Completer and skills-building students at Sierra 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 1972 students were surveyed and 702 (36%) students responded: 36% by email, 51% by phone, and 13% by SMS.

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

- Very Satisfied: 53.5%
- Satisfied: 39.7%
- Other: 6.8%

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

- Very Close: 38.4%
- Close: 32.0%
- Not Close: 29.6%

How many hours per week are employed students working?

- 40+ hours: 67.7%
- 20 hours: 22.9%
- <20 hours: 9.4%

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

- 0: 33.8%
- 1-3: 35.9%
- 4-6: 9.2%
- 7+: 21.0%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

![Bar chart showing hourly wages before and after training. Before: $15.00, After: $21.00.]

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

![Bar chart showing wage changes for transfer and non-transfer students. Transfer: Before $13.00, After $20.00; Non-Transfer: Before $15.00, After $22.25.]

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

![Bar chart showing wage changes for Not Close, Close, and Very Close. Not Close: $3.00, Close: $5.00, Very Close: $7.00.]

What is your current employment status?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Status</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed At One Job</td>
<td>64.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed At More Than One Job</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employed</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed, Seeking Work</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed, Not Seeking Work</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid Work, Not Seeking Paid Work</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid Work, Seeking Paid Work</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More Key Results

- $6.00 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- 40% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- 87% of respondents reported being employed for pay
- 41% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university
- 93% 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.