

## Appendix G: ESC Peer Groups

In 1996, ODE created classifications for different types of similar districts, referred to as the typology of Ohio school districts.<sup>1</sup> To create this typology, ODE used several data sources to classify like districts together based on shared demographic and geographic characteristics. As a result, the classifications can serve as a basis for a stratified sample of districts in the state. These classifications also allow researchers to focus on a specific type of district, such as major urban districts or rural districts with high poverty. Eight typology categories were created for the 2013 typology (the most current). Below is a description of these eight district typologies.

### ODE District Typology Descriptions

2013 Typology Code	Major Grouping	Full Descriptor	Districts Within Typology	Students Within Typology
1	Rural	Rural - High Student Poverty & Small Student Population	124	170,000
2	Rural	Rural - Average Student Poverty & Very Small Student Population	107	110,000
3	Small Town	Small Town - Low Student Poverty & Small Student Population	111	185,000
4	Small Town	Small Town - High Student Poverty & Average Student Population Size	89	200,000
5	Suburban	Suburban - Low Student Poverty & Average Student Population Size	77	320,000
6	Suburban	Suburban - Very Low Student Poverty & Large Student Population	46	240,000
7	Urban	Urban - High Student Poverty & Average Student Population	47	210,000
8	Urban	Urban - Very High Student Poverty & Very Large Student Population	8	200,000

Source: ODE

Districts are assigned typology ranging from rural with low student population to urban with very large student population. Using a weighted average each member district's assigned typology based on student enrollment, five groups of ESCs were created for comparative purposes and analysis within our study. Grouping ESCs in this manner allows for effective comparative analysis

<sup>1</sup> In 2007, the typology was revised to take advantage of the 2000 census data. With the availability of more recent data from the 2010 census and an increasing demand for analytic uses, ODE again revised the typology for 2013.

to be performed, as differences in ESCs resulting from environmental factors are normalized. Below is the results of the ESC groupings.

### OPT Group Definitions

<b>Group 2 - Weighted Avg. of Typology 1 &amp; 2 Districts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athens-Meigs ESC</li> <li>• Auglaize County ESC</li> <li>• Brown County ESC</li> <li>• Columbiana County ESC</li> <li>• Darke County ESC</li> <li>• East Central Ohio ESC</li> <li>• Gallia-Vinton ESC</li> <li>• Knox County ESC</li> <li>• Lawrence County ESC</li> <li>• Madison-Champaign ESC</li> <li>• Mercer County ESC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muskingum Valley ESC</li> <li>• Northwest Ohio ESC</li> <li>• Ohio Valley ESC</li> <li>• Preble County ESC</li> <li>• Putnam County ESC</li> <li>• Ross-Pike ESC</li> <li>• South Central Ohio ESC</li> <li>• Southern Ohio ESC</li> <li>• Tri County ESC</li> <li>• Western Buckeye ESC</li> </ul>
<b>Group 3 – Weighted Avg. of Typology 3 Districts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ashtabula County ESC</li> <li>• Clermont County ESC</li> <li>• Geauga County ESC</li> <li>• Jefferson County ESC</li> <li>• Miami County ESC</li> <li>• Mid-Ohio ESC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Midwest Regional ESC</li> <li>• North Central Ohio ESC</li> <li>• North Point ESC</li> <li>• Pickaway County ESC</li> <li>• Trumbull County ESC</li> <li>• Wood County ESC</li> </ul>
<b>Group 4 - Weighted Avg. of Typology 4 Districts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allen County ESC</li> <li>• Clark County ESC</li> <li>• ESC of Medina County</li> <li>• Fairfield County ESC</li> <li>• Hancock County ESC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licking County ESC</li> <li>• Mahoning County ESC</li> <li>• Stark County ESC</li> <li>• Summit ESC</li> </ul>
<b>Group 5 - Weighted Avg. of Typology 5 Districts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Butler County ESC</li> <li>• ESC of Lake Erie West</li> <li>• Greene County ESC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lake County ESC</li> <li>• Lorain County ESC</li> <li>• Warren County ESC</li> </ul>
<b>Group 6 - Weighted Avg. of Typology 6 Districts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESC of Central Ohio</li> <li>• ESC of Northeast Ohio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hamilton County ESC</li> <li>• Montgomery County ESC</li> </ul>

Source: ODE and ESCs

Using the weighted average typologies of each ESC’s member districts, five groups were formed. These groups were used throughout the operational review to complete group-based comparisons where applicable.