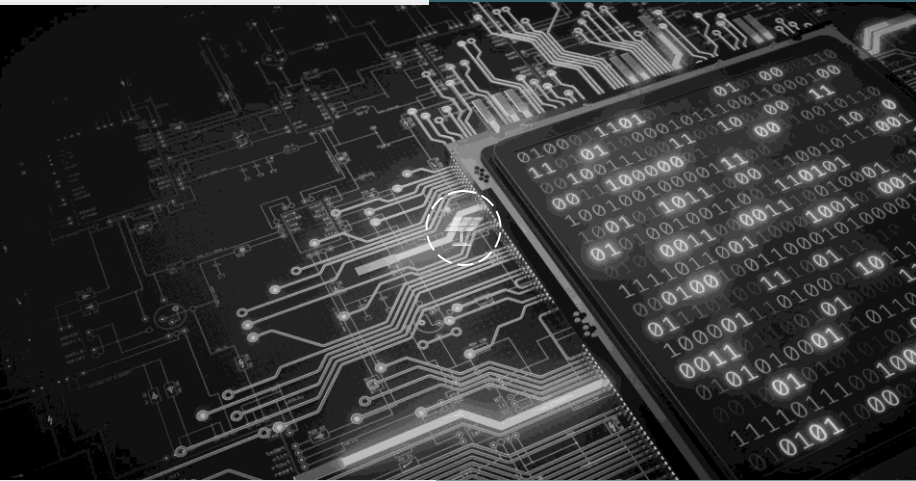


HIGH-TECH

South Central Coast Priority Sector Snapshot



SEMICONDUCTORS AND
ADVANCED ELECTRONICS



SOFTWARE AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE



R&D AND EMERGING
TECHNOLOGIES

Regional Impact

\$8.6B

Contribution to Gross
Regional Product, 2025

18,939

South Central Coast
Jobs, 2025

\$153,581

Average Annual
Regional Wages, 2025

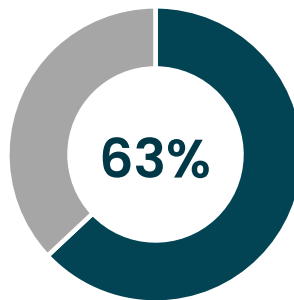
93%

Regional Employers
Interested in Work-Based
Learning Partnerships

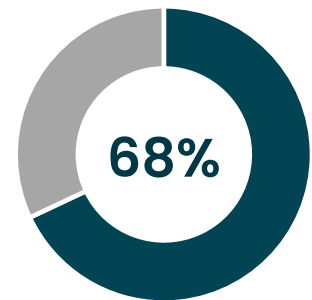
High-Tech Sector Definition

The High-Tech sector encompasses software and information technology, including hardware and digital infrastructure; as well as emerging technologies such as AI, quantum computing, and robotics.

The High-Tech sector has been designated a "Bet" and "Accelerate" sector under California Jobs First due to its projected growth and its strategic importance to the South Central Coast's innovation ecosystem.



EMPLOYERS PREDICTING
12-MONTH JOB GROWTH



EMPLOYERS PREDICTING
3-YEAR JOB GROWTH

Assets & Demand Drivers



STRONG R&D AND
EDUCATION ASSETS



UC SANTA BARBARA AND
CAL POLY INCUBATORS



OASIS HUB



GROWING DATA CENTER
DEVELOPMENT



GOOGLE AND MICROSOFT
QUANTUM AI CAMPUSES



EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

HIGH-TECH

South Central Coast Priority Sector Snapshot



Regional Skills Needs



Foundational Job
Readiness Skills



Hands-On Work
Experience



AI Tool
Expertise

Community College Investment Priorities

Community colleges can accelerate growth in key middle-skill occupations that require less than a four-year degree at entry.

Occupation	Jobs, 2025.Q3	Advancement Potential*	Automation Potential**
HIGH PRIORITY			
Computer User Support Specialists	640	High	High
MEDIUM PRIORITY			
Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	513	Moderate	High

* BW Research's Job Advancement Index measures the potential to advance to higher-paying job opportunities. Advancement potential is not applicable for occupations already paying high wages at entry.

** BW Research's Job Automation Index measures the proportion of skills and tasks that can be automated within a particular occupation.

Emerging Occupational Needs



Software Developers



Computer Systems Analysts



Information Technology
Managers



Electrical and Electronic
Equipment Assemblers



Technical Support
Specialists



Electrical and Electronics
Engineers

189

Regional High-Tech Training
Programs, 2026

57%

Regional Training Programs
Offered by Community
Colleges, 2026

54%

Regional Employers
Partnering with
Community Colleges to
Recruit, Hire, or Train

Data Sources

- U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey (2000-2025),
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (2025)
- O*NET Online 30.0 Database (2025)
- JobsEQ (2026)
- Regional employer survey (n=180, 2026)
- Regional stakeholder interviews (2026)
- Training provider websites (2026)