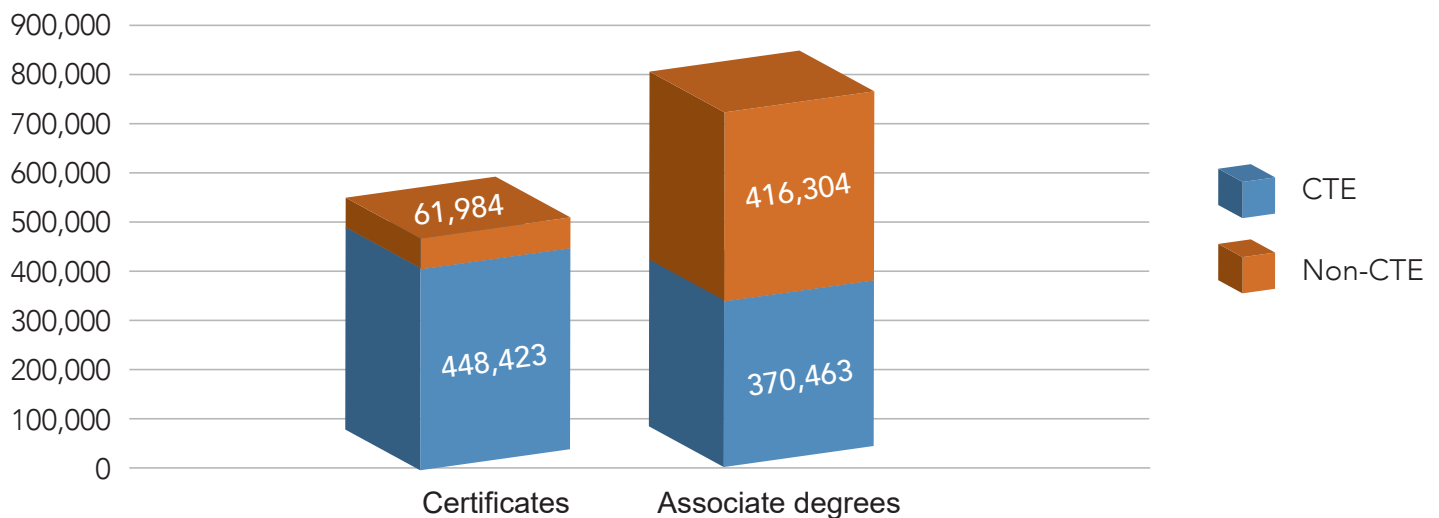


Career technical education (CTE)

Nearly 90 percent of certificates and half of associate degrees awarded are in career and technical education.

**Community college awards conferred
by type of award and CTE designation, 2014-15**



Source: AACC analysis of Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) 2014-15 Completions data file, U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. [See more data definition.](#)



Community colleges conferred 1.3 million degrees and certificates in the 2014-15 academic year. Most of the 510,407 certificates (88 percent) were in career and technical education (CTE) programs. In contrast, about 47 percent of the 786,767 associate degrees awarded in 2014-15 were in CTE programs. Males were more likely than females to earn a CTE certificate (49 percent compared 46 percent) and CTE associate degree (90 percent compared to 86 percent). Earnings for associate degrees tend to be higher for CTE awards, but students with non-CTE credentials are likely to have more credits accepted upon transfer to a baccalaureate program.

For more information, contact Kent Phillippe, associate vice president for research and student success at the American Association of Community Colleges, at (202) 416-4505 or kphillippe@aacc.nche.edu, or Rahel Tekle, AACC research associate, at (202) 416-4508 or rtekle@aacc.nche.edu.