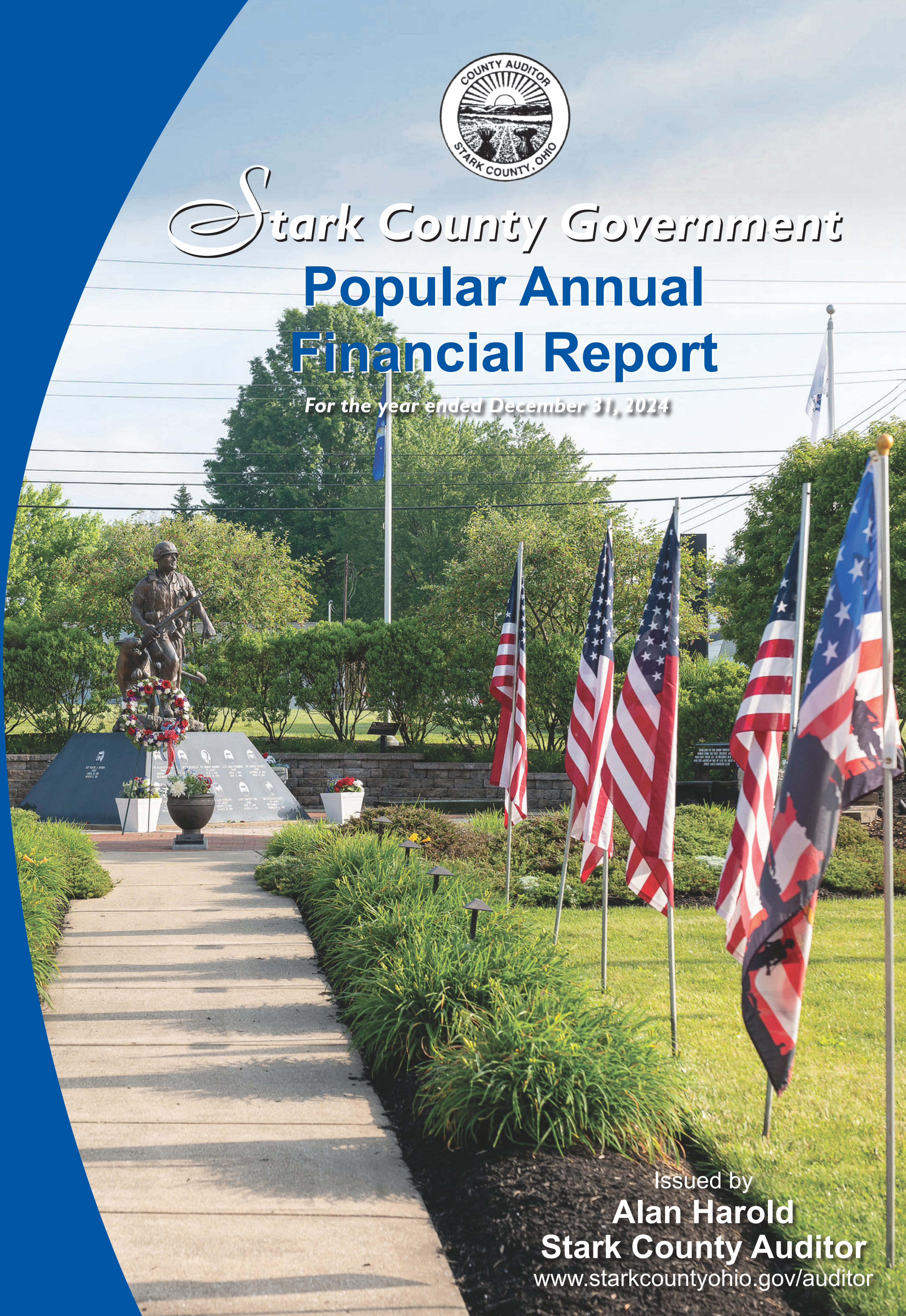
Stark County Government

Popular Annual Financial Report

For the year ended December 31, 2024



Issued by

Alan Harold

Stark County Auditor

www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor

GFOA PAFR Award

Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting

PRESENTED TO

Stark County
Ohio

for the Fiscal Year Ended

December 31, 2023

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA CORPORATION SEAL CHICAGO

Christopher P. Morrill
Executive Director / CEO

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Stark County, Ohio for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2023. 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 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.

Perry High School Veterans Memorial was created to pay tribute to those local graduates that served and lost their lives during combat. It is also the site of an annual Heroes Remembrance Ceremony organized by Perry Township's Operation: Flags of Freedom Memorial Day event where hundreds of flags surround the memorial representing and honoring hundreds of fallen heroes, veterans, and active-duty service members.
Photo credit: Joe Albert

Citizens of Stark County

Alan Harold
Stark County Auditor

September 2025

I am pleased to present the Stark County Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the year ended December 31, 2024. The report provides a brief analysis of where county revenues come from and where those dollars are spent, as well as an overview of trends in the local economy. Above all, it is designed to present a financial report that is easy to understand.

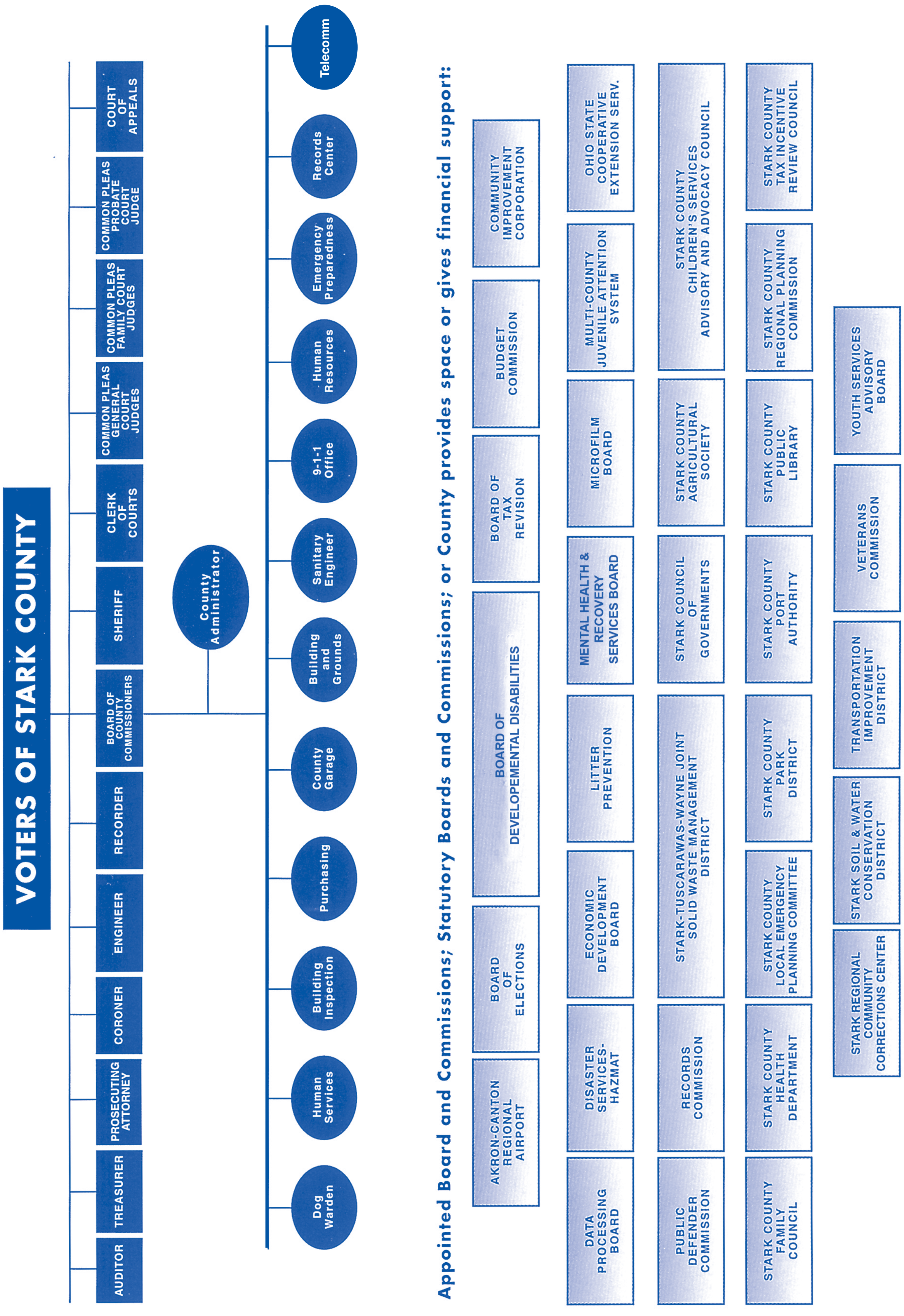
The PAFR, which has been generated internally by the Stark County Auditor's Office, summarizes the financial activities of the primary government of Stark County (County) and was drawn from the financial information appearing in the 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The ACFR was prepared in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and was audited by the Auditor of State of Ohio, receiving an unmodified opinion. The PAFR, however, is unaudited and is presented on a non-GAAP basis. The major differences between GAAP and non-GAAP reporting deals with not including component units and in the presentation of segregated funds, as well as full disclosure of all material financial and non-financial events in notes to the financial statements. The statements presented within this report contain all funds used by the County to account for the financial activities of the primary government. Individuals who desire to review GAAP basis, full disclosure financial statements should refer to the County's ACFR, which is available from the County Auditor's office or visit the website at http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor.

The Popular Annual Financial Report of Stark County is presented as a means of increasing public confidence in the County's government and elected officials through easier, more user friendly financial reporting. As you review our Popular Annual Financial Report, I invite you to share any questions, concerns, or recommendations you may have.

Sincerely,

Alan Harold
Stark County Auditor

Stark County Government Organizational Chart



County Property Taxes

The following table provides the amount of taxes on an owner occupied home with a market value of $100,000. The full tax rate appearing in the table includes both inside (not voted) and voted levies for all subdivisions within the taxing district. The effective tax rate is the tax rate actually applied in calculating your tax liability. The effective tax rate is determined by the State Department of Taxation each year. In essence, the effective rate ensures that an individual's tax liability does not increase on voted levies as a result of appreciation in value due to economic conditions. The tax on a home with a $100,000 value is a relatively simple calculation: take the $100,000 appraised value times 35% to get the assessed value; then multiply the assessed value by the effective tax rate. This is the gross tax due. This gross tax is then reduced by the Non-Business Credit and the Owner Occupancy Credit which is the amount the state pays on behalf of each individual homeowner who resides in that home under the state rollback programs currently in effect.

TAXING DISTRICT NUMBER AND NAME		FULL TAX RATE	EFFECTIVE TAX RATE	TAX ON $100,000 HOME
10	ALLIANCE CITY - ALLIANCE CSD	79.70	45.78	$ 1,417.14
20	CANTON CITY - CANTON CSD	105.60	64.92	$ 2,046.20
25	CANTON CITY - CANTON LSD	76.30	42.71	$ 1,355.43
30	CANTON CITY - PLAIN LSD	84.10	43.37	$ 1,357.63
35	CANTON CITY - LOUISVILLE CSD	85.50	52.16	$ 1,643.62
40	MASSILLON CITY - TUSLAW LSD	81.80	43.10	$ 1,334.08
45	MASSILLON CITY - FAIRLESS LSD	65.70	46.63	$ 1,442.34
50	MASSILLON CITY - MASSILLON CSD	72.70	58.99	$ 1,816.49
60	MASSILLON CITY - PERRY LSD	70.60	50.87	$ 1,603.33
65	MASSILLON CITY - JACKSON LSD	64.50	43.82	$ 1,356.13
70	BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP - FAIRLESS LSD	68.50	48.73	$ 1,517.77
80	BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP - TUSCARAWAS VALLEY LSD	60.10	51.92	$ 1,637.62
90	BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP - NAVARRE VILLAGE - FAIRLESS LSD	68.60	48.82	$ 1,516.24
100	CANTON TOWNSHIP - CANTON LSD	82.70	46.56	$ 1,464.87
110	CANTON TOWNSHIP - CANTON CSD	111.20	67.96	$ 2,131.15
112	CANTON TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - CANTON CSD	114.10	70.66	$ 2,222.10
115	CANTON TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - CANTON LSD	84.80	48.45	$ 1,531.33
120	CANTON TOWNSHIP - MEYERS LAKE VILLAGE - CANTON CSD	114.10	70.25	$ 2,207.85
130	JACKSON TOWNSHIP - JACKSON LSD	81.25	55.18	$ 1,737.71
135	JACKSON TWP - CANTON CITY - JACKSON LSD	80.50	55.04	$ 1,746.37
140	JACKSON TOWNSHIP - PLAIN LSD	97.35	51.93	$ 1,638.04
150	JACKSON TOWNSHIP - HILLS AND DALES VILLAGE - PLAIN LSD	115.40	62.36	$ 1,967.64
160	LAKE TOWNSHIP - LAKE LSD	99.80	52.37	$ 1,657.08
170	LAKE TOWNSHIP - NORTH CANTON CSD	111.40	57.47	$ 1,826.44
180	LAKE TOWNSHIP - PLAIN LSD	87.60	45.99	$ 1,441.72
190	LAKE TOWNSHIP - UNIONTOWN POLICE DISTRICT - LAKE LSD	110.60	57.32	$ 1,808.89
195	LAKE TWP - UNIONTOWN POLICE DISTRICT - NORTH CANTON CSD	122.20	62.43	$ 1,978.24
200	LAKE TOWNSHIP - HARTVILLE VILLAGE - LAKE LSD	97.55	49.83	$ 1,562.34
210	LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP - TUSLAW LSD	94.25	51.09	$ 1,594.93
215	LAWRENCE TWP-C F CITY-TUSLAW LSD	82.20	43.61	$ 1,351.10
220	LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP - JACKSON LSD	77.15	52.01	$ 1,623.10
225	LAWRENCE TWP-C F CITY-JACKSON LSD	64.90	44.33	$ 1,373.15
230	LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP - NORTHWEST LSD	84.05	51.21	$ 1,590.29
240	LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP - CANAL FULTON CITY - NORTHWEST LSD	72.90	44.62	$ 1,374.72
245	CANAL FULTON CITY - NORTHWEST LSD	72.30	44.02	$ 1,356.34
250	LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP - MARLINGTON LSD	82.75	39.61	$ 1,240.84
260	LEXINGTON TOWNSHIP - ALLIANCE CSD	84.55	48.27	$ 1,506.04
280	MARLBORO TOWNSHIP - MARLINGTON LSD	83.20	41.14	$ 1,295.83
290	MARLBORO TOWNSHIP - LAKE LSD	101.60	54.18	$ 1,722.52
300	NIMISHILLEN TOWNSHIP - LOUISVILLE CSD	89.70	54.54	$ 1,706.55
305	NIMISHILLEN TWP - LOUISILLE CITY - LOUISVILLE CSD	90.50	55.34	$ 1,731.04
310	NIMISHILLEN TOWNSHIP - MARLINGTON LSD	82.90	39.89	$ 1,233.73
320	NIMISHILLEN TOWNSHIP - PLAIN LSD	89.10	46.55	$ 1,445.05
330	LOUISVILLE CITY - LOUISVILLE CSD	80.50	48.29	$ 1,508.20
340	OSNABURG TOWNSHIP - OSNABURG LSD	85.00	41.60	$ 1,286.48
345	OSNABURG TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - OSNABURG LSD	90.30	45.77	$ 1,431.09
350	OSNABURG TOWNSHIP - CANTON LSD	77.10	42.67	$ 1,337.37
355	OSNABURG TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - CANTON LSD	82.30	46.74	$ 1,478.91
360	OSNABURG TOWNSHIP - MINERVA LSD	64.60	45.88	$ 1,410.22
370	OSNABURG TOWNSHIP - EAST CANTON VILLAGE - OSNABURG LSD	91.90	47.39	$ 1,488.08
380	PARIS TOWNSHIP - MINERVA LSD	67.80	49.55	$ 1,542.31

TAXING DISTRICT NUMBER AND NAME		FULL TAX RATE	EFFECTIVE TAX RATE	TAX ON $100,000 HOME
390	PARIS TOWNSHIP - MINERVA VILLAGE - MINERVA LSD	69.50	50.26	$ 1,559.83
395	PARIS TOWNSHIP - BROWN LSD	75.25	56.09	$ 1,742.82
400	PERRY TOWNSHIP - PERRY LSD	84.39	59.15	$ 1,874.81
405	PERRY TWP - CANTON CITY - PERRY LSD	82.00	58.43	$ 1,859.18
407	PERRY TWP - MASSILLON CITY - PERRY LSD	78.50	55.63	$ 1,758.01
410	PERRY TOWNSHIP - FAIRLESS LSD	77.89	53.32	$ 1,664.82
415	PERRY TOWNSHIP - NAVARRE VILLAGE - FAIRLESS LSD	76.50	53.58	$ 1,670.92
420	PERRY TOWNSHIP - JACKSON LSD	77.89	51.70	$ 1,615.36
430	PERRY TOWNSHIP - MASSILLON CSD	84.39	65.17	$ 2,023.66
440	PERRY TOWNSHIP - TUSLAW LSD	94.99	50.78	$ 1,587.18
445	PERRY TOWNSHIP - NAVARRE VILLAGE - PERRY LSD	81.40	57.81	$ 1,831.91
450	PIKE TOWNSHIP - SANDY VALLEY LSD	70.10	44.92	$ 1,391.65
460	PIKE TOWNSHIP - CANTON LSD	78.30	43.61	$ 1,369.32
470	PIKE TOWNSHIP - TUSCARAWAS VALLEY LSD	62.20	52.92	$ 1,658.88
480	PIKE TOWNSHIP - EAST SPARTA VILLAGE - SANDY VALLEY LSD	84.00	53.34	$ 1,656.06
490	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - PLAIN LSD	96.05	52.22	$ 1,642.10
500	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - CANTON LSD	87.65	50.96	$ 1,621.52
505	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - CANTON CSD	106.60	65.77	$ 2,076.13
510	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - JACKSON LSD	79.95	55.47	$ 1,741.77
515	PLAIN TWP - CANTON CITY - JACKSON LSD	69.00	47.48	$ 1,487.22
520	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - NORTH CANTON CSD	119.85	63.70	$ 2,026.81
525	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - NORTH CANTON CSD	109.40	56.21	$ 1,787.58
530	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - NORTH CANTON CITY - NORTH CANTON CSD	109.40	56.02	$ 1,764.73
535	NORTH CANTON CITY - NORTH CANTON CSD	108.30	55.06	$ 1,731.74
540	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - NORTH CANTON CITY - JACKSON LSD	69.00	47.28	$ 1,464.38
545	NORTH CANTON CITY - JACKSON LSD	68.00	46.43	$ 1,434.45
550	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - NORTH CANTON CITY - PLAIN LSD	85.10	44.03	$ 1,364.71
555	NORTH CANTON CITY - PLAIN LSD	84.10	43.17	$ 1,334.78
560	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - CANTON CSD	116.15	72.37	$ 2,287.80
565	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - CANTON CITY - PLAIN LSD	85.10	44.22	$ 1,387.56
570	PLAIN TOWNSHIP - MEYERS LAKE VILLAGE - CANTON CSD	106.10	64.86	$ 2,046.57
580	SANDY TOWNSHIP - SANDY VALLEY LSD	72.60	48.52	$ 1,535.09
590	SANDY TOWNSHIP - CANTON LSD	80.80	47.21	$ 1,512.76
600	SANDY TOWNSHIP - OSNABURG LSD	88.70	46.13	$ 1,461.87
610	SANDY TOWNSHIP - BROWN LSD	75.75	56.96	$ 1,786.13
620	SANDY TOWNSHIP - MAGNOLIA VILLAGE - SANDY VALLEY LSD	88.00	55.51	$ 1,736.18
630	SANDY TOWNSHIP - WAYNESBURG VILLAGE - SANDY VALLEY LSD	86.00	55.87	$ 1,760.18
640	SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP - FAIRLESS LSD	68.20	47.64	$ 1,471.45
650	SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP - SOUTHEAST LSD	72.30	43.80	$ 1,355.80
660	SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP - BEACH CITY VILLAGE - FAIRLESS LSD	76.20	52.67	$ 1,636.03
670	SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP - BREWSTER VILLAGE - FAIRLESS LSD	69.10	48.84	$ 1,516.81
680	SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP - WILMOT VILLAGE - FAIRLESS LSD	64.20	45.57	$ 1,408.09
690	TUSCARAWAS TOWNSHIP - TUSLAW LSD	83.80	44.59	$ 1,386.66
700	TUSCARAWAS TOWNSHIP - FAIRLESS LSD	66.70	47.13	$ 1,464.30
710	TUSCARAWAS TOWNSHIP - MASSILLON CSD	73.20	58.99	$ 1,823.14
715	WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP - LOUISVILLE CSD	83.45	50.18	$ 1,568.58
720	WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP - MARLINGTON LSD	76.65	35.53	$ 1,097.68
725	WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP - MINERVA LSD	61.95	44.13	$ 1,359.37
730	WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP - ALLIANCE CSD	78.45	44.18	$ 1,360.97
740	ALLIANCE CITY - MARLINGTON LSD	75.90	35.12	$ 1,090.69
750	WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP - ALLIANCE CITY - MARLINGTON LSD	79.65	37.81	$ 1,175.56

Auditor's Office

Fiscal Services (Finance and Payroll)

The Stark County Auditor is the chief fiscal officer of the County. It is the auditor's responsibility to perform the following functions:

- Account for revenues received each year by the County.
- Issue warrants (checks) in payment of all County obligations, including the distribution of tax dollars to the townships, villages, cities, school districts and library systems, as well as other County agencies.
- Serve as the paymaster for all County employees.
- Administer and distribute motor vehicle license fees, gasoline taxes, estate taxes, fines and local government funds, in addition to real estate, personal property and manufactured home taxes.
- As required by law, prepare and produce the County's annual financial report. Stark County prepares a Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and a Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR).

Real Estate Taxes and Rates

Under Ohio law, the county auditor cannot raise or lower property taxes. Tax rates are determined by the budgetary requests of each governmental unit, as authorized by vote of the people, and are computed in strict accordance with procedures required by the Division of Tax Equalization, Ohio Department of Taxation. Annually, the auditor prepares the general tax list. Your tax bill is based on the tax rate multiplied by your valuation on this tax list. This is your proportional share of the cost of operating your local government including cities, villages, townships, schools and the County. Ohio law limits the amount of taxation without a vote of the people to what is known as the "10 mill limitation" ($10.00 per $1,000 of assessed valuation). County residents must vote any additional real estate taxes for any purpose. Your "tax rate" is an accumulation of all these levies and bond issues.

Real Estate Appraisal and Assessment

Stark County has nearly 197,000 separate parcels of real estate property. It is the duty of the auditor to see that every parcel of land and the buildings thereon are fairly and uniformly appraised and assessed for tax purposes. Ohio law mandates a general reappraisal every six years with an update at the three year midpoint. Stark County's next reappraisal will be in September 2024. The office maintains a detailed record of the appraisal on each parcel in the County. These records are open for public inspection. For taxation purposes, owners are assessed at 35 percent of fair market value.

Real Estate Conveyance and CAUV

This department is in charge of transferring all real estate that changes ownership in the County and collecting fees on this activity. They maintain all ownership records, acreage changes, real estate splits and provide information for maintaining tax plat maps. The auditor is also in charge of administering the Current Agricultural Use Value (CAUV) program that allows farmland to be taxed at its value for that use. Agricultural districts and forest certification are other responsibilities of this department.

Licensing
The auditor’s office is the focal point in the County for issuance of licenses for dogs, vendors and cigarette sales. Stark County annually issues more than 50,000 dog licenses. Vendor licenses authorize businesses to sell tangible property to the public and collect sales tax, a part of which is returned for use at the local level.

Manufactured Housing
There are 50 manufactured home communities currently operating in the County. Stark County has one of the largest populations of manufactured homes in the state of Ohio. Under Ohio law, it is the responsibility of owners of manufactured homes to register their homes with the county auditor for tax purposes. Annually, the auditor’s office assesses each manufactured home and prepares a tax list. Tax bills are sent to each owner semiannually. The manufactured home tax is distributed back to the local taxing districts in the same manner as real estate taxes.

Weights and Measures


The Department of Weights and Measures plays a vital role in our everyday lives. Our economy is essentially based on the monetary value placed on goods and services bought, sold and traded daily. That monetary value is ultimately determined by an accurate system of weights and measures. Each year the auditor’s office inspects and certifies more than 5,200 devices in over 600 locations throughout the County. Weights and Measures, as defined by Ohio law, means all weights and measures of every kind, instruments and devices for weighing and measuring, and any appliances and accessories associated with any such instruments and devices, except that the term shall not be construed to include meters for the measurement of electricity, gas, or water when the same are operated as public utility system. The county auditor is required by Ohio law to inspect all commercial devices used in retail trade for weighing or measuring. This includes checking gas pumps, price scanners, meat and produce/truck scales.

Stark County Information Technology Services
The auditor is responsible for the management of the County Information Technology Center and serves as the Chief Administrator of the Data Processing Board. Changes in computer systems and planning must be approved by the board to automate various County functions. Improving financial and record keeping systems of the County will improve services, reduce costs and provide County officials with a modern management tool to better administer the business of government. The Stark County Information Technology Division supports all aspects of computing for government offices in the County. Some of these services include programming, personal computer hardware and software support, consultation, management, logistical support and network services. Information Services supports over 1000 nodes in the County computer network. A node is an active networked computer connection such as a personal computer, terminal, printer, server, switch, router, or other networked devices.

Additional Duties of the Auditor
Secretary of the Budget Commission
Secretary of the Board of Revision
Tax Incentive Review Council Records

Development & Trends

Stark County, which is located in the Northeastern section of Ohio, was established in 1808 and covers an area of 567 square miles and includes 17 townships, 13 villages, and 6 cities, the largest of which is the City of Canton, the County Seat, and the eighth largest city in the State. It is strategically located in proximity to all modes of transportation including truck, railroad, and air. Because of this, many businesses have chosen to make Stark County their home.

The Canton/Stark County area offers many of the amenities and activities of a big city, with the advantages of small-city living. The area's low cost of living makes it an appealing place for businesses and employees. As a matter of fact, many people who work outside of the county are settling here because of the quality schools, economical prices, and abundant housing.

Interstate 77 links Stark County with the national interstate highway network, providing easy access to all the major markets in the United States and Canada. In addition, freight and passenger services are readily available through three major carriers and a regional airport which provides commercial air service for nationwide travel, including direct flights to Chicago, New York City, Boston and Washington D.C. Neomodal, an ultramodern 28 acre rail/highway transfer facility, located in the county, transports products consistently and efficiently to both domestic and international locations. Neomodal provides convenient 24 hours access to Stark's three railroads.

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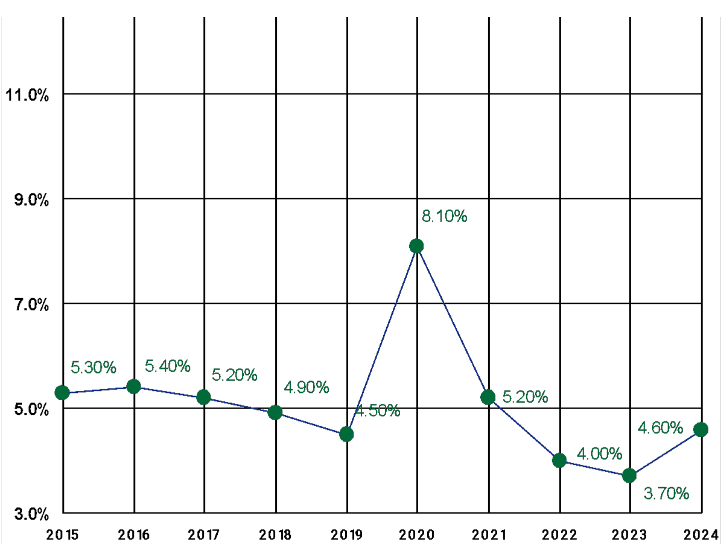
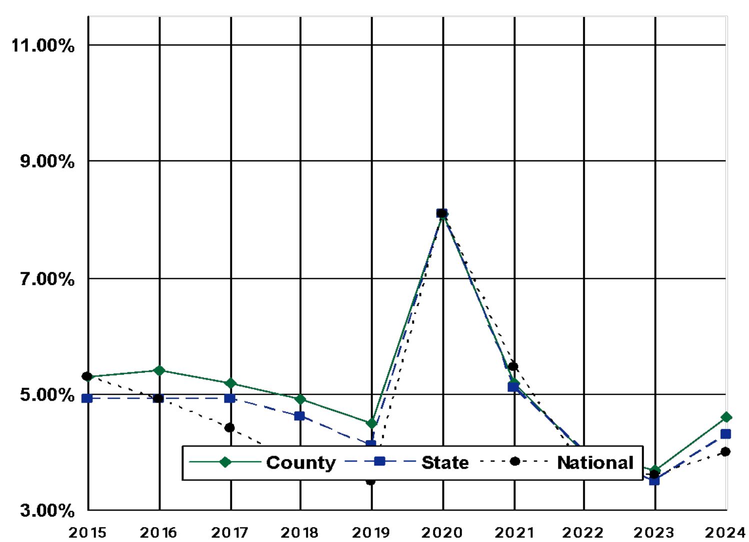
Average County Unemployment Percentage Rates



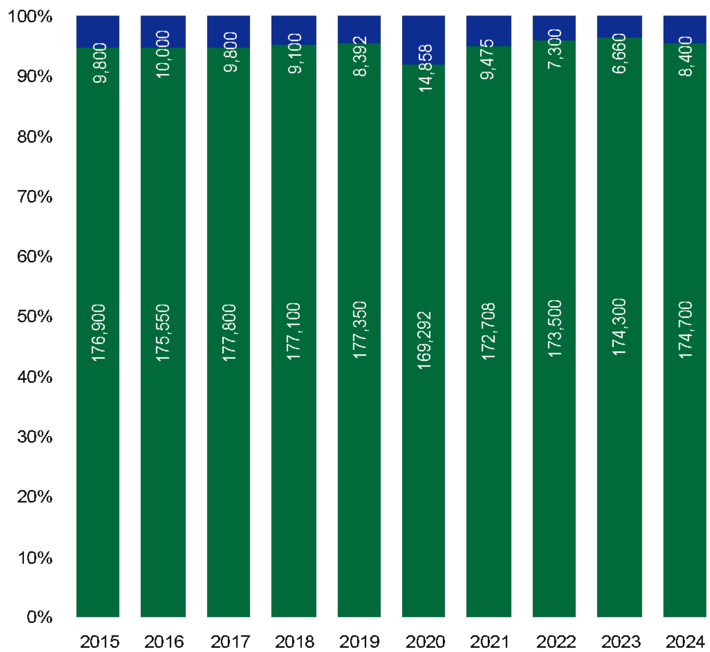
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

National, State & County Average Unemployment Rates



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employed vs. Unemployed



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Top Ten Employers Stark County Ohio

Largest Employers	Employees
Aultman Health Foundations	6,800
Cleveland Clinic	2,421
County of Stark	2,154
Freshmark, Inc	1,783
Metalllus (FKA TimkenSteel)	1,704
Canton City Board of Education	1,702
Giant Eagle	1,166
The Timken Company	862
YMCA	850
Stark State College	794

Human Resources of Listed Companies as of 12/31/2024

Over the past 20 years, Stark County has had the same shift in its employment base as many other parts of the country have. Service and education have taken the place of manufacturing, and that is evident from the list of top 10 employers. Aultman Health Foundation tops the list again this year, with Mercy Medical Center, now part of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, in the top 10. Canton City Board of Education and Stark State College remain dominant service side employers as well. In a community with a long and rich history in manufacturing, only Timken Company and TimkenSteel Corporation remain at the top within this sector. Retail employers, such as WalMart and Giant Eagle, are also a key sector in our diverse local economy.

The most recent fiscal year continued to show major gains in investment income and signs of a strengthened economy. The inflation rate continued its decline from 3.4% in 2023 to 2.9% in 2024, and the widening of market breadth during 2024 allowed for higher rates of return across the Country. Market index averages also maintained high annual performances. For example, the S&P 500 showed an average rate of return of 23.3% during 2024. In 2023, that rate of return was only slightly higher at 24.23%.

The County is home to the National Professional Football Hall of Fame, which is located in the City of Canton and attracts more than 225,000 visitors annually and is undergoing an ambitious redevelopment. We are blessed to have this national treasure as the driving force behind our County's vibrant tourism industry. Higher education is an important part of Stark County's economic landscape. Malone University, Walsh University, University of Mount Union, Kent State – Stark, and Stark State College of Technology are important partners in workforce training as they prepare students for meaningful work and fulfilling lives.

Striving for Continuous Improvement

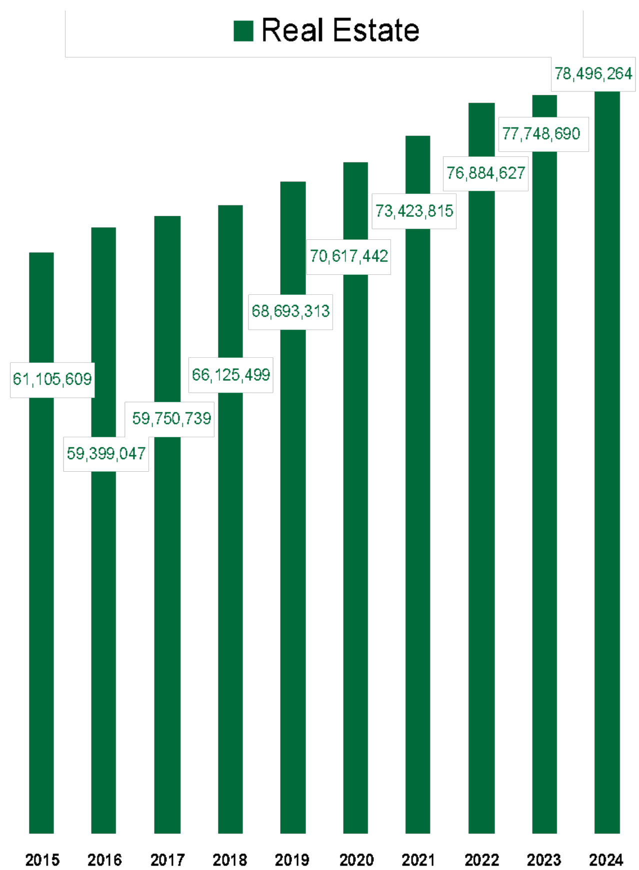
Stark County government has a ½% criminal justice sales tax, which was renewed in May 2017 to run through March 31, 2028. We are grateful to the citizens for this critical investment in its county government. The Commissioners continue to invest in restoring services to the public as well as in neglected infrastructure across county-owned property. In preparing the County budget this year, the Commissioners stressed the need for good stewardship of the County's resources. The budget was crafted in a way to keep services sustainable over the next five years. Stark County residents and visitors enjoy the lowest sales tax in the State of Ohio, and together we continue to make Stark County a great place to live and work.

The ARP State and Local LRF fund has invested or earmarked over $22 million in sewer and water infrastructure. $3.2 million was spent on the installation of water mains that were looped together to eliminate dead ends, provide system redundancy and equalization of pressure for County citizens living in the community of Lake Township, Ohio. The remaining $19 million has been obligated for three sewer projects that will create new sewer systems or replace and improve current sewer systems in the communities of Lexington Township, the City of Alliance, Lawrence Township, and Sugarcreek Township. These projects are expected to start in 2025.

Assessed Taxable Property Values

Years	Real Estate
2024	$10,345,931,290
2023	10,234,634,370
2022	10,080,414,570
2021	8,796,845,090
2020	8,688,774,490
2019	8,332,960,910
2018	7,456,812,490
2017	7,319,088,780
2016	7,187,338,380
2015	6,564,508,240

Property Tax Collections



Note: Personal property tax was phased out in 2011.

Striving for Continuous Improvement

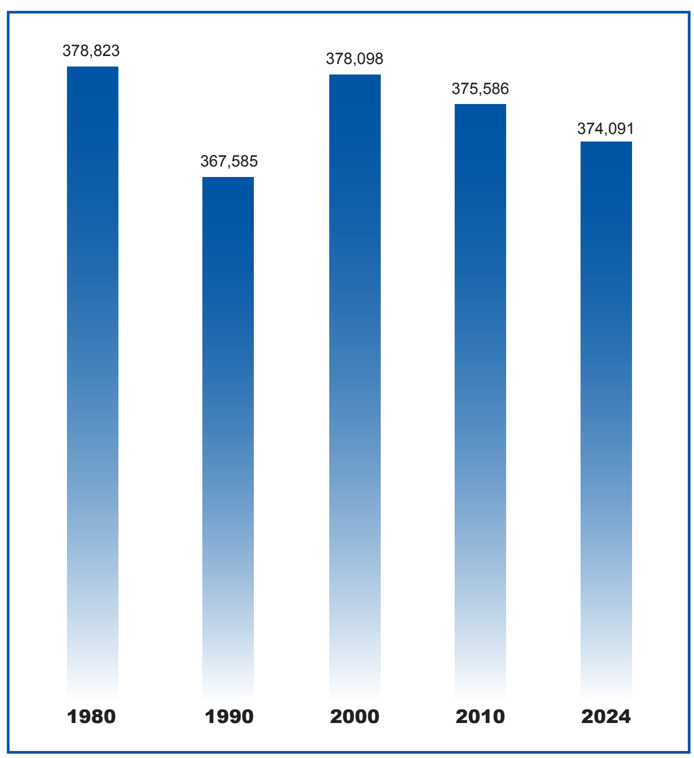
Economic development is critical to both the short- and long-term success of the region. The County remains engaged with Carroll and Columbiana counties to study and plan the expansion of Route 30. The County realizes the seriousness of drainage problems across the region and continues in its planning to address these needs. The Stark County Engineer's Office is responsible for maintaining the County roads, bridges, and storm sewers, and its investments in this infrastructure helps prepare our County for future growth and a safer community. The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation ("land bank") works with each political subdivision to address blight that has been both decades in the making and as a result of the national mortgage crisis.

The Stark County Auditor's Office is committed to transparency, accountability, and efficiency not only in the Auditor's Office but across County government. The Auditor and Treasurer continue to hold monthly meetings with the Commissioners in an effort to keep both the board and the public aware of the County's financial condition. The Auditor's Office continues to find ways to streamline its processes and hopes to make significant improvements to its financial and payroll systems within the coming year.

Principal Property Tax Payers

Taxpayers	Assessed Valuation
Ohio Power Company	$ 305,345,650
AEP Ohio Transmission Company Inc	142,336,190
Rover Pipeline LLC	139,611,540
East Ohio Gas	88,953,510
American Transmission System Inc	71,667,760
Ohio Edison	67,817,340
Nexus Gas Transmission LLC	62,515,300
Aqua Ohio Inc	38,333,620
Strip Delaware LLC	22,857,730
Deville Developments LLC	19,226,870

Population



Financial Activity Statement

Summary

The Financial Activity Statement, known in accounting terms as the "Income Statement", is designed to provide record of the money received and spent during the year. Explanations of specific Resources and Services are shown in the following pages.

The Statement is presented on a non-GAAP basis. Copies of GAAP basis reports can be found in the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and can be obtained from the Stark County Auditor's Office. The statement presents governmental activities only.

Stark County 2024 Financial Activity Statement

Resources Taken In	2023	2024
Taxes	$118,921,000	$119,059,000
Licenses & Permits	388,000	320,000
Charges for Services	33,835,000	36,186,000
Fines & Forfeitures	1,344,000	2,089,000
Intergovernmental Revenue	146,554,000	195,533,000
Special Assessments	341,000	334,000
Investment Income	13,776,000	10,844,000
Other	6,448,000	6,696,000
Total Revenue & Resources	$321,607,000	$371,061,000
Services Provided		
Legislative & Executive	$38,170,000	$43,930,000
Judicial	19,275,000	21,231,000
Public Safety	49,323,000	50,905,000
Public Works	24,688,000	29,089,000
Health	87,977,000	98,414,000
Human Services	61,388,000	64,430,000
Capital Outlay	17,850,000	23,651,000
Debt Service	2,195,000	2,181,000
Total Expenditures & Services	$300,866,000	$333,831,000
Revenues & Resources Over (Under) Expenditures & Services	$20,741,000	$37,230,000

Resources Taken In

Resources taken in are the amounts which the County receives from a variety of different sources in order to pay for the Services it provides.

Taxes are resources which include Sales Tax, Real Estate Tax, Personal Property Tax and a variety of smaller taxes.

Charges for Services are the combined resources of various County departments and agencies for fees paid to them by the public such as court cost and fees for recording deeds and transferring property.

Licenses & Permits are the revenues derived from the selling of vendor licenses, dog licenses, and other items.

Fines and Forfeitures are the resources derived from fines levied in the Courts and the monies received from a variety of forfeitures, including drug arrests and seized property.

Intergovernmental Revenues are the combined resources received from grants and from pass-through monies administered by the State of Ohio and Federal Government.

Special Assessments are amounts levied on real estate tax bills by the County and other local governments for providing improvements such as ditches, water and sewer service, curbs and lighting.

Investment Income is the earnings of the County Treasurer's investments.

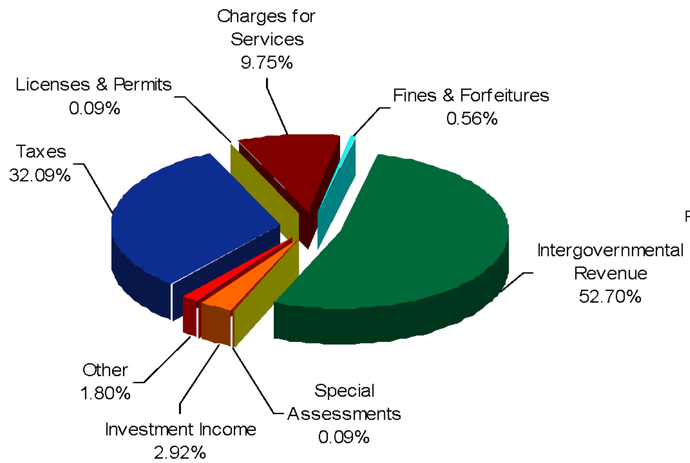
Note 1: *Revenues increased by $49.45 million while expenditures increased by $32.96 million when compared to 2023.*

Note 2: *The main driver of the revenue increase was the recognition of over $48 million in grant and entitlement revenue from the ARP State and Local LRF grant, which was previously considered unearned in the prior year. $47 million of that intergovernmental revenue was used to reimburse General fund and Justice System Sales Tax fund expenditures in 2024. This was allowable through a revenue loss calculation that compiled the amount of revenue lost to the County due to the pandemic from 2020 through 2023. The total loss calculated exceeded $67 million.*

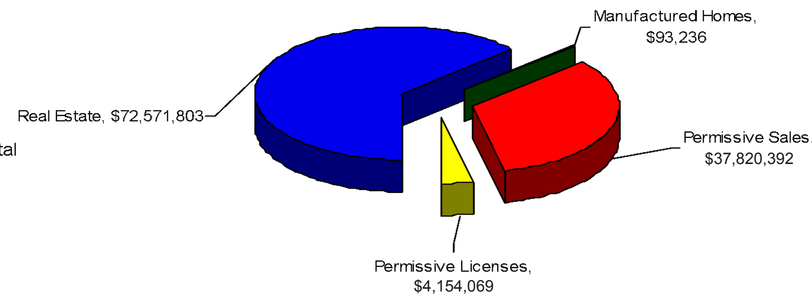
Note 3: *The largest increase in expenditures occurred in Health services. The Stark Board of Developmental Disabilities (SCBDD) fund saw an increase in expenditures of $8.5 million in 2024. In July 2023, the Governor signed HB 33, the State's two-year budget for fiscal year 2024 and 2025, which included the largest investment in SCBDD in the history of the State of Ohio. Effective on January 1, 2024, most Medicaid rates increased 30.81%, and then those same rates increased another 7.27% on July 1, 2024. Due to the rate increases, the Board saw a significant increase in the local share of match paid in 2024, which increased by $6.3 million*

The Financial Activity Statement information was taken from the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for Governmental Activities located in the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand.

Resources Taken In



Taxes Further Broken Down



Services Provided *– Services Provided are the amounts spent in order to provide services to citizens.*

Legislative and Executive expenditures are the expenses incurred for administrative offices including the Commissioners, Auditor, Treasurer, Prosecutor, and Recorder.

Judicial expenditures reflect the costs of administering justice through the Stark County Courts, which include the Courts of Common Pleas, Juvenile, and Domestic Relations.

Public Safety expenditures reflect the costs of the Sheriff, Coroner, and Probation Departments.

Public Works expenditures reflect the costs incurred to maintain County roads and bridges

Economic Development expenditures reflect the work that is done to simulate the economic development for Stark County.

Health expenditures are those services to maintain public health.

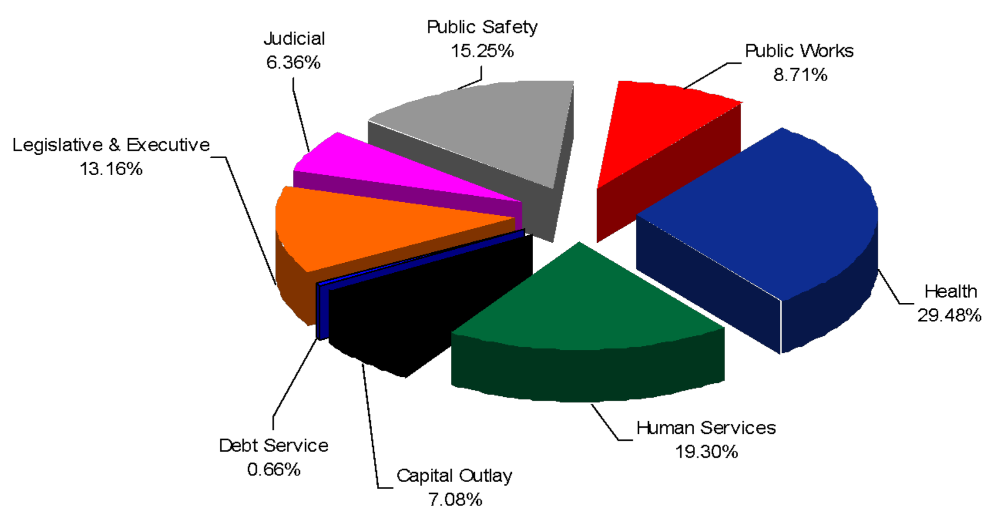
Human Services expenditures relate to the cost of the Human Services Department, the Board of Mental Retardation/Development Disabilities, and Children Services Board.

Conservation and Recreation expenditures are costs incurred to maintain the County parks and for conserving the beauty of County lands.

Intergovernmental expenditures are monies which are passed through the County government to other governments, including Transportation Improvement District.

Debt Services expenditures relate to the costs of paying interest and principal on County Debt.

Services Provided



Financial Position Statement

Summary

The Financial Position Statement, known in accounting terms as the "Statement of Net Position", is designed to provide a picture of the County's Financial Position as of the end of the year. Explanations of specific accounts are as follows by where they appear in the financial position statement:

Stark County 2024
Financial Activity Statement

Financial Benefits	2023	2024
Cash & Investments	$ 317,000,000	$ 311,000,000
Receivables	174,000,000	175,000,000
Property & Equipment	225,000,000	245,000,000
Other Assets	5,000,000	9,000,000
Total Financial Benefits	*$721,000,000*	*$740,000,000*
Financial Burdens		
Amount Owed to Employees and Vendors	$86,000,000	$40,000,000
Short-Term Debt	10,000,000	4,000,000
Long-Term Debt	194,000,000	176,000,000
Total Financial Burdens	$290,000,000	$220,000,000
Total Financial Benefits *Over Financial Burdens*	$431,000,000	$520,000,000

Note 1: *Financial benefits increased by $19 million in 2024, which helped allow for a large increase in the County's net position. The County's investment in infrastructure played a significant role in the increase of Property and Equipment. The completion of large intersection improvement projects, bridge replacements and hot-mix road resurfacing throughout the County led to an increase of $20 million in that asset line item.*

Note 2: *Financial burdens decreased by $70 million in 2024. Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) both experienced a decrease in unfunded pension liabilities during the most recent measurement period, largely driven by strong investment performance. While both systems reported investment losses in the prior year, significant gains in the current year helped improve their funded positions. For OPERS, the shift from a net OPEB liability to a net OPEB asset was driven by a combination of favorable actuarial assumption changes and robust investment returns. STRS's net OPEB liability remained relatively stable year-over-year, reflecting a balance of offsetting impacts from actuarial updates and investment performance.*

These fluctuations are passed through to the County relative to their proportionate share of contributions of all members, which decreased/increased/remained relatively constant from the prior year for both retirement plans, contributing to overall decrease in expenditures impacted by pension and OPEB.

The Financial Activity Statement information was taken from the Statement of Net Position for Governmental Activities only located in the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The amounts are rounded to the nearest million and do not include deferred outflows or inflows of resources.

Benefits over Burdens

This amount represents the difference between the financial assets of the County and the liabilities which it must pay. The amount provides the net worth of the County.

Readers of the Financial Position Statement should keep in mind that the statement is presented on a non-GAAP basis, and those desiring to review GAAP basis reports should refer to the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for 2024.

Benefits

Cash is the amount of physical cash held by the County in checking accounts and on hand for purposes of paying expenses.

Investments are made up of the funds not needed to be held to pay expenses, so the Treasurer invests these funds in a variety of different types of accounts. This allows the County to earn interest on its surplus cash.

Receivables represent the amounts which are owed to the County and which are expected to be paid to the County over the course of the next twelve months.

Property & Equipment represent the furniture, equipment, vehicles, land, buildings, roads, bridges, and water and sewer plants and mains which provide for an economic benefit of greater than one year.

Burdens

Amounts Owed to Employees and Vendors are those items which the County owes to individuals and companies who supply a service or good, and the expected payment is to be made within twelve months.

Short-Term Debt represents amounts borrowed by the County which must be repaid within one year.

Long-Term Debt represents the amount of bonds which the County has issued and still owes. Bonds do not have to be paid off in one year, rather the County makes monthly or yearly debt payments on these amounts.

Other Liabilities are those items other than Amounts Owed to Employees and Vendors, as well as Short-Term and Long-Term Debt. Examples would be Amounts Owed to other Governments and other funds.

Receivables and Summary of Debt Instruments & Analysis

This summary provides an analysis of the different types of receivables carried by the County for Governmental Activities only.

Receivables	Amount
Accounts Receivable	$963,468
Intergovernmental Receivable	62,059,049
Sales Taxes Receivable	10,165,562
Property Taxes Receivable	93,819,553
Special Assessments Receivable	655,409
Loans Receivable	2,723,091
Accrued Interest Receivable	602,165
Total Receivables	$170,988,297

Summary of Debt Instruments

Special Assessments
Special Assessment Bonds are issued to pay for improvements benefitting property owners, and the owners pay the County over twenty years.

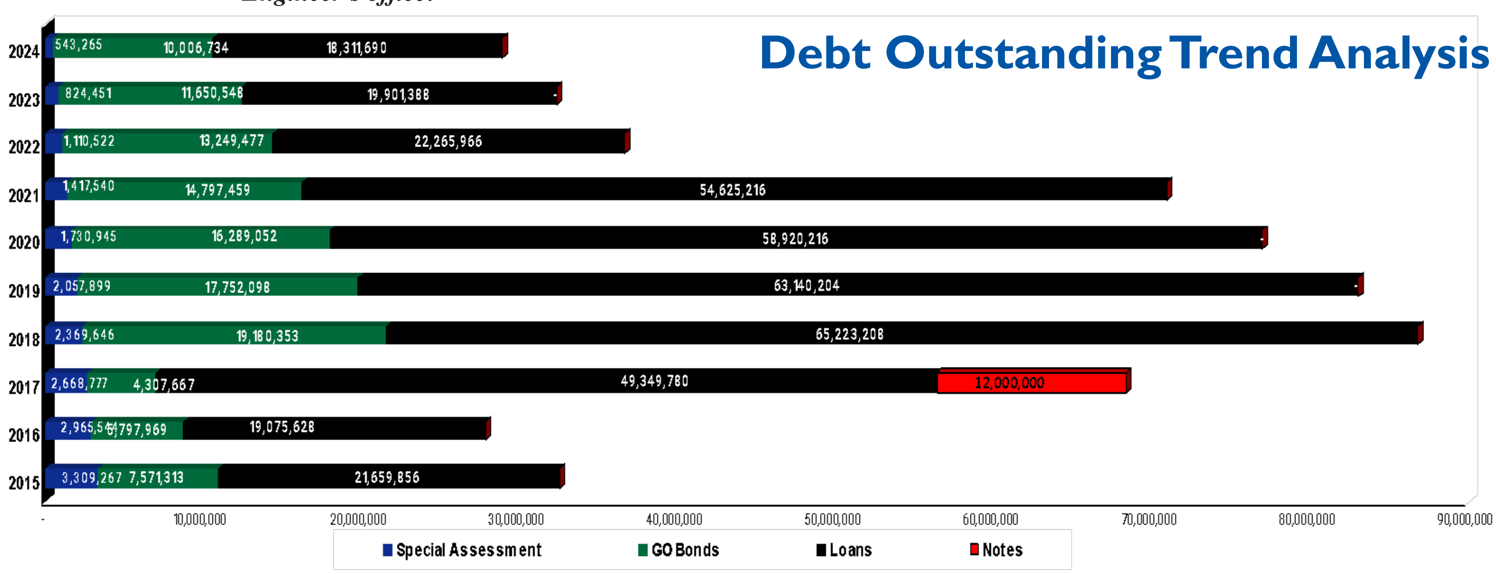
General Obligation
General Obligation Bonds are long-term debt instruments which are repaid from the County's general revenue sources.

Bond Anticipation Notes
Bond Anticipation Notes are short-term, interest-bearing debt instruments that are paid off with future bond issuances for upcoming projects.

Loans
Loans are acquired from state agencies for various sewer, water, and road projects. These are repaid from operating revenue of the Sanitary Engineer's office and intergovernmental revenue of the Engineer's office.

	Balance at 01-01-2024	New Money (ADDS)	Paid Off (DELETES)	Balance at 12-31-2024
Special Assessment	$824,451	$0	$281,186	$543,265
General Obligation Bonds	11,650,548	0	1,643,814	10,006,734
Loans	19,901,388	543,900	2,133,598	18,311,690
Total Debt	$32,376,387	$543,900	$4,058,598	$28,861,689

Debt Outstanding Trend Analysis



The County's bond rating was Aa2 in 2024 from Moody's.

Stark County Elected Officials

For the year ended December 31, 2024

County Commissioners www.starkcountyohio.gov/commissioners	Janet Weir-Creighton Richard R. Regula Bill C. Smith	(330) 451-7371
County Auditor www.starkcountyohio.gov/auditor	Alan C. Harold	(330) 451-7357
County Coroner www.starkcountyohio.gov/coroner	Ronald R. Rusnak	(330) 837-9299
County Engineer www.starkcountyohio.gov/engineer	Keith A. Bennett	(330) 477-6781
County Prosecutor www.starkcountyohio.gov/prosecutor	Kyle L. Stone	(330) 451-7897
County Recorder www.starkcountyohio.gov/recorder	Jamie Walters	(330) 451-7443
County Sheriff www.starkcountyohio.gov/sheriff	George T. Maier	(330) 430-3800
County Treasurer www.starkcountyohio.gov/treasurer **www.starktaxes.com**	Alex A. Zumbar	(330) 451-7814
Clerk of Courts www.starkcountyohio.gov/clerk	Lynn Miller Todaro	(330) 451-7622
Common Pleas Judges www.starkcountyohio.gov/common-pleas	Kristin G. Farmer Frank G. Forchione Chryssa N. Hartnett Natalie R. Haupt Taryn L. Heath	(330) 451-7931
Family Court Judges www.starkcountyohio.gov/family-court	Rosemarie A. Hall Jim D. James Michelle L. Cordova	(330) 451-7415
Probate Court Judge www.starkcountyohio.gov/probate	Dixilene N. Park	(330) 451-7755
Ohio Court of Appeals Fifth Appellate District www.fifthdist.org	Craig R. Baldwin Patricia A. Delaney W. Scott Gwin William B. Hoffman Earle E Wise, Jr. John W. Wise	(330) 451-7765