



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 Texas’s students – and its economy.

## CTE Works for Learners in Texas

### CTE Enrollment<sup>1</sup>

**1,285,605**

High School

**188,073**

Postsecondary

### High School Graduation

**89%**

Texas Average<sup>2</sup>

**97%**

CTE Concentrators<sup>3</sup>

## Outcomes for Learners in Texas<sup>4</sup>

**70%**

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

**64%**

postsecondary CTE students staying enrolled and/or transferring

**34%**

postsecondary CTE students earning a credential, certificate or degree

**75%**

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

- Fun fact: The Texas Labor Market and Career Information (LMCI) division of the Texas Workforce Commission has created an easy-to-read website that provides program outcomes for nine of the state’s workforce development programs. Users can select pre- and post-program employment outcomes and median quarterly earnings for each of the programs and for the system in aggregate, and those outcomes are displayed in interactive charts.<sup>5</sup>

## CTE Works for Texas’s Economy

- Middle-skill jobs – those requiring some postsecondary education and training, but not a Bachelor’s degree – account for 56 percent of Texas’s labor market.
- However, only 42 percent of workers in Texas are qualified to fill these middle-skill jobs,<sup>7</sup> leading to a skills gap that CTE can help address.
- In total, 147,726 associate’s degrees or certificates were awarded in Texas in 2015 – about 44 percent of all postsecondary degrees and certificates.<sup>8</sup>



In Texas, the top middle-skill occupations with the highest projected job openings are in the Health Science Career Cluster.<sup>6</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.  
[https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR\\_RE\\_and\\_characteristics\\_2014-15.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/tables/ACGR_RE_and_characteristics_2014-15.asp)

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

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/resources/publications/file/SWEAP\\_Using\\_Dashboards\\_for\\_State\\_Workforce\\_Planning.pdf](https://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/resources/publications/file/SWEAP_Using_Dashboards_for_State_Workforce_Planning.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> 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](https://www.careerinfonet.org/select_state.asp?id=11&nodeid=12&next=state1)

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

<sup>8</sup> 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/>