Completer and skills-building students at Irvine Valley 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 1108 students were surveyed and 366 (33%) students responded: 30% by email, 61% by phone, and 9% by SMS.

**How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?**
- Very Satisfied: 45.7%
- Satisfied: 42.1%
- Other: 12.1%

**How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?**
- Very Close: 33.3%
- Close: 28.5%
- Not Close: 38.1%

**How many hours per week are employed students working?**
- 40+ hours: 26.2%
- >20 hours: 14.1%
- <20 hours: 59.7%

**How many months did it take for students to find a job?**
- 0: 32.2%
- 1-3: 16.1%
- 4-6: 37.9%
- 7+:

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*Image of pie charts showing the distribution of survey responses.*
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

- **$6.75** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- **42%** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- **78%** of respondents reported being employed for pay
- **52%** of respondents reported transferring to another college or university
- **88%** 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.