Contra Costa College

Completer and skills-building students at Contra Costa 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 586 students were surveyed and 172 (29%) students responded: 29% by email, 59% by phone, and 12% by SMS.

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

- Very Satisfied: 61.6%
- Satisfied: 31.4%
- Other: 7.0%

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

- Very close: 40.3%
- Close: 27.7%
- Not close: 31.9%

How many hours per week are employed students working?

- 40+ hours: 25.6%
- >20 hours: 10.3%
- <20 hours: 64.1%

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

- 0: 22.0%
- 1-3: 24.0%
- 4-6: 46.0%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

![Bar chart showing hourly wages before and after training.](chart1)

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.](chart2)

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

![Bar chart showing wage changes for different similarity levels.](chart3)

What is your current employment status?

![Bar chart showing employment status distribution.](chart4)

More Key Results

- **$7.00** 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.
- **67%** of respondents reported being very satisfied or satisfied with their training.
- **93%** of respondents reported being employed.
- **46%** of respondents reported transferring to another college or university.
- **4%** of respondents reported being self-employed.
- **2%** of respondents reported being unemployed or in unpaid work.
- **4%** of respondents reported being furloughed.

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.*