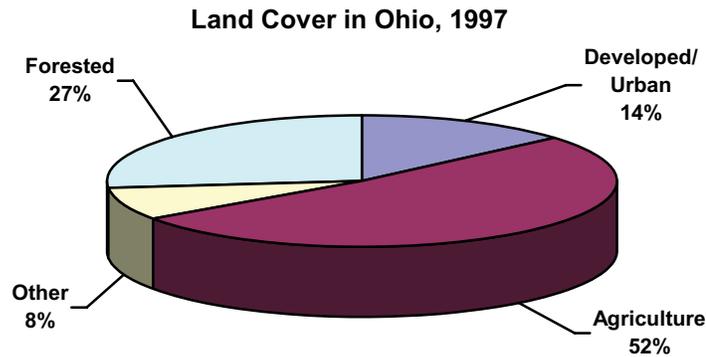


## Land Use in Ohio Mostly Agricultural, but Trend Indicates Loss of Farmland Overall



*Source: The Ohio State University Exurban Change Program, 2003*

- The latest comprehensive study of Ohio land use was published by The Ohio State University Exurban Change Program in 2003 and used 1997 data, which was the most recent, state-specific data from the U.S. National Resource Inventory survey.
- Of Ohio's 26.4 million acres, approximately 13.6 million acres (52%) are agricultural, 7.1 million acres (27%) are forested, and 3.6 million acres (14%) are developed or urban areas. Other categories of land use may include open waters or wetlands, grasslands, or barren land (mines, quarries, or areas of sparse vegetative cover).
- Of Ohio's 13.6 million acres of agricultural land, approximately 2.0 million are set aside for pasture and hay crops and 11.6 million are used to grow row crops such as corn and soybeans.
- According to the Division of Forestry in the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, wooded or forested land comprised approximately 15% of the state in 1940. By 1997, as noted above, total forested acreage had increased to 27% of the state.
- Ohio is among the most urban and fastest urbanizing states in the nation. In 1997, Ohio ranked 7th among all states in total acres of developed land and ranked among the top ten fastest urbanizing states between 1992 and 1997.
- Between 1982 and 1997, the percentage of urban land in Ohio increased from 10.5% to 13.7%. During the same period, the percentage of agricultural land decreased from 57.6% to 51.6%. In 1982, the ratio of agricultural land to urban land acreage was 5.47 to 1. By 1997 that ratio had decreased to 3.78 to 1.

## Ohio Parks: Continued Demand for Services

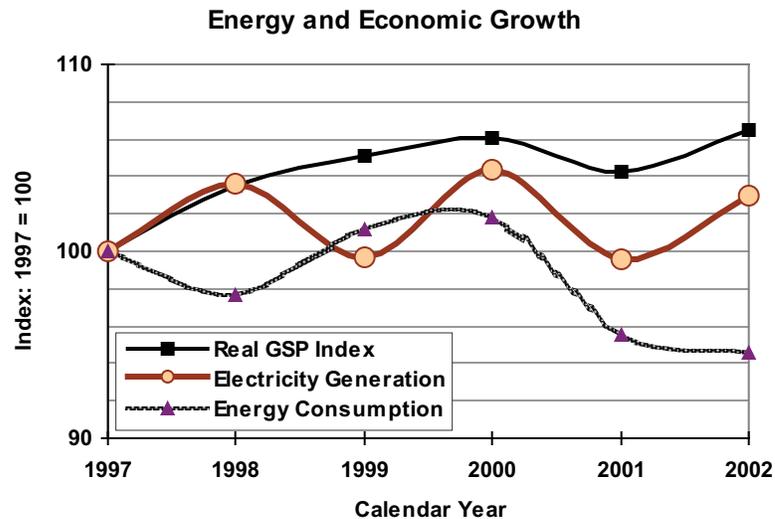
### Top Five Visited State Parks in Ohio in 2005

State Park	County	Visitors in 2005	Land Acres
Cleveland Lake Front	Cuyahoga	7,816,966	419
Alum Creek	Delaware	2,995,906	4,630
Hueston Woods	Preble and Butler	2,824,870	2,936
Hocking Hills	Hocking	2,327,593	2,356
Headlands Beach	Lake	2,250,910	120

Source: Ohio Department of Natural Resources

- State park operations are funded at approximately \$72 million annually. These moneys come from the GRF, state park rotary, waterways safety fund, rent payments, concession bid bonds, and payments by Fraternal Order of Police members.
- In FY 2005, the Division of Parks completed approximately \$17.4 million in capital improvement projects from NatureWorks bond funds and other capital dollars. Projects include dam repair, utility upgrades, wastewater system rehabilitations, and lodge/cabin improvements.
- State parks generate roughly \$27 million in revenue annually. Of this amount the largest sources of revenue include camping fees, self-operated retail, concession agreements, cottage rentals, dock permits, and golf green fees.
- Over 42% of Ohio residents visit Ohio's state parks. According to the Department of Natural Resources, those visits contribute approximately \$1.1 billion in overall economic impact statewide.
- The Division of Parks offers an online centralized reservation system where campers can reserve a campsite or getaway rental for up to six months in advance or reserve a cottage or cabin up to a year in advance. Roughly 246,000 reservations were made in the second year of operation.
- Ohio is ranked 2nd in the nation in the number of state park resort lodges. Ohio's 9th and newest state park lodge is at Geneva State Park. Construction costs for the lodge were \$16.7 million.

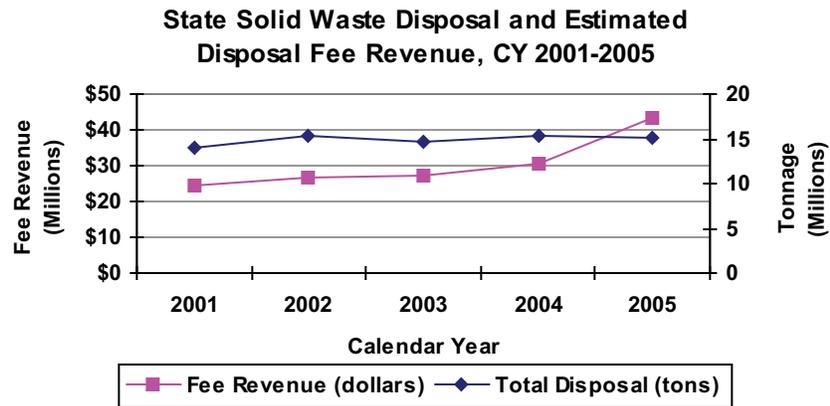
## Economy Grows Faster than Energy Use



Sources: Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States Department of Commerce; Energy Information Administration, United States Department of Energy

- Ohio's real gross state product (GSP) increased by 6.5% from 1997 to 2002, while energy consumption in the state decreased by 5.4%.
- Ohio was 4th in the U.S. in both electricity and coal consumption in 2002 and was 7th in the nontransportation use of total petroleum and in natural gas consumption, but Ohio's rank in industrial retail electric sales dropped from 2nd place in 2000 to 5th place in 2002.
- Ohio ranked 12th in petroleum and 18th in natural gas prices to end-use sectors in 2002, and 26th in retail electricity prices in 2004. Ohio's average revenue for all customer classes—a retail price proxy—was 6.89¢ per kilowatt hour, which was 9.6% below the national average.
- As of March 2006, oil and gas were produced in 47 of Ohio's 88 counties, but out-of-state sources met most of the state's consumption. In 2005, Ohio crude ranked 17th in crude oil production. Ohio's crude oil production accounts for less than 1% of U.S. crude oil production.
- In 2004, 87% of the electricity generated in Ohio was derived from coal (about one-third of which was Ohio-mined), compared to a U.S. average of 60%. At 11%, the second most-used electricity fuel source in Ohio was nuclear, compared to a U.S. average of 20%. In 2004, the use of natural gas as a generation fuel in Ohio was at its lowest level in the last five years.

## Increase in Solid Waste Disposal Fee Revenue Expected from New Environmental Protection Fee



Source: Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

- State solid waste disposal fee revenue, used to carry out the hazardous and solid and infectious waste programs of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), increased from \$24.5 million in CY 2001 to \$43.5 million in CY 2005.
- In CY 2001, the total solid waste disposal fee was \$1.75 per ton of solid waste. In July 2003 the fee increased to \$2.00 per ton. Beginning in July 2005, the Ohio EPA began collecting the new \$1.50 solid waste disposal fee, referred to as the Environmental Protection Fee, for a total disposal fee of \$3.50 per ton.<sup>1</sup>
- The FY 2006-2007 budget bill eliminated EPA's GRF funding. The Environmental Protection Fee is intended to replace Ohio EPA's GRF funding.
- From 2001 to 2005, the total tonnage of solid waste disposed of in Ohio increased from 14 to 15.2 million tons. In the same time span, the portion that was out-of-state waste increased from 1.9 million to 2.3 million tons.
- In 2005, out-of-state waste generated about \$8 million in disposal fee revenue, or 18% of the total disposal fee revenue of \$43.5 million.<sup>2</sup>
- In addition to state revenue, local solid waste management district disposal fees, which are used to carry out solid waste management district plans, generated a total of approximately \$25.7 million in 2005.

<sup>1</sup>The Ohio EPA tracks disposal data on a calendar year rather than fiscal year basis. However, the agency tracks revenue on a fiscal year basis. All information is presented here in terms of calendar year. As a result, all revenue figures are estimates based on total actual tonnage collected and the fee levels applied to those tonnages. The agency indicates that the estimates presented correspond closely to the actual revenue amounts in each calendar year.

<sup>2</sup>The waste flow data are based on actuals from the calendar year but revenue data are based on when figures are put into the accounting system, which is often months later.