



Labor Market Analysis: 1201.00 – Health Occupations, General 51.2201 – Public Health, General

Public Health – Associate of Science (A.S.) degree

Los Angeles Center of Excellence, May 2026

Program Endorsement:	Endorsed: All Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program Endorsement Criteria			
Supply Gap:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (See below)	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25th)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SUMMARY

This report analyzes whether local labor market demand is being met by community college programs aligned with the identified middle-skill occupations ¹ or whether a shortage of workers exists. Labor market demand is measured by annual job openings while education supply is measured by the number of awards (degrees and certificates) conferred on average each year.

Based on the available data, there does not appear to be a supply gap for the occupations of interest. While this program does not meet the traditional supply/demand endorsement criteria, there may be demand for middle-skill public health workers from local employers that is not reflected in traditional labor market data. For this reason, real-time labor market data is included in this report as well – to provide a more nuanced view of the regional job market for the target public health occupations in this report. Furthermore, the skills learned from these health programs can be applied to a variety of occupations beyond the scope of this report, thus overestimating the supply for this specific set of three middle-skill public health occupations. While the majority of annual openings have entry-level wages that are lower than the self-sufficiency standard wage in both Los Angeles and Orange counties, approximately one third of current middle-skill public health workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of educational attainment.

¹ Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor’s degree. The COE classifies middle-skill jobs as the following:

- 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.

Recommendation: Due to one of three program endorsement criteria being met, the Los Angeles Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA COE) endorses this proposed program.

Key Findings

Supply Gap

- 754 annual job openings are projected in the region through 2029. This number is less than the three-year average of 1,318 awards conferred by educational institutions in the region.
 - However, the health TOP codes in this report train for many middle-skill health occupations, including the target occupations. Since skills taught in these health programs can be applied to various health occupations, it is difficult to accurately gauge the supply data for solely public health data and technology occupations.
 - Over the past 12 months, there were **1,055 online job postings related to these target middle-skill public health occupations**. The highest number of job postings were for community health workers, health information technicians, health information specialists, and health information management technicians.

Living Wage

- 85% of annual job openings for these middle-skill public health occupations have entry-level wages **below** Los Angeles County's self-sufficiency standard hourly wage (\$24.03/hour).²

Educational Attainment

- 57% of the annual job openings typically require a high school diploma or equivalent for middle-skill occupations related to public health in the LA/OC region.
- 22%-34% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree, according to national educational attainment data.
 - 29%-55% of workers in the field have completed an associate degree or less education, according to national educational attainment data.

Community college supply

- 20 community colleges issued awards related to public health data and technology in the greater LA/OC region.
- 1,015 awards (degrees and certificates) were conferred on average each year between 2023 and 2025.

Other postsecondary supply

- 6 educational institutions in the LA/OC region have conferred sub-baccalaureate awards in programs related to public health data and technology over the past three years.
- 303 awards were conferred on average each year by other postsecondary institutions throughout the greater LA/OC region between 2022 and 2024.

² Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington. (2024). *The self-sufficiency standard for California 2024*. <http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/California>.

TARGET OCCUPATIONS

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market and postsecondary supply data related to three middle-skill occupations. [For full occupation descriptions, please see Appendix.](#)

- *Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health (19-4042)* ³
- *Community Health Workers (21-1094)* ⁴
- *Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars (29-9021)* ⁵

OCCUPATIONAL DEMAND

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for these middle-skill public health occupations. In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to increase by 7% through 2029. There will be nearly 800 job openings per year through 2029 due to job growth and replacements. The majority of jobs in 2024 for these middle-skill public health occupations (76%) were located in Los Angeles County.

Exhibit 1: Current employment and occupational demand, Los Angeles and Orange counties⁶

Geography	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	2024-2029 Change	2024-2029 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	5,206	5,550	344	7%	567
Orange	1,680	1,796	116	7%	186
Total	6,886	7,346	460	7%	754

Detailed Occupation Data

Exhibit 2 displays the current employment and projected occupational demand for each of the target occupations in Los Angeles County. The average percentage of workers aged 55+ across all occupations in the Los Angeles/Orange County region is 26%; occupations with a larger share of workers aged 55 and older typically have greater replacement needs to offset the amount of impending retirements. On average, 81% of workers across all occupations in California are employed full-time.

Exhibit 2: Detailed employment and occupational demand, Los Angeles County⁷

Occupation	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	% Aged 55 and older	% Full Time Workers
Environmental Science & Protection Technicians, Including Health	1,864	1,871	0%	206	19%	100%
Community Health Workers	3,565	3,899	9%	432	23%	Data unavailable

³ [Environmental Science and Protection Technicians \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁴ [Community Health Workers \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁵ [Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁶ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

⁷ Ibid.

Occupation	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	% Aged 55 and older	% Full Time Workers
Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars	1,457	1,576	8%	116	21%	Data unavailable
Total	6,886	7,346	7%	754	-	-

WAGES

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for these middle-skill public health occupations in Los Angeles County as they relate to the county’s self-sufficiency standard wage. Orange County wages are included below in order to provide a complete analysis of the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

Los Angeles County

The majority, 85%, of annual openings for these middle-skill public health occupations have entry-level wages below the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$24.03 in Los Angeles County). Typical entry-level hourly wages are in a range between \$22.93 and \$31.08. (Exhibit 3).

One occupation has entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage:

- *Health information technologists and medical registrars, \$31.08*

Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$29.30 and \$62.99, which are higher than the self-sufficiency standard.

Exhibit 3: Earnings for occupations in Los Angeles County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	\$22.93	\$29.12	\$38.53	\$60,600
Community Health Workers	\$23.11	\$24.86	\$29.30	\$51,700
Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars	\$31.08	\$44.99	\$62.99	\$93,600

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Orange County

The majority, 84%, of annual openings for these middle-skill public health occupations have entry-level wages below the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$27.13 in Orange County). Typical entry-level hourly wages are in a range between \$22.12 and \$30.25 (Exhibit 4).

One occupation has entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage:

- *Health information technologists and medical registrars, \$30.25*

Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$28.32 and \$61.64, which are higher than the self-sufficiency standard.

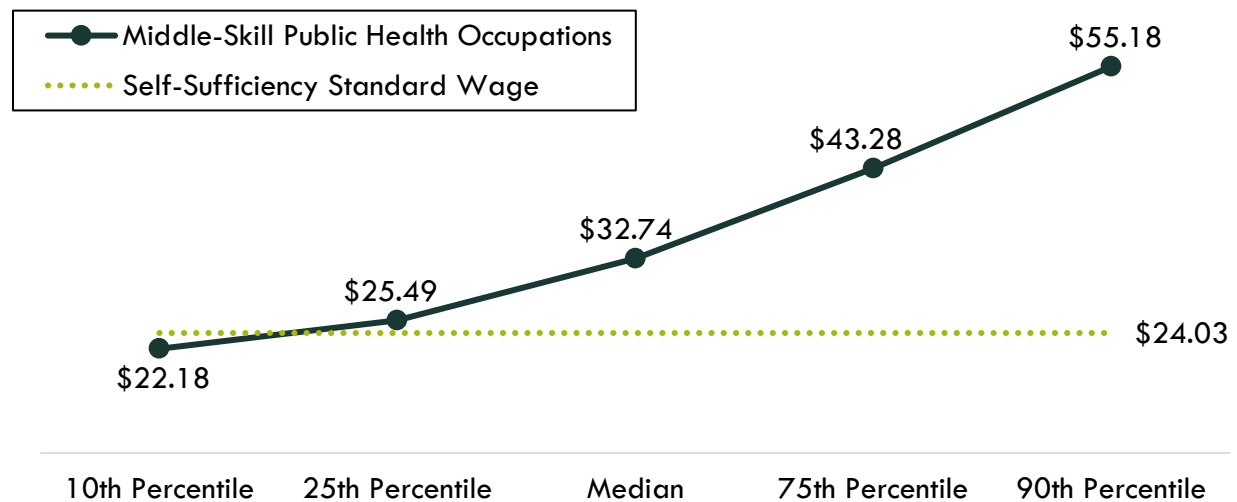
Exhibit 4: Earnings for occupations in Orange County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	\$22.12	\$28.05	\$37.07	\$58,300
Community Health Workers	\$22.33	\$24.03	\$28.32	\$50,000
Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars	\$30.25	\$43.81	\$61.64	\$91,100

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Across the greater Los Angeles and Orange County region, the average entry-level hourly earnings for the occupations in this report are \$25.49; this is above the living wage for one single adult in Los Angeles County (\$24.03). Exhibit 5 shows the average hourly wage for the occupations in this report, for entry-level to experienced workers.

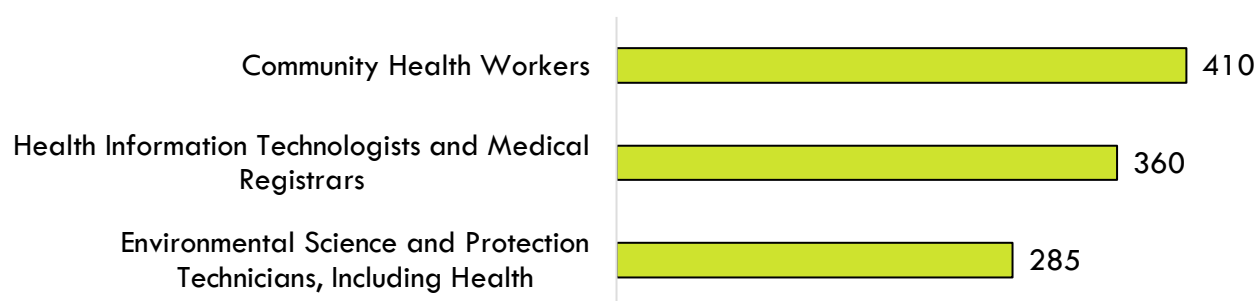
Exhibit 5: Average hourly earnings for target occupations, Los Angeles and Orange counties



JOB POSTINGS

There were 1,055 online job postings related to the target public health occupations listed in the past 12 months in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Exhibit 6 displays the number of job postings by occupation. The majority of job postings (39%) were for *community health workers*, followed by *health information technologists and medical registrars* (34%) and *environmental science and production technicians, including health* (27%).

Exhibit 6: Job postings by occupation (last 12 months), Los Angeles and Orange counties



Job postings were analyzed for the most common job titles, skills, and employers associated with the target occupations in this report (Exhibit 7).

Exhibit 7: Most commonly requested job titles, skills and employers in job postings, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Top Job Titles	Top Skills	Top Employers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community health workers • Health information technicians • Health information specialists • Health information management technicians • Environmental technicians • Environmental field technicians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical records • Community health • Electronic medical records • Social work • Data entry • Medical terminology • Mental health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AltaMed Health Services • Cedars-Sinai • Healthcare In Action • Datavant • Eurofins • University of California • Aya Healthcare* • Providence*

*Staffing company

In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, 67% of the target job postings listed a minimum educational requirement. Exhibit 8 details the number and percentage of job postings by educational level.

Exhibit 8: Education levels requested in job postings for target occupations, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Education Level	Job Postings	% of Job Postings
Bachelor's degree	115	16%
Associate degree	43	6%
High school diploma or vocational training	548	78%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the majority of annual job openings (57%) typically require a high school diploma or equivalent (Exhibit 9). However, the national-level data indicates between 22% and 34% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of educational attainment, while 29%-55% have earned an associate degree or less education. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists the following typical entry-level education levels for the occupations in this report:

Exhibit 9: Entry-level education preferred by employers nationally, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Occupation	Education Level
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health	Associate degree
Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars	Postsecondary non-degree award
Community Health Workers	High school diploma or equivalent

EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY

Community College Supply

Exhibit 10 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in programs that have historically trained for the occupations of interest. The colleges with the most completions in the region are Saddleback, East LA, and LA City.

Exhibit 10: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2022-2024

TOP Code	Program	College	2022-23 Awards	2023-24 Awards	2024-25 Awards	3-Year Average
1201.00	Health Occupations, General	Cerritos	1	1	6	3
		Citrus	1	1	1	1
		East LA	45	51	330	142
		LA City	104	101	129	111
		LA Mission	5	26	84	38
		LA Southwest	3	2	6	4
		LA Trade-Tech	14	3	5	7
		Long Beach	15	27	19	20
		Mt San Antonio	11	12	10	11
		Pasadena	42	38	67	49
		Santa Monica	22	75	190	96
		West LA	111	94	96	100
		LA Subtotal	374	431	943	583
		Coastline	-	1	2	1
		Cypress	6	12	14	11

TOP Code	Program	College	2022-23 Awards	2023-24 Awards	2024-25 Awards	3-Year Average
		Golden West	-	4	-	1
		Orange Coast	3	2	10	5
		Saddleback	206	215	237	219
		Santa Ana	3	2	3	3
		OC Subtotal	218	236	266	240
Supply Subtotal/Average			592	667	1,209	823
1223.00	Health Information Technology	East LA	25	4	20	16
		LA Subtotal	25	4	20	16
		Cypress	7	8	6	7
		Saddleback	15	24	10	16
		OC Subtotal	22	32	16	23
Supply Subtotal/Average			47	36	36	40
1261.00	Community Health Care Worker	Cerritos	1	1	4	2
		LA Pierce	83	14	22	40
		LA Southwest	-	-	45	15
		LA Valley	77	84	101	87
		LA Subtotal	161	99	172	144
		Orange Coast	8	1	16	8
		OC Subtotal	8	1	16	8
Supply Subtotal/Average			169	100	188	152
Supply Total/Average			808	803	1,433	1,015

Exhibit 11 displays the community college awards broken down by award type. In this case, the majority of awards issued by community colleges are noncredit awards (47%).

Exhibit 11: Community college awards by award type, 2022-2024

Award Type	# of Awards	% of Awards
A.A./A.A.-T/A.S./A.S.-T degrees	362	36%
Certificates	177	17%
Noncredit awards	476	47%
Total	1,015	100%

Other Postsecondary Supply

For a comprehensive regional supply analysis, it is important to consider the supply from other institutions in the region that provide training programs for middle-skill public health occupations. Exhibit 12 shows the number of awards conferred by these institutions in relevant programs. Due

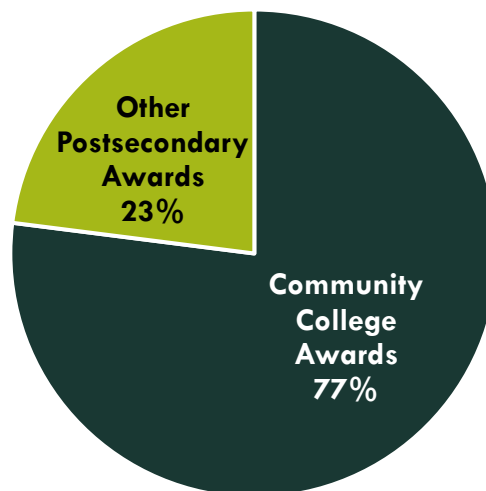
to different data collection periods, the most recent data is from 2022 to 2024. Between 2022 and 2024, other postsecondary college institutions in the region conferred an average of 303 sub-baccalaureate awards. Sub-baccalaureate awards include associate degrees, postsecondary awards, and other academic awards that typically take fewer than four years to complete.

Exhibit 12: Other regional postsecondary awards, 2021-2023

CIP Code	Program	Postsecondary Institution	2021- 22 Awards	2022-23 Awards	2023 -24 Awards	3-Year Average
51.0706	Health Information/ Medical Records Administration/ Administrator	Fremont University	8	3	9	7
		Galaxy Medical College	7	9	2	6
51.0707	Health Information/ Medical Records Technology/ Technician	CBD College	-	33	19	17
		Fremont University	-	-	6	2
		National Career College	16	23	-	13
		Westchester College of Nursing & Allied Health	4	-	-	1
51.2201	Public Health, General	University of the People	122	282	367	257
Supply Total/Average			157	350	403	303

Exhibit 13 shows the proportion of community college awards conferred in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region compared to the number of other postsecondary awards for the programs in this report. The majority of awards conferred in these programs are awarded by community colleges in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

Exhibit 13: Percentage of community college awards compared to other postsecondary institution awards in the Los Angeles/Orange County region



APPENDIX: OCCUPATION DESCRIPTIONS

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to these target occupations:

- ***Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, Including Health (19-4042)*** Perform laboratory and field tests to monitor the environment and investigate sources of pollution, including those that affect health, under the direction of an environmental scientist, engineer, or other specialist. May collect samples of gases, soil, water, and other materials for testing. ⁸
- ***Community Health Workers (21-1094)*** Promote health within a community by assisting individuals to adopt healthy behaviors. Serve as an advocate for the health needs of individuals by assisting community residents in effectively communicating with healthcare providers or social service agencies. Act as liaison or advocate and implement programs that promote, maintain, and improve individual and overall community health. May deliver health-related preventive services such as blood pressure, glaucoma, and hearing screenings. May collect data to help identify community health needs. ⁹
- ***Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars (29-9021)*** Apply knowledge of healthcare and information systems to assist in the design, development, and continued modification and analysis of computerized healthcare systems. Abstract, collect, and analyze treatment and follow-up information of patients. May educate staff and assist in problem solving to promote the implementation of the healthcare information system. May design, develop, test, and implement databases with complete history, diagnosis, treatment, and health status to help monitor diseases. ¹⁰

⁸ [Environmental Science and Protection Technicians \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁹ [Community Health Workers \(bls.gov\)](#)

¹⁰ [Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars \(bls.gov\)](#)

Contact information:

Luke Meyer, Director

Los Angeles Center of Excellence

Lmeyer7@mtsac.edu

If for any reason this document is not accessible or if you have specific needs for readability, please contact us and we will do our utmost to accommodate you with a modified version.



POWERED BY



DATA SOURCES

- O*NET Online
- Lightcast (formerly Emsi)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- Self-Sufficiency Standard at the Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

Important Disclaimer: All representations included in this report have been produced from primary research and/or secondary review of publicly and/or privately available data and/or research reports. Efforts have been made to qualify and validate the accuracy of the data and the reported findings; however, neither the Centers of Excellence, COE host District, nor California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office are responsible for applications or decisions made by recipient community colleges or their representatives based upon components or recommendations contained in this study.

© 2024 California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office,
Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research, Economic and Workforce Development Program