Labor Market Analysis for Program Recommendation: 0702.00/Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence *(Certificate of Achievement in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence)*

South Central Coast Center of Excellence, February 2026

FOR LABOR MARKET RESEARCH
SOUTH CENTRAL COAST

Summary

Program LMI Endorsement	Endorsed: All LMI Criteria Met ☐	Endorsed: Some LMI Criteria Met ☐	Not LMI Endorsed ☐
Program LMI Endorsement Criteria			
Supply Gap:	Yes ☐		No ☐
	Comments: The SCC COE does not include a labor market endorsement when considering emerging fields and occupations. **Since this program focuses on data science and artificial intelligence, two rapidly evolving fields, no endorsement criteria are included.**		
Self-Sufficiency Standard Living Wage[1]:	Yes ☐		No ☐
	Comments: See comment above.		
Education:	Yes ☐		No ☐
	Comments: See comment above.		
Additional Considerations			
Emerging Occupation(s):	Yes ☐	Some ☐	No ☐
	Comments: 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 one occupation that is closely related to data science and artificial intelligence:

- *Data Scientists (15-2051)*

Currently, *Data Scientists (15-2051)* is the only Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code in the Bureau of Labor Statistics system that is solely for data science jobs. This occupation was added to the SOC system in 2018, making it one of the newest occupations in the federal system. The typical entry-level education for this occupation is a bachelor's degree and the majority of workers in the field hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree. It is important to note that there are currently no middle-skill occupations that are directly related to data analytics and data science and the typical education requirements for these jobs are high. However, numerous other occupations may utilize data analytics or data science skills.

Though data analyst and data science jobs typically require at least a bachelor's degree, community colleges throughout the country have developed data science programs. There is no singular source that includes data on all these programs. However, the SCC COE was able to identify existing programs in numerous states including California, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, and North Carolina.[2] Additionally, there are several data analytics and data science

[1] 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; the living wage for Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, last updated in March 2024.
[2] https://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2022/08/01/new-two-year-programs/

certificate programs offered through university extension programs such as those at UCLA[3] and UC Santa Barbara.[4] Additionally, UC Santa Barbara offers a bachelor's degree in statistics and data science.[5]

Online programs such as those offered by Coursera, DataCamp, edX, LinkedIn Learning, and Udemy, provide alternate paths to obtaining data analytics and data science skills. These platforms often partner with businesses to offer online curriculum, such as Google's Data Analytics Certificate or IBM's Data Science Professional Certificate – both of which are offered through Coursera. Additionally, these platforms may work with businesses to provide upskilling opportunities to the current workforce. DataCamp claims that "80% of the Fortune 1,000 use DataCamp."[6]

The remainder of this report analyzes traditional labor market information for *Data Scientists (15-2051)*. Additionally, the SCC COE conducted an analysis of online job postings for data analytics and science skills - including data analysis, R, Python, SQL, and data visualization - to better understand the real-time demand for this emerging area across all occupations. The SCC COE also examined data science-related job postings that included skills related to Artificial Intelligence (such as "artificial intelligence", "Copilot", "Gemini", "ChatGPT", "Claude", and "Open AI") to identify the types of jobs that may require the knowledge and use of Artificial Intelligence within data science.

Due to the rapidly developing nature of emerging fields, the SCC COE does not include a labor market endorsement when considering emerging areas.

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 (25th Percentile)	Typical Entry-Level Education	Community College Educational Attainment
Data Scientists (15-2051)	85	161	Ventura: $42.64	Bachelor's degree	11%
Total	**85**	**161**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**

Demand:

- The number of jobs related to *Data Scientists (15-2051)* is projected to increase 12% through 2029 in the SCC region. There is projected to be 85 annual job openings due to new job creation and replacements.
- Hourly entry-level wages for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* in Ventura County are $42.64, which is above the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage ($24.53 for Ventura County).
- Across all occupations, there were 1,923 online job postings that requested data science skills such as data analysis, R, Python, SQL, and data visualization, over the past 12 months. The highest number of postings were for Data Scientists, Process Development Associates, and Data Engineers.
- The typical entry-level education for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* is a bachelor's degree.

[3] https://www.uclaextension.edu/digital-technology/data-analytics-management/certificate/data-science
[4] https://quickstart.professional.ucsb.edu/bootcamp/data-science-and-analytics/landing/
[5] https://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/undergrad/majors/bs-ss
[6] https://www.datacamp.com/business

- Only 11% 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 161 awards conferred by five community colleges in the SCC Region from 2020 to 2023.
    - It is important to note these supply figures reflect awards conferred under the 0702.00 (Computer Information Systems) TOP code. However, community colleges throughout the region offer data analytics and data science programs under three different TOP codes. In many cases, colleges offer other programs that are unrelated to data analytics and data science under these TOP codes. Therefore, the COE is unable to isolate supply solely for data analytics and data science and supply is overstated.
- Non-community college institutions did not confer any related awards from 2019 to 2022.
    - However, students may obtain similar skills in other programs and courses such as mathematics, statistics, econometrics, computer science, and more. These figures also do not include certificates awarded by extension or continuing education programs offered at four-year colleges and universities. Therefore, supply is likely understated.
- SCC community college students that exited Computer Information Systems programs in the 2022-23 academic year had a median annual wage of $52,020 ($25.01 per hour) after exiting the program and 51% attained the regional living wage (Self-Sufficiency Standard).
- Throughout the SCC Region, 86% of Computer Information Systems students that exited their program in 2021-22 reported that they are working in a job closely related to their field of study.

Demand

Occupational Projections:

Exhibit 2 compares historical and projected changes in employment for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* compared to the number of jobs in 2019. Notably, employment for this occupation in Northern Los Angeles County grew 185% 2019 to 2024, the highest across all SCC counties. In Ventura County, employment for this occupation grew 159% during the same period. Employment for this occupation is projected to steadily grow through 2029 in all SCC counties, the SCC Region overall, and California.

Exhibit 2: Historical and Projected Employment for Data Scientists in the SCC Region, 2019-2029

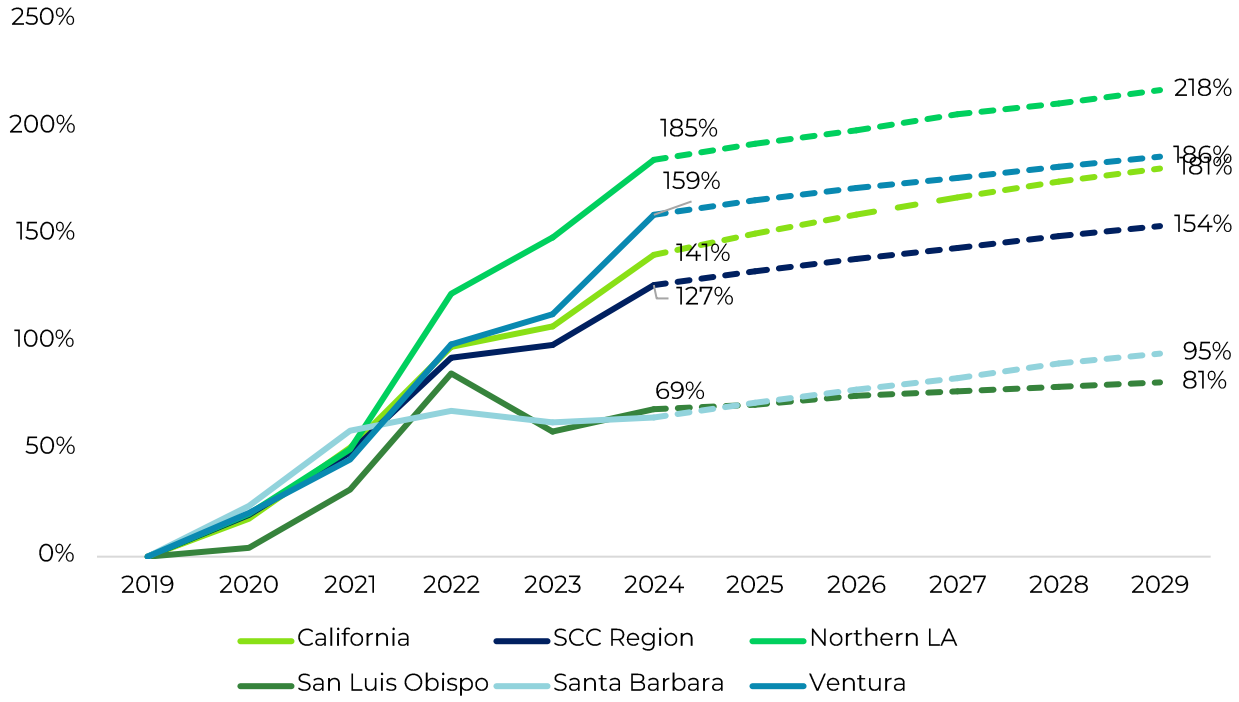


Exhibit 3 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *Data Scientists (15-2051)*. In the SCC Region, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to increase 12% through 2029. There is projected to be 85 jobs available annually. Ventura County has the highest number of jobs and annual openings.

Exhibit 3: Occupational Demand in the SCC Region[7]

Geography	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	2024-2029 Change	2024-2029 % Change	Annual Openings
Northern LA	228	254	26	12%	19
San Luis Obispo	81	87	7	8%	6
Santa Barbara	216	255	38	18%	21
Ventura	498	550	52	11%	40
SCC Region	**1,022**	**1,146**	**124**	**12%**	**85**

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

Wages:

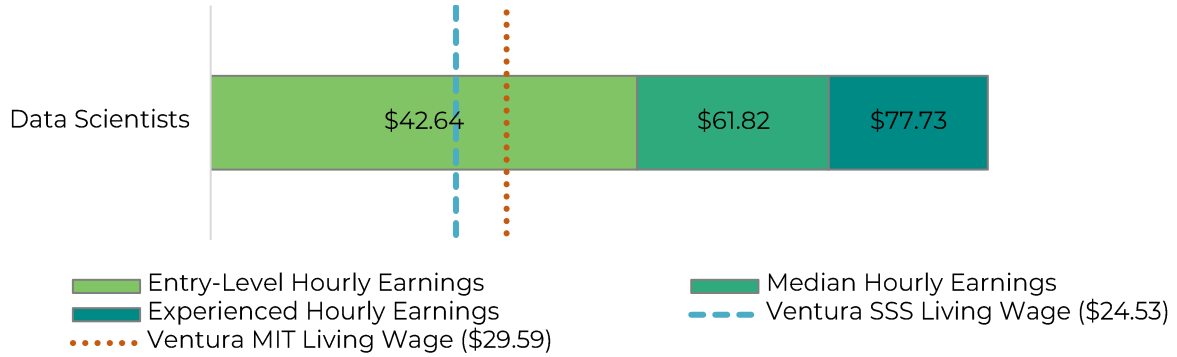
The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* in relation to the living wage of the county where the requesting community college is located. This report was requested by Ventura College, which is in Ventura County. Wages for other 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 Ventura County is $29.59. 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.

Ventura

Typical entry-level wages for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* are $42.64, which is above the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult ($24.53 in Ventura County). Exhibit 4 shows the wage range for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* in Ventura County and how it compares to the regional living wage.

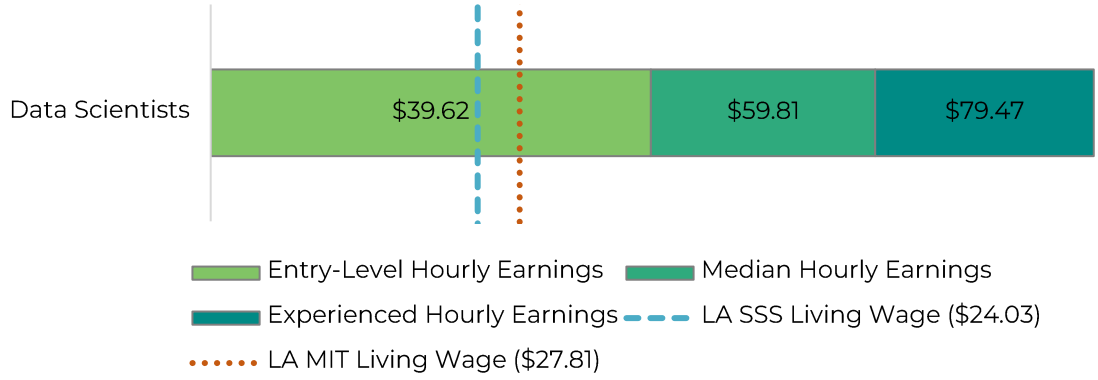
Exhibit 4: Wages by Occupation in Ventura County



Northern Los Angeles

Typical entry-level wages for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* are $39.62, which is above the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult ($24.03 in Los Angeles County). Exhibit 5 shows the wage range for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* in Northern Los Angeles County and how it compares to the regional living wage.

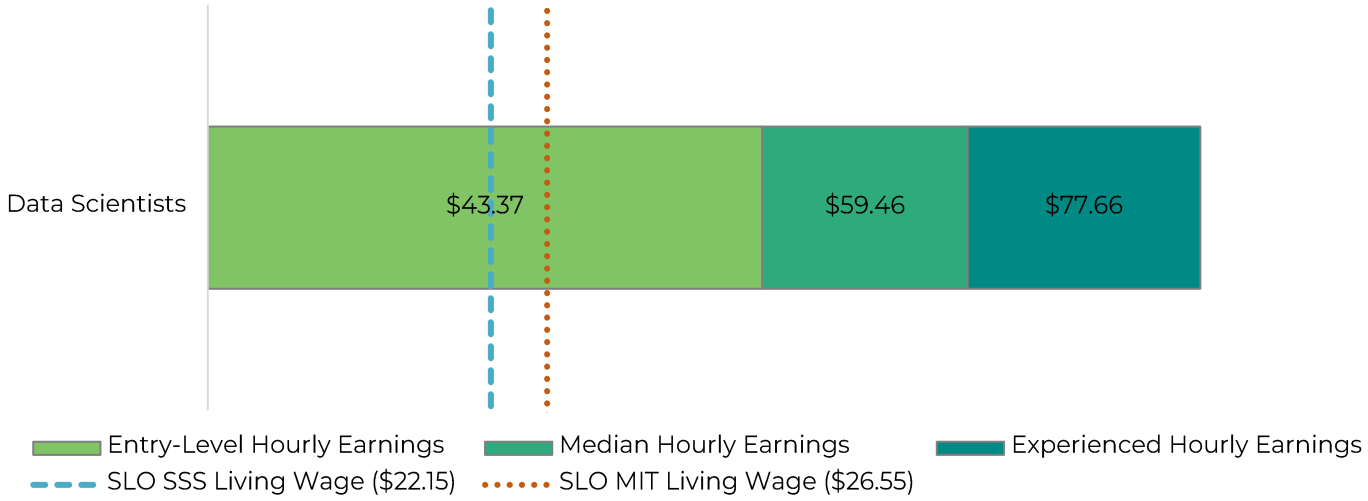
Exhibit 5: Wages by Occupation in Northern Los Angeles County



San Luis Obispo

Typical entry-level wages for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* are $43.37, which is above the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult ($22.15 in San Luis Obispo County). Exhibit 6 shows the wage range for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* in San Luis Obispo County and how it compares to the regional living wage.

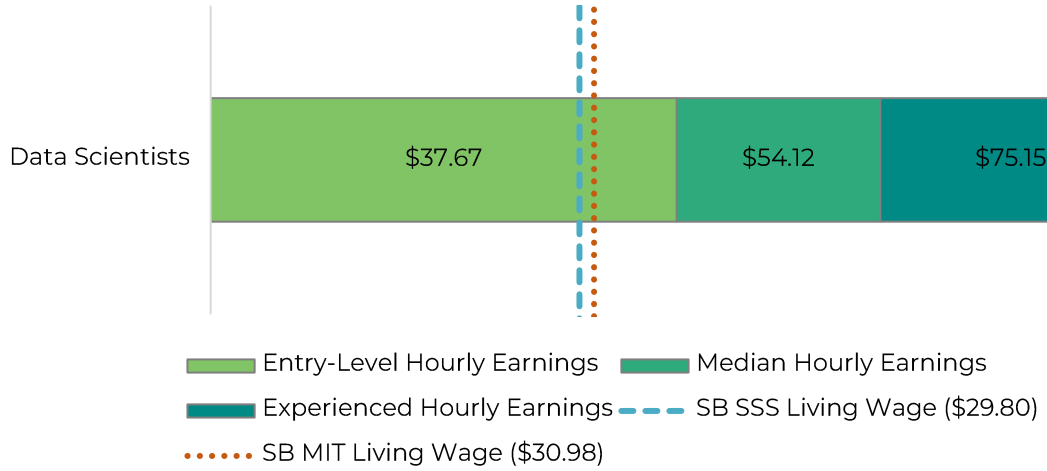
Exhibit 6: Wages by Occupation in San Luis Obispo County



Santa Barbara

Typical entry-level wages for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* are $37.67, which is above the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage for one adult ($29.80 in Santa Barbara County)..Exhibit 7 shows the wage range for *Data Scientists (15-2051)* occupations in Santa Barbara County and how it compares to the regional living wage.

Exhibit 7: Wages by Occupation in Santa Barbara County



Job Postings:

Over the past 12 months, there were 1,923 online job postings that requested skills related to data science. These skills include:

- Data Science
- Data Visualization
- Large Language Modeling
- Machine Learning
- Matplotlib (Python Package)
- Pandas (Python Package)
- Python (Programming Language)
- Scikit-Learn (Python Package)
- SciPy
- Statistical Data Collection
- Statistical Modeling

Exhibit 8 shows the number of job postings by county. Approximately 52% of job postings were in Ventura County.

Exhibit 8: Number of Job Postings by County (n=1,923)

County	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Ventura	996	52%
Santa Barbara	530	28%
Northern Los Angeles	260	14%
San Luis Obispo	137	7%
Total Postings	**1,923**	**100%**

Notably, Data Science skills cut across occupations and are not limited to only *Data Scientists (15-2051)*. In addition to traditional data-related roles such as Data Scientists, the top occupations include *Computer Occupations, All Other (15-1299)*, *Computer and Information Research Scientists (15-1221)*, and *Database Administrators (15-1242)*, as shown in Exhibit 9.

Exhibit 9: Number of Job Postings by Occupation (n=1,923)

Occupation	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Data Scientists	233	12%
Computer Occupations, All Other	155	8%
Computer and Information Research Scientists	92	5%
Database Administrators	59	3%
Database Architects	59	3%
Marketing Managers	50	3%
Project Management Specialists	46	2%
Management Analysts	46	2%
Postsecondary Teachers	42	2%
Computer Network Architects	**41**	**2%**

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=1,923)

Employer	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Amgen	197	10%

Employer	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
University of California-Santa Barbara	53	3%
Northrop Grumman	49	3%
Google	41	2%
Pennymac	37	2%
The Trade Desk	37	2%
Amazon	26	1%
Innova Solution	24	1%
Toyon Research Corporation	24	1%
Lockheed Martin	24	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=1,923)

Top Specialized Skills	Top Soft Skills	Top Computer Skills
Python (Programming Language) (1088)	Communication (1008)	Python (Programming Language) (1088)
Data Analysis (601)	Management (545)	SQL (Programming Language) (498)
Data Visualization (545)	Leadership (537)	Microsoft Excel (364)
Computer Science (517)	Operations (523)	Tableau (Business Intelligence Software) (335)
SQL (Programming Language) (498)	Problem Solving (501)	Power BI (312)
Machine Learning (494)	Research (409)	Dashboard (299)
Artificial Intelligence (474)	Microsoft Excel (364)	R (Programming Language) (289)
Data Science (460)	Innovation (360)	Amazon Web Services (220)
Automation (438)	Troubleshooting (Problem Solving) (358)	Microsoft PowerPoint (197)
Workflow Management (380)	Planning (346)	MATLAB (192)

Of the 1,923 postings that requested data science skills, 12% (222) also requested knowledge of Artificial Intelligence tools such as Microsoft's Copilot, Google's Gemini, OpenAI's ChatGPT, or Anthropic's Claude. The top job titles related to these AI postings were data scientists, data engineers, and machine learning engineers.

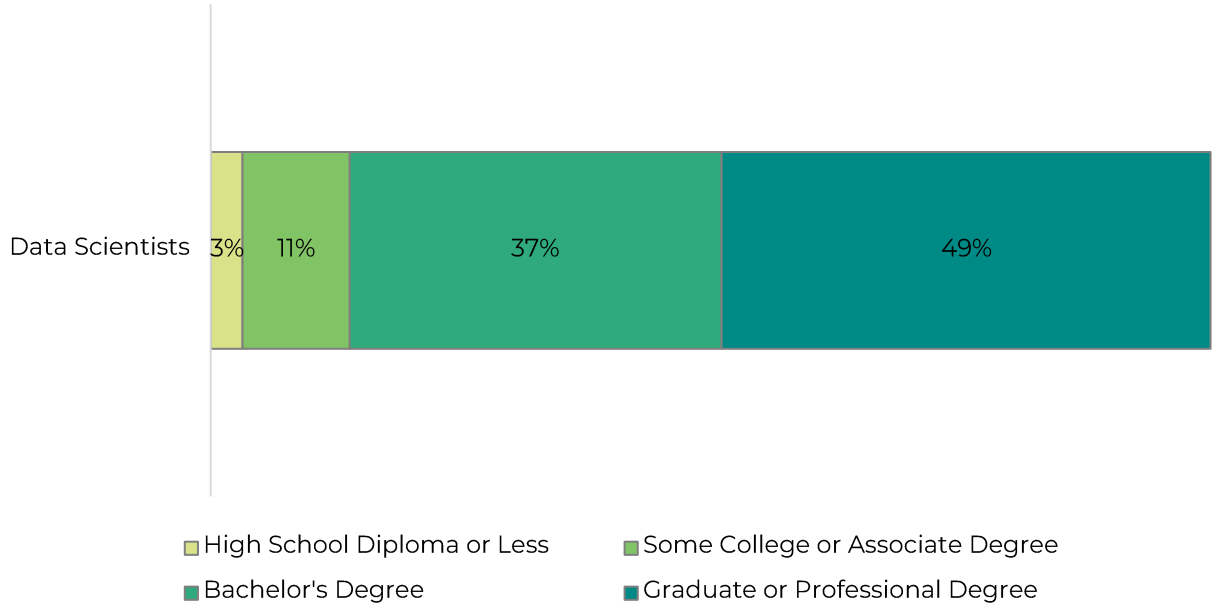
Educational Attainment:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists the following as the typical entry-level education for this occupation:

- Bachelor's Degree
    - *Data Scientists (15-2051)*

The national-level educational attainment data indicates 11% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education. Exhibit 12 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 85% of the cumulative job postings that requested data science skills and listed a minimum education requirement in the SCC Region, 18% (290) requested a high school diploma or an associate degree, 71% (1,153) requested a bachelor's degree, and 11% (187) requested a graduate or professional degree.

Similarly, of the 73% of postings that requested Artificial Intelligence skills, 18% (29) requested a high school diploma or an associate degree, 72% (117) requested a bachelor's degree, and 10% (17) 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:

- Computer Information Systems (0702.00)

The college with the most completions in the region is Allan Hancock (129), followed by Antelope Valley (33), and Cuesta (10). It is important to note these supply figures reflect awards conferred under the 0702.00 (Computer Information Systems) TOP code. However, community colleges throughout the SCC Region offer data analytics and data science programs under three different TOP codes. In many cases, colleges offer other programs that are unrelated to data analytics and data science under these TOP codes. Therefore, the COE is unable to isolate supply solely for data analytics and data science.

Additionally, there was a significant increase in the number of certificates between 6 and less than 18 semester units awarded by Allan Hancock in the 2023-24 academic year. This may be related to the significant number of Certificate of Accomplishment programs, also known as local or untranscripted certificates, offered at Allan Hancock.[8]

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
0702.00	Computer Information Systems	Allan Hancock	19	4	363	129
		Antelope Valley	16	11	27	18
		Cuesta	7	10	12	10
		Moorpark	0	1	1	1
		Santa Barbara	5	3	3	4
Supply Subtotal/Average			**47**	**29**	**406**	**161**
Supply Total/Average			**47**	**29**	**406**	**161**

As noted previously, community colleges throughout the SCC Region offer data analytics and data science programs under three different TOP codes. To better understand the colleges that offer data analytics and data science programs, Exhibit 14 shows each college, as well as the TOP code, program name, award type, and approval date for data analytics and data science programs offered by regional community colleges. Additionally, two Data Science programs have been approved at Cuesta College, however these programs are not yet active.

Exhibit 14: Regional Community College Data Analytics and Data Science Programs

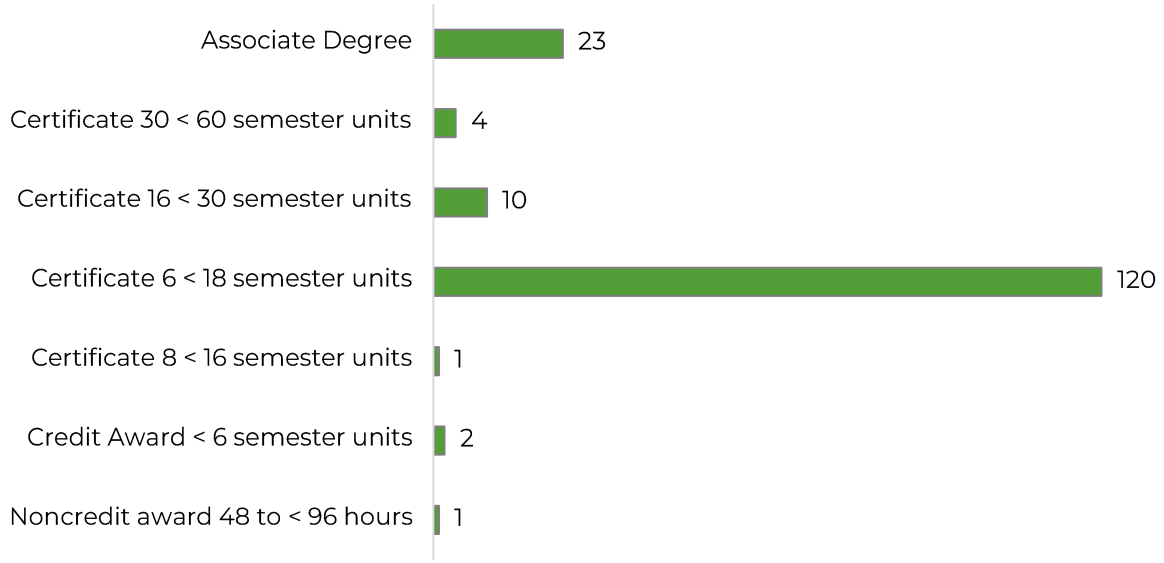
TOP Code/Title	College	Program Name	Award Type	CCCCO Approval Date
0702.00/Computer Information Systems	Moorpark	Data Science	Certificate	7/2/2021
1223.00/Health Information Technology	Santa Barbara	Healthcare Data Analytics	Certificate	Not available

[8] https://www.hancockcollege.edu/pathways/business-finance/cbis.php

TOP Code/Title	College	Program Name	Award Type	CCCCO Approval Date
1701.00/Mathematics, General	Santa Barbara	Data Science	Certificate	12/6/2022
			A.S. Degree	12/6/2022

Exhibit 15 shows the annual average community college awards by type from 2021-22 to 2023-24. Notably, the vast majority of the awards are for certificates between 6 and less than 18 semester units.

Exhibit 15: Annual Average Community College Awards by Type, 2021-2024



Community College Student Outcomes:

Exhibit 16 shows the Strong Workforce Program (SWP) metrics for Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs at Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD), the SCC Region, and California. Of the 1,416 Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students throughout the region in the 2023-24 academic year, 25% (351) attended a VCCCD college.

VCCCD students that exited Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs in the 2022-23 academic year had higher median annual earnings ($52,020 or $25.01 per hour) compared to all Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students in the SCC Region ($44,188 or $21.24 per hour); both figures are higher than statewide ($41,544 or $19.97 per hour). A higher percentage of VCCCD (51%) students attained the living wage when compared to SCC (39%) Computer Information Systems (0702.00) and all Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students in the state (39%).

Exhibit 16: Computer Information Systems (0702.00) Strong Workforce Program Metrics, 2023-24[9][10]

SWP Metric	VCCCD	SCC Region	California
SWP Students	351	1,416	24,370
SWP Students Who Earned 9 or More Career Education Units in the District in a Single Year	58%	34%	37%
SWP Students Who Completed a Noncredit CTE or Workforce Preparation Course	Data Unavailable	72%	68%
SWP Students Who Earned a Degree or Certificate or Attained Apprenticeship Journey Status	Data Unavailable	12%	5%
SWP Students Who Transferred to a Four-Year Postsecondary Institution (2022-23)	23%	9%	8%
SWP Students with a Job Closely Related to Their Field of Study (2021-22)	91%	86%	71%
Median Annual Earnings for SWP Exiting Students (2022-23)	$52,020 ($25.01)	$44,188 ($21.24)	$41,544 ($19.97)
Median Change in Earnings for SWP Exiting Students (2022-23)	47%	30%	28%
SWP Exiting Students Who Attained the Living Wage (2022-23)	51%	39%	39%

[9] All SWP metrics are for 2023-24 unless otherwise noted. Metrics data is sourced from DataVista.

[10] Data that is not available in DataVista is denoted in Exhibit 16 shows the Strong Workforce Program (SWP) metrics for Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs at Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD), the SCC Region, and California. Of the 1,416 Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students throughout the region in the 2023-24 academic year, 25% (351) attended a VCCCD college.
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Exhibit 16 as "data unavailable." Data may not be available for various reasons, including cases where data is masked to protect personally identifiable information.

Regional Demographics

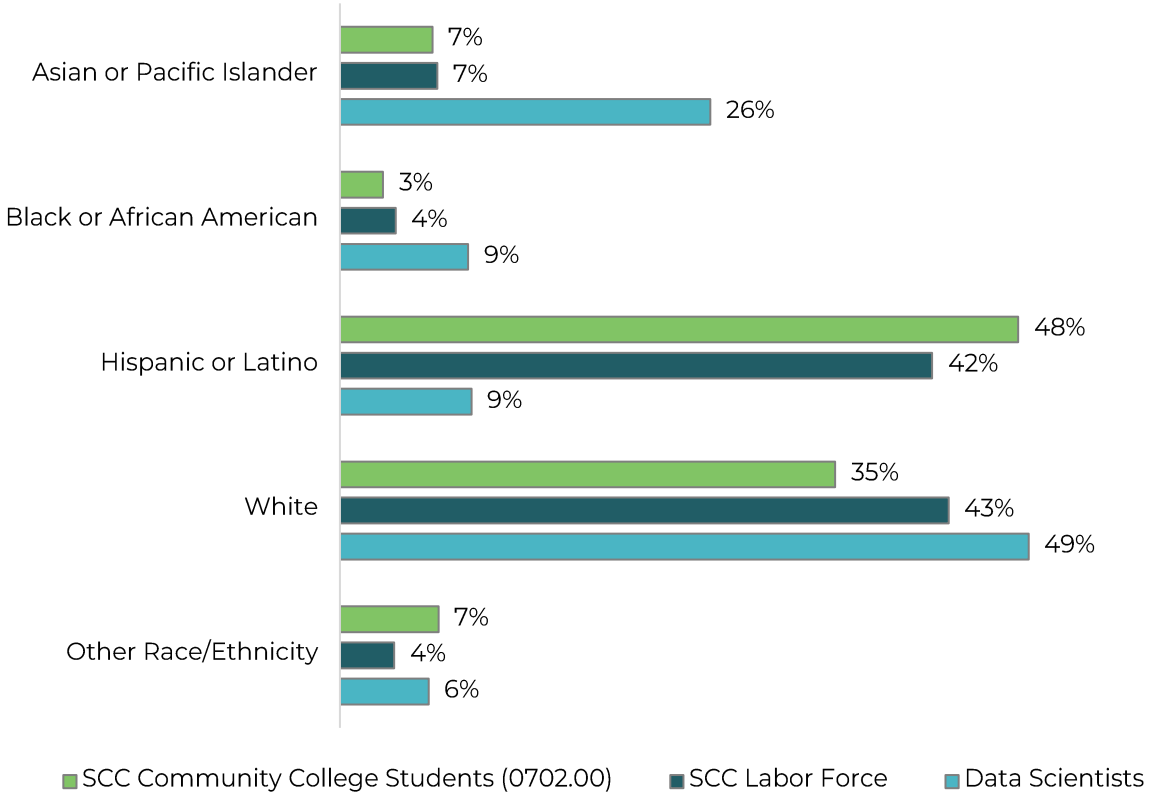
This section examines demographic data for SCC community college students in Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs compared to the SCC labor force, along with occupational data, to identify potential diversity and equity issues addressable by community college programs.

Ethnicity:

Exhibit 17 compares the ethnicity of SCC community college students enrolled in Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs, the overall SCC labor force, and occupation-specific data for *Data Scientists (15-2051)*.

Notably, 49% of *Data Scientists (15-2051)* are white, which is higher than the labor force (43%) and community college Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students (35%). Conversely, only 9% of *Data Scientists (15-2051)* are Hispanic or Latino, which is significantly lower than the SCC labor force (42%) and community college Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students (48%).

Exhibit 17: Program and County Demographics by Ethnicity

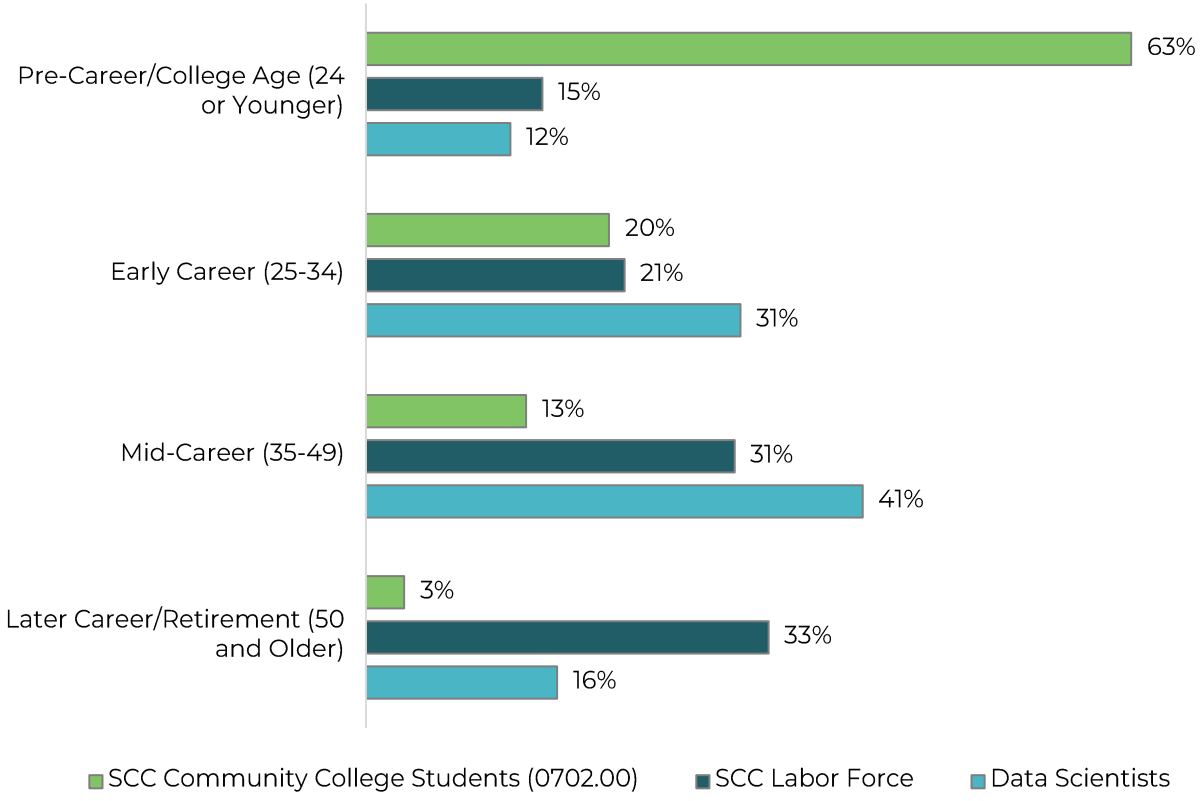


Age:

Exhibit 18 compares the age of SCC community college students enrolled in Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs, the overall SCC labor force, and occupation-specific data for *Data Scientists (15-2051)*.

The majority (63%) of community college Computer Information Systems (0702.00) students are Pre-Career/College Age (24 or Younger), which is significantly higher than the labor force (15%) and *Data Scientists (15-2051)* (12%).

Exhibit 18: Program and County Demographics by Age

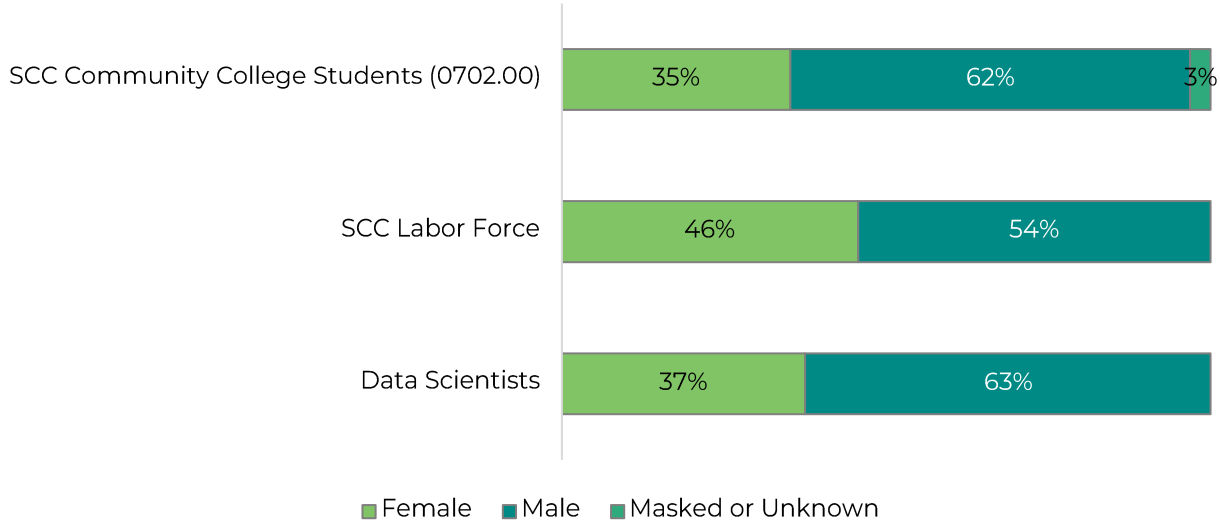


Sex:

Exhibit 19 compares the sex of SCC community college students enrolled in Computer Information Systems (0702.00) programs, the overall SCC labor force, and occupation-specific data for *Data Scientists (15-2051)*.

There is a significant majority of male *Data Scientists (15-2051)* (63%), which is similar to community college Computer Information Systems students (62%). However, both figures are higher than the labor force, which is split more evenly (54% male and 46% female).

Exhibit 19: 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) and CIP code data comes from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (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.[11] 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 20 shows the 34 ZIP codes used to define Northern Los Angeles County.

Exhibit 20: Northern Los Angeles ZIP Codes

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

[11] 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 Lightcast, a labor market analytics firm.
Living Wage	Per the CCCCO, this report's endorsement criteria uses the University of Washington's Center for Women's Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard last updated in March 2024. The MIT Living Wage, 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 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) 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 O*NET database includes information on skills, abilities, knowledges, work activities, and interests associated with occupations.
Educational Supply	The CCCCO Data Mart provides information about students, courses, student services, outcomes and faculty and staff. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Integrated Postsecondary Integrated Data System (IPEDS) collects data on the number of postsecondary awards earned (completions).
Student Metrics and Demographics	Data Vista, 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 Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) is the premier source for detailed population and housing information. Data is sourced from IPUMS USA, 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.

For more information, please contact the South Central Coast Center of Excellence:

Jacob Poore, Director
jacob.poore@canyons.edu

Ashley Kernan, Research Manager
ashley.kernan@canyons.edu

FOR LABOR MARKET RESEARCH
SOUTH CENTRAL COAST

Janneth Najera, Research Manager
janneth.najera@canyons.edu

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