

# Erie County, Ohio

POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018



Produced By: *Richard H. Jeffrey*, Erie County Auditor

# *Table of Contents*

**Table of Contents ..... .2**

**Introduction from Richard H. Jeffrey ..... .3**

**An Overview of the County Auditor’s Office ..... .4**

**Your Erie County Government ..... .6**

**Erie County Demographics and Statistics ..... .8**

**Erie County’s Financial Position ..... 10**

**Property Tax Rates & Calculation ..... 16**

**2018 Projects ..... 18**

**Erie County Elected Officials ..... 20**



SANDUSKY YACHT CLUB HARBOR

## Dear Erie County Residents,



The Erie County Auditor's Office proudly presents the County's 2018 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). It was primarily created to provide transparency and to increase confidence in the County's elected officials. It was also created to give the citizens of Erie County a better understanding of the County's operations.

The information in this PAFR was taken from our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which provides a more in depth look at the County's finances. This PAFR is not presented in conformity with GAAP, (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) nor is it audited by Auditor of State, Dave Yost. Its purpose is to provide readers a summary of the County's financial activity in an easy to understand format.

The 2018 CAFR was audited by the office of Rea & Associates, Inc. and received an unqualified opinion.

For those seeking the more detailed information contained in the CAFR, a copy is available at the Erie County Auditor's Office, or on our website at <http://erie.iviewauditor.com>.

Thank you for taking the opportunity to review our PAFR. I hope this publication will help you gain a better understanding of the County you live in.

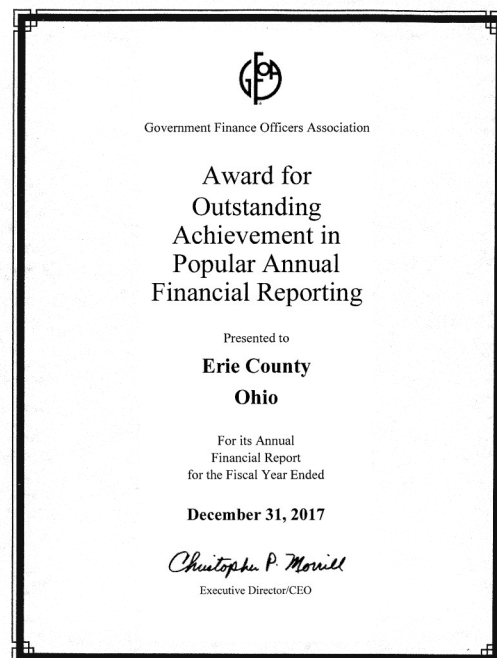
Sincerely,

Richard H. Jeffrey  
Erie County Auditor

*The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Erie County, Ohio for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.*

*In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.*

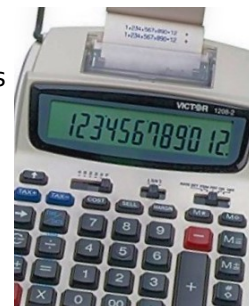
*An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.*



# Overview of Erie County Auditor's Office

## CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER

As Chief Fiscal Officer of your county, the Auditor is the bookkeeper for all County elected officials and many of the County agencies. It is the Auditor's responsibility to account for all revenues the County receives and to issue warrants (checks) in payment of all County obligations. As part of that bookkeeping responsibility, the County Auditor serves as the paymaster for all County employees.



## COUNTY FINANCIAL REPORTS

As the issuer of financial reports for the County, it is the Auditor's duty to make sure that financial records are kept properly and is required by law to prepare the County's Annual Financial Report. Erie County prepares a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is then reviewed by the Auditor of State's Office or external independent audit firm to ensure the County's finances are in order and that proper internal controls are in place. They test these controls and make recommendations to the county offices and agencies to assure that your money is spent properly.

In 2016, the County's checkbook was uploaded to OhioCheckbook.com, a site launched by the former State Treasurer, Josh Mandel, in an effort to make government more transparent and accountable to the taxpayers. Users can easily navigate, search and compare County spending across multiple years. The direct link and a "how-to" guide for easy viewing of Erie County's checkbook can be found on the Auditor's website: [www.erie.iviewauditor.com](http://www.erie.iviewauditor.com).



## REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL & ASSESSMENT

Erie County has 45,866 parcels of real property. It is the duty of the Auditor to ensure that every parcel of land and the buildings on it are fairly and uniformly assessed for tax purposes. A general reevaluation is mandated by Ohio law every six years with an update at the three year midpoint. The Auditor's Office Maintains appraisal records of each parcel in the County. These records are open for public inspection. The countywide reevaluation was completed in 2018.

## REAL ESTATE TAXES & RATES

The Erie County Auditor cannot raise or lower property taxes. Tax rates are determined by the budgetary requests of each government unit, as authorized by the vote of the people. Tax rates are computed in strict accordance with procedures required by the Ohio Department of Taxation, Division of Tax Equalization. Tax bills are based on the tax rate multiplied by your valuation found on this list. Property owners are assessed at 35% of the fair market value. Ohio law limits the amount of taxation without a vote of the people to 10 mills (\$10 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation). Any additional real estate taxes must be voted in by County residents.

## MANUFACTURED HOMES

The Auditor's Office is also responsible for assessing taxes on manufactured housing. Under Ohio law, mobile home owners must register their homes with the Auditor's Office for tax purposes. The Auditor assesses each manufactured home annually and prepares a tax list. The manufactured home tax is distributed back to the local tax districts in the same manner as real estate taxes.

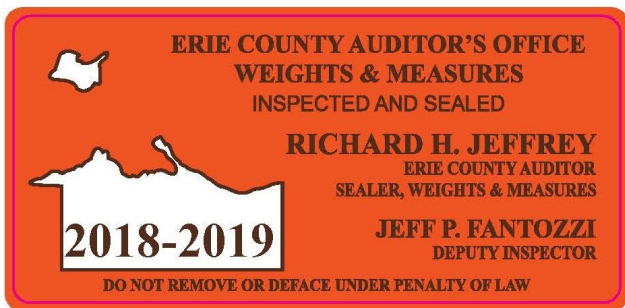
## CRITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Your County Auditor also helps watch over local governments within your County by:

- Estimating the tax a local government wants to put on the ballot according to what they define as their need
- Issuing a certificate when the local government wants to borrow money, assuring that the debt of that government does not exceed what is allowed by Ohio law
- Preparing a certificate of estimated resources on behalf of local governments to ensure that local governments do not spend more than they can expect to receive
- Distributing taxes to local governments including: real estate, cigarette, estate, gasoline, motor vehicle, and other taxes
- Consulting, advising, and assisting local governments and county departments on proper governmental accounting procedures

## WEIGHTS & MEASURES

The Auditor is the Sealer of Weights and Measures for the entire County, maintaining "Equity in the Marketplace," thus protecting both buyer and seller from possible loss which may occur from faulty measuring devices. The Auditor is charged with the legal responsibility of ensuring that all State and National Laws relating to Weights and Measures are strictly enforced.



Sealers perform inspections and tests on both commercial and some non-commercial devices to ensure those devices meet the criteria of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Type Evaluation Program. Audits and tests are performed on Random Packed items a store may weigh, such as: meats, cheeses, and produce. They are also performed on Standard Packed items. These tests are conducted to ensure the product meets or exceeds the requirements of Handbook 130, Checking the Net Contents of

Packaged Goods. Price Verification tests are also performed to make sure there is no misrepresentation of pricing.

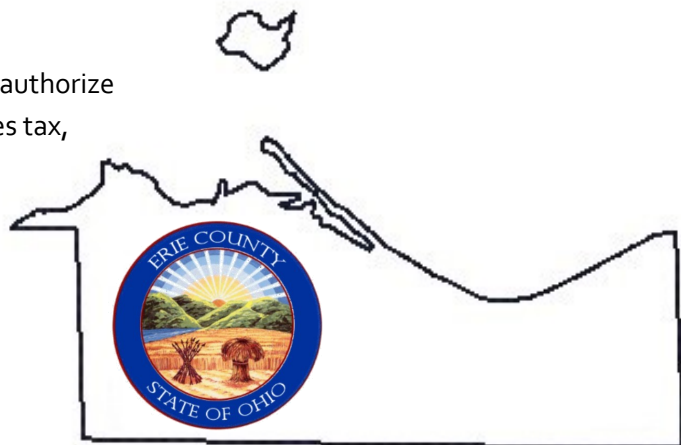
The Sealer of Erie County is responsible for testing 1,106 gas pumps and meters and 2,045 other devices in the County. Look for the current County seal on devices to be assured that they passed inspection. These services are performed to maintain "Equity in the Marketplace." If you believe a device is not performing properly, or for more information, please contact the Erie County Auditor's Office, Weights & Measures Division at (419) 626-7746. For additional resources, visit the Weights and Measures page on the Ohio Department of Agriculture's webpage: [www.agri.ohio.gov](http://www.agri.ohio.gov).

## LICENSES

The County Auditor's Office is responsible for the issuance of licenses for dogs, vendors, and cigarette sales. Vendor licenses authorize businesses to sell tangible property to the public and collect sales tax, a part of which is returned for use on the local level.

## ADDITIONAL DUTIES

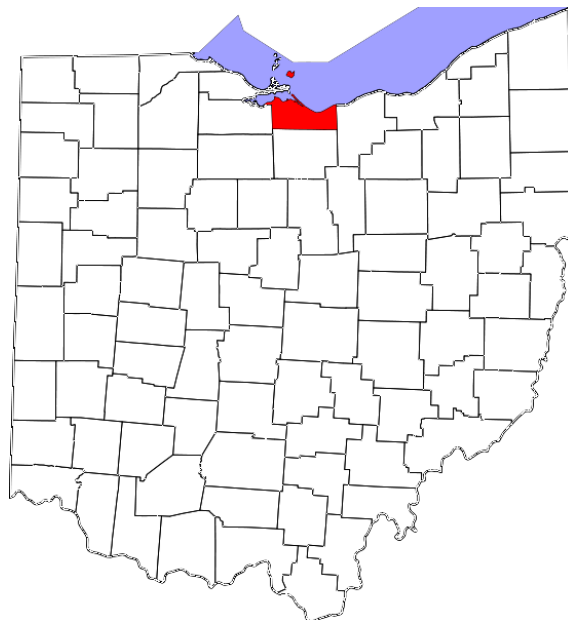
- Secretary of the Budget Commission
- Secretary of the Board of Revision
- Secretary of the Fiscal Report Review Committee
- Chair of the Tax Incentive Review Council
- Member of the Records Commission



## Your Erie County Government

Erie County was formed by an Act of the Ohio General Assembly on March 16, 1838. The Ohio government decided to divide larger counties into smaller areas of land. Its name came from the Erie Indians, who inhabited the land before the Iroquois drove them out in the mid-1600s. It borders Lake Erie in north-central Ohio, extending 28 miles in an east-west direction and 11 miles in a north-south direction, with a total area of 264 square miles, including 8,560 acres of wetlands. The County seat is Sandusky, which is located halfway between Toledo and Cleveland.

Erie County is comprised of three cities (Huron, Sandusky and Vermilion), nine townships (Berlin, Florence, Groton, Huron, Margaretta, Milan, Oxford, Perkins and Vermilion) and five villages (Bay View, Berlin Heights, Castalia, Kelleys Island and Milan).



Erie County is governed by the Board of County Commissioners who are elected by the voters of Erie County. In addition to the three Commissioners, there are eight other elected officials who operate independently following legislation of the Ohio Revised Code. These elected officials also serve four year terms and include: Auditor, Clerk of Courts, Coroner, Engineer, Prosecuting Attorney, Recorder, Sheriff and Treasurer. Erie County has five Judges, each elected to six year terms: Common Pleas Court (two), Probate Court, Juvenile Court and County Municipal Court.

The County employed 699 full time employees and 183 part time and seasonal employees in 2018 to provide services such as: capital improvements to roads/bridges/sewers, public safety, veterans services, tax collections, job and family services, emergency management services, economic development, animal control and health services just to name a few.

The following chart shows how Erie County departments are currently organized.

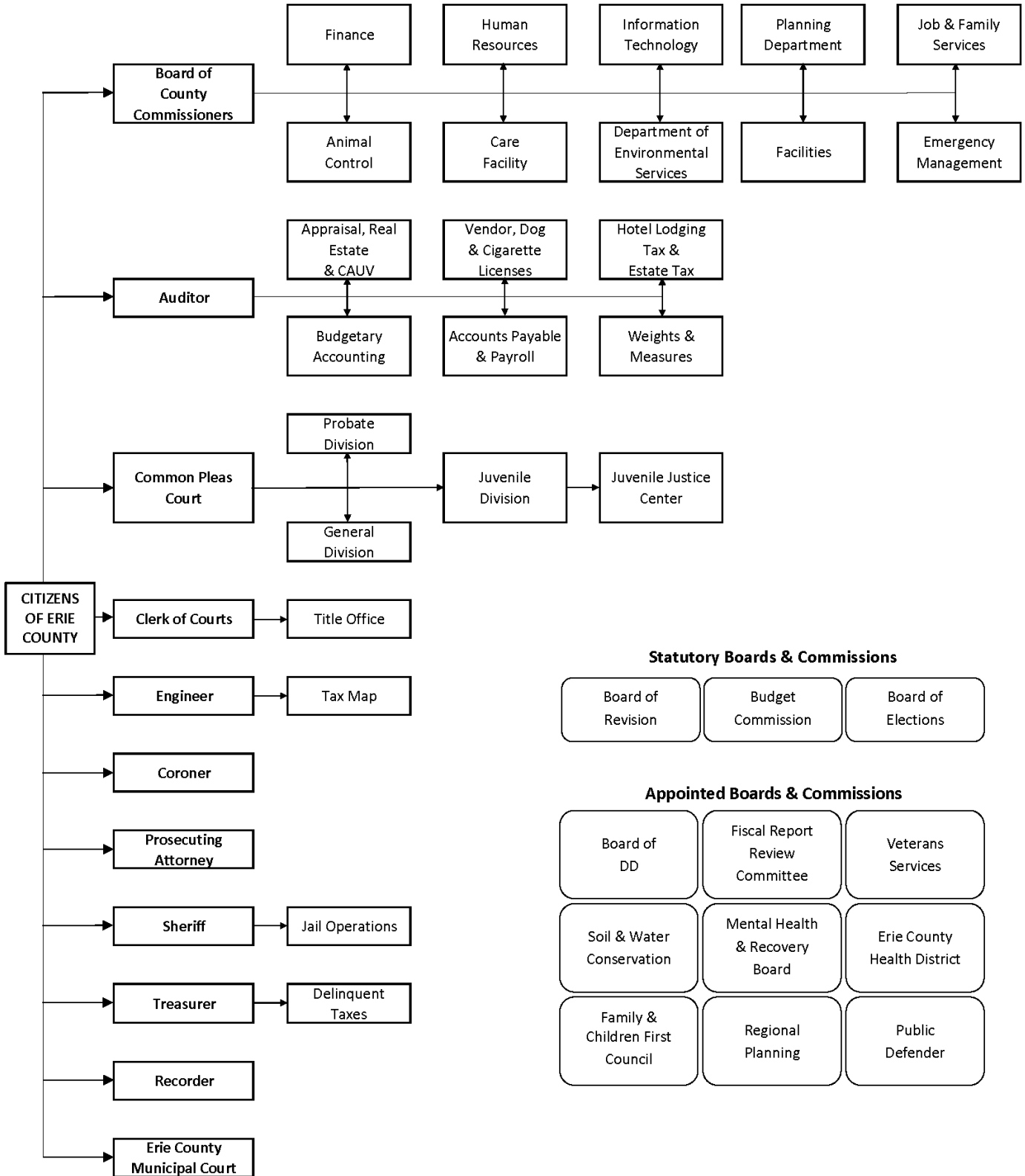


SANDUSKY LIBRARY



FOLLETT HOUSE MUSEUM  
SANDUSKY

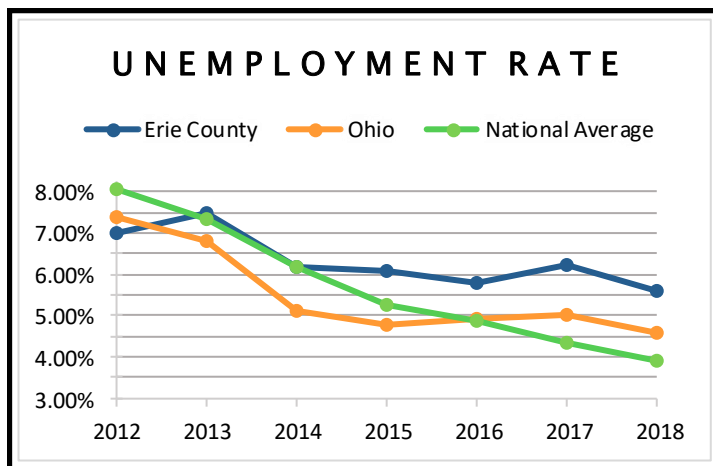
# Organizational Chart



# Erie County Demographics and Statistics

Erie County experienced more than a half percent reduction in the overall unemployment rate, decreasing from 6.23% in 2017 to 5.6% in 2018. Ohio and the national average experienced similar declines.

Erie County had the median unemployment rate compared to the surrounding counties: Ottawa 6.3%, Huron 5.9%, Lorain 5.4% and Sandusky 4.5%.



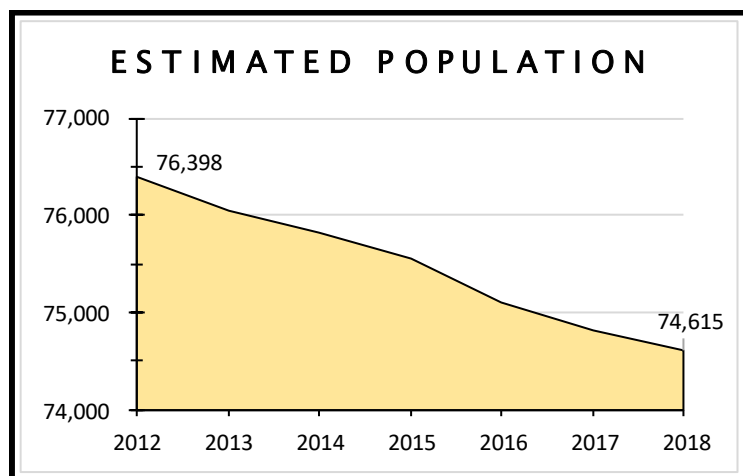
Source: Ohio Department of Job & Family Services and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



ERIE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
SANDUSKY



KELLEYS ISLAND



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## 2018 POPULATION STATISTICS

- 48.9% Male / 51.1% Female
- 86.9% White / 8.8% African American / 4.3% Other
- 91.6% High School diploma or higher
- 22.4% Bachelor's degree or higher
- Poverty Level: 12.4%
- Median Household Income: \$51,033
- Mean Travel Time to Work: 21.0 minutes
- Median Value of a Single-Family Home: \$132,400
- Population Per Square Mile: 306.4



## 2018 TOP TEN TAXPAYERS



BOY WITH THE BOOT  
SANDUSKY

TAXPAYER	TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE	% OF TOTAL COUNTY TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE
AMERICAN TRANSMISSIONS	53,324,100	2.56%
OHIO EDISON	48,313,030	2.32%
CEDAR POINT PARK LLC	43,088,050	2.07%
LMN DEVELOPMENT	15,735,580	0.76%
NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY	13,298,450	0.64%
COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC	10,637,830	0.51%
GWR SANDUSKY PROPERTY	6,407,000	0.31%
SANDUSKY MALL COMPANY	6,319,290	0.30%
SHAKER VILLAGE RENTAL COMMUNITIES LTD	5,188,660	0.25%
FIRELANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	4,831,020	0.23%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207,143,010</b>	<b>9.96%</b>
<b>TOTAL COUNTY ASSESSED VALUATION</b>	<b>\$2,079,935,420</b>	



CEDAR POINT CHAUSSEE

## 2018 TOP TEN EMPLOYERS

EMPLOYER	TYPE OF BUSINESS	# OF EMPLOYEES
CEDAR FAIR L.P./MAGNUM	ENTERTAINMENT	5,000
VENTRA	AUTOMOTIVE	1,935
FIRELANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	HEALTHCARE	1,898
KALAHARI RESORT	ENTERTAINMENT	1,196
ERIE COUNTY	GOVERNMENT	898
INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS	AUTOMOTIVE	684
OHIO VETERANS HOME	HEALTHCARE	630
SANDUSKY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT	EDUCATION	480
FREUDENBERG—NOK	PACKAGING FACILITY	260
JBT CORPORATION	FOOD EQUIPMENT	220
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13,201</b>
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT WITHIN ERIE COUNTY</b>		<b>35,600</b>

The top 10 employers for Erie County employed 37% of the County's workforce in 2018.

The majority of these workplaces are located in the City of Sandusky and Perkins Township.

## County's Financial Position

The County's financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). This report contains information related to the County's governmental and business-type activities. Please refer to the County's 2018 CAFR for more detailed information.

**Assets** provide financial benefits to the County. **Current and Other Assets** are mainly comprised of cash, investments and demand deposits (whether held in the pool managed by the County Treasurer or in outside bank accounts), property taxes receivable, sales tax receivable and monies due from other governments. **Capital assets** are land, buildings and improvements, roads, bridges, water/sewer lines, equipment and construction in progress, and are shown net of accumulated depreciation.

**Liabilities** place a financial burden on the County. **Current and Other Liabilities** include monies due to other governments, deferred revenues, accounts payable, compensated absences and accrued wages payable. **Long-term liabilities** represent bonds, notes and loans that are being repaid over a period of years as well as payments under capital leases.

**Deferred Inflows/Outflows of Resources** are inflows and outflows of resources related to pension liabilities resulting from the County's employer contributions to OPERS. Any part of pension expense or income not recognized in the County's financial statements in the year they occur will be recorded as **deferred inflows** or **outflows**, and amortized applicably.

**Net Position** represents the difference between assets and liabilities. **Investment in capital assets, net of related debt**, consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used or the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as **restricted** when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the County, or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The County applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. **Unrestricted net position** may be used to meet the County's ongoing obligations to citizens, employees and creditors.

*For more information on the County's assets and liabilities, please refer to the Statement of Net Position, found on page 17 in our 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.*



RITTER LIBRARY  
VERMILION

## NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
<b>Assets</b>						
Current & Other Assets	99,248,345	73,514,117	25,142,467	24,395,302	124,390,812	97,909,419
Capital Assets, Net	<u>63,629,779</u>	<u>51,384,075</u>	<u>115,111,036</u>	<u>117,869,316</u>	<u>178,740,815</u>	<u>169,253,391</u>
Total Assets	162,878,124	124,898,192	140,253,503	142,264,618	303,131,627	267,162,810
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>						
Deferred Charge on Refunding	-	-	617,155	712,931	617,155	712,931
Pension	<u>9,126,278</u>	<u>17,127,019</u>	<u>2,691,549</u>	<u>3,900,036</u>	<u>11,817,827</u>	<u>21,027,055</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	9,126,278	17,127,019	3,308,704	4,612,967	12,434,982	21,739,986
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Current & Other Liabilities	6,098,087	2,610,564	1,406,143	2,135,925	7,504,230	4,746,489
Long-Term Liabilities						
Pension	49,553,865	60,716,830	11,623,745	13,328,086	61,177,610	74,044,916
Other Amounts	<u>49,982,862</u>	<u>31,899,559</u>	<u>72,963,638</u>	<u>76,779,147</u>	<u>122,946,500</u>	<u>108,678,706</u>
Total Liabilities	105,634,814	95,226,953	85,993,526	92,243,158	191,628,340	187,470,111
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>						
Pension	8,438,224	252,599	2,082,329	253,314	10,520,553	505,913
Other Amounts	<u>13,841,814</u>	<u>13,555,369</u>	-	-	<u>13,841,814</u>	<u>13,555,369</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	22,280,038	13,807,968	2,082,329	253,314	24,362,367	14,061,282
<b>Net Position</b>						
Invested in capital assets, <i>net of related debt</i>	47,326,384	40,339,246	54,201,164	51,057,978	101,527,548	91,397,224
Restricted	29,485,759	30,599,841	-	-	29,485,759	30,599,841
Unrestricted	<u>(32,722,593)</u>	<u>(37,948,797)</u>	<u>1,285,188</u>	<u>3,323,135</u>	<u>(31,437,405)</u>	<u>(34,625,662)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>44,089,550</u>	<u>32,990,290</u>	<u>55,486,352</u>	<u>54,381,113</u>	<u>99,575,902</u>	<u>87,371,403</u>

Governmental activities restricted cash and cash equivalents increased substantially in 2018 due to unspent proceeds related to Phase II of the Sport Force Parks indoor complex currently under construction. Revenue bonds were issued for Phase II, which also increased the long term obligations of the County. The rise in capital assets is largely contributed to the sports complex and the completion of the \$4 million Bogart Road widening project.

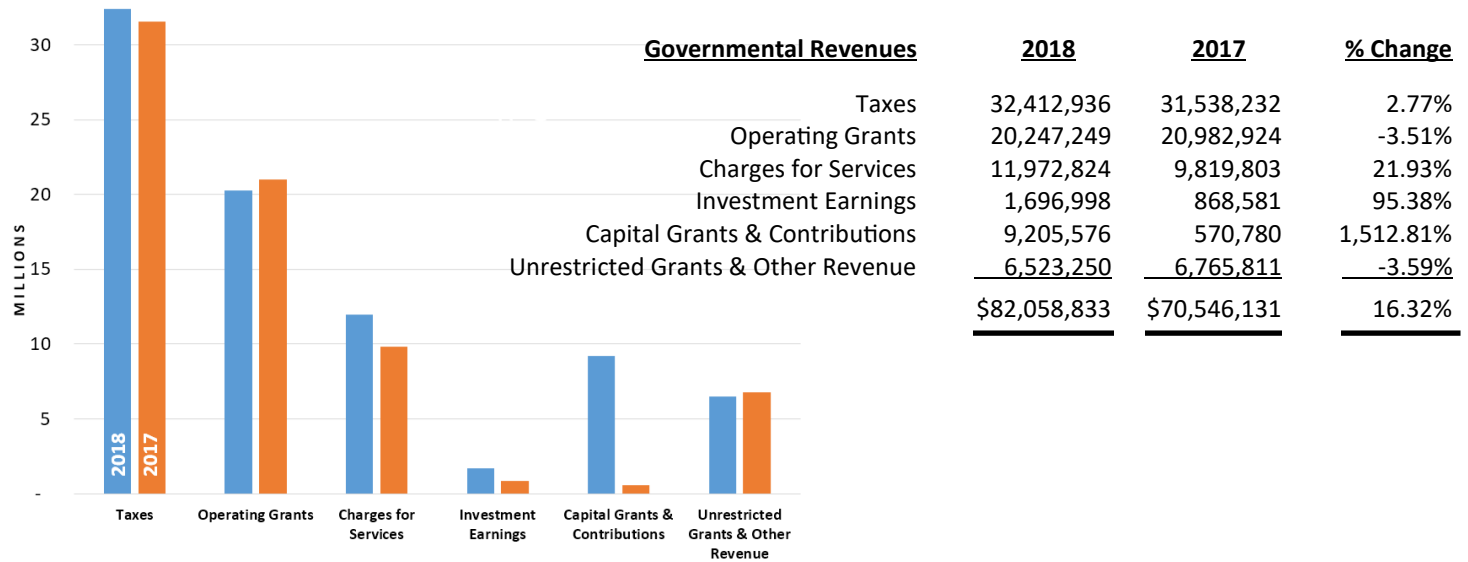
For 2018, the County adopted GASB 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions* which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to postemployment benefits. Changes in benefits, contribution rates and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the County.



MERRY-GO-ROUND MUSEUM  
SANDUSKY

# Governmental Revenues

The dollars presented here are reported as governmental activities in the 2018 CAFR’s government-wide statement of activities. Revenues are typically recorded when the underlying event occurs, regardless of when the money will be received. Major sources of revenue for the County include sales tax, property tax, grants, charges for services and interest earned. Grants are further broken down between operating grants and capital grants. Operating grants are provided to the County to help run day-to-day operations. Capital grants are provided to the County for use in acquiring capital assets, such as purchase of land or equipment, as well as the purchase or construction of buildings.

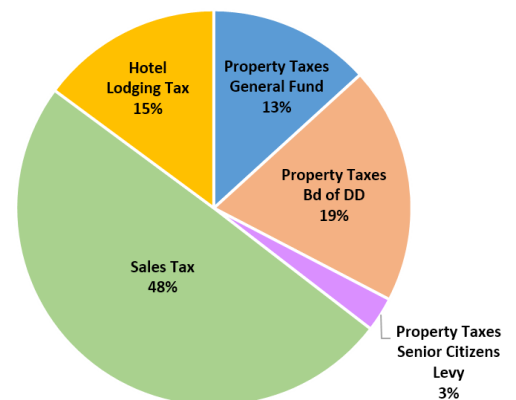


Charges for services increased nearly 22% over 2017 through various sources including rents, court costs and general charges for services. Capital grants and contributions showed the largest increase from the prior year. An ODOT grant for a large road project and contributions received for Phase II of the sports complex are the two major reasons for \$8.6 million increase from 2017. The County benefited from higher earnings on investments due to higher interest rates and nearly \$3 million more held in the County’s investment portfolio at 2018 year end than compared to that of 2017.

General revenues primarily consist of property and sales tax collections. The County uses 1% of the hotel tax revenue to repay the revenue bonds issued to finance the development of the Sports Force Park complex in partnership with Cedar Point. The bonds are solely payable from the one percent of taxes generated, in part, by the increased travel and tourism from the new sports complex development.

<u>Tax Revenue</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Property Taxes - General Fund	4,292,370	4,196,496*	2.28%
Property Taxes - Board of DD	6,285,155	5,806,441	8.24%
Property Taxes - Senior Citizen Levy	910,341	891,706	2.09%
Sales Taxes	16,103,049	15,965,925	0.86%
Hotel Lodging Taxes	<u>4,822,021</u>	<u>4,441,125</u>	<u>8.58%</u>
	<u>\$32,412,936</u>	<u>\$31,301,693</u>	<u>3.55%</u>

## TAX REVENUE



\* Certain revenues were reclassified to better reflect their purpose.

# Governmental Expenses

The expenses shown below are those of the County’s governmental activities. Expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred.

**Legislative and Executive** expenses are incurred by most elected officials offices, including Commissioners, Auditor, Treasurer, Prosecutor, Recorder, as well as Facilities, Information Technology, Human Resources and Finance.

**Human Services** expenses are those incurred by the County’s Job and Family Services Department. Services provided include adoption assistance, child care subsidies, emergency assistance payments, unemployment, food stamps and job training programs.

**Public Safety** expenses are those incurred by the Sheriff’s department to ensure the safety of persons and property.

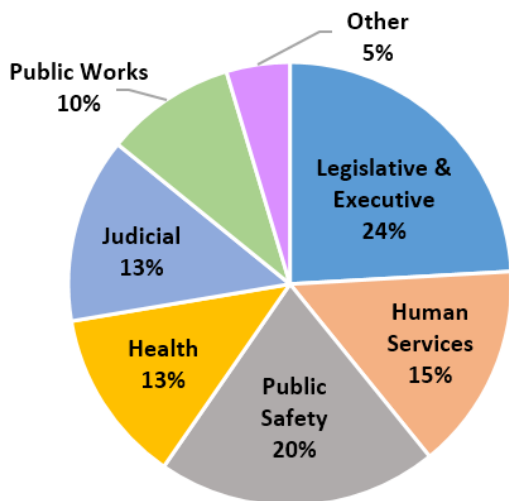
**Health** expenses are those incurred primarily by the County’s Board of Developmental Disabilities to provide services to developmentally disabled citizens of Erie County.

**Judicial** expenses are incurred by the County’s Courts, which include the Common Pleas Court, Probate Court, Juvenile Court and County Municipal Court.

**Public Works** expenses are incurred by the Engineer's department for maintenance of Erie County’s roads, bridges and ditches.

**Other** expenses represent economic development and assistance costs (CDBG programs) as well as interest charges and other miscellaneous expenses.

## GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES



<u>Governmental Expenses</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Legislative & Executive	16,949,075	35,157,339	-51.79%
Human Services	10,599,234	10,703,060	-0.97%
Public Safety	14,402,764	14,678,027	-1.88%
Health	8,930,501	9,589,391	-6.87%
Judicial	9,506,557	9,702,504	-2.02%
Public Works	6,701,116	5,428,218	23.45%
Other	<u>3,259,206</u>	<u>1,363,964</u>	<u>138.95%</u>
	<u>\$70,348,453</u>	<u>\$86,622,503</u>	<u>-18.79%</u>

A loss on the disposal of Phase I of the Sports Force complex in 2017 accounts for the substantial decrease in legislative and executive expenses in 2018. The largest increases in expenses fell into the public works and other categories, which include expenses related to a rise in repair and maintenance costs for roads and bridges and the completion of grant funded projects in 2018.

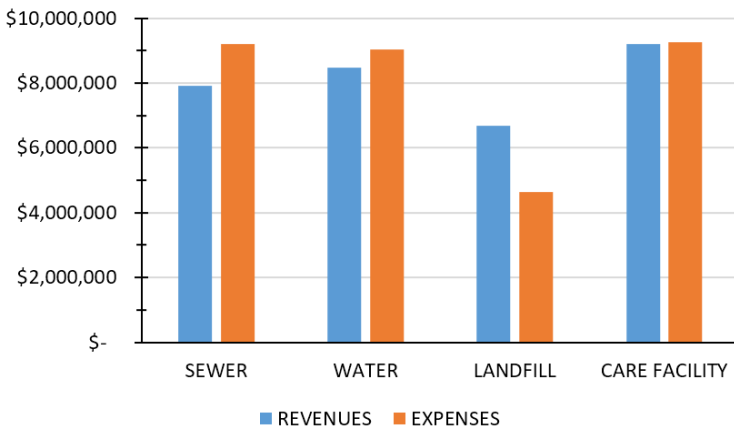
# Business-Type Activities

The dollars presented here are reported as business type activities in the 2018 CAFR’s government-wide statement of activities. Revenues typically are recorded when the underlying event occurs, regardless of when the money will be received. The major source of revenue for business type activities is charges for services, where fees are collected from customers for a service that is being provided. The County continues to deal with delinquent customers, which can positively or negatively affect collections for the year. The departments included in business-type activities are: Sewer, Water, Landfill and the Care Facility.

<b><u>BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES REVENUES</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>% Change</u></b>
Charges for Services			
Sewer	7,898,729	7,463,273	5.83%
Water	8,468,477	8,437,155	0.37%
Landfill	6,676,119	5,946,252	12.27%
Care Facility	9,191,092	8,519,063	7.89%
Capital Grants & Contributions	<u>191,543</u>	<u>623,230</u>	<u>-69.27%</u>
	<b><u>32,425,960</u></b>	<b><u>30,988,973</u></b>	<b><u>4.64%</u></b>

<b><u>BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>% Change</u></b>
Sewer	9,212,970	7,577,189	21.59%
Water	9,020,317	8,352,156	8.00%
Landfill	4,641,268	5,093,701	-8.88%
Care Facility	<u>9,264,567</u>	<u>9,304,012</u>	<u>-.42%</u>
	<b><u>32,139,122</u></b>	<b><u>30,327,058</u></b>	<b><u>5.98%</u></b>

## REVENUES & EXPENSES



In 2018, charges for services of \$32.2 million accounted for 99% of the business-type revenues, while expenses totaled \$32.1 million. Overall, the business type activities had an increase in total net position of \$1.1 million from 2017. The Landfill experienced an increase in charges for services revenue, along with a decrease in 2018 expenses. A higher population of patients correlates with the increase in revenues at the Care Facility.

State and federal laws require the County to place a final cover on its landfill when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for 30 years after closure. These closure/post-closure costs are driven by the total estimated remaining capacity. As of 2018 year end, the liability totals \$9,830,884 based on the use of 78% of the landfill’s capacity. Actual costs may be higher due to inflation, deflation, changes in technology or changes in regulations.

# Long Term Debt

At 2018 year end, the County had a total of \$19.1 million in general obligation bonds, \$43.5 million in revenue bonds and \$46.1 million in OWDA loans. Moody’s Rating Service has assigned Erie County bond ratings an “AA2” rating, indicating that our bonds are a safe, reliable investment. This is due to the County’s below-average debt burden, strong general fund reserves and overall sound financial management. The following table summarizes the outstanding long-term obligations at year-end.

## LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS, TREND ANALYSIS

*Includes Business-Type Activities (water, sewer & landfill debt)  
& Governmental (all other debt)*

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
General Obligation Bonds	19,085,000	22,885,305	24,301,490	28,421,216	32,017,374
Special Assessment Bonds	-	19,696	498,510	624,480	797,485
OWDA Loans	46,075,452	47,901,914	49,654,051	51,370,044	53,521,036
OPWC Loans	-	-	4,561	10,968	31,630
Revenue Bonds	43,530,084	22,866,741	23,003,196	2,800,000	-
Capital Lease Obligation	5,918	11,195	16,104	94,383	170,957
Landfill Closure & Post Closure Liability	9,830,884	9,187,997	8,647,611	7,886,838	10,534,752
Net Pension Liability & Net OPEB Liability	61,177,610	51,759,931	38,786,551	26,492,847	-
Claims Payable	1,509,738	1,560,634	1,553,627	1,533,896	-
Unamortized Bond Premiums*	774,337	888,353	415,278	-	-
Compensated Absences	<u>3,277,760</u>	<u>3,356,871</u>	<u>3,552,767</u>	<u>3,106,923</u>	<u>2,905,954</u>
	<u>185,266,783</u>	<u>160,438,637</u>	<u>150,433,746</u>	<u>122,341,595</u>	<u>99,979,188</u>

\*Unamortized Bond Premiums previously included in bond totals

<p><b>General Obligation Bonds</b></p> <p>These bonds are long-term debt instruments which are repaid from the County’s general revenue resources.</p>	<p><b>Special Assessment Bonds</b></p> <p>These bonds are issued to pay for improvements benefitting property owners, and those owners pay the County over a period of 20 years for the debt.</p>	<p><b>OWDA &amp; OPWC Loans</b></p> <p>These loans provide low-interest funding for infrastructure, primarily water and sewer.</p>	<p><b>Revenue Bonds</b></p> <p>The County has pledged 1% of future hotel tax revenue to pay off the 2016 revenue bonds purchased for this purpose.</p>	<p><b>Capital Lease Obligation</b></p> <p>These obligations are payments to be made to the vendors for leases entered into by the County.</p>	<p><b>Landfill Closure &amp; Post Closure Liability</b></p> <p>This liability shows what amount is needed to perform all closure and post closure care as of 12/31/18.</p>
<p><b>Net Pension &amp; OPEB Liabilities</b></p> <p>Obligations related to employee compensation are paid from the fund benefiting from their service. GASB 75 was implemented in 2018 which significantly revises accounting for liabilities related to post employment benefits. Changes in benefits, and contribution rates affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the County.</p>	<p><b>Unamortized Bond Premiums</b></p> <p>These premiums are deferred and amortized over the term of the bond. *These were previously included in the bond totals.</p>	<p><b>Claims Payable</b></p> <p>Insurance premiums are charged to the fund from which the employee is paid and claims are paid from the applicable internal service fund.</p>	<p><b>Compensated Absences</b></p> <p>This liability is due to employees for services provided to the County, where leave was earned but not taken as of 12/31/18.</p>		



BERLIN HEIGHTS

# Property Taxes

## TAX RATES FOR ERIE COUNTY—TAX YEAR 2017, PAYABLE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2018

TAX DISTRICTS	Tax District	State Taxing District	County Levies	School Levies	Library Levies	Vocational School Levies	Township Levies	City or Village Levies	Full Tax Rate	Residential Agricultural Effective Tax Rate	Commerical Industrial Effective Tax Rate
<b>BERLIN TOWNSHIP</b>											
Edison Schools	01-04	22-0010	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	5.30	N/A	88.75	52.2953	60.3962
Berlin Heights Village	06	22-0020	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	3.50	15.50	102.45	66.1016	74.5196
Huron Schools	05	22-0030	9.10	74.21	1.25	4.45	5.30	N/A	94.31	50.6649	63.2879
<b>FLORENCE TOWNSHIP</b>											
Firelands Schools	07-08	22-0040	9.10	51.67	0.00	2.45	7.10	N/A	70.32	47.9283	48.3542
Edison Schools	09	22-0050	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	7.10	N/A	90.55	54.1048	63.0398
Vermilion Schools	10	22-0060	9.10	68.15	1.625	4.45	7.10	N/A	90.425	52.3388	75.9157
Western Reserve Schools	11	22-0070	9.10	33.60	0.00	4.45	7.10	N/A	54.25	41.4031	44.1534
<b>GROTON TOWNSHIP</b>											
Bellevue Schools	26	22-0080	9.10	41.60	1.00	4.45	5.75	N/A	61.90	51.9794	56.0486
Bellevue City	61	22-0085	9.10	41.60	1.00	4.45	5.75	6.60	68.50	57.5945	62.4464
Margaretta Schools	27	22-0090	9.10	63.16	0.00	4.45	5.75	N/A	82.46	48.5324	66.5550
Monroeville Schools	28	22-0100	9.10	38.45	0.00	4.45	5.75	N/A	57.75	47.5379	51.4423
Perkins Schools	29	22-0110	9.10	67.80	1.50	4.45	5.75	N/A	88.60	53.9660	60.7406
<b>HURON TOWNSHIP</b>											
Huron Schools	39	22-0120	9.10	74.21	1.25	4.45	4.90	N/A	93.91	50.3435	63.7136
Huron City	42-49	22-0130	9.10	74.21	1.25	4.45	0.00	4.90	93.91	50.4708	64.0303
Edison Schools	40	22-0140	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	4.90	N/A	88.35	51.9739	60.8219
Perkins Schools	41	22-0150	9.10	67.80	1.50	4.45	4.90	N/A	87.75	53.4243	59.6455
<b>MARGARETTA TOWNSHIP</b>											
Margaretta Schools	33-37	22-0160	9.10	63.16	0.00	4.45	11.20	N/A	87.91	43.3953	70.5859
Bay View Village	30	22-0170	9.10	63.16	0.00	4.45	0.00	20.00	96.71	59.6531	78.4699
Castalia Village	31	22-0180	9.10	63.16	0.00	4.45	8.70	8.66	94.07	59.5864	76.5737
Perkins Schools	38	22-0190	9.10	67.80	1.50	4.45	11.20	N/A	94.05	58.8289	64.7715
<b>MILAN TOWNSHIP</b>											
Edison Schools	50	22-0200	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	6.55	N/A	90.00	53.1614	62.3222
Milan Village	53	22-0210	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	5.55	8.80	97.80	59.5427	69.1056
Huron Schools	51	22-020	9.10	74.21	1.25	4.45	6.55	N/A	95.56	51.5310	65.2140
Perkins Schools	52	22-0230	9.10	67.80	1.50	4.45	6.55	N/A	89.40	54.6118	61.1458
<b>OXFORD TOWNSHIP</b>											
Edison Schools	23	22-0240	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	6.50	N/A	89.95	53.1083	62.5897
Monroeville Schools	24	22-0250	9.10	38.45	0.00	4.45	6.50	N/A	58.50	48.1306	52.1150
Perkins Schools	25	22-0260	9.10	67.80	1.50	4.45	6.50	N/A	89.35	54.5587	61.4133
<b>PERKINS TOWNSHIP</b>											
Perkins Schools	32	22-0270	9.10	67.80	1.50	4.45	16.25	N/A	99.10	65.0423	71.3122
<b>VERMILION TOWNSHIP</b>											
Vermilion Schools	12-16	22-0280	9.10	68.15	1.625	4.45	5.10	N/A	88.43	50.3684	73.4990
Vermilion City	18-22	22-0290	9.10	68.15	1.625	4.45	0.00	10.75	94.075	56.3669	79.8645
Edison Schools	17	22-0300	9.10	68.10	1.80	4.45	5.10	N/A	88.55	52.1344	60.6231
<b>KELLEYS ISLAND VILLAGE</b>											
Kelleys Island Schools	54	22-0310	9.10	6.85	0.80	4.45	N/A	10.35	31.55	27.4986	27.5926
<b>SANDUSKY CITY</b>											
Sandusky Schools	55-60	22-0320	9.10	85.065	1.50	0.00	N/A	5.25	100.915	62.9336	73.7380
<b>BELLEVUE CITY</b>											
Bellevue Schools	62	22-0330	9.10	41.60	1.00	4.45	N/A	6.60	62.75	52.4618	56.7680

TAX RATES EXPRESSED IN MILLS

MILL = \$1 IN TAX FOR EVERY \$1,000 IN TAXABLE VALUE



# How to Calculate Your Tax Bill

## PROPERTY TAX CALCULATION

Market Value x 35%	=	Assessed Value
Assessed Value x Full Total Tax Rate / 1,000	=	Gross Tax Per Year
Assessed Value x Effective Tax Rate / 1,000	=	Adjusted Tax
Gross Tax—Adjusted Tax	=	H.B. 920 Credit
Gross Tax—H.B. 920 Credit	=	Net Taxes
Net Taxes x Non-Business Credit Percent	=	Non-Business Credit
Net Taxes x Owner Occupancy Credit Percent	=	Owner Occupancy Credit
Net Taxes—Non-Business and Owner Occ.	=	Taxes Charged
Tax Charged / 2	=	Half Year Tax
Half Year Tax + Special Assessments, Penalties, etc.	=	Total Half Year Tax

EXAMPLE: If a taxpayer lives in Milan Township, in Edison Local School District, Real Estate Taxes on a \$100,000 owner-occupied home with no special assessments would be:

$\$100,000 \times 35\%$	=	\$35,000.00	Assessed Value
$\$35,000 \times 90.00 / 1,000$	=	\$3,150.00	Gross Tax Per Year
$\$35,000 \times 53.1614 / 1,000$	=	\$1,860.65	Adjusted Tax
$\$3,150.00 - \$1,860.65$	=	\$1,289.35	H.B. 920 Credit
$\$3,150.00 - \$1,289.35$	=	\$1,860.65	Net Taxes
$\$1,860.65 \times 10\%$	=	\$186.07	Non-Business Credit
$\$1,860.65 \times 2.5\%$	=	\$46.52	Owner Occupancy Credit
$\$1,860.65 - \$186.07 - \$46.52$	=	\$1,628.06	Taxes Charged
$\$1,628.06 / 2$	=	\$814.03	Half Year Tax

The \$1,628.06 in Annual Taxes is distributed as follows:

Tax Recipient	Tax Rate	Taxes Paid
Edison Schools	40.2255	1,231.90
EHOVE Career Center	2.6285	80.50
Milan Township	3.8690	118.48
Berlin-Milan Library	1.0632	32.56
County General Fund	1.3586	41.61
Board of Developmental Disabilities	1.7720	54.27
General Health District	0.5907	18.09
Mental Health & Recovery Board	0.7088	21.71
Serving Our Seniors	0.2953	9.05
Erie Metroparks	<u>0.6498</u>	<u>19.90</u>
	53.1614	\$ 1,628.06



THOMAS EDISON STATUE  
MILAN

## 2018 Erie County Projects

After breaking ground in December 2017, Ohio Patients' Choice completed a \$20 million, 55,000 square-foot production facility in Huron. OPC was awarded one of 13 statewide licenses from the Ohio Department of Commerce to grow medical marijuana. Once in full operation, up to 2,000 plants of 30 differing varieties of plants will grow in the 30,000 square foot greenhouse. Once cuttings from "mother plants" are fully flowered and reach heights of approximately six feet tall, the plants are harvested, dried and cured. The product is then packaged and delivered to licensed dispensaries throughout Ohio by OPC security personnel. OPC currently employs 35 people with the intentions of doubling that number in the future .



OPC CULTIVATION

CertainTeed announced a \$37-million expansion to its Milan Township location. The company purchased nine acres of land directly north of their current plant, which will allow CertainTeed to expand their product offerings with the construction of a new asphalt processing plant.

The expansion will stabilize the company's supply of raw materials and will allow for increased deliveries via railcar, streamlining production. The project is estimated to create an additional ten jobs, adding to their current 200 employees.

The plant in Milan specializes in asphalt roofing shingles, producing enough product to roof 180,000 homes last year. The asphalt plant is expected to be in operation by the end of 2019.



CERTAINTEED EXPANSION

Construction of Phase II of Cedar Point Sports Center began midsummer of 2018. The \$42 million, state-of-the-art indoor athletic facility will be located directly beside the completed outdoor site of Sports Force Parks (Phase I) on US Route 6 in Sandusky. Spanning more than 200,000 square feet, the facility will include a gymnasium that can convert to nine basketball courts, 20 volleyball courts or a gymnastic arena, an indoor walking track, a sports wellness center supervised by Firelands Regional Medical Center and various agility-type activities.

The public-private venture is being funded through multiple parties: \$23 million from Erie County lodging tax collection, \$11 million from Firelands Regional Medical Center, \$6 million from Cedar Fair (Cedar Point's parent company) and the remaining \$2 million from the City of Sandusky tax-financing agreement.

Sports Facility Management, the company managing the indoor sports complex, estimates an opening date of January 1, 2020.

CEDAR POINT SPORTS CENTER - PHASE II



## THE MEADOWS AT OSBORN PARK



The Erie County Commissioners announced a \$1 million commitment to The Meadows at Osborn Park, the County-owned nursing home. The money will be used for much needed upgrades including: expanding the lobby and foyer areas, building a new chapel, salon and library area with computers, replacing the common area furniture, replacing the roof on the greenhouse and dedicating one wing of rooms to long-term care. Renovations are expected to begin in 2019, allowing The Meadows to remain a competing force in the area's rehabilitation, skilled nursing and long-term care fields.

## BECKY'S HOUSE - RECOVERY HOUSING



A new 48-bed women's transitional housing facility, Becky's House, is set to open across the street from the Erie County Health Department. Officials agreed to purchase the 30,000 square foot facility for \$2.3 million, with a \$250,000 contribution from Erie County. Women who successfully completed treatment through the Health Department's Detox Center are eligible to continue their long-term recovery at the inpatient residential treatment center.

This acquisition will complete the Health Department's vision full circle care: detox, inpatient rehab, outpatient treatment and long-term sober living.

Road to Hope, a recovery housing organization, will operate the center once it opens early 2019.



SANDUSKY BAY

2018

ERIE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

AUDITOR	RICHARD H. JEFFREY	419-627-7746
CLERK OF COURTS	LUVADA WILSON	419-627-7705
COMMISSIONER	WILLIAM J. MONAGHAN	419-627-7672
COMMISSIONER	MATHEW R. OLD	419-627-7672
COMMISSIONER	PATRICK J. SHENIGO	419-627-7672
CORONER	DR. BRIAN A. BAXTER	419-625-0654
ENGINEER	JOHN D. FARSCHMAN	419-627-7710
PROSECUTOR	KEVIN J. BAXTER	419-627-7697
RECORDER	BARBARA A. SESSLER	419-627-7686
SHERIFF	PAUL A. SIGSWORTH	419-627-7668
TREASURER	PAMELA FERRELL	419-627-7701
COMMON PLEAS JUDGE	ROGER E. BINETTE	419-627-7732
COMMON PLEAS JUDGE	TYGH M. TONE	419-627-7731
COUNTY COURT JUDGE	PAUL G. LUX	419-499-4689
JUVENILE COURT JUDGE	ROBERT C. DELAMATRE	419-627-7782
PROBATE COURT JUDGE	BEVERLY K. MCGOOKEY	419-627-7750