Ohio | Department of Education

2013 School District Typology Overview

The Ohio Department of Education classifies public school districts by typology for research purposes based on a statistical analysis of shared demographic and geographic characteristics. In 2013, the department took advantage of new data and created a new typology for districts to replace the typology created in 2007.

There are four major groupings in the 2013 typology: Rural, Small Town, Urban and Suburban. There are two classifications within each major grouping for further differentiation. This makes for a total of eight typology classifications, one more than in the 2007 version. A new typology classification was created to accommodate the outlying towns and county seats that share many characteristics of Urban districts despite their rural locations. As a result, the typology codes and descriptors have been modified.

The statistical method used to create the classifications is similar to the previous typology versions and is aligned to the “similar districts” used for comparisons on the Local Report Card. It is important to note that while a district may different than its typology in some ways. However, on the whole, that district is more similar to its typology classification than any other typology classification.

2013 School Districts Typology				
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	49	225,000
8	Urban	Urban - Very High Student Poverty & Very Large Student Population	6	185,000

April 29, 2013