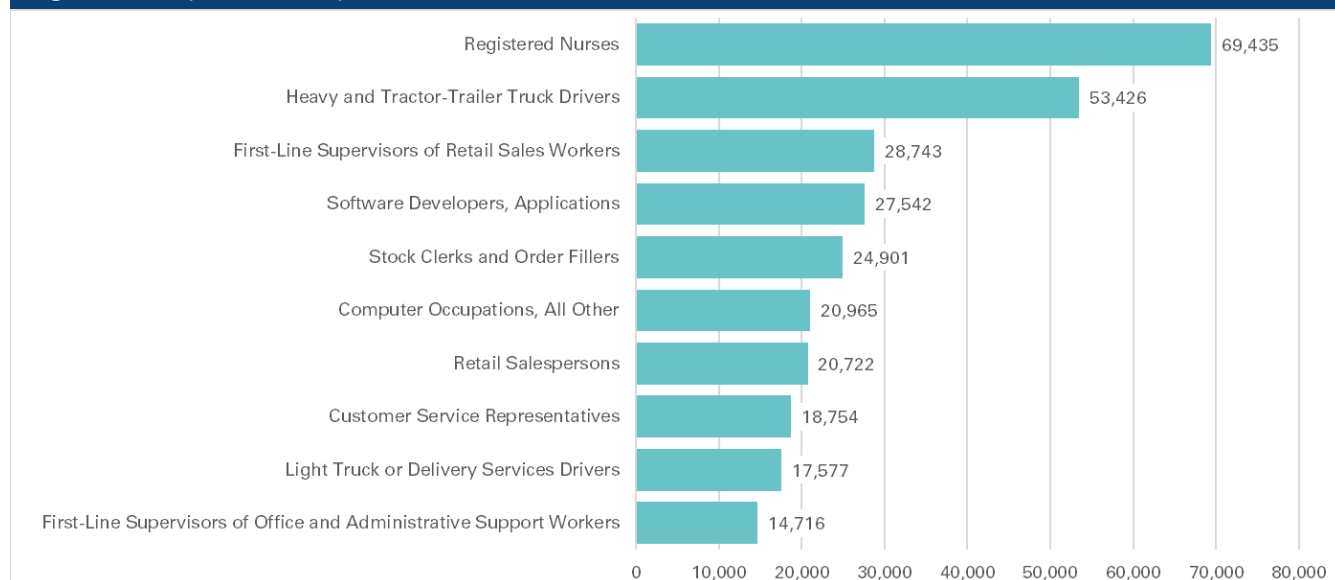


Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

Ohio's most heavily advertised occupation in 2022 was registered nurses, with more than 69,000 ads. The next most heavily advertised occupation was heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers.

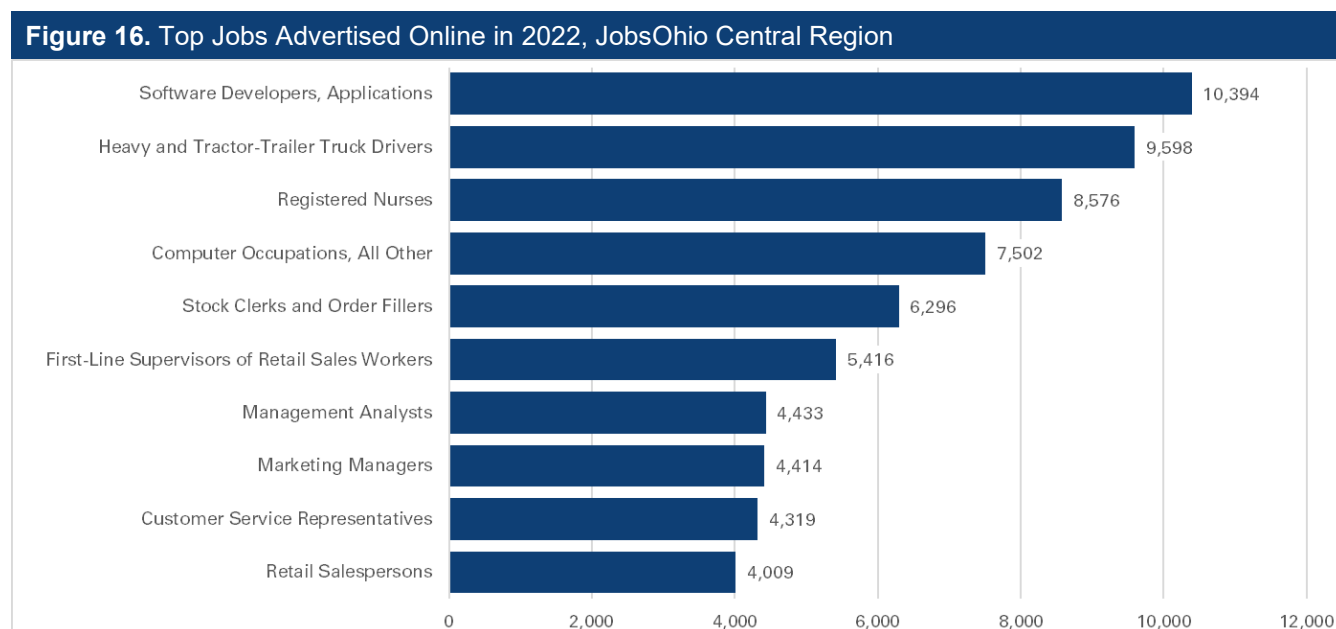
Eight of the ten most heavily advertised occupations in Ohio were on Ohio's "Top Jobs" list. Only *stock clerks and order fillers* and *retail salespersons* were not on the Top Jobs list.

Figure 15. Top Ohio Occupations Advertised Online in 2022



Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

In the Central JobsOhio Region, the top two most heavily advertised occupations were *software developers* and *heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers*, followed by *registered nurses* and then *other computer occupations*. Eight of the ten most heavily advertised occupations were on Ohio's "Top Jobs" list.



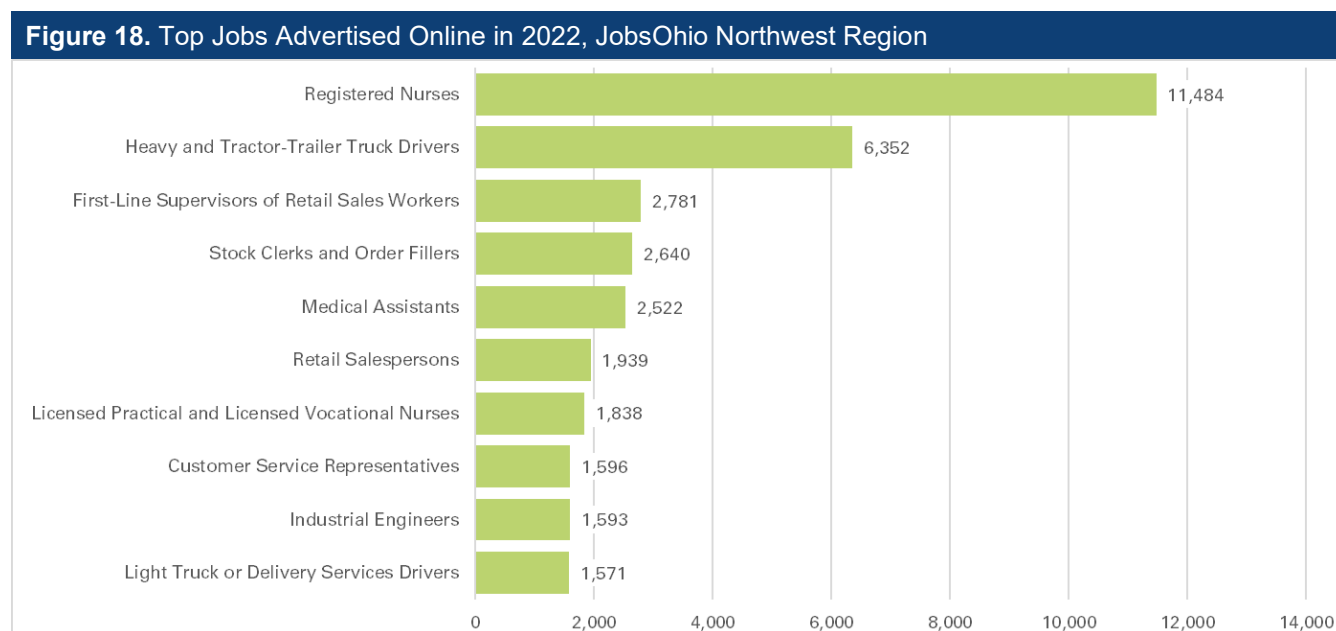
Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

In the Southwest JobsOhio region, *registered nurses* was the most heavily advertised occupation, followed by *heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers* and two *computer occupations*. Eight of the ten most heavily advertised occupations were on Ohio’s “Top Jobs” list.



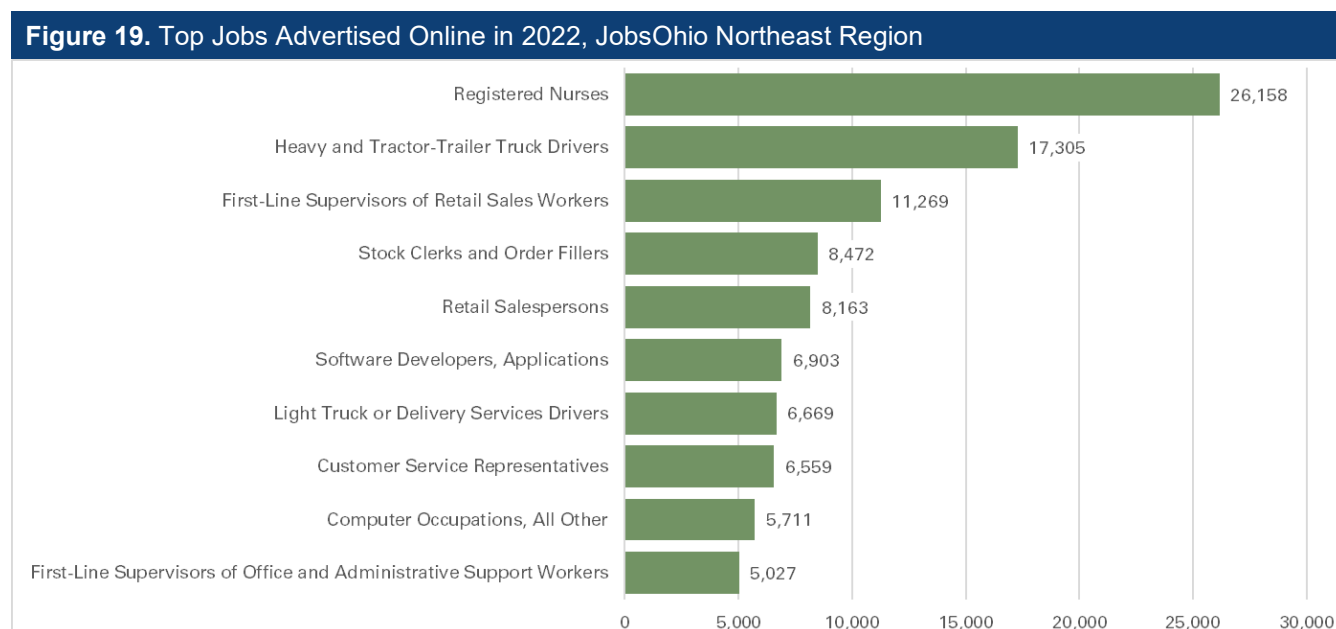
Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

In the Northwest JobsOhio region, the most heavily advertised occupation in 2022 was *registered nurses*, followed by *heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers*. Eight of the ten most heavily advertised occupations were on Ohio's "Top Jobs" list.



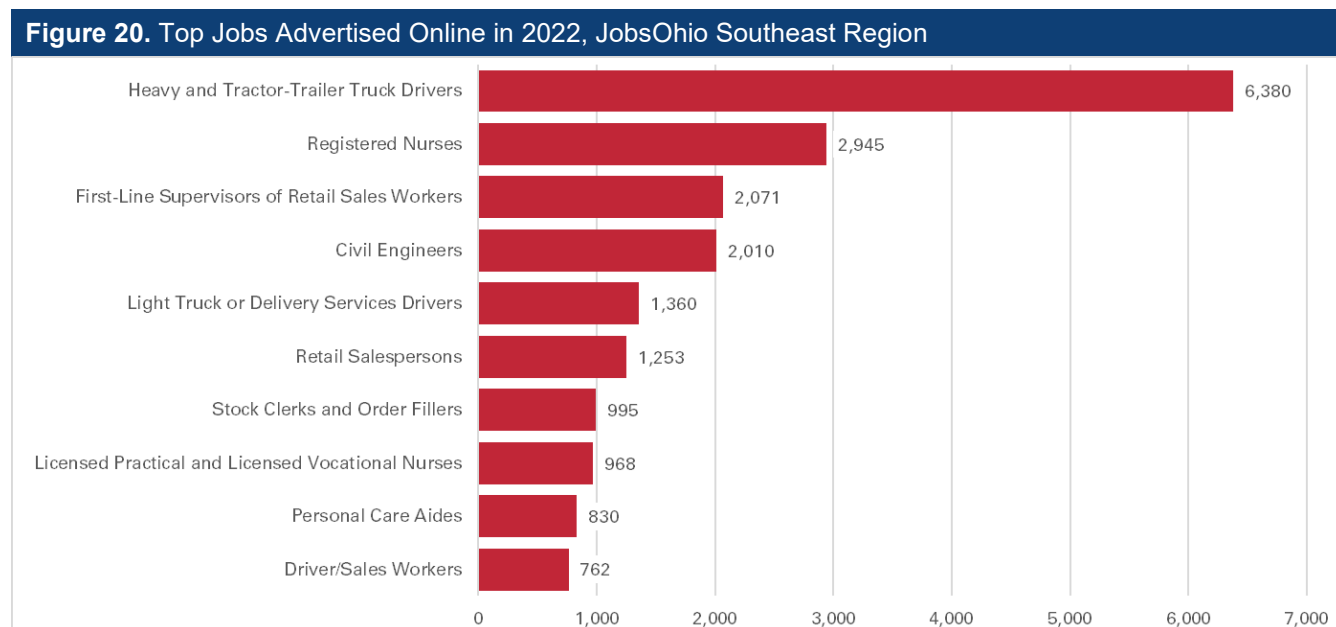
Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

In the Northeast JobsOhio region, the most heavily advertised occupation was *registered nurses*, with 26,158 ads. *Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers* was next, followed by two sales-related occupations. Eight of the ten most heavily advertised occupations were on Ohio's "Top Jobs" list.



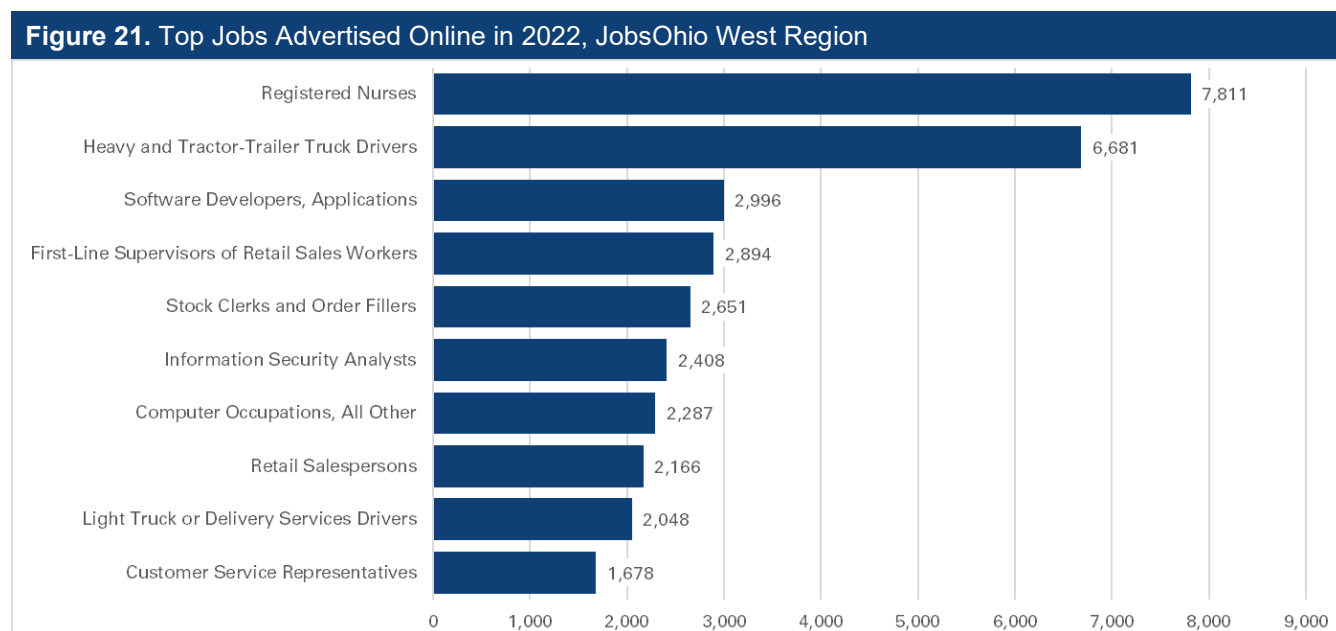
Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

In the Southeast JobsOhio region, the most advertised occupation was *heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers*, with 6,380 jobs. This was more than twice as many as the next advertised occupation, *registered nurses*. *First-line supervisors of retail sales workers* was the third most advertised occupation. Seven of the ten most heavily advertised jobs were on Ohio's "Top Jobs" list.



Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

In the West JobsOhio region, the most heavily advertised occupation was *registered nurses*, followed by *heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers*. Eight of the ten most heavily advertised occupations were on Ohio's "Top Jobs" list.



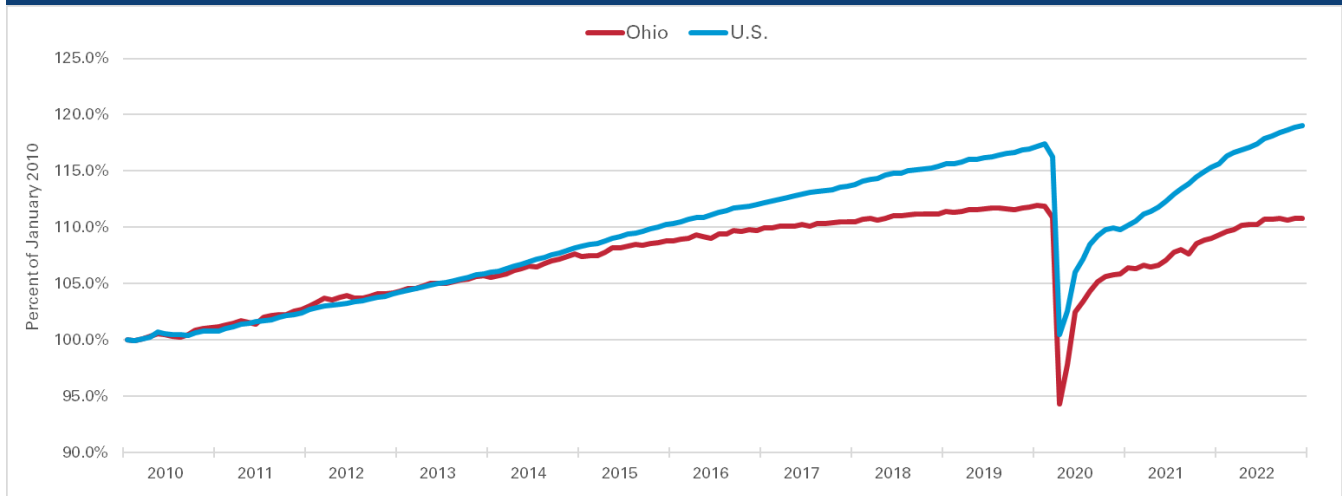
Source: TalentNeuron Gartner™

Industry Employment

In January 2022, U.S. total nonfarm employment was 115.6% of its January 2010 level. This was down from the February 2020 peak of 117.4% but above the low of 100.5% in April 2020, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. In January 2022 in Ohio, the total nonfarm employment was 109.3% of its January 2010 level, down from its peak of 111.9% in January and February 2020 and above its low of 94.3% in April 2020.

Throughout 2022, both Ohio and U.S. total nonfarm employment continued a steady recovery. Ohio's December 2022 level was 110.8% of its January 2010 level; the national December 2022 level was 119.1% of its January 2010 level.

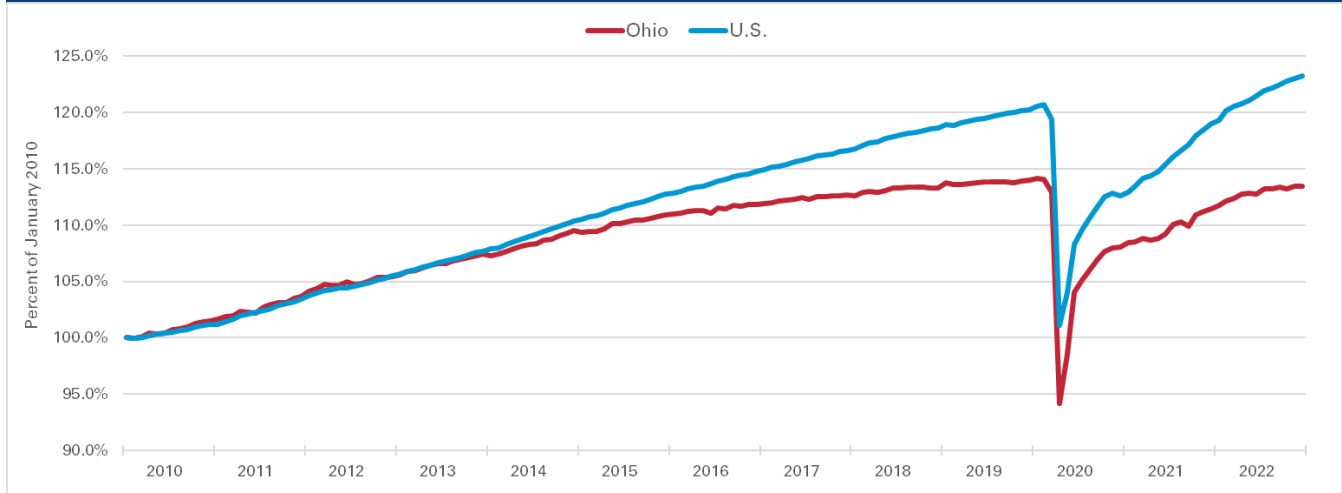
Figure 22. U.S. and Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Total Nonfarm Employment, January 2010 – December 2022



Source: Current Employment Statistics

In January 2022, Ohio and U.S. total private employment were at 111.7% and 119.3% of the January 2010 levels, respectively. Both Ohio and U.S. total private employment continued their steady recovery throughout 2022. By December 2022, Ohio's total private employment was at 113.4% of its January 2010 employment, a level not seen since February 2020. U.S. total private employment was at 123.2% of its January 2010 employment, a new peak.

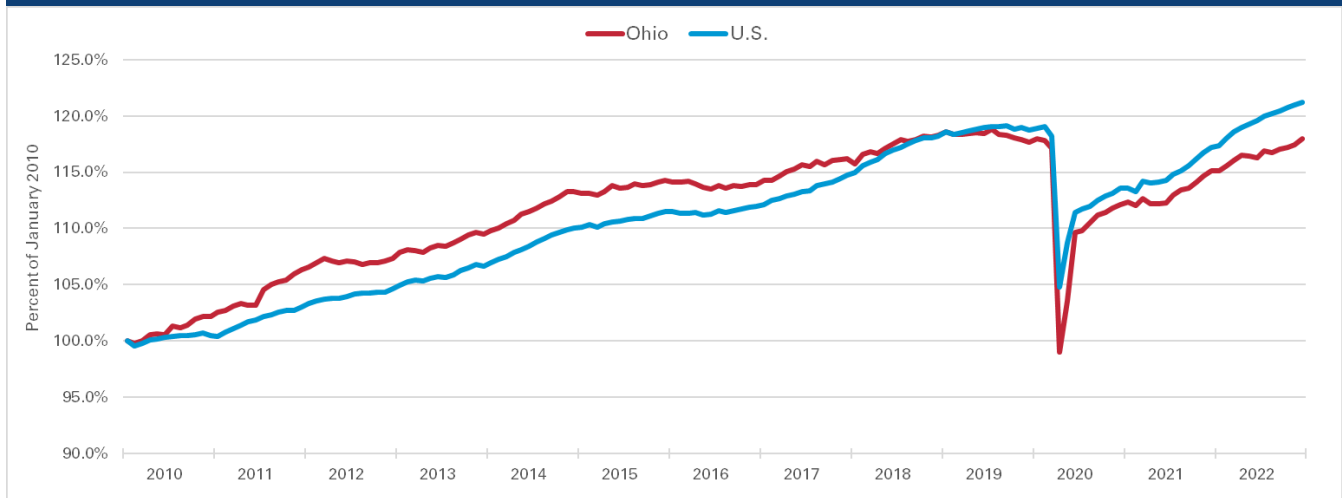
Figure 23. U.S. and Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Total Private Employment, January 2010 – December 2022



Source: Current Employment Statistics

In January 2022, the U.S. goods-producing industry sectors were at 117.4% of their January 2010 employment. They increased to 121.2% by December 2022. In January 2022 in Ohio, the state's goods-producing industries were at 115.1% of their January 2010 employment. They increased to 117.9% by December 2022. The goods-producing industry sectors are construction, manufacturing, and mining and logging.

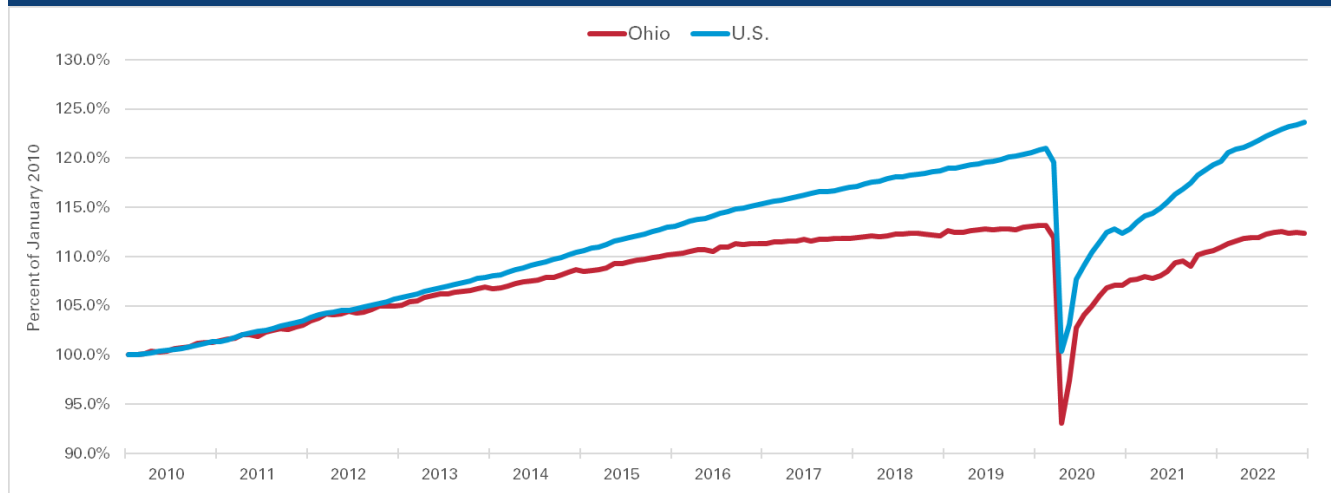
Figure 24. U.S. and Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Goods-Producing Industry Employment, January 2010 – December 2022



Source: Current Employment Statistics

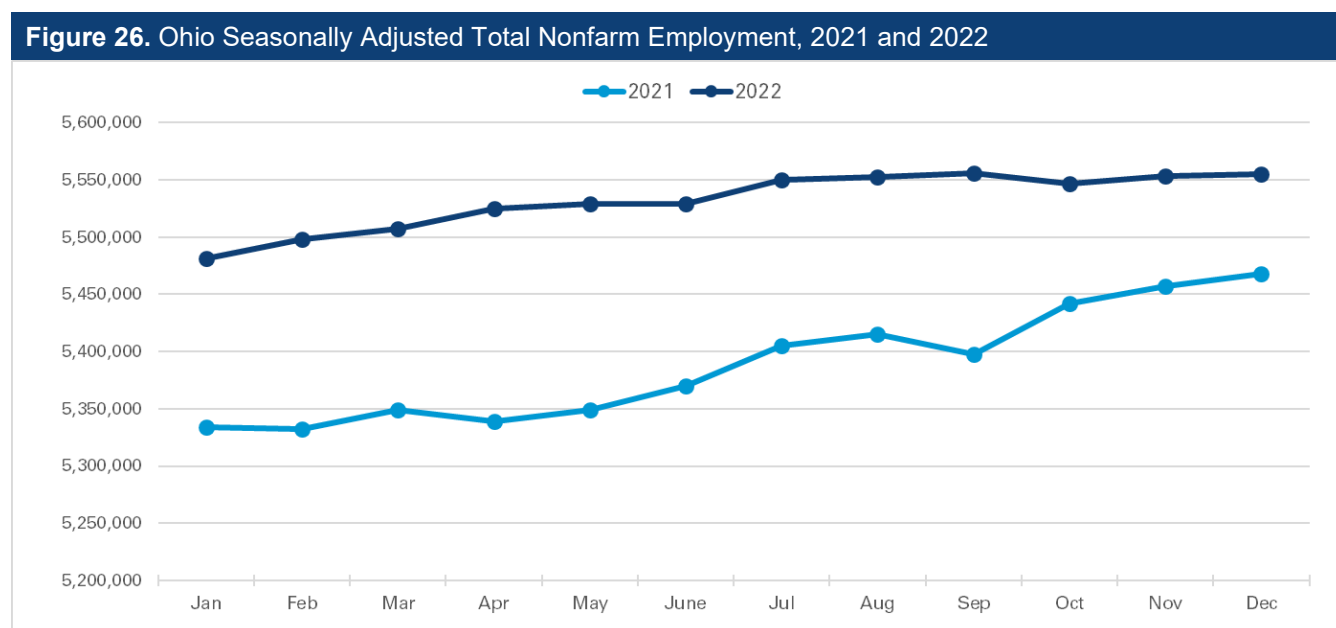
In January 2022, the U.S. private service-producing industries were at 119.7% of their January 2010 employment. They increased to 123.6% by December. In January 2022 in Ohio, the state's private service-producing industries were at 111.0% of their January 2010 employment. They increased to 112.4% by December 2021. The private service-producing industries include all non-government industries that do not produce goods.

Figure 25. U.S. and Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Private Service-Providing Industry Employment, January 2010 – December 2022



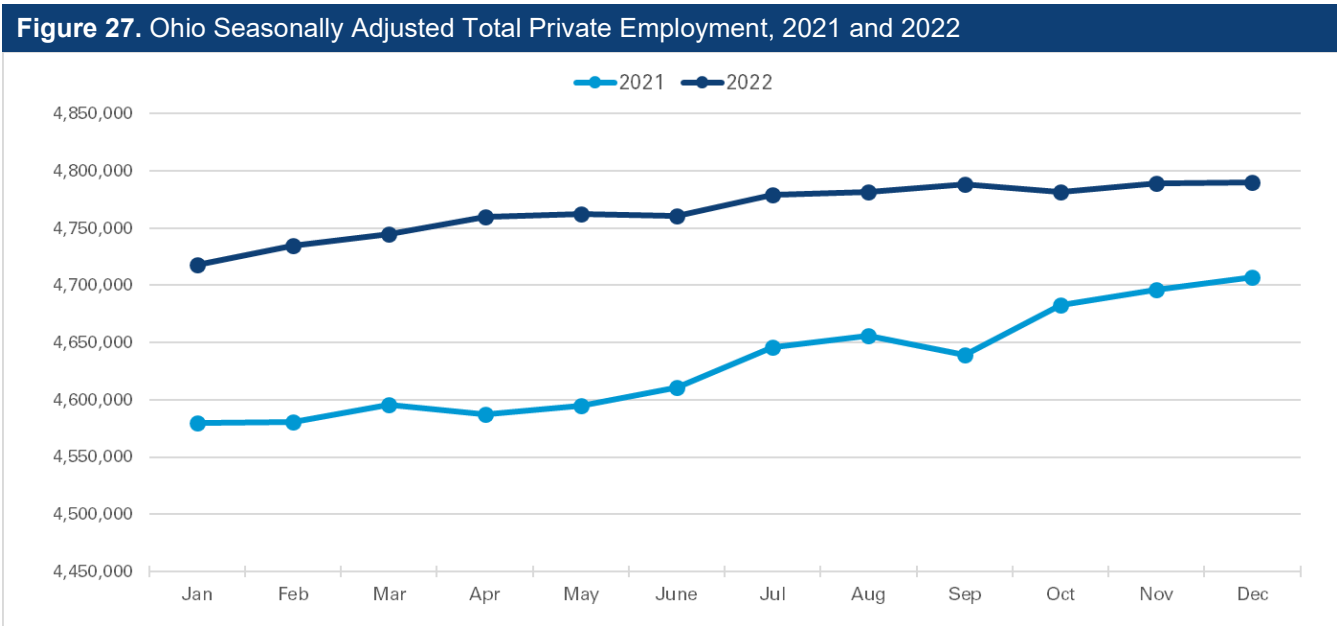
Source: Current Employment Statistics

Figure 26 shows seasonally adjusted monthly total nonfarm employment for 2021 and 2022. Ohio's annual average nonfarm employment for 2022 was 5,529,300, an increase of 141,600 over 2021.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

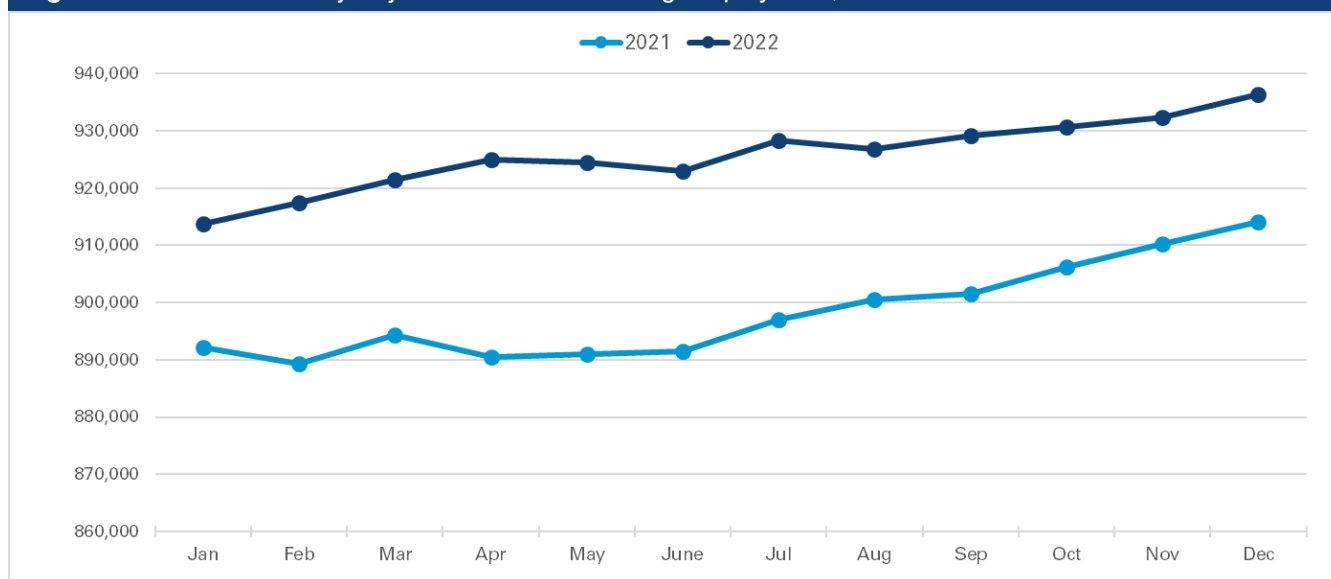
Ohio’s annual average private employment for 2022 was 4,763,800, an increase of 132,700 over 2021.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Figure 28 shows seasonally adjusted goods-producing employment for 2021 and 2022. Ohio's annual average goods-producing industry sector employment was 925,100, an increase of 27,100 over 2021.

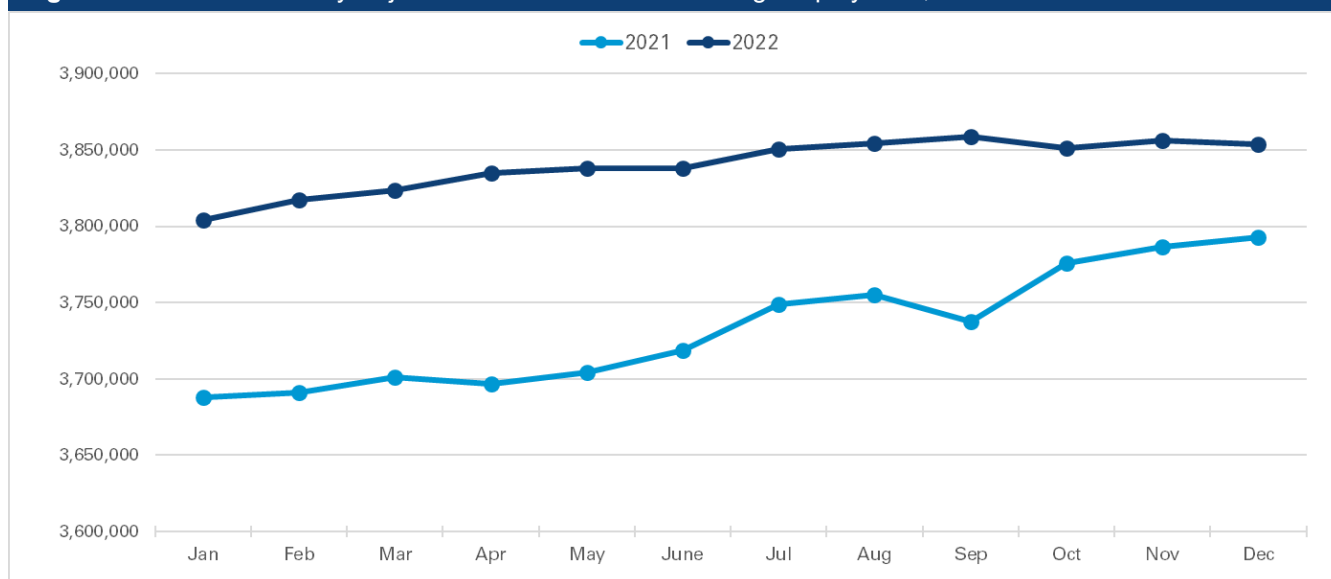
Figure 28. Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Goods-Producing Employment, 2021 and 2022



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Ohio's annual average private service-providing employment was 3,838,700 in 2022, an increase of 105,600 over 2021.

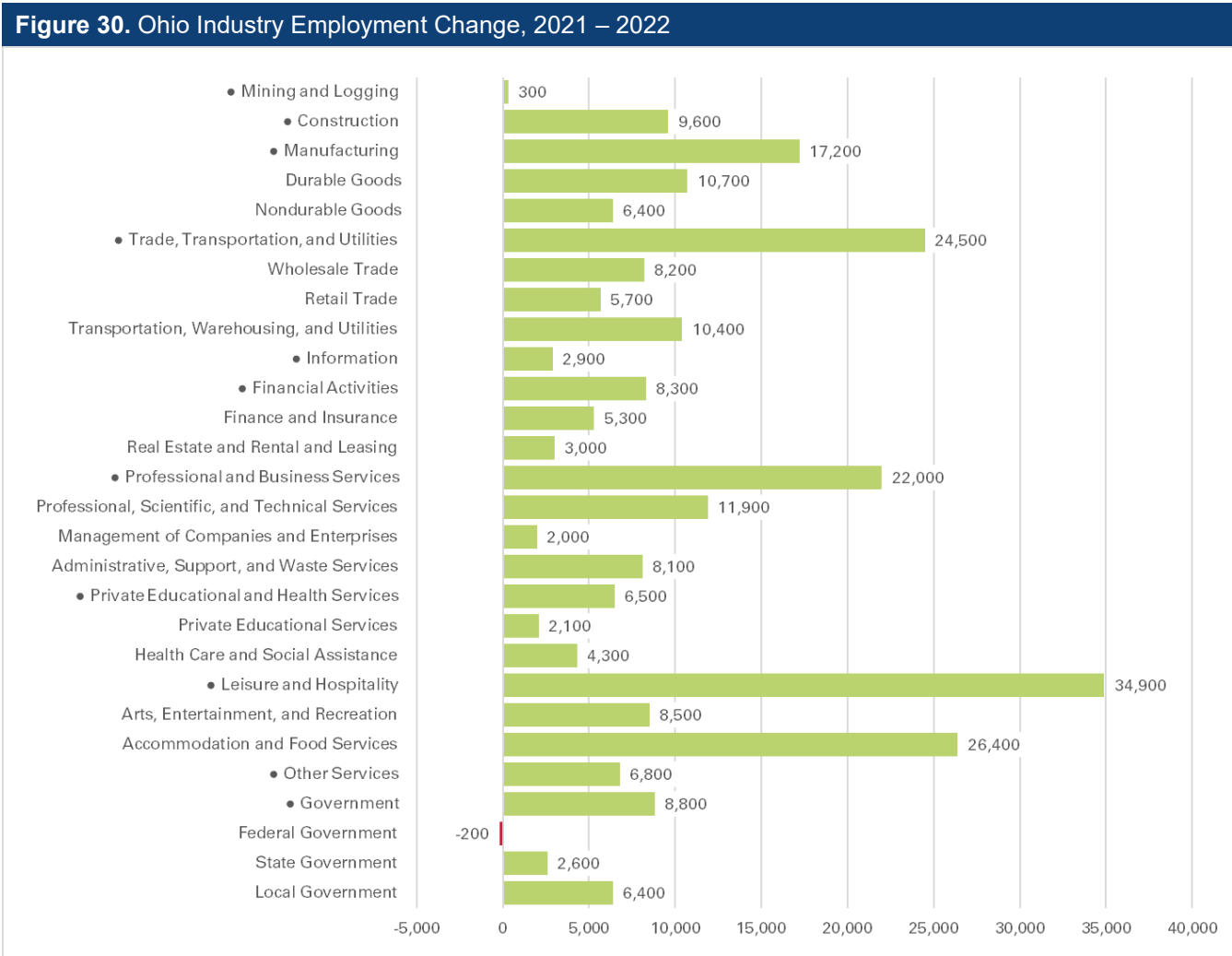
Figure 29. Ohio Seasonally Adjusted Private Service-Providing Employment, 2021 and 2022



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Figure 30 shows the annual average employment change from 2021 to 2022. Industry sectors are marked with bullets. Subsectors are listed without bullets under their parent sectors. Not all sectors have subsectors.

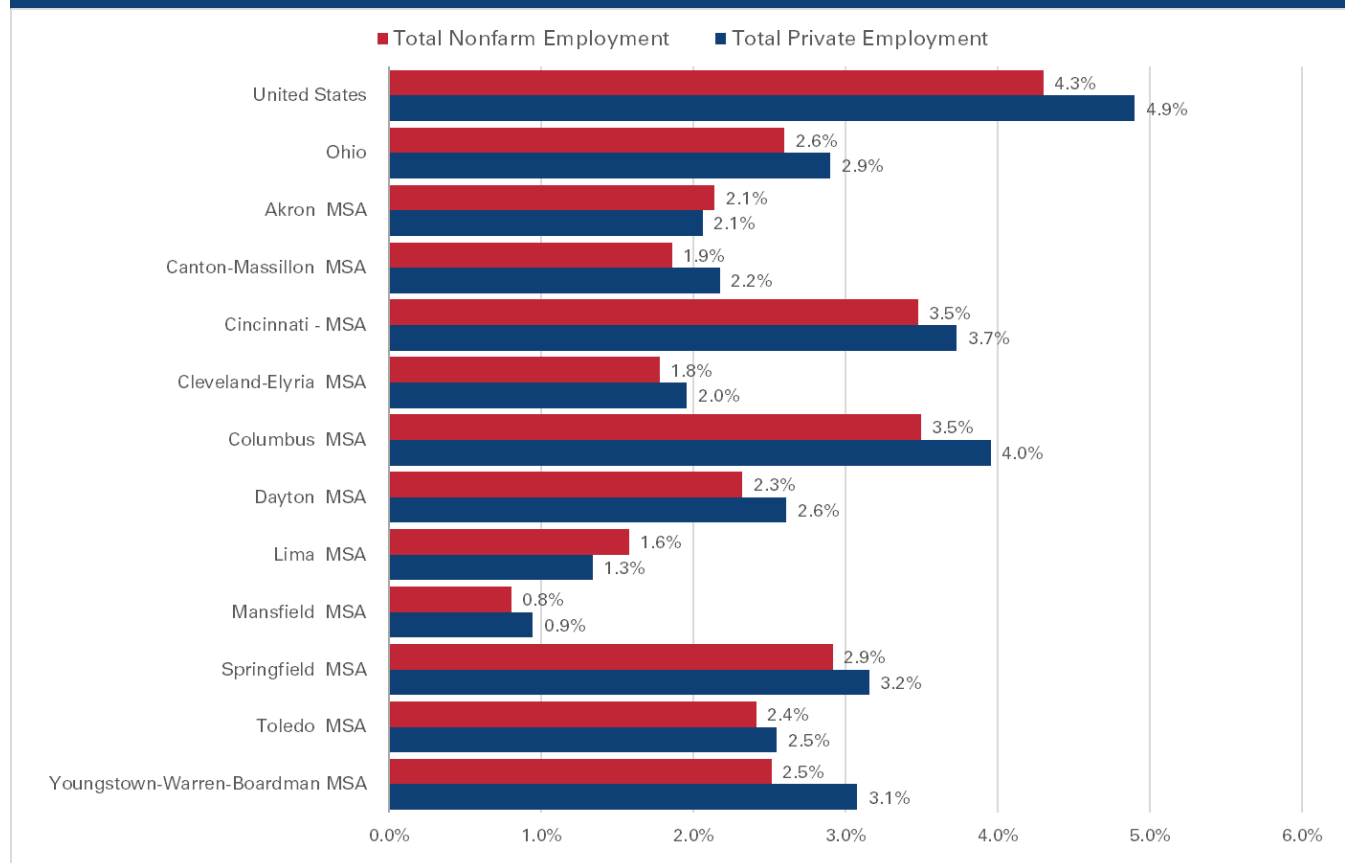
Among the sectors and subsectors, *federal government employment* saw the only decline between 2021 and 2022, losing 200 jobs. The *leisure and hospitality* sector saw the greatest gain, increasing 34,900 from 2021 to 2022.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

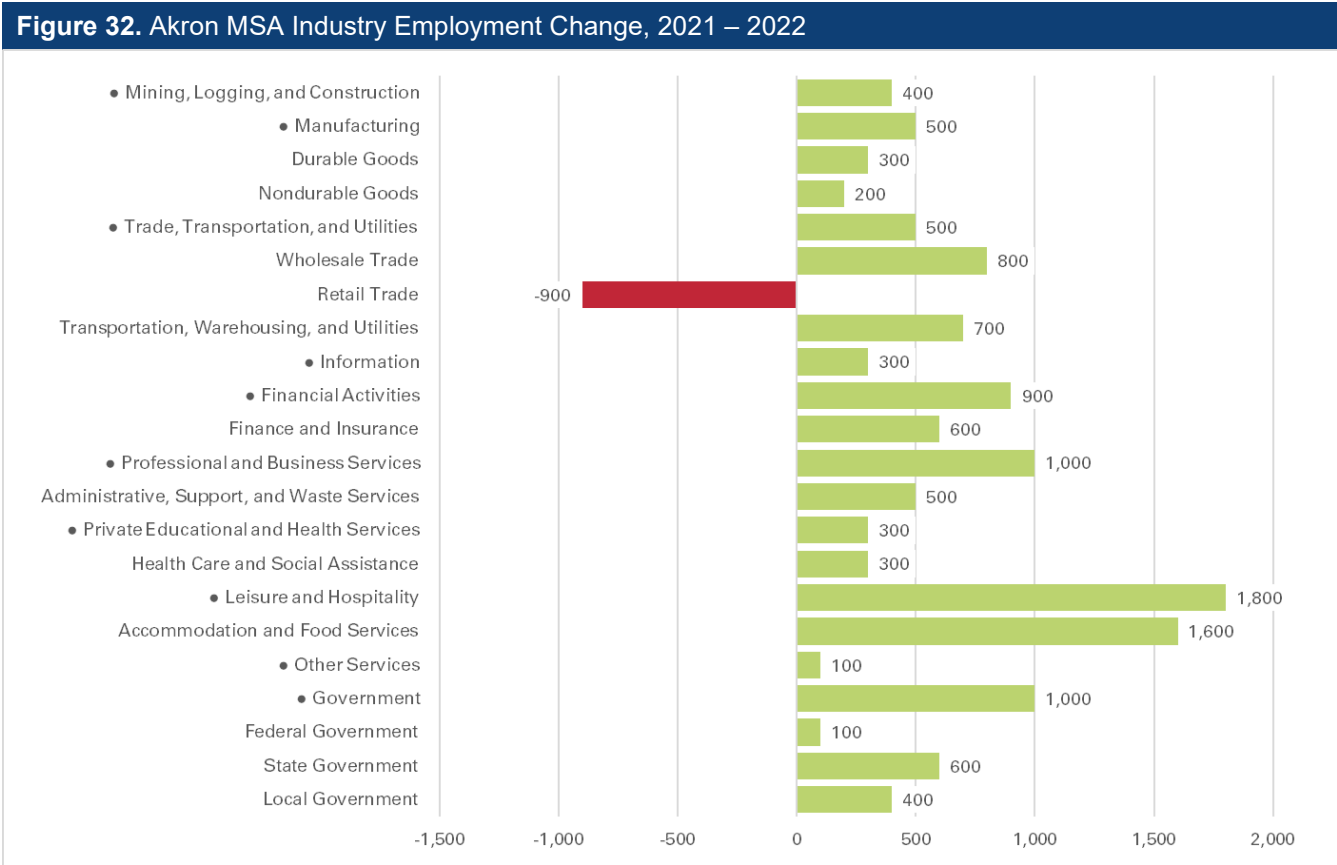
Figure 31 shows the percentage change from 2021 to 2022 in annual average total nonfarm and total private employment for the U.S., Ohio, and Ohio's 11 metropolitan statistical areas. Some metropolitan areas include counties outside Ohio. All areas saw increases in total nonfarm and total private employment from 2021 to 2022. Ohio's total nonfarm and total private employment increased 2.6% and 2.9%, respectively. Among the Ohio MSAs, the Columbus MSA had the largest increases, with 4.0% for total private employment and 3.5% for total nonfarm employment. The Mansfield MSA saw the smallest increases in total nonfarm and total private employment.

Figure 31. Change in Annual Average Total Nonfarm and Total Private Employment, 2021 – 2022



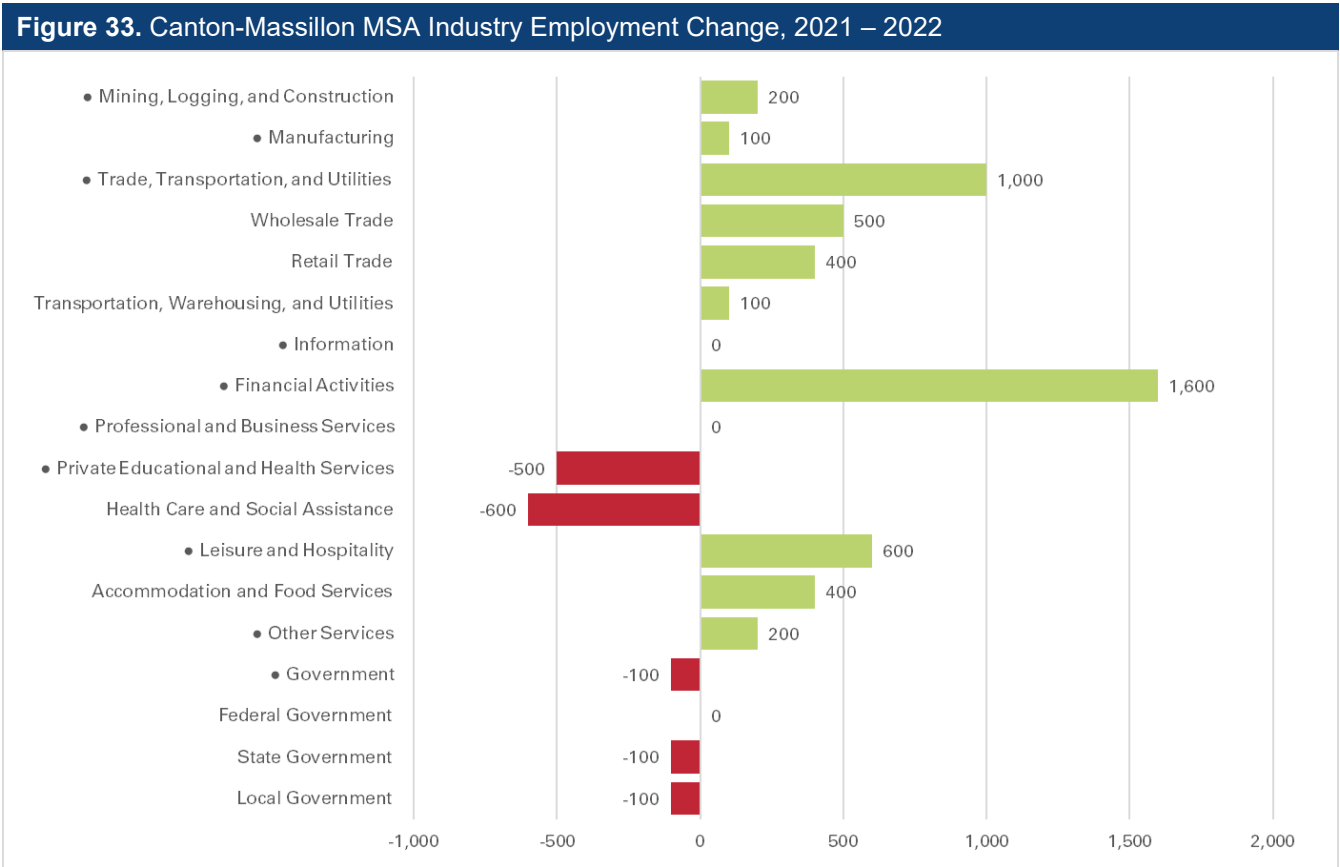
Source: Current Employment Statistics

In the Akron MSA, the total nonfarm employment was 329,300 in 2022, an increase of 6,900 jobs. Akron’s total private employment in 2022 was 287,300, an increase of 5,800 jobs over 2021. Akron’s *retail trade employment* subsector saw the largest decline in 2022, a loss of 900 jobs. The *leisure and hospitality* sector saw the largest employment increase, gaining 1,800 jobs. *Professional and business services* and the *government employment* sectors both gained 1,000 jobs over the year.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

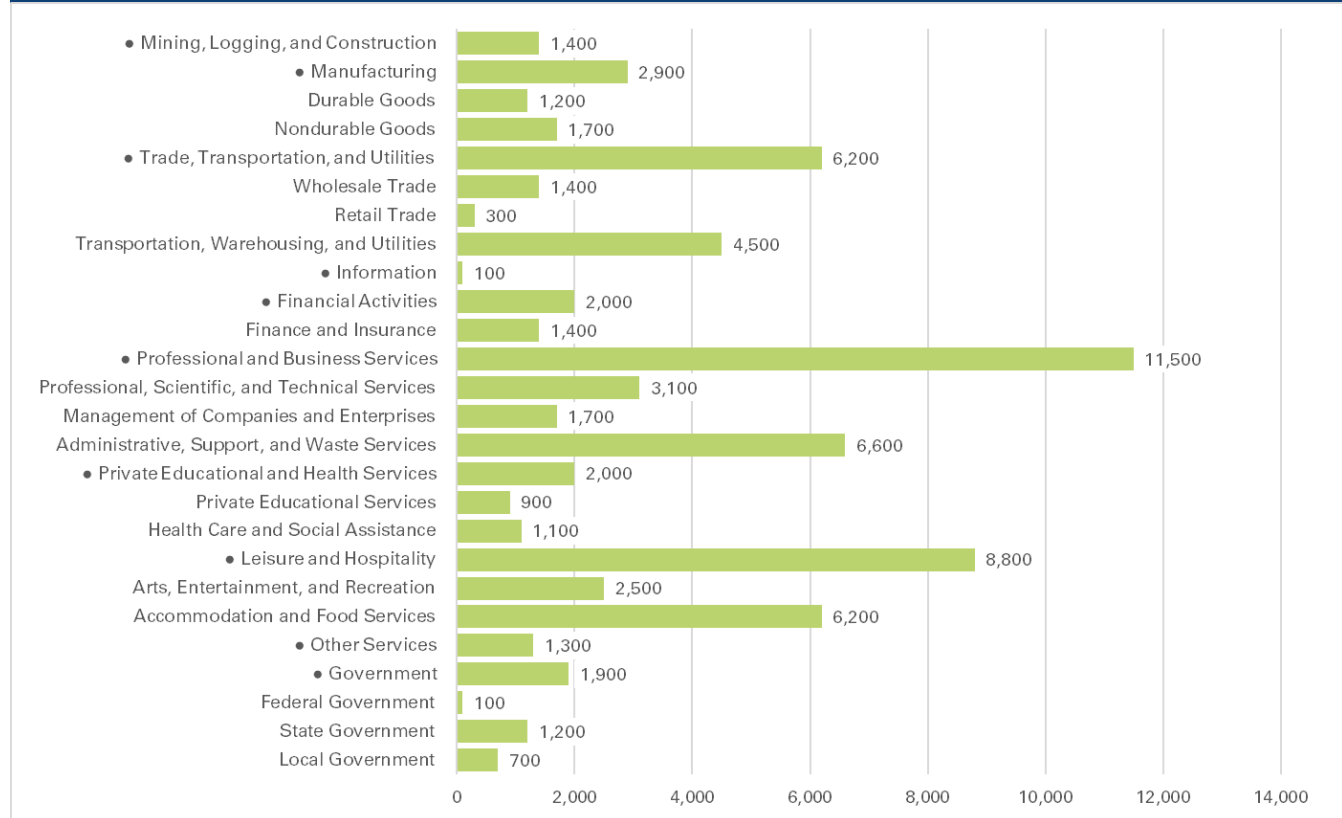
In the Canton-Massillon MSA, total nonfarm employment increased by 3,100 to 169,700 jobs in 2022. Total private employment was 150,400, an increase of 3,200 jobs. The health care and social assistance subsector lost the most jobs, a decline of 600. The *financial activity sector* gained the most jobs, an increase of 1,600 jobs over the year.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

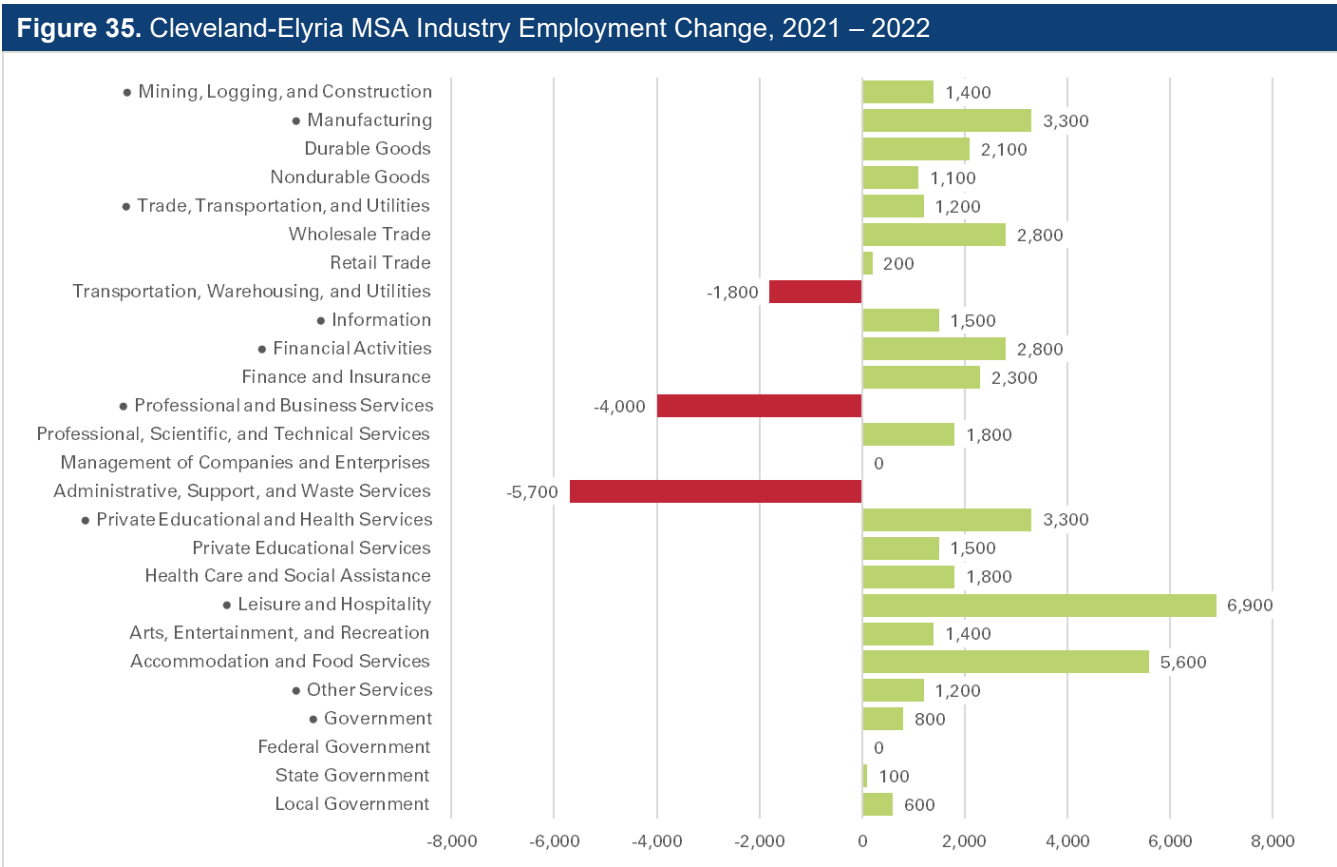
In the Cincinnati MSA, total nonfarm employment rose by 38,100 jobs to 1,133,500 in 2022. The total private employment for the Cincinnati MSA grew by 36,100 to 1,003,700. All sectors and subsectors within the Cincinnati MSA increased over 2021 values. The *information* sector had the smallest gain, increasing by 100 jobs. The largest increases were in the *professional and business services* sector, which gained 11,500 jobs, and the *leisure and hospitality* sector, which gained 8,800 jobs.

Figure 34. Cincinnati MSA Industry Employment Change, 2021 – 2022



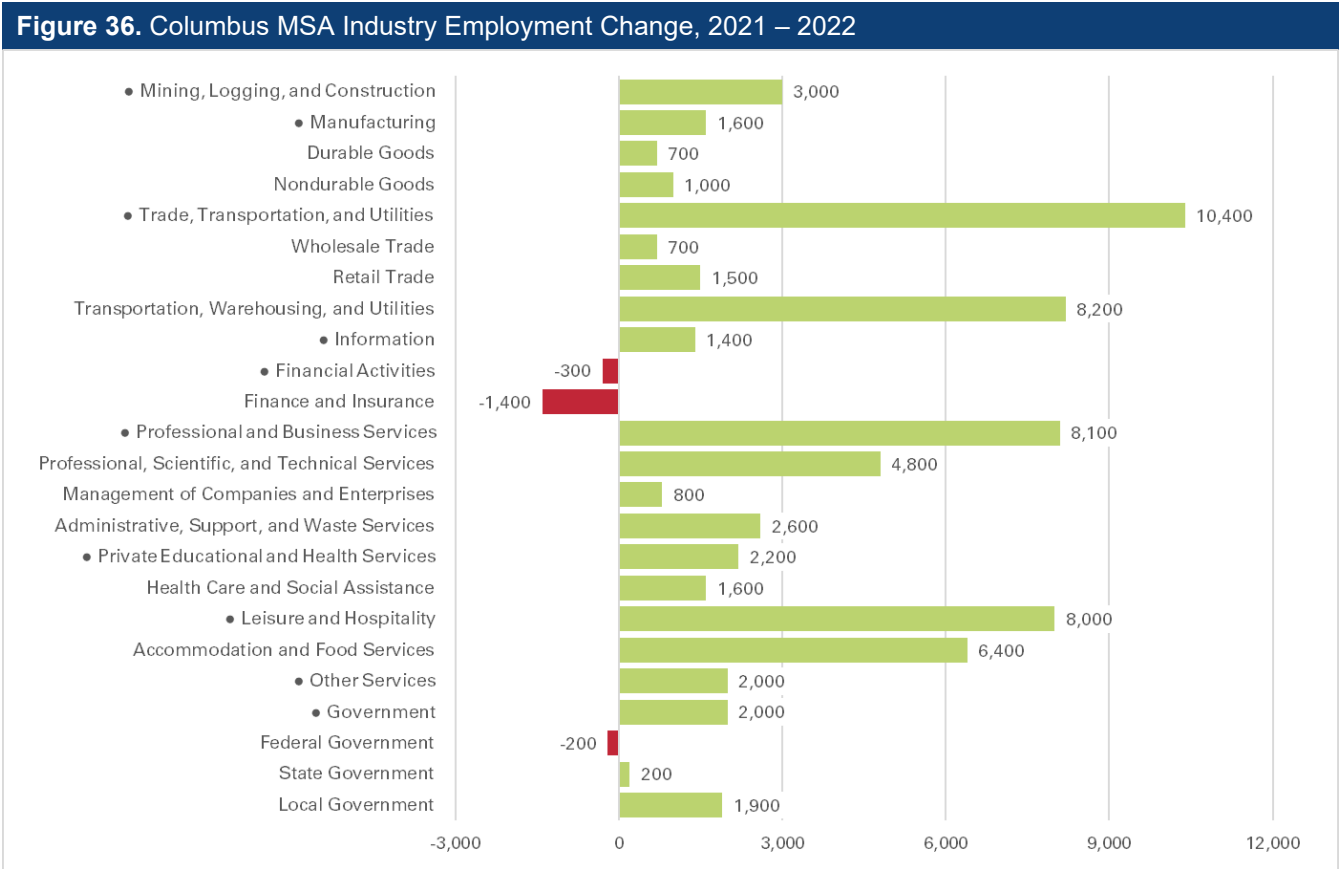
Source: Current Employment Statistics

In the Cleveland-Elyria MSA, total nonfarm employment grew by 18,300 to 1,047,100 jobs in 2022. Total private employment was 916,900, an increase of 17,600 jobs. The *professional and business services* sector saw the greatest loss, with a decrease of 4,000 jobs. The *administrative, support and waste services* subsector saw a decline of 5,700 jobs. The *leisure and hospitality* sector grew by 6,900 jobs, followed by the *manufacturing* sector and the *educational and health services* sector, which both gained 3,300 jobs over the year.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

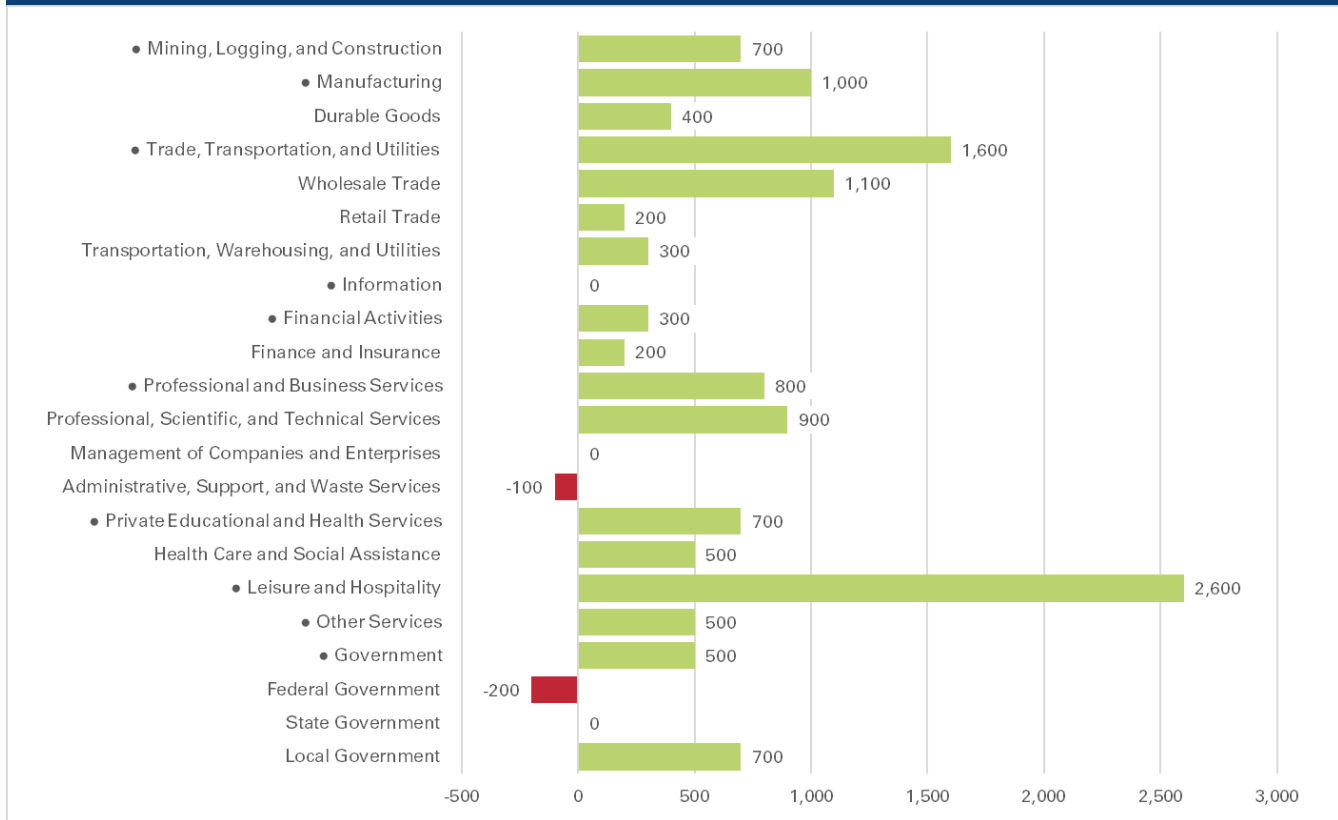
In the Columbus MSA, total nonfarm employment was 1,139,800 in 2022, an increase of 38,500. Total private employment increased by 36,500 to 959,700 jobs. The finance and insurance subsector lost the most jobs, 1,400. The *trade, transportation, and utilities* sector gained the most, a total of 10,400 jobs. The *professional and business services* sector gained 8,100 jobs, with the *leisure and hospitality* sector close behind with a gain of 8,000 jobs.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

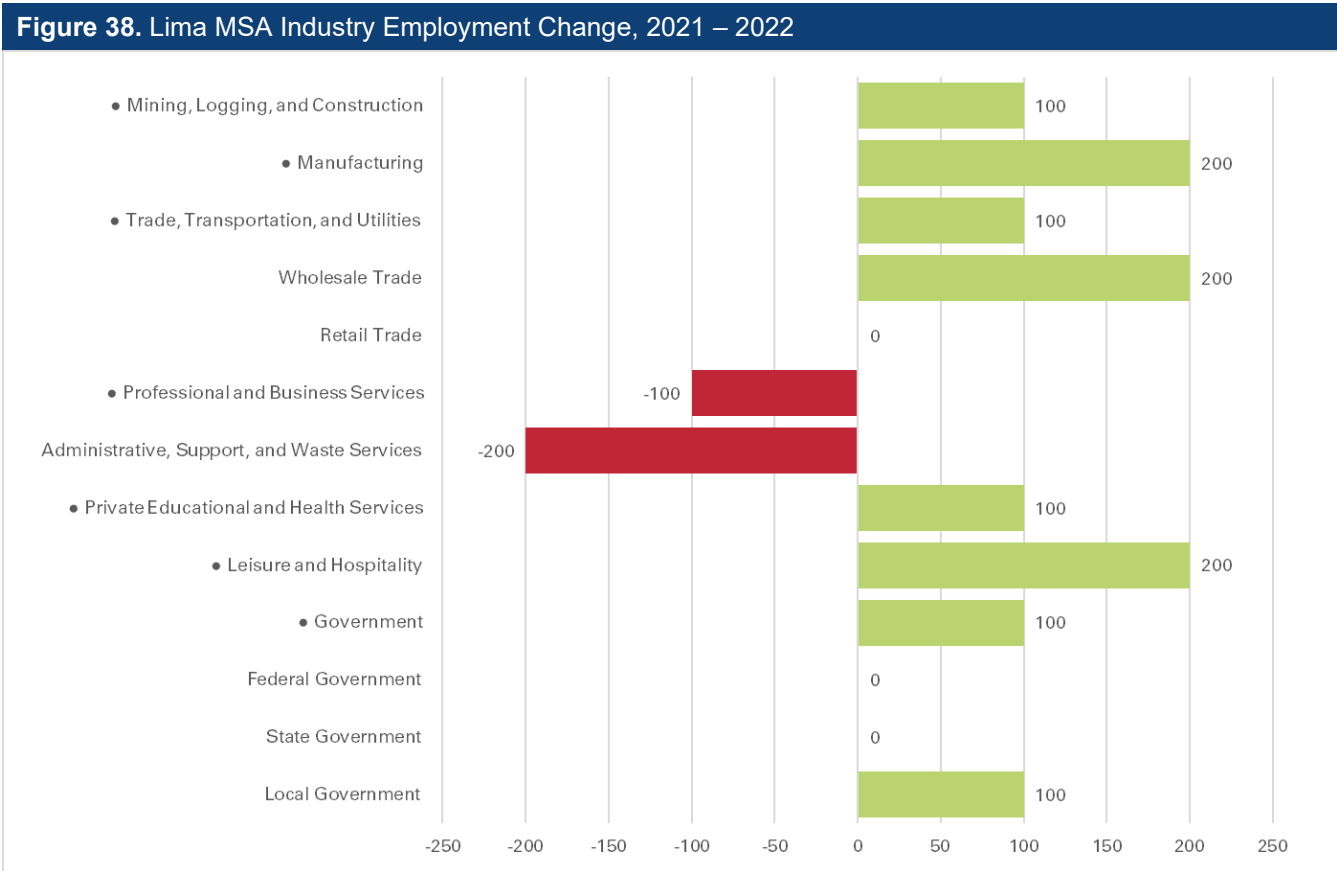
In the Dayton MSA, total nonfarm employment increased by 8,700 jobs in 2022, rising to 383,200. Total private employment was 322,300, an increase of 8,200 jobs. *Federal government employment* subsector saw the most job losses, 200 jobs. The *information* sector employment remained the same as in 2021. *Leisure and hospitality* saw the most gains, an increase of 2,600 jobs.

Figure 37. Dayton MSA Industry Employment Change, 2021 – 2022



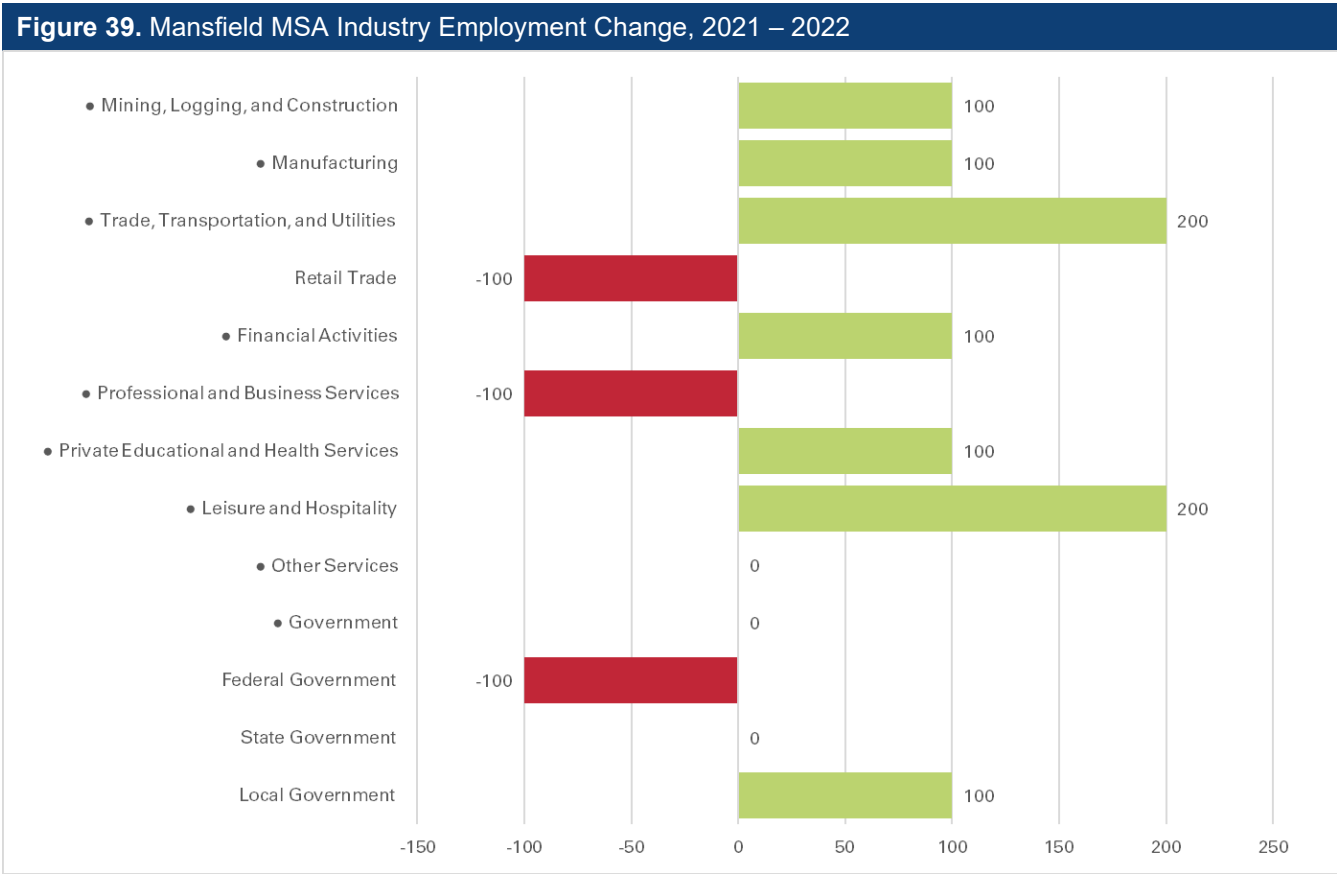
Source: Current Employment Statistics

In the Lima MSA, annual total nonfarm employment was 51,600 in 2022, an increase of 800 over 2020. Annual total private employment was 45,500, an increase of 600. The *professional and business services* sector saw the largest decrease, losing 100 jobs. The *manufacturing* and *leisure and hospitality* sectors saw the largest gains, each with an increase of 200 jobs.



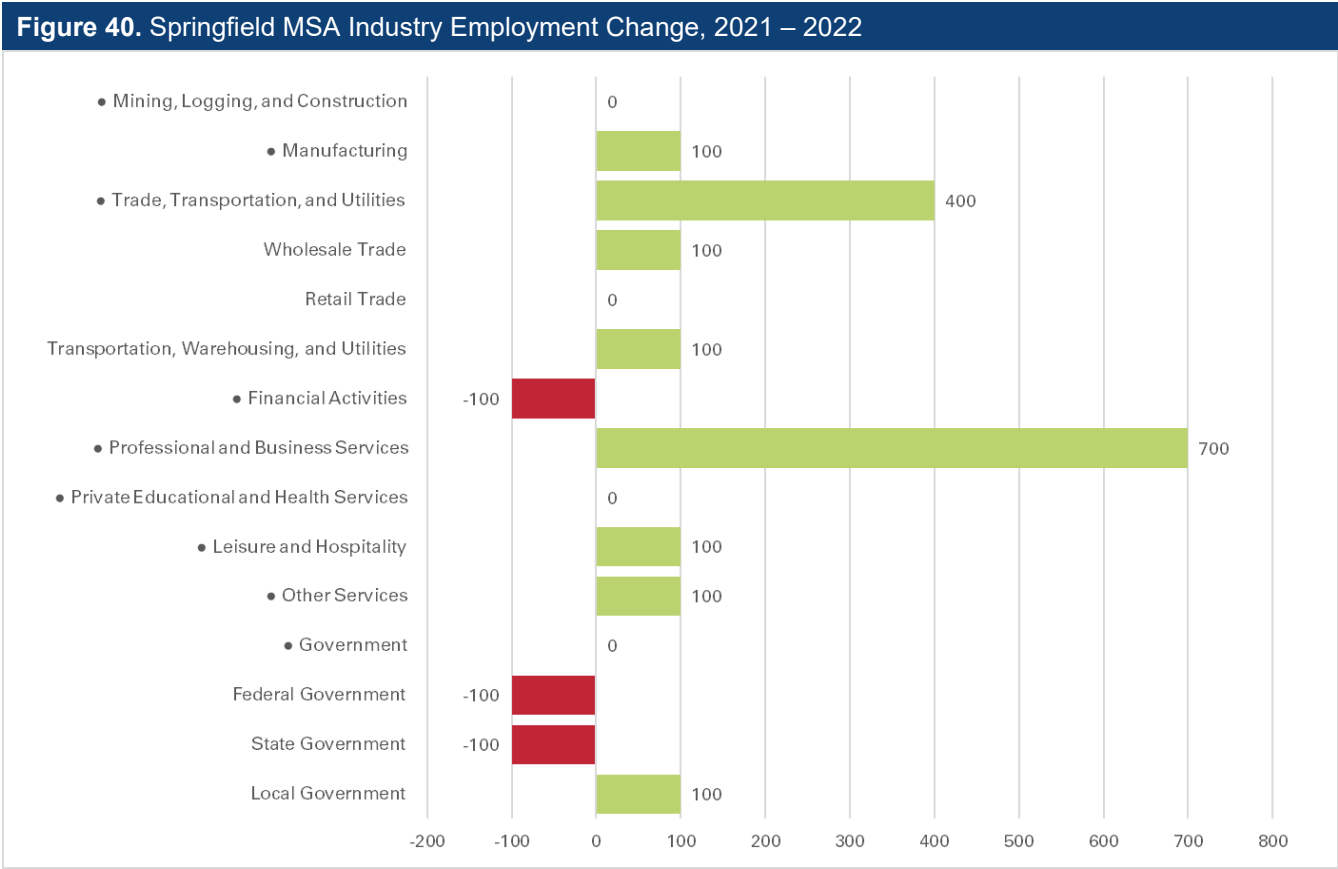
Source: Current Employment Statistics

In the Mansfield MSA, total nonfarm employment was 50,100 in 2022, an increase of 400 jobs. Total private employment was 42,800, an increase of 400 jobs. The largest employment losses were in the *professional and business services* sector, losing 100 jobs. *Trade, transportation, and utilities* and the *leisure and hospitality* sector saw the largest increases, both up by 200.



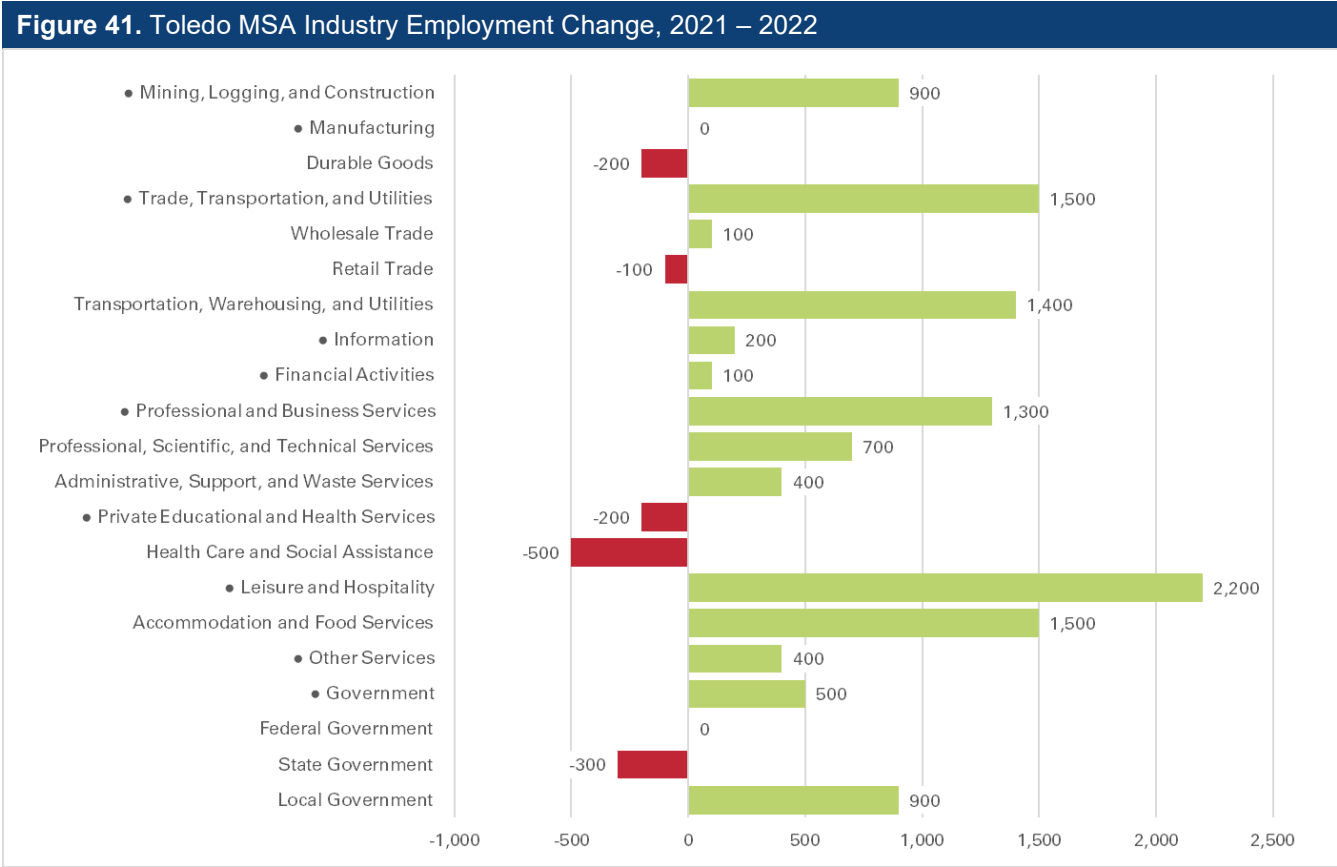
Source: Current Employment Statistics

The Springfield MSA had a total nonfarm employment of 49,400 in 2022, an increase of 1,400 jobs. Total private employment was 42,500, also an increase of 1,300 jobs. The *financial services sector* lost 100 jobs; *professional and business services* saw the highest gains, with an increase of 700 jobs.



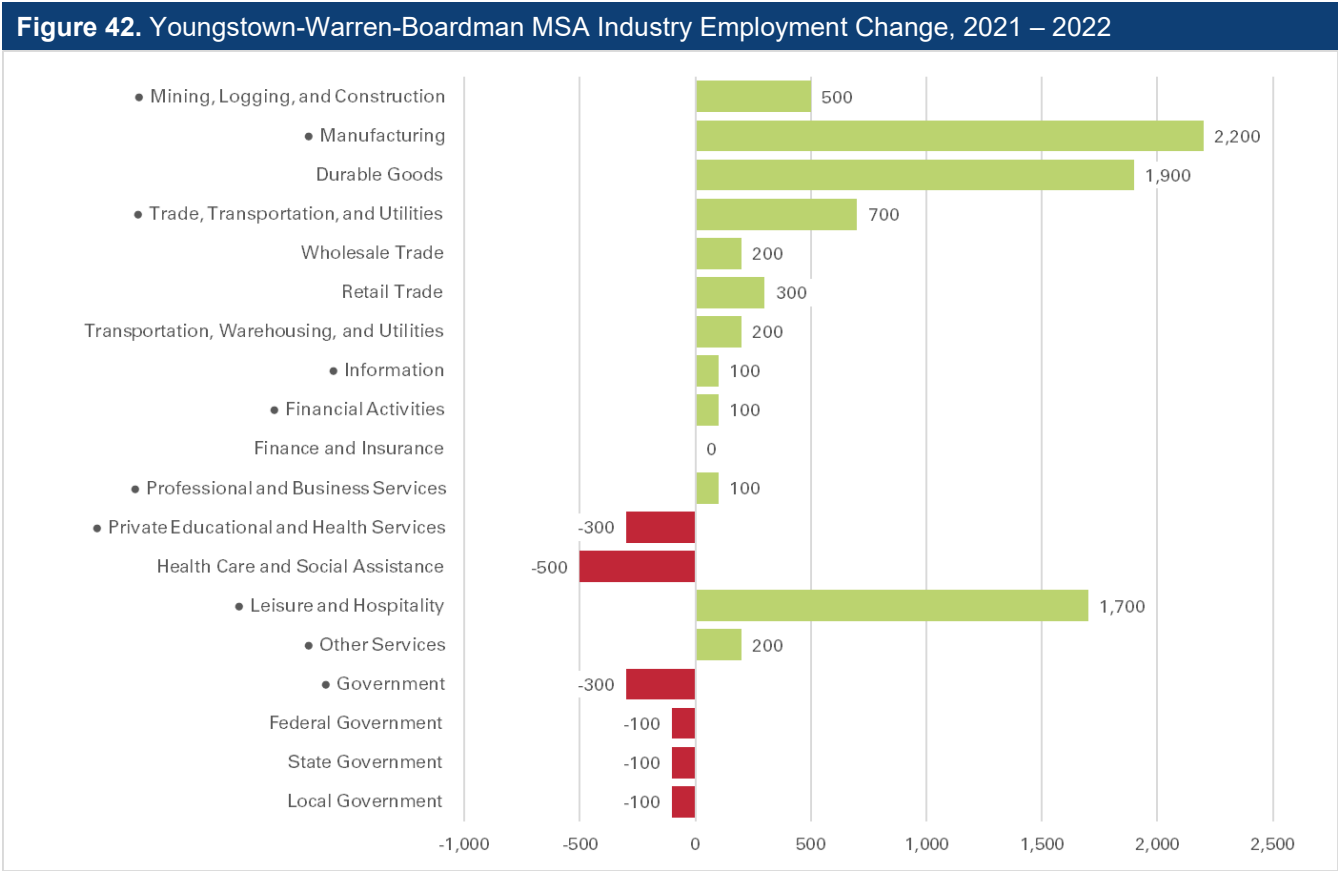
Source: Current Employment Statistics

In the Toledo MSA, annual total nonfarm employment was 301,100 in 2022, an increase of 7,100 jobs. Total private employment was 257,700, an increase of 6,400 jobs. The *educational and health services* sector saw the largest decline, with a loss of 200 jobs. *Leisure and hospitality* saw the most gains, with 2,200 jobs added. This was followed by *trade, transportation, and utilities*, which gained 1,500 jobs.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

In the Youngstown-Warren-Boardman MSA, annual total nonfarm employment was 208,100 in 2022, an increase of 5,100 jobs. Total private employment was 180,900, an increase of 5,400 jobs. The greatest loss was in *health care and social assistance*, which lost 500 jobs. *Manufacturing* saw the largest increase, with a gain of 2,200 jobs.



Source: Current Employment Statistics

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.

Acknowledgments: This report was prepared by Diane Burchett Patel, Researcher 3, Elizabeth Rathburn, Labor Market Analyst 3, and Lewis Horner, Assistant Bureau Chief. For further information, visit OhioLMI.com or call the Ohio Bureau of Labor Market Information at (614) 752-9494.

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