Completer and skills-building students statewide in credit-granting programs were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2014-2015, and did not enroll (or were minimally enrolled) in 2015-2016: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in early 2017 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 147,789 students were surveyed and 50,960 (34%) students responded: 40% by email, 12% by SMS, and 48% by phone.

- How satisfied are students with the education and training they received?
  - Very Satisfied: 8.9%
  - Satisfied: 39.0%
  - Other: 52.1%

- How many students secured a job that is closely related to their program of study?
  - Very Close: 44.4%
  - Close: 24.8%
  - Not Close: 30.8%

- How many hours per week are employed students working?
  - 40+ hours: 10.5%
  - >20 hours: 21.8%
  - <20 hours: 67.7%

- How many months did it take for students to find a job?
  - 0: 26.5%
  - 1-3: 40.7%
  - 4-6: 18.4%
  - 7+: 14.5%
What were the hourly wages of the students before training versus after training?

What was your current employment status?

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

More Key Results

$6.00 is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in dollars

40% is the overall change in hourly wages after completing training—in percentage gain

80% of respondents reported being employed for pay

35% of respondents reported transferring to another college or university

91% of respondents reported being very satisfied or satisfied with their training.

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

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.