Completer and skills-building students at Orange Coast 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 1938 students were surveyed and 744 (38%) students responded: 31% by email, 58% by phone, and 11% by SMS.

- How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?
- How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?
- How many hours per week are employed students working?
- How many months did it take for students to find a job?
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before Training</th>
<th>After Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfer</th>
<th>Non-Transfer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$13.50</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$26.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not Close</th>
<th>Close</th>
<th>Very Close</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3.25</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is your current employment status?

- Employed At One Job: 57.4%
- Employed At More Than One Job: 13.0%
- Self-Employed: 10.2%
- Unemployed, Not Seeking Work: 8.6%
- Unemployed, Seeking Work: 8.6%
- Unpaid Work, Not Seeking Paid Work: 1.5%
- Unpaid Work, Seeking Paid Work: 0.6%

More Key Results

- **$7.50** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- **50%** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- **81%** of respondents reported being employed for pay
- **47%** 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.