

CEO LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE



Ohio's four CEO-based business groups working to elevate our state by advancing economic development initiatives to continue the state's momentum.

P O L I C Y P R I O R I T I E S



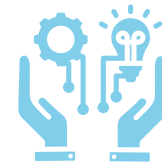
ENERGY



HOUSING



TALENT



INNOVATION

ENERGY

We are working to ensure Ohio does not have to turn away potential investment because of energy reliability concerns. Ohio is growing and has secured a number of economic development victories in recent years and wants to continue attracting similar investments in the future. However, we share concerns that Ohio's current power generation and power grid may not be able to support our future growth.

With our CEO-based memberships and deep expertise across the energy sector, we convened an **Energy Competitiveness Initiative and Report**, delivering actionable insights and recommendations that align producers, providers, and users. As our members continue to engage on this critical issue, we stand ready to support policymakers in advancing an all-of-the-above energy generation approach benefiting businesses and residents alike.

HOUSING

There is a clear shortage of both temporary and permanent housing to meet the growing workforce demand. Across the state, low housing stock and prolonged underbuilding have created significant gaps, particularly for middle-class families striving for homeownership. We are committed to expanding programs like the state **low-income housing tax credit** (LIHTC) and **reducing zoning burdens** to enable meaningful development. Additionally, evolving housing needs demand innovative solutions, such as **faster building conversions** in urban and suburban areas.

CONTACT US

Columbus Partnership
(614) 225-0500

Greater Cleveland Partnership
(216) 621-3300

Cincinnati Business Committee
(513) 241-9111

Ohio Business Roundtable
(614) 469-1044

TALENT

Education

In 2018, our organizations helped establish **Ohio Excels**, the only statewide organization that elevates, engages, and unites Ohio's business community on education issues. Ohio Excels' work impacts the state's entire education-to-workforce pipeline—from early childhood to postsecondary education. By bringing together top business leaders and education experts, they conduct research and shape policies on critical issues, such as foundational K-12 initiatives in literacy and math, **career-connected learning**, school choice, **workforce data and outcomes**, higher education investments, and more. To connect with the Ohio Excels team, please visit ohioexcels.org.

Child Care

Access to affordable childcare is a major barrier to workforce growth. We support policies that expand **access**, create **affordability** programs, and introduce innovative solutions to ensure Ohioans have flexible childcare options to support their work and family needs.

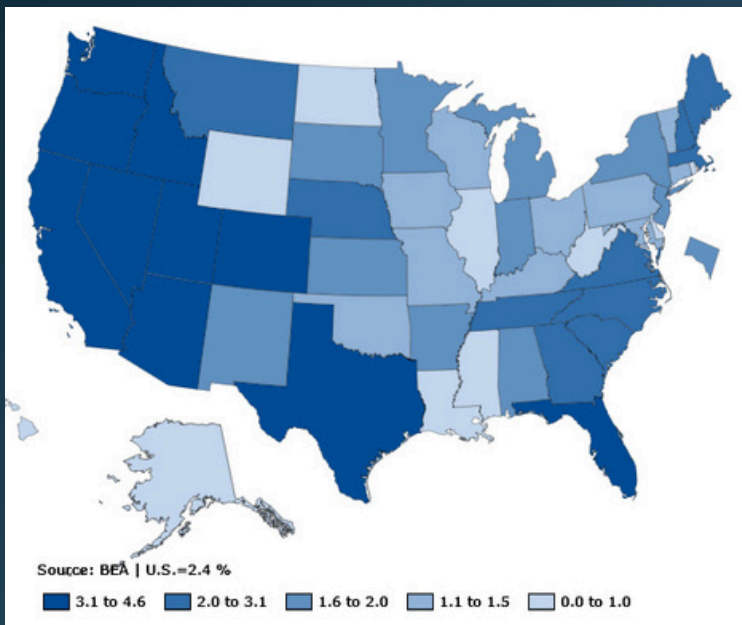
INNOVATION

Positioning Ohio as a leader in market-driven innovation, where ideas are created, made, and scaled, is critical for accelerating the state's growth. Although Ohio's R&D activity aligns with national averages, the state falls short in key metrics that drive innovation into broader economic impact. To close this gap, we support sustained investment in **Ohio's innovation hubs, districts, and alliances** that connect research and federal institutions and companies, programs that scale businesses, and policies that attract entrepreneurs and corporate and federal innovation.

Taxes

While reducing or eliminating income and commercial activity taxes could benefit the state, **we urge caution** to avoid fiscal impacts that undermine Ohio's ability to invest in economic growth drivers. On property taxes, we support legislative efforts to prevent disproportionate increases, especially as we work to expand our workforce.

US Real GDP, 2014-2023



WHY IT MATTERS...

While we have made progress, the latest economic data shows that Ohio's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth has lagged behind other states. As exhibited by the light blue, over the past decade, Ohio's growth has been slower, mirroring broader trends of stagnation, including the consistent loss of Congressional seats over the past 60 years. This underscores the need for targeted strategies to accelerate performance and competitiveness.

Economic development is vital for driving Real GDP growth, creating high-quality jobs, and improving quality of life across the state. The policy priorities outlined in this document are essential for attracting and retaining business investment, fostering innovation, and building robust, sustainable growth that benefits all Ohioans.