

# Career & Technical Education (CTE) Employment Outcomes Survey 2015 College of Marin

## Background

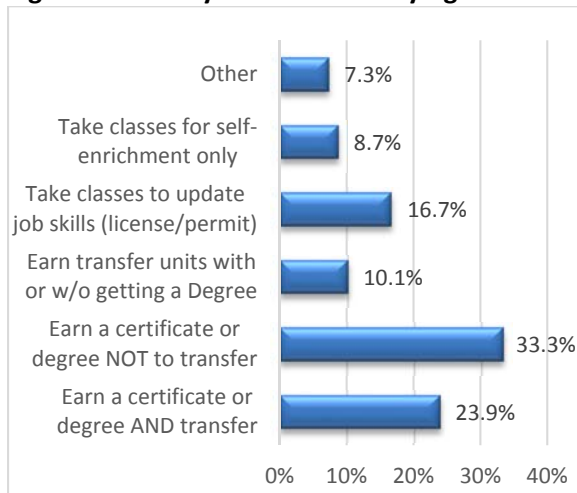
Skills-building students from College of Marin were surveyed if they met one of the following criteria in 2012-2013, and did not enroll in 2013-2014: earned a certificate of 6 or more units, earned a vocational degree, or earned 9+ CTE units. The survey was administered in early 2015 by e-mail, telephone and US mail. 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 553 students were surveyed and 138 unduplicated students responded, 56 of whom responded by e-mail (40.6%), 50 by telephone (36.2%), and 32 (23.2%) by US Mail, for a total overall response rate of 24.9%.

## Results

- Respondents were asked their primary reason for studying at College of Marin, and the majority (57.2%) indicated earning a certificate or degree (with or without transfer). Figure 1 shows the results.

**Figure 1. Primary reason for studying**



- Respondents were asked why they stopped taking classes at College of Marin. Here are the most frequently cited reasons, in rank order of frequency:

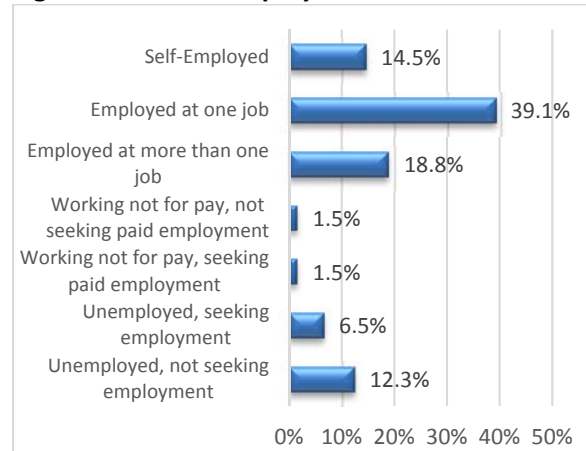
- ✓ My goals were met (60)
- ✓ I completed the program (58)
- ✓ I got a job (36)
- ✓ Transferred to another school (27)

- 46.4% of former students were “very satisfied” with the education and training they received at College of Marin, and 44.2% were “satisfied” for an overall satisfaction rate of 90.6%.

- 31.9% of respondents indicated they had transferred to another College or University.

- 72.5% of respondents are employed for pay. Figure 2 shows the results.

**Figure 2. Current Employment Status**



- Overall, statewide, students who transferred have 1.9 times the likelihood of being unemployed and not seeking employment (6.2% for not transferring vs. 11.9% for transferring), likely because they are enrolled at a four year institution.

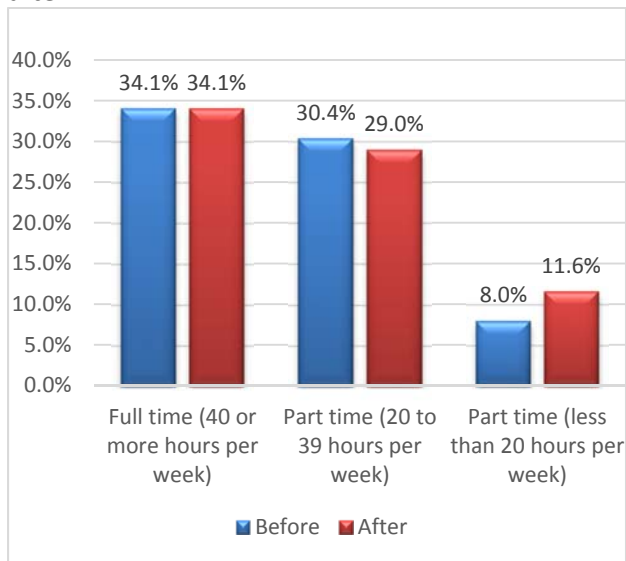
- Respondents were asked, if currently employed, how closely related their job is to their field of study at College of Marin. 45.8% indicated they are working in the same field as their studies and training, followed 19.6% indicating they work in a field that is “close” to their studies and training, and 34.6% indicated their job is not related to their studies. When asked if they were actively seeking a job in another field, 75.7% of employed respondents said no.

- Of those respondents who engaged in a job search after finishing their studies, 80.4% reported finding a job and 19.6% were still looking. Of those with a successful job search, 72.7% found a job within six months (49.1% within three months).

- Of currently employed respondents, 14.9% had been employed at their current job less than six months, 14.0% between six months and one year, 24.3% between one and two years, 14.0% between two and three years and 32.7% had been employed at their current job for more than three years.

- Before their studies, 34.1% of respondents worked full time. After completing their studies, 34.1% work full time. Figure 3 shows the results.

**Figure 3. Work status before studies/training and after**



- The hourly wage of all respondents increased 18.5% from their hourly wage before their studies (\$24.05) to their hourly wage after completing their studies (\$28.49). Figure 4 shows the results.

**Figure 4. Earnings before studies/training and after**



- Respondents, including those who had transferred, were asked what impact their coursework had on their employment. Here are the responses, listed in rank order of frequency:

- ✓ Prepared me for a possible new job (37)
- ✓ Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to get a job at a new organization (19)
- ✓ No impact on my employment (16)
- ✓ Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to stay in my current job (11)
- ✓ Enabled me to learn skills that allowed me to get a promotion at my same organization (8)
- ✓ Enabled me to start my own business (7)

### Summary and Conclusions

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, are working in the same field as their studies or training, and are working full time. Respondents overall posted a 18.5% increase in their hourly wage after completing their studies at College of Marin and the vast majority were satisfied with the education and training they received.

