Drafted State-Determined Performance Levels for WI Postsecondary Institutions

The Strengthening Career and Technical Education (CTE) for the 21st Century Act requires states to set targets for both secondary and postsecondary educational institutions to advance student performance in CTE. This document provides the drafted targets for Wisconsin's postsecondary CTE institutions, which include the 16 technical colleges and two tribal colleges and universities.

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CTE Concentrators

Student performance metrics are focused on individuals who concentrate within career and technical education pathways. To be a CTE concentrator, a postsecondary student has successfully completed at least 12 credits in a CTE program or successfully completed a CTE program with fewer than 12 credits.

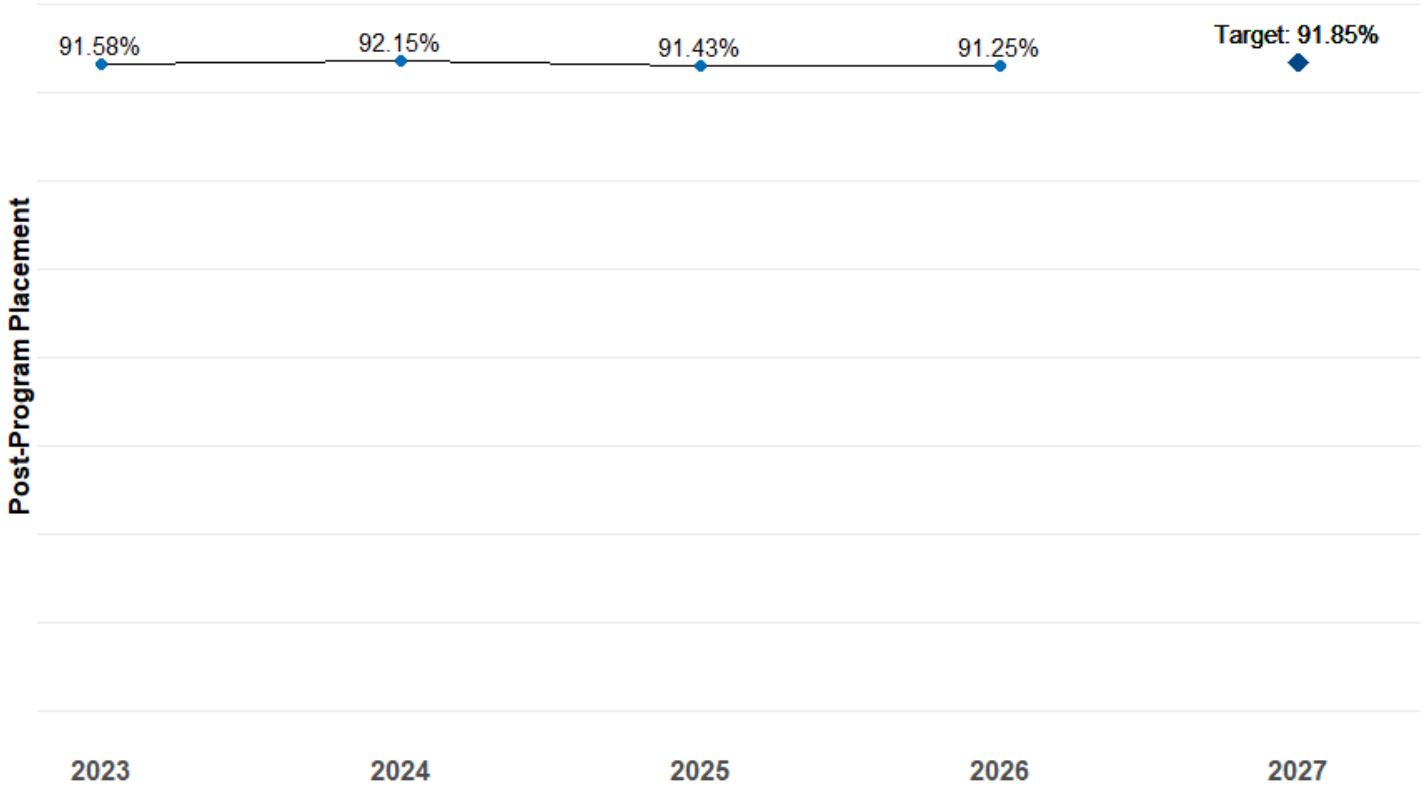
Post-Program Placement

Career and technical education is aligned with workforce need and prepares individuals for specific career opportunities. The first federal indicator for postsecondary education is post-program placement. This metric assesses whether students who graduate from a CTE program are placed six months following graduation in employment, higher education, advanced training (e.g., apprenticeship), military service or a service program (e.g., Peace Corps). Since data are not readily available to assess placement in the military or service programs, post-program placement for students in Wisconsin focuses on employment, education and advanced training.

Within the Strengthening CTE for the 21st Century Act, Post-Program Placement is measured as:

$$\frac{Number\ of\ program\ completers\ who\ are\ placed\ in\ employment, education\ or\ advanced\ training}{Number\ of\ CTE\ concentrators\ who\ complete\ a\ CTE\ program\ within\ the\ cohort\ period}$$

Actual performance for 1P1 Post-Program Placement (black line) has declined in the past three program years, with the lowest value of 91.25% for program year 2026. The draft state-determined performance level for 1P1 for program year 2027 is **91.85%.**



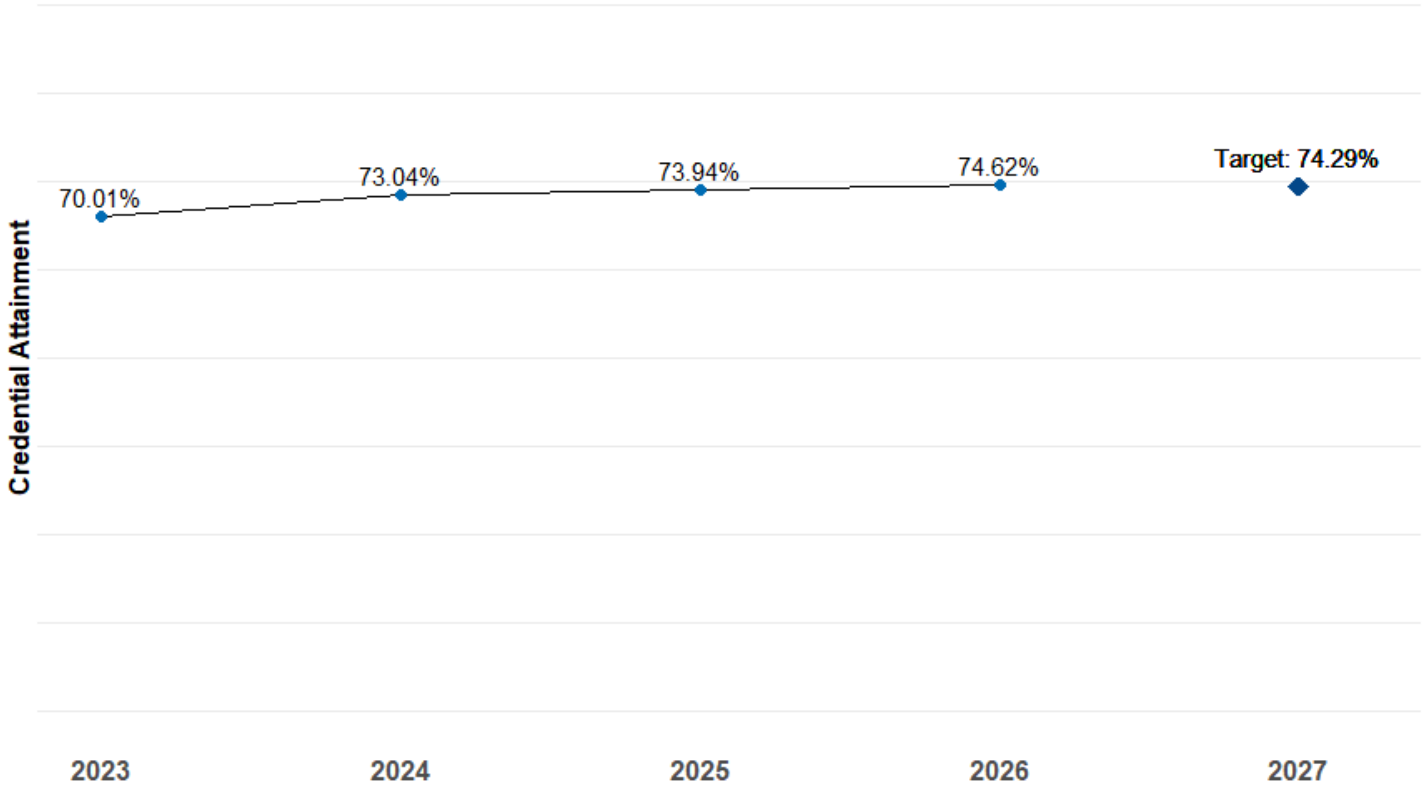
Credential Attainment

The second federal indicator for postsecondary education is credential attainment. This metric assesses whether students who are concentrated in a CTE program complete their degree. There is also an emphasis that these programs lead to high-wage, high-demand and/or high-skilled occupations. For Wisconsin technical colleges, these programs include pathway certificates, short-term technical diplomas, 1-year diplomas, 2-year diplomas, associate degrees and apprenticeship programs. Each WTCS program has been developed based on labor market need and is designed based on the input of a program advisory committee of local employers and employees.

Within the Strengthening CTE for the 21st Century Act, Credential Attainment is measured as:

$$\frac{Number\ of\ CTE\ concentrators\ who\ complete\ a\ CTE\ program\ within\ the\ cohort\ period}{Number\ of\ CTE\ concentrators}$$

Actual performance for 2P1 Credential Attainment (black line) has increased in the past four program years, from 70.01% to 74.62%. The draft state-determined performance level for 2P1 for program year 2027 is **74.29%.**



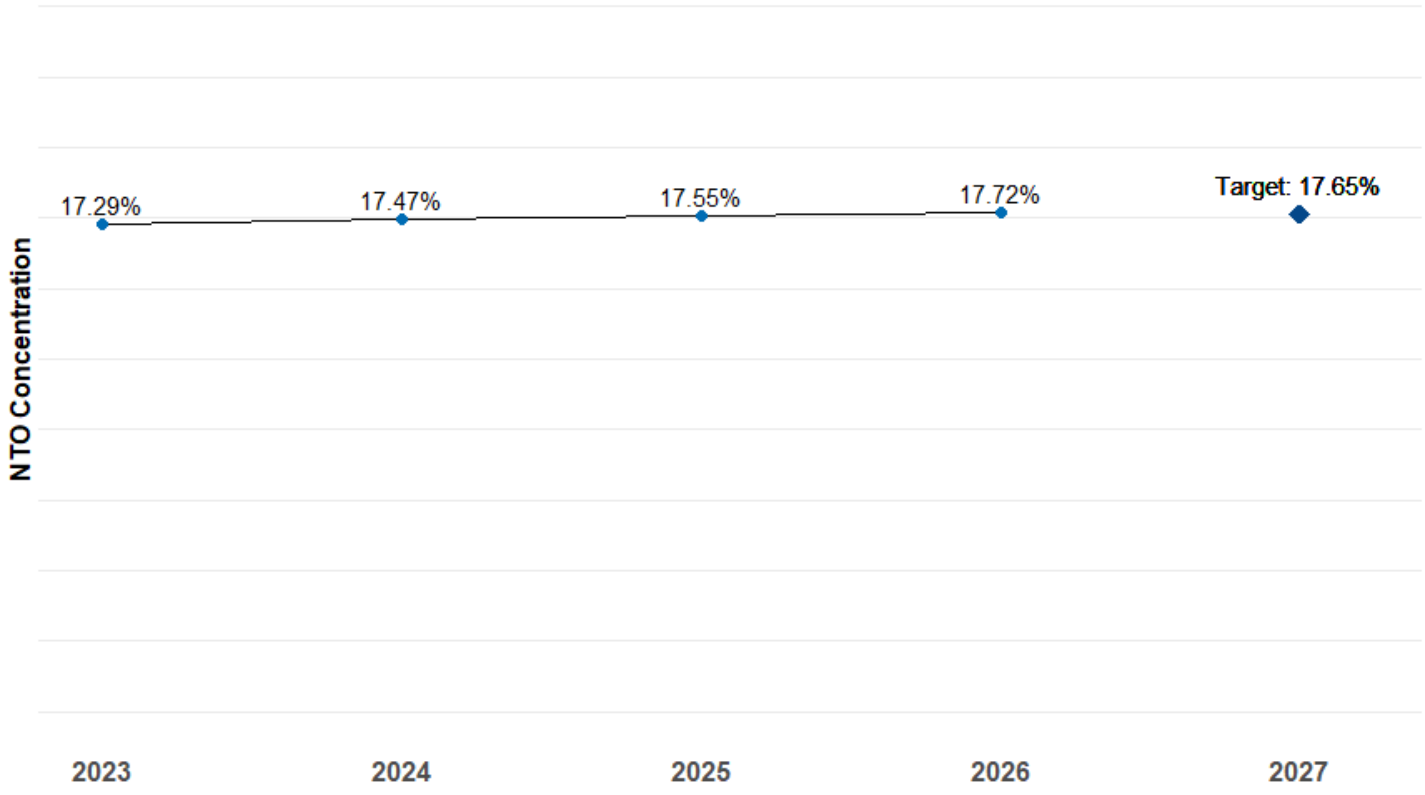
Concentration in Nontraditional Occupations

One goal of the Strengthening CTE for the 21st Century Act is to increase gender parity in workforce participation across occupations. A "nontraditional occupation" is an occupation in which either men or women are considered a minority within the national workforce and makes up less than 25% of workers. Examples of nontraditional occupations for women include welder, business management specialist, software developer, and landscape technician. Examples of nontraditional occupations for men include veterinary assistant, medical billing specialist, dental hygienist, and paralegal. The last federal indicator for postsecondary education is concentration in nontraditional occupations (NTO).

Within the Strengthening CTE for the 21st Century Act, NTO Concentration is measured as:

$$\frac{Number\ of\ CTE\ concentrators\ enrolled\ in\ NTO\ programs\ who\ identify\ as\ the\ minority\ gender}{Number\ of\ CTE\ concentrators\ enrolled\ in\ NTO\ programs}$$

Actual performance for 3P1 NTO Concentration (black line) has increased from 17.29% to 17.72% in the past four program years. The draft state-determined performance level for 3P1 for program year 2027 is **17.65%.**



Indicators at the Local Level

Each of the 18 postsecondary institutions in Wisconsin have individual targets for these three indicators that promote continuous improvement and closing of gaps across student groups. Every two years, each institution conducts a needs assessment to evaluate progress and identify areas for improvement that then guides the work of advancing career and technical education for all learners.

Providing Public Comment

Please provide public comment on the proposed levels of performance for Wisconsin career and technical education postsecondary students through our short online survey. How do these proposed levels support the needs of local education and business communities? How do these levels support the improvement of performance for career and technical education students, including subgroups of students? How do these levels meet the requirements of the Strengthening Career & Technical Education for the 21st Century Act?

The survey is open for public comment from November 16, 2026, to December 28, 2026.

Requirements for Performance Levels

Strengthening CTE for the 21st Century Act requirements for setting state-determined performance levels, section 113(b)(3)(A)(i)(III):

- Must be expressed in a percentage
- Requires the state to continually make meaningful progress
- Have been subject to public comment
- Take into account how the levels of performance compare with other states
- Be higher than the average actual levels of performance of the two most recently complete program years, except in the case of unanticipated circumstances
- Take into account the extent to which the levels advance the eligible agency's goals for career and technical education

Data Tables

1P1 Post-Program Placement

Program Year	1P1 Actual/**Goal** Level
2023	91.58%
2024	92.15%
2025	91.43%
2026	91.25%
2027	**91.85%**

2P1 Credential Attainment

Program Year	2P1 Actual/**Goal** Level
2023	70.01%
2024	73.04%
2025	73.94%
2026	74.62%
2027	**74.29%**

3P1 Concentration in Nontraditional Occupations

Program Year	3P1 Actual/**Goal** Level
2023	17.29%
2024	17.47%
2025	17.55%
2026	17.72%
2027	**17.65%**