

Sandusky MSA

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH - ERIE & OTTAWA

First half 2026 | 393 U.S. metropolitan areas ranked
January-June 2026 vs. 2025



3rd

NATIONAL RANK
of 393 metro areas

+2.90%

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH
six-month average

+1,483

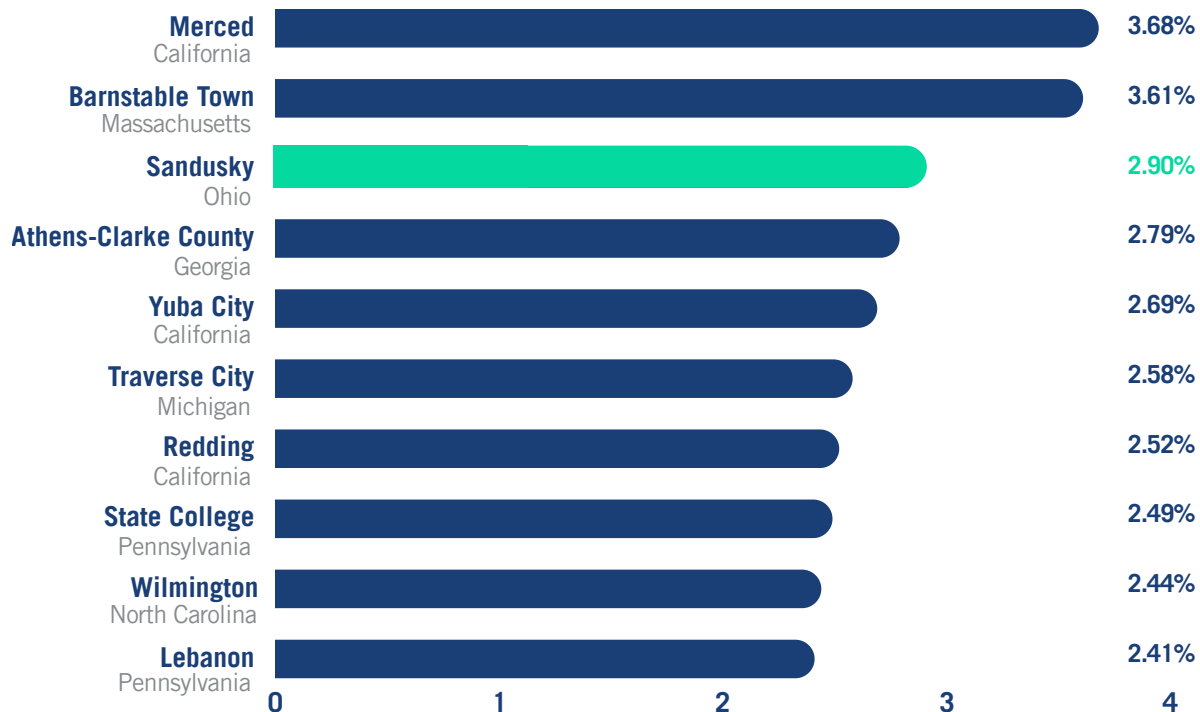
JOB'S ADDED
51,067 to 52,550

1st

IN OHIO & THE MIDWEST
of 15 Ohio, 99 Midwest metros

THE FASTEST GROWING METRO AREAS

Percentage change in average monthly nonfarm employment, first half 2026 vs. first half 2025



Average monthly employment in the Sandusky MSA reached **52,550 jobs** from January through June 2026, an **increase of 1,483 jobs** compared with the same six months of 2025. Only **Merced, California**, and **Barnstable Town, Massachusetts**, grew faster among 393 metropolitan areas, placing the region third nationally overall and among the 181 metro areas with fewer than 100,000 jobs.

Growth was front-loaded, with the region ranking in the **national top six each month** from January through April before slowing to 35th in May and 45th in June. While the six-month result remains strong, the monthly trend is decelerating. Federal metropolitan employment estimates are based on a sample survey and carry meaningful uncertainty for an area of roughly 52,000 jobs, and monthly figures are revised; the April 2026 estimate has already been revised downward since its initial publication. BLS will publish preliminary benchmark revisions on August 28, 2026, replacing sample estimates with employer tax records for a period covering both sides of this comparison.

Sandusky MSA

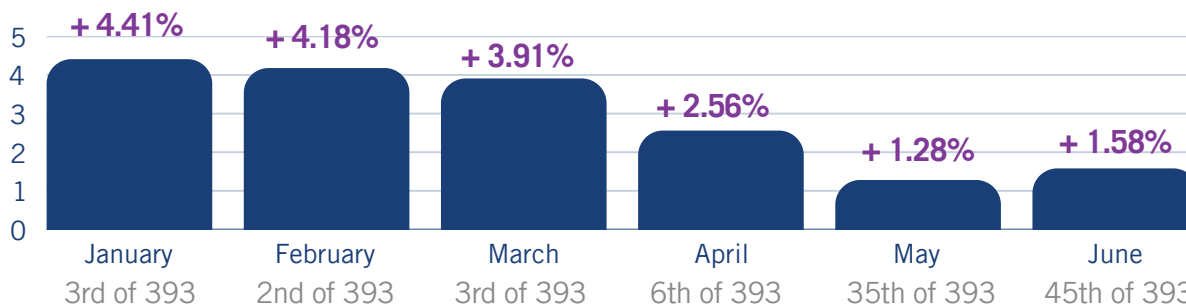
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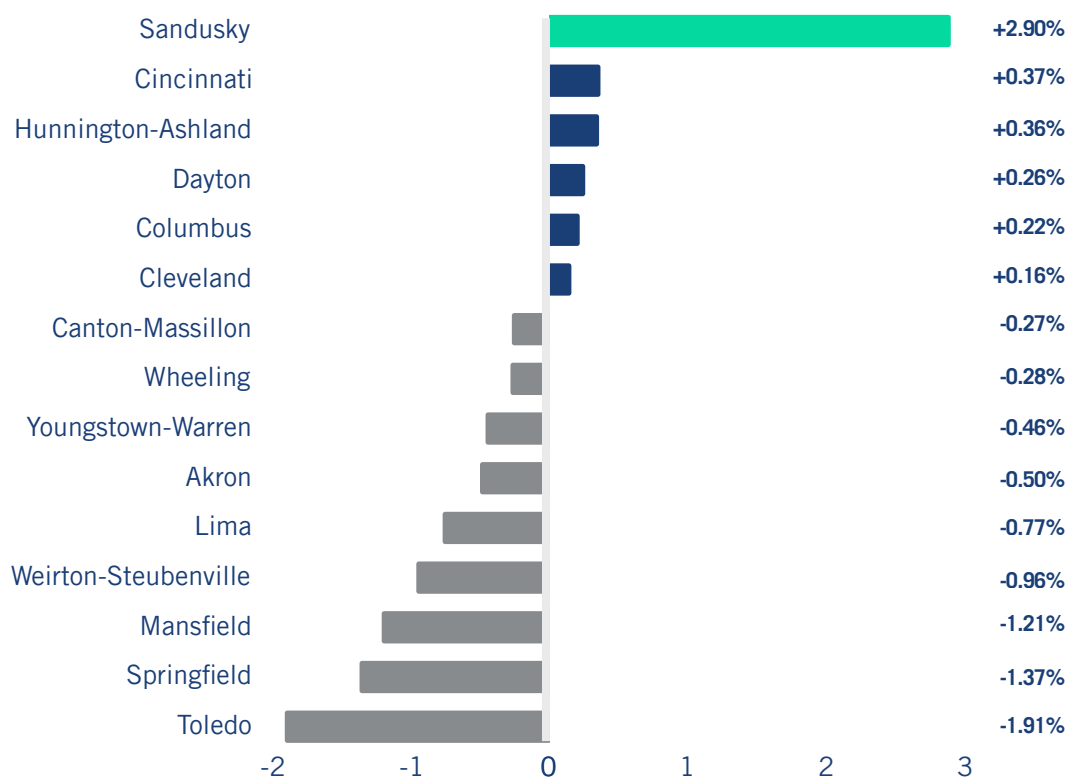
THE FIRST HALF MONTH BY MONTH

Sandusky MSA year-over-year change in nonfarm employment, with the region's national rank that month



HOW OHIO COMPARES

All 15 metropolitan areas
BLS lists under Ohio, same
measure and period



9 of the 15 lost employment over the period. No other Ohio metro area grew faster than 0.37%. Vertical line marks zero.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics, State and Metro Area program. Total nonfarm employment, not seasonally adjusted, retrieved July 30, 2026. June 2026 estimates are preliminary. Universe is 393 metropolitan statistical areas; metropolitan divisions excluded to avoid double counting. Sandusky MSA is CBSA 41780, comprising Erie and Ottawa Counties.

Method: growth measured as the change in average monthly employment across the six-month period, not the average of six monthly percentage changes. Averaging levels weights each month by the jobs it contains, which matters in a seasonal economy where the largest percentage changes fall in the months with the fewest jobs.