THE OHIO SYSTEM: RESEARCH AND PRACTICE FOR INTEGRATING DATA AND POLICY

Joshua D. Hawley
Associate Professor and Director
John Glenn College of Public Affairs
The Ohio State University
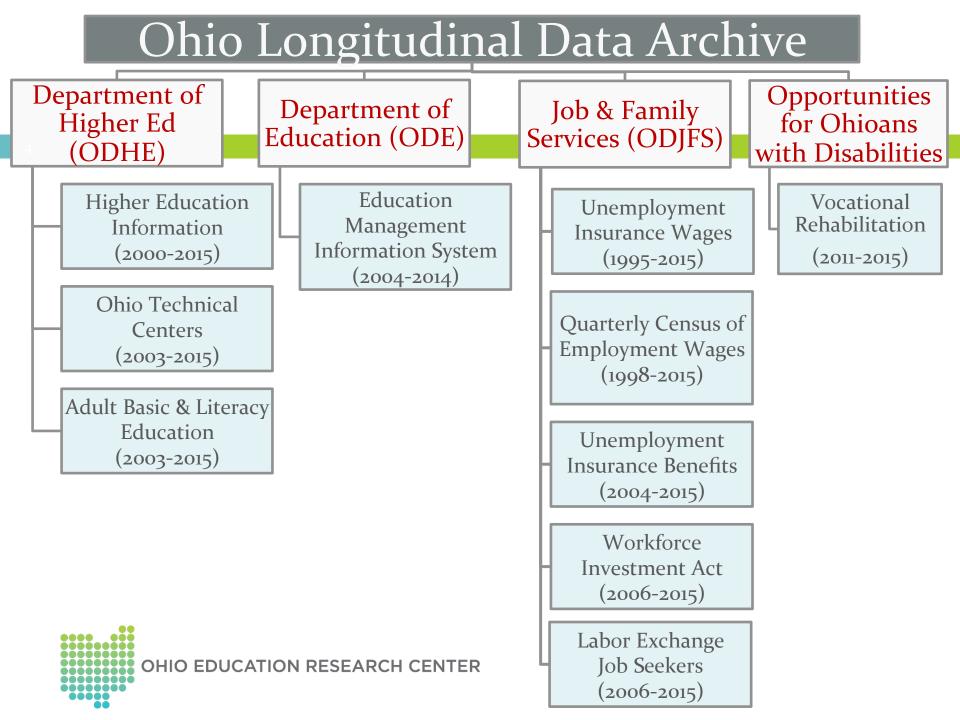
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OHIO EDUCATION RESEARCH CENTER

Some history about the OERC

- The OERC is a full-service research center, focusing on improving policy and practice in education, higher education, workforce, and human services.
- Started in 2011 with Race to the Top Funding
- A "joint venture" between the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (CHRR), the John Glenn College of Public Affairs, and the College of Education and Human Ecology
- Includes partnership agreements with a range of universities (including UC, OU, CWRU, and MU of Ohio)
- Management is composed of a director (me) and four lead faculty that handle data, agency cooperation, outreach and engagement, and internal communications

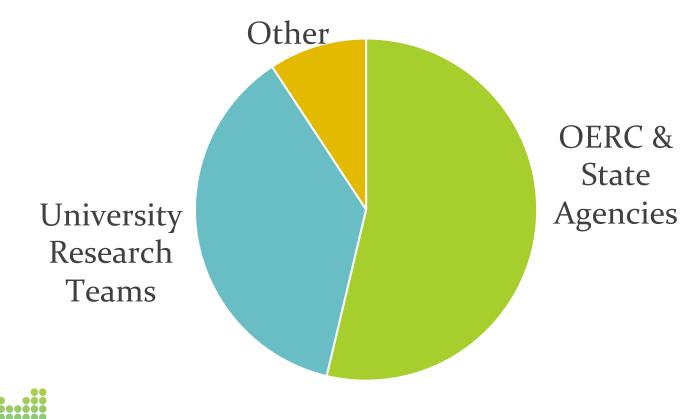OHIO EDUCATION RESEARCH CENTER

Lots of successes

- Management of research funding for Race to the Top in Ohio (e.g., different reports and research services)

- Creation of a series of dashboards for government (Workforce Success Measures)

- Generation of a research data center (Ohio Longitudinal Data Archive)

- Completion of a series of reports for different agencies (workforce, higher ed, education)

- Development of a K12 Student Dashboard

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Ohio Longitudinal Data Archive

Department of Higher Ed (ODHE)

- Higher Education Information (2000-2015)
- Ohio Technical Centers (2003-2015)
- Adult Basic & Literacy Education (2003-2015)

Department of Education (ODE)

- Education Management Information System (2004-2014)

Job & Family Services (ODJFS)

- Unemployment Insurance Wages (1995-2015)
- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (1998-2015)
- Unemployment Insurance Benefits (2004-2015)
- Workforce Investment Act (2006-2015)
- Labor Exchange Job Seekers (2006-2015)

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

- Vocational Rehabilitation (2011-2015)

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Data Users

N=54 active or complete projects, 2013-2016

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OERC Governance

- Policy Council
  - Meets on a quarterly basis
  - Supervises overall agenda, acts as liaison with agencies around funding
- Coordinating Board
  - Direct supervision of the center by the agency manager
- Data Stewards Advisory Committee
  - Agency representatives and OERC/CHRR staff meet monthly
  - Oversight of data systems

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Current Agenda

- We have work in four domains
  - Education (P-12)
  - Higher Education (post secondary, including vocational)
  - Workforce (and welfare)
  - Human Services and Health
- Agenda is set annually with each agency and available for the whole system

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Suggestions

- Ask agencies what they want to know and organize around these requests
- Hire faculty that have consulting experience (and statistical/data expertise)
- Do not burden the center with training roles or statistical consulting roles. Those are different goals.
- Serve as a organizer (in best way) of a lot of state activities at once, research, data, policy, practice
- Provide opportunities for people from other places to work together

Example Studies

P-12 Education

Investigating the Pathway to Proficiency from Birth through 3rd Grade

Claudia J. Coulton, PhD | Robert L. Fischer, PhD | Seok-Joo Kim, PhD

Kindergarteners' Residential Locations, Passage of 3rd Grade Reading Test, and Neighborhood Poverty Rates in Cleveland Metropolitan School District

Poverty rate by Census tract(%)
0.0 - 15.0
15.1 - 30.0
30.1 - 50.0
50.1 - 100.0
CMSD

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Spring 2016

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- ☐ Study examined student outcomes on reading and kindergarten readiness
- ☐ Merged data from a large set of student records in Cleveland.
- ☐ Matched with health and social service data

Workforce Success Measures

- Performance data for WIOA programs
- Displayed at provider, county, region, and state level.
- Covers WIOA, Perkins, VR, and Higher Ed data.
- Measures include employment and skills attainment

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Contact and Questions

- On the OERC generally, contact me at Hawley.32@osu.edu or 614-372-6884

- For questions on the data system and technical issues contact Lisa Neilson at lneilson@chrr.osu.edu

- For state policy issues please contact Keith Ewald at keith.ewald@jfs.ohio.gov

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