Completer and skills-building students at College of San Mateo 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 785 students were surveyed and 254 (32%) students responded: 36% by email, 54% by phone, and 11% by SMS.

- How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?
  - Very Satisfied: 45.8%
  - Satisfied: 49.4%
  - Other: 4.8%

- How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?
  - Very Close: 30.1%
  - Close: 45.7%
  - Not Close: 24.2%

- How many hours per week are employed students working?
  - 40+ hours: 11.4%
  - >20 hours: 24.9%
  - <20 hours: 63.8%

- How many months did it take for students to find a job?
  - 0: 17.5%
  - 1-3: 17.5%
  - 4-6: 16.3%
  - 7+: 48.8%
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

$11.13 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars

59% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain

79% of respondents reported being employed for pay

43% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university

95% 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.