# Economic and Social Impacts of Veterinary Medicine in Ohio 

A Study Commissioned by a Partnership Between The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine and the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association

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## I. Summary of Major Findings

The purpose of this report is to assess the scope and impact of veterinary medicine in Ohio. Evaluations are based on findings for firms that operate in related industries, as well as findings from surveys of the veterinary and animal-related programs in Ohio educational institutions. We consider both economic impacts and the social impacts of veterinary medicine on Ohio residents. We also consider the impact of the cost of a veterinary degree and debt burden that it imposes on graduates.

Even if a narrow definition is applied, Veterinary Services account for more than 23,000 Ohio jobs, and those jobs generate more than $\$ 800$ million in wages for Ohio workers. In addition, the total contribution of Veterinary Services to the Ohio economy exceeds $\$ 2.4$ billion. If the industry definition is expanded to include supporting businesses and animal related businesses, the number of Ohio jobs grows to more than 93,000, total wages grow to nearly $\$ 3.7$ billion, and the total contribution to the Ohio economy grows to nearly $\$ 13$ billion.

These broader animal-related industries include animal production (farming) and related industries, animal food manufacturing, farm and pet supplies wholesalers and retailers, biotechnology research, racetracks, zoos, and non-veterinary pet care. The impacts also include those of The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, including the Veterinary Medical Center (VMC). The contributions include the direct output and employment of the industries themselves, as well as the necessary contributions of suppliers, which are referred to as indirect impacts. It also includes the impact of the household spending of direct and indirect workers. These workers earn wages and salaries from their employment, and as a result purchase household goods and services of all kinds.

Veterinary medicine contributes significantly to Ohio agriculture by ensuring the health and marketability of farm animals. Agriculture is the heart of a $\$ 110$ billion industry that is Ohio's largest. The state ranks 10th in the nation for the value of farm products. The impact of veterinary medicine on Ohio agriculture enters to some degree in the measured impacts. While this impact cannot be fully quantified, veterinary medicine makes a vital contribution to the overall Ohio economy.

Impacts of veterinary services, the College of Veterinary Medicine and the VMC, and the auxiliary animal care industries are shown in Table S-1 (page 2). These also include earnings impacts: the wages, salaries, and selfemployment income earned through direct, indirect and induced activity.

93,000
Ohio Jobs Supported in 2015


## $\$ 3.7$ billion

Ohio Wages Supported in 2015


## Veterinary Services

## \$13 billion

Contribution to the Ohio Economy in 2015

| \$2.4 B |  | \$10.6 B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Direct thitecese | Direct |  |


| Veterinary |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Services | Animal-related Industries |



Table S-1: Summary Economic Impacts on the Ohio Economy of Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries and Ohio State Institutions, 2015

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment (jobs) |  |  |  |  |
| Veterinary services | 12,877 | 3,766 | 6,520 | 23,163 |
| Ohio State (college and VMC) | 673 | 92 | 403 | 1,167 |
| Other industries | 28,422 | 18,954 | 21,863 | 69,238 |
| Total | 41,972 | 22,812 | 28,785 | 93,569 |
| Earnings (\$) |  |  |  |  |
| Veterinary services | 438,097,000 | 161,485,000 | 228,328,000 | 827,910,000 |
| Ohio State (college and VMC) | 33,118,000 | 3,900,000 | 14,067,000 | 51,084,000 |
| Other industries | 1,171,098,000 | 839,431,000 | 768,966,000 | 2,779,495,000 |
| Total | 1,642,313,000 | 1,004,816,000 | 1,011,361,000 | 3,658,489,000 |
| Output (\$) |  |  |  |  |
| Veterinary services | 1,110,543,000 | 559,047,000 | 769,495,000 | 2,439,085,000 |
| Ohio State (college and VMC) | 71,008,000 | 11,739,000 | 47,511,000 | 130,258,000 |
| Other industries | 4,483,200,000 | 3,320,848,000 | 2,580,747,000 | 10,384,795,000 |
| Total | 5,664,751,000 | 3,891,634,000 | 3,397,753,000 | 12,954,138,000 |

Ohio veterinary services employment in 2015 was 15.5 percent higher than 2007 (immediately before the recession) and the veterinary auxiliary industries' employment was 22.2 percent higher. Total Ohio employment across all sectors as of 2015 was 0.9 percent lower than in 2007.
In contrast to total Ohio employment, which during the recession suffered a three-year decline totaling 7.5 percent, veterinary services and the auxiliary industries experienced small declines in only one year (2009). In neither case was this decline large enough to reduce employment below its pre-recession level. In the years following the end of the recession in 2010, employment in veterinary services gained 14 percent and the auxiliary industries gained 20.9 percent, but total Ohio employment gained only 7.1 percent. Thus, in a small way, these animal-related industries reduced the impact of the recession on Ohio employment and increased its growth in the expansion.

There are considerable differences in veterinary services employment growth among Ohio regions.
Southern Ohio enjoyed the strongest net growth between 2007 and 2015 with a gain of 37 percent, while the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) gained 34 percent and the Columbus MSA gained 31 percent. However, employment in the Dayton MSA increased only 0.5 percent and employment in Southeastern Ohio declined almost 24 percent.

Change in Employment from 2007 to 2015


Veterinary Service Job Growth in Ohio 2007-2015


There are approximately 3,300 veterinarians practicing in Ohio. While this number is relatively small, the corresponding economic impact of the veterinary industry in Ohio is remarkably strong.
This total is an estimate by the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, and includes both payroll employment and self-employed individuals. Many of these self-employed veterinarians are owners of their own practice. There is at least one veterinary office in 85 of Ohio's 88 counties. The majority of veterinarians in Ohio (56 percent) are in private practices focusing on companion animals and another 12 percent treat both pets and farm animals. Smaller numbers treat horses and farm animals exclusively, work in academics and research, or are employed by corporations or government.

Ohio educational institutions offer an array of veterinary and animal care programs beginning as early as high school and continuing through Ohio State 's doctoral programs.

Of the 86 high school career and technical education centers throughout the state, 28 offer coursework in animal science or animal care, including five offering a specific program in equine science. At least 27 two-year and fouryear colleges and universities in Ohio offer veterinary and animal-related programs and/or certificates, including 20 four-year pre-veterinary programs. Ohio State offers the state's only doctoral program in veterinary medicine, master's and doctoral degrees in comparative and veterinary medicine, and a master's program in veterinary public health.

Ohio State also accommodates a robust veterinary research program, some discoveries of which are commercializable, and one of the largest veterinary medical centers in the U.S.

Researchers in the college developed the first feline leukemia vaccine and have developed technology used in tick-borne disease diagnostics. Faculty are leaders in the development of advanced animal orthopedic procedures, infectious diseases, food safety, and cancer. The VMC is one of the largest veterinary medical centers in the U.S. and is the only comprehensive referral veterinary medical center for companion animals, farm animals, and horses in Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. The VMC admits more than 35,000 patients annually. Additionally, the college's Large Animal Services in Marysville, Ohio provides farm-based service to livestock operations across 17 counties.


Career and technical education centers with animal care coursework

Two- and four-year colleges/universities with veterinary or animal-related programs or certificates

Four-year colleges/universities with pre-veterinary programs

College of Veterinary Medicine with DVM, PhD and MVPH programs

The Ohio State University
College of Veterinary Medicine

- Robust Research
- Translational Medicine


Veterinary Medical Center

- One of the largest in the U.S.
-42,000 patients annually
- Comprehensive referral for three states

Animals convey a wide variety of physical, behavioral, mental, psychological and social benefits. Among these are the therapeutic value of owning and caring for pets. Veterinarians play an important role in the study, prevention and containment of zoonotic diseases infectious diseases that animals can transmit to humans and that humans and animals share.

Pets make substantial contributions to the health and well-being of pet owners. Owning or interacting with pets or other animals has been found to lower blood pressure, alleviate depression, and improve many other health conditions. Interacting with animals has resulted in significant improvement in patients suffering from severe mental and emotional conditions, including schizophrenia, psychosis, autism, and post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD). These benefits reduce healthcare costs, lengthen life spans, and likely improve workforce participation and economic productivity. Companies that allow employees to bring their pets to work enjoy greater productivity perhaps because of the effect on decreasing stress and increasing workplace satisfaction among employees.

A number of diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans have attracted worldwide attention because of the disruption, suffering, and death they have caused. This also has an immense economic impact because of the effect on travel, international trade, and healthcare costs. These include Ebola, avian influenza (bird flu), rabies, Lyme disease, West Nile disease, and Zika virus among others. Studying transmission and patterns of infection can help the medical profession understand, anticipate, and mitigate outbreaks of these diseases. Research has shown that approximately 70 percent of all human infectious diseases share this animal-to-human link and first originate in animals.

A wide variety of ailments are common to animals and humans. Veterinarians routinely observe and treat these conditions for a broad array of species. They have often developed methods for diagnosing and treating certain conditions applicable to animals and people. The ability to apply insights from veterinary studies and treatment protocols to treatment of humans can leverage the effectiveness and reduce the cost of medical research.


The high cost of a veterinary degree and the substantial debt burden that obtaining a degree entails is likely deterring some individuals from entering this field. The Ohio State veterinary students generally graduate with higher debt than do graduates of other veterinary programs. This is a result of the comparatively low level of state support for the veterinary medical program at Ohio State.

The total in-state tuition for a four-year veterinary degree at Ohio State is currently $\$ 140,017$, not including books, supplies, lab fees, room, and board. An annual survey by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) of veterinary program graduates found that students graduating in 2016 had an average debt burden of $\$ 155,291$, more than double the inflation-adjusted 2001 level. The average debt burden of Ohio State graduates was \$194,363, which is 25 percent greater than the national average. There is a risk that the high cost of a veterinary education and the need to assume a significant amount of debt will discourage interested students from entering the field.

The AVMA finds that the prospects of future earnings are generally sufficient to cover the tuition costs for advanced degrees in veterinary medicine, but the extent of such coverage appears to have narrowed substantially in recent years. If public financial support continues to decline and tuition continues to increase, the relationship of future earnings to initial debt levels could turn negative. Regardless of the positive long-term prospects, however, debt service payments can impose a significant burden on individuals beginning their career. The American Veterinary Medical Association reports a \$73,000 average starting salary for recent graduates going into practice. The 24.5 percent of Ohio State students graduating with at least \$260,000 in debt can face annual payments of $\$ 19,530$ or more - at least 27 percent of their before-tax income if income based loan repayment programs are not employed or discontinued at a federal level. The 5.4 percent of graduates with $\$ 320,000$ or more in debt would make payments amounting to 32 percent or more of their income.

The high tuition of the Ohio State veterinary program and the high debt levels of its graduates are a direct result of low levels of state support. Ohio's support amounts to ~\$19,500 per student, less than half the \$44,000 average for the top 10 veterinary programs nationwide. Increases in state support is needed to attenuate increases in tuition and maintain a supply of qualified program candidates.

Ohio State 2016 graduates average debt is $\mathbf{2 5 \%}$ higher than the national average.


Percent of average starting salary represented by loan repayment liability.


State support per student at Ohio State is less than half the average of its top ten peer institutions.


Nationwide, 26 percent of veterinarians are 55 years or older and 7 percent are 65 or older.

If the same percentages apply to Ohio veterinarians, 850 of the 3,300 veterinarians are at least 55 years of age. Virtually all of these are likely to retire within the next 15 to 20 years. If the Ohio distribution were available, however, it might show an even larger share in older age groups because the Ohio population is older than the U.S. average. The Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine has an important role in ensuring that the supply of new veterinarians is sufficient to fill this emerging gap, and to supply future needs.
$\mathbf{8 5 0}$ Ohio veterinarians are expected to retire in the next 15 to 20 years


## II. Veterinary and Animal-Related Economic and Employment Trends

This section explores the level and trend of veterinary services and animal-related employment in Ohio and its regions. Employment can be measured in either of two ways: by industry (where people work regardless of what they do) or by occupation (what people do regardless of where they work). Both are relevant in assessments of veterinary services and other animal-related employment. As is discussed later in this section, a veterinary office includes the veterinarians but also technicians and other office and administrative staff. These support positions are included in the veterinary service industry and rightly so. If not for these support workers, office operations would be less efficient - if the office were able to function at all. On the other hand, the veterinarian occupation includes veterinarians in these offices as well as those in other industries such as research organizations, higher education, food inspection, and elsewhere in a broad array of employment opportunities. Industry employment, growth, and concentration is discussed first, followed by a discussion of occupational employment.

This study in part updates a 2010 analysis of the economic impact of Ohio veterinary medicine by Thomas Sporleder². Both that study and this one take the view that industries beyond veterinary services impact farm and companion animals and have a complementary relation to veterinary services. Consequently, Sporleder defined 13 auxiliary industries in addition to veterinary services that have some relationship to animal care. The industries included in this analysis are to the extent possible and desirable the same as those defined by Sporleder; differences are discussed below.

## A. Industries

Table 1 on page 8 reports the 2015 Ohio employment in veterinary services and auxiliary animal-related industries. Total Ohio payroll employment is shown on the last line for comparison. These industries are defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS); the industry's NAICS code is shown with the industry's name. Along with industry employment is provided the state and national percentage change in employment since 2007, immediately prior to the recession. The final column of Table 1 reports the location quotient, a measure of relative employment concentration. The location quotient is calculated as the percentage of total Ohio employment in a specific industry divided by the percentage of total nationwide employment in that industry. Thus, a location quotient greater than 1.0 implies an industry that is more concentrated in Ohio than average. Specifically, a location quotient of 1.2 would imply that the industry's employment is 20 percent greater than average, or 20 percent greater than would be expected in an economy Ohio's size. (Total payroll employment has a location quotient of 1.0 by definition.)

With two exceptions, the veterinary services and auxiliary industries are those analyzed by Sporleder. The first difference is animal production and aquaculture (NAICS code 112), which the Sporleder report did not include. The second difference is research and development in biotechnology (NAICS code 541711). This industry was defined after the earlier study was completed. At that point, the only industry available was the broader industry, research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences. Another difference between Sporleder's study and the current one is the database used in the analysis. Sporleder used the U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns (CBP); this study uses the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. While CBP does have some analytical benefits, its employment totals are only available for midMarch. The QCEW totals are available as annual averages, providing a more complete picture of employment trends. CBP generally excludes farming employment, so it was not available to be analyzed by Sporleder. Further, there can be differences in the classification of individual businesses, creating differences between the two sources in reported employment totals apart from the timing differences.

2 Thomas Sporleder (2010). Economic impacts of veterinary medicine in Ohio: Special research report to the College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio State University

Table 1: Ohio Payroll Employment in Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries

| NAICS code and industry | Ohio employment, 2015 | Change, 2007-2015 |  | Location quotient |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Ohio | U.S. |  |
| 541940 Veterinary services | 12,877 | 15.5\% | 17.7\% | 0.997 |
| Auxiliary industries |  |  |  |  |
| 112 Animal production and aquaculture | 5,808 | 43.8\% | 14.3\% | 0.606 |
| 115210 Support activities for animal production (including equine boarding) | 960 | 27.8\% | 3.3\% | 0.877 |
| 311111 Dog and cat food manufacturing | 1,106 | -10.1\% | 25.3\% | 1.252 |
| 311119 Other animal food manufacturing | 1,745 | 9.7\% | 3.7\% | 1.418 |
| 325412 Pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing (including veterinary medical preparations mfg.) | 4,349 | -2.9\% | -11.6\% | 0.572 |
| 339112 Surgical and medical instrument manufacturing (including veterinarians' instruments) | 2,128 | 7.9\% | 7.4\% | 0.475 |
| 423490 Other professional equipment merchant wholesalers (including veterinarians' equipment) | 687 | -45.9\% | 4.7\% | 0.658 |
| 424210 Druggists' goods merchant wholesalers (including veterinary medicines) | 7,076 | -25.8\% | -5.7\% | 0.932 |
| 424910 Farm supplies merchant wholesalers | 3,460 | 7.5\% | 5.3\% | 0.797 |
| 453910 Pet and pet supplies stores | 4,404 | -4.3\% | 16.0\% | 1.024 |
| 541711 Research and development in biotechnology | 3,617 | 34.2\% | 16.9\% | 0.606 |
| 711212 Racetracks | 1,063 | -34.2\% | -26.8\% | 0.859 |
| 712130 Zoos and botanical gardens | 2,674 | 70.9\% | 25.1\% | 1.850 |
| 812910 Pet care, except veterinary services | 3,585 | 84.4\% | 78.7\% | 0.993 |
| Total auxiliary industries | 42,662 | 5.3\% | 6.8\% | 0.784 |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | 55,539 | 7.5\% | 8.7\% | 0.825 |
| Excluding 325412, 339112, 423490, and 424210 |  |  |  |  |
| Auxiliary industries | 28,422 | 22.2\% | 15.6\% | 0.844 |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | 41,299 | 20.1\% | 16.2\% | 0.886 |
| Total Ohio payroll employment | 5,258,288 | -0.9\% | 3.0\% | 1.000 |

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Using CBP for March 2008, Sporleder reported total veterinary services employment of 11,780, an auxiliary industry total of 47,308, and an all-industry total of 59,088. The comparable totals from that year's QCEW (excluding from auxiliary industries animal production and aquaculture and substituting the broader research and development industry for biotechnology research) are 11,388 in veterinary services, 47,984 in auxiliary industries, and a total of 59,372 - a difference of less than 300. By 2015, the Sporlederequivalent total employment had grown to 63,398 , a 7.3 percent increase.

However, it can be argued that some of these auxiliary industries are overly broad and should be excluded. Four industries in particular, pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing (NAICS 325412), surgical and medical instrument manufacturing (NAICS 339112), other professional equipment merchant wholesalers (NAICS 423490), and druggists' goods merchant wholesalers (NAICS 424210) are
significantly broader than their animal-related component. The first three include pharmaceuticals, medical instruments, and druggists' goods for both animals and humans. The other professional equipment wholesalers industry is even broader, including wholesalers of veterinarians' equipment, but also wholesalers of non-medical laboratory equipment, engineers' supplies, and religious supplies. Consequently, these four industries are not considered in the analysis to follow. The relevant industry totals are highlighted in dark blue in Table 1.

Table 1 reveals that as of 2015, total Ohio employment across all sectors was still 0.9 percent less than its prerecession peak although U.S. employment exceeded its pre-recession level by 3.0 percent. This contrasts sharply with the performance of all veterinary services and animalrelated industries. Veterinary services employment was 15.5 percent higher than its pre-recession level. Although the industry-level comparisons with the national averages
are mixed for the remaining industries, Ohio employment in all veterinary and auxiliary industries was 20 percent higher in 2015 than it was in 2007, a net gain nearly onequarter greater than the national average.
Also notable in Table 1 is the outstanding growth of several other industries. The growth in animal production and aquaculture was triple the national average, and growth in support activities for animal production (including breeding services, horse training and boarding, milk testing for butterfat, and sheep shearing) was even stronger. As is true of the other employment counts, the 5,808 workers counted in animal production include only payroll employees covered by unemployment insurance so farm owners are not included, regardless of their involvement in the day-to-day operation of the farm.
The high location quotients of the two animal food manufacturing industries are consistent with the overall above-average concentration of manufacturing in Ohio's economy. Manufacturing's total location quotient in 2015 was a very high 1.48. Ohio manufacturing has enjoyed employment growth greater than the national average since the recovery began. This has been the first sustained manufacturing employment growth since the early 1990s, and is the primary reason why total Ohio employment growth was on par with the national average in the early years of the expansion.

Figure 1: Ohio Veterinary Services and Ohio Total Employment Growth, 2007-2015


Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Although veterinary services employment has significantly outperformed total payroll employment growth with a 15.5 percent net gain, it has slightly underperformed the national average gain for veterinary services ( 15.5 percent versus 17.7 percent). These comparisons are charted in Figures 1 and 2 . This and the following charts show employment on an index basis, thus comparing cumulative percentage growth between 2007 and 2015. As Figure 1 shows, total Ohio employment sustained a three-year recession decline between 2008 and 2010 totaling 7.5 percent. In contrast, veterinary services employment declined in only one year (2009) and by only 1.4 percent ( 165 jobs). Even with this decline, employment remained above its pre-recession 2007 level. Thus, in a small way, the veterinary services industry mitigated the severe impact of the recession on total Ohio employment.

Figure 2 compares eight-year growth in Ohio veterinary services employment to that industry's growth nationwide. As this chart demonstrates, the shortfall in Ohio employment growth was caused mostly by lagging growth in 2014 and 2015. However, because a significant percentage of veterinary services establishments focus partly or exclusively on companion animals and most function in a primarily local market, one might expect the industry's growth to mirror the very slow growth of Ohio population and households. It could be argued that the fact that the veterinary services industry's employment growth is only slightly less than the national average is a sign of strength.

Figure 2: Ohio and United States Veterinary Services Employment Growth, 2007-2015


Figure 3 contrasts payroll employment growth of veterinary and auxiliary animal-related industries with the growth of total Ohio employment. As the chart shows, the overall animal-related sector (purple line) performed even better than veterinary services, gaining 22.2 percent ( 5,170 net new jobs). The overall animal-related sector industries along with veterinary services increased by 20.1 percent (6,900 jobs). The auxiliary industries' recession performance mirrored that of veterinary services: a small one-year decline in 2007 that kept employment above its pre-recession level. The auxiliary industries' growth also exceeded the corresponding national average. As shown in Table 1, national average growth in these industries amounted to 15.6 percent over the eight-year period. The key message of these three charts is that in a small way, veterinary services and other animal-related industries helped to cushion the blow of the recession and improved the below-average growth of Ohio employment during the expansion.

Figure 3: Ohio Veterinary and Animal-Related Employment Growth and Ohio Total Employment Growth 2007-2015


Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 4 compares employment growth of dog and cat food and other animal food manufacturing with total Ohio manufacturing growth. Employment in other animal food manufacturing declined only modestly during the recession and increased rapidly during the recovery. Employment change in dog and cat food manufacturers has been far more erratic, with a net increase during the recession years of 2008 and 2009 and stagnation and decline during the recovery. However, an important point is that this employment decline does not necessarily indicate a decline in activity of these firms. More than many other sectors, manufacturers are able to substitute machinery and robotics for labor and increase their output while reducing their workforce. Employment of all manufacturing firms declined throughout the expansion of 2001 through 2007, and then more rapidly through the recession. But the 16 percent pre-recession employment decline was accompanied by a 28 percent output increase. The increase in employment during the expansion was probably the result of the decade of employment declines that left manufacturers with inadequate workforce to accommodate the increase in activity as the recovery took hold. However, the lack of significant employment decline in dog and cat food manufacturing during the recession may have left the industry without a workforce shortage and able to respond to any increase in demand with its current workforce. Thus, the decline in dog and cat food manufacturing employment may be because the industry contracted, or it may be because new technologies allowed the same or greater levels of production with fewer workers. Statistics that would establish conclusively which of these alternative explanations is correct are not yet available.

Figure 4: Ohio Dog and Cat Food Manufacturing, Other Animal Food Manufacturing, and Total Manufacturing Employment Growth, 2007-2015


Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 2 reveals payroll earnings of the workers in these industries. The average (mean) wages must be interpreted with caution. For statistical reasons, average wages usually overstate the earnings of the typical worker, and do so by differing degrees. A different measure of the average wage, the median, is a far better reflection of workers' wages. This is the wage that is at the midpoint of the wage distribution, so that 50 percent of workers in the industry earn less and 50 percent earn more. The median wage is unavailable in this data set, however. The $\$ 35,157$ average wage of veterinary services and the $\$ 40,408$ average wage
of the combined veterinary and auxiliary industries are both less than the average Ohio wage and less than the corresponding national average wage of these industries. The inflation-adjusted total wage growth of veterinary services between 2007 and 2015 is seven times total Ohio wage growth, and the combined average of veterinary and auxiliary industries is more than eight times the all-industry average. Thus, in a small way, the veterinary services and auxiliary industries are improving Ohio wage growth just as they are improving Ohio employment growth.

Table 2: Wages in Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries

| NAICS code and industry | Ohio total wage, 2015 (\$) | Average wage, 2015 |  | Total wage change 2007-2015* |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Ohio | U.S. | Ohio | U.S. |
| 541940 Veterinary services | \$438,097,000 | \$35,157 | \$36,434 | 25.7\% | 26.7\% |
| Auxiliary industries |  |  |  |  |  |
| 112 Animal production and aquaculture | 196,821,000 | 35,482 | 35,509 | 61.9\% | 27.8\% |
| 115210 Support activities for animal production (incl. equine boarding) | 34,615,000 | 39,651 | 34,774 | 36.2\% | 6.5\% |
| 311111 Dog and cat food manufacturing | 91,199,000 | 79,859 | 66,332 | -1.7\% | 34.1\% |
| 311119 Other animal food manufacturing | 94,938,000 | 58,895 | 56,899 | 27.2\% | 22.9\% |
| 325412 Pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing (including veterinary medical preparations mfg.) | 360,735,000 | 79,615 | 131,314 | 12.1\% | 4.4\% |
| 339112 Surgical and medical instrument manufacturing (including veterinarians' instruments) | 125,480,000 | 58,066 | 83,767 | 8.3\% | 19.8\% |
| 423490 Other professional equipment merchant wholesalers (including veterinarians' equipment) | 34,994,000 | 38,455 | 75,959 | -63.6\% | 0.0\% |
| 424210 Druggists' goods merchant wholesalers (including veterinary medicines) | 619,605,000 | 91,658 | 111,954 | -28.6\% | 6.0\% |
| 424910 Farm supplies merchant wholesalers | 179,485,000 | 52,313 | 57,579 | 21.9\% | 21.9\% |
| 453910 Pet and pet supplies stores | 83,793,000 | 18,767 | 22,405 | -0.3\% | 18.5\% |
| 541711 Research and development in biotechnology | 334,894,000 | 99,909 | 160,720 | 52.2\% | 63.0\% |
| 711212 Racetracks | 22,996,000 | 18,772 | 31,353 | -25.4\% | -18.2\% |
| 712130 Zoos and botanical gardens | 67,836,000 | 27,059 | 31,483 | 39.5\% | 25.7\% |
| 812910 Pet care, except veterinary services | 64,521,000 | 20,106 | 20,204 | 109.5\% | 84.5\% |
| Total auxiliary industries | \$2,311,912,000 | \$55,408 | \$78,509 | 1.5\% | 20.3\% |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | \$2,750,009,000 | \$50,751 | \$70,438 | 4.7\% | 20.9\% |
| Excluding 325412, 339112, 423490, and 424210 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Auxiliary industries | \$1,171,098,000 | \$42,799 | \$58,447 | 33.7\% | 40.6\% |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | \$1,609,195,000 | \$40,408 | \$52,348 | 31.4\% | 37.7\% |
| Total Ohio payroll | \$247,893,602,000 | \$47,824 | \$52,943 | 3.7\% | 8.8\% |

[^0]Table 3 displays the number and percentage growth of establishments in veterinary services and animal-related industries. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS): "An establishment is an economic unit, such as a factory, mine, store, or office that produces goods or services. It generally is at a single location and is engaged predominantly in one type of economic activity." A firm with three locations is a single "enterprise" but three establishments. The establishment is the unit by which BLS measures activity; the industry in which the establishment's employment is classified is based on the primary activity
within the establishment. Thus, a pet food manufacturer with a factory and a separate research laboratory would be classified both in dog and cat food manufacturing and in research and development in biotechnology. If, however, the lab is inside of the factory, all employment in the facility is classified in manufacturing.

3 United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. Chapter 2: Employment, Hours, and Earnings from the Establishment Survey, in Handbook of Methods, p. 1.
Retrieved from https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch2.pdf

Table 3: Establishments in Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries

| NAICS code and industry | Ohio establishments, 2015 | Change, 2007-2015 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Ohio | U.S. |
| 541940 Veterinary services | 1,073 | 4.6\% | 11.0\% |
| Auxiliary industries |  |  |  |
| 112 Animal production and aquaculture | 478 | 28.5\% | 11.6\% |
| 115210 Support activities for animal production (including equine boarding) | 126 | 27.3\% | 8.5\% |
| 311111 Dog and cat food manufacturing | 12 | 0.0\% | 49.5\% |
| 311119 Other animal food manufacturing | 70 | 4.5\% | -0.7\% |
| 325412 Pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing (including veterinary medical preparations mfg.) | 39 | 44.4\% | 38.5\% |
| 339112 Surgical and medical instrument manufacturing (including veterinarians' instruments) | 33 | -13.2\% | 47.5\% |
| 423490 Other professional equipment merchant wholesalers (including veterinarians' equipment) | 67 | -40.7\% | 1.1\% |
| 424210 Druggists' goods merchant wholesalers (including veterinary medicines) | 375 | -7.9\% | 15.0\% |
| 424910 Farm supplies merchant wholesalers | 360 | -2.7\% | -2.1\% |
| 453910 Pet and pet supplies stores | 336 | -2.6\% | 7.1\% |
| 541711 Research and development in biotechnology | 199 | 15.0\% | 57.2\% |
| 711212 Racetracks | 35 | -25.5\% | -17.5\% |
| 712130 Zoos and botanical gardens | 24 | 14.3\% | 13.1\% |
| 812910 Pet care, except veterinary services | 561 | 30.2\% | 47.3\% |
| Total auxiliary industries | 2,715 | 7.7\% | 17.1\% |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | 3,788 | 6.8\% | 15.6\% |
| Excluding 325412, 339112, 423490, and 424210 |  |  |  |
| Auxiliary industries | 2,201 | 13.6\% | 17.0\% |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | 3,274 | 10.5\% | 15.3\% |
| Total Ohio payroll employment | 290,876 | -0.8\% | 6.1\% |

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

As is true of employment and wages, net establishment growth in veterinary services and animal-related industries is greater than average, both in Ohio and nationwide. Employment growth exceeded establishment growth, meaning that establishments were generally larger in 2015 than in 2007. Table 4 documents these differences for the state and the U.S. by showing average (mean) establishment
sizes in 2007 and 2015. The earlier caution applies: the mean likely overstates the size of the typical establishment.
Note, however, that the average size of Ohio veterinary services establishments increased from 10.9 to 12, larger than the national average. Noteworthy increases in size were also seen in animal-producing farms, research and development in biotechnology, and zoos.

Table 4: Average Establishment Size in Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries

| NAICS code and industry | Ohio |  | United States |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2007 | 2015 | 2007 | 2015 |
| 541940 Veterinary services | 10.9 | 12.0 | 10.7 | 11.3 |
| Auxiliary industries |  |  |  |  |
| 112 Animal production and aquaculture | 10.9 | 12.2 | 10.1 | 10.3 |
| 115210 Support activities for animal production (including equine boarding) | 7.6 | 7.6 | 5.6 | 5.3 |
| 311111 Dog and cat food manufacturing | 102.5 | 92.2 | 57.9 | 48.5 |
| 311119 Other animal food manufacturing | 23.7 | 24.9 | 18.9 | 19.8 |
| 325412 Pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing (including veterinary medical preparations mfg.) | 165.9 | 111.5 | 143.2 | 91.4 |
| 339112 Surgical and medical instrument manufacturing (including veterinarians' instruments) | 51.9 | 64.5 | 80.6 | 58.7 |
| 423490 Other professional equipment merchant wholesalers (including veterinarians' equipment) | 11.2 | 10.3 | 8.9 | 9.2 |
| 424210 Druggists' goods merchant wholesalers (including veterinary medicines) | 23.4 | 18.9 | 19.3 | 15.8 |
| 424910 Farm supplies merchant wholesalers | 8.7 | 9.6 | 9.6 | 10.4 |
| 453910 Pet and pet supplies stores | 13.3 | 13.1 | 11.4 | 12.4 |
| 541711 Research and development in biotechnology | 15.6 | 18.2 | 28.0 | 20.8 |
| 711212 Racetracks | 34.4 | 30.4 | 43.8 | 38.8 |
| 712130 Zoos and botanical gardens | 74.5 | 111.4 | 49.7 | 55.0 |
| 812910 Pet care, except veterinary services | 4.5 | 6.4 | 5.0 | 6.0 |
| Total auxiliary industries | 16.1 | 15.7 | 16.2 | 14.8 |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | 14.6 | 14.7 | 14.9 | 14.0 |
| Excluding 325412, 339112, 423490, and 424210 |  |  |  |  |
| Auxiliary industries | 12.0 | 12.9 | 11.7 | 11.5 |
| Veterinary services plus auxiliary industries | 11.6 | 12.6 | 11.4 | 11.5 |
| All establishments | 18.1 | 18.1 | 15.1 | 14.6 |

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## II. Veterinary and Animal-Related Economic and Employment Trends

## B. Occupations

As discussed earlier, Ohio employment is measured by occupation as well as by industry, allowing the same analysis of employment and wage changes as presented above for industries. Unlike the industry statistics, however, these occupational statistics are based on a limited sample and include nearly 800 individual occupations. For this reason, employment levels and wages are reported with a margin of error, which in some cases is considerable. Occupations are defined and classified by the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system, a scheme analogous to NAICS.

Newly-released statistics for May 2016 allow a fairly current analysis of employment, wages, and salaries by occupation. Table 5 shows 2016 payroll employment of the relevant veterinary and animal care occupations. These are grouped into two categories: primary occupations, which are directly associated with veterinary services and animal science activities, and secondary occupations, which provide lessdirect animal care and support. The table also shows the range within which the true employment level is likely to fall (with a 90 percent likelihood) and changes from May 2007, before the recession.

Table 5: Payroll Employment in Veterinary and Animal-Related Occupations

| Occupation | Employment, 5/2016 |  | Change, 5/2007-5/2016 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Est. | Range* | Ohio | U.S. |
| Primary occupations |  |  |  |  |
| 29-1131 Veterinarians | 2,910 | 2,470-3,350 | 75.3\% | 25.0\% |
| 29-2056 Veterinary technologists and technicians | 3,370 | 2,710-4,030 | 32.7\% | 25.5\% |
| 31-9096 Veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers | 2,750 | 2,180-3,320 | 23.3\% | 12.1\% |
| 25-1071 Health specialties teachers, postsecondary (incl. Veterinary medicine teachers, postsecondary) | 8,640 | 4,400-12,890 | 33.5\% | 40.3\% |
| 19-1011 Animal scientists | 70 | 50-90 | n/a | 12.8\% |
| 19-1023 Zoologists and wildlife biologists | 160 | 130-190 | n/a | 1.5\% |
| Secondary occupations |  |  |  |  |
| 39-2011 Animal trainers | 350 | 310-390 | 218.2\% | 34.8\% |
| 39-2021 Non-farm animal caretakers | 6,660 | 6,350-6,970 | 52.4\% | 41.0\% |
| 45-2093 Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals | 990 | 920-1,060 | n/a | 1.9\% |
| 45-2021 Animal breeders** | 50 | 40-60 | -93.2\% | -25.3\% |

*90 percent confidence level. **2016 data not reported; levels and changes use 2015 data.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

It is important to note that these estimates, like the industry estimates, refer to payroll employment only and do not include business owners. This is especially important when considering the number of veterinarians because, as discussed later in this section, 16.2 percent of veterinarians nationally are self-employed. This is a much higher self-employment percentage than that of the typical occupation. The 2,910 estimate for veterinarians does not include these self-employed individuals. According to Jack Advent, executive director of the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board reported 4,135 veterinarians and 3,782 registered veterinary technicians with an Ohio license in testimony this spring. However, some veterinarians holding Ohio licenses are located outside of Ohio - mostly in adjacent states

- but occasionally treat animals in Ohio. Advent believes that these non-Ohio veterinarians licensed by the state are around 20 percent of the total. Thus, the total number of Ohio veterinarians is around $3,300 .{ }^{4}$ It is much less common for veterinary technicians to be licensed outside their home state, so the actual total is much closer to the 3,782 who are registered. 5 (Note that 3,782 is within the margin of error in Table 5.)

[^1]Median annual Ohio and U.S. wages and salaries for these occupations are reported in Table 6. As discussed above, the median is the preferable statistic because it represents the wage of the typical worker. As in the case of employment, wages are reported with error so 90-percent ranges are also reported. In cases in which the ranges overlap, we cannot be confident that the Ohio wage is actually different from the national average. Ohio wages of veterinary assistants, zoologists, animal trainers, and nonfarm animal caretakers are significantly less than the national average; those of animal breeders are significantly greater. Again, however, these estimates refer to payroll earnings
(wages and salaries) and do not include self-employment income. Jack Advent believes that the veterinarian salary figure is understated even for payroll employment: "...most recent graduates who enter practice are making around $\$ 73,000$. Associates with five or more years' experience are around $\$ 85,000$. A number of practices are going to a base salary plus a percentage of production. The overall average figure that is reported for veterinarians across the US, though it is now five-year-old data, is just over \$91,000. Practice owners should be making well above that when sources of business income are included outside the base salary they pay themselves."

Table 6: Wages and Salaries in Veterinary and Animal-Related Occupations, May 2016

| Occupation | Ohio |  | United States |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Est. | Range* | Est. | Range* |
| Primary occupations |  |  |  |  |
| 29-1131 Veterinarians | 86,430 | 72,680-90,720 | 88,770 | 87,210-90,330 |
| 29-2056 Veterinary technologists and technicians | 31,630 | 28,580-33,880 | 32,490 | 32,180-32,800 |
| 31-9096 Veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers | 23,650 | 21,850-23,520 | 25,250 | 24,970-25,530 |
| 25-1071 Health specialties teachers, postsecondary (including Veterinary medicine teachers, postsecondary) | 77,960 | 66,490-95,210 | 99,360 | 96,180-102,540 |
| 19-1011 Animal scientists | 59,590 | 58,030-67,030 | 60,330 | 56,760-63,900 |
| 19-1023 Zoologists and wildlife biologists | 57,690 | 55,610-58,350 | 60,520 | 59,840-61,200 |
| Secondary occupations |  |  |  |  |
| 39-2011 Animal trainers | 22,230 | 17,990-24,430 | 27,690 | 26,670-28,710 |
| 39-2021 Non-farm animal caretakers | 19,770 | 18,750-19,930 | 21,990 | 21,810-22,170 |
| 45-2093 Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals | 25,130 | 21,860-23,980 | 24,520 | 24,290-24,760 |
| 45-2021 Animal breeders** | 50,534 | 44,470-55,510 | 35,690 | 32,270-39,120 |

*90 percent confidence level. **2016 data not reported; levels and changes use 2015 data (inflated to 2016 dollars).
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Ohio Veterinary Medical Association periodically collects data from its members regarding the focus of their practice. Table 7 applies the percentages reported by the survey to the estimate of 3,300 Ohio veterinarians derived from state registrations. As shown, the majority of veterinarians concentrate on pets or companion animals (dogs/cats). Some veterinarians treat a variety of species (mixed) and others practice predominately on horses or food/farm animals.

Table 7: Practice Discipline of Veterinarians in Ohio

| Practice discipline | Survey percentage | Inferred number <br> of veterinarians |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Pet animal | $56 \%$ | 1,848 |
| Mixed animal | $12 \%$ | 396 |
| Equine | $2 \%$ | 66 |
| Food animal | $2 \%$ | 66 |
| Academic | $2 \%$ | 66 |
| Animal shelter | $1 \%$ | 33 |
| Government/military | $1 \%$ | 33 |
| Corporate | $1 \%$ | 33 |
| Research | $1 \%$ | 33 |
| Not reported | $22 \%$ | 726 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 , 3 0 0}$ |

Source: Ohio Veterinary Medical Association member survey; totals calculated from Occupational Employment Statistics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# C. Industries Employing Veterinary and AnimalRelated Occupations 

National-level statistics from the BLS provide estimates of the number of individuals in each occupation employed within individual industries, as well as the industries employing those in specific occupations, and the number employed. These can be used to estimate the number of workers for three of the veterinary and animal-related industries in Ohio in 2015 by localizing them based on the total state employment in the industry from Table 1.

This requires the assumption that the employment patterns of these industries within Ohio are equivalent to those elsewhere. This assumption is not entirely correct. Differences in the size distribution of Ohio businesses versus those nationally could give rise to differences in the occupational distribution of industry employment in Ohio, as could differences in the makeup of customers - the share of large-animal veterinarians in Ohio, for example. Differences in the distribution of workers among individual industries will certainly vary based on differences in the industry makeup of the Ohio economy. Still, the relationship between industry employment and occupational employment is useful in suggesting the range of occupations needed by the animalrelated industries and the industries within which veterinary and animal-related workers can find employment.
The industry-occupation database provides occupational employment estimates for four of the industries in Table 1: veterinary services, animal production and aquaculture, dog and cat food manufacturing, and other animal food manufacturing. (These last two are combined into a single industry, animal food manufacturing.) The estimates of the number of Ohio workers in these industries are presented in Tables A-1 through A-3 in the Appendix. As Table A-1 reveals, nearly half of the payroll employment in animal production consists of farmworkers. However, the total estimate of 2,700 farmworkers is far greater than the estimated total of 1,110 farmworkers in Ohio in 2015. The 1,110 workers also include those working in crop production, so the implication is that the employment of other occupations in this industry is likely underestimated. In any event, animal breeders, animal trainers, and veterinarians are also represented among the industries employed by these farming operations.

Employment in animal food manufacturing is focused on production-oriented occupations, with food scientists and technologists and agricultural and food science technicians - presumably with training in animal nutrition - accounting for approximately 40 positions, or 1.3 percent of the total industry employment. This may not include all the animal science-related support required by this industry, however. Some work may be performed by outside academic and non-academic research facilities on a contract basis. For example, researchers at The Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine developed the first feline leukemia vaccine. The vaccine was licensed to Zoetis (formally Pfizer) and is now used worldwide. Battelle in Columbus has a practice area dedicated to the study of animal metabolism and other animal-related research activities. The use of these services by private industry mitigates the need to employ scientists directly.
Table A-3 dramatizes the importance of support positions in veterinary offices: veterinarians comprise less than 20 percent of the employment in these offices, while veterinary technologists and assistants and non-farm animal caretakers account for more than half. The remaining 30 percent of employment is composed primarily of administrative and clerical support occupations.
Appendix Tables A-4 through A-7 provide national-level estimates of employment by industry for four veterinary and animal-related occupations: veterinarians, veterinary technologists and technicians, veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers, and non-farm animal caretakers. These estimates cannot be as easily localized to Ohio as those for occupations within industries. In addition to the potential problem of industries in which the employment distribution differs from the national average, there is a much greater problem of industries with greater or less concentration in Ohio than average. If an industry has greater-than-average employment in Ohio, such as animal food manufacturing or zoos and botanical gardens, that industry should also account for a greater-than-average share of total employment within the relevant industries. Still, the national-level employment shares provide a general sense of the industries within which Ohio workers are employed.

Table A-4 shows that 90 percent of veterinarians are either employed in veterinary offices or are self-employed.
While some of these self-employed individuals may be consultants, the vast majority are likely owners of their own practice. The 16.2 percent of veterinarians who are self-employed is a far greater share than the 6.2 percent of all workers who are self-employed. This implies that a veterinary career offers a significant opportunity for business development and entrepreneurship. Those pursuing this career would therefore be well-served to develop the skills needed to start and operate a business. Recognizing this need, the College of Veterinary Medicine recently launched a graduate business minor in cooperation with the Fisher College of Business. Other veterinarians are employed primarily by federal and state governments, social advocacy organizations (such as animal welfare organizations), and public and private colleges and universities.

According to Table A-5, more than 90 percent of veterinary technologists and technicians nationwide are employed in veterinary offices. Colleges and universities employ 3.3 percent, social advocacy organizations employ 1.6 percent and research and development enterprises employ 1.0 percent. The employment pattern of veterinary assistants, shown in Table A-6, is roughly similar, with a somewhat larger percentage of workers employed by postsecondary institutions and research organizations.

The employment of non-farm animal caretakers is more dispersed among industries than the other occupations, with the share of self-employed workers (19.1 percent) even higher than among veterinarians. One-third of these workers nationwide are employed in the other personal services industry, which includes the non-veterinary pet care services included in Table 1 - services such as animal grooming, animal shelters, and pet boarding. Other miscellaneous store retailers (pet stores) account for 13.9 percent of these jobs, with veterinary services employing 12.8 percent.

## D. Age Distribution of Veterinarians

The increasing age of the workforce is a growing concern among employers and workforce professionals. The aging Baby Boomers are retiring in large numbers and younger workers are not entering the workforce in sufficient numbers to replace them. Not reflected in the statistics is the talent and experience that these retiring workers are taking with them.
The age distribution of veterinarians in Ohio is not available, but it is at the national level. This distribution is shown in Figure 5. The share of all workers in the specific age group is shown in parentheses. The Ohio distribution, if it were available, might show an even larger share in older age groups: the median age of the Ohio population is 39.3 versus the 37.8 U.S. average. Primarily because veterinarians start their careers later than those in many professions, veterinarians are typically older than average: the median age of veterinarians is 44.2 , compared to 42.2 for the entire workforce. However, the share of veterinarians in the prime working years of 25 through 54 is 73 percent versus 65 percent for all workers. Applying the percentages to the 3,300 employed veterinarians in Ohio, around 860 of these are 55 years or older and 230 are 65 or older. Many of these are likely to retire within the next 15 to 20 years.

Figure 5: Age Distribution of Employed Veterinarians, United States, 2016


Percentage of all workers by age in parentheses. Chart omits the $16-19$ age group ( $0 \%$ of veterinarians, $3 \%$ of all workers).
Source: Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## III. Spatial Characteristics of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Ownership

The number and growth of veterinary services practices and their employment varies widely across the state. However, there is at least one veterinary office in 85 of Ohio's 88 counties. Appendix Table A-8 provides county-level employment totals in these practices (i.e., veterinarians and staff) in 2007 and 2015, the net change in employment, and the number of establishments in each of the two years.

These totals are obtained from a source different from that used in Tables 2 and 3: County Business Patterns (CBP) from the U.S. Census Bureau. As discussed earlier, unlike the annual totals in Tables 2 and 3, CBP statistics are available only for mid-March. There can be differences in the classification of individual businesses as well, creating differences between the two sources in reported employment totals apart from the timing differences. But CBP has a significant advantage in county-level analysis: it permits unreported values to be estimated. In order to maintain confidentiality of the employment and wages of individual businesses, all government data sources suppress industry totals when there are few establishments in the industry or one particularly large firm - in either the industry in question or a related industry. This is rarely a problem in statistics for a state the size of Ohio, but county-level totals are regularly suppressed, particularly for smaller counties.

However, CBP also includes counts of establishments by size, even when the employment total is suppressed. If an industry consists of three establishments with between five and nine employees, it can be assumed that each establishment has seven employees (the midpoint of the employment range). Estimated employment for the industry is thus 21.

While county-level analyses can be worthwhile, it is often preferable to examine trends in a broader regional context. This is especially important in the analysis of the availability of veterinary services considered later in this section. While there may be no veterinary offices in a specific county, those in adjoining counties may (or may not) adequately meet the needs of both the county without offices and their home county. Figure 6 proposes a regional grouping of Ohio's counties. These 13 regions consist of the state's six largest MSAs - Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Toledo - and seven other regions including smaller MSAs and rural counties. These counties were grouped together based on economic commonality, primarily in agriculture and manufacturing. These regions are regularly used in the bimonthly On the Money articles on the Ohio economy for Hannah News Service.

Figure 6: Ohio Regions


Table 8 shows the veterinary services employment and establishment data for these 13 regions. As is true of the state, employment in most regions was higher in 2015 than in 2007. The South region enjoyed the strongest net growth with a gain of 37 percent; the Akron MSA gained 34 percent and the Columbus MSA gained 31 percent. However, employment in the Dayton MSA increased only marginally, while veterinary services employment in the Southeast declined by nearly 24 percent.

Population density also varies widely across Ohio. This is an important issue for veterinary service demand because higher concentrations of population lead to more pets and higher demand for companion animal veterinary services. The Census Bureau classifies areas as urban or rural based on the density of development, both residential and non-residential. These areas are built up from census blocks (which in an urban area correspond to city blocks) and do not correspond to corporation limits. A developed area with a population of at least 50,000 is called an "urbanized area," and one with a population between 2,500 and 50,000 is called an "urban cluster." Population, housing, and territory outside of urbanized areas and urban clusters are classified as rural. Figure 7 maps the percentage of each county's population in urbanized areas and urban clusters. Ohio is a fairly urbanized state, with urban population accounting for at least half the total in 45 of the 88 counties.

Table 8: Veterinary Services Employment Growth and Establishment Counts by Region, 2007 and 2015

| County | Employment |  |  | \# of establishments |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | 2007 | 2015 | Net change | 2007 | 2015 |
| Akron | 773 | 1,036 | $34.0 \%$ | 71 | 77 |
| Cincinnati | 1,775 | 2,028 | $14.3 \%$ | 156 | 172 |
| Cleveland | 2,000 | 2,087 | $4.4 \%$ | 185 | 177 |
| Columbus | 2,606 | 3,411 | $30.9 \%$ | 195 | 200 |
| Dayton | 796 | 800 | $0.5 \%$ | 58 | 63 |
| Toledo | 545 | 675 | $23.9 \%$ | 47 | 49 |
| Northeast | 954 | 1,068 | $11.9 \%$ | 113 | 117 |
| Southeast | 397 | 303 | $-23.7 \%$ | 34 | 30 |
| South | 271 | 372 | $37.3 \%$ | 36 | 37 |
| West | 539 | 657 | $21.9 \%$ | 73 | 74 |
| Northwest | 113 | 138 | $22.1 \%$ | 15 | 16 |
| W North Central | 415 | 438 | $5.5 \%$ | 59 | 58 |
| E North Central | 338 | 413 | $22.2 \%$ | 41 | 40 |

Source: County Business Patterns, U.S. Census Bureau


Farm animals are an important focus of veterinary services. By tending to the health of farm animals, veterinarians help to protect both the financial well-being and productivity of farms and the safety of the food supply. Figure 8 shows the concentration of farming activity by mapping the percentage of each county's total land area in farms. Ohio's primary farming areas are in western and northwestern Ohio. Note that some counties with a high proportion of farming land
are also at least moderately urbanized, such as the counties surrounding Franklin County in central Ohio and Lucas
County in the northwest. This is not necessarily inconsistent: the urbanization data in Figure 7 refer to population shares while the farm data in Figure 8 refer to land shares. A county with one or two urbanized areas surrounded by large tracts of lightly populated farmland would rank as both relatively urbanized and relatively heavily farmed.


Source: 2012 Agricultural Census, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Population land area from population density data, U.S. Census Bureau.

Statewide farm animal totals from the past three agricultural censuses are shown in Table 9. The number of cattle has declined slightly over the past decade as the number of hogs and broiler chickens has increased. Summarized livestock counts by county are shown in Appendix Table A-9. Confidentiality requirements apply to livestock counts as they do to employment totals, so some county counts are suppressed. Particularly worth noting is the high concentration of chickens in very few counties. Holmes, Stark, and Wayne Counties account for 73 percent of all broiler chickens statewide, while 59 percent of all layers are in Darke and Mercer Counties. It is noteworthy that Ohio ranks second among all states in egg production.
With these county data in hand, it is possible to compare the number of livestock to the employment in veterinary services. As discussed above, veterinarians can and do treat patients outside of their home county, so it is more meaningful to make this comparison on the basis of the regions specified above than at the county level. This is shown in Table 10. The total livestock counts omit poultry because of the large number of suppressed counts. One-quarter of the statewide total is unreported at the county level, and including the poultry counts that are reported would distort the comparisons. Aside from this omission, there are weaknesses in this analysis. First, the regions specified in Figure 6 may not fairly represent the service area of veterinary practices. The ratios for the MSAs are high because of the relatively small number of farm animals and the large number of veterinary employees. Conversely, the veterinary coverage in the heavily-farmed West and Northwest is quite low. But it is likely that many of the veterinary practices in MSAs are focused on companion animals, while those in the West and Northwest regions may include a focus on farm animals. If this distinction could be incorporated in the analysis, the contrast would likely be less stark. That said, the analysis here can provide guidance to those wishing to focus their practice on one type of animal or the other.

Table 9: Farm Animal Population, Ohio Totals, 2002-2012

| Breed | Total |  |  | Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2007 | 2012 | $\begin{gathered} 2002- \\ 2012 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2007- \\ 2012 \end{gathered}$ |
| Cattle excluding cows | 718,151 | 706,707 | 696,487 | -3.0\% | -1.4\% |
| Cows | 522,461 | 565,695 | 545,806 | 4.5\% | -3.5\% |
| Goats | 45,061 | 69,505 | 51,558 | 14.4\% | -25.8\% |
| Hogs | 1,422,966 | 1,831,084 | 2,058,503 | 44.7\% | 12.4\% |
| Sheep and lambs | 149,936 | 123,161 | 111,972 | -25.3\% | -9.1\% |
| Chickens: broilers | 5,878,909 | 10,021,948 | 12,194,024 | 107.4\% | 21.7\% |
| Chickens: layers | 30,759,965 | 27,070,109 | 28,312,692 | -8.0\% | 4.6\% |
| Geese | 4,409 | 4,215 | 2,757 | -37.5\% | -34.6\% |
| Roosters | n/a | n/a | 43,609 | n/a | n/a |
| Turkeys | 1,873,917 | 2,074,750 | 2,096,395 | 11.9\% | 1.0\% |
| Equine | 134,368 | 119,198 | 114,127 | -15.1\% | -4.3\% |

$\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}=$ Not available.
Source: Agricultural Census, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 10: Regional Veterinary Services Employment per 10,000 Farm Animals, 2012

| Region | Farm <br> animals* | Veterinary services <br> employment | Employees per 10,000 <br> farm animals |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Akron | 11,057 | 856 | 774.2 |
| Cincinnati | 60,283 | 1,936 | 321.2 |
| Cleveland | 56,523 | 2,029 | 359.0 |
| Columbus | 329,292 | 2,549 | 77.4 |
| Dayton | 54,865 | 850 | 154.9 |
| Toledo | 83,804 | 572 | 68.3 |
| Northeast | 183,554 | 1,032 | 56.2 |
| Southeast | 163,378 | 263 | 16.1 |
| South | 191,427 | 333 | 17.4 |
| West | $1,224,924$ | 652 | 5.3 |
| Northwest | 291,125 | 133 | 4.6 |
| W North Central | 392,536 | 439 | 11.2 |
| E North Central | 413,609 | 396 | 9.6 |

*Excluding poultry; see text.
Source: 2012 Agricultural Census, U.S. Department of Agriculture; County Business Patterns, 2012, U.S. Census Bureau.

It is not possible to undertake this same depth of analysis on companion animals because counts of these animals and the number of owning households are only available at the national level. The number of pets in Ohio can be roughly inferred based on these national statistics and the total number of households nationwide and in Ohio. However, pet ownership rates are likely to vary based on demographics, income, and the rate of homeownership (many landlords prohibit pets). Demographic characteristics vary significantly across Ohio, and so may the rate of pet ownership.

Consequently, these state-level estimates are themselves rough and should not be brought down to the regional or county level. Pet ownership and population estimates are presented in Table 11 on the next page. These estimates suggest that there may be nearly 10 million companion animals in Ohio. (Household counts are not totaled because some households own more than one type of pet.) Note that the horse and livestock ownership statistics here are not double-counting those in Table 9 because these animals are owned by households rather than farms.

Table 11: Companion Animal Ownership and Population, U.S. and Ohio, 2012 (Totals in Thousands)

| Animal | United States |  |  | Ohio |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total/owning households | Average number per household | Animal population | Total/owning households | Animal population |
| Total households | 115,970 |  |  | 4,555 |  |
| Pet ownership |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dogs | 43,346 | 1.61 | 69,926 | 1,702 | 2,746 |
| Cats | 36,117 | 2.05 | 74,059 | 1,418 | 2,909 |
| Birds | 3,671 | 2.26 | 8,300 | 144 | 326 |
| Horses | 1,780 | 2.73 | 4,856 | 70 | 191 |
| Fish | 7,738 | 7.46 | 57,750 | 304 | 2,268 |
| Ferrets | 334 | 2.24 | 748 | 13 | 29 |
| Rabbits | 1,408 | 2.28 | 3,210 | 55 | 126 |
| Hamsters | 877 | 1.31 | 1,146 | 34 | 45 |
| Guinea pigs | 847 | 1.61 | 1,362 | 33 | 53 |
| Gerbils | 234 | 2.00 | 468 | 9 | 18 |
| Other rodents | 391 | 2.22 | 868 | 15 | 34 |
| Turtles | 1,320 | 1.74 | 2,297 | 52 | 90 |
| Snakes | 555 | 2.07 | 1,150 | 22 | 45 |
| Lizards | 726 | 1.54 | 1,119 | 29 | 44 |
| Other reptiles | 365 | 2.01 | 732 | 14 | 29 |
| Poultry | 1,020 | 12.34 | 12,591 | 40 | 495 |
| Livestock | 661 | 7.63 | 5,045 | 26 | 198 |
| All others | 246 | 3.65 | 898 | 10 | 35 |
| Totals | --- | --- | 246,525 | --- | 9,682 |

[^2]The national pet ownership statistics also provide the average number of veterinary visits per year for dogs, cats, birds, and horses. Again assuming that Ohio is comparable to the U.S., the total number of visits to treat these animals can be estimated. As shown in Table 12, owners of these pets generate about 7 million veterinary visits per year.
Although the pet population is unavailable at the county level, the number of households can be used to approximate the market for veterinary services. Table 13 relates the number of households to veterinary services employment for the 13 regions. The small MSA and rural regions are generally less well-served by veterinarians than are the large MSAs, although the employee-household ratios in Cleveland and Dayton are lower than those in the other MSAs. The West region's ratio is highest among the rural regions, but recall that this region's population of farm animals is particularly large. The two best-served regions are the Columbus MSA and East North Central Ohio.

Table 12: Estimated Annual Veterinary Visits for Companion Animals, Ohio

|  | Dogs | Cats | Birds | Horses | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Visits per household <br> per year, U.S. | 2.6 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 1.9 |  |
| Inferred total visits, Ohio <br> (thousands) | 4,426 | 2,270 | 43 | 362 | $\mathbf{7 , 1 0 1}$ |

Source: Calculated from U.S. Pet Ownership Statistics, American Veterinary Medical Association.

Table 13: Veterinary Services Employment per 10,000 Households

| Region | Households | Veterinary services <br> employment | Employees per <br> 10,000 households |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Akron | 281,957 | 1,036 | 36.7 |
| Cincinnati | 636,201 | 2,028 | 31.9 |
| Cleveland | 847,608 | 2,087 | 24.6 |
| Columbus | 756,520 | 3,411 | 45.1 |
| Dayton | 328,004 | 800 | 24.4 |
| Toledo | 243,939 | 675 | 27.7 |
| Northeast | 497,894 | 1,068 | 21.5 |
| Southeast | 142,366 | 303 | 21.3 |
| South | 186,558 | 372 | 19.9 |
| West | 260,933 | 657 | 25.2 |
| Northwest | 73,490 | 138 | 18.8 |
| W North Central | 216,498 | 438 | 20.2 |
| E North Central | 113,116 | 413 | 36.5 |

*Excluding poultry; see text.
Source: 2012 Agricultural Census, U.S. Department of Agriculture; County Business Patterns, 2012, U.S. Census Bureau.

## IV. Veterinary and Animal Care Education in Ohio

High-quality educational offerings are required to keep the veterinary and animal care workforce pipeline well stocked and prepared for continuing growth needs. A student's path to a veterinary career in Ohio often begins in elementary school. Surveys have shown that many veterinary students first considered becoming a veterinarian when they were six to eight years of age. This interest can be satisfied more formally when the student reaches high school. There are

86 career and technical education centers throughout the state, serving primarily high school students. Of these, 28 offer coursework in animal science or animal care, including five offering a specific program in equine science. Two other centers offer at least one animal science course as part of a larger agricultural career program. These programs are listed in Table 14.

Table 14: Animal-Related Programs in Ohio High School Career Centers

| School | County | Course(s), no program | Program |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Animal/vet. sci. | Equine science | Animal Care |
| Ashland County-West Holmes Career Center | Ashland |  | X |  |  |
| Ashtabula County Technical and Career Center | Ashtabula |  |  |  | X |
| Butler Technology \& Career Development Schools | Butler |  | X | X |  |
| Springfield-Clark Career Technology Center | Clark |  | X |  |  |
| Grant Career Center | Clermont |  | X | X |  |
| Columbiana County Career and Technical Center | Columbiana |  | X |  |  |
| Academies of Cleveland | Cuyahoga |  | X |  |  |
| Delaware Area Career Center | Delaware |  | X | X |  |
| Four County Career Center | Fulton |  |  |  |  |
| Greene County Career Center | Greene |  | X |  |  |
| Great Oaks Career Campuses | Hamilton |  | X |  |  |
| Millstream Career Center (Findlay City Schools) | Hancock |  | X | X |  |
| Collins Career Technical Center | Lawrence | X |  |  |  |
| Ohio Hi-Point Career Center | Logan |  | X |  |  |
| Toledo Public Schools | Lucas |  | X |  |  |
| Tolles Career and Technical Center | Madison |  | X |  |  |
| Tri-Rivers Career Center | Marion |  | X |  |  |
| Medina County Career Center | Medina |  | X |  |  |
| Tri Star Career Compact | Mercer |  | X |  |  |
| Mid-East Career and Technology Centers | Muskingum |  |  |  | X |
| Maplewood Career Center | Portage |  | X |  |  |
| Pioneer Career and Technology Center | Richland |  | X |  |  |
| Vanguard-Sentinel Career and Technical Centers | Sandusky | X |  |  |  |
| South Stark Career Academy | Stark |  |  |  | X |
| R.G. Drage Career Center | Stark |  | X |  |  |
| Akron Public Schools | Summit |  |  |  | X |
| Trumbull Career \& Technical Center | Trumbull |  | X | X |  |
| Warren County Career Center | Warren |  | X |  |  |
| Wayne County Schools Career Center | Wayne |  |  |  | X |

Source: Individual school websites.

At least 27 two-year and four-year colleges and universities in Ohio offer veterinary and animal-related programs and/or certificates, including 20 four-year pre-veterinary programs. These are listed in Table 15.

Table 15: Animal-Related Programs in Ohio Two-Year and Four-Year Colleges and Universities

| Institution | Pre-vet track/ program | Animal science | Vet assistant | Vet technology | Equine vet tech |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ashland University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Belmont College | X |  |  |  |  |
| Bowling Green State University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Capital University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Clark State Community College |  |  | X |  |  |
| Cleveland State University | X |  | X |  |  |
| Columbus State Community College |  |  |  | X |  |
| Cuyahoga Community College |  |  |  | X |  |
| Hocking College |  |  |  |  | X |
| Kent State University |  |  |  | X |  |
| Malone University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Miami University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Muskingum University | X |  |  |  |  |
| The Ohio State University | X | X |  | X |  |
| Ohio University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Otterbein University | X |  |  |  | X |
| Rio Grande Community College | X |  |  |  |  |
| Shawnee State University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Sinclair Community College |  |  |  | X |  |
| University of Akron | X |  |  |  |  |
| University of Cincinnati |  |  |  | X |  |
| University of Findlay | X | X |  |  |  |
| University of Mount Union | X |  |  |  |  |
| University of Toledo | X |  |  |  |  |
| Walsh University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Wright State University | X |  |  |  |  |
| Xavier University | X |  |  |  |  |

Source: Individual institution websites.

The Ohio State University (Ohio State), through the College of Veterinary Medicine, offers the state's only Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree program. In addition, the College of Veterinary Medicine offers master's and doctoral degrees in comparative and veterinary medicine, and a master's program in veterinary public health in collaboration with the College of Public Health. These graduate degree programs can be completed as dual degree programs with the DVM degree. Ohio State also offers a pre-professional track in veterinary medicine and bachelor's and master's programs in animal sciences. Additionally, veterinary students at the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine can earn a combined business minor degree in association with the Fisher College of Business, which is designed to help these individuals gain knowledge, experience and skills to be successful practice owners and small business owners.

The Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine, founded in 1885 , is one of only 30 veterinary colleges in the U.S., and one of the oldest and largest. It is the only college of veterinary medicine in Ohio. Its doctoral program has graduated more than 9,100 veterinarians, who practice in all 50 states and 40 countries and account for almost 80 percent of the practicing veterinarians in Ohio. The veterinary medicine program is ranked fifth among all North American veterinary schools by U.S. News and World Report, the highest-ranked college at Ohio State. The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program admits 162 students per year and takes four years to complete.

The College has a robust and respected research program. As noted previously, College researchers developed the first feline leukemia vaccine and developed research-
based technology used in commercial tick-borne disease diagnostics. The College is the lead institution in the interdisciplinary Center for Retrovirus Research. The College is also a leader in the university's Global One Health Initiative and the newly-formed Infectious Disease Institute, including zoonotic diseases (those transmitted from animals to people), antimicrobial resistance, the host response to infectious disease including immunology and microbiome, and much more. The College also plays an integral role through its Comparative and Translational Oncology Program by collaborating with the Ohio State Comprehensive Cancer Center, The James Cancer Hospital, and Nationwide Children's Hospital. Other faculty are leaders in the development of advanced animal orthopedic procedures, regenerative medicine and related areas.
The Veterinary Medical Center (VMC) is one of the largest academic veterinary medical centers in the country, comprised of the Hummel \& Trueman Hospital for Companion Animals, the Hospital for Farm Animals, and the Daniel M. Galbreath Equine Trauma, Intensive Care and Research Center, and is the only comprehensive referral veterinary hospital for companion animals, farm animals, and horses in Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. The VMC admits more than 35,000 patients annually. Other animal treatment and research facilities include the Large Animal Services Ambulatory Clinic in Marysville (which provides veterinary services to individual and large livestock facilities, including dairies, beef cattle cow-calf operations, feedlots, and much more across 17 counties), and the Alice Lloyd Finley Memorial Veterinary Research Farm in Madison County, which serves as a teaching and research facility.

## V. Economic Impact of Veterinary and AnimalRelated Industries in Ohio

## A. Theory and Derivation of Economic Impacts

It is possible to quantify the impacts on the Ohio economy of the animal-related industries discussed in Section II and at least some of the educational activities in Section IV. Economic impact studies measure the increase in output (production and spending) in a specific geographical area (in this case, Ohio) that results from specific economic activities. The specific economic activities of interest are those of veterinary services and auxiliary animal-related industries discussed in Section II and the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine, including the VMC. Output is the value of goods and services produced annually in the state. The production of output generates wages, salaries, and selfemployment income (earnings) for workers and business owners. The economic impact assessment estimates these earnings as well as the number of jobs that are created or sustained as a result of these activities. The activities of the other veterinary educational programs summarized in Tables 13 and 14 are part of these activities as well, but despite repeated attempts, we were unable to obtain financial information sufficient to derive estimates. In some cases, these programs may be part of larger accounting units and isolating their financial information would be difficult.
The output, earnings, and employment generated by the industries themselves is referred to as direct impacts. However, direct impacts are only part of the total economic impact. The suppliers of goods and services to the firms in animal-related industries generate output and increase their own purchases of supplies to accommodate the direct activities, pay wages, and may hire additional workers. These supplier activities are referred to as indirect impacts. In addition, direct and indirect business owners earn profits and their employees earn salaries, wages, and tips. These owners and workers use their earnings to purchase household goods of all kinds. To the extent that these payments for purchases and wages and salaries are made to suppliers and employees within Ohio, the region's economic activity and output is increased further. The impact of this household spending is referred to as an induced impact. It is important to emphasize that the direct activities cause the indirect and induced activities, which would never have occurred had the direct activities not generated economic activity in the first place. For this reason, the indirect and induced impacts are as much a part of the total economic impact as are the direct impacts. This is the point that makes economic impact analysis legitimate.
The veterinary services industry contributes $\$ 2.4$ billion annually to the Ohio economy, including $\$ 1.1$ billion from the industry itself and $\$ 1.3$ billion from industry suppliers
and employee households. These activities together sustain more than 23,000 Ohio jobs. When considering the veterinary services industry together with the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine and other supporting and animal-related industries, there is nearly a $\$ 13$ billion annual contribution to the Ohio economy, including $\$ 5.7$ billion from the industries themselves and $\$ 7.3$ billion from industry suppliers and employee households. These activities together sustain 93,600 Ohio jobs.
Output, earnings, and employment impacts can be estimated by applying an economic impact model to the direct spending increase. Several generally-accepted models are available for this purpose; this analysis uses the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II) of the United States Bureau of Economic Analysis. As is the case for the other impact models, RIMS II is based on a framework called an input-output table. For a given industry in a given geographic area, the input-output table shows the increase in purchases from other local firms by industry and the sales to other local firms by industry resulting from a one-dollar increase in the given industry's output. Thus, the inputoutput table can be used to derive the impact on other local firms of an increase in production within a specific industry.
These impacts are specific both to a given industry and to a given region. The array of suppliers benefiting from the spending of a specific group of industries is generally the same regardless of where the spending occurs. But if the structure of the local economy is such that most purchases must be made from vendors outside the state, then most of the impact will leak from the local economy. In cases where purchases are made from suppliers outside Ohio, the indirect and induced impacts are zero. Conversely, a broad economy with many in-state suppliers keeps more of the impact of the output increase circulating within the economy, and the indirect and induced impacts are greater. Thus, the values within the input-output table are unique both to the specific industries and to Ohio. RIMS II summarizes the information in the regional input-output table by calculating a set of unique impact factors (multipliers) for each of 369 detailed industries within the MSA. Because of their origin in the input-output table, the factors implicitly reflect the structure of the Ohio economy and the presence or absence of suppliers. The RIMS II factors are used in a set of economic impact equations developed by Regionomics.
Employment and earnings for the industries are those shown in Tables 1 and 2 . Output is derived by the economic impact model based on the given level of payroll. 6 Direct

[^3]output, earnings, and employment are all provided for the College and VMC. Industry indirect and induced impacts were derived by applying the multipliers for the appropriate industry to the direct impacts as given. Rather than using this approach for the College and the VMC - which would have entailed multiplying output by the multipliers for junior colleges, colleges, and universities and veterinary services, respectively - detailed financial information was obtained for both the College and the VMC. Indirect and induced impacts were derived by applying to each expenditure item the multiplier for the industry affected by the expenditure. These line-item impacts are summed to calculate a total. This "bill-of-goods" approach generates more reliable results that are specific to the operations of the College and the VMC. This approach is particularly important for the College of Veterinary Medicine, whose operations and purchase patterns are likely to be significantly different from those of a typical university department.
Employment estimates in an economic impact analysis must be interpreted particularly carefully. First, these are not all full-time jobs. Instead, a RIMS II analysis provides a mix of full-time jobs and part-time jobs (i.e., headcount) that is typical for the industry in question. While it is legitimate to refer to the direct jobs in a new activity as "created," the same cannot be said for indirect and induced jobs. The implication of an indirect or induced employment impact is that additional activity exists to increase the headcount to the specified extent, but the model cannot determine whether this need is filled by new hiring or by existing workers increasing their hours and/or effort. Therefore, it is more appropriate to refer to these jobs not as created but as sustained. Note, however, that even if no new workers are hired, the income of existing workers should increase. This would give rise to additional induced activity. A final point is that the results of a RIMS II analysis, as is true of any economic impact study, represent only the order of magnitude of the actual impacts and cannot be regarded as precise.
Although the economic impacts presented below are reasonably comprehensive, they are more likely to be understated than overstated. As mentioned above, the impacts do not include those of the veterinary services and animal-related educational programs other than Ohio State. But because these are single programs, often within a larger department, their scale and impacts are far smaller than those of the College of Veterinary Medicine. The impacts also omit broad industries that have a veterinary component. Four of these were discussed earlier: pharmaceutical preparation manufacturing (including veterinary pharmaceuticals); surgical and medical instrument manufacturing (including veterinary instruments); other
professional equipment merchant wholesalers (including veterinary equipment); and druggists' goods merchant wholesalers (including veterinary medicines). Examples of other omitted activities and industries include:

- Transportation of livestock, which is part of general freight trucking;
- Pet food and supplies sold in supermarkets and discount stores;
- The Ohio Agricultural Council, the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA), and meat and livestock development and marketing associations, which are part of an industry including all professional organizations;
- The animal-related work of the Ohio Department of Agriculture and state boards and commissions.
Another impact that is not considered is the visitor spending of out-of-state professionals and scholars who come into the state for conferences, seminars, and meetings with researchers in Ohio. One key example is the Midwest Veterinary Conference hosted by the OVMA. This is the fifth largest veterinary conference in the U.S.
The 2016 conference attracted 6,406 animal care professionals, students, exhibitors and guests. The Greater Columbus Convention Center, five hotels, and the services of various vendors accommodated attendees. Conference revenue totaled $\$ 1,255,000$, including $\$ 391,000$ from exhibits, \$94,000 in sponsorships and \$770,000 from registration fees. Experience Columbus estimates that the conference brought \$3,102,000 into the central Ohio economy. However, because this analysis is at the state level, relevant expenditures are only those that come in from out of state. In-state versus out-of-state attendance is only tracked for veterinarians. However, there were attendees from 28 states, Canada and the Netherlands. The OVMA estimates that total non-Ohio attendance is approximately 35-40 percent. OVMA's direct expenditures associated with producing this event were $\$ 562,334$ in 2016, not including the indirect costs of allocated payroll or other OVMA operational expenses; the share of these applying to out-ofstate attendees would constitute indirect impacts. 7
The Midwest Veterinary Conference is only a portion of a much larger animal-related visitor impact, however. An even larger animal-focused event is the All-American Quarter Horse Congress has been held annually at the Ohio State Fairgrounds since 1967. The 27-day event, the world's largest single-breed horse show, also includes lectures, demonstrations, and exhibits. It attracts more than 650,000 people and 6,500 horses to Columbus, and generates $\$ 275$ million annually for the central Ohio economy. ${ }^{8}$

8 The All-American Quarter Horse Congress, www.quarterhorsecongress.com.

Another equine event, the Equine Affaire, has been hosted annually at the Ohio State Fairgrounds since 1997. This fourday event also attracts enthusiasts from a wide area, and features educational programs, exhibitions, competitions, and a trade show.

The Ohio State Fair and the state's 88 county fairs also allow people to experience and learn about farm animals. The State Fair draws more than 900,000 visitors annually during
its 17-day run. The county fairs, held annually from mid-June through mid-October, are major summertime community events. Many visitors to these fairs are likely in-state residents, so their spending primarily relocates economic impacts rather than creating them. The key value of these fairs is deepening understanding of the importance of animals and Ohio agriculture among people who may never otherwise have such close encounters with these animals.

Medicine, its employment is in the public sector. According to the results, firms in the veterinary services industry, along with their suppliers and employees of the firms and their suppliers, created in $2015 \$ 2.4$ billion in output in Ohio, $\$ 828$ million in wages, salaries and self-employment income, and sustained more than 23,000 jobs in Ohio. The VMC and College of Veterinary Medicine together contributed an additional $\$ 130$ million in output and more than $\$ 62$ million in earnings, and sustained nearly 1,200 jobs.

## B. Economic Impacts

Table 16 summarizes the results of the economic impact calculations. This table shows the output, earnings, and employment of the veterinary services industry, the College of Veterinary Medicine (including the VMC) and the remaining animal-related industries discussed in Section II. Even though the VMC is in the veterinary services industry, adding its impacts to those of the industry does not lead to double-counting because the industry totals only count earnings and employment in the private sector. Because the VMC is a component of the Ohio State College of Veterinary

Table 16: Summary Economic Impacts on the Ohio Economy of Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries and Ohio State Institutions, 2015

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Output |  |  |  |  |
| Veterinary services | 1,110,543,000 | 559,047,000 | 769,495,000 | 2,439,085,000 |
| Ohio State (College and VMC) | 71,008,000 | 11,739,000 | 47,511,000 | 130,258,000 |
| Other industries | 4,483,200,000 | 3,320,848,000 | 2,580,747,000 | 10,384,795,000 |
| Total | 5,664,751,000 | 3,891,634,000 | 3,397,753,000 | 12,954,138,000 |
| Earnings |  |  |  |  |
| Veterinary services | 438,097,000 | 161,485,000 | 228,328,000 | 827,910,000 |
| Ohio State (College and VMC) | 33,118,000 | 3,900,000 | 14,067,000 | 51,084,000 |
| Other industries | 1,171,098,000 | 839,431,000 | 768,966,000 | 2,779,495,000 |
| Total | 1,642,313,000 | 1,004,816,000 | 1,011,361,000 | 3,658,489,000 |
| Employment |  |  |  |  |
| Veterinary services | 12,877 | 3,766 | 6,520 | 23,163 |
| Ohio State (College and VMC) | 673 | 92 | 403 | 1,167 |
| Other industries | 28,422 | 18,954 | 21,863 | 69,238 |
| Total | 41,972 | 22,812 | 28,785 | 93,569 |

The economic impact model also generates component impacts for primary industry sectors. Tables in the Appendix detail these impacts for the veterinary services industry and for all industries including the College of Veterinary Medicine. The output impacts of veterinary medicine are in Table A-10, earnings impacts are in Table A-11, and
employment impacts are in Table A-12. Output, earnings, and employment impacts for this industry plus the other auxiliary animal-related industries and the College of Veterinary Medicine are in Tables A-13, A-14, and A-15, respectively. The key message of these tables is that the impact of these industries extends to all sectors of the Ohio economy.

## VI. Social Impacts of Veterinary Medicine

Additional benefits of veterinary medicine, animal care, and the human-animal bond are much more difficult to quantify than the output, earnings, and employment benefits discussed above, but are no less important. Views on the positive nature of psychological benefits from owning pets were expressed as early as 1881 in a book by Walter Gregor entitled Notes on the Folk-Lore of the North-East of Scot/and. The first modern approach to pet-oriented psychotherapy is generally attributed to a paper published by Boris M. Levinson in the 1962 issue of the Mental Hygiene Journal. The title of this innovative paper was "The dog as a co-therapist."
An increasing number of authors have subsequently confirmed the general finding of Levinson that pets do indeed have a significant positive effect on the general health of humans as well as on the rate of recovery of humans who suffer from conditions that are seemingly unrelated to the ownership of pets. This phenomenon is commonly referred to as "zooeyia."

One early anecdotal finding for zooeyia came from two therapists treating human patients in Ohio. These therapists acknowledged that they initially stumbled upon the therapy value of pets totally by accident. When a local hospital was found to have excess capacity, a dog ward was created within that hospital for the purpose of studying animal behavior. When human patients who were being treated in an adjacent area within the same hospital happened to hear the dogs barking, several patients, including some who had been uncommunicative throughout their hospital stay, broke their self-imposed silence and asked if they could play with and/or help care for the animals.

In response to this early finding, psychotherapists at The Ohio State University College of Medicine decided to provide a dog for a male patient who had been found to be psychotic and was spending nearly all of his time lying in a hospital bed and provided very limited responses to questions he was asked. After receiving a therapy dog, the patient smiled broadly and showed immediate interest in the pet. The patient quickly reversed course and began to respond favorably to therapy. That in turn led to a surprisingly quick discharge.
The same Ohio State psychotherapists employed a similar treatment strategy for a female patient who had been hospitalized due to a condition of catatonic schizophrenia. After traditional treatment methods had failed, including drug therapy and even electrical shock therapy, the patient became withdrawn, frozen and was nearly mute. However, when a dog was brought to this patient, she too responded quickly, and following rapid improvement in her condition, this patient was also discharged.

As a follow up to the Ohio findings, researchers at Pennsylvania State University provided pets to 65 elderly people living in rural areas. Nearly one-half of these subjects were the sole members of their households. The Pennsylvania State study found the introduction of pets produced "dramatic transformations" in people who were severely disabled and yet were able to function substantially better when they were provided with pets. The same study found that people who had been reclusive were able to become more socially interactive, and people who suffered from depression exhibited substantially reduced levels of depression when pets were provided to them.
Subsequent studies established a scientific basis for the Ohio and Pennsylvania cases. In particular, it has been shown that the human brain typically releases endorphins when a person sees a dog. As a result, a person suffering from depression will typically experience less loneliness and higher self-esteem if he or she simply acquires a dog.

Additional research has established that dog owners who routinely take their dogs on walks are likely to improve their cardiovascular health and experience lower blood pressure. As a result, they are likely to increase their life expectancy. In addition, individuals at risk for social isolation can increase their extent of social connected if they routinely walk dogs and engage in daily conversations with others.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has reported that a growing number of hospitals routinely use dogs as a form of therapy for patients undergoing treatment for a wide variety of procedures and ailments including mental illness and physical handicaps. NIH has also reported that treatment by "dog therapy" is effective for elderly persons who are in need of energy as well as for individuals who are overly aggressive and in need of a calming influence.
Additional research has established an impressive and growing list of additional health benefits from pets including decreased blood pressure and improvements in patients with cancer, PTSD, depression, anxiety, autism, Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and many other conditions. When considered as a whole, the potential savings on health care costs appear to be substantial for individuals or families with pets. In support of this view, Heady and Grabka (2007) report that surveys conducted in Germany and Australia show the number of required physician office visits is significantly lower for individuals and household with pets compared to individuals and households without pets. Heady and Grabka estimate that the total savings the reduced physician office visits is nearly $\$ 5.6$ billion per year for Germany and nearly $\$ 3.9$ billion per year for Australia. Based on similar survey findings for pet owners in the U.S. Clower and Neaves (2015) estimate that pet owners in the
U.S. save nearly $\$ 11.4$ billion per year due to the reduced number of required physician office visits. Clower and Neaves also find that the rate of obesity is substantially lower for dog owners who walk their dogs at least five times per week. Estimates of the additional health care savings for these dog owners total nearly $\$ 420$ million per year.
The zooeyia phenomenon does have positive economic consequences, although these would be difficult to quantify. To the extent that health outcomes are improved with pet ownership, medical spending is reduced, personal independence is enhanced, and workforce participation is improved through fewer sick days and possibly higher workforce participation. To the extent that the latter point is correct, productivity of these individuals - and thus that of their employers - is enhanced. The fact that the veterinary services industry is concerned with improving the health and longevity of pets implies that at least some of the economic impacts of these benefits can be attributed to that industry.
An additional positive impact on productivity occurs in companies that allow pets in the workplace. It has been shown that these companies have greater employee satisfaction and productivity. Thus, pets play an even greater role in the economic impact through interactions that support the human-animal bond.
A second benefit of veterinary research is in human disease prevention and treatment. It is widely acknowledged that animals are capable of transmitting various diseases to humans, and that humans and animals are at risk for many common diseases. Understanding these diseases can both reduce their risk to humans and can provide insights for human medical research.

Animal-to-human disease transmission is referred to as "zoonosis." Estimates of the share of emerging and reemerging infectious diseases that adhere to the zoonosis pattern are as high as 70 percent of all diseases. A number of these have attracted worldwide attention because of the disruption, suffering, and death they have caused. The most catastrophic of these has been Ebola, which travels to humans from animals including fruit bats and is usually fatal. The most recent outbreak, discussed by Rupp (2017), began in December 2013 in Guinea and spread during the following months to several other nations in western Africa. By the time that the outbreak was declared concluded in June 2016, it had infected more than 28,000 individuals, 11,000 of whom had died. Other examples include avian and porcine (pig) influenza, West Nile Virus, rabies, Zika virus, and many others.
Avian influenza (bird flu) is an ongoing problem. According to the World Health Organization, while the virus does not spread easily among humans, it transmits easily among birds and can transmit from animals to humans. Avian influenza in farm settings can cause the death of large numbers
of birds, seriously affecting agricultural livelihoods. This created a major economic issue in surrounding states and led to banning of poultry at Ohio county and state fairs in 2015. The outcome of avian influenza in humans can range from a mild illness to death. A 1997 outbreak in Hong Kong subsequently spread to other parts of Asia, Africa, Europe, and (rarely) North America.
Rabies is a virus transmitted from animals to humans, producing inflammation in the brain, and is almost always fatal without prompt treatment. The availability of rabies vaccines for pets has significantly altered the disease. According to the Centers for Disease Control (2016a), more than 90 percent of animal cases reported are in wild animals, including bats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes. Before 1960, the majority of cases were in companion animals.
The CDC reported 6,033 animal cases of rabies in the U.S. in 2014, and only one human case. The number of human deaths from rabies declined from more than 100 in the early years of the 20th Century to only one or two in the 1990s. The current treatment for rabies is nearly always successful.
An array of viruses carried by ticks and mosquitoes can spread to humans through bites. Lyme disease is carried by the blacklegged tick. According to the CDC (2017), initial symptoms include fever, headache, fatigue, and skin rash. If left untreated, the infection can spread to joints, the nervous system, and the heart. Although more prevalent on the East Coast, the number of Lyme disease cases in Ohio reported to the CDC steadily increased from 21 in 2010 to 112 confirmed and 42 probable cases in 2015. Veterinarians play an important role in the education and prevention of Lyme disease in animals and people.

Two notable viruses transmitted by mosquito bite include the West Nile virus and the Zika virus. According to the CDC (2016b), up to 80 percent of people infected with the West Nile virus develop no symptoms; however, in some individuals the virus can cause headaches, body aches, fever, and joint pain. In the worst cases, severe neurological problems and death can occur. There were 72 Ohio cases of West Nile in Ohio in 2015, including two deaths. Zika attracted broad attention in 2016, primarily because of the severe birth defects it can cause if pregnant women are infected. The CDC (2017b) reports that most people who contract the disease suffer at worst mild symptoms lasting up to a week; however, the potential for microcephaly or other brain abnormalities in infants is a serious concern. Mosquito-borne Zika in the U.S. is still rare, occurring thus far only in specific areas of Texas and Florida, but the specific mosquito species carrying the disease can be found as far north as Ohio during the summer months. There is an obvious concern for pregnant women traveling to at-risk areas. Zika transmission has also occurred through sexual contact.

The discussion above highlighted a number of infectious diseases that begin in animals and then move to humans, but there are many more. Studies of zoonoses (those infectious diseases that start in animals and are transmitted to people) can lead to important breakthroughs in the surveillance, detection, containment, and even prevention of the potential transmission of infectious diseases to humans.

Beyond animal-to human disease transmission, a variety of ailments are common to animals and humans. Examples include the following:

- Some older dogs get osteosarcoma, a bone cancer. This disease also strikes teenagers and young adults. This can be a catastrophic condition for these individuals, often requiring amputation of limbs.
- Some dogs and cats get mammary cancer, as do some jaguars, kangaroos and beluga whales.
- Dogs and cats develop some of the same cancers as people - not surprising considering that pets and people live in the same environment.
- Some koalas catch chlamydia.
- Some rabbits get syphilis.
- Some canaries, fish, and even Yorkie dogs faint when they are overly stressed.
- Some gorillas experience clinical depression and eating disorders.
- Some reindeer seek out narcotic escape in hallucinogenic mushrooms.
- Some Siamese cats and Doberman pinscher dogs appear to be subject to obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Some animals diagnosed as suffering from OCD are even treated with Prozac.

Based on tests of dinosaur remains, researchers have determined that even some dinosaurs likely suffered from diseases commonly found in humans, including brain cancer, gout, and arthritis.
Veterinarians routinely observe and treat these conditions in a wide range of species including cats and dogs as well as birds, fish, snakes, and wild animals. As a result, it is often the case that veterinarians will have developed methods for diagnosing and treating certain conditions that are common to animal and human patients. In some situations, physicians are not yet aware of these methods.
Zoobiquity is the common name of a formal discipline that explores how common features of animal and human health and disease can be used to diagnose, treat, and heal patients of all species. The ability to apply insights from veterinary medical studies and treatment protocols to the treatment of humans can leverage the effectiveness and reduce the cost of medical research. By combining the findings from medical and veterinary science, as well as from evolutionary and molecular biology, zoobiquity proposes an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to physical and behavioral health. Applications are possible to cardiology, gastroenterology, pediatrics, psychiatry, and many other subspecialties. Early research indicates that animal responses to potential treatments can lay the foundation for new research as well as enhance findings for current studies of treatments for humans. This social benefit is generally referred to as "improving health and well-being through comparative biomedical research."

A partial list of related research studies and resources highlighting the topics discussed in this section is provided in the bibliography at the end of the report.

## VII. Impacts of Veterinary College Tuition on Students and Graduates

A veterinary doctoral degree is an expensive prospect. The Ohio State program takes four years to complete. The in-state tuition for each of the first three years is $\$ 31,148$, but increases by 50 percent to $\$ 46,573$ for the final year due to an extended term for that year. Total tuition is thus \$140,017, not including books, supplies, lab fees, room, and board. Tuition for out-of-state residents exceeds $\$ 71,000$ per year.

The AVMA conducts surveys of veterinary school graduates annually regarding their post-graduation plans and the amount of debt that they are carrying upon graduation. The national results are discussed and analyzed through 2015,9 and the AVMA has released data summaries of the 2016 survey both for the national sample and for Ohio State. In the survey's initial year, 2001, the average (mean) amount of debt of veterinary medicine graduates was roughly $\$ 55,000$, or $\$ 75,000$ adjusted for inflation. Considering only graduating students with debt, the average was approximately $\$ 59,000$, or an inflation-adjusted $\$ 79,000$. However, due in part to the severe recession of 2007-2009, many veterinary schools suffered substantial reductions in government support and private contributions, including Ohio State. Although they did not experience substantial reductions, the longstanding history of the state's insufficient investment in veterinary medical education at Ohio State has had an immense and detrimental impact. As a result of the loss of support, most if not all veterinary schools were required to offset these revenue losses by increasing tuition rates significantly. Higher tuition and fees in turn led to increased student debt. The 2016 survey results report an average debt burden among all students of \$155,291, more than double the inflation-adjusted 2001 level. Among only those students with debt, the average was \$181,740, 2.3 times the 2001 level, adjusted for inflation. Debt burdens of Ohio State graduates are substantially greater than the national average. Among all Ohio State graduates, the average debt burden was $\$ 194,363$; the average of those with debt was $\$ 216,450$. These averages are 25 percent and 19 percent greater than the national average, respectively. ${ }^{10}$
Figure 9 compares the distribution of debt burdens of veterinary medical graduates of the Ohio State program to the distribution for graduates of all such programs. The chart also shows the annual debt service confronting those within each range of the distribution. Debt service is computed at the midpoint of the range assuming current loan terms (discussed below). As the figure reveals, fewer 2016
graduates of the Ohio State program emerged with no debt than graduates of all programs: 10.2 percent of Ohio State graduates were debt-free versus 14.6 percent of graduates nationwide. Of graduates nationwide, 34 percent had debt of at least $\$ 200,000$, but 58.5 percent of Ohio State graduates had debt of at least this amount. This level of debt gives rise to annual debt payments of at least \$15,000 for 25 years. Higher debt burdens are more common for Ohio State graduates than for those graduating from other programs. Again, this is a direct result of the comparatively very low level of financial support provided in the state budget of a profession that has a much greater impact than most people realize on the health and well-being of animals, people and the environment.
By virtue of the higher debt levels illustrated in Figure 9, the ratio of average debt to average starting salary is likely higher for graduating Ohio State students than for graduating students in the broader sample. The authors of this study do not have access to individual response data required for a precise calculation. However, if the average level of debt reported in the 2016 survey is comparable for students who accept salaried positions and those who accept internships and residency positions, then the corresponding estimate for debt to income is roughly 2.6 for Ohio State students who graduated in 2016 versus roughly 2.1 for students in the broader sample who graduated in 2016.

The AVMA study findings suggest that for most areas of specialization, the prospects of future earnings are currently sufficient to cover the tuition costs for advanced degrees in veterinary medicine. However, the extent of such coverage appears to have narrowed substantially in recent years. If public (legislative) financial support continues to decline and tuition rates continue to increase at or near recent rates, then the evaluation of future earnings in relation to initial debt levels could very well turn negative for growing numbers of students in a variety of specializations. This will discourage potential prospective students from entering lower-wage specializations such as those in the public sector where their talents are needed, and will push them toward higher-paying career tracks. The increased supply of candidates vying for the higher-wage positions will in turn reduce wage rates and the coverage ratio in even these specializations as the supply of applicants increases relative to the demand.

[^4]Figure 9: Initial Debt Burden of Graduates of the Ohio State Veterinary Medical Program and All Veterinary Medical Programs Nationwide, 2016


Note: The upper bound of each of the intermediate ranges is one dollar less than that shown; e.g., the $\$ 20 \mathrm{k}-\$ 40 \mathrm{k}$ range is actually $\$ 20,000-\$ 39,999$.
Source: "2016 AVMA Survey of Graduating Veterinary Students: National Report - 28 US Accredited Veterinary Medical Schools," and "2016 AVMA Survey of Graduating Veterinary Students: The Ohio State University." American Veterinary Medical Association

Regardless of the positive long-term prospects, required debt service payments can impose a significant burden on individuals beginning their career. Loan rates for federal student loans for graduate study are currently 5.31 percent for direct unsubsidized loans and 6.31 percent for direct PLUS loans. Perkins loans with a rate of 5 percent are available to students with exceptional financial need, but there is a lifetime borrowing limit of $\$ 60,000$ for these loans, including amounts borrowed as an undergraduate. Direct unsubsidized loans have a maximum borrowing limit of $\$ 20,500$ per year, and a lifetime limit of $\$ 138,500$. The only annual limit for PLUS loans is the cost of attendance as determined by the school less any other financial assistance received. The loan term is at least 10 years and may be as long as 25 years for loans greater than $\$ 30,000$. Assuming the average loan principal of $\$ 160,000$ and a 25 -year term, debt service totals $\$ 964$ per month or $\$ 11,574$ per year. This can place a substantial burden on a young veterinarian starting his or her career. Another AVMA study
on the market for veterinary education reported that in 2015, Ohio State graduates on average paid 22 percent of their income in debt service, higher than the 19 percent average for all veterinary schools. ${ }^{11}$ However, this calculation was based on the higher 7.21 percent interest rate and a shorter 20 -year term. Based on the more favorable terms of the loans specified above, the payment burden for Ohio State graduates would be 17 percent rather than 22 percent. However, the burden would still be greater than average because students at all schools would enjoy these more favorable terms.
An important point is that evaluations such as these that are carried out at average debt levels do not represent the situation facing substantial numbers of graduates of the Ohio State veterinary program. As stated in Section II, the American Veterinary Medical Association reports a \$73,000 salary for recent graduates going into practice. The 24.5 percent of Ohio State students graduating with at least $\$ 260,000$ in debt would face annual payments of $\$ 19,530$ or

[^5]more - at least 27 percent of this before-tax income. The 5.4 percent of graduates with $\$ 320,000$ or more in debt would make payments amounting to 32 percent or more of their income.

A separate point is that these are loans made by the U.S. government, and debt service payments are thus sent ultimately to Washington, DC. The earlier discussion of economic impact makes clear that expenditures made to entities outside the state provide no indirect or induced benefits to the Ohio economy. Consequently, as debt obligations increase, the favorable impacts of veterinary medicine on the Ohio economy - and the state tax revenues resulting from these activities - decline.
Again, the debt burden resulting from a veterinary education is likely to deter some individuals who would otherwise pursue a career as a veterinarian, and those who worry about taking on the required debt without graduating. As a result, the supply of veterinarians entering the field is reduced, making it more difficult to accommodate the demand resulting from growth of the field and the need to fill existing positions coming open because of retirement, relocation, or other reasons. Thus, government and individual support for veterinary education is essential.

As outlined in recent testimony by Dean Rustin Moore, the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine receives support from the State of Ohio through the Medical-1 set-aside within the State Share of Instruction as well as a separate line item, the Ohio State Clinic Support. This line item supports clinical experiences for students within the College of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Dentistry. However, this line item was reduced by 3.5 percent in a bill recently passed by the Ohio House, and will be combined with other line items to be distributed by the Chancellor of Higher Education. This will place this funding stream in competition with a variety of other needs, increasing the uncertainty of its level from year to year. 12 The tuition of the Ohio State veterinary program and the high debt levels of graduates are a direct result of low levels of state support. Ohio's support for this program is $\$ 19,500$ per student, less than half the $\$ 44,000$ average for the top 10 veterinary programs nationwide. Increases in state support would help to limit further rates of increase in tuition and help to ensure that the quality of the Ohio State veterinary program is maintained and further enhanced and that the most qualified students are attracted.

## Conclusion

Veterinary medicine is a vital industry in Ohio, contributing billions of dollars to the state's economy and supporting thousands of jobs. Its impact is widespread, ranging from companion animal clinical practice to animal agriculture, research, biotechnology and much more.
From the veterinary students and faculty at the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University to the practitioners taking care of Ohio's pets, horses and farm animals, to veterinarians employed in industry, research and government, the fabric of veterinary medicine supports and serves communities throughout Ohio. The veterinary profession and the college contribute broadly across many disciplines to create a healthier world for animals and people.
This study reaffirms what intuitively has been known by many - that veterinary medicine protects the health of Ohio animals, supports the health of people and contributes significantly to a healthy Ohio economy.

[^6]
## Appendix

Table A-1: Occupational Employment in Animal Production and Aquaculture

| Occupation | SOC | Employment | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total, all occupations | 00-0000 | 5,808 | 100.0\% |
| Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals | 45-2093 | 2,681 | 46.2\% |
| Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers | 11-9013 | 1,493 | 25.7\% |
| Farmworkers and laborers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse | 45-2092 | 192 | 3.3\% |
| First-line supervisors of farming, fishing, and forestry workers | 45-1011 | 144 | 2.5\% |
| Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers | 53-3032 | 109 | 1.9\% |
| Agricultural equipment operators | 45-2091 | 93 | 1.6\% |
| Animal breeders | 45-2021 | 92 | 1.6\% |
| Animal trainers | 39-2011 | 88 | 1.5\% |
| Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks | 43-3031 | 86 | 1.5\% |
| Agricultural and food science technicians | 19-4011 | 57 | 1.0\% |
| Office clerks, general | 43-9061 | 49 | 0.9\% |
| Maintenance and repair workers, general | 49-9071 | 48 | 0.8\% |
| Agricultural workers, all other | 45-2099 | 42 | 0.7\% |
| Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists | 49-3031 | 42 | 0.7\% |
| Secretaries and administrative assistants, except legal, medical, and executive | 43-6014 | 35 | 0.6\% |
| Production workers, all other | 51-9199 | 35 | 0.6\% |
| Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand | 53-7062 | 35 | 0.6\% |
| General and operations managers | 11-1021 | 34 | 0.6\% |
| Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners | 37-2011 | 33 | 0.6\% |
| Veterinarians | 29-1131 | 30 | 0.5\% |
| Light truck or delivery services drivers | 53-3033 | 28 | 0.5\% |
| Graders and sorters, agricultural products | 45-2041 | 24 | 0.4\% |
| Industrial production managers | 11-3051 | 23 | 0.4\% |
| Tour guides and escorts | 39-7011 | 20 | 0.3\% |
| Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, record keeping | 43-5111 | 16 | 0.3\% |
| Packers and packagers, hand | 53-7064 | 16 | 0.3\% |
| Dietitians and nutritionists | 29-1031 | 14 | 0.2\% |
| Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators | 47-2073 | 13 | 0.2\% |
| First-line supervisors of mechanics, installers, and repairers | 49-1011 | 13 | 0.2\% |
| Transportation, storage, and distribution managers | 11-3071 | 11 | 0.2\% |
| Landscaping and grounds-keeping workers | 37-3011 | 11 | 0.2\% |
| File clerks | 43-4071 | 11 | 0.2\% |
| Conveyor operators and tenders | 53-7011 | 11 | 0.2\% |
| Industrial truck and tractor operators | 53-7051 | 11 | 0.2\% |
| First-line supervisors of non-retail sales workers | 41-1012 | 10 | 0.2\% |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair workers, all other | 49-9099 | 10 | 0.2\% |
| Other |  | 147 | 2.6\% |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-2: Occupational Employment in Animal Food Manufacturing-part 1

| Occupation | SOC | Employment | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total, all occupations | 00-0000 | 2,851 | 100.0\% |
| Packaging and filling machine operators \& tenders | 51-9111 | 291 | 10.2\% |
| Mixing and blending machine setters, operators, \& tenders | 51-9023 | 279 | 9.8\% |
| Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers | 53-3032 | 177 | 6.2\% |
| Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand | 53-7062 | 148 | 5.2\% |
| Industrial truck and tractor operators | 53-7051 | 117 | 4.1\% |
| First-line supervisors of production \& operating workers | 51-1011 | 111 | 3.9\% |
| Food batchmakers | 51-3092 | 94 | 3.3\% |
| Sales representatives, wholesale \& manufacturing, except technical \& scientific products | 41-4012 | 86 | 3.0\% |
| Maintenance and repair workers, general | 49-9071 | 77 | 2.7\% |
| General and operations managers | 11-1021 | 74 | 2.6\% |
| Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, \& tenders | 51-9041 | 63 | 2.2\% |
| Helpers--production workers | 51-9198 | 63 | 2.2\% |
| Office clerks, general | 43-9061 | 57 | 2.0\% |
| Industrial machinery mechanics | 49-9041 | 51 | 1.8\% |
| Crushing, grinding, and polishing machine setters, operators, \& tenders | 51-9021 | 51 | 1.8\% |
| Bookkeeping, accounting, \& auditing clerks | 43-3031 | 46 | 1.6\% |
| Customer service representatives | 43-4051 | 46 | 1.6\% |
| Industrial production managers | 11-3051 | 34 | 1.2\% |
| Secretaries and administrative assistants, except legal, medical, \& executive | 43-6014 | 37 | 1.3\% |
| Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, \& weighers | 51-9061 | 37 | 1.3\% |
| Light truck or delivery services drivers | 53-3033 | 37 | 1.3\% |
| Packers and packagers, hand | 53-7064 | 37 | 1.3\% |
| Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks | 43-5071 | 31 | 1.1\% |
| Maintenance workers, machinery | 49-9043 | 31 | 1.1\% |
| Production workers, all other | 51-9199 | 31 | 1.1\% |
| Retail salespersons | 41-2031 | 26 | 0.9\% |
| Production, planning, \& expediting clerks | 43-5061 | 23 | 0.8\% |
| Team assemblers | 51-2092 | 26 | 0.9\% |
| Food scientists and technologists | 19-1012 | 20 | 0.7\% |
| First-line supervisors of office \& administrative support workers | 43-1011 | 20 | 0.7\% |
| Stock clerks and order fillers | 43-5081 | 20 | 0.7\% |
| Food and tobacco roasting, baking, and drying machine operators \& tenders | 51-3091 | 20 | 0.7\% |
| Conveyor operators \& tenders | 53-7011 | 17 | 0.6\% |
| Accountants and auditors | 13-2011 | 17 | 0.6\% |
| Agricultural \& food science technicians | 19-4011 | 17 | 0.6\% |
| Billing and posting clerks | 43-3021 | 14 | 0.5\% |
| First-line supervisors of mechanics, installers, \& repairers | 49-1011 | 14 | 0.5\% |
| Bus and truck mechanics \& diesel engine specialists | 49-3031 | 14 | 0.5\% |
| Food processing workers, all other | 51-3099 | 17 | 0.6\% |
| First-line supervisors of helpers, laborers, \& material movers, hand | 53-1021 | 14 | 0.5\% |

Table A-2: Occupational Employment in Animal Food Manufacturing-continued

| Occupation | SOC | Employment | Percentage |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Machine feeders \& offbearers | $53-7063$ | 14 | $0.5 \%$ |
| Sales managers | $11-2022$ |  | 11 |
| Market research analysts \& marketing specialists | $13-1161$ | $0.4 \%$ |  |
| Industrial engineers | $17-2112$ | 11 | $0.4 \%$ |
| Cashiers | $41-2011$ | 11 | $0.4 \%$ |
| Chief executives | $11-1011$ | 11 | $0.4 \%$ |
| Financial managers | $11-3031$ | 9 | $0.3 \%$ |
| Buyers and purchasing agents, farm products | $13-1021$ | 9 | $0.3 \%$ |
| Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, \& farm products | $13-1023$ | 9 | $0.3 \%$ |
| Logisticians | $13-1081$ |  | 9 |
| Other |  | 9 | $0.3 \%$ |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-3: Occupational Employment in Veterinary Services

| Occupation | SOC | Employment | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total, all occupations | 00-0000 | 12,877 | 100.0\% |
| Veterinary technologists and technicians | 29-2056 | 3,414 | 26.5\% |
| Veterinary assistants and laboratory animal caretakers | 31-9096 | 2,450 | 19.0\% |
| Veterinarians | 29-1131 | 2,281 | 17.7\% |
| Receptionists and information clerks | 43-4171 | 1,831 | 14.2\% |
| Non-farm animal caretakers | 39-2021 | 1,027 | 8.0\% |
| Office clerks, general | 43-9061 | 368 | 2.9\% |
| First-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers | 43-1011 | 270 | 2.1\% |
| Customer service representatives | 43-4051 | 220 | 1.7\% |
| Secretaries and administrative assistants, except legal, medical, and executive | 43-6014 | 220 | 1.7\% |
| Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks | 43-3031 | 176 | 1.4\% |
| Medical secretaries | 43-6013 | 172 | 1.3\% |
| Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners | 37-2011 | 94 | 0.7\% |
| General and operations managers | 11-1021 | 86 | 0.7\% |
| Maintenance and repair workers, general | 49-9071 | 31 | 0.2\% |
| Executive secretaries and executive administrative assistants | 43-6011 | 27 | 0.2\% |
| Business operations specialists, all other | 13-1199 | 20 | 0.2\% |
| Medical and health services managers | 11-9111 | 12 | 0.1\% |
| Accountants and auditors | 13-2011 | 12 | 0.1\% |
| Other |  | 165 | 1.3\% |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-4: Industries Employing Veterinarians, United States, 2014

| Occupation | NAICS | Employment (000) | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total employment |  | 78.3 | 100.0\% |
| Veterinary services | 541940 | 58.2 | 74.3\% |
| Self-employed workers | TE1110 | 12.7 | 16.2\% |
| Animal production and aquaculture | 112000 | 2.1 | 2.7\% |
| Federal government, excluding postal service | 999100 | 1.3 | 1.7\% |
| Social advocacy organizations | 813300 | 0.7 | 0.9\% |
| State government, excluding education and hospitals | 999200 | 0.7 | 0.9\% |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; state | 611302 | 0.6 | 0.8\% |
| Research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences | 541710 | 0.3 | 0.3\% |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; private | 611305 | 0.3 | 0.4\% |
| Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions | 712000 | 0.2 | 0.3\% |
| Other personal services | 812900 | 0.2 | 0.3\% |
| Local government, excluding education and hospitals | 999300 | 0.2 | 0.3\% |
| Drugs and druggists' sundries merchant wholesalers | 424200 | 0.1 | 0.1\% |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 551000 | 0.1 | 0.1\% |
| General medical and surgical hospitals; private | 622105 | 0.1 | 0.1\% |
| Spectator sports | 711200 | 0.1 | 0.1\% |
| Other |  | 0.4 | 0.5\% |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-5: Industries Employing Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, United States, 2014

| Occupation | NAICS | Employment (000) | Percentage |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Total employment |  | 95.6 | $100.0 \%$ |
| Veterinary services | 541940 | 87.1 | $91.0 \%$ |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; state | 611302 | 2.0 | $2.1 \%$ |
| Social advocacy organizations | 613300 | 1.5 | $1.6 \%$ |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; private | 541710 | 1.1 | $1.2 \%$ |
| Research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences | 999100 | 812900 | 1.0 |
| Federal government, excluding postal service | TE1110 | 0.6 | $1.0 \%$ |
| Other personal services | 999300 | 0.4 | $0.6 \%$ |
| Self-employed workers | 325400 | 0.4 |  |
| Local government, excluding education and hospitals | 622105 | 0.3 |  |
| Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing | 115000 |  | 0.2 |
| General medical and surgical hospitals; private | 712000 |  | 0.2 |
| Support activities for agriculture and forestry | 999200 |  | $0.4 \%$ |
| Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions |  | $0.2 \%$ |  |
| State government, excluding education and hospitals |  | $0.2 \%$ |  |
| Other |  | $0.1 \%$ |  |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-6: Industries Employing Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers, United States, 2014

| Occupation | NAICS | Employment (000) | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total employment |  | 73.4 | 100.0\% |
| Veterinary services | 541940 | 62.5 | 85.2\% |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; private | 611305 | 2.7 | 3.7\% |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; state | 611302 | 2.4 | 3.3\% |
| Research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences | 541710 | 1.8 | 2.5\% |
| Social advocacy organizations | 813300 | 1.1 | 1.5\% |
| Local government, excluding education and hospitals | 999300 | 0.5 | 0.7\% |
| Animal production and aquaculture | 112000 | 0.3 | 0.4\% |
| General medical and surgical hospitals; private | 622105 | 0.3 | 0.4\% |
| Other personal services | 812900 | 0.3 | 0.5\% |
| Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing | 325400 | 0.2 | 0.2\% |
| Specialty (except psychiatric and substance abuse) hospitals; private | 622305 | 0.1 | 0.2\% |
| Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions | 712000 | 0.1 | 0.1\% |
| State government, excluding education and hospitals | 999200 | 0.1 | 0.2\% |
| Other |  | 1.0 | 1.1\% |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-7: Industries Employing Non-farm Animal Caretakers, United States, 2014

| Occupation | NAICS | Employment (000) | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total employment |  | 204.8 | 100.0\% |
| Other personal services | 812900 | 67.9 | 33.1\% |
| Self-employed workers | TE1110 | 39.2 | 19.1\% |
| Other miscellaneous store retailers | 453900 | 28.4 | 13.9\% |
| Veterinary services | 541940 | 26.2 | 12.8\% |
| Social advocacy organizations | 813300 | 11.0 | 5.4\% |
| Spectator sports | 711200 | 8.7 | 4.2\% |
| Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions | 712000 | 6.0 | 2.9\% |
| Local government, excluding education and hospitals | 999300 | 4.0 | 2.0\% |
| Support activities for agriculture and forestry | 115000 | 2.2 | 1.1\% |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; state | 611302 | 1.2 | 0.6\% |
| Animal production and aquaculture | 112000 | 1.1 | 0.5\% |
| Private households | 814000 | 1.1 | 0.5\% |
| Colleges, universities, and professional schools; private | 611305 | 0.6 | 0.3\% |
| Federal government, excluding postal service | 999100 | 0.5 | 0.3\% |
| Farm product raw material merchant wholesalers | 424500 | 0.2 | 0.1\% |
| Temporary help services | 561320 | 0.2 | 0.1\% |
| Other schools and instruction; private | 611605 | 0.2 | 0.1\% |
| Services for the elderly and persons with disabilities | 624120 | 0.2 | 0.1\% |
| State government, excluding education and hospitals | 999200 | 0.2 | 0.1\% |
| Other |  | 5.7 | 2.8\% |

Source: Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, Employment Projections, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table A-8: Veterinary Services Employment and Number of Establishments by County, 2007 and 2015

| County | Employment |  |  | \# of establishments |  | County | Employment |  |  | \# of establishments |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2007 | 2015 | Net change | 2007 | 2015 |  | 2007 | 2015 | Net change | 2007 | 2015 |
| Ohio | 11,511 | 13,395 | 16.4\% | 1,083 | 1,110 | Licking | 188 | 181 | -3.7\% | 22 | 20 |
| Adams | 0 | 0 | 0.0\% | 0 | 0 | Logan | 31 | 27 | -12.9\% | 4 | 3 |
| Allen | 55 | 77 | 40.0\% | 10 | 10 | Lorain | 387 | 445 | 15.0\% | 20 | 22 |
| Ashland | 62 | 63 | 1.6\% | 7 | 9 | Lucas | 379 | 534 | 40.9\% | 32 | 37 |
| Ashtabula | 75 | 90 | 20.0\% | 11 | 12 | Madison | 67 | 60 | -10.4\% | 5 | 6 |
| Athens | 55 | 57 | 3.6\% | 6 | 5 | Mahoning | 118 | 129 | 9.3\% | 12 | 12 |
| Auglaize | 24 | 29 | 20.8\% | 6 | 7 | Marion | 53 | 43 | -18.9\% | 6 | 6 |
| Belmont | 55 | 89 | 61.8\% | 9 | 8 | Medina | 204 | 224 | 9.8\% | 23 | 22 |
| Brown | 36 | 32 | -11.1\% | 4 | 4 | Meigs | 7 | 22 | 214.3\% | 1 | 2 |
| Butler | 300 | 361 | 20.3\% | 29 | 33 | Mercer | 79 | 103 | 30.4\% | 8 | 9 |
| Carroll | 17 | 26 | 52.9\% | 3 | 3 | Miami | 121 | 130 | 7.4\% | 10 | 10 |
| Champaign | 14 | 21 | 50.0\% | 3 | 3 | Monroe | 0 | 0 | 0.0\% | 0 | 0 |
| Clark | 103 | 152 | 47.6\% | 14 | 14 | Montgomery | 503 | 528 | 5.0\% | 33 | 38 |
| Clermont | 265 | 261 | -1.5\% | 29 | 31 | Morgan | 9 | 7 | -22.2\% | 3 | 1 |
| Clinton | 26 | 47 | 80.8\% | 6 | 5 | Morrow | 20 | 18 | -10.0\% | 3 | 3 |
| Columbiana | 98 | 106 | 8.2\% | 16 | 17 | Muskingum | 32 | 40 | 25.0\% | 5 | 7 |
| Coshocton | 37 | 37 | 0.0\% | 5 | 5 | Noble | 1 | 1 | 0.0\% | 1 | 1 |
| Crawford | 30 | 30 | 0.0\% | 4 | 4 | Ottawa | 28 | 38 | 35.7\% | 4 | 5 |
| Cuyahoga | 989 | 977 | -1.2\% | 101 | 92 | Paulding | 1 | 1 | 0.0\% | 1 | 1 |
| Darke | 42 | 47 | 11.9\% | 6 | 7 | Perry | 35 | 35 | 0.0\% | 1 | 1 |
| Defiance | 25 | 23 | -8.0\% | 4 | 5 | Pickaway | 45 | 47 | 4.4\% | 5 | 5 |
| Delaware | 192 | 291 | 51.6\% | 21 | 24 | Pike | 1 | 1 | 0.0\% | 1 | 1 |
| Erie | 40 | 42 | 5.0\% | 8 | 6 | Portage | 123 | 154 | 25.2\% | 12 | 14 |
| Fairfield | 184 | 200 | 8.7\% | 16 | 16 | Preble | 40 | 44 | 10.0\% | 5 | 7 |
| Fayette | 30 | 1 | -96.7\% | 3 | 1 | Putnam | 22 | 36 | 63.6\% | 2 | 2 |
| Franklin | 1,828 | 2,529 | 38.3\% | 116 | 118 | Richland | 80 | 93 | 16.3\% | 10 | 11 |
| Fulton | 53 | 37 | -30.2\% | 6 | 3 | Ross | 62 | 90 | 45.2\% | 7 | 7 |
| Gallia | 15 | 19 | 26.7\% | 3 | 3 | Sandusky | 66 | 55 | -16.7\% | 7 | 6 |
| Geauga | 148 | 151 | 2.0\% | 18 | 18 | Scioto | 50 | 83 | 66.0\% | 3 | 3 |
| Greene | 172 | 142 | -17.4\% | 15 | 15 | Seneca | 46 | 54 | 17.4\% | 7 | 7 |
| Guernsey | 22 | 50 | 127.3\% | 2 | 2 | Shelby | 42 | 41 | -2.4\% | 5 | 5 |
| Hamilton | 899 | 1,051 | 16.9\% | 71 | 77 | Stark | 304 | 323 | 6.3\% | 37 | 35 |
| Hancock | 83 | 85 | 2.4\% | 9 | 6 | Summit | 650 | 882 | 35.7\% | 59 | 63 |
| Hardin | 26 | 31 | 19.2\% | 3 | 3 | Trumbull | 190 | 243 | 27.9\% | 17 | 19 |
| Harrison | 7 | 7 | 0.0\% | 1 | 1 | Tuscarawas | 114 | 112 | -1.8\% | 9 | 12 |
| Henry | 15 | 30 | 100.0\% | 1 | 2 | Union | 32 | 31 | -3.1\% | 3 | 4 |
| Highland | 24 | 37 | 54.2\% | 6 | 8 | Van Wert | 24 | 18 | -25.0\% | 3 | 3 |
| Hocking | 15 | 19 | 26.7\% | 3 | 3 | Vinton | 0 | 0 | 0.0\% | 0 | 0 |
| Holmes | 23 | 43 | 87.0\% | 3 | 3 | Warren | 275 | 323 | 17.5\% | 23 | 27 |
| Huron | 64 | 69 | 7.8\% | 10 | 11 | Washington | 223 | 59 | -73.5\% | 8 | 6 |
| Jackson | 19 | 21 | 10.5\% | 3 | 4 | Wayne | 161 | 189 | 17.4\% | 18 | 16 |
| Jefferson | 31 | 32 | 3.2\% | 7 | 6 | Williams | 26 | 30 | 15.4\% | 4 | 3 |
| Knox | 55 | 81 | 47.3\% | 8 | 7 | Wood | 113 | 104 | -8.0\% | 9 | 9 |
| Lake | 272 | 290 | 6.6\% | 23 | 23 | Wyandot | 8 | 14 | 75.0\% | 3 | 2 |
| r | 37 | 51 | 378\% | 3 | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Note: Totals in red italics are estimates; see text. Because of inexact employment estimates, county employments do not add to the state total.
Source: County Business Patterns, U.S. Census Bureau.

Table A-9: Farm Livestock by County, Selected Breeds, 2012-part 1

| County | Cattle | Goats | Hogs | Sheep | Chickens* | Turkeys | Equine |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ohio | 1,242,293 | 51,558 | 2,058,503 | 111,972 | 40,506,716 | 2,096,395 | 114,127 |
| Adams | 22,927 | 1,155 | 3,584 | 824 | 3,940 | 85 | 1,779 |
| Allen | 5,210 | 254 | 80,372 | 704 | $n / r$ | 122 | 930 |
| Ashland | 23,106 | 704 | 19,210 | 3,654 | 136,252 | 737 | 1,759 |
| Ashtabula | 14,113 | 678 | 636 | 783 | 6,570 | 140 | 2,104 |
| Athens | 7,458 | 570 | 168 | 721 | 2,664 | 24 | 923 |
| Auglaize | 21,132 | 524 | 104,701 | 1,335 | $n / r$ | $n / r$ | 421 |
| Belmont | 18,261 | 1,284 | 122 | 1,166 | 2,283 | 12 | 848 |
| Brown | 15,896 | 616 | 4,473 | 383 | 3,412 | 287 | 1,292 |
| Butler | 13,352 | 849 | 10,502 | 746 | 3,479 | 80 | 1,825 |
| Carroll | 14,982 | 504 | 931 | 1,332 | $n / r$ | 147 | 1,198 |
| Champaign | 7,830 | 847 | 24,030 | 994 | 5,231 | 37 | 1,155 |
| Clark | 16,235 | 624 | 11,526 | 300 | 2,174 | 139 | 1,591 |
| Clermont | 4,402 | 1,057 | 49 | 165 | 4,868 | 155 | 1,976 |
| Clinton | 6,163 | 510 | 28,381 | 997 | 1,763 | 86 | 762 |
| Columbiana | 27,910 | 907 | 5,225 | 1,753 | 418,349 | 243 | 1,633 |
| Coshocton | 21,771 | 1,193 | 33,609 | 3,302 | $n / r$ | 88 | 2,125 |
| Crawford | 8,468 | 522 | 66,481 | 468 | 75,767 | 120 | 141 |
| Cuyahoga | $n / r$ | 9 | n/r | 30 | 927 | n/r | 502 |
| Darke | 42,000 | 972 | 237,185 | 1,536 | 8,811,973 | 364,021 | 1,052 |
| Defiance | 10,605 | 813 | 5,675 | 597 | $n / r$ | 0 | 363 |
| Delaware | 2,478 | 548 | 23,089 | 1,025 | 1,755 | 122 | 1,904 |
| Erie | 2,236 | 98 | 155 | 226 | 1,192 | n/r | 862 |
| Fairfield | 12,083 | 552 | 31,418 | 1,097 | 6,195 | 163 | 2,193 |
| Fayette | 5,696 | 630 | 489 | 1,366 | 1,136 | 0 | 645 |
| Franklin | 773 | 179 | 642 | 684 | 1,510 | $n / r$ | 1,049 |
| Fulton | 37,033 | 370 | 22,785 | 1,059 | 1,389 | 74 | 429 |
| Gallia | 16,180 | 1,302 | 359 | 2,554 | 3,081 | 36 | 1,097 |
| Geauga | 13,905 | 801 | 589 | 1,305 | 6,675 | 335 | 4,315 |
| Greene | 4,543 | 555 | 11,882 | 1,171 | 3,213 | 42 | 1,394 |
| Guernsey | 18,379 | 685 | n/r | 1,532 | 3,157 | 14 | 1,590 |
| Hamilton | 1,516 | 247 | 51 | 200 | $n / r$ | $n / r$ | 834 |
| Hancock | 3,175 | 372 | 14,165 | 1,466 | $n / r$ | 11 | 642 |
| Hardin | 11,929 | 333 | 80,781 | 1,161 | $n / r$ | 424 | 836 |
| Harrison | 10,600 | 362 | 1,178 | 3,031 | $n / r$ | $n / r$ | 760 |
| Henry | 5,870 | 176 | 5,212 | 103 | $n / r$ | 0 | 172 |
| Highland | 19,890 | 1,170 | 12,271 | 3,498 | 6,162 | 81 | 1,405 |
| Hocking | 2,144 | 441 | 112 | 363 | 2,009 | 14 | 555 |
| Holmes | 68,072 | 807 | 10,678 | 7,140 | 2,432,940 | 617 | 9,898 |
| Huron | 15,877 | 535 | 19,665 | 1,272 | 312,623 | 86 | 711 |
| Jackson | 10,036 | 502 | 303 | 632 | 2,106 | $n / r$ | 1,037 |
| Jefferson | 7,373 | 362 | 435 | 680 | 1,361 | 42 | 573 |
| Knox | 16,464 | 1,274 | 26,419 | 6,063 | 330,024 | $n / r$ | 2,828 |
| Lake | 478 | 77 | 60 | 130 | $n / r$ | $n / r$ | 400 |
| Lawrence | 5,240 | 637 | 221 | 336 | 1,987 | $n / r$ | 1,052 |

Table A-9: Farm Livestock by County, Selected Breeds, 2012-continued

| County | Cattle | Goats | Hogs | Sheep | Chickens* | Turkeys | Equine |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ohio | 1,242,293 | 51,558 | 2,058,503 | 111,972 | 40,506,716 | 2,096,395 | 114,127 |
| Licking | 21,613 | 924 | 20,003 | 2,618 | n/r | 101 | 2,509 |
| Logan | 9,763 | 496 | 11,214 | 1,888 | 3,926 | 73 | 1,191 |
| Lorain | 8,418 | 345 | 18,863 | 678 | 2,884 | 124 | 1,095 |
| Lucas | n/r | 51 | 11,659 | 133 | 1,261 | 35 | 242 |
| Madison | 15,776 | 213 | 26,663 | 630 | 2,466 | 91 | 955 |
| Mahoning | 15,345 | 229 | 658 | 422 | 371,465 | n/r | 1,480 |
| Marion | 5,862 | 514 | 72,656 | 1,757 | 987 | 76 | 374 |
| Medina | 8,481 | 621 | 500 | 1,233 | 5,486 | 153 | 3,798 |
| Meigs | 7,725 | 577 | 232 | 402 | 5,224 | n/r | 726 |
| Mercer | 66,024 | 618 | 261,390 | 1,229 | n/r | 1,408,779 | 390 |
| Miami | 5,194 | 482 | 13,185 | 1,302 | 3,917 | n/r | 794 |
| Monroe | 14,676 | 666 | 294 | 2,758 | 2,162 | 140 | 907 |
| Montgomery | 8,568 | 474 | 7,112 | 397 | 5,980 | 165 | 1,605 |
| Morgan | 12,523 | 439 | 264 | 847 | 3,039 | n/r | 778 |
| Morrow | 9,669 | 1,065 | 37,622 | 2,759 | 8,237 | 244 | 1,356 |
| Muskingum | 30,710 | 1,075 | 9,015 | 2,998 | n/r | 95 | 1,889 |
| Noble | 12,184 | 562 | 264 | 2,033 | 2,119 | 0 | 758 |
| Ottawa | 988 | 167 | 997 | 155 | 2,708 | n/r | 489 |
| Paulding | 12,730 | 397 | 28,937 | 63 | 499 | n/r | 253 |
| Perry | 8,481 | 1,218 | n/r | 826 | 2,359 | 51 | 751 |
| Pickaway | 8,665 | 401 | 50,517 | 367 | 1,075 | 24 | 806 |
| Pike | 6,543 | 427 | 327 | 256 | 1,561 | 73 | 703 |
| Portage | 7,465 | 616 | 521 | 867 | 4,157 | 127 | 2,111 |
| Preble | 17,735 | 1,206 | 51,185 | 1,205 | 5,511 | n/r | 1,259 |
| Putnam | 13,304 | 676 | 81,249 | 782 | n/r | n/r | 90 |
| Richland | 24,966 | 613 | 27,258 | 1,305 | 530,863 | 135 | 1,603 |
| Ross | 11,827 | 445 | 1,385 | 1,039 | 2,357 | 32 | 1,055 |
| Sandusky | 4,871 | 367 | 6,475 | 947 | 1,292 | 56 | 531 |
| Scioto | 7,997 | 877 | 211 | 360 | n/r | 68 | 1,299 |
| Seneca | 9,157 | 251 | 48,960 | 2,235 | 3,204 | 16 | 307 |
| Shelby | 26,094 | 302 | 101,760 | 1,122 | n/r | 105 | 330 |
| Stark | 20,838 | 914 | 4,217 | 1,213 | 1,341,585 | 306 | 2,332 |
| Summit | 978 | 288 | 113 | 209 | 3,704 | 201 | 730 |
| Trumbull | 11,029 | 410 | 448 | 423 | n/r | 613 | 2,018 |
| Tuscarawas | 27,434 | 1,093 | 2,913 | 2,193 | 540,255 | n/r | 2,161 |
| Union | 8,877 | 914 | 30,513 | 1,330 | n/r | 47 | 1,196 |
| Van Wert | 13,814 | 95 | 79,807 | 428 | $n / r$ | n/r | 188 |
| Vinton | 2,523 | 69 | 175 | 177 | n/r | 10 | 416 |
| Warren | 3,957 | 358 | 911 | 553 | 4,834 | 185 | 2,748 |
| Washington | 18,635 | 486 | 1,375 | 1,228 | 3,242 | 20 | 1,163 |
| Wayne | 99,948 | 1,023 | 62,924 | 6,248 | 5,735,976 | 2,239 | 5,401 |
| Williams | 18,413 | 362 | 10,315 | 702 | 1,163 | n/r | 720 |
| Wood | 5,875 | 458 | 3,609 | 772 | n/r | 129 | 882 |
| Wyandot | 2,368 | 167 | 62,498 | 999 | n/r | 0 | 178 |

$n / r=$ Not reported.
Source: 2012 Agricultural Census, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table A-10: Output Impacts on the Ohio Economy of the Veterinary Services Industry by Sector, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting | 0 | 3,998 | 7,219 | 11,216 |
| Mining | 0 | 1,333 | 1,999 | 3,332 |
| Utilities | 0 | 7,330 | 19,768 | 27,097 |
| Construction | 0 | 5,775 | 6,996 | 12,771 |
| Durable goods manufacturing | 0 | 26,653 | 33,761 | 60,414 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing | 0 | 102,836 | 77,849 | 180,685 |
| Wholesale trade | 0 | 62,079 | 42,423 | 104,502 |
| Retail trade | 0 | 4,886 | 80,181 | 85,068 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 0 | 38,536 | 29,540 | 68,076 |
| Information | 0 | 30,540 | 25,987 | 56,527 |
| Finance and insurance | 0 | 36,537 | 76,961 | 113,497 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0 | 70,075 | 102,059 | 172,134 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services | 1,110,543 | 48,864 | 24,987 | 1,184,394 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 | 31,539 | 14,104 | 45,643 |
| Administrative and waste management services | 0 | 28,208 | 20,545 | 48,753 |
| Educational services | 0 | 666 | 12,882 | 13,549 |
| Health care and social assistance | 0 | 7,552 | 107,612 | 115,163 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 0 | 4,664 | 11,328 | 15,992 |
| Accommodation | 0 | 3,776 | 4,442 | 8,218 |
| Food services and drinking places | 0 | 22,766 | 31,095 | 53,861 |
| Other services and government | 0 | 20,434 | 37,758 | 58,192 |
| Total | 1,110,543 | 559,047 | 769,495 | 2,439,085 |

Table A-11: Earnings Impacts on the Ohio Economy of the Veterinary Services Industry by Sector, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting | 0 | 666 | 1,555 | 2,221 |
| Mining | 0 | 222 | 333 | 555 |
| Utilities | 0 | 1,111 | 2,887 | 3,998 |
| Construction | 0 | 1,888 | 2,221 | 4,109 |
| Durable goods manufacturing | 0 | 5,553 | 6,330 | 11,883 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing | 0 | 18,102 | 12,549 | 30,651 |
| Wholesale trade | 0 | 19,212 | 13,215 | 32,428 |
| Retail trade | 0 | 1,777 | 28,430 | 30,207 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 0 | 11,772 | 9,440 | 21,211 |
| Information | 0 | 6,330 | 5,108 | 11,439 |
| Finance and insurance | 0 | 9,551 | 19,212 | 28,763 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0 | 10,883 | 15,992 | 26,875 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services | 438,097 | 25,555 | 11,216 | 474,868 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 | 12,660 | 5,664 | 18,324 |
| Administrative and waste management services | 0 | 11,883 | 8,995 | 20,878 |
| Educational services | 0 | 333 | 5,997 | 6,330 |
| Health care and social assistance | 0 | 3,332 | 48,309 | 51,640 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 0 | 1,777 | 3,554 | 5,331 |
| Accommodation | 0 | 999 | 1,333 | 2,332 |
| Food services and drinking places | 0 | 7,774 | 10,217 | 17,991 |
| Other services and government | 0 | 10,106 | 14,659 | 24,765 |
| Households | 0 | 0 | 1,111 | 1,111 |
| Total | 438,097 | 161,485 | 228,328 | 827,910 |

Table A-12: Employment Impacts on the Ohio Economy of the Veterinary Services Industry by Sector, 2015

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting | 0 | 32 | 67 | 99 |
| Mining | 0 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Utilities | 0 | 10 | 27 | 37 |
| Construction | 0 | 35 | 44 | 79 |
| Durable goods manufacturing | 0 | 91 | 109 | 200 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing | 0 | 255 | 212 | 467 |
| Wholesale trade | 0 | 284 | 194 | 479 |
| Retail trade | 0 | 61 | 1,081 | 1,142 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 0 | 259 | 201 | 460 |
| Information | 0 | 102 | 85 | 187 |
| Finance and insurance | 0 | 171 | 361 | 532 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0 | 642 | 985 | 1,628 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services | 12,877 | 409 | 199 | 13,485 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 | 123 | 55 | 179 |
| Administrative and waste management services | 0 | 362 | 287 | 649 |
| Educational services | 0 | 11 | 244 | 255 |
| Health care and social assistance | 0 | 59 | 1,057 | 1,117 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 0 | 78 | 160 | 238 |
| Accommodation | 0 | 39 | 46 | 85 |
| Food services and drinking places | 0 | 422 | 569 | 991 |
| Other services and government | 0 | 316 | 431 | 747 |
| Households | 0 | 0 | 101 | 101 |
| Total | 12,877 | 3,766 | 6,520 | 23,163 |

Table A-13: Output Impacts on the Ohio Economy of Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries and Ohio State Institutions by Sector, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting | 769,870 | 484,248 | 31,891 | 1,286,009 |
| Mining | 0 | 26,543 | 8,953 | 35,496 |
| Utilities | 0 | 80,612 | 87,227 | 167,839 |
| Construction | 0 | 37,338 | 31,073 | 68,412 |
| Durable goods manufacturing | 0 | 245,613 | 149,029 | 394,642 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing | 1,179,412 | 876,301 | 343,887 | 2,399,600 |
| Wholesale trade | 755,150 | 403,983 | 187,248 | 1,346,381 |
| Retail trade | 324,131 | 24,894 | 354,247 | 703,272 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 0 | 303,396 | 130,656 | 434,052 |
| Information | 0 | 114,031 | 114,802 | 228,833 |
| Finance and insurance | 0 | 247,843 | 339,916 | 587,760 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0 | 270,536 | 450,570 | 721,106 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services | 2,093,934 | 299,360 | 110,358 | 2,503,652 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 | 143,544 | 62,005 | 205,549 |
| Administrative and waste management services | 0 | 173,363 | 90,675 | 264,038 |
| Educational services | 46,912 | 8,996 | 56,721 | 112,629 |
| Health care and social assistance | 0 | 9,452 | 474,991 | 484,443 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 297,577 | 20,151 | 49,904 | 367,632 |
| Accommodation | 0 | 7,374 | 19,758 | 27,131 |
| Food services and drinking places | 0 | 42,719 | 137,158 | 179,877 |
| Other services and government | 197,765 | 71,336 | 166,684 | 435,785 |
| Total | 5,664,751 | 3,891,634 | 3,397,753 | 12,954,138 |

Table A-14: Earnings Impacts on the Ohio Economy of Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries and Ohio State Institutions by Sector, 2015 (in thousands of dollars)

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting | 231,436 | 7,147 | 6,914 | 245,497 |
| Mining | 0 | 4,304 | 1,501 | 5,805 |
| Utilities | 0 | 11,724 | 12,797 | 24,521 |
| Construction | 0 | 12,012 | 9,989 | 22,001 |
| Durable goods manufacturing | 0 | 44,678 | 27,828 | 72,506 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing | 186,137 | 127,530 | 55,807 | 369,474 |
| Wholesale trade | 179,485 | 179,738 | 58,683 | 417,906 |
| Retail trade | 83,793 | 34,928 | 125,792 | 244,514 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 0 | 94,289 | 41,748 | 136,037 |
| Information | 0 | 26,427 | 22,673 | 49,100 |
| Finance and insurance | 0 | 63,443 | 84,883 | 148,326 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0 | 42,911 | 70,597 | 113,508 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services | 783,124 | 113,144 | 50,773 | 947,041 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 | 57,631 | 25,037 | 82,668 |
| Administrative and waste management services | 0 | 78,870 | 39,721 | 118,591 |
| Educational services | 22,985 | 4,067 | 26,580 | 53,632 |
| Health care and social assistance | 0 | 4,191 | 213,442 | 217,632 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 90,832 | 33,203 | 16,078 | 140,113 |
| Accommodation | 0 | 2,025 | 5,616 | 7,641 |
| Food services and drinking places | 0 | 14,382 | 45,013 | 59,395 |
| Other services and government | 64,521 | 48,172 | 64,957 | 177,650 |
| Households | 0 | 0 | 4,932 | 4,932 |
| Total | 1,642,313 | 1,004,816 | 1,011,361 | 3,658,489 |

Table A-15: Employment Impacts on the Ohio Economy of Veterinary and Animal-Related Industries and Ohio State Institutions by Sector, 2015

|  | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting | 6,768 | 3,843 | 295 | 10,905 |
| Mining | 0 | 56 | 21 | 77 |
| Utilities | 0 | 110 | 119 | 229 |
| Construction | 0 | 230 | 192 | 422 |
| Durable goods manufacturing | 0 | 741 | 479 | 1,220 |
| Nondurable goods manufacturing | 2,851 | 2,318 | 938 | 6,107 |
| Wholesale trade | 3,460 | 1,851 | 858 | 6,169 |
| Retail trade | 4,404 | 309 | 4,773 | 9,486 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 0 | 1,879 | 888 | 2,767 |
| Information | 0 | 421 | 374 | 795 |
| Finance and insurance | 0 | 1,083 | 1,594 | 2,678 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 0 | 2,392 | 4,351 | 6,743 |
| Professional, scientific, and technical services | 16,717 | 2,328 | 880 | 19,926 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 0 | 562 | 243 | 805 |
| Administrative and waste management services | 0 | 2,380 | 1,269 | 3,649 |
| Educational services | 450 | 163 | 1,076 | 1,690 |
| Health care and social assistance | 0 | 75 | 4,668 | 4,743 |
| Arts, entertainment, and recreation | 3,737 | 337 | 706 | 4,780 |
| Accommodation | 0 | 76 | 205 | 281 |
| Food services and drinking places | 0 | 788 | 2,511 | 3,299 |
| Other services and government | 3,585 | 867 | 1,901 | 6,353 |
| Households | 0 | 0 | 444 | 444 |
| Total | 41,972 | 22,812 | 28,785 | 93,569 |

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[^0]:    *Adjusted for inflation
    Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

[^1]:    4 Assuming that the 16.2 percent national proportion of selfemployed veterinarians also applies in Ohio, adding these to the payroll total gives a point estimate of approximately 3,470 with an approximate range between 2,950 and 4,000. This is consistent with the 3,300 estimate in the text.
    5 Email from Jack Advent, executive director, Ohio Veterinary Medical Association, June 26, 2017.

[^2]:    Source: U.S. Pet Ownership Statistics, American Veterinary Medical Association; American Community Survey, One-Year Estimates, 2012, U.S. Census Bureau.

[^3]:    6 Because self-employment income is not available, the output estimates are somewhat understated.

[^4]:    9 Veterinary Economics Division, American Veterinary Medical Association. AVMA 2015 Report on Veterinary Debt and Income, April 2015, p. 19.
    10 The median (50th percentile) represents the debt burden of the typical graduate. In 2016, this was $\$ 160,000$ for all graduates and $\$ 176,000$ for those graduating with at least some debt. The Ohio State medians were $\$ 213,000$ for all students and $\$ 227,500$ for those with debt.

[^5]:    11 Veterinary Economics Division, American Veterinary Medical Association. 2015 AVMA Report on the Market for Veterinary Education, October 2015, p. 49.

[^6]:    12 "Testimony of Rustin M. Moore, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVS, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University, Senate Finance Higher Education Subcommittee," May 18, 2017.

