

# Construction CTE Enrollment in Public High Schools

Much discussion has centered on the prevalence of construction education within high school career and technical education (CTE) programs. A CTE concentrator is a student who has completed a sequence of courses, generally two or three, in a single occupational area or program of study. As shown in Figures 1 and 2, NCCER's analysis suggests that participation in construction coursework among public high school students has risen since the mid-2000s.

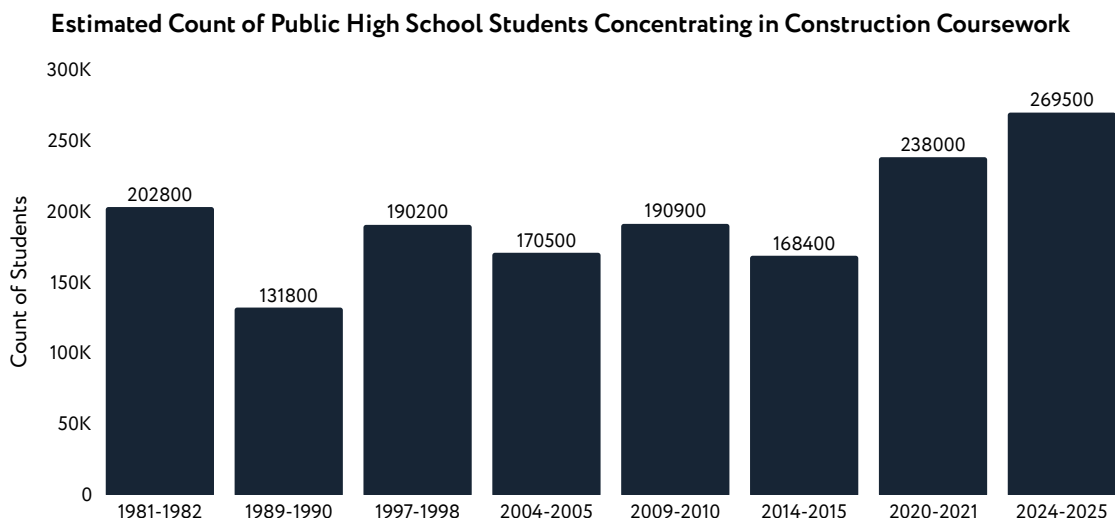


Figure 1: Count of public high school students who are concentrators in construction coursework, 1981 - 2025.  
Information derived from transcript studies [2,3], public high school enrollments [1], and data reports [4,5].

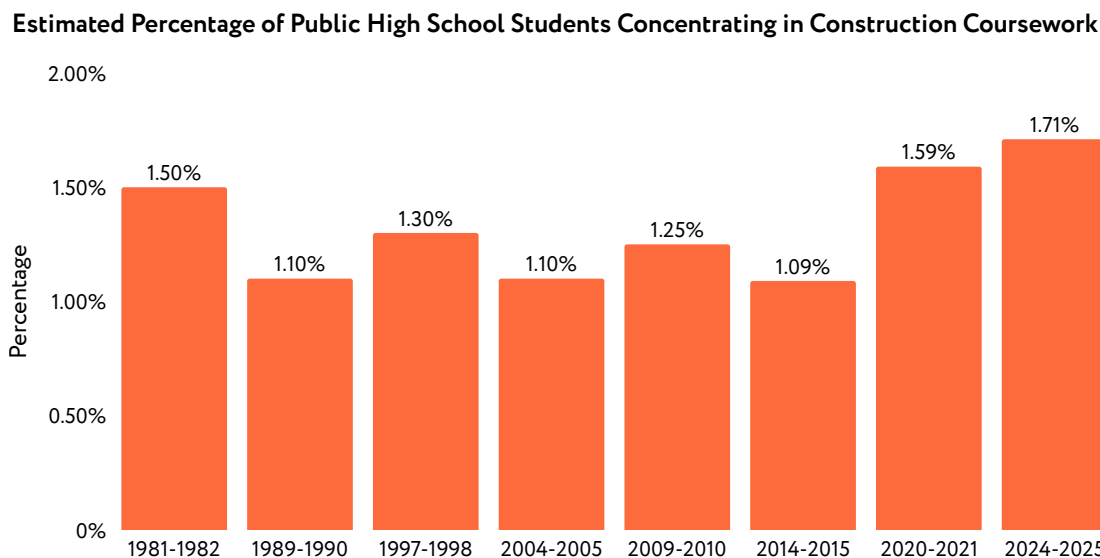


Figure 2: Percentage of public high school students who are concentrators in construction coursework, 1981 - 2025.  
Information derived from transcript studies [2,3], public high school enrollments [1], and data reports [4,5].

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). Table A-1. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/school-enrollment/cps-historical-time-series.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003025.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2008/2008035.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://perkins.ed.gov/pims/DataExplorer/CTEConcentrator>

<sup>5</sup> <https://octae.ed.gov/pcrn/profile/national/enrollment/2024/concentrator/secondary/clusters/allstudents>

Tracking methods and definitions varied over time. 2009–2025 figures reflect the architecture and construction career cluster. Please email the NCCER research team with any questions: [research@nccer.org](mailto:research@nccer.org)