

Workforce Program Outcomes- Spotlight on CTE

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What is Career and Technical Education (CTE)?



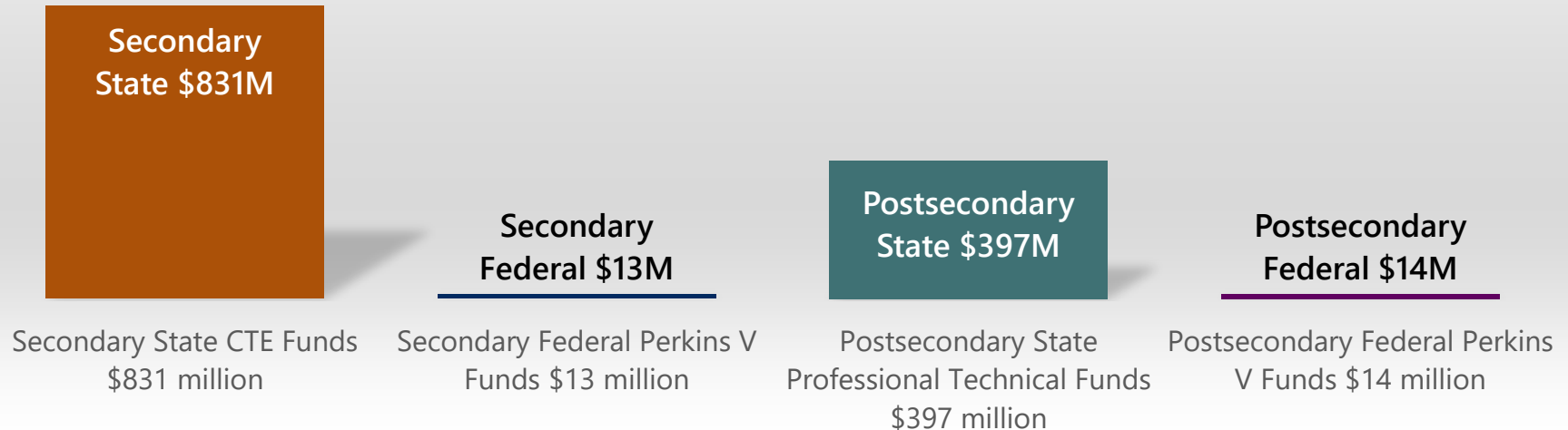
A planned educational program that combines academic learning, life skills, soft skills, technical skills, and hands-on, real-world learning experiences to prepare students for **college, high skill, high wage careers, and lifelong learning.**



State Allocates Substantial Funding to CTE Each Year

State vs. Federal Funding for CTE in Washington State

- Secondary State CTE Funds \$831 million
- Secondary Federal Perkins V Funds \$13 million
- Postsecondary State Professional Technical Funds \$397 million
- Postsecondary Federal Perkins V Funds \$14 million





The Workforce Board's Role Related to CTE



Designated state administrative agency under federal Carl D. Perkins Strengthening Career and Technical Education for 21st Century Act (Perkins V)



Approves the Perkins V operating budget



Develops the Perkins State Plan



Sets performance benchmarks



Reviews and sets policies, processes and recommends improvements

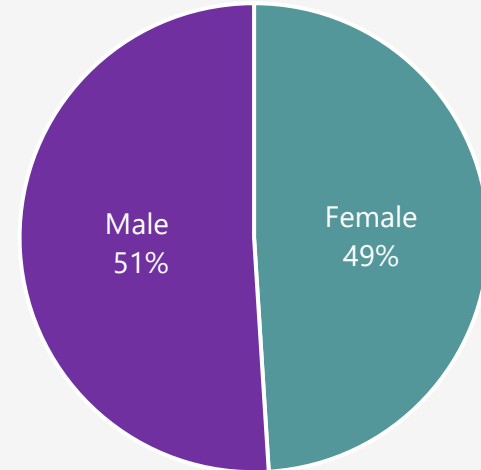
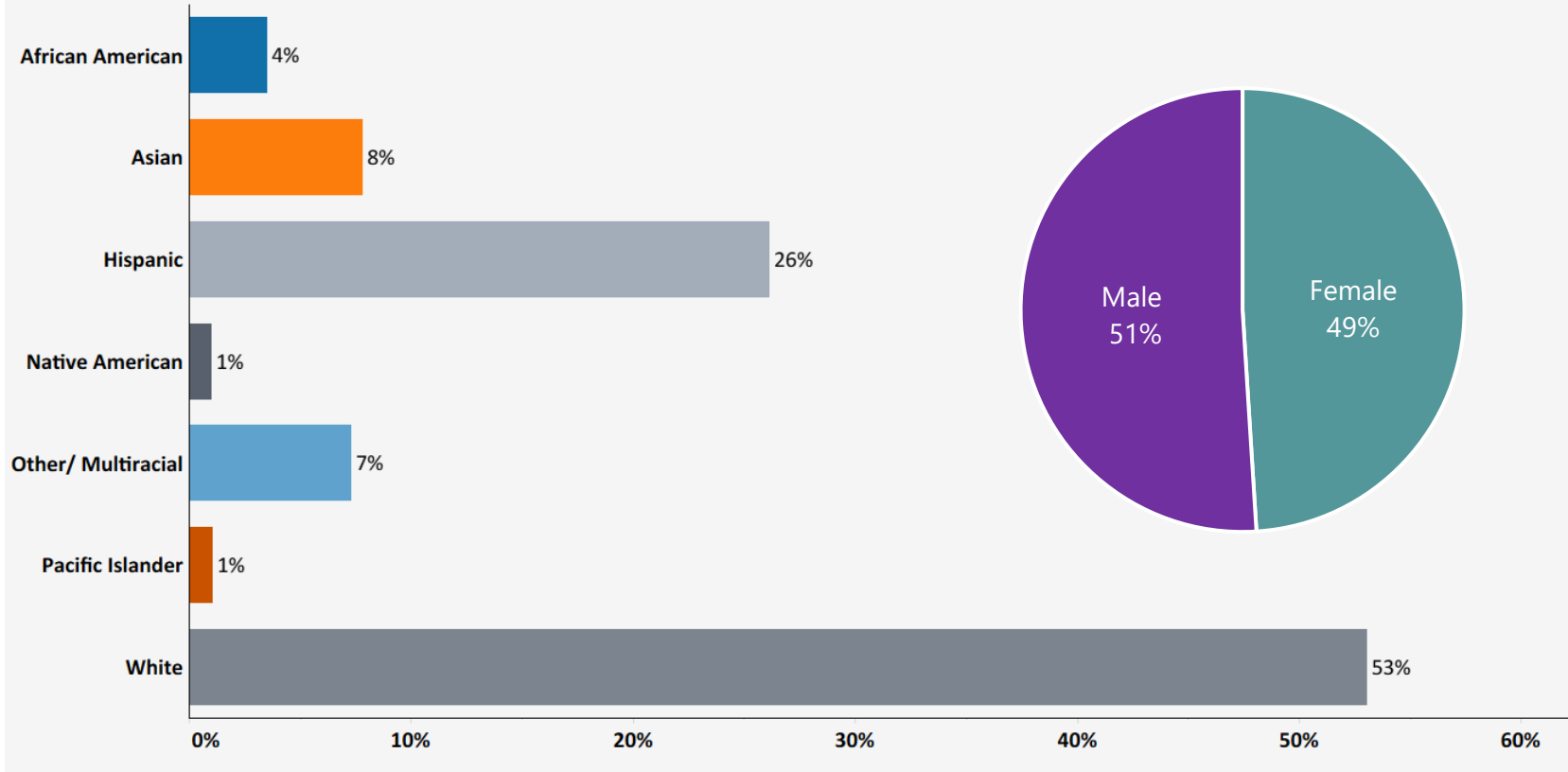


Performance Accountability/Program Evaluation



Who Participates in Secondary CTE?

Race & Ethnicity



Source: 2026 Workforce Training Results – Workforce Board



Secondary CTE – Arts, Health, and Agriculture Most Popular

Career Clusters

“broad groupings of related occupations and industries that share common skill sets, knowledge, or products”



Class of 2024 Top Clusters

- 20% - Arts, A/V Technology and Communications
- 15% - Health Science
- 13% - Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- 9% - Education and Training



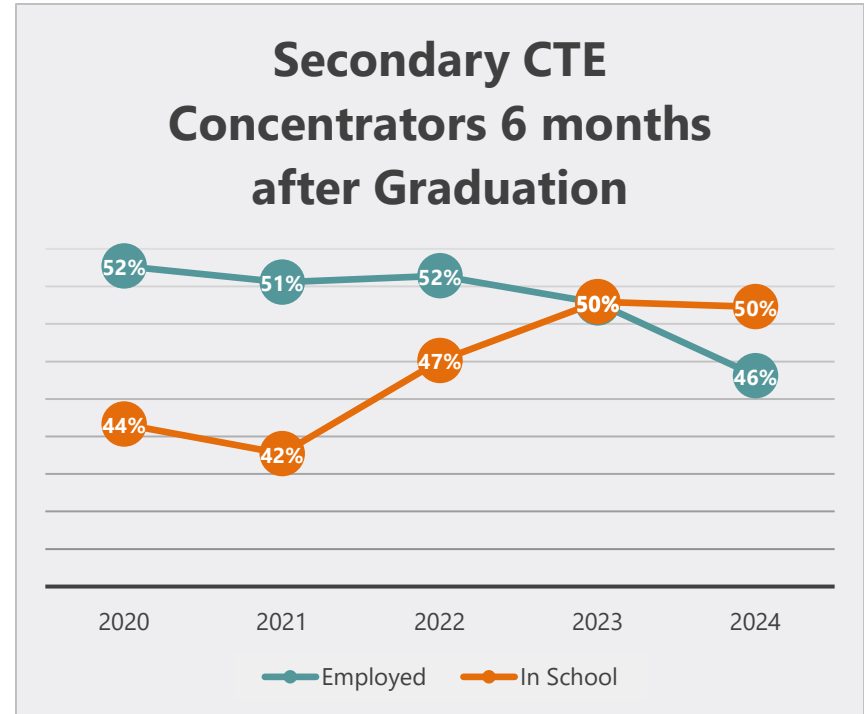


Secondary CTE Prepares Students for College and Careers

Class of 2024

- Six months after exit

- **46%** Employed
- **50%** In College
- **78%** Employed or in College





CTE Participation Improves Graduation Outcomes



96.1% compared to 82.6%

(Perkins V 1S1 4-year graduation rate performance indicator vs OSPI four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate)



5.7–12 percentage points more likely to graduate from high school

(2025 ERDC/EDNW longitudinal study)



CTE Dual Credit Accelerates Postsecondary Success

Nearly a third (31%) of CTE Dual Credit participants earned transcribed college credit.

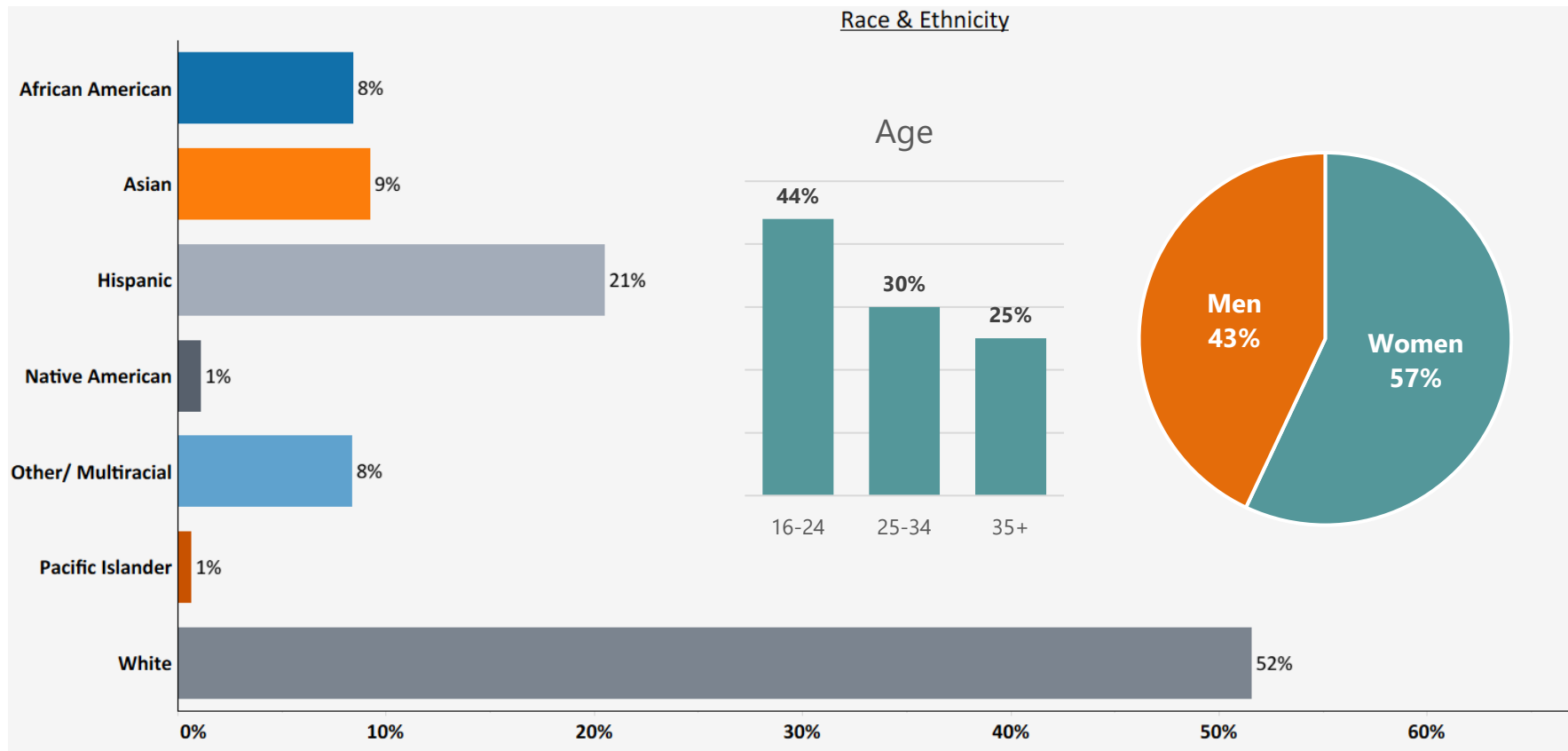
(2023 ERDC CTE Dual Credit Participation and Postsecondary Outcomes Report)

CTE Dual Credit supports postsecondary credential attainment, with pass rates exceeding non-dual-credit courses.

(2025 ERDC Dual Credit Report)



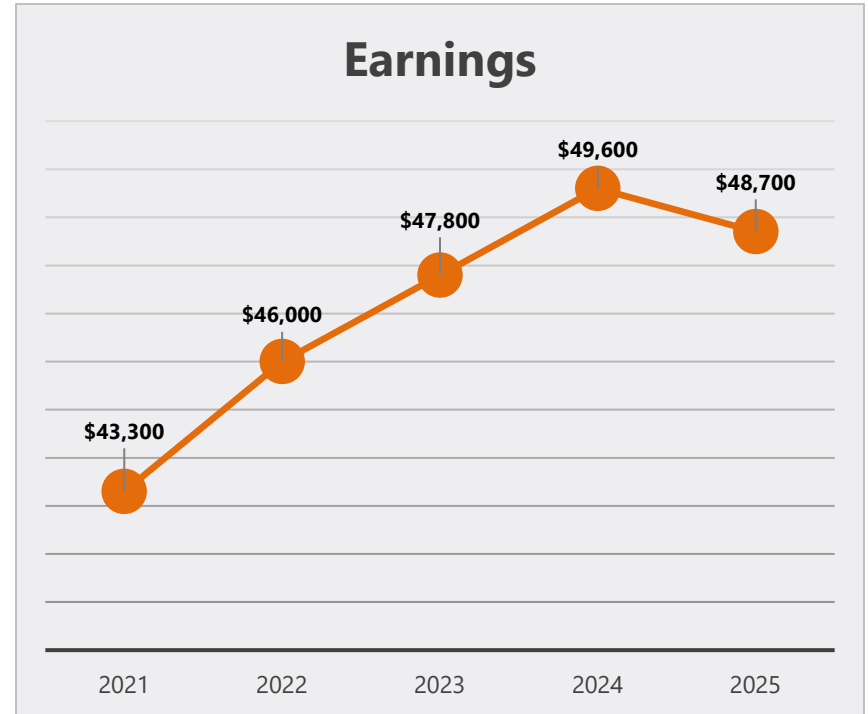
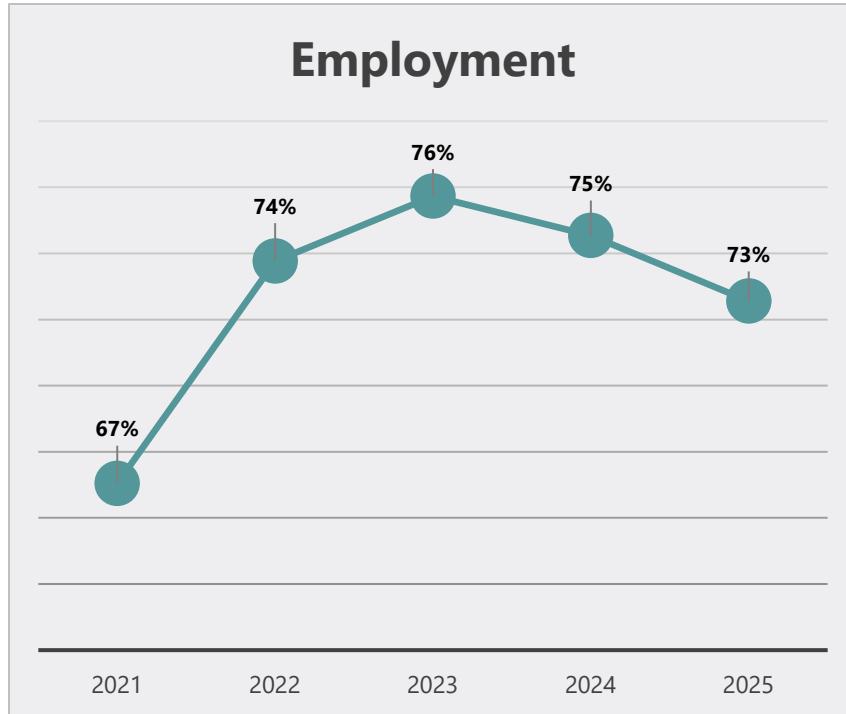
Who Participates in Postsecondary CTE?



Source: 2026 Workforce Training Results, Workforce Board



Postsecondary-Professional Technical Education – Earnings Up



Source: 2026 Workforce Training Results – Workforce Board



Healthcare



Retail

Top Industries

- **30%** Health Care
- **10%** Retail Trade
- **7%** Accommodation and Food
- **7%** Admin, Waste, Remediation
- **< 7%** All Other



what if ...

Net Impact Study

\$18,100

Net Participant Benefit

\$17.9 Billion

10-Year Economic Impact

\$2.20 to 1

10-Year Taxpayer Return on Investment



CTE Equips Students with Skills Employers Need

67% of employers struggling to fill entry-level jobs cite employability or soft skills gaps.

(2025 Workforce Board Employer Needs and Practices Survey)

77% of employers value the job-readiness and soft skills developed through CTE.

(Advance CTE report (Shifting the Skills Conversation: Employer Attitudes and Outcomes of CTE))



CTE Participation Pays Off – in Credentials, Education and Earnings



2+ pathway credits increased the likelihood of postsecondary degree or credential attainment.

(2025 ERDC/EDNW longitudinal study)



Students completing multi-course CTE pathways with college credit or industry credentials increased from 48% to 58%.

(2025 ERDC/EDNW longitudinal study)



CTE concentrators achieve stronger labor market outcomes.

(2025 ERDC/EDNW longitudinal study)

QUESTIONS?

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Resources: Find out more!

Workforce Board's Workforce System Poster (Matrix)

Workforce Training Results

Net Impact

Employer Survey

CTE in Washington State: A longitudinal study of student access, participation, and outcomes

2025 Annual Report on Dual Credit | Washington State Education Research and Data Center

Shifting the Skills Conversation: Employer Attitudes and Outcomes of CTE

2023 CTE Dual Credit Participation and Postsecondary Outcomes Report