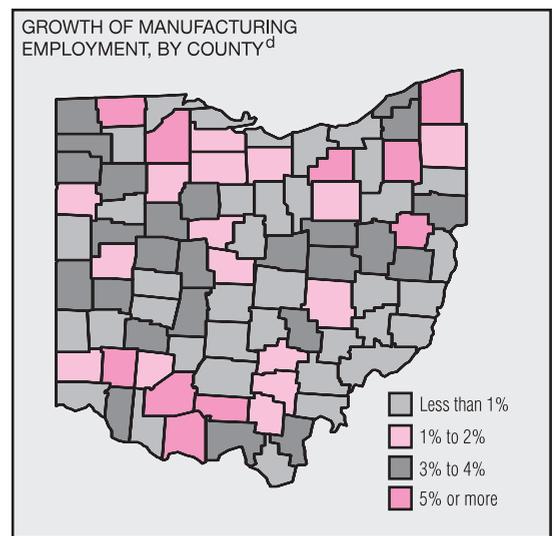
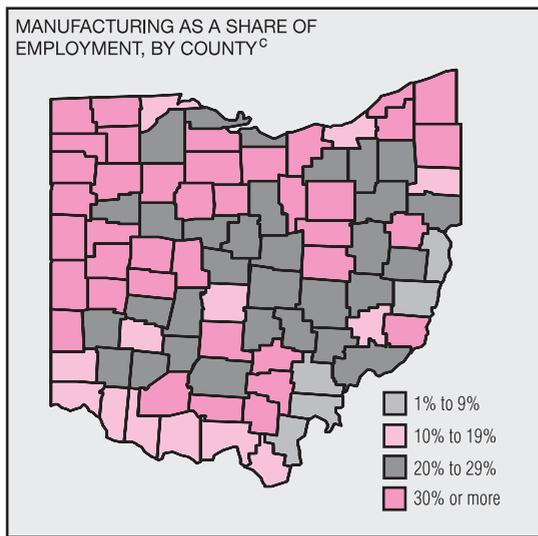
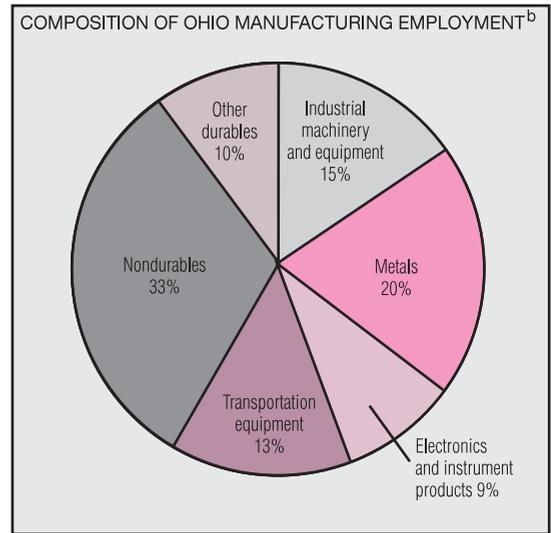
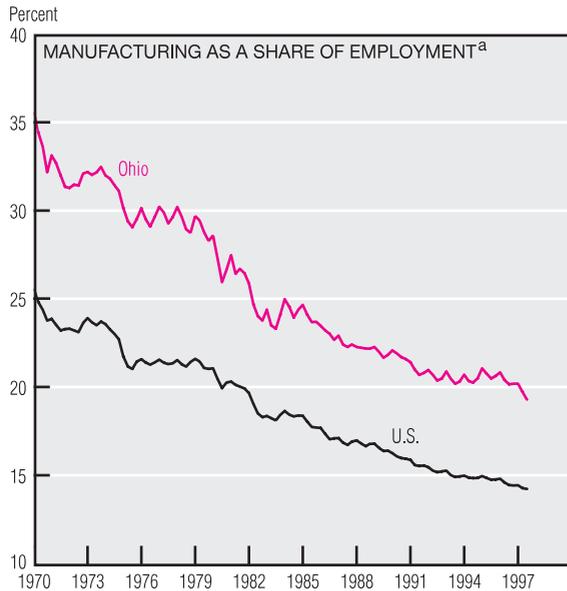


Manufacturing in Ohio



a. Not seasonally adjusted.
b. Data are for August 1997.
c. Data are for the first quarter of 1997.
d. Average annual growth rates, 1992-97.
NOTE: Data are for nonfarm employment.
SOURCES: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; and Ohio Bureau of Employment Services.

Ohio continues to be one of the most manufacturing-intensive states, with a little under 20% of all its nonfarm workers employed in the sector. This focus is even more evident in the heavy manufacturing industries (transportation equipment, industrial machinery, and metals, for example), which account for only 33% of manufacturing employment in the U.S., but almost half in Ohio.

The population of manufacturing workers is still concentrated in the urban counties, notably Cuyahoga (135,991), Hamilton (96,430), Montgomery (66,401), and Franklin

(63,103). Although the employment numbers are lower, manufacturing actually makes up a far larger share of the nonfarm workforce in several suburban and rural counties, including those on Ohio's western edge. One reason is that larger urban centers have a heavier concentration of financial and business service industries, which support the state's manufacturers.

While overall manufacturing employment has been relatively stable over the last five years (0.5% annual growth statewide), certain areas have experienced rapid increases.

Some of the strongest growth has occurred in counties near older manufacturing centers, notably Ashtabula, Portage, and Medina counties in the Cleveland-Akron metropolitan area, Fulton and Wood counties in the Toledo metropolitan area, and Adams, Highland, and Warren counties, which either adjoin or are in the Cincinnati metropolitan area. Growth in suburban and rural areas has offset losses in some of the urban areas to keep Ohio one of the country's major manufacturing states.