



Career Technical Education (CTE) is a proven strategy that expands options for learners, empowers them to choose a meaningful and sustainable career, and prepares them with real-world skills for success in college and careers. Through hands-on learning, engagement with industry experts and rigorous academic and career-focused coursework, CTE is learning that works for New Jersey's students – and its economy.

CTE Works for Learners in New Jersey

CTE Enrollment¹

80,460

High School

113,297

Postsecondary

High School Graduation

90%

New Jersey Average²

97%

CTE Concentrators³

Outcomes for Learners in New Jersey⁴

99%

high school CTE graduates enrolling in college, enlisting in the military or working within six months

71%

postsecondary CTE students staying enrolled and/or transferring

29%

postsecondary CTE students earning a credential, certificate or degree

73%

postsecondary CTE graduates placed in careers or further training within six months

- Fun fact: Beginning in 2008, New Jersey undertook a revision of its program re-approval policies with a focus on alignment with labor market information and transitions from secondary to postsecondary. Now, all secondary CTE programs in the state are required to submit outcomes data annually and apply for re-approval every five years, with ample technical assistance from the state.⁵

CTE Works for New Jersey's Economy

- Middle-skill jobs – those requiring some postsecondary education and training, but not a Bachelor's degree – account for 53 percent of New Jersey's labor market.
- However, only 37 percent of workers in New Jersey are qualified to fill these middle-skill jobs,⁷ leading to a skills gap that CTE can help address.
- In total, 38,358 associate's degrees or certificates were awarded in New Jersey in 2015 – about 38 percent of all postsecondary degrees and certificates.⁸



In New Jersey, the top middle-skill occupations with the highest projected job openings are in the Health Science Career Cluster.⁶

¹ U.S. Department of Education, Perkins Data Explorer. <https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/CTEParticipant>

² U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2014-15.asp

³ U.S. Department of Education, Perkins Data Explorer. <https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/Performance>

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ <https://careertech.org/resource/raising-the-bar>

⁶ Based on Advance CTE's analysis of fastest-growing occupations by state. This represents occupations with high annual projected job openings that requires an associate's degree and provide an average wage of at least \$34,760. Retrieved from https://www.careerinfonet.org/select_state.asp?id=11&nodeid=12&next=state1

⁷ National Skills Coalition. (2017). *State Middle Skills Fact Sheets*. <http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/state-policy/states>

⁸ U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. Advance CTE's analysis of completions component. Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>