



2026 Employee Benefits Plan

October 14, 2025



Health Benefits Program

Self-Insured Medical Plan

- Claims paid dollar for dollar up to the stop loss deductible
- Contract with medical insurance carrier (Cigna) to administer the plan, access network discounts, and provide population health improvement programs
- Three medical insurance plan options
 - Plan A: Buy-Up PPO
 - Plan B: Base PPO
 - Plan C – High Deductible Health Plan (w/Health Savings Account)
- Employees contribute between 5% and 18% of premium depending on union status and plan choice

Fully-Insured Supplemental Benefits

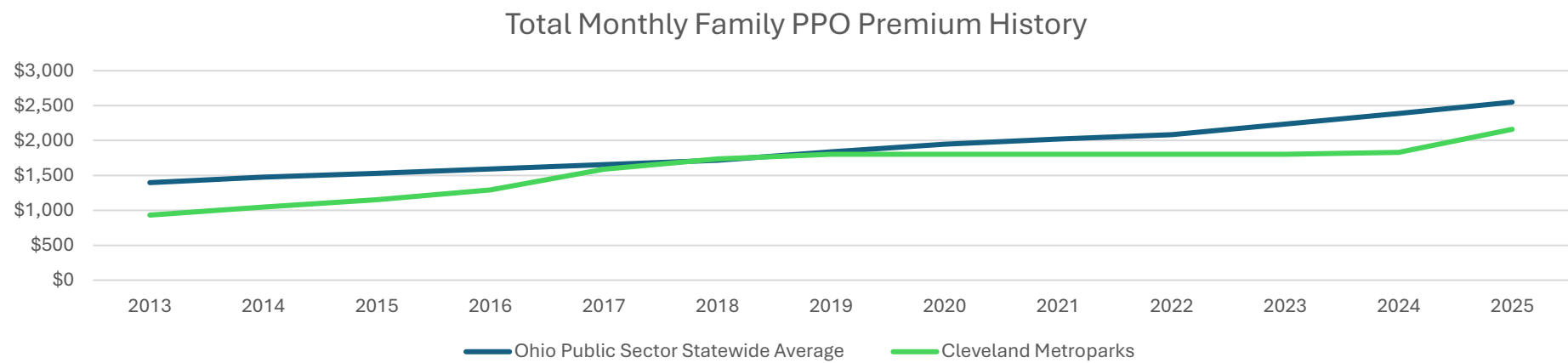
- Cost Share - Dental & Vision
- Employer Paid - Life, long-term disability, and employee assistance program
- Employee Paid – Accident insurance, pet insurance, and flexible spending accounts

2025 Health Benefits Program

- **Budget – \$13.1 million**
 - Medical Claims Payments – 75%
 - Medical Administration – 2%
 - Stop Loss Insurance Premium – 8%
 - Fully-Insured Programs – 15%
- **2025 Medical Claims Performance**
 - Current expenses at 93% of revenue
 - 98% if stop loss reimbursements are removed
 - \$641K returned to Medical Reserve (\$2.5 million balance)
 - \$478K of surplus attributed to stop loss reimbursements
 - 6 Catastrophic Claims (Over \$100K spend) – 17% of total claims spend
 - 13 claims over \$75K spend – 25% of total claims spend

Benchmarking – Medical Premium Increases

	Ohio Public Sector Statewide Average	Cleveland Metroparks
2019	5.9%	2%
2020	6.7%	0%
2021	3.9%	0%
2022	3.7%	0%
2023	7.0%	0%
2024	6.2%	1.5%
2025	5.9%	18.0%
	39.3%	21.5%



Cost Drivers and Containment Strategies

- Mercer estimates that total health benefit cost per employee is expected to rise 6.5% in 2026 - Largest increase since 2010
 - Advances in diagnostics and therapeutics (e.g., new cancer treatments and weight loss drugs)
 - Consolidation of providers into fewer, larger health systems
 - General inflation in economy
 - Lingering effect of delayed or missed care during COVID-19
- Cost containment
 - Enhanced case management of high-cost claims
 - Support members with chronic or pre-chronic conditions
 - Continued emphasis on preventive care (currently 10% above benchmark rate)
 - Focus on cancer screenings
 - End-user consumerism

2026 Benefits Plan

- **Contract Approvals**

- 1-year contract with Cigna for stop loss insurance (33% increase)
- All other benefit coverages are under contract with no increases

- **Plan Designs & Premiums**

- 7.5% premium increase for all medical plans
 - Employee premiums increase range from \$1.30 - \$14.59 per month
- Plan C (high deductible health plan) deductibles increasing by \$100/\$200 due to IRS Regulation changes