Completer and skills-building students at Cypress 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 2158 students were surveyed and 636 (29%) students responded: 35% by email, 57% by phone, and 7% by SMS.

**How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?**
- Very Satisfied: 9.2%
- Satisfied: 51.7%
- Other: 39.0%

**How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?**
- Very Close: 41.9%
- Close: 24.2%
- Not Close: 34.0%

**How many hours per week are employed students working?**
- 40+ hours: 9.9%
- >20 hours: 25.6%
- <20 hours: 64.6%

**How many months did it take for students to find a job?**
- 0: 45.9%
- 1-3: 18.2%
- 4-6: 24.5%
- 7+: 11.3%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

Hourly Wage (Median)

Before Training: $14.00
After Training: $20.00

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

Wage Change (Median)

Transfer: $12.00 to $18.00
Non-Transfer: $14.38 to $22.00

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

Wage Change (Median)

Not Close: $1.95
Close: $3.50
Very Close: $8.75

More Key Results

$6.00 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
43% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
82% of respondents reported being employed for pay
44% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university
91% 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.

What is your current employment status?

Employed At One Job: 62.9%
Employed At More Than One Job: 12.9%
Unemployed, Seeking Work: 9.1%
Unemployed, Not Seeking Work: 6.6%
Self-Employed: 6.0%
Unpaid Work, Not Seeking Paid Work: 2.1%
Unpaid Work, Seeking Paid Work: 0.3%