

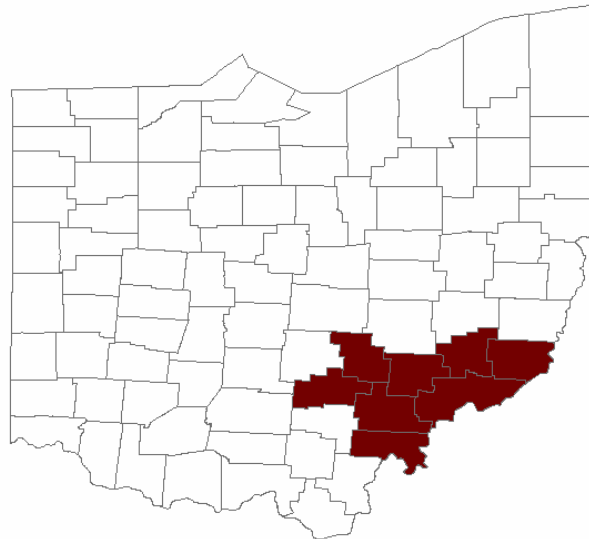


Buckeye Hills - Hocking Valley
Regional Development District

1999

C o m p r e h e n s i v e
E c o n o m i c
D e v e l o p m e n t
S t r a t e g y

Annual Report



Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties

CHAPTER I

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

The Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District (BH-HVRDD), created in 1968, is a voluntary organization of the local governmental subdivisions in Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in southeastern Ohio.

The Region is bounded on the south and east across the Ohio River by the state of West Virginia. There are four major highways serving the area: Interstate 77, U.S. Routes 33 and 50 and Ohio Route 7. As it passes through the area, Route 50 follows the Appalachian Highway Corridor D. These highways network the area internally and connect it to the Ohio metropolitan areas of Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

The purpose of the organization is to coordinate the economic and community development activities of the area, to provide a forum for the discussion and study of common problems of a regional nature, and to develop cooperative policy and action recommendations.

The agency is designated as an Economic Development District by the Economic Development Administration; Local Development District by the Appalachian Regional Commission; Regional Planning and Development Organization by the State of Ohio; Regional Clearinghouse by the Governor and the Office of Budget and Management; Ohio Industrial Training Program facilitator by the Ohio Department of Development; and the Area Agency on Aging for Region Eight by the Ohio Department of Aging.

Staff Structure

A General Policy Council made up to two-thirds local government officials, and one-third private citizens govern BH-HVRDD in its development efforts. The council's primary objective is to establish an annual budget and work program for the agency. Meeting semi-annually, the council oversees the actions of the Executive Committee, with the same two-thirds, one-third proportion. This smaller body acts as an extension of the General Policy Council in decisions requiring board approvals on a frequent basis, and also maintains a working understanding of the program in operation at BH-HVRDD. Although this Committee provides guidance and direction on a more immediate basis, final ruling on all decisions remains with the General Policy Council.

Under the authority of the Executive Committee, the Executive Director of BH-HVRDD serves as the Chief Administrative Officer. The Executive Director oversees the agency's day to day operation in all areas. These areas include preparation and execution of budget and work programs, and staffing, as required by the overall mission of the agency.

BH-HVRDD branches into three functional areas/ departments which includes, Economic Development, Community Development, and Area Agency on Aging.

CEDS Advisory Committee

Since the early 1970's, a common desire among organizations such as BH-HVRDD, in concert with federal, state and local units of government, was to coordinate, if not consolidate, the myriad of planning requirements facing municipal/county governments and areawide organizations into a single document. To achieve this aim, BH-HVRDD opted in 1970 to prepare an *Overall Economic Development Program* (OEDP) which was also referred to as *Areawide Action Program* (AAP). The name and focus was changed in 1998 to the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*. The CEDS represented a continuing process of coordinated planning, development and implementation. This process was based upon local participation and a partnership with various federal and state agencies.

The CEDS Advisory Committee performs a key role in the CEDS review process. The committee examines local priorities and formalizes a recommendation of critically needed programs and projects (ranked in order of priorities) included in the CEDS's project package.

It is this valuable input which continues to provide the CEDS with an essential tool in making locally related economic development decisions.

CEDS Planning Process

The planning process begins with establishing a vision statement followed by specific goals and strategies.

The mission of the CEDS report is to identify long-term issues confronting local communities and to outline strategies that can be pursued by these communities. The report also encourages the implementation of short-range programs and projects.

The CEDS planning process begins with a vision state, whose purpose is to formulate programs that create jobs, raise income levels, diversify the economy and improve the quality of life.

The following section describes the basic element of the CEDS planning process.

1. Organize the CEDS Committee.
2. Analyze area's demographic, economic, and infrastructural trends.
3. Identify and evaluate existing resources.
4. Identify strengths and weaknesses (internal to the area); opportunities and threats (external).
5. Adopt a strategic vision for change and develop a community-based planning process.
6. Identify priority issues and set broad goals for five-year initiative.
7. Develop program strategies that would help achieve each goal.
8. Identify activities, programs, and projects that would begin in the following two years.
9. Evaluate the progress to reach the past years goals.
10. Review and update the plan annually.

CHAPTER II

PAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The planning and development activities undertaken by BH-HVRDD are directed by the annual Work Program. These work programs help the staff to implement the program strategies of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

During Fiscal Year '99, the staff at Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District administered the following programs:

- I. Update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to include changes in the area's economy, as well as discuss the status of major regional issues;
- II. Provide Local communities and businesses demographic and economic data;
- III. Prepare materials for the Census 2000;
- IV. Assist communities with planning efforts;
- V. Assist communities with travel and tourism endeavors;
- VI. Assist in Land Use Planing;
- VII. Revolving Loan Program;
- VIII. Export Program;
- IX. State Capital Improvement Program/Local Transportation Improvement Program;
- X. Community Development Block Grant Formula Allocation Program;
- XI. Water and Sewer;
- XII. Industrial Sites;
- XIII. Downtown Revitalization; and
- XIV. Fair Housing.

I. CEDS Update

The CEDS helps state and federal officials make effective area investment decisions. The planning process includes meeting with the CEDS Advisory Committee and analyzing changes in the area's economy.

Annual updates to the CEDS will include current information on the demographic and economic trends, regional issues and development strategies, and project listing.

The basic work elements of FY'99 CEDS Update were as follows

- The staff conducted a CEDS project survey in March 1998, and held planning sessions with the Advisory Committee.
- The staff compiled and analyzed recent demographic and economic changes that might affect the CEDS.
- The staff is preparing this report as of May 1999, and plans to present the report to the CEDS Advisory Committee and BH-HVRDD staff in late July.

The final CEDS report will be presented to the Economic Development Administration no later than September 30, 1999.

II. Data Center Services

The Data Center provides public and private entities with demographic and economic data. This data is used for any number of reasons, such as preparing grant applications or media reporting.

The center receives the most current data from the state data center in book and compact disk form. The software on the compact disk allows for queries and quick retrieval of data. The data center uses this vast information system to help keep the people in the region informed by:

- The dissemination of demographic and economic data including: population, housing characteristics, labor force, and other economic characteristics.
- The production of census maps for specific community and business applications.
- The preparation of reports depicting areawide community characteristics.

The Data Center is also an affiliate of the Business and Industry Data Center (BIDC), which is a service provided by regional planning and development agencies in Ohio.

Table 2.1 is a summary of data requests for FY'99

Table 2.1 Data Requests
Ranked by Number of Requests

Organization	Number of Requests	Percentage of Requests	Most Requested Type of Data
Government	79	41%	Population
Business	61	33%	Other Maps
Media	9	5%	Population
Public Institution	17	9%	Community Profile
Consultant	1	1%	Income
Other	19	10%	Community Profile
Total	186	100%	

The Data Center received 186 request during the year. Services requests came from private developers, students, private consulting firms, the media, financial institutions, public service agencies and units of local government. The government sector requested the most data, while consultant requested the least. Overall, the most requested type of data is population.

III. CENSUS 2000

The staff of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District has been working with the United States Department of Commerce in preparing for the 2000 Census. The staff acted as a liaison between the local county engineers and the Department of Commerce in the updating of county maps for the Census. In addition the staff has offered technical assistance to communities to aid in their address-matching program. The staff is also amending the census tract and block group boundaries to meet the criteria of the 2000 Census.

IV. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

Meigs County

The planning staff at Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District is working with the Meigs County Economic Development Department in creating the Meigs County Master Plan. The

staff is currently conducting demographic research and analysis of the county. The staff is planning upon infusing the new Meigs County Master Plan with sustainable development concepts and practices. The end goal of the process being a sustainable plan for the future of the economic, cultural, and well being of Meigs County.

V. Travel and Tourism

Scenic Byway Program

The staff has been providing technical assistance to communities and organizations that wish to participate in the Scenic Byway Program. This fall, the staff helped the Morgan County Chamber of Commerce complete the management plan for it's scenic byway. The staff also aided the Village of Crooksville in completing an application to the Ohio Department of Transportation. Presently, the staff is working to provide assistance to the Village of Crooksville in the preparation of a management plan for the scenic byway.

Natural Resources/Travel and Tourism

The staff worked with the Noble County Historical Society, and the Economic Development Office of Noble County in applying for a \$10,000.00 GTE application to renovate the old county jail which had been donated to the historical society as a museum and information center.

The staff is working with the Village of Crooksville in preparing a travel and tourism corridor centered on the ceramic industry. The Village is seeking assistance in preparing a proposal to submit to the Ohio Hills Heritage Program. The proposal for a grant would fund a historical and site map for tourists visiting the area which would allow the tourists to readily find the ceramic centers in Perry County.

The staff provided technical assistance to the Buffington Island Preservation Society that is attempting to preserve the only Civil War Battlefield in Ohio located in Meigs County.

The staff continues to participate as a member on the State of Ohio's 2003 Bicentennial Civil War Commission Committee. The staff is assisting in coordinating educational efforts, events and placing markers throughout the region and the rest of Ohio.

The staff is working with the Washington County Scenic Byway/River Trails Committee to submit a grant to the Ohio Heritage Hills Committee for funding to develop a scenic byway countywide map and brochures.

The staff is working with the Meigs, Athens and Monroe River Trails and Scenic Byway Committee for transportation related projects.

VI. Land Use Planing

Washington County

The staff has been working with local leaders in Washington County to produce a comprehensive Land Use Plan for the county. At the present, the plan is still in the formative stage, but it expected to be completed within the year.

VII. Revolving Loan Fund

In Fiscal Year 1999 the staff of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District provided technical assistance and financial assistance to small business and industry in the region. The staff has done so through project analysis, financial packaging utilizing the Buckeye Hills' RLF Programs or through referrals to other state and federal programs.

The staff directly worked with thirty-five (35) businesses throughout the district seeking financing for expansion and start up costs. The total loan requests from these companies for RLF funding was \$1,736,050.00. Only sixteen (16) of these thirty-five (35) projects could be assisted due to RLF funding being exhausted. All ARC-RLF recapitalization funds were utilized from Washington, all local repaid funds from the ARC-RLF funds were utilized, and the EDA funds were loaned in Noble and Washington Counties as well as the City of Marietta. The FMHA-RLF funds were also used on these projects and as a result much of that source is depleted as well. However the sixteen (16) projects that were approved received \$1,034,248.00 of funding to assist them in various aspects of their expansions. Fiscal Year 1999 has been the year that Buckeye Hills loaned the largest amount of money since the inception of the RLF Programs 1 years ago beginning in 1987. The business which were assisted will be creating or retaining approximately 200 jobs within the region. These projects include a new pottery in Perry County, a pump distributor in Athens County, a speech therapy lab in Athens County, a service station, bakery and deli in Monroe County, a sports apparel shop in Marietta, Ohio; and a plastic pellet drying service for the polymer industry in Washington County. In addition, loans were made to a hardware/lumberyard in Washington County, a restaurant in Marietta, Ohio, for a construction firm in Caldwell, Ohio; for a microbrewery and restaurant in Marietta, Ohio; a concrete company in Perry County, a canoe

livery in Morgan County. A service station in Athens County and a construction company in Noble County.

The 166 Regional Loan Fund still maintains a large amount of funding and projects of a manufacturing nature could be funded under that program. Just recently, the staff was coordinating efforts with the Meigs County Economic Development Director and the Governor's Office of Economic Development in the region in an attempt to assist a company through the 166 Regional Program. A company in that county was being considered for a buyout by another Ohio firm. However the deal fell through when bank financing could not be secured. The staff plans to upgrade their brochure on the 166 Regional Program and direct mail it to manufacturers and service related businesses in an effort to aggressively market this loan program.

VIII. Export Program

During fiscal year 1999 the staff worked closely with the Marietta College International Trade Advisory Council, the State of Ohio International Trade Division, U.S. Department of Commerce and the Appalachian Export Network. In a coordinated effort all of the above agencies worked together with the staff to locate companies within the region who are ready to expand into the global market or to locate new global markets for their products. The staff identified two trade shows and concentrated on REPCOM '98 in Mexico City in December of 1998 and REPCAN '99 in Ontario in June of 1999.

The staff decided to review small businesses that had applied for financial assistance through the Buckeye Hills' RLF Programs for expansions. These companies had been reviewed by the RLF Committees for loans and so the financials of the companies demonstrated that they had the ability to expand therefore could be good candidates for exporting. The staff visited the companies to determine if domestic sales were in place and if there was an interest in selling their products overseas. Once this was determined, the staff centered on locating trade shows in Canada or Mexico that the company might want to attend as a first attempt in locating distributors and representatives in those countries.

TAT Engineering of Athens County and Ohio River Bear Company of Middleport and Marietta, Ohio were selected as companies to receive assistance in marketing in Mexico. The staff working in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Commerce's Cincinnati, Ohio office assisted TAT Engineering in preparing to attend REPCOM '98 in Mexico City. TAT Engineering had determined that Mexico was the country they would most like to expand into and felt that there is great potential for pump

sales. Consequently, the staff and the U.S. Department of Commerce staff assisted the company in registering, preparing shipments and documents to attend the trade show. The U.S. Department of Commerce located six (6) Mexican companies who wanted to meet with TAT Engineering while they were at the show.

TAT Engineering attended the show which they deemed to be successful. They met with the pre-selected six companies which were interested in doing business with them and they have subsequently determined that two of those companies are most likely capable of fulfilling contract requirements. Negotiations are still underway with these two companies and the Marietta College ITAC along with SBA will be following up to discuss working capital export loans and documents for shipping to Mexico.

Ohio River Bear Company was unable to attend the REPCOM '98 show however, the staff worked with the Mexico office of the Ohio Department of Development's International Trade Division and an informal search was done for distributor's and representatives to sell Ohio River Bear's product in Mexico. At present no distributors or representatives have been located. The staff continues to work with this company however as it is believed by both the staff and the Ohio International Trade Division it is a product what should sell well in Mexico.

Finally, the staff worked this spring with JABOVITRO Inc. of Reno, Ohio and Zide's Sport's Shop. The staff worked at putting together a group of businesses to attend the U.S. Department of Commerce's REPCAN '99 Trade show in Ontario in June 1999. Zide's Sports shop of Marietta, Ohio expressed an interest but had a scheduling conflict. However, JABOVITRO Inc. did attend the REPCAN '99 Trade show. The staff prepared all documents and submitted them to the Embassy in Ontario on behalf of the company.

Results of the show have yet to be determined however due to JABOVITRO being diverse; the U.S. Department of Commerce was locating distributors in both the industrial sectors and the service sectors.

The staff continues to work with JABOVITRO as this company received an EDA-RLF loan in 1989 and has expanded from its initial 60 employees to 102 and has expanded into two additional buildings since it initially started. Annual sales continue to be approx. \$4.2 Million. In addition the company is environmentally friendly as it utilized broken glass destined for landfills to produce glass marbles used in the gaming, craft, and industrial markets.

The staff took part in two international seminars for business and remains active in the Eastern Ohio Development Alliances' Export Committee.

**IV. State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP)
Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP)**

During the past year, the Community Development staff sent twenty-seven (27) projects, totaling \$7,427,212, to the State of Ohio Public Works Commission for funding under Round 13 of the SCIP/LTIP programs. The Community Development staff ranked these applications, and the District Committee then added their priority points. Additionally, Community Development staff collected seventeen (17) applications for funding consideration by the Small Government Program, which is also implemented by the Ohio Public Works Commission. Community Development staff ranked the applications and the Small Government Committee then added their priority points. Ten (10) projects were sent to the State to complete for approximately \$2,000,000 under the Small Government Program. Four of the ten projects that were sent to the State received grant or 2% loan dollars in the amount of \$363,260. Currently, Community Development staff has begun the process of organizing the District Committee for Round 14 of the OPWC SCIP/LTIP programs. The first meeting of the District Committee will be held June 9, 1999.

X. Community Development Block Grant Formula Allocation Program

Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District administered the fiscal year 1998 Community Development Block Grant Formula Allocation program for Morgan and Washington County. Each county selects 6 projects and each acquired city chooses 3 project. These projects total more than \$300,000. The County Commissioners review the pre-applications and prioritizes the projects for funding and an emphasis is given to those projects that will further strengthen rural infrastructure. Each project identifies a need within the community and meets the national objective of servicing those individuals with low to moderate income.

Morgan County funded the following types of projects: establishment of water service to rural communities, purchase of fire protection equipment for the volunteer fire departments, and a feasibility study of combination of a senior center with a town hall.

Washington County supported the following: street improvements, removal of barriers to a museum, park and recreation renovations, and the extension of public water.

XI. Water and Sewer

Hocking College: The staff assisted Hocking College in preparing applications to the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to fund a waterline that will supply water to a portion of the campus and the Ramada Inn. The total estimated cost of this project is \$480,000 and will create 60 jobs. Applications have been submitted.

Rocky Shoes and Boots: The staff is administering a project that will provide water and sewer services and an access road for an expansion of Rocky Shoes and Boots, Inc. The expansion includes construction of a warehouse and purchase of equipment amounting to 6.4 million dollars. The total estimated cost of the infrastructure to serve the warehouse is \$762,024 and includes funding from ODOD, ARC, the State of Ohio, and \$162,024 of locally committed funds and resources. Construction is nearing completion.

Noble County Water Authority: Construction activities are underway for a project providing water to 235 residential customers in northwest Noble County. This project includes construction of approximately 25 miles of waterline, two water storage tanks, and a pumping station. This project is funded through ODOD, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC), and locally committed funds. Total estimated cost of this project is 2.1 million dollars. The Noble County Water Authority and the Noble County Commissioners are co-owners of this project until its completion. Buckeye Hills is administering this project for the Noble County Commissioners.

Newport Water: USDA funds have been recently committed and engineering design has begun for a project in eastern Washington County that will provide water to 188 residents and a high school. Buckeye Hills staff will be preparing an application to submit to ODOD for additional funding. The total estimated cost is 2.9 million dollars. This project includes installation of a 183,000 gallon storage tank, a well, and 99,000 feet of waterline. Funding from ODOD, USDA, and OPWC will finance this project.

Village of Pomeroy: Bids were recently opened for a sanitary sewer project that will serve 145 residences in the Village of Pomeroy, Meigs County. This project includes installation of 15,100 feet of sewer line, 4,700 feet of force main, and a new lift station. The total estimated project cost is 1.4 million dollars and is funded through ODOD, ARC and OPWC.

Elba Emergency Project: Construction has just been completed for a project that provides potable water to residents in the area of Elba located in

northern Washington County. This project was necessitated by floodwaters that contaminated the residents' water supply. This project includes installation of 31,500 feet of water line. The total estimated cost of this project is \$507,900 and it is funded through ODOD, the Washington County Commissioners, and two local foundations. Buckeye Hills is administering this project for the Washington County Commissioners.

XII. Industrial Sites

Morgan County Industrial Park: Buckeye Hills staff has been meeting with local, state and federal officials in order to assist in securing funding for an industrial park in Morgan County. Application has been made to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and ARC.

Logan-Hocking Industrial Site: Buckeye Hills has assisted the city of Logan in securing funding for water and sewer facilities to service a new industrial site located outside of the city of Logan in Hocking County. The total estimated cost of this infrastructure is 2.3 million dollars. Application for funding has been submitted to EDA, ARC, and ODOD. Local funds have been committed to the project amounting to \$571,000. Buckeye Hills will be administering this project.

XIII. Downtown Revitalization

The Village of McConnelsville in Morgan County applied for Fiscal Year 1998 CDBG Downtown Revitalization Program funds but were not awarded funds. Buckeye Hills is assisting McConnelsville in amending their application for submission for Fiscal Year 1999 Downtown program funding. The Downtown program provides funding for renovation of building facades and streetscape in the central business area.

XIV. Fair Housing

Buckeye Hills operates as a Fair Housing Information Center for the Fair Housing Consortium established in 1996. The Fair Housing Consortium consists of Morgan, Noble and Washington counties and is funded by a Community Development Block Grant New Horizons Fair Housing Program Grant.

The role of BH-HVRDD and the Fair Housing Information Center is to act as an informational outlet: distribution of brochures and posters, operation of a toll free fair housing hotline, conducting a fair housing impediments analysis, sponsoring fair housing presentations to specific target groups, and the publication of a housing guide for low to moderate income families.

**CHAPTER III
REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS**

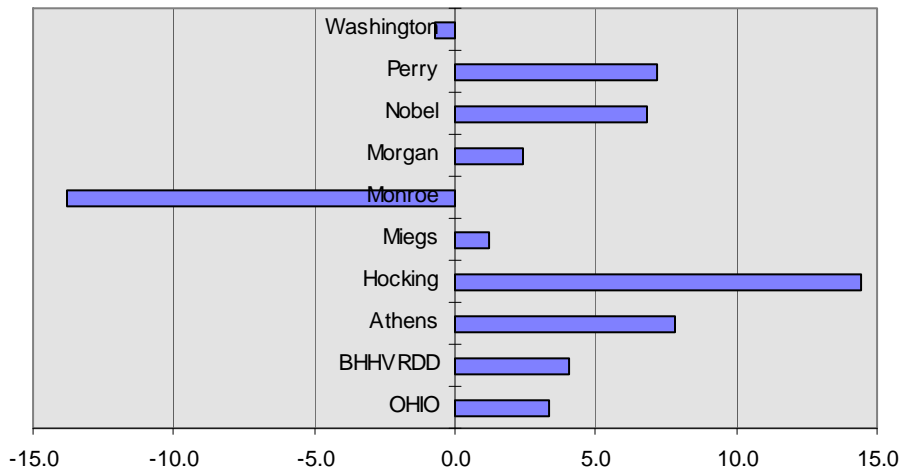
CONSTITUENCY

Population Profile

Geographic Area	Census			Percentage Change		
	1980	1990	1996	1980-1990	1990-1996	1980-1996
OHIO	10,797,604	10,847,115	11,172,782	0.5	2.7	3.4
Region	242,575	242,907	252,772	0.1	3.7	4.0
Athens	56,399	59,549	61,162	5.6	1.9	7.8
Hocking	24,304	25,533	28,413	5.1	8.8	14.5
Meigs	23,641	22,987	23,938	-2.8	4.5	1.2
Monroe	17,382	15,497	15,279	-10.8	-0.7	-13.8
Morgan	14,241	14,194	14,599	-0.3	2.8	2.5
Nobel	11,310	11,336	12,134	0.2	6.3	6.8
Perry	31,032	31,557	33,420	1.7	5.9	7.1
Washington	64,266	62,254	63,827	-3.1	2.5	-0.7

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research "Ohio County Indicators: Population Series"

Percentage Change in Population 1980-1996



The population of the region has increased from 1980 to 1996 by 4.0%. This growth rate was faster than Ohio's growth rate of only 3.4%. This overall increase is due to the population growth of Athens, Hocking, Nobel, and Perry Counties. Increases of 7.8, 14.5, 6.8, and 7.1% respectively. The growth of these counties help to offset the dramatic decline in population for Monroe County, a decrease in population of 13.8%. The decline in Monroe County can be traced to the lack of adequate transportation, declining job opportunities and an aging population. The population increase of Athens County is due to enrollment at Ohio

University coupled with the increased employment opportunities that a large university creates. In the case of Perry County, the population increase is due in part to the newest exurb of Columbus located near Buckeye Lake.

	Estimate	Projections				Change (%)
	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	1995-2015
OHIO	11,150,506	11,88,300	11,345,400	11,522,00	11,753,500	5.1
Region	251,412	251,400	253,400	257,100	260,800	3.6
Athens	60,687	60,400	60,900	61,800	63,400	4.3
Hocking	27,632	29,000	30,500	32,100	33,900	18.5
Meigs	24,066	23,700	23,700	24,800	26,500	9.2
Monroe	15,388	15,300	14,700	14,300	13,100	-17.5
Morgan	14,602	14,200	14,400	14,700	15,900	8.2
Noble	11,881	12,400	13,400	14,100	15,400	22.9
Perry	33,320	34,000	35,100	35,600	36,500	8.7
Washington	63,836	62,400	60,700	59,700	56,100	-13.8

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research "Ohio County Indicators: Population Series"

By the year 2015, the Buckeye Hills - Hocking Valley Region is projected to decline in population by 1.3%. The greatest loss of population will be in Monroe and Washington Counties. Conversely Meigs, and Morgan are projected to gain population by 9.2% and 8.2% respectively. Given the more recent trends shown in Table 3.1, these figures are called in question as toward their accuracy.

	0-14	Percent of Total	15-24	Percent of Total	25-64	Percent of Total	65+	Percent of Total
Ohio	2,384,797	21.5	1,548,015	13.9	5,678,824	51.2	1,490,632	13.4
Region	52,326	20.9	43,326	17.3	12,0755	48.3	33,862	13.5
Athens	10,384	17.2	18,680	30.9	25,169	41.6	6,233	10.3
Hocking	5,998	21.8	3,575	13.0	14,133	51.4	3,795	13.8
Meigs	5,210	21.8	3,052	12.8	11,890	49.8	3,719	15.6
Monroe	3,160	20.7	1,889	12.4	7,768	50.8	2,475	16.2
Morgan	3,433	23.8	1,751	12.1	7,008	48.5	2,260	15.6
Noble	2,842	24.1	1,400	11.9	5,708	48.4	1,843	15.6
Perry	7,978	23.9	4,480	13.4	16,375	49.1	4,510	13.5
Washington	13,321	21.0	8,499	13.4	32,704	51.5	9,027	14.2

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Indicators: Business & Industry Series" October 1997.

According to table 3.3, the 25-64 age cohort for the region is the most populous at 48.3%, this is slightly below the state at 51.2%. Also, children 0-14 make up less of the total population in the region than they did on the state level. Persons 15-24 and over 65 were more populous in the region than they were at the state.

Athens County had 17% of its population under 14, this is the lowest percentage of the counties in the region, but the number is the second highest. Athens had the 31% of its population between 14 and 24, this is the greatest percentage of the counties, this is accounted for by the presence of Ohio University. Hocking and Washington Counties both had over 51% of their population between 25 and 64. Meigs County had 15.6% of its population over 65, this is the highest percentage of counties in the region.

	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Other
Athens	55,866	1,676	469	170	1,314	54
Hocking	25,132	153	75	97	50	26
Meigs	22,707	131	47	75	27	0
Monroe	15,366	91	12	26	2	0
Morgan	13,511	574	10	70	20	9
Noble	11,294	2	0	34	6	0
Perry	31,293	69	99	74	22	0
Washington	60,995	718	157	104	221	59

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "1990 Census of Population and Housing" November 1992.

The counties of the region: Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, and Washington, predominately white. The African-American, Hispanic, American Indian and Asian populations only make up a small percentage of the racial profile.

PREFORMANCE MEASURES

People

	Total Births	Rate (1,000)	Teen Birth	Rate	Deaths	Rate	Marriages	Rate	Divorces	Rate
Ohio	153,747	13.8	20,988	1.9	105,563	9.5	88,964	8.0	48,226	4.3
Region	3,066	12.2	490	1.9	2,425	9.6	2,068	8.2	1,200	4.8
Athens	660	10.9	107	1.8	461	7.6	459	7.6	258	4.3
Hocking	370	13.2	73	2.6	259	9.3	125	4.5	142	5.1
Meigs	244	10.1	35	1.5	235	9.8	210	8.7	125	5.2
Monroe	155	10.1	22	1.4	185	12.0	186	12.1	60	3.9
Morgan	171	11.7	30	2.1	162	11.1	116	7.9	79	5.4
Noble	138	11.4	25	2.1	125	10.3	86	7.1	45	3.7
Perry	492	14.7	95	2.8	330	9.8	311	9.3	162	4.8
Washington	836	13.1	103	1.6	668	10.5	575	9.0	329	5.2

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The total birth rate of the region, 12.2, is slightly below that of the state, 13.8. The teen birth rate is the same for the region as it is for the state, 1.9. The region is slightly ahead of the state in deaths, marriages and divorces. Hocking County has the highest birth rate in the region. Perry County has the highest teen birth rate in the region. While Monroe has the lowest teen birth rate in the region. Monroe County at 12.0 has the highest death rate, and at 12.1 the highest marriage rate. Morgan County has the highest divorce rate.

	1990-1991		1991-1992		1992-1993		1993-1994		1990-1994 Net Change
	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	
Region	9,644	8,974	9,534	8,584	10,198	8,736	9,837	9,072	3,847
Athens	2,278	2,082	2,142	2,218	2,408	2,196	2,297	2,426	203
Hocking	1,181	1,006	1,328	967	1,385	1,033	1,298	1,053	1,133
Meigs	864	774	850	719	945	688	966	716	728
Monroe	434	538	423	478	472	600	458	510	-339
Morgan	462	485	484	393	483	421	444	363	211
Noble	831	343	447	424	549	448	504	481	635
Perry	1,304	1,292	1,486	1,242	1,491	1,209	1,490	1,294	734
Washington	2,290	2,454	2,374	2,143	2,465	2,141	2,380	2,229	542

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.6 shows the in - out migration of each county for the years of 1990 to 1994. Between these years, Hocking County had a net increase of 1,133 persons due to migration. This trend in Hocking County is due the number of persons commuting into Columbus. Monroe County, however, had a net loss of 339 persons due to migration over the same time frame. This population loss is due mainly to a lack of a major highway system as well as a lack of jobs.

Employment

Area	Inside County	Outside County	Percentage Working Outside
OHIO	3,719,156	1,124,049	23.2
BH-HVR	63,989	29,757	31.7
Athens	19,342	3,448	15.1
Hocking	5,793	4,338	42.8
Meigs	4,138	3,380	45.4
Monroe	3,541	1,777	33.4
Morgan	3,059	1,879	38.1
Noble	2,308	1,910	45.3
Perry	6,130	5,880	48.1
Washington	19,678	7,145	26.6

source: Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland, Ohio Poverty Indicators 1995

As a region, more persons work outside their county of residents than do persons on the state level. The low working outside the county rate in Athens County is due to the University. Ohio University employs a good deal of the population of Athens County. And when support industries for the university is taken into account, that number is even greater. The high rate in Hocking County is due to the suburbs of Columbus, the same is true for Perry County. A good number of workers living in Meigs County work in West Virginia. In Monroe County, workers commute to either Washington or Belmont County. In Morgan County, the workers either travel to Washington or Muskingum County. In Noble County, workers commute to Washington or Guernsey County. A good number of workers in Washington County work in West Virginia.

In the case of Hocking and Perry Counties, urban sprawl is responsible for the commute of workers. In the case of Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, and Noble Counties, workers make a choice between commuting to another county for employment or moving from their homes.

Income

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
United States	\$19,687	\$20,631	\$21,368	\$22,186	\$23,359	\$24,436
Ohio	\$18,652	\$19,567	\$20,379	\$21,370	\$22,560	\$23,493
Athens	\$12,055	\$12,556	\$13,058	\$13,655	\$14,018	\$14,799
Hocking	\$13,472	\$14,116	\$14,596	\$15,169	\$15,788	\$16,363
Meigs	\$11,901	\$12,434	\$12,529	\$13,114	\$13,533	\$14,059
Monroe	\$13,086	\$14,113	\$14,131	\$15,108	\$15,175	\$15,774
Morgan	\$13,701	\$14,304	\$14,577	\$14,668	\$14,793	\$15,239
Noble	\$11,840	\$12,780	\$13,270	\$13,985	\$14,018	\$14,813
Perry	\$12,059	\$12,628	\$12,881	\$13,590	\$14,201	\$14,309
Washington	\$15,428	\$16,376	\$16,855	\$17,532	\$18,437	\$19,556

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research "Ohio County Indicators, Business & Industry Series" June, 1998.

Personal Per Capita Income is calculated by the Bureau of Economic Analysis on an annual basis. The BEA per capita income figures include the value of food stamps, Medicaid and Medicare payments, among other things.

Between 1991 and 1996, the county residents of this region have had far less personal per capita income compared to the state and nation. Even the state as a whole, has less personal per capita income than that of the nation. Residents of Meigs County have the lowest personal per capita income of the region, and was ranked 87th out of the 88 Ohio counties. Washington County residents have the highest personal per capita income of the region, but that is still far below that of the state.

Between 1991 and 1996, the nation was an increase of \$4,749 in personal per capita income, Ohio's increase was even greater at \$4,841, and the residents of Washington Counties increase was \$4,128. Unfortunately, the remainder of the counties in the region increases were not so great. Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Noble and Perry Counties only saw, over the six year period and increase of two thousand dollars to their personal per capita income. Morgan County was the exception with a personal per capita income increase of only fifteen hundred dollars.

Area	Years			Percentage Change		
	1980	1990	1995	1980-1990	1990-1995	1980-1995
OHIO	11.1	13.6	14.9	18.4	10.9	27.3
Region	13.7	19.3	21.0	29.1	11.5	37.3
Athens	21.6	28.7	32.5	28.6	13.5	38.2
Hocking	12.4	15.7	14.5	23.9	1.2	24.8
Meigs	17.1	27.0	25.8	34.2	0.2	34.3
Monroe	13.5	21.5	26.2	29.2	17.4	41.5
Morgan	14.8	21.2	21.9	29.7	5.7	33.7
Noble	13.0	16.4	18.4	20.7	16.6	33.8
Perry	12.5	19.1	21.0	35.2	14.7	44.7
Washington	9.8	13.7	15.8	26.2	15.43	37.5

source: Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland, Ohio Poverty Indicators 1995

The poverty rate of nearly every county within the region has been growing at a rate higher than the state's. Perry, Monroe and Athens Counties have shown the greatest increase in poverty in the period of 1980 to 1995. The only county with a poverty level below that of the state's is Hocking County. Between 1990 and 1995 Meigs County lowered its poverty rate, but that was accomplished mainly by out-migration. Morgan County has managed to stabilize their poverty rate in 1995. Washington County saw a big increase in their poverty rate between 1980 and 1990.

Area	0-17	18-64	65+
OHIO	17.8	10.7	10.7
Region	25.2	19.0	16.4
Athens	29.3	30.8	14.5
Hocking	20.8	13.5	15.4
Meigs	35.0	23.3	20.3
Monroe	28.8	18.1	22.3
Morgan	31.3	17.7	14.9
Noble	22.7	12.7	18.3
Perry	25.4	16.0	18.8
Washington	18.0	11.9	13.5

source: Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland, Ohio Poverty Indicators 1995

The biggest age cohort living in poverty are those persons under 17, this holds true not only for the region but for the state as well. The second largest group

living in poverty are those aged 18 to 64, the working age. 16.4% of those aged 65 and above are living in poverty.

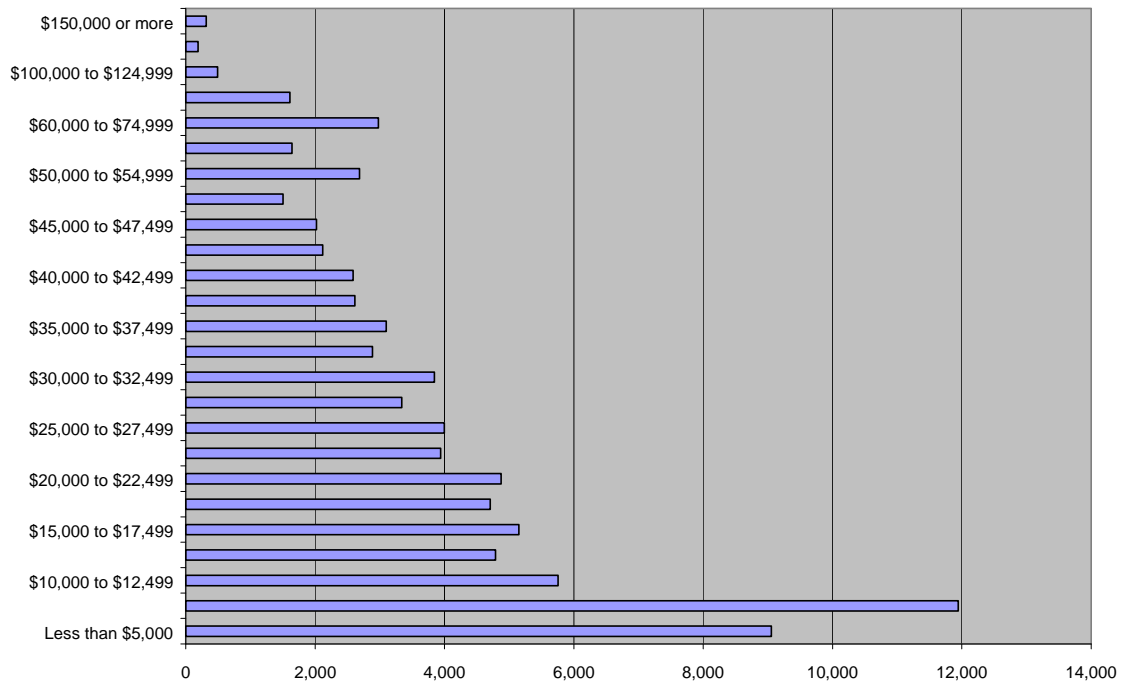
Table 3.11 - Regional Distribution of Income

Less than \$5,000	9,054
\$5,000 to \$9,999	11,943
\$10,000 to \$12,499	5,757
\$12,500 to \$14,999	4,788
\$15,000 to \$17,499	5,151
\$17,500 to \$19,999	4,705
\$20,000 to \$22,499	4,874
\$22,500 to \$24,999	3,941
\$25,000 to \$27,499	3,996
\$27,500 to \$29,999	3,340
\$30,000 to \$32,499	3,844
\$32,500 to \$34,999	2,885
\$35,000 to \$37,499	3,100
\$37,500 to \$39,999	2,615
\$40,000 to \$42,499	2,586
\$42,500 to \$44,999	2,116
\$45,000 to \$47,499	2,021
\$47,500 to \$49,999	1,503
\$50,000 to \$54,999	2,687
\$55,000 to \$59,999	1,641
\$60,000 to \$74,999	2,976
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,609
\$100,000 to \$124,999	492
\$125,000 to \$149,999	192
\$150,000 or more	317

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "1990 Census of Population and Housing", November 1992.

The graph below shows the income distribution curve for the region. The majority of households in the region earned between \$5,000 and \$9,999 in 1989. This income level is below the poverty level. There are two other significant bulges on the curve, they occur at \$60,000 to \$74,999 and \$50,000 to \$54,999. These two bulges show that some households in the region are earning a good wage, but the remainders of households are not.

Regional Distribution of Income



Quality of Life

	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Occupancy Rate
Region	98,271	88,113	89.7
Athens	21,737	20,139	92.6
Hocking	10,481	9,351	89.2
Meigs	9,795	8,662	88.4
Monroe	6,567	5,754	87.6
Morgan	6,681	5,170	77.4
Noble	4,998	4,137	82.8
Perry	12,260	11,264	91.9
Washington	25,752	23,636	91.8

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "1990 Census of Population and Housing", November 1992.

The above table shows the total housing units in the area, as well as the total occupied housing units. The total occupied housing units includes both rental and owner occupied units. Athens County had the highest occupancy rate at 92.6, followed by Perry County at 91.9, and Washington County at 91.8. Morgan County has the lowest occupancy rate at 77.4.

	Number of renter occupied units	Median rent	Rent as Percentage				
			Less than 20%	20-24%	25-29%	30-34%	More than 35%
Region	21,318	293	5,683	2,328	1,762	1,267	8,083
Athens	7,338	355	1,434	653	519	371	3,737
Hocking	1,968	311	577	271	160	152	666
Meigs	1,571	264	330	122	126	109	626
Monroe	877	274	233	60	108	25	284
Morgan	991	262	283	106	75	38	363
Noble	692	290	213	87	72	30	181
Perry	2,223	290	667	293	238	120	670
Washington	5,658	300	1,946	736	464	422	1,556

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "1990 Census of Population and Housing" November 1992.

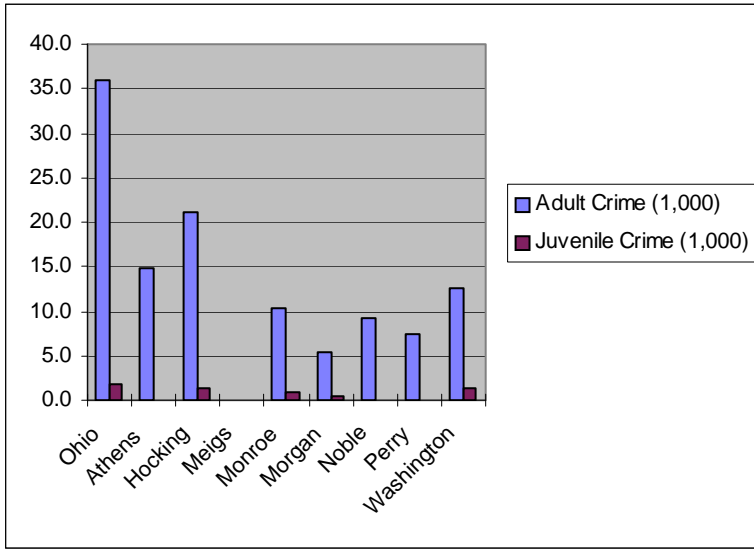
The average rent for the region was \$293 dollars per month. Athens had the highest median rent at \$355, and Morgan the lowest at \$262. The mean of people in the region pay more than 35% of their gross pay in rent. This is due to the high occupancy rate in the region, making housing scarce and therefore expensive. The exception to this trend is in Washington County. The mean of Washington County residents pay less than 20% of their gross pay in rent. But considering that the occupancy rate is over 90% the housing is under valued.

	Adult Crime (1,000)	Juvenile Crime (1,000)
Ohio	36.0	1.9
Region	10.1	0.5
Athens	14.9	0.0
Hocking	21.1	1.4
Meigs	0.0	0.0
Monroe	10.3	0.8
Morgan	5.3	0.4
Noble	9.2	0.1
Perry	7.5	0.0
Washington	12.5	1.3

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The adult and juvenile crime rate for the region is well below that of the state. Hocking County has the highest adult crime rate at 21.1, while Meigs County has

the lowest at 0.0. Athens, Meigs, Perry Counties all report a juvenile crime rate of 0.0. Hocking County had the highest juvenile crime rate of the region at 1.4.



ECONMIC STRUCTURE

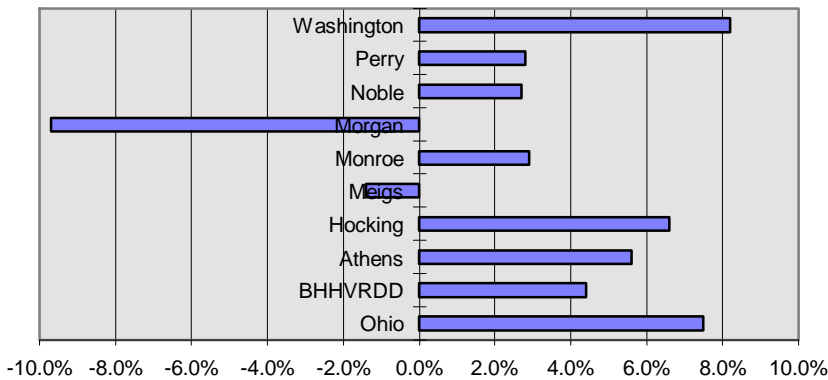
Jobs

	1990	1995	change	
			Number	percent
Ohio	5,919,271	6,361,172	441,901	7.5%
Region	98,244	102,777	4,533	4.4%
Athens	24,604	25,981	1,377	5.6%
Hocking	8,717	9,288	571	6.6%
Meigs	7,403	7,298	-105	-1.4%
Monroe	7,377	7,566	189	2.9%
Morgan	6,300	5,960	-610	-9.7%
Noble	3,980	4,087	107	2.7%
Perry	9,888	10,166	278	2.8%
Washington	29,975	32,431	2,456	8.2%

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Indicators: Business & Industry Series" October 1997.

Table 3.15 shows the changes in full and part time employment between 1990 and 1995. While the state of Ohio has increase full and part time employment by 7.5%, the region as a whole has only increased by 4.4%. Of the counties in this region, only Washington County is faring better than the state with a 8.2% increase in employment. Morgan County if faring the worst in this region with a decrease in total employment of 9.7%. For the remaining counties, growth has been sluggish.

Percent Change in Total Employment, 1990-95



County	Company	Product	Jobs Created	Project Total
Athens	Hocking College Motor Lodge	Hotel		\$4,500,000
Hocking	Metal Powder Specialties	Powdered Metal Parts		\$1,075,000
Noble	International Converter	Laminated Foil	11	\$2,500,000
Perry	Buckeye Ice Inc.	Ice	5	\$1,000,000
Perry	Ferro Corp.	Refractories	36	\$1,500,000
Perry	ITT Automotive	Auto Parts	6	\$4,552,000
Perry	MYCO Corp.	Plastics		
Washington	Brooks Beverage Management	Soft Drinks	75	\$2,000,000
Washington	Degussa Corp.	Specialty Carbon Blacks	12	\$17,500,000
Washington	Dimex Corp.	Plastics	9	\$1,475,000
Washington	Everready	Chemicals		\$4,000,000
Washington	Flexmag Industries	Magnets	25	\$5,500,000
Washington	Marietta Industrial Enterprises	General Warehousing	10	\$3,000,000
Washington	Wal-Bon of Ohio	Baked Goods	48	\$2,400,000
Washington	Wetz Investments	Spec. Building		\$2,000,000

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research "Ohio Site Selection List 1995, 1996 & 1997", March 1999.

In 1997 the greatest location of private investment occurred in Washington and Perry Counties. In the case of Washington County, transportation access, both to the interstate highway system and to the Ohio River may have played a part in the location of these businesses. In the case of Perry County, close access to the interstate highway system and the water system from Buckeye Lake may have played a part in the location of these businesses. Of the above listed business only three are new: the Hocking College Motor Lodge, Brooks Beverage Management, and Wetz Investments. All of the other business were expansions of existing businesses.

In the original report published by the Office of Strategic Research, the State of Ohio was divided into twelve regions. When compared with the other regions, the Buckeye Hills region was second to last in private investment in the state. The region which have even less private investment than the Buckeye Hills region was another Appalachian area of the state. In fact the three regions which comprise the Appalachian portion of Ohio finished at or near the bottom of ranking list of private investment.

	Total Transfer Payments						1996 Total
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	Personal Income
Region	\$766,482	\$851,147	\$888,059	\$917,935	\$962,823	\$1,001,500	\$4,061,134
Athens	\$180,596	\$197,384	\$207,798	\$214,496	\$221,015	\$227,049	\$903,987
Hocking	\$81,392	\$89,634	\$95,804	\$95,756	\$100,714	\$105,423	\$466,537
Meigs	\$81,424	\$91,134	\$93,050	\$98,635	\$102,832	\$107,513	\$336,533
Monroe	\$46,792	\$53,313	\$53,448	\$57,099	\$58,979	\$62,014	\$241,668
Morgan	\$45,346	\$52,119	\$55,244	\$56,011	\$58,898	\$61,939	\$222,244
Noble	\$34,014	\$37,053	\$37,889	\$38,740	\$39,301	\$42,421	\$178,973
Perry	\$104,637	\$115,791	\$122,376	\$128,660	\$139,804	\$139,024	\$484,396
Washington	\$192,281	\$214,719	\$222,450	\$228,538	\$241,280	\$256,117	\$1,226,796

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research "Ohio County Indicators: Business and Industry Series", June 1998.

The data in this table are aggregations of all transfer payments (in thousand of dollars) for 1991 through 1996. No adjustment for inflation has been made.

A transfer payment is a payment to a person, generally in monetary form, for which they do not render a current service. Examples include: unemployment benefits, social security benefits, and food stamps.

Athens and Washington Counties have been consistently receiving the greatest amount of transfer payments in the region. This is to be expected, these two counties have larger population than the other counties of the region. Noble County has consistently received the least amount of transfer payments over the period.

Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	108,400	108,400	109,500	113,201	5,724,300
Employment	98,548	99,879	101,292	104,518	5,445,292
Unemployment	9,780	8,521	8,208	8,684	278,008
Unemployment Rate	9.9	8.5	8.1	8.3	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.18 shows the labor force of the region. The unemployment rate for the region is much higher than for the state. The unemployment rate has declined since 1993 to the present. The rate has decreased from 1994 even though the total

number of unemployed has increase for that same period. The total number of person employed has increased steadily since 1993.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	66,795	66,156	66,525	67,382	69,010	69,312
Mining	841	530	470	474	492	730
Construction	2,660	2,607	2,794	3,062	3,434	3,595
Manufacturing	15,456	15,139	14,373	14,087	13,991	14,147
Transportation & Utilities	2,935	2,932	2,886	2,815	2,930	2,885
Wholesale & Retail	14,218	13,841	14,480	15,043	15,316	16,225
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	2,126	2,177	2,114	2,231	2,257	2,265
Service	10,489	10,711	11,300	11,835	12,243	12,961
Government	15,085	15,390	15,560	15,722	15,952	16,508

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The mining industry has gone through a dramatic decline and rebound in this time frame. 1990 was the high point for the industry with 841 employees; at the low point in 1992, only 470 were employed; the industry rebounded in 1995 to 730 employees. The construction industry has steadily increased the number of jobs. While manufacturing has had a steady decline. Jobs in transportation and utilities has also show a slow decline. Wholesale and retail trade has increased, as well as jobs in finance, insurance, and real estate; service; and government.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	88,497	94,400	95,900	96,300	93,100	88,200
Mining	6,250	5,300	5,200	5,100	4,700	4,000
Construction	4,309	4,500	4,600	4,700	4,400	4,300
Manufacturing	15,602	15,600	15,700	15,600	14,700	13,500
Transportation & Utilities	3,294	3,800	3,800	3,900	3,800	3,600
Wholesale & Retail	16,973	18,100	18,400	18,500	17,800	17,100
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	3,729	4,400	4,500	4,500	4,400	4,100
Service	17,447	22,100	23,100	23,500	23,400	23,000
Government	19,048	19,600	19,800	19,900	19,000	17,700

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.20 shows the projections for industries of employment. This table predicts a decline in jobs in mining, this is expected since mining involves limited resources. The construction industry should remain fairly stable.

Manufacturing in 1995 has already declined past the point it was projected at in 2020. The remaining industries, with the exception of service, are thought to be fairly constant. Service is expected to make up an increasing portion of the industrial picture.

Table 3.21 - Region						
Components of Business Change						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	434	451	472	621	626	594
Business Terminations	446	482	516	526	593	530
Net Change	-12	-31	-44	95	33	64

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

From 1993 to 1995, the region saw a positive growth in the number of new business starts. A net total of 192 new business succeed in this period, and a positive change of 105 for the six year period.

Athens County Economics:

Table 3.22 - Athens County					
Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	24,900	25,100	25,500	26,525	5,724,300
Employment	23,357	23,796	24,105	24,975	5,445,292
Unemployment	1,543	1,304	1,395	1,550	278,008
Unemployment Rate	6.2	5.2	5.5	5.8	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.22 examines the civilian labor force for Athens County. The number of unemployed in Athens County remained fairly constant between 1993 and 1996, around 1,500. The student population of Ohio University may account for the constant unemployment figure. If this is true than the true unemployment rate for Athens County may, in fact be much lower than reported.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	16,640	16,325	16,450	16,826	17,183	17,612
Mining	15	0	18	0	0	4
Construction	396	394	384	387	451	474
Manufacturing	1,163	1,095	983	995	1,041	826
Transportation & Utilities	806	775	725	716	703	601
Wholesale & Retail	4,284	3,991	4,198	4,244	4,389	4,647
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	608	603	564	614	631	622
Service	2,918	2,864	2,940	3,130	3,146	3,373
Government	6,401	6,530	6,564	6,660	6,741	7,065

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The employment picture of Athens County is dominated by the trade, service and government industries. This is to be expected with the presence of a large university. Manufacturing also makes up a large portion of the employment sector. Over the five year period, manufacturing has been slowly declining, with a brief rebound period.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	22,793	25,500	26,100	26,300	25,700	24,500
Mining	143	100	100	100	100	0
Construction	704	700	700	700	700	700
Manufacturing	1,368	1,400	1,500	1,500	1,400	1,300
Transportation & Utilities	1,029	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,000
Wholesale & Retail	4,494	4,900	5,000	5,000	4,800	4,600
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	1,013	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,000
Service	4,689	6,200	6,500	6,700	6,700	6,600
Government	9,233	9,800	9,900	10,000	9,600	9,100

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.24 projects that government, service, and trade will be important sectors of employment in the future. Given that the importance of these industries, the projections are natural conclusions. But questions arise in the examination of the other projections. The decline in mining and manufacturing are already ahead of the declines projected for 2040.

Components of Business Change						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	94	85	92	151	154	133
Business Terminations	85	93	105	99	122	128
Net Change	9	-8	-13	52	32	5

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Athens County, over the six year period, produced a number successful business starts. 1993 was the biggest year for Athens County with 151 business starting while only 99 closed, this created a net change of 52. This was the greatest number of growths for the period. In more recent years, however, the net change in business has shrunken dramatically.

Hocking County Economics:

Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	12,100	12,100	1,2000	12,717	5,724,300
Employment	10,872	10,991	11,097	11,825	5,445,292
Unemployment	1,228	1,109	903	892	278,008
Unemployment Rate	10.2	9.2	7.5	7.0	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The unemployment rate of Hocking County has been steadily declining since 1993. The number of persons employed has increased, even as the labor force has increased. This change may be due to the increasing number of people who reside in Hocking County and work in or around the City of Columbus, Ohio. The county is becoming a bedroom community.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	6,261	6,144	6,189	6,376	6,457	6,647
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	175	171	175	205	222	306
Manufacturing	2,451	2,289	2,198	2,251	2,136	2,089
Transportation & Utilities	266	252	249	222	157	180
Wholesale & Retail	1,241	1,150	1,172	1,184	1,263	1,422
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	120	125	149	157	159	160
Service	614	725	776	862	919	953
Government	1,315	1,360	1,413	1,443	1,485	1,539

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.27 shows an increase in the number of overall jobs for Hocking County. Construction; Wholesale & Retail Trade; Finance, Insurance, Real Estate; Service and Government all saw significant increases. The declines in Manufacturing and Transportation & Utilities were more than made up for by the other industries.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	7,930	8,500	8,600	8,600	8,300	7,800
Mining	319	300	300	300	300	200
Construction	357	400	400	400	400	400
Manufacturing	2,378	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,300	2,100
Transportation & Utilities	292	300	300	300	300	300
Wholesale & Retail	1,541	1,700	1,800	1,800	1,700	1,600
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	259	300	300	300	200	200
Service	1,318	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600
Government	1,435	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,400	1,300

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The projection for employment in mining are off, no one was employed in mining in Hocking county over the five year period (see table 3.27), and it may be unrealistic to expect 300 jobs in it by 2000. The projection for manufacturing also do not hold, especially when the decline in manufacturing is taken into

account. Jobs in service and wholesale and retail trade also may not meet the 2000 mark.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	56	61	68	82	70	70
Business Terminations	55	55	64	73	81	52
Net Change	1	6	4	9	-11	18

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Between 1990 and 1995, Hocking County has continually had a good number of business success's. Each year, with the exception of 1994, Hocking County has had a net increase in the number of businesses in the county.

Meigs County Economics:

	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	8,500	8,500	8,800	8,950	5,724,300
Employment	7,532	7,612	7,819	8,000	5,445,292
Unemployment	968	888	981	950	278,008
Unemployment Rate	11.4	10.4	11.2	10.6	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.30 shows the civilian labor force for Meigs County. The total number of persons in the labor force has slowly increased by 450 people in the county over the time period. Along with this total increase in labor force, employment has also increased by 468 jobs. The job growth, however is not great enough to make a dent in the number of unemployed.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	4,784	4,692	4,638	4,515	4,630	3,722
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	245	224	235	272	260	276
Manufacturing	260	234	221	192	188	181
Transportation & Utilities	85	78	91	89	87	71
Wholesale & Retail	993	1,009	1,042	1,086	1,034	1,075
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	113	116	124	139	140	146
Service	688	697	753	755	826	885
Government	1,072	1,070	1,083	1,080	1,084	1,087

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The major industries of employment in the county are in wholesale & retail trade and in government, both of which saw an increase in employment. The industries of construction; finance, insurance, real estate; and service all saw an increase in employment over the five year period. These increase are not enough to make up for the loss of employment in other industries.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	6,610	7,000	7,100	7,100	6,800	6,400
Mining	1,665	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,400	1,300
Construction	374	400	400	400	400	400
Manufacturing	324	300	300	300	200	200
Transportation & Utilities	203	200	200	200	200	200
Wholesale & Retail	1,279	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,200	1,200
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	171	200	200	200	200	200
Service	1,298	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700
Government	1,250	1,300	1,300	1,400	1,300	1,200

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.32 contains employment projection for Meigs County based upon 1988 data. It is safe to assume that these projection no longer have any relation to the economic future of Meigs County.

Table 3.33 – Meigs County						
Components of Business Change						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	41	26	38	38	58	46
Business Terminations	33	35	38	36	54	53
Net Change	8	-9	0	2	4	-7

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.33 shows the business start and termination between 1990 and 1995. Around forty new businesses were started each year over the six year period. Unfortunately, around forty businesses terminated each year over the six year period.

Monroe County Economics:

Table 3.34 – Monroe County					
Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	6,300	6,200	6,200	6,350	5,724,300
Employment	5,577	5,629	5,612	5,667	5,445,292
Unemployment	723	571	588	683	278,008
Unemployment Rate	11.5	9.2	9.5	10.8	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.34 shows the civilian labor force for Monroe County. Between 1993 and 1995, the labor force for Monroe County decreased by 100, and in 1996 increased by 150 persons. Between 1993 and 1996 the total number of person employed increased in all but one year. In 1994, the decrease in labor force and increase in employment sent the unemployment rate to the lowest point of the of the period.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	4,905	4,803	4,893	4,837	5,025	4,723
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	105	100	109	136	138	173
Manufacturing	2,624	2,544	2,561	2,458	2,436	2,459
Transportation & Utilities	76	86	90	80	80	102
Wholesale & Retail	356	364	468	614	614	646
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	96	97	112	139	139	133
Service	289	290	303	298	298	336
Government	904	895	891	903	903	874

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Between 1990 and 1995 all industries of employment in Monroe County showed a decline. This is most notable in manufacturing, the dominate industry of employment. Government the next greatest industry of employment also has been in a slow decline. However, all other industries have shown an improvement.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	6,479	7,000	7,000	7,000	6,700	6,200
Mining	671	500	400	400	300	200
Construction	229	200	300	300	200	200
Manufacturing	2,686	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,600	2,400
Transportation & Utilities	197	200	200	200	200	200
Wholesale & Retail	611	700	700	700	700	700
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	178	200	200	200	200	200
Service	769	1,200	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
Government	1,106	1,100	1,200	1,200	1,100	1,000

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.36 contains employment projection for Monroe County based upon 1988 data. It is safe to assume that these projection no longer have any relation to the economic future of Monroe County.

Components of Business Change						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	23	40	38	42	38	23
Business Terminations	34	38	39	37	54	25
Net Change	-11	2	-1	5	-16	-2

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Between 1990 and 1995, seven businesses were successfully started, and thirty businesses failed. Monroe County has net loss of twenty three businesses.

Morgan County Economics:

Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	5,500	5,100	5,100	5,217	5,724,300
Employment	4,820	4,444	4,428	4,467	5,445,292
Unemployment	608	656	672	750	278,008
Unemployment Rate	12.4	12.9	13.2	14.4	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The unemployment rate has continued increase in the county from 1993. Between 1995 and 1996 the 39 more persons were employed, however 78 more persons were unemployed for the same period.

Employment by Industrial Sector						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	4,311	4,378	4,231	4,058	3,775	3,705
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	245
Construction	189	199	193	195	205	217
Manufacturing	1,216	1,251	1,170	1,107	1,052	1,007
Transportation & Utilities	473	461	451	451	448	449
Wholesale & Retail	539	559	554	554	545	616
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	71	74	80	80	83	83
Service	435	525	543	543	433	428
Government	606	607	607	607	637	660

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

All sectors of employment have show a decrease from 1991. The exceptions to this trend being: mining; construction; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance and real estate; and government. These sectors have shown an increase of 382 jobs, while the other sectors have decreased 353 jobs. This leaves a net increase of 29 jobs between 1991 and 1995.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	5,359	5,500	5,600	5,600	5,400	5,100
Mining	945	1,000	1,000	1,000	900	800
Construction	269	300	300	300	300	300
Manufacturing	1,340	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,300	1,200
Transportation & Utilities	0	500	500	500	500	500
Wholesale & Retail	727	800	800	800	800	800
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	182	200	200	200	200	200
Service	0	800	800	800	800	800
Government	578	600	600	600	500	500

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Industrial projection for employment also show a decrease for all industrial sectors. In some instances, manufacturing for example, the present decrease in employment is already far below the project decrease in employment for 2040. The only sector of employment that is higher than the projected rate is in government.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	20	27	13	27	35	28
Business Terminations	29	30	23	35	35	28
Net Change	-9	-3	-10	-8	0	0

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Between 1990 and 1995 a total of 150 business have been started in Morgan County. During that same period, however, 180 business have terminated, a net loss of 30 businesses.

Noble County Economics:

Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	5,000	5,100	5,200	5,283	5,724,300
Employment	4,535	4,647	4,778	4,892	5,445,292
Unemployment	465	453	422	392	278,008
Unemployment Rate	9.3	8.9	8.1	7.4	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.42 shows a steady decline in the unemployment rate for Noble County. The civilian labor force and the employment rate for the time period both increased. This shows that since 1993, more and more jobs have been created in this county. However, the unemployment rate is still much higher than that of the state.

Employment by Industrial Sector						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	2,329	2,319	2,333	2,464	2,549	2,424
Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	84	70	65	77	101	65
Manufacturing	539	511	536	551	543	544
Transportation & Utilities	92	93	103	110	110	111
Wholesale & Retail	499	500	504	541	550	562
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	96	106	94	93	93	96
Service	358	373	357	394	414	453
Government	539	542	554	570	595	594

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

All sector of employment showed an increase over the five year period. All industries showed steady increases with the exception of construction and finance, insurance, and real estate. Construction saw a sharp drop of 36 jobs in the 1994-95 time period. Finance, insurance, and real estate is recovering from the drop in the 1991-92 time period, and was back at the 1990.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	3,111	3,100	3,100	3,100	2,900	2,800
Mining	163	100	100	100	100	100
Construction	110	100	100	100	100	100
Manufacturing	613	600	600	600	600	500
Transportation & Utilities	135	100	100	100	100	100
Wholesale & Retail	618	600	600	600	600	600
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	134	200	200	200	200	200
Service	699	700	700	700	700	700
Government	621	600	600	600	600	500

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.44 contains employment projection for Noble County based upon 1988 data. It is safe to assume that these projection no longer have any relation to the economic future of Noble County.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	15	29	13	25	21	8
Business Terminations	13	25	17	21	19	17
Net Change	2	4	-4	4	2	-9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.45 shows the components of business change for Noble County. Over this time period Noble County has had difficulties in having more business starts than termination's. Between 1990 and 1995, Noble County lost a net of one business.

Perry County Economics:

Table 3.46 - Perry County					
Civilian Labor Force					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	14,300	14,500	14,800	15,317	5,724,300
Employment	12,642	13,076	13,538	13,975	5,445,292
Unemployment	1,658	1,424	1,262	1,342	278,008
Unemployment Rate	11.6	9.8	8.5	8.8	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Perry County has been steadily increasing the total number of persons employed in the county. However, these increases have not been enough in recent years to offset the increasing labor force.

Table 3.47 - Perry County						
Employment by Industrial Sector						
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	6,149	5,896	5,951	6,090	6,408	6,703
Mining	580	315	243	238	245	241
Construction	268	323	253	291	279	285
Manufacturing	1,387	1,380	1,376	1,406	1,531	1,703
Transportation & Utilities	158	156	147	158	208	206
Wholesale & Retail	1,227	1,182	1,274	1,292	1,231	1,220
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	163	178	184	203	199	211
Service	887	833	938	983	1,177	1,247
Government	1,457	1,493	1,492	1,471	1,479	1,591

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.47 shows that all sectors of employment showed an increase over the five-year period. All industries showed steady increases with the exception of mining and wholesale and retail trade. The service industry showed the biggest increase overall.

Table 3.48 - Perry County

Employment Projections by Industrial Sector

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	8,462	8,300	8,400	8,400	8,000	7,600
Mining	1,076	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,000	900
Construction	436	400	400	400	300	300
Manufacturing	1,549	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,400	1,300
Transportation & Utilities	319	300	300	300	300	200
Wholesale & Retail	1,347	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,200	1,100
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	321	300	300	300	300	200
Service	1,809	1,800	1,900	2,000	2,000	1,900
Government	1,522	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,400

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

The employment projection for Perry County based upon 1988 data. It is safe to assume that these projections no longer have any relation to the economic future.

Table 3.49 - Perry County

Components of Business Change

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	58	60	87	99	89	92
Business Terminations	69	62	89	102	77	73
Net Change	-11	-2	-2	-3	12	19

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Between 1990 to 1995, Perry County reversed a trend which saw a net change of -11 in 1990 to a +19 in 1995.

Washington County Economics:

Table 3.50 - Washington County

Civilian Labor Force

	1993	1994	1995	1996	Ohio 1996
Civilian Labor Force	31,800	31,800	31,900	32,842	5,724,300
Employment	29,213	29,684	29,915	30,717	5,445,292
Unemployment	2,587	2,116	1,985	2,125	278,008
Unemployment Rate	8.1	6.7	6.2	4.9	4.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.50 shows that the unemployment rate for Washington County has been declining over the past four years. In 1996, the unemployment rate was the same as the states. During this same period the civilian labor force was increasing.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Industries	21,416	21,599	21,840	22,216	22,983	23,776
Mining	246	215	209	236	247	240
Construction	1,198	1,126	1,380	1,499	1,778	1,799
Manufacturing	5,816	5,835	5,328	5,127	5,064	5,338
Transportation & Utilities	979	1,031	1,030	989	1,137	1,165
Wholesale & Retail	5,079	5,086	5,268	5,528	5,690	6,037
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	859	878	807	806	813	814
Service	4,300	4,404	4,690	4,870	5,030	5,286
Government	2,791	2,893	2,956	2,988	3,028	3,098

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

All sector of employment showed an increase over the six year period. Wholesale and retail trade and service showed the biggest increases, while manufacturing showed the biggest drop. The losses in mining and manufacturing were more than made up for in the rest of the industries.

	1988	2000	2005	2010	2020	2040
All Industries	27,753	29,500	30,000	30,200	29,300	27,800
Mining	1,268	700	700	600	600	500
Construction	1,830	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,000	1,900
Manufacturing	5,344	5,300	5,300	5,200	4,900	4,500
Transportation & Utilities	1,119	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,100	1,100
Wholesale & Retail	6,356	6,800	6,900	7,000	6,800	6,500
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	1,471	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,900
Service	6,865	8,200	8,600	8,700	8,600	8,400
Government	3,303	3,200	3,200	3,100	3,000	2,700

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.52 holds the prediction of future employment in Washington County. These prediction hold true to the trends demonstrated in table 38, with one exception - mining.

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Business Starts	127	123	123	157	161	194
Business Terminations	128	144	141	123	151	154
Net Change	-1	-21	-18	34	10	10

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Since 1993, Washington County has had fifty four successful business start. In the three years previous forty business were lost. This is a net increase of fourteen businesses.

	All Industries	Mining	Construction	Manufacture	Transportation & Utilities	Wholesale & Retail	Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	Service	Government
Ohio	\$510.41	\$682.22	\$561.83	\$712.87	\$621.19	\$349.50	\$597.95	\$445.74	\$522.42
BHHVRDD	\$420.19	\$523.57	\$485.34	\$545.58	\$551.75	\$251.32	\$370.91	\$275.97	\$415.83
Athens	\$415.54	\$423.08	\$400.67	\$411.68	\$581.50	\$229.93	\$382.91	\$359.80	\$554.43
Hocking	\$410.95	\$0.00	\$374.86	\$541.27	\$440.49	\$251.73	\$377.30	\$268.24	\$476.74
Meigs	\$318.92	\$0.00	\$425.59	\$411.25	\$581.38	\$227.98	\$372.91	\$229.44	\$357.76
Monroe	\$515.55	\$0.00	\$365.72	\$707.50	\$375.75	\$229.88	\$312.17	\$180.82	\$392.07
Morgan	\$476.95	\$824.88	\$626.54	\$521.98	\$832.78	\$223.09	\$318.61	\$257.26	\$387.12
Noble	\$375.78	\$0.00	\$348.68	\$620.55	\$419.71	\$229.44	\$410.86	\$253.68	\$372.21
Perry	\$400.70	\$459.62	\$816.49	\$480.22	\$621.17	\$354.53	\$366.25	\$267.73	\$347.76
Washington	\$447.15	\$386.70	\$524.13	\$670.20	\$561.24	\$263.97	\$426.30	\$390.78	\$438.52

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles" June 1997.

Table 3.54 gives the average weekly earnings by industry of employment. Wholesale & Retail Trade; Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate; Service; and Government; industries which all saw increases overall and in nearly every county, are also the industries which pay the least. Manufacturing, an industry which pay the most, has been declining. Another interesting note is the difference between this regions average weekly pay compare the weekly pay for the state. The pay in the region is lower than that of the state in every industry, this difference ranges from \$90 to over \$200 depending on the industry.

	Total	Retirement and disability	All others
Region	\$653,823,529	\$425,234,717	\$228,588,812
Athens	\$139,448,086	\$83,850,521	\$55,597,565
Hocking	\$65,568,960	\$43,226,026	\$22,342,934
Meigs	\$66,901,390	\$45,042,870	\$21,858,520
Monroe	\$45,387,262	\$28,359,350	\$17,027,912
Morgan	\$37,777,082	\$25,770,678	\$12,006,404
Noble	\$24,860,094	\$16,870,278	\$7,989,816
Perry	\$92,122,860	\$63,054,045	\$29,068,815
Washington	\$181,757,795	\$119,060,949	\$62,696,846

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "Consolidated Federal Funds Report 1987-1996", April 1997.

Washington, Athens, and Perry Counties received the greatest direct federal payments to individuals in the region. The same three counties also received the greatest federal payment for retirement and disability. In the case of Washington County this is easily understood considering that a large portion of the total population in Washington County, over nine thousand people in 1994, is over sixty-five years old (see Table 3.3). The same holds true for Athens County, where over six thousand people were over sixty-five years old in 1994, and Perry County, which had over four thousand people over sixty-five.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Educational Attainment

Table 3.56 - 1990 Educational Attainment, 25 and older

Area	High School Only		Some College		Bachelors	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
OHIO	3,695,396	53.4	369,144	5.3	767,845	11.1
BH-HVR	81,267	55.1	7,305	5.0	10,500	7.1
Athens	13,720	45.5	1,732	5.7	3,430	11.4
Hocking	9,001	55.0	771	4.7	889	5.4
Meigs	7,733	52.3	651	4.4	722	4.9
Monroe	6,009	58.9	383	3.8	424	4.2
Morgan	5,406	60.2	360	4.0	454	5.1
Noble	4,414	61.0	237	3.3	289	4.0
Perry	11,345	58.4	832	4.3	706	3.6
Washington	23,639	58.5	2,339	5.8	3,586	8.9

Source: Ohio Department of Development, Office of Strategic Research, "Ohio County Profiles", June 1997.

The region has a higher high school graduate level than the state. Noble county has the highest percentage, 61.0%, of persons over 25 with a high school diploma. The region falls behind somewhat when it come to college attainment. The region's over 25 population with some college education is around 5.0%, while the state is at 5.3%. This lag behind the state seems to remains constant when looking at college graduates. But the numbers for Athens and Washington Counties may be skewed by graduate students at Ohio University and Marietta College.

Table 3.57 shows the occupational structure for the region in 1990. The majority of occupations in Athens County are either: managerial and professional; or technical, sales and administrative support. Considering one of the major employers in Athens County is Ohio University, this is to be expected. And with the university present, the high number of jobs in the service industry is also expected. Hocking, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, and Perry Counties all have the highest concentration of workers in the operators, fabricators, and laborers occupations. Meigs County has their employment fairly spread out between the different occupations. Washington County has their greatest occupation of employment in technical, sales and administrative support.

	Athens	Hocking	Meigs	Monroe	Morgan	Noble	Perry	Washington
Managerial and Professional	6,961	1,724	1,361	856	728	529	1,807	6,328
Technical, sales and administrative support	6,612	2,444	1,835	1,092	1,147	945	2,750	8,256
Service	4,187	1,293	1,079	710	665	570	1,808	3,454
Farming, forestry and fishing	521	285	397	281	310	190	333	625
Precision production, craft and repair	2,233	1,706	1,478	977	768	732	1,867	3,448
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	3,158	2,876	1,527	1,498	1,418	1,325	3,614	5,140

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "1990 Census of Population and Housing" November 1992.

	Total	Department of Defense	All other agencies
Region	\$911,765,789	\$25,651,179	\$886,114,610
Athens	\$204,302,233	\$7,127,179	\$197,175,054
Hocking	\$90,356,801	\$1,473,000	\$88,883,801
Meigs	\$100,764,533	\$2,430,000	\$98,334,533
Monroe	\$58,599,816	\$1,139,000	\$57,460,816
Morgan	\$54,602,141	\$3,584,000	\$51,018,141
Noble	\$42,375,466	\$333,000	\$42,042,466
Perry	\$123,760,235	\$1,452,000	\$122,308,235
Washington	\$237,004,564	\$8,113,000	\$228,891,564

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "Consolidated Federal Funds Report 1987-1996", April 1997.

The Department of Defense plays a very small role in direct federal expenditures to the region. The region relies upon the federal expenditures of other federal agencies.

Table 3.59 - Federal Grant Awarded 1996

	Grants Awarded
Region	\$194,578,874
Athens	\$48,399,363
Hocking	\$20,997,086
Meigs	\$28,790,795
Monroe	\$9,130,502
Morgan	\$11,698,587
Noble	\$11,123,699
Perry	\$26,677,724
Washington	\$37,761,118

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "Consolidated Federal Funds Report 1987-1996", April 1997.

In 1996, the region received over 190 million dollars in federal grants. Athens County received the most grant monies in the region, followed by Washington, Meigs, Perry, Hocking, Morgan, Noble, and Monroe Counties.

Table 3.60 - Federal Assistance 1996

	Direct Loans	Guaranteed Loans
Region	\$7,493,373	\$109,933,906
Athens	\$618,437	\$30,712,284
Hocking	\$53,400	\$11,481,286
Meigs	\$894,818	\$10,532,678
Monroe	\$480,341	\$3,332,015
Morgan	\$292,205	\$3,229,496
Noble	\$887,970	\$671,255
Perry	\$2,913,589	\$5,814,363
Washington	\$1,352,613	\$44,160,529

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census "Consolidated Federal Funds Report 1987-1996", April 1997.

Perry County received the most direct federal loans in 1996, totaling over two million dollars. Washington, Meigs, Noble, Athens, Monroe, Morgan, and Hocking Counties followed. In guaranteed federal loans, Washington County received the over forty four million dollars. Athens County received over thirty million, Hocking County - eleven million, Meigs County - ten million, Perry County - five million, Monroe and Morgan Counties - three million, and Noble County - six hundred thousand dollars.

CHAPTER IV **REGIONAL ISSUES**

In August of 1999, the staff of Buckeye Hills surveyed local economic development practitioners and experts for issues of importance. This survey looked at the state of the regional economy; external trends and forces; partners for economic development; and resources for economic development.

State of the economy

Strengths and weaknesses of the region

The strengths of the region were identified as: a large workforce with a strong work ethic; a sense of civic responsibility; a good quality of life; the rural character of the environment; access to the interstate highway, rail and water systems; good high tech infrastructure; a low crime rate; a diverse economy; abundant natural resources; and high unemployment.

It may seem odd that high unemployment is listed as a strength for the region, but with the increasing need for workers this may well be attractive to businesses moving into the region.

Some of the weakness that were identified are: a lack of access to interstate highway, rail and water systems; the topography of the region limits activities; the lack of water, sewer, and electrical infrastructure; the loss of the coal industry; a lack of available buildings; too lax building codes;

Growth sectors of the economy

The regional committees identified a number of growth sectors in their local economies, the were: tourism; housing construction; service industry; health service industry; floriculture; aluminum; timber;

Driving force of economy

The driving force of the economy for the majority of the counties in the region is their rural nature. The quality of the environment is causing growth in sectors of tourism and new housing construction. The end result of this force is that these counties are becoming bedroom communities.

External trends and forces

Opportunities and threats

A number of external opportunities were identified as potentially helpful to economic development in the region. The one most touted was the internet. The feeling was that if small business and independent artisans could make better use of the internet it would dramatically impact the region. Another opportunity that needs to be taken advantage of is the rural nature of the region. This character is the source of tourism and new housing construction, if this source is to continue it needs to be preserved. Another opportunity that can be taken advantage of by this region is the relatively high unemployment rate. This surplus of workers can lure new businesses and industries into the region. Another opportunity is that workers native to this region, who have had to leave in order to find work, desire to return.

A number of threats posed to this region from outside were directly related to the opportunities. The rural nature that attracts new housing and tourism is also destroying the rural nature. New housing generates a strain on the infrastructure, roads must be improved, water and sewer lines must be extended. Lack of zoning ordinances allows for new construction in appropriate locations. Another outside threat to the region is the large amount of land owned by absentee landlords. The deregulation of the electrical utilities was seen as a threat to the region. A number of the counties are dependant upon coal companies as a tax base. With the deregulation of the industry and more stringent environmental regulation, these companies are closing down. Unfunded mandates put forward by the federal government is also a major threat to local government, straining their already tight finances. The continued expansion of Wayne National Forest is another threat to this region. This federal park is consuming any and all available land adjacent to their property - decreasing the amount of land for development.

Regional position in the national and global economies

The general feel is that the region is moving in the right direction in terms of national and global economies. The large industries are networked and structured such that they are players on a global scale. The smaller businesses and industries in the region are not quite at that level yet. But these small industries are making strides toward that direction by working with local experts to promote their products and services to wider markets. The independent artisans and niche market producers seem to have always been positioned on the national, if not global, scale. Even governmental agencies, be they marketing tourism and industrial sites or searching for new funding, are operating on a wider the national scale.

The main problem with the region's position in the national/global market is one of perception. While individual companies and artisans operating in the region have an international market. The region itself is considered, by virtue of being in Appalachia, to be behind the learning curve.

Partners for economic development

The important actors in the region

There is a long list of important partners for economic development in the region. Starting at the federal level there is the Economic Development Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, the Small Business Development Center. These federal agencies provide a host of program and funding source for economic development. The State of Ohio is very active in economic development in the region. Regionally there is Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, Ohio State University Extension Office, and the Eastern Ohio Development Alliance. These organizations provide local communities with technical assistance, expertise, and present and create new project. At the local level there is local universities, the various Chambers of Commerce, Community Improvement Corporations and County Commissioners are all active in creating economic development. Outside of government, the utility companies and the lending institutions are actively marketing the region and promoting economic development.

Presenters of important but unfamiliar economic development issues

This list is fairly similar to the list above. Economic Development Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, universities, Chambers of Commerce, and Community Improvement Corporations, all of whom present new ideas for development. In addition, Human Services, Tourism Departments, Red Cross, Emergency Management Agencies and Soil & Water Conservation groups present new ideas and issues for economic development.

Resources for economic development

Groups and organizations available to the region

There is huge resource of organizations working for economic development , they are: the Economic Development Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District,

Chambers of Commerce, Community Improvement Corporations, County Commissioners, Human Services, Tourism Departments and Soil & Water Conservation groups.

In addition to the organizations listed above there are the civic organizations, merchant organizations, local farm bureaus, and regional planning commissions.

Support and funding for development activities

Funding for economic development activities in the region come from: Economic Development Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, the Ohio State University Extension Office, the Ohio Department of Development, the State Capital Improvement Program, Local Transportation Improvement Program and Community Development Block Grants.

Support for economic development activities comes from Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, the Ohio State University Extension Office, and the local universities.

CHAPTER V

VISION

REGIONAL VISION

That local communities achieve diverse economies which provide sustainable employment and a living wage;

That local economic development officials and industry leaders meet to identify potential problems and create solutions, therefore making economic development in the region more pro-active;

That local economic development projects make the best use of local resources and implement sustainable development practices;

That local communities protect and enhance the natural integrity of the region;

And that local communities provide sufficient: public infrastructure; education; and social services to strengthen the quality of life.

REGIONAL GOALS

During the process of analyzing the regional issues and creating the regional vision a number of goals were put forward as objectives that Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District should work toward.

These goals ranged from being attainable in a short period of time to those requiring an ongoing long-term dedication to a particular issue. These goals also varied from the easy to implement to the complex and arduous to attain.

As a result a set of priorities were created to rank each goal in accordance to the regional vision. Each goal presents the following questions:

- What is the severity of the problem the goal is addressing?
- What is the scope of the goal?
- What is this goal in relationship toward the other goals?
- Does this goal make the best use of existing resources?

The following goals were generated by this process in no particular order of importance:

- Improve Infrastructure
- Foster Non-Conventional Economic Development
- Increase Planning Activities
- Enhance Tourism
- Continue and Improve Relationships with Local Leaders
- Develop Industrial Parks
- Assist Existing Business to Stay and Grow
- Implement Sustainable Development Practices
- Create a Fund for Conducting a Feasibility Study
- Industrial Improvement and Attraction

Based upon the priorities, these goals were ranked by order of importance. The most important goals of the region were:

1. Improve Infrastructure
2. Improve the Relationship with Local Leaders
3. Creation and Retention of Jobs
4. Enhance Tourism
5. Foster Non-Conventional Economic Development

Improve Infrastructure

What is the severity of the problem?

This goal addresses a severe problem not only in the region, but in the world. This goal of improving infrastructure is important in the regions ability to move people and goods; provide adequate sewer, water, electricity, and communication services; and provide for police and fire services.

What is the scope?

The scope of the goal is long termed and involved.

What is this goal in relationship toward the other goals?

This goal is interrelated with and overlapping all other goals.

Does the goal make best use of existing resources?

The goal of an improved infrastructure is necessary for the best use of existing and future resources.

Improve the Relationship with Local Leaders

What is the severity of the problem?

While Buckeye Hills has an excellent working relationship with local industries and governments, but Buckeye Hills can do more. Buckeye Hills must make businesses and local leaders more aware of the serices available to assist them.

What is the scope?

The scope of the goal is long-term and very involved.

What is this goal in relationship toward the other goals?

Without accomplishing this goal, completing any project in the region will begin to become very difficult. Without a good working relationship with local leaders, Buckeye Hills will be constantly re-inventing the political wheel. Without a good working relationship with local leaders there will be little to no support for on-going projects. When new and different ideas for economic development issues are presented, they will fall upon deaf ears.

Does this goal make best use of existing resource?

The resources of the region can be best utilized by taking advantage of Buckeye Hills' partnership with local governmental and industry leaders.

Creation and Retention of Jobs

What is the severity of the problem the goal is addressing?

While the nation is experiencing an economic boom, this region is suffering stagnation. While cities such as Columbus do not have enough workers for all the jobs available, this region still has high unemployment. The problem this goal addresses is important and severe.

What is the scope of the goal?

The scope of the goal is long-term and very involved.

What is this goal in relationship toward the other goals?

This goal is interrelated with and overlapping all other goals.

Does this goal make the best use of existing resources?

By making best use of the existing labor pool, best use is made of existing resources.

Enhance Tourism

What is the severity of the problem the goal is addressing?

Tourism is an increasingly important industry in the region's economic picture. Yet tourism is not viewed by many as true economic development.

What is the scope of the goal?

The scope of the goal is long-termed and involved.

What is this goal in relationship toward the other goals?

The relationship toward other goals is precarious. It has become necessary to balance economic development projects while taking into account the natural integrity and scenic quality of the region. This dilemma has already been seen in the region, the choice was between a gravel pit and a Civil War battlefield.

Does this goal make the best use of existing resources?

That is a matter of contention. To some an industry that will provide good wages and benefit must take priority over any dollars brought into the region through tourism. Others take the opposite position, the days of the smoke-stack industry are done and now this region must exploit its scenic resources as it once did coal.

Foster Non-Conventional Economic Development

What is the severity of the problem the goal is addressing?

With the decline in manufacturing nationwide, and the lack of the necessary technical skill for hi-tech industries, this region must look toward non-conventional economic development as the source of future employment.

What is the scope of the goal?

The scope of the goal is long-term and very involved.

What is this goal in relationship toward the other goals?

This goal interrelates with and overlaps all other goals.

Does this goal make the best use of existing resources?

The goal not only makes best use of existing resources, but it utilizes under-used and what was once thought of as not a resource.

CHAPTER VI ACTION PLAN

IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE

Objective: To improve existing roads and extend water and sanitary sewer throughout the region, and preserve existing rail line use.

Strengths and Weakness:

- ODOT's criteria for choosing projects gives priority to highly populated streets and to streets with fatal accidents. Since southeast Ohio does not have a large population, the region is not high on the list.
- Many Counties in Southeastern Ohio do not have a major road in them, this hampers development efforts.
- Through the process of mergers, the major rail companies in the region are closing active lines.
- When rail lines are abandoned, the easement sometimes reverts back to the land owner. Future use of this line is then only possible by purchasing the easement back from the land owner.
- Due to the topography of the region, extension of water and sewer is difficult and costly.
- Government funding sources traditionally give less money to areas where fewer people are.

Strategies:

- Locate infrastructure improvements in denser population areas first.
- When improving infrastructure, take into account future development issues.
- Develop funding strategy to target counties with underdeveloped highway systems.
- Find alternative funds for road improvements.
- Coordinate efforts between transportation planners and economic development practitioners.

- When a rail line is abandoned, the rail easements should become part of the public right of way.

Implementation:

Short-term

- Locate improvements in denser population areas.
- Stop rail abandonment.
- Maintain rail right-of-ways.
- Conduct a transportation flow and usage study.

Intermediate-term

- Plan infrastructure improvements with future development in mind.
- Increase coordination of economic development activities and infrastructure improvement.
- Identify areas of increasing development.

Long-term

- Simplify the application process.
- Make better uses of alternative transportation.
- Create intermodal hubs.

IMPROVE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL LEADERS

Objective: To improve and maintain the relationships that Buckeye Hills enjoys with local governments and industry leaders. And to expand those relationships to make our presence and programs known to the public at large.

Strengths and Weakness:

- Buckeye Hills is well known and respected by local governments in the region.
- There is the perception that when a defined project isn't involved, that Buckeye Hills has no role in the community.

- Buckeye Hills is not well known by the general public.
- Buckeye Hills is seen as experts in dealing with the State and Federal Government.
- There is a lack of basic communication of needs between Buckeye Hills and local communities.
- Local communities come to Buckeye Hills with projects to be funded instead of involving Buckeye Hills in the planning process.

Strategies:

- Communicate with communities about what their needs and wants are.
- Create a publication of what programs are offered by Buckeye Hills.
- Advertise Revolving Loan Fund and Exporting programs to local businesses.
- Become more involved with community based planning programs.
- Encourage local leaders to network with national organizations.

Implementation:

Short-term

- Create a publication detailing what is going on at Buckeye Hills.
- Advertise Revolving Loan Fund and Exporting programs to local business.

Intermediate-term

- Create on-going needs assessments for each of the eight counties in the region.
- Become more pro-active in educating local communities about new economic development programs and practices.

Long-term

- Network local leaders with State and Federal organizations.
- Strength the working relationship with local governments and industries.

CREATION AND RETENTION OF JOBS

Objective: Increase and improve the number and quality of new jobs in the region, while retaining existing jobs.

Strengths and Weakness:

- The region needs to increase the job skills, especially in the hi-tech industries.
- Abundant natural resources of the area provide good raw materials for a number of resource intensive industries.
- Industry necessities such as water and sewer availability must be improved and expanded in order to keep and lure business to the region.
- Schools and overall quality of life are key to the location of a business. The region must either improve or give the impression of improving.
- The region is known for a strong work ethic, but limited job skills.
- The topography of the region is restrictive to business expansion.

Strategies:

- Increase emphasis on hi-tech education in regional community colleges and vocational schools.
- Expand water and sewer capacity to meet the needs of heavy industries.
- Regular meeting should be held between local economic development officials and local businesses and industries leaders in order to identify needs and problems of the companies.

- As a result of these meetings, strategic planning can be used to meet the short term needs of the industries, insuring their continued existence.

Implementation:

Short-term

- Advertise the Revolving Loan Fund programs to local businesses.
- Help companies with exporting their products to foreign markets.

Intermediate-term

- Meet regularly with local industries to see what their needs are and how they can be addressed.
- Create and market industrial parks.
- Foster non-conventional forms of economic development.

Long-term

- Increase the technical training of the labor force.
- Improve the infrastructure so that goods and services may flow more freely.

ENHANCE TOURISM

Objective: To enhance the natural and scenic qualities of the region so that it is a pleasurable experience to both the tourist and the native.

Strengths and Weakness:

- Tourism is becoming a major source of employment and revenue in the region.
- Tourism is seen by some as not a true economic development activity.
- Tourism and traditional economic development are not always compatible.
- The financial effect of tourism on a community is more subtle than traditional sectors of employment.

- What tourists value and what local value are not necessarily the same thing.

Strategies:

- Areas of historical and cultural significance need to be identified and marketed.
- Scenic Byways should be designated to protect and preserve the natural integrity of the state highways.
- Scenic Waterways should be designated to protect and preserve the views from the rivers.
- Historic structures such as lock houses and covered bridges need to be protected.
- Local leaders need to learn just how much revenue is brought into the region by tourists, and what the multiplier effect of those dollars have.
- Hotels, Restaurants, and Bed and Breakfasts need to network together in order to provide better service to the visitor.

Implementation:

Short-term

- Create Scenic Byways and Waterways.
- Identify and market the local historical, cultural, natural, and recreational aspects of the region to tourists and to residents.
- Protect historic structures.

Intermediate-term

- Demonstrate to the local leaders exactly how much tourism effects their local economy.
- Encourage city beautification.

Long-term

- Network hotels, restaurants, and bed and breakfasts in order to provide better service to the visitor.
- Foster downtown revitalization projects.

FOSTER NON-CONVENTIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Objective: To create and encourage non-traditional forms of economic development in an effort to diversify the local economy and create new jobs.

Strengths and Weakness:

- Non-conventional economic development is not traditionally viewed as economic development.
- Local support for such projects is not always there.
- These projects tend to open up new avenues of employment in new industries.
- These projects exploit under-used or under-appreciated local resources.
- Non-conventional economic development practices bring new ideas and perspectives to the economic development process.
- Non-conventional economic development projects give a more comprehensive view of the local economy.

Strategies:

- Inform local leaders of the positive economic impact caused by tourism.
- Provide financial and technical support to businesses such as floraculture.
- Attract tourists with historical, cultural and natural areas of interest.
- Assist local leaders in breaking through the mind set that economic development means a smoke-stack industry.
- Inform local leaders of the trends in manufacturing in this country.
- Encourage local leaders to view the natural qualities of this region as a resource for economic development.

Implementation:

Short-term

- Inform local leaders of decline in manufacturing jobs in the nation.
- Inventory the major industries of employment and examine the past and future trends for those industries.

Intermediate-term

- Inform local leaders about the economic impact of tourism.
- Provide technical and financial support to new industries exploiting under-used resources.
- Evaluate what resources are currently being over and under utilized.
- Encourage local leaders to look at the concept of raw material from the perspective of heritage, culture, and agriculture of the area.

Long-term

- Assist local leaders in breaking through the mind set that economic development means a smoke-stack industry.
- Inform local leaders to view the natural qualities of this region as a resource for economic development.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

All communities work within the constraints of limited time and resources. However, communities need to allocate resources to various programs and projects to achieve the area development strategies. This section deals with the implementation stage of planning. The identification of activities, projects, and programs that will begin in fiscal year 2000.

1999 CEDS Projects

The BH-HVRDD staff has been maintaining a continuing dialogue with local communities to address local priorities and projects. During the summer of 1999, the planning staff mailed project surveys to the country and local governments,

chambers of commerce, community improvement corporations, and economic development professionals.

The CEDS survey requested the local communities to list projects that are expected to be developed and implemented in the next several years. See Table 6.1 for a complete description of these projects.

Project Prioritization Criteria

The project list received from the survey ranged from extending water and sewer lines to building new roads. The project prioritization criteria, listed in Appendix D, is designed to: evaluate the major economic development projects from a regional perspective and maximized objectivity.

As Table 6.2 illustrates, all projects are ranked according to: job creation and/or retention; the scope of the project; the projects relationship toward the goals of the CEDS; the projects effect upon the environment; and if the project is in a distressed county.

The purpose of this prioritization process is not only to provide EDA with a list of prioritized projects, but also to allow local input in the process of developing programs that will have the greatest economic impact.

Table 6.1
CEDS Projects

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County						
	Countywide Comprehensive Land-Use Plan	None	Long term	Not direct related to goals	Beneficial impact on environment	Not distressed
Washington County						
	Countywide Comprehensive Sewer Plan	None	Long term	Directly tied to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County						
	Small Business Incubator	Creation of new jobs	Long term	Directly tied to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County						
	Industrial Site Purchase	Creation of new jobs	Long term	Directly tied to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County						
	Corridor D (U.S. Route 50) Relocation	None	Long term	Directly tied to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County						
	State Route 618 upgrading	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County						
	State Route 7 upgrading	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Adams Township					
	Tri-County Water System Extension	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Lawrence Township					
	Highland Ridge Water System Extension	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Ludlow Township					
	Trailhead Park Development	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	Beneficial environmental impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County Marietta Township						
	County Route 20 Sidewalk	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County Newport Township						
	Newport Water and Sewer District water line extension	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County Palmer Township						
	Tri-County Water line extension	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County Warren Township						
	Warren Water and Sewer Association water line extension	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County Watertown Township						
	Camp Hervida Pool Replacement	None	Short term	Not related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County	City of Belpre					
	Water Tank (East Side)	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Belpre					
	Water Tank (West Side)	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Belpre					
	Riverfront Development	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Belpre					
	Downtown Revitalization	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Belpre					
	Main and Washington Bikeway and Pedestrian Walkway	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County	City of Belpre					
	Brownfield Clean-up	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	Beneficial impact on environment	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Marietta					
	State Route 7 Commercial/Service Complex Roadway	Create new jobs	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Marietta					
	Community Recreation Center	None	Intermediate term	Somewhat tied to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Marietta					
	Transportation Museum/Multi-Modal Transportation Hub	Create new jobs	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Marietta					
	Parking Facilitation Program	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County	City of Marietta					
	City/Muskingum Township Riverfront Walkway	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	City of Marietta					
	City Building improvements	None	Short term	Not related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of Beverly					
	Dodge Park Renovation	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of Lowell					
	Buell Island Improvements	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	Beneficial impact on environment	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of Lowell					
	Historic School House Renovation	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Washington County	Village of Lower Salem					
	Flood and Drainage Mitigation	None	Long term	Not related to goals	Beneficial impact on environment	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of Macksburg					
	Water tank replacement	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of New Matamoras					
	Community park improvement	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of New Matamoras					
	Riverfront Park and Downtown Revitalization	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Washington County	Village of New Matamoras					
	Water System Improvements and Extensions	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Meigs County						
	Ohio River Cities Boat Tour	None	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Distressed
Morgan County Village of Stockport						
	Ultraviolet System for Wastewater Treatment Plant	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Distressed
Morgan County Village of Stockport						
	Water tank rehabilitation and waterline replacement	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Distressed
Morgan County Village of Stockport						
	Waterline extension	None	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Distressed
Morgan County Village of Stockport						
	Emergency generator	None	Short term	Not related to goals	No significant impact	Distressed
Noble County						
	Noble County Sewer District extension	None	Intermediate term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed

Political Entity	Project	Jobs Created or Retained	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distress Level
Noble County						
	Development of a Noble County Industrial Site	Yes	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Noble County						
	Noble County Jail Museum/Renovation of Jailhouse	Yes	Short term	Directly related to goal	No significant impact	Not distressed
Noble County						
	Feasibility study for Extension of Sewer line.	Yes	Short term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Not distressed
Morgan County						
	Morgan County Industrial Park.	Yes	Long term	Directly related to goals	No significant impact	Distressed

Table 6.2
Final Project List

Project Ranking						
	Jobs Created	Scope of Project	Goal Relationship	Environmental Impact	Distressed Level	Total
1	Morgan County - Morgan County Industrial Park					
	20	20	20	10	10	80
2	Washington County - Small Business Incubator					
	20	20	20	10	0	70
3	Washington County - Industrial Site Purchase					
	20	20	20	10	0	70
4	City of Marietta - Transportation Museum/Multi-Modal Hub					
	20	20	20	10	0	70
5	Noble County - Development of Industrial Site					
	20	20	20	10	0	70
6	City of Marietta - State Route 7 Commercial/Service Complex Roadway					
	20	15	20	10	0	65
7	Meigs County - Ohio River Cities Boat Tour					
	5	20	20	10	10	65
8	Washington County - Trailhead Park Development					
	0	20	20	20	0	60
9	City of Belpre - Brownfield Clean-up					
	0	20	20	20	0	60
10	Village of Lowell - Buell Island Improvements					
	0	20	20	20	0	60
11	Washington County - State Route 618 upgrading					
	5	20	20	10	0	55
12	Washington County - State Route 7 upgrading					
	5	20	20	10	0	55
13	City of Belpre - Riverfront Development					
	5	20	20	10	0	55
14	City of Belpre - Bikeway and Pedestrian Walkway					
	5	20	20	10	0	55

15	City of Belpre - Downtown Revitalization	5	20	20	10	0	55
16	City of Marietta - Riverfront Walkway	5	20	20	10	0	55
17	Village of New Matamoras - Riverfront Park and Downtown Revitalization	5	20	20	10	0	55
18	Noble County Jail Museum/Renovation of Jailhouse	20	5	20	10	0	55
19	Washington County Comprehensive Sewer Plan	0	20	20	10	0	50
20	Washington County - Corridor D Relocation	0	20	20	10	0	50
21	Washington County - Tri-County Water System Extension	5	15	20	10	0	50
22	Washington County - Highland Ridge Water System Extension	5	15	20	10	0	50
23	Washington County - Newport Water and Sewer Extension	5	15	20	10	0	50
24	Washington County - Tri-County Water Line Extension	5	15	20	10	0	50
25	City of Marietta - Parking Facilitation Program	5	15	20	10	0	50
26	Village of Beverly - Dodge Park Renovation	0	20	20	10	0	50
27	Village of Lower Salem - Flood and Drainage Mitigation	5	20	5	20	0	50
28	Village of New Matamoras - Water System Improvements and Extensions	5	15	20	10	0	50
29	Village of Stockport - Wastewater Treatment Plant	5	5	20	10	10	50
30	Village of Stockport - Water Tank Rehabilitation and Waterline Replacement	5	5	20	10	10	50
31	Village of Stockport - Waterline Extension	5	5	20	10	10	50

32	Noble County - Noble County Sewer District Extension	5	15	20	10	0	50
33	Washington County Comprehensive Land-Use Plan	0	20	5	20	0	45
34	Village of Lowell - Historic School House Renovation	0	15	20	10	0	45
35	Noble County Feasibility study for sewer line extension	10	5	20	10	0	45
36	Washington County - County Route 20 Sidewalk	5	5	20	10	0	40
37	City of Belpre - Water Tank (East Side)	5	5	20	10	0	40
38	City of Belpre - Water Tank (West Side)	5	5	20	10	0	40
39	City of Marietta - Community Recreation Center	0	15	15	10	0	40
40	Village of Macksburg - Water Tank Replacement	5	5	20	10	0	40
41	Village of New Matamoras - Community Park Improvements	0	5	20	10	0	35
42	Village of Stockport - Emergency Generator	5	5	5	10	10	35
43	Washington County - Camp Hervida Pool Replacement	0	5	5	10	0	20
44	City of Marietta - City Building Improvements	0	5	5	10	0	20

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMS

Annual work programs are another way of CEDS strategy implementation. The programs enable BH-HVRDD to make daily progress toward implementing the area development strategies.

The General Policy Council of BH-HVRDD has approved the following two work programs for fiscal year 2000.

EDA PLANNING PROGRAM FY 2000

A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Objective: To update the CEDS. The CEDS is a valuable tool in determining the economic health and growth of a region. This tool need to be continually updated and improved upon to best serve the needs of the community.

Activity: The staff will document the program experience during the past year. A CEDS advisory committee will be formed from local economic development experts. With the assistance of the CEDS advisory committee, area trends will be evaluated and goals and strategies will be developed. The staff will incorporate the information gathered from the advisory committee into the CEDS Update.

Date: July 1999 - June 2000

Expected Result: A document that will guide economic development efforts for the next year.

B. Comprehensive Planning

Objective: To increase the effective use of planning, the staff will work with counties in the region to develop comprehensive plans. A comprehensive plan looks at various components of life in the county (e.g. economic development, education, et.), evaluates the strengths and weaknesses, develops a vision, and step to meet that vision.

Activity: Meigs County

The staff is working with local leaders in Meigs County in order to create a master plan for the county. This master plan will examine all areas of life in Meigs County. Goal and strategies will be created to address the issues of ten years from now, five years from now, and for tomorrow.

Date: August 1999 - July 2000

Expected Result: A guiding document that will shape the future of Meigs County.

Activity: Hocking County

The staff is working with concerned citizens in Hocking County in order to create a comprehensive plan for the county. Currently the staff is assisting in the creation of Land Use Plan for the County.

Date: August 1999 - March 2000

Expected Result: The staff hopes to have the land use portion of the comprehensive plan completed by March of 2000. From that point the other areas of the comprehensive plan will be addressed.

C. **Travel and Tourism**

Objective: To provide technical assistance to communities and organizations in their travel and tourism activities.

Activity: The staff will provide support and technical assistance to communities preparing plans concerning travel and tourism and the Scenic Byway Program. Support and technical assistance can involve demographic analysis, the holding of public meeting, photography, assistance in grant applications, and other planning activities.

Date: Ongoing

Expected Result: A plan that will help to promote travel and tourism in the region.

D. **Strategic Planning**

Objective: To supply communities with short range plans dealing with immediate emergencies.

Activity: The staff provides support and technical assistance to communities preparing strategic plans and businesses preparing business plans. Support and technical assistance can involve demographic analysis, the holding of public meeting, and other planning activities.

Date: Ongoing

Expected Result: A strategic plan that meets the immediate needs of a community, completed in a timely fashion.

Activity: Farmland Preservation

The State of Ohio recently amended its development strategy to include the Farmland Preservation Act. The Act was created to stop urban sprawl and preserve Ohio's farmland. The chief tool for farmland preservation is

the creation of county wide land use and zoning plans. These land use plans will identify strategic agricultural areas and develop methods to protect them. In the coming months, the staff will meet with county commissioners and other interested parties and discuss their participation in the Farmland Preservation Program.

Date: Ongoing

Expected Result: The protection of Ohio farmland from urban sprawl.

E. Data Center

Objective: The Data Center provides demographic and economic data to public and private entities. This data is requested for any number of reasons, such as preparing grant applications or writing media reports.

Activity: To receives most current data from the state data center in both print and electronic formats, and use this vast information system to help keep the people in the region informed.

Date: Ongoing

Expected Result: The dissemination of demographic and economic data including: population, housing characteristics, labor force, and other economic characteristics. The production of census maps for specific community and business applications. The preparation of reports depicting areawide community characteristics.

F. Geographical Information Systems

Objective: The staff at Buckeye Hills operates a geographical information system using MapInfo, Professional. This geographical information system allows for combination of tabular data and geographically oriented maps into one system. Last year a brochure was created and distributed, demonstrating the features of the GIS system in order to publicize the services available from the planning staff.

Activity: The staff will: perform maintenance upon the system to eliminate erroneous data; update the data base of the system as information becomes available; and increase the type of data on the system. An example of new types of data added to the system will be floodplain information.

Date: July 1998 - June 1999

Expected Result: A faster, more accurate, and more versatile geographic information system to better serve the community.

G. Business and Technical Assistance

Objective: To provide assistance to local businesses and industries.

Activity: Intergovernmental Review

As an Ohio Area Clearinghouse, on-going assistance will be provided to officials and agencies in the District by reviewing and receiving comments on projects being completed throughout the region. The review will be completed in accordance with State Clearinghouse regulations.

Date: Ongoing

Expected Result: Keep communities informed about what activities are taking place.

ARC 2000 WORKPLAN

CHAPTER 1. PLANNING

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

The staff will document the program experience during the coming year. A CEDS advisory committee will be formed from local economic development experts. With the assistance of the CEDS advisory committee, area trends will be evaluated and goals and strategies will be developed. The staff will incorporate the information gathered from the advisory committee into the CEDS Update.

Expected Result: A document that will guide economic development efforts for the next year.

Comprehensive Planning

To increase the effective use of planning, the staff will work with counties and communities in the region to develop comprehensive plans. A comprehensive plan involves an analysis of the social, economic, and cultural aspects of a community to include identifying strengths and weaknesses and establishing goals and a process for accomplishing those goals. The staff will work with various counties to develop action plans. The staff will enlist local leaders in various fields to develop these plans. It is hoped that by using local leadership, public support for these plans will follow.

Meigs County

The staff is currently working with local leaders in Meigs County in an effort to create a master plan.

Expected Result: The creation of a plan with goals that are attainable in time frames ranging from the near term, to five years, ten years and twenty years out.

Hocking County

The staff is currently working with a citizen action group in Hocking County in an effort to create a land-use plan and a comprehensive plan.

Expected Result: The creation of a land use plan that will aid in the future development of Hocking County.

Washington County

The staff is currently working with local leaders and a citizen action group in Washington County in an effort to create a land-use plan.

Expected Result: The creation of a land-use plan that will aid in the future development of Washington County.

Noble County

Noble County public officials have requested Buckeye Hills to assist them in creating a county-wide action plan.

Expected Result: The creation of a plan with goals that are attainable over a five-year period.

Strategic Planning

The staff will provide support and technical assistance to communities in preparing strategic plans and business plans. Support and technical assistance can involve demographic analysis, the holding of public meetings, and other planning activities. Strategic planning will enable communities to respond effectively to emergency situations.

Expected Result: A strategic plan that meets the immediate needs of a community.

Sustainable Development

The State of Ohio has been encouraging counties and local municipalities to implement sustainable development practices in their communities. The staff will provide support and technical assistance to communities preparing to implement these practices. The staff will recommend these practices to all communities seeking aid in their planning efforts.

Expected Result: That businesses and communities will have a better understanding of the resources available to them, and the best-use policies surrounding them.

Farmland Preservation

The State of Ohio recently amended its development strategy to include the Farmland Preservation Act. The Act was created to stop urban sprawl and preserve Ohio's farmland. The chief tool for farmland preservation is the creation of county wide land use and zoning plans. These land use plans will identify strategic agricultural areas and develop methods to protect them. In the coming months, the staff will meet with county commissioners and other interested parties and discuss their participation in the Farmland Preservation Program.

Expected Result: The preservation of Ohio farmland.

Scenic Byway Program

The planning staff of Buckeye Hills has been and will continue to provide technical assistance to communities and organizations participating in the Scenic Byway Program.

Expected Result: The promotion of the region through travel and tourism.

Census 2000

The planning staff of Buckeye Hills is working with the Census Bureau to prepare the region for the 2000 Census. Over the past year, the staff assisted in updating the mapping of the region. In the coming months, the staff will assist with training and education for the upcoming Census.

Expected Result: The region will be prepared for the Census.

CHAPTER 2. COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Goal I Appalachian residents will have the skills and knowledge necessary to compete in the world economy in the 21st century.

Objective 1 The percentage of Appalachian Ohio workers and individuals preparing to enter the work force will receive advanced skills training equal to or exceeding the state average.

Appalachian Junior Achievement Program

The Community Development staff will continue to participate in the Junior Achievement Program. Members of the BH-HVRDD staff were trained and entered several 5th grade classrooms to champion business education for children in Appalachian Communities and will continue to work toward the goal of developing in young people: the desire to stay in school, an appreciation for lifelong learning, a sense of family and community that encourages positive behavior, and a positive work ethic that will enable them to contribute to and compete in the modern workplace.

Expected Results: The Junior Achievement program will ensure that a higher percentage of fifth grade students in 27 Appalachian counties pass the Fourth Grade Proficiency Test .

Marietta College Physician's Assistant Program

The Community Development staff has met with representatives of Marietta College, the State Legislature, the Governor's Office of Appalachia and members of the medical community to discuss the establishment of a master's level program for physicians' assistants. Staff will continue to work with these representatives in securing funding for this project.

Expected Results: Create a master's degree program at Marietta College for physicians' assistants who will be encouraged to practice their profession in the Appalachian Ohio region. This will provide Appalachian residents increased access to quality healthcare.

Goal II Appalachian communities will have the physical infrastructure necessary for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life.

Objective 3 All Appalachian Ohio communities will have access to safe drinking water and sanitary sewer and waste-disposal systems.

Hocking County Infrastructure Project

Buckeye Hills continues to assist the Hocking County Commissioners in completing the construction of infrastructure to service the expansion of Rocky Shoes and Boots, Inc. into Hocking County, Ohio. This project includes the construction of a 194,000 square foot distribution center, purchase of machinery/equipment, an access road, sanitary sewer line, and a water storage tank which will result in the creation of 45 jobs in Hocking County. Currently the project is 90% complete, with completion of the access road expected by the end of December, 1999

Expected Result: Creation of 45 jobs, Retention of 46 jobs

City of Logan Wastewater Treatment

Buckeye Hills is assisting the City of Logan in applying for Appalachian Regional Commission, Economic Development Administration, and Community Development Block Grant-Economic Development Program funds to update their wastewater treatment plant. They will be installing vacuum assisted sludge dewatering beds to comply with an EPA mandate.

Expected Result: Construction of approximately 3,200 s.f. of sludge bed to put the City of Logan in compliance with an Environmental Protection Agency mandate.

Hocking College Waterline Project

Buckeye Hills is assisting the City of Nelsonville in administering their Appalachian Regional Commission and Community Development Block Grant-Economic Development Program funds to increase water supply and pressure to service an expansion of the Quality Inn in Nelsonville, OH. The project involves the construction of 7,100 feet of 6" water main and related appurtenances, connecting two separate dead-end existing lines in the area. Construction could begin as early as October 1999 on the water line expansion.

Expected Result: Construction for the installation of 7,100 feet of 6" water main and related appurtenances. Creation of 60 full time jobs

Newport Water Project

The Community Development staff will assist the Newport Water and Sewer District in seeking funding for the extension of water mains along State Route 7, north, east, and west of the existing Newport Water Sewer District water system. The purpose of this project is to provide public water service to residences, businesses, and a high school, which have experienced problems with their private water supplies. Frontier High School, with a staff and student population of approximately 350, has been required by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) to cease drawing water from their well due to the

presence of excessive lead and copper in their drinking water. The project includes construction of a 183,000-gallon water tank, installation of 99,000 feet of water main, and construction of a water well. Rural Development funds have been approved, and the CDBG Water and Sewer Program application will be submitted in September, 1999.

Expected Result: Provide approximately 220 households and a high school with potable water and to improve the existing water system to accommodate future growth of the area.

Pennsville Water Distribution System Improvements

The Community Development staff will provide assistance to RCAP in preparing applications for the West Malta Rural Water District in seeking funding to develop a water distribution system to provide service to residents in and around the unincorporated community of Pennsville in Morgan County, Ohio. The development of this system will allow residents, as well as major community facilities, to have access to a safe drinking water supply.

Expected Result: Provide the residents of Pennsville with safe, affordable drinking water.

Pomeroy Sewer Project

The Community Development staff is continuing to assist the Village of Pomeroy in administering Appalachian Regional Commission, Community Development Block Grant, and Ohio Public Works Commission funding to provide sanitary sewer service to a portion of the village not currently connected to the Village's sewage treatment system. Currently under construction, this project will result in the installation of 14,838 linear feet of sanitary sewer, 83 manholes, 4,700 linear feet of sanitary force main, 145 sewer connections, construction of a new lift station and a major upgrade of an existing lift station resulting in an additional 70,000 gallons per day to the treatment plant. The plant has adequate capacity to handle this additional loading and no upgrade to the plant will be necessary for this project.

Expected Result: Connect 145 residents and businesses to the existing wastewater system.

Noble Water Project

The Noble County Commissioners were awarded \$500,000 from the CDBG Water and Sanitary Sewer Competitive Program in order to install a water system in the northwest section of Noble County. This water system will serve approximately 235 households in Belle Valley, Ada, Hirambsburg and Hoskinsville. This expansion program is also being funded by Rural Development's Water 2000 program, the Ohio Public Works Commission

funding and CDBG Formula Allocation Program funding. Construction is well underway on this project..

Expected Result: Provide approximately 235 households with potable water.

Belpre Water Storage Tank

Community Development staff is currently working with the Mayor of Belpre and the Washington County Economic Development office in determining the feasibility in applying for CDBG Water and Sewer Program funds. The project will install a 200,000 gallon water storage tank to service a portion of the City of Belpre and a portion of Dunham Township.

Expected Result: Provide approximately 400 households with potable water.

Middleport Sanitary Sewer

Community Development staff is currently gathering information to prepare a CDBG Water and Sewer Program application for replacement of sanitary sewer line and upgrade of several lift stations in the Village of Middleport.

Expected Result: Repair of sanitary sewer system that services the entire Village of Middleport.

Elba Emergency Waterline Project

Community Development Staff has assisted Washington County and local officials in securing CDBG Water and Sewer program funding. Construction of the project is complete, and staff is now assisting the County preparing for close-out of the project. The project replaced on-site water wells that were contaminated by flood waters with a public water system.

Expected Result: Provide 53 households with potable drinking water.

Marietta Industrial Enterprises Waterline Project

Community Development staff have met with representatives of the Ohio Department of Development, the local Economic Development Office and the Washington County Commissioners to discuss applying for CDBG - Economic Development funding for construction of a waterline extension to service Marietta Industrial Enterprises and various small businesses. This project will result in the ability of MIE to expand their operation and create 20 jobs.

Estimated total cost of the project is \$193,000.

Expected Results: Creation of 20 jobs.

Morgan County Industrial Site

Buckeye Hills is working with local officials and representatives from EDA and USDA Rural Development to determine potential financing for the the extension

of public infrastructure to a tract of land to enable it to be marketed as a commerce park.

Expected Results: Creation of 150 jobs in Morgan County over a 6-year period.

Hocking County Industrial Site

Community Development staff are assisting the Hocking County CIC in securing EDA and ARC funds for completion of an industrial site in Hocking County.

This project involves site development and the extension of public infrastructure to a new Industrial Park located 1.5 miles from the Logan corporation limit.

Expected Results: Creation of 300 jobs in Hocking County

Lower Salem Emergency Project

Community Development Staff is assisting the Washington County Economic Development office and Village officials in applying for OPWC emergency funding to repair a slip resulting from flood damage. Staff has met with representatives of OPWC and FEMA to determine the ability of securing additional OPWC funds for completion of the project.

Expected Results: Repair of slips to prevent further deterioration of streets and eliminate threat to residential structures.

Lowell Sanitary Sewer

Community Development staff is currently working on the environmental assessment for an upgrade of their current sanitary sewer system. Funding has been approved for this project by the Ohio Department of Development and Ohio Public Works Commission.

Expected Results: Construction of drying beds to comply with EPA recommendations.

Village of Clarington Water Project

Buckeye Hills is assisting the Village of Clarington in securing Ohio Department of Development , Appalachian Regional Commission and state funding for repair of their water system. Ohio Public Works Commission and CDBG Formula funding has already been approved for this project. The Village of Clarington serves 170 residents and 20 businesses in the village and the Switzer Water Association that serves 490 customers.

Expected Results: Replacement and upgrade of existing water system to improve ability to serve potable water to customers and to improve dangerously low fire flows.

McConnelsville Downtown Project

Community Development Staff is assisting the Village of McConnelsville in applying for FY'99 CDBG Downtown Revitalization Program Funding.

Expected Results: Rehabilitation of streetscape, storefronts and infrastructure over a 2-block area of the downtown's central business district.

Village of Rutland Hazard Mitigation Project

Community Development staff is administering the Village of Rutland Hazard Mitigation Project in Meigs County, Ohio. The purpose of the grant program is to offer residents located in the floodplain/flood way a permanent solution to their flooding problems. Funding for the project was provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Ohio Department of Development, and Ohio Emergency Management Agency. The project has been completed and is currently being prepared for close-out by the Buckeye Hills staff.

Expected Results: Mitigate the hazards residents in the Village of Rutland face during a flooding event by acquiring and demolishing, elevating, and/or retrofitting structures in the floodplain/floodway.

Hocking County Mitigation Project

Community Development staff is administering the Hocking County Mitigation Project. A project manager has been put under contract with the Hocking County Commissioners, and Community Development staff will oversee the project manager. The project involves the acquisition of one business, the elevation of one business, and retrofitting two additional businesses that are located in the floodplain in Hocking County, Ohio.

Expected Results: Mitigate the damages caused by repeated flooding in the Hocking County area.

Village of Amesville Mitigation Project

The Community Development staff is providing technical assistance to the Village of Amesville in completing their Hazard Mitigation Project. The staff assisted the Village in applying for ARC funds to complete a portion of their mitigation project.

Expected Results: Mitigate the hazards residents in the Village of Amesville face during a flooding event by acquiring and demolishing, elevating, and/or retrofitting structures in the floodplain/floodway.

Noble County Mitigation

Buckeye Hills, having met with local officials and representatives of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, has offered to provide technical assistance to the County for their Hazard Mitigation Project. Noble County has a deadline for

submitting an application for funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency of November 1999.

Goal III The people and organizations of Appalachia will have the vision and capacity to mobilize and to work together for sustained economic progress and improvement of their communities.

Objective 2 Appalachian communities will have the community-based institutions devoted to citizen mobilization, strategic planning, and economic and community development

Strategy A Support the continuing efforts of the local development districts to serve as conveners of community efforts and catalysts for economic development.

Formula Allocation Program

The Community Development Department is currently administering the 1999 CDBG Formula Program for Morgan and Washington Counties. Total grant funding for these programs is \$338,000. In Morgan County the following activities are being funded through the CDBG formula program: upgrade of communication equipment for the Village of Stockport V.F.D., acquiring additional fire protection equipment for the Center Township V.F.D., Tri-County Rural Water extending public water to portions of Manchester, Windsor and Center Townships, planning and feasibility study for the Village of Chesterhill to consider a combined facility for the Village, West Malta Rural Water to extend service to those residents of Malta, Penn, and Deerfield townships .

In Washington County the following activities are being funded through the CDBG Formula program. Barlow V.F.D. to purchase and upgraded communication system, City of Belpre to remove architectural barriers from the Museum and Education Center, Fearing V.F.D. to purchase a new Class A Pumper, New Matamoras to purchase kitchen equipment for the Senior Center, Muskingum will be extending water service to 23 residents on Grove Road, and the Village of Beverly Dodge Park will undergo rehabilitation.

Expected Result: Improve public infrastructure and public services in multiple communities throughout Morgan and Washington Counties

Fair Housing

In 1998, Buckeye Hills initiated a Fair Housing Program for Washington, Noble and Morgan Counties. An initial amount of \$25,000 was granted to the program from CDBG New Horizons Program in order to start the project. With the grant

funding, a toll free telephone line for fair housing issues was established. Educational seminars were held for target audiences, brochures and posters were developed and distributed, and a fair housing analysis of the three county region was completed in 1998. Currently Buckeye Hills-HVRDD is applying for their third grant to continue their fair housing efforts in the three counties.

Two main goals of the New Horizons Fair Housing Program are: 1) to be an educational and informational resource for the consortium, and 2) to ensure the counties fulfill the state minimum fair housing requirements as required with the acceptance of state and federal funding.

Expected Result: Increase public awareness of actions that can be taken to prevent and address housing discrimination issues.

State Capital Improvement/Local Transportation Improvement Program

The Community Development staff is the liaison for the Ohio Public Works Commission 18th District. The District includes Athens, Belmont, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, and Washington counties. The SCIP/LTIP program provides funding to counties, townships, villages, and water and sewer districts to enable them to repair or replace roads, bridges, culverts, water supply, wastewater, solid waste and storm water systems. The staff will provide technical assistance and training to assist in the completion of the SCIP/LTIP application. The staff will coordinate the activities of the various District 18 communities, which includes, but is not limited to: setting up meetings, distributing meeting notices, publishing newspaper announcements, collecting applications, rating and ranking applications, and forwarding applications to the Ohio Public Works Commission for funding or consideration for funding under the various SCIP/LTIP programs.

Expected Result: Improve public infrastructure throughout the ten-county district.

Tourism, Natural Resources and Historic Projects

To enhance the wise use of our natural resources, tourism potential as well as cultural and historic awareness. The staff intends to assist several groups who are seeking technical assistance in improving these vital areas of the local economy.

Each year there are thousands of tax dollars, yearly incomes and jobs that result from tourism and the use of our natural resources. This is a vital part of Southeastern Ohio's economy that remains untapped. By assisting local groups in coordinating the wise use of this part of our economy the staff will be helping to strengthen this sector.

Tourism

The staff will work with a number of groups in the region on projects which will enhance tourism in the region's economy. This will ultimately lead to job creation in the region as a result of the tourist trade.

The staff will work with the Ohio State Extension 4 -H office in Washington County to provide, technical assistance and grant writing in updating all data on historical, cultural and scenic sites. This data will then be utilized to create new scenic driving

Tours of Washington County.

Various groups will be included in this effort including the Visitor and Convention Bureau, the Washington County Public Library, all the historic groups of the County, 4-H groups, the elementary and secondary schools as well as interested private individuals.

Date: January 2000 – December 31, 2000

Expected Result: By coordinating with elementary teachers, the children will become more aware of the historic and cultural richness of the region as well as the natural resources found in the County. In addition, by utilizing secondary school students in the actual compilation of the data of the historic, cultural and scenic sites of the region they will become more aware of the potential of the region. Finally, A map of the county will be produced locating several driving tour routes which will highlight all historic, cultural and scenic sites. A bound book will accompany each map which will contain photographs and description/history of each site located on the map.

It is hoped that this effort will have a dual purpose. First, it will produce more awareness and appreciation for our region and it's heritage among the next generations and second, it will provide a visitor to the region, a comprehensive guide to all the major historic, cultural and scenic sites throughout Washington County.

Muskingum River Valley Heritage Corridor

Buckeye Hills staff will work with local officials along the Muskingum River to conduct an analysis of land use and the quality of housing and water and how they affect the recreational, economic and tourist uses of the area.

Expected Results: Development of a strategic plan that identifies the best methods for increasing the recreational quality of the Muskingum River Valley.

Virtual Building

Buckeye Hills has received funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission for an innovative pilot project to enable our most distressed counties to market their industrial sites. The project is directed toward Morgan, Monroe, and Meigs Counties and involves the creation of a web site and building plans that can be

shown to prospective companies that wish to locate in these counties. Community Development staff have made tremendous progress toward realizing the vision of a Virtual Building. The Virtual Building web site has been constructed and the artist has completed the drawings of the buildings. The professional engineer is currently creating building plans that can be adjusted to various sizes in an effort for our most distressed counties to market their industrial site and building concept prior to construction of a building.

Expected Results: To provide our most distressed counties an additional tool to market and promote economic development

Goal III The people and organizations of Appalachia will have the vision and capacity to mobilize and to work together for sustained economic progress and improvement of their communities.

Objective 2 Appalachian communities will have the community-based institutions devoted to citizen mobilization, strategic planning, and economic and community development

Strategy C Through Demonstration project, technical assistance, and research help communities reinvent key institutions, form new partnerships and initiate new services.

Welfare Reform Demonstration Project - Meigs County Crafters Brochure

The Community Development Staff assisted the Meigs County Commissioners in applying to the Appalachian Regional Commission for funds to create a medium for the Meigs County craft industry to market their products outside Appalachia and create employment for the local workforce which will increase revenue for the county. Funding has been approved, and Meigs County is in the process of drawing down funds to complete the project.

Expected Results: Promotion of Appalachian Region through training of welfare recipients in basic office management to be used in development of job skills.

Botanical Sanctuary

Community Development staff met with Meigs county local officials and members of United Plant Savers (UpS) – a non-profit organization devoted to the protection and sustainable cultivation of medicinal plants – to discuss the feasibility of providing financing for a 370 acre working organic farm and herbal sanctuary. On this botanical sanctuary, located on the outskirts of the Village of Rutland in Meigs County, UpS is cultivating medicinal plants to conduct research on and provide education in sustainable agricultural practices. Meetings will be held with representatives of State and Federal funding agencies and legislators to determine possible financing options.

Expected Result: Implement an operational plan for the sanctuary that includes educational and research programs that will serve as a model of sustainable agricultural practices for the region.

Noble County Farmers' Cooperative

Community Development staff met with Noble County officials, a local citizens' group and a representative from USDA to discuss the feasibility of forming a farmers' cooperative and creating a facility for presenting and selling local crafts and produce. The facility would include a restaurant/gift shop, craft workshops, commercial kitchen, banquet hall, a country store, and catering business located on a 50-acre site in rural Noble County. This facility would use only locally grown/raised fruits, vegetables, herbs, flowers, meats, eggs, milk and cheese.

Expected Result: Provide a continuing steady market for local farm products, create an incubator environment for home-based cottage industries with a ready-made market, and provide the opportunity for economic development for rural residents.

Goal IV Appalachian Ohio communities will have the commitment and resources to assist in starting and expanding local businesses, thus creating jobs, increasing local wealth and strengthening local economies. Local economic expansion will also occur through increased international trade and tourism development

Objective 1 Start-up and developing businesses in Appalachia Ohio will have access to necessary capital and financial assistance.

Strategy A Support the LDD administered Revolving Loan Fund Programs, as well as other risk capital investments in Appalachia Ohio.

Revolving Loan Fund

By utilizing the agency's administered Revolving Loan Funds including the Appalachian Regional Commission RLF, the Economic Development Administration RLF, the Farmers Home Administration RLF and the State of Ohio 166 RLF; the staff will provide the needed technical and financial assistance needed by the region's businesses. The staff will also coordinate with other State and local funding programs to provide technical assistance to the businesses of the district to assist them in finding the best combination of loan funds for their endeavors. This will ultimately lead to a stronger regional economy among the small businesses.

Staff will market the programs to banks, economic development practitioners and businesses through presentations at seminars, direct mailings and advertising.

Date: January 2000 - ongoing

Expected Result: Business and industry in the region will receive assistance in securing financial and technical assistance which will lead to expansions and job creation.

Goal IV Appalachian Ohio communities will have the commitment and resources to assist in starting and expanding local businesses, thus creating jobs, increasing local wealth and strengthening local economies. Local economic expansion will also occur through increased international trade and tourism development.

Objective 2 Start-up and developing businesses in Appalachia Ohio will have sufficient access to technical, managerial, and financial expertise.

Strategy A Support efforts to enhance the service delivery of technical assistance targeted toward business development and growth.

Manufacturing Alliance Zone Project (MAZ)

The staff assisted Washington State Community College in preparing an application for funding to assist in establishing the position of a Manufacturing Alliance Zone (MAZ) Coordinator. The MAZ is a seven-county region in southeastern Ohio to be developed and promoted as an area ripe for business creation and expansion. MAZ, Inc., an organization comprised of representatives of private businesses, will establish and maintain a support network for prospective and existing businesses, and represent the business interests of the region. The MAZ Coordinator will utilize this support network in providing information and services to businesses throughout the region.

Expected Results: Provide information and technical assistance to businesses to encourage business creation and expansion, and prevent business failures.

Goal IV Appalachian Ohio communities will have the commitment and resources to assist in starting and expanding local businesses, thus creating jobs, increasing local wealth and strengthening local economies. Local economic expansion will also occur through increased international trade and tourism development

Objective 6 The percentage of small and medium-sized Appalachian Ohio firms engaged in international trade will at least equal the state average.

Strategy A Support efforts to enhance export development by increasing the number of firms engaged in exporting and the volume of exported goods and services.

Exporting

Recognizing that local companies must possess viable domestic markets prior to expanding globally, the staff will assist companies in the region by expanding their domestic markets while also seeking markets overseas for their products. The staff will concentrate on assisting at least four (4) businesses in expanding their exporting potential by locating the most probable markets for their products and attempting to locate distributors for those companies in those markets.

In addition, the staff will also assist four (4) additional businesses without exporting experience. The staff will concentrate on assessing the company's readiness to export, assist them in building a strong domestic market and compile a strategy to locate one country in which to market their product. The staff will assist all eight (8) of these businesses in locating trade shows to benefit their particular company and products.

The staff will coordinate efforts with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Department of Development International Trade Division.

Date: January 2000 - ongoing

Expected Result: Business and industry in the region will become stronger competitors in the domestic and international marketplace. This will, in turn, help the companies in becoming stronger employers providing jobs to the district's workforce.

CHAPTER 3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Goal III** The people and organizations of Appalachia will have the vision and capacity to mobilize and to work together for sustained economic progress and improvement of their communities.
- Objective 2** Appalachian communities will have the community-based institutions devoted to citizen mobilization, strategic planning, and economic and community development
- Strategy A** Support the continuing efforts of the local development districts to serve as conveners of community efforts and catalysts for economic development.

Data Center

The Data Center provides demographic and economic data to public and private entities. This data is requested for any number of reasons, such as preparing grant applications or writing media reports. The staff receives most current data from the state data center in both print and electronic formats, and uses this vast information system to help keep the people in the region informed.

Expected Result: The dissemination of demographic and economic data including: population, housing characteristics, labor force, and other economic characteristics. The production of census maps for specific community and business applications. The preparation of reports depicting area-wide community characteristics.

Geographical Information Systems

The staff at Buckeye Hills operates a geographical information system using MapInfo, Professional. This geographical information system allows for combination of tabular data and geographically oriented maps into one system. Last year a brochure was created and distributed, demonstrating the features of the GIS system in order to publicize the services available from the planning staff. The staff will: perform maintenance upon the system to eliminate erroneous data; update the data base of the system as information becomes available; and increase the type of data on the system. An example of new types of data added to the system will be floodplain information.

Expected Result: A faster, more accurate, and more versatile geographic information system to better serve the community.

Intergovernmental Review

As an Ohio Area Clearinghouse, on-going assistance will be provided to officials and agencies in the District by reviewing and receiving comments on projects being completed throughout the region. The review will be completed in accordance with State Clearinghouse regulations.

Expected Result: Keep communities informed about what activities are taking place.

CHAPTER VII EVALUATION

A key function of the CEDS is the evaluation of the past years activities. The goals set by 1999 Overall Economic Development Program Advisory Council, in order of importance were:

1. CREATION AND RETENTION OF JOBS
2. LINK EDUCATION AND EXPECTATIONS
3. INCREASE PLANNING ACTIVITIES
4. IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE

CREATION AND RETENTION OF JOBS

Over the past year, the staff of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District has been working to create and retain as many jobs as possible in the region.

The Economic Development Department's Revolving Loan Fund staff directly worked with thirty-five (35) businesses throughout the district seeking financing for expansion and start up costs. The total loan requests from these companies for RLF funding was \$1,736,050.00. Only sixteen (16) of these thirty-five (35) projects could be assisted due to RLF funding being exhausted. These sixteen (16) projects that were approved received \$1,034,248.00 of funding.

In addition to direct loans provide through Buckeye Hills, Buckeye Hills also plays a role in attracting new industries to the region. This role is carried out through the creation and promotion of industrial parks. Over the past year, the staff of Buckeye Hills has worked with two industrial sites, the Morgan county Industrial Park and the Logan-Hocking Industrial Site.

Morgan County Industrial Park: Buckeye Hills staff has been meeting with local, state and federal officials in order to assist in securing funding for an industrial park in Morgan County. Application has been made to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and ARC.

Logan-Hocking Industrial Site: Buckeye Hills has assisted the city of Logan in securing funding for water and sewer facilities to service a new industrial site located outside of the city of Logan in Hocking County. The total estimated cost of this infrastructure is 2.3 million dollars. Application for funding has been submitted to EDA, ARC, and ODOD. Local funds have been committed to the project amounting to \$571,000. Buckeye Hills will be administering this project.

LINK EDUCATION AND EXPECTATIONS

The staff of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District worked on two projects to link educational attainment to employer expectations. The first of these projects was: Instrumentation and Electronics Technology at the Washington County Career Center.

Instrumentation and Electronic Technology

Instrumentation and Electronics training locally will aid industry, upgrade skills of current employees, improve skills for other employees to move into Instrumentation and Electronics positions, cross training opportunities, training possibilities for small business electrical contractors, and train the general public allowing for a pool of a skilled workforce that industry could employ. This project meets existing needs of employers in addition to providing the general public with the opportunity to improve skills leading to excellent wages.

The manufacturing community of the Mid-Ohio Valley strides to remain globally competitive with their products requiring the latest technological advances to be operational. A critical component of the manufacturing process is Instrumentation and Electronic operations. This technology is constantly changing and demands recurrent training to utilize innovative advances.

The target is a state-of-the-art facility that will be flexible to meet the needs of the local manufacturers. The equipment utilized in the lab will simulate local industry processes. The equipment will be flexible enough to meet the specific training needs of each company and cover the basics for the general public.

The lab would be on the campus of Washington County Career Center. The facility would house the hands-on training equipment, provide space for individualized instruction, and act as a resource center that industry could access. Structured classes would operate for current employers as well as traditional adult education classes for the general public. The equipment is adaptable to specific training based on an individual company's request.

Development of Distance Learning and Alternative Instructional Delivery Systems

The purpose of this project is to implement a "Learning and Technology" project which will enhance the instruction process by increasing access to higher education/job training for Appalachian youths and adults by providing the appropriate technology for distance learning and alternative methods of instructional delivery, and updating the faculty by employing personnel with the knowledge and skills necessary to teach the faculty how to implement the new instructional methodologies.

As an isolated Appalachian area in rural southeastern Ohio, computer and distance learning technologies can provide access to instruction independent of the time and place a course is offered in the traditional curriculum.

While Washington State has made a good beginning in providing the necessary technology, more needs to be done. Every faculty and staff member now has access to the management information system (MIS), the e-mail system, and the Internet through the installation of hardware and software, and the completion of the campus LAN. The next step is an electronic classroom to provide the resources necessary for computer-assisted-instruction (CAI). The infrastructure will also provide improved communication between students, faculty and other campus functions. Space in the new library will be adapted to accommodate the new technology in a computer lab for CAI and for the proposed electronic classroom described above.

INCREASE PLANNING ACTIVITIES

The staff of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District has been and continues to work with a number of various groups to increase planning activities in the region. The groups range from county governments to private citizens, but they have one goal in common – the general improvement of life for the citizens of their community.

The planning staff is working with the Meigs County Economic Development Department in creating the Meigs County Master Plan. The staff has conducted demographic research and analysis of the county. The staff is planning upon infusing the new Meigs County Master Plan with sustainable development concepts and practices. The end goal of the process being a sustainable plan for the future of the economic, cultural, and well being of Meigs County.

The planning staff has been working with a citizens group in Hocking County to aid their creation of a comprehensive plan for the county. The group is currently conducting a Land Use study of the county. The end goal of this project is to create a working document to shape the economic and physical development of the county.

The planning staff has been working with local leaders in Washington County to produce a comprehensive Land Use Plan for the county. At the present, the plan is still in the formative stage, but it expected to be completed within the year.

IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE

The Community Development staff of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District has carried on its mission of improving the infrastructure of the region. It has accomplished this through various programs such as the State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP); Local Transportation Improvement

Program (LTIP); Community Development Block Grant Formula Allocation Program; and Water and Sewer programs.

State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP)

Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP)

During the past year, the Community Development staff sent twenty-seven (27) projects, totaling \$7,427,212, to the State of Ohio Public Works Commission for funding under Round 13 of the SCIP/LTIP programs. Additionally, Community Development staff collected seventeen (17) applications for funding consideration by the Small Government Program, which is also implemented by the Ohio Public Works Commission.

Community Development Block Grant Formula Allocation Program

Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District administered the fiscal year 1998 Community Development Block Grant Formula Allocation program for Morgan and Washington County. Each county selects 6 projects and each acquired city chooses 3 project. These projects total more than \$300,000. The County Commissioners review the pre-applications and prioritizes the projects for funding and an emphasis is given to those projects that will further strengthen rural infrastructure.

Morgan County funded the following types of projects: establishment of water service to rural communities, purchase of fire protection equipment for the volunteer fire departments, and a feasibility study of combination of a senior center with a town hall.

Washington County supported the following: street improvements, removal of barriers to a museum, park and recreation renovations, and the extension of public water.

Water and Sewer

Hocking College: The staff assisted Hocking College in preparing applications to the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to fund a waterline that will supply water to a portion of the campus and the Ramada Inn. The total estimated cost of this project is \$480,000 and will create 60 jobs.

Rocky Shoes and Boots: The staff is administering a project that will provide water and sewer services and an access road for an expansion of Rocky Shoes and Boots, Inc. The expansion includes construction of a warehouse and purchase of equipment amounting to 6.4 million dollars.

Noble County Water Authority: Construction activities are underway for a project providing water to 235 residential customers in northwest Noble County. This project includes construction of approximately 25 miles of waterline, two water storage tanks, and a pumping station. This project is funded through ODOD, the

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC), and locally committed funds. Total estimated cost of this project is 2.1 million dollars.

Newport Water: USDA funds have been recently committed and engineering design has begun for a project in eastern Washington County that will provide water to 188 residents and a high school. This project includes installation of a 183,000 gallon storage tank, a well, and 99,000 feet of waterline.

Village of Pomeroy: Bids were recently opened for a sanitary sewer project that will serve 145 residences in the Village of Pomeroy, Meigs County. This project includes installation of 15,100 feet of sewer line, 4,700 feet of force main, and a new lift station.

Elba Emergency Project: Construction has just been completed for a project that provides potable water to residents in the area of Elba located in northern Washington County. This project was necessitated by floodwaters that contaminated the residents' water supply. This project includes installation of 31,500 feet of water line.