

## Summary

Program LMI Endorsement	Endorsed: All LMI Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some LMI Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not LMI Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Program LMI Endorsement Criteria</b>			
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Supply Gap:	<i>Comments:</i> there is projected to be <b>2,386 annual job openings</b> in the South Central Coast (SCC) Region for these family and consumer sciences occupations, which is <b>than the 943 awards conferred by educational institutions.</b>		
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Self-Sufficiency Standard Living Wage <sup>1</sup> :	<i>Comments:</i> <b>All (100%) annual job openings</b> for these family and consumer sciences occupations <b>have entry-level hourly wages below the Santa Barbara County living wage of \$29.80.</b>		
	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	<i>Comments:</i> Though <b>all (100%) annual job openings</b> for these family and consumer sciences occupations typically require a <b>high school diploma or equivalent, between 25% and 37% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education.</b>		
<b>Additional Considerations</b>			
Emerging Occupation(s):	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	Some <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>Comments:</i> N/A		

The South Central Coast Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (SCC COE) prepared this report to determine whether there is a supply gap in the SCC regional labor market related to three middle-skill occupations:

- *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)*
- *Community Health Workers (21-1094)*
- *Childcare Workers (39-9011)*

Based on the available data there appears to be a supply gap for these family and consumer sciences occupations and typical education requirements for these occupations align with a community college education. However, entry-level wages are below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage. **Therefore, due to some of the regional labor market criteria being met, the COE endorses this proposed program.**

<sup>1</sup> The living wage endorsement criteria in this report uses the University of Washington's Center for Women's Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard, which the COE refers to as a living wage; Orange County's living wage of \$27.13, was last updated in March 2024.

Exhibit 1 lists the occupational demand, supply, typical entry-level education, and educational attainment for the occupations included in this report.

### Exhibit 1: Labor Market Endorsement Summary

Occupation (SOC)	Demand (Annual Openings)	Supply (CC and Non-CC)	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	Typical Entry-Level Education	Community College Educational Attainment
Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)	429	105	Santa Barbara: \$22.70	High school diploma or equivalent	34%
Community Health Workers (21-1094)	63	132	Santa Barbara: \$21.52	High school diploma or equivalent	25%
Childcare Workers (39-9011)	1,893	705	Santa Barbara: \$16.01	High school diploma or equivalent	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,386</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

#### Demand:

- The number of jobs related to these family and consumer sciences occupations is projected to increase 2% through 2029 in the SCC region. There is projected to be 2,386 annual job openings due to new job creation and replacements.
- Hourly entry-level wages for these family and consumer sciences occupations in Santa Barbara County range from \$16.01 to \$22.70; all (100%) annual job openings have entry-level wages below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage (\$29.80 for Santa Barbara County).
- There were 504+ online job postings for these family and consumer sciences occupations over the past 12 months. The highest number of postings were for nannies, childcare assistants, and community health workers.
- The typical entry-level education for these family and consumer sciences occupations is a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Between 25% and 37% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education.

#### Supply:

- There was an average of 943 awards conferred by eight community colleges in the SCC Region from 2020 to 2023.
- Non-community college institutions did not confer any related awards from 2019 to 2022.
- SCC community college students that exited Family and Consumer Sciences, General programs in the 2022-23 academic year had a median annual wage of \$35,818 (\$17.22 per hour) after exiting the program and 25% attained the regional living wage (Self-Sufficiency Standard).
- Throughout California, 66% of Family and Consumer Sciences, General students that exited their program in 2021-22 reported that they are working in a job closely related to their field of study. This data was unavailable at the regional level.

# Demand

## Occupational Projections:

Exhibit 2 compares historical and projected changes in employment for these occupations compared to the number of jobs in 2019. Notably, employment for these family and consumer sciences occupations in San Luis Obispo County grew 11% from 2019 to 2024, which is significantly higher when compared to employment for these occupations in California, the SCC Region, and all other counties in the SCC region. From 2024 to 2029, employment for these family and consumer sciences occupations is projected to steadily grow in all areas except Northern Los Angeles County, where employment is projected to decline.

Exhibit 2: Historical and Projected Employment for Family and Consumer Sciences Occupations in the SCC Region, 2019-2029

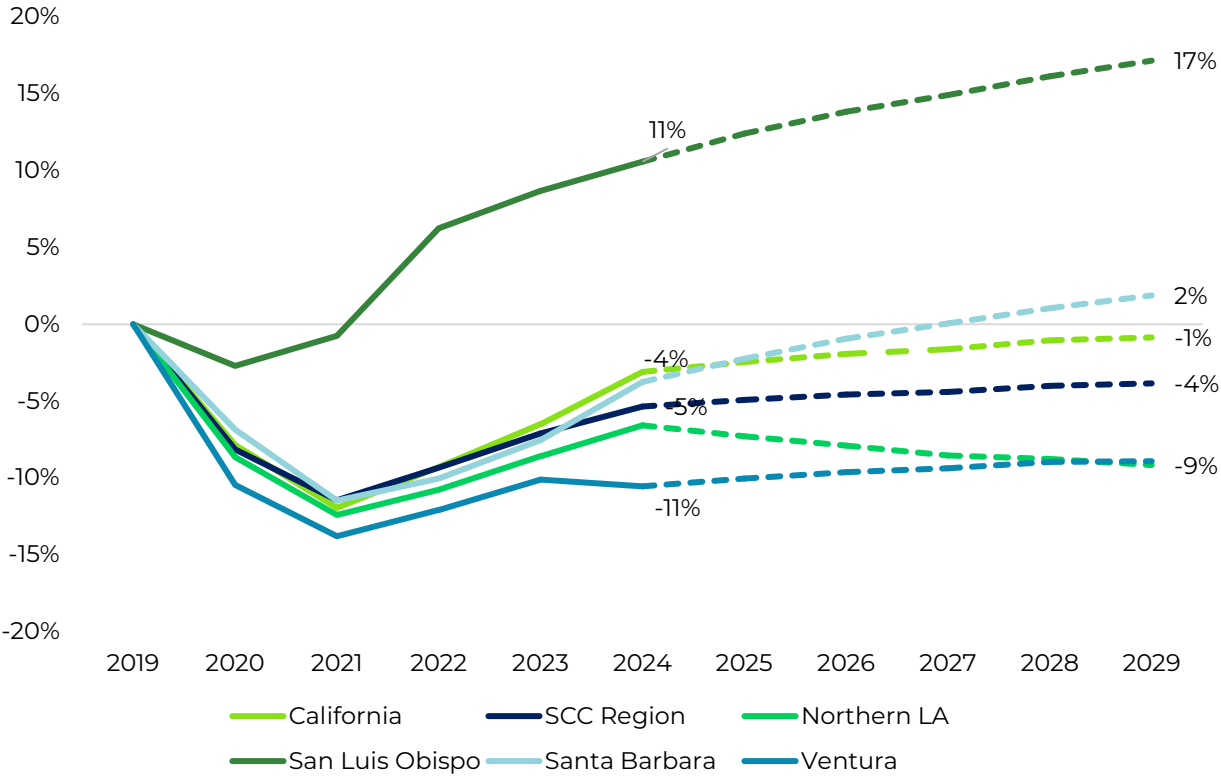


Exhibit 3 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for these family and consumer sciences occupations. In the SCC Region, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to increase 2% through 2029. There is projected to be 2,386 jobs available annually. Northern Los Angeles County has the highest number of jobs and annual openings, but employment is projected to decrease.

Exhibit 3: Occupational Demand in the SCC Region<sup>2</sup>

Geography	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	2024-2029 Change	2024-2029 % Change	Annual Openings
Northern LA	5,383	5,233	(150)	(3%)	863
San Luis Obispo	1,631	1,728	97	6%	269
Santa Barbara	3,691	3,906	215	6%	626

<sup>2</sup> Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Geography	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	2024-2029 Change	2024-2029 % Change	Annual Openings
Ventura	3,884	3,954	70	2%	617
<b>SCC Region</b>	<b>14,584</b>	<b>14,816</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2,386</b>

### Wages:

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for these family and consumer sciences occupations in relation to the living wage of the county where the requesting community college is located. This report was requested by Allan Hancock College, which is in Santa Barbara County. Wages for other counties are included below to provide a complete analysis of the SCC Region.

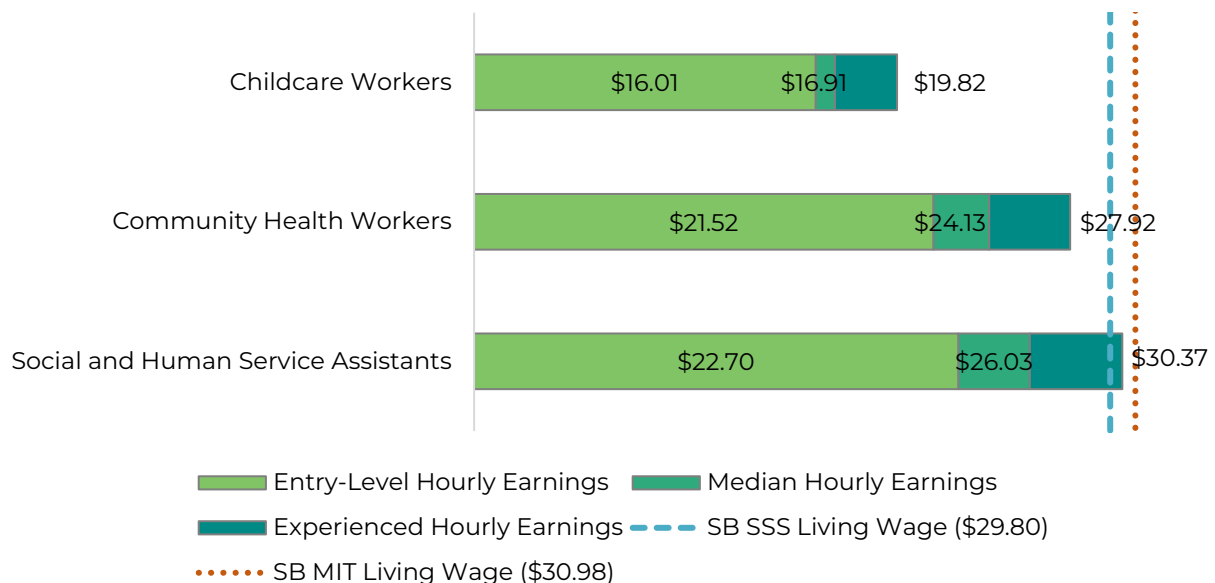
In addition to the Self Sufficiency Standard living wage, data for the MIT Living Wage, updated on February 10, 2025, is provided as a reference. Currently, the MIT Living Wage in Los Angeles County is \$30.98. Both figures account for geographic-specific costs of necessities such as housing, food, health care, and transportation to assess the cost of living, and are notated in the exhibits below.

### Santa Barbara

All (100%) annual openings for these family and consumer sciences occupations have entry-level wages below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult (\$29.80 in Santa Barbara County). Typical entry-level hourly wages range between \$16.01 and \$22.70. Experienced hourly earnings for *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)* in Santa Barbara County are above the living wage. Notably, wages for *Childcare Workers (39-9011)* and *Community Health Workers (21-1094)* in Santa Barbara County are below the living wage even at the experienced level.

Exhibit 4 shows the wage range for each of these family and consumer sciences occupations in Santa Barbara County and how they compare to the regional living wage, sorted from lowest to highest entry-level wage.

Exhibit 4: Wages by Occupation in Santa Barbara County

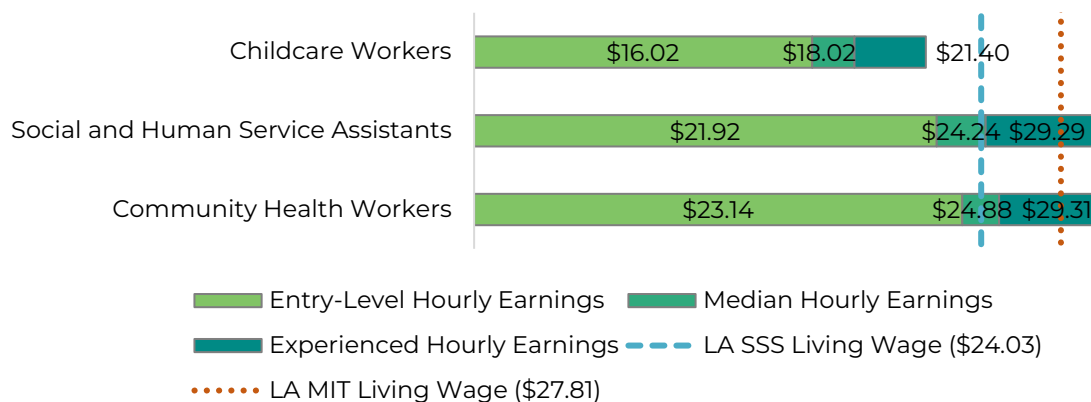


## Northern Los Angeles

All (100%) annual openings for these family and consumer sciences occupations have entry-level wages below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult (\$24.03 in Los Angeles County). Typical entry-level hourly wages range between \$16.02 and \$23.14. Median hourly earnings for *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)* and *Community Health Workers (21-1094)* in Northern Los Angeles County are above the living wage. Notably, wages for *Childcare Workers (39-9011)* are below the living wage even at the experienced level.

Exhibit 5 shows the wage range for each of these family and consumer sciences occupations in Northern Los Angeles and how they compare to the regional living wage, sorted from lowest to highest entry-level wage.

Exhibit 5: Wages by Occupation in Northern Los Angeles County

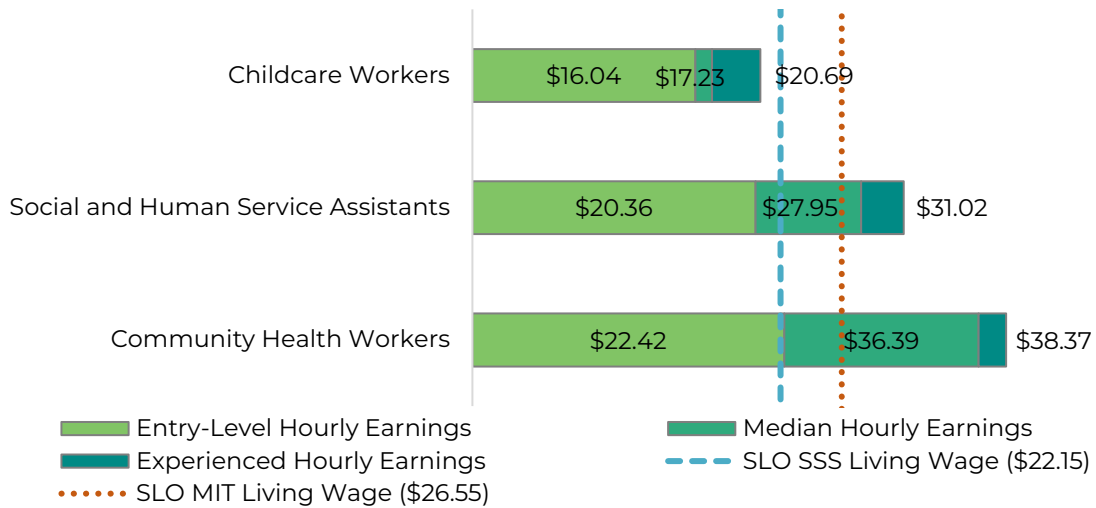


## San Luis Obispo

The majority (96%) of annual openings for these family and consumer sciences occupations have entry-level wages below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult (\$22.15 in San Luis Obispo County). Typical entry-level hourly wages range between \$16.04 and \$22.42. Median hourly earnings for *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)* and *Community Health Workers (21-1094)* in San Luis Obispo County are above the living wage. Notably, wages for *Childcare Workers (39-9011)* are below the living wage even at the experienced level.

Exhibit 6 shows the wage range for each of these family and consumer sciences occupations in San Luis Obispo County and how they compare to the regional living wage, sorted from lowest to highest entry-level wage.

Exhibit 6: Wages by Occupation in San Luis Obispo County

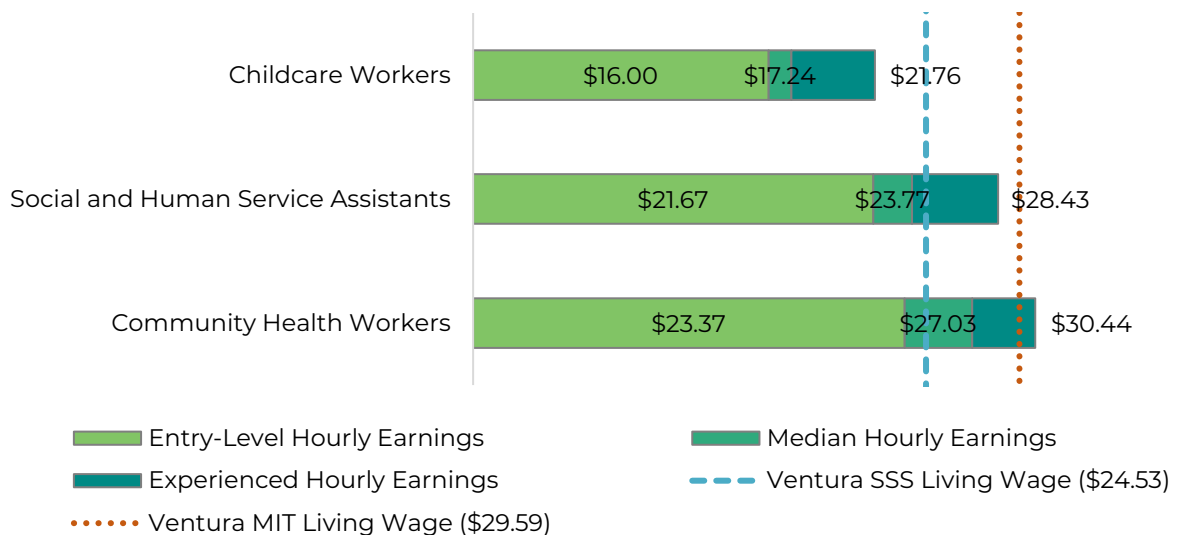


**Ventura**

All (100%) annual openings for these family and consumer sciences occupations have entry-level wages below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult (\$24.53 in Ventura County). Typical entry-level hourly wages range between \$16.00 and \$23.37. Experienced hourly earnings for *Community Health Workers (21-1094)* and *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)* in Ventura County are above the living wage. Notably, wages for *Childcare Workers (39-9011)* in Ventura County are below the living wage even at the experienced level.

Exhibit 7 shows the wage range for each of these family and consumer sciences occupations in Ventura County and how they compare to the regional living wage, sorted from lowest to highest entry-level wage.

Exhibit 7: Wages by Occupation in Ventura County



**Job Postings:**

There were 504 online job postings related to these family and consumer sciences occupations listed in the past 12 months in the SCC Region. Exhibit 8 shows the number of job postings by occupation. Approximately 34% of job postings were in Ventura County and Santa Barbara County.

Exhibit 8: Number of Job Postings by County (n=504)

County	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Ventura	172	34%
Santa Barbara	169	34%
Northern Los Angeles	117	23%
San Luis Obispo	46	9%
<b>Total Postings</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>100%</b>

Of the 504 postings, the majority (72%) were for *Childcare Workers (39-9011)*, followed by *Community Health Workers (21-1094)*, and *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)*, as shown in Exhibit 9.

Exhibit 9: Number of Job Postings by Occupation (n=504)

Occupation	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Childcare Workers	363	72%
Community Health Workers	82	16%
Social and Human Service Assistants	59	12%
<b>Total Postings</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>100%</b>

The top employers in the region, by number of job postings, are shown in Exhibit 10.

Exhibit 10: Top Employers by Number of Job Postings (n=504)

Employer	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Beach Baby Nannies	42	8%
YMCA	15	3%
Bright Horizons	11	2%
Crunch Care	10	2%
Alphabest Education	7	1%
CARE International	7	1%
Educated Nannies	7	1%
Healthcare Staffing Professionals	6	1%
Nci Affiliates	6	1%
Parents Anonymous	6	1%

The top specialized, soft, and computer skills listed by those most frequently mentioned in job postings (denoted in parentheses) are shown in Exhibit 11.

Exhibit 11: Top Skills by Number of Job Postings (n=504)

Top Specialized Skills	Top Soft Skills	Top Computer Skills
Social Work (62)	Communication (164)	Microsoft Office (10)
Child Development (60)	Multilingualism (74)	Microsoft Excel (7)
Bilingual (Spanish/English) (54)	Planning (54)	Spreadsheets (4)
Housekeeping (53)	Confidentiality (44)	Microsoft Outlook (3)
Community Health (51)	Patience (43)	Microsoft Word (3)

Top Specialized Skills	Top Soft Skills	Top Computer Skills
Preschool Education (51)	Spanish Language (42)	Google Workspace (2)
Meal Planning And Preparation (49)	Management (41)	Microsoft PowerPoint (2)
Diaper Changing (47)	Advocacy (39)	Google Sheets (1)
Working With Children (43)	Coordinating (38)	Homeless Management Information System (1)
Caregiving (27)	Problem Solving (35)	IBM Content Manager (1)

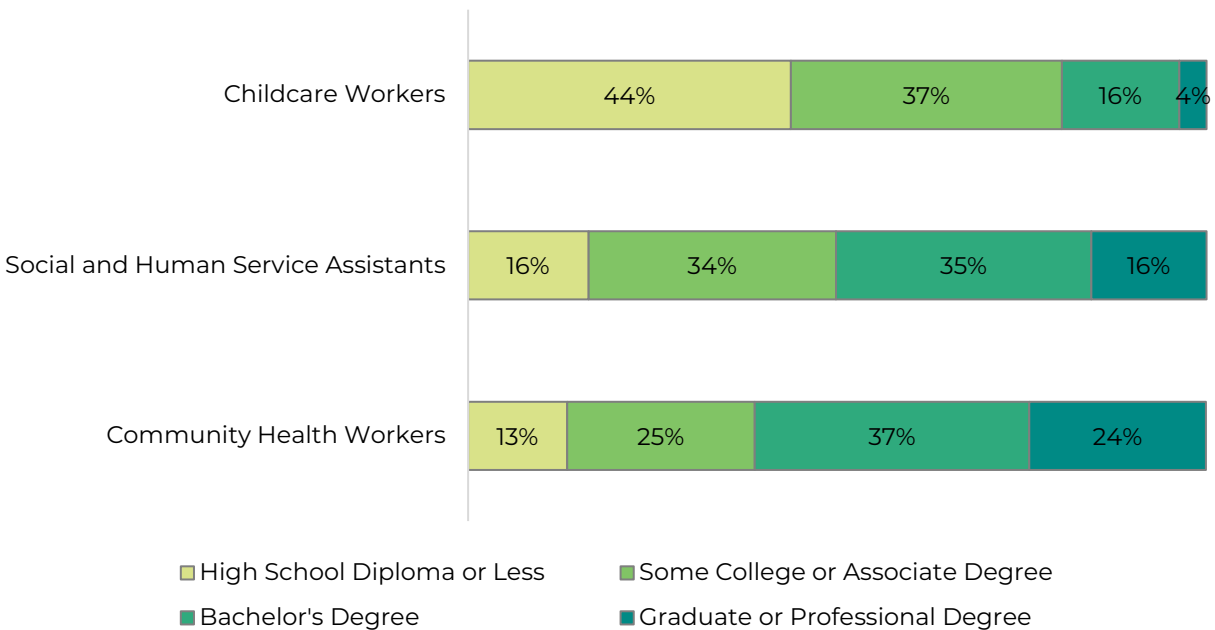
### Educational Attainment:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists the following as the typical entry-level education for these family and consumer sciences occupations:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent
  - *Social and Human Service Assistants (21-1093)*
  - *Community Health Workers (21-1094)*
  - *Childcare Workers (39-9011)*

The national-level educational attainment data indicates between 25% and 37% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education. Exhibit 13 shows the educational attainment for each occupation, sorted by highest community college educational attainment to lowest.

Exhibit 12: National-level Educational Attainment for Occupations



Of the 36% of the cumulative job postings for these family and consumer sciences occupations that listed a minimum education requirement in the SCC Region, 87% (157) requested a high school diploma or an associate degree, 12% (22) requested a bachelor's degree, and 1% (2) requested a graduate or professional degree.

## Educational Supply

### Community College Supply:

Exhibit 13 shows the three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP codes:

- Health Occupations, General (1201.00)
- Child Development/Early Care and Education (1305.00)
- Human Services (2104.00)

No awards were conferred for the following TOP codes:

- Community Health Care Worker (1261.00)

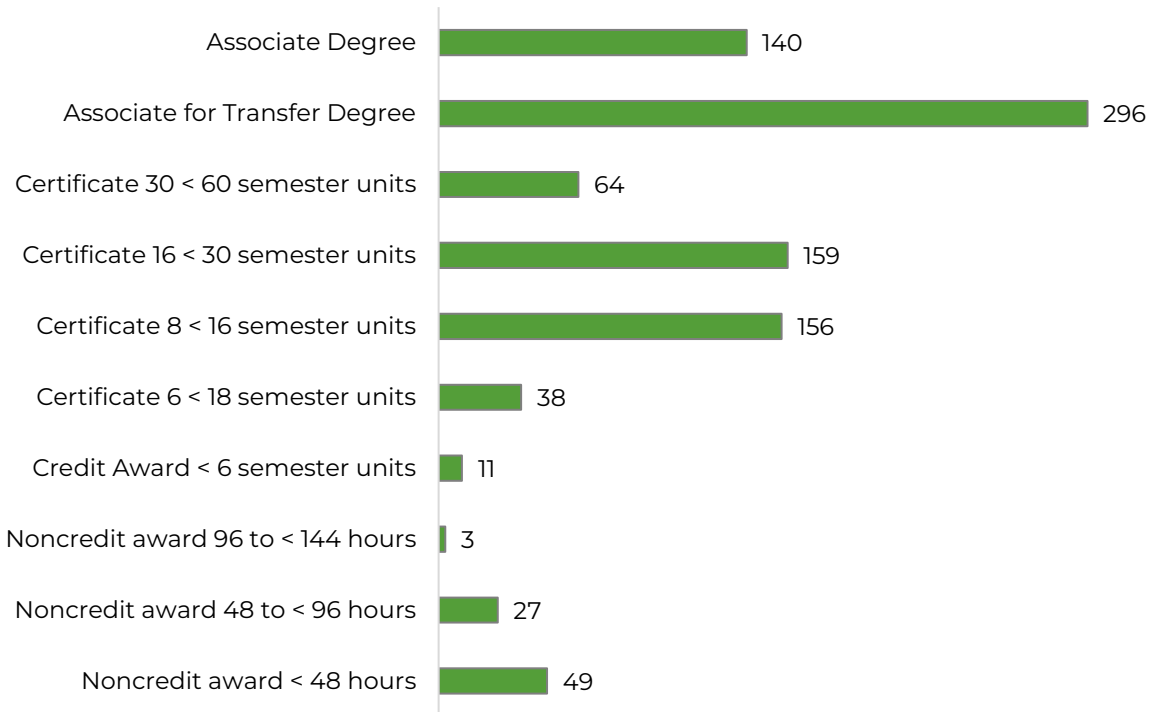
The college with the most completions in the region is Cuesta (180), followed by College of the Canyons (150), and Moorpark College (149).

Exhibit 13: Regional Community College Awards (Certificates and Degrees), 2021-2024

TOP Code	Program	College	2021-2022 Awards	2022-2023 Awards	2023-2024 Awards	3-Year Award Average
1201.00	Health Occupations, General	Canyons	58	65	59	61
		Cuesta	12	42	7	20
		Oxnard	16	12	17	15
		Santa Barbara	27	23	20	23
		Ventura	13	15	11	13
<b>Supply Subtotal/Average</b>			<b>126</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>132</b>
1305.00	Child Development/Early Care and Education	Allan Hancock	30	39	45	38
		Antelope Valley	147	98	67	104
		Canyons	46	39	35	40
		Cuesta	168	122	168	153
		Moorpark	185	121	140	149
		Oxnard	72	129	104	102
		Santa Barbara	41	88	78	69
		Ventura	51	54	49	51
<b>Supply Subtotal/Average</b>			<b>740</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>705</b>
2104.00	Human Services	Allan Hancock	13	12	67	31
		Canyons	20	6	122	49
		Cuesta	5	8	8	7
		Oxnard	12	10	17	13
		Ventura	8	4	3	5
<b>Supply Subtotal/Average</b>			<b>58</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Supply Total/Average</b>			<b>924</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>943</b>

Exhibit 14 shows the annual average community college awards by type from 2021-22 to 2023-24. The plurality of the awards are for associate for transfer degrees, followed by certificates between 16 and less than 30 semester units and certificates between 8 and less than 16 semester units.

Exhibit 14: Annual Average Community College Awards by Type, 2021-2024



### Community College Student Outcomes:

Exhibit 15, on the following page, shows the Strong Workforce Program (SWP) metrics for Family and Consumer Sciences, General programs at Allan Hancock College (AHC), the SCC Region, and California. Of the 1,187 Family and Consumer Sciences, General students throughout the region in the 2023-24 academic year, 8% (97) attended AHC.

AHC students that exited Family and Consumer Sciences, General programs in the 2022-23 academic year had lower median annual earnings (\$27,094 or \$13.03 per hour) compared to all Family and Consumer Sciences, General in the SCC Region (\$32,622 or \$15.68 per hour) and statewide (\$33,204 or \$15.96 per hour). A lower percentage of SCC Family and Consumer Sciences, General students attained the living wage (20%) when compared to all Family and Consumer Sciences, General students in the state (35%).

Exhibit 15: Family and Consumer Sciences, General (1301.00)  
Strong Workforce Program Metrics, 2023-24<sup>34</sup>

SWP Metric	AHC	SCC Region	California
SWP Students	97	1,187	6,369
SWP Students Who Earned 9 or More Career Education Units in the District in a Single Year	30%	17%	18%
SWP Students Who Completed a Noncredit CTE or Workforce Preparation Course	Data Unavailable	98%	78%
SWP Students Who Earned a Degree or Certificate or Attained Apprenticeship Journey Status	Data Unavailable	Data Unavailable	1%
SWP Students Who Transferred to a Four-Year Postsecondary Institution (2022-23)	Data Unavailable	2%	5%
SWP Students with a Job Closely Related to Their Field of Study (2021-22)	Data Unavailable	N/A	66%
Median Annual Earnings for SWP Exiting Students (2022-23)	\$27,094 (\$13.03)	\$32,622 (\$15.68)	\$33,204 (\$15.96)
Median Change in Earnings for SWP Exiting Students (2022-23)	Data Unavailable	49%	41%
SWP Exiting Students Who Attained the Living Wage (2022-23)	Data Unavailable	20%	35%

**Non-Community College Supply:**

To comprehensively analyze the regional supply, it is crucial to include data from other institutions offering Child Development/Early Care and Education training programs. Over the past three years (2020-2023), there were no awards conferred by non-community college institutions under the related Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes:

- Child Development (19.0706)
- Child Care Provider/Assistant (19.0709)
- Developmental Services Workers (19.0710)
- Early Childhood and Family Studies (19.0711)
- Human Services, General (44.0000)
- Health and Wellness, General (51.0001)
- Community Health and Preventative Medicine (51.2208)

<sup>3</sup> All SWP metrics are for 2023-24 unless otherwise noted. Metrics data is sourced from DataVista.

<sup>4</sup> Data that is not available in DataVista is denoted in Exhibit 15 as “data unavailable.” Data may not be available for various reasons, including cases where data is masked to protect personally identifiable information.

# Regional Demographics

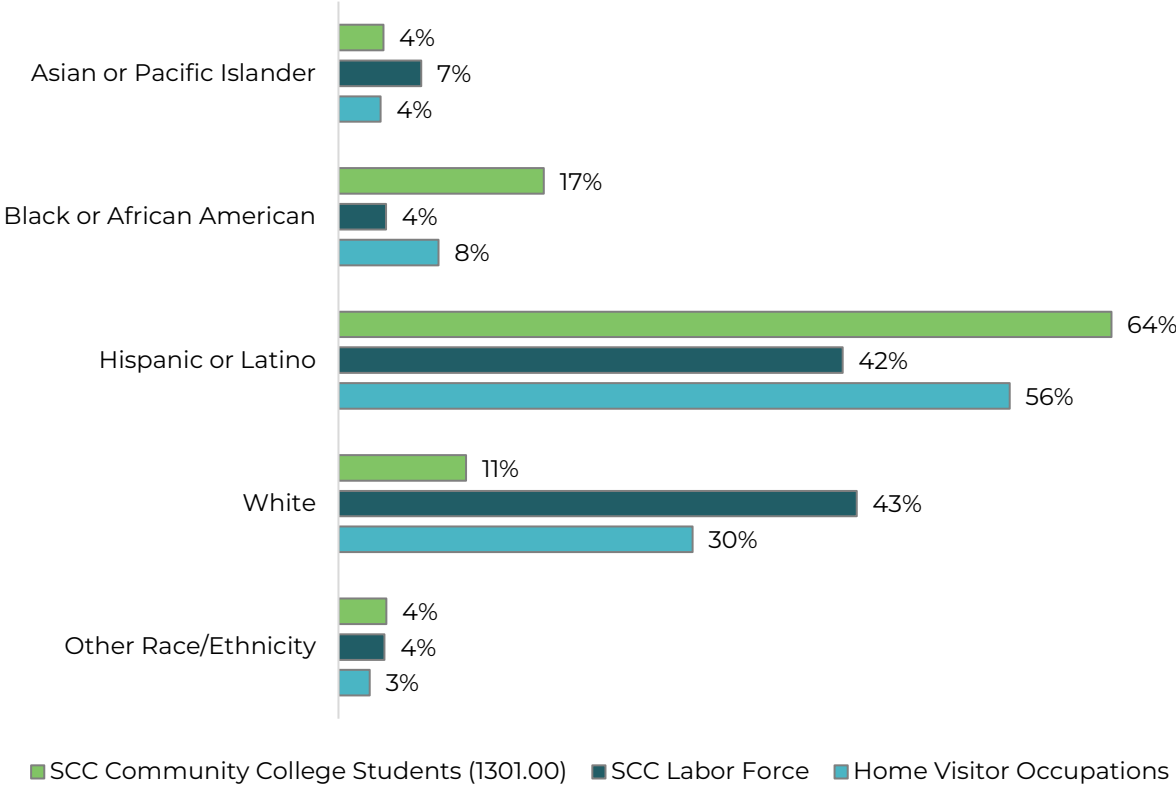
This section examines demographic data for SCC community college students in Child Development and Early Care Education programs compared to the SCC labor force, along with occupational data, to identify potential diversity and equity issues addressable by community college programs.

## Ethnicity:

Exhibit 16 compares the ethnicity of SCC community college students enrolled in Family and Consumer Sciences, General programs, the overall SCC labor force, and occupation-specific data for the three family and consumer sciences occupations included in this report.

Notably, 56% of workers employed in these family and consumer sciences occupations are Hispanic or Latino, which is slightly lower than community college Family and Consumer Sciences, General students (64%); both figures are higher than the labor force (42%). Conversely, 17% of community college Family and Consumer Sciences, General are Black or African American, which is higher than both the SCC labor force (4%) and Family and Consumer Sciences, General students (8%). The percentage of white workers (30%) and Family and Consumer Sciences, General students (11%) are significantly lower when compared to the SCC labor force (43% white).

Exhibit 16: Program and County Demographics by Ethnicity

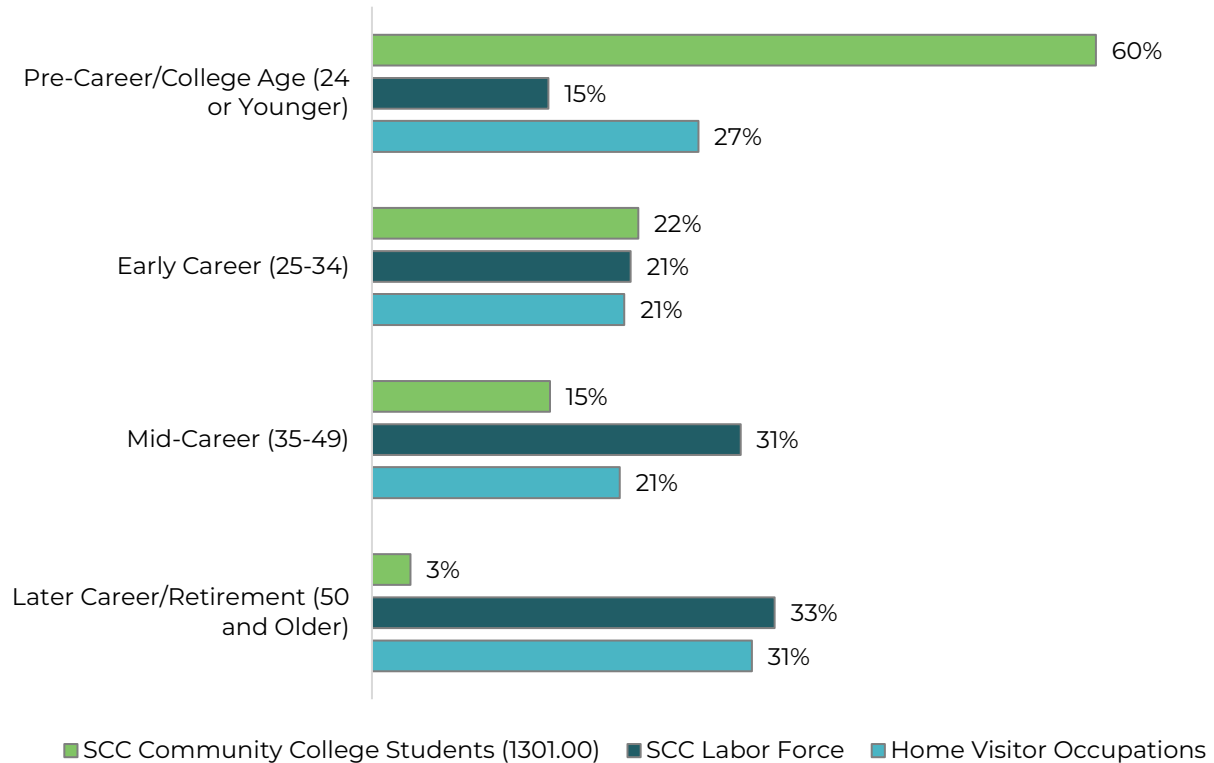


## Age:

Exhibit 17 compares the age of SCC community college students enrolled in Family and Consumer Sciences, General programs, the overall SCC labor force, and occupation-specific data for the three family and consumer sciences occupations included in this report.

The majority (52%) of workers in these family and consumer sciences occupations are Mid-Career and older, which is lower than the labor force (64%), but significantly higher than community college Family and Consumer Sciences, General students (18%). Conversely, 60% of community college students are Pre-Career/College Age (24 or younger) which is significantly higher than both the SCC labor force (15%) and workers in family and consumer sciences occupations (27%).

Exhibit 17: Program and County Demographics by Age

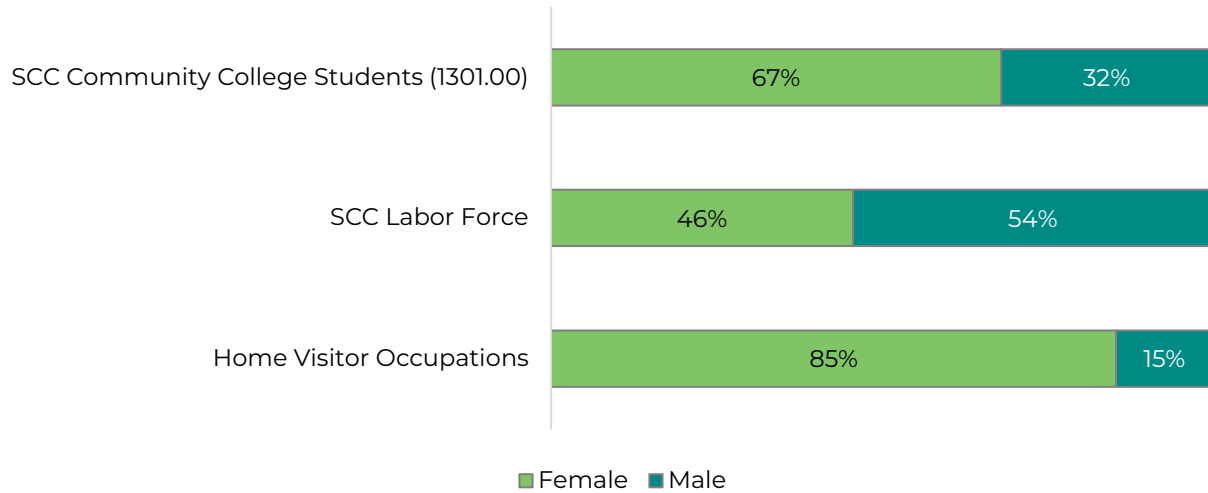


### Sex:

Exhibit 18 compares the sex of SCC community college students enrolled in Family and Consumer Sciences, General programs, the overall SCC labor force, and occupation-specific data for these family and consumer sciences occupations.

There is a majority of female students (67%) and workers in these family and consumer sciences occupations (85%), which contrasts with the labor force (46% female).

Exhibit 18: Program and County Demographics by Sex



## Appendix A: Methodology

### Traditional Labor Market Data

The SCC COE prepared this report by analyzing data from occupations and education programs. Occupational data is derived from Lightcast, a labor market analytics firm that consolidates data from the California Employment Development Department (EDD), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and other government agencies.

Data included in this analysis represents the labor market demand for relevant positions most closely related to the proposed program as expressed by the requesting college in consultation with the SCC COE. Traditional labor market information was used to show current and projected employment based on data trends, as well as annual average awards granted by regional community colleges.

Program supply data is drawn from two systems: Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) and Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP).

Using a TOP-SOC crosswalk, the SCC COE identified middle-skill jobs for which programs within these TOP codes train. Middle-skill jobs include:

- All occupations that require an educational requirement of some college, associate degree or apprenticeship;
- All occupations that require a bachelor's degree, but also have more than one-third of their existing labor force with an educational attainment of some college or associate degree; or
- All occupations that require a high school diploma or equivalent or no formal education, but also require short- to long-term on-the-job training where multiple community colleges have existing programs.

The SCC COE determined labor market supply for an occupation or SOC code by analyzing the number of program completers or awards in a related TOP or CIP code. The COE developed a "supply table" with this information, which is the source of the program supply data for this report. TOP code data comes from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office MIS Data Mart ([datamart.cccco.edu](http://datamart.cccco.edu)) and CIP code data comes from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System ([nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data](http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data)), also known as IPEDS.

TOP is a system of numerical codes used at the state level to collect and report information on California community college programs and courses throughout the state that have similar outcomes. CIP codes are a taxonomy of academic disciplines at institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada. Institutions outside of the California Community College system do not use TOP codes in their reporting systems.

### Online Job Postings Data

Online job postings data, also known as real-time labor market information, captures job post advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study which can signal demand and show what employers are looking for in potential employees but is not a perfect measure of the quantity of open positions. Online job postings data is sourced from Lightcast, a labor market analytics firm that scrapes, collects, and organizes data from online job boards such as LinkedIn, Indeed, Glassdoor, Monster, GovernmentJobs.com, and thousands more.

There are several limitations when analyzing job postings. A single job posting may not represent a single job opening, as employers may be creating a pool of candidates for future openings or hiring for multiple positions with a single posting. Additionally, not all jobs are posted online, and jobs may be filled through other methods such as internal promotion, word-of-mouth advertising, physical job boards, or a variety of other channels.

Additionally, Lightcast uses natural language processing (NLP) to determine the related company, industry, occupation, and other information for each job posting. However, NLP has limitations that include understanding contextual words of phrases; determining differences in words that can be used as nouns, verbs, and/or adjectives; and misspellings or grammatical errors.<sup>5</sup> For these reasons, job postings could be assigned to the wrong employer, industry, or occupation within Lightcast’s database.

## Geography

The South Central Coast region encompasses San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, as well as parts of Northern Los Angeles County. Exhibit 19 shows the 34 ZIP codes used to define Northern Los Angeles County.

Exhibit 19: Northern Los Angeles ZIP Codes

ZIP Code	Primary City	ZIP Code	Primary City
91310	Castaic	93532	Lake Hughes
91321	Newhall	93534	Lancaster
91322	Newhall	93535	Lancaster
91350	Santa Clarita	93536	Lancaster
91351	Canyon Country	93539	Lancaster
91354	Valencia	93543	Littlerock
91355	Valencia	93544	Llano
91380	Santa Clarita	93550	Palmdale
91381	Stevenson Ranch	93551	Palmdale
91382	Santa Clarita	93552	Palmdale
91383	Santa Clarita	93553	Pearblossom
91384	Castaic	93563	Valyermo
91385	Valencia	93584	Lancaster
91386	Canyon Country	93586	Lancaster
91387	Canyon Country	93590	Palmdale
91390	Santa Clarita	93591	Palmdale
93510	Acton	93599	Palmdale

Though traditional labor market information is available at the ZIP code level, it does not always add up to data reported at the county level for multiple reasons:

- ZIP codes are not official geographically bounded areas, unlike states and counties.
- ZIP codes may cross county lines, such as ZIP code 93461, which is primarily in San Luis Obispo County, but also crosses into Kern County.

For these reasons, the number of jobs and average annual openings for each county may not add up to the total for the SCC Region. However, considering jobseekers may cross county lines for opportunities, the traditional labor market data is reflective of opportunities available to jobseekers in the SCC Region.

Additionally, job postings data is available only at the city or county level. To analyze job postings for the entire SCC region, the SCC COE developed a list of cities available in Lightcast for analysis. Additionally, demographic data is not available at the ZIP code level but is available at the Census Bureau’s Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) level. Demographic data was sourced via IPUMS and analyzed by the SCC COE.

<sup>5</sup> K. R. Chowdhary, Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence (Basingstoke: Springer Nature, 2020), <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-81-322-3972-7>.

## Appendix B: Data Sources

Data Type	Source
Occupational Projections, Wages, and Job Postings	Traditional and real-time labor market information are captured using data from <a href="#">Lightcast</a> , a labor market analytics firm.
Living Wage	Per the CCCCCO, this report's endorsement criteria uses the <a href="#">University of Washington's Center for Women's Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard</a> last updated in March 2024.  The <a href="#">MIT Living Wage</a> , updated on February 10, 2025, is a nationally recognized living wage metric and is provided for reference.
Typical Education and Training Requirements, and Educational Attainment	The <a href="#">Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)</a> uses a system to assign categories for entry-level education, work experience in a related occupation, and typical on-the-job training to each occupation for which BLS publishes projections data.
Emerging Occupation Descriptions, Additional Education Requirements, and Employer Preferences	The <a href="#">O*NET</a> database includes information on skills, abilities, knowledges, work activities, and interests associated with occupations.
Educational Supply	The <a href="#">CCCCCO Data Mart</a> provides information about students, courses, student services, outcomes and faculty and staff.  The <a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Integrated Postsecondary Integrated Data System (IPEDS)</a> collects data on the number of postsecondary awards earned (completions).
Student Metrics and Demographics	<a href="#">Data Vista</a> , a statewide data system supported by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office provides data on progress, success, employment, and earnings outcomes for California community college students.
Population and Occupation Demographics	The <a href="#">Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS)</a> is the premier source for detailed population and housing information.  Data is sourced from <a href="#">IPUMS USA</a> , a database providing access to ACS and other Census Bureau data products.

All representations have been produced from primary research and/or secondary review of publicly and/or privately available data and/or research reports. The most recent data available at the time of the analysis was examined; however, data sets are updated regularly and may not be consistent with previous reports. Efforts have been made to qualify and validate the accuracy of the data and findings; however, neither the Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE), COE host district, nor California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office are responsible for the applications or decisions made by individuals and/or organizations based on this study or its recommendations.

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