

Extension Area 13: Economic Overview

Delaware, Morrow, and Knox Counties

Report prepared September 2022 by Eric Romich, Associate Professor, OSU Extension Community Development

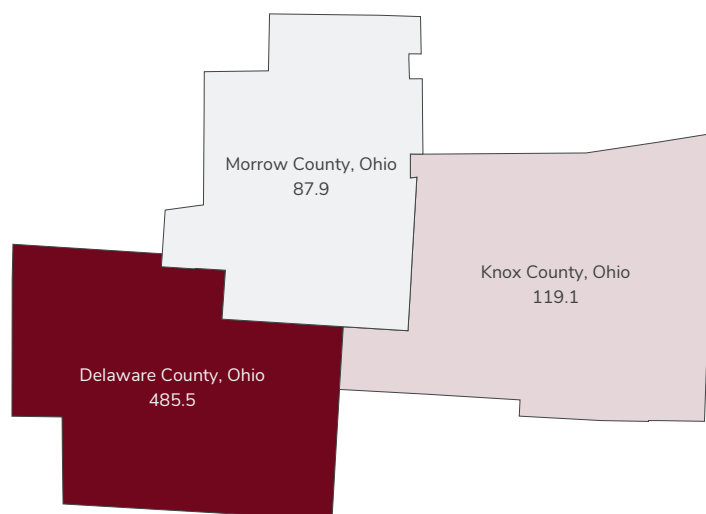
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Regional Overview

OSU Extension Area 13 is a three-county area in central Ohio, including Delaware, Morrow, and Knox counties. In 2020, the combined Area 13 footprint was 1,375 square miles (mi²) supporting a population of 313,245 residents and an overall population density of 228 residents per square mile. Population density is a ratio of total population to total land area, simply described as a count of residents per square mile. As illustrated in Image 1, Delaware County had the highest population density of 485, while Knox County was the second highest at 119, followed by Morrow County with 88 residents per square mile.

Overall, the combined population in Area 13 increased dramatically, growing by 51% from 207,947 in 2001 to a total population of 313,245 in 2020. While all three counties increased in population, Delaware County experienced the greatest amount population growth increasing by 79% from 119,752 in 2001 to 214,828 in 2020. During this period, Knox County also increased in population by 13% to a total of 62,795 in 2020, while Morrow County had a population growth of 9% to a total of 35,622 in 2020.

Image 1: OSU Extension Area 13
Population Density



Key Stats

Population 313,245

Total of 323 Industries

Total Employment of 169,156

Gross Domestic Product \$15.43B

Data retrieved from IMPLAN
(2020 data)

Regional Industry Sector Overview

IMPLAN defines the total annual production value of each Industry or Commodity as Output. Total output represents the total production value of an industry including intermediate inputs, employee compensation, proprietor income, taxes on production and imports, and other property income.

Table 1 below ranks the top 10 industries in Area 13 by total output in 2020. Management of companies and enterprises was the highest ranked industry with a total output of \$2.62 billion, supporting 10,787 jobs, and an average employee compensation of \$146,963. However, when comparing 2019

to 2020, the data shows the management of companies and enterprises industry experienced a 5% decrease in total output and a reduction in total employment of 526 jobs.

Owner-occupied dwellings had the second greatest total output at \$1.6 billion. The owner-occupied dwellings sector represents the wealth generated from home ownership. Owning and maintaining a home is also a major area of spending and the owner-occupied dwellings sector captures that economic effect. However, there is no employment or labor income generated in the owner-occupied dwellings sector, as the

employment positions such as property managers and real estate agents is captured in the other real estate sector.

The industry with the third highest total output in Area 13 was other real estate with a total output of \$1.261 billion, supporting 7,539 jobs, and an average employee compensation of \$65,823 per year. Of the top 10 industries by total output, the industry with the highest average employee compensation was Other financial investment activities with 3,335 employees earning an average annual income of \$184,654 per year.

Table 1: Area 13 Top 10 Industries by Total Output

Industry Description	Output	Total Employment	Average Employee Compensation
Management of companies and enterprises	\$2,621,453,413	10,787	\$146,963
Owner-occupied dwellings	\$1,600,364,420	N/A	N/A
Other real estate	\$1,261,683,884	7,539	\$65,823
Monetary authorities and depository credit intermediation	\$1,067,582,037	1,672	\$101,409
Insurance agencies, brokerages, and related activities	\$763,799,869	2,829	\$89,527
Other financial investment activities	\$717,983,183	3,335	\$184,654
Employment and payroll of local govt, education	\$600,012,931	6,501	\$80,389
Air and gas compressor manufacturing	\$593,602,572	1,075	\$120,500
Limited-service restaurants	\$525,488,845	6,117	\$23,354
Insurance carriers, except direct life	\$479,538,989	953	\$111,697

Area 13 Annual Employment Trends

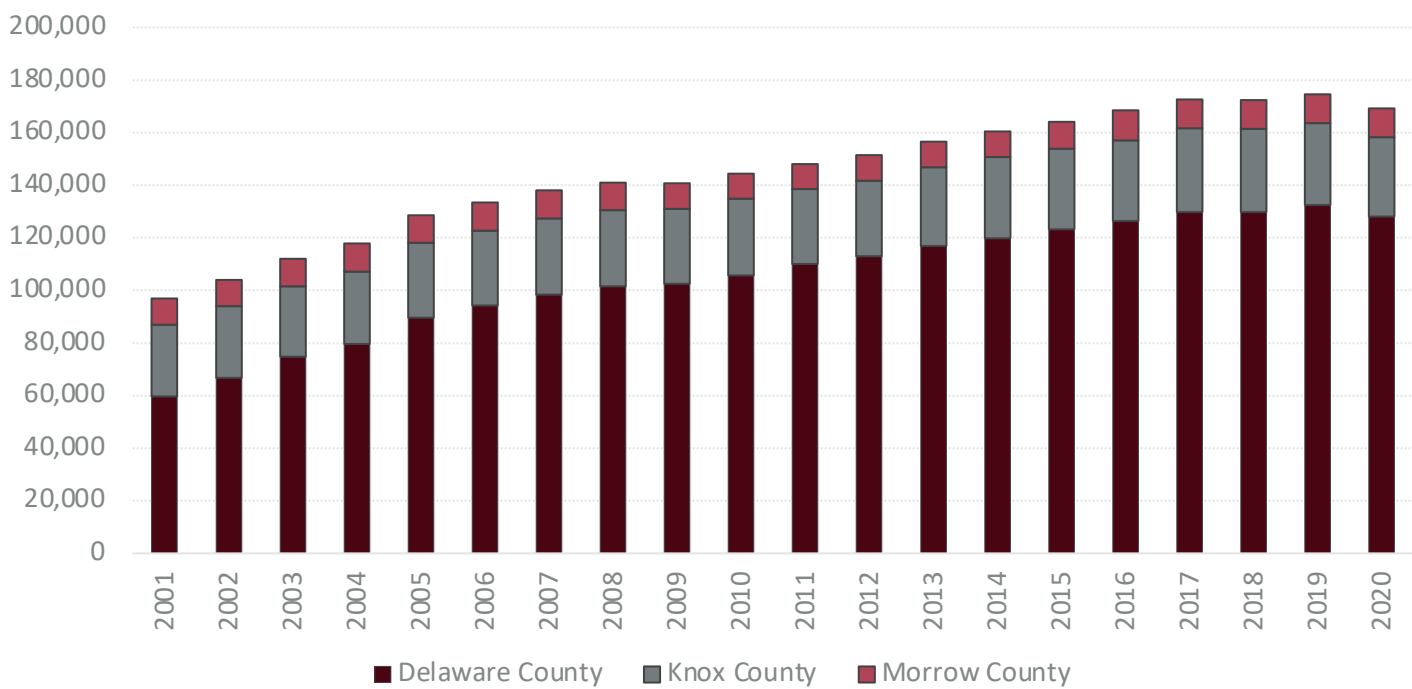
The Total Employment figure reported by IMPLAN represents a full and part-time annual average including the self-employed, all federal, state, and local government employment and military employment (including overseas military).

Chart 1 provides a visual reference of the Area 13 annual employment trends between 2001 and 2020. As shown in the chart, Area 13 experienced significant growth as total employment has increased 74% from 97,039 in 2001 to 169,156 in 2020. When considering the long-term

employment trends by county, Delaware County saw the greatest growth as total employment more than doubled between 2001 and 2020. More specifically, Delaware County experienced a 115% increase in jobs from 59,710 in 2001 to 128,088 in 2020. While not as dramatic, Knox County total employment also increased, growing by 11%, from 27,194 jobs in 2001 to 30,087 in 2020, while during the same period (2001–2020) Morrow County experienced an 8% increase to 10,982 jobs in 2020.

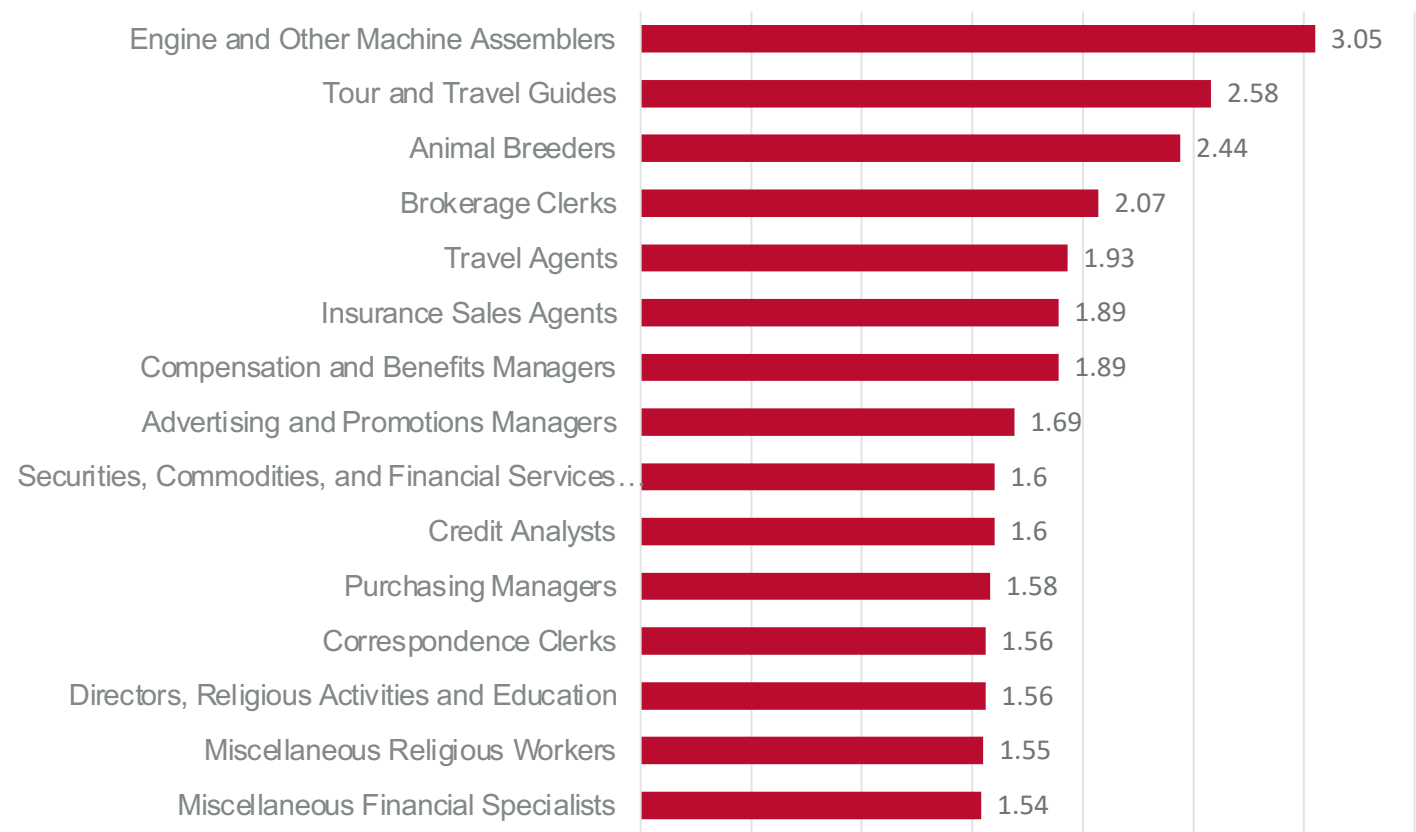
“Between 2001 and 2020, Area 13 total employment increased by 74% adding 74,117 jobs.”

Chart 1: Area 13 Annual Employment



Top 15 Occupations by Location Quotient

Chart 2: Occupation Location Quotient



A location quotient (LQ) is a metric that compares the relative concentration of a local regions workers in a specific industry sector to the concentration of workers nationally in the same sector. An LQ equal to 1 signifies that the local share is equal to the national share, while an LQ greater than 1 means the local share is greater than the national share and is typically an exporter or perhaps has a specialization in that sector. Where there is an occupational concentration, there also tends to be higher core competencies relative to other areas, creating a competitive advantage. In addition, training and education opportunities associated with the occupation are often readily available to meet hiring demands.

Illustrated above, Chart 2 lists the top 15 occupations with the highest LQ in Area 13 demonstrating a significant concentration of workers relative to the nation. In 2020, the top occupation by LQ in Area 13 was engine and other machine assemblers, with an LQ of 3.05. This suggests the region has more than three times the number of engine and other machine assembler workers compared to the national average. The second highest occupation by LQ in Area 13 was tour and travel guides at 2.58, followed by animal breeders with an LQ of 2.44, and brokerage clerks at 2.07.

Image 2: Average Employee Compensation by County 2020 Data and Dollar Year

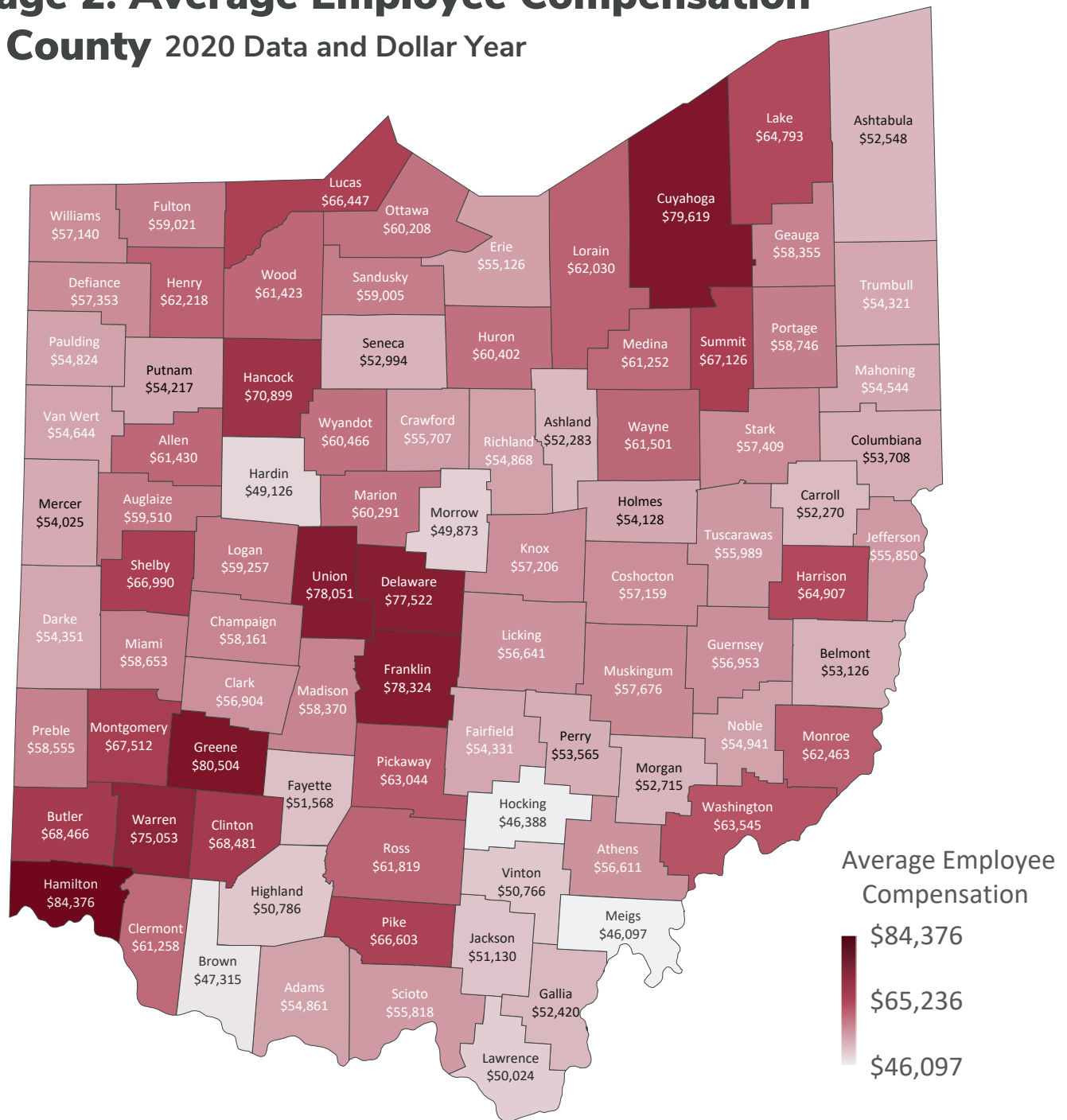


Image 2 illustrates the average employee compensation by county for 2020. Employee Compensation is the total payroll cost of an employee including wages and salaries, all benefits, and payroll taxes. The average employee compensation is calculated as Employee Compensation divided by wage and salary Employment.

Of the counties in Area 13, Delaware County had the highest average employee compensation of \$77,522, ranking 6th highest in Ohio. The next highest average employee compensation in Area 13 was Knox County at \$57,206, followed by Morrow County at \$49,873.



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