Completer and skills-building students at West Hills College Coalinga 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 301 students were surveyed and 47 (16%) students responded: 36% by email, 53% by phone, and 11% by SMS.

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

![Satisfaction Chart]

- Very Satisfied: 51.1%
- Satisfied: 40.4%
- Other: 8.5%

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

![Relatedness Chart]

- Very Close: 38.2%
- Close: 26.5%
- Not Close: 35.3%

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

![Employment Hours Chart]

- 40+ hours: 67.6%
- >20 hours: 14.7%
- <20 hours: 17.8%

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

![Employment Duration Chart]

- 0: 66.7%
- 1-3: 22.2%
- 4-6: 11.1%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

![Graph showing hourly wages before and after training.]

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

![Graph showing wage changes for transfer and non-transfer students.]

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

![Graph showing wage changes for different levels of similarity.]

What is your current employment status?

![Bar chart showing current employment status.]

More Key Results

- **$0.50** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars
- **-3%** is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain
- **85%** of respondents reported being employed for pay
- **34%** 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.*