

**YOU'RE BUILDING A STRONGER BUSINESS.
WE'RE ALL BUILDING A BETTER STATE.
WE'RE ALL FOR OHIO.**

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*As the state's leading business advocate and resource,
the Ohio Chamber of Commerce aggressively
champions free enterprise, economic competitiveness
and growth for the benefit of all Ohioans.*

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BY THE NUMBERS

SINCE
1893

RENEWAL
93%

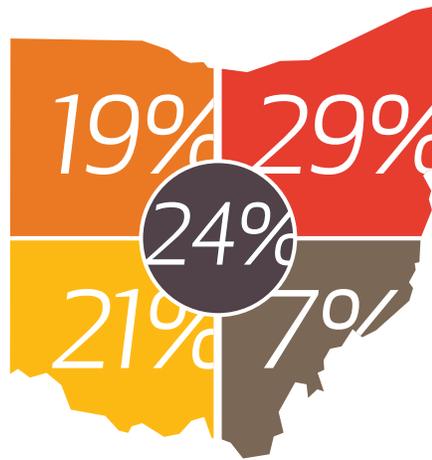
“While we conduct business and support store operators around the globe, some of the most important relationships are the ones in our own backyard. Being a member of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce provides us with the opportunity to share with fellow businesses, chamber staff, lobbyists and legislators what’s important to our business, our employees and our customers.”

JOE WATSON
PRESIDENT & CEO OF PETLAND, INC.

OUR MISSION

“As the state’s leading business advocate and resource, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce aggressively champions free enterprise, economic competitiveness and growth for the benefit of all Ohioans.”

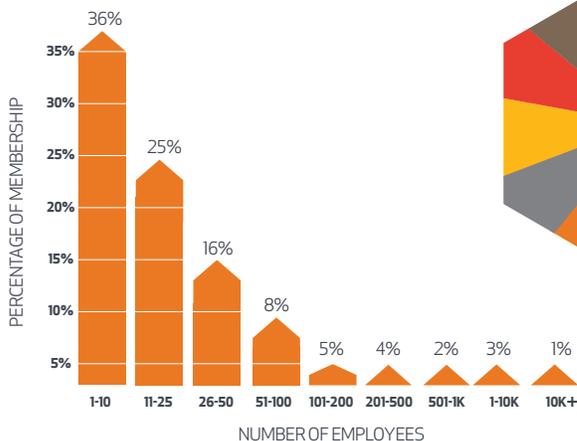
LOCATION



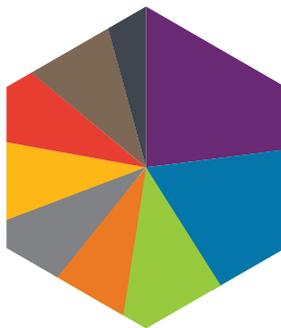
INDUSTRY

- 17%** MANUFACTURING
- 8%** RETAIL
- 5%** HEALTH CARE
- 9%** NONPROFITS & OTHER CHAMBERS
- 6%** INDUSTRIAL
- 5%** TRANSPORTATION
- 4%** INSURANCE
- 10%** CONSTRUCTION
- 5%** PERSONAL SERVICES
- 31%** ALL OTHERS

COMPANY SIZE



COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION



- 19%** ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
- 17%** PUBLIC AFFAIRS
- 16%** TAXATION & PUBLIC EXPENDITURES
- 9%** HEALTH CARE
- 8%** EMPLOYMENT LAW
- 7%** WORKERS' COMPENSATION
- 6%** EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- 6%** OHIO SMALL BUSINESS COUNCIL
- 2%** INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY



MEMBERSHIP

BENEFITS

Legislative

Drawing on the vast experience of the largest business advocacy group in Ohio, our multifaceted government affairs experts provide direct opportunities to shape policy at the state level.

- Committees
- Subject matter specialists
- Legislative expertise
- Access to elected officials

Information

Staying informed is vital to your business. Our diverse communication platforms keep you up-to-date with firsthand information that affects your business in real time.

- Ohio Matters
- Legislative Update
- Ohio Chamber Business Academy
- Email alerts
- Chamber Update
- All for Ohio Blog
- Social media

Events

Our events keep you informed and connected, giving you the opportunity to meet and network with fellow members, elected officials and other members of Ohio's business community.

- Annual Meeting
- Policy Conference at Salt Fork
- Educational seminars
- Webinars and Lunch & Learns

Exclusives

One of the most common issues we hear from our members is shrinking profit margins. We constantly look for new ways to help our members save thousands of dollars annually.

- Discounted Credit Card Processing/ Corporate Card Programs
- Workers' Compensation Group Savings
- Cost Saving Medical Benefits
 - Health
 - Dental
 - Vision
 - Group Life

Sponsorships

Membership grants you the opportunity for visibility by presenting featured content directly to fellow member businesses on our diverse channels.

- Branding options
- Articles in Ohio Matters
- Blogs on All for Ohio
- Educational Webinars
- Event sponsorship

Staff

For a listing of our staff members, [click here](#)



PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

CIVIL JUSTICE

The Ohio Chamber supports efforts to improve the legal climate in Ohio by promoting fairness and reducing liability and incentives for litigation.

Our priorities are to:

- Reduce Ohio's statute of limitation for written contracts.
- Ban the practice of third-party litigation financing for cases involving class actions.
- Defend against efforts to expand civil liability for employers and overturn monetary limits for damages in tort actions.

HEALTH CARE

The Ohio Chamber seeks to lower the overall cost of health care so it is more affordable for employers.

Our priorities are to:

- Advocate for greater health care cost and quality transparency to effectively empower employers and consumers to be better purchasers.
- Oppose health insurance mandates.
- Codify ACA requirement that the state must defray actuarial cost of any new state-mandated benefits.
- Encourage utilization of technological advancements in health care delivery.
- Identify an appropriate role that employers can play in helping reduce health care disparities.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

The Ohio Chamber urges policies that meet the demands of today's workplace and respond to the needs of Ohio employers for qualified, well-trained employees.

Our priorities are to:

- Advocate for a financial literacy high school graduation requirement.
- Support increased efforts towards FAFSA completion for Ohioans.
- Strengthen school district Business Advisory Councils to assist in building a stronger relationship with local employers.
- Ensure the continuation of the TechCred Program.
- Continue efforts to alleviate the "benefits cliff."
- Explore opportunities to expand the workforce to help meet existing employer needs.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Ohio Chamber seeks to preserve employers' ability to effectively advocate for policy solutions and engage in political activity.

Our priorities are to:

- Battle ballot initiatives proposed by anti-business special interest groups.
- Safeguard the Ohio Constitution by requiring broader public support for proposed amendments.
- Clarify and reinforce laws governing the ballot issue petition process.
- Preserve the First Amendment right of businesses to unrestricted political advocacy.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

The Ohio Chamber encourages energy policies that protect businesses' access to affordable, dependable energy and seeks environmental regulations based on sound science and comprehensive information.

Our priorities are to:

- Remove barriers to entry and push back against new barriers to entry for all energy sources.
- Support comprehensive reforms to Ohio's energy policy that both balances a diverse portfolio of energy sources and provides for reliable, affordable sources of energy.
- Continue to oppose all efforts that grant nature or specific ecosystems with judicially enforceable legal rights.
- Address the unintended consequences of newly-enacted water withdrawal requirements.
- Support remediation of brownfield properties and redevelopment of those properties to support economic development.
- Protect against costly federal environmental regulations and make sure state regulations are no more stringent than their federal counterparts.





LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

The Ohio Chamber supports protecting employers from unfair and harmful workplace rules and mandates.

Our priorities are to:

- Address the long-term solvency of the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund.
- Reduce the complexity and administrative burden of Ohio's unemployment compensation system.
- Defend against onerous government mandates that drive up labor costs.
- Continue to stress the need to ultimately make Ohio a right-to-work state.
- Reinforce employers' ability to make employment decisions based upon an individual's medical marijuana use.

TAXES

The Ohio Chamber encourages a fair and equitable tax system that stimulates growth, innovation, and job creation.

Our priorities are to:

- Work to keep and improve the Business Income Deduction (BID).
- Reform the withholding requirements for pass-through entities.
- Repeal equity claw-back and clarify business income definition.
- Repeal the existing sales tax on employment services.
- Modernize and clarify the rules regarding what constitutes electronic information services and their sales and use tax treatment.
- Simplify municipal income tax compliance.
- Improve Ohio's grade on the Council on State Taxation (COST) Property Tax Administration Scorecard.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

The Ohio Chamber supports a workers' compensation system that runs efficiently and effectively and keeps premium costs competitive with other states' systems.

Our priorities are to:

- Ensure that non-medical benefits are only payable for loss of earning capacity.
- Establish performance, outcome, and cost metrics by which providers can be measured and ranked.
- Clarify when claimants receiving wage continuation may apply for permanent partial disability.
- Ensure employers are not unreasonably penalized for an employee's failure to attend medical or other appointments.
- Make claimants more responsible for their care.
- Guard against expansion of workers' compensation coverage to psychological-only claims.





OHIO SMALL BUSINESS COUNCIL

The Ohio Chamber knows that small businesses are powerful economic growth drivers and employ nearly half of the state's private sector workforce. While their concerns are the same as larger employers in many instances, some small business problems and priorities are unique.

OUR PRIORITIES ARE TO:

- Retain the Business Income Deduction (BID).
- Provide fairness to businesses as it relates to property taxes.
- Advocate for responsible, increased price transparency for health care services.
- Oppose policies such as health care mandates that contribute to the rising costs of health care.
- Support legislation that strengthens small business options when faced with unknown and/or uncertain regulations.
- Support the Common Sense Initiative (CSI) office and pursue attempts to expand their responsibilities.
- Support a fair and equitable plan for the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund to achieve solvency.

IN PURSUIT OF THE EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

To help address inequality and injustice in America, in June 2020 the U.S. Chamber of Commerce announced its Equality of Opportunity Agenda comprised of substantive policy recommendations and private sector solutions. The Ohio Chamber intends to be a leader by doing our part to drive policy action at the state level.

There are many barriers that hold back people of color in their efforts to obtain an education, secure a job, or start a business. Systemic inequalities hurt individuals, communities, our economy, and our society. Addressing them is the smart thing to do for our economy:

- Recognize that racism is a public health crisis and support a unified effort to addressing inequities.
- Support the continuation of the Diversity & Inclusion Technology Internship Program.
- Improve educational opportunities for the incarcerated.
- Develop entrepreneurial programs for reformed citizens.
- Reform occupational licensing restrictions and eliminate unnecessary occupational licenses.
- Encourage "Fair Chance" hiring and "Clean Slate" reforms.



HELPING BUSINESSES RECOVER FROM THE PANDEMIC

Before the arrival of the coronavirus, Ohio's economy was growing and business leader optimism was high. However, the suddenness of its emergence and the subsequent steps taken by Ohio to contain it upended our economy. The virus threatened both lives and livelihoods, and the economic fallout has been substantial for both Ohio workers and businesses.

Fortunately, Ohio's economy is showing signs of recovery. According to the Moody's/CNN "Back-to-Normal Index," at the end of 2020 Ohio's economy was operating at 79% of where it was in early March 2020 – making us the 22nd best state for economic recovery.

However, our members continue to face significant challenges, and a great deal of uncertainty remains. Because it's still not business-as-usual for our members, it can't be business-as-usual for the Ohio Chamber, either. Therefore, we will continue to prioritize a public policy response to the pandemic that seeks to assist employers in overcoming the economic disruptions caused by the virus and ensure the survival of as many businesses as possible.

- Align existing workforce training programs with new and different workforce challenges caused by COVID-19.
- Ease municipal tax withholding compliance burden for employers whose employees continue to work at various locations and not in the company office.
- Amend state wage and hour laws to clarify that de minimis amounts of time spent on electronic devices are not used when calculating overtime pay.
- Codify when work from home injuries are compensable.
- Support effective and timely administration of COVID-19 vaccine.
- Advocate that Ohio direct some of Ohio's federal coronavirus relief dollars towards shoring up the state's Unemployment Compensation Fund.
- Prevent employers from facing unreasonable civil liability in claims arising from COVID-19.



PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEES

The Ohio Chamber of Commerce is a champion for Ohio businesses so that our state enjoys economic growth and prosperity.

The Public Policy Committees are the lifeblood of the Ohio Chamber. They study the needs of Ohio's business community and establish the Ohio Chamber's position on key legislative issues and make policy recommendations to the board of directors.

Public Policy Committee participation and committee specific emails keep you well-informed of issues and events at the Statehouse.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mission: To respond to the needs of Ohio employers for qualified, well-trained employees by promoting policies that meet the demands of today's workplace by pursuing strategies that link education and workforce development in a seamless system and embed skills-based learning into academic instruction.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Mission: To advocate for energy policies that promote Ohio's economic competitiveness and protect businesses' access to affordable, dependable energy and ensure environmental policies and regulations are not overly burdensome and are based on sound science.

HEALTH CARE

Mission: To advocate for an affordable and sustainable market-based health care system that provides access to quality, affordable health care for all Ohioans.

INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

Mission: To foster a next-generation environment that will accelerate Ohio's economy through a focus on driving innovation into the state's industrial base, both existing and emerging. This will help to ensure Ohio's future global competitiveness and lead to high-quality jobs.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

Mission: To protect employers' rights to manage their workplace with limited governmental involvement and regulation and to simplify Ohio's employment law statutes in a way that's fair to both employers and employees.

OHIO SMALL BUSINESS COUNCIL

Mission: To promote and protect the establishment, growth and vitality of small business in Ohio. Members of the Ohio Small Business Council (OSBC) learn how to be an advocate for their business and voice their concerns directly to Ohio's decision makers.

Participation in OSBC is limited to individuals in executive leadership roles for a for-profit business that employs fewer than 400 directly supervised persons. Small business owners and presidents are especially encouraged to join this committee.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mission: To monitor and evaluate public affairs issues and activities including elections, campaign finance, ethics and lobbyist regulations, when of interest to the business community; and to examine proposed state constitutional amendments or initiative petition efforts that affect the electoral process.

TAXATION & PUBLIC EXPENDITURES

Mission: To foster a fair and equitable tax system that stimulates growth, innovation and job creation and minimizes compliance costs and administrative burdens.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Mission: To ensure Ohio's workers' compensation system runs efficiently and effectively for both state-funded and self-insured employers, is effective in providing proper medical treatment for injured employees, and keeps its cost for employers competitive with other states' systems.

For Committee Information Contact:

Sherry Heffner
Governmental Affairs Assistant
sheffner@ohiochamber.com

INTEGRITY

Integrity is the Coin of our Realm

For those of us who have worked for decades to be responsible champions for Ohio's business community, we are frustrated by events in our state that have tarnished the image of the political process. The vast majority of our elected officials are honorable, well-meaning, public servants.

However, we have seen **bad actors – and bad actions** – result from a process that can be driven by self-interest, sometimes lacks transparency and is often overshadowed by negativity.

If you've visited the Ohio Chamber offices, you may have seen the saying on our wall: **Integrity is the coin of our realm**. That's not just for show - it's our way of doing business, and a reminder of the role integrity plays in how we have been advocating for Ohio's business community and representing our members **for more than 127 years**.

Earning respect within the business community and at the Statehouse takes deliberate consideration of the issues, listening to multiple voices, and a commitment to openness, accountability and action. It's the Ohio Chamber way.

As we advocate for making Ohio a strong place for job creation and economic growth, we are talking more publicly about our role in advocating for our members on critical free enterprise, regulatory and legislative issues with elected leaders and policy makers and why **integrity has to be at the center of those conversations**.

We believe ethical actions, combined with sound decision-making based on facts and data, still matter in government, and we want to step out as a model of integrity for others, with membership in the Chamber as that driver of change.



*I invite you to join us on this journey toward greater integrity.
Visit our website ohiochamber.com/integrity*



OHIO CHAMBER BUSINESS ACADEMY

The world of business is always expanding; so, we are too. The Ohio Chamber Business Academy, once the Ohio Chamber HR Academy, is a member resource created to offer Ohio businesses the chance to gain and maintain comprehensive understanding of a variety of key topics, laws and issues within business. The webinar-based program will continue to offer information essential for human resources and employment law matters, but also expands to include sessions on other areas pertinent to business such as marketing, technology, best industry practices and more.



If you have questions about sponsorship opportunities or general questions about the program, please contact Lillian van Wyngaarden at lvanyngaarden@ohiochamber.com

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