MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

COMMUNITY PROFILE
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INTRODUCTION

Montgomery County is located in the heart of the Midwest and is served by three interstate highways. It has access to many of the country’s manufacturing clusters. With a tradition of innovation and a business-friendly environment, the county offers great opportunities for the development of advanced manufacturing, information technology, and aerospace research.

In addition to its advantages in industrial development, Montgomery County is also a great place to live and raise children, served by high quality schools and health care institutions. It is also a regional center of performing arts and home to the world’s largest military aviation museum.

At a glance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Southwest Ohio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>464 sq. miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>535,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County seat</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major cities</td>
<td>Dayton, Kettering, Beavercreek, Huber Heights, Moraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major assets</td>
<td>Strong health care and education systems, manufacturing core already present in area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Montgomery County has a population of 535,153, according to the 2010 census, which is a decrease of 4.3% from 2000. It has been losing population since the 1980s, while the state's population has increased slightly during the same period. The city of Dayton is the main contributor to most of the population loss, making it among the United States cities with the highest rate of population decline. The loss of industry employment, especially due to the relocation and closure of Mead Paper and General Motors local operations, had a big impact on the population change. However, the region has seen a recent boom because of growth in several industries, such as education and healthcare, manufacturing, and computer service-related industries.

Montgomery County has a slightly older population than the averages of Ohio and the United States, with a median age of 39.2 compared to the national average of 37.2. Consistent with the historical trend and the age structure, the population growth in Ohio is projected to be slower than the national level in the next decade.
The proportion of population aged 25 years or older with at least a high school degree is 87.4% for Montgomery County. More than 58% of population aged 25 years or older has acquired some college or an associate’s degree, which is higher than the state and national level. The population structure indicates a solid labor force composition for manufacturing industries.

The median household income for Montgomery County was $41,584 in 2011, which is respectively 15.9% and 19.6% lower than the state and the national level. The housing cost is also significantly lower than the average of other areas, which provides higher housing affordability despite the relatively low income level. In the long-term projection, the increase in wages and land value in the State of Ohio will also be slower than the national level.
The labor market in Montgomery County closely followed the state and national trends throughout the past, though in 2001 the unemployment rate gradually began to rise and surpass that of both Ohio and the US.

The greatest difference in unemployment, and its highest peak, was seen between 2008 and 2009, with the rate in Montgomery County topping 11%. The local economy has begun to rebound since 2010, and currently the region offers more than 200,000 jobs with an unemployment rate of approximately 8%.
Montgomery County has a long history of manufacturing production. The top manufacturing sectors in terms of location quotients (compared to the national average) are apparel manufacturing, machinery manufacturing, computer and electronic product manufacturing, and plastics and rubber manufacturing. Another local pillar of employment is health care services. Education and health care systems are the top employers throughout the county and have been expanding both their physical facilities and services. In addition, Montgomery County is also a regional center of the communication industry, although the number of jobs is not as large as manufacturing and health care services.

In 2011, major occupations containing the most jobs were office and administrative, sales, and food preparation occupations. The Dayton MSA also has a higher percentage of architectural and engineering occupations than the state and national level, as well as health care practitioners and technical occupations.
Incentives

Incentives

ECONOMY: location quotient

Employment in the information sector for Montgomery County is significantly higher than both state and national comparisons, while natural resources and mining is greatly lower. Education and health services is also another strong sector for the county.

Enterprise Zone Program

Real property tax incentives for businesses that expand or locate in Ohio. Municipalities or counties must apply to the Director of Development Services Agency to have a zone certified in their jurisdiction. To secure tax incentives for qualified new real and/or personal property investment, non-retail business must apply to the local community prior to making the investment.

There are currently 18 designated enterprise zones in Montgomery County, which can be zoned as distressed or non-distressed and either be designated by the county or an MSA principal city/urban cluster city. Three of the enterprise zones are considered distressed. [www.mcohio.org/services/ed/enterprise_zones.html](http://www.mcohio.org/services/ed/enterprise_zones.html)

Community Reinvestment Area

Areas of land in which property owners can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements. The Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program is a direct incentive tax exemption program benefiting property owners who renovate existing or construct new buildings.

There are currently 40 community reinvestment areas in Montgomery County, many of which are located in the City of Dayton. [www.mcohio.org/services/ed/cra.html](http://www.mcohio.org/services/ed/cra.html)
**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program**
Funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development with the goal of promoting community growth, including economic development. CDBG funds may be used for acquisition of land and buildings as well as for design, engineering, permits, construction, and other related project costs.
www.portal.hud.gov

**Economic Development/Government Equity (ED/GE Program)**
Montgomery County’s ED/GE program targets companies that are going to create/retain jobs in Montgomery County.
www.mcohio.org/services/ed/edge.html

**Montgomery County Economic Development Department**
An organization that aims to connect businesses in Montgomery County with valuable resources to encourage growth and expansion, as well as location to the area.
www.mcohio.org/services/ed/index.html

**Montgomery County Job Center**
An employment and training center that provides services to both employers and job-seekers. In the job center, employers can access skilled labor pools and general labor market information while job seekers can open job listings and attend training programs. Opened in 1997, the Montgomery County Job Center received multiple awards and national recognition for its innovative model.
www.thejobcenter.org

**CountyCorp**
A private non-profit development corporation in Montgomery County that seeks to improve the quality of life for residents by improving housing and economic development opportunities.
www.countycorp.com
Local Assets: Transportation

Freeways
Interstate 75 runs north–south through the City of Dayton and many of Dayton’s northern and southern suburbs, including the City of Moraine. Interstate 70 runs east–west through Dayton’s suburbs and intersects with I-75 in Vandalia. It also connects to the Dayton International Airport.

Interstate 675 runs north–south and connects to I-70 in the north and I-75 in the south. It is a partial interstate ring along the eastern suburbs of Dayton.

Other highways
Ohio State Routes 4, 35, 49, 63, and 129 serve the Montgomery County and Miami Valley area, providing connection to surrounding Ohio cities as supplements to the interstate network.

Airports
James M. Cox Dayton International Airport is a public airport located 9 miles (14 km) north of the central business district of Dayton. It is also known as the Dayton International Airport, and is the third largest airport in Ohio, handling more than one million passengers per year. The airport offers direct flights to 16 major hubs, including Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Denver, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C.

www.flydayton.com

Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport is owned by the City of Dayton, located in Miami Township 10 miles (16 km) south of the central business district. The airport has T-hangars, tie-down space, and land available for personal or corporate use.


Dahio Trotwood Airport (also referred to as Dayton-New Lebanon Airport) is privately owned, but available for public use and is located 7 miles (11 km) west of Dayton’s central business district.

Moraine Airpark is a privately owned but public use airport located 4 miles (6.4 km) southwest of the City of Dayton.

Railways
CSX is a national rail line that maintains and operates more than 4,000 miles of track in the State of Ohio. It connects the Dayton metropolitan area to its regional center in Cincinnati (Queensgate), which is responsible for the transportation and distribution of products such as automobiles, liquefied petroleum gas, plastics, fertilizers, coal, iron, and steel.

www.csx.com

Norfolk Southern Railway is a Class I railroad provider with headquarters in Virginia. NS operates 32 short lines in Ohio that connect to major Midwestern areas, such as Chicago, Fort Wayne, the Great Lakes, and other major cities in Ohio like Cleveland and Columbus.

www.nscorp.com

Seaports
The Port of Toledo is a multi-modal transportation hub with heavy waterborne, rail, and highway activity incorporated in 1910. It is linked to global markets through the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway System and spans 443 square miles.

www.toledoseaport.org

Public Transit
The Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority serves the Dayton area. Currently, ODRTA operates 29 routes throughout the region, and connects the City of Moraine to Dayton’s central business district. The RTA received an Achievement of Excellence award from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for perfect results on its 2010 Triennial Review.

www.i-riderta.org
University of Dayton (UD)
A private Roman Catholic university operated by the Society of Mary. The University of Dayton is one of the ten largest Catholic schools in the United States and is the largest of the three Marianist universities in the nation. Full-time undergraduate student enrollment is around 7,500, and total student enrollment is about 11,000. On the campus of UD there is also the Center for Tissue Regeneration and Engineering, which provides valuable opportunities for research and medical development.
www.udayton.edu

Wright State University
A public research university in Fairborn, Ohio. The school offers degrees at the associate, bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral level. As of 2012, the university enrolls over 19,000 students. Within Wright State is also the Boonshoft School of Medicine National Center for Medical Readiness (NCMR), which provides medically oriented education, training, product testing, and research opportunities for medical and non-medical civilian and military personnel.
www.wright.edu

Central State University (CSU)
Central State, located in Wilberforce, is the only public historically black university in the State of Ohio. It enrolls approximately 2,800 students. The school is divided into four main colleges that make up the majority of its offerings: the College of Business, College of Education, College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, and the College of Science and Engineering. CSU also has a satellite campus in Dayton, CSU-Dayton.
www.centralstate.edu

Wilberforce University
One of the oldest private African-American universities in the United States, founded in 1856 by members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Wilberforce enrolls approximately 850 students and offers some 20 fully accredited liberal arts concentrations to students.
www.wilberforce.edu

Cedarville University
A private liberal arts university with a Christ-centered education located in Cedarville, Ohio. Cedarville enrolls a little over 3,400 students and has a rigorous curriculum that strongly encourages biblical thinking.
www.cedarville.edu

Sinclair Community College
Consistently one of the highest ranked community colleges in the nation, Sinclair Community College opened in 1972 and has over 100 separate degree programs. It is a part of the League for Innovation in the Community College Conference and in 2001, became one of the League’s elite Vanguard Colleges, placing it in the top twelve two-year institutions in North America.
www.sinclair.edu

Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT)
The United States Air Force’s graduate school of engineering and management as well as its institution for technical professional continuing education. It is located at the nearby Wright Patterson Air Force Base and is divided into three resident schools: the Graduate School of Engineering and Management, the School of Systems and Logistics, as well as the Civil Engineer and Services School.
www.afit.edu

Kettering College of Medical Arts
A college owned by the Kettering Medical Center and chartered by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. It succeeds in being both an educational center as well as a medical service center. The college’s campus is located adjacent to the Charles F. Kettering Memorial Hospital.
www.kc.edu
**EDUCATION: K-12 education**

Montgomery County has a very strong background in education and features eighteen public school districts, along with 46 public community schools within its borders that receive funding from the State of Ohio. There are also 46 nonpublic schools in the county, the majority of which are religiously-affiliated. Each of these schools and districts aims to achieve academic excellence through a rigorous curriculum.

[www.montgomery.k12.oh.us](http://www.montgomery.k12.oh.us)

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**QUALITY OF LIFE: parks & recreation**

**Five Rivers Metroparks**
Regional public park system consisting of conservatories and outdoor recreation and education facilities. It covers an area of 14,161 acres (5,731 ha) with more than 20 facilities for year-round recreation, education, and conservation.

[www.metroparks.org](http://www.metroparks.org)

**Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm**
An outdoor environmental education center that provides adults and children the opportunity to immerse themselves in hands-on learning in the outdoors. Promotes the protections of different kinds of wildlife and the habitats they live in. Aullwood features many different types of habitats on its premises and also has a working organic farm.

QUALITY OF LIFE: MUSEUMS

National Museum of the United States Air Force
The largest and oldest military aviation museum in the world. The museum draws over 1.3 million visitors per year and is one of the single most visited tourist attractions in Ohio.
www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/index.asp

Dayton Art Institute
A museum of fine arts founded in 1919, that owns collections containing more than 20,000 objects spanning 5,000 years of art and archaeological history. The Institute also hosts world-class special exhibitions, concerts, family programs, and art classes for the community.
www.daytonartinstitute.org

QUALITY OF LIFE: PERFORMING ARTS

The Schuster Center
World-class performing arts center in Dayton with over 2,000 seats. It hosts concerts, lectures, traveling Broadway shows, and is home to both the Dayton Opera and the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra. The Schuster Center also has one of the largest indoor atriums in the local area that can accommodate more than 1,000 people, which makes it a popular indoor gathering place.
www.victoriatheatre.com

Victoria Theatre
A theater originally opened in 1866 as the Turner Opera House and officially marked as a historic building in 1975. It was reopened and renamed in 1990 after an extensive $17.5 million renovation by the Victoria Theatre Association. Hosts concerts, traveling Broadway shows, ballet, a summer classic film series, and is home of the Dayton Ballet company, among other local art organizations.
www.victoriatheatre.com

Loft Theatre
A performance venue located in the Metropolitan Arts Center, which was renovated from its former use as the Metropolitan Department Store in 1991. The Loft Theatre is a more intimate setting than other theaters in Dayton, with only 219 seats, and is also home to the Human Race Theatre Company.
www.victoriatheatre.com

Dayton Playhouse
A community theater in the Dayton area since 1959, the Playhouse hosts numerous plays and theatrical productions in the west Dayton area. It is nationally recognized for FutureFest, a festival of new plays and that occurs over the course of one weekend each summer.
www.daytonplayhouse.com

Fraze Pavilion
Premiere outdoor entertainment venue opened in 1991. The Fraze pavilion has 4,300 seats and features many concerts and festivals annually each summer.
www.fraze.com
QUALITY OF LIFE: cultural events

 Vectren Dayton Air Show
 An annual air show at Dayton International Airport. The Vectren Dayton Airshow is one of the largest air shows in the United States.
 www.daytonairshow.com

 Dayton Visual Arts Center
 An organization established in 1991 that provides gallery space and a forum for local artists and art lovers to gather. Also offers open workshops to the community.
 www.daytonvisualarts.org

 Culture Works
 A nonprofit regional arts agency that provides information for all cultural organizations and activities in the Dayton region, and also promotes any local events taking place.
 www.cultureworks.org

QUALITY OF LIFE: sports

 Dayton Dragons
 Minor-league baseball team in the Midwest League. The team plays at Fifth Third Field, which has over 7,000 seats and is located close to the heart of downtown Dayton.
 www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t459

 University of Dayton Flyers
 All University of Dayton sports teams (with the exception of football) compete at the NCAA Division I level in the Atlantic 10 conference. Dayton athletics are ranked in the top 10 in the country for academic performance and have a very faithful fan base.
 www.daytonflyers.com/home

 Wright State University’s Ervin J. Nutter Center
 Venue that hosts a wide variety of attractions from concerts and sporting events to cultural events and the Barnum & Bailey Circus.
 www.nuttercenter.com/default.aspx
HEALTHCARE: healthcare systems

Miami Valley Hospital (MVH)
A public hospital in Dayton ranked by U.S. News as #10 overall in Ohio, nationally ranked in pulmonology, high-performing in 8 other specialties including cancer treatment, endocrinology, orthopedics, and cardiology. MVH also plays a strong role in the community, through programs like the Good Neighbor Partnership and its strong connection with area schools to promote community health. There is a neurological research institute integrated into its campus as well. www.miamivalleyhospital.org

Kettering Medical Center
Kettering Health Network, established in 1964 and named for the great American inventor Charles F. Kettering, is one of the most extensive networks in the region. The Charles F. Kettering Memorial Hospital is operated by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. U.S. News also ranked it as one of the best hospitals in the Dayton area and high-performing in adult orthopedics. www.ketteringhealth.org

Dayton Children's Hospital
One of the only hospitals in the region devoted specifically to pediatric treatment and care. Has won multiple awards for patient safety, care, and satisfaction, and its Comprehensive Cancer Care Center is one of only 11 cancer programs accredited by the American College of Surgeons in the country. www.childrensdayton.org/cms/home/index.html

Hometown Urgent Care
The largest urgent care system in Ohio, also spread throughout Michigan and Kentucky. Offers reduced rate care and treatment for minor injuries and illnesses. It has 11 locations in the Miami Valley area, including one in Dayton. www.hometownurgentcare.com

Montgomery County Care
A local health care services program that provides discounted care to eligible adults who live in Montgomery County. Services range from physician care and outpatient lab services, to access to prescription drugs at a lower copay. Eligibility criteria include age restrictions for uninsured residents and income level. www.caresource.com/members/ohio/montgomery-county-care

Reach Out
A volunteer-run healthcare clinic located in Dayton founded in 1994. Provides access to health care for the underserved/uninsured population in Montgomery County with income at or below the poverty level. www.daytonreachout.org/index.html
YMCA of Greater Dayton
National organization that serves women, men, and children to promote healthy living and social responsibility. The Greater Dayton YMCA network has 11 locations throughout Dayton and the surrounding Greater Miami Valley communities.
www.ymcaonline.org

Montgomery County Children Services
Organization for the protection of children and the elderly.
www.mcohio.org/childrenservices

The Job Center
One of the largest employment and training centers in the United States, located in Dayton. Specifically aims to link potential job seekers and employers, while also providing the opportunity for those looking to enter the job market to refine some of their skills.
www.thejobcenter.org