

SHOULD OHIO BUILD MORE DATA CENTERS?

Where does the internet go? When you search on Google, it's easy to think pressing "enter" is the end. But information can't just go poof! It has to be stored somewhere, and that somewhere is a data center. Data centers are giant warehouses filled with computers. People are using the internet more, and AI needs huge amounts of computing power, so companies want to build more of them. But some people don't want them near their homes. Ohio is already one of the top states for data centers, and it is deciding whether to build more.

YES, WE SHOULD BUILD MORE

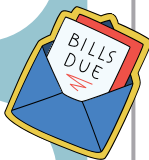
Data centers create jobs. Builders, electricians, and other workers are needed to construct them, and more employees are needed to keep them running. They also bring money to cities. Companies invested about \$37 billion in Ohio data centers in 2024 and 2025, and their tax dollars can help communities, including schools! Data centers can also be built to reduce harm to the environment. In fact, Ohio lawmakers are working on rules to protect water and keep noise down without stopping construction. Company leaders say data centers will pay their share of costs, including electricity. If we're going to keep using the internet and AI more and more, we also need more data centers.

NO, WE SHOULD STOP BUILDING

Data centers don't create many lasting jobs. Once they are built, they need few workers. They also use a lot of resources, which can harm people and the environment. Their computers run all day and night, so they use huge amounts of electricity. That can raise everyone's bills, and if the power comes from coal or gas, it adds more pollution to the air. Cooling the hot computers takes a lot of fresh water, which can be a problem in places where water is limited. Data centers are loud, too, and the constant noise can bother families nearby and drive wildlife from their homes. Finally, they cover large areas of land, sometimes farmland or forest, that can't be used for anything else.



BECAUSE DATA CENTERS
NEED A LOT OF POWER,
DEVELOPERS WILL
OFTEN **UPGRADE** THE
NEARBY **POWERLINES**.



ELECTRICITY BILLS
IN HOMES NEAR DATA
CENTERS HAVE
RISEN ANYWHERE
FROM **10% - 267%**.



BY 2028, DATA
CENTERS IN THE U.S.
COULD USE **32**
BILLION GALLONS
OF WATER A YEAR.