

Examining the Value of Education Beyond High School in Ohio: Southeast Region Profile

December 13, 2023



Introduction

Pursuit of education beyond high school is an investment of time, money, and resources. The effort to examine the value of education and training beyond high school aims for students and communities to see a return on investment for graduates that expands workforce and economic opportunities for all.

As community leaders review the data in this report, the following questions may help determine what meaning and desired next steps of inquiry or action may be helpful for the region and for Ohio:

Enrollment:

- What are education and training enrollment patterns in our region?
- How are students from low-income backgrounds and students of color participating in education beyond high school?

Access Pipeline:

- What are college going rates for high school students?
- Are they getting a head start on college while in high school?
- Are some communities and groups of students having greater challenges in accessing education and training after high school?
- What districts, organizations, and strategies are advancing access?

Completion:

- Are students in our region completing their education so that they may reap the value in the workforce?
- What communities and groups of students are far below the average in completion rates?
- Which institutions are showing excellence in completion rates for a diversity of student groups?

Post-school outcomes:

- Are graduates in our region earning an economic return on their investment in education at our public adult technical centers, colleges, and universities? In which institutions are students seeing an economic return?

Alignment to industry:

- What are the growing jobs and industry sectors in our region?
- Are the growing jobs paying median wages above the state median?
- Is our region producing graduates in those growing jobs and the priority industry sectors?
- Are some populations underrepresented within our region among those completing education in the industry sectors?

Southeast Ohio Demographics

Southeast Ohio encompasses twenty-five counties - Adams, Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Washington – as defined by Jobs Ohio.¹ Southeast Ohio is home to 9% of Ohioans.² As of 2020, 93% of residents identified as White and 2% as African American, 2% as two or more races, 1% as Hispanic or Latina/o/x, 1% Asian or Pacific Islander, and less than 1% as Indigenous or Native American. As of 2020, the Southeast region's population age 25 and up

¹ [MapJobsOhioNetwork.pdf \(ohiolmi.com\)](#)

² US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020

had one of the lowest levels of education attainment compared with other Ohio regions, with 10% having an associate degree, 10% a bachelors, and 6% a graduate or professional degree.

Enrollment and Access Beyond High School

Matching data from the National Center for Education Statistics College Navigator³ and the Postsecondary Value Equitable Value Explorer,⁴ this summary defines the Southeast Region as home to 27 public and private institutions offering degrees and post-high school certificates. These include one proprietary (for-profit) cosmetology school, five private institutions, and twenty public institutions.

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT

In the Southeast region, there were 103 post-secondary students (sub-baccalaureate certificates, associate, and baccalaureate programs) enrolled in proprietary institutions, 7,588 students enrolled in private institutions, and 86,572 students enrolled in public institutions in 2018-2019.⁵ The largest proprietary institution in the region was Paramount Beauty Academy (56 students), and the largest private institution was Franciscan University of Steubenville (2,421 students). The largest institutions overall were all public, including Eastern Gateway Community College (26,701), Ohio University - Main Campus (26,046), Ohio University - Southern Campus (4,433), and Hocking College (4,289). Public institution enrollments are shown in Table 1. Please note in the post-secondary Value Explorer Tool that Rio Grande Community College data is integrated with the private University of Rio Grande.

DISAGGREGATED DEMOGRAPHIC ENROLLMENT

In the Southeast, the percentage of Pell recipients in 2017-2018 ranged from 7% - 60% at proprietary institutions, 24% - 52% at private institutions, and 0% - 73% at public institutions. Three of the five private institutions had at least 40% of their enrollment receiving Pell grants.

Eastern Gateway Community College had the largest percentage of students of color, with 21% of students identifying as Black or African American and 14% as Hispanic. The other universities with the highest percentage of students of color included Franciscan University of Steubenville (16% students of color, 13% Hispanic) and Hocking College (15% total students of color, 12% Black). See Table 1.

³ College Navigator - National Center for Education Statistics

⁴ Equitable Value Explorer - Postsecondary Value Commission

⁵ Enrollment data sourced from Equitable Value Explorer - Postsecondary Value Commission which used 2018-2019 cohort data from IPEDs.

Table 1. Southeast Ohio Public Postsecondary Institutions by Enrollment, Estimated Annual Net Price, % Pell, and % Students of Color

	Public Institutions	Undergraduate Enrollment	Estimated Annual Net Price	% Pell	% Students of Color ⁶	Overall Post-School Median Earnings ⁷
Predominantly Certificates	Buckeye Hills Career Center	200	--	48%	3%	\$33,371
	Mid-East CTC-Adult Education	234	--	71%	4%	\$39,214
	OC Collins Career Center	410	--	73%	3%	\$47,044
	Pickaway Ross Joint Vocational School District	418	--	13%	4%	\$44,339
	Pike County Joint Vocational School District	49	--	0%	0%	--
	Scioto County Career Technical Center	280	--	66%	1%	\$36,632
	Tri-County Adult Career Center	105	--	18%	2%	\$26,234
	Washington County Career Center-Adult Technical Training	404	--	43%	3%	\$31,894
Predominantly Associates	Belmont College	1,268	\$9,226	39%	2%	\$35,524
	Eastern Gateway Community College	26,701	\$3,295	35%	38%	\$32,663
	Hocking College	4,289	\$14,485	39%	15%	\$38,276
	Ohio University-Chillicothe Campus	3,549	\$14,180	57%	7%	\$53,641
	Ohio University-Eastern Campus	2,239	\$13,492	42%	7%	\$53,641
	Ohio University-Southern Campus	4,433	\$13,589	60%	7%	\$53,641
	Ohio University-Zanesville Campus	3,393	\$13,747	54%	7%	\$53,641
	Southern State Community College	3,612	\$10,502	42%	4%	\$37,332
	Washington State Community College	2,327	\$12,058	28%	3%	\$35,822
	Zane State College	2,888	\$11,130	23%	3%	\$34,834
Predominantly Bachelors	Ohio University-Main Campus	26,046	\$23,867	27%	11%	\$53,640
	Shawnee State University	3,727	\$17,029	45%	6%	\$42,927

Data Source: Equitable Value Explorer

⁶ This variable is a summation of the counts for students identifying as Asian, Black, or Hispanic race. The variable “additional races” was not included because it seemed to include missing data.

⁷ The earnings data was obtained from the Equitable Value Explorer - Postsecondary Value Commission. A data limitation is that regional and main campuses are aggregated in earnings reports.

NINTH GRADE COHORT COLLEGE GOING RATE BY ECONOMIC STATUS, RACE, & GENDER

Data from 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 cohorts show that overall, 47% and 48%, respectively, of the region's students are estimated to have entered postsecondary education within two years of high school graduation. Students identified as economically disadvantaged are going to college at a rate 8-9 percentage points lower than the average college going rate for their class cohorts. Female college going outpaced males by 15 percentage points or more.

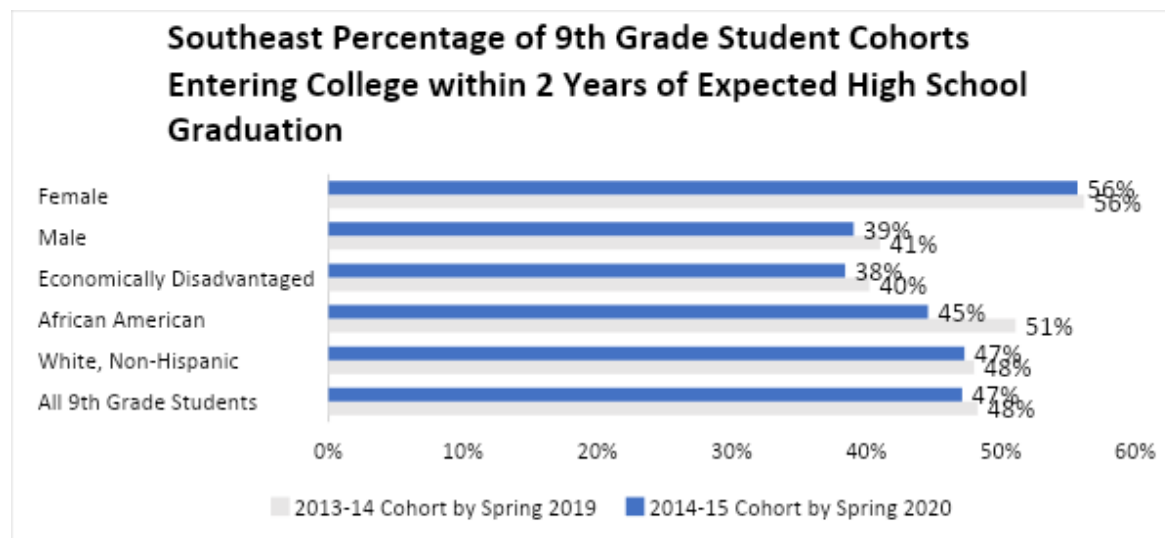


Figure 1. Southeast Percentage of 9th Grade Student Cohorts Entering College within 2 Years of High School Graduation

Data Source: Ohio Department of Education, Special Tabulation, presented by Education First to Ohio Excels - *Ohio Excels Regional Convening*, October 12, 2022. [PowerPoint slides]. Note: Sub-group results based only on counties in which student counts exceed 10.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS/DUAL ENROLLMENT & AP CREDIT

The Southeast Region is home to 94 public K-12 school districts, ranging in size from a 2021-2022 graduation cohort of 21 students (New Boston Local) to 285 students (Logan-Hocking Local). Table 2 summarizes the district Advanced Placement (AP) participation, AP exam scores, and dual credit participation rates. In most districts, less than 25% of students are taking AP courses or earning college credit while in high school. The percentage of students who score 3 or above on the AP exam was less than 10% in 87 districts, with 52 districts having 0% participation in AP courses in 2021-22. There were four K-12 school districts in the Southeast Region that had 50% or more of their graduating cohorts receive at least 3 dual enrollment credits for at least one year during the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 academic years. Two of the higher credit earning districts were rural districts with high poverty rates: Fort Frye Local and Wolf Creek Local. Marietta City is a small town with a low student poverty rate while Coshocton City is a small town with high student poverty rates.

Table 2. Summary of Southeast Ohio K-12 School District AP Participation, AP Scoring Rates, and Dual Credit Earning Rates

Number of K-12 districts in Southwest Region with...	Taking an AP course (21-22)	Scoring a 3 or higher on an AP exam (21-22)	Earning 3 or more dual credits (20-21)	Earning 12 or more dual credits (21-22)
75% or more of students...	0	0	0	0
50-74% of students...	0	0	4	1
25-49% of students...	4	0	35	15
Less than 25% of students...	90	94	55	78

Data Source: District Prepared for Success and College, Career, and Work Readiness Data from State Report Cards

Regional Access and Success Strategies

Representatives from nine Southeast counties are active in the Appalachia Ohio P-20 Council (AOP-20) which serves as a convener and catalyst for access and success. AOP-20 participates in the statewide cradle to career network. Other college access and support programs are offered by community foundations or organizations supporting specific high schools.

Completion

Graduation rates ranged from 54-91% for Ohio Technical Centers, 18-44% for two-year institutions, and 37-67% for four-year main campuses in the region, as shown in Table 3. Pell recipients at Ohio Technical Centers graduated at a rate equal to or greater than the overall graduation rate, except a one percent difference at Pickaway Ross Joint Vocational School District. Ohio University- Eastern Pell recipients graduate at a rate equal to the overall average. At the remaining colleges and universities, Pell recipients graduate at a rate lower than the overall average.

Representation of Black/African American and Hispanic students was less than 10 percent at most institutions in the region, except for Ohio University-Main, Eastern Gateway community College, and Hocking College. Black or African American students were lower than the overall graduation rate at Eastern Gateway and Hocking College. Hispanics students graduated at a rate six percentage points lower than the overall average at Eastern Gateway but two percentage points higher than the average at Hocking. At Ohio University- Main campus, Hispanic/Latinx students graduate at a rate better than the overall average, but Black/ African American students graduate at a rate nine percentage points below the average.

Table 3: Southeast Ohio Graduation Rates within 150 Percent of Normal Time for Public Institutions, 2021

	Public Institutions	Overall Graduation Rate	Graduation Rate, Pell Only	Graduation Rate, Black or African American	Graduation Rate, Hispanic	Graduation Rate, White
Predominantly Certificates	Buckeye Hills Career Center	74%	74%	--	--	--
	Mid-East CTC-Adult Education	91%	100%	--	--	--
	OC Collins Career Center	75%	100%	71%	50%	75%

	Public Institutions	Overall Graduation Rate	Graduation Rate, Pell Only	Graduation Rate, Black or African American	Graduation Rate, Hispanic	Graduation Rate, White
	Pickaway Ross Joint Vocational School District	79%	78%	--	--	--
	Pike County Joint Vocational School District	--	--	--	--	--
	Scioto County Career Technical Center	84%	100%	--	--	--
	Tri-County Adult Career Center	54%	75%	--	--	--
	Washington County Career Center-Adult Technical Training	91%	--	--	--	--
Predominantly Associates	Belmont College	28%	24%	0%	--	28%
	Eastern Gateway Community College	32%	30%	24%	26%	36%
	Hocking College	23%	17%	6%	25%	30%
	Ohio University-Chillicothe	18%	15%	0%	0%	19%
	Ohio University-Eastern	18%	18%	0%	0%	19%
	Ohio University-Southern	19%	14%	33%	0%	19%
	Ohio University-Zanesville	22%	16%	17%	33%	21%

	Public Institutions	Overall Graduation Rate	Graduation Rate, Pell Only	Graduation Rate, Black or African American	Graduation Rate, Hispanic	Graduation Rate, White
	Southern State Community College	30%	24%	0%	50%	32%
	Washington State Community College	32%	15%	14%	0%	34%
	Zane State College	44%	39%	100%	100%	42%
Predominantly Bachelors	Ohio University- Main Campus	67%	56%	58%	68%	68%
	Shawnee State University	37%	28%	9%	14%	40%

Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

The graduation rates at regional two-year campuses and community colleges can be reviewed in the context of a three-year success rate which considers transfer and persistence rates in addition to completion rates. Institutional review of the disaggregated data by Pell eligibility and race/ethnicity will complement this analysis. See Table 4.

Table 4: Three Year Success Measure Components for Southeast Ohio Public Two-Year Institutions, Fall 2018 Entering Cohort, 2021

Sector Institution	% Earned degree by end of third year	% Persisting at same institution in FY 2021	% Persisting at a different institution in FY 2021
Belmont College	29%	19%	5%
Eastern Gateway Community College	35%	20%	2%
Hocking College	43%	6%	5%
Rio Grande Community College ⁸	19%	9%	12%
Southern State Community College	21%	18%	12%
Washington State Community College	28%	21%	3%
Zane State College	46%	10%	5%
Ohio University-Chillicothe Campus	19%	37%	4%
Ohio University-Eastern Campus	24%	34%	6%
Ohio University-Southern Campus	28%	30%	4%
Ohio University-Zanesville Campus	22%	35%	11%

Data Source: Ohio Department of Higher Education

Post- School Outcomes

Southeast Ohio postsecondary institutions reporting the highest overall median earnings include Trinity Health System School of Nursing (\$69,689), Marietta College (\$59,175), and Ohio University – all

⁸ Rio Grande Community College is included in this table as the ODHE data source distinguishes this data from the University of Rio Grande.

campuses (\$53,641). Overall earnings for private institutions ranged from \$43,033 (University of Rio Grande) to \$69,689 (Trinity Health System School of Nursing) for regional private institutions. Overall median earnings for public institutions ranged from \$26,234 (Tri County Adult Career Center) to \$33,426 (Ohio University – all campuses) as shown in Table 1 on page 2. A limitation to the earnings for public institutions is that regional and main campuses are reported aggregately.

All the public two-year and four-year institutions have positive earnings compared to Threshold 0, which was defined by the Equitable Value Explorer Tool as the minimum economic return to see earnings over time that would be above what an individual who only completed high school received. Threshold 0 was not available for the Ohio Technical Centers.

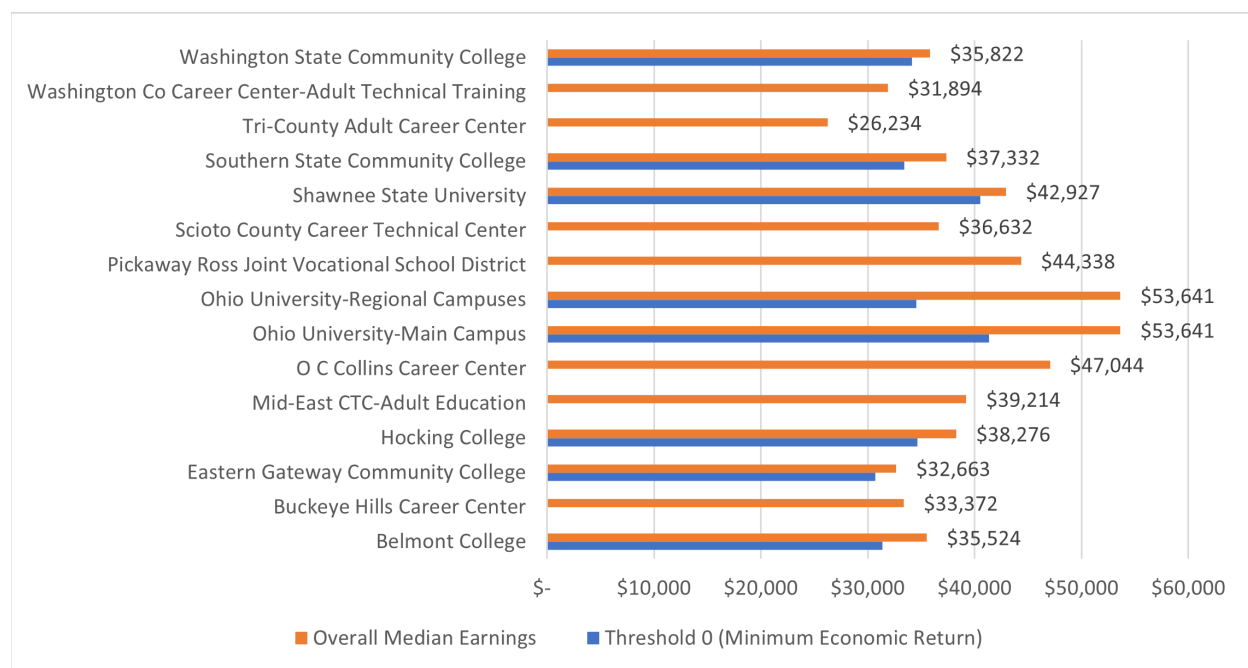


Figure 2. Overall Median Earnings and Earnings Relative to Threshold 0 for Southeast Ohio Public Institutions

Source: Equitable Value Explorer. Note that regional and main campuses earnings are reported aggregately. Pike County Joint Vocational School District did not have a reported earnings value in the dataset.

Industry

The State of Ohio Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation in partnership with the InnovateOhio Platform’s Data Analytics team has created a Top Jobs list of occupations paying sustainable wages and with a promising future based on the projected number of openings and growth.⁹ The “Top Jobs” for the Southeast region and their median salaries are shown in Table 4 by expected growth rate. They are displayed by typical education required. At the top of each column, the median earnings in Ohio for the education credential level (known as threshold 1 in the Equitable Value Explorer Tool) is listed. Most of the top jobs for which wage data are available meet or exceed the median earnings threshold for the credential level except for the following jobs: Phlebotomists, Ophthalmic Medical Technicians,

⁹ Ohio’s Top Jobs List | Ohio’s Top Jobs

Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, Preschool Teachers, Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors, Child, Family, and School Social Workers, and Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents. Please note that wage data were not reported for medical records & health information technicians and emergency medical technicians & paramedics.

Jobs Ohio identifies several core industries for growth with four areas noted as consistent across regions: Advanced Manufacturing, Technology, Business and Professional Services, and BioHealth. The Top Jobs are color coded if they match one of the four core industries. All jobs in the statewide core industries meet or exceed the threshold for median earnings for the credential level. Ohio Southeast Economic Development, the regional economic development entity, identifies the core industries as Energy & Chemicals, Wood & Paper Products, Metals Fabrication, Food Manufacturing, Logistics & Distribution, and Automotive & Aerospace. Most of these industries have occupations that overlap with occupations found in Advanced Manufacturing or Technology.

Overall, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' Bureau of Labor Market Information projects jobs to grow by 0.3% in Southeast Ohio from 2018 – 2028, which ranks the Southeast fourth out of six regions in terms of projected future growth.¹⁰

Table 5. Top Jobs in Southeast Ohio and Median Salary by Typical Education Required ranked by Projected Annual Growth within the Region

Southeast Region Top Jobs					
Postsecondary Non-Degree Award Threshold 1 = \$31,070	Salary	Associate Degree Threshold 1 = \$34,911	Salary	Bachelor's Degree Threshold 1 = \$46,380	Salary
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$44K	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$59K	Registered Nurses	\$62K
Medical Assistants (Direct Support Professional)	\$31K	Respiratory Therapists	\$55K	General and Operations Manager	\$73K
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers	\$42K	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$60K	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors	\$43K
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$41K	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$28K	Medical and Health Services Managers	\$87K
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	(Not Availa ble)	Radiologic Technologists	\$53K	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	\$46K
Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers	\$33K	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$61K	Financial Managers	\$105K
Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	\$38K	Environmental Science and Protection	\$43K	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	\$66K

¹⁰ [Employment Projections \(ohiolmi.com\)](https://www.ohiolmi.com/employment-projections)

Southeast Region Top Jobs					
Postsecondary Non-Degree Award Threshold 1 = \$31,070	Salary	Associate Degree Threshold 1 = \$34,911	Salary	Bachelor's Degree Threshold 1 = \$46,380	Salary
		Technicians, Including Health			
Surgical Technologists	\$43K	Computer Network Support Specialists	\$61K	Industrial Engineers	\$84K
Phlebotomists	\$30K	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	\$27K	Cost Estimators	\$53K
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	(Not Available)	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	\$39K	Compliance Officers, Except Agriculture, Construction, Health, and Safety	\$54K
Massage Therapists	\$37K	Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians	\$65K	Child, Family, and School Social Workers	\$43K
Ophthalmic Medical Technicians	\$27K	Dental Hygienists	\$63K	Social and Community Service Managers	\$62K
Firefighters	\$36K	Chemical Technicians	\$50K	Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	\$43K
Dental Assistants	\$36K	Human Resource Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping	\$38K	Managers, All other	\$92K
Tool and Die Makers	\$46K	[End of List]		Construction Managers	\$94K

■ BioHealth
 ■ Advanced Manufacturing
 ■ Technology
 ■ Business & Professional Services
 ■ Multiple Core Industries
 ■ Not in a core industry

Table 6 shows the number of completers by institution for the four core statewide industries. The field of study was correlated to industry by CIP code as shown in the Appendix. This gives a general sense of the production of education awards in these fields. Baccalaureate level completions far surpass awards at associate and certificate levels.

Table 6. Number of Completions by Industry Category for Southeast Ohio, 2021

Public Institutions	BioHealth			Advanced Manufacturing			Technology			Business and Professional Services		
	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac
Buckeye Hills Career Center	75	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mid-East CTC-Adult Education	69	0	0	19	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
OC Collins Career Center	261	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pickaway Ross Joint	107	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

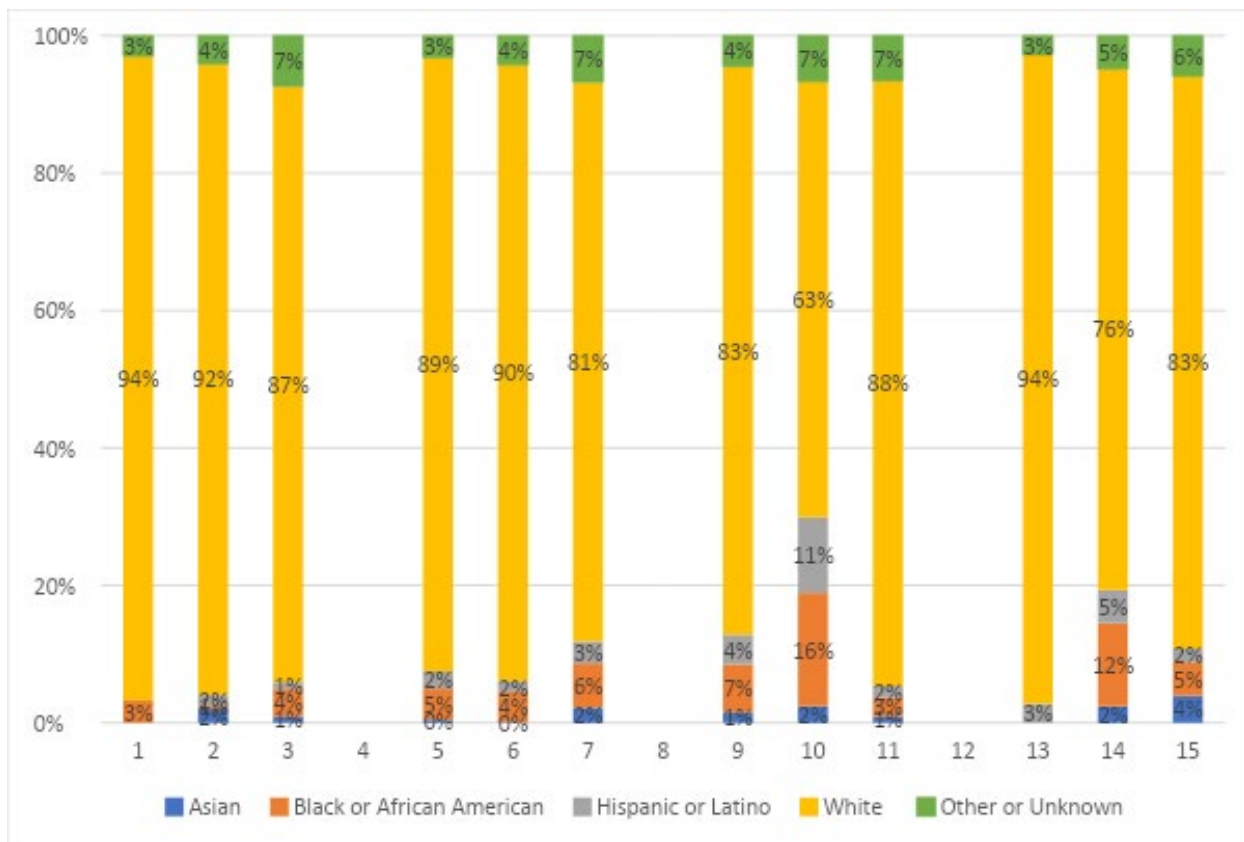
Public Institutions	BioHealth			Advanced Manufacturing			Technology			Business and Professional Services		
	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac
Vocational School District												
Pike County Joint Vocational School District	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scioto County Career Technical Center	116	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tri-County Adult Career Center	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington County Career Center-Adult Technical Training	91	0	0	76	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Belmont College	67	55	0	59	39	0	19	18	0	25	15	0
Eastern Gateway Community College	159	103	0	2	10	0	0	68	0	38	1670	0
Hocking College	12	128	0	19	26	0	0	11	0	9	20	0
Ohio University-Chillicothe	0	33	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	26	0
Ohio University-Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio University-Southern	0	83	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
Ohio University-Zanesville	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern State Community College	16	47	0	0	7	0	0	3	0	45	33	0
Washington State Community College	69	88	0	47	25	0	6	4	0	13	29	0
Zane State College	10	65	0	12	63	0	3	15	0	44	51	0

Public Institutions	BioHealth			Advanced Manufacturing			Technology			Business and Professional Services		
	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac	Cert	Assoc	Bac
Ohio University- Main Campus	31	5	2974	106	0	273	0	0	102	294	3	856
Shawnee State University	0	164	172	0	15	67	0	5	0	0	21	58
TOTAL	1135	827	3146	433	195	340	36	124	102	468	1877	914

Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

Figure 4 shows the proportion of degrees conferred by race for the statewide core industries in 2021, which were defined by matching CIP codes (See Appendix). Considering the racial makeup of the region, all students of color are highly represented. The greatest diversity is in the associate awards for Business and Professional Services and Technology.

Figure 3. Proportion of Degrees Conferred by Race for Priority Core Industries and Award Levels, Southeast Ohio Public Institutions 2021



Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; Note: Certificates only includes certificates below the baccalaureate level

Appendix

Scale Strategic Solutions connected industry priorities and designations from JobsOhio with fields of study based on CIP code families that best fit the industry. Please note that some occupations may have a variety of fields of study from which they may hire.

Table 7: Crosswalk of regional core industries, job categories, and CIP codes of field of study

Core Industries	Job Categories from Ohio's Top Jobs	CIP Codes
BioHealth	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical; Healthcare Support; select Life and Physical Science, and Social Sciences; select Management	26- Biological and Biomedical Sciences 42- Psychology 51- Health Professions
Advanced Manufacturing	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair; Production; select Management	14- Engineering 15- Engineering Tech 47- Mechanic, Repair, and installations 48- Precision Production
Technology	Computer and Mathematical; select Management	11- Computer and Information Sciences
Business and Professional Services	Business and Financial Operations; select Management	52- Business, Management, and Marketing