

⚠ Endorsed: Caution Advised			
Program LMI Endorsement Criteria			
	Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Met <input type="checkbox"/>
Supply Gap:	There are projected to be 305 annual job openings throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties for <i>sound engineering technicians</i> , which is less than the 681 awards conferred by educational institutions . However, these educational programs also prepare students for five other related occupations, which account for 2,960 additional annual job openings . <i>Because this program trains for a variety of occupations with high demand, there is most likely an undersupply of labor for sound engineering technicians.</i>		
Self-Sufficiency Standard Living Wage ¹ :	Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Partially Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Typical entry-level wages for <i>sound engineering technicians</i> are \$20.75, which is well below the OC living wage of \$27.13.		
Education:	Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partially Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Met <input type="checkbox"/>
	Typical education requirement for <i>sound engineering technicians</i> is a postsecondary non-degree award, and 39% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education.		

Summary

The Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (OC COE) prepared this report to determine whether there is a supply gap in the Los Angeles and Orange counties regional labor market related to one occupation:

- Middle-Skill
 - *Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)*

Based on the available data, typical education requirements for this occupation align with a community college education. However, entry-level wages are below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage. Although the number of awards exceeds demand for *sound engineering technicians*, supply is likely overstated because related educational programs train for an additional five occupations. When considering the strong demand across this

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; Orange County's living wage of \$27.13, was last updated in March 2024.

occupation, it is likely the region is experiencing a supply gap. **Therefore, due to some of the regional labor market criteria being met, the COE endorses this proposed program.**

Exhibit 1 lists the occupational demand, supply, typical entry-level education, and educational attainment for the middle-skill 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
Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)	LA: 276 OC: 29	LA: 584 OC: 96	OC: \$20.75	Postsecondary non-degree award	39%
Total	305	681	N/A	N/A	N/A

Demand

- In Los Angeles and Orange counties, the number of jobs related to *sound engineering technicians* is projected to decrease 5% through 2029, equating to 305 annual job openings.
- Hourly entry-level wages for *sound engineering technicians* are \$20.75, which is well below the Self-Sufficiency Standard living wage in Orange County.
- There were 268 online job postings for *sound engineering technicians* over the past 12 months. The highest number of postings were for sound mixers, sound designers, and audio engineers.
- The typical entry-level education for *sound engineering technicians* is a postsecondary non-degree award.
- Approximately 39% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of educational attainment.

Supply

- Between 2021 to 2024, an average of 202 awards were conferred by 2 community colleges for the middle-skill occupation in Los Angeles and Orange counties.
 - Community college awards applicable to the above middle-skill occupation were accounted for in the middle-skill supply.
- From 2020 to 2023, non-community college institutions conferred 479 awards for the middle-skill occupation.
 - Non-community college awards applicable to the above middle-skill occupation were accounted for in the middle-skill supply.
- In the 2022-23 academic year, Orange County community college students that exited commercial music programs had a median annual wage of \$30,408 (\$14.62 per hour) post-exit, and 17% attained the regional living wage.

- In 2021-22, 63% of Orange County commercial music students that exited their programs reported working a job closely related to their field of study.

Above Middle-Skill Occupations

Although the endorsement summary is based on occupations attainable at the community college level, including related above middle-skill occupations can help illustrate potential career pathways and emerging labor market trends. Since the related program may serve as a stepping-stone toward further education and training, the following above middle-skill occupation, which requires a bachelor's degree or higher, is included in this report:

- Above Middle-Skill – denoted with a caret (^) throughout this report.
 - *Music Directors and Composers (27-2041)*[^]

Exhibit 2 lists the occupational demand, supply, typical entry-level education, and educational attainment for the above middle-skill occupations included in this report.

Exhibit 2: Labor Market Summary for Above Middle-Skill Occupation

Occupation (SOC)	Demand (Annual Openings)	Supply (CC and Non-CC)	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25th Percentile)	Typical Entry-Level Education	Community College Educational Attainment
Music Directors and Composers (27-2041) [^]	LA: 349 OC: 63	Accounted for Above	OC: \$22.01	Bachelor's degree	23%
Total	412	Accounted for Above	N/A	N/A	N/A

Demand

Occupational Projections

Exhibit 3 shows the annual percentage change in jobs for these music technology occupations from 2019 through 2029. Between 2019 and 2020, employment levels across Los Angeles and Orange counties declined sharply due to the broader economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. From 2021 to 2024, Orange County saw fluctuation in employment. Beginning in 2025, job levels are projected to grow at a higher rate than all occupations through 2029.

Exhibit 3: Annual Percentage Change in Jobs for Music Technology Occupations, 2019-2029

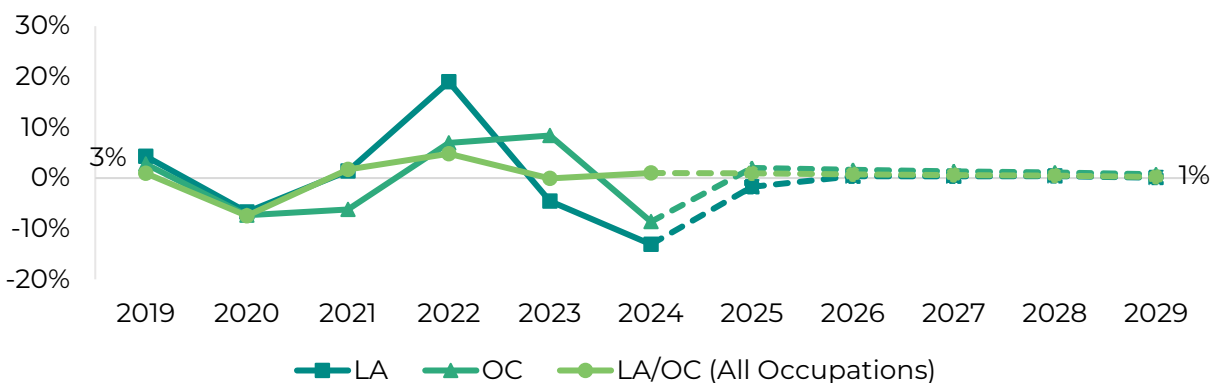


Exhibit 4 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *sound engineering technicians*. In Los Angeles and Orange counties, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to decrease 5% through 2029. There is projected to be 305 available annually.

Exhibit 4: Middle-Skill Occupational Demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties²

Geography	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	2024-2029 Change	2024-2029 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	3,482	3,271	(211)	(6%)	276
Orange	328	346	18	5%	29
Total	3,811	3,617	(193)	(5%)	305

Exhibit 5 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for *music directors and composers*[^]. In Los Angeles and Orange counties, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to increase 6% through 2029. There is projected to be 412 available annually.

Exhibit 5: Above-Middle Skill Occupational Demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Geography	2024 Jobs	2029 Jobs	2024-2029 Change	2024-2029 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	3,220	3,391	171	5%	349
Orange	574	620	46	8%	63
Total	3,794	4,011	217	6%	412

Wages

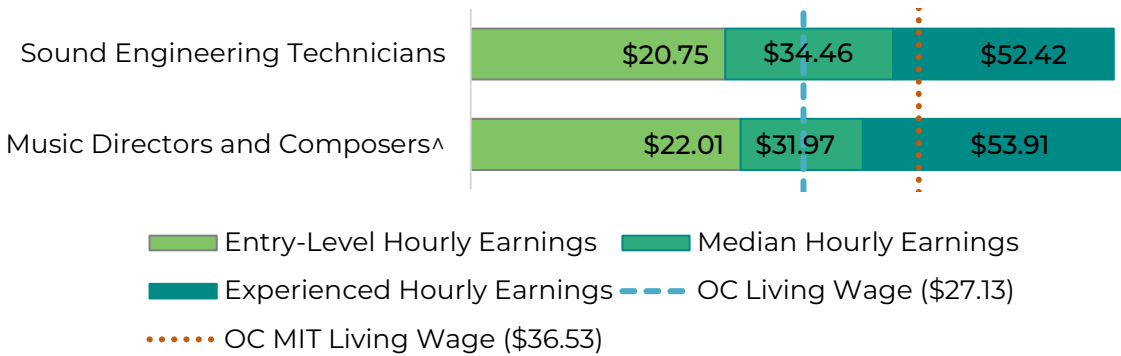
The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for these music technology occupations in Orange County as they relate to the county's living wage. Los Angeles County wages are included below to provide a complete analysis of the LA/OC region.

In addition to the Self Sufficiency Standard living wage, data for the MIT Living Wage (updated on February 15, 2026) is provided as a reference. Currently, the MIT Living Wage in Orange County is \$36.53. 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.

In Orange County, entry-level wages for *sound engineering technicians* are \$20.75, which is well below the Self-Sufficiency living wage of \$27.13 for a single adult. Exhibit 6 shows the wage range for each of these music technology occupations in Orange County and how they compare to the regional living wage, sorted from lowest to highest entry-level wage.

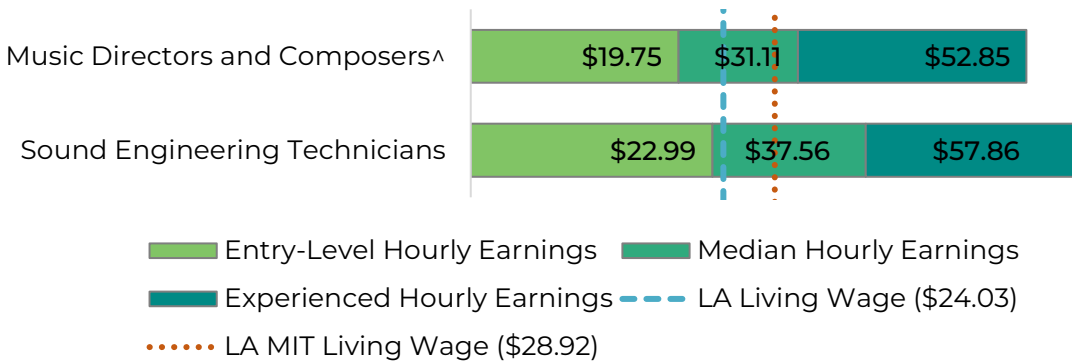
² Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Exhibit 6: Wages by Occupation in Orange County



In Los Angeles County, entry-level wages for *sound engineering technicians* are \$19.75, which is well below the Self-Sufficiency living wage of \$24.03 for a single adult. Exhibit 7 shows the wage range for each of these music technology occupations in Los Angeles County and how they compare to the regional living wage, sorted from lowest to highest entry-level wage.

Exhibit 7: Wages by Occupation in Los Angeles County



Resilient Jobs and U.S. News & World Report Best Jobs

Exhibit 8 shows if each occupation is considered an Orange County Great Recession-Resilient, COVID-19 Pandemic Recession-Resilient Job, or a 2025 U.S. News & World Report (USN&WR) Best Job³. Neither of these occupations met the criteria for any of these designations.

Exhibit 8: Resilient Jobs and USN&WR Best Jobs Designations

Occupation	Great Recession-Resilient Job	COVID-19 Pandemic Recession-Resilient Job	2025 USN&WR Best Job
Music Directors and Composers [^]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sound Engineering Technicians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

³ "100 Best Jobs," U.S. News & World Report, accessed January 28, 2025, <https://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/rankings/the-100-best-jobs>.

Job Postings

Important Job Postings Data Note: There are limitations when analyzing job postings. A single job posting may not represent a single job opening for a variety of reasons.

There were 637 online job postings related to these music technology occupations listed in the past 12 months. Exhibit 9 shows the number of job postings by occupation. Over half (58%) of job postings were for *music directors and composers*^.

Exhibit 9: Number of Job Postings by Occupation (n=637)

Occupation	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Music Directors and Composers^	369	58%
Sound Engineering Technicians	268	42%
Total Postings	637	100%

Job Postings for Middle-Skill Occupation

The top job titles for *sound engineering technicians* in the region, by number of job postings, are shown in Exhibit 10.

Exhibit 10: Top Job Titles by Number of Job Postings for Middle-Skill Occupation (n=268)

Job Titles	Job Postings	Percentage
Sound Mixers	27	10%
Sound Designers	14	5%
Audio Engineers	11	4%
Sound Recordist/recorders	10	4%
Audio Leads	7	3%
Audio Interns	6	2%
Cutters	6	2%
Bandpeople	6	2%
Sound Engineers	5	2%
Recording Engineers	4	1%

The top employers for *sound engineering technicians* in the region, by number of job postings, are shown in Exhibit 11.

Exhibit 11: Top Employers by Number of Job Postings for Middle-Skill Occupation (n=268)

Employer	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Meta	6	2%
Tencent	4	1%
Zixta Enterprises	3	1%
Gi Group	3	1%
Johnson Controls	2	1%
Aquent	2	1%
Calvary Chapel Open Door	2	1%
Activision Blizzard	2	1%

Employer	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
Respawn Entertainment	2	1%
New York Film Academy	2	1%

The top specialized, soft, and computer skills for *sound engineering technicians* listed by those most frequently mentioned in job postings (denoted in parentheses) are shown in Exhibit 12.

Exhibit 12: Top Skills by Number of Job Postings for Middle-Skill Occupation (n=268)

Top Specialized Skills	Top Soft Skills	Top Computer Skills
Audio Engineering (38)	Communication (36)	Pro Tools (20)
Sound Design (36)	Editing (29)	Middleware (18)
Workflow Management (35)	Troubleshooting (Problem Solving) (29)	Unreal Engine (17)
Post-Production (25)	Detail Oriented (19)	Game Engine (12)
Short Films (25)	Organizational Skills (14)	Python (Programming Language) (9)
Audio Systems (24)	Leadership (11)	Unity Engine (8)
Audio Mixing (22)	Problem Solving (11)	Logic Pro (7)
Sound Effects (22)	Planning (10)	Zoom (Video Conferencing Tool) (7)
Pro Tools (20)	Sincerity (9)	AAA Video Games (5)
Middleware (18)	Time Management (9)	Adobe Premiere Pro (4)

Job Postings for Above Middle-Skill Occupation

The top job titles for *music directors and composers*^A in the region, by number of job postings, are shown in Exhibit 13.

Exhibit 13: Top Job Titles by Number of Job Postings for Middle-Skill Occupation (n=369)

Job Titles	Job Postings	Percentage
Music Video Directors	22	6%
Music Directors	20	5%
Choir Directors	9	2%
Music Assistants	8	2%
Actors/Musicians	7	2%
Music Teachers/Musicians	7	2%
Music Programming Interns	7	2%
Funeral Arrangers	6	2%
Directors of Partnerships	5	1%
Directors of Music and Worship Arts	5	1%

The top employers for *music directors and composers*[^] in the region, by number of job postings, are shown in Exhibit 14.

Exhibit 14: Top Employers by Number of Job Postings for Above Middle-Skill Occupation (n=369)

Employer	Job Postings	Percentage of Job Postings
NBC	9	2%
Tiktok	8	2%
Roman Catholic Archdiocese Of Los Angeles	8	2%
Stubhub	5	1%
Sony Group	4	1%
Studio 71	4	1%
Netflix	4	1%
Universal Music Group	4	1%
Lionsgate	3	1%
Biola University	3	1%

The top specialized, soft, and computer skills for *music directors and composers*[^] listed by those most frequently mentioned in job postings (denoted in parentheses) are shown in Exhibit 15.

Exhibit 15: Top Skills by Number of Job Postings for Above Middle-Skill Occupation (n=369)

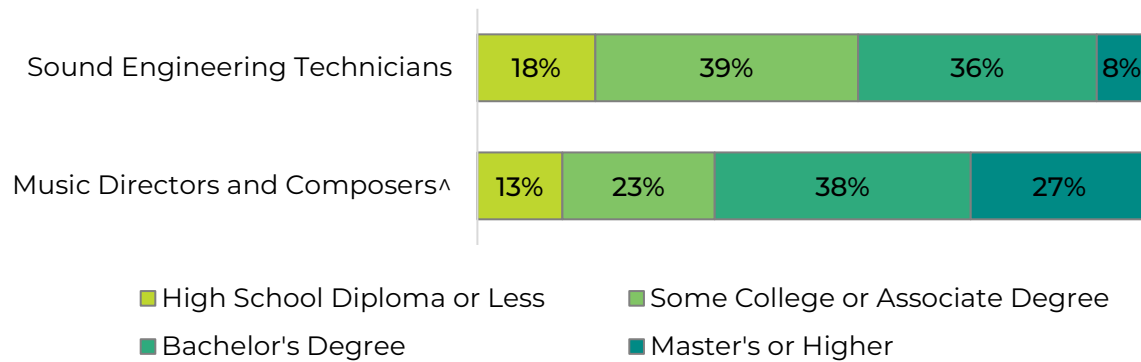
Top Specialized Skills	Top Soft Skills	Top Computer Skills
Music Industry (65)	Communication (130)	Microsoft Excel (27)
Marketing (58)	Leadership (63)	Microsoft Office (25)
Choral Music (35)	Detail Oriented (61)	Microsoft PowerPoint (19)
Worship Ministry (25)	Management (56)	Google Workspace (13)
Finance (24)	Operations (53)	Microsoft Outlook (13)
Music Education (23)	Planning (53)	TikTok (13)
Metadata (22)	Research (50)	Microsoft Word (12)
Music Publishing (20)	Organizational Skills (44)	Airtable (8)
Programming (Music) (20)	Teaching (43)	Webmail (7)
Project Management (19)	Coordinating (38)	Productivity Software (5)

Educational Attainment

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists postsecondary non-degree award for *sound engineering technicians*, and bachelor's degree for *music directors and composers*[^].

The national-level educational attainment data indicates between 23% and 39% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree as their highest level of education. Exhibit 16 shows the educational attainment for each occupation, sorted by highest community college educational attainment to lowest.

Exhibit 16: National-level Educational Attainment for Occupations



Requested Minimum Education Requirement

Of the cumulative job postings for these music technology occupations in Los Angeles and Orange counties that listed a minimum education requirement:

- 9% (23) of Middle-Skill Job Postings
 - 4% (1) requested a high school diploma or associate degree.
 - 91% (21) requested a bachelor's degree.
- 34% (126) of Above Middle-Skill Job Postings
 - 13% (17) requested a high school diploma or associate degree
 - 74% (93) requested a bachelor's degree

Educational Supply

The following supply tables display the total supply for these middle-skill music technology occupations that align with these TOP and CIP codes and program needs.

Community College Supply

Exhibit 17 shows the three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP codes:

- Mass Communications (0610.00)
- Commercial Music (1005.00)

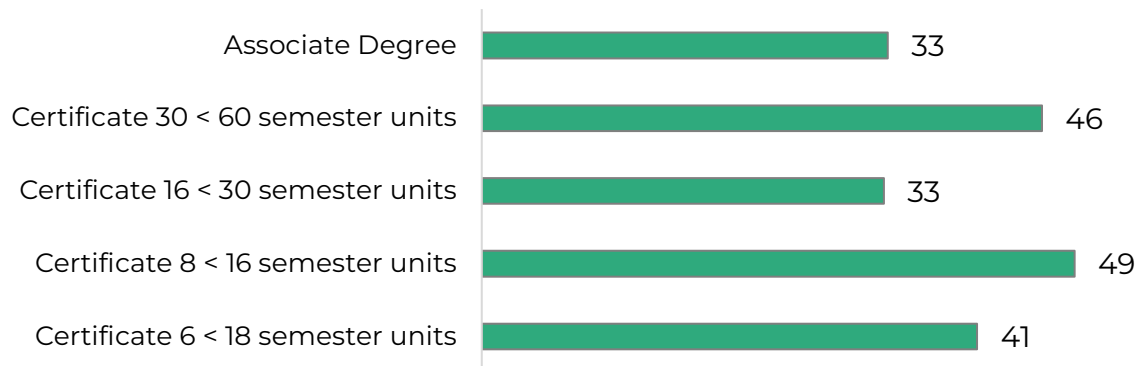
The colleges with the most completions in the region are Saddleback (64), followed by Citrus (33), and LA City (18). Over the past 12 months, there were one other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

Exhibit 17: 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
0610.00	Mass Communications	Glendale	0	1	0	0
		Long Beach	0	5	5	3
		LA Subtotal	0	6	5	4
		-	-	-	-	-
		OC Subtotal	-	-	-	-
Supply Subtotal/Average			0	6	5	4
1005.00	Commercial Music	Cerritos	13	6	5	8
		Citrus	26	36	36	33
		Compton	0	1	5	2
		East LA	0	6	2	3
		LA City	25	11	19	18
		LA Harbor	7	4	2	4
		LA Pierce	0	1	0	0
		LA Valley	18	12	12	14
		Long Beach	0	0	1	0
		Pasadena	0	3	18	7
		Rio Hondo	1	8	27	12
		LA Subtotal	90	88	127	102
		Cypress	12	11	23	15
		Fullerton	7	2	15	8
		Irvine	0	0	1	0
		Orange Coast	1	0	8	3
		Saddleback	95	45	52	64
		Santa Ana	7	6	4	6
		OC Subtotal	122	64	103	96
Supply Subtotal/Average			212	152	230	198
Supply Total/Average			212	158	235	202

Exhibit 18 shows the annual average community college awards by type from 2021-22 to 2023-24. The plurality of the awards are for certificate 8 to 16 semester units, closely followed by certificate 30 to 60 semester units then certificate 6 to 18 semester units.

Exhibit 18: Annual Average Community College Awards by Type, 2021-2024



Community College Student Outcomes

Exhibit 19 shows the Strong Workforce Program (SWP) metrics for commercial music programs in Coast Community College District (CCCD), the Orange County Region, and California. Of the 981 Orange County commercial music students in the 2023-24 academic year, 15% (149) attended an CCCD college.

CCCD students that exited commercial music programs in the 2022-23 academic year had higher median annual earnings (\$21,570 or \$10.37 per hour) compared to all commercial music students in Orange County (\$30,408 or \$14.62 per hour). Due to insufficient data, outcomes related to students attaining a living wage is unavailable.

Exhibit 19: Commercial music (0511.00) Strong Workforce Program Metrics, 2021-24⁴

SWP Metric	CCCD	OC Region	California
SWP Students	149	981	8,914
SWP Students Who Earned 9 or More Career Education Units in the District in a Single Year	13%	20%	22%
SWP Students Who Completed a Noncredit CTE or Workforce Preparation Course	100%	89%	71%
SWP Students Who Earned a Degree or Certificate or Attained Apprenticeship Journey Status	Insufficient Data	54	365
SWP Students Who Transferred to a Four-Year Postsecondary Institution (2022-23)	Insufficient Data	35	364
SWP Students with a Job Closely Related to Their Field of Study (2021-22)	Insufficient Data	63%	59%
Median Annual Earnings for SWP Exiting Students (2022-23)	\$21,570 (\$10.37)	\$30,408 (\$14.62)	\$30,440 (\$14.63)
Median Change in Earnings for SWP Exiting Students (2022-23)	Insufficient Data	44%	27%
SWP Exiting Students Who Attained the Living Wage (2022-23)	Insufficient Data	17%	24%

⁴ All SWP metrics are for 2023-24 unless otherwise noted.

Non-Community College Supply

To comprehensively analyze the regional supply, it is crucial to include data from other institutions offering commercial music programs. Exhibit 20 displays the annual and three-year average awards granted by these institutions under the related Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes:

- Recording Arts Technology/Technician (10.0203)
- Music Technology (50.0913)

No awards were conferred under the following CIP code: Audio Engineering Technology/Technician (15.0307).

The available data covers 2020 to 2023. During this period, non-community college institutions in the region conferred an average of 479 awards annually in related program.

Exhibit 20: Regional Non-Community College Awards, 2020-2023

CIP Code	Program	College	2020-2021 Awards	2021-2022 Awards	2022-2023 Awards	3-Year Award Average
10.0203	Recording Arts Technology/Technician	California College of ASU	21	3	0	8
		Mount Saint Mary's University	0	0	0	0
		Musicians Institute	48	31	59	46
Supply Subtotal/Average			69	34	59	54
50.0913	Music Technology	California College of Music	3	3	6	4
		Los Angeles College of Music	6	2	4	4
		Los Angeles Film School	524	411	316	417
Supply Subtotal/Average			533	416	326	425
Supply Total/Average			602	450	385	479

Regional Demographics

The following section presents occupational, community college program, and population demographic data for Orange County. This comparison can help identify possible equity gaps between the local workforce and the student pipeline who are preparing for these occupations. These insights can inform program development, outreach, and support strategies to better align community college programs with current labor market needs.

Ethnicity

Exhibit 21 compares the ethnicity of Orange County community college students enrolled in commercial music programs, the overall Orange County population, and occupation-specific data for the two music technology occupations included in this report.

White workers are overrepresented in music technology occupations (66%) compared to the proportion of commercial music students (26%) and population (38%). Conversely, Hispanic or Latino individuals make up 46% of commercial music students, but only 23% of the workforce, indicating a potential disconnect between training and employment outcomes.

Exhibit 21: Program and County Demographics by Ethnicity

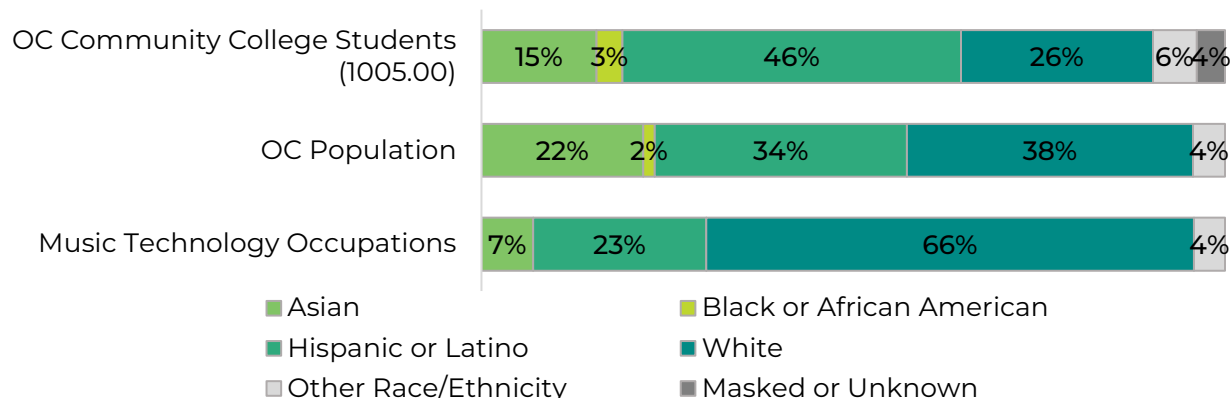
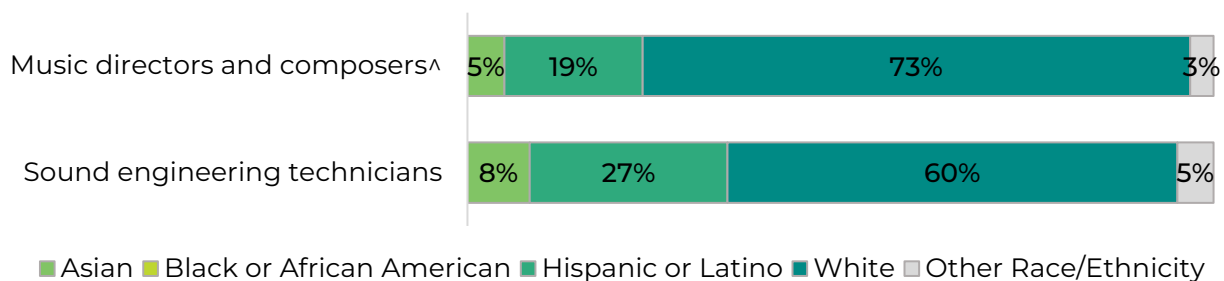


Exhibit 22 shows the disaggregated ethnicity data for each occupation, revealing potential disparities in entry into well-paying occupations or career advancement.

Both occupations are dominated by white workers with 73% for *music directors and composers*[^] and 60% *sound engineering technicians*.

Exhibit 22: Disaggregated Ethnic Distribution by Occupation



Age

Exhibit 22 compares the age of Orange County community college students enrolled in commercial music programs, the overall Orange County population, and occupation-specific data for the two music technology occupations included in this report.

While 72% of commercial music students are aged 24 or younger, they represent only 7% of the workforce. Conversely, individuals aged 25 to 34 comprise 37% of workers but only 17% of students. This suggests these occupations may require some training or education before entry.

Exhibit 23: Program and County Demographics by Age

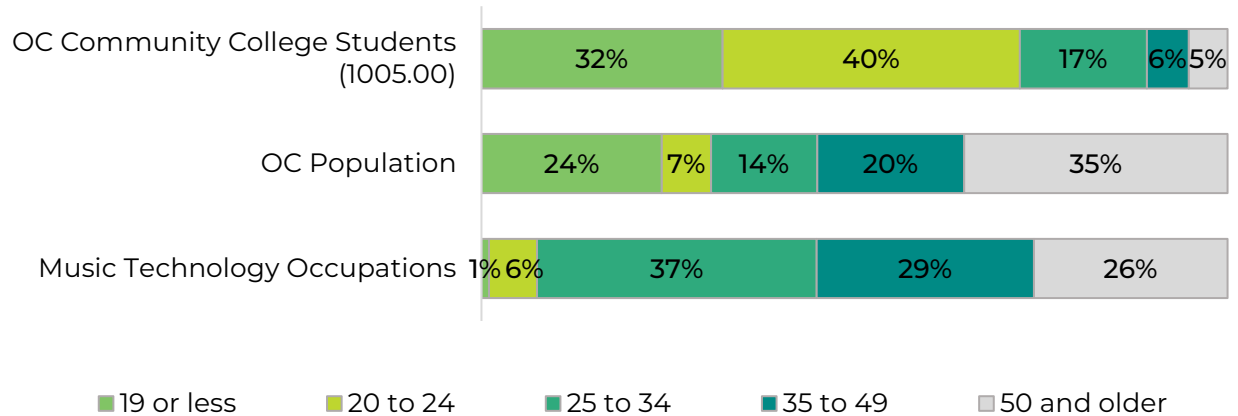
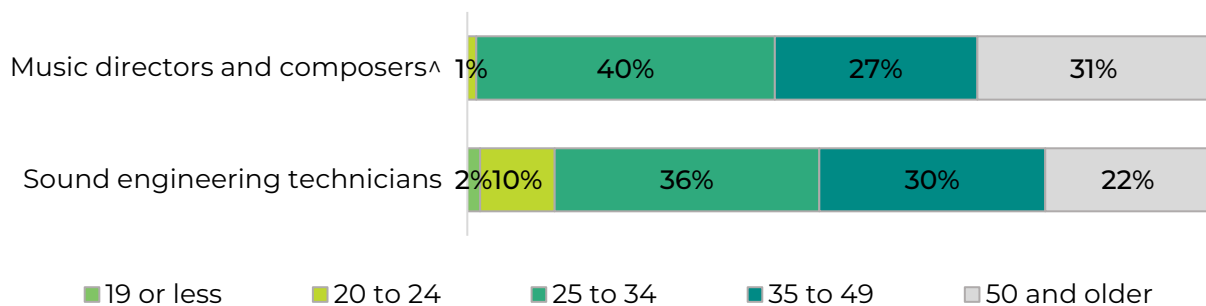


Exhibit 24 shows the disaggregated age data for each occupation, revealing potential disparities in entry into well-paying occupations or career advancement.

Both occupations are primarily composed of individuals aged 25 and older, which suggests these occupations may require some training or education before entry.

Exhibit 24: Disaggregated Age Distribution by Occupation



Sex

Exhibit 23 compares the sex of Orange County community college students enrolled in commercial music programs, the overall Orange County population, and occupation-specific data for these music technology occupations.

Though the population is split evenly between women and men, only 18% of commercial music workers in the field, and 29% of community college students, are women.

Exhibit 25: Program and County Demographics by Sex

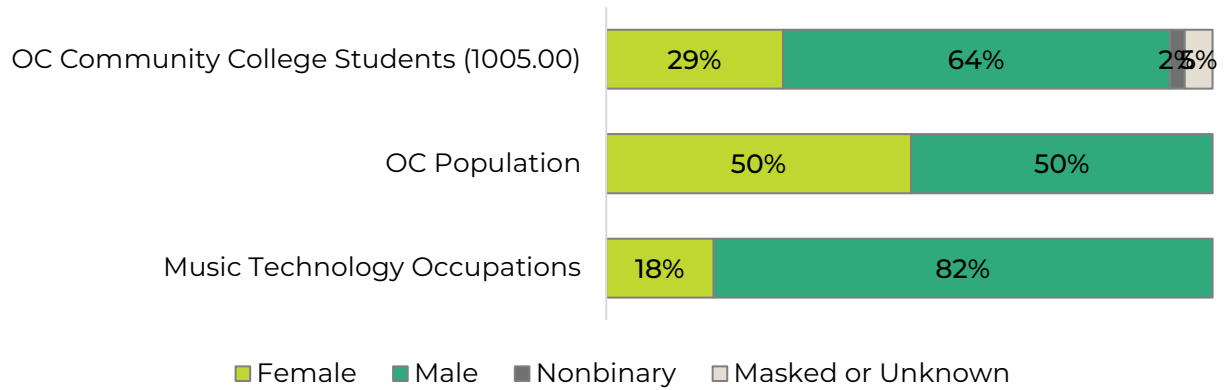
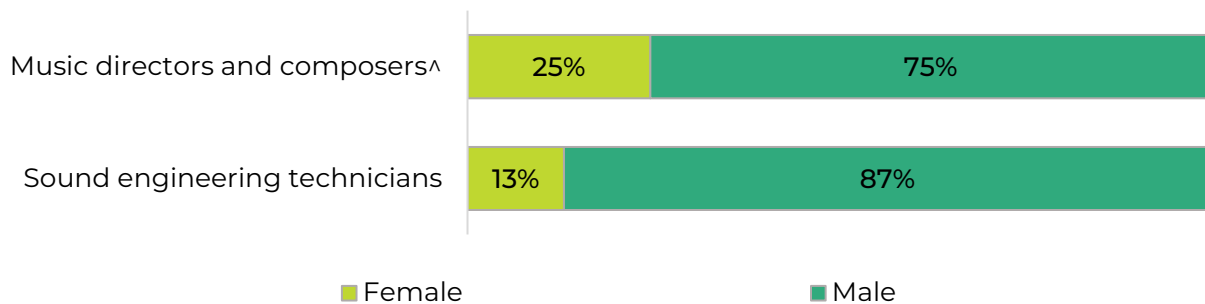


Exhibit 26 shows the disaggregated sex data for each occupation, revealing potential disparities in entry into well-paying occupations or career advancement.

Men are disproportionately represented in both occupations.

Exhibit 26: Disaggregated Sex Distribution by Occupation



Appendix A: Methodology

OC COE prepared this report by analyzing occupational and educational program data. Occupational data comes from Lightcast, a labor market analytics firm which compiles information from the California Employment Development Department (EDD), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and other agencies. Analysis of emerging occupations is predicated on online job postings data combined with Occupational Information Network (O*NET) profile descriptions. Program supply data was sourced from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Data Mart (MIS Data Mart) (datamart.cccco.edu) and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data), also known as IPEDS, which was integrated into the COE's Supply Table. (IPEDS).

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

- All occupations that have 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 OC COE determined labor market supply for each occupation (SOC code) by analyzing the number of 3-year average program completers or awards in related TOP and CIP codes. TOP code data comes from MIS Data Mart and CIP code data comes from the IPEDS. The 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 throughout the United States and Canada. The California Community Colleges are the only system that use TOP codes.

The analysis reflects labor market demand for occupations closely related to the proposed program as expressed by the requesting college in consultation with the OC COE. assess current and projected employment based on data trends for detailed occupations, as well as annual average awards granted by regional postsecondary educational institutions. Real-time labor market information (online job postings) assesses employer preferences but cannot be used to measure the quantity of open positions, number of jobs, or annual openings.

All findings are based on the most current available data and a combination of primary and secondary sources. While care was taken to ensure accuracy, the OC COE, its host district, and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office are not responsible for individual decisions made based on this report.

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 (v.2026.1), a labor market analytics firm.
Living Wage	<p>Per the CCCCCO's this report's endorsement criteria uses the University of Washington's Center for Women's Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard last updated in March 2024, which is \$27.13 per hour (\$57,294 annually) in Orange County.</p> <p>The MIT Living Wage, updated on February 15, 2026, is a nationally recognized living wage metric and is provided for reference. The current MIT Living Wage in Orange County is \$36.53.</p>
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	<p>The CCCCCO Data Mart provides information about students, courses, student services, outcomes and faculty and staff.</p> <p>The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Integrated Postsecondary Integrated Data System (IPEDS) collects data on the number of postsecondary awards earned (completions).</p>
Student Metrics and Demographics	The Data Vista (v.2.0), 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	<p>The Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) is the premier source for detailed population and housing information.</p> <p>Data is sourced from IPUMS USA, a database providing access to ACS and other Census Bureau data products.</p>

For more information, please contact the Orange County Center of Excellence:

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