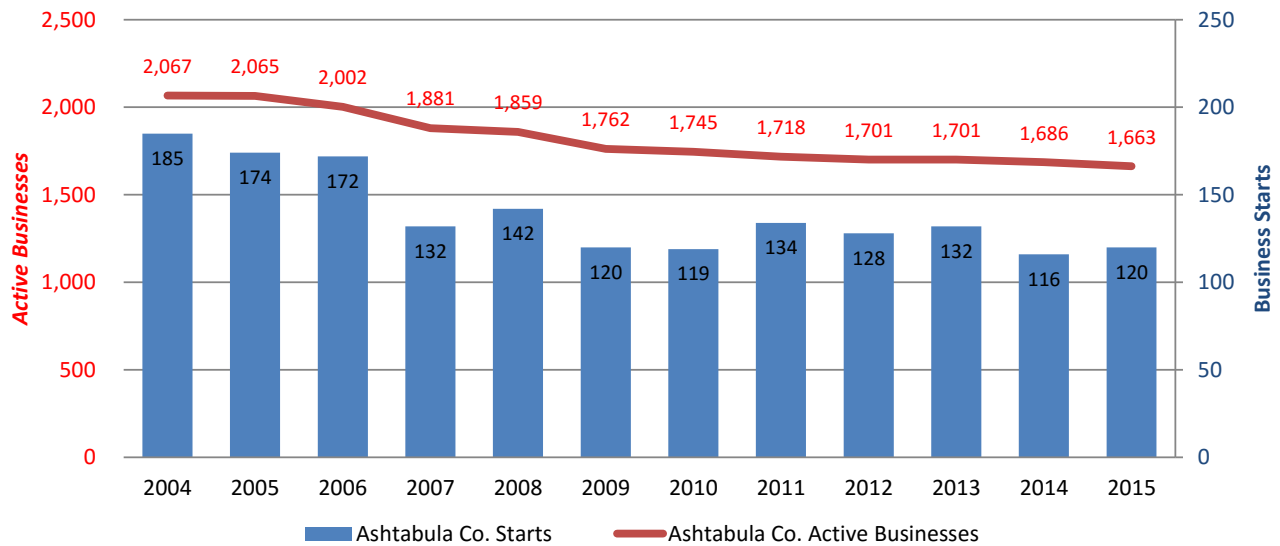


Summary

Based on Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation data, Ashtabula County had 1,663 active businesses in 2015, over 400 (-20%) fewer than in 2004. Ashtabula County had only 120 business starts in 2015, slightly more than 2014, but less than the 2004-13 annual average of 144 business starts. The most recent business start to active business rate was 7.2%. Over the 10 year period from 2004 to 2013, Ashtabula County had an average start-to-active rate of 7.7%, considerably below Ohio's 10.5% rate. If Ashtabula County had averaged 9% from 2004 to 2015, it would have had nearly 300 more business starts.

Starts & Active Businesses

Starts Have Decreased from 180 to 120-130/Year in 10 Years



Source: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

Ashtabula County & Ohio Starts and Active Businesses

Business Start Rate Decreased in 2014-15 to Levels Near 2009-10 Recession

	Ashtabula Co. Starts	Ashtabula Co. Active Businesses	Ashtabula Starts % of Active	Ohio Starts	Ohio Active Businesses	Ohio Starts % of Active
2004	185	2,067	9.0%	26,824	250,869	10.7%
2005	174	2,065	8.4%	26,421	250,905	10.5%
2006	172	2,002	8.6%	31,305	250,770	12.5%
2007	132	1,881	7.0%	25,687	238,503	10.8%
2008	142	1,859	7.6%	24,140	233,681	10.3%
2009	120	1,762	6.8%	24,041	227,850	10.6%
2010	119	1,745	6.8%	19,819	224,361	8.8%
2011	134	1,718	7.8%	21,764	225,482	9.7%
2012	128	1,701	7.5%	25,895	224,898	11.5%
2013	132	1,701	7.8%	21,805	225,738	9.7%
2014	116	1,686	6.9%	22,095	226,611	9.8%
2015	120	1,663	7.2%	19,966	226,587	8.8%
04-13 Avg	144		7.7%	24,770		10.5%
2004-15 Chg	(65)	(404)		(6,858)	(24,282)	
2004-15 %Chg	-35%	-20%		-26%	-10%	

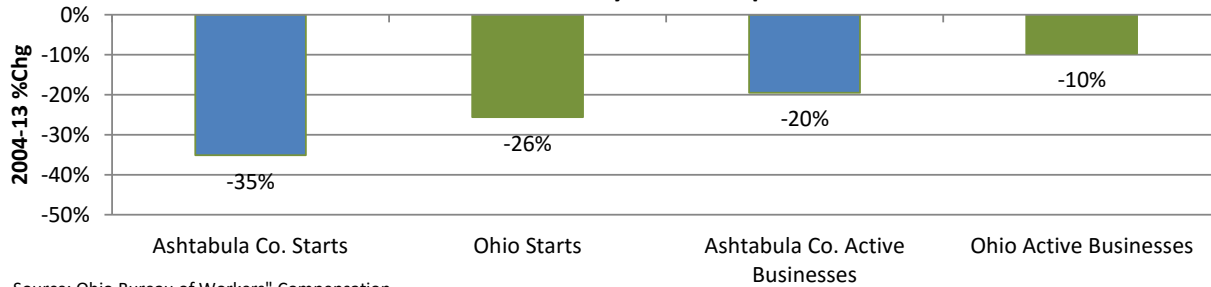
Source: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation: 121 and 952 files.

Prepared by: Office of Research, Ohio Development Services Agency (DL, 7/16).

Note: 2012 and 2013 data may have been affected by data cleaning and data entry issues.

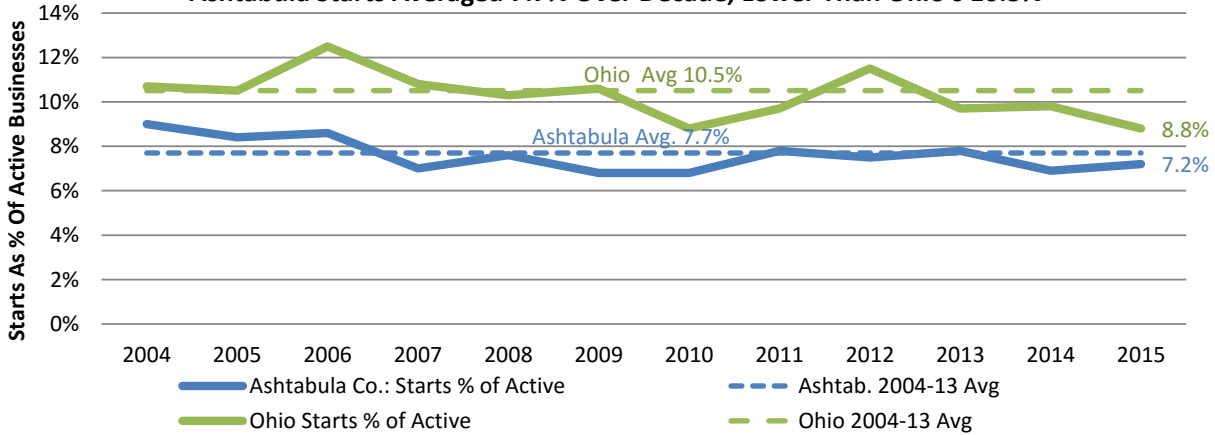
As the rate of business starts fell, both Ohio and Ashtabula County lost active businesses over the 2004-13 periods. The decline in active businesses was twice as severe in Ashtabula County, however.

Ashtabula Co. & Ohio Starts & Active Businesses (2004-15 %Change)
Ashtabula Starts Decreased By -35% Compared to Ohio's -26%



Source: Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Ashtabula Co. & Ohio Business Starts As % of Active Businesses
Ashtabula Starts Averaged 7.7% Over Decade, Lower Than Ohio's 10.5%



Source: Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation

Could Ashtabula County Develop An Alternative Target Business Start Rate?

Sample Scenario 1: Narrow Gap with Ohio: Ashtabula County's Business Start Rate would be 9% if the County Increased the Average Number of Business Starts by 3 Starts Per Month

Year	Ashtabula Co. Actual Starts	Ashtabula Co. Active Businesses	Starts % of Active	Ashtab. Starts Target @ 9%	Difference Target Vs. Actual
2004	185	2,067	9.0%	186	1
2005	174	2,065	8.4%	186	12
2006	172	2,002	8.6%	180	8
2007	132	1,881	7.0%	169	37
2008	142	1,859	7.6%	167	25
2009	120	1,762	6.8%	159	39
2010	119	1,745	6.8%	157	38
2011	134	1,718	7.8%	155	21
2012	128	1,701	7.5%	153	25
2013	132	1,701	7.8%	153	21
2014	116	1,686	6.9%	152	36
2015	120	1,663	7.2%	150	30
04-15 Total	1,674			1,967	293

Source: Actual data from Ohio Bureau of Workers' Comp. 9% target is illustrative.