

# ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO: OPEN FOR BUSINESS

THE PERFECT LOCATION FOR YOUR GROWING COMPANY

## *Community Showcase*

***Availability of Sites:*** The east side of Ashland is developing quickly, and there are prime sites available on the US 250 corridor. Businesses in this area see tremendous success from those travelling on I-71. On average, 40,000 vehicles travel down I-71 past Ashland everyday.

***Ease of Access:*** The city of Ashland is located on I-71, which spans from north to south and connects the state's three largest cities, two of which are only an hour away. Commercial travel is convenient and easy; Ohio has the 10th largest highway network in the nation.

***Local Incentives:*** The Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) tax incentive program provides immediate bottom-line savings for residential and retail construction or renovation. The program provides up to 50% abatement of real property taxes for 10 years for commercial investments.

***Top of the Line Education:*** The area boasts over-performing school districts, with a brand new middle school, elementary school, and auditorium in the Ashland City School system. Ashland is also home to Ashland University, a Christian-based university with a [strong dedication to community](#).

### *Award Winning:*

- Ashland County, Ohio has been named as a **Top Micropolitan in North America**—#6 in 2014 and #22 in 2015.
- The United Way of Ashland County won United Way of the Year in 2015 and has exceeded its campaign goal 9 years in a row.
- The Ashland Area Safety Council was awarded Top Safety Council of the Year in 2015.
- [Ashland University](http://www.ashland.edu/administration/ratings-and-awards) ([www.ashland.edu/administration/ratings-and-awards](http://www.ashland.edu/administration/ratings-and-awards))
- [Samaritan Medical Center/University Hospitals](http://www.samaritanhospital.org/about-us/samaritan-awards) ([www.samaritanhospital.org/about-us/samaritan-awards](http://www.samaritanhospital.org/about-us/samaritan-awards))

***Community Revitalization:*** With plans in action like the Ashland Downtown Comprehensive Plan and the renovation of the Ashland Schines Theater, the heart of Ashland is seeing revitalization like it hasn't seen in years.

See what Ashland County has to offer:

[Business and Industry](#) • [Quality of Life](#) • [Signature Events](#)

(YouTube: [Ashland Economic Development](#))



**Ashland Area  
Economic Development**  
419-289-3200 • [www.ashlanded.com](http://www.ashlanded.com)

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## *Demographics*

|  | Ashland County | City of Ashland |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Total Population   | 53,202         | 20,421          |
| Land Area  | 427 sq. mi.    | 11 sq. mi.      |
| Persons 19 and under   | 26%            | 26%             |
| Persons 20-64  | 57%            | 57%             |
| Persons 65 and older   | 17%            | 17%             |
| Median Household Income  | \$47,034       | \$39,215        |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units                       | \$119,900      | \$97,500        |
| % of Population with High School Degree or Higher                  | 87%            | 87%             |
| Total # of Companies   | 4,140          | 1,559           |
| Labor Force  | 23,272         | 8,741           |
| Unemployment Rate  | 6.5%           | 6.9%            |
| Statistics from 2014 American Community Survey by US Census Bureau |                |                 |



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## Largest Employers in Ashland County

| Company                               | # of Employees (FT & PT) | Products or Services                 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ashland University                    | 875                      | private university                   |
| University Hospitals                  | 667                      | medical                              |
| WIL Research Laboratories             | 547                      | biomedical research                  |
| Mansfield Plumbing                    | 508                      | bathroom fixture manufacturing       |
| Ashland City Schools                  | 380                      | public schooling                     |
| Pentair Pump Group                    | 371                      | pump manufacturing                   |
| Ashland County                        | 350                      | county government                    |
| Wal-Mart                              | 340                      | big box retailer                     |
| Brethren Care Village                 | 295                      | assisted living                      |
| City of Ashland                       | 249                      | city government                      |
| Step 2 Corporation                    | 248                      | lawn, garden, and household supplies |
| Snyder's-Lance                        | 200                      | cookies                              |
| Hedstrom Plastics/Ball Bounce & Sport | 200                      | toys                                 |
| American Augers                       | 195                      | boring equipment                     |
| BookMasters                           | 191                      | book manufacturer                    |
| Kingston                              | 170                      | assisted living                      |
| Loudonville-Perrysville Schools       | 165                      | public schooling                     |
| LiquiBox                              | 147                      | containers for liquids               |



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## *Retail Establishments along 250 E Corridor*

| Retail & Service           | Restaurants             | Accomodations        |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Aaron's                    | Brian Buffet            | Hampton Inn & Suites |
| Aldi                       | Denny's                 | Holiday Inn Express  |
| AT&T                       | Dunkin Donuts           | Quality Inn & Suites |
| Bell Stores                | McDonalds               | Rodeway Inn          |
| Buehler's                  | Perkins                 | Super 8 Motel        |
| Cheap Tobacco              | Pizza Hut Express       |                      |
| Dollar Tree                | Popeye's Chicken        |                      |
| Fin Feather Fur Outfitters | Scenic River Coffee Co. |                      |
| GameStop                   | Starbucks               |                      |
| GNC                        | Subway                  |                      |
| Goasis                     | Taco Bell               |                      |
| Grandpa's Cheesebarn       | The Mill Restaurant     |                      |
| Home Depot                 | Wendy's                 |                      |
| Marathon                   |                         |                      |
| Nail Pro                   |                         |                      |
| Puckerfish Vape            |                         |                      |
| Rent-A-Center              |                         |                      |
| Sally Beauty Supply        |                         |                      |
| Showplace                  |                         |                      |
| Snap Fitness               |                         |                      |
| The Shoe Dept.             |                         |                      |
| Verizon                    |                         |                      |
| Wal-Mart                   |                         |                      |



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## *Local & State Incentives*

**Community Reinvestment Area tax abatement (CRA):** This program provides immediate bottom-line savings for residential and retail construction or renovation. Residential applicants can receive a 75% abatement of real property taxes for a maximum of 10 years and a commercial applicants can receive a 50% abatement for 10 years.

**State of Ohio's Job Creation Tax Credit Program (JCTC):** The Job Creation Tax Credit is a refundable tax credit to companies creating at least 10 new jobs (within three years) with a minimum annual payroll of \$660,000 that pay at least 150 percent of the federal minimum wage. For example, Snyder's Lance, a local manufacturer, was awarded this incentive and has saved more than \$360,000 over a six year term (based on a forecast of 150 new employees).

**Ohio Enterprise Bond Fund (OEBF):** The Ohio Enterprise Bond Fund provides revenue bond financing through an S&P rated fund, whereby proceeds from the sale of bonds are loaned to companies for fixed-rate, long-term capital asset financing. Loan terms range between 7-10 years for equipment and 15-20 years for real estate.

**Ohio 166 Direct Loan Program:** These are low-interest loans for job creation or retention projects. Loans are for fixed-asset purchases or construction of real estate and machinery and equipment. Program can finance up to 30% of these fixed-asset costs. Minimum loan amount is \$350,000 and maximum is \$1,000,000. (Loans under \$350,000 are available through regional partner agencies).

**Ohio Workforce Training Grant:** The Ohio Workforce Training Grant supports companies that are making investments in facilities, equipment, and training that result in the retention and creation of jobs for Ohioans. The program provides reimbursable financial support to employers for training, a portion of instructor salaries, materials, travel, and special needs.

**Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program:** This program provides a 25% tax credit for the rehabilitation expenses to owners and lessees of historically significant buildings. A building is eligible if: 1) it is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places; 2) contributes to a National Register Historic District, National Park Service Certified Historic District, or Certified Local Government historic district; or 3) is listed as a local landmark by a Certified Local Government.



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