



Top 10 Things to Know about CTE

1. Over 14 million secondary and postsecondary students are enrolled in at least some CTE courses.¹
2. Average CTE concentrator high school graduation rate (2007-2008) was 90.18%²
3. High-risk students are 8 to 10 times less likely to drop out in 11th or 12th grades if enrolled in a CTE program rather than general education.³
4. 70 percent of CTE concentrators stayed in postsecondary education or transferred to a 4-year degree program (compared to the overall average state target of 58%) and transitioned to postsecondary education or employment by December of the year of graduation.⁴
5. CTE students are of all ages – youth to adult – and come from a range of backgrounds and experiences. They can take courses in secondary school and transition into postsecondary institutions, which also offer CTE programs. Further, after time in the workforce, CTE students return to postsecondary institutions to advance their skills and potentially earn more credentials.
6. CTE prepares students for some of the fastest growing jobs forecasted to rise in the coming years such as health care, business, green energy, arts, agriculture and information technology.
7. Experts project 47 million job openings in the decade ending 2018. About one-third will require an associate's degree or certificate, and nearly all will require real-world skill that can be mastered through CTE.⁵
8. 80 percent of CTE concentrators persisted in postsecondary education.⁶
9. Number of CTE credentials awarded nationally in 2006: 2,022,885⁷
10. CTE is evolving and moving toward a common goal of rigor, quality and consistency.

¹U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Report to Congress on State Performance, Program Year 2007-2008, http://cte.ed.gov/docs/Rpt_to_Congress/Report_to_Congress_07-08.pdf

²U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, Report to Congress on State Performance, Program Year 2007-2008. Washington, DC.

³Kulik, James, Curriculum Tracks and High School Vocational Studies (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1998)

⁴U.S. Department of Education, <http://www2.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/2010report/fy2010-apr.pdf>.

⁵Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce via Harvard's Pathways to Prosperity report, p. 29, <http://cew.georgetown.edu/>

⁶U.S. Department of Education, Table 4, <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011234.pdf>

⁷U.S. Department of Education, Table 10, <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011234.pdf>

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