



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

Expanding Student Opportunity Through Career Connected Learning

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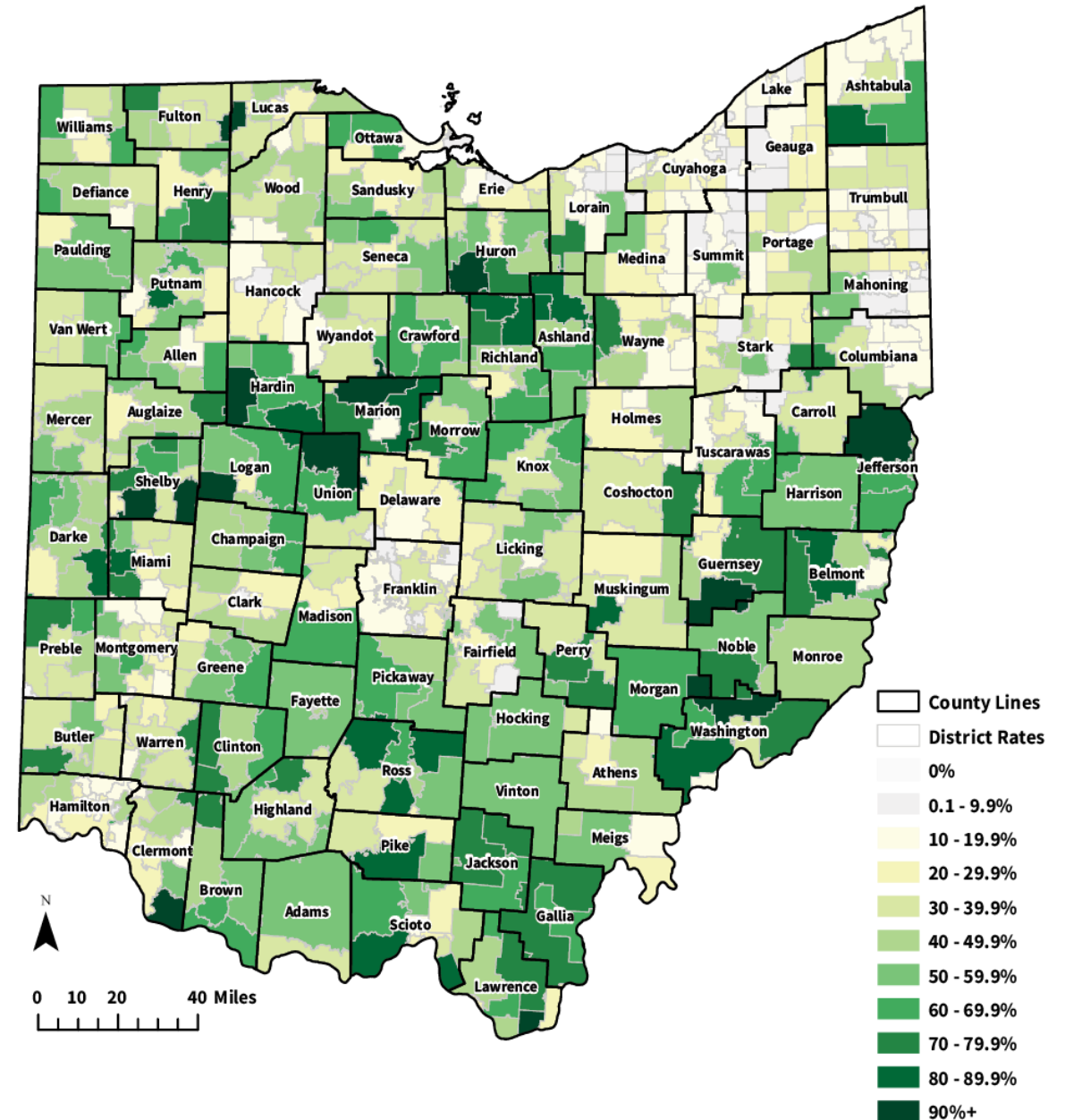
The Big Picture

- Economic forecasts predict a mismatch between the education attained by Ohioans and what new jobs will require
- Demographic headwinds
- New jobs require more education and skills than in the past
- 68% of high school freshman did not obtain a postsecondary credential six years out from graduation
- Research shows career connected learning is essential for economic success
- Only about one in three students participates in CTE in grades 7-12
- Every student deserves the opportunity to learn about themselves, explore careers, have a plan, and feel confident about their next steps



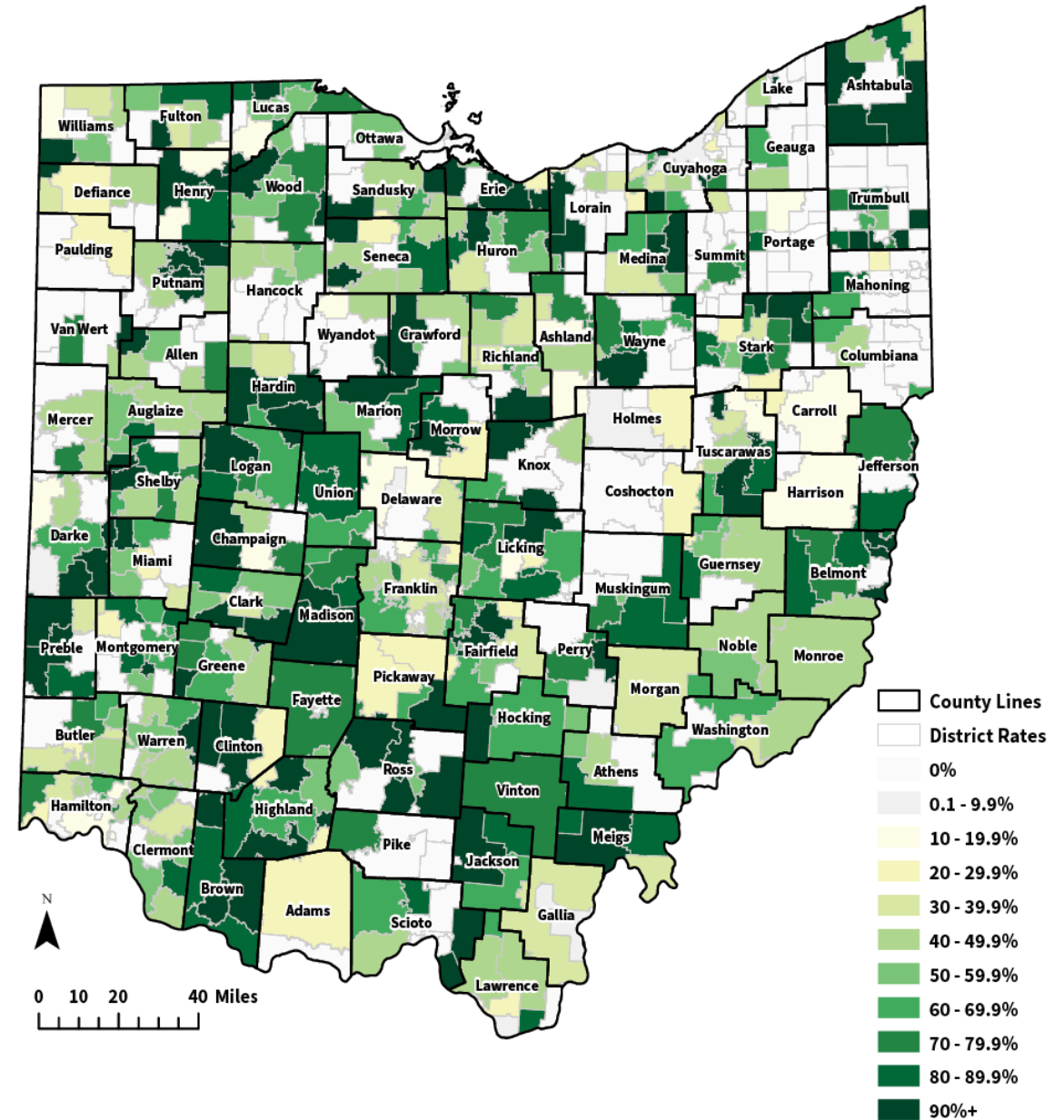
CTE Access – High School

- Effective access, not just paper access
- CTE programs prepare learners for success in critical industries
- CTE works, but Ohio has access deserts and wait lists
- This area is performing better than the region as whole



CTE Access – Middle School

- Uneven access to MS CTE
- All districts required to offer Middle School CTE as of Fall 2026
- Map displays FY'2025 and does not include the 770 new MS CTE programs approved for Fall 2026



Bold Investments, Bold Actions

- \$200M CTE Expansion Construction/Facilities Grants
- \$100M CTE Expansion Equipment Grants
- \$3.2M CTE Effective Access Grants (Manufacturing)
- \$7.1M Career Pathway Support Networks
- \$9M Federal Career Pathways Expansion Grant
- Middle School CTE Access Mandate
- Industry Recognized Credential Expansion (e.g., IWIP)
- And much more!



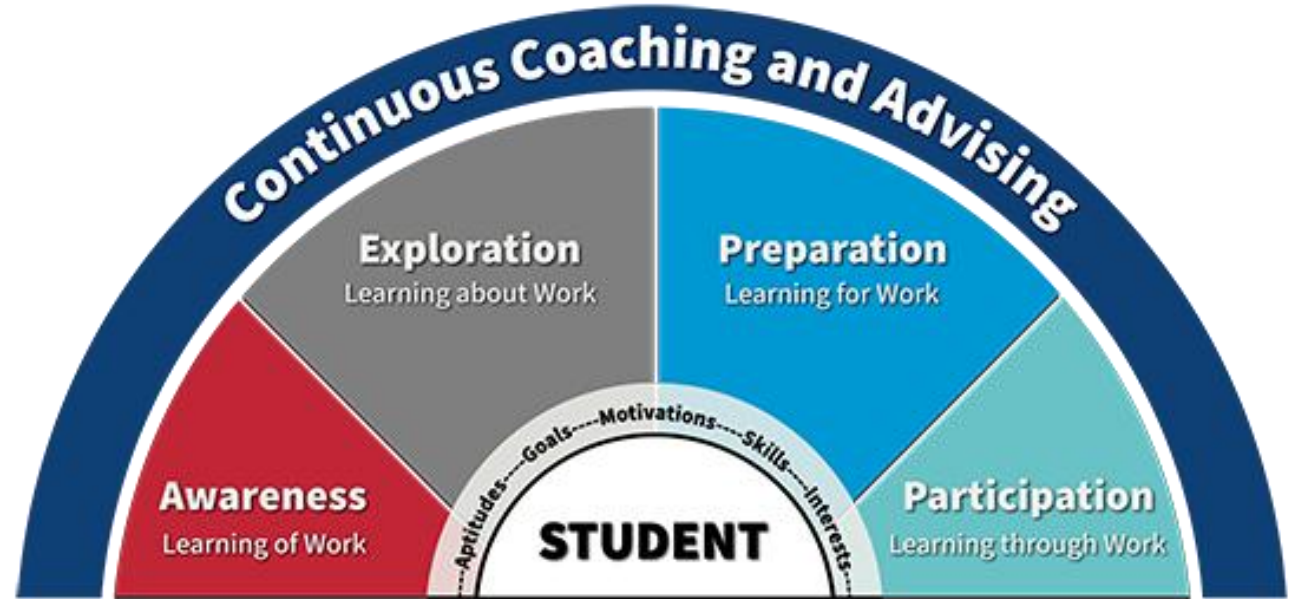
And it's Working!

- Tens of thousands of new seats in CTE programs established
- More than 770 new MS CTE programs approved for this school year!
- 37% increase in HS CTE pathways FY23-FY25
- CTE participation is growing and accelerating– up 10% in the last four years (157,062 in 2026)
- CTE concentrators grew from 6.4% in 2018 to 18.4% in 2026
- IRC attainment growing from 61,000 per year to nearly 234,000
- School Report Card CCWMR measures are all up – technical skill proficiency, WBL over 250 hours, IRCs, and CCP



Career Pathways Exploration Grant

- \$9M maximum award from USED (via USDOL)
- Will fund 10 grants to LEAs/CTPDs to fully implement redesigned Career Connections Framework
- Districts will report additional data to DEW as they implement
- RFA to be released soon



Career Pathway Support Networks

Four Goals:

- **Increase access to middle grades** (7-10) career-technical education courses at all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in the region.
- Ensure access to **high-quality career advising and mentoring**.
- Lead **regional planning** for efficient and effective delivery of **career connected learning** aligned to workforce demands.
- **Build and foster relationships** between education, business, and community partners in the region



Ohio High School Outcomes Reports

- Tableau reports that describe how high school cohorts are faring through the 6 years following graduation (cohorts 2018-2023)
- Made possible through a **partnership** of DEW, Job and Family Services, Department of Administrative Services, and The Ohio State University
- **POST-SECONDARY measures:** enrollment in 2-year and 4-year colleges, associate and bachelor's degree attainment
- **WORKFORCE measures:** employment and annual earnings
- Whole state, JobsOhio region, school district, high school, career technical planning district, and CTE program field



Why does this outcomes data matter?

- Reliable measures through use of administrative data
- A new picture of education and earnings **trajectories** over a substantial number of years following graduation
- Helpful information for **benchmarking** across comparable districts, schools or programs, for discussing possible reasons for disparities in alumni outcomes
- More information to reflect on the near-term employment and earnings **success for graduates of various CTE pathways**



Success Through Partnerships

- All hands on deck!
 - Schools, JVSDs, Community Colleges, Employers (inc. ISPs), Community Partners (inc. philanthropy, C2Cs, CBOs)
 - CTE, CCP-CTE, OTC+, IRCs-ICOs, Apprenticeships
- Partnership > Parochialism

Business-Education Partnerships

- Be a co-creator of the talent pipeline
- Start career awareness early
- Have a voice in curriculum and program design
- Provide work-based learning opportunities
- Treat CTE as a strategic workforce investment
- Leverage Industry Sector Partnerships



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