Santa Monica College

Completer and skills-building students at Santa Monica 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 3455 students were surveyed and 1011 (29%) students responded: 29% by email, 60% by phone, and 11% by SMS.

- **How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?**
  - Very Satisfied: 50.1%
  - Satisfied: 40.4%
  - Other: 9.4%

- **How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?**
  - Very close: 43.9%
  - Close: 27.0%
  - Other: 29.1%

- **How many hours per week are employed students working?**
  - 40+ hours: 67.5%
  - 20-40 hours: 18.3%
  - <20 hours: 14.2%

- **How many months did it take for students to find a job?**
  - 0 months: 40.8%
  - 1-3 months: 16.4%
  - 4-6 months: 11.7%
  - 7+ months: 31.0%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

![Hourly Wage Chart](chart1)

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

![Wage Change Chart](chart2)

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

![Wage Change Chart](chart3)

What is your current employment status?

![Employment Status Chart](chart4)

More Key Results

- $8.92 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- 45% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- 67% of respondents reported being employed for pay
- 51% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university
- 91% 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.*