Completer and skills-building students at College of the Redwoods 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 461 students were surveyed and 193 (42%) students responded: 31% by email, 60% by phone, and 9% by SMS.

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

- Very Satisfied: 54.5%
- Satisfied: 39.8%
- Other: 5.8%

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

- Very Close: 60.8%
- Close: 22.2%
- Not Close: 17.1%

How many hours per week are employed students working?

- 40+ hours: 26.4%
- >20 hours: 66.0%
- <20 hours: 7.5%

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

- 0: 39.8%
- 1-3: 42.2%
- 4-6: 7.2%
- 7+: 10.8%
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?

More Key Results

**$8.25** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars

**55%** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain

**85%** of respondents reported being employed for pay

**30%** of respondents reported transferring to another college or university

**94%** 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.