

Belmont County, Ohio

Coordinates: 40.02°N 80.99°W﻿ / ﻿40.02°N 80.99°W﻿ / 40.02; -80.99

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Belmont County is a county located in the U.S. state of Ohio. It is part of the Wheeling, West Virginia Metropolitan Statistical Area. According to the 2010 census, it has a population of 70,400, which is an increase of 0.2% from 70,226 in 2000.^[2] Its county seat is St. Clairsville.^[3] The county takes its name from the French for "beautiful mountain".^[4]

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History

In 1976, Belmont County became the first American county to elect a female sheriff, Katherine Crumbly.^[1] (<http://www.belmontsheriff.com/history.html>)

In 1987, Michael A Massa, a county resident, created and dedicated the County's first Official Seal and Flag to the people of Belmont County (photo of county seal featured above the county map- see vignette at above right). The citizens of the county held an informal election to select the winning seal and flag, and the event was featured

Belmont County, Ohio



Seal



Location in the state of Ohio



Ohio's location in the U.S.

Founded	September 7, 1801 ^[1]
Named for	"beautiful mountain" in French
Seat	St. Clairsville
Largest city	Martins Ferry
Area	
 - Total	541.27 sq mi (1,402 km ²)
 - Land	532.13 sq mi (1,378 km ²)
 - Water	9.14 sq mi (24 km ²), 1.69%
Population	
 - (2010)	70,400
 - Density	132.3/sq mi (51/km ²)
Time zone	Eastern: UTC-5/-4
Website	www.belmontcountyohio.org (http://www.belmontcountyohio.org)

nationally on the Paul Harvey Show.

Geography

According to the 2010 census, the county has a total area of 541.27 square miles (1,401.9 km²), of which 532.13 square miles (1,378.2 km²) (or 98.31%) is land and 9.14 square miles (23.7 km²) (or 1.69%) is water.^[5]

Adjacent counties

- Harrison County (north)
- Jefferson County (northeast)
- Ohio County, West Virginia (east)
- Marshall County, West Virginia (southeast)
- Monroe County (south)
- Noble County (southwest)
- Guernsey County (west)

Demographics

As of the census^[6] of 2000, there were 70,226 people, 28,309 households, and 19,250 families residing in the county. The population density was 131 people per square mile (50/km²). There were 31,236 housing units at an average density of 58 per square mile (22/km²). The racial makeup of the county was 94.98% White, 3.64% Black or African American, 0.14% Native American, 0.30% Asian, 0.02% Pacific Islander, 0.16% from other races, and 0.77% from two or more races. 0.39% of the population were Hispanic or Latino of any race. 20.2% were of German, 12.5% Irish, 12.0% American, 10.3% English, 10.2% Italian and 9.0% Polish ancestry according to Census 2000.

There were 28,309 households out of which 28.30% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 53.10% were married couples living together, 11.20% had a female householder with no husband present, and 32.00% were non-families. 28.70% of all households were made up of individuals and 15.10% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.37 and the average family size was 2.90.

In the county the population was spread out with 21.80% under the age of 18, 7.70% from 18 to 24, 27.40% from 25 to 44, 24.90% from 45 to 64, and 18.20% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 41 years. For every 100 females there were 96.40 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 93.60 males.

The median income for a household in the county was \$29,714, and the median income for a family was \$37,538. Males had a median income of \$31,211 versus \$19,890 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$16,221. About 11.70% of families and 14.60% of the population were below the poverty line, including 20.40% of those under age 18 and 9.80% of those age 65 or over.

Historical populations

Census	Pop.	%±
1810	11,097	—
1820	20,329	83.2%
1830	28,627	40.8%
1840	30,901	7.9%
1850	34,600	12.0%
1860	36,398	5.2%
1870	39,714	9.1%
1880	49,638	25.0%
1890	57,413	15.7%
1900	60,875	6.0%
1910	76,856	26.3%
1920	93,193	21.3%
1930	94,719	1.6%
1940	95,614	0.9%
1950	87,740	−8.2%
1960	83,864	−4.4%
1970	80,917	−3.5%
1980	82,569	2.0%
1990	71,074	−13.9%
2000	70,226	−1.2%
2010	70,400	0.2%

Government

Main article: Ohio county government

Almost all of the county's government offices are located in the Belmont County Courthouse.^[7]

Belmont County's county flag was designed in 1988 by local state official Michael Massa. Local citizens voted in a nationally-covered election to choose it from a group of three designs by Massa. The seal (minus a Latin phrase) is featured on the county's flag.^[8]



The Belmont County Courthouse in 2009.

Corrections

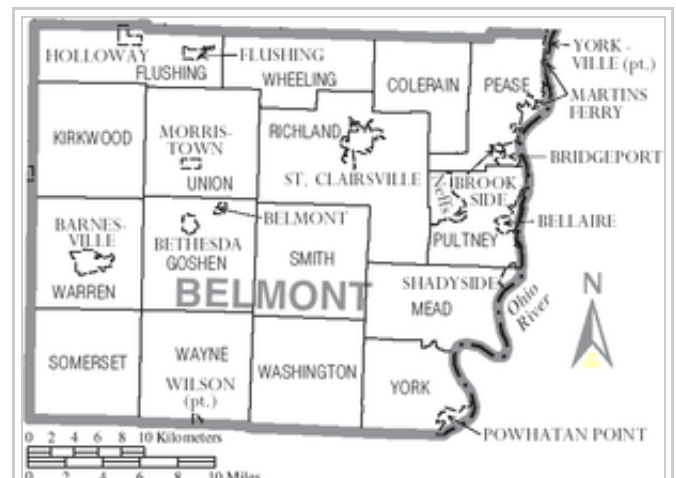
Belmont County is serviced by several detentional centers located around St. Clairsville. The Belmont Correctional Institution is located on 158 acres (0.64 km²) between St. Clairsville and Warnock on State Route 331. The facility currently houses 2,698 inmates.^[9] The Belmont County Jail is located in St. Clairsville and is located near Belmont College and Ohio University Eastern Campus. The facility contains 72 beds and also houses the county sheriff's offices.^[10] The county is also serviced by Sargus Juvenile Detention Center, a 17 bed facility that also services surrounding counties.^[11] Sargus Center is located next door to the county jail.

Communities

Cities

- Martins Ferry
- St. Clairsville

Villages



Map of Belmont County, Ohio With Municipal and Township Labels

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| ■ Barnesville | ■ Bridgeport | ■ Holloway | ■ Shadyside |
| ■ Bellaire | ■ Brookside | ■ Morristown | ■ Wilson |
| ■ Belmont | ■ Fairview | ■ Powhatan Point | ■ Yorkville |
| ■ Bethesda | ■ Flushing | | |

Townships

- Colerain
- Flushing
- Goshen
- Kirkwood
- Mead
- Pease
- Pultney
- Richland
- Smith
- Somerset
- Union
- Warren
- Washington
- Wayne
- Wheeling
- York

Census-designated place

- Neffs

Unincorporated communities

- Alledonia
- Bannock
- Barton
- Blaine
- Centerville
- Colerain
- Fairpoint
- Glencoe
- Jacobsburg
- Lafferty
- Lansing
- Maynard
- Riverview
- Somerton
- Temperanceville
- Warnock

Education

K-12

Belmont County is served by the following local school districts

- Barnesville Exempted Village School District
- Bellaire Local
- Belmont County Educational Service Center
- Bridgeport Exempted Village
- Martins Ferry City
- Olney Friends School
- Shadyside Local
- St. Clairsville-Richland City
- Union Local High School

A small part of the county is served by the following schools of the multicounty Switzerland of Ohio Local School District:

- Hannibal Elementary School in Hannibal
- Powhatan Elementary School in Powhatan Point
- River High School in Hannibal

Higher education

- Belmont College
- Ohio University Eastern Campus

See also

- National Register of Historic Places listings in Belmont County, Ohio

References

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9. ^ <http://www.drc.state.oh.us/Public/BECI.htm>
10. ^ <http://www.belmontsheriff.com>
11. ^ <http://www.belmontcountyjuvenilecourt.com/index2.php?topic=sargusdetention.php>

External links

- Belmont County Government's Web site (<http://www.belmontcountyohio.org/>)
- Belmont County Economic Development (<http://www.aplacetogrowyourbusiness.com>)
- Belmont County Port Authority (<http://www.bcoportauthority.com>)

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Categories: Ohio counties | Belmont County, Ohio | 1801 establishments in the United States | Ohio River counties | Wheeling metropolitan area | Populated places established in 1801

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