

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM

PICKAWAY COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024





65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

Board of Directors
Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program
9579 Tarlton Road
Circleville, Ohio 43113

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program, Pickaway County, prepared by Wilson, Shannon & Snow, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 08, 2025

This page intentionally left blank.

**PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT	1
MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	5
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:	
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION	9
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION	10
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	11
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	13
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:	
TEN-YEAR LOSS DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION	23
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY <i>GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS</i>	27

This page intentionally left blank.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program
Pickaway County
9579 Tarlton Road
Circleville, Ohio 43113

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program, Pickaway County, Ohio (the Program), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Program's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program, Pickaway County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Program, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Program's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Program's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *management's discussion and analysis*, and ten-year loss development information, listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program
Pickaway County
Independent Auditor's Report

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 27, 2025, on our consideration of the Program's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Program's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Wilson, Shuman & Son, Inc.

January 27, 2025
Newark, Ohio

THIS PAGE
INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)

The management's discussion and analysis of the Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program's (the "Program") financial performance provides an overall review of the Program's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Program's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Program's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- In total, net position was \$3,851,152 at June 30, 2024. This represents a decrease of \$375,295, or 8.88% from June 30, 2023's net position.
- The Program had operating revenues of \$18,824,105 and operating expenses of \$19,383,061 for fiscal year 2024. The Program had \$183,661 in investment income. Operating loss for the fiscal year was \$558,956.

Using these Basic Financial Statements

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the Program's financial activities. The *statement of net position* and *statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position* provide information about the activities of the Program, including all short-term and long-term financial resources and obligations. The *statement of cash flows* provides information about cash provided by or used in various activities of the Program.

Reporting the Program Financial Activities

Statement of net position, statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position and the statement of cash flows

These documents look at all financial transactions and ask the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2024?" The statement of net position and the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position answer this question. These statements include *all assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses* using the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting will take into account all of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The statement of net position and the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position report the Program's *net position* and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Program as a whole, the *financial position* of the Program has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not.

The statement of cash flows provides information about how the Program finances and meets the cash flow needs of its operations.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information related to a ten-year loss development schedule.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)

Net Position and Changes in Net Position

The table below provides a summary of the Program's net position for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,872,808	\$ 2,445,401
Investments	1,892,388	1,830,131
Receivables (net of allowance for uncollectibles):		
Accounts	306,776	451,185
Accrued interest	11,327	10,066
Due from members	<u>182,369</u>	<u>790,441</u>
Total assets	<u>5,265,668</u>	<u>5,527,224</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>		
Accounts payable	5,375	5,647
Claims payable	1,386,789	1,227,671
Due to members	22,352	-
Unearned revenue	<u>-</u>	<u>67,459</u>
Total liabilities	<u>1,414,516</u>	<u>1,300,777</u>
<u>Net Position:</u>		
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 3,851,152</u>	<u>\$ 4,226,447</u>

The assets of the Program are comprised mainly of cash and cash equivalents and investments. The Program established premiums at a level to build reserves should claims payments fluctuate in a given year. The Program will continue to monitor and assess premiums for their sufficiency to cover claims expenses and continue to support reserve levels.

The liability for claims payable is calculated by the Program's independent actuary and estimates the claims incurred and due at June 30, 2024. This amount is reflected net of stop-loss reimbursements due to the Program at June 30, 2024. Accounts payable has been reported for miscellaneous fees and amounts due to members relate to refunds due to an analysis of reserves for the Program.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)

The table below shows the changes in net position for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

Change in Net Position

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Operating revenues:</u>		
Member contributions	\$ 17,684,095	\$ 17,162,513
Rebates	1,140,010	1,015,645
Other operating revenues	-	5,820
Total operating revenues	<u>18,824,105</u>	<u>18,183,978</u>
<u>Operating expenses:</u>		
Claims	16,524,301	14,982,185
Administrative fees	2,721,304	2,441,327
Brokerage service fees	77,969	77,185
Miscellaneous fees	59,487	78,722
Total operating expenses	<u>19,383,061</u>	<u>17,579,419</u>
Operating income (loss)	<u>(558,956)</u>	<u>604,559</u>
<u>Nonoperating revenues:</u>		
Investment income	<u>183,661</u>	<u>77,018</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>183,661</u>	<u>77,018</u>
Change in net position	(375,295)	681,577
Net position at beginning of fiscal year	<u>4,226,447</u>	<u>3,544,870</u>
Net position at end of fiscal year	<u>\$ 3,851,152</u>	<u>\$ 4,226,447</u>

Operating expenses exceeded operating member contributions and rebates in fiscal year 2024. Sufficient participant contributions are required to ensure that the Program meets claims expenses. The increase in member contributions was mainly due an increase in premiums charged to members during fiscal year 2024. The Program invested in STAR Ohio, U.S. Government money markets, federal agency securities, U.S. Treasury notes, commercial paper and negotiable CDs during fiscal year 2024. The fair value of investments fluctuates from year-to-year and caused an increase in investment income due to favorable interest rates earned on investments. The Program intends to hold all investment to maturity thus eliminating the risk due to fluctuations their fair value while capturing the interest offered by the investments.

Claims expense represents 85.25% and 85.23% of all expenses for fiscal year 2024 and 2023, respectively. The Program aims to maintain premium revenues at a level sufficient to exceed current year claims expense. Claims expense was 87.78% and 82.39% of total fiscal year 2024 and 2023 operating revenues, respectively. The Program uses United Healthcare as the third-party administrator for the medical and pharmacy plan and Delta Dental as the third-party administrator for the dental plan.

Current Financial Related Activities

The Program is committed to providing its members with the advantages of a large buying cooperative, while maintaining control by the local district leadership. The Program will continue to look at potential members who meet the established criteria. Underwriting considerations are of utmost importance in reviewing new membership applications, as the Program is committed to protecting the long-term financial interests of its core members, and will not admit a new member that will adversely impact premiums and claims payments.

**PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

The Program requires its member school districts to participate in the medical, pharmacy and dental insurance program. The Program Board of Directors and its administrative agent, CBIZ Benefits & Insurances, Inc., continually discuss program enhancements to the existing product line. Establishing premiums that satisfy all claims, administration fees, and other expenses of the Program, in addition to enhancing the net position is important for the short-term and long-term interests of the Program.

The most significant challenge facing the Program's Board of Directors is the current trend of skyrocketing health care costs, primarily medical and pharmacy. These two programs were the impetus that brought the member school districts together in an attempt to benefit from the economies of scale, in lieu of each individual district independently entering the insurance marketplace. As the claims costs for medical and prescription drug continue to escalate, the Board of Directors is faced with the unenviable task of attempting to balance a quality benefits offering within the financial constraints facing Ohio's public school districts. This is much the same as the dilemma facing American businesses today, and is complicated by the fact that each member school district in the Program must collectively bargain benefit levels with the respective employee unions. The challenge is set before the Program and its Board of Directors, and the future looks better from the collective, as opposed to individual, view of the four member school districts and one ESC.

Contacting the Program's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our member school districts, potential member school districts and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Program's finances and to show the Program's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact Mr. Steve McAfee, Treasurer, Logan Elm Local School District, 9579 Tarlton Road, Circleville, Ohio 43113.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024

Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,872,808
Investments	1,892,388
Receivables:	
Accounts	306,776
Accrued interest	11,327
Due from members	<u>182,369</u>
Total assets	<u>5,265,668</u>

Liabilities:

Accounts payable	5,375
Claims payable	1,386,789
Due to members	<u>22,352</u>
Total liabilities	<u>1,414,516</u>

Net position:

Unrestricted	<u>3,851,152</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 3,851,152</u></u>

THE NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT

**PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES,
AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Operating revenues:	
Member contributions	\$ 17,684,095
Rebates	<u>1,140,010</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>18,824,105</u>
Operating expenses:	
Claims	16,524,301
Administrative fees	2,721,304
Brokerage service fees	77,969
Miscellaneous fees	<u>59,487</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>19,383,061</u>
Operating loss	<u>(558,956)</u>
Nonoperating revenues:	
Investment income	<u>183,661</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>183,661</u>
Change in net position	(375,295)
Net position at beginning of fiscal year	<u>4,226,447</u>
Net position at end of fiscal year	<u><u>\$ 3,851,152</u></u>

THE NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Cash flows from operating activities:	
Cash received from member contributions	\$ 18,319,750
Cash received from rebates	1,211,729
Cash payments for claims	(16,365,183)
Cash payments for administrative fees	(2,721,576)
Cash payments for brokerage service fees	(77,969)
Cash payments for miscellaneous fees	(59,487)
	<hr/>
Net cash provided by operating activities	307,264
Cash flows from investing activities:	
Investments sold	662,771
Investments purchased	(684,278)
Interest income	141,650
	<hr/>
Net cash provided by investing activities	120,143
Net change in cash	427,407
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of fiscal year	<hr/> 2,445,401
Cash and cash equivalents at end of fiscal year	<hr/> \$ 2,872,808 <hr/>
Reconciliation of Operating loss to	
Net cash provided by operating activities	
Operating loss	\$ (558,956)
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Decrease in accounts receivable	144,409
Decrease in due from members	608,072
(Decrease) in accounts payable	(272)
Increase in due to members	22,352
Increase in claims payable	159,118
(Decrease) in unearned revenue	(67,459)
	<hr/>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<hr/> \$ 307,264 <hr/>

THE NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT

THIS PAGE
INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

**PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

The Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program (the “Program”) is a legally separate entity organized under Ohio Revised Code Section 9.833. The Program was established on July 1, 2009, formed by the boards of education of the Circleville City, Logan Elm Local, Teays Valley Local and Westfall Local school districts for the provision of health care and dental benefits (effective July 1, 2011) to the eligible officials and employees of those districts and their eligible dependents. Pickaway County Educational Service Center joined the Program during fiscal year 2021.

The Program is a shared risk pool as defined by Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 10 as amended by GASB Statement No. 30. It was formed to carry out a cooperative program for the provisions and administration of health care benefits for member employees in accordance with the Program bylaws.

The governing body of the Program is the Board of Directors. Each member is represented on the Board of Directors by their superintendent or his or her designee. All representatives serve without compensation.

The Program’s management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Program is financially accountable.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Program have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to local governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Program's significant accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, “The Financial Reporting Entity” as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, “Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units” and GASB Statement No. 61, “The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an Amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34”. The reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the basic financial statements of the Program are not misleading. On this basis, no governmental organizations other than the Program itself are included in the financial reporting entity.

B. Fund Accounting

The Program maintains its accounting records in accordance with the principles of “fund” accounting. Fund accounting is a concept developed to meet the needs of government entities in which legal or other restraints require the recording of specific receipts and disbursements. The Program uses an enterprise fund to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, where the intent of the governing body is that the costs of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

C. Basis of Accounting/Masurement Focus

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

For financial statement presentation purposes, the Program utilizes the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method of accounting, revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred.

The Program's activities are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the Program's operations are included on the statement of net position. The statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net position.

The Program distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues generally result from participants contributions for insurance coverage and stop loss insurance premiums. Operating expenses for the Program include the payment of claims, premiums, administrative fees, brokerage service fees and miscellaneous fees. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

D. Cash Equivalents and Investments

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or disbursements, respectively. Investments were limited to STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), U.S. Government money markets, Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) securities, Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA) securities, negotiable certificates of deposit (CDs), U.S. Treasury notes and commercial paper. Investments are reported at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices.

The Program invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The Program measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

For purposes of reporting on the statement of net position, investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Program are considered to be "cash equivalents". Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are considered to be "investments".

An analysis of the Program's investments at fiscal year-end is provided in Note 3.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

E. Member and Supplemental Contributions

Member contributions are calculated to annually produce a sufficient sum of money within the self-insurance pool to fund claims, insurance premiums and administrative costs of the Program, and to create and maintain reserves. Under the terms of membership, the Directors may also include any other adjustments to the Program costs to be paid by any member or all members that it believes are necessary or appropriate for the prudent management of the Program, including allowance for wellness programs and other related programs or services.

F. Budgetary Process

Each member school district of the Program is required by Ohio law to adopt an annual budget. The Program itself is not required to follow the budgetary process and, therefore, no budgetary information is provided in these basic financial statements.

G. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The Program had no restricted net position at fiscal year-end.

H. Fair Value Measurements

The Program categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

I. Estimates

The preparation of the basic financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the basic financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The Program's investment policy dictates that cash and investments be maintained in compliance with all applicable laws governing the operation of the Program, including the Ohio Revised Code Section 135.03.

The Program is permitted to deposit or invest in the following:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

Protection of the deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutions participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Program, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

The amounts held in the depository accounts and the investment accounts at fiscal year year-end are described below.

A. Deposits Held in Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount and the bank balance of the Program's deposits held in financial institutions was \$1,117,944 and \$879,795, respectively. Of the bank balance, \$500,000 was covered by the FDIC and \$379,795 was either covered by the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS) or was potentially exposed to custodial credit risk below because those deposits were uninsured and could be uncollateralized.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Program will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Program has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the Program and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State. For fiscal year 2024, the Program's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 50 percent through the OPCS. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the Program to a successful claim by the FDIC.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the Program had the following investments and maturities:

Measurement/Investment Type:	Measurement Value	Investment Maturities				
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
<i>Amortized cost:</i>						
STAR Ohio	\$ 1,702,646	\$ 1,702,646	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Fair value:</i>						
U.S. Government						
money market	52,218	52,218	-	-	-	-
FFCB	226,417	-	126,352	-	-	100,065
FHLMC	42,245	-	-	42,245	-	-
FNMA	127,321	-	-	127,321	-	-
Negotiable CDs	859,912	542,299	104,939	212,674	-	-
U.S. Treasury notes	250,064	-	-	48,705	100,148	101,211
Commercial paper	386,429	-	386,429	-	-	-
Total	\$ 3,647,252	\$ 2,297,163	\$ 617,720	\$ 430,945	\$ 100,148	\$ 201,276

The weighted average of maturity of investments is 0.58 years.

The Program's investment in the U.S. Government money market is valued using quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1 inputs). The Program's investments in federal agency securities (FFCB, FHLMC, FNMA), negotiable CDs, U.S. Treasury notes and commercial paper are valued using quoted prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

Interest Rate Risk: As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the Program's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: The Program's investments in STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAAM by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The Program's investments in federal agency securities and U.S. Treasury notes were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. The Program's investments in negotiable CDs and the U.S. Government money market were not rated. The negotiable CDs are covered by FDIC. The Program has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in State statutes.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Program will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the Program's name. The Program has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Program places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the Program at June 30, 2024:

<u>Measurement/Investment Type:</u>	<u>Measurement</u>	
	<u>Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<i>Amortized cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	\$ 1,702,646	46.68
<i>Fair Value:</i>		
U.S. Government money market	52,218	1.43
FFCB	226,417	6.21
FHLMC	42,245	1.16
FNMA	127,321	3.49
Negotiable CDs	859,912	23.58
U.S. Treasury notes	250,064	6.86
Commerical paper	386,429	10.59
Total	<u>\$ 3,647,252</u>	<u>100.00</u>

NOTE 4 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Program contracts with United Healthcare and Delta Dental as third-party administrators to process and pay claims incurred by its members for the medical and pharmacy program and for the dental program, respectively. Members pay monthly premiums to the Program based upon their plan design, the overall experience of the pool, and each member's individual rating. The Treasurer issues payments to the third-party administrator for actual insurance claims processed and administrative charges.

The Program employs reinsurance agreements (stop-loss coverage) to reduce its risk that large losses may be incurred on medical claims. This allows the Program to recover a portion of losses on claims from re-insurers, although it does not discharge their primary liability.

It is not necessary for each member school district to hold a reserve for Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR) claims. The IBNR information is presented by the Program as required by GASB Statement No. 10, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues", as amended by GASB Statement No. 30, "Risk Financing Omnibus", and is not available on a District-by-District basis.

The claims liability of \$1,386,789 reported at June 30, 2024, is based on an actuarial estimate provided by the third party administrator and the requirements of GASB Statement No. 10 as amended by GASB Statement No. 30, which requires that a liability for unpaid claims costs, including estimates of costs relating to incurred but not reported claims, be accrued at the estimated ultimate cost of settling the claims.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 4 - RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

Changes in claims activity for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 were as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Claims payable at beginning of fiscal year	\$ 1,227,671	\$ 1,181,103
<u>Claims expenses:</u>		
Claims expenses for insured events of the current period	17,077,638	15,437,751
Change in claims expenses for insured events of the prior years	<u>(553,337)</u>	<u>(455,566)</u>
Total claims expenses	<u>16,524,301</u>	<u>14,982,185</u>
<u>Payments:</u>		
Claims expenses paid attributable to insured events of the current year	15,219,201	13,738,432
Claims expenses paid attributable to insured events of prior years	<u>1,145,982</u>	<u>1,197,185</u>
Total claims payments	<u>16,365,183</u>	<u>14,935,617</u>
Claims payable at end of fiscal year	<u>\$ 1,386,789</u>	<u>\$ 1,227,671</u>

NOTE 5 - LITIGATION

The Program is not party to legal proceedings which, in the opinion of Program management, would have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the Program.

NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES

All receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectible amounts, as applicable, and are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of receivables previously written off are recorded when received. At June 30, 2024, the Program reported receivables of \$306,776, \$182,369 and \$11,327 for rebates, amounts due from members and accrued interest receivable for accrued interest on investments, respectively. These receivables are expected to be collected within one year.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

**PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO**

TEN-YEAR LOSS DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION

The following table illustrates how the Program's earned revenue and investment income compares to related costs of loss and other expenses assumed by the Program as of the end of the year. The rows of the table are defined as follows:

- (1) This line shows the total of each fiscal year's gross earned premiums and reported investment income.
- (2) This line shows each fiscal year's other operating costs of the Program including overhead and loss adjustment expenses not allocable to individual claims.
- (3) This line shows the Program's gross incurred losses and allocated loss adjustment expense as originally reported at the end of the year in which the event that triggered coverage occurred (called accident year).
- (4) This section shows the cumulative net amounts paid as of the end of the accident year.
- (5) This section shows how each accident year's net incurred losses increased or decreased as of the end of the year. (This annual re-estimation results from new information received on known losses, re-evaluation of existing information on known losses and emergence of new losses not previously known).
- (6) This line compares the latest re-estimated net incurred losses amount to the amount originally established (line 3) and shows whether this latest estimate of losses is greater or less than originally thought.

As data for individual accident years mature, the correlation between original estimates and re-estimated amounts is commonly used to evaluate the accuracy of net incurred losses currently recognized in less mature accident years. The columns of the table show data for successive accident years.

PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM
PICKAWAY COUNTY, OHIO

TEN-YEAR LOSS DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
1. Premiums and investment income ⁽¹⁾	\$ 12,374,345	\$ 12,087,331	\$ 12,232,025	\$ 13,105,778
2. Unallocated expenses ⁽¹⁾	1,556,244	1,631,235	1,729,362	1,819,621
3. Estimated losses incurred and expense, end of year	10,939,326	10,714,720	11,742,558	12,193,307
4. Paid, cumulative as of:				
End of accident year	9,412,406	9,360,772	10,353,310	10,762,659
One year later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Two years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Three years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Four years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Five years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Six years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Seven years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	-
Eight years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	-	-
Nine years later	10,086,426	-	-	-
5. Re-estimated incurred losses and expense:				
End of accident year	10,939,326	10,714,720	11,742,558	12,193,307
One year later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Two years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Three years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Four years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Five years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Six years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	11,821,982
Seven years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	11,042,539	-
Eight years later	10,086,426	10,034,740	-	-
Nine years later	10,086,426	-	-	-
6. Change in estimated incurred losses and expenses from end of accident year	(852,900)	(679,980)	(700,019)	(371,325)

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Information for 2015 and 2016 presented on the cash-basis of accounting.

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
\$ 12,988,619	\$ 12,546,440	\$ 13,050,384	\$ 14,774,436	\$ 17,239,531	\$ 17,867,756
1,844,960	2,302,428	2,327,047	2,883,434	2,597,234	2,858,760
12,031,659	10,842,502	11,381,954	13,444,269	15,437,751	17,077,638
10,575,611	9,518,854	9,911,506	11,791,518	13,738,432	15,219,201
11,524,902	10,223,182	10,815,212	12,988,703	14,883,854	-
11,524,902	10,223,182	10,815,212	12,989,143	-	-
11,524,902	10,223,182	10,815,332	-	-	-
11,524,902	10,223,182	-	-	-	-
11,524,902	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
12,031,659	10,845,502	11,381,954	13,444,269	15,437,751	17,077,638
11,524,902	10,223,182	10,815,212	12,988,703	14,883,854	-
11,524,902	10,223,182	10,815,212	12,989,143	-	-
11,524,902	10,223,182	10,815,332	-	-	-
11,524,902	10,223,182	-	-	-	-
11,524,902	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
(506,757)	(622,320)	(566,622)	(455,126)	(553,897)	-

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL
OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER
MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program
Pickaway County
9579 Tarlton Road
Circleville, Ohio 43113

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program, Pickaway County, (the Program) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Program's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 27, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Program's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purposes of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Program's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Pickaway County Public Employee Benefits Program
Pickaway County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial
Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required
By *Government Auditing Standards*

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Program's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Program's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Wilson, Shannon E. Shaw, Inc.

January 27, 2025
Newark, Ohio

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



PICKAWAY COUNTY PUBLIC EMPLOYEES BENEFITS PROGRAM

PICKAWAY COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 4/22/2025

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov