



Ohio Out of Reach Talking Points

Ohio's 2-bedroom Housing Wage is \$17.05/hr, meaning renters working full-time, year-round need to earn at least that much to afford a modest 2-bedroom apartment in Ohio

[You can find the Housing Wage for your community! The Out of Reach report includes data for Ohio's metros and all 88 counties. [Download Ohio Out of Reach Report](#)]

There is a significant growing gap between renters' income and the skyrocketing cost of rent

- Of the 10 occupations with the most employees in Ohio, only 2 actually earn enough to comfortably afford a 2-bedroom apartment

The Housing Wage is even higher in Ohio's urban areas, but the gap between rents and wages is wider in many rural and suburban communities

Rent inflation is driving home further out of reach for lower-wage workers throughout Ohio

- Average 2-bedroom rent in Ohio increased 12.3% over the past year, and 23% in two years ([Apartment List](#))
- 109,000 Ohio households saw their rent increase by more than \$250/month during the past year ([Census Bureau](#))

Fortunately, Ohio currently has funding available from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to address the affordable housing crisis.

I support COHHIO's proposal to [invest \\$308 million in ARPA funds](#) to create affordable homes for people experiencing homelessness, low-income seniors and families, and Ohioans with disabilities

- This is a one-time expenditure of federal dollars to fix a growing, long-term problem that affects all of our communities
- This plan won't increase future operating costs and uses Ohio's established system for building and rehabilitating affordable housing
- Over 230 groups have endorsed this plan, including the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio REALTORS, the Ohio Bankers' League, CareSource, Huntington Bank, Nationwide Children's Hospital, PNC, and the Ohio Apartment Association

Investing ARPA to address the affordable housing crisis will reduce homelessness, and restrain state and local spending on hospitals, jails, and foster care, while creating jobs.

Occupation	Total Ohio Employment	Median Hourly Wage
Registered Nurse	129,270	\$35.62
Retail Salesperson	120,670	\$12.99
Fast Food Worker	119,790	\$10.70
Cashier	117,320	\$10.96
Customer Service Rep	115,180	\$17.89
Stocker/Order Filler	107,630	\$14.39
Laborer/Freight Mover	105,130	\$16.37
Home Health Aide	95,120	\$11.54
General Operations Manager	89,630	\$45.60
Office Clerk	86,800	\$17.85
Ohio's 2 BR Housing Wage		\$17.05
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2021 Ohio Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates		

