



OHIO COUNCIL OF PORT AUTHORITIES Economic Impact Fact Sheet

The Ohio Council of Port Authorities surveyed Ohio's port authorities for 2007 with 26 port authorities responding. The findings:

- Port authorities combined to report a **\$6.5 billion annual economic impact** on Ohio's economy. This impact represents a significant part of Ohio's \$461 billion GDP for 2006.
- Ohio's port authority deals and projects directly support **over 20,000 jobs**, with a \$571 million annual payroll. Those projects brought **\$213 million in new capital investment** for 2007.
- Port authorities spark capital investment. Ohio port authorities financed **\$2.4 billion in projects** in Ohio within the last ten years, with 58% of port authorities involved in deal financing.
- Port authorities in Ohio invested **\$305 million in capital improvements** in the last three years – and expect to combine to make capital investments of \$117 million for 2007.
- Port authorities are self-sufficient revenue producers. Port authorities reported \$150 million in revenue for 2007, with **a better than 13:1 ratio for non-tax vs. tax revenue sources**.
- Port authorities move goods and people. Combined, all port authorities reported a role in handling **over 260 million tons of cargo** – and **over eight million air passengers**.
- Port authorities, not surprisingly, own airports, lake ports, river ports and intermodal terminals. Port authorities also manage foreign trade zones, rail lines, industrial parks, industrial buildings, official buildings and recreational facilities.
- Combined, port authorities own and manage more than 91,000 linear feet of airport runways, 174 miles of rail lines, and nine miles of water port frontage.



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- Combined, port authorities own 8 million square feet of building space – and **5,945 acres of land for development**.
- Port authorities are active players in Ohio's sites and building market, owning over \$103 million in leased property – and buying/selling over \$20 million in land for 2007.
- Port authorities own some unusual economic generators. One owns a 260-mile fiber-optic network; another owns a former Air Force Base (including underground labs); another operates a public warehouse. There are parking garages, a theater, a waterfront property, and brownfield re-development sites among port authority-held assets in Ohio.
- **No two port authorities are alike.** Consider this: The averages show that a typical board of directors is seven members – with no elected officials serving, and all volunteers unpaid. However, only four port authorities (one in ten) actually fit this profile.
- **Port authorities often cross jurisdictions.** Around two in five port authorities were created by more than one jurisdiction. Many report activities that cross jurisdictions or pull multiple jurisdictions together. One port authority owns a rail line in three counties and two states; another operates a multi-county building authority.