

The background of the slide is a collage. The top left shows two yellow school buses, one with the number 32. The bottom left shows a classroom with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. There are several white desks and chairs in the classroom.

The State of Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Kentucky

The Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE)

Feb. 5, 2026



Kentucky Department of
E D U C A T I O N

KENTUCKY CTE
EMPOWERED
Today's Career and Technical Education

Kentucky CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Agricultural Education

Career pathways in agribusiness, agriculture power, structural and technical systems, animal, environmental, food and plant science, natural resource and processing systems.

Business & Marketing

Career pathways in accounting, administrative support, e-commerce, financial services, hospitality, travel, tourism and recreation, management and entrepreneurship, marketing, retail services and supply chain management.

Computer Science

Career pathways in additive manufacturing, computer programming, computer science, cybersecurity, data science, digital design and game development, information support and services, network administration, network security and web development.

Construction Technology

Career pathways in air conditioning, building construction, construction carpentry, electrical technology, heavy equipment sciences, masonry and plumbing technology.

Education & Training

Career pathways in teaching and learning in all levels of education designed to prepare students to become future educators.

Engineering Technology

Career pathways in energy, aerospace and automation, architectural, civil, electrical, structural and mechanical engineering, additive manufacturing, aircraft maintenance and flight and aeronautics.

Family & Consumer Sciences

Career pathways in consumer and family services, culinary and food services, early childhood education, fashion and interior design, food science and dietetics, fundamentals of teaching, and hospitality, travel, tourism and recreation.

Health Science

Career pathways in allied health, biomedical sciences, clinical medical assisting, dental assisting, EKG technology, emergency medical technology, medical administrative assisting, patient care technician, phlebotomy technician, pre-nursing and veterinary assistant.

JROTC

Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps career pathways in U.S. Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy.

Law & Public Safety

Career pathways in corrections, fire science/ firefighting, homeland security, law-enforcement and pre-law studies.

Manufacturing

Career pathways in computer-aided design, computerized manufacturing and machining, industrial maintenance, metal fabrication, welding technology and wood manufacturing.

Media Arts

Career pathways in cinematography and video production, graphic design and interactive media.

Transportation

Career pathways in automotive maintenance, service, and engineering, collision repair and diesel/medium-heavy truck technology.

- Technical core courses (secondary 4-course sequence)
- Aligned general education courses
- CTE technical academic and employability standards
- Accelerated and early postsecondary opportunities
 - Work-based learning
 - Industry-valued certifications
 - End-of-Program (EOP) assessments for articulated credit
 - CTE dual credit

2024-2025 CTE Data for Secondary Students

145,369

*Number of students grades 9-12
participating in CTE*



14,253

*Number of graduates earning more than
one postsecondary credential*

UNIQUE CONCENTRATORS:

83.80%

*of students completed at least 2 credits in a
4-course pathway*

99.37%

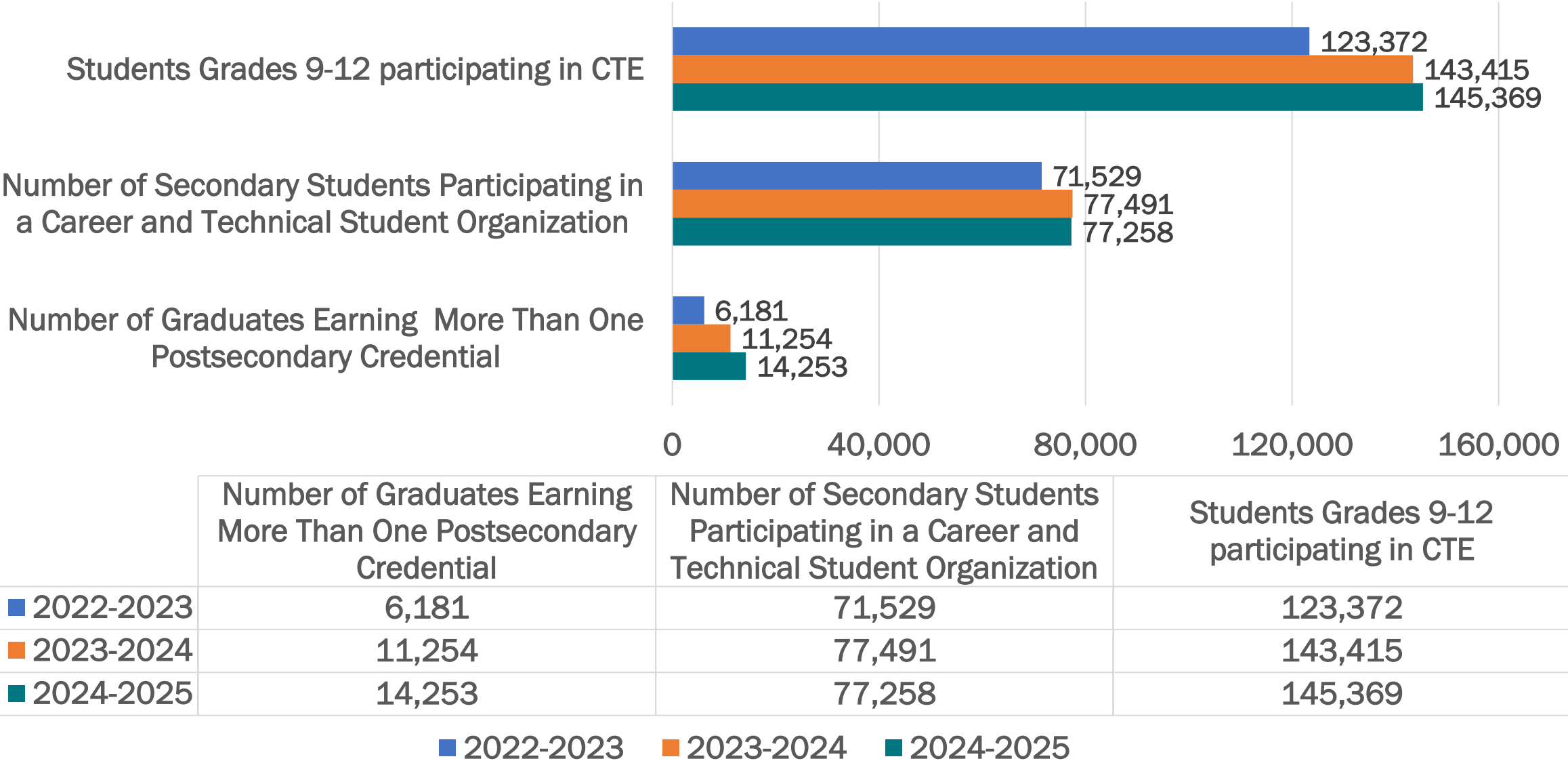
of CTE concentrators graduated

76,134

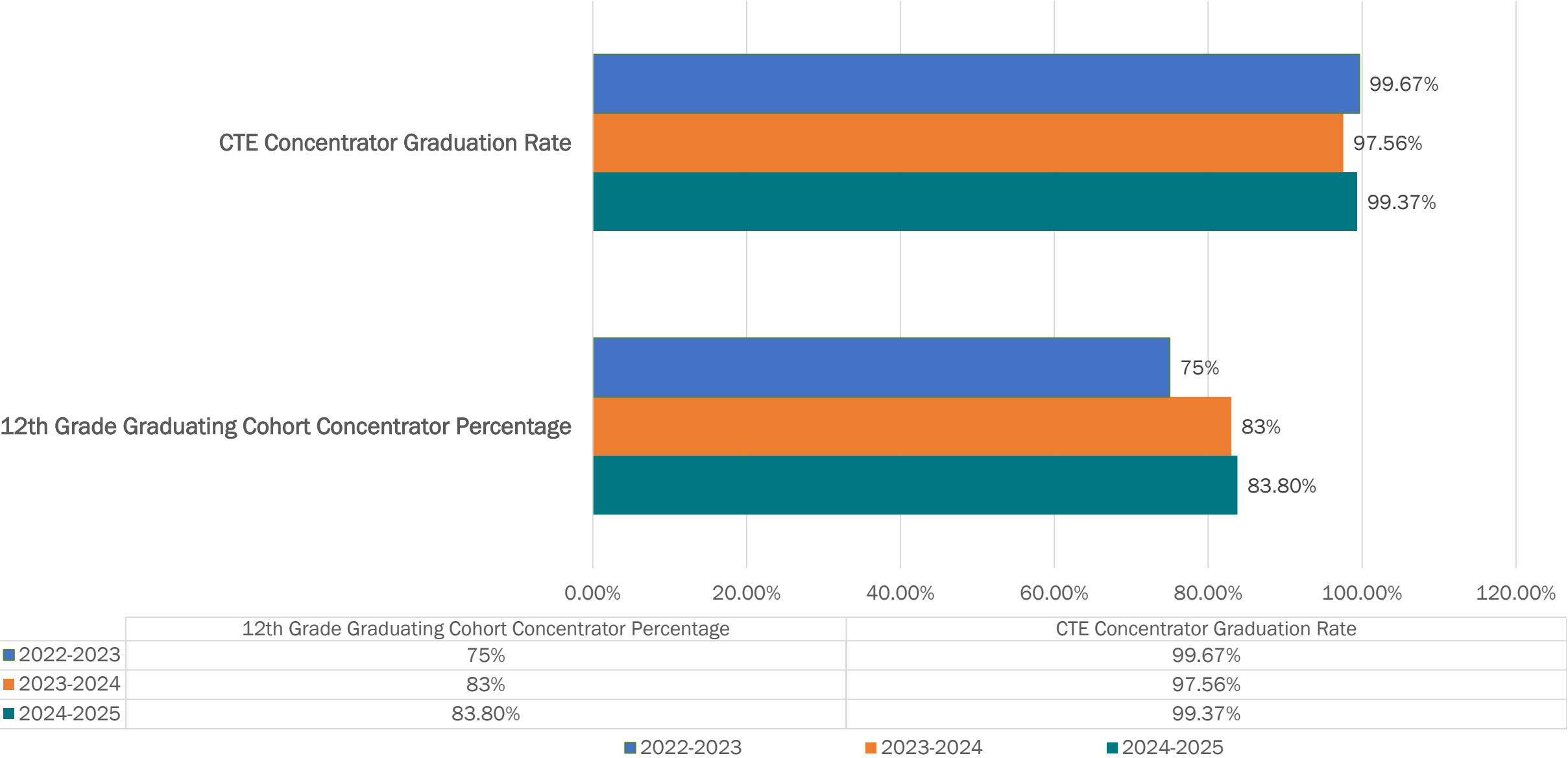
*Number of
students grades 9-12
participating in a CTSO*



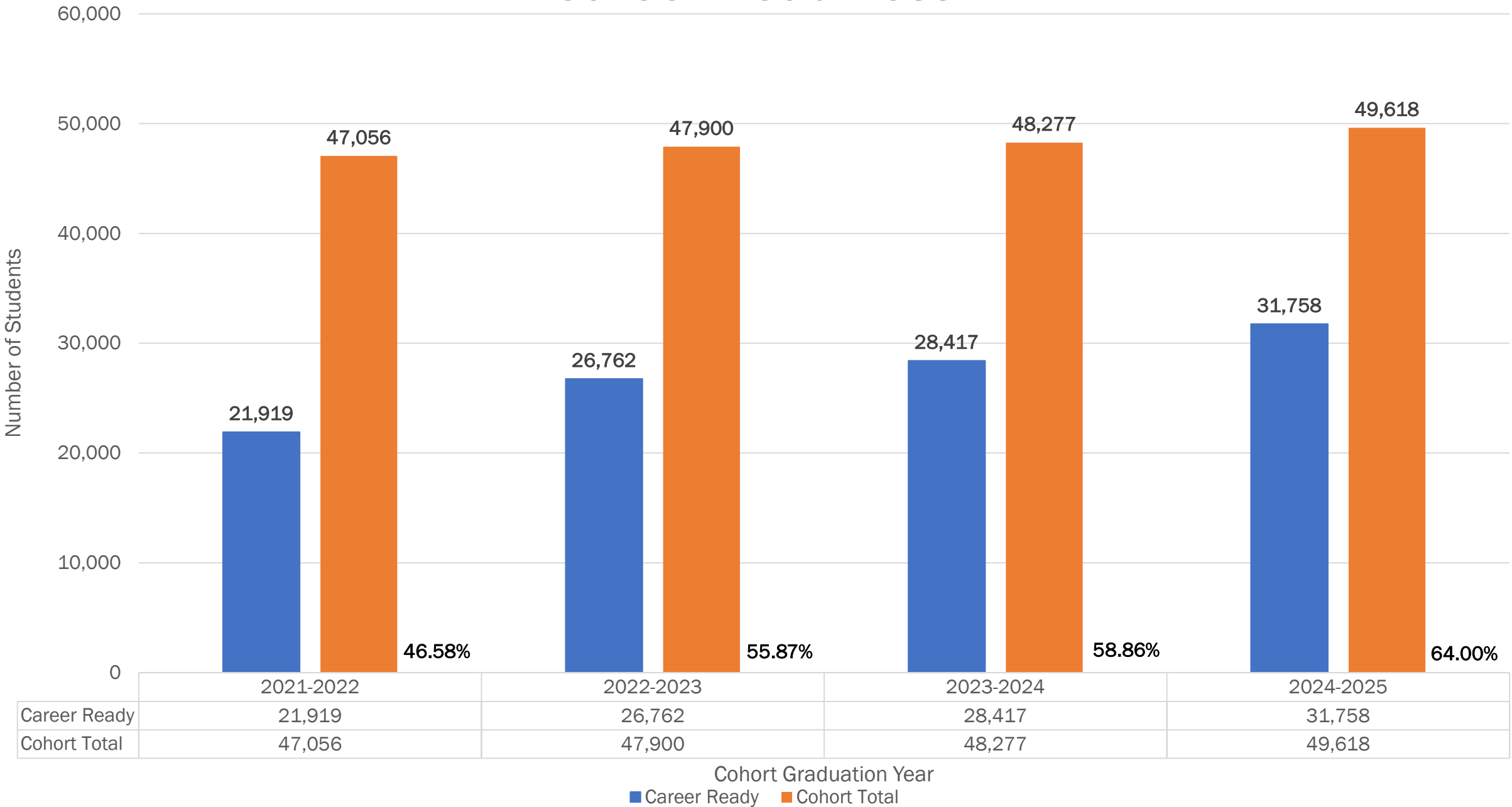
Secondary CTE Data Trends



CTE Concentrators

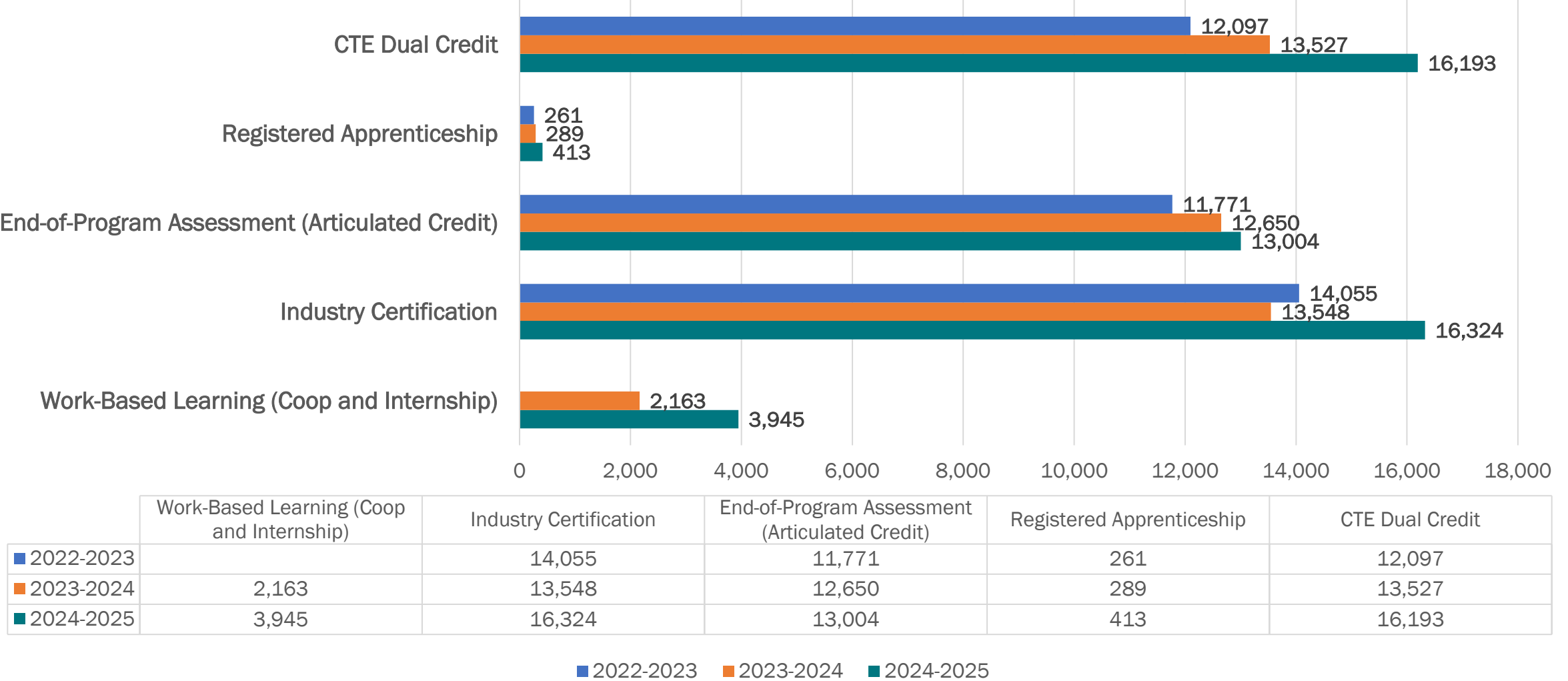


Career Readiness



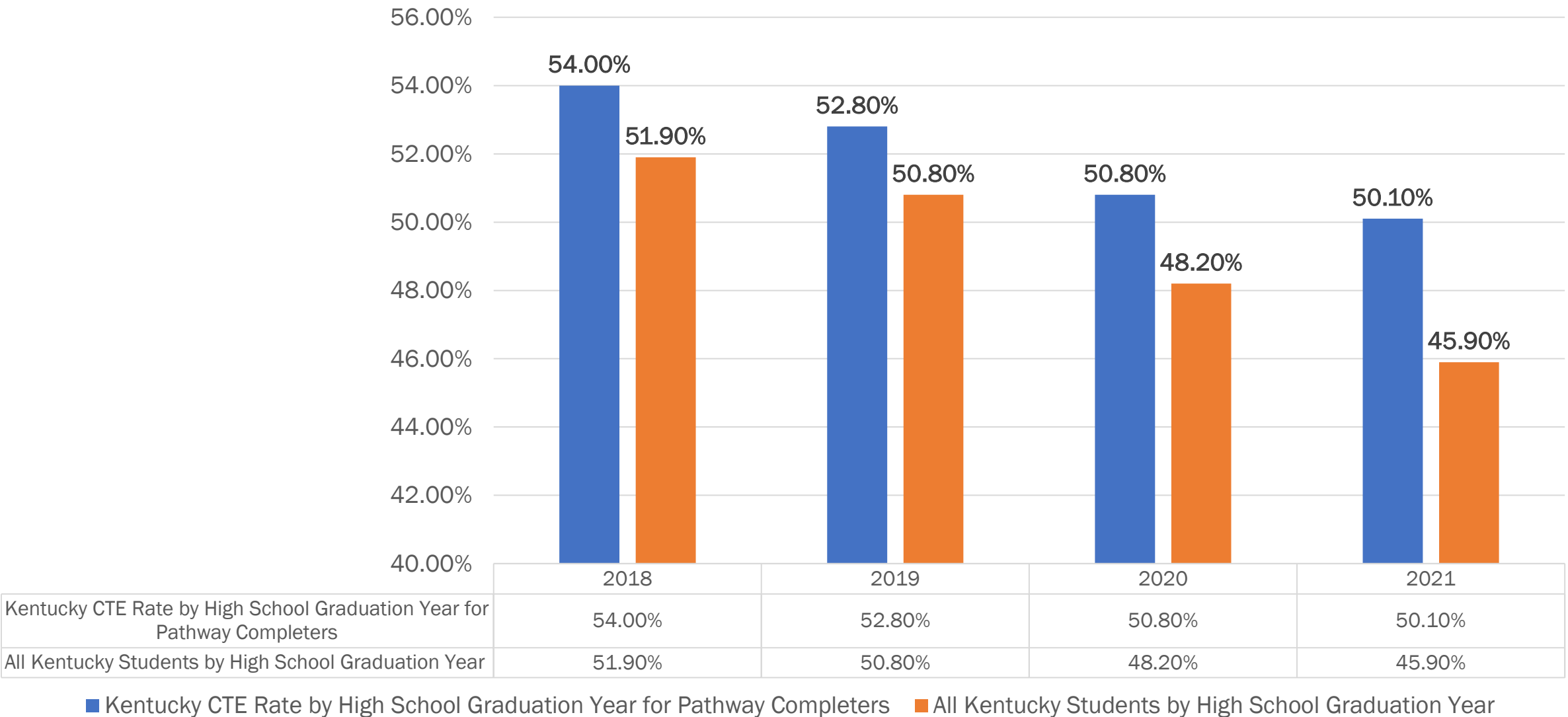
Career Readiness by Numbers

(12th-grade graduating cohort)

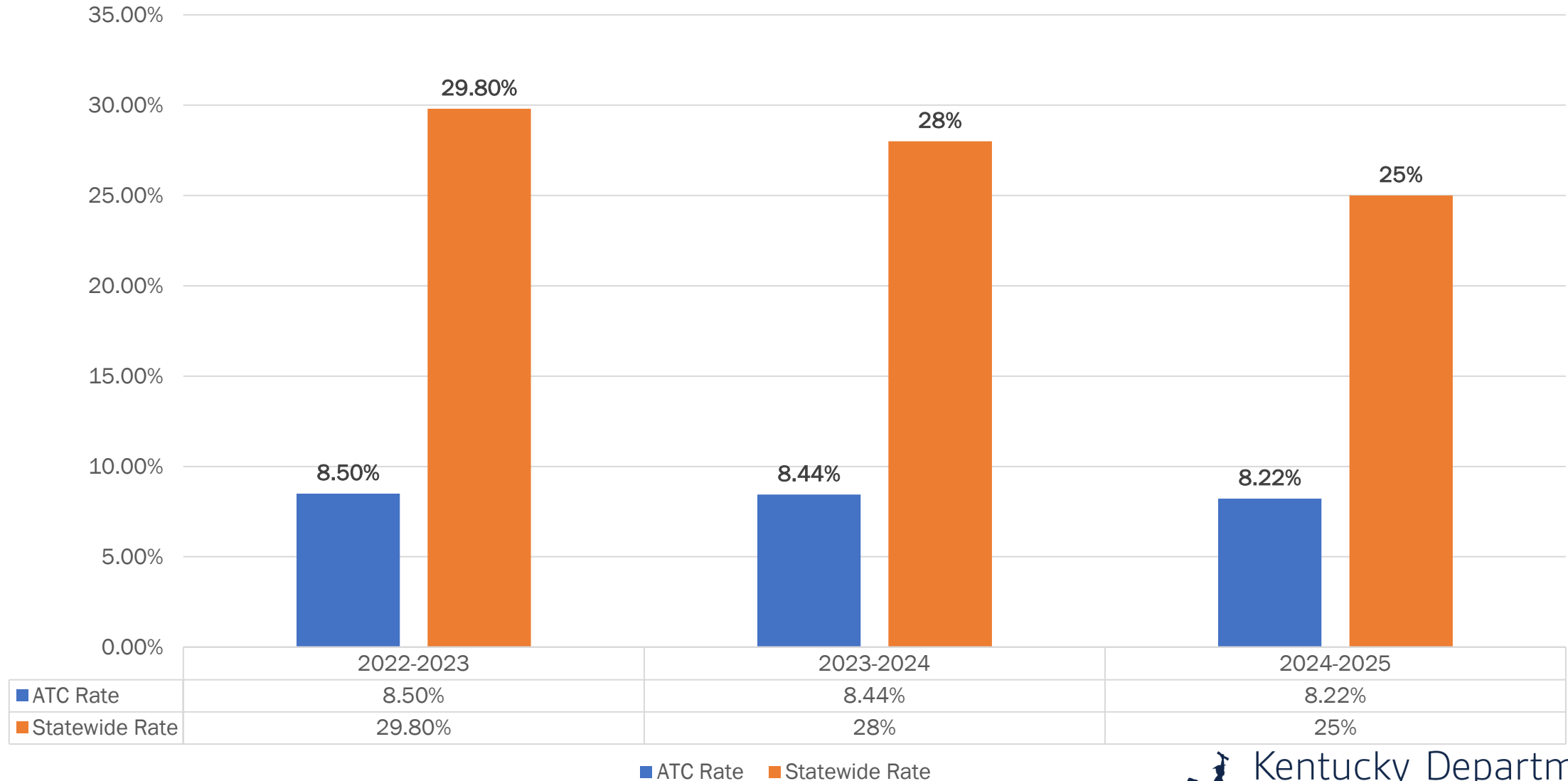


Data source: State Report Card (SRC) as of 12.18.2025
WBL data was not collected until 2023-2024 for inclusion for accountability

College-Going Rate (In-State)



ATC Chronic Absenteeism



State Career And Technical Education Student Organization Membership

	2021-2022 Members	2022-2023 Members	2023-2024 Members	2024-2025 Members
DECA	1,678	2,092	2,593	2,787
Educators Rising	386	777	942	1,124
FBLA	5,299	7,204	7,446	7,562
FCCLA	6,814	10,307	11,022	10,079
FFA	15,157	21,663	23,582	24,350
HOSA	5,000	6,647	7,812	8,572
SkillsUSA	3,301	3,992	5,248	5,071
TSA	9,044	18,847	18,846	17,713
Totals	46,679	71,529	77,491	77,258

2026 State Career and Technical Student Organization State Conferences

Judge Registration Opportunities on Hyperlinks



[Business and Marketing Student Organization, DECA, formerly Distributive Education Clubs of America – March 1-3, Louisville/Hyatt Regency](#)



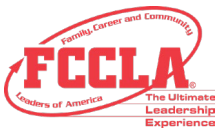
[Future Business Leaders of America \(FBLA\) – April 27 – 29, Louisville/Galt House](#)



[Educators Rising – March 5, Louisville/Kentucky Exposition Center](#)
[KDE and KBE Link \(valid until February 10th\)](#)
[Become a Breakout Session Presenter Link](#)



[SkillsUSA – March 30-April 2, Louisville/Crowne Plaza](#)



[Family, Career and Community Leaders of America \(FCCLA\) – March 23–27, Louisville/Galt House](#)



[Technology Student Association \(TSA\) – March 16-18, Louisville Downtown Marriott](#)



[Future Health Professionals, HOSA formerly known as Health Occupations Students of America – March 18-21, Louisville/Crowne Plaza](#)



[Kentucky FFA Association, FFA formerly Future Farmers of America – June 9–11, Lexington Center](#)



FY26 SUPPLEMENTAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FUNDING

PURSUANT TO KRS 157.069 AND 2024 HOUSE BILL 6

\$70,063,400

to locally operated CTE programs (House Bill 6) allocated pursuant to KRS 157.069

\$42,038,040

60% Weighted Full-Time
Equivalent (WFTE) Funding

\$28,025,360

40% Performance Incentives

1.0

WFTE for general
cost CTE pathways

1.5

WFTE for high cost
CTE pathways

\$42,038,040 divided by the statewide total WFTE
(31,839.91) equals WFTE value (\$1320.29)

Concentrators

Technical Skills

CTE Dual Credit

CTE Work-Based Learning

\$28,025,360 divided by total number of statewide
incentives (61,468) equals the per incentive value
(\$455.93)

District number WFTE multiplied
by the per WFTE value

+

District number incentives multiplied
by the per incentive value

=

District
total allocation

Future of CTE



**PREDICTING WHAT
THE FUTURE
LOOKED LIKE IN 1960**



PREDICTING WHAT
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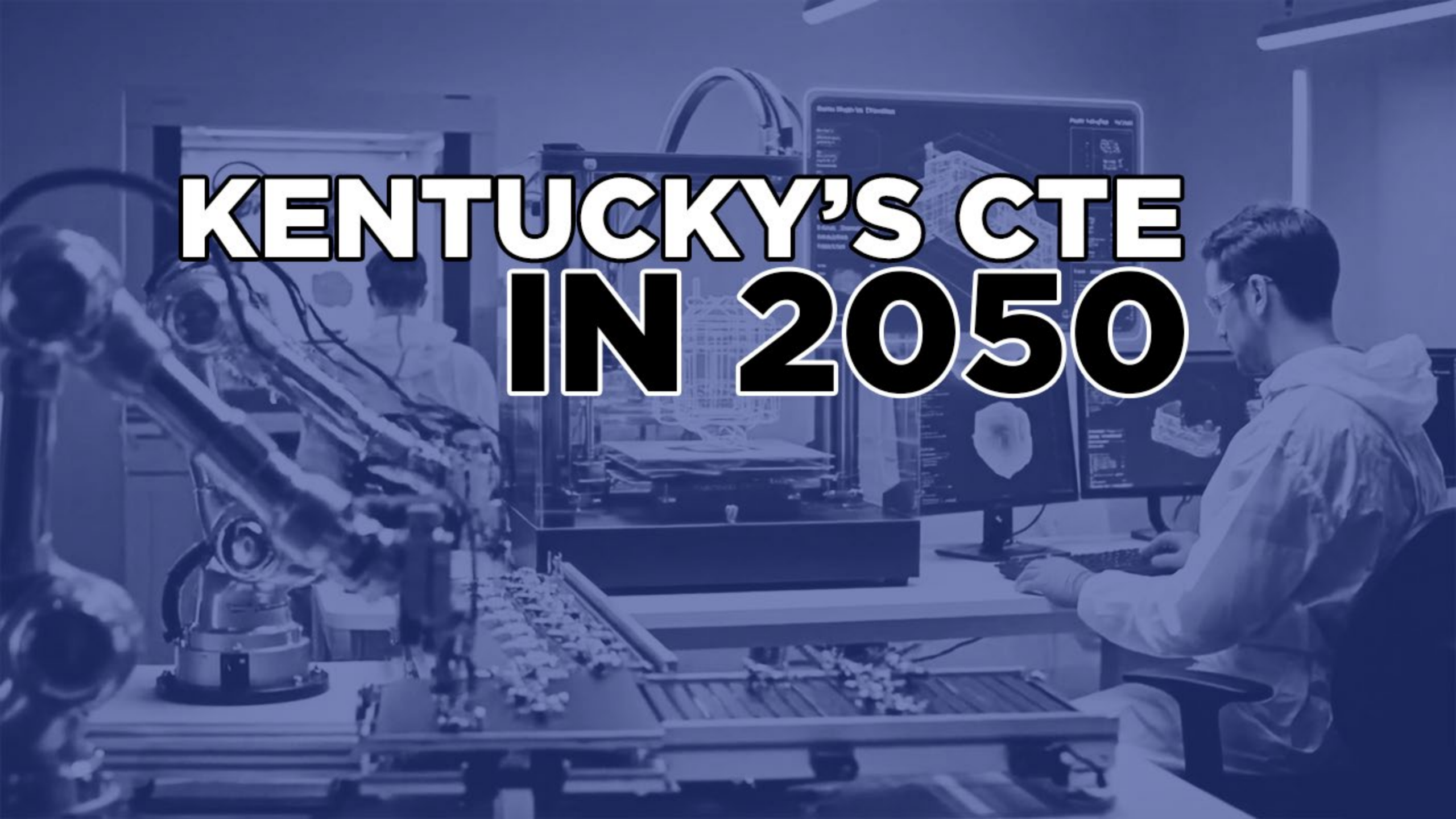
**WHEN HE GROWS UP,
A COMPUTER WILL...**



**WHEN HE GROWS UP,
A COMPUTER WILL...**



KENTUCKY'S CTE IN 2050



KENTUCKY'S CTE IN 2050

Emerging Technology Integration

- Local Artificial Intelligence (AI) Pathway - IMPACT Center for Leadership and Innovation
- Emerging Technologies in Academic and Employability Standards – Ethical and General Use of AI, AI in the workplace, etc.
- Pathway-Specific AI-Embedded Content Standards – e.g., Computerized Manufacturing and Machining Pathways – computer vision, predictive maintenance, process optimization, smart systems, etc.
- Professional Learning for Teachers - “AI Fellows” in partnership with the University of Louisville (UofL)

Middle School Career Exploration

- Ed-Strategy Middle School Exploration Grant -- \$30,000
 1. Career Exploration is a shared responsibility - every teacher and staff member plays a role in guiding students toward their future career paths.
 2. Effective career exploration implementation begins with well-prepared staff, including teachers and counselors.
 3. Student voice should be an integral part of a middle school career exploration program.
- Impact:
 - Middle school students will be better informed to make career decisions at the secondary and post-secondary levels leading to an increased workforce which is greater aligned to both the employee and employer expectations.



Questions?