

NCES DOVE UPDATE

DATA ON VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

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A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE NCES TECHNICAL REVIEW PANEL (TRP) ON VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



DOVE ON THE WEB

As described in the January 2006 DOVE newsletter, we are beginning to design the new DOVE On the Web system, which will present data tables that answer the key questions typically asked about career and technical education (CTE) at the secondary, postsecondary, and adult education levels.

Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons

With funding assistance from the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, we were able to design the initial framework for the Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons section of DOVE On the Web during the first quarter of this year, and produce tables addressing the major questions using the National Household Education Survey (NHES) Adult Education Survey of 2003.

The analysis of adult education for work-related reasons focused on persons age 16 or older who were not enrolled in K-12 education, and on their participation in formal and informal work-related learning activities. Adult participation in postsecondary credential programs will be covered in the Postsecondary CTE section of the website. The 2003 NHES data answer the following key questions:

1. How many adults participated in formal and informal work-related education in 2003? Who participated? What did they take? How much? Why?
2. Who provided the formal work-related instruction? How did employers and others support this education? What was the role of the Internet in the delivery of this education?
3. To what extent did participants pay for formal work-related education?
4. What outcomes were associated with formal work-related education? To what extent did adults complete this education, receive continuing education credits, or obtain state or industry certification or licensing? What effects did formal and informal work-related education have on participants' jobs or careers? How useful were the skills they learned?

These new data will be available on the Web later this year.



NEW CLASSIFICATION OF HIGH SCHOOL CTE COURSES

During the first quarter of this year, we also finalized revisions to the CTE portion of NCES' Secondary School Taxonomy. Individual courses have been placed into the following occupational program categories:

Secondary CTE Programs

- Agriculture and natural resources
- Engineering and science technologies
- Architecture and construction
- Business management, finance, and support
- Marketing
- Computer and information technology
- Health care
- Manufacturing, mechanics, and repair
- Transportation and distribution
- Media and communications technologies
- Personal and culinary services
- Education
- Public administration and library science
- Public safety, protective, and legal services

We also have constructed a crosswalk to the Career Clusters and to the taxonomy used for postsecondary CTE analyses. Depending on the purpose and sample size for a particular analysis, these program categories may be collapsed or further disaggregated. We will use this new classification to analyze the Education Longitudinal Study (ELS) 2004 Transcripts, when they become available this summer. The findings from this analysis will be posted on the Web by the end of this year.

VOCED FAST FACT

CTE TEACHER VACANCIES

In 2003-04, 52 percent of public secondary schools reported teacher vacancies in vocational or technical education. Among these schools, 27 percent found it very difficult or were unable to fill these positions. This level of difficulty in filling vocational or technical education vacancies was higher than the corresponding levels for music or art, biology or life sciences, English, and social studies (3-22 percent), but not measurably different from the corresponding levels for computer science, special education, physical science, English as a second language, foreign language, and mathematics (23-32 percent).

SOURCE: Strizek, G.A., Pittsonberger, J.L., Riordan, K.E., Lyter, D.M., and Orlofsky, G.F. (2006). *Characteristics of Schools, Districts, Teachers, Principals, and School Libraries in the United States: 2003-04 Schools and Staffing Survey (NCES 2006-313 Revised)*. U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics.



2006 DOVE TRP MEETING

We are in the process of securing funding for the 2006 DOVE TRP meeting, which would be held during the summer in Washington, DC. We will notify you immediately, as soon as we are able to move forward with meeting plans.

Questions or comments about this publication? Contact Lisa Hudson at 202.502.7358 or Karen Levesque at 510.849.4942.

NCES DOVE website: <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/dove>

DOVE TRP website: <http://dovetrp.mprinc.com>