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OFFICE OF CAREER- TECHNICAL EDUCATION

CTE All Ohio Conference Update

DEPUTY DIRECTOR – JEREMY VARNER
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CPSN – DR. BRIAN BONTEMPO



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**



July 2026

REMARKS

Jeremy Varner

**Deputy Director of Career-Technical Education
and Workforce Readiness**



**Department of
Education &
Workforce**

AGENDA

Student Enrollment

Achievements

Accountability

Technical Skill Attainment

Work-Based Learning

ICO Redesign

CTE Surveys

Standards & Assessments

Program of Study

Middle School CTE Access

Adult Education

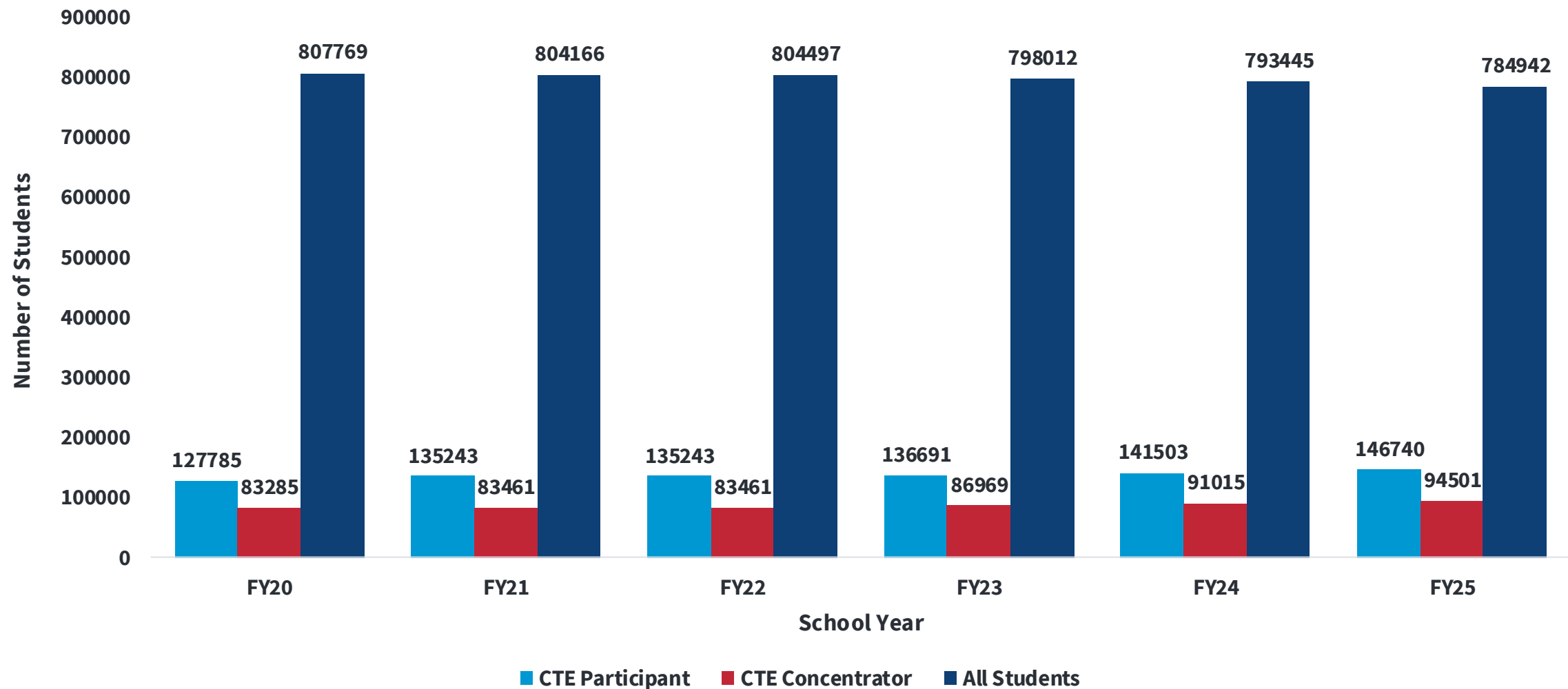
Career Pathway Support Networks

"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team." — *Phil Jackson*

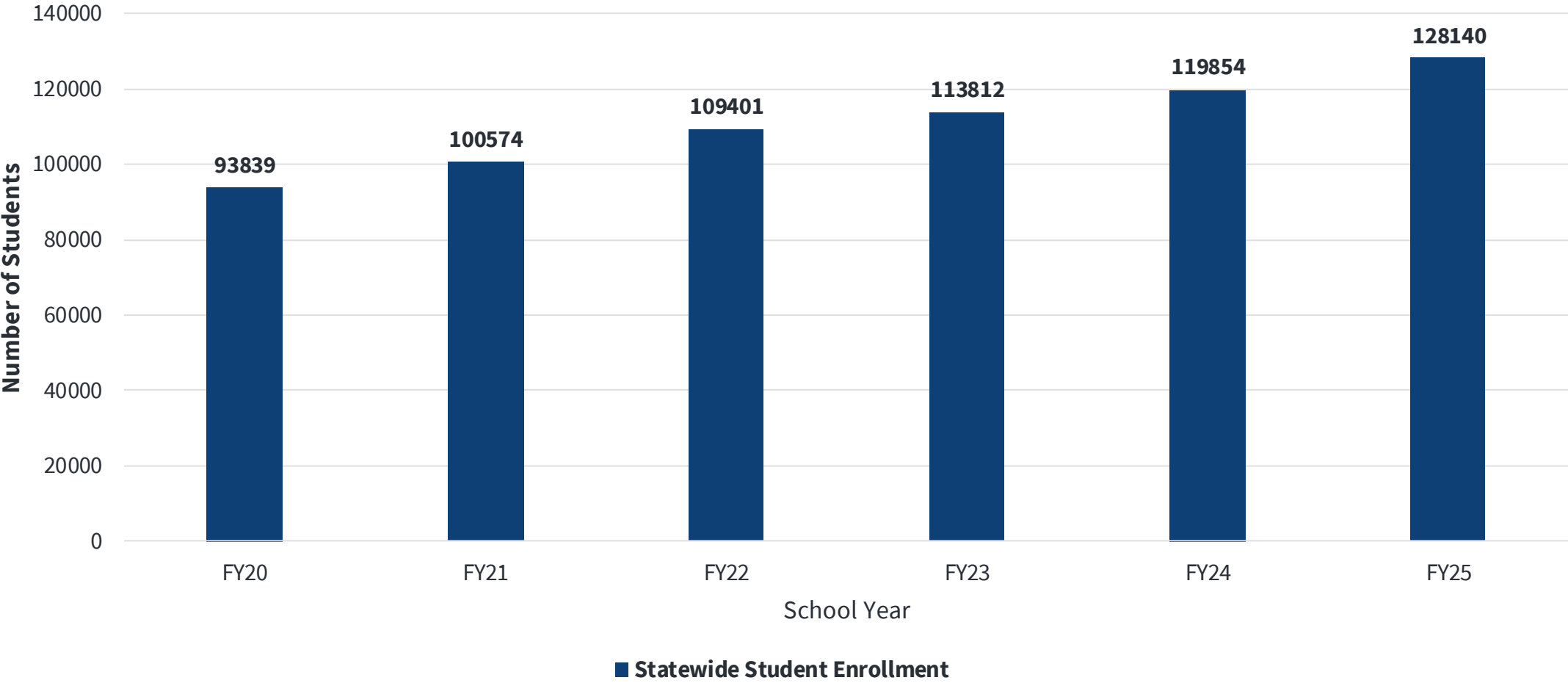


**Department of
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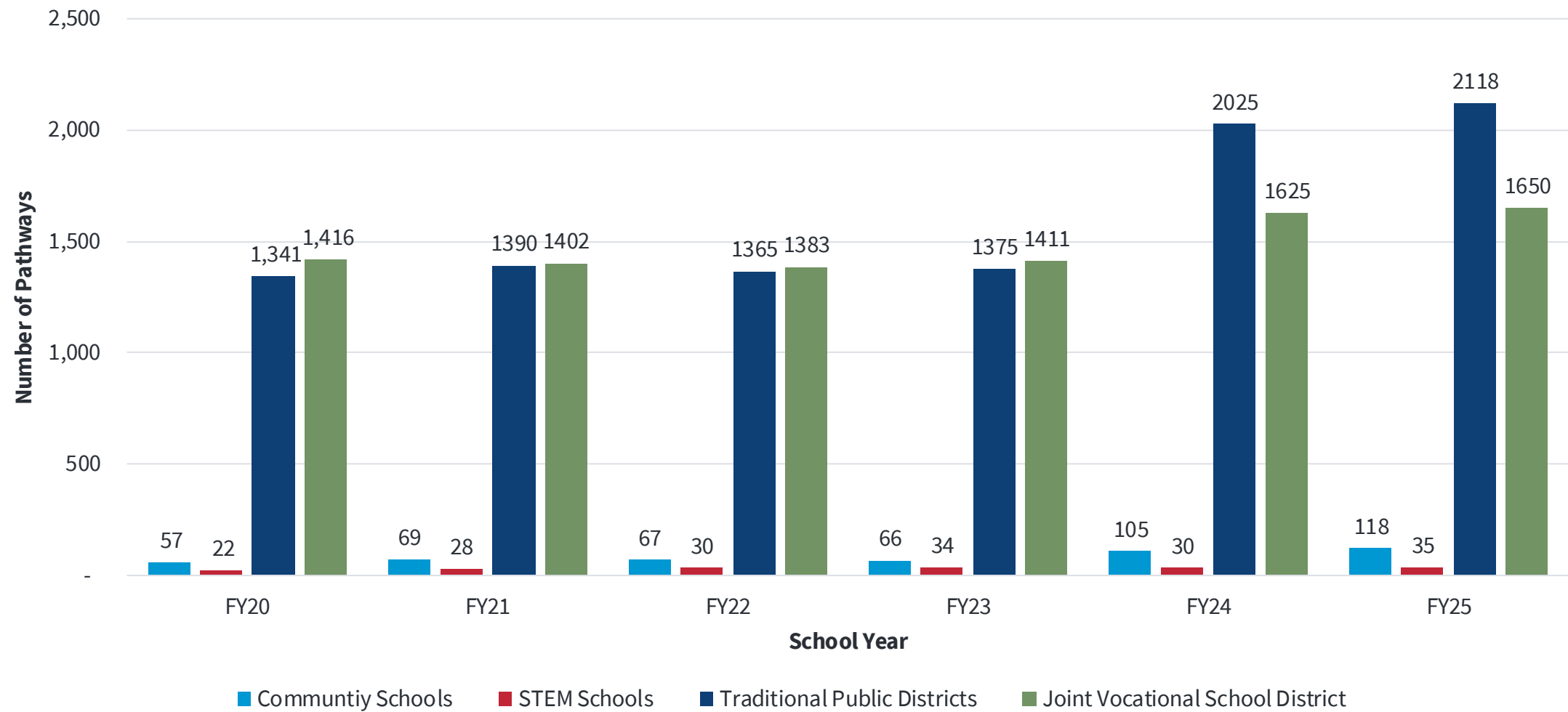
STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN GRADES 7-12



STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN EXPLORATORY CTE COURSES



CTE PATHWAY COUNT BY LEA TYPE



OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Work-Based Learning Participation
 - Class of 2021 – 9.3% (3,620/38,950) of Concentrators
 - Class of 2023 – 27.4% (11,235/41,009) of Concentrators
 - **Class of 2024 – 35.9% (15,512/43,220) of Concentrators**
 - **Class of 2025 – 42.3% (19,338/45,683) of Concentrators**
- CTAG Credit Opportunities FY25
 - Number of students eligible for CTAG credit: **50,485**
 - Number of college courses students were eligible: **61,292**
 - Estimated number of college credits for which students qualified: **183,876**

WHITE PAPER SUCCESSES

- Adult and Secondary Education
 - OTC classes for high school students
 - Develop OTC pathways
- Facility Expansion and Integration
- Integration of College Credits
 - CTAGs, ITAGs, One Year Option
 - Collaboration with post-secondary
- Flexibility with Program Delivery



ACTION STILL NEEDED!

- Expansion Still Needed – Taking CTE to Students
- Earlier CTE
 - **Middle School**
 - 9th and 10th grade programming
- High Wage, High Skill, High Demand
- **Outcome Driven Decision Making**
- Supporting and engaging diverse learners

CTE Accountability Vision

Our vision is to strengthen CTE accountability by using existing systems, data, and stakeholder feedback to prioritize the elements that best support high-quality programming, expanded student access, and improved workforce readiness outcomes.



ACCOUNTABILITY STRATEGY

Improve Student Outcomes

- Prioritize accountability elements that lead to meaningful learning, stronger technical skill development, and improved workforce readiness outcomes.

Support Quality as Access Expands

- Since the white paper on CTE expansion, more students have greater access to CTE. As access expands, accountability systems should help ensure programming remains high quality and aligned to student success.

Thoughtful, Evidence-driven Process

- This work will be driven by data, stakeholder feedback, federal guidance, and what is best for students.

THREE PRIORITIES SHAPING THE NEXT FIVE YEARS



Technical Skill Attainment

Rework the calculation method to reduce over-testing and under-testing while reinforcing course-to-assessment alignment.



CTPD Report Card

Explore a refreshed report card that better aligns Work Based Learning (WBL) and other high-priority elements to quality workforce readiness outcomes.



Program of Study Delivery

Explore how current systems can verify that approved WFD programs deliver a four-course program of study.

TECHNICAL SKILL ATTAINMENT

As of July 14th, 2026

22,114 - 2026 student assessment records are being flagged in EMIS because the student was not reported as enrolled in the course in the 2026 or 2025 school years.

47,659 - 2026 student course records are being flagged in EMIS because the student was not reported as having taken the assessment

*Data are preliminary and subject to change



TECHNICAL SKILL ATTAINMENT

TSA Calculation: Course Completion = Expected Assessment

- Ensure students are tested on content they were taught
- Close gaps where completed courses do not have a reported assessment
- Improve accuracy of TSA data as a measure of program performance
- Create a clearer connection between instruction, assessment, and accountability

CTPD REPORT CARD AND WORK-BASED LEARNING

- Explore how the CTPD Report Card can better reflect program quality, student outcomes, and workforce readiness.
- Prioritize accountability measures that help districts focus on high-quality CTE programming, not just compliance.
- Elevate work-based learning (WBL) as a key indicator of student readiness and connection to industry.
- Review how WBL participation and quality can be used to better measure meaningful student experiences tied to career pathways.

ICO Programming Redesign

The ICO Programming Redesign project is focused on updating Ohio's ICO program model to align with the updated credential list, expand student access, strengthen industry alignment, and establish accountability expectations for high-quality credential-based programming.



OPPORTUNITY FOR REDESIGN



Align with the updated credential list.



Increase quality and consistency across programs.



Improve student outcomes.



Integrate with CTE accountability systems.

FOCUS AREAS



Grade-Level
Expansion



Credential
Instructional Hours



Teacher Licensure

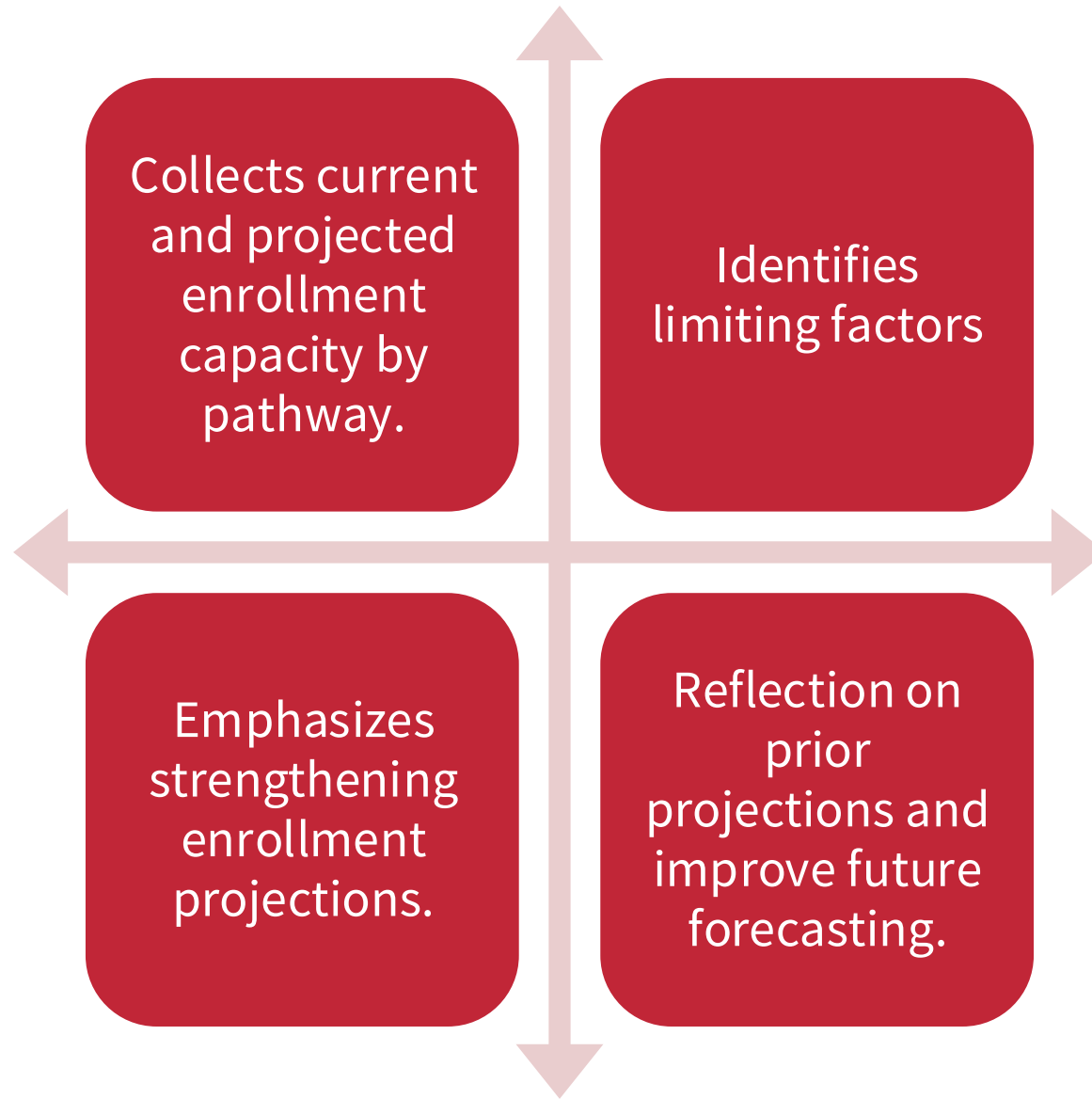


Accountability

Upcoming CTE Surveys

- CTE Capacity Survey
- Associated Services & Career Awareness Survey

CTE CAPACITY SURVEY



ASSOCIATED SERVICES & CAREER AWARENESS SURVEY



Collects exact dollar amounts expended by activity category.



Asks districts to describe the impact, results, and outcomes of funded activities.



Supports reflection on whether funds are advancing access, quality, and workforce readiness.

FIELD-TEST RETAKE POLICY

Students may retake Field-Tested WebXam Assessments one time after the assessments' forms have been finalized beginning on the "Target for Field Test Finalization" date on the WebXam Calendar. This option **does not** require thirty days between retakes, however it **is only available to students who took the field test.**

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT

Engineering and Manufacturing

- Standards have been written and validated
- Course Outlines are finalized
- Draft Standards and Course outlines are available on website now
- Item writing is completed
- New Standards Implementation and Field Testing for SY27

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT

Education and Training & Law and Public Safety

- Standards have been written and validated
- Course Outlines drafts are finalized
- Standards Roll Out, this week at Ohio ACTE
- Item writing starts this fall and will conclude next spring
- New Standards Implementation and Field Testing for SY28

STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT

Hospitality and Tourism & FCS

- Public comment has been completed
- Industry and Teacher Panels occur this fall
- Draft Content Standards and Courses available SY27
- Item writing occurs in SY28
- New Standards Implementation and Field Testing for SY29

PROGRAM OF STUDY

FY2027-2031 CTE-26 PROVIDER APPLICATIONS APPROVED

- 2,837 Career-Technical Education Provider Applications Approved as new or renewed.
 - 2,107 Career-Field Pathways
 - 68 Career-Based Intervention Programs
 - 299 Family and Consumer Science Programs
 - 363 Industry Credential Only Programs

PROGRAM OF STUDY

CTAG AWARD REPORT FY2025

- 27 Ohio public colleges and universities awarded college credit to;
- 3,988 Students in;
- 4,747 College Courses with;
- 14,021 Credit Hours
- Saving students an estimated \$2.3 Million in Tuition Cost

(Tuition cost estimated based on maximum college credit plus rate per credit hour)

MIDDLE SCHOOL CTE ACCESS

- 607 School Districts in FY26 served students in grades 7 and 8.
In 1,007 school buildings.
- 373 School Districts in FY26 provided students in grades 7 and 8 with CTE courses.
In 531 school buildings.
- 224 School Districts in FY26 were approved as new CTE providers.
In 368 school buildings.
- 10 School Districts at risk of not providing CTE courses to students in grades 7 and 8 by FY27.
- Approximately 24% of Ohio students in grades 7 and 8 participated in a semester long CTE course in FY26.

ADULT WORKFORCE

- New Office of Adult Workforce Pathways established to lead Ohio's adult workforce initiatives.
- Brings together the Adult Workforce team and Aspire team under one office.
- Focuses on improving workforce outcomes through education, credentials of value, and career pathways.
- Supports learners from foundational skills through workforce success.

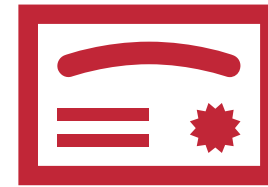
ADULT WORKFORCE UPDATES

Adult Workforce Diploma Program launched July 1, 2026



FY27 Transitions

22+ Programs serves Year 2 renewal students
Adult Diploma Program completes remaining
Year 1 students.



FY26 Highlights

1,047 ADP Program Completers
652 22+ Diplomas
1,404 Credentials Earned
2,324 Diplomas/HSE Earned
21,850 Adult Learners Served

ADULT EDUCATION WEEK

Adult Education & Family Literacy Week

September 14, 2026

- Celebrate the impact of adult education and family literacy across Ohio.
- Virtual kickoff followed by statewide in-person events.
- 2026 Theme: Filling the Workforce Pipeline
- Continues Ohio's commitment to strengthening communities, advancing economic mobility, and preparing a skilled workforce.

REMARKS

Career Pathway Support Networks

Dr. Brian Bontempo, Executive Director

Anthony Battaglia, Assistant Director

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.



CPSN LEADS

- Central Region – Carrie Giles, Giles.58@mail.cotc.edu
- East Region – Dr. Jamie Bollinger, Jmbollinger@ysu.edu
- Northeast Region – Dr. Jenn Dodd, Jennifer.Dodd@escneo.org
- Southeast Region – Katie Good, Katie.Good@ecoesc.org
- Southwest Region – Rita Graf, Rita.Graf@cincinnatiastate.edu
- West Region – Pam Hunt, Pamela.Hunt@sinclair.edu
- Northwest Region – Dr. Laura Kagy, Lkagy@ncoesc.org



COMMITMENT TO OHIO'S CTE COMMUNITY

Our leadership team and staff remain united, focused, and committed to continuing our work.

High-quality CTE in Ohio is rooted in educators, administrators, business partners, and local leaders serving students every day.

Our office will continue providing the guidance, support, and high-quality learning experiences the field expects.

We will build on the momentum, partnerships, and progress underway across the state.

While some transition details are still evolving, we remain committed to clear communication and focusing on the work within our control.

Leadership may change — our collective commitment to Ohio's students and the CTE community does not.

QUESTIONS?

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