American River College

Completer and skills-building students at American River College were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2016-2017, and did not enroll (or were minimally enrolled) in 2017-2018: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in early 2019 by e-mail, text message (SMS), and telephone. The survey addressed student perceptions of their CTE program, employment outcomes, and how their coursework and training relate to their current career. A total of 3903 students were surveyed and 730 (19%) students responded: 28% by email, 58% by phone, and 14% by SMS.

How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?

- 6.7% Very Satisfied
- 23.5% Satisfied
- 69.8% Other

How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?

- 29.1% Very Close
- 47.4% Close
- 23.5% Not Close

How many hours per week are employed students working?

- 70.5% 40+ hours
- 18.5% >20 hours
- 10.9% <20 hours

How many months did it take for students to find a job?

- 40.6% 0 months
- 27.2% 1-3 months
- 15.6% 4-6 months
- 16.7% 7+ months
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

What were the hourly wages of transfer students and non-transfer students—before training versus after training?

Does the similarity between job and program of study influence wage gains?

What is your current employment status?

More Key Results

- $10.00 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars.
- 67% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain.
- 82% of respondents reported being employed for pay.
- 34% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university.
- 93% of respondents reported being very satisfied or satisfied with their training.

Conclusion

The results of the survey showed that completing CTE studies and training—whether or not a credential is earned, whether or not a student transfers—is related to positive employment outcomes. The preponderance of respondents are employed and are working in the same field as their studies or training. Notably, students realize a greater wage gain after completing their studies if they secure a job that is similar to their program of study.