

Introduction

The Ohio Legislative Service Commission (LSC) is pleased to present the 2018 edition of *Ohio Facts*. This publication is designed to provide Ohio legislators, legislative staff, and others with a broad overview of Ohio's economy, public finances, and major government programs.

Ohio Facts offers a series of charts and tables that are generally expanded upon by brief comments. The pages address many questions frequently asked of our office. In all instances, LSC budget analysts and economists have used the most up-to-date data available. Whether you are on the road or in the office, we hope that *Ohio Facts* will serve as a handy and valuable tool. In addition to the printed version, *Ohio Facts* may be found on LSC's website: www.lsc.ohio.gov under "Popular Publications" and "Budget Central."

The 2018 edition of *Ohio Facts* includes pages grouped into the following eight categories: Demographics, Economy, Natural Resources and Environment, Public Finances, K-12 Education, Higher Education, Health and Human Services, and Justice and Public Safety Systems.

Annual data in *Ohio Facts* may be presented for a calendar year, a state fiscal year (FY), or a federal fiscal year (FFY). The state fiscal year runs from July through June and is numbered by the calendar year in which it ends. So, FY 2018 ran from July 2017 through June 2018. The federal fiscal year runs from October through September and is also numbered by the calendar year in which it ends. So, FFY 2018 ran from October 2017 through September 2018.

If you have any questions regarding the information included on an individual page or if you need additional information on that topic, please contact the LSC analyst listed at the bottom of that page. If you have questions regarding the publication as a whole, please contact LSC Assistant Deputy Director Melaney Carter at (614) 466-6274.