Completer and skills-building students at Cerro Coso Community College were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2017-2018, and did not enroll (or were minimally enrolled) in 2018-2019: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in 2020 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 664 students were surveyed and 191 (29%) students responded: 24% by email, 56% by phone, and 20% by SMS.

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

- Very Satisfied: 51.8%
- Satisfied: 41.9%
- Other: 6.3%

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

- Very close: 56.5%
- Close: 23.4%
- Not close: 20.1%

**How many hours per week are employed students working?**

- 40+ hours: 70.6%
- >20 hours: 17.6%
- <20 hours: 11.8%

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

- 0: 38.1%
- 1-3: 33.3%
- 4-6: 21.4%
- 7+: 7.1%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

![Hourly Wage Chart]

- **Wages before schooling**: $16.50
- **Wages after schooling**: $23.00

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

![Wage Change Chart]

- **Transfer**: Before training: $15.00, After training: $22.50
- **Non-Transfer**: Before training: $17.80, After training: $24.75

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

![Wage Change by Similarity Chart]

- **Not Close**: $1.97
- **Close**: $6.01
- **Very Close**: $5.50

What is your current employment status?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed At One Job</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed At More Than One Job</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed, Not Seeking Work</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employed</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed, Seeking Work</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furloughed*</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid Work, Seeking Paid Work</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More Key Results

- **$6.50** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- **39%** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- **82%** 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.

For 2020, current data was used when available, data collected on pre-pandemic outcomes was used when current data was unavailable.

*The option of “Furloughed” was only available to respondents who took the survey version initiated after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.*