The Virginia economy is experiencing a skills gap…

49% of jobs in Virginia require skills training—more education than high school but less than a four-year degree.

41% of Virginia workers are trained at this level.

Career and technical education (CTE) programs can fill these gaps, particularly in Virginia’s key industries, like:

- food and beverage processing
- information technology
- manufacturing
- supply chain management

Many students are already enrolled in CTE in Virginia, developing technical, academic and employability skills and engaging in work-based experiences with industry partners. During the 2019-20 school year, Virginia had:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secondary CTE participants</td>
<td>305,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary CTE participants</td>
<td>119,940</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These youth and adult learners in CTE programs are more engaged, graduate high school at higher rates, earn industry-recognized credentials, and have rewarding and family-sustaining careers.

More investment is needed to scale CTE programs across Virginia to ensure that all learners, including historically underserved learners, have access to high-quality CTE programs in high-skill, high-wage and in-demand career fields.

**CTE: Good for Students, Good for Business, Good for Communities!**

For more information visit [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org), [www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/career_technical/index.shtml) and [VirginiaACTE.org](http://VirginiaACTE.org). Data sources are available from [publicpolicy@acteonline.org](mailto:publicpolicy@acteonline.org).