

# SCC COE Regional Webinar High-Quality Occupations County Profiles

November 2025



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# High-Quality Occupations County Profiles

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SOUTH CENTRAL COAST

FALL 2025

**High-Quality Occupations Profile:**  
Northern Los Angeles County

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This cover features a landscape photograph of rolling hills under a hazy sky. The CEE logo and text are in the top left. A green circle with 'FALL 2025' is on the right. The title is in a teal box at the bottom. The footer includes the CEE logo and 'POWERED BY California Community Colleges'.

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**High-Quality Occupations Profile:**  
San Luis Obispo County

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This cover features a landscape photograph of a valley with mountains in the background. The CEE logo and text are in the top left. A black circle with 'FALL 2025' is on the right. The title is in a teal box at the bottom. The footer includes the CEE logo and 'POWERED BY California Community Colleges'.

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**High-Quality Occupations Profile:**  
Santa Barbara County

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**High-Quality Occupations Profile:**  
Ventura County

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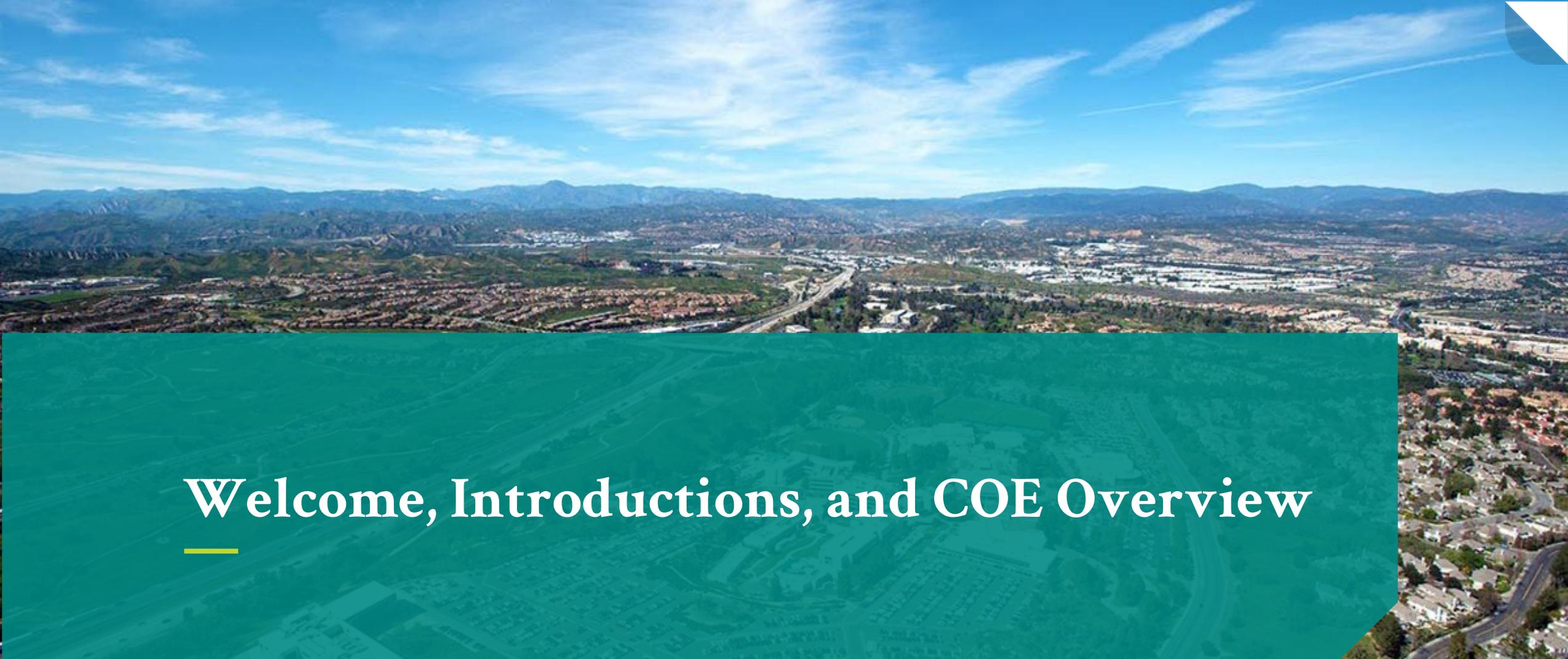
This cover features a coastal landscape photograph showing a beach and buildings. The CEE logo and text are in the top left. A black circle with 'FALL 2025' is on the right. The title is in a teal box at the bottom. The footer includes the CEE logo and 'POWERED BY California Community Colleges'.

## High-Quality Occupations County Profiles and Data Exploration Addendums

- Expands on the South Central Coast Labor Market Landscape, which provides a comprehensive analysis of the region's labor market, emphasizing not only traditional labor market data but also the quality of employment opportunities across occupational sectors
- The SCC COE analyzed data for nearly 800 occupations in Northern Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties to identify High-Quality occupations in each county.
- In addition to the High-Quality Occupations Profiles, the SCC COE published Data Exploration Addendums that include detailed information for High-Quality occupations in each county.
- The data in these resources can be used by regional workforce development stakeholders to explore data and use it for grant applications, project proposals, and other planning purposes.

# Agenda

- ▶ Welcome, Introductions, and COE Overview
- ▶ Job Quality Overview and Methodology
- ▶ Job Quality Distribution by County
- ▶ High-Quality Occupations Sector-by-Sector Comparison
- ▶ Unique High-Quality Occupations by County
- ▶ Conclusion and Discussion



# Welcome, Introductions, and COE Overview



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**SOUTH CENTRAL COAST**



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California Community Colleges

# South Central Coast Center of Excellence



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FOR LABOR MARKET RESEARCH

**SOUTH CENTRAL COAST**

We aspire to be the leading source of workforce information and insight for California's community colleges.



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
FOR LABOR MARKET RESEARCH

The COE provide **quality labor market data and information** to help colleges with:



Assessing labor market needs



Reviewing career education programs



Investing in new career education programs



Grant program planning and investment

# COE Team



<https://coecc.net/regions/>



**4**  
Counties

**8**  
Community  
Colleges

**2.2 M+**  
People

**79,000+**  
CTE Students  
(2023-24)

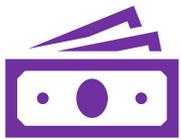
# South Central Coast Region

# Job Quality Overview

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# What makes a job “good” or “High Quality”?



## Earnings and Pay

The level of pay that an individual earns, as well as predictability of pay, are both integral to workers’ well-being. Equitable pay that compensates workers well above the minimum wage so they can support themselves and their families.



## Benefits

Employer-sponsored benefits such as health care and retirement plans boost employees’ well-being and employees are less likely to switch jobs when they have these benefits.

# What makes a job “good” or “High Quality”?

## Job Stability



Workers desire job stability and studies show that workers will accept a job with lower pay in exchange for job stability. Emerging technologies, including generative artificial intelligence (AI), present new challenges related to automation and job stability.

## Working Conditions



High-Quality jobs are expected to have working conditions that are safe both physically and psychologically. Unsafe working conditions can have detrimental impacts on worker safety, such as on-the-job injuries and even fatalities.

# Job Quality Methodology

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# Methodology and Criteria

Indicator Type	Indicator	Definition
Traditional LMI	2024 Jobs	The number of jobs in 2024
	2024–2029 % Change	The projected change in employment expressed as a percentage.
	Demand (Avg. Annual Openings)	The projected number of annual job openings from 2024 to 2029.
	Living Wage (Self-Sufficiency Standard)	This figure “measures the floor income necessary for an individual or family to afford basic expenses.”
	Living Wage (MIT)	This figure measures “what one full-time worker must earn on an hourly basis to help cover the cost of their family’s minimum basic needs where they live while still being self-sufficient.”
Job Quality	Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance	Data is sourced from the American Community Survey via IPUMS.
	# of Hours Worked Per Week	Data on the usual hours worked per week is sourced from the American Community Survey via IPUMS.
	Lightcast Automation Index	The “automation index measures the risk of an occupation for automation.” A score > 100 indicates a greater-than-average automation risk, and a score < 100 indicates a lower-than-average automation risk.
	U.S. News & World Report 2025 Best Job	U.S. News considers several factors in its Best Jobs rankings, including projected growth, salary, stress level, and work-life balance.



# Methodology and Criteria

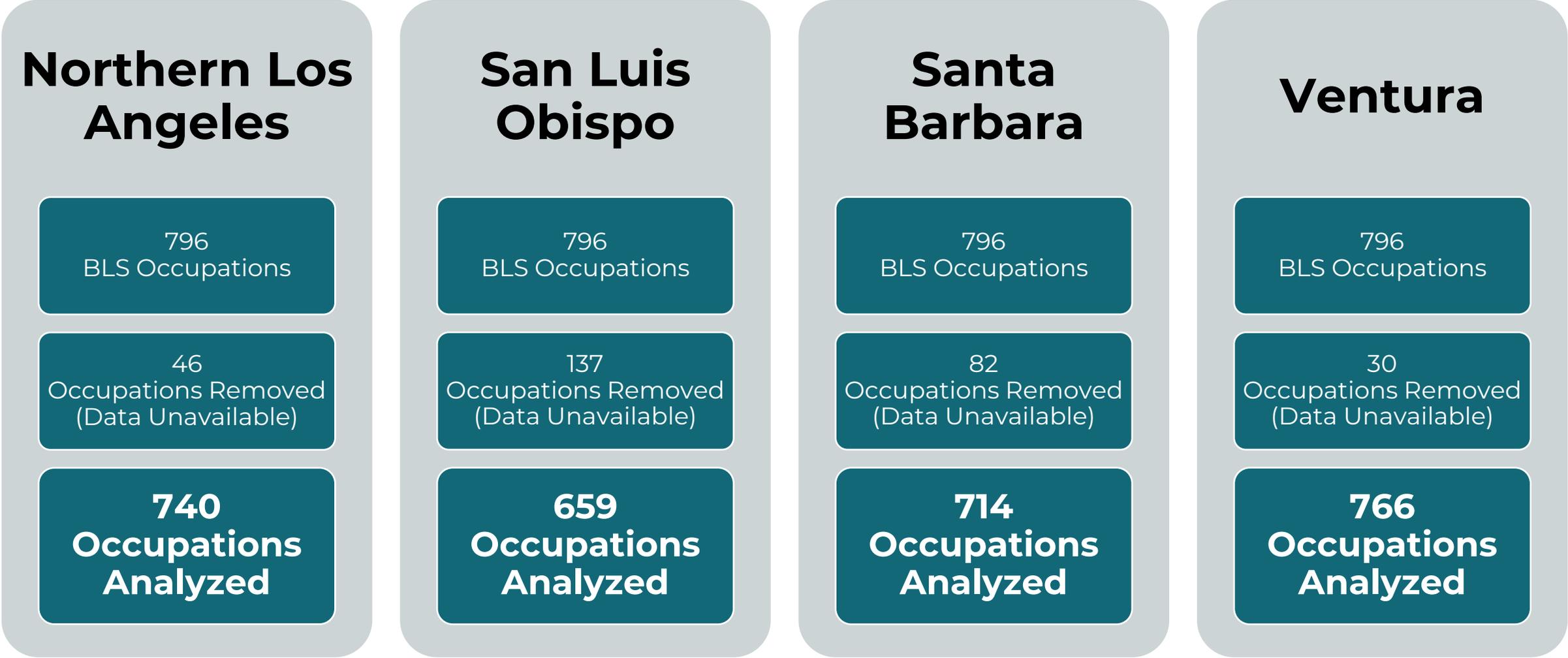
Indicator Type	Indicator	SCC Region	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Traditional LMI	2024 Jobs	316	86	63	85	118
	2024 - 2029 % Change	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	Demand (Avg. Annual Openings)	34	9	6	9	12
	Living Wage (Self-Sufficiency Standard)	\$25.12	\$24.03	\$22.15	\$29.80	\$24.53
	Living Wage (MIT)	\$28.94	\$27.81	\$26.55	\$30.98	\$29.59
Job Quality	Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance	65%	73%	65%	56%	64%
	# of Hours worked per week	30	30	30	30	30
	Lightcast Automation Index	100	100	100	100	100
	US News and World Report 2025 Best Job	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

# Job Quality Distribution: County Comparisons

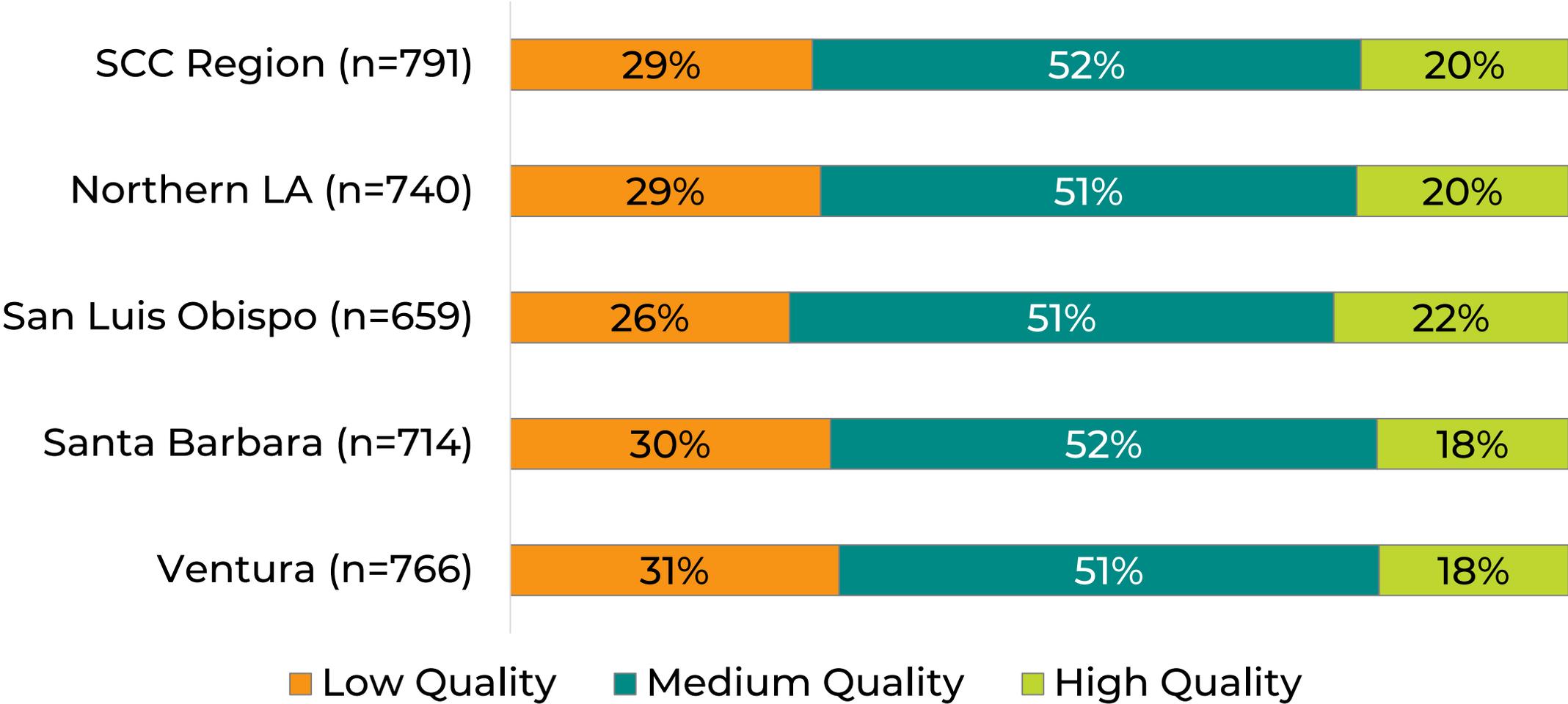
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# Narrowing the Field: High-Quality Occupations



# Narrowing the Field: High-Quality Occupations



# High-Quality Occupations Distribution by Sector

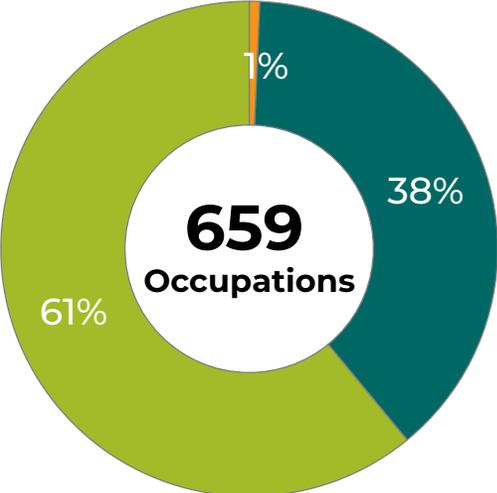
Sector	SCC Region	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	7%	6%	9%	9%	8%
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	8%	11%	16%	9%	8%
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	7%	6%	12%	8%	7%
Business and Entrepreneurship	32%	35%	33%	24%	31%
Education and Human Development	46%	49%	47%	37%	49%
Energy, Construction and Utilities	8%	8%	19%	9%	7%
Health	42%	37%	36%	38%	36%
ICT/Digital Media	29%	27%	24%	31%	29%
Life Sciences/Biotech	38%	0%	38%	29%	25%
Other/Unassigned	12%	13%	12%	9%	8%
Public Safety	36%	40%	31%	32%	27%
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	4%	6%	6%	0%	2%

# High-Quality Occupations by Skill Level

### Northern Los Angeles



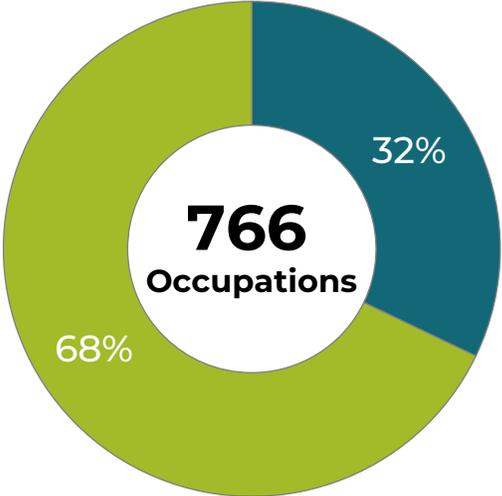
### San Luis Obispo



### Santa Barbara



### Ventura



- Below Middle-Skill
- Middle-Skill
- Above Middle-Skill

# High-Quality Occupations Sector Comparisons

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# Number of High-Quality Occupations by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	6	6	7	8
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	6	8	5	5
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	2	5	3	3
Business and Entrepreneurship	34	29	23	31
Education and Human Development	17	16	13	17
Energy, Construction and Utilities	8	15	8	7
Health	37	33	36	35
ICT/Digital Media	13	10	15	13
Life Sciences/Biotech	0	3	2	2
Other/Unassigned	12	10	9	8
Public Safety	10	8	8	7
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	3	3	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>137</b>

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*

# Number of Jobs by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	1,610	1,006	1,497	4,326
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	1,816	1,728	1,445	2,931
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	198	478	341	765
Business and Entrepreneurship	25,236	12,304	17,106	36,859
Education and Human Development	11,321	6,126	10,034	13,533
Energy, Construction and Utilities	2,417	4,066	2,682	4,504
Health	15,687	7,514	11,719	19,008
ICT/Digital Media	5,394	1,888	7,461	8,807
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	235	226	594
Other/Unassigned	4,904	1,678	2,628	4,407
Public Safety	5,075	2,047	2,292	2,662
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	430	305	N/A	192

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*

# Projected Five-Year Percent Change by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	2%	12%	4%	3%
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	4%	7%	5%	5%
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	17%	9%	8%	10%
Business and Entrepreneurship	1%	2%	3%	2%
Education and Human Development	0%	4%	3%	5%
Energy, Construction and Utilities	2%	4%	3%	2%
Health	9%	5%	8%	9%
ICT/Digital Media	2%	(1%)	3%	3%
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	4%	4%	4%
Other/Unassigned	2%	4%	3%	1%
Public Safety	2%	3%	4%	3%
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	7%	8%	N/A	3%

Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking

# Annual Openings (Demand) by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	117	106	112	361
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	184	188	148	285
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	21	44	27	68
Business and Entrepreneurship	2,127	1,069	1,464	3,064
Education and Human Development	874	538	835	1,122
Energy, Construction and Utilities	195	361	218	371
Health	1,317	640	967	1,627
ICT/Digital Media	349	112	492	571
Life Sciences/Biotech		31	19	47
Other/Unassigned	375	127	174	283
Public Safety	436	178	210	227
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	55	37		24

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*

# Entry-Level Wages by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	\$41.32	\$33.94	\$45.24	\$37.03
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	\$35.27	\$30.17	\$33.85	\$38.44
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	\$32.55	\$35.68	\$39.40	\$36.23
Business and Entrepreneurship	\$36.12	\$33.39	\$36.89	\$34.70
Education and Human Development	\$35.67	\$35.35	\$34.87	\$34.07
Energy, Construction and Utilities	\$41.96	\$35.17	\$41.28	\$34.90
Health	\$42.45	\$40.58	\$48.25	\$42.73
ICT/Digital Media	\$47.00	\$43.42	\$48.07	\$46.66
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	\$27.36	\$39.67	\$33.33
Other/Unassigned	\$41.54	\$38.37	\$44.23	\$43.12
Public Safety	\$47.03	\$44.58	\$43.26	\$47.59
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	\$28.45	\$25.94	N/A	\$26.78

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*

# Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	89%	73%	82%	85%
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	88%	93%	64%	84%
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	92%	85%	76%	73%
Business and Entrepreneurship	82%	81%	76%	80%
Education and Human Development	90%	83%	82%	86%
Energy, Construction and Utilities	86%	78%	71%	75%
Health	87%	80%	79%	81%
ICT/Digital Media	87%	88%	85%	85%
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	86%	96%	79%
Other/Unassigned	88%	85%	86%	83%
Public Safety	97%	95%	75%	90%
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	80%	89%	N/A	66%

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*

# Usual Hours Worked Per Week by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	43	43	40	42
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	43	44	39	43
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	45	38	35	39
Business and Entrepreneurship	42	40	42	42
Education and Human Development	37	35	39	38
Energy, Construction and Utilities	42	42	42	42
Health	39	37	39	38
ICT/Digital Media	41	39	40	41
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	32	42	40
Other/Unassigned	41	40	41	41
Public Safety	45	45	46	44
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	38	39	N/A	38

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*

# Lightcast Automation Index by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	89.1	91.4	88.3	89.1
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	93.4	93.4	90.9	88.2
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	87.4	85.5	85.6	86.0
Business and Entrepreneurship	86.9	87.2	86.1	86.5
Education and Human Development	83.7	84.3	84.4	83.5
Energy, Construction and Utilities	94.6	97.1	90.5	100.3
Health	86.6	87.0	86.8	86.7
ICT/Digital Media	82.8	82.6	82.8	82.5
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	87.8	82.1	90.7
Other/Unassigned	88.7	87.0	86.8	84.3
Public Safety	92.3	91.5	91.7	90.4
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	89.2	89.8	N/A	84.5

*Indicates a Top 5 sector ranking*



# Number of U.S. News 2025 Best Jobs by Sector

Sector	Northern LA	San Luis Obispo	Santa Barbara	Ventura
Advanced Manufacturing	3	3	3	3
Advanced Transportation and Logistics	2	2	2	2
Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies	2	3	3	3
Business and Entrepreneurship	15	15	14	15
Education and Human Development	2	2	1	2
Energy, Construction and Utilities	2	6	3	5
Health	28	24	28	28
ICT/Digital Media	8	6	7	7
Life Sciences/Biotech	N/A	1	1	0
Other/Unassigned	2	2	3	2
Public Safety	1	0	1	1
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	1	0	N/A	0

*Indicates a Top 3 sector ranking*



# Unique High-Quality Occupations by County

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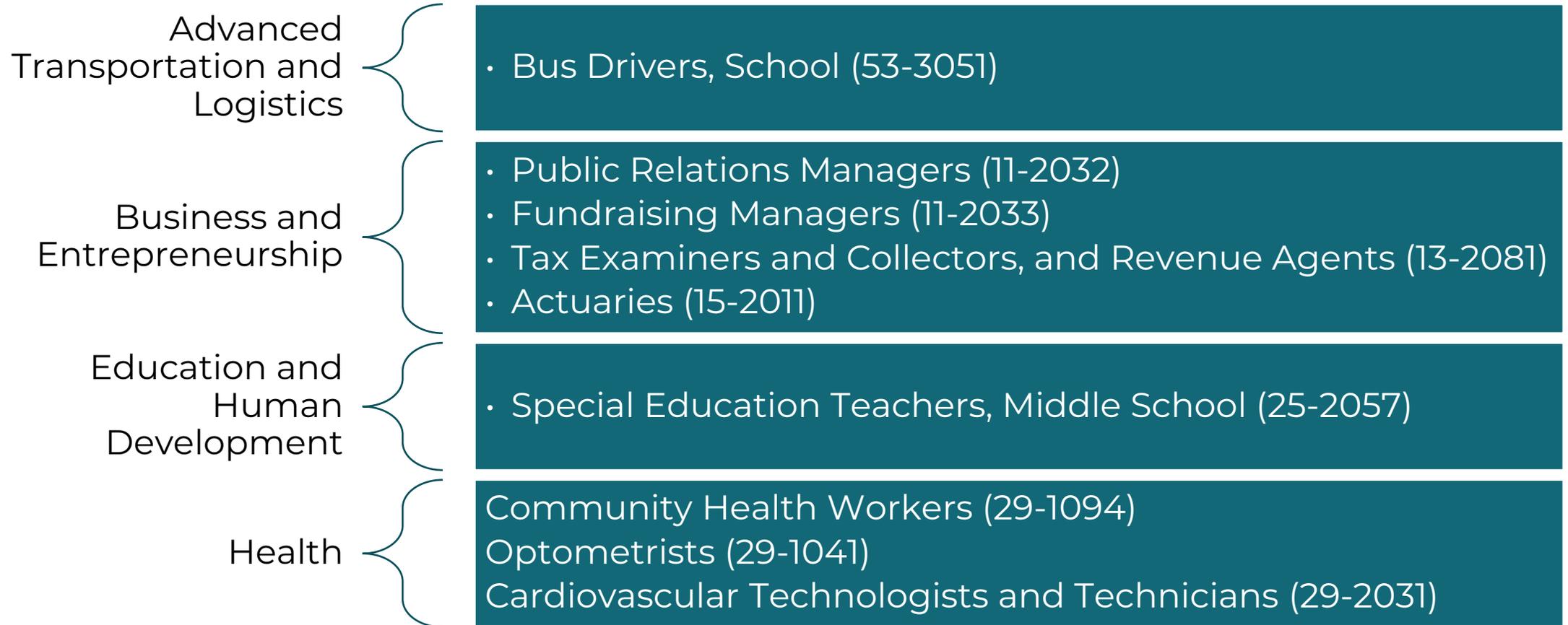


# Northern Los Angeles

- There are **17** unique High-Quality occupations in Northern Los Angeles County
- These 17 occupations span eight sectors:
  - › Business and Entrepreneurship (4)
  - › Health (3)
  - › Other/Unassigned (3)
  - › Public Safety (2)
  - › Retail, Hospitality and Tourism (2)
  - › Advanced Transportation and Logistics (1)
  - › Education and Human Development (1)
  - › ICT/Digital Media (1)



# Northern Los Angeles



# Northern Los Angeles

ICT/Digital Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art Directors (27-1011)</li></ul>
Other/Unassigned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Law Judges, Adjudicators, and Hearing Officers (23-1021)</li><li>• Legal Support Workers, All Other (23-2099)</li><li>• Technical Writers (27-3042)</li></ul>
Public Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Detectives and Criminal Investigators (33-3021)</li><li>• Transportation Security Screeners (33-9093)</li></ul>
Retail, Hospitality and Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting, Convention, and Event Planners (13-1121)</li><li>• Flight Attendants (53-2031)</li></ul>

# San Luis Obispo

- There are **20** unique High-Quality occupations in San Luis Obispo County
- These 20 occupations span ten sectors:
  - › Energy, Construction and Utilities (5)
  - › Advanced Transportation and Logistics (2)
  - › Agriculture, Water and Environmental Technologies (2)
  - › Business and Entrepreneurship (2)
  - › Education and Human Development (2)
  - › Life Sciences/Biotech (2)
  - › Retail, Hospitality and Tourism (2)
  - › Advanced Manufacturing (1)
  - › Health (1)
  - › Public Safety (1)



# San Luis Obispo

Advanced  
Manufacturing

- Industrial Machinery Mechanics (49-9041)

Advanced  
Transportation and  
Logistics

- Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks (43-5061)
- First-Line Supervisors of Transportation and Material Moving Workers, Except Aircraft Cargo Handling Supervisors (53-1047)

Agriculture, Water  
and Environmental  
Technologies

- Food Scientists and Technologists (19-1012)
- Conservation Scientists (19-1031)

Business and  
Entrepreneurship

- Property Appraisers and Assessors (13-2028)
- Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents (41-3031)

# San Luis Obispo

Education and  
Human  
Development

- Counselors, All Other (21-1019)
- Career/Technical Education Teachers, Secondary School (25-2032)

Energy,  
Construction  
and Utilities

- Construction Managers (11-9021)
- Nuclear Engineers (17-2161)
- Architectural and Civil Drafters (17-3011)
- Solar Photovoltaic Installers (47-2231)
- Telecommunications Line Installers and Repairers (49-9052)

Health

- Dental Assistants (31-9091)

# San Luis Obispo

Life Sciences  
and  
Biotechnology

- Biological Technicians (19-4021)
- Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other (19-4099)

Public Safety

- First-Line Supervisors of Correctional Officers (33-1011)

Retail,  
Hospitality and  
Tourism

- Lodging Managers (11-9081)
- Interior Designers (27-1025)

# Santa Barbara

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- There are **7** unique High-Quality occupations in Santa Barbara County
- These 7 occupations span five sectors:
  - › Energy, Construction and Utilities (2)
  - › ICT/Digital Media (2)
  - › Business and Entrepreneurship (1)
  - › Health (1)
  - › Other/Unassigned (1)



# Santa Barbara

Business and Entrepreneurship

- Agents and Business Managers of Artists, Performers, and Athletes (13-1011)

Energy, Construction and Utilities

- Surveyors (17-1022)
- First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers (47-1011)

Health

- Radiologists (29-1224)

ICT/Digital Media

- Computer Programmers (15-1251)
- Web and Digital Interface Designers (15-1255)

Other/Unassigned

- Biochemists and Biophysicists (19-1021)

# Ventura

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- There are **5** unique High-Quality occupations in Northern Los Angeles County
- These 5 occupations span five sectors:
  - › Education and Human Development (1)
  - › Energy, Construction and Utilities (1)
  - › ICT/Digital Media (1)
  - › Life Sciences and Biotechnology (1)
  - › Other/Unassigned (1)



# Ventura

Education and Human Development	• Special Education Teachers, Preschool (25-2051)
Energy, Construction and Utilities	• Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters (47-2152)
ICT/Digital Media	• Computer and Information Research Scientists (15-1221)
Life Sciences and Biotechnology	• Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians (29-2018)
Other/Unassigned	• Physicists (19-2012)

# Conclusion and Discussion

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# Conclusion

## CONCLUSION

### SCC COE Job Quality Framework

- Emphasizes not only the number of jobs, projected growth, and demand, but also the quality of employment opportunities across occupational sectors
- Number of High-Quality occupations varies by county

### High-Quality Occupations by Sector

- Across all SCC Counties, High-Quality Occupations are concentrated in **Health, Business and Entrepreneurship**, and **Education and Human Development**.

### Unique High-Quality Occupations by Sector

- Despite similarities, there are some unique High-Quality occupations in each county.
- San Luis Obispo has the most unique High-Quality Occupations (20), followed by Northern LA (17), Santa Barbara (7), and Ventura (5)



# Discussion and Q&A

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# Next Steps

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# SCC COE Job Quality Dashboards



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## Job Quality Dashboards

### South Central Coast



The South Central Coast Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (SCC COE) created these Job Quality Dashboards to serve as a valuable resource for faculty, administrators, counselors, and students so they may better understand the characteristics and trends of different sectors and occupations across California's South Central Coast Region. Whether you are designing educational programs and curricula to meet the needs of the local economy, gathering data for a grant application, or a student searching for your dream career in your community, these dashboards provide the data and insights to help you begin your journey.

All resources related to the SCC COE Job Quality analysis, including a regional report, county profiles, and data exploration addendums for High-Quality occupations, can be accessed via this link: <https://coeccc.net/collection/high-quality-occupations-in-south-central-coast-region/>.

### Which dashboard is right for you?

Click a button below to jump to a dashboard ↴	Description
 <p><b>Regional Dashboard</b></p>	<p>The Regional Dashboard is designed to provide a broad overview of labor market and job quality indicators across sectors in the South Central Coast Region, as well as its four counties. Users can compare characteristics of different occupational sectors and track projected employment and job quality trends in all 12 CCCC occupational sectors.</p>
 <p><b>Sector Dashboard</b></p>	<p>The Sector Dashboard allows you to explore all the occupations in a specific sector and region. You may also apply optional filters to narrow down your job search. For example, you can use the filters to select "Health occupations in Ventura County that have an entry-level hourly wage of \$25/hour or more" and get information about all occupations that meet those criteria, including the number of jobs, projected 5-year change, and wage ranges.</p>
 <p><b>Occupation Dashboard</b></p>	<p>The Occupation Dashboard enables you to search for and select up to 15 occupations for comparison. This dashboard provides information about labor market and job quality indicators for each selected occupation. For example, if you are developing career pathways in nursing in Ventura County, you can enter relevant occupations such as <i>Home Health and Personal Care Aides (31-1128)</i>, <i>Nursing Assistants (31-1131)</i>, and <i>Registered Nurses (29-1141)</i> to view trends across all three occupations.</p>
 <p><b>Demographics Dashboard</b></p>	<p>The Demographics Dashboard allows users to compare demographics for a single occupation to the labor force. This dashboard enables users to see how current employees in an occupation compare to the labor force by race/ethnicity, age, and sex/gender.</p>

Data Sources: South Central Coast Center of Excellence analysis of Lightcast (2025.3) data and American Community Survey (2018-2023 5-Yr. Estimates) data sourced via IPUMS.

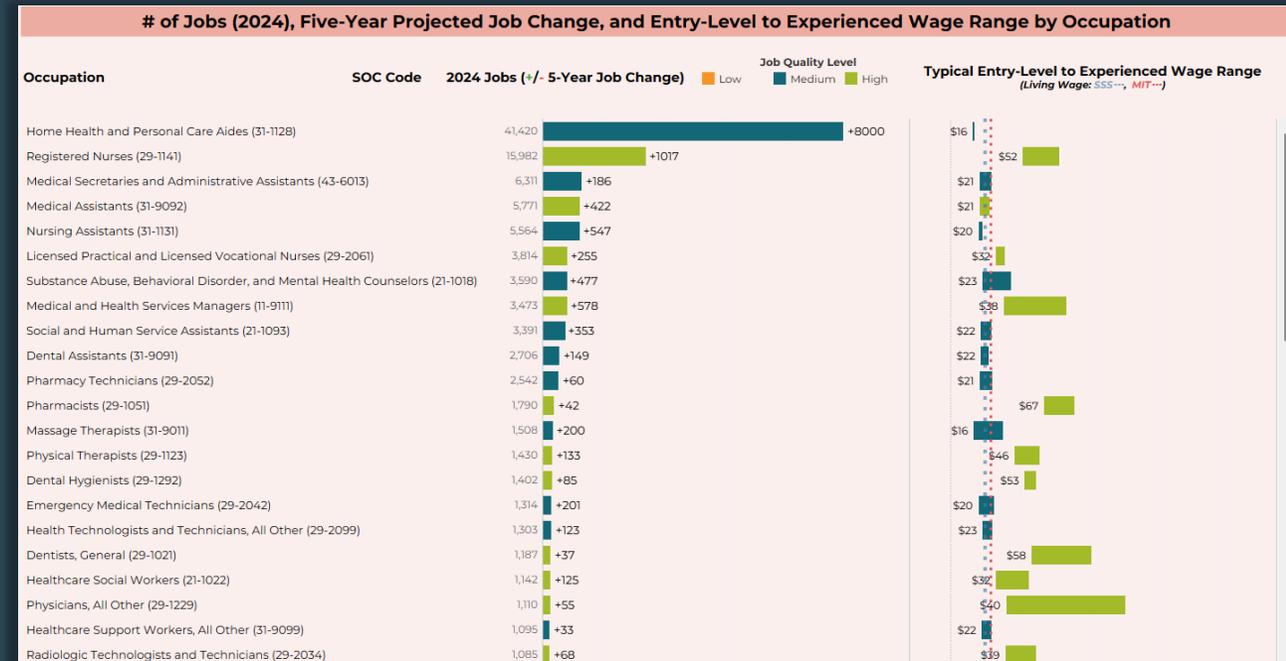


# SCC COE Job Quality Dashboards





# SCC COE Job Quality Dashboards





# SCC COE Job Quality Dashboards

- A resource for faculty, administrators, counselors, and students so they may better understand the characteristics and trends of different sectors and occupations across California's South Central Coast Region.
- Whether you are designing educational programs and curricula to meet the needs of the local economy, gathering data for a grant application, or a student searching for your dream career in your community, these dashboards provide the data and insights to help you begin your journey.

*The SCC COE will schedule a Job Quality Dashboard live demo and training in January – stay tuned for more information!*

THANK YOU!

# South Central Coast Center of Excellence

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COE Newsletter!



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