



# Exploratory Data Analysis of Co-enrollment of VR participants in Ohio Workforce Programs

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## ACRONYMS

ETA-9169: Annual report of agencies subject to WIOA regulations; DOL - Department of Labor; ODJFS - Ohio Department of Job & Family Services; OOD - Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities; RSA - Rehabilitation Services Administration; VR - Vocational Rehabilitation; WIOA: Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act

## INTRODUCTION

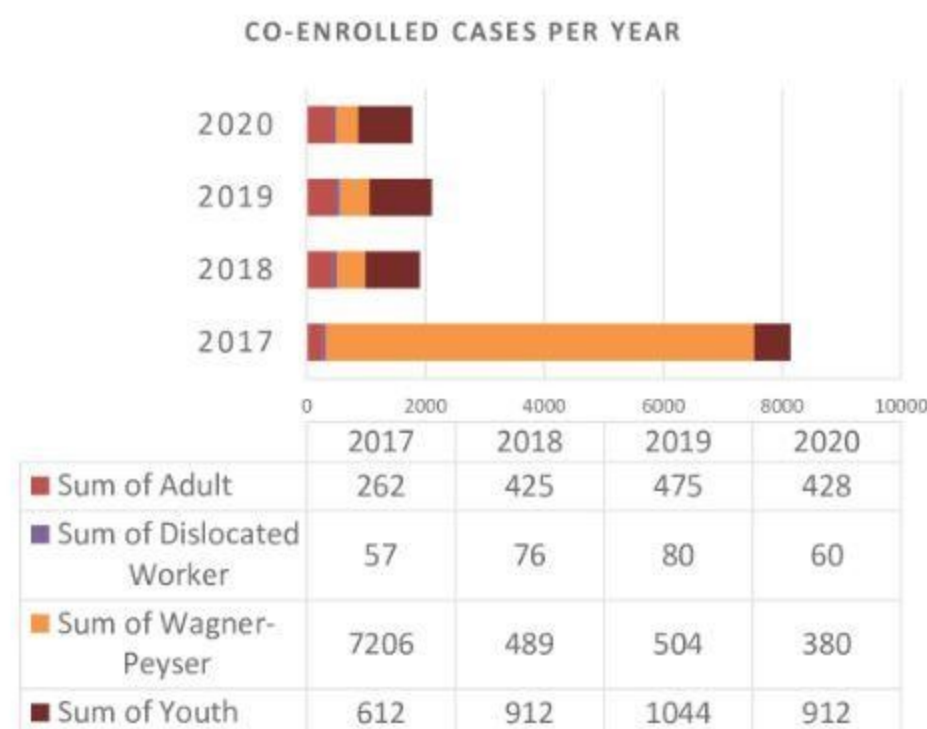
Agencies subject to WIOA regulations are required to report the rate at which participants of their program are co-enrolled in other WIOA program(s). Currently, OOD utilizes self-report of individuals to determine if a VR participant is co-enrolled. However, individuals may not always know the formal name of the programs in which they are participating and may also have other motives for incorrect self-report.

## METHODS

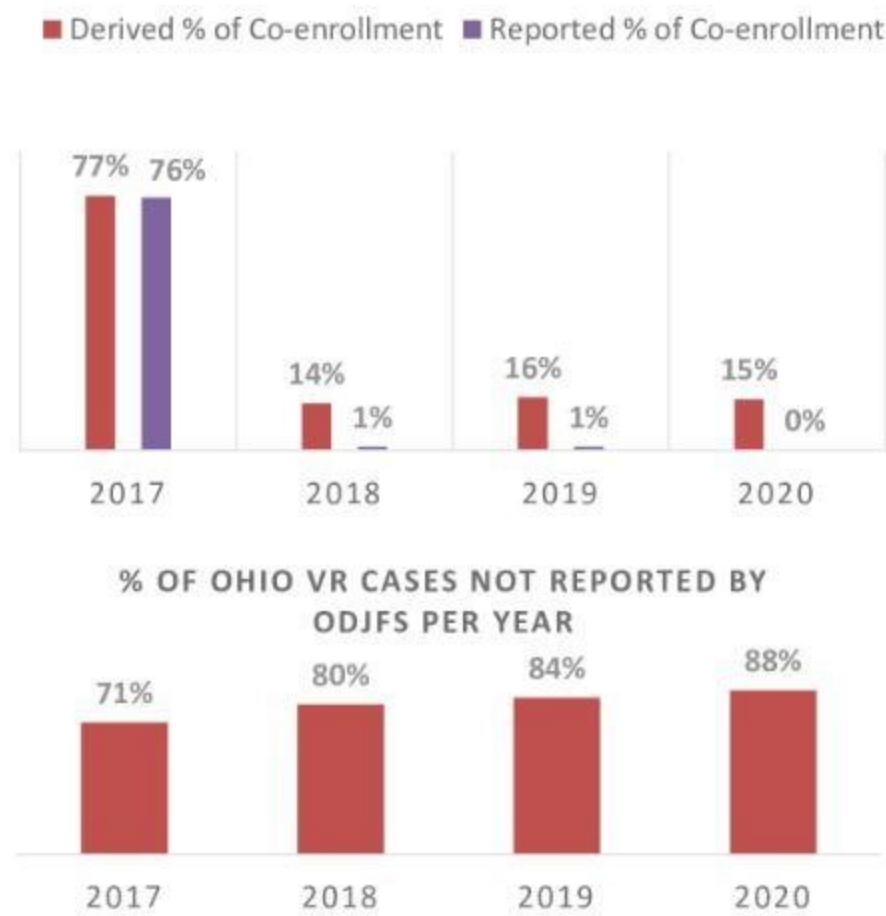
- Cross-Analysis: Access a merged and de-identified data set consisting of ETA-9169 data elements reported by Ohio VR to RSA and by ODJFS to DOL for program years 2017-2020.
- Calculate and analyze the association between categorical variables (data elements): Phi coefficient.

## RESULTS

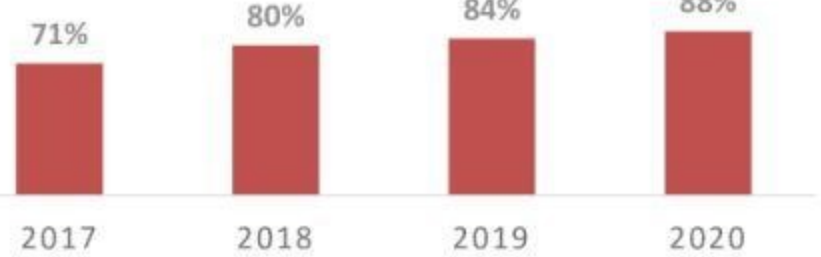
### What is the most recent level of co-enrollment between OOD and ODJFS?



% OF CO-ENROLLMENT PER YEAR (DERIVED VALUE VS REPORTED VALUE BY OOD)



% OF OHIO VR CASES NOT REPORTED BY ODJFS PER YEAR



### What are the social-demographic elements for co-enrollment participants?

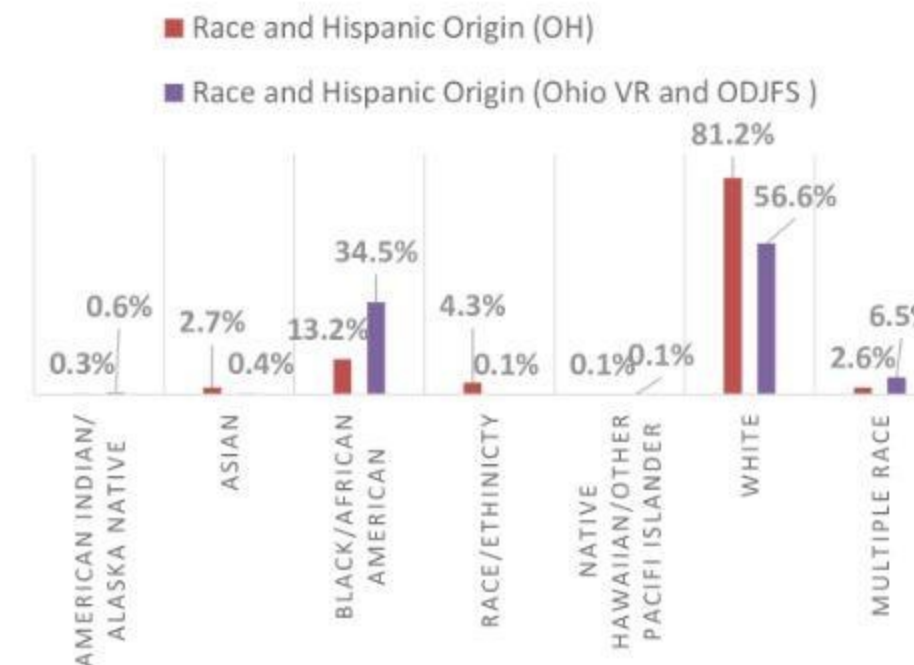
RACE DISTRIBUTION FOR VR PARTICIPANTS PER YEAR



GENDER DISTRIBUTION FOR VR PARTICIPANTS PER YEAR



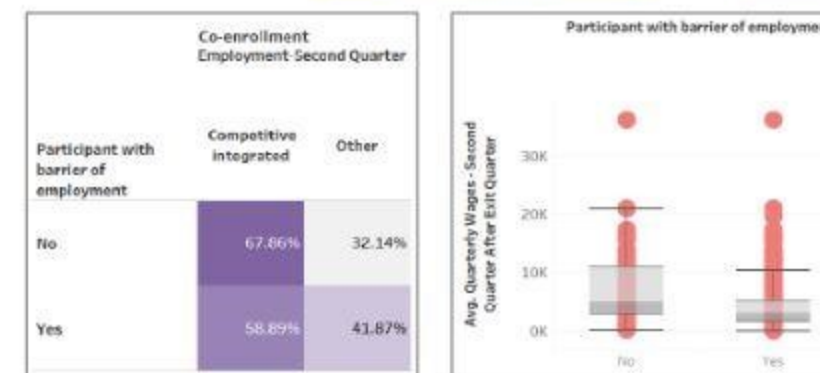
RACE DISTRIBUTION 2020 (CO-ENROLLMENT PARTICIPANTS VS \*GENERAL OHIO DEMOGRAPHICS)



### What are the barriers of employment for co-enrollment participants?

Correlation Matrix (Phi Coefficient)

	Skills deficient	English learner	Cultural barriers	Low income	Foster care	Long-term unemployment
Skills deficient	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.15	0.15	0.12
English learner	0.06	0.14	0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02
Cultural barriers	0.03	0.14	0.02	-0.02	0.02	0.00
Low income	0.15	0.02	-0.02	0.16	0.03	0.00
Foster care	0.15	-0.02	0.02	0.16	0.03	-0.34



## CONCLUSIONS

1. Utilization of match between VR and ODJFS programs would likely result in higher reportable percentage of co-enrollment per year.
2. The percentage of co-enrollment by VR has decreased in the recent years.

3. Racially, most VR participants consider themselves to be White or Black/African American. There is a balance between the percentage of male and female participants served by VR program.
4. In comparison to overall demographics for the State of Ohio, VR is serving a higher proportion of black/African Americans, a smaller proportion of White, and is fairly proportional for other races.
5. There is a positive correlation for the variables:
  - Low income - Basic Skills Deficient
  - Cultural Barriers - English Language Learner
  - Foster Care - Low Income
6. Cases without barriers of employment had greater upper bound for average wages than individuals with barriers. However, around 58.8% of individuals with barriers are in competitive integrated employment.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. This exploratory analysis has provided details about the levels of WIOA co-enrollment reported by Ohio VR and ODJFS in comparison to potential co-enrollment levels as measured by utilization of a cross-match file. It can be highlighted that both OOD and ODJFS currently have incomplete access to enrollment data for programs managed by the other agency, resulting in sub-optimal reporting levels of co-enrollment. Currently OOD has not access. Sharing of data between the two agencies (and potentially between all of Ohio's WIOA agencies) could help to increase Ohio's reported co-enrollment indicator.
2. Tracking people with the following barriers: Low income, Basic Skills Deficient, Cultural Barriers, Foster Care and English Language Learner would help to better understand the true relationship within these variables.

\*Source: Population estimates, July 1, 2021 (V2021), Race and Hispanic Origin. United States Census Bureau, Ohio, available at <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/OH>