



# Career & Technical Education

Skills for Employment & Lifelong Learning

## EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY BRIEF #5

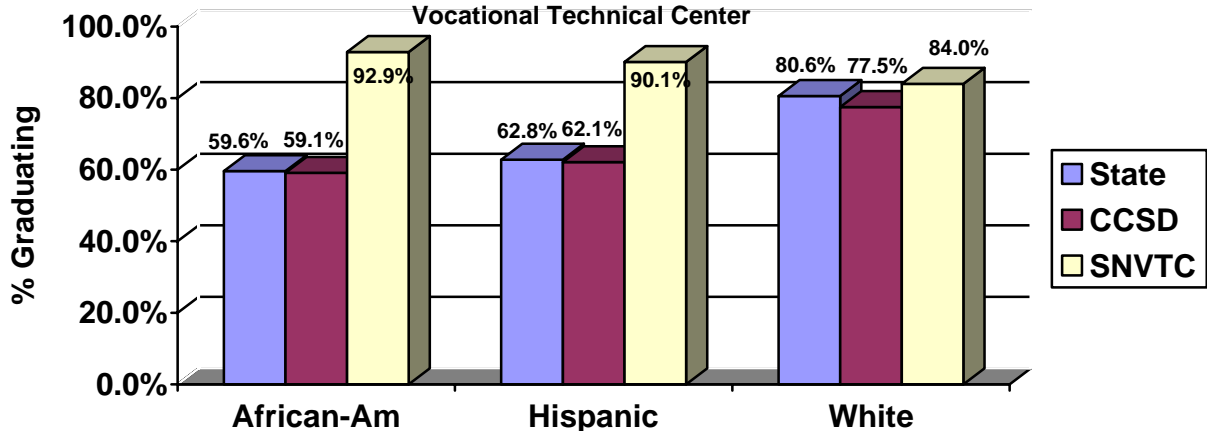
March 2005

### Minority Graduation Rates in a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education High School in Nevada

Dropout rates and graduation rates are significant concerns in Nevada education, especially the high dropout rates and the low graduation rates of African-American and Hispanic students. Previous Career and Technical Education (CTE) briefs have indicated that Nevada's CTE students drop out at a lower rate and graduate with a standard or advanced diploma at a higher rate than the overall state rates for high school students. Another CTE brief showed extremely low dropout rates for Hispanic and African-American students at Nevada's only comprehensive CTE high school, Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center (SNVTC) in Nevada's largest school district, Clark County School District (CCSD). The present brief illustrates the corresponding impact of a comprehensive CTE high school, SNVTC, on African-American and Hispanic students' graduation rates.

Graduation rates are based on diploma numbers and dropout rates over previous years and estimate the percentage of ninth graders who will receive a standard or advanced diploma as high school seniors. In 2002-2003, the statewide graduation rate for Hispanic students was 62.8 percent and 59.6 percent for African-American students, with similar numbers in CCSD. In contrast, the graduation rate for Hispanic students at SNVTC was a very high 90.1 percent and the rate for African-American SNVTC students was even higher at 92.9 percent. These graduation rates are considerably higher than the overall graduation rates for white students and are higher than the white student graduation rate at SNVTC. African-American and Hispanic students comprise 56.5 percent of students enrolled in SNVTC, with 42.5 percent Hispanic and 14 percent African-American students.

2002-2003 Graduation Rates Among African-American, Hispanic, and White Students in Nevada, Clark County School District, and Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center



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