EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pathways After High School Career and Technical Education in Nevada

About This Study

Nevada high schools offer Career and Technical Education (CTE) to help prepare students for postsecondary education, workforce training, and high-demand careers. RAND researchers used Nevada's linked statewide database of education and workforce records (the Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System) to follow CTE concentrators projected to graduate from high school between 2019 and 2023 to see what kinds of college and workforce pathways they pursued after high school.

Key Findings

IN COLLEGE

Nearly half

of CTE concentrators who enrolled in a Nevada public college declared a major aligned with their CTE program of study.

AT WORK

About 1 in 5

CTE concentrators who entered the Nevada workforce were employed in an aligned industry two years after high school.

Workforce alignment rates rose the longer graduates were out of high school.

Roughly one in five employed concentrators worked in an aligned industry by two years after graduation. This rose to about one in three six years after graduation.

Concentrators were more likely to pursue an aligned pathway if they had completed the program of study.

Alignment rates were highest for students who earned a Certificate of Skill Attainment.

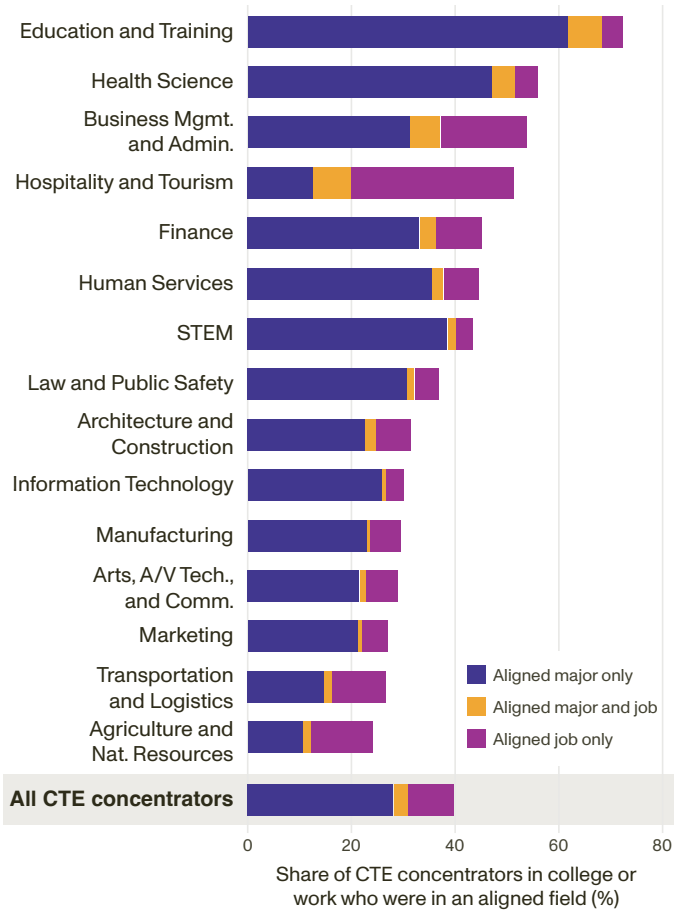
In most career clusters, students in urban high schools were more likely to pursue an aligned college major than students in rural schools.

The gaps were widest in Health Science, Finance, and Business Management and Administration.

Alignment rates varied across career clusters.

Education and Training students were the most likely to pursue an aligned college major; Hospitality and Tourism students were the most likely to work in an aligned industry directly after high school.

Share of CTE concentrators working or in college who were in an aligned field two years after high school, by career cluster



This summary describes work done in RAND Education, Employment, and Infrastructure and documented in *Alignment Between High School Career and Technical Education and Postsecondary and Workforce Outcomes in Nevada*, by Alexis Gable, Christine Mulhern, Kata Mihaly, Rachel Nesbit, and LeeAnn Stevens, RR-A4872-1, 2026 (available at www.rand.org/t/RRA4872-1). RAND's publications do not necessarily reflect the opinions of its research clients and sponsors.

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