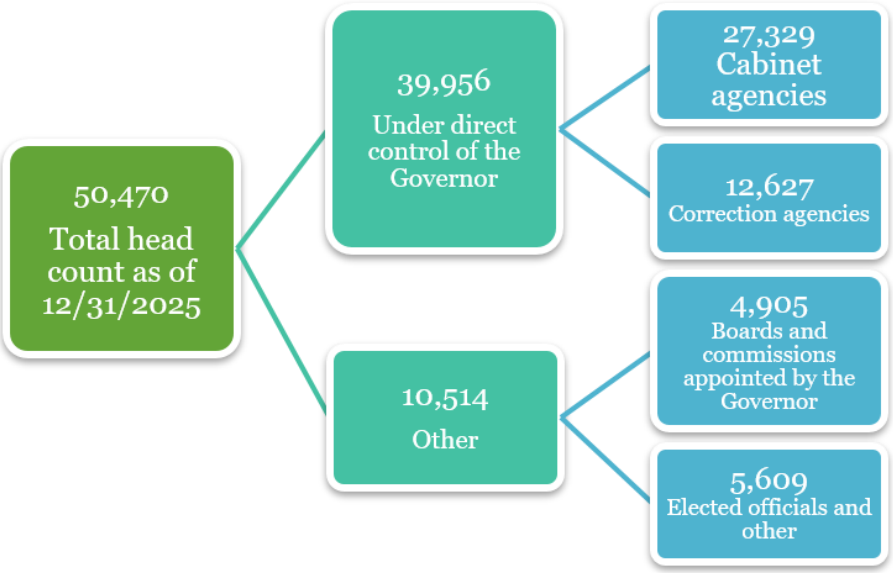
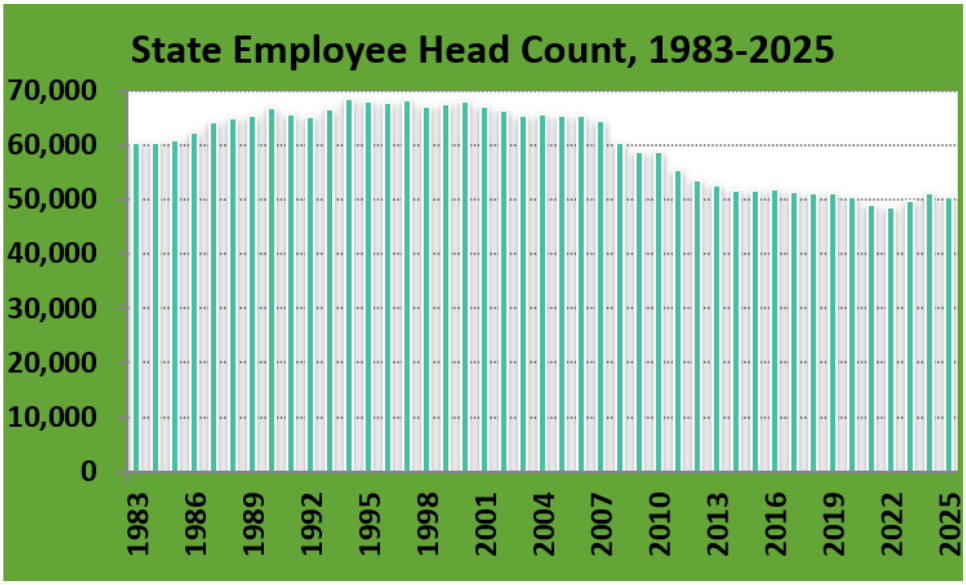
Legislative Budget Office of LSC

State Government Operating Expenses

July 2026



- The December 2025 head count of state employees was 50,470, an decrease of 721 (1.4%) from December 2024 and more than 18,000 (26.4%) lower than the highest count since 1983 of 68,573 that was recorded in 1994.
  - 91.4% (46,142) of the 50,470 state employees were full-time permanent employees.
- For FY 2026, the state government's operating expenses amounted to $11.42 billion (10.7% of total state budget expenditures) across all funds:
  - $6.66 billion (6.2%) for employee payroll, including both salaries and fringe benefits;
  - $1.98 billion (1.9%) for purchased personal services; and
  - $2.78 billion (2.6%) for supplies, maintenance, and equipment.



State government's operating expenses and their shares of total state budget expenditures, FY 2022-FY 2025 ($ in billions)

Category	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Total operating expenses	**$9.76 (10.8%)**	**$9.94 (10.6%)**	**$10.56 (10.6%)**	**$11.36 (10.9%)**
Payroll	$5.46 (6.1%)	$5.49 (5.9%)	$5.86 (5.9%)	$6.22 (5.9%)
Purchased personal services	$1.89 (2.1%)	$2.04 (2.2%)	$2.11 (2.1%)	$2.25 (2.2%)
Supplies, maintenance, and equipment	$2.41 (2.7%)	$2.41 (2.6%)	$2.59 (2.6%)	$2.88 (2.8%)

Data sources: Ohio Administrative Knowledge System; Ohio Department of Administrative Services

Note: The state employee head count data used in this infographic is a point-in-time employee count from each year's December state employee trend report produced by DAS.