

*In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, (i) assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants and the accuracy of certain representations, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax, and (ii) interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. Interest on the Bonds may be subject to certain federal taxes imposed only on certain corporations. (See **TAX MATTERS** herein.)*

OFFICIAL STATEMENT
\$329,195,000
STATE OF OHIO
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

\$140,710,000
Infrastructure Improvement
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A

\$40,450,000
Conservation Projects
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A

\$47,905,000
Infrastructure Improvement
General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B

\$100,130,000
Common Schools
General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C

Dated: Date of Initial Delivery

Due: As shown on inside cover

The Bonds: The Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds) and the Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B (the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and, together with the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds, the Infrastructure Bonds) are general obligations of the State of Ohio (the State) issued by the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions and to refund bonds previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions, respectively. The Conservation Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the Conservation Projects Bonds) are general obligations of the State issued by the Commission for the purpose of paying costs of projects for conservation purposes. The Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C (the Common Schools Bonds) are general obligations of the State issued by the Commission to refund bonds previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State. The Infrastructure Bonds, Conservation Projects Bonds and Common Schools Bonds are collectively referred to herein as the "Bonds".

Security: The Bonds are general obligations of the State. *The full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State (with exceptions stated herein) are pledged to the payment of Debt Service on the Bonds.* (See **THE BONDS GENERALLY – Sources of Payment.**)

Book-Entry Only: The Bonds will be issued in the denomination of \$5,000 or in whole multiples of \$5,000 and will be initially issued only as fully-registered bonds, one for each maturity of a series with the same interest rate, issuable under a book-entry system, registered initially in the name of The Depository Trust Company or its nominee (DTC). There will be no distribution of the Bonds to the ultimate purchasers. The Bonds in certificated form as such will not be transferable or exchangeable, except for transfer to another nominee of DTC or as otherwise described in this Official Statement. (See **Appendix B.**)

Payment: (See **MATURITY SCHEDULE** on inside cover.) Principal and interest on the Bonds will be payable to the registered owner (DTC), principal on presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar (initially, the Treasurer of State of Ohio) and interest transmitted on each interest payment date (March 1 and September 1, beginning March 1, 2022 for the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and the Conservation Projects Bonds, February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2022 for the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and March 15 and September 15, beginning March 15, 2022 for the Common Schools Bonds), by the Bond Registrar to DTC as the registered owner as of the 15th day preceding that interest payment date.

Prior Redemption: The Bonds are subject to prior redemption at the option of the Commission as set forth herein. (See **THE BONDS – Prior Redemption.**)

This cover page includes certain information for quick reference only. *It is not a summary of the bond issue. Investors should read the entire Official Statement to obtain information as a basis for making informed investment judgments.*

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the Commission and accepted by the Underwriters, subject to the opinions on certain legal matters relating to their issuance by Bricker & Eckler LLP, Bond Counsel, and certain other conditions. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by their counsel Dinsmore & Shohl LLP. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Commission by Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, which is also serving as Issuer and Disclosure Counsel to the Commission. The Bonds are expected to be available in definitive form for delivery through DTC on or about November 10, 2021.

Citigroup
Barclays
Loop Capital Markets

KeyBanc Capital Markets
J.P. Morgan
PNC Capital Markets

The date of this Official Statement is October 27, 2021, and the information speaks only as of that date.

MATURITY SCHEDULE

\$140,710,000

STATE OF OHIO

Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A

Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)	Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)
<u>March 1</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>	<u>March 1</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>
2022	\$4,915,000	5.000%	0.120%	101.503	BS0	2032	\$6,965,000	5.000%	1.380%	134.670	CC4
2023	4,490,000	5.000	0.270	106.172	BT8	2033	7,315,000	5.000	1.440*	133.988	CD2
2024	4,715,000	5.000	0.340	110.705	BU5	2034	7,680,000	5.000	1.480*	133.536	CE0
2025	4,950,000	5.000	0.460	114.888	BV3	2035	8,065,000	5.000	1.510*	133.198	CF7
2026	5,200,000	5.000	0.640	118.497	BW1	2036	8,465,000	4.000	1.670*	121.978	CG5
2027	5,460,000	5.000	0.780	121.900	BX9	2037	8,805,000	4.000	1.700*	121.661	CH3
2028	5,730,000	5.000	0.950	124.739	BY7	2038	9,155,000	4.000	1.730*	121.345	CJ9
2029	6,015,000	5.000	1.110	127.232	BZ4	2039	9,525,000	4.000	1.760*	121.030	CK6
2030	6,320,000	5.000	1.250	129.503	CA8	2040	9,905,000	5.000	1.660*	131.522	CL4
2031	6,635,000	5.000	1.330	132.029	CB6	2041	10,400,000	5.000	1.680*	131.301	CM2

\$40,450,000

STATE OF OHIO

Conservation Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A

Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)	Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)
<u>March 1</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>	<u>March 1</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>
2022	\$2,135,000	5.000%	0.120%	101.503	BD3	2029	\$3,225,000	5.000%	1.110	127.232	BL5
2023	2,410,000	5.000	0.270	106.172	BE1	2030	3,385,000	5.000	1.250	129.503	BM3
2024	2,530,000	5.000	0.340	110.705	BF8	2031	3,555,000	5.000	1.330	132.029	BN1
2025	2,655,000	5.000	0.460	114.888	BG6	2032	3,735,000	5.000	1.380	134.670	BP6
2026	2,785,000	5.000	0.640	118.497	BH4	2033	3,920,000	5.000	1.440*	133.988	BQ4
2027	2,925,000	5.000	0.780	121.900	BJ0	2034	4,115,000	5.000	1.480*	133.536	BR2
2028	3,075,000	5.000	0.950	124.739	BK7						

\$47,905,000

STATE OF OHIO

Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B

Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)	Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)
<u>February 1</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>	<u>February 1</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>
2025	\$4,970,000	5.000%	0.450%	114.550	AN2	2029	\$6,035,000	5.000%	1.100	127.013	AS1
2026	5,215,000	5.000	0.630	118.190	AP7	2030	6,415,000	5.000	1.240	129.313	AT9
2027	5,475,000	5.000	0.760	121.678	AQ5	2031	6,810,000	5.000	1.330	131.760	AU6
2028	5,750,000	5.000	0.950	124.422	AR3	2032	7,235,000	5.000	1.380	134.409	AV4

\$100,130,000

STATE OF OHIO

Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C

Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)	Due Date	Par	Interest			CUSIP^(a)
<u>March 15</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>	<u>March 15</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. 677523</u>
2026	\$12,230,000	5.000%	0.640%	118.662	AW2	2030	\$14,960,000	5.000%	1.250	129.634	BA9
2027	12,925,000	5.000	0.780	122.058	AX0	2031	15,710,000	5.000	1.330	132.155	BB7
2028	13,565,000	5.000	0.950	124.888	AY8	2032	16,490,000	5.000	1.380	134.792	BC5
2029	14,250,000	5.000	1.110	127.371	AZ5						

* Yield to call date of March 1, 2032.

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REGARDING THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT

This Official Statement does not constitute an offering of any security other than the original offering of the Bonds of the State of Ohio identified on the Cover. No dealer, broker, sales or other person has been authorized by the State or the Commission to give any information or to make any representation other than that contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made such other information or representation must not be relied upon as having been given or authorized by the State or the Commission. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, and there shall be no sale of the Bonds by any person, in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

Upon issuance, the Bonds will not be registered by the State under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any state securities law, and will not be listed on any stock or other securities exchange. Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other federal, state or other governmental entity or agency, except the Commission, will have, at the request of the State or the Commission, passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Official Statement or approved or disapproved the Bonds for sale.

This Official Statement contains statements that the State or the Commission believes may be “forward-looking statements.” Words such as “plan,” “estimate,” “project,” “budget,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “intend,” “believe” and similar terms are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The achievement of results or other expectations expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that are difficult to predict, may be beyond the control of the State or the Commission and could cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The State and the Commission undertake no obligation, and do not plan, to issue any updates or revisions to any of the forward-looking statements in this Official Statement. In addition, there has been no attempt to gauge the forward-looking impact of COVID-19 on the State and its outlook as discussed in **Appendix A -- Recent and Current Finances – Outbreak of COVID-19.**

The information and expressions of opinion in this Official Statement are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder, under any circumstances, shall create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the State since its date. The Underwriters have provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Underwriters have reviewed the information in this Official Statement in accordance with, and as part of their respective responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Underwriters do not guaranty the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The information approved and provided by the State in this Official Statement is the information relating to the particular subjects provided by the State or State agencies for the purpose of this Official Statement. Reliance should not be placed on any other information publicly provided, in any format including electronic, by any State agency for other purposes, including general information provided to the public or to portions of the public.

In connection with this offering, the Underwriters may over allot or effect transactions that stabilize or maintain the market price of the Bonds at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. Such stabilizing, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time. The Underwriters may offer and sell the Bonds to certain dealers and dealer banks and banks acting as agent at prices lower than the public offering price stated on the Cover, which public offering price may be changed from time to time by the Underwriters.

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SELECTED SUMMARY STATEMENT

\$140,710,000
Infrastructure Improvement
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A

\$40,450,000
Conservation Projects
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A

\$47,905,000
Infrastructure Improvement
General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B

\$100,130,000
Common Schools
General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C

The following summary supplements certain of the information on the Cover and summarizes selected other information in this Official Statement relating to the Bonds. It is not intended as a substitute for the more detailed discussions in this Official Statement to which reference should be made.

ISSUER. The State of Ohio (the State), acting by and through the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission). The Commission is a body politic and corporate constituting an agency and instrumentality of the State. Its members are five State executive officials holding elective office and the appointed Director of Budget and Management.

AUTHORIZATION. The Infrastructure Bonds are authorized by Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Chapter 151 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Conservation Projects Bonds are authorized by Sections 2o and 2q of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Chapter 151 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Common Schools Bonds are authorized by Section 2n of the Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Chapter 151 of the Ohio Revised Code (collectively, the Act).

PURPOSE OF BONDS. The Infrastructure Bonds are issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions and to refund bonds previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions, respectively; the Conservation Projects Bonds are issued for the purpose of paying costs of projects for conservation purposes; and the Common Schools Bonds are issued to refund bonds previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State.

SECURITY AND SOURCES OF PAYMENT. The Bonds are general obligations of the State. The full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of Debt Service. Among receipts not included in that pledge are highway user receipts and net state lottery proceeds. (See **THE BONDS GENERALLY– Sources of Payment.**)

PRIOR REDEMPTION. The Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and the Conservation Projects Bonds maturing on and after March 1, 2033 are subject to prior redemption at the option of the Commission in whole or in part at par plus accrued interest on any date on or after March 1, 2032. The Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and the Common Schools Bonds are not subject to redemption at the option of the Commission prior to their stated maturities. (See **THE BONDS – Prior Redemption.**)

FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING PAYMENTS. The Bonds will be issued in the denomination of \$5,000 or in whole multiples of \$5,000 and will be originally issued only as fully-registered bonds, one for each maturity of a series with the same interest rate, under a book-entry only method, and registered initially in the name of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or its nominee (DTC). There will be no distribution of Bonds to the ultimate purchasers. The Bonds in book-entry form will not be transferable or exchangeable, except for transfer to another nominee of DTC or as otherwise described in this Official Statement. (See **Appendix B.**)

Principal and interest on the Bonds will be payable to the registered owner (DTC), principal on presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar (initially, the Treasurer of State of Ohio) and interest transmitted on each interest payment date (March 1 and September 1, beginning March 1, 2022 for the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and the Conservation Projects Bonds, February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2022 for the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and March 15 and September 15, beginning March 15, 2022 for the Common Schools Bonds), by the Bond Registrar to DTC as the registered owner as of the 15th day preceding that interest payment date.

TAX MATTERS. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, (i) assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants and the accuracy of certain representations, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax, and (ii) interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Bonds are exempt from all Ohio

state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. Interest on the Bonds may be subject to certain federal taxes imposed only on certain corporations. (See **TAX MATTERS.**)

BOND REGISTRAR. Treasurer of State of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

BOND COUNSEL. Bricker & Eckler LLP.

ISSUER AND DISCLOSURE COUNSEL. Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP.

FINANCIAL ADVISER. PFM Financial Advisors LLC.

UNDERWRITERS. Citigroup Global Markets Inc., as representative of the Underwriters shown on the Cover. See **UNDERWRITING** for information on the purchase price of each series of the Bonds.

UNDERWRITERS' COUNSEL. Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

Questions regarding this Official Statement or the Bonds should be directed to Debt Management, Office of Budget and Management, via email at debtmanagement@obm.ohio.gov, 30 East Broad Street, 34th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3457. For additional information concerning the State of Ohio's bond issuances, visit obm.ohio.gov/bonds-and-investors. The information contained on that website is not incorporated as part of this Official Statement.

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GENERAL INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

This Official Statement has been prepared by the Ohio Public Facilities Commission to provide certain information in connection with the original issuance and sale of:

- \$140,710,000 Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds);
- \$40,450,000 Conservation Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the Conservation Projects Bonds);
- \$47,905,000 Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B (the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds); and
- \$100,130,000 Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C (the Common Schools Bonds);

The Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds are collectively referred to herein as the “Infrastructure Bonds”. The Infrastructure Bonds, the Conservation Projects Bonds and the Common Schools Bonds are collectively referred to herein as the “Bonds”.

The Bonds are secured by a pledge of the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State (with stated exceptions described herein in **THE BONDS GENERALLY – Sources of Payment**), on parity with other State general obligation bonds. The Infrastructure Bonds are issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions and to refund bonds previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions, respectively (see **PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**). The Conservation Projects Bonds are issued for the purpose of paying costs of projects for conservation purposes (see **CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION PROGRAM**). The Common Schools Bonds are issued to refund bonds previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State (see **OHIO FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION**).

All financial and other information presented in this Official Statement has been provided by the State from its records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources and except for certain information on the Cover and in **Appendix B**. The presentation of information, including tables of receipts from taxes and other sources, is intended to show recent historical information. It is not intended to indicate future or continuing trends in the financial or other positions of the State. No representation is made that past experience, as might be shown by that financial and other information, will necessarily continue in the future. Also see **REGARDING THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT**.

References to provisions of Ohio law or of the Ohio Constitution are to those provisions now in effect. Those provisions may from time to time be amended, repealed or supplemented.

As used in this Official Statement:

“Act” means Section 2n (for the Common Schools Bonds), Sections 2o and 2q (for the Conservation Projects Bonds) and Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution (for the Infrastructure Bonds), and Chapter 151 of the Ohio Revised Code.

“Beneficial Owner” means the owner of a book-entry interest in the Bonds, as defined in **Appendix B**.

“Commission” means the Ohio Public Facilities Commission.

“Cover” means the cover page and the inside cover pages of this Official Statement.

“Debt Service” means principal (including mandatory redemption payments, if any) of and interest and any redemption premium payable on the obligations referred to.

“Direct Participant” means a participant in the DTC system, as described in **Appendix B**.

“Fiscal Year” means a State Fiscal Year, currently the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30, and reference to a particular Fiscal Year (such as “Fiscal Year 2022”) means the Fiscal Year ending on June 30 of that year.

“General Bond Resolution” means, (i) for the Infrastructure Bonds, Resolution No. 2005-13 adopted by the Commission on October 14, 2005, as amended by Commission Resolutions No. 2008-5 adopted on October 9, 2008, No. 2009-8 adopted on May 20, 2009, No. 2011-1 adopted on February 9, 2011, No. 2012-10 adopted on March 21, 2012, and No. 2014-7 adopted on September 4, 2014, (ii) for the Conservation Projects Bonds, Resolution No. 2001-12 adopted by the Commission on December 13, 2001, as amended by Commission Resolutions No. 2009-15 adopted on September 23, 2009, No. 2011-2 adopted on February 9, 2011, and No. 2012-10 adopted on March 21, 2012, and (iii) for the Common Schools Bonds, Resolution No. 2000-11 adopted by the Commission on December 20, 2000, as amended by Commission Resolutions

No. 2009-7 adopted on May 20, 2009, No. 2011-11 adopted on June 8, 2011, and No. 2012-10 adopted on March 21, 2012, each as the same may from time to time be further amended, supplemented or superseded.

“Revised Code” means the Ohio Revised Code.

“Series Resolution” means, (i) for the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds, Resolution No. 2021-6, (ii) for the Conservation Projects Series 2021A Bonds, Resolution No. 2021-7, (iii) for the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds, Resolution No. 2021-8, and (iv) for the Common Schools Bonds, Resolution No. 2021-9, each adopted by the Commission on October 19, 2021.

“State” or “Ohio” means the State of Ohio.

“Underwriters” mean the underwriters of the Bonds shown on the Cover.

THE BONDS

General; Book-Entry System

The Bonds will be issued pursuant to the constitutional and statutory authorities described herein and the General Bond Resolutions and Series Resolutions adopted by the Commission. The Bonds are issuable in the form and denominations, and will be dated and mature, as described in this Official Statement. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 12-month, 360-day year.

The Treasurer of State of Ohio (the Treasurer), as Bond Registrar, will keep all books and records necessary for registration, exchange and transfer of the Bonds.

The Bonds will be issued in the denomination of \$5,000 or in whole multiples of \$5,000 and will be delivered in book-entry-only form and, when issued, registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company (DTC), New York, New York, or its nominee Cede & Co., which will act as securities depository for the Bonds. For discussion of the book-entry system and DTC and the replacement of the Bonds in the event that the book-entry system is discontinued (see **Appendix B**).

Principal and interest on the Bonds will be payable to the registered owner (DTC), principal on presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar (initially, the Treasurer of State of Ohio) and interest transmitted on each interest payment date (March 1 and September 1, beginning March 1, 2022 for the Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and the Conservation Projects Bonds, February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2022 for the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and March 15 and September 15, beginning March 15, 2022 for the Common Schools Bonds) by the Bond Registrar to DTC as the registered owner as of the 15th day preceding that interest payment date.

Prior Redemption

Prior Optional Redemption of Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and Conservation Projects Bonds

The Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds and the Conservation Projects Bonds maturing on and after March 1, 2033 (collectively, the “Callable Bonds”) are subject to redemption at the option of the Commission prior to their stated maturities in whole or in part (if in part, by lot) on any date on or after March 1, 2032, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount redeemed plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

Selection of Callable Bonds to be Redeemed. If fewer than all outstanding Callable Bonds are called for optional redemption at one time, the maturity or maturities of those bonds to be called will be selected by, and in a manner determined by, the Commission.

If less than all of an outstanding Callable Bond of one maturity and interest rate of a series under a book-entry system is to be called for redemption, the Bond Registrar will give notice of redemption only to DTC as registered owner. The selection of the book-entry interests in that Bond to be redeemed, and notice of call to the owners of those interests called, is the sole responsibility of DTC and its Direct Participants and those working through those Direct Participants.

If Callable Bond certificates are issued to the ultimate owner, and if fewer than all of those Callable Bonds of a single maturity and interest rate of a series are to be redeemed, the selection of those Callable Bonds (or portions of Callable Bonds, in amounts of \$5,000 or any whole multiples of \$5,000) to be redeemed will be made by lot in a manner determined by the Treasurer as Bond Registrar.

If there is to be a partial redemption by lot when Callable Bonds of denominations greater than \$5,000 are then outstanding, each \$5,000 unit of principal will be treated by the Bond Registrar as if it were a separate bond of the denomination of \$5,000.

No Prior Optional Redemption of Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and Common Schools Bonds

The Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and the Common Schools Bonds are not subject to redemption at the option of the Commission prior to their stated maturities.

Notice of Redemption; Effect

The Bond Registrar is to cause notice of redemption, identifying the Bonds or portions of those Bonds to be redeemed, to be sent by first-class mail at least 30 days prior to the redemption date. Notice is to be sent to the registered owner (initially, DTC) of each Bond to be redeemed at the address shown on the register on the 15th day preceding that mailing. Any defect in the notice or any failure to receive notice by mail as to any of the Bonds will not affect the validity of any proceedings for the redemption of any other of the Bonds.

If the Bonds are redeemed and on the redemption date moneys for that redemption are held in the Bond Service Fund or by the paying agent so as to be available for redemption, then on that redemption date those Bonds redeemed will be due and payable, and from and after that redemption date the redeemed Bonds (or portions of the Bonds) will cease to bear interest and those Bonds (or portions of those Bonds) will not be deemed to be outstanding under the Bond proceedings.

So long as all the Bonds are held under a book-entry system by a securities depository (such as DTC) the redemption notice will be sent by the Bond Registrar to the depository or its nominee. Selection of book-entry interests in those Bonds redeemed, and giving notice of the redemption to the owners of those interests redeemed, is the sole responsibility of the depository and of its Direct Participants and those working through those Direct Participants. Any failure of the depository to advise any Direct Participant or of any Direct Participant or any person acting through a Direct Participant to notify the Beneficial Owners, of any such notice and its content or effect will not affect the validity of any proceedings for the redemption of any of the Bonds. See **THE BONDS - General; Book Entry System and Appendix B.**

THE BONDS GENERALLY

Constitutional and Statutory Authorization

The Infrastructure Bonds are two issues in a continuing series of State of Ohio Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds under Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII (approved by the voters in 1987, 1995, 2005 and 2014, respectively) of the Ohio Constitution authorizing the issuance of State general obligation bonds or notes for the purpose of financing or assisting in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions of the State. The Conservation Projects Bonds are one issue in a continuing series of State of Ohio Conservation Projects General Obligation Bonds under Sections 2o and 2q (approved by the voters in 2000 and 2008, respectively) of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution authorizing the issuance of general obligations of the State for the purpose of paying costs of conservation projects. The Common Schools Bonds are one issue in a continuing series of State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Bonds under Section 2n of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution (approved by the voters in 1999) authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes to pay costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State. See **STATE DEBT in Appendix A.** Chapter 151 of the Revised Code implements the State bond issuing aspects of those constitutional provisions.

Sources of Payment

The Bonds are general obligations of the State. The full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the timely payment of Debt Service. Excluded from that pledge are highway user receipts (fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles) and net State lottery proceeds. Payment of Debt Service is not dependent on, subject to, or related in any manner to the progress on or the completion of or operation of any funded facilities or projects.

See **FISCAL MATTERS in Appendix A** for a discussion of State revenues, including the revenues excluded from the pledge. Some aspects of the committed State receipts are as follows:

- 50% of State income tax receipts must be returned to the political subdivision in which the receipts originate.
- The State currently does not levy any ad valorem taxes on real or tangible personal property. In any case, the Constitution has long limited the amount of the aggregate of those ad valorem property tax levies for all purposes (without an approving vote of the electors or municipal charter provisions) to 1% of a particular property's true value in money.
- Certain revenues and receipts of the State and State agencies are subject to prior pledges to State revenue and revenue-type financings.

The State has covenanted, in the Act, that the State and its applicable officers and agencies, including the General Assembly, shall, so long as the Bonds are outstanding in accordance with their terms, maintain statutory authority for and cause to be levied, collected and applied sufficient excises, taxes and revenues of the State so that the revenues will be sufficient to pay Debt Service when due, to establish and maintain any reserves and other requirements, and to pay financing costs, all as provided for in the Bond proceedings. The Act expressly provides for the repeal and reduction of particular fees, excises or taxes, and the levy of any new or increased fees, excises or taxes, and the substitution of resources, to pay Debt Service. The rights of bondholders to such revenues are on parity with the rights of holders of other General Obligation Bonds and General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the State previously issued or to be issued.

The State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund, the Conservation Projects Bond Service Fund and the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund (each a Bond Service Fund) are each created by the Act as a trust fund pledged to the payment of Debt Service on the respective Bonds. A sufficient amount of revenues of the State are committed and, without necessity for further appropriation, shall be paid to the applicable Bond Service Fund to pay Debt Service on the Bonds when due. The Act requires the Commission, by July 15 of each Fiscal Year, to certify or cause to be certified to the Director of Budget and Management (the Director) the total amount of moneys required during that Fiscal Year to meet in full all Debt Service on outstanding obligations, including the Bonds, and any related financing costs payable from the applicable Bond Service Fund (not from the proceeds of refunding obligations), and the Director is required to transfer from the General Revenue Fund to each Bond Service Fund, without necessity of appropriations by the General Assembly, the amount so certified for the payment of Debt Service, costs of any credit enhancement facilities, and other financing costs set forth in that certification. Under the Bond proceedings, the Commission is also to make supplemental certifications to the Director for each Debt Service payment date and as may be requested by the Director. If on the 10th calendar day prior to their due date, moneys to the credit of the Bond Service Fund are insufficient to meet in full all payments of Debt Service on that due date, no later than the 8th day before that Debt Service payment date the Director is to transfer to the Bond Service Fund from committed State receipts sufficient revenues to pay that Debt Service when due.

Moneys to the credit of the Bond Service Fund may be invested in one or more of the following:

- Notes, bonds or other direct obligations of the United States or of any agency or instrumentality of the United States, or in no-front-end-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of those obligations, or in repurchase agreements (including those issued by any fiduciary) secured by those obligations, or in collective investment funds consisting exclusively of those obligations.
- Obligations of the State or any political subdivision of the State.
- Certificates of deposit of any national bank located in Ohio and any State bank subject to inspection by the State superintendent of financial institutions.
- The Treasurer's pooled investment program.

The income from those investments is to be credited to the Bond Service Fund.

STATE DEBT under **Appendix A** generally describes other bonds of the State outstanding or currently authorized that are general obligations of the State or that are other direct State obligations payable from general State sources, including appropriated lease rental payments.

Defeasance

The Bonds will be deemed to have been paid or caused to be paid (including particular Bonds being refunded) and no longer deemed outstanding if there is held in trust, by the Bond Registrar or the Bond Registrar's agent, for and irrevocably committed to that purpose either of, or a combination of, the following: moneys or direct obligations of obligations guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by the United States or senior debt obligations of the U.S. government-sponsored enterprises rated on the date of purchase in the highest category for short-term or long-term debt as applicable, by any two nationally recognized rating organizations, verified by an independent public accounting firm of national reputation (or equivalent expert) to be of such maturities and interest payment dates and to bear such interest or other investment income as will be, without further investment or reinvestment of either the principal of or the interest earnings or other investment earnings from those obligations (likewise to be held in trust and committed, except as described below) sufficient for the payment at and to maturity of all Debt Service.

Any moneys held in cash may be invested only in direct obligations of the United States and obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States or senior debt obligations of U.S. government-sponsored enterprises, the maturities or redemption (at the holder's option) dates of which will coincide as nearly as practicable with, but will not be later than, the times at which those moneys will be required for those payment purposes.

Any income or interest earned by those investments, to the extent not required for those payment purposes, may be transferred to the Bond Service Fund or the State's General Revenue Fund (GRF).

Non-presentment

If a Bond is not presented for payment when due or an interest payment check is uncashed, and if moneys for the purpose of paying and sufficient to pay that amount have been made available, all liability of the State to the holder for the payment will cease and be completely discharged. A separate special subaccount in the applicable Bond Service Fund is to hold that money, without liability for interest on it, for the benefit of the registered owner of that Bond, who thereafter will be restricted exclusively to that money for any claim of whatever nature with respect to that Bond. The Bond Registrar is to keep a record of the amounts with respect to the Bonds so deposited in that subaccount.

Plan of Financing and Application of Proceeds

The following maturities of outstanding bonds (the Infrastructure Refunding Candidates) will be refunded with the proceeds of the indicated Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds:

Series	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Par Amount	Redemption Date	Call Price
2012A	02/01/2025	4.000%	\$6,375,000	12/10/2021	100.0%
2012A	02/01/2026	4.000	6,630,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012A	02/01/2027	4.000	6,895,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012A	02/01/2028	4.000	7,170,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012A	02/01/2029	4.000	7,455,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012A	02/01/2030	4.000	7,830,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012A	02/01/2031	4.000	8,220,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012A	02/01/2032	4.000	8,630,000	12/10/2021	100.0

The following maturities of outstanding bonds (the Common Schools Refunding Candidates) will be refunded with the proceeds of the indicated Common Schools Bonds:

Series	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Par Amount	Redemption Date	Call Price
2012B	03/15/2026	4.000%	\$15,890,000	12/10/2021	100.0%
2012B	03/15/2027	4.000	16,605,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012B	03/15/2028	4.000	17,265,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012B	03/15/2029	4.000	17,960,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012B	03/15/2030	4.000	18,675,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012B	03/15/2031	4.000	19,425,000	12/10/2021	100.0
2012B	03/15/2032	4.000	20,200,000	12/10/2021	100.0

On the date of delivery and payment, proceeds of the Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds and Common Schools Bonds will be deposited in cash to be held in trust by The Huntington National Bank (the Treasurer's agent for the purpose) to provide for payment of principal of and interest on the related Refunded Bonds through their above-indicated redemption date. Upon the deposit of sufficient moneys for the payment of principal of and interest on the related Refunded Bonds through their above-indicated redemption date, the Refunded Bonds will be deemed to have been paid and will no longer be considered outstanding debt of the State.

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

In order to implement Section 2s (and predecessor Sections 2k, 2m and 2p) of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution, the General Assembly enacted Section 164.02, Revised Code, creating the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC). The OPWC is charged with recommending candidates to the Governor for appointment to the position of Director of the OPWC, providing oversight and advice to that Director in the development of policy guidelines for the implementation of the program and reporting to the General Assembly. The OPWC is also responsible for appointing the members of the Ohio Small Government Capital Improvements Commission (the OSGCIC).

The OPWC consists of seven members appointed as follows: two persons are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one person is appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; two persons are appointed by the President of the Senate; one person is appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and one person from the private sector is appointed alternately by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. Additionally, the Directors of the Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources, the Environmental

Protection Agency and the Development Services Agency, and the Chairman of the Ohio Water Development Authority are nonvoting, ex-officio members of the OPWC.

The current members of the OPWC, and their terms of office, are as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term of Office Expires December 31</u>
Sandra Hedlund Tunnell, Chair	2022
Kimberly Marshall, Vice Chair	2023
Halle Jones	2022
Paul Oyaski	2022
Joy Padgett	2022
 <u>Ex Officio Members</u> 	
Lydia L. Mihalik	Director, Ohio Development Services Agency
James V. Stewart	Chairman, Ohio Water Development Authority
Jack Marchbanks	Director, Ohio Department of Transportation
Laurie A. Stevenson	Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Mary Mertz	Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Linda S. Bailiff was appointed Director of the OPWC for a term beginning on March 19, 2021 and ending on March 18, 2025 by Governor Mike DeWine.

For the purpose of allocating funds to finance public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions, the State is divided into 19 Districts (the Districts) with a District Public Works Integrating Committee (DPWIC) established for each District. Each DPWIC appoints a subcommittee (the Village and Township Subcommittee) of its members to represent the interests of villages and townships with populations of the unincorporated areas of the townships of less than 5,000 persons (Villages and Townships). The DPWICs accept project applications from local subdivisions and select the projects to be submitted to the Director. The Village and Township Subcommittees review and select eligible projects for the Villages and Townships and submit those projects to the Administrator of the OSGCIC. Eligible projects include improvements to roads, bridges, culverts, water supply and wastewater systems, storm water collection systems and solid waste disposal facilities.

Proceeds from new bond issuances are disbursed from the State Capital Improvement Fund for the purpose of providing loans and grants for selected eligible projects. The Revised Code, General Bond Resolution and Series Resolutions adopted by the Commission impose certain restrictions on the amount of such proceeds that may be used for loans, local debt support and credit enhancements, or new or expansion projects, and impose certain other restrictions. Each recipient of funds will be required, in writing, to agree:

1. To use Ohio products, materials, services and labor to the extent practicable.
2. As to a grant for repair or replacement of existing infrastructure, that such grant does not exceed 90% of the estimated total cost of the Capital Improvement Project.
3. As to a grant for new or expanded infrastructure, that such grant does not exceed 50% of the estimated cost of the new or expansion elements of the Capital Improvement Project.
4. To comply with the minority set-aside requirements listed in Section 164.07(A), Revised Code, to the extent permitted by applicable court decisions.
5. To comply with the prevailing wage requirements referenced in Section 164.07(B), Revised Code.
6. To use moneys for purposes provided.
7. To do all things necessary to preserve the tax-exempt status of applicable Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds.

The OPWC may, if necessary to comply with changes in applicable laws, modify, eliminate or add to the program requirements.

CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The Clean Ohio Conservation Program, implemented under constitutional amendments approved by the voters in November 2000 and 2008, is designed to preserve green space, develop recreational trails, and protect farmland through partnerships with Ohio local governments (requiring a 25% local match) and others. Of the bond funding for the Clean Ohio Conservation Program, existing law allocates 75% to preserve green space and 12.5% each to develop recreational trails and protect farmland.

The selection of green space preservation projects is done through 19 Public Works Integrating Committees, in the aggregate encompassing the entire State, each with a Natural Resources Assistance Council to assist in the selection of

projects. Those projects may include the protection of habitats for rare, threatened or endangered species; preservation of wetlands, streamside forests, and natural features of Ohio's waterways; and the planting of vegetation to help reduce erosion and fertilizer/pesticide runoff.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), advised by a Clean Ohio Trail Advisory Board, selects those projects that further develop Ohio's recreational trail system. These trails are to link regional trail systems and urban areas with green spaces allowing bikers, joggers, hikers, horseback riders, and other users a safe place to enjoy the outdoors.

Local governments, park and joint recreation districts, conservancy districts, soil and water conservation districts, and non-profit organizations are eligible to receive grants for green space and recreational trail projects.

The Department of Agriculture, advised by a Farmland Preservation Advisory Board, purchases permanent agricultural easements from landowners who apply through Certified Local Sponsors. Local governments, soil and water conservation districts and nonprofit organizations are eligible to become local sponsors. The agricultural easements ensure that the land will remain in agricultural production for perpetuity. The goal is to build blocks of preserved farmland which in turn support the businesses and services on which farms depend and collectively support Ohio's leading food and agriculture industry.

OHIO FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION

The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) is a body corporate and politic, constituting an agency and instrumentality of the State and performing essential functions of the State. The OFCC is responsible for administering the provision of State financial assistance to local school districts for the acquisition and construction of classroom facilities.

The OFCC is comprised of seven members, three of whom are voting members and four of whom are non-voting members. The voting members are the Director of Budget and Management, the Director of Administrative Services and an administrative department head appointed of the Governor, or their designees. The four non-voting members are two current members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate and two current members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

A chair and vice-chair are elected from among its voting members at the OFCC's first meeting each year. The voting members of the OFCC for 2021 are:

Kimberly Murnieks	Director of Budget and Management (Chair)
Mary Mertz	Director of Department of Natural Resources (Vice-Chair)
Kathleen Madden	Director of Administrative Services

The two non-voting members of the OFCC from the Ohio Senate for 2021 are Sen. Mark Romanchuk and Sen. Teresa Fedor. The two non-voting members from the House of Representatives for 2021 are Rep. Lisa Sobecki and Rep. Jason Stephens. The OFCC appoints an executive director to manage its programs. The executive director is assisted by a staff of approximately eighty employees.

The programs administered by the OFCC provide funds to pay costs of acquiring and improving capital facilities for use by qualifying public school districts for primary and secondary education purposes. Principal among these programs is the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program (CFAP) under which the OFCC provides assistance after performing on-site assessments of classroom facilities' needs. Each school district receiving assistance under CFAP must pay a portion of the total project cost, generally calculated based upon the district's wealth ranking at the time the project is approved.

Proposed projects must be approved by the OFCC based on the needs of the school district for additional classroom facilities, the number and cost of classroom facilities to be included in a project, the amount the school district can provide from available funds or by the issuance of its bonds, and the remaining amount to be supplied by the State. The proposed project must also conform to sound educational practice and be in keeping with the orderly process of school district reorganization and consolidation, and actual or projected enrollment in each facility to be included in the project must be at least 350 pupils. Exceptions may be authorized by OFCC only in districts where topography, scarcity of population, or other factors make larger schools impracticable.

A CFAP project approval must be accepted by the school district within 120 days, and the district's electors must, within 13 months, approve the issuance of school district bonds for the local portion of the cost or provide alternate equivalent funding as allowed by law. The district's electors must also approve a levy of at least one-half mill to pay the cost of maintaining the classroom facilities included in the project or provide alternate equivalent funding as allowed by law. The OFCC and each school district then enter into a written agreement for the construction and funding of each project.

In addition to CFAP, the OFCC also administers:

- The School Building Expedited Local Partnership Program, under which school districts that are over two years away from eligibility for CFAP assistance may undergo a district-wide facilities assessment and may then make facilities improvements by expending local resources and by applying those expenditures toward meeting the district's portion of the basic project cost when it later becomes eligible for assistance under CFAP.
- The School Building Emergency Assistance Program, for making grants to eligible districts from moneys specifically appropriated to assist in the reconstruction, renovation or repair to classroom facilities made necessary because of damage due to an act of God.
- The Accelerated Urban School Building Assistance Program, created to assist and address the facilities needs of the largest urban school districts that collectively serve approximately 12% of the State's public elementary and secondary student population.
- The Exceptional Needs Program for districts that have exceptional needs for new facilities to protect the student's health and safety. This is the Commission's only needs-based program.
- The Vocational Facilities Assistance Program, for career technical school districts in Ohio. Like CFAP, districts develop a master facility plan for the entire needs of the district, are served in order of wealth, contribute a local share that varies depending on the relative wealth of the district, and are required to set aside maintenance funds.
- The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Assistance Program, to provide classroom facilities for qualifying schools.
- The College-Preparatory Boarding School Assistance Program, to provide classroom facilities for qualifying schools.
- 1:1 School Facilities Option Program, to provide assistance to a district that chooses, in lieu of CFAP or the Vocational Facilities Assistance Program, for one-to-one matching funds up to 10% of the state portion of the basic project cost or \$1,000,000 whichever is greater. A district participating in this program is not eligible for participation in any other program for a period of 20 years after the district enters into an agreement with the commission.

OHIO PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMISSION

The Commission is a body politic and corporate, constituting an agency and instrumentality of the State and performing essential functions of the State. It is comprised of six members, being the incumbents in the elective offices of Governor (Mike DeWine), Attorney General (Dave Yost), Auditor of State (Keith Faber), Secretary of State (Frank LaRose), and Treasurer of State (Robert Sprague), and the Director of Budget and Management (Kimberly Murnieks), appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate, and serving at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor serves as the Chair, the Treasurer of State as the Treasurer and the Director of Budget and Management as the Secretary of the Commission. The current elective terms of the Governor, Attorney General, Auditor of State, Secretary of State and Treasurer of State run to January 2023. Commission members may, at Commission meetings, act through appointed designees.

TAX MATTERS

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law: (i) interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax; and (ii) interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Bonds.

The opinion on federal tax matters will be based on and will assume the accuracy of certain representations and certifications, and continuing compliance with certain covenants, of the Commission and the State contained in the transcript of proceedings and that are intended to evidence and assure the foregoing, including that the Bonds are and will remain obligations the interest on which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Bond Counsel will not independently verify the accuracy of such certifications and representations or the continuing compliance with the covenants of the Commission and the State.

The opinion of Bond Counsel is based on current legal authority and covers certain matters not directly addressed by such authority. It represents Bond Counsel's legal judgment as to exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes but is not a guaranty of that conclusion. The opinion is not binding on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or any court. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion about (i) the effect of future changes in the Code

and the applicable regulations under the Code or (ii) the interpretation and the enforcement of the Code or those regulations by the IRS.

The Code prescribes a number of qualifications and conditions for the interest on state and local government obligations to be and to remain excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, some of which require future or continued compliance after issuance of the obligations. Noncompliance with these requirements by the Commission and the State may cause loss of such status and result in the interest on the Bonds being included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The Commission and the State have each covenanted to take the actions required of it for the interest on the Bonds to be and to remain excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, and not to take any actions that would adversely affect that exclusion. After the date of issuance of the Bonds, Bond Counsel will not undertake to determine (or to so inform any person) whether any actions taken or not taken, or any events occurring or not occurring, or any other matters coming to Bond Counsel's attention, may adversely affect the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bonds or the market value of the Bonds.

Interest on the Bonds may be subject to a federal branch profits tax imposed on certain foreign corporations doing business in the United States and to a federal tax imposed on excess net passive income of certain S corporations. Under the Code, the exclusion of interest from gross income for federal income tax purposes may have certain adverse federal income tax consequences on items of income, deduction or credit for certain taxpayers, including financial institutions, certain insurance companies, recipients of Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits, those that are deemed to incur or continue indebtedness to acquire or carry tax-exempt obligations, and individuals otherwise eligible for the earned income tax credit. The applicability and extent of these and other tax consequences will depend upon the particular tax status or other tax items of the owner of the Bonds. Bond Counsel will express no opinion regarding those consequences.

Payments of interest on tax-exempt obligations, including the Bonds, are generally subject to IRS Form 1099-INT information reporting requirements. If a Bond owner is subject to backup withholding under those requirements, then payments of interest will also be subject to backup withholding. Those requirements do not affect the exclusion of such interest from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Bond Counsel's engagement with respect to the Bonds ends with the issuance of the Bonds, and, unless separately engaged, Bond Counsel is not obligated to defend the Commission, the State or the owners of the Bonds regarding the tax status of interest thereon in the event of an audit examination by the IRS. The IRS has a program to audit tax-exempt obligations to determine whether the interest thereon is includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes. If the IRS does audit the Bonds, under current IRS procedures, the IRS will treat the State as the taxpayer and the beneficial owners of the Bonds will have only limited rights, if any, to obtain and participate in judicial review of such audit. Any action of the IRS, including but not limited to selection of the Bonds for audit, or the course or result of such audit, or an audit of other obligations presenting similar tax issues, may affect the market value of the Bonds.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds upon their original issuance at prices other than the respective prices indicated on the Cover, and prospective purchasers of the Bonds at other than their original issuance, should consult their own tax advisors regarding other tax considerations such as the consequences of market discount, as to all of which Bond Counsel expresses no opinion.

Risk of Future Legislative Changes and/or Court Decisions

Legislation affecting tax-exempt obligations is regularly considered by the United States Congress and may also be considered by the State legislature. Court proceedings may also be filed, the outcome of which could modify the tax treatment of obligations such as the Bonds. There can be no assurance that legislation enacted or proposed, or actions by a court, after the date of issuance of the Bonds will not have an adverse effect on the tax status of interest or other income on the Bonds or the market value or marketability of the Bonds. These adverse effects could result, for example, from changes to federal or state income tax rates, changes in the structure of federal or state income taxes (including replacement with another type of tax), or repeal (or reduction in the benefit) of the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal or state income tax purposes for all or certain taxpayers.

For example, federal tax legislation that was enacted on December 22, 2017 reduced corporate tax rates, modified individual tax rates, eliminated many deductions, repealed the corporate alternative minimum tax, and eliminated the tax-exempt advance refunding of tax-exempt bonds and tax-advantaged bonds, among other things. Additionally, investors in the Bonds should be aware that future legislative actions might increase, reduce or otherwise change (including retroactively) the financial benefits and the treatment of all or a portion of the interest on the Bonds for federal income

tax purposes for all or certain taxpayers. In all such events, the market value of the Bonds may be affected and the ability of holders to sell their Bonds in the secondary market may be reduced.

Investors should consult their own financial and tax advisors to analyze the importance of these risks.

Original Issue Discount and Original Issue Premium

Certain of the Bonds (“Discount Bonds”) may be offered and sold to the public at an original issue discount (OID). OID is the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity (the principal amount) over the “issue price” of a Discount Bond. The issue price of a Discount Bond is the initial offering price to the public (other than to bond houses, brokers or similar persons acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers) at which a substantial amount of the Discount Bonds of the same maturity is sold pursuant to that offering. For federal income tax purposes, OID accrues to the owner of a Discount Bond over the period to maturity based on the constant yield method, compounded semiannually (or over a shorter permitted compounding interval selected by the owner). The portion of OID that accrues during the period of ownership of a Discount Bond (i) is interest excluded from the owner’s gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent, and subject to the same considerations discussed above, as other interest on the Bonds, and (ii) is added to the owner’s tax basis for purposes of determining gain or loss on the maturity, redemption, sale or other disposition of that Discount Bond. A purchaser of a Discount Bond in the initial public offering at the issue price (described above) for that Discount Bond who holds that Discount Bond to maturity will realize no gain or loss upon the retirement of that Discount Bond.

Certain of the Bonds (“Premium Bonds”) were offered and sold to the public at a price in excess of their stated redemption price at maturity (the principal amount). That excess constitutes bond premium. For federal income tax purposes, bond premium is amortized over the period to maturity of a Premium Bond, based on the yield to maturity of that Premium Bond (or, in the case of a Premium Bond callable prior to its stated maturity, the amortization period and yield may be required to be determined on the basis of an earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on that Premium Bond), compounded semiannually. No portion of that bond premium is deductible by the owner of a Premium Bond. For purposes of determining the owner’s gain or loss on the sale, redemption (including redemption at maturity) or other disposition of a Premium Bond, the owner’s tax basis in the Premium Bond is reduced by the amount of bond premium that is amortized during the period of ownership. As a result, an owner may realize taxable gain for federal income tax purposes from the sale or other disposition of a Premium Bond for an amount equal to or less than the amount paid by the owner for that Premium Bond. A purchaser of a Premium Bond in the initial public offering who holds that Premium Bond to maturity (or, in the case of a callable Premium Bond, to its earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on that Premium Bond) will realize no gain or loss upon the retirement of that Premium Bond.

Owners of Discount and Premium Bonds should consult their own tax advisors as to the determination for federal income tax purposes of the existence of OID or bond premium, the determination for federal income tax purposes of the amount of OID or bond premium properly accruable or amortizable in any period with respect to the Discount or Premium Bonds, other federal tax consequences in respect of OID and bond premium, and the treatment of OID and bond premium for purposes of state and local taxes on, or based on, income.

LITIGATION

There is no litigation pending contesting the validity of the Bonds or the proceedings for their authorization, issuance, sale, execution and delivery. A no-litigation certificate to that effect will be delivered to the Underwriters at the time of original delivery of the Bonds.

The State is a party to various legal proceedings seeking damages or injunctive relief and generally incidental to its operations, but unrelated to the Bonds or the security for the Bonds. The ultimate disposition of these proceedings is not presently determinable, but in the opinion of the Ohio Attorney General will not have a material adverse effect on the Bonds or the security for the Bonds.

LEGAL OPINION

Legal matters incident to the issuance of the Bonds and with regard to the tax-exempt status of the interest on the Bonds (see **TAX MATTERS**) are subject to the legal opinions of Bricker & Eckler LLP, Bond Counsel. The signed legal opinions dated as of, and premised on the transcript of proceedings examined and law in effect on, the date of original delivery, will be delivered to the Underwriters at the time of that original delivery. The text of the opinions for the Bonds will be printed on or appended to the Bonds.

The proposed text of Bond Counsel’s legal opinions is set forth as **Exhibits A-1, A-2, A-3 and A-4**. The legal opinions to be delivered may vary from that text if necessary to reflect facts and law on the date of delivery. The opinions will speak only as of their date, and subsequent distribution by recirculation of the Official Statement or otherwise should not

create any implication that Bond Counsel has reviewed or expressed any opinions concerning any of the matters referred to in the opinion subsequent to their date.

Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Commission by its counsel Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, which is also serving as Disclosure Counsel to the Commission. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

RATINGS

In response to the Commission's application, the Bonds have been rated AA+ (positive outlook) by Fitch Ratings (Fitch), Aa1 (stable outlook) by Moody's Investors Service (Moody's), and AA+ (stable outlook) by S&P Global Ratings (S&P).

The ratings and ratings outlooks in effect from time to time reflect only the views of the particular rating organization. The explanation of its views of the meaning and significance of its rating or outlook may be obtained from the respective rating agency. The Commission furnished to each rating agency certain information and materials, some of which may not be included in this Official Statement, relating to the Bonds and other obligations, the State and the Commission. Generally, rating agencies base their ratings on that information and materials, and on their own investigations, studies and assumptions.

There can be no assurance that the ratings or outlooks assigned will continue for any given time, or that a rating will not be lowered or withdrawn by a rating agency if in its judgment circumstances so warrant. Any downward change in or withdrawal of a rating, or change in rating outlook or other actions of a rating agency, may have an adverse effect on the marketability and market price of the Bonds.

A securities rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision or withdrawal at any time.

UNDERWRITING

Citigroup Global Markets Inc., as representative of the Underwriters, has agreed for and on behalf of the Underwriters, subject to certain conditions, to purchase from the Commission:

- The Infrastructure Series 2021A Bonds at a price of \$175,220,890.65 (consisting of the par amount plus original issue premium (\$35,051,999.55) and less underwriters' discount (\$541,108.90)).
- The Conservation Projects Bonds at a price of \$50,083,247.12 (consisting of the par amount plus original issue premium (\$9,786,187.85) and less underwriters' discount (\$152,940.73)).
- The Infrastructure Series 2021B Bonds at a price of \$60,146,891.84 (consisting of the par amount plus original issue premium (\$12,425,889.65) and less underwriters' discount (\$183,997.81)).
- The Common Schools Bonds at a price of \$127,371,993.19 (consisting of the par amount plus original issue premium (\$27,631,781.50) and less underwriters' discount (\$389,788.31)).

The Underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the Bonds if any Bonds are purchased. The Underwriters may offer the Bonds to certain dealers (including dealers depositing the Bonds into unit investment trusts, certain of which may be sponsored or managed by one or more of the Underwriters) at prices different than the public offering prices, and may change the public offering prices from time to time.

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage services. Certain of the Underwriters and their respective affiliates have, from time to time, performed, and may in the future perform, various financial advisory and investment banking services for the Commission, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities, which may include credit default swaps) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments of the Commission.

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

Citigroup Global Markets Inc., the representative and an Underwriter of the Bonds, has entered into a retail distribution agreement with Fidelity Capital Markets, a division of National Financial Services LLC (together with its affiliates, "Fidelity"). Under this distribution agreement, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. may distribute municipal securities to retail investors at the original issue price through Fidelity. As part of this arrangement, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. will compensate Fidelity for its selling efforts.

J.P. Morgan Securities LLC ("JPMS"), an Underwriter of the Bonds, has entered into negotiated dealer agreements (each, a "Dealer Agreement") with each of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. ("CS&Co.") and LPL Financial LLC ("LPL") for the retail distribution of certain securities offerings at the original issue prices. Pursuant to each Dealer Agreement, each of CS&Co. and LPL may purchase Bonds from JPMS at the original issue price less a negotiated portion of the selling concession applicable to any Bonds that such firm sells.

PNC Capital Markets LLC ("PNCCM"), an Underwriter of the Bonds, may offer to sell to its affiliate, PNC Investments, LLC ("PNCI"), securities in PNCCM's inventory for resale to PNCI's customers, including securities such as those to be offered by the State. PNC Capital Markets LLC and PNC Bank, National Association are both wholly-owned subsidiaries of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. PNC Capital Markets LLC is not a bank, and is a distinct legal entity from PNC Bank, National Association. PNC Bank, National Association has and in the future may have other banking and financial relationships with the State.

FINANCIAL ADVISER

PFM Financial Advisors, LLC is serving as the financial adviser to the Commission in connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds. The financial adviser is not obligated to undertake, and has not undertaken to make, an independent verification or to assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or fairness of the information contained in the Official Statement. PFM Financial Advisors, LLC is an independent advisory firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities.

TRANSCRIPT AND CLOSING CERTIFICATES

A complete transcript of proceedings and no-litigation certificate (as described above) for each series of the Bonds will be delivered by the Commission to the Underwriters. At that time, the Director of Budget and Management will also furnish to the Underwriters a certificate relating to the accuracy and completeness of this Official Statement (including matters set forth in or contemplated by it), and to its being a "final official statement" in the Commission's judgment for purposes of SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)(3).

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

The Commission has agreed, for the benefit of the holders and Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, in accordance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 (the Rule), to provide or cause to be provided such financial information and operating data (Annual Information), audited financial statements and notices, in such manner, as may be required for purposes of paragraph (b)(5)(i) of the Rule for each series of Bonds (the Continuing Disclosure Agreements or each a Continuing Disclosure Agreement).

Except as described in this paragraph, the Commission has complied in all material respects with its prior continuing disclosure agreements under the Rule during the past five years. The State's Annual Information Filing for Fiscal Year 2019 filed on September 26, 2019 with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board through its Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system inadvertently omitted information relating to the Portsmouth Bypass Project. Notice of such omission and a supplement to the Annual Information Filing for Fiscal Year 2019 containing the information relating to the Portsmouth Bypass Project was filed with EMMA on November 5, 2019. In addition, the Annual Information Filing for Fiscal Year 2019 was not associated with a CUSIP for the Infrastructure Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2002A; the Annual Information Filing for Fiscal Year 2019 and supplemental information was linked to this CUSIP on November 5, 2019. The State has put processes in place to ensure full compliance with its continuing disclosure agreements going forward.

It will provide to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the MSRB) through its Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system:

- Annual Information for each State Fiscal Year (beginning with Fiscal Year in which the Bonds are delivered to the Underwriters in exchange for payment) not later than the 90th day following the end of the Fiscal Year (or, if that is not a State business day, the next State business day), consisting of annual financial information and operating data of the type included in **Appendix A** of this Official Statement under the captions **FISCAL MATTERS, STATE DEBT, STATE EMPLOYEES AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

AGREEMENTS, RETIREMENT SYSTEMS, and TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES. The Commission expects that Annual Information will be provided directly by the State (specifically, by OBM) and may be provided in part by cross-reference to other documents, such as the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and subsequent final official statements.

- When and if available, audited general purpose financial statements of the State for each Fiscal Year. The Commission expects that those financial statements will be prepared, that they will be available separately from the Annual Information, and that the accounting principles to be applied in their preparation will, except as may otherwise then be stated, be as described under and by reference in **Appendix A** under **FISCAL MATTERS - Accounts and Controls; Financial Reports**.

It will provide to the MSRB through the EMMA system, in a timely manner, notice of:

- The occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds, within the meaning of the Rule, within 10 business days of the occurrence of the event:
 - principal and interest payment delinquencies
 - non-payment related defaults, if material
 - unscheduled draws on any debt service reserves or on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties
 - substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform
 - adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the IRS of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notice of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax-exempt status of the Bonds
 - modifications to rights of registered owners or Beneficial Owners, if material
 - Bond calls, if material, and tender offers
 - defeasances
 - release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material
 - bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person
 - consummation of a merger, consolidation or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, or the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material
 - appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material
 - rating changes
 - incurrence of a financial obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the issuer or obligated person, any of which affect Bond holders, if material
 - default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of the financial obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties Note: “*financial obligation*” means a (a) debt obligation, (b) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation, or (c) guarantee of an obligation or instrument described in either clause (a) or (b). Financial obligation shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.
- The failure to provide the Annual Information within the specified time.
- Any change in the accounting principles applied in the preparation of the annual financial statements or in the Fiscal Year, any failure of the General Assembly to appropriate moneys for the purpose of paying costs to be incurred by the State in performing the Continuing Disclosure Agreement for the applicable fiscal period (biennium), and termination of the Continuing Disclosure Agreement.

There are no debt service reserves, or credit enhancements or credit or liquidity providers, for the Bonds, or any property (except the Bond Service Fund) securing their repayment. There is no trustee for the Bonds.

The Commission acknowledges the recent amendments to the Rule that took effect on February 27, 2019. The Continuing Disclosure Agreements have been prepared to comply with the Rule, as amended. The Commission believes the State has processes in place to ensure its future compliance with the Continuing Disclosure Agreements.

The Commission reserves the right to amend each Continuing Disclosure Agreement, and to obtain the waiver of noncompliance with any provision of such Continuing Disclosure Agreement, as may be necessary or appropriate:

- To achieve its compliance with any applicable federal securities law or rule.
- To cure any ambiguity, inconsistency or formal defect or omission.
- To address any change in circumstances arising from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature, or status of the Commission.

Any such amendment or waiver will not be effective unless that Continuing Disclosure Agreement (as amended or taking into account the waiver) would have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the primary offering of the Bonds, after taking into account any applicable amendments to or official interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances, and until the Commission shall have received either:

- A written opinion of bond, disclosure or other qualified independent special counsel selected by the Commission that the amendment or waiver would not materially impair the interest of holders or Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; or
- The written consent to the amendment, or waiver, by the holders of at least a majority of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Bonds.

Each Continuing Disclosure Agreement, by provisions in the bond proceedings, will be solely for the benefit of the holders and Beneficial Owners of the Bonds including holders of book-entry interests in them. The right to enforce the provisions of a Continuing Disclosure Agreement may be limited to a right of the holders or Beneficial Owners to enforce to the extent permitted by law (by mandamus, or other suit, action or proceedings at law or in equity) the obligations and duties under it.

In order to provide certain continuing disclosure with respect to the Bonds in accordance with the Rule, the State has entered into a Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement (Disclosure Dissemination Agreement) for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds with Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C. (DAC), under which the State has designated DAC as Disclosure Dissemination Agent (Disclosure Dissemination Agent).

The Disclosure Dissemination Agent has only the duties specified in the Disclosure Dissemination Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent's obligation to deliver the information at the times and with the contents described in that Agreement is limited to the extent the State has provided that information to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent as required by that Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent has no duty with respect to the content of any disclosures or notice made pursuant to the terms of the Agreement or duty or obligation to review or verify any information in the Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, notice of Notice Event or Voluntary Report (each as defined in the Agreement), or any other information, disclosure or notices provided to it by the State, and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall not be or be deemed to be acting in any fiduciary capacity for the State, the holders of the Bonds or any other party. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent has no responsibility for any failure to report to the State a Notice Event or a duty to determine the materiality thereof, or to determine or liability for failing to determine whether the State has complied with the Agreement, and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent may conclusively rely upon certification of the State at all times.

The performance by the State, as the only obligated person with respect to the Bonds, of each Continuing Disclosure Agreement will be subject to the biennial appropriation by the General Assembly of moneys for that purpose.

Each Continuing Disclosure Agreement will remain in effect only for such period that the Bonds are outstanding in accordance with their terms and the State remains an obligated person with respect to the Bonds within the meaning of the Rule.

ELIGIBILITY FOR INVESTMENT AND AS PUBLIC MONEYS SECURITY

To the extent that the matter as to a particular investor is governed by Ohio law, and subject to any applicable limitations under other provisions of Ohio law, the Bonds are lawful investments for banks, savings and loan associations, credit union share guaranty corporations, trust companies, trustees, fiduciaries, insurance companies (including domestic for life and domestic not for life), trustees or other officers having charge of sinking and bond retirement or other funds of the State and its political subdivisions and taxing districts, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, the Administrator of Workers' Compensation, and State retirement systems (Teachers, Public Employees, Public School Employees, and Police and Fire), notwithstanding any other provisions of the Revised Code or rules adopted pursuant to those provisions by any State agency with respect to investments by them.

The Act also provides that the Bonds are acceptable under Ohio law as security for the repayment of the deposit of public moneys.

Beneficial Owners of the Bonds should make their own determination as to such matters as the legality of investment in or the pledgeability of book-entry interests.

CONCLUDING STATEMENT

All quotations in this Official Statement from, and summaries and explanations of, the Ohio Constitution, the Revised Code, and the bond proceedings do not purport to be complete. Reference is made to the pertinent provisions of the Constitution, Revised Code and those documents for all complete statements of their provisions. Copies of the bond proceedings are available upon request to the Office of Budget and Management, 30 East Broad Street, 34th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3457.

To the extent that any statements in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates (whether or not expressly stated to be such) those statements are made as such and not as representations of fact or certainty. No representation is made that any of those statements will be realized. Information in this Official Statement has been derived by the Commission from official and other sources and is believed by the Commission to be accurate and reliable, but information other than that obtained from State official records has not been independently confirmed or verified by the State or Commission and its accuracy is not guaranteed.

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the State or the Commission and the Underwriters or subsequent holders or Beneficial Owners of any of the Bonds.

This Official Statement has been prepared, approved and delivered by the Commission, and signed for and on its behalf and in her official capacity by the official indicated below.

OHIO PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMISSION

By: /s/ Kimberly A. Murnieks
Kimberly A. Murnieks
Director of Budget and Management,
and Secretary of the Commission

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APPENDIX A - INFORMATION CONCERNING THE STATE OF OHIO

The following discusses certain matters relating to general State finances and debt, and the State's economy and employment, population, agriculture, resources, tax bases and related subjects. This information is from the State's official records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources, and summarizes and describes current and recent historical information. It is not intended to indicate future or continuing trends in the financial or other positions of the State. No representation is made that past experience, as might be shown by this financial and other information, will necessarily continue in the future.

FISCAL MATTERS

General

Consistent with the constitutional provision that no appropriation may be made for a period longer than two years, the State operates on the basis of a fiscal biennium for its appropriations and expenditures. Under current law that biennium for operating purposes runs from July 1 in an odd-numbered year to June 30 in the next odd-numbered year (e.g., the current fiscal biennium began July 1, 2021 and ends June 30, 2023). Within a fiscal biennium, the State operates on the basis of a July 1 to June 30 Fiscal Year. The biennium for general capital appropriations purposes runs from July 1 in an even-numbered year to June 30 in the next even-numbered year. Consistent with the fiscal biennium for operating purposes, the Governor is generally required to submit the Executive Budget to the General Assembly in February of each odd-numbered year. Appropriations legislation reflecting that Executive Budget is then introduced for committee hearings and review first in the House and then in the Senate, with that appropriations legislation as approved by the General Assembly then presented to the Governor for approval (with possible line item vetoes). See **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Current Biennium** for discussion of the enacted budget for the 2022-23 fiscal biennium.

Authority for appropriating State moneys subject to appropriation rests in the bicameral General Assembly, which consists of a 99-member House of Representatives (elected to two-year terms) and a 33-member Senate (elected to overlapping four-year terms). Members of both houses are subject to term limits, with a maximum of eight consecutive years in either. The Governor has veto power, including the power to make line-item vetoes in bills making appropriations. Vetoes may be overridden by a three-fifths vote of each house.

The Constitution requires the General Assembly to “provide for raising revenue, sufficient to defray the expenses of the state, for each year, and also a sufficient sum to pay the principal and interest as they become due on the state debt.” The State is effectively precluded by law from ending a Fiscal Year or a biennium in a “deficit” position. State borrowing to meet casual deficits or failures in revenues or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for is limited by the Constitution to \$750,000.

The General Revenue Fund (GRF) is the largest fund in the State. Personal income and sales and use taxes are the major sources of GRF tax revenue. The last complete Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2021 with an unobligated GRF fund balance (after year-end transfers) of \$2,534.0 million. The State has a “rainy day” fund (the Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF)) which by law is intended to carry a balance of up to 8.5% of the GRF revenue for the preceding Fiscal Year (this amount was 5% for Fiscal Year 2016 and prior years). The current BSF balance is \$2.691 billion, which equals 6.8% of Fiscal Year 2021 GRF revenue. Recent Fiscal Year-end BSF balances and their percent of GRF revenue for that Fiscal Year were:

Fiscal Year-Ending	BSF Balance(a)	% of GRF Revenue
2017	\$2,034,051,000	6.0%
2018	2,691,554,000	8.3
2019	2,691,554,000	8.0
2020	2,691,554,000	8.0
2021	2,691,554,000	6.8

(a) Reflects balance after year-end transfer into BSF; actual cash transfers into the BSF occur early in the following Fiscal Year.

The Revised Code provides that if the Governor ascertains that the available revenue receipts and balances for the GRF or other funds for the then current Fiscal Year will in all probability be less than the appropriations for that Fiscal Year, the Governor shall issue such orders to State agencies as will prevent their expenditures and incurred obligations from exceeding those revenue receipts and balances. The Governor implemented this directive in Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 to reduce GRF expenditures by approximately \$775 million and \$390 million, respectively, in reaction to, and anticipation of further impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (see **Outbreak**

of COVID-19 below for more detail). This directive has been implemented several times in prior fiscal biennia, when needed.

Listed in the tables below under **Recent Receipts and Disbursements** are the major categories of State revenue sources, including taxes and excises, and the amounts received from those categories. There is no present constitutional limit on the rates of those State levied taxes and excises (except for taxes on intangible property which the State does not currently levy).

At present the State itself does not levy ad valorem taxes on real or tangible personal property. Ad valorem taxes on tangible personal property of public utilities and on real property are levied by political subdivisions and local taxing districts, and State law does not currently allow the imposition of a general ad valorem tax on tangible personal property other than that of public utilities. The Constitution has since 1934 limited the amount of the aggregate levy of ad valorem property taxes on particular property, without a vote of the electors or municipal charter provision, to 1% of true value in money, and statutes limit the amount of that aggregate levy without a vote or charter provision to 10 mills per \$1 of assessed valuation -- commonly referred to in the context of Ohio local government finance as the “ten-mill limitation.” See **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES** for a discussion of the phase-out of local tangible personal property taxes in 2006 through 2009.

The Constitution directs or restricts the use of certain revenues. Highway fees and excises, including gasoline taxes, are limited in use to highway-related purposes. Not less than 50% of the receipts from State income taxes must be returned to the originating political subdivisions and school districts. State net lottery profits are allocated to elementary, secondary, vocational and special education program purposes, including application to debt service on obligations issued to finance capital facilities for a system of common schools.

Constitutional amendments relating to taxation, revenues, expenditures, debt or other subjects may be proposed by action of three-fifths of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly or by initiative petition signed by electors numbering at least 10% of the total number of votes last cast for the office of Governor. Adoption of a proposed amendment requires approval by a majority of electors voting on it at a statewide election. The Ohio Constitution expressly provides that the General Assembly has no power to pass laws impairing the obligation of contracts.

Accounts and Controls; Financial Reports

With each office performing specific functions relating to State expenditures, the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) and the Treasurer of State account for and report on the State’s fiscal affairs.

OBM maintains records of the appropriations made by the General Assembly, and its Director, appointed by the Governor, certifies the availability of unencumbered appropriations as a condition of contract validity. OBM fiscal functions include the development and oversight of operating and capital budgets as well as the review, processing, and reporting of financial transactions for most State departments and agencies (excluding, among others, institutions of higher education). The OBM Director’s certification is required for all expenditure vouchers before OBM may issue State warrants. Upon certification, OBM updates its accounting records to reflect the level of vouchered expenditures. The Treasurer of State maintains the cash and investments that comprise the State treasury and invests State funds, including proceeds of State debt obligations. The Treasurer redeems the warrants issued by OBM when presented for payment by financial institutions and monitors the timing and amount of payments to determine the State’s cash flow position for investment purposes.

State financial reporting practices have been and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP basis). Each Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) includes the State’s Basic Financial Statements (BFS) for that Fiscal Year as examined by the Auditor of State. The most recent ACFRs are accessible via OBM’s web page at <https://obm.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/obm/areas-of-interest/state-accounting/financial-reporting/acfr>, and copies may be obtained by contacting OBM, 30 E. Broad Street, 34th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215, phone (614) 466-4034. The Fiscal Year 2019 ACFR received the Government Finance Officers Association certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting.

The BFS are presented in accordance with a fund classification system prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The GAAP basis financial statement presentation is comprehensive in scope and includes organizations and activities defined within Ohio’s reporting entity that are not subject to the State’s appropriation process. The “General Fund” as reported in the BFS includes more than just the GRF; it also encompasses the Budget Stabilization Fund and those reimbursement-supported funds that account for activities administered by State agencies and departments and for which special revenue or proprietary fund classifications are considered inappropriate.

Recent Receipts and Disbursements

The following summary statements, prepared by OBM based on its accounting records, include (i) governmental and proprietary appropriated funds, cash receipts and cash disbursements, and (ii) GRF cash basis activity. The governmental and proprietary appropriated funds encompass the General Fund (which includes the GRF and BSF) as well as special revenue, debt service, capital projects, and enterprise fund types.

SUMMARY STATEMENT GOVERNMENTAL AND PROPRIETARY APPROPRIATED FUNDS (\$ in Millions)

Cash Receipts

SOURCE OF RECEIPTS	Fiscal Year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Taxes:					
Personal Income(a)	\$7,981.1	\$8,796.1	\$9,313.5	\$8,285.0	\$10,662.8
Sales and Use(b)	11,070.5	10,616.2	11,053.3	11,160.5	12,639.1
Financial Institutions Tax	187.3	201.1	202.4	214.9	226.4
Commercial Activity Tax	1,750.8	1,805.5	1,932.0	1,979.9	1,972.6
Gasoline(c)	1,817.4	1,802.8	1,846.0	2,400.1	2,481.3
Public Utilities and Kilowatt Hour	796.9	826.5	889.5	841.8	791.8
Cigarette(d)	980.5	939.8	918.2	913.0	926.9
Foreign Insurance	321.4	299.4	325.8	332.5	351.8
Highway Use	39.1	34.8	37.4	44.4	45.3
Estate(e)	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Alcoholic Beverages.....	58.4	56.8	57.5	54.8	63.7
Liquor Gallonage.....	46.5	48.1	50.3	53.4	57.6
Domestic Insurance Franchise.....	273.9	283.4	281.3	308.4	314.9
Other	<u>82.5</u>	<u>106.8</u>	<u>110.7</u>	<u>106.0</u>	<u>189.5</u>
Total Taxes	25,407.1	25,817.5	27,018.0	26,694.8	30,723.8
Licenses, Permits and Fees	3,284.5	3,946.6	4,065.1	4,320.2	4,804.9
Sales, Services and Charges	1,512.1	1,636.9	1,665.3	1,671.3	1,902.8
Federal Government(f)	22,911.5	23,014.9	23,663.7	29,220.6	34,047.2
Other(g).....	5,889.9	6,113.3	6,513.2	6,279.1	8,239.9
Proceeds from Sale of Bonds and Notes	<u>1,507.8</u>	<u>2,202.7</u>	<u>1,042.0</u>	<u>1,393.1</u>	<u>1,552.6</u>
Total Cash Receipts	\$60,512.9	\$62,731.9	\$63,967.4	\$69,579.0	\$81,271.2

- (a) The State has incrementally reduced personal income tax rates commencing calendar year 2013. (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15, 2016-17, 2018-19, 2020-21, and Current Biennium and TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Personal Income Tax**).
- (b) Fiscal Year 2018 decline was due to replacing the sales tax on Medicaid managed care organizations with a new health insuring corporation provider assessment (See **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2018-19**).
- (c) Beginning July 1, 2019, the gasoline tax and diesel tax were increased from 28.0 cents to 38.5 cents and 47.0 cents per gallon, respectively (see **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES**).
- (d) Beginning October 1 2019, the minimum age to purchase cigarettes increased from 18 to 21, and a 10 cents/milliliter tax was imposed on vapor products (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2020-21**).
- (e) Eliminated effective January 1, 2013; receipts in all years reflect delayed filings or payments.
- (f) Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 increases were associated with the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage authorized in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances –Outbreak of COVID-19**).
- (g) Largest components consist of various reimbursements, loan repayments, unclaimed funds, and investment income.
- Totals may not foot due to rounding.

Cash Disbursements

FUND TYPE	Fiscal Year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
General Fund:					
General Revenue Fund	\$34,503.5	\$31,727.3	\$32,677.6	\$33,104.0	\$35,630.0
General Services Fund.....	4,809.3	5,884.3	5,564.1	5,806.7	6,638.8
Special Revenue Fund(h)	19,005.7	21,947.0	22,088.3	24,297.8	29,873.7
Capital Projects Fund(i)	601.2	671.7	794.8	733.5	456.3
Debt Service Fund(j)	1,168.2	1,155.0	1,243.1	1,288.7	1,052.5
Enterprise Fund(k).....	<u>775.1</u>	<u>812.9</u>	<u>735.3</u>	<u>1,000.4</u>	<u>1,000.4</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	\$60,863.0	\$62,198.1	\$63,103.2	\$66,231.1	\$74,651.7

- (h) Includes local government support disbursements.
- (i) Includes amounts disbursed from proceeds of special obligation bonds and highway general obligation bonds.
- (j) Includes the several bond retirement funds for general obligation bonds secured by a pledge of taxes and excises.
- (k) Includes workers' compensation, industrial commission, and lottery including deferred prizes, among others.
- Totals may not foot due to rounding.

**SUMMARY STATEMENT
GENERAL REVENUE FUND CASH BASIS ACTIVITY
(\$ in Millions)**

	Fiscal Year				
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Beginning Cash Balance	\$1,193.3	\$557.1	\$1,221.0	\$1,538.0	\$1,270.2
Cash Receipts:					
Taxes:					
Personal Income(a)	7,606.5	8,411.0	8,910.2	7,881.3	10,201.3
Sales and Use(b)	10,614.6	10,148.2	10,573.4	10,685.8	12,190.6
Financial Institutions Tax	187.3	201.1	202.4	214.9	226.4
Commercial Activity Tax	1,301.5	1,522.8	1,629.5	1,671.7	1,666.8
Public Utilities and Kilowatt Hour	516.1	531.1	562.7	532.6	492.9
Cigarette(c)	980.5	939.8	918.2	913.0	926.9
Domestic Insurance	268.6	278.4	276.0	303.0	309.7
Foreign Insurance	301.5	276.5	296.3	305.1	324.4
Other(d)	<u>109.2</u>	<u>114.3</u>	<u>120.8</u>	<u>115.8</u>	<u>127.8</u>
Total Taxes	21,885.8	22,423.2	23,489.6	22,623.2	26,466.9
Federal Government	11,761.2	9,469.9	9,763.9	10,482.0	12,727.2
Licenses, Permits and Fees	57.4	59.2	64.2	66.6	88.4
Investment Income	48.7	64.2	114.4	131.4	57.0
Other	<u>69.1</u>	<u>266.1</u>	<u>87.6</u>	<u>121.4</u>	<u>108.9</u>
Total Cash Receipts	33,822.1	32,282.6	33,519.7	33,424.6	39,448.3
Cash Disbursements:					
Primary, Secondary and Other Education(e)	7,945.9	8,063.6	8,214.4	7,929.0	7,954.2
Higher Education	2,294.8	2,304.8	2,292.6	2,282.3	2,368.5
Public Assistance and Medicaid	17,437.4	14,482.5	15,052.8	15,471.8	18,094.4
Health and Human Services	1,289.6	1,251.8	1,272.0	1,344.0	1,381.3
Justice and Public Protection	2,052.8	2,130.4	2,222.5	2,386.0	2,387.0
General Government(f)	370.3	347.9	391.3	440.4	421.8
Property Tax Reimbursements(g)	1,790.3	1,802.4	1,801.2	1,800.6	1,806.1
Debt Service	<u>1,322.7</u>	<u>1,343.9</u>	<u>1,430.8</u>	<u>1,449.9</u>	<u>1,216.8</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	34,503.5	31,727.3	32,677.6	33,104.0	35,630.0
Cash Transfers:					
Transfers-in(h)	355.9	188.6	247.9	81.0	97.8
Transfers-out(i)	<u>(310.8)</u>	<u>(80.0)</u>	<u>(773.0)</u>	<u>(669.5)</u>	<u>(465.0)</u>
Ending Cash Balance	\$557.1	\$1,221.0	\$1,538.0	\$1,270.2	\$4,721.5

- (a) The State has incrementally reduced personal income tax rates commencing calendar year 2013. (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15, 2016-17, 2018-19, 2020-21, and Current Biennium** and **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Personal Income Tax**).
- (b) Fiscal Year 2018 decline due to the replacement of the sales tax on Medicaid managed care organizations with a new health insuring corporation provider assessment (See **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2018-19**).
- (c) Beginning October 1, 2019, a 10 cents/milliliter tax was imposed on vapor products (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2020-21**).
- (d) Includes alcoholic beverage tax, liquor gallonage, petroleum activity tax and residual payments under the corporate franchise tax and estate tax which are both repealed but may apply to prior tax periods.
- (e) Mainly subsidies to school districts for primary and secondary education.
- (f) Includes amounts for non-highway transportation purposes, including mass transit, rail, and aviation.
- (g) State reimbursements to taxing subdivisions for the 12.5% property tax rollback granted to homeowners of real property, for partial real property homestead tax exemptions for the elderly and handicapped (expanded commencing in July 2007), and for revenue reductions resulting from phase-out of local taxes on tangible personal property (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2014-15**).
- (h) Fiscal Years 2017 to 2021 include transfers of \$10.0 million, \$46.2 million, \$66.0 million, \$66.0 million, and \$65.9 million respectively, from the Petroleum Activity Tax Public Highways Fund; and Fiscal Years 2017 and 2019 include transfers of \$163.3 million and \$119.7 million from School District and Local Government Property Tax Replacement Funds, respectively.
- (i) Fiscal Years 2017 and 2019 include transfers of \$29.5 million and \$657.5 million to the BSF, respectively; Fiscal Years 2017 to 2019 include transfers of \$150.0 million, \$41.8 million and \$49.3 million to the Health and Human Services Fund, respectively; Fiscal Year 2019 includes a transfer of \$30.0 million to the Medicaid Local Sales Tax Transition Fund; and Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 include transfers of \$275.0 million and \$400.0 million to the Student Wellness and Success Fund, respectively.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

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Recent and Current Finances

Introductory Information

The summary statements above identify receipts from specific taxes and excises that are sources of significant amounts of revenue to the State, and particularly to the GRF. As noted, there are constitutional limitations on the use of some taxes and excises, and mandated allocations of portions of some others. As the statements portray, a substantial amount of total State-level revenue is distributed to local governments and school districts under ongoing programs, including local property tax relief.

The GRF ending cash and fund balances for Fiscal Year 2021 were \$4,721.5 million and \$4,032.3 million, respectively, with \$1,498.3 million of that ending fund balance transferred pursuant to statutory designations leaving a balance of \$2,534.0 million. Recent biennium-ending GRF balances were:

Biennium	Cash Balance	Fund Balance(a)	Fund Balance less Designated Transfers(b)
2012-13	\$2,639,249,000	\$2,278,202,000	\$1,110,942,000
2014-15	1,711,679,000	1,286,469,000	550,366,000
2016-17	557,089,900	170,872,600	170,872,600
2018-19	1,538,011,800	1,146,385,400	833,985,400
2020-21	4,721,519,000	4,032,264,036	2,533,964,036

(a) Reflects the ending cash balance less amounts encumbered to cover financial commitments made prior to the end of the Fiscal Year.

(b) Reflects the ending fund balance less any amounts designated for transfer to other funds, including the BSF.

Actions have been and may be taken by the State during less favorable economic periods to ensure revenue/expenditure balance (particularly in the GRF), some of which are described below. None of those actions has been applied to appropriations or expenditures needed for debt service, lease payments, or other payments relating to any State obligations.

The appropriations acts for the 2022-23 biennium included all necessary appropriations for debt service on State obligations and for lease payments relating to lease rental obligations issued by the Treasurer of State and for certificates of participation (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Current Biennium and State Debt – General**).

The Revised Code imposes a limitation on most GRF appropriations commencing with the 2008-09 fiscal biennium. This statutory limitation initially used Fiscal Year 2007 GRF appropriations as a baseline (excluding appropriations for debt service, tax relief and refunds, and certain appropriations reflecting moneys received from the federal government) and then applies an annual growth factor equal to the greater of 3.5% or the sum of the inflation rates and rate of State population change. Every fourth Fiscal Year thereafter becomes a new base year. All GRF appropriations since Fiscal Year 2007 have complied with this limitation.

The following is a selective general discussion of State finances, particularly GRF receipts and expenditures, for recent and the current biennia. As evidenced by the actions discussed, the State administrations and both houses of the General Assembly have been and are committed to, and have taken and are taking, actions that ensure a balance of GRF resources and expenditures.

Recent Biennia

2012-13

2012-13 Biennial Budget and Appropriations. Consistent with State law, the Governor's Executive Budget for the 2012-13 biennium was released in March 2011 and introduced in the General Assembly. After extended hearings and review, the 2012-13 biennial appropriations Act was passed by the General Assembly and signed (with selective vetoes) by the Governor on June 30, 2011. To address the use of non-recurring funding sources in the prior 2010-11 fiscal biennium including federal stimulus amounts received under ARRA, the Act included targeted spending cuts across most State agencies and major new Medicaid reform and cost containment measures. Reflecting the tax law changes described below and a conservative underlying economic forecast, that Act provided for total GRF biennial appropriations of approximately \$55.8 billion. This reflected a 10.5% increase over the 2010-11 GRF biennial appropriations, based on total expected GRF biennial revenue of approximately \$56.07 billion (a 6% increase from 2010-11 GRF biennial revenues). GRF appropriations for major program categories (including debt service) compared to 2010-11 actual GRF biennial spending reflected increases of 30.2% for Medicaid (due in large part to the absence of ARRA funding in the 2012-13 biennium and the redirection

of 2012-13 biennial spending from non-GRF to GRF sources); decreases of 3% for elementary and secondary education, 9.1% for higher education, and 8.1% for mental health and developmental disabilities (due to the transfer of community mental health Medicaid services to the Department of Job and Family Services); and flat funding for corrections and youth services. That Act also reflected the restructuring of \$440 million of Fiscal Year 2012 GRF debt service into Fiscal Years 2013 through 2025, approximately three-quarters of which was accomplished by the July 2011 issuance by the Ohio Public Facilities Commission of \$488.8 million in refunding bonds, with the remainder accomplished by the September 2011 issuance by the Ohio Building Authority of \$149.3 million in refunding bonds.

The Executive Budget, the GRF appropriations Act and the separate appropriations acts for the biennium included all necessary debt service and lease rental or other payments related to State obligations (after the restructuring of Fiscal Year 2012 GRF debt service payments).

Major new sources of revenues or expenditure savings reflected in the 2012-13 appropriations Act included:

- Transfer of the State's spirituous liquor system to JobsOhio. On February 1, 2013, the State granted a 25-year franchise on its spirituous liquor system to JobsOhio Beverage System, a nonprofit corporation the sole member of which is JobsOhio, itself a nonprofit corporation created to promote economic development, job creation and retention, job training and the recruitment of business to the State. In exchange for the franchise, the State received a payment of \$1.464 billion, \$500 million of which was deposited in the GRF, \$863.5 million of which was used to make provision for payment of all debt service on \$725.0 million of then outstanding State bonds and notes secured by a pledge of the State's profits from the sale of spirituous liquor, and \$100 million of which was for funding certain revitalization projects. With granting of that franchise to JobsOhio Beverage System, the State stopped receiving annual deposits to the GRF from net liquor profits (those deposits totaled \$153.0 million in Fiscal Year 2011, \$92.5 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$167.0 million in Fiscal Year 2013, \$88 million of which was generated through the February 1 granting of the franchise to JobsOhio Beverage System). Litigation commenced in April 2011 and August 2014 that challenged, under various provisions of the Ohio Constitution, certain aspects of both JobsOhio and the General Assembly's February 2011 law that authorized its creation and the 2012-13 appropriations Act that amended various statutes applying to JobsOhio. In August 2011, the Ohio Supreme Court dismissed the first case, and in June 2014, the Ohio Supreme Court affirmed prior judgments of the lower courts in the second case after concluding that the plaintiffs lacked standing to bring this suit. Plaintiffs in the second case subsequently filed additional actions and appeals with the Court of Appeals and the Ohio Supreme Court in an attempt to revive these challenges to JobsOhio and the laws authorizing its creation and the transfer of the State's spirituous liquor system. The Supreme Court ultimately denied plaintiffs' motion for reconsideration in November 2016.
- Sale of five State-owned prison facilities to private operators expected to result in a net payment to the GRF of \$75 million. (Based on the proposals it received for the five prisons, the State opted to sell only one of those facilities that accomplished most of the desired financial result for the 2012-13 biennium.) Litigation commenced in August 2011, and then again in July 2012, challenging the authorization in the 2012-13 appropriations Act to sell these prison facilities. Specifically, this litigation alleged that the provisions in that Act authorizing the sale of these prisons, as well as that entire Act, were enacted in violation of the "one subject rule" of the Ohio Constitution and violated the constitutional right to referendum, and that the sale of the prisons would create a joinder of private and public property interests violating the constitutional prohibition against the State entering into a joint venture. In February 2016, the Ohio Supreme Court upheld the prison sale provisions of the Act, finding their enactment did not violate the "one subject rule" of the Ohio Constitution or its prohibition against the State entering into a joint venture with private enterprise.
- Reduction of local government fund allocations by \$111 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$340 million in Fiscal Year 2013. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2014, allocations are made by committing to the local government fund a set percentage of annual tax revenues deposited into the GRF (beginning with Fiscal Year 2013 GRF tax revenues).
- Reduction of public library fund allocations to 95% of Fiscal Year 2011 levels resulting in expenditure reductions of \$52.3 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$102.8 million in Fiscal Year 2013. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2014, allocations to public libraries are made by committing to the public library fund a set percentage of annual tax revenues deposited into the GRF (beginning with Fiscal Year 2013 GRF tax revenues).

- Accelerated phase-out of reimbursement payments to local governments and school districts in connection with the elimination of the tangible personal property tax resulting in an increased share (estimated at \$293.5 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$597.7 million in Fiscal Year 2013) of the commercial activity tax being deposited into the GRF (see **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Property Tax**).
- Accelerated phase-out of reimbursement payments to local governments and school districts for electric power generation deregulation and natural gas deregulation resulting in a larger share (estimated at \$141.6 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$147.4 million in Fiscal Year 2013) of the kilowatt-hour tax and the entire (approximately \$66.0 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$66.0 million in Fiscal Year 2013) natural gas consumption tax being reallocated to the GRF.
- \$235 million from transfers to the GRF of unclaimed funds and from other non-GRF funds, and \$12 million from a tax amnesty program.

The 2012-13 appropriations Act also reflected the following tax law changes:

- Implementation of the final 4.2% annual decrease in State personal income tax rates resulting in an aggregate 21% decrease (previously, personal income tax rates were reduced 4.2% annually in each of the tax years 2005 through 2008, with this final reduction delayed from tax year 2009 to tax year 2011).
- Elimination of the estate tax beginning January 1, 2013, previously levied at a rate of 6% on estates over \$338,333 and 7% on estates over \$500,000. In Fiscal Year 2010, estate tax collections totaled \$285.8 million of which \$230.8 million was distributed to the local government jurisdictions from which it was collected and with \$55.0 million retained by the State and deposited into the GRF.
- Establishment of the InvestOhio income tax credit program under which investors in small businesses based in Ohio who hold their investments for at least two years may receive 10% income tax credits limited to a maximum of \$10 million per investor per biennium with no more than \$100 million of those credits to be issued over two years.

The 2012-13 biennial appropriations Act created a Medicaid reserve fund and authorized the OBM Director to transfer up to \$130 million from the GRF, if necessary, to provide for the payment of Medicaid costs above the enacted level of appropriations. That Act also created a \$104 million Unemployment Compensation Contingency Fund to pay interest on federal advances to the State Unemployment Compensation Fund, \$70.7 million of which was used to make the interest payment due in September 2011, with the remaining amount applied to the September 2012 interest payment of \$65.8 million. The September 2012 interest payment was also funded by a \$25 million GRF supplemental appropriation and a contribution from the State's Unemployment Compensation Administration Fund.

2012 Mid-Biennium Review. On March 14, 2012, the Governor announced a series of policy proposals resulting from a “mid-biennium review” (2012 MBR), with a stated focus on job creation as a priority. The Governor’s 2012 MBR included proposals for General Assembly consideration in the areas of: *energy* (including shale oil and gas production opportunities in the Marcellus and Utica fields in the State, and modernizing the State’s oil and gas severance tax; electric generation and transmission; coal; cogeneration, alternative fuels and renewables; energy efficiency; and regulatory reform); *personal income tax reduction* (proposing that any new revenue from shale oil and gas production and the 2012 MBR proposal to modernize the State’s oil and gas severance tax system be used to reduce personal income tax rates by a commensurate amount); *bank and financial institutions tax reform* (including a modernization, intended to be revenue-neutral, of Ohio’s taxes on banks and financial institutions replacing the corporate franchise and dealers in intangibles tax with a new financial institutions tax more accurately reflecting modern banking practices, closing loopholes and reducing the overall tax burden on most banks); *education* (including proposals for strengthening Ohio’s “third grade reading guarantee”, career education, a new school performance measuring system, expansion of digital and online learning, flexibility for teacher evaluations, new standards for dropout recovery schools, assessments of all publicly funded early childhood programs, and supporting adoption of a school reform plan for the City of Cleveland schools); *workforce development* (creating job opportunities for the developmentally disabled; an improved workforce development program; allowing those undergoing training with an employer to continue collecting unemployment benefits; linking energy companies with trained workers; and matching skilled veterans to in demand jobs); and achieving more *management efficiency* with associated State and local government budgetary savings (including combining the separate Offices of the State Architect and Engineer and the Office of Energy Services into an Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to administer the design and construction of state public facilities, with the Ohio School Facilities Commission retained as an independent agency within the OFCC but sharing employees and facilities). Those 2012 MBR proposals were considered by

the General Assembly commencing in March in twelve separate pieces of legislation, and the General Assembly in May and June passed seven pieces of legislation addressing the subjects of energy (not including the 2012 MBR proposed changes to the State's oil and gas severance tax), tax reform (not including the 2012 MBR personal income tax reduction proposal), education, workforce development, and management efficiency for both state and local governments.

As further implementation of the 2012 MBR, the General Assembly enacted and the Governor signed into law on December 20, 2012, a new financial institutions tax that first applied to tax year 2014. This new tax applies to many companies that were previously subject to Ohio's corporate franchise tax (primarily banks and other corporations classified as financial institutions) and also generally subjects "dealers in intangibles" (e.g., mortgage brokers, stockbrokers, finance and loan companies not classified as financial institutions) to the commercial activity tax. This new financial institutions tax replaced the prior corporate franchise tax on financial institutions and the prior dealers in intangibles tax. The proceeds from the new financial institutions tax are deposited in the GRF like the proceeds from the taxes it replaced. Based on revenue targets and mechanisms established in the legislation, OBM projected the effect of these tax changes to be revenue neutral to the GRF.

Fiscal Year 2013 Results. The State ended Fiscal Year 2013 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$2.64 billion and \$2.28 billion, respectively. These ending balances reflect approximately \$1.15 billion in Fiscal Year 2013 underspending due largely to actual Medicaid expenditures \$883.0 million below the original Fiscal Year 2013 spending estimate. Of that ending GRF fund balance, the State deposited \$995.9 million into the BSF increasing its balance to \$1.48 billion which was the then statutorily designated five percent of Fiscal Year 2013 GRF revenues; carried-forward \$963.2 million to offset the one-time cost of accelerating the phase-in of reductions in State personal income tax withholding rates (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15**), and transferred \$120 million into the Unemployment Compensation Contingency Fund to pay interest on federal advances to the State Unemployment Compensation Fund and \$51.3 million into disaster services/emergency funds. The remaining \$147.8 million was reserved in the GRF to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of Fiscal Year 2013 GRF revenues as an ending fund balance.

2014-15

2014-15 Biennial Budget and Appropriations. Consistent with State law, the Governor's Executive Budget for the 2014-15 biennium was released in February 2013 and introduced in the General Assembly. After extended hearings and review, the 2014-15 biennial appropriations Act was passed by the General Assembly and signed (with selective vetoes) by the Governor on June 30, 2013. With a stated focus on job creation and continued spending restraint, and based on a conservative economic forecast, that Act provided for total GRF biennial appropriations of approximately \$62.0 billion. This reflected an 11.1% increase over 2012-13 GRF biennial appropriations, and was based on expected total GRF biennial revenue (not including the \$963.2 million carried-forward from the 2012-13 biennium) of approximately \$61.1 billion (a 7.7% increase from 2012-13 GRF biennial revenues).

GRF major program categories (including debt service) reflected the following changes in spending: for Medicaid, increases of 16.8% in Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2013 expenditures (attributable in part to federal Affordable Care Act induced enrollment of previously eligible individuals and federally mandated physician rate increases) and 6.2% for Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations; for elementary and secondary education, increases of 5.0% for Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2013 expenditures and 5.8% for Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations (due largely to enhancements in the K-12 school funding formula); for higher education, increases of 1.8% for Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2013 expenditures and 2.1% for Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations; for corrections and youth services, increases of 0.1% for Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2013 expenditures and 0.2% for Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations; and for mental health and developmental disabilities, an increase of 5.0% for Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2013 expenditures and an increase of 4.0% for Fiscal Year 2015 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations.

The Act also implemented a new school funding formula (see **SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES – Schools**), allocated a portion of State public higher education funding to institutions based on their graduation rates, and eliminated the Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission by moving the administration of cultural facilities projects to the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to achieve efficiencies and budgetary savings.

The Executive Budget, the 2014-15 appropriations Act and separate appropriations acts for the biennium included all necessary debt service and lease rental or other payments related to State debt obligations.

The 2014-15 biennial appropriations Act reflected the following reductions and related adjustments of major State taxes (primarily the personal income and sales and use taxes), resulting in an estimated net reduction in GRF revenues of \$1.16 billion in Fiscal Year 2014 and \$771 million in Fiscal Year 2015, including:

- A 10% reduction in State personal income tax rates phased-in over three years (8.5% in calendar year 2013, 0.5% in calendar year 2014, and 1.0% in calendar year 2015), coupled with a freeze on the indexing of the State income tax brackets and the personal exemption for tax years 2013 through 2015 until these rate reductions are fully implemented.
- Creation of a non-refundable earned income tax credit equal to 5% of the federal earned income credit that is limited to 50% of liability for gross income that exceeds \$20,000.
- A new deduction for small businesses of 50% of annual adjusted business net income up to \$250,000.
- Elimination of the \$20 personal income tax exemption for filers with a gross income greater than \$30,000 and of the gambling loss deduction.
- An increase in the State sales and use tax by one-quarter percent (from 5.5% to 5.75%) beginning September 1, 2013.
- Authorization of full membership for the State in the streamlined sales tax project for the collection of State sales taxes on out-of-state companies for catalog and internet purchases.
- Expansion of the State sales tax base to include digital goods such as e-books, music and video downloads and repeal of the exemption for magazine purchases.
- Elimination of the corporate franchise tax (and dealers in intangibles tax) and the initial implementation and collection of the new financial institutions tax in tax year 2014.
- Elimination of the 12.5% property tax roll back for owner-occupied residential property for new voter-approved local property tax levies.
- Reinstating income requirements for eligibility for new applicants for the State's homestead tax exemption (this exemption was expanded in 2007 to include all senior citizens and disabled Ohioans regardless of income).
- Establishing a variable minimum for the commercial activity tax for businesses with gross receipts greater than \$1 million and an exemption from the CAT for grain handlers.

Medicaid Expansion. Subsequent to the passage of the GRF appropriations Act, the seven member State Controlling Board on October 21, 2013 voted 5 to 2 to increase federal Medicaid appropriations by approximately \$562 million in Fiscal Year 2014 and approximately \$2.0 billion in Fiscal Year 2015. These additional federal appropriations were to support the federally-authorized expansion of the Medicaid program to cover those with incomes up to 138% of the federal poverty level using 100% federal funds in fiscal years 2014 and 2015. On October 22, 2013, six State Representatives and two local right to life organizations filed an action in the Ohio Supreme Court against the Controlling Board and the Ohio Department of Medicaid requesting that Court vacate the Controlling Board's October 21 action. The Controlling Board and State Department of Medicaid filed their initial answer to the complaint on November 5 and, after all evidence and briefs of the parties were submitted on the expedited schedule set for this case, the Court on December 20, 2013 issued its decision upholding the Controlling Board's action.

2014 Mid-Biennium Review. On March 12, 2014, the Governor announced a series of initiatives across a range of topics resulting from a "mid-biennium review" for 2014-15 (2014 MBR). The Governor's 2014 MBR included a range of proposals in the areas of: *elementary and secondary education* (including proposals for dropout prevention and recovery and making technical and vocational education accessible by more students as early as the seventh grade); *higher education* (including proposals for reforming Ohio's dual credit programming to encourage more students to earn college credit while in high school; extending to two-year community colleges a funding formula tied to successful student outcomes; tying state funding for technical centers to the percentage of their students that find a job and other outcome-based benchmarks; increased use of technology and distance learning; increasing enrollment of international students and their retention in Ohio post-graduation; providing community colleges the option to offer a guaranteed tuition rate; and providing veterans college credit for their military training and experience); *income tax reductions and other tax adjustments* (including proposals to lower income tax rates across all income levels by 8.5% over the next three years; increasing the state's earned income tax credit for low-income Ohioans from 5% to 15% of the federal earned income tax credit; increasing the state income tax personal exemptions for those with annual incomes up to \$80,000; raising the tax on cigarettes by 60 cents to \$1.85 per pack with equivalent taxes on other tobacco products including e-cigarettes; increasing the oil and gas severance tax to 2.75% of producer gross receipts while eliminating that tax for small conventional gas producers and exempting from that tax up to \$8 million of gross receipts per well during the first three years to

help producers recoup their start-up drilling costs, with approximately 20% of severance tax revenue directed to local governments in shale oil and gas producing regions of the state; and updating the commercial activity tax rate from its initial 0.26% rate established in 2005 to 0.30%); *workforce* (aligning the three main federal workforce programs through a single, integrated plan to provide faster and improved training; and expediting professional licensing and certification for veterans and their spouses); and *human services* (including increased access to crisis intervention and safe places for those with mental illness and addictions; allocating \$26.9 million of non-GRF funds to support tobacco prevention and cessation programs; and expanding drug and substance abuse prevention in schools and prioritizing statewide funding for prevention initiatives). The 2014 MBR also proposed increasing appropriations to the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction by \$53.5 million to address a rise in the prison population, and reducing local property tax reimbursement and debt service appropriations for the biennium by \$35 million and \$92 million, respectively, due to lower than expected payments, while continuing all necessary appropriations for debt service and lease rental payments for State obligations.

Those 2014 MBR proposals were introduced in the General Assembly in March as fourteen separate pieces of legislation, seven of which were enacted by the General Assembly in May and June addressing the subjects of elementary and secondary education (including \$5 million for alternative education programs), higher education (including \$3.1 million for the State share of instruction), workforce and human services (including \$16 million for early education and child care, \$16.8 million for adult and child protection services, and \$3.2 million for Family and Children Services). As further implementation of the biennial appropriations Act and due to positive Fiscal Year 2014 financial results, the 2014 MBR legislation passed by the General Assembly also included the following additional reductions and adjustments to the State personal income tax resulting in an estimated net reduction in GRF revenues of \$402 million in Fiscal Year 2015:

- Acceleration into calendar year 2014 of the remaining 1% reduction in State personal income tax rates previously scheduled to be effective in calendar year 2015.
- An increase in the non-refundable earned income tax credit from 5% to 10% of the federal earned income credit that is limited to 50% of liability for gross income that exceeds \$20,000.
- A temporary increase in the deduction for small businesses from 50% up to 75% of annual business net income up to \$250,000 for tax year 2014.
- An increase in the State income tax personal exemption from \$1,700 to \$2,200 for gross income less than \$40,000, and from \$1,700 to \$1,950 for gross income between \$40,000 and \$80,000.

The 2014 MBR legislation passed by the General Assembly also authorized the OBM Director to transfer to a Medicaid reserve fund up to \$300 million from the GRF, if necessary, to provide for the payment of Medicaid costs above the enacted level of appropriations. The full amount of this transfer was made at the end of Fiscal Year 2014 (see next paragraph for further transfers out of the Medicaid reserve fund at the end of Fiscal Year 2015).

Fiscal Year 2015 Financial Results. The State ended Fiscal Year 2015 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$1.71 billion and \$1.29 billion, respectively. Of that ending GRF fund balance, the State reserved \$157.4 million to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of State Fiscal Year 2015 GRF revenues as an ending fund balance, carried-forward \$393.0 million to cover the planned for and modest variance of Fiscal Year 2016 GRF appropriations over estimated revenue, transferred \$425.5 million to the BSF, \$50 million to the health and human services fund (see **2016-17** below for discussion on the creation of this fund), \$42 million to the Straight A fund, \$40 million to pay unemployment compensation loan interest and \$20 million for disaster services. The State also made 14 other smaller transfers totaling \$149.3 million with the remaining \$9.1 million transferred to the income tax reduction fund. Of the \$331.1 million Fiscal Year 2015 ending balance in the Medicaid reserve fund, the State transferred \$72.0 million to a school district tangible personal property tax supplement fund, \$101.1 million to the BSF (bringing its balance to \$2.005 billion), and \$158.0 million to the GRF.

2016-17

2016-17 Biennial Budget and Appropriations. Consistent with State law, the Governor's Executive Budget for the 2016-17 biennium was released on February 2, 2015 and introduced in the General Assembly. After extended hearings and review, the 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act was passed by the General Assembly and signed (with selective vetoes) by the Governor on June 30, 2015. Reflecting a stated continuing focus on job creation, and based on a conservative economic forecast, that Act provided for total GRF biennial appropriations of approximately \$71.2 billion reflecting a 14.9% increase over the 2014-15 GRF biennial appropriations. Those appropriations were based upon then estimated total expected GRF revenue of \$34.9 billion in Fiscal Year 2016, which excluded the \$393.0 million carried-forward from Fiscal Year 2015 (reflecting a 10.8% increase over Fiscal Year 2015 revenue), and \$36.5 billion in Fiscal Year 2017 (reflecting a 4.6% increase over expected Fiscal Year 2016 revenues) (see discussion below of Fiscal Year 2017 GRF revenue revisions in July 2016 and January 2017).

Total estimated GRF revenues across the 2016-17 biennium reflected a 17.5% increase from 2014-15 GRF biennial revenues.

GRF major program categories (excluding debt service) reflected the following increases: for Medicaid, 21.8% in Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2015 expenditures (driven in large part to the shift in funding to the GRF from non-GRF sources beginning in Fiscal Year 2016 for the Medicaid expansion population), and 5.1% for Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations; for elementary and secondary education, 5.0% for Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2015 expenditures, and 4.2% for Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations; for higher education, 4.5% for Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2015 expenditures, and 3.3% for Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations; for mental health and developmental disabilities, 9.1% for Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2015 expenditures, and 7.3% for Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations; for corrections and youth services, 4.8% for Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2015 expenditures, and 3.0% for Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations over Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations. The Act also modified the school funding formula to distribute new resources to districts with less capacity to raise revenues locally (see **SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES – Schools**) and froze tuition and fees for two- and four-year higher education institutions.

The Executive Budget, the 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act and separate appropriations acts for the biennium included all necessary debt service and lease rental or other payment appropriation authority related to State debt obligations.

The 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act reflected the following tax reductions and related adjustments, resulting in an estimated net reduction in GRF revenues relative to prior law of \$869.0 million in Fiscal Year 2016 and \$952.0 million in Fiscal Year 2017, including:

- An across-the-board 6.3% reduction in State personal income tax rates in calendar year 2015.
- Continuation of the 75% exemption on the first \$250,000 of business net income for small businesses in tax year 2015 (previously increased on a temporary basis for tax year 2014 (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2014-15**)) and completely exempting the first \$250,000 of business net income in tax year 2016 and beyond.
- Beginning in tax year 2015, replaced the multi-bracket tax system for small businesses with a low flat rate of 3% on the amount of business net income. Legislation subsequently passed by the General Assembly clarifying this provision was estimated by OBM to reduce GRF revenues in Fiscal Year 2016 by up to \$81 million.
- Beginning in tax year 2015, limited certain retirement income credits to taxpayers whose individual or joint adjusted gross income is less than \$100,000 (this exemption was previously available to all taxpayers aged 65 years and older).
- Increased the cigarette tax from \$1.25 per pack (of 20 cigarettes) to \$1.60 per pack, effective July 1, 2015.

The 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act also reflected:

- The resumption of the phase-out of reimbursements to local governments and school districts in connection with the elimination of the tangible personal property tax, resulting in an increased share (estimated at \$428.7 million in Fiscal Year 2016 and \$445.3 million in Fiscal Year 2017) of the commercial activity tax being deposited into the GRF (see **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Property Tax**).
- The continuing phase-out of reimbursements to local governments and school districts for electric power generation deregulation and natural gas deregulation resulting in an increased share (estimated at \$56.3 million in Fiscal Year 2016 and \$56.0 million in Fiscal Year 2017) of the kilowatt-hour tax being reallocated to the GRF.

The 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act also created a health and human services fund to pay for public health programs or services and authorized the OBM Director to transfer from the GRF \$150 million in Fiscal Year 2017 into the fund, which amount is in addition to the \$50 million transferred from the GRF at the end of Fiscal Year 2015 into the fund.

As is customary at the beginning of the second year of a fiscal biennium, OBM in July 2016 revised its Fiscal Year 2017 GRF revenue forecast to reflect updated economic assumptions, actual Fiscal Year 2016 revenue performance, and tax law adjustments enacted by General Assembly after adoption of the 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act. As part of this revision, OBM reduced its estimated Fiscal Year 2017 GRF tax revenue forecast by \$282.0 million, a 1.2% reduction compared to the original Fiscal Year 2017 tax revenue forecast. This reduction

in forecasted tax revenues was largely within the personal income and commercial activity taxes. As part of the Governor’s Executive Budget proposal for the 2018-19 fiscal biennium (see **2018-19** below), and based on tax revenue underperformance, in January 2017 OBM further reduced its estimated Fiscal Year 2017 GRF tax revenue forecast by \$592.2 million, a 2.7% reduction compared to the July 2016 revision. The largest variances (compared to the July 2016 revision) were in the personal income tax (reduced by \$333.9 million or 4.0%), the sales and use tax (reduced by \$259.3 million or 2.4%), and the commercial activity tax (reduced by \$32.0 million or 2.5%).

Fiscal Year 2017 Financial Results. The State ended Fiscal Year 2017 with a GRF cash balance of \$557.1 million and an ending fund balance of \$170.9 million that was reserved to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of State Fiscal Year 2017 GRF revenues as an ending fund balance.

2018-19

Consistent with State law, the Governor’s Executive Budget for the 2018-19 fiscal biennium was released on January 30, 2017, and introduced in the General Assembly. After extended hearings and review, the 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act was passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor (with selective vetoes) on June 30, 2017.

To address lower GRF revenue estimates for the 2018-19 fiscal biennium, the Act included both across-the-board and targeted spending cuts across most State agencies and programs. Reflecting a stated continuing focus on job creation, and based on a conservative economic forecast, that Act provided for the following GRF appropriations:

GRF Appropriations 2018-19 Biennium (\$ in billions)

Fiscal Year 2017 Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2017 Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations	2018-19 Biennium Total Appropriations
\$34.5	\$32.2	-6.7%	\$33.3	3.5%	\$65.5

Major program categories reflected the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding debt service appropriations):

- *Medicaid* - Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations decreased 15.0% over Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures (as discussed below, driven largely by the replacement of the Medicaid managed care organization sales tax, the receipts of which were being deposited into the GRF, by a new health insuring corporation provider assessment, the receipts of which are now deposited into a dedicated non-GRF fund), and Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations increased 5.7% over Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations.
- *Elementary and Secondary Education* - Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations increased 1.5% over Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations increased 1.6% over Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* – Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations increased 0.5% over Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations decreased 0.3% over Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations.
- *Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities* – Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations decreased 0.9% over Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures (driven by the shift in funding of certain Medicaid expenditures to the Medicaid program category), and Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations increased 2.1% over Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations.
- *Corrections and Youth Services* – Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations increased 4.2% over Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations increased 1.6% over Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations.

The Act also modified certain components of the school funding formula to better distribute resources to districts with less capacity to raise revenues locally (see **SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES – Schools**) and limited increases in tuition and fees for two- and four-year higher education institutions.

The Executive Budget, the 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act and separate appropriations acts for the biennium included all necessary debt service and lease rental or other payment appropriation authority related to State debt obligations.

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The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and estimated GRF revenue for the biennium as follows:

Estimated GRF Revenue 2018-19 Biennium (\$ in billions)

Fiscal Year 2017 Actual Revenue	Fiscal Year 2018 Est. Revenue	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2017 Actual Revenue	Fiscal Year 2019 Est. Revenue	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2018 Est. Revenue	2018-19 Biennium Total Revenue
\$34.2	\$32.3	-5.5%	\$33.3	3.2%	\$65.6

Potentially non-recurring sources of revenues reflected in the 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act included \$84.5 million in transfers to the GRF from non-GRF funds, \$200 million from unclaimed funds, \$31 million from the sale of prison farmland, and \$20 million from a tax amnesty program.

The 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act reflected certain tax law changes, resulting in an estimated net GRF revenue increase of \$12.8 million in Fiscal Year 2018 and an estimated net GRF revenue decrease of \$30.8 million in Fiscal Year 2019, including, among others:

- Reduced the number of personal income tax brackets from nine to seven in tax year 2017 and for certain low income taxpayers completely exempted the first \$10,500 of taxable income, with increasing bracketed base rates and percentages up to a maximum on incomes over \$210,600 of \$8,073 plus 4.997% on the amount over \$210,600. (See **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Personal Income Tax.**)
- Increased on a temporary basis the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the public library fund to 1.68% from 1.66% in each of Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019.
- Increased the State personal income tax deduction from \$2,000 to \$4,000 for contributions to accounts for college savings and care for disabled individuals.
- Authorized a one-time sales tax holiday on the purchase of clothing and school supplies in August 2018 (separate legislation enacted by the General Assembly authorized a sales tax holiday in August 2017).

The 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act also reflected:

- The creation of a new health insuring corporation provider assessment, the revenues of which are being deposited into a non-GRF dedicated purpose fund, to fully replace the forgone GRF sales tax revenue resulting from the federal policy ruling by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that Ohio’s sales tax on Medicaid managed care organizations was impermissible as a means of generating revenues to draw federal matching dollars. The GRF revenue loss was estimated to be approximately \$600 million in each of Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019.
- Increased the portion of the commercial activity tax deposited into the GRF (estimated at \$175 million in Fiscal Year 2018 and \$179 million in Fiscal Year 2019) from 75% to 85% to more closely match the amounts needed to make compensating payments to school districts and local governments in connection with the prior phase-out of the tangible personal property tax. The requirement to transfer funds in excess of the compensating payments formula to the GRF at the end of each Fiscal Year remained unchanged. (See **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Property Tax.**)

As is customary at the beginning of the second year of a fiscal biennium, OBM in July 2018 revised its Fiscal Year 2019 GRF revenue forecast to reflect updated economic assumptions, actual Fiscal Year 2018 revenue performance, and certain minor tax law adjustments enacted by the General Assembly after adoption of the 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act. As part of this revision, OBM increased its estimated Fiscal Year 2019 GRF tax revenue forecast by \$531.1 million, a 2.4% increase compared to the original Fiscal Year 2019 tax revenue forecast. This increase in forecasted tax revenues was largely within the personal income tax (increased by \$379.5 million or 4.5%) and the sales and use tax (increased by \$129.0 million or 1.3%). Effective January 1, 2019, personal income tax employer withholding rates were reduced by 3.3% in order to fully reflect the income tax rate reductions enacted in the 2016-17 biennial budget. This was estimated to result in a one-time \$148.5 million reduction to personal income tax revenue in Fiscal Year 2019. Fiscal Year 2020 personal income tax revenue was not affected as the reduction in withholding was offset by reduced income tax refunds as final returns were filed for tax year 2019.

Fiscal Year 2019 Financial Results. The State ended Fiscal Year 2019 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$1.54 billion and \$1.15 billion, respectively. Of that ending GRF fund balance, the State carried forward \$834.0 million, including \$168.8 million reserved to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of Fiscal Year 2019 GRF revenues as an ending fund balance, and transferred \$172.0 million to the H2Ohio fund (see **2020-21** below for discussion of this fund), \$31.0 million to the statewide treatment and prevention fund, \$39.0 million to

the emergency purposes and disaster services funds, \$20.0 million to the school bus purchase fund, \$19 million to the tobacco use prevention fund, and \$31.4 million across six other smaller purposes.

2020-21

Consistent with State law, the Governor’s Executive Budget for the 2020-21 fiscal biennium was released on March 15, 2019 and introduced in the General Assembly. After extended hearings and review, the 2020-21 biennial appropriations Act, which was preceded by a 17-day interim appropriations act, was passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor (with selective vetoes) on July 18, 2019. Reflecting the tax law changes described below and an underlying economic forecast prepared in the first half of 2019, that Act provided for the GRF appropriations outlined below. The underlying economic forecast did not take into account the economic effects of the outbreak as described below under **Outbreak of COVID-19**.

GRF Appropriations 2020-21 Biennium (\$ in billions)

Fiscal Year 2019 Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2019 Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2020 Appropriations	2020-21 Biennium Total Appropriations
\$32.7	\$34.0	4.0%	\$36.0	6.0%	\$70.0

Major program categories reflected the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding GRF debt service appropriations):

- *Medicaid* - Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations increased 3.3% over Fiscal Year 2019 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations increased 11.8% over Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations.
- *Elementary and Secondary Education* – including transfers from the GRF in support of student wellness and success, Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations increased 3.9% over Fiscal Year 2019 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations increased 0.2% over Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* – Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations increased 4.6% over Fiscal Year 2019 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations increased 2.6% over Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations.
- *Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities* – excluding Medicaid program services, Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations decreased 1.4% over Fiscal Year 2019 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations increased 2.8% over Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations.
- *Corrections and Youth Services* – Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations increased 4.0% over Fiscal Year 2019 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations increased 3.5% over Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations.

The 2020-21 biennial appropriations Act also created the H2Ohio fund to pay for water quality projects in Lake Erie and across Ohio’s rivers, lakes and waterways. The H2Ohio fund was initially funded by a \$172 million transfer from the Fiscal Year 2019 ending GRF fund balance.

The Executive Budget, 17-day interim appropriations act, the 2020-21 biennial appropriations Act and separate appropriations acts for the biennium all included necessary debt service and lease rental or other payment appropriation authority related to State debt obligations for the entire biennium.

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The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and estimated GRF revenue for the biennium and have been adjusted with updated revenue forecasts as of June 10, 2020 as follows:

Estimated State & Federal GRF Revenue 2020-21 Biennium (\$ in billions)

Fiscal Year 2019 Actual Revenue	Fiscal Year 2020 Est. Revenue	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2019 Actual Revenue	Fiscal Year 2021 Est. Revenue	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2020 Est. Revenue	2020-21 Biennium Total Revenue
\$33.8	\$33.2	-1.6%	\$36.0	8.5%	\$69.3

The 2020-21 biennial appropriations Act reflected the following tax policy and allocation changes, among others, that were estimated to result in a net GRF revenue decrease of \$410 million in Fiscal Year 2020 and \$177 million in Fiscal Year 2021:

- An across-the-board 4.0% reduction in State personal income tax rates and elimination of the bottom two income tax brackets (effective in tax year 2019), coupled with a freeze on the indexing of the income tax brackets (through tax year 2020). The tax bracket changes eliminated any tax liability for individuals with taxable income less than \$21,750. (See **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Personal Income Tax**).
- Modified eligibility for various means-tested State personal income tax credits such that high-income taxpayers with little non-business income are not eligible for the tax credits (effective tax year 2019).
- Created two new non-refundable tax credits, one for lead abatement expenses capped at \$5 million annually (effective in tax year 2020) and one for Qualified Opportunity Zone investments that is limited to no more than \$50 million per fiscal biennium (effective in tax year 2019).
- Increased the legal age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 years old and created a tax on the volume of nicotine-containing vapor products (effective October 2019).
- Modified the definition of substantial nexus with Ohio in accordance with *South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc.* for purposes of collecting the sales and use tax on retail sales through “marketplace facilitators” (effective October 2019).
- Increased on a temporary basis the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the local government fund from 1.66% to 1.68% in each of Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021.
- Increased on a temporary basis the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the public library fund from 1.66% to 1.70% in each of Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021.

As is customary at the beginning of the second year of a fiscal biennium, OBM updated its Fiscal Year 2021 GRF revenue forecast to reflect updated economic assumptions (influenced largely by the COVID-19 Pandemic) and actual Fiscal Year 2020 revenue performance. For further information relating to the updated Fiscal Year 2021 GRF revenue forecast see **Outbreak of COVID-19** below.

Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Results: The State ended Fiscal Year 2021 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$4.72 billion and \$4.03 billion, respectively. As authorized in the 2022-2023 biennial appropriations act, the entire fund balance was carried forward into Fiscal Year 2022 including \$197.7 million reserved to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of Fiscal Year 2021 GRF revenues as an ending fund balance, and transferred \$1,200.0 million to the Health and Human Services Fund, \$132.0 million to the H2Ohio Fund, \$100.0 million to the Investing in Ohio Fund, and \$66.3 million across three other smaller purposes.

Fiscal year 2021 GRF tax revenues were considerably larger than both the original forecast derived in July 2019 for the enacted FY 2020-21 operating budget as well as the updated forecast issued with the FY 2022-23 Executive operating budget. Tax revenues for the year were \$1.54 billion above the original forecast. Of the \$1.54 billion positive variance, \$774.6 million occurred during the last quarter of the fiscal year, with sales tax revenues exceeding estimates by large margins in each month of the quarter.

Current Biennium

Consistent with State law, the Governor’s Executive Budget for the 2022-23 fiscal biennium was released on February 1, 2021 and introduced in the General Assembly. After extended hearings and review, the 2022-23 biennial appropriations Act was passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor (with selective vetoes) on June 30, 2021. Reflecting the tax law changes described below and a conservative underlying economic forecast, that Act provides for the following GRF appropriations:

GRF Appropriations 2022-23 Biennium (\$ in billions)

Fiscal Year 2021 Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2021 Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations	20202-23 Biennium Total Appropriations
\$35.6	\$34.9	-2.0%	\$39.3	12.6%	\$74.3

Major program categories reflected the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding GRF debt service appropriations):

- *Medicaid* - Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations decreased 11.7% over Fiscal Year 2021 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations increased 26.1% over Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations.
- *Elementary and Secondary Education* – including transfers from the GRF in support of student wellness and success, Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations increased 5.8% over Fiscal Year 2021 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations increased 2.0% over Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* – Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations increased 2.7% over Fiscal Year 2021 expenditures, and Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations increased 0.1% over Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations.

The 2022-23 biennial appropriations Act revised the school funding formula to consider resident income levels in addition to property tax values (see **SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES – Schools**). The Act also authorized the BSF to retain interest earnings.

The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and estimated GRF revenue for the biennium as follows:

Estimated State & Federal GRF Revenue 2022-23 Biennium (\$ in billions)

Fiscal Year 2021 Actual Revenue	Fiscal Year 2022 Est. Revenue	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2021 Actual Revenue	Fiscal Year 2023 Est. Revenue	% Change Over Fiscal Year 2022 Est. Revenue	2022-23 Biennium Total Revenue
\$39.5	\$36.6	-7.5%	\$39.9	9.3%	\$76.6

Because of an extension in the filing date for tax year 2019 returns, an estimated \$719.0 million in income tax revenue was received in FY2021 rather than in FY2020, thereby impacting the FY2021-2022 growth rate.

Amended Substitute House Bill 110, the biennial budget for Fiscal Years 2022-2023, included several transfers from the General Revenue Fund. Estimated Fiscal Year 2022 transfers from the General Revenue Fund total \$2.98 billion. The largest transfer of which is \$1.2 billion for Health and Human Services Fund.

The 2022-23 biennial appropriations Act reflected the following tax policy and allocation changes, among others, that were estimated to result in a net GRF revenue decrease of \$1.0 billion in Fiscal Year 2022 and \$977.0 million in Fiscal Year 2023:

- Across-the-board 4.0% reductions in State personal income tax rates and elimination of the bottom two income tax brackets (effective in tax year 2019), coupled with a freeze on the indexing of the income tax brackets (through tax year 2020).
- Increases the threshold for zero tax liabilities on individuals with taxable incomes of less than \$25,000.
- Contains a one-year (tax year 2021) suspension of bracket indexing, and two-year (tax years 2021 and 2022) suspension of personal exemption indexing.
- Establishes new non-refundable tax credits for home-schooling expenses, for tuition paid to non-chartered private schools, and for contributions made to non-profit scholarship granting organizations.
- Repeals sales and use tax on employment services; also enacted an exemption for sales of investment coins and bullion.
- Continues on a temporary basis the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the public library fund to 1.70% from 1.66% in each of Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023.

OBM is currently projecting a positive GRF fund balance at the end of Fiscal Year 2022 and Fiscal Year 2023. As noted above, the State is effectively precluded by its Constitution from ending a Fiscal Year or a biennium in a “deficit” position. OBM continually monitors and analyzes revenues and expenditures and related developments (including pending litigation) and prepares a Monthly Financial Report, the most recent of which is accessible at <https://www.obm.ohio.gov/Budget/monthlyfinancial/>.

Outbreak of COVID-19

As has been widely reported, the outbreak of COVID-19, a new strain of coronavirus that can result in severe respiratory disease, was first detected in December of 2019, and has spread across six continents impacting many countries, including the United States. COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The COVID-19 outbreak is altering the behavior of businesses and people in a manner that is expected to have negative effects on global and local economies, including the State. In response to the public health crisis, Governor DeWine and the Director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) have taken certain actions to limit the spread of the virus and its impact on the State's local communities and health care services, including the declaration of a state of emergency in the State on March 9, 2020 and the closure of all non-essential businesses from March 23, 2020 through May 1, 2020. In addition, the Governor (and the General Assembly as discussed below) took certain actions to mitigate the economic effect of the COVID-19 outbreak on the State's financial position by reducing non-essential expenditures including implementing various State employment related freezes, restricting new contracting by State agencies, and ordering reductions in expenditures of State agencies for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021.

On March 27, 2020 President Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to address the economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the CARES Act the State was directly allocated a minimum of \$2.49 billion of the total \$4.53 billion granted by the Federal Government to the State and its eligible local governments. These funds are being used for costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to COVID-19. The State maintains a comprehensive presentation of financial and transactional data online, The Ohio Checkbook (<https://checkbook.ohio.gov>), and more information on Federal Funding for COVID-19 in Ohio can be found at <https://checkbook.ohio.gov/Coronavirus/>.

To balance the State budget in Fiscal Year 2020 (due to anticipated declines in revenue and increased costs relating to the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic), Governor DeWine directed spending cuts of approximately \$775 million for the remainder of the fiscal year (June 30, 2020), including: \$210 million in Medicaid spending; \$300 million in K-12 education spending; \$110 million in higher education spending; \$55 million in other education spending; and \$100 million in other State agencies and programs spending. The State also continued the previously announced hiring freezes, travel limitations, and contracting restrictions.

Initial revised Fiscal Year 2021 revenue projections indicated that available State revenue receipts and balances in the GRF were projected to be \$36.0 billion, approximately \$2.43 billion less than originally estimated. This estimated shortfall was \$200 million less than the reserve held in the BSF as stated above. Those projections did not include any offset for savings the State realized from additional budgetary responses, such as those described below or the temporary 6.2 percentage-point increase in Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (Federal revenue receipts), which are used in determining the amount of Federal payments to the State for medical services.

In response to those updated revenue projections for Fiscal Year 2021 and in addition to the budgetary controls already in place, OBM and the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) implemented cost savings measures to further reduce expenditures by State agencies, boards, and commissions. Such measures included a continuation of employment related freezes as authorized by the 133rd General Assembly in Amended Substitute House Bill 481 (HB 481) and instituting mandatory cost savings programs for exempt employees for Fiscal Year 2021 (which reduced wages of exempt employees by approximately 3.8% and salaries of cabinet directors by approximately 4.0%). On March 25, 2021, DAS rescinded the order that froze all exempt employee pay rates and step increases effective with the pay period beginning April 11, 2021 in accordance with Section 37 of HB 481. OBM and DAS continue to partner to identify personnel and cost containment strategies to balance the State budget as needed.

On January 22, 2021, Governor DeWine signed an executive order formally finalizing the Fiscal Year 2021 budget reductions at \$390 million across all agencies. Because this reduction was less than the previously anticipated cuts matching those made in Fiscal Year 2020, the Governor authorized the Department of Education to allot an additional \$160 million and the Department of Higher Education to allot an additional \$100 million of enacted Fiscal Year 2021 GRF appropriations previously withheld.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). This \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus and COVID-19 relief package was aimed at providing emergency assistance to individuals, businesses, and state and local governments affected by COVID-19, among other measures. Under ARPA, the Federal Government allocated approximately \$5.6 billion directly to the State with an additional \$274 million allocated specifically for use in State capital projects out of a total \$11.2 billion granted to the State and its eligible local governments to continue efforts to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from COVID-19. To

provide further relief for Ohioans and to align with the extended Federal tax filing deadline, the State also adjusted its 2020 tax filing date from April 15, 2021 to May 17, 2021.

In addition, ODH is continuing to work to distribute COVID-19 vaccines to Ohio residents as quickly and safely as possible and is following prioritization guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. The vaccine is being distributed according to Ohio's vaccine distribution plan as doses become available. Information about ODH's vaccination plan can be found at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination-program>, and data regarding the number of individuals vaccinated in Ohio can be found at <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/covid-19-vaccine/covid-19-vaccination-dashboard>.

Furthermore, the COVID-19 outbreak caused a sudden spike in unemployment and furloughs. As a result of this spike in unemployment, Ohio's Unemployment Trust Fund balance was completely drawn down between March 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020. Because of this increased demand, the State applied for federal assistance and began drawing funds on June 16, 2020. On June 29, 2021, Governor DeWine signed Amended Substitute House Bill 168 of 134th General Assembly into law, authorizing the repayment of the State's \$1.5 billion unemployment Federal advances using ARPA monies provided to Ohio. The repayment to the United States Treasury was completed on September 2, 2021.

As the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to evolve, OBM remains committed to monitoring and analyzing revenues, expenditures, and related developments (including pending litigation) for inclusion in its Monthly Financial Report, available at <https://obm.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/obm/areas-of-interest/budget-and-planning/monthly-financial-reports/monthly-financial-reports>.

Cash Flow

Because GRF cash receipts and disbursements do not precisely coincide, temporary GRF cash flow deficiencies often occur in some months, particularly the middle months, of a Fiscal Year. Statutory provisions provide for effective management of cash flow by permitting the adjustment of payment schedules (as was done during some prior Fiscal Years) and the use of the Total Operating Fund (TOF). The State has not done and does not do external revenue anticipation borrowing.

The TOF includes the total consolidated cash balances, revenues, disbursements and transfers of the GRF and several other specified funds (including the BSF). The TOF cash balances are consolidated only for the purpose of meeting cash flow requirements, and, except for the GRF, a positive cash balance must be maintained for each discrete fund included in the TOF. The GRF is permitted to incur a temporary cash deficiency by drawing upon the available consolidated cash balance in the TOF. The amount of that permitted GRF cash deficiency at any time is limited by statute to 10% of GRF revenues for the then preceding Fiscal Year. The State plans for and manages monthly GRF cash flow deficiencies within each Fiscal Year and those deficiencies have been within the TOF limitations discussed above.

STATE DEBT

General

The incurrence or assumption of debt by the State without a popular vote is, with limited exceptions, prohibited by the State Constitution. The State is authorized to incur debt limited in amount to \$750,000 to cover casual deficits or to address failures in revenues or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for. The Constitution expressly precludes the State from assuming the debts of any county, city, town or township, or of any corporation. (An exception in both cases is for debts incurred to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war.) The Constitution provides that "Except the debts above specified...no debt whatever shall hereafter be created by, or on behalf of the state."

By 20 constitutional amendments approved from 1921 to present, Ohio voters have authorized the incurrence of State general obligation debt and the pledge of taxes or excises to its payment, all related to the financing of capital facilities, except for three that funded bonuses for veterans, one to fund coal technology research and development, and one to fund specified research and development activities. Currently, tax supported general obligation debt of the State is authorized to be incurred for the following purposes: highways, local infrastructure, coal development, natural resources and parks, higher education, common schools, conservation, and research and development. Authorizations for site development and veterans compensation purposes have been fully exhausted or expired. Although supported by the general obligation pledge, highway debt is also backed by a pledge of and has always been paid from the State's motor fuel taxes and other highway user receipts that are constitutionally restricted in use to highway related purposes.

State special obligation debt, the owners or holders of which are not given the right to have excises or taxes levied by the General Assembly to pay principal and interest, is authorized for purposes specified by Section 2i of Article VIII of the Constitution. The Treasurer of State currently issues the special obligations authorized under that Section 2i for parks and recreation and mental health facilities, and for facilities to house branches and agencies of State government and their functions, including: State office buildings and facilities for the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and others, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), correctional and juvenile detention facilities for the Departments of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) and Youth Services (DYS), various cultural facilities, and formerly for the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Debt service on all these special obligations is paid from GRF appropriations, with the exception of debt issued for ODOT and DPS facilities which is paid from highway user receipts. All of those debt service payments are subject to biennial appropriations by the General Assembly pursuant to leases or other agreements entered into by the State.

Certificates of Participation (COPs). State agencies also have participated in buildings and equipment, information systems and non-highway transportation projects that have local as well as State use and benefit, in connection with which the State has entered into lease-purchase agreements with terms ranging from 8 to 20 years. Certificates of Participation (COPs) have been issued in connection with those agreements that represent fractionalized interests in and are payable from the State's anticipated lease payments. The maximum annual payment from GRF appropriations under those existing agreements is \$48.1 million in Fiscal Year 2023 and the total GRF-supported principal amount outstanding is \$246.1 million as of October 27, 2021. Payments by the State are subject to biennial appropriations by the General Assembly with the lease terms subject to automatic renewal for each biennium for which those appropriations are made. The approval of the OBM Director and either the General Assembly or the State Controlling Board is required if COPs are to be publicly offered in connection with those agreements.

Revenue Bonds. Certain State agencies issue revenue bonds that are payable from revenues from or relating to revenue producing facilities, such as those issued by the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission. As confirmed by judicial interpretation, such revenue bonds do not constitute "debt" under the constitutional provisions described above. The Constitution authorizes State bonds for certain economic development and housing purposes (the latter issued by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency) to which tax moneys may not be obligated or pledged. See the discussion of expanded housing finance authority, and permitted pledges to it, below under **Additional Authorizations**.

Tax Credits in Support of Other Long-Term Obligations. The State has authorized the issuance of fully refundable tax credits in support of "credit-collateralized bonds" issued from time to time by the Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority to provide funding for the Ohio Capital Fund (OCF) to promote venture capital investment in Ohio and any additional bonds that may be issued to refinance those outstanding bonds or provide additional funding for that purpose. Those tax credits may be claimed by the bond trustee for the purpose of restoring the bond reserve fund for those credit-collateralized bonds in the event it is drawn upon and its required balance is not restored from other sources. Those credits may not be claimed after June 30, 2036, and the maximum amount of tax credits that may be claimed is \$20 million in any Fiscal Year. The bond trustee has filed such tax credit claims in connection with the payment of bond service charges on February 15, 2017, August 15, 2017, February 15, 2018, August 15, 2018, February 15, 2019, August 15, 2019, February 18, 2020, August 17, 2020, February 16, 2021 and August 16, 2021. Tax credit payments have been received totaling \$7.5 million in Fiscal Year 2017, \$15.4 million in Fiscal Year 2018, \$13.5 million in Fiscal Year 2019, \$15.2 million in Fiscal Year 2020, \$10.7 million in Fiscal Year 2021, and \$3.4 million in Fiscal Year 2022. Total outstanding principal on the credit-collateralized bonds after the August 17, 2021 payment date is \$85.95 million with the highest annual debt service payment due on the outstanding credit-collateralized bonds occurring in Fiscal Year 2022 in the amount of approximately \$17.7 million. Proceeds of the OCF bonds fund investments in venture capital funds to promote investment in seed and early-stage Ohio-based business enterprises.

Prior Economic Development and Revitalization Obligations. Prior to the February 1, 2013 granting of a 25-year franchise on the State's spirituous liquor system to JobsOhio, there were outstanding \$725.0 million of State bonds and notes secured by a pledge of the State's profits from the sale of spirituous liquor. In connection with the granting of that franchise, provision was made for the payment of all the debt service on those bonds and notes which are defeased and no longer outstanding obligations of the State (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2012-13**). Those bonds and notes were originally issued to fund a statewide economic development program that assisted in the financing of facilities and equipment for industry, commerce, research and distribution, including technology innovation, by providing loans and loan guarantees. Under its franchise agreement with JobsOhio, the State may not issue additional obligations secured by a pledge of profits from the sale of spirituous liquor during the 25-year term of that franchise.

Obligations and Funding Commitments for Highway Projects Payable from Highway-Related Non-GRF Funds. As described above, the State issues general obligations for highway infrastructure and special obligations for ODOT and DPS transportation facilities that are paid from the State’s motor fuel tax and other highway user receipts that are constitutionally restricted in use to highway related purposes. In addition, the State has and expects to continue financing selected highway infrastructure projects by issuing federal highway grant anticipation revenue (GARVEE) bonds and entering into agreements that call for debt service payments to be made from federal Title 23 transportation funds allocated to the State, subject to biennial appropriations by the General Assembly. The highest annual State payment under those agreements in the current or any future fiscal year is \$133.2 million in Fiscal Year 2022. In the event of any insufficiency in the anticipated federal allocations to make payments on GARVEE bonds, the payments are to be made from any lawfully available moneys appropriated to ODOT for the purpose.

In December 2014, ODOT also entered into its first public-private agreement to provide “availability payments” in support of the development and operation of a State highway improvement project. Those availability payments commenced in December 2018 and are paid from non-GRF funds available to ODOT remaining after the payment of debt service on highway general obligations, ODOT special obligations and GARVEE bonds. The availability payment in Fiscal Year 2021 was \$25.9 million, with availability payments estimated to increase modestly each year from \$26.1 million in Fiscal Year 2022 to a maximum payment of \$39.4 million in Fiscal Year 2053. Availability payments are subject to biennial appropriation by the General Assembly with the public-private agreement subject to automatic renewal for each biennium if and when those availability payments are appropriated for that biennium.

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Variable Rate Debt

The State currently has \$394,175,000 in outstanding variable rate debt as follows with liquidity provided by the State for all of these issues:

<u>Dated Date</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Purpose/Series</u>	<u>Rate Period</u>	<u>Final Maturity</u>
12/15/2003	\$41,415,000	Common Schools, 2003D	Weekly	3/15/2024
3/3/2004	16,860,000	Infrastructure Refunding, 2004A	Weekly	2/1/2023
4/1/2005	49,400,000	Common Schools, 2005A/B	Weekly	3/15/2025
6/7/2006	62,880,000	Common Schools, 2006B/C	Weekly	6/15/2026
10/26/2016	64,620,000	DRC Prison Facilities, 2016B/C	Weekly	10/1/2036
8/7/2019	45,000,000	DRC Prison Facilities, 2019C	Weekly	10/1/2039
8/12/2020	57,000,000	Parks & Recreation Facilities, 2020B	Weekly	12/1/2040
4/21/2021	57,000,000	DRC Prison Facilities, 2021B	Weekly	10/1/2040

Interest Rate Swaps

As part of its debt management, the State is also party to the following floating-to-fixed interest rate swap agreements with a total notional amount currently outstanding of \$170,555,000:

<u>Outstanding Notional Amount</u>	<u>Related Bond Series</u>	<u>State Pays</u>	<u>State Receives</u>	<u>Counterparty</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Termination Date</u>
\$41,415,000	Common Schools 2003D	3.414%	LIBOR ¹	JP Morgan/Wells Fargo	9/14/2007	3/15/2024
16,860,000	Infrastructure 2004A Refunding	3.510%	LIBOR ¹	Wells Fargo	3/3/2004	2/1/2023
49,400,000	Common Schools 2005A/B	3.750% ³	LIBOR ^{2,3}	JP Morgan	3/15/2007	3/15/2025
62,880,000	Common Schools 2006B/C	3.202%	LIBOR ¹	US Bank/RBC	6/15/2006	6/15/2026

¹ Variable interest rate based on a percentage of one-month London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus a fixed increment.

² Variable interest rate based on 62% of 10-year LIBOR beginning September 15, 2014.

³ The rate the State pays and the basis upon which the State receives are expected to be amended prior to the delivery date of the Bonds. The State is currently in discussions with the counterparty to change the interest rate from a LIBOR-based rate to a SIFMA-based rate.

For all its swap agreements, the State has established minimum uncollateralized counterparty rating thresholds of AA-/Aa3. Under each of these agreements, the counterparty is required to progressively post collateral securing the State's position if the counterparty's credit ratings fall below these minimum thresholds.

Constitutional Limitation on Annual Debt Service

A 1999 constitutional amendment provides an annual debt service "cap" applicable to most future issuances of State general obligations and other State direct obligations payable from the GRF or net State lottery proceeds. Generally, new obligations may not be issued if debt service for any future Fiscal Year on those new and the then outstanding obligations of those categories would exceed 5% of the total of estimated GRF revenues (excluding GRF receipts from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) plus net State lottery proceeds for the Fiscal Year of issuance. Those direct obligations of the State include general obligations and special obligations that are paid from the State's GRF, but exclude (i) general obligation debt for third frontier research and development, development of sites and facilities, and veterans compensation, and (ii) general obligation debt payable from non-GRF funds (such as highway bonds that are paid from highway user receipts). Pursuant to the implementing legislation, the Governor has designated the OBM Director as the State official responsible for making the 5% determinations and certifications. Application of the 5% cap may be waived in a particular instance by a three-fifths vote of each house of the Ohio General Assembly and may be changed by future constitutional amendments.

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The following table presents a current summary of State debt authorizations and the principal that has been issued and is outstanding against those authorizations, including the Bonds. The General Assembly has appropriated sufficient moneys to meet debt service requirements for the current biennium (ending June 30, 2023) on all of the obligations included in this and the accompanying tables.

	Authorized by General Assembly	Issued(a)	Outstanding(b)
<i>Obligations Payable from the GRF</i>			
<u>General Obligations</u>			
Coal Development(c)	\$262,000,000	\$254,000,000	\$28,845,000
Infrastructure(d,e)	4,900,000,000	4,517,936,136	1,897,740,000
Natural Resources(f)	512,000,000	484,490,000	130,920,000
Common School Facilities(e)	6,045,000,000	5,611,200,000	2,425,670,000
Higher Education Facilities	4,853,000,000	4,374,445,000	2,143,185,000
Conservation(g)	800,000,000	682,625,000	346,690,000
Research & Development(h)	1,200,000,000	971,000,000	288,625,000
Site Development	150,000,000	150,000,000	8,825,000
Veterans Compensation(i)	200,000,000	83,910,000	<u>20,170,000</u>
		Total:	\$7,290,670,000
<u>Special Obligations</u>			
DAS Facilities	\$2,169,700,000	\$2,069,900,000	\$528,470,000
DRC Prison Facilities(e)	2,737,000,000	2,346,500,000	557,295,000
DYS Facilities	430,000,000	400,000,000	98,250,000
Cultural & Sports Facilities	790,000,000	740,475,000	190,430,000
Mental Health Facilities	2,000,000,000	1,817,085,000	308,505,000
Parks & Recreation Facilities(e)	1,303,400,000	939,000,000	<u>469,515,000</u>
		Total:	\$2,152,465,000
<i>Obligations Payable from Non-GRF Sources(j)</i>			
<u>Highway User Receipts</u>			
G.O. Highway(k)	\$3,797,000,000	\$3,381,000,000	\$894,575,000
ODOT Facilities	385,000,000	326,590,000	132,140,000
DPS Facilities	140,285,000	140,285,000	<u>-</u>
		Total:	\$1,026,715,000
<u>Federal Transportation Grants</u>			
ODOT GARVEE Highway(l)	n.a.	\$2,905,920,000	\$860,030,000
(a)	Excludes refunding bonds; includes bonds refunded; reflects payments of amounts due as of October 27, 2021. Includes the Bonds.		
(b)	Excludes refunded bonds; includes refunding bonds; reflects payments of amounts due as of October 27, 2021. Includes the Bonds.		
(c)	Not more than \$100,000,000 may be outstanding at any time.		
(d)	Not more than \$5,625,000,000 may be issued with the annual issuance currently limited to no more than \$175,000,000 in each Fiscal Year beginning in Fiscal Year 2018 through Fiscal Year 2022 and \$200,000,000 in each Fiscal Year beginning in Fiscal Year 2023 through Fiscal Year 2027, plus any obligations unissued from previous Fiscal Years.		
(e)	Includes adjustable rate bonds.		
(f)	Not more than \$50,000,000 may be issued in any Fiscal Year and not more than \$200,000,000 may be outstanding at any time.		
(g)	Not more than \$50,000,000 may be issued in any Fiscal Year plus any obligations unissued from previous Fiscal Years and not more than \$400,000,000 may be outstanding at any time.		
(h)	Not more than \$1,200,000,000 may be issued with the annual issuance now limited to no more than \$175,000,000 in any Fiscal Year plus any obligations unissued from previous Fiscal Years.		
(i)	Constitutional authorization was self-implementing and did not require further General Assembly authorization. No more new obligations may be issued under this authorization.		
(j)	See discussion above of "availability payments" under ODOT's first public-private agreement, which payments are expected to be made from biennial appropriations of non-GRF funds available to ODOT and remaining after the payment of debt service on highway general obligations, special obligations and GARVEE bonds shown above.		
(k)	Not more than \$220,000,000 may be issued in any Fiscal Year plus any amount unissued from previous Fiscal Years, and not more than \$1,200,000,000 may be outstanding at any time.		
(l)	Debt service on these "GARVEE" bonds is paid from federal transportation grants apportioned to the State (Title 23 of the U.S. Code).		

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The following table shows total debt service by Fiscal Year on State obligations payable from the GRF, including the Bonds:

**Annual Debt Service Requirements on State Obligations
Paid from the GRF**

FY	General Obligations			Special Obligations			Total GRF Debt Service(f)		
	Education (a,b,e)	Infra- structure(b,e)	All Other(c,e)	DAS Facilities(e)	DRC Facilities(b)(e)	All Other(b)(d)(e)	Principal(e)	Interest(b,e)	Total(b,e)
2022	\$737,797,361	\$236,233,816	\$156,093,257	\$83,698,032	\$74,549,906	\$143,938,817	\$1,006,190,000	\$426,121,190	\$ 1,432,311,190
2023	671,514,374	231,473,576	145,773,202	80,852,111	73,378,126	147,898,000	960,440,000	390,449,389	1,350,889,389
2024	628,174,046	219,322,633	125,391,628	70,791,103	71,523,019	147,107,439	914,060,000	348,249,867	1,262,309,867
2025	572,634,617	228,976,291	103,300,732	65,420,597	66,887,386	140,627,186	870,270,000	307,576,809	1,177,846,809
2026	467,307,587	194,295,768	97,211,658	42,747,358	43,403,733	124,154,800	697,965,000	271,155,903	969,120,903
2027	376,915,106	191,981,258	78,916,673	42,801,197	43,530,543	114,638,375	608,255,000	240,528,152	848,783,152
2028	344,532,917	174,950,058	76,833,486	42,854,624	43,480,126	108,250,414	577,890,000	213,011,626	790,901,626
2029	337,129,943	164,343,371	61,696,643	42,917,919	43,504,333	97,906,261	561,270,000	186,228,469	747,498,469
2030	348,963,167	150,760,951	42,897,375	38,591,641	40,640,156	93,386,594	554,600,000	160,639,883	715,239,883
2031	357,314,715	150,590,105	38,428,900	35,845,888	40,647,962	81,334,875	567,945,000	136,217,446	704,162,446
2032	309,385,760	126,836,286	28,751,850	35,855,752	35,321,068	47,786,989	470,520,000	113,417,705	583,937,705
2033	268,550,009	119,151,898	19,250,200	33,441,741	35,244,957	31,579,136	413,120,000	94,097,939	507,217,939
2034	250,687,874	108,323,170	15,876,450	29,779,898	35,509,123	18,638,263	381,445,000	77,369,778	458,814,778
2035	226,845,442	84,709,832	7,213,500	29,784,086	32,343,976	18,638,971	337,460,000	62,075,807	399,535,807
2036	202,652,500	84,688,082	-	23,809,672	32,365,845	18,639,542	315,080,000	47,075,642	362,155,642
2037	155,414,400	72,812,650	-	23,807,402	26,763,053	18,636,773	264,380,000	33,054,278	297,434,278
2038	108,538,050	61,557,200	-	18,172,625	21,444,191	18,639,972	207,270,000	21,082,037	228,352,037
2039	62,131,900	48,103,375	-	18,171,375	13,718,631	18,635,606	148,760,000	12,000,887	160,760,887
2040	37,330,100	22,916,500	-	12,680,750	13,715,298	8,012,444	88,290,000	6,365,092	94,655,092
2041	37,332,050	10,920,000	-	6,216,000	6,582,275	8,013,425	<u>66,425,000</u>	<u>2,638,750</u>	<u>69,063,750</u>
							\$10,011,635,000	\$3,149,356,649	\$13,160,991,649

(a) Consists of common schools and higher education general obligation bonds.

(b) Includes estimated debt service on adjustable rate bonds at an assumed rate of 3%.

(c) Includes natural resources, coal development, conservation, research and development, site development and veteran's compensation general obligation bonds.

(d) Includes lease-rental bonds for mental health, parks and recreation, cultural and sports facilities, and facilities for the Department of Youth Services.

(e) Excludes refunded bonds; includes refunding bonds; as of October 27, 2021. Includes the Bonds.

(f) Totals may not foot due to rounding.

The following table shows total debt service by Fiscal Year on certain State obligations payable from the indicated non-GRF revenues:

**Annual Debt Service Requirements on State Obligations
Paid from Non-GRF Revenues**

FY	Highway User Receipts			GARVEE Federal Transportation Grants(c)
	Highway G.O.	ODOT/DPS Facilities(a)	Total(b)	
2022	\$153,638,402	\$16,522,000	\$170,160,402	\$133,178,800
2023	148,959,706	16,526,250	165,485,956	132,411,545
2024	145,287,227	16,520,500	161,807,727	131,665,703
2025	126,903,145	16,524,000	143,427,145	130,924,705
2026	97,068,050	16,520,000	113,588,050	95,969,375
2027	93,990,300	16,522,500	110,512,800	95,970,500
2028	90,867,050	16,519,750	107,386,800	95,969,500
2029	73,977,550	16,520,500	90,498,050	95,971,250
2030	54,616,500	16,518,000	71,134,500	71,873,000
2031	52,317,500	8,375,750	60,693,250	30,588,875
2032	34,823,750	8,379,000	43,202,750	30,591,750
2033	33,290,000	8,379,000	41,669,000	10,203,875
2034	18,131,250	-	18,131,250	-
2035	4,803,750	-	4,803,750	-

(a) Lease rental payments are paid from highway user receipts for these Ohio Department of Transportation and Department of Public Safety facilities.

(b) As of October 27, 2021.

(c) Debt service paid from federal transportation grants apportioned to the State under Title 23 of the U.S. Code.

Totals may not foot due to rounding.

The following table shows the principal amount of those obligations that are currently scheduled to be outstanding as of July 1 of the indicated years, as of October 27, 2021, including the Bonds:

<u>Year</u>	Obligations Payable from the GRF			Non-GRF Obligations
	<u>Education(a)</u>	<u>Other GO(b)</u>	<u>Special Obligations(c)</u>	<u>Highway User Receipts(d)</u>
2022	\$4,390,445,000	\$2,558,670,000	\$2,056,330,000	\$906,630,000
2027	2,442,970,000	1,368,685,000	1,142,800,000	377,495,000
2032	1,161,205,000	565,535,000	495,490,000	60,280,000
2037	225,325,000	132,190,000	153,230,000	-

(a) Includes bonds for common school and higher education capital facilities.

(b) Includes natural resources, coal development, infrastructure improvement, conservation, research and development, site development and veterans compensation general obligation bonds.

(c) Includes lease-rental bonds for various State capital facilities.

(d) Includes general obligations for highways and lease-rental bonds for ODOT and DPS facilities.

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The following tables show certain historical debt information and comparisons. These tables include only outstanding obligations of the State for which debt service is paid from the GRF.

Fiscal Year	Principal Amount Outstanding	Outstanding Debt Per Capita	Outstanding Debt as % of Annual Personal Income
1980	\$1,991,915,000	\$184	1.86%
1990	3,707,055,058	342	1.83
2000	6,308,680,025	556	1.94
2010	8,586,655,636	744	2.03
2017	9,450,790,000	810	1.73
2018	9,746,900,000	834	1.73
2019	9,496,850,000	812	1.68
2020	9,432,955,000	807	1.60
2021	9,818,225,000	840(a)	1.58(b)

Fiscal Year	Debt Service Payable	Total GRF Revenue and Net State Lottery Proceeds	Debt Service as % of GRF Revenue and Lottery Proceeds	Debt Service as % of Annual Personal Income
1980	\$187,478,382	\$4,835,670,223	3.88%	0.18%
1990	488,676,826	12,230,682,298	4.00	0.24
2000	871,313,814	20,711,678,217	4.21	0.27
2010	710,284,236*	24,108,466,000**	2.95	0.17
2017	1,328,276,711	35,218,700,000	3.77	0.24
2018	1,338,395,923	33,642,813,000	3.98	0.24
2019	1,402,757,299	34,921,508,000	4.02	0.25
2020	1,414,866,835	34,551,772,000	4.09	0.24
2021	961,653,867*	40,723,295,400	2.61	0.15(b)

(a) Based on July 2020 Census estimate.

(b) Based on preliminary 2020 personal income data.

* Reduction is due in large part to the restructuring of certain GRF debt service payments resulting in net savings of \$416.8 million in Fiscal Year 2010 and \$363.7 million in Fiscal Year 2021.

** Excludes federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Recent Debt Authorizations

Only a portion of State capital needs can be met by direct GRF appropriations, so additional State borrowing for capital and other purposes has been and will continue to be required. For the 2021-22 capital biennium, the General Assembly approved \$2.69 billion in new capital appropriations, with \$2.28 billion of those new capital appropriations to be funded by GRF-supported debt authorizations, and \$113 million to be funded from cash. The following additional GRF-supported debt authorizations reflect all of the new 2021-22 capital appropriations:

General Obligation

- \$400,000,000 for capital improvements for elementary and secondary public schools.
- \$475,000,000 for local infrastructure projects.
- \$400,000,000 for higher education facilities.
- \$20,000,000 for natural resources facilities.
- \$100,000,000 for conservation purposes.
- \$2,000,000 for coal development purposes.

Special Obligation

- \$275,000,000 for prisons and local jails.
- \$30,000,000 for youth services facilities.
- \$100,000,000 for State administrative facilities.
- \$65,000,000 for cultural facilities (including both arts and sports facilities).
- \$150,000,000 for mental health facilities (including local projects).
- \$255,000,000 for parks and recreation facilities (including local projects).

Recent constitutional authorizations are:

- 2014 – authorizes an additional \$1.875 billion of general obligation debt for public infrastructure as a ten-year extension of the existing local government infrastructure program authorized in 2005, with an

increase in the annual issuance amount from \$150 million to \$175 million in the first five Fiscal Years and \$200 million in each Fiscal Year thereafter.

- 2010 – authorizes the issuance of \$700 million of State general obligation debt to renew and continue programs for research and development in support of Ohio industry, commerce, and business, with those obligations not subject to the 5% debt service cap described above. The authorization is in addition to the below-referenced 2005 constitutional amendment for the same purpose. The amount of all State general obligations that may be issued for, and the amounts of proceeds from those State general obligations that may be committed to, those research and development purposes, are limited to no more than \$450 million total for the period including State Fiscal Years 2006 through 2011, no more than \$225 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and no more than \$175 million in any Fiscal Year thereafter, plus any amounts that in any prior Fiscal Year could have been but were not issued.
- 2009 – authorized the issuance of State general obligation debt to provide compensation to persons who have served in active duty in the United States armed forces at any time during the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq conflicts, with those obligations not subject to the 5% direct obligation debt service cap described above. Not more than \$200 million in obligations could have been issued no later than December 31, 2013.
- 2008 – authorizes the issuance of State bonds for land conservation and revitalization purposes (including statewide brownfields clean-up). For each of the two purposes, the authorization is for not more than \$50 million in principal amount to be issued in any Fiscal Year plus any amount unissued from previous Fiscal Years and not more than \$200 million to be outstanding at any time. The bonds for conservation purposes are general obligations, and those for revitalization purposes are special obligations payable from revenues and receipts designated by the General Assembly (previously a portion of the State’s net liquor profits; see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2012-13**). The authorization is in addition to the 2000 constitutional amendment for the same purposes.
- 2005 – authorizes the issuance over ten years of \$500 million of State general obligation debt in support of research and development, and \$150 million of State general obligation debt for the development of sites for industry, commerce, distribution and research and development, with those obligations not subject to the 5% debt service cap described above. Also authorizes an additional \$1.35 billion of general obligation debt for public infrastructure as a ten-year extension of the existing local government infrastructure program, with an increase in the annual issuance amount from \$120 million to \$150 million in the last five Fiscal Years, which continues to be subject to that 5% debt service cap.
- 2000 – authorizes the issuance of State bonds for land conservation and revitalization purposes (including statewide brownfields clean-up). For each of the two purposes, the amendment authorizes not more than \$50 million in principal amount to be issued in any Fiscal Year plus any amount unissued from previous Fiscal Years and not more than \$200 million to be outstanding at any time. The bonds for conservation purposes are general obligations, and those for revitalization purposes are special obligations payable from revenues and receipts designated by the General Assembly (previously a portion of the State’s net liquor profits; see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2012-13**).
- 1999 – authorizes State general obligation debt to pay costs of facilities for a system of common schools throughout the state and for state-supported and state-assisted institutions of higher education. The amendment also provides for the 5% direct obligation debt service cap described above.
- 1995 – authorizes additional highway bonds and extends the local infrastructure bond program. For the latter, it authorized an additional \$1.2 billion of State’s full faith and credit obligations to be issued over 10 years, with not more than \$120 million to be issued in any Fiscal Year. The highway finance portion authorizes not more than \$1.2 billion to be outstanding at any time and not more than \$220 million to be issued in any Fiscal Year.
- 1994 – pledges the State's full faith and credit and taxing power to meet certain guarantees under the State's tuition credit program, a program that provides for the purchase of tuition credits which are guaranteed to cover a specified amount when applied to tuition and other eligible higher education costs. Under the amendment, to secure the tuition guarantees, the General Assembly shall appropriate money sufficient to offset any deficiency that occurs in the trust fund, at any time necessary to make payment of the full amount of any tuition payment or refund required by a tuition payment contract.

- 1990 – authorizes greater State and political subdivision participation in the provision of individual and family housing. This supplements the previous constitutionally authorized loans-for-lenders and other housing assistance programs, financed in part with State revenue bonds. The amendment authorizes the General Assembly to provide for State assistance for housing in a variety of ways, including State borrowing for the purpose by the issuance of obligations secured by a pledge of all or such portion of State revenues or receipts as it authorizes (but not by a pledge of the State’s full faith and credit).
- 1985 – authorizes the issuance of general obligation debt to finance grants or make or guarantee loans for research and development of coal technology that will encourage the use of Ohio coal. Those grants or loans are available to any individual, association, or corporation doing business in the State or to any educational or scientific institution located in the State. Not more than \$100 million may be outstanding at any time.

ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

Although manufacturing (including auto-related manufacturing) in Ohio remains an integral part of the State’s economy, the greatest growth in Ohio’s economy in recent years has been in the non-manufacturing sectors. Ohio’s 2020 economic output, as measured by gross state product (GSP), totaled \$675.0 billion, 3.20% of the national GDP and seventh largest among the states. The State ranks third within the manufacturing sector as a whole (\$106.9 billion) and fourth in durable goods (\$59.4 billion). As a percent of Ohio’s 2020 GSP, 15.8% was attributable to manufacturing, with 21.4% attributable to the goods-producing sectors and 33.6% to the business services sectors, including finance, insurance and real estate. Ohio is the seventh largest exporting state with 2020 merchandise exports totaling \$45.0 billion. The State’s leading export products are machinery (including electrical machinery), motor vehicles (including parts), aircraft/spacecraft and plastics, which together accounted for 41.7% of that total.

Non-farm payroll employment in Ohio, in a diversifying employment base, decreased in 2001 through 2003, increased in 2004 through 2006, decreased in 2007 through 2010, and increased in 2011 through 2019. In the last three decades, there has been a shift toward the services industry, with manufacturing employment decreasing since its 1969 peak. The “non-manufacturing” sector employs approximately 87.4% of all non-farm payroll workers in Ohio. The changing mix of employment sectors nationally and in Ohio are shown in the following tables.

**Ohio Nonfarm Payroll Jobs by Industry Type
Not Seasonally Adjusted (in 000)**

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990*</u>	<u>2000*</u>	<u>2010*</u>	<u>2020*</u>
Mining & Logging.....	31	18	13	11	9
Construction.....	167	192	246	169	219
Manufacturing.....	1,264	1,060	1,021	621	653
Trade, Transportation & Public Utilities...	1,180	963	1,115	945	1,006
Financial Activities.....	204	255	305	277	303
Services.....	831 ¹	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Professional & Business Services.....	n.a.	455	647	629	694
Educational & Health Services.....	n.a.	539	679	839	895
Leisure & Hospitality.....	n.a.	400	483	475	466
Information & Other Services.....	n.a.	279	331	284	253
Government.....	<u>690</u>	<u>722</u>	<u>785</u>	<u>786</u>	<u>759</u>
TOTAL	4,367	4,882	5,624	5,036	5,256

* Reflects change in the bases for industry classification from the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to the current 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Data since 1990 reflects this change.

¹ Data under SIC system included professional and business, education and health, leisure and hospitality, information and ‘other’ services under a single “Services” industry category.

Totals may not foot due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National and State Current Employment Statistics.

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Distribution of Nonfarm Payroll Jobs by Industry Type (%)

	1980		1990*		2000*		2010*		2020*	
	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Mining & Logging.....	0.7	1.1	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.4
Construction.....	3.8	4.8	3.9	4.8	4.4	5.1	3.4	4.2	4.2	5.1
Manufacturing	28.9	22.4	21.7	16.2	18.2	13.1	12.3	8.8	12.4	8.6
Trade, Transportation & Public Utilities	27.0	28.2	19.7	20.7	19.8	19.9	18.8	18.9	19.1	18.7
Financial Activities.....	4.7	5.7	5.2	6.0	5.4	5.9	5.5	5.9	5.8	6.1
Services.....	19.0 ¹	19.8 ¹	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Professional & Business Services.....	n.a.	n.a.	9.3	9.9	11.5	12.6	12.5	12.8	13.2	14.2
Educational & Health Services	n.a.	n.a.	11.0	10.1	12.1	11.6	16.7	15.3	17.0	16.3
Leisure & Hospitality.....	n.a.	n.a.	8.2	8.5	8.6	9.0	9.4	10.0	8.9	9.4
Information & Other Services.....	n.a.	n.a.	5.7	6.3	5.9	6.7	5.6	6.2	4.8	5.7
Government	15.8	18.0	14.8	16.8	14.0	15.7	15.6	17.3	14.4	15.4

* Reflects change in the bases for industry classification from the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to the current 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Data since 1990 reflects this change.

¹ Data under SIC system included professional and business, education and health, leisure and hospitality, information and 'other' services under a single "Services" industry category.

Totals may not foot due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National and State Current Employment Statistics. The distribution percentages are as calculated by OBM.

Ohio and U.S. unemployment rates have been as follows:

Average Monthly Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
1980	8.4%	7.1%
1990	5.6	5.6
2000	4.0	4.0
2005	5.9	5.1
2006	5.4	4.6
2007	5.6	4.6
2008	6.4	5.8
2009	10.3	9.3
2010	10.3	9.6
2011	8.8	8.9
2012	7.4	8.1
2013	7.5	7.4
2014	5.8	6.2
2015	4.9	5.3
2016	5.0	4.9
2017	5.0	4.4
2018	4.6	3.9
2019.....	4.2	3.7
2020	8.2	8.1
2021 January.....	5.3	6.3
February.....	5.0	6.2
March.....	4.7	6.0
April.....	4.7	6.1
May.....	5.0	5.8
June.....	5.2	5.9
July.....	5.4	5.4
August.....	5.4	5.2

Source: Ohio Labor Market Information.

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The following are the private sector employers that had the highest number of full-time equivalent employees (estimated and rounded) in Ohio in 2020:

OHIO'S TOP 25 PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYERS – 2020

<u>Company</u>	<u>Employment Headcount (Estimated)</u>	<u>Sector</u>
Cleveland Clinic Health System	52,800	Health Care
Wal-Mart Stores Inc	50,400	Retail: General Merchandise
Kroger Company	35,950	Retail: Food Stores
Mercy Health	32,300	Health Care
University Hospitals Health System	30,650	Health Care
Ohio Health	30,000	Health Care
Amazon Inc.	23,500	Retail: General Merchandise
JPMorgan Chase & Co.	21,000	Finance: Bank
Giant Eagle Inc.	20,450	Retail: Food Stores
ProMedica Health System	17,450	Health Care
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical System	16,450	Health Care
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company	14,000	Finance: Insurance
Kettering Health Network	13,750	Health Care
Honda Motor Co Ltd.	13,200	Manufacture: Motor Vehicles
Nationwide Children's Hospital	13,000	Health Care
Progressive Corporation	12,650	Finance: Insurance
Home Depot Inc	12,500	Retail: Home Improvement
TriHealth Inc.	12,100	Health Care
Lowe's Company Inc.	12,000	Retail: Home Improvement
Meijer Inc.	11,300	Retail: General Merchandise
Golden Gate Capital LP/Bob Evans	11,200	Hospitality: Restaurants
L Brands Inc.	11,000	Retail: Clothing
Premier Health Partners	10,900	Health Care
Cedar Fair LP	10,500	Entertainment: Theme Parks
Huntington Bancshares Inc.	10,500	Finance: Bank

* Boldface indicates headquartered in Ohio. Source: Development Services Agency, Office of Research, Dec. 2020.

POPULATION

Ohio's 2020* decennial census population of 11,693,217 indicated a 1.4% population growth over 2010 and ranked Ohio seventh among the states in population. The following tables show selected census figures:

Ohio Population — Total and by Age Group

Year	Total	Rank		Decennial		
		Among States	Growth Rate	0-19 Years	20-64 Years	65 and Over
1970	10,652,017	6	9.7%	4,124,400	5,539,600	993,500
1980	10,797,630	6	1.4	3,502,900	6,125,200	1,169,500
1990	10,847,115	7	0.5	3,141,000	6,299,100	1,407,000
2000	11,353,140	7	4.7	3,216,000	6,629,400	1,507,800
2010	11,536,504	7	1.6	3,067,126	6,847,363	1,622,015
2020*	11,693,217	7	1.4	2,868,455	6,727,124	2,097,638

* Estimate as of July 1, 2020.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Web Site, Metropolitan Area Population Estimates v. 2020.

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Population of Ohio Metropolitan Areas(a)

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Cleveland	2,063,729	1,898,825	2,202,069(b)	2,250,871(b)	2,077,240(b)	2,043,807(b)
Cincinnati	1,106,821	1,100,983	1,526,092(c)	1,646,395(c)	2,130,151(d)	2,232,907(i)
Columbus.....	1,017,847	1,093,316	1,345,450(e)	1,540,157(e)	1,836,536(e)	2,138,946
Dayton	852,531	830,070	951,270(f)	950,558(f)	979,835(f)	809,248(j)
Akron.....	679,239	660,328	657,575	694,960	703,200	701,449
Toledo.....	643,443	656,940	614,128	618,203	651,429	641,549
Youngstown-Warren.....	537,124	531,350	600,895(g)	594,746(g)	565,773(g)	531,420(g)
Canton.....	393,789	404,421	394,106	406,934	404,422	396,669
Lorain-Elyria	256,843	274,909	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Hamilton-Middletown	226,207	258,787	291,479	332,807	(d)	(d)
Lima.....	210,074	218,244	154,340	155,084	106,331	101,980
Mansfield.....	129,997	131,205	174,007(g)	175,818(g)	124,475	120,891
Steubenville	96,193	91,564	142,523(h)	132,008(h)	124,454(h)	115,184(h)

(a) SMSAs in 1970 & 1980, MSAs in 1990, 2000 & 2010 (PMSA's for Cleveland, Cincinnati, Akron, and Hamilton-Middletown).

(b) Lorain-Elyria included with Cleveland.

(c) Includes 12 counties (two in Indiana and six in Kentucky).

(d) Includes 15 counties (three in Indiana and seven in Kentucky); includes Hamilton-Middletown.

(e) Newark added.

(f) Springfield added.

(g) Includes three counties.

(h) Weirton added; includes two counties in West Virginia.

(i) Includes 16 counties (four in Indiana and seven in Kentucky); includes Hamilton-Middletown

(j) Springfield removed

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Web Site, Metropolitan Area Population Estimates v.2020

AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCES BASES

With 13.6 million acres (of a total land area of 26.4 million acres) in farmland and an estimated 77,800 individual farms, agriculture combined with related agricultural sectors is an important segment of Ohio's economy. Ohio's 2019 crop production value of \$5.0 billion ranked twelfth among states and represented 2.6% of the U.S. total value. Ohio's 2019 livestock production value of \$3.4 billion ranked nineteenth among states and represented 1.9% of the U.S. total value. As of 2019, Ohio accounts for 3.9% of total U.S. cash receipts for corn and 6.4% for soybeans. In 2019, Ohio's agricultural sector output (consisting of crops, livestock, poultry and dairy, services and forestry, and all farm-related income) totaled \$8.5 billion and represented 2.3% of the U.S. total value. Ohio farm expenses and purchased inputs (feed, seed, chemicals, fertilizer, livestock, utilities, labor, and machinery) totaled \$7.5 billion. The net farm income on Ohio farms in 2019 was \$2.7 billion.

The availability of natural resources, such as water and energy, is of vital nationwide concern. Ohio has large quantities of these important natural resources. With Lake Erie and the Ohio River on the State's borders, and many lakes and streams throughout the State, water is readily available for all uses. Additionally, Ohio is a strong energy producing state. As of 2019, Ohio ranks fifth in consumer-grade natural gas production, generating 2.6 trillion cubic feet and has sizable coal resources ranking sixteenth among the states in coal reserves and fifteenth in coal production in 2019.

STATE EMPLOYEES AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

Since 1985, the number of regular State employees (excluding employees who are not paid by State warrant such as state university employees) has ranged from a low of 50,217 in April 2021, to a high of 68,573 in 1994. The State engages in collective bargaining with five employee unions representing 14 bargaining units, and generally operates under three-year agreements. The State is currently in the process of bargaining contract agreements.

RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The State has established five public retirement systems to provide retirement, disability retirement and survivor benefits, and other post-employment benefits such as retiree health care. None of these benefits are guaranteed under the Ohio Constitution or under State law, or subject to bargaining under the State's current public employee collective bargaining law.

The Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), the largest of the five, covers both State and local public employees and non-teaching employees at public higher education institutions. The State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) covers teaching employees at school districts and public higher education institutions. The

School Employees Retirement System (SERS) covers non-teaching employees at school districts and community colleges. The Highway Patrol Retirement System (HPRS) covers State troopers, and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) covers local safety forces. Full financial information for each retirement system can be found on its website in that system's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and/or annual report .

The five retirement systems began reporting pensions in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, Financial Reporting for Pension Plans, in Fiscal Year 2014, and the State began reporting pensions in accordance with GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, in Fiscal Year 2015. The retirement systems also began reporting in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans, in Fiscal Year 2017, and the State began reporting in accordance with GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, in Fiscal Year 2018.

The retirement systems were created by and operate pursuant to State law. As reflected in the 2012 pension reform acts discussed below, the General Assembly has the power to amend the structure and benefit levels, impose or revise contribution rates or amounts, and to make other changes. The systems have never been subject to the funding and vesting requirements of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). Federal law requires employees hired on or after April 1, 1986 to participate in the Medicare program, with matching employer and employee contributions, each now 1.45% of the wage base. Otherwise, State employees covered by a State retirement system are not currently covered under the federal Social Security Act. Congress has from time to time considered legislation relating to public sector retirement funds and to other aspects of public employee retirement.

Funding for the retirement systems is provided by a combination of public employer and employee contributions based on percentages of each employee's compensation, with the employees' contributions being deducted from their paychecks. Employee contribution percentages are either established in State law or by the retirement system board subject to a maximum contribution amount established in State law. With the exception of employee contributions for PERS law enforcement and public safety personnel, the current contribution percentages for each system (set forth in the following table under **Pension Benefits**) reflect the maximums permitted under State law.

In 1968, the Ohio General Assembly created the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC) to oversee the state's five public retirement systems and to advise and inform the legislature on all matters relating to the benefits, funding, investment, and administration of those systems. The ORSC consists of nine voting members: three members of the House appointed by the Speaker; three members of the Senate appointed by the President; and three members appointed by the Governor (one representing the State, one representing local governments, and the third representing public education institutions). The five executive directors of the retirement systems also serve as nonvoting members of the ORSC.

Under State law, each retirement system's board is required to establish a period of not more than thirty years to amortize its unfunded actuarial accrued pension liability (UAAL). If in any year the period required to amortize that UAAL exceeds thirty years, the board must prepare and submit to the ORSC and the applicable committees in the Ohio General Assembly, a plan to reduce that amortization period to not more than thirty years. Based on their most recent reporting years reflected in the table below under **Pension Benefits**, all of the retirement systems meet the 30-year funding requirement, with the number of years to fully amortize UAAL at fifteen years for STRS, eighteen years for PERS, twenty-three years for HPRS, twenty-four years for SERS, and twenty-eight years for OP&F. Prior to the 2012 pension reform acts described below, the board of each of the five retirement systems had approved and submitted to the ORSC and the Ohio General Assembly a plan to reduce or maintain its amortization period at not more than thirty years. Pursuant to this continuing requirement, the OP&F board increased (effective January 1, 2014) contributions to its pension fund by reducing from 2.85% to 0.5% the amount of employer contributions directed to health care and redirecting the 2.35% difference to pensions, and the STRS board increased (effective July 1, 2014) contributions to its pension fund by redirecting to pensions the 1.0% of employer contributions previously directed to healthcare. The HPRS board also increased (effective January 1, 2018) contributions to its pension fund by reducing from 4.0% to 3.5% the amount of employer contributions directed to its health care fund.

After extensive review, the General Assembly in September 2012 enacted, and the Governor signed into law effective January 7, 2013, five pension reform acts to implement with modifications plans previously submitted by the five retirement systems to reduce or maintain their UAAL periods to or at not more than thirty years. The reform act for PERS made changes including, among others, increasing the years of service and eligibility age necessary to retire with full benefits, increasing from three to five the number of years used in determining "final average salary" for purposes of calculating retirement benefits, reducing the post-retirement

cost of living adjustment, and increasing the minimum salary threshold required to earn full-time service credit for public employee eligibility to participate in the system. The other reform acts made similar changes to STRS, SERS, OP&F and HPRS, and enacted phased increases in the employee contribution rate for STRS (from 10% to a maximum of 14% in July 2016) and OP&F (from 10% to a maximum of 12.25% in July 2015). The HPRS board was authorized to increase employee contributions up to a maximum of 14% from 10% beginning in July 2013, and it has implemented this authorization by increasing the employee contribution rate to 11.5% for 2014, 12.5% for 2015 to 2017, and 14.0% for 2018 and thereafter. With the exception of PERS, the reform acts also authorize each retirement system's board to adjust certain pension benefits levels within limits without General Assembly approval. Under this authority, the post-retirement cost of living adjustment for retirees was eliminated by the STRS board (from 2.0% to 0.0% beginning July 1, 2017) and reduced by the HPRS board (phased down from 3.0% to 1.25% beginning January 1, 2015). As reflected above, these reform acts did not change the requirement that each system establish a period of not more than thirty years to amortize its pension UAAL and prepare and submit to the ORSC and the Ohio General Assembly a plan to reduce that amortization period if it exceeds thirty years.

Retirement Contributions

The State makes its employer contributions based on a percent of salary for each State employee that is an active member of a state retirement system. Currently, just over 95% of State employees are members of PERS, about 3.2% are in HPRS and about 1.2% are in STRS. The following table summarizes State employer and employee contributions to those retirement systems with State employee members (\$ in millions):

State Fiscal Year	PERS		STRS		HPRS		Total Employer/Employee Contributions
	Employer/Employee Amount	Pct. of Salary(a)	Employer/Employee Amount	Pct. of Salary	Employer/Employee Amount	Pct. of Salary	
2016	\$395.9/\$278.4	14.0%/10.0%	\$5.6/\$4.8	14.0%/13.0%	\$27.2/\$12.8	26.5%/12.5%	\$428.9/\$296.0
2017	411.5/289.5	14.0/10.0	5.9/5.9	14.0/14.0	31.1/14.6	26.5/12.5	448.5/309.5
2018	421.5/296.7	14.0/10.0	5.9/5.9	14.0/14.0	30.1/14.6	26.5/12.5	458.3/316.8
2019	433.0/304.6	14.0/10.0	6.0/6.0	14.0/14.0	31.7/14.9	26.5/14.0	470.6/325.1
2020	440.6/314.7	14.0/10.0	6.1/6.1	14.0/14.0	32.8/16.3	26.5/14.0	479.5/337.1
2021	447.9/319.9	14.0/10.0	6.3/6.3	14.0/14.0	32.1/17.0	26.5/14.0	486.3/343.2

(a) Reflects PERS state and local contribution rates only. PERS law enforcement employer/employee contribution rate is 18.1%/13.0% and public safety is 18.1%/12.0%.

Source: Contributions based on percent of payroll expenses from State of Ohio accounting system records.

The State also has funded and continues to fund a subsidy to the OP&F system to pay for survivor benefits provided in law and not otherwise funded. The aggregate subsidies were \$69.7 million in the 2020-21 biennium and are appropriated at \$70.7 million in the 2022-23 biennium. All State employer contributions are subject to appropriation in each State budget and are included in the appropriations for each department or agency's personnel costs.

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Pension Benefits

The following table summarizes State and local membership and financial data for each of the retirement systems for the most recent year reported by the particular system (\$ in millions):

Valuation as of:	<u>PERS</u> 12/31/20	<u>STRS</u> 07/01/20	<u>SERS(a)</u> 06/30/20	<u>OP&F(b)</u> 12/31/19	<u>HPRS</u> 12/31/19
Active Members.....	279,485	167,838	156,579	29,340	1,614
Retirees and Beneficiaries	216,193	156,907	80,051	29,780	1,699
Employer/Employee Contributions (% of Salary) (c)...	14.0/10.0(d)	14.0/14.0	14.0/10.0	(e)	26.5/14.0
Active Member Payroll	\$14,998.1	\$12,671.2	\$3,477.6	\$2,313.6	\$118.4
Market Value of Assets (MVA) (f).....	\$98,852.8	\$74,475.8	\$14,419.6	\$15,636.6	\$817.9
Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA) (g).....	\$93,969.1	\$76,357.7	\$14,838.0	\$15,360.1	\$796.3
Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (h).....	\$113,371.6	\$98,672.3	\$20,640.5	\$22,044.3	\$1,173.2
Funding Ratio (AVA to AAL %, (MVA to AAL %)) ..	82.9 (87.2)	77.4 (75.5)	71.9 (69.9)	69.7 (70.9)	67.9 (69.7)
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL).....	\$19,402.5	\$22,314.6	5,802.5	\$6,684.2	\$376.9
UAAL to Active Member Payroll %	129.4	176.1	166.9	288.9	318.3
UAAL Funding Period (years) (i).....	18	15	24	28	23

(a) SERS information excludes Medicare Part B reimbursement which is considered a post-employment healthcare benefit reported in accordance with GASB Statement 43 for all data except MVA.

(b) OP&F deferred retirement option plan balances are included in MVA, AVA, and AAL.

(c) For PERS and SERS, the maximum employer and employee contribution rates under law are 14.0% and 10.0%. For STRS and HPRS, the maximum employer and employee contributions rates are 14.0/14.0% and 26.5/14.0%, respectively. Each system's board annually determines the portion of the employer contribution, if any, that is directed to fund post-employment health care benefits.

(d) PERS state employer/employee contribution rate is 14.0/10.0%, local is 14.0/10.0%, law enforcement is 18.1/13.0%, and public safety is 18.1/12.0%. PERS state and local employer and employee contribution rates increased to their current statutory maximum of 14.0% and 10.0%, respectively, in calendar year 2008.

(e) OP&F employer and employee contribution rates increased to their current statutory maximum of 19.5/12.25% for police and 24.0/12.25% for fire in July 2015.

(f) Defined contribution plan assets are generally excluded for PERS and included for STRS.

(g) Recognizes assumed investment returns fully each year (7.2% for PERS and HPRS, 7.45% for STRS, 7.5% for SERS, and 8.0% for OP&F). Differences between actual and assumed investment returns, subject to each system's market corridor limitation, are phased-in over a closed four-year period.

(h) Reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method.

(i) UAAL funding period is calculated based on a closed period as a level percent of payroll, except for the portion of PERS members who participate in the member directed plan which uses a closed period as a level dollar of payroll.

Sources: Retirement systems' CAFRs, annual reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

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The following table summarizes financial and funding information for each of the retirement systems for the past five years as reported by the particular system (\$ in millions):

Retirement System Valuation Year-End	Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA)(a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)(b)	Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	Funding Ratio (AVA to AAL)	Market Value of Assets (MVA)(c)	Funding Ratio (MVA to AAL)	Active Member Payroll	UAAL Percent of Active Member Payroll
<u>PERS</u>								
12/31/20	\$93,969.1	\$113,371.6	\$19,402.5	82.9%	\$98,852.8	87.2%	\$14,998.1	129.4%
12/31/19	\$88,571.7	\$111,371.3	\$22,799.6	79.5%	\$91,814.5	82.4%	\$14,987.6	152.1%
12/31/18	\$84,287.0	\$108,704.6	\$24,417.6	77.5%	\$81,427.3	74.9%	\$14,391.1	169.7%
12/31/17*	\$83,292.2	\$106,090.0	\$22,797.8	78.5%	\$87,104.9	82.1%	\$14,058.0	162.2%
12/31/16	\$80,279.7	\$100,167.1	\$19,887.4	80.1%	\$77,514.2	77.4%	\$13,717.6	145.0%
<u>STRS</u>								
07/01/20	\$76,357.7	\$98,672.3	\$22,314.6	77.4%	\$74,475.8	75.5%	\$12,671.2	176.1%
07/01/19	\$74,411.8	\$97,840.9	\$23,429.1	76.1%	\$75,726.5	77.4%	\$12,296.8	190.5%
07/01/18	\$73,115.4	\$96,904.1	\$23,788.7	75.5%	\$74,916.3	77.3%	\$11,923.7	199.5%
07/01/17	\$72,216.2	\$96,126.4	\$23,910.2	75.1%	\$72,371.2	75.3%	\$11,557.1	206.9%
07/01/16	\$70,114.6	\$100,756.4	\$30,641.8	69.6%	\$67,283.4	66.8%	\$11,099.6	276.1%
<u>SERS(d)</u>								
06/30/20	\$14,838.0	\$20,640.5	\$5,802.5	71.9%	\$14,419.6	69.9%	\$3,477.6	166.9%
06/30/19	\$14,293.0	\$20,129.8	\$5,836.8	71.0%	\$14,544.1	72.2%	\$3,462.5	168.6%
06/30/18	\$13,848.0	\$19,598.1	\$5,750.6	70.7%	\$14,270.5	72.8%	\$3,332.4	172.6%
06/30/17	\$13,560.0	\$19,186.6	\$5,626.6	70.7%	\$13,613.6	71.0%	\$3,302.8	170.4%
06/30/16	\$13,037.0	\$19,368.6	\$6,331.6	67.3%	\$12,451.6	64.3%	\$2,932.2	215.9%
<u>OP&F(e)</u>								
12/31/19	\$15,360.1	\$22,044.3	\$6,684.2	69.7%	\$15,636.6	70.9%	\$2,313.6	288.9%
12/31/18	\$14,753.2	\$21,264.7	\$6,511.5	69.4%	\$13,941.1	65.6%	\$2,218.0	293.6%
12/31/17	\$14,594.6	\$20,887.2	\$6,292.7	69.9%	\$14,963.6	71.6%	\$2,209.3	284.8%
12/31/16	\$14,162.5	\$20,290.4	\$6,127.9	69.8%	\$13,682.4	67.4%	\$2,180.9	281.0%
12/31/15	\$13,653.0	\$19,135.9	\$5,482.9	71.3%	\$12,923.9	67.5%	\$2,060.9	266.1%
<u>HPRS</u>								
12/31/19	\$796.3	\$1,173.2	\$376.9	67.9%	\$817.9	67.9%	\$118.4	318.3%
12/31/18	\$769.1	\$1,158.2	\$389.1	66.4%	\$715.5	66.4%	\$116.0	335.4%
12/31/17	\$774.7	\$1,153.6	\$378.9	67.2%	\$786.4	68.2%	\$112.7	336.2%
12/31/16	\$763.7	\$1,127.9	\$364.3	67.7%	\$721.7	64.0%	\$108.8	334.8%
12/31/15	\$739.8	\$1,079.0	\$339.1	68.6%	\$704.2	65.3%	\$100.0	339.2%

- (a) Recognizes the assumed long-term investment return fully for each particular year. Differences between actual and assumed investment returns, subject to each system's market corridor limitation, are phased-in over a closed four-year period.
- (b) Reflects an individual entry age actuarial cost method.
- (c) Defined contribution plan assets are excluded for PERS, except for annuitized defined contribution assets, and included for STRS.
- (d) Excludes Medicare Part B reimbursement which is considered a post-employment health care benefit reported in accordance with GASB 43 for all data except MVA.
- (e) Effective with the January 1, 2015 valuation, OP&F deferred retirement option plan balances are included in AVA, AAL, and MVA.

*Reflects revised actuarial assumptions based on change in discount rate from 7.5% to 7.2%.

Sources: Retirement systems' CAFRs, annual reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

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GASB Statements No. 67 & 68. GASB Statement No. 67 replaced prior accounting standards for reporting pension plan information beginning in Fiscal Year 2014. Under this accounting standard, the reporting of unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) has been replaced by the net pension liability (NPL). The NPL represents the excess of the total pension liability over fiduciary net position. The components of the NPL and the sensitivity of the NPL to changes in the single discount rate for each of the retirement systems for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

	<u>PERS(a)</u> 12/31/20	<u>STRS</u> 07/01/20	<u>SERS</u> 06/30/20	<u>OP&F</u> 12/31/19	<u>HPRS</u> 12/31/19
Total Pension Liability (b)(c).....	\$113,353.7	\$98,672.3	\$21,033.8	\$22,373.1(e)	\$1,263.8(f)
Fiduciary Net Position (d).....	\$98,852.8	\$74,475.8	\$14,419.6	\$15,636.6	\$817.9
Net Pension Liability (NPL)	\$14,500.9	\$24,196.4	\$6,614.2	\$6,736.5	\$446.0
Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of					
Total Pension Liability.....	87.2%	75.5%	68.6%	69.9%	64.7%
NPL Calculated With 1% Decrease in Discount Rate.....	\$28,029.0	\$34,451.5	\$9,060.7	\$9,336.6	\$587.3
NPL Calculated With 1% Increase in Discount Rate.....	\$3,260.2	\$15,506.1	\$4,561.6	\$4,561.8	\$328.4

- (a) For PERS, figures reflect the traditional plan, the defined benefit portion of the combined plan, and the defined benefit annuities portion of the member-directed plan.
- (b) Reflects a single discount rate of 7.2% for PERS, 7.45% for STRS, 7.5% for SERS, and 8.00% for OP&F. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee and employer contributions are made at the actuarially determined rates under State law. Based on those assumptions, the fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of project benefit payments to determine total pension liability. Also reflects an individual entry age actuarial cost method.
- (c) For HPRS, the fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments and, therefore, a blended discount rate of 7.25% was used. The blended discount rate represents the long-term expected rate of return for the funded benefit payments and a tax-exempt, high-quality municipal bond rate for the unfunded benefit payment.
- (d) Based on the market value of assets.
- (e) Total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 01/01/19, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/19.
- (f) Total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/18, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/19.

Sources: Retirement systems' CAFRs, annual reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

GASB Statement No. 68 replaced prior accounting standards for state and local governments reporting of pension plan information beginning in Fiscal Year 2015. This accounting standard requires employers and non-employer contributing entities to report a proportionate share of their NPL in their financial statements. Employers determine their proportionate share of NPL by comparing their current year contributions to the plan to current year contributions to the plan made by all employers and non-employer entities, based on information provided to them by their retirement system(s). The State's proportionate share of the NPL and the sensitivity of the NPL to changes in the single discount rate for PERS, STRS and HPRS for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

	<u>PERS(a)</u> 12/31/19	<u>STRS</u> 07/01/20	<u>HPRS</u> 12/31/19
Total Pension Liability (b).....	\$111,367.9	\$98,672.3	\$1,263.8(d)
Fiduciary Net Position (c).....	\$91,814.5	\$74,475.8	\$817.9
Net Pension Liability (NPL)	\$19,553.4	\$24,196.4	\$446.0
State Proportionate Share of			
Net Pension Liability (PSL).....	\$4,075.2	\$88.0	\$446.0
PSL as a Percentage of NPL	14.9%	0.36%	100.0%
PSL Calculated With 1% Decrease in Discount Rate	\$6,763.5	\$125.3	\$587.3
PSL Calculated With 1% Increase in Discount Rate	\$1,661.3	\$56.4	\$328.4

- (a) For PERS, figures reflect the traditional plan, the defined benefit portion of the combined plan, and the defined benefit annuities portion of the member-directed plan.
- (b) Reflects a single discount rate of 7.2% for PERS, 7.45% for STRS, and 7.25% for HPRS.
- (c) Based on the market value of assets.
- (d) Total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/18, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/19.

Sources: State of Ohio Fiscal Year 2020 CAFR and retirement systems' CAFRs, annual reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

Other Post-Employment Benefits

Each of the State's public retirement systems also offers post-employment health care benefits to its members. Contributions to and benefits under these health care programs are not vested and, as reflected by the recent actions of the OP&F and STRS boards described above, are subject to future adjustment by their respective boards. In this regard, PERS adopted, beginning in 2004, a series of health care preservation plans to adjust benefits and contributions by employers, employees, and retirees. In 2017 STRS implemented benefit adjustments that when coupled with strong investment returns and positive claims experience had a positive effect on its health care program. In 2019 OP&F replaced its health care plan with a new stipend-based health care model that also had a positive effect on its health care program. On January 15, 2020, the PERS board of trustees modified the discretionary health care program. Changes included replacing the group health care program for non-Medicare retirees with a monthly allowance to select a health care plan with the assistance of a vendor consultant. These changes are the same as those made to the Medicare program in 2015. Other changes include reducing the allowance provided to Medicare retirees from a base of \$450 per month to \$350 per month. Non-Medicare retirees allowance was established at \$1,200 base level per month initially. The actual allowance for all retirees will be determined based upon the age and years of service of the retiree. Other changes included modifications to the eligibility criteria for future retirees beginning in 2022.

The following table presents a summary of assets and actuarial accrued liabilities for post-employment healthcare benefits for each of the State's public retirement systems (\$ in millions):

Valuation as of:	<u>PERS</u> 12/31/19	<u>STRS</u> 06/30/20	<u>SERS</u> 06/30/20	<u>OP&F(a)</u> 12/31/18	<u>HPRS</u> 12/31/19
Value of Assets (b)	\$11,942.5	\$3,897.3	\$482.6	n/a	\$111.0
Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) (c)	\$11,461.7	\$2,139.8	\$1,796.5	n/a	\$303.3
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) (d)	(\$480.8)	(\$1,757.5)	\$1,313.9	n/a	\$195.3
Funding Ratio (Assets to AAL %)	104.2%	182.1%	26.9%	n/a	41.6%
Employer Contribution (% of Salary) (e).....	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%(f)	0.5%	0.0%

(a) OP&F is no longer reporting unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities under prior accounting standards. See GASB Statement No. 74 table below for information on the reporting of post-employment benefit plans other than pension plans.

(b) For PERS and HPRS, investment returns are recognized fully each year with the differences between actual and assumed investment returns (assumed at 6.0% for PERS and 7.25% for HPRS), subject to each system's market corridor limitation, phased-in over a closed four-year period. For STRS and SERS, reflects market value. For PERS, includes assets for member-directed plan participants.

(c) Reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method.

(d) UAAL is calculated based on an open period as a level percent of payroll.

(e) Each system's board annually determines the portion of the employer contribution, if any, that is directed to fund post-employment health care benefits. See discussion above for recent adjustments by OP&F, STRS and HPRS boards to employer contribution directed to fund health care benefits.

(f) SERS also collects a health care surcharge from employers for employees who earn less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount. This amount is in addition to the amount allocated to health care from the employer contributions.

Sources: Retirement systems' CAFRs, annual reports and annual actuarial valuations.

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The following table presents a summary of assets and actuarial accrued liabilities for post-employment healthcare benefits for the past four years for each of the State's public retirement systems (\$ in millions). For Fiscal Years 2016 and prior, financial reporting of health care plans is in compliance with GASB Statement 43 -- Financial Reporting for Post-Employment Benefit Plans Other than Pension Plans.

Retirement System Valuation Year-End	Value of Assets(a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)(b)	Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	Funding Ratio (Assets to AAL)	Employer Contribution (% of Salary)(c)(d)
<u>PERS(g)</u>					
12/31/19	\$11,942.5	\$11,461.7	(\$480.8)	104.2%	0.0%
12/31/18	\$11,646.9	\$17,848.7	\$6,201.8	65.3%	0.0%
12/31/17	\$12,021.4	\$18,393.0	\$6,372.0	65.4%	1.0%
12/31/16	\$12,098.2	\$19,924.4	\$7,826.2	60.7%	2.0%
<u>STRS(e)</u>					
06/30/20	\$3,897.3	\$2,139.8	(\$1,757.5)	182.1%	0.0%
06/30/19	\$3,872.2	\$2,215.9	(\$1,656.2)	174.7%	0.0%
06/30/18	\$3,721.3	\$2,114.5	(\$1,606.8)	176.0%	0.0%
01/01/18	\$3,691.4	\$2,416.0	(\$1,275.4)	152.8%	0.0%
<u>SERS</u>					
06/30/20	\$482.6	\$1,796.5	\$1,313.9	26.9%	0.0%
06/30/19	\$463.8	\$2,198.7	\$1,734.9	21.1%	0.5%
06/30/18	\$435.6	\$2,524.9	\$2,089.3	17.3%	0.5%
06/30/17	\$382.1	\$2,396.5	\$2,014.4	15.9%	0.0%
<u>OP&F(f)</u>					
12/31/17	\$901.7	\$5,487.8	\$4,586.2	16.4%	0.50%
12/31/16	\$929.4	\$5,166.6	\$4,237.2	18.0%	0.50%
12/31/15	\$1,031.9	\$5,399.6	\$4,367.6	19.1%	0.50%
12/31/14	\$1,053.5	\$5,244.6	\$4,191.0	20.1%	0.50%
<u>HPRS</u>					
12/31/19	\$111.0	\$303.3	\$195.3	36.6%	0.0%
12/31/18	\$109.5	\$262.0	\$152.5	41.8%	3.50%
12/31/17	\$110.1	\$248.1	\$138.0	44.4%	3.50%
12/31/16	\$108.3	\$403.7	\$295.4	26.8%	4.00%

- (a) For PERS & HPRS, recognizes investment returns fully each year (PERS at 5% in 2016, 6.5% in 2017, to current 6.0% starting in 2018, HPRS assumed at 5%) with the differences between actual and assumed investment returns, subject to each system's market corridor limitation, phased-in over a closed four-year period. For STRS, SERS and OP&F, reflects market value.
- (b) Reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method.
- (c) Each system's board annually determines the portion of the employer contribution, if any, that is directed to fund post-employment health care benefits.
- (d) SERS also collects a health care surcharge from employers for employees who earn less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount. This amount is in addition to the amount allocated to health care from the employer contributions.
- (e) STRS actuarial valuations, previously as of January 1, are now calculated as of June 30.
- (f) OP&F is no longer reporting unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities under prior accounting standards. See GASB Statement No. 74 table below for information on the reporting of post-employment benefit plans other than pension plans.
- (g) PERS is instituting several adjustments to Medicare and non-Medicare retirees effective January 1, 2022 related to HRA allowances, dependent benefits, and re-employed retirees leading to a significant reduction in actuarial liability.

Sources: Retirement systems' annual actuarial valuations.

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GASB Statements No. 74 & 75. GASB Statement No. 74 replaced prior accounting standards for reporting post-employment benefit plans other than pension plans (OPEB) beginning in Fiscal Year 2017. Under this accounting standard, the reporting of unfunded actuarial accrued liability has been replaced by the net OPEB liability (NOL). The NOL represents the excess of the total OPEB liability over fiduciary net position. The components of the NOL and the sensitivity of the NOL to changes in the single discount rate for those retirement systems that have reported information for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

	<u>PERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>SERS</u>	<u>OP&F</u>	<u>HPRS</u>
Valuation as of:	12/31/20	06/30/20	06/30/20	12/31/19	12/31/19
Total OPEB Liability (a)(b).....	\$11,445.8(d)	\$2,139.8	\$2,655.9	\$1,866.5(e)	\$581.4(d)
Fiduciary Net Position (c).....	\$13,227.4	\$3,897.3	\$482.6	\$878.7	\$111.0
Net OPEB Liability (NOL).....	(\$1,781.6)	(\$1,757.5)	\$2,173.3	\$987.8	\$470.5
Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of					
Total OPEB Liability.....	115.6%	182.1%	18.2%	47.1%	19.1%
NOL Calculated With 1% Decrease in Discount Rate....	(\$443.2)	(\$1,529.1)	\$2,660.1	\$1,224.8	\$589.4
NOL Calculated With 1% Increase in Discount Rate.....	(\$2,881.6)	(\$1,951.3)	\$1,786.3	\$790.8	\$378.4
NOL Calculated With 1% Decrease in Cost Trend Rate	(\$1,824.8)	(\$1,939.2)	\$1,711.3	n/a	\$369.3
NOL Calculated With 1% Increase in Cost Trend Rate..	(\$1,732.7)	(\$1,536.1)	\$2,791.1	n/a	\$604.5

(a) For PERS, a single discount rate of 6.0% was used. For SERS and HPRS, the fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments and, therefore, blended discount rates of 2.63% and 3.36%, respectively, were used. The blended discount rates represent the long-term expected rate of return for the funded benefit payments and a tax-exempt, high-quality municipal bond rate for the unfunded benefit payment. For STRS, the fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments and, therefore, a discount rate of 7.45%, representing the long-term expected rate of return on assets, was used. For OP&F, the fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments until 2031 and, therefore, a single discount rate of 3.56%, representing a tax-exempt, high quality municipal bond rate, was used. After 2031, benefit payments will be funded on a pay-as-you go basis.

(b) For all retirement systems, reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method as a level percent of payroll.

(c) Based on the market value of assets.

(d) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/18, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/19.

(e) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 01/01/19, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/19.

Sources: Retirement systems' CAFRs and annual reports.

GASB Statement No. 75 replaced prior accounting standards for state and local governments reporting of postemployment benefit plans other than pensions beginning in Fiscal Year 2018. This accounting standard requires employers and non-employer contributing entities to report a proportionate share of their NOL in their financial statements. Employers determine their proportionate share of NOL by comparing their current year contributions to the plan to current year contributions to the plan made by all employers and non-employer entities, based on information provided to them by their retirement system(s). The State's proportionate share of the NOL and the sensitivity of the NOL to changes in the single discount rate for PERS, STRS and HPRS for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

	<u>PERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>HPRS</u>
Valuation as of:	12/31/19	06/30/20	12/31/19
Total OPEB Liability (a).....	\$26,459.6(c)	\$2,139.8(d)	\$581.4(c)
Fiduciary Net Position (b).....	\$12,647.1	\$3,897.3	\$111.0
Net OPEB Liability (NOL).....	\$13,812.6	(\$1,757.5)	\$470.5
State Proportionate Share of			
Net OPEB Liability (PSL).....	\$2,860.0	(\$5.9)	\$357.8
PSL as a Percentage of NOL.....	20.7%	0.4%	100.0%
PSL Calculated With 1% Decrease in Discount Rate.....	\$3,742.7	(\$5.1)	\$589.4
PSL Calculated With 1% Increase in Discount Rate.....	\$2,153.2	(\$6.7)	\$378.4
PSL Calculated With 1% Decrease in Cost Trend Rate.....	\$2,775.6	(\$6.8)	\$369.3
PSL Calculated With 1% Increase in Cost Trend Rate.....	\$2,943.2	(\$5.0)	\$604.5

(a) The fiduciary net position was not projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments and, therefore, blended discount rates of 3.16% for PERS, 4.13% for STRS, and 3.42% for HPRS were used. The blended discount rates represent the long-term expected rate of return for the funded benefit payments and a tax-exempt, high-quality municipal bond rate for the unfunded benefit payment.

(b) Based on the market value of assets.

(c) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/18, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/19.

(d) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 06/30/19, and updated with roll-forward procedures to 6/30/20.

Sources: State of Ohio Fiscal Year 2020 CAFR and retirement systems' CAFRs and annual reports.

TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES

The variety of taxes and excises levied by the State is indicated in several tables in this Appendix. According to the Federation of Tax Administrators, citing the U.S. Census Bureau as its source, Ohio ranked 37th in state taxes per capita in 2020 and it ranked 29th in combined state and local taxes in 2018, the most recent available year for such data. Three major tax bases in the State, personal income (taxed by the State and municipalities and, with voter approval, by certain school districts), retail sales and use (taxed by the State and by counties and several transit authorities), and all taxable real property as well as the tangible personal property of public utilities (taxed by local governments and school districts), are described below. The State also levies a commercial activity tax on business activities as described below.

The State also imposes a tax on the use, distribution, or sale of motor vehicle fuel. This excise tax was raised by 10.5 cents per gallon effective July 1, 2019 to 38.5 cents per gallon of gasoline. At the same time, the rate imposed on diesel fuel was also increased from 28.0 cents per gallon to 47.0 cents per gallon.

Sales and Use Tax

The State sales and use tax rate was increased one-quarter percent from 5.5% to 5.75% beginning September 1, 2013 (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15**). Prior to this increase, the rate had been 5.5% since July 1, 2005. The sales and use tax is levied uniformly across counties on retail sales of tangible personal property that are not specifically exempt. Retail sales include the rental and storage of tangible personal property, the rental of hotel rooms, and certain specified services including, but not limited to, repair and installation services, data processing, computer, and electronic information services, telecommunication and certain personal care services.

Counties and transit authorities each are authorized to levy permissive sales and use taxes at rates of 0.25% to 1.5% in quarter-percent increments and beginning in Fiscal Year 2019 in one-tenth percent increments. The highest potential aggregate of State and permissive local sales taxes is 8.75% and the highest currently levied in any county is 8%. The State collects the combined state and local tax and returns the local share directly to the counties and transit authorities.

Personal Income Tax

State personal income tax rates, applying generally to federal adjusted gross income minus (or plus) adjustments and personal exemptions, when compared to the 2012 tax rates, were reduced by 8.5% in calendar year 2013, 1.5% in calendar year 2014, 6.3% in calendar year 2015 (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2014-15 and 2016-17**) and 4.0% in calendar year 2019 (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent Biennia – 2020-21**). The reduction percentages listed above represent incremental changes from the prior year; when compared to the rates in effect during calendar year 2012, the rates imposed as of calendar year 2019 are 16% lower. Beginning in calendar year 2021, tax rates were reduced by 3.0% compared to the rates imposed in calendar year 2020, except that the highest tax bracket (on income exceeding \$221,300) was repealed and what is now the highest Ohio tax rate was reduced by 9.6% from its previous level. Prior legislation also established a deduction for pass-through entities and sole proprietorships annual business net income of 75% in tax years 2014 and 2015, and 100% in tax year 2016 and beyond, up to \$250,000 per taxpayer (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15 and 2016-17**). Previously, personal income tax rates were reduced by 21% across five installments (4.2% annually in each of the tax years 2005 through 2008, with the final 4.2% reduction delayed from tax year 2009 to tax year 2011).

The 2020 personal income tax rates after an inflation adjustment to income brackets ranged from \$316.18 plus 2.85% on income more than \$22,150 but less than \$44,251, with increasing bracketed base rates and percentages up to a maximum on income over \$221,300 of \$8,143.14 plus 4.797% on the amount over \$221,300. There is no tax liability if taxable income is \$22,150 or below.

The 2021 personal income tax rates range from \$355.16 plus 2.765% on income more than \$25,000 but less than \$45,250, with increasing bracketed base rates and percentages up to a maximum on income over \$110,650 of \$3,123.05 plus 3.99% on the amount over \$110,650. This is no tax liability if taxable income is \$25,000 or below.

The Ohio Constitution requires 50% of State income tax receipts to be returned to the counties in which those receipts originate. There is no constitutional limit on income tax rates.

Municipalities and school districts, and joint economic development districts and zones, may also levy certain income taxes. Any municipal rate (applying generally to wages and salaries and business net income) over 1%, and any school district income tax (applying generally to the State income tax base for individuals and

estates), requires voter approval. Most cities and villages levy a municipal income tax. The highest municipal rate in 2019 was 3%. A school district income tax is currently approved in 203 districts. Each joint economic development district or zone may also levy an income tax (which like municipal income taxes applies generally to wages and salaries and business net income) with the rate of that tax limited to the highest income tax rate of a municipal member of the district or zone). Effective July 1, 2005, there may also be proposed for voter approval municipal income taxes to be shared with school districts, but those taxes may not be levied on the income of nonresidents.

Since 1970 the ratio of Ohio to U.S. aggregate personal income has declined, with Ohio's ranking among the states moving from fifth in 1970 to seventh in 1990, and eighth since 2000. This movement, portrayed below, in significant measure reflects "catching up" by several other states and a trend in Ohio toward more service sector employment.

		Personal Income (\$ in Billions)			
		<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Ohio Percent of U.S.</u>	<u>State Rank*</u>
1970	Total.....	\$855.1	\$44.1	5.2%	5
	per capita.....	4,196	4,136	98.6	18
1980	Total.....	2,307.0	107.0	4.6	6
	per capita.....	10,153	9,909	97.6	25
1990	Total.....	4,890.5	202.8	4.1	7
	per capita.....	19,591	18,669	95.3	21
2000	Total.....	8,650.3	326.0	3.8	8
	per capita.....	30,657	28,684	93.6	26
2010	Total.....	12,542.0	423.1	3.4	8
	per capita.....	40,546	36,663	90.4	32
2016	Total.....	16,115.6	525.1	3.3	8
	per capita.....	45,127	49,883	90.5	29
2017	Total.....	16,820.3	544.8	3.2	8
	per capita.....	46,710	51,731	90.3	29
2018	Total.....	17,813.0	569.7	3.2	8
	per capita.....	54,526	48,793	89.5	31
2019	Total.....	18,542.3	586.8	3.2	8
	per capita.....	56,490	50,199	88.9	31
2020	Total.....	19,679.7	623.2	3.2	8
	per capita.....	59,729	53,296	89.2	31

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

* Excludes District of Columbia.

In addition to personal income, the retail sales base is an important indicator of sales and use tax receipts.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Ohio Retail Sales</u>	<u>U.S. Retail Sales</u>	<u>Ohio Percent of U.S.</u>
1980	\$39.01	\$979.25	4.0%
1990	66.95	1,914.04	3.5
2000	117.72	3,213.82	3.6
2010	133.44	4,170.78	3.2
2016	166.34	5,417.16	3.1
2017	170.40	5,620.10	3.0
2018	172.82	5,905.83	2.9
2019	180.34	6,084.82	3.0
2020	214.82	6,858.62	3.1

Source: Calculated by IHS Markit based on data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and other sources.

Commercial Activity Tax

The State implemented a new commercial activity tax (CAT) on taxable gross receipts in excess of \$1,000,000 from doing business in Ohio phased-in over Fiscal Years 2006 through 2010 until levied at the current rate of 0.26%. Beginning calendar year 2014, the State established a variable minimum tax on the CAT for businesses with taxable gross receipts greater than \$1 million (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15**). The State phased-out over the same general period its

corporate franchise tax in equal annual increments over the 2006 through 2010 tax years, except for application to financial institutions and certain affiliates of insurance companies and financial institutions which was replaced with a new financial institutions tax effective tax year 2014 (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2012-13 and 2014-15**). On December 7, 2012, the Ohio Supreme Court upheld the application of the CAT to gross receipts from the sales of motor fuels but ordered that the proceeds of the CAT derived from those gross receipts – estimated by OBM at approximately \$100 million annually – could not in the future be applied to non-highway purposes. Under provisions enacted in the biennial appropriations Act for the 2014-15 biennium and other legislation, the State phased-out the CAT on the sale of motor vehicle fuel and replaced it with a “petroleum activity tax” (PAT), computed on the basis of the average price of a gallon of gasoline or diesel fuel. In accordance with the Ohio Supreme Court’s ruling, PAT receipts are required to be used for highway purposes.

As described further below, the receipts from the CAT are directed in part to make compensating payments to school districts and other local taxing units in connection with the phase-out of the tangible personal property tax in 2006 through 2009. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2012, the State has accelerated the phase-out of compensating payments to school districts and local governments resulting in an increased share of the CAT being deposited into the GRF (see **Property Tax** below and **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15, 2016-17 and 2018-19**).

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Property Tax

The following table lists, for informational purposes only, the non-exempt real and tangible personal property tax base in the State and taxes levied on that base (on a calendar year basis). Only local taxing subdivisions, and not the State, currently tax the real and tangible personal property included in this table. Reported figures for 2020 show that these property taxes represent 3.27% of Ohio personal income.

		<u>Assessed Value (a)</u>	<u>Percent of True Value (b)</u>	<u>Taxes Charged</u>
1980	Real(c).....	\$56,457,842,607	27.1%	\$2,343,384,488(e)
	Tangible(d).....	15,649,200,844	39.2	765,047,826
	Public Utility(c).....	8,670,052,613	83.3	411,321,235
1990	Real	93,857,482,000	35.0	4,593,147,000(e)
	Tangible(d).....	18,473,055,000	28.0	1,149,643,000
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	12,934,191,000	88.6	799,396,000
2000	Real	167,857,657,350	35.0	8,697,809,112(e)
	Tangible(d).....	23,298,302,564	25.0	1,720,740,378
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	13,635,709,860	67.0	967,674,709
2010	Real	238,264,394,249	35.0	14,486,087,962(e)
	Tangible(d).....	320,961,400	5.0(b)	18,432,832
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	10,096,712,600(g)	52.9	747,237,219
2016	Real	238,100,197,518	35.0	16,170,309,495(e)
	Tangible(d).....	-0-	-0-(b)	-0-
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	15,962,565,444(g)	56.8	1,271,855,503
2017	Real	247,070,913,220	35.0	16,591,449,814(e)
	Tangible(d).....	-0-	-0-(b)	-0-
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	16,700,657,510(g)(h)	58.7	1,347,897,157
2018	Real	255,789,561,245	35.0	17,060,795,040(e)
	Tangible(d).....	-0-	-0-(b)	-0-
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	19,220,171,390(g)(h)	60.67	1,533,994,082
2019	Real	260,947,879,749	35.0	17,321,071,684(e)
	Tangible(d).....	-0-	-0-(b)	-0-
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	25,436,220,050(g)(h)	64.69	1,971,197,491
2020	Real	279,933,910,561	35.0	18,265,118,632(e)
	Tangible(d).....	-0-	-0-(b)	-0-
	Public Utility(c)(f).....	26,794,513,946(g)(h)	65.14	2,079,346,945

- (a) Increases in assessed value of “Real” are in part products of reappraisals.
- (b) Regular annual reductions for “Tangible” (except for most public utility tangible) reached 0% in 2009; only telecommunication and telephone personal property was taxable in 2009 and 2010.
- (c) Includes public utility personal property owned and located within Ohio and railroad real property; excludes public utility real property.
- (d) Includes machinery, inventories, fixtures; effective tax year 2007 includes telephone company property. Excludes public utility tangible property. Effective tax year 2009 includes only telephone company property.
- (e) Includes the statutory 10% rollback (12.5% for owner-occupied residences) and elderly/handicapped partial exemption amounts, paid by the State to local taxing entities to compensate for statutory reductions in local tax collections. Effective for tax year 2005 and thereafter, the 10% rollback was eliminated for real property used in business, with exceptions for certain property used in farming or for housing. The 12.5% rollback for owner-occupied residences was eliminated for new voter-approved tax levies (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2018-19**).
- (f) Beginning in 1990, the true value of most public utility property is based on annual composite allowances that vary according to the type and age of property.
- (g) Beginning in 2001, the statutory assessment rate for electric and gas utilities decreased from 88% to 25%.
- (h) The statutory assessment rate for waterworks utilities is 88%, except for certain property first subject to taxation in 2017 is 25%.

Source: Ohio Department of Taxation.

Under State legislation effective July 1, 2005 and as reflected in the above table, the tangible personal property tax (TPPT) (including that tax on inventories) was phased out over tax years 2006 through 2009, with that tax generally eliminated beginning in tax year 2009. That legislation provided for the State to make replacement distributions to school districts and other local taxing units from revenue generated by the State commercial activity tax (CAT). Distributions were and are generally based on the taxable value of tangible personal property as reported in 2004 and property tax levies in effect for 2005. In Fiscal Year 2012, the State began phasing-out those TPPT replacement payments to schools and local governments with replacement payments to schools reduced by two percent of each district’s total resources in each of Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013 for a total reduction of four percent; and replacement payments to local governments reduced by two percent of total resources for tax years 2011, 2012, and 2013 for a total reduction of six percent. Replacement

payments were then frozen in Fiscal Years 2014 and 2015. The phasing out of these replacement payments resumed beginning in Fiscal Year 2016, with payments to school districts to be reduced in Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 by between 1% and 2% of each district's total resources with the variance based on district wealth levels, with guarantees in both Fiscal Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017 that no district will fall below 100% and 96%, respectively, of its Fiscal Year 2015 total funding level. Fiscal Year 2016 and thereafter replacement payments to other local governments are reduced annually by two percent of their total resources (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2016-17**).

Beginning July 2007, the State's homestead exemption program, which takes the form of a credit on local residential real property tax bills, was expanded to allow all senior citizens and disabled Ohioans, regardless of income, to exempt from tax the first \$25,000 of the market value of their home. Previously eligibility was restricted and benefits were tiered based on income. Beginning July 1, 2013, eligibility for new applicants is based on income (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia – 2014-15**). The total cost of the homestead exemption program in Fiscal Year 2019 was \$418.8 million, in Fiscal Year 2020 was \$398.5 million, and in Fiscal Year 2021 was \$374.6 million.

Real property tax relief payments by the State to school districts and local subdivisions – consisting of the homestead exemption program, the 10% rollback for non-business property, and the 2.5% rollback for owner-occupied homes - totaled \$3.58 billion for the 2016-17 biennium, \$3.60 billion for the 2018-19 biennium, and \$3.60 billion for the 2020-21 biennium.

SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES

Schools

Litigation was commenced in the Ohio courts in 1991 questioning the constitutionality of Ohio's system of school funding and compliance with the constitutional requirement that the State provide a "thorough and efficient system of common schools". On December 11, 2002, the Ohio Supreme Court, in a 4-3 decision on a motion to reconsider its own decision rendered in September 2001, concluded (as it had in its 1997 and 2000 opinions in that litigation) that the State did not comply with that requirement, even after again noting and crediting significant State steps in preceding years.

In its prior decisions, the Ohio Supreme Court stated as general base threshold requirements that every school district have enough funds to operate, an appropriate number of teachers, sound and safe buildings, and equipment sufficient for all students to be afforded an educational opportunity. With particular respect to funding sources, the Court concluded in 1997 and 2000 decisions that property taxes no longer may be the primary means of school funding in Ohio.

On March 4, 2003, the plaintiffs filed with the original trial court a motion to schedule and conduct a conference to address compliance with the orders of the court in that case, the State petitioned the Ohio Supreme Court to issue a writ prohibiting that conference on compliance, and the trial court subsequently petitioned the Ohio Supreme Court for guidance as to the proper course to follow. On May 16, 2003, the Ohio Supreme Court granted that writ and ordered the dismissal of the motion before the trial court. On October 20, 2003, the United States Supreme Court declined to accept the plaintiffs' subsequent petition requesting further review of the case.

In the years following this litigation, the General Assembly has taken steps, including significantly increasing State funding for public schools, as discussed below. In addition, at the November 1999 election, electors approved a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of State general obligation debt for school buildings and for higher education facilities (see discussion under **STATE DEBT**). December 2000 legislation also addressed certain mandated programs and reserves, characterized by the plaintiffs and the Court as "unfunded mandates."

Under the financial structure in place before the 2009-10 biennium, Ohio's 613 public school districts and 49 joint vocational school districts received a major portion (but less than 50%) of their operating moneys from State subsidy appropriations (the primary portion of which is known as the Foundation Program) distributed in accordance with statutory formulae that take into account both local needs and local taxing capacity. The Foundation Program amounts have steadily increased in most recent years, including small aggregate increases even in those Fiscal Years in which appropriations cutbacks were imposed.

School districts also rely upon receipts from locally voted taxes. In part because of provisions of some State laws, such as partially limiting the increase (without further vote of the local electorate) in voted property tax collections that would otherwise result from increased assessed valuations, some school districts have experienced varying degrees of difficulty in meeting mandated and discretionary increased costs. Local

electorates have largely determined the total moneys available for their schools. Locally elected boards of education and their school administrators are responsible for managing school programs and budgets within statutory requirements.

The State's school subsidy formulas that were used until the 2009-10 biennium were structured to encourage both program quality and local taxing effort. Until the late 1970's, although there were some temporary school closings, most local financial difficulties that arose were successfully resolved by the local districts themselves by some combination of voter approval of additional property tax levies, adjustments in program offerings, or other measures. For more than 20 years, requirements of law and levels of State funding have sufficed to prevent school closings for financial reasons, which in any case are prohibited by current law.

To broaden the potential local tax revenue base, school districts also may submit for voter approval income taxes on the district income of individuals and estates. Many districts have submitted the question, and income taxes are currently approved in 208 districts.

Biennial school funding State appropriations from the GRF (including property tax reimbursements) and Lottery Profits Education Fund (but excluding federal and special revenue funds) for recent biennia were:

- 2012-13 - \$16.6 billion (a 2.3% decrease over the previous biennium).
- 2014-15 - \$18.3 billion (a 10.5% increase over the previous biennium).
- 2016-17 - \$20.0 billion (a 9.3% increase over the previous biennium).
- 2018-19 - \$20.7 billion (a 3.5% increase over the previous biennium).
- 2020-21 - \$21.9 billion (a 5.7% increase over the previous biennium).

Those appropriations for school funding for the 2022-23 biennium are \$23.0 billion (a 4.9% increase from the previous biennium), representing an increase of 2.9% in Fiscal Year 202 over Fiscal Year 2021 and an increase of 1.9% in Fiscal Year 2023 over Fiscal Year 2022.

The amount of lottery profits transferred to the Lottery Profits Education Fund (LPEF) totaled \$1.04 billion in Fiscal Year 2017, \$1.17 billion in Fiscal Year 2018, \$1.15 billion in Fiscal Year 2019, \$1.13 billion in Fiscal Year 2020, \$1.36 billion in Fiscal Year 2021, and is currently estimated to be \$1.23 billion in Fiscal Year 2022 and \$1.26 billion in Fiscal Year 2023. Ohio participation in the multi-state lottery commenced in May 2002. A constitutional provision requires that net lottery profits be paid into LPEF be used solely for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational and special education purposes, including application to debt service on general obligation bonds to finance common school facilities. The 2010-11 biennial appropriations Act also authorized the implementation of video lottery terminals (VLTs) at Ohio's seven horse racing tracks.

The 2014-15 biennial appropriations Act enacted a new funding formula for the distribution of State funding to school districts based on a per pupil amount. This per pupil formula is similar to the "Building Blocks" school funding formula in place through Fiscal Year 2009 until its replacement with the "Evidence Based Model" for the 2010-11 biennium. The Evidence Based Model was repealed in July 2011 and a temporary formula was put in place for the 2012-13 biennium that allocated funding to each school district based on the per pupil funding it received for Fiscal Year 2011, adjusted by its share of a statewide per pupil adjustment amount that was indexed by the district's relative tax valuation per pupil.

The 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act modified certain components of the funding formula to distribute new resources to districts with less capacity to raise revenue through local sources. Under the modified formula, the State Department of Education will compute and pay to each school district education aid based on a per pupil funding amount of \$5,900 in Fiscal Year 2016 and \$6,000 in Fiscal Year 2017, multiplied by each school district's "state share index," which uses a three-year average of adjusted property valuation per pupil and the median income of that school district to calculate the percentage of the per-pupil amount that is to be paid by the State and the amount assumed to be contributed by the school district through local sources. The 2016-17 biennial appropriations Act also supplemented transportation funds for low density districts and continued to provide additional funds for students with exceptional needs, including those with special needs and the disabled, and limited English proficiency, and for economically disadvantaged and gifted students. Funding was also provided based on the number of K-3 students at each school district to be used to help school districts comply with Ohio's 3rd grade reading guarantee. The Act continued funding for the "Straight A Fund" to provide school districts with grants to develop and implement creative and innovative instructional models to inspire learning and student growth.

The 2018-19 biennial appropriations Act maintained all components of the 2016-17 funding formula with certain minor modifications. School district's education aid continued to be paid based on a per pupil funding amount (increasing to \$6,010 in Fiscal Year 2018 and \$6,020 in Fiscal Year 2019) multiplied by each school district's state share index. The 2018-19 appropriations Act reduced the minimum share of transportation funding to better target school districts with lower capacity to raise revenue locally and increased the multiplier in the formula for computing capacity aid to provide additional aid to low wealth school districts and those with small populations and low property valuation. The Act also modified the calculations for temporary transitional aid and the gain cap to take into account changes in student population. Funding also continued for other education initiatives including Early Childhood Education, EdChoice Expansion Scholarships, and the Community Connectors grant program.

The 2020-21 biennial appropriations Act provided each school district with the same amount of core funding and pupil transportation funding as it received under the funding formula for Fiscal Year 2019, along with certain other limited payments and adjustments, such as preschool special education payments and catastrophic cost reimbursements. The 2020-21 biennial appropriations Act also provided additional payments to school districts for student wellness and success to provide support for mental health counseling, wraparound supports, mentoring, and after-school programs. The Act also provided for additional payments to qualifying school districts that experienced an increase in enrollment between Fiscal Years 2016 and 2019.

The 2022-23 biennial appropriations Act implements a new funding formula known as the Fair School Funding Plan. The new formula establishes a base cost methodology based on student to teacher ratios, minimum staffing levels, and actual costs for schools. Under the new formula, each school district will have a unique base cost amount which replaces the prior Opportunity Grant amount of \$6,020 per pupil. The new formula revises categorical funding and implements a new state and local cost share methodology using property and income factors for all districts. Community schools, STEM schools, educational choice scholarship programs, and open enrollment will be directly funded in Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. Instead of a Gain Cap, most components of the formula will be subject to a general phase-in percentage of 16.67% in Fiscal Year 2022 and 33.33% in Fiscal Year 2023. The Act also provides for additional payments to support school bus purchases, community school facilities, and quality community schools.

Legislation was enacted in 1996 to address school districts in financial straits. It is similar to that for municipal "fiscal emergencies" and "fiscal watch" discussed below under **Municipalities**, but is particularly tailored to certain school districts and their then-existing or potential fiscal problems. Newer legislation created a third, more preliminary, category of "fiscal caution". A current listing of school districts in fiscal emergency or watch status can be found on the Auditor of State's website at <http://www.auditor.state.oh.us>.

Municipalities

Ohio has a mixture of urban and rural population, with approximately three-quarters urban. There are 932 incorporated cities and villages (municipalities with populations under 5,000) in the State. Six cities have populations of more than 100,000 and 15 cities exceed 50,000 in population.

A 1979 act established procedures for identifying and assisting those few cities and villages experiencing defined "fiscal emergencies." A commission composed of State and local officials, and private sector members experienced in business and finance appointed by the Governor, is to monitor the fiscal affairs of a municipality facing substantial financial problems. That act requires the municipality to develop, subject to approval and monitoring by its commission, a financial plan to eliminate deficits and cure any defaults and otherwise remedy fiscal emergency conditions and to take other actions required under its financial plan. It also provides enhanced protection for the municipality's bonds and notes and, subject to the act's stated standards and controls, permits the State to purchase limited amounts of the municipality's short-term obligations (used only once, in 1980).

As noted in the discussion above under **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Recent Biennia - 2012-13**, the amount of distributions to most local governments, including municipalities, from the several State local government revenue assistance funds have been subject to reductions and other adjustments in several of those recent biennia.

The fiscal emergency legislation has been amended to extend its potential application to counties (88 in the State) and townships. This extension is on an "if and as needed" basis and is not aimed at particularly identified existing fiscal problems of those subdivisions. A current listing of governments in each status can be found on the Auditor of State's website at <http://www.auditor.state.oh.us>.

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Book-Entry System; DTC**Book-Entry System**

The information set forth in the following numbered paragraphs is based on information provided by The Depository Trust Company in its “Sample Offering Document Language Describing DTC and Book-Entry-Only Issuance” (labeled BLOR 06-2013). As such, the State and the Commission believe it to be reliable, but take no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of that information. It has been adapted to the Bonds by substituting “Bonds” for “Securities,” “Commission” for “Issuer” and “Bond Registrar” for “registrar”, and by the addition of the italicized language set forth in the text. See also the additional information following those numbered paragraphs.

1. The Depository Trust Company, New York, NY (DTC), will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC’s partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity (*or portion thereof*), and will be deposited with DTC.

2. DTC, the world’s largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC’s participants (“Direct Participants”) deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants’ accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (“DTCC”). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (“Indirect Participants”). DTC has a Standard & Poor’s rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com. (*This internet site is included for reference only, and the information in this internet site is not incorporated by reference in this Official Statement.*)

3. Purchases of Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond (“Beneficial Owner”) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants’ records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

4. To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

5. Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the Bond Registrar and request that copies of the notices be provided directly to them.

6. Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

7. Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Commission as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

8. Redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments (*debt charges*) on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts, upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Commission or the Bond Registrar, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, the Bond Registrar, the State or the Commission, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments (*debt charges*) to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Commission or the Bond Registrar, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

9. (*Not Applicable to the Bonds.*)

10. DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Commission or the Bond Registrar. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed (*or otherwise produced*) and delivered.

11. The Commission may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be

printed (or otherwise produced) and delivered to DTC. (See also **Revision of Book-Entry System; Replacement Bonds.**)

12. The information above in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the State and Commission believe to be reliable, but the State and Commission take no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Direct Participants and Indirect Participants may impose service charges on Beneficial Owners in certain cases. Purchasers of book-entry interests should discuss that possibility with their brokers.

The State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar have no role in the purchases, transfers or sales of book-entry interests. The rights of Beneficial Owners to transfer or pledge their interests, and the manner of transferring or pledging those interests, may be subject to applicable state law. Beneficial Owners may want to discuss with their legal advisors the manner of transferring or pledging their book-entry interests.

The State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar have no responsibility or liability for any aspects of the records or notices relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to that ownership.

The State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar cannot and do not give any assurances that DTC, Direct Participants, Indirect Participants or others will distribute to the Beneficial Owners payments of debt charges on the Bonds made to DTC as the registered owner, or redemption, if any, or other notices, or that they will do so on a timely basis, or that DTC, Direct Participants or Indirect Participants will serve or act in a manner described in this Official Statement.

For all purposes under the Bond proceedings (except the Continuing Disclosure Agreement for each series under which others as well as DTC may be considered an owner or holder of the Bonds, see **Continuing Disclosure Agreements**), DTC will be and will be considered by the State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar to be the owner or holder of the Bonds.

Beneficial Owners will not receive or have the right to receive physical delivery of Bonds, and, except to the extent they may have rights as Beneficial Owners or holders under the Continuing Disclosure Agreement for each series will not be or be considered by the State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar to be, and will not have any rights as, owners or holders of Bonds under the Bond proceedings.

Reference herein to "DTC" includes when applicable any successor securities depository and the nominee of the depository.

Revision of Book-Entry System; Replacement Bonds

The Bond proceedings for each series provide for issuance of fully-registered Bonds (Replacement Bonds) directly to owners of Bonds other than DTC only in the event that DTC (or a successor securities depository) determines not to continue to act as securities depository for the Bonds. Upon occurrence of this event, the Commission may in its discretion attempt to have established a securities depository book-entry relationship with another securities depository. If the Commission does not do so, or is unable to do so, and after the Bond Registrar has made provision for notification of the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds by appropriate notice to DTC, the Commission and the Bond Registrar will authenticate and deliver Replacement Bonds of any one maturity, in authorized denominations, to or at the direction of any persons requesting such issuance, and, if the event is not the result of Commission action or inaction, at the expense (including legal and other costs) of those requesting.

Debt charges on Replacement Bonds will be payable when due without deduction for the services of the Bond Registrar as paying agent. Principal of and any premium on Replacement Bonds

will be payable when due to the registered owner upon presentation and surrender at the designated office of the Bond Registrar. Interest on Replacement Bonds will be payable on the interest payment date by the Bond Registrar by transmittal to the registered owner of record on the Bond Register as of the 15th day preceding the interest payment date. Replacement Bonds will be exchangeable for other Replacement Bonds of authorized denominations, and transferable, at the designated office of the Bond Registrar without charge (except taxes or governmental fees). Exchange or transfer of then-redeemable Replacement Bonds is not required to be made: (i) between the 15th day preceding the mailing of notice of redemption of Replacement Bonds and the date of that mailing, or (ii) of a particular Replacement Bond selected for redemption (in whole or part).

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Text of Legal Opinion
(Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A)

We have served as bond counsel to our client the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) and not as counsel to any other person in connection with the issuance of \$140,710,000 Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the Series 2021A Bonds), dated the date of this letter. The Series 2021A Bonds are obligations of the State of Ohio (the State), issued by the Commission, for the purpose of financing or assisting in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions. In our capacity as bond counsel, we have examined the transcript of proceedings relating to the issuance of the Series 2021A Bonds, a copy of the signed and authenticated Series 2021A Bond of the first maturity and such other documents, matters and law as we deem necessary to render the opinions set forth in this letter.

The Series 2021A Bonds are issued under and pursuant to Section 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Sections 151.01, 151.02 and 151.08 of the Ohio Revised Code and other authorizations by the Ohio General Assembly (collectively with predecessor Sections 2k, 2m and 2p of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution, the Act), and resolutions of the Commission (collectively, the Bond Resolution).

Based on that examination and subject to the limitations stated below, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

1. The Series 2021A Bonds constitute valid and binding general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on (Debt Service) the Series 2021A Bonds.
2. Debt Service on the Series 2021A Bonds and on bonds or other obligations issued or to be issued and outstanding pursuant to the Act (collectively, the Bonds) are payable from and secured by (i) a pledge of the excises, taxes and revenues of the State as provided for in the Bond Resolution (collectively, the Committed State Receipts), and (ii) moneys deposited in the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund created under the Act and further provided for in the Bond Resolution. Fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles, and net State lottery proceeds, are not pledged and may not be used to pay that Debt Service.
3. The State is required to charge and collect Committed State Receipts in an amount sufficient to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds, and the State has covenanted to maintain statutory authority for and to cause to be levied, collected and applied excises, taxes and revenues so that those Committed State Receipts, including deposits of them to the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund, will be sufficient in time and amount to pay that Debt Service when due and certain other costs (including Debt Service on other State obligations). Provision has been made by law for setting aside each year in the State Capital Improvements Bond

Service Fund a sufficient amount of the Committed State Receipts, without other or further appropriation, to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds.

4. Interest on the Series 2021A Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax. Interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Series 2021A Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. We express no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Series 2021A Bonds.

The opinions stated above are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. In rendering all such opinions, we assume, without independent verification, and rely upon (i) the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the proceedings and documents we have examined, and (ii) the due and legal authorization, execution and delivery of those documents by, and the valid, binding and enforceable nature of those documents upon, any parties other than the Commission and the State.

In rendering those opinions with respect to the treatment of the interest on the Series 2021A Bonds under the federal tax laws, we further assume and rely upon compliance with the covenants in the proceedings and documents we have examined, including those of the Commission for itself and the State. Failure to comply with certain of those covenants subsequent to issuance of the Series 2021A Bonds may cause interest on the Series 2021A Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issuance.

The rights of the owners of the Series 2021A Bonds and the enforceability of the Series 2021A Bonds are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, and other laws relating to or affecting the rights and remedies of creditors generally; to the application of equitable principles, whether considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; to the exercise of judicial discretion, and to limitations on legal remedies against public entities.

No opinions other than those expressly stated herein are implied or shall be inferred as a result of anything contained in or omitted from this letter. The opinions expressed in this letter are stated only as of the time of its delivery and we disclaim any obligation to revise or supplement this letter thereafter. Our engagement as bond counsel in connection with the original issuance and delivery of the Series 2021A Bonds is concluded upon delivery of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Text of Legal Opinion
(Conservation Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A)

We have served as bond counsel to our client the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) and not as counsel to any other person in connection with the issuance of \$40,450,000 Conservation Projects General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the Series 2021A Bonds), dated the date of this letter. The Series 2021A Bonds are obligations of the State of Ohio (the State), issued by the Commission, for the purpose of paying costs of projects for conservation purposes. In our capacity as bond counsel, we have examined the transcript of proceedings relating to the issuance of the Series 2021A Bonds, a copy of the signed and authenticated Series 2021A Bond of the first maturity and such other documents, matters and law as we deem necessary to render the opinions set forth in this letter.

The Series 2021A Bonds are issued under and pursuant to Sections 2o and 2q of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Sections 151.01, 151.02 and 151.09 of the Ohio Revised Code and other authorizations by the Ohio General Assembly (collectively, the Act), and resolutions of the Commission (collectively, the Bond Resolution).

Based on that examination and subject to the limitations stated below, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

1. The Series 2021A Bonds constitute valid and binding general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on (Debt Service) the Series 2021A Bonds.
2. Debt Service on the Series 2021A Bonds and on bonds or other obligations issued or to be issued and outstanding pursuant to the Act (collectively, the Bonds) are payable from and secured by (i) a pledge of the excises, taxes and revenues of the State as provided for in the Bond Resolution (collectively, the Committed State Receipts), and (ii) moneys deposited in the Conservation Projects Bond Service Fund created under the Act and further provided for in the Bond Resolution. Fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles, and net State lottery proceeds, are not pledged and may not be used to pay that Debt Service.
3. The State is required to charge and collect Committed State Receipts in an amount sufficient to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds, and the State has covenanted to maintain statutory authority for and to cause to be levied, collected and applied excises, taxes and revenues so that those Committed State Receipts, including deposits of them to the Conservation Projects Bond Service Fund, will be sufficient in time and amount to pay that Debt Service when due and certain other costs (including Debt Service on other State obligations). Provision has been made by law for setting aside each year in the Conservation Projects Bond Service Fund a sufficient amount of the Committed State Receipts, without other or further appropriation, to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds.
4. Interest on the Series 2021A Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the

federal alternative minimum tax. Interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Series 2021A Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. We express no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Series 2021A Bonds.

The opinions stated above are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. In rendering all such opinions, we assume, without independent verification, and rely upon (i) the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the proceedings and documents we have examined, and (ii) the due and legal authorization, execution and delivery of those documents by, and the valid, binding and enforceable nature of those documents upon, any parties other than the Commission and the State.

In rendering those opinions with respect to the treatment of the interest on the Series 2021A Bonds under the federal tax laws, we further assume and rely upon compliance with the covenants in the proceedings and documents we have examined, including those of the Commission for itself and the State. Failure to comply with certain of those covenants subsequent to issuance of the Series 2021A Bonds may cause interest on the Series 2021A Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issuance.

The rights of the owners of the Series 2021A Bonds and the enforceability of the Series 2021A Bonds are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, and other laws relating to or affecting the rights and remedies of creditors generally; to the application of equitable principles, whether considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; to the exercise of judicial discretion, and to limitations on legal remedies against public entities.

No opinions other than those expressly stated herein are implied or shall be inferred as a result of anything contained in or omitted from this letter. The opinions expressed in this letter are stated only as of the time of its delivery and we disclaim any obligation to revise or supplement this letter thereafter. Our engagement as bond counsel in connection with the original issuance and delivery of the Series 2021A Bonds is concluded upon delivery of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Text of Legal Opinion
(Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B)

We have served as bond counsel to our client the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) and not as counsel to any other person in connection with the issuance of \$47,905,000 Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B (the Series 2021B Bonds), dated the date of this letter. The Series 2021B Bonds are obligations of the State of Ohio (the State), issued by the Commission, for the purpose of refunding certain bonds previously issued for the purpose of financing or assisting in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions. In our capacity as bond counsel, we have examined the transcript of proceedings relating to the issuance of the Series 2021B Bonds, a copy of the signed and authenticated Series 2021B Bond of the first maturity and such other documents, matters and law as we deem necessary to render the opinions set forth in this letter.

The Series 2021B Bonds are issued under and pursuant to Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Sections 151.01, 151.02 and 151.08 of the Ohio Revised Code and other authorizations by the Ohio General Assembly (collectively, the Act), and resolutions of the Commission (collectively, the Bond Resolution).

Based on that examination and subject to the limitations stated below, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

1. The Series 2021B Bonds constitute valid and binding general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on (Debt Service) the Series 2021B Bonds.
2. Debt Service on the Series 2021B Bonds and on bonds or other obligations issued or to be issued and outstanding pursuant to the Act (collectively, the Bonds) are payable from and secured by (i) a pledge of the excises, taxes and revenues of the State as provided for in the Bond Resolution (collectively, the Committed State Receipts), and (ii) moneys deposited in the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund created under the Act and further provided for in the Bond Resolution. Fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles, and net State lottery proceeds, are not pledged and may not be used to pay that Debt Service.
3. The State is required to charge and collect Committed State Receipts in an amount sufficient to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds, and the State has covenanted to maintain statutory authority for and to cause to be levied, collected and applied excises, taxes and revenues so that those Committed State Receipts, including deposits of them to the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund, will be sufficient in time and amount to pay that Debt Service when due and certain other costs (including Debt Service on other State obligations). Provision has been made by law for setting aside each year in the State Capital Improvements Bond

Service Fund a sufficient amount of the Committed State Receipts, without other or further appropriation, to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds.

4. Interest on the Series 2021B Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax. Interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Series 2021B Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. We express no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Series 2021B Bonds.

The opinions stated above are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. In rendering all such opinions, we assume, without independent verification, and rely upon (i) the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the proceedings and documents we have examined, and (ii) the due and legal authorization, execution and delivery of those documents by, and the valid, binding and enforceable nature of those documents upon, any parties other than the Commission and the State.

In rendering those opinions with respect to the treatment of the interest on the Series 2021B Bonds under the federal tax laws, we further assume and rely upon compliance with the covenants in the proceedings and documents we have examined, including those of the Commission for itself and the State. Failure to comply with certain of those covenants subsequent to issuance of the Series 2021B Bonds may cause interest on the Series 2021B Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issuance.

The rights of the owners of the Series 2021B Bonds and the enforceability of the Series 2021B Bonds are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, and other laws relating to or affecting the rights and remedies of creditors generally; to the application of equitable principles, whether considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; to the exercise of judicial discretion, and to limitations on legal remedies against public entities.

No opinions other than those expressly stated herein are implied or shall be inferred as a result of anything contained in or omitted from this letter. The opinions expressed in this letter are stated only as of the time of its delivery and we disclaim any obligation to revise or supplement this letter thereafter. Our engagement as bond counsel in connection with the original issuance and delivery of the Series 2021B Bonds is concluded upon delivery of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Text of Legal Opinion
(Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C)

We have served as bond counsel to our client the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) and not as counsel to any other person in connection with the issuance of \$100,130,000 Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021C (the Series 2021C Bonds), dated the date of this letter. The Series 2021C Bonds are obligations of the State of Ohio (the State), issued by the Commission, for the purpose of refunding certain bonds previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State. In our capacity as bond counsel, we have examined the transcript of proceedings relating to the issuance of the Series 2021C Bonds, a copy of the signed and authenticated Series 2021C Bond of the first maturity and such other documents, matters and law as we deem necessary to render the opinions set forth in this letter.

The Series 2021C Bonds are issued under and pursuant to Section 2n of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Sections 151.01, 151.02 and 151.03 of the Ohio Revised Code and other authorizations by the Ohio General Assembly (collectively, the Act), and resolutions of the Commission (collectively, the Bond Resolution).

Based on that examination and subject to the limitations stated below, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

1. The Series 2021C Bonds constitute valid and binding general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on (Debt Service) the Series 2021C Bonds.
2. Debt Service on the Series 2021C Bonds and on bonds or other obligations issued or to be issued and outstanding pursuant to the Act (collectively, the Bonds) are payable from and secured by (i) a pledge of the excises, taxes and revenues of the State as provided for in the Bond Resolution (collectively, the Committed State Receipts), and (ii) moneys deposited in the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund created under the Act and further provided for in the Bond Resolution. Fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles, and net State lottery proceeds, are not pledged to pay that Debt Service.
3. The State is required to charge and collect Committed State Receipts in an amount sufficient to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds, and the State has covenanted to maintain statutory authority for and to cause to be levied, collected and applied excises, taxes and revenues so that those Committed State Receipts, including deposits of them to the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund, will be sufficient in time and amount to pay that Debt Service when due and certain other costs (including Debt Service on other State obligations). Provision has been made by law for setting aside each year in the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund a sufficient amount of the Committed State Receipts,

without other or further appropriation, to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds.

4. Interest on the Series 2021C Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax. Interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Series 2021C Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. We express no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Series 2021C Bonds.

The opinions stated above are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. In rendering all such opinions, we assume, without independent verification, and rely upon (i) the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the proceedings and documents we have examined, and (ii) the due and legal authorization, execution and delivery of those documents by, and the valid, binding and enforceable nature of those documents upon, any parties other than the Commission and the State.

In rendering those opinions with respect to the treatment of the interest on the Series 2021C Bonds under the federal tax laws, we further assume and rely upon compliance with the covenants in the proceedings and documents we have examined, including those of the Commission for itself and the State. Failure to comply with certain of those covenants subsequent to issuance of the Series 2021C Bonds may cause interest on the Series 2021C Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issuance.

The rights of the owners of the Series 2021C Bonds and the enforceability of the Series 2021C Bonds are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, and other laws relating to or affecting the rights and remedies of creditors generally; to the application of equitable principles, whether considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; to the exercise of judicial discretion, and to limitations on legal remedies against public entities.

No opinions other than those expressly stated herein are implied or shall be inferred as a result of anything contained in or omitted from this letter. The opinions expressed in this letter are stated only as of the time of its delivery and we disclaim any obligation to revise or supplement this letter thereafter. Our engagement as bond counsel in connection with the original issuance and delivery of the Series 2021C Bonds is concluded upon delivery of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,