



*Stronger Counties. Stronger Ohio.*

209 East State Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309  
Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986  
Toll Free: 888-757-1904 • [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)

Cheryl Subler, Executive Director

**May 6, 2020**

**TO:** ALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY EXECUTIVES, COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS,  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS AND COUNTY CLERKS

**FROM:** CHERYL SUBLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RACHEL MASSOUD, POLICY ANALYST  
ADAM SCHWIEBERT, POLICY ANALYST

**RE:** MAY 6, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATES

### Key Resources

1. [CAB: COVID-19 Employment Related FAQs](#)
2. [CAB: Layoffs and Furloughs Under Civil Service Law](#)
3. [Treasury Guidance CARES Act Funds 4.22.2020](#)
4. [Treasury FAQs 5.4.2020](#)
5. [CAB: COVID-19 and Collective Bargaining Issues](#)
6. [Reopening Information](#)

[CCAO COVID-19 Resources Page](#)

**Note: Gov. DeWine did not hold a press conference today but plans to resume his weekday press conferences tomorrow at 2 p.m.**

### **April Preliminary Revenue Data Released, Deep Declines in Revenues Apparent**

The State Office of Budget and Management today released [preliminary revenue data](#) for April 2020. A fuller impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was evident in the data, with state General Revenue Fund receipts coming in 35 percent under estimate for the month. Tax receipts for the state fiscal year through April were below estimate by \$777 million.

Of particular interest to counties is sales and use tax performance. April sales and use revenues were below estimate by 24 percent, with non-auto sales missing estimates by 17.7 percent and non-auto coming 57.3 percent under estimate. These underperformances will be felt by counties later this summer when distributions are made to counties and transit authorities.

The full preliminary fiscal report can be accessed [here](#).

### **SB 310 passes Senate unanimously, heads to House for consideration**



Fax: 614-220-0209  
[www.corsa.org](http://www.corsa.org)



Fax: 614-229-4588  
[www.cebco.org](http://www.cebco.org)



Fax: 614-221-6986  
[www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)

Senate Bill 310, sponsored by Sen. Matt Dolan, unanimously passed the Ohio Senate today. The bill would distribute federal CARES Act funds to Ohio counties, municipalities and townships not receiving a direct distribution from the U.S. Treasury Department. \$350 million in federal funds would be allocated to local governments utilizing the Local Government Fund formula, with a later redistribution of unused funds partially dispersed according to population. The bill was amended to require that, in order to receive funding, local governments must pass a resolution or ordinance affirming that the funds will be expended in compliance with the requirements of the CARES Act. The full bill text can be found [here](#). To read CCAO's joint proponent testimony with other local government associations, click [here](#). The joint local government association statement thanking Sen. Dolan and the Senate for unanimous passage of the bill can be found [here](#). SB 310 now heads to the Ohio House of Representatives for consideration.

**Ohio Department of Taxation to discuss release of preliminary county sales tax data on tomorrow's CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO COVID-19 Weekly Briefing Call**

On tomorrow's weekly briefing call, three staff members from the Ohio Department of Taxation will discuss the status of their efforts to create a process to share preliminary county sales tax data with CCAO members in advance of the revenue distribution date. This has been a high priority for CCAO since the COVID-19 situation began in March in order to assist county budget decisions. The ODT staff members are Greg Siegfried, Deputy Tax Commissioner; Michael O'Leary, Chief Fiscal Officer – Fiscal Services; and Leslie Berning, Revenue Accounting Administrator – Fiscal Services. ODT staff will make a brief presentation and CCAO members will have an opportunity to ask questions.

The call will take place **tomorrow, Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.** The call-in information is:

**Dial 1-877-273-4202  
Access code 889-229-624**

We ask that participants pose questions during the call by **texting** Rachel Massoud (CCAO policy analyst) at **513-543-3723**. Rachel will read the questions to our speaker(s) and state the name and title of the person who posed the question. Participants will remain muted throughout the duration of the call. We hope this format will keep our calls focused and concise and provide the best experience possible for our participants.

**Ohio EMA Presentation on FEMA Public Assistance Program for COVID-19 – May 7<sup>th</sup>**

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency is will present **tomorrow, Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>** on the FEMA Public Assistance Program for COVID-19. The presentation will occur **at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.** The information in each presentation will be the same. Laura Adcock, Disaster Recovery Branch Chief/State Public Assistance Officer, Ohio EMA will present.

**To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone, click this link:**

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/984608005>

**You can also dial in using your phone:**

United States: [+1 \(224\) 501-3412](tel:+12245013412)

**Access Code:** 984-608-005

**To join from a video-conferencing room or system:**

Dial in or type: 67.217.95.2 or [inroomlink.goto.com](https://inroomlink.goto.com)

Meeting ID: 984 608 005

Or dial directly: [984608005@67.217.95.2](tel:984608005@67.217.95.2) or 67.217.95.2##984608005

## **COVID-19 Cases and Deaths in Ohio**

Gov. DeWine did not hold a press conference today. Ohio now has 21,576 COVID-19 cases. There have been 1,225 COVID-19 related deaths. These numbers include both confirmed and probable cases as reported by ODH.

## **County Reentry and Return to Work Documents**

As counties begin to reopen their buildings and have employees return to work, CCAO wanted to provide some examples of policies for employees and visitors that are being put into place. If you wish to share your examples, please send them to Rachel Massoud at [rmassoud@ccao.org](mailto:rmassoud@ccao.org).

## **Upcoming CCAO Webinars – May 13<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>**

CCAO is sponsoring two webinars next week. Details for each webinar and links to register are below:

### **Navigating the Workplace Accommodation Process**

**Wednesday, May 13 at 9:00 a.m.**

Public employers must operate under a variety of rules and regulations stemming from a multitude of laws governing the workplace. One such occurrence is when an employee requests a leave of absence or an accommodation for an illness, injury, religious belief or pregnancy. If such requests are not handled properly, an employer could face liability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

This webinar will provide an overview of the accommodation process and discuss management’s responsibilities during the interactive process when faced with an employee’s request for an accommodation. Case law will be reviewed throughout.

Further, the webinar will discuss the legal landscape of workplace accommodations in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Presenter: Brad E. Bennett, Bricker & Eckler

[Click here](#) to register for this timely educational opportunity. If you are unable to register to the link above, please email [Nedra Benson](mailto:nbenson@ccao.org), nbenson@ccao.org, CCAO administrative professional, and provide her with your email address.

### **CCAO and Montrose Group COVID 19 Economic Recovery Webinar Series: County Models and State & Federal Funding Approaches**

**Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.**

COVID 19's public health impact is just the start. Strategies designed to slow the spread of the virus caused a nearly 5% drop in the U.S. GDP in the first quarter of 2020, sales tax revenues in March for the state of Ohio dropped 8% and the impact on county government from a revenue decline and service expansion will be challenging. Please join the Montrose Group, a Columbus, Ohio based economic development and public policy consulting firm, for a free webinar to learn about how counties can craft a COVID 19 economic recovery strategy. The discussion will include creative county approaches to COVID 19 economic recovery and how state and federal funding approaches can play a role in COVID 19 economic recovery.

[Click here](#) to register to this timely educational opportunity.

### **Other Resources**

[ODJFS Updated Q&A Document 5.6.2020](#)

[Editable #InThisTogetherOhio Logo](#)

[NACo COVID-19 webpage](#)

Visit <https://ccao.org/resources/coronavirus-updates/> for updates, FAQs and previous memos. Current information from the Ohio Department of Health can be found at [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov). If you have questions regarding this memo or best practice suggestions relating to COVID-19, please contact Adam Schwiebert, policy analyst, at [aschwiebert@ccao.org](mailto:aschwiebert@ccao.org), or Rachel Massoud, policy analyst, at [rmassoud@ccao.org](mailto:rmassoud@ccao.org).