Completer and skills-building students at Taft 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 367 students were surveyed and 97 (26%) students responded: 28% by email, 61% 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?

![Graph showing hourly wages before and after training](image)

- Wages before schooling: $14.00
- Wages after schooling: $21.00

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

![Graph showing hourly wages for transfer and non-transfer students](image)

- Transfer:
  - Before: $12.50
  - After: $19.00
- Non-Transfer:
  - Before: $14.50
  - After: $25.00

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

![Graph showing wage change for different similarity levels](image)

- Not Close: $2.00
- Close: $9.25
- Very Close: $9.39

What is your current employment status?

![Bar chart showing current employment status](image)

- Employed At One Job: 58.3%
- Unemployed, Not Seeking Work: 11.9%
- Unemployed, Seeking Work: 10.7%
- Employed At More Than One Job: 10.7%
- Furloughed*: 4.8%
- Unpaid Work, Seeking Paid Work: 2.4%
- Self-Employed: 1.2%
- Unpaid Work, Not Seeking Paid Work: 0%

More Key Results

- **$7.00** 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
- **74%** of respondents reported being employed for pay
- **42%** of respondents reported transferring to another college or university
- **95%** 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.