
POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021



ERIE COUNTY, OHIO

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

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Dear Erie County Residents,



The Erie County Auditor's Office proudly presents the County's 2021 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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), 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, Keith Faber. Its purpose is to provide readers a summary of the County's financial activity in an easy to understand format.

The 2021 ACFR was audited by the office of Rea & Associates, Inc. and received an unmodified opinion.

For those seeking the more detailed information contained in the ACFR, a copy is available at the Erie County Auditor's Office, or on our website at www.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.

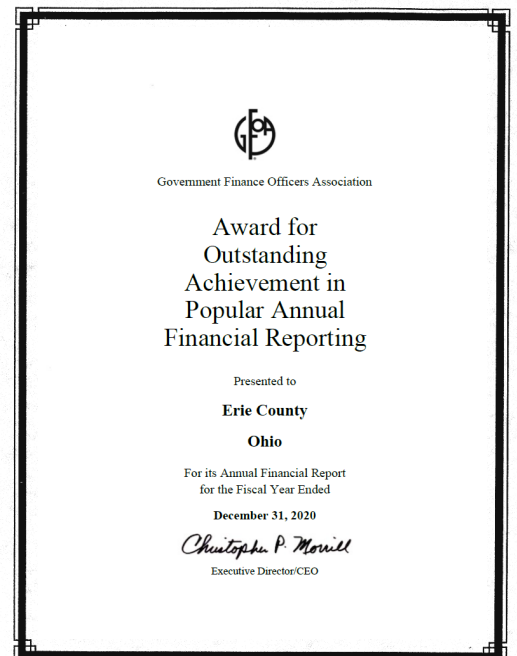
Sincerely,

Richard H. Jeffrey
Erie County Auditor

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) 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, 2020. 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 to determine its eligibility for another Award.



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 Annual Financial Report. Erie County prepares an Annual Comprehensive 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.



REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL & ASSESSMENT

Erie County has 46,217 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 a statistical 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 next countywide revaluation will be completed in 2024.

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.

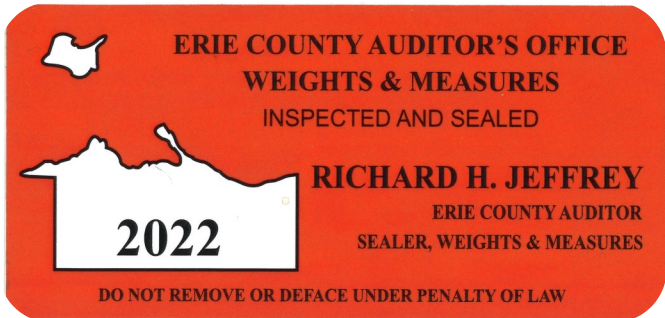
CRITICAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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, 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 federal 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 (NIST) and the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP). Audits and tests are performed on random packed items a store may weigh, such as: meats, cheeses, and produce and 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 tested 3,195 devices across the County in 2021. 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.

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

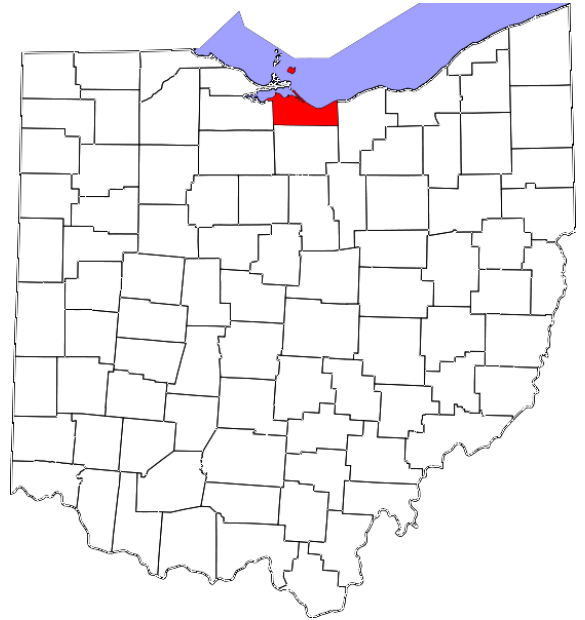
Erie County was formed by an Act of the Ohio General Assembly on March 16, 1838. The Ohio government decided to divide larger counties into smaller areas of land. Its name came from the Erie Indians, who inhabited the land before the Iroquois drove them out in the mid-1600s. It borders Lake Erie in north-central 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.

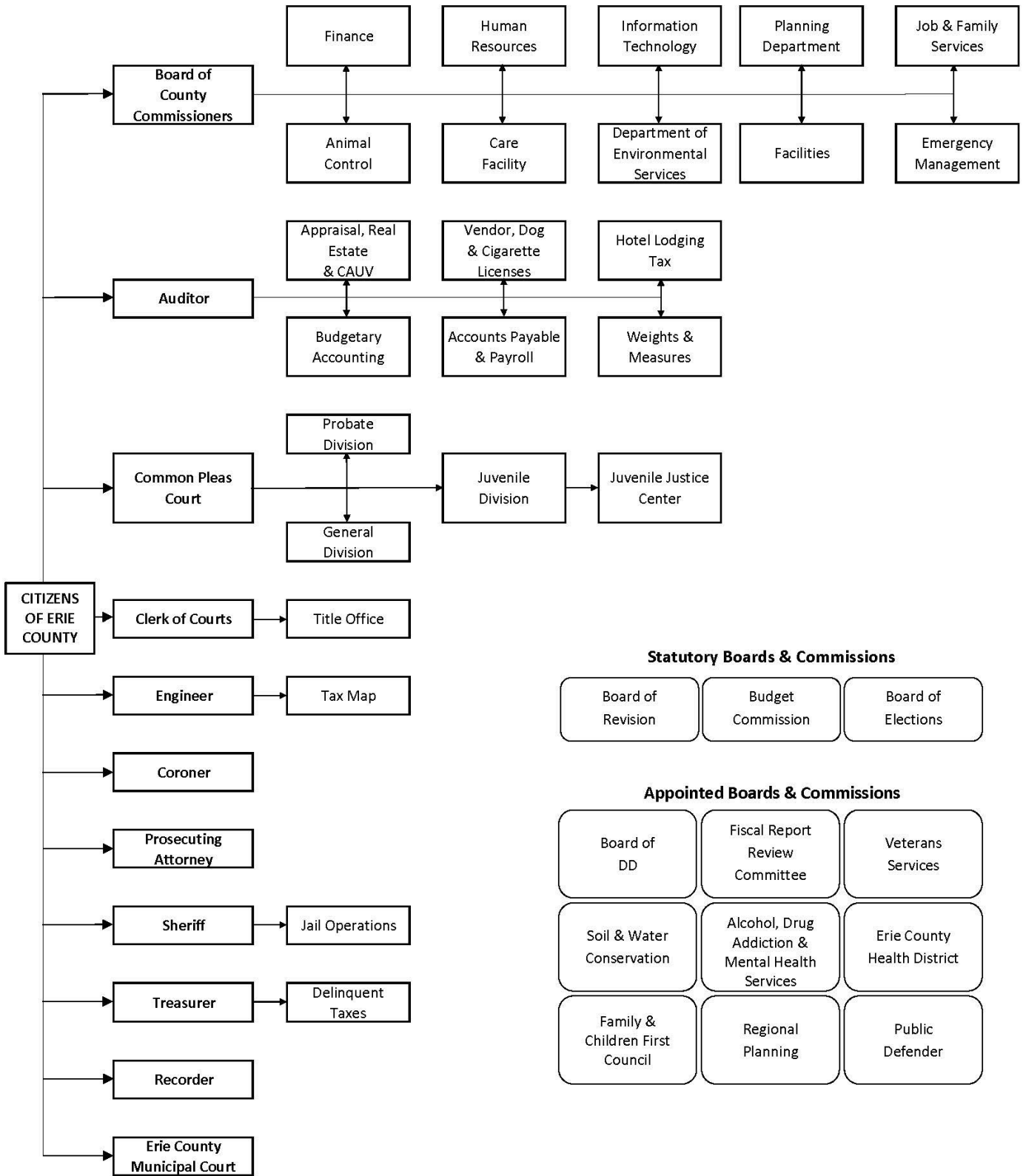
The County employed 750 full time, part time and seasonal employees in 2021 to provide services such as: capital improvements to roads/bridges/sewers, public safety, veterans services, tax collections, job and family services, emergency management services, economic development, animal control and health services just to name a few.

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



PERKINS TOWNSHIP

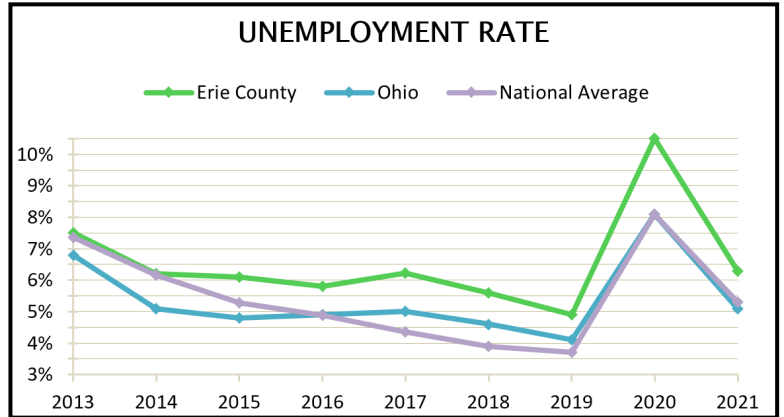
Organizational Chart



Erie County Demographics and Statistics

Erie County experienced a large decline in the overall unemployment rate, decreasing from 10.5% in 2020 to 6.3% in 2021. This decrease was an expected result with the lifting of the majority of COVID-19 restriction, especially with the return to normal operations of tourism-driven attractions, an industry that greatly suffered from the Coronavirus pandemic.

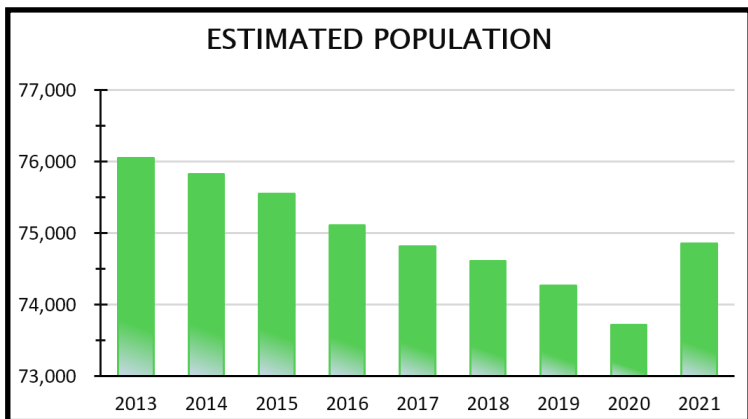
Erie County had the highest unemployment rate of the surrounding counties: Lorain 5.8%, Huron 5.8%, Ottawa 6.1% and Sandusky County at 5.2% respectively.



Source: Ohio Department of Job & Family Services



CEDAR POINT - SANDUSKY



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

2021 POPULATION STATISTICS

- ESTIMATED POPULATION: 74,852
- 48.9% MALE / 51.1% FEMALE
- 86.7% WHITE / 8.9% AFRICAN AMERICAN / 4.4% OTHER
- 92.2% HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR HIGHER
- 24.9% BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER
- 10.9% POVERTY LEVEL
- MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$58,408
- MEAN TRAVEL TIME TO WORK: 20.8 minutes
- MEDIAN VALUE OF A SINGLE-FAMILY HOME: \$146,800
- POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE: 297.55

2021 TOP TEN TAXPAYERS

TAXPAYER	TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE	% OF TOTAL COUNTY TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE
NEXUS GAS TRANSMISSION	160,062,620	6.60%
AMERICAN TRANSMISSION	59,163,390	2.44%
OHIO EDISON	45,988,260	1.91%
CEDAR POINT PARK LLC	42,675,880	1.76%
LMN DEVELOPMENT LLC	29,813,070	1.23%
COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC	13,030,470	0.54%
NORFOLK & WESTERN RAILWAY	11,295,360	0.47%
GWR SANDUSKY PROPERTY	6,407,000	0.26%
SHAKER VILLAGE RENTAL COMMUNITIES	5,188,660	0.21%
SANDUSKY MALL COMPANY	5,161,460	0.21%
TOTAL	\$378,786,170	15.64%
TOTAL COUNTY ASSESSED VALUATION	\$2,421,191,630	



ITTER LIBRARY - VERMILION



EDISON BIRTHPLACE - MILAN

2021 TOP TEN EMPLOYERS

EMPLOYER	TYPE OF BUSINESS	# OF EMPLOYEES
CEDAR FAIR L.P./MAGNUM	ENTERTAINMENT	5,500
FIRELANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	HEALTHCARE	2,001
VENTRA	AUTOMOTIVE	1,900
KALAHARI RESORT	ENTERTAINMENT	1,053
ERIE COUNTY	GOVERNMENT	750
OHIO VETERANS HOME	HEALTHCARE	627
SANDUSKY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT	EDUCATION	478
MEIJER DEPARTMENT STORE	RETAIL	475
CORSO'S FLOWER & GARDEN CENTER	FLORIST	400
WALMART	RETAIL	350
TOTAL		13,534
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT		34,900

The top 10 employers for Erie County employed 39% of the County's workforce in 2021.

The majority of these top employers are located within 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 2021 ACFR 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 appropriately.

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 cost 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.



HURON BOAT BASIN

For more information on the County's assets and liabilities, please refer to the Statement of Net Position, found on page 17 in our 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Assets						
Current & Other Assets	112,987,358	88,495,401	36,351,366	33,154,507	149,338,724	121,649,908
Net OPEB Asset	3,190,183	-	792,147	-	3,982,330	-
Capital Assets, Net	<u>57,004,003</u>	<u>57,991,384</u>	<u>107,093,151</u>	<u>108,132,970</u>	<u>164,097,154</u>	<u>166,124,354</u>
Total Assets	173,181,544	146,486,785	144,236,664	141,287,477	317,418,208	287,774,262
Deferred Outflows of Resources						
Deferred Charge on Refunding	-	-	317,140	419,894	317,140	419,894
Pension & Other Postemployment Benefits	<u>5,733,505</u>	<u>9,425,875</u>	<u>1,598,545</u>	<u>2,985,358</u>	<u>7,332,050</u>	<u>12,411,233</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	5,733,505	9,425,875	1,915,685	3,405,252	7,649,190	12,831,127
Liabilities						
Current & Other Liabilities	16,583,285	8,859,719	6,290,281	6,006,154	22,873,566	14,865,873
Long-Term Liabilities						
Net Pension & OPEB Liabilities	27,642,710	60,374,560	6,862,479	15,093,642	34,505,189	75,468,202
Other Amounts	<u>39,681,313</u>	<u>41,796,428</u>	<u>60,491,682</u>	<u>61,078,901</u>	<u>100,172,995</u>	<u>102,875,329</u>
Total Liabilities	83,907,308	111,030,707	73,644,442	82,178,697	157,551,750	193,209,404
Deferred Inflows of Resources						
Pension & Other Postemployment Benefits	21,768,536	11,843,540	5,573,719	3,319,794	27,342,255	15,163,334
Property Taxes & Payment in Lieu of Taxes	<u>14,258,673</u>	<u>10,336,635</u>	-	-	<u>14,258,673</u>	<u>10,336,635</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	36,027,209	22,180,175	5,573,719	3,319,794	41,600,928	25,499,969
Net Position						
Net Investment in Capital Assets	49,483,295	49,602,549	54,489,804	54,976,930	103,973,099	104,579,479
Restricted	44,859,107	37,517,091	-	-	44,859,107	37,517,091
Unrestricted	<u>(35,361,870)</u>	<u>(64,417,862)</u>	<u>12,444,384</u>	<u>4,217,308</u>	<u>(22,917,486)</u>	<u>(60,200,554)</u>
Total Net Position	58,980,532	22,701,778	66,934,188	59,194,238	125,914,720	81,896,016

The County's overall net position increased \$44 million from 2020. There are several non-operating factors that can cause the net position to increase or decrease (capitalization/depreciation of capital assets, issuance/retirement of long-term obligations and changes in the net pension liability). But there were a few key areas that are worth mentioning:

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) approved several changes to the health care plan offered to retirees in an effort to decrease costs and increase the solvency of the health care plan. The changes significantly decreased the total OPEB liability for the County, which resulted in a net OPEB asset.

The County experienced a fourfold increase hotel lodging tax collected and a 36% increase in sales tax revenue received. Relaxed and/or eliminated pandemic restrictions largely contributed to the considerable increases in both categories.

The Mental Health and Recovery Board of Erie and Ottawa Counties (MHRB) disbanded effective October 1, 2021. Erie County created a single board, the Alcohol, Drug Addition and Mental Health Services Board of Erie County (ADAMHS). The substantial increase in deferred inflows of resources is partially attributed to the transfer of operations of the joint-County board to the single board.

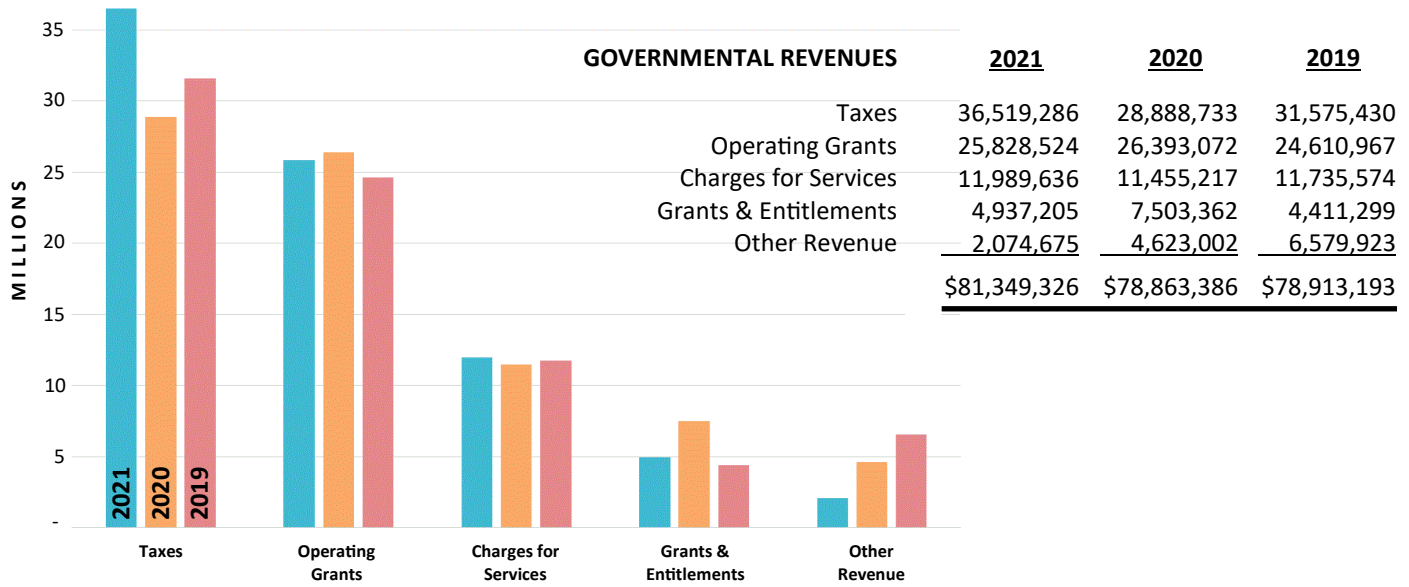
Erie County received half of the allocated American Rescue Plan Act funds in 2021, totaling \$7.2 million. All of those funds remained unspent at year-end, which caused a large increase in current liabilities for unearned income.



DOWNTOWN SANDUSKY

Governmental Revenues

The dollars presented here are reported as governmental activities in the 2021 ACFR'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 and charges for services. Other revenue sources include payments in lieu of taxes and investment earnings.



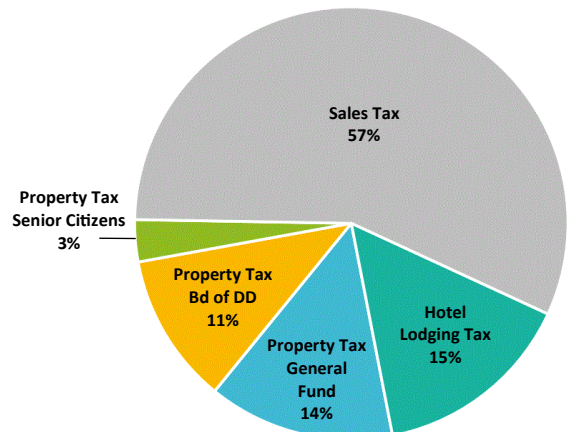
General revenues primarily consist of property and sales tax collections. The County collected nearly \$5.5 million more in sales tax dollars than what was collected in the prior year. As previously discussed, increased business and spending due to the pandemic-related restrictions relaxing. Similar to the sales tax upward trend, the hotel lodging tax collections increased significantly. The County uses 1% of the hotel tax revenue to repay the revenue bonds that were issued to finance the development of the Sports Force Park complex in partnership with Cedar Point.

The Board of Developmental Disabilities saw a decrease in their property taxes collected due to a lower tax rate from the year prior.

Prior year grants for a road project and Phase II of the Cedar Point sports complex accounts for the significant decrease in grants and entitlements.

TAX REVENUE	2021	2020	2019
Property Taxes - General Fund	5,083,649	4,915,449	4,436,519
Property Taxes - Board of DD	4,114,906	6,427,250	6,189,540
Property Taxes - Senior Citizen Levy	1,147,581	1,028,025	925,076
Sales Taxes	20,675,937	15,181,533	16,497,483
Hotel Lodging Taxes	<u>5,497,213</u>	<u>1,336,476</u>	<u>3,526,812</u>
	\$36,519,286	\$28,888,733	\$31,575,430

TAX REVENUE



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 the Facilities, Information Technology, Human Resources and Finance departments.

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, 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.

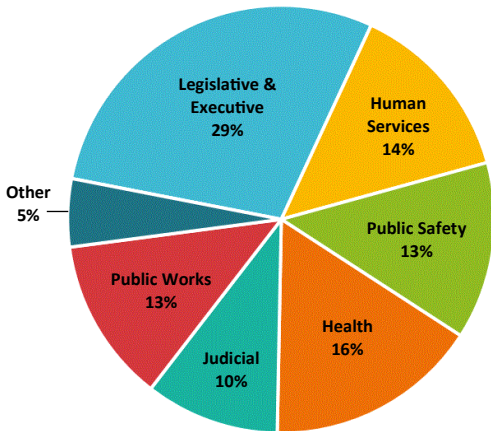
Health expenses are those incurred primarily by the County’s Board of Developmental Disabilities to provide services to developmentally disabled citizens of Erie County.

Judicial expenses are incurred by the County’s Courts: two Common Pleas Courts, 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



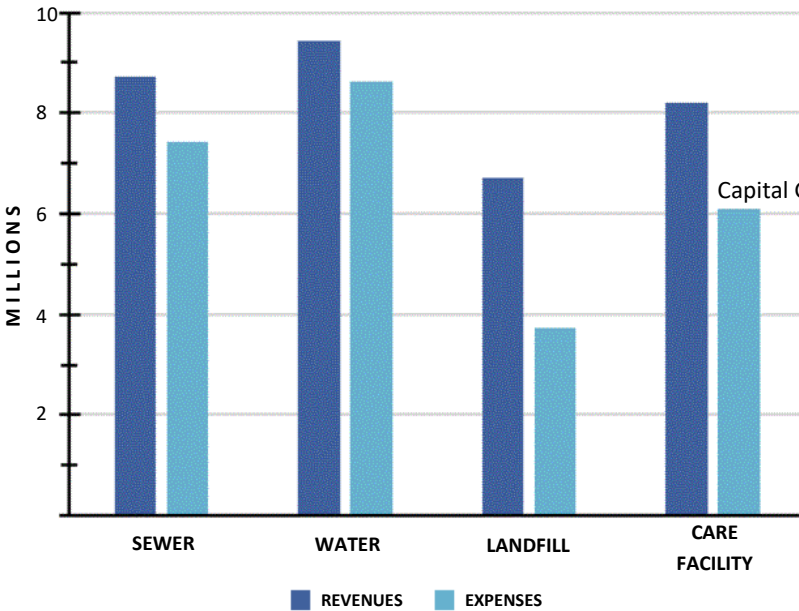
GOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Legislative & Executive	14,085,683	48,218,028	16,578,586
Human Services	6,741,934	10,006,147	11,906,866
Public Safety	6,552,200	12,613,411	16,565,002
Health	7,887,946	9,771,175	9,698,628
Judicial	4,960,037	8,461,419	10,913,259
Public Works	6,077,952	7,258,571	9,390,967
Other	<u>2,507,306</u>	<u>2,651,946</u>	<u>3,973,720</u>
	<u>\$48,813,058</u>	<u>\$98,980,697</u>	<u>\$79,027,028</u>

As previously mentioned, OPERS approved several changes to the health care plan offered to retirees that significantly decreased the total liability the County reports on their financial statements. This was the main reason there was a \$40 million decrease in governmental expenses.

Business-Type Activities

The dollars presented here are reported as business type activities in the 2021 ACFR'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.

2021 REVENUES & EXPENSES



REVENUES	2021	2020	2019
Charges for Services			
Sewer	8,735,064	8,399,565	8,356,216
Water	9,445,054	8,390,521	8,485,753
Landfill	6,727,642	5,874,528	5,837,699
Care Facility	7,997,317	9,511,388	9,520,163
Capital Grants & Contributions	<u>195,853</u>	<u>1,142,728</u>	<u>122,795</u>
	<u>33,100,930</u>	<u>33,318,730</u>	<u>32,322,626</u>
EXPENSES	2021	2020	2019
Sewer	7,424,855	8,365,793	8,996,961
Water	8,615,889	8,885,782	9,798,185
Landfill	3,723,844	4,624,282	4,404,753
Care Facility	<u>6,080,816</u>	<u>8,265,309</u>	<u>11,075,014</u>
	<u>25,845,404</u>	<u>30,141,166</u>	<u>34,274,913</u>

In 2021, business-type revenues totaled just over \$33 million, while expenses totaled \$25.8 million. The business-type activities had an overall increase of \$7.7 million in net position from the prior year.

The water, sewer and landfill funds all experienced healthy increases in revenues, which are primarily generated from charges for services. Ohio Public Employee Retirement System (OPERS) approved several changes to the health care plan offered to retirees in an effort to reduce costs and increase the solvency of the health care plan. These changes significantly decreased the total liability the County reports on the financial statement. Higher revenues combined with the OPERS post-employment health care plan changes contributed to the overall increase in net position.

The revenues and expenses for the County Care Facility both decreased in 2021. Coronavirus-related federal grants and provider relief funding were received in the prior year, which accounts for some of the decrease. The Care Facility still experienced an increase in net position of \$2.38 million in 2021.

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 2021 year end, the liability totals \$11,280,582 based on the use of 92% of the landfill's capacity. Actual costs may differ due to inflation, deflation, changes in technology or changes in regulations.

Long Term Debt

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)*

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
General Obligation Bonds	9,500,000	11,990,000	15,255,000	19,085,000	22,885,305
Special Assessment Bonds	-	-	-	-	19,696
OWDA Loans	42,909,312	42,186,717	44,171,490	46,075,452	47,901,914
Revenue Bonds	39,627,508	40,999,021	42,276,521	43,530,084	22,866,741
Capital Lease Obligation	354,133	435,610	-	5,918	11,195
Landfill Closure & Post Closure Liability	11,280,582	10,807,487	10,327,662	9,830,884	9,187,997
Net Pension Liability & Net OPEB Liability	34,505,189	75,468,202	91,644,367	61,177,610	51,759,931
Claims Payable	2,001,981	1,799,941	1,929,644	1,509,738	1,560,634
Unamortized Bond Premiums*	432,288	546,305	660,321	774,337	888,353
Compensated Absences	<u>3,812,444</u>	<u>3,994,116</u>	<u>3,864,634</u>	<u>3,277,760</u>	<u>3,356,871</u>
	<u>144,423,437</u>	<u>188,227,399</u>	<u>210,129,639</u>	<u>185,266,783</u>	<u>160,438,637</u>

General Obligation Bonds

These bonds are long-term debt instruments which are repaid from the County's general revenue resources.

Special Assessment Bonds

These bonds are issued to pay for improvements benefiting property owners. The owners pay the County over a set period for the debt.

OWDA Loans

These loans provide low-interest funding for infrastructure, primarily water and sewer projects.

Revenue Bonds

The County has pledged 1% of hotel tax revenue to pay off the revenue bonds that financed the of the Cedar Point Sports Park.

Capital Lease Obligation

These obligations are payments to be made to the vendors for leases entered into by the County.

Landfill Closure & Post Closure Liability

This liability shows what amount is needed to perform all closure and post closure care as of 12/31/21.

Net Pension & OPEB Liabilities

Obligations related to employee compensation are paid from the fund benefiting from their service. In 2021, OPERS made several significant changes to the health care plan that resulted in a significant decrease in expenses that the County reports.

Claims Payable

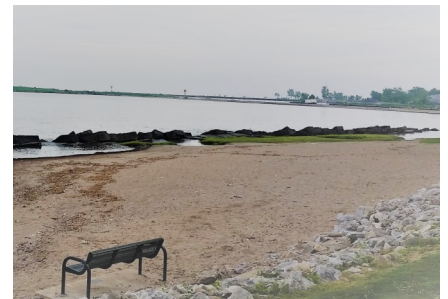
Insurance premiums are charged to the fund from which the employee is paid and claims are paid from the applicable internal service fund.

Unamortized Bond Premiums

These premiums are deferred and amortized over the term of the bond.

Compensated Absences

This liability is due to employees for services provided to the County, where leave was earned but not taken as of 12/31/21.



HURON

Property Taxes

TAX RATES FOR ERIE COUNTY—TAX YEAR 2020, PAYABLE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2021

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	Commercial Industrial Effective Tax Rate
BERLIN TOWNSHIP											
Edison Schools	01-04	22-0010	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	5.30	n/a	84.23	47.2516	54.7829
Berlin Heights Village	06	22-0020	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	3.50	15.50	97.93	60.7383	66.7707
Huron Schools	05	22-0030	7.60	73.13	1.50	4.45	5.30	n/a	91.98	47.0183	59.7297
FLORENCE TOWNSHIP											
Firelands Schools	07-08	22-0040	7.60	54.01	0.00	2.45	7.10	n/a	71.16	47.1886	47.5939
Edison Schools	09	22-0050	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	7.10	n/a	86.03	49.0014	57.5226
Vermilion Schools	10	22-0060	7.60	67.88	1.625	4.45	7.10	n/a	88.655	48.6952	70.7258
Western Reserve Schools	11	22-0070	7.60	33.10	0.00	4.45	7.10	n/a	52.25	38.9547	42.0616
GROTON TOWNSHIP											
Bellevue Schools	26	22-0080	7.60	42.50	1.00	4.45	5.75	n/a	61.30	51.3262	55.1563
Bellevue City	61	22-0085	7.60	42.50	1.00	4.45	5.75	6.60	67.90	56.7568	61.5295
Margaretta Schools	27	22-0090	7.60	60.21	0.00	4.45	5.75	n/a	78.01	43.6934	61.9353
Monroeville Schools	28	22-0100	7.60	38.20	0.00	4.45	5.75	n/a	56.00	45.9885	48.2744
Perkins Schools	29	22-0110	7.60	67.80	1.50	4.45	5.75	n/a	87.10	51.1996	59.7055
HURON TOWNSHIP											
Huron Schools	39	22-0120	7.60	73.13	1.50	4.45	5.30	n/a	91.98	46.9569	60.4956
Huron City	42-49	22-0130	7.60	73.13	1.50	4.45	0.40	4.90	91.98	46.9871	60.7591
Edison Schools	40	22-0140	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	5.30	n/a	84.23	47.1902	55.5488
Perkins Schools	41	22-0150	7.60	67.80	1.50	4.45	5.30	n/a	86.65	50.8346	59.0086
MARGARETTA TOWNSHIP											
Margaretta Schools	33-37	22-0160	7.60	60.21	0.00	4.45	12.20	n/a	84.46	50.0604	67.5118
Bay View Village	30	22-0170	7.60	60.21	0.00	4.45	0.00	20.00	92.26	54.4543	73.3270
Castalia Village	31	22-0180	7.60	60.21	0.00	4.45	9.70	8.66	90.62	56.2114	73.5548
Perkins Schools	38	22-0190	7.60	67.80	1.50	4.45	12.20	n/a	93.55	57.5665	65.2820
MILAN TOWNSHIP											
Edison Schools	50	22-0200	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	6.55	n/a	85.48	48.0417	56.4927
Milan Village	53	22-0210	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	5.55	8.80	93.28	54.2014	62.0664
Huron Schools	51	22-0220	7.60	73.13	1.50	4.45	6.55	n/a	93.23	47.8084	61.4395
Perkins Schools	52	22-0230	7.60	67.80	1.50	4.45	6.55	n/a	87.90	51.6861	59.9525
OXFORD TOWNSHIP											
Edison Schools	23	22-0240	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	6.50	n/a	85.43	48.2058	56.9355
Monroeville Schools	24	22-0250	7.60	38.20	0.00	4.45	6.50	n/a	56.75	46.6391	48.9642
Perkins Schools	25	22-0260	7.60	67.80	1.50	4.45	6.50	n/a	87.85	51.8502	60.3953
PERKINS TOWNSHIP											
Perkins Schools	32	22-0270	7.60	67.80	1.50	4.45	16.25	n/a	97.60	61.6178	70.3210
VERMILION TOWNSHIP											
Vermilion Schools	12-16	22-0280	7.60	67.88	1.625	4.45	4.75	n/a	86.31	46.6226	68.5457
Vermilion City	18-22	22-0290	7.60	67.88	1.625	4.45	0.00	11.75	93.305	53.6903	75.4900
Edison Schools	17	22-0300	7.60	65.08	1.80	4.45	4.75	n/a	83.68	46.9288	55.3424
KELLEYS ISLAND VILLAGE											
Kelleys Island Schools	54	22-0310	7.60	9.85	0.80	4.45	n/a	9.97	32.67	27.7403	28.5155
SANDUSKY CITY											
Sandusky Schools	55-60	22-0320	7.60	85.000	1.50	0.00	n/a	5.18	99.280	61.1032	71.3661
BELLEVUE CITY											
Bellevue Schools	62	22-0330	7.60	42.50	1.00	4.45	n/a	6.60	62.15	51.5160	55.8950

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

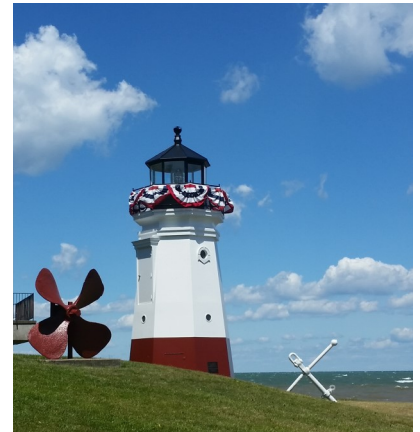
Market Value x 35%	=	Assessed Value
Assessed Value x Full Total Tax Rate / 1,000	=	Gross Tax Per Year
Assessed Value x Effective Tax Rate / 1,000	=	Adjusted Tax
Gross Tax—Adjusted Tax	=	H.B. 920 Credit
Gross Tax—H.B. 920 Credit	=	Net Taxes
Net Taxes x Non-Business Credit Percent	=	Non-Business Credit
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 Vermilion City, in Vermilion Local School District, Real Estate Taxes on a \$100,000 owner-occupied home with no special assessments would be:

\$100,000 x 35%	=	\$35,000.00	Assessed Value
\$35,000 x 93.31 / 1,000	=	\$3,265.85	Gross Tax Per Year
\$35,000 x 53.6903 / 1,000	=	\$1,879.16	Adjusted Tax
\$3,265.85 - \$1,879.16	=	\$1,386.69	H.B. 920 Credit
\$3,265.85 - \$1,386.69	=	\$1,879.16	Net Taxes
\$1,879.16 x 10%	=	\$187.92	Non-Business Credit
\$1,879.16 x 2.5%	=	\$46.98	Owner Occupancy Credit
\$1,879.16 - \$187.92 - \$46.98	=	\$1,644.25	Taxes Charged
\$1,644.25 / 2	=	\$822.13	Half Year Tax

The \$1,644.25 in Annual Taxes is distributed as follows:

Tax Recipient	Tax Rate	Taxes Paid
Vermilion Schools	39.0600	1,196.21
EHOVE Career Center	2.5607	78.42
Vermilion City	6.7613	207.06
Ritter Public Library	0.9351	28.64
County General Fund	1.3235	40.53
Board of Developmental Disabilities	0.8631	26.43
General Health District	0.5754	17.62
Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board	0.6905	21.15
Serving Our Seniors	0.2877	8.81
Erie Metroparks	<u>0.6330</u>	<u>19.38</u>
	53.6903	\$ 1,644.25



VERMILION

2021 Erie County Projects

SAWMILL CREEK RESORT RENOVATION



In 2019, Cedar Point purchased the Sawmill Creek Resort and closed it for renovation. The fully renovated, nature-themed property boasts 239 rooms, three restaurants, bar, market, indoor and outdoor pools, private beach, 18-hole golf course, marina and 35,000 square feet of conference space. The property is located in Huron, adjacent to Sheldon's Marsh, a state nature preserve. This is Cedar Fair's fifth hotel and reopened in June 2022.

Castaway Bay, Cedar Fair's own indoor waterpark and hotel, was closed in the beginning of 2020, due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The closure allowed the company to fully renovate its 237 rooms, along with several restaurants, indoor arcade space, escape room and outdoor building façade, all with a tropical theme. Castaway Bay reopened in May 2022.

Cedar Fair spent a combined total of \$40 million for renovations on the Sawmill Creek property and Castaway Bay. Both properties reopened in May of 2022.

CASTAWAY BAY RENOVATION



ARDAGH METAL - BEVERAGE USA



Ardagh Group, a global supplier of recyclable metal and glass, purchased the former site of International Automotive Components in Huron for \$13.5 million. The 340,000 square foot facility will house three beverage can production lines, manufacturing multiple sized cans for a variety of categories, including soft drinks, teas, sparkling water and alcoholic beverages. Production began in late-2021 and will create more than 200 local jobs.

Ardagh operates 56 production facilities in 12 countries and employs more than 16,000 people worldwide with payroll totaling \$7 billion.

CARES Act & the American Rescue Plan Act

On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was enacted by Congress, in response to the widespread economic impact of COVID-19. The CARES Act included a variety of relief provisions for individuals, businesses and local governments. Erie County received \$4,685,000 from the CARES Act. The large majority was used for Sheriff deputy salaries and salaries for those working at The Meadows long-term care facility. Funding was also used for new and improved technologies to support the increased need to go virtual, cleaning and sanitizing supplies and equipment to minimize the spread of the coronavirus.

Congress passed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act in the beginning of 2021 that provided Counties across the nation with over \$65 billion in direct aid, with funding allocated based on population. The monies may be used for: responding to the public health emergency or negative economic impact, provide premium pay to essential employees, provide government services affected by revenue reduction and/or upgrading necessary investments in water, sewer and broadband Infrastructure. Erie County was awarded a total of \$14,425,300, half of which was received in 2021, with the other half received in spring 2022. These dollars must be spent by December 31, 2024. As of 12/31/2021, no money has been expended and the Commissioners are currently determining the best use of these funds.



JAMES MCBRIDE ARBORETUM - HURON



CASTALIA QUARRY



SANDUSKY BAY

2021

ERIE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

AUDITOR	RICHARD H. JEFFREY	419-627-7746
CLERK OF COURTS	LUVADA WILSON	419-627-7705
COMMISSIONER	MATHEW R. OLD	419-627-7672
COMMISSIONER	PATRICK J. SHENIGO	419-627-7672
COMMISSIONER	STEPHEN L. SHOFFNER	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	CALEB A. STIDHAM	419-627-7701
COMMON PLEAS JUDGE	ROGER E. BINETTE	419-627-7732
COMMON PLEAS JUDGE	TYGH M. TONE	419-627-7731
COUNTY COURT JUDGE	CARL J. KAMM	419-499-4689
JUVENILE COURT JUDGE	ROBERT C. DELAMATRE	419-627-7782
PROBATE COURT JUDGE	BEVERLY K. MCGOOKEY	419-627-7750