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Subject: Enrollment, teacher, and administrator count for FY 2001 to FY 2020

This memorandum presents Ohio and national data regarding growth in the number of students, teachers, and district administrators. The national data was originally presented in the article “Education as a Battleground,” which appeared in the November 2022 edition of Hillsdale College’s *Imprimis* publication. The article compares National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) data for the three metrics for the fall of 2000 (FY 2001) to the fall of 2019 (FY 2020). Table 1 below shows the actual and percentage change in enrollment and teacher and district administrator counts for both the U.S. and Ohio from FY 2001 to FY 2020. Note that “district administrators” represents the total of two categories in the NCES data, “district officials and administrators” and “instruction coordinators and supervisors,” which are disaggregated in the table. The definitions of these categories can be found in “**Appendix B.**” The snapshot comparison appears to show a decline in all three metrics in Ohio and, as described in the article, an increase in all three metrics nationally, particularly for district administrators. However, the NCES data for Ohio show a large decline in officials and administrators and a spike in instruction coordinators and supervisors. These disaggregated figures suggest that caution should be taken when evaluating the reported change in Ohio’s district administrator counts between FY 2001 and FY 2020 due to what may be a data reporting issue. Additional details follow the table.

Table 1. Change in Public School Enrollment, Teachers, and District Administrators, FY 2001-FY 2020

Category	Ohio		U.S.	
	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Student enrollment	-145,182	-7.9%	3,592,906	7.6%
Teachers	-12,363	-10.4%	256,709	8.7%
Total district administrators	-1,196	-19.3%	85,208	87.6%
<i>Officials and administrators</i>	-3,053	-53.1%	20,038	34.6%
<i>Instruction coordinators</i>	1,857	404.6%	65,170	165.3%

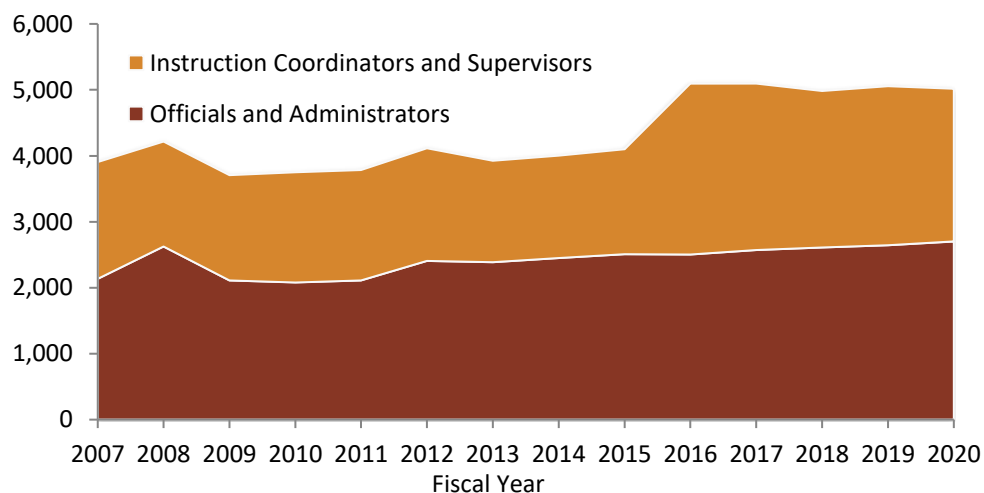
For reference, we present year-by-year Ohio and national data on each metric in “**Appendix A**” in tables 3 and 4, respectively. As Table 3 shows, there are abrupt, large changes from FY 2006 to FY 2007 in the number of officials and administrators and instruction coordinators, leading to an overall sharp decline in total district administrators reported for Ohio, possibly due to a change in the way district staff were reported. We observed similar abrupt changes in the national data between those years as well (see the information for the same years in Table 4). As such, Table 2 below compares Ohio and national numbers between FY 2007 and FY 2020, which appears to reflect a more consistent set of data. During this timeframe, the counts of Ohio students and teachers decreased 8.0% and 4.0%, respectively, while the count of district administrators increased by 28.4%. Ohio’s growth in district administrators was slower than the national growth of 45.9%.

Table 2. Change in Public School Enrollment, Teachers, and District Administrators, FY 2007-FY 2020

Category	Ohio		U.S.	
	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Student enrollment	-146,855	-8.0%	1,480,603	3.0%
Teachers	-4,461	-4.0%	31,779	1.0%
Total district administrators	1,108	28.4%	57,415	45.9%
<i>Officials and administrators</i>	565	26.5%	18,138	30.4%
<i>Instruction coordinators</i>	543	30.6%	39,277	60.1%

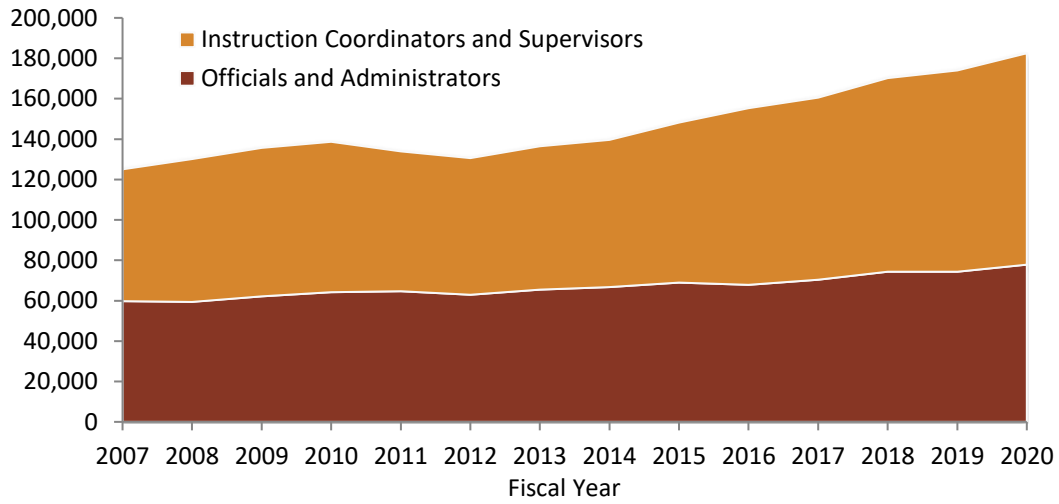
Chart 1 below illustrates the annual growth in total district administrators in Ohio during the same period by position type. As the chart shows, growth in the officials and administrators category has been relatively steady since FY 2013 while the number of instruction coordinators spiked in FY 2016 and since has leveled off.

Chart 1: Ohio Total District Administrators by Position, FY 2007-FY 2020



Nationally, much of the growth in district administrators since FY 2007 also is attributable to instruction coordinators, which, as shown in Chart 2 below, have been increasing more rapidly than the officials and administrators category since FY 2013.

Chart 2: U.S. Total District Administrators by Position, FY 2007-FY 2020



Appendix A – Enrollment and Staff Data

Table 3. Ohio Public School Enrollment, Teachers, and District Administrators, FY 2001-FY 2020

Fiscal Year	Enrollment	Teachers	Officials and Administrators	Instruction Coordinators	Total District Administrators
2001	1,835,049	118,361	5,753	459	6,212
2002	1,830,985	122,115	6,203	489	6,692
2003	1,838,285	125,372	6,549	501	7,050
2004	1,845,428	121,735	6,214	500	6,714
2005	1,840,032	118,060	7,991	601	8,592
2006	1,839,683	117,982	7,894	555	8,449
2007	1,836,722	110,459	2,135	1,773	3,908
2008	1,827,184	109,766	2,625	1,592	4,217
2009	1,817,163	112,845	2,109	1,600	3,709
2010	1,764,297	111,378	2,079	1,670	3,749
2011	1,754,191	109,282	2,110	1,676	3,786
2012	1,740,030	107,972	2,406	1,708	4,114
2013	1,729,916	106,000	2,389	1,537	3,926
2014	1,724,111	106,010	2,449	1,552	4,001
2015	1,724,810	106,526	2,507	1,593	4,100
2016	1,716,585	101,742	2,502	2,592	5,094
2017	1,710,143	102,600	2,571	2,524	5,095
2018	1,704,399	98,912	2,610	2,374	4,984
2019	1,695,762	101,739	2,645	2,411	5,056
2020	1,689,867	105,998	2,700	2,316	5,016

Table 4. U.S. Public School Enrollment, Teachers, and District Administrators, FY 2001-FY 2020

Year	Enrollment	Teachers	Officials and Administrators	Instruction Coordinators	Total District Administrators
2001	47,203,539	2,941,461	57,837	39,433	97,270
2002	47,671,870	2,999,528	63,517	46,009	109,526
2003	48,183,086	3,034,123	62,781	47,996	110,777
2004	48,540,215	3,048,652	63,418	44,065	107,483
2005	48,795,465	3,090,925	64,101	47,731	111,832
2006	49,113,298	3,143,003	65,325	47,493	112,818
2007	49,315,842	3,166,391	59,737	65,326	125,063
2008	49,290,559	3,178,142	59,369	70,677	130,046
2009	49,265,572	3,222,154	62,153	73,457	135,610
2010	49,360,982	3,209,672	64,146	74,498	138,644
2011	49,484,181	3,099,095	64,597	69,236	133,833
2012	49,521,669	3,103,263	62,884	67,711	130,595
2013	49,771,118	3,109,101	65,420	70,967	136,387
2014	50,044,522	3,113,764	66,732	72,935	139,667
2015	50,312,581	3,132,351	68,962	79,267	148,229
2016	50,438,043	3,151,497	67,778	87,495	155,273
2017	50,615,189	3,169,499	70,357	90,183	160,540
2018	50,685,567	3,169,750	74,411	95,746	170,157
2019	50,694,061	3,169,762	74,366	99,591	173,957
2020	50,796,445	3,198,170	77,875	104,603	182,478

Appendix B – Definitions of Terms

This section of the memorandum lists the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) definitions of the two categories of staff that comprise “district administrators”: district officials and administrators and instructional coordinators and supervisors.

District officials and administrators

NCES defines “district officials and administrators” as chief executive officers of education agencies, including superintendents, deputies, and assistant superintendents; and other persons with district-wide responsibilities (for example, business managers and professional instructional support staff). The term excludes supervisors of instructional or student support staff.

Instructional coordinators and supervisors

NCES defines “instructional coordinators and supervisors” as staff supervising instructional programs at the school district or subdistrict level, including supervisors of educational television staff; coordinators, and supervisors of audiovisual services; curriculum coordinators and in-service training staff; Title I coordinators and home economics supervisors; and supervisory staff engaged in the development of computer-assisted instruction. The term excludes school-based department chairpersons.