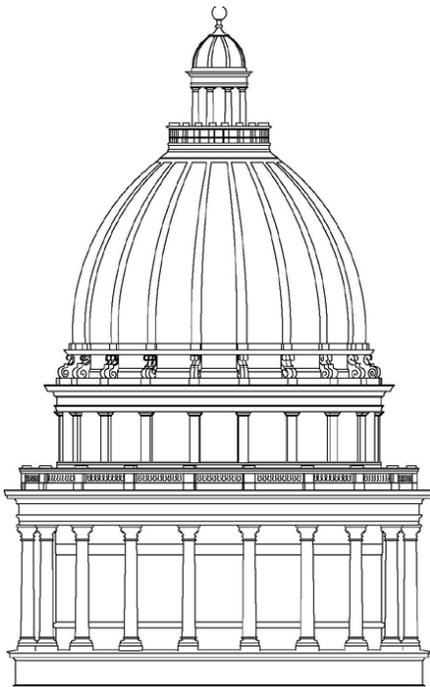


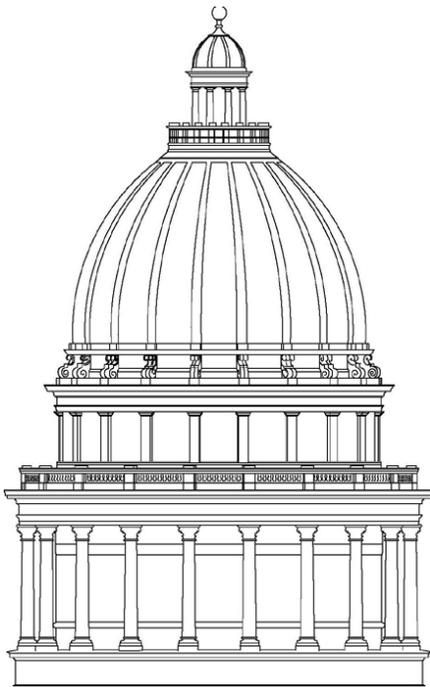
A Performance Audit of CTE Completion and Job Placement Rates



Presentation to the
Higher Education
Appropriations Subcommittee

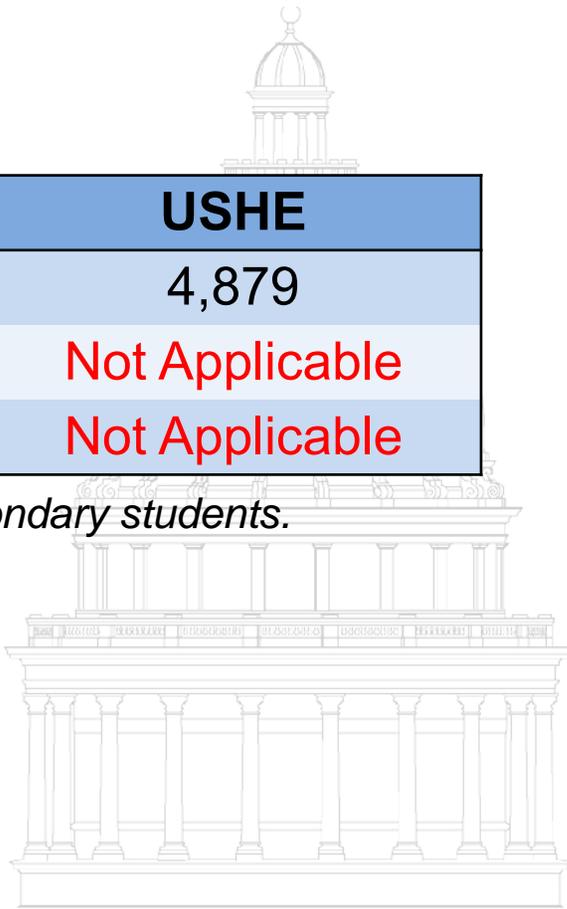
January 27, 2016

Chapter II



Broad Completion Definitions
Make Composite Statistics
Not Comparable

Student Outcomes Considered as Completion Are Different



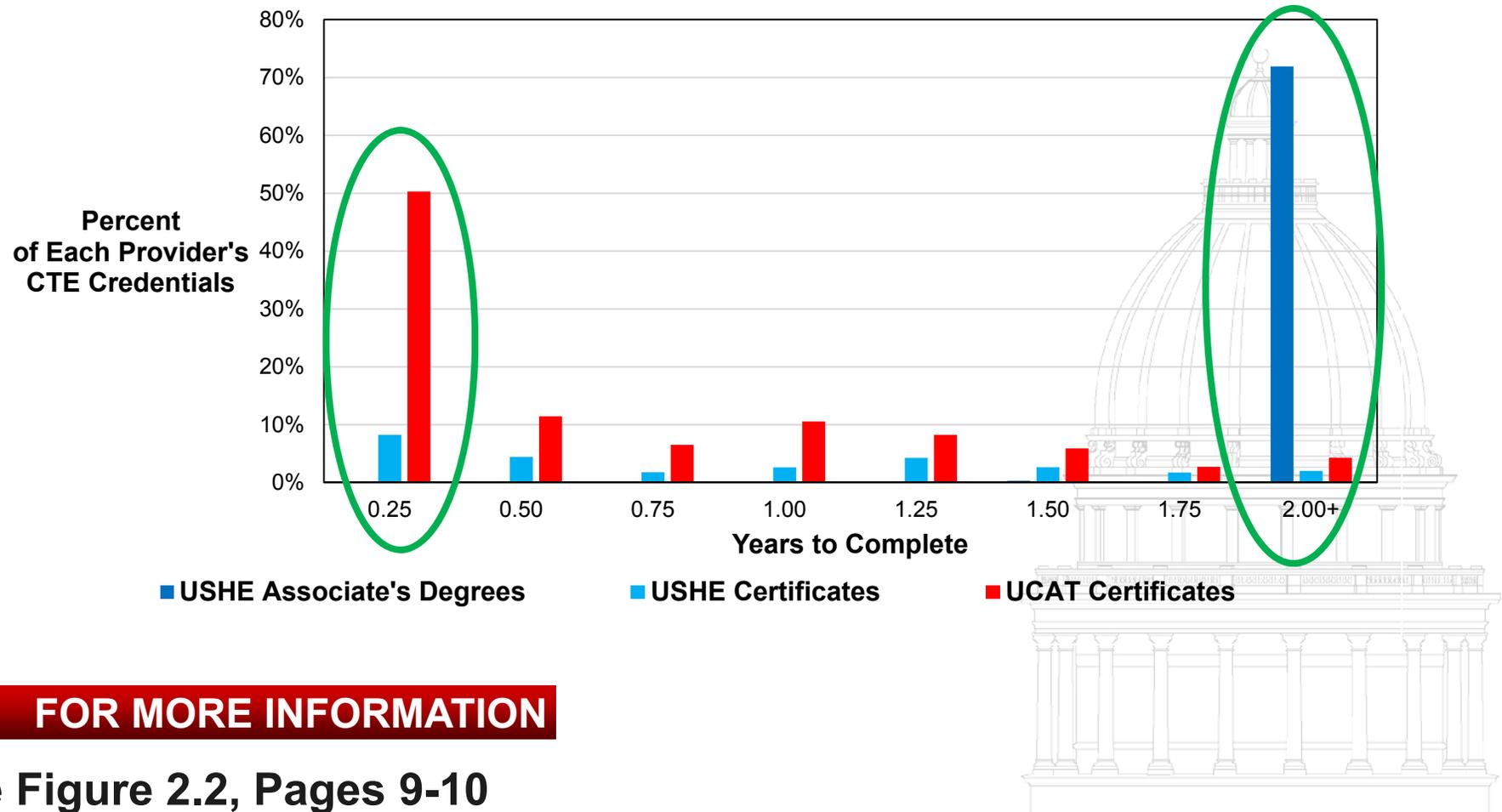
Student Outcomes	UCAT	USHE
Program Graduates	4,697	4,879
Program Early Hires	770	Not Applicable
Passed a Course*	20,518	Not Applicable

** Includes occupational upgrade, other post-secondary, and secondary students.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.1, Pages 8-9

Each System's Programs Differ Greatly in Length



FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.2, Pages 9-10

UCAT Has Diluted Its Completion Statistics with Small Achievements

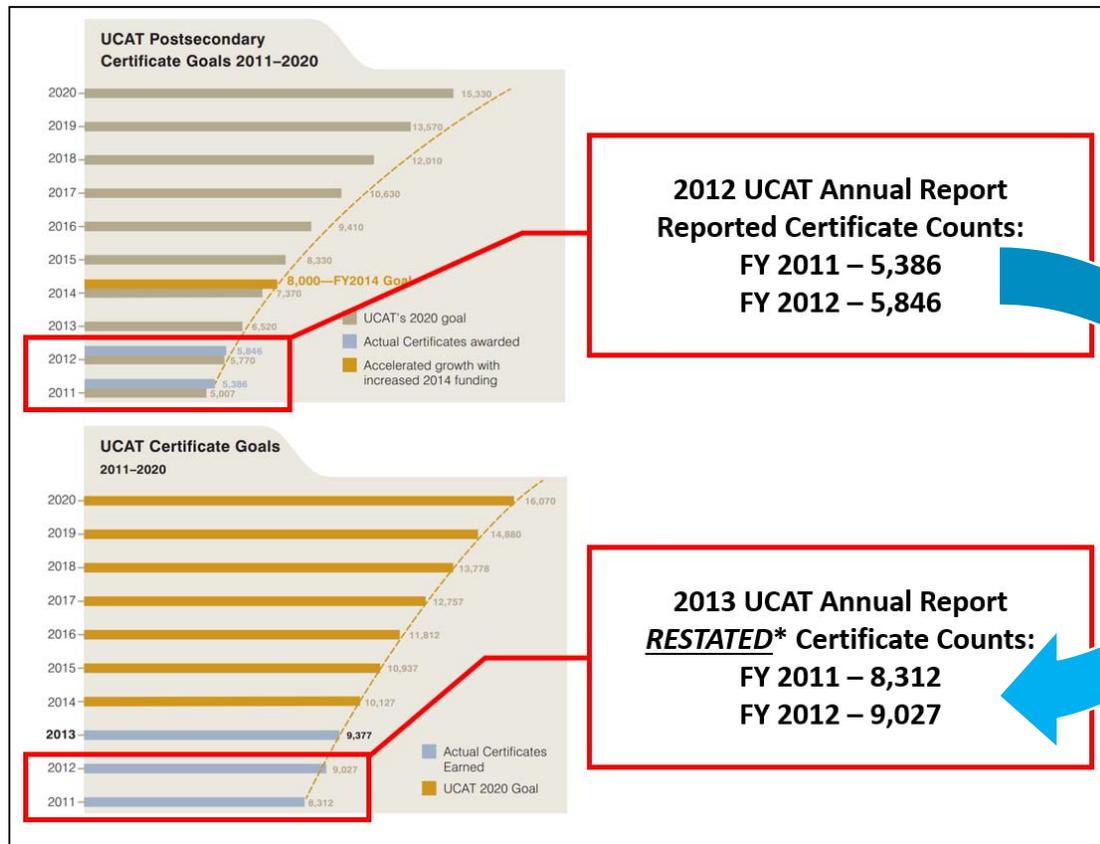
- Recognizing 60-hour occupational upgrades as certificates
- Including students who pass a course in completion rates
- Awarding more certificates in new short programs that require less than a quarter year to complete

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter II, Pages 12-22



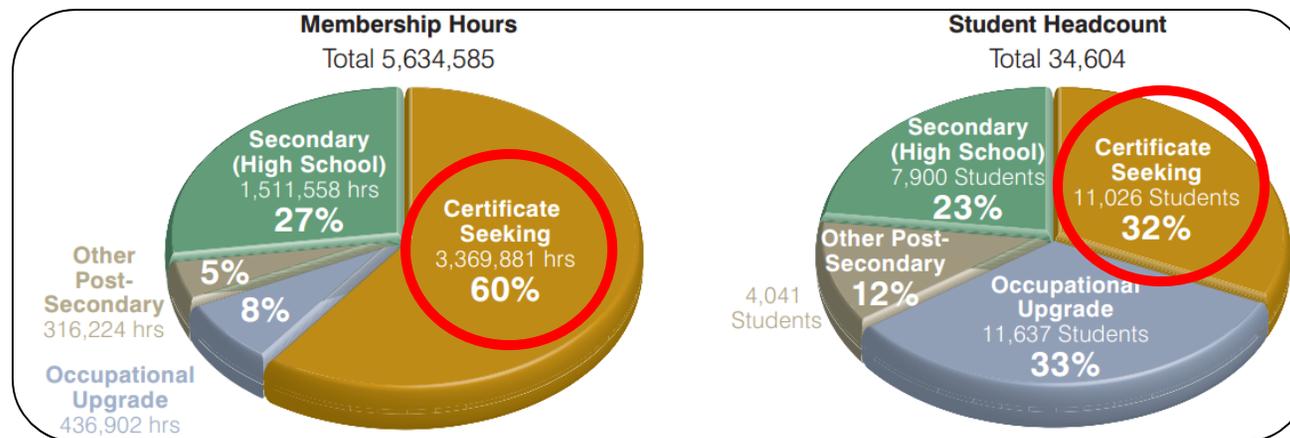
Occupational Upgrades Inflate UCAT's Certificate Counts



FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.3, Pages 13-16

Other Objectives Overshadow Program Completions



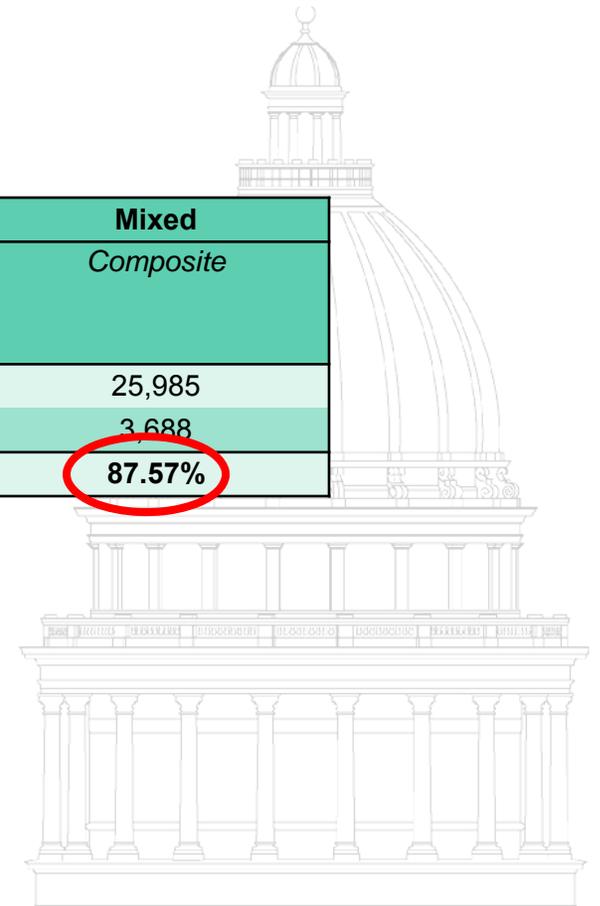
Using headcounts allows other objectives to overshadow the completion rate for certificate seekers who complete programs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figures 2.5, Pages 17-19

Completion Rates Are Only Meaningful for Program Certificate Seekers

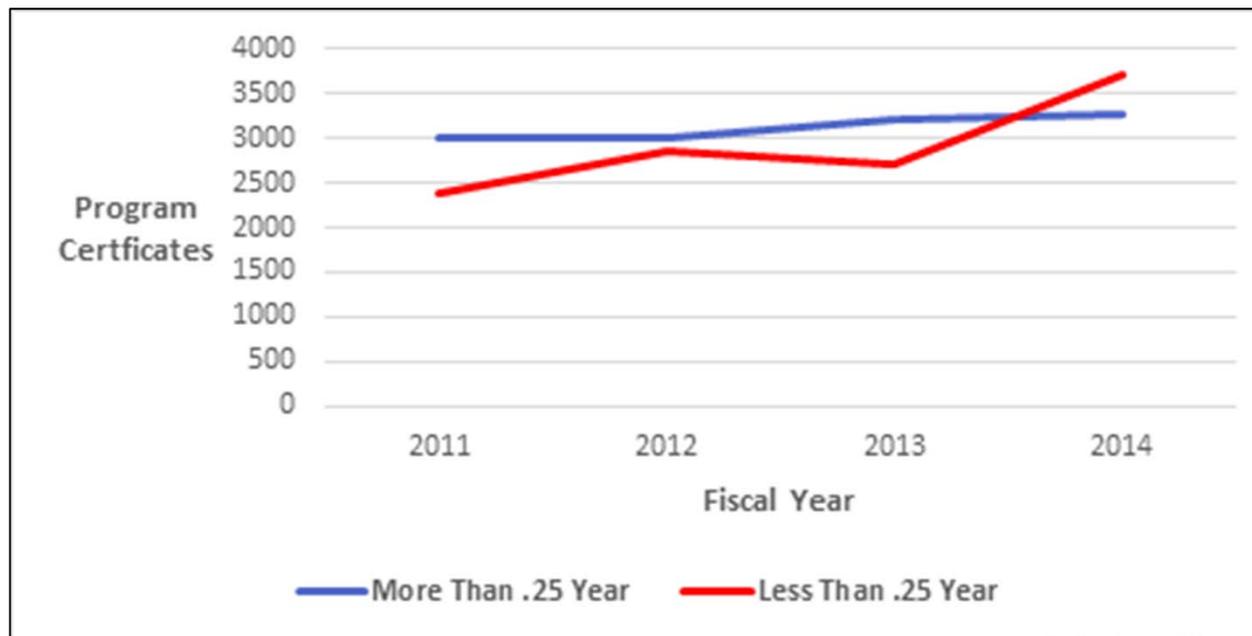
Completion Basis	Programs	Courses	Mixed
<i>Included Classifications:</i>	<i>Certificate Seekers</i>	<i>Occupational Upgrades Other-Post Secondary Secondary</i>	<i>Composite</i>
Completers	5,467	20,518	25,985
Non-Completers	2,093	1,595	3,688
Completion Rate	72.31%	92.79%	87.57%



FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.6, Pages 17-19

UCAT Has Relied on New Short Programs for Certificate Growth



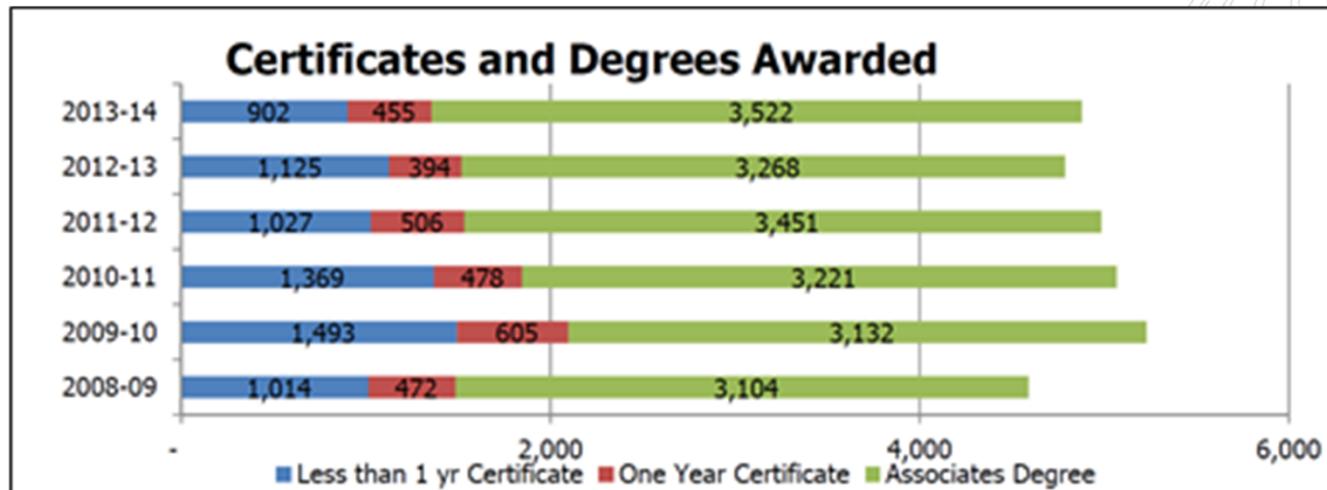
FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.8, Pages 19-21

USHE Does Not Report CTE Completions as a Rate

USHE's Issue:

CTE courses required for bachelor's degrees and those classified as general education distort counts of how many students intend to complete CTE programs.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.10, pages 23-28

Some USHE Programs Can Generate Completion Rates

Programs That Require Acceptance:

Example: Weber State University's Associate's Degree in Nursing

Completion Rate: 98.8% (339 of 343 potential graduates completed)

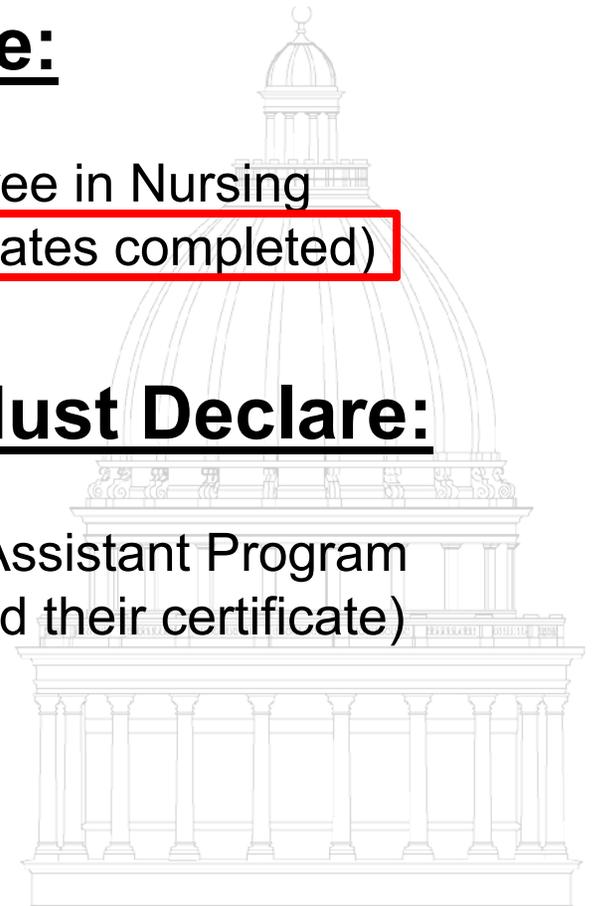
Short Programs Where Students Must Declare:

Example: Dixie State University's Certified Nursing Assistant Program

Completion Rate: 86.0% (197 of 229 students earned their certificate)

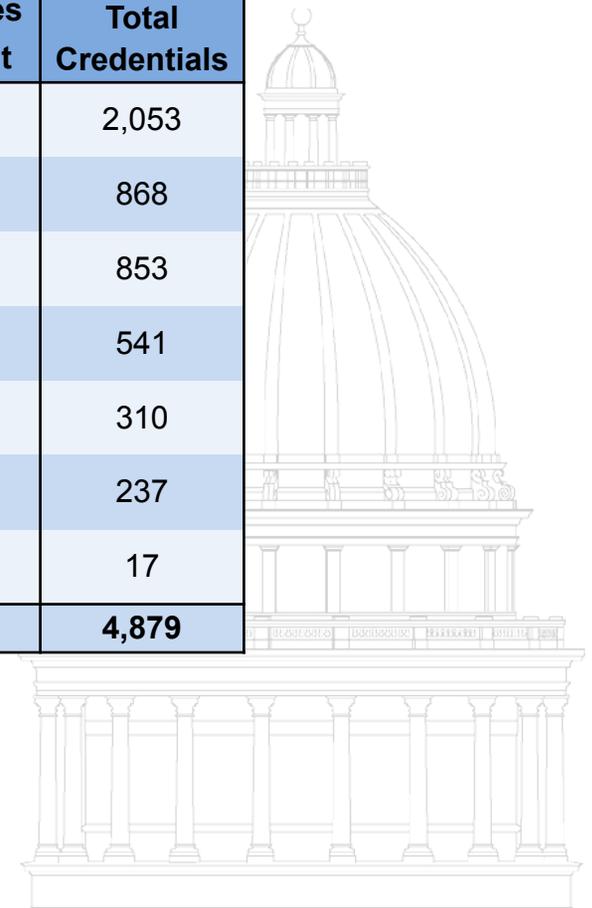
FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter II, pages 25-26



Unique Program Mixes Necessitate Focus on Program-Level Statistics

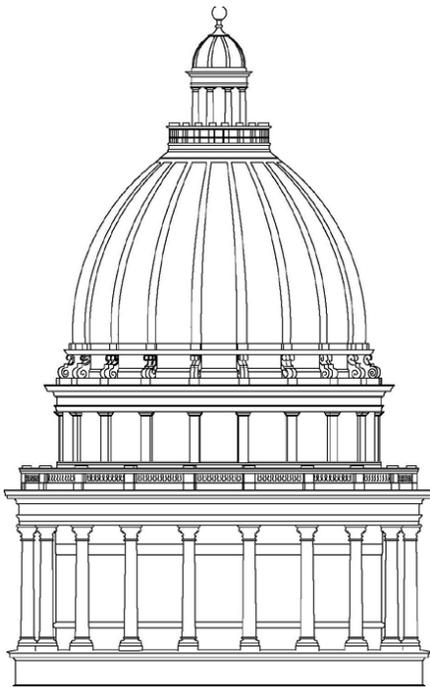
Institution	Certificates		Associates Degrees		Total Credentials
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Salt Lake Community College (SLCC)	645	31%	1,408	69%	2,053
Utah Valley University (UVU)	82	9%	786	91%	868
Weber State University (WSU)	47	6%	806	94%	853
Dixie State University (DSU)	344	64%	197	36%	541
Utah State University (USU)*	190	61%	120	39%	310
Snow College (SNOW)	44	19%	193	81%	237
Southern Utah University (SUU)	5	29%	12	71%	17
Total	1,357	28%	3,522	72%	4,879



FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Figure 2.11, pages 26-28

Chapter III



Provider Methods Make
Job Placement Rates
Not Comparable

Providers' Placement Calculations Have Significant Differences

Placement Rates Reported for
the 2013-2014 School Year:
UCAT – 90 Percent
USHE – 77 Percent

Difference	UCAT	USHE
Excludes Students from Completion Counts	Yes	No
Includes Non-CTE Completions	No	Yes
Counts Continuing Education	Yes	No
Limits to Training-Related Employment	Yes	No
Data Collection Method	Survey	Data Match

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter III, Pages 32-34

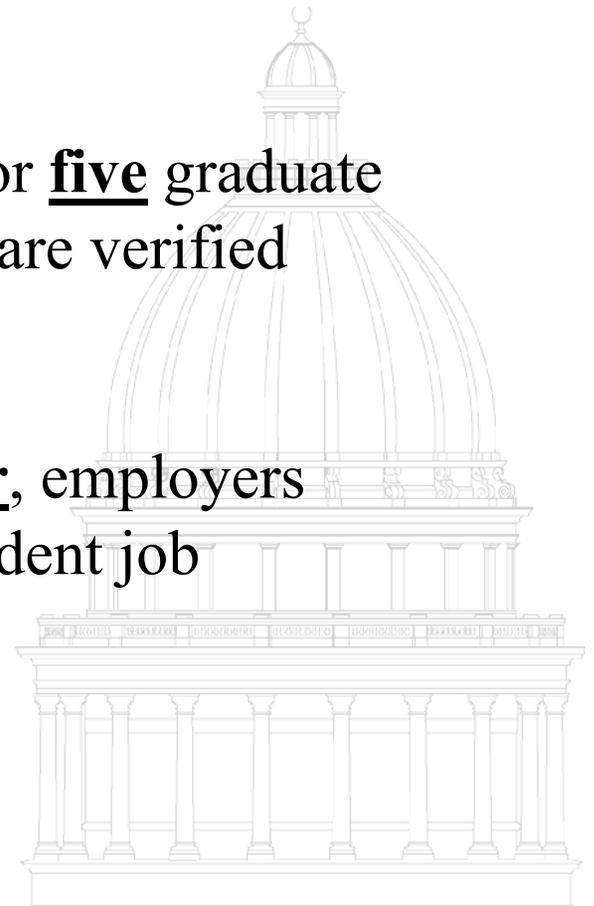
UCAT's Data Lacks Independence and Rigorous Validation Methods

Current Methods:

- COE Affirmation Reviews: The placements for **five** graduate completers and **five** non-graduate completers are verified **once every six years**.
- Employer Advisory Councils: **Twice per year**, employers have an opportunity to **informally review** student job placements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter III, Pages 39-40



Several USHE Institutions Track Some Training-Related Outcomes

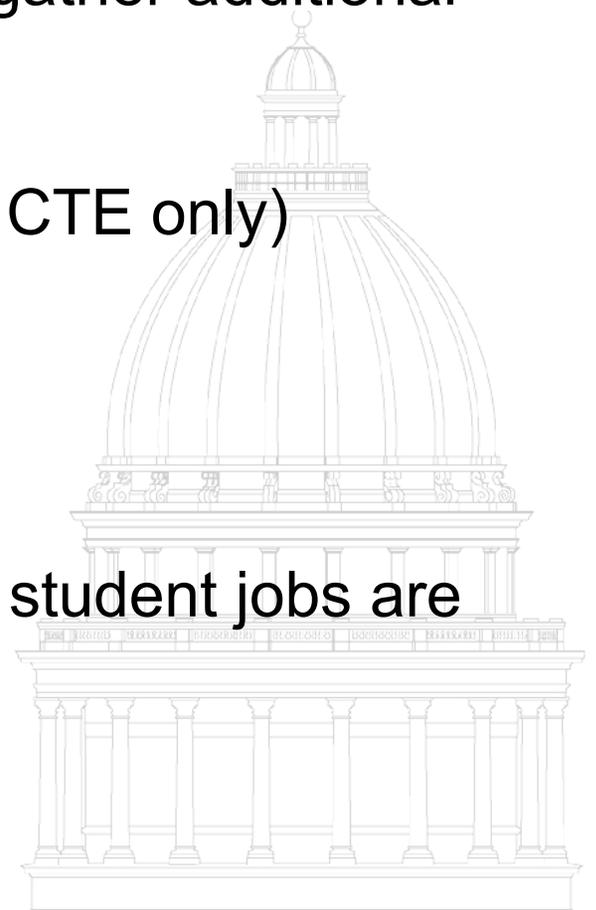
Four institutions conduct student surveys to gather additional detail about student placement outcomes:

- Salt Lake Community College (Non-credit CTE only)
- Utah State University Eastern
- Snow College
- Weber State University

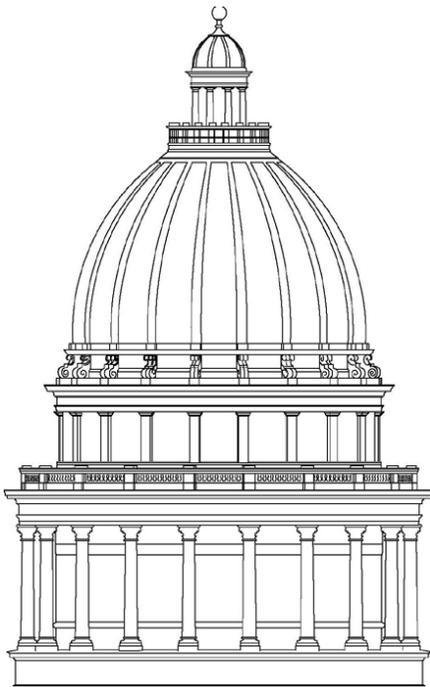
Additional information could identify whether student jobs are training-related.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See Chapter III, Pages 45-46



A Performance Audit of CTE Completion and Job Placement Rates



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January 27, 2016