

# **COLUMBUS COMMUNITY PROFILE**

Columbus was founded in 1812 and has been the capital of the State of Ohio for 200 years. As the 15<sup>th</sup> largest populated city in the United States, covering 228 square miles, the city is recognized nationwide for its historic neighborhoods, booming downtown arts and sporting district, open attitude, and notably affordable quality of life. The city's economy is very diverse and the community prides itself on being at the forefront of education reform, fiscal responsibility, and public safety.

Economic investments in the future of Columbus have created jobs and spurred major initiatives focused on improving neighborhoods, community health, and the environment.



Columbus was founded at the confluence of the Scioto & Olentangy rivers.



The National Road is completed, and the Feeder Canal and First Union Railroad station opened. These linked Columbus with trade markets resulting in a boom in industry.



The Great Flood caused the death of hundreds of Ohioans and resulted in millions of dollars in property damage.



University

Stadium, Battelle Institute, and the Columbus Municipal Hanger (CMH), now known as the John Glenn Columbus International Airport, opened.



Significant highway projects were underway in and around Columbus, including Interstates 70 and 71, and State Route 315.



Columbus celebrated its bicentennial. The city grew from 1,200 residents to over 750,000 during its first 200 years.



Columbus has been selected as the winner of the \$40 million Smart Cities grant from the U.S.
Department of Transportation



# COLUMBUS GOVERNMENT

The city is a home-rule municipal corporation operating under the laws of Ohio. The City Charter, its constitution, can only be amended by a majority of the city's voters.

The city is administered by a Mayor, a seven-member City Council, the City Auditor and the City Attorney. These officials are all elected for four-year terms on an at-large basis. The Mayor and four Council members are elected in an odd numbered year. Three Council members, the City Auditor, and the City Attorney are elected in the following odd numbered The City Charter provides for year. elections appointments and successors to these officials if they should, for any reason, vacate their office. All are chosen through a nonpartisan process.

#### **Key City Services At A Glance**

#### **Development**

- Neighborhood Pride Centers ...5
- Annual Avg Emergency & Non-Emergency Requests ...30,623
- Annual Avg Code Violation Notices ...17,381

#### **Public Health**

- Licensed Food Facilities Compliant with Health Standards ...99%
- Annual Avg Immunizations...35,000
- Annual Infectious Diseases Outbreaks Investigated in 2015 ...103

#### **Public Safety**

- Fire Stations ... 32
- Annual Avg EMS & Fire Runs Dispatched ...155,568
- Annual Avg Freeway Miles Patrolled ...880
- Police Substations ...16
- Annual Avg 911 Police Service Calls ...781,771

#### **Public Service**

- Annual Avg Curbside Recycling Collection Households ...201,222
- Annual Avg Tons of Recycled Materials ...42.500
- Annual Avg Weekly Trash Collection Households ...340,000
- Roadways Maintained ...6,348 Miles
- Annual Avg Repaired Potholes ...171,574

#### **Public Utilities**

- Wastewater Treatment Plants ...2
- Water Treatment Plants ...3
- Sewer and Water Lines Maintained ...7,015 Miles
- Annual Avg Gallons of Wastewater Treated ...64.1 Billion
- Annual Avg Gallons of Drinking Water Treated ...49.4 Billion
- Service Population ...1.1 Million Customers
- City Power Customers ...12,497

#### **Recreation & Parks**

- Park Sites ...230
- Acres Maintained (Including Reservoirs) ...14,397
- Swimming Pools & Spray Grounds ...12
- Golf Courses ...6
- Multi-Use Trails ...120 Miles
- Community Centers ...29
- Summer Camps ...33

The Recreation and Parks Director, the Health Commissioner, and the Civil Service Executive Director are appointed by, and report to, independent commissions. The City Treasurer and Clerk to the Council are appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, City Council. All other departments' directors are appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

### STAY CONNECTED

The my COLUMBUS free Mobile App allows access to

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numerous city services, a community events calendar, park and trail guides, and tips for a heathy lifestyle, among other resources.









## **Population Quick Facts**

Population Size ...850,106

Population per Square Mile ...3,624

## **Population Growth Rate**

COLUMBUS ...7.8% National Average ...4.1%

### **Median Income**

COLUMBUS ...\$44,774 National ...\$53,482

## Median Age

COLUMBUS ...31.8 National ...37.4

#### Population by Age

Under 18 ...23% 18 to 65 ...68% Over 65 ...9%

#### Sex

Female ...50.8% Male ...49.2%

## FUNFACT!

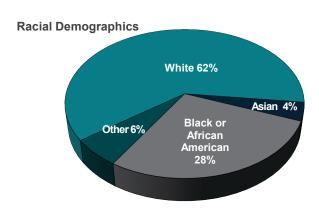
Columbus has never declined in population

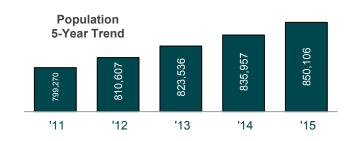
Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 2014 & July 1, 2015 Estimates

# COLUMBUS DEMOGRAPHICS

The population of Columbus is diverse, young, and has a growth rate double the national average. The city's population is well educated, with over 33 percent having earned a bachelor or advanced degree compared to the national average of 29 percent. *City Observatory* ranked Columbus 11<sup>th</sup> nationwide for increase in college educated young adults by percentage of population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 – 2014 Quick Facts, City Observatory







# COLUMBUS HOUSING

The City of Columbus' housing market is booming with trendy and desirable neighborhoods, affordable housing options, and a thriving local economy. In *Nationwide's Health of Housing Markets 2016 Q2 report*, the Columbus housing market was ranked 35<sup>th</sup> nationwide.

## Housing Quick Facts

Housing Units ...370,965

Persons per Household

COLUMB<mark>US</mark> ...2.4 National Average ...2.6

### **Ownership Rate**

COLUMBUS ...45.9% National Average ...64.9%

### **Median Home Value**

COLUMB<mark>US</mark> ...\$128,900 National ...\$175,700

## **Median Monthly Mortgage**

COLUMB<mark>US</mark> ...\$1,311 National ...\$1,522

#### **Median Monthly Rent**

COLUMB<mark>US</mark> ...\$822 National ...\$920

> Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 2014 & July 1, 2015 Estimates



Columbus is known for its vibrant, unique neighborhoods. Throughout the city, there are a variety of living options with many neighborhoods consisting of smaller communities within its borders. Residents are able to live in areas that range from historically preserved German Village, to the popular Short North, or newly developed downtown condominums.



# Notable Capital Projects

Scioto Greenways Project: This project included the reengineering of the Scioto River through the downtown area. The river was reduced in width and made deeper to enhance water quality and flow. By doing so, 30 acres of additional parkland were able to be developed. The new Scioto Greenways allows easy access to the river for kayaking, multiple walking paths, and new trees to increase the urban canopy.

Fire Station #2 Project: This project began with the demolition of the existing fire station built in 1962 that, until 2015, housed both fire stations #2 and #3. Fire station #3 was separated and moved to Greenlawn Avenue. Once completed, the newly constructed fire station #2 will house three apparatus bays and be able to better serve the southern portions of downtown and the nearby communities.

North Market Improvements Project: The North Market is the last remaining public market in Columbus. Improvements include a new roof, HVAC improvements, and the replacement of the hot water boiler.

West Nationwide/Arena West Project: This project involves the reconstruction and resurfacing of 1,332 feet of Nationwide Boulevard from the Olentangy River to approximately 205 feet west of Fletcher Road. This project will also reconstruct 495 feet of Hocking Street from West Spring Street to Nationwide Boulevard. Drainage, traffic control, street lighting, and landscaping improvements are also proposed.

# **COLUMBUS** Downtown

## Notable Neighborhoods

#### **Arena District**

Population ...788

Area Size ...0.264 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$58,835

Median Rent ...\$940

Median Age ...35.3

#### **Central Downtown**

Population ...28,246

Area Size ...6.406 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$37,765

Median Rent ...\$455

Median Age ...33.8

#### **Discovery District**

Population ...877

Area Size ...0.444 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$23,757

Median Rent ...\$460

Median Age ...41.9

#### **Uptown District**

Population ...742

Area Size ...0.233 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$46,634

Median Rent ...\$752

Median Age ...44.7

# **COLUMBUS** North-Side



## Notable Capital Projects

Thompson Recreation Center Improvements Project: Improvements to the facility included replacing the existing HVAC system, the addition of air conditioning, upgrades to the existing electrical system, new lighting and ceiling in the corridors and auditorium, painting the corridors, and refinishing the floors.

Blueprint Clintonville Project: The investment in rehabilitating and correcting existing storm water infrastructure, which will involve several phases including: installation of green infrastructure, lateral linings, roof rainwater redirection, and voluntary installation of sump pumps. Due to the number of phases for Blueprint Clintonville, many jobs will be created, the local economy will be positively impacted, and neighborhood amenities will be added.

**Waterline Improvements:** The rehabilitation of water lines along Silver Dr., South Broadleigh Road, Maize Road, Shattuck Avenue, Argyle Dr., Acton Rd, and Lamont Ave.

**North Substation Land Acquisition:** The purchase of approximately 3.79 acres of land located on Sancus Boulevard. This area will serve as the site for a new substation for Precinct 1.

## Notable Neighborhoods

#### Clintonville

Population ...30,086

Area Size ...5.423 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$65,074

Median Rent ...\$676

Median Age ...40.3

#### **Harrison West**

Population ...2,942

Area Size ...0.443 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$58,882

Median Rent ...\$786

Median Age ...30.6

## Italian Village

Population ...3,245

Area Size ...0.464 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$40,610

Median Rent ...\$781

Median Age ...30.5

## **University District**

Population ...36,339

Area Size ...2.147 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$20,801

Median Rent ...\$635

Median Age ...23.5

## Victorian Village

Population ...6,738

Area Size ...0.497 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$53,911

Median Rent ...\$727

Median Age ...30.5

## Notable Neighborhoods

## King-Lincoln

Population ...1,832

Area Size ...0.324 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$21,337

Median Rent ...\$347

Median Age ...32.3

#### Linden

Population ...33,379

Area Size ...5.930 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$29,417

Median Rent ...\$540

Median Age ...33.2

#### **Old Oaks**

Population ...781

Area Size ...0.109 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$26,332

Median Rent ...\$477

Median Age ...30.7

## Olde Town East

Population ...7.297

Area Size ...0.928 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$24,211

Median Rent ...\$438

Median Age ...32.8

## Milo-Grogan

Population ...3,362

Area Size ...1.246 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$30,979

Median Rent ...\$499

Median Age ...31.6

Source: City-Data.com

# **COLUMBUS** East-Side



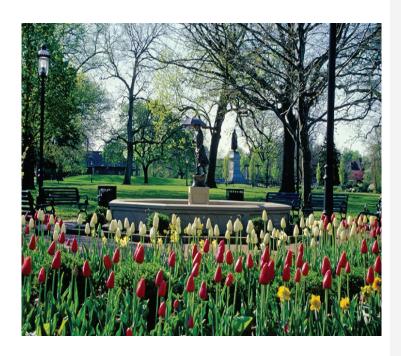
# Notable Capital Projects

King Arts Complex Improvements Project: Improvements to the King Arts Complex included renovation to the restrooms on the first floor, HVAC upgrades, new flooring, lighting and new ceiling on the first floor corridor, new ceiling and flooring in the boardroom and offices, and new flooring in a few classrooms.

**Lincoln Theater Project:** This project entails interior and exterior improvements, including the combining of two storefronts that, when completed, could be used for community events.

Poindexter Village Redevelopment Project: A multiphase redevelopment of the Poindexter Village area which runs to Mt. Vernon Avenue to the north, Ohio Avenue to the west, Long Street to the south and Hughes Street to the east. The project includes senior living and multifamily units.

**South Linden Alley Lighting Improvements Project:** The installation of approximately 277 high pressure sodium overhead lights (100 watts) in South Linden. The intention of the project is to provide residents with an additional sense of safety and security within the project area.



# **COLUMBUS** South-Side

# Notable Capital Projects

Marion Franklin Recreation Center Project: Improvements to the facility included replacing the existing HVAC system, the addition of air conditioning, electrical system upgrades, new lighting and ceiling in the corridors, and refinishing the floors.

**Schiller Park Restorations Project:** Schiller Park is one of the oldest parks in the city's system. Improvements include the restoration of four sets of historic columns from the early 1900s, and improvements to the Jaeger Street and Deshler Avenue intersection.

Whittier Street Sidewalks Project: The construction of sidewalks and ADA compliant curb ramps on both sides of Whittier Street from Lockbourne Road to the alley east of Fairwood Avenue.

**Fire Station #3:** The construction of a new fire station located at 222 Greenlawn Avenue. The new fire station was equipped with an engine-medic company.

## Notable Neighborhoods

## **Brewery District**

Population ...1,523

Area Size ...0.508 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$51,631

Median Rent ...\$871

Median Age ...37.8

#### Edgewood

Population ...2,172

Area Size ...0.422 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$28,978

Median Rent ...\$460

Median Age ...38.3

## German Village

Population ...3,506

Area Size ...0.384 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$54,028

Median Rent ...\$790

Median Age ...38.2

#### **Hungarian Village**

Population ...2,183

Area Size ...0.205 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$27,256

Median Rent ...\$554

Median Age ...33.8

## Merion Village

Population ...7,505

Area Size ...0.814 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$35,055

Median Rent ...\$611

Median Age ...32.6



## Notable Capital Projects

Glenwood Recreation Center Project: In 2015, the 15,000 square-foot recreation center was demolished and replaced with a new 27,000 square-foot facility. The new facility includes an art room, ceramics room, fitness center, game room, classrooms, multipurpose room, gymnasium, kitchen, lobby, and office area.

Wilson Road Park Project: A new 42-acre park will include the development of 7-acres while the remainder will be left as a natural area. The new park development will include two soccer fields, an open shelter, parking, and trail connection to the Camp Chase Greenway Trail.

Camp Chase Rail Trail: A 2.9 mile section of multi-use trail located adjacent to the active Camp Chase Railroad from West Sullivant Avenue to Eureka Avenue. The project includes the construction of two new single-spans, prefabricated, steel truss bridges crossing South Fork Dry Run and Dry Run.

**Scioto Peninsula Improvements Project:** This project includes the rehabilitation of Broad Street to include medians, sidewalk and curb replacements, the undergrounding of utility lines, the installation of a new park along Belle Street, and the construction of a new underground parking garage.

# **COLUMBUS** West-Side

## Notable Neighborhoods

### **Franklinton**

Population ...12,247

Area Size ...2.524 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$24,671

Median Rent ...\$418

Median Age ...32.3

#### Hilltop

Population ...66,449

Area Size ...12,527 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$38,935

Median Rent ...\$583

Median Age ...34.9

#### **West Olentangy**

Population ...18,432

Area Size ...5.939 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$52,753

Median Rent ...\$679

Median Age ...35.6

#### **West Scioto**

Population ...18,432

Area Size ...5.939 Square Miles

Household Income ...\$52,753

Median Rent ...\$679

Median Age ...35.6

## COLUMBUS TRANSPORTATION

Columbus is located in the heart of the Midwest, and is within a day drive or hour flight to over half of the population in the United States & Canada. There are eight major interstates that cross through Columbus, with convenient access from coast to coast and to the Mid-Atlantic States. In-state commerce benefits from access to interstate transportation infrastructure. In recent years, Columbus was recognized by Inbound Logistics as one of the nation's logistical hotspots.

Source: Columbus Region

Columbus is also home to the **Columbus Regional Airport Authority** 

which connects central Ohio with the world through the operation of three airports:

John Glenn Columbus International **Airport:** Service to 32 destination airports with over 150 daily flights and 6.8 million annual passengers.

Rickenbacker International Airport: A multimodal logistics hub serving international airfreight, cargo airlines, manufacturers, and distributers with over 166,000 annual passengers.

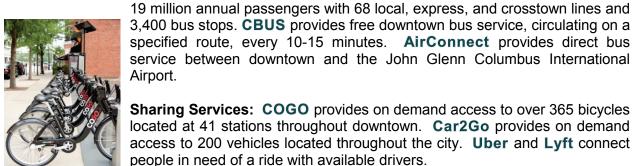


Bolton Air Field: Services the needs of area businesses, private pilots, and aviation enthusiasts.

In addition, Columbus is also home to The Ohio State University Airport, with over 75,000 operations a year, including corporate activity, student training, and pleasure flying.

## **Other Means of Getting Around Columbus:**

Public Transportation: Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) provides bus service to over



Sharing Services: COGO provides on demand access to over 365 bicycles located at 41 stations throughout downtown. Car2Go provides on demand

Two Wheels: Columbus' bikeway program encourages traveling in and around Columbus via bicycles and maintains protected bike lanes and an extensive network of bike paths.

Taxi Services: Pedicabs provide bike taxi service throughout downtown. Taxicabs provide taxi service throughout the city.



## What is the #Smart City Challenge?



The Smart City Challenge is a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to encourage mid-size cities to create innovative solutions for the future of urban mobility. The grant includes \$40 million from the USDOT and another \$10 million from Vulcan, Inc. to incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure. Columbus was announced as the winner of the Smart City challenge on June 23, 2016 from a total

nationwide applicant pool of 78 cities, including 7 finalists.

### State-of-the-art Facilities and Networks

The City of Columbus recently completed construction of an advanced Traffic Management Center (TMC), and construction is presently underway for a multi-year, \$76 million investment in the Columbus Traffic Signal System (CTSS). The CTSS, TMC, and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will provide advanced and integrated traffic management coordination between Columbus, ODOT, and regional communities.

The Transportation Research Center (TRC) is a world-leading provider of vehicular testing services, providing research and development (R&D), compliance, and certification testing for vehicles and components for crash-, emissions-, dynamic- and durability-testing. The TRC will contribute its wealth of expertise in advanced automotive research to the Smart Columbus program.

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) Cleveland Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (CMAX BRT) will connect more than 200,000 residents and 170,000 jobs between downtown and major residential, retail, and employment centers along the City's second busiest transit route, including three of our most challenged neighborhoods. COTA and Smart Columbus will expand the CMAX project to bring a smart payment system to cash-based households, integrated trip planning for first mile/last mile connections, and Wi-Fi along the route.







#### **Smart Columbus Goals**

After engaging residents, leaders, experts and others, five major goals emerged to provide ladders of opportunity for all:

- Improve access to jobs through expanded mobility options in major job centers
- Enhance visitor experience by better **connecting our visitors** to transportation options
- Stimulate regional economic prosperity and compete globally through smart logistics
- Better **connect Columbus residents** to safe, reliable transportation that can be accessed by all
- Support the efficient movement of people and goods through **environmentally** sustainable practices.

## How will these Goals help the Citizens of Columbus?

Smart Columbus is an important component of the City's CelebrateOne effort to address infant mortality. Mothers not accessing pre-natal care and the challenging social and economic conditions that exist in the targeted neighborhoods are key contributors to infant mortality. Smart



Columbus will improve access to pre-natal care and provide the ladders of opportunity to our residents to address the challenging social and economic conditions in their neighborhoods.

Transportation is not just getting people from point A to B. It's the central way for moving citizens up the ladders of success. Smart Columbus proposes autonomous vehicle deployment to address first mile/last mile challenges from the Easton Transit Center to Easton employers.

We will also provide enhanced traveler information, broadband connectivity, and build smart intersections along the new CMAX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Corridor from Polaris to Downtown.

Implementing a smart pass will enable all residents to have access and be able to pay for all the transportation options in our city with a smartphone or pass.

## How will Smart Columbus improve the experience for visitors to Columbus?

We will develop a smartphone app in conjunction with Experience Columbus to make event-specific traffic, parking, and transit options real time. For example, using the app visitors to the convention center who want to attend a performance at The Ohio Theater could view the most efficient routes for walking or driving, parking options, and all available transit systems from busses to cabs.

# CelebrateOne







## **Reducing Infant Mortality:**

Every year in Franklin County, 150 babies die before reaching their first birthday – and African American babies are dying at 2.5 times the rate of white babies.

Our Goal: To respond to the unequal distribution and alarming rates of premature births and infant deaths, Mayor Andrew Ginther and the Greater Columbus Infant Mortality Task Force created CelebrateOne, a collective impact initiative, to align, organize and implement efforts to reduce Columbus' Infant Mortality Rate by 40%, and decrease the racial disparity rate of infant deaths by 50% by the year 2020.

## **Neighborhood Focus:**

CelebrateOne is focused on locations where the infant mortality rates are highest.
CelebrateOne is working intensely with residents and stakeholders in the highest priority areas, including Linden, the

**Near South Side and the Near East Side.** Initiatives are underway in five other priority areas – Hilltop, Franklinton, Northeast, Southeast and Northland area. Premature births are more likely to occur in these neighborhoods, along with higher rates of poverty, unemployment, housing instability, uninsured people, and transportation barriers.



The City's Investment: CelebrateOne has leveraged investments and in-kind support from partners including community organizations, hospitals, the City of Columbus, and Franklin County to work toward our goal of reducing infant mortality. The projects below highlight key City investments, both present and future, that impact social determinants of health in the CelebrateOne neighborhoods of Linden, Near East and Near South.

## Recreation & Parks

- Driving Park Community
   Center & Pool Improvements
   \$10,500,000
- Douglas Community Center Improvements - \$3,403,425
- APPS Violence Intervention & Cap City Festivals - \$3,000,000

## Development

- Poindexter Village Choice Neighborhood Grant Housing & Infrastructure - \$24,000,000
- Funding for social services and Community Shelter Board - \$13,200,026
- Lead Safe Housing Program - \$418,155

## **Public Safety**

- High School Resource Officer Program - \$325,000
- Neighborhood Safety Cameras - \$300,000

## **Public Utilities**

- Livingston Ave Street Ligh Post Tops - \$397,637
- Blueprint Linden, Hudson/ McGuffey - \$475,000

## **Education**

- Early Start Columbus \$809,520
- Linden Park Neighborhood Early Childhood Education Center - \$784,000
- Future Ready \$700,000

## **Public Health**

- CelebrateOne Administration, Safe Sleep and Strategic Initiatives - \$1,246,843
- Neighborhood Health Initiatives - \$354,463

## **Public Service**

- Smart Cities Transportation Initiative - \$3,000,000
- Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements - \$2,251,618
- Pedestrian Safety Improvement (Whittier St Sidewalks) - \$1,900,000

## Neighborhoods

 Property Acquisition -\$1.250.000

# **Moving Forward:**

Columbus is laying the groundwork for long term success by investing in communities that need it most. Improving the built environment, supporting neighborhood stability programs and addressing other risk factors will move us towards our goal of celebrating more first birthdays in Columbus, Ohio.







# COLUMBUS EMPLOYMENT

Columbus serves as headquarters to major national and multinational corporations, including Nationwide Mutual Insurance, L Brands, Huntington Bancshares, American Electric Power (AEP), and Big Lots. In recent years, the healthcare industry has emerged as a growth sector, with the city boasting four nationally recognized health system employers; each employ thousands of healthcare workers and contribute billions of dollars to the local economy.

Employer Name	Central Ohio Employees	
The Ohio State University	30,963	
State of Ohio	23,859	
OhioHealth Corp	19,936	
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	19,200	
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co.	12,200	
Kroger Co.	10,242	
Mount Carmel Health System	8,818	
Nationwide Children's Hospital	8,508	
City of Columbus	8,254	
Honda North America, Inc.	7,800	
Franklin County	6,959	
Columbus City Schools	6,488	
L Brands, Inc.	6,090	
Huntington Bancshares, Inc.	4,661	
Cardinal health, Inc.	4,635	
Source: Columbus 2020, OSU 2015 Statistical Summary		

Several major employers have made central Ohio home in recent years, investing millions of dollars in the local economy and expanding the region's economic base. The table below lists private companies that have made recent significant investments in the Columbus economy.

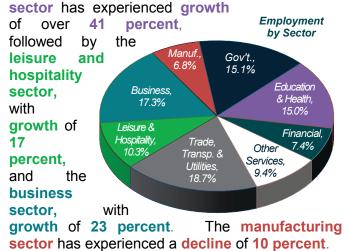
Company	Туре	Product	Investment
Hirschvogel Inc.	Auto	Forged Auto Parts	\$50 million
Rogue Fitness	Manufacturing	Fitness Equipment	\$37 million
Anheuser-Busch, LLC	Other	Beer	\$18 million
Roxane Inc.	Other	Pharmaceuticals	\$15 million
Source: Ohio Private Investment Survey 2013-2015, Ohio Development Services Agency, March 2016			



# COLUMBUS WORKFORCE **ENVIRONMENT**

Columbus has a stable, diverse employment environment with a large range of employment opportunities. All employment sectors have less than 19 percent of the workforce, indicating the city has a large range of job opportunities.

Since 2006, all sectors except manufacturing have experienced growth. The education & health





## Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, June 2016

## **Largest Colleges & Universities**

The Ohio State University ...58,322 Enrolled Columbus State College ...24,448 Enrolled Franklin University ...5,732 Enrolled Capital Unviversity ...3,494 Enrolled DeVry University ...2,971 Enrolled

Educational opportunities in Columbus range from career training programs to top ranked schools and universities. Employers have access to a large, well-educated and highly skilled workforce. The city is home to more than 60 nearby colleges and universities, with a total enrollment of more than 136,000 students and over 20,000 annual graduates. In addition, Columbus offers a large variety of workforce development programs through community, technical, and vocational schools. Source: Columbus Region 2016 Talent

Food preparation ...\$10.78

COLUMBUS ...21.3 (minutes)

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, June 2016

National Average ...25.5 (minutes)

**Mean Travel Time to Work** 



# COLUMBUS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

Downtown remains essential to the overall economic health of the city. With only 1 percent of the city's land area, downtown employers house over 17 percent of all jobs in Columbus. As a business location, the city is booming with office vacancy rates near historic lows.

A critical part of the city's efforts to ensure downtown remains the premier employment center in the region is to invest in and grow the residential population.

- The Edwards Project at Gay and High: This public-private partnership project will redevelop the Citizens Building on the southwest corner of Gay and High Streets and two parking lots on High Street (between Gay and Long Streets) through a \$35 million mixed-use development comprised of ground floor retail space, apartments, and a structured parking garage.
- ➤ Two25 Commons: \$60 million investment anticipated to be completed 2017-2018; a 17-story mixed use development with apartments and condos on 11 floors.

Investments in **public** amenities are also critical to the long-term health of downtown.

- Columbus Metropolitan Library: A recently completed \$30 million renovation of the Main Library. The library's vision is to renovate 10 of 23 branches to create 21<sup>st</sup> century libraries where wisdom prevails.
- City Hall Municipal Campus: \$75 million LEED Silver targeted office building and parking garage anticipated to be completed fall 2016 and summer 2017, respectively.
- Ohio Veterans Memorial and Museum: \$55 million, a new memorial and museum to honor Ohio veterans and educate and inspire visitors to serve their community and nation. Expected completion is spring 2018.

## **Downtown Quick Facts**

## Investments (\$)

Proposed ...\$1.2B
Under Construction ...\$501M
Completed (Jan.-Jun. 2016) ...\$65M

### **Largest Proposed Projects**

I-70 & 71 Interchange ...\$845M Millennial Tower ...\$90M Two25 Commons ...\$60M

## **Largest Under Construction Projects**

Convention Center Upgrades ...\$125M Michael B. Coleman Governmental Center ...\$60M Ohio Veterans Memorial and Museum

#### Total Residents ...7,945

#### **Housing Units**

...\$55M

Proposed ...1,308
Under Construction ...833
Completed (Jan.-Jun.2016) ...59

### **Apartment Occupancy Rate ...97%**

Office Vacancy Rate ...11.4%

Colleges & Universities ...5 (32,372 students)

Hotels ...15 (4,000 rooms)

**Annual Visitors ...9.2M** 

Source: Downtown Columbus Economic Development Update, Mid-Year 2016

## COLUMBUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## **Fastest Growing METRO in the Midwest**

 According to population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, Columbus is the fastest growing metro in the Midwest and posted the 13<sup>th</sup> largest gain overall based on new 2014 population estimates. With the prudent use of tax incentives. increment tax financing, and other development incentives, the city has leveraged over \$367 million worth of private sector development to create 3,568 and retain 12,113 new jobs since 2015.

The city continues to thrive as one of the top performing economic cities in the country, due to its diverse industry sectors.

Site Selection Magazine lists Columbus as a top 5 metro (with populations over 1 million) with 108 successful economic development projects in 2015.

**Columbus'** most recent significant development initiatives include:

Nationwide Children's Hospital: Nationwide Children's Hospital is a pediatric healthcare facility which has grown to occupy more than six blocks with 1.5 million square feet at its downtown hospital

Columbus 2020 Goals to Achieve by the Year 2020 (status as of Feb 2016)

- Add 150,000 net new jobs (at 113,634)
- Increase personal per capita income by 30 percent (at 17 percent)
- Add \$8 billion of capital investment (at \$7.08 million)
- Be recognized as a national leader in economic development

\*Columbus 2020 is an economic development organization guided by an aggressive economic development strategy

and research campus. In early 2016, Nationwide Children's Hospital began a second major expansion, which will include an investment of approximately **\$189 million** and raise its employment levels to **11,000 by 2019** and **12,000 total employees by 2024**.

**Rogue Fitness**: Rogue Fitness, a national leader in the manufacture and distribution of high quality strength and conditioning equipment, is investing over **\$36 million** to construct a corporate headquarters for its North American operation in the City's Milo-Grogan community. The new 600,000 square foot facility will house its 337 current employees and add **90 new full-time permanent positions** on approximately 30 acres of land.

Aver Inc.: Aver created and sells an intuitive software platform to build bundled payments and analyze performance that the healthcare industry can use. Today, Aver is one of only a handful of companies with software to automate bundled payments, and the only one that can implement any bundling methodology. Aver's patented technology and design tools enable non-technical users to easily translate enterprise data into actionable intelligence. In less than one year after relocating to Columbus from Green Bay, Wisconsin, Aver outgrew its space and relocated to the Huntington Center in mid-2015, committing to retain 32 full-time positions and create 200 new full-time positions with an associated annual payroll of approximately \$20.6 million.

### **Arts & Cultural Attractions**

BalletMet CATCO

Center of Science & Industry (COSI)
Columbus Children's Theatre
Columbus Cultural Arts Center
Columbus Jazz Orchestra
Columbus Museum of Art
Columbus Symphony Orchestra
Columbus Zoo & Aquarium
Franklin Park Conservatory
The King Arts Complex
Lincoln Theatre
Ohio History Connection
Ohio Theatre
Opera Columbus
Palace Theatre
Shadowbox Theatre

Short North Arts District

Wexner Center for the Arts



## COLUMBUS FUN

Columbus is home to many renowned facilities, including the nationally ranked Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, COSI and Columbus Metropolitan libraries. Organizations such as the Columbus Symphony, Columbus Jazz Orchestra, and Opera Columbus provide year-round opportunities for live music performances.

## Sports Teams

Columbus Blue Jackets, National Hockey League
Columbus Clippers, Triple-A affiliate of the Cleveland Indians
Columbus Crew, Major League Soccer
The Ohio State University, BigTen NCAA Sports
Ohio Aviators, Pro Rugby

## Entertainment Venues

Columbus Convention Center
Nationwide Arena
Express Live!
Newport Music Hall
Hollywood Casino
Scioto Downs Racino

Patrons of performing arts and theater find plenty to see in the offerings of local companies such as BalletMet, CATCO (Contemporary American Theatre Company), and Columbus Children's Theatre. The city offers an exciting array of entertainment with special events, sporting events, and popular festivals throughout the year.



# COLUMBUS RANKINGS Rankings - in the Midwest, for Employment Growth between June 2014 & June 2015 (Bureau of Labor Statistics) in the country, for Wage Growth between June 2014 and June 2015 (Bureau of Labor Statistics) 2015 Intelligent Community of the Year (Intelligent Community Forum) **Best Cities for Mid-Career Professionals in 2016 (Forbes)** Top metro for scaling startups (Kauffman Foundation) Top Tech talent markets in 1016 (CBRE) America's Hottest Apartment Markets (Zillow) - - Top Rankings -Least expensive office markets in the U.S. (BOMA International) **Best cities for New College Grads (SmartAsset) Best Cities for Healthcare Jobs in 2016 (ZipRecruiter) Top metros for growth entrepreneurship (Kauffman Foundation) Best American cities to work in tech in 2016 (SmartAsset) Best Cities for Conferences (SmartAsset)** States with the highest workforce quality (Chief Executive) **Best Cities for young professionals in 2016 (Forbes)**

## **Community Profile**

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