



Tax Studies (TOP 0502.10)

March 2023

Prepared by the South Central Coast Center of Excellence for
Labor Market Research

Program Recommendation

This report was compiled by the South Central Coast¹ Center of Excellence to provide regional labor market data for the program recommendation – Tax Studies. This report can help determine whether there is demand in the local labor market that is not being met by the supply from programs of study (CCC and non-CCC) that align with this occupation group.

Key Findings

- In the South Central Coast region, **the number of jobs related to Tax Studies are expected to increase** for Financial Examiners and remain steady for the other three related occupations.
- Tax Studies is anticipated to experience a **low risk of automation** for Accountants and Auditors, Financial Examiners, and Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents; and a **medium risk of automation** for Tax Preparers.
- In 2021 there were 749 regional completions in programs related to the occupations identified as related to Tax Studies and 738 openings, indicating **supply is meeting demand**.
- Typical entry-level education ranges from **a high school diploma or equivalent** for Tax Preparers, **to a Bachelor's degree** for the other three associated occupations.
- Completers of Tax Studies programs from the 2019-2020 academic year in the South Central Coast region had a **median annual wage upon completion of \$42,480**.
- 58% of students are **employed within a year** after completing a program.
- 46% of students **attained a living wage** within a year of completion.
- Completers experienced an average of **+9% change in earnings after exiting**.
- 76% of students were **part-time**, 12% **skill builders**, 56% **first-generation**, and 70% **economically disadvantaged**.

¹ The South Central Coast Region consists of San Luis Obispo County, Santa Barbara County, Ventura County, and the following cities from North Los Angeles County: Canyon Country, Castaic, Lake Hughes, Lancaster, Littlerock, Llano, Newhall, Palmdale, Pearblossom, Santa Clarita, Stevenson Ranch, and Valencia.

Occupation Codes and Descriptions

There are four occupations in the standard occupational classification (SOC) system that were identified as related to Tax Studies for this analysis. The occupation titles and descriptions, as well as reported job titles, are included in Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 1 – Occupation, Description, and Sample Job Titles

SOC Code	Title	Description	Sample of Reported Job Titles
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	Examine, analyze, and interpret accounting records to prepare financial statements, give advice, or audit and evaluate statements prepared by others. Install or advise on systems of recording costs or other financial and budgetary data.	Accountant, Accounting Officer, Audit Partner, Auditor, Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Cost Accountant, Financial Auditor, General Accountant, Internal Auditor, Revenue Tax Specialist
13-2061	Financial Examiners	Enforce or ensure compliance with laws and regulations governing financial and securities institutions and financial and real estate transactions. May examine, verify, or authenticate records.	Bank Examiner, Bank Secrecy Act Anti-Money Laundering Officer (BSA/AML Officer), Community Reinvestment Act Officer (CRA Officer), Compliance Analyst, Compliance Officer, Compliance Specialist, Credit Union Examiner, Credit Union Field Examiner, Examining Officer, Internal Auditor
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	Determine tax liability or collect taxes from individuals or business firms according to prescribed laws and regulations.	City Tax Auditor, Collections Specialist, Revenue Agent, Revenue Collector, Revenue Officer, Revenue Specialist, Tax Collector, Tax Compliance Officer, Tax Examiner, Tax Examining Technician
13-2082	Tax Preparers	Prepare tax returns for individuals or small businesses.	Certified Income Tax Preparer (CTP), Corporate Tax Preparer, Enrolled Agent, Income Tax Preparer, Tax Advisor, Tax Associate, Tax Consultant, Tax Preparer, Tax Professional, Tax Specialist

Source: O*NET Online

Current and Future Employment

In the South Central Coast region, the number of jobs related to Tax Studies are expected to increase for Financial Examiners and remain steady for the other three related occupations.

Exhibit 2 – Five-Year Projections for Tax Studies in the South Central Coast Region

SOC	Occupation	2022 Jobs	2027 Jobs	2022-2027 Change	2022-2027 % Change
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	6,440	6,667	227	4%
13-2061	Financial Examiners	231	244	13	6%
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	185	188	3	2%
13-2082	Tax Preparers	494	501	7	1%

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Earnings

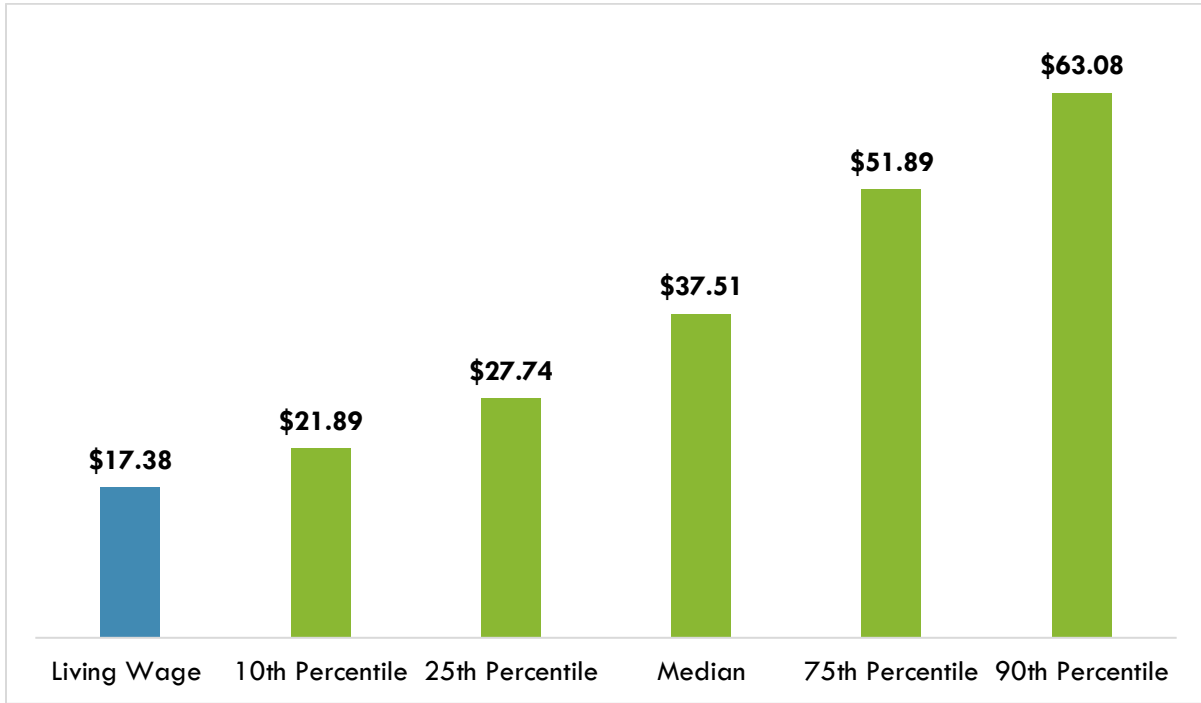
Exhibit 3 contains hourly wages and annual average earnings for these occupations. Entry-level hourly earnings are represented by the 25th percentile of wages, median hourly earnings are represented by the 50th percentile of wages, and experienced hourly earnings are represented by the 75th percentile of wages, demonstrating various levels of employment.

Exhibit 3 – Earnings for Tax Studies in the South Central Coast Region

SOC	Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	\$29.68	\$38.07	\$49.37
13-2061	Financial Examiners	\$31.86	\$46.27	\$70.59
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	\$33.13	\$43.02	\$53.35
13-2082	Tax Preparers	\$16.28	\$22.70	\$34.27

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Exhibit 3b – Earnings for Tax Studies in the South Central Coast Region



Source: Family Needs Calculator (Living wage is based on Single Adult households with no children); Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Employer Job Postings

In this research brief, real-time labor market information is used to provide a more nuanced view of the current job market, as it captures job advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study. Employer job postings are consulted to understand who is looking in the field, and what they are looking for in potential candidates. To identify job postings related to Tax Studies the following standard occupational classifications were used:

13-2011	Accountants and Auditors
13-2061	Financial Examiners
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents
13-2082	Tax Preparers

Top Occupations

In 2022, there were 2,184 employer postings for the occupations related to Tax Studies.

Exhibit 4 – Top Occupations by Job Postings

SOC Code	Occupation	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	1,884
13-2082	Tax Preparers	153
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	120
13-2061	Financial Examiners	27

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Exhibit 4b – Top Occupations and Risk of Automation

SOC Code	Occupation	Risk of Automation
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	Low
13-2082	Tax Preparers	Medium
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	Low
13-2061	Financial Examiners	Low

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Top Titles

The top job titles for employers posting ads for jobs related to Tax Studies are listed in Exhibit 5. Accountants is mentioned as the job title in 18% of all relevant job postings (403 postings).

Exhibit 5 – Job Titles

Title	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
Accountants	403
Staff Accountants	384
Tax Preparers	116
Cost Accountants	108
Tax Accountants	49

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Top Employers

Exhibit 6 lists the major employers hiring professionals in the Tax Studies field. The top employer posting job ads was Robert Half. The top worksite cities for these occupations were Santa Barbara, Thousand Oaks, Santa Clarita, Westlake Village, and Oxnard.

Exhibit 6 – Top Employers (n=1,188)

Employer	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
Robert Half	298
Intuit	92
Avantor	54
H&R Block	43
Jobot	41

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Skills

The tables in Exhibit 7 list employers' most commonly requested skills in job postings related to Tax Studies. Accounting is the most sought-after specialized skill for employers, followed by Auditing and Finance. Communications, Management, and Microsoft Excel were the most requested baseline skills. Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Office, and Quickbooks were the most commonly requested software and programming skills.

Exhibit 7 – Specialized Skills (n= 15,572)

Skills	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
Accounting	1,723
Auditing	1,226
Finance	886
Financial Statements	870
Generally Accepted Accounting Principles	690
Month-End Closing	547
General Ledger	498
Accounts Payable	480
Internal Controls	474
Accounts Receivable	466
Balance Sheet	465
Account Reconciliation	457
Reconciliation	393
External Auditing	327
Fixed Asset	320

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Exhibit 7b – Baseline Skills (n= 12,155)

Skills	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
Communications	779
Management	731
Microsoft Excel	712
Detail Oriented	665
Operations	477
Problem Solving	473
Budgeting	428
Writing	402
Customer Service	367
Self-Motivation	363

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Exhibit 7c – Software and Programming Skills (n= 2,896)

Skills	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
Microsoft Excel	712
Microsoft Office	360
QuickBooks	252
Microsoft PowerPoint	198
SAP Applications	167
Microsoft Outlook	162
Accounting Software	153
Microsoft Word	110
TurboTax	80
Software Systems	52

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Industry Concentration

Exhibit 8 shows the industries with the most Tax Studies postings in the South Central Coast region. Note: 24% of records have been excluded because they do not include an industry. As a result, the chart below may not be representative of the full sample.

Exhibit 8 – Industries Employing the Most in the Tax Studies Field, 2022

Industry	Occupation Group Jobs in Industry	% of Occupation Group in Industry
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	550	33%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	286	17%
Manufacturing	171	10%
Information	118	7%
Wholesale Trade	106	6%

Certifications

Exhibit 9 lists the most in-demand certifications in the Tax Studies field. The top requested certification in job postings was Certified Public Accountant.

Exhibit 9 – Certifications (n= 809)

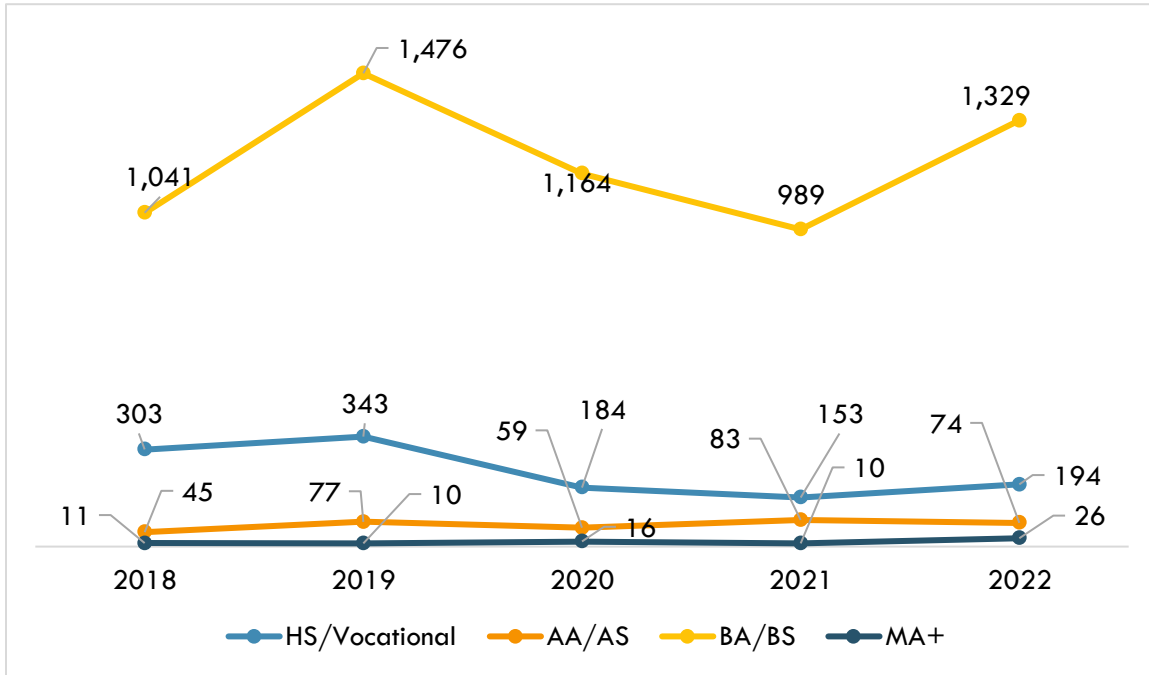
Certifications	Job Postings, Full Year 2022
Certified Public Accountant	283
Enrolled Agent (EA)	130
Valid Driver’s License	68
Certified Internal Auditor	51
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	48

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Job Postings - Minimum Educational Attainment Over Time

Exhibit 10 displays the change in job advertisements over the last five years for Tax Studies, according to the minimum advertised education. In 2022, there were 1,623 total job ads posted with a minimum advertised education, with 1,329 of them requiring a bachelor’s degree.

Exhibit 10 – Educational Demand, Minimum Advertised



Source: Labor Insight / Jobs (Burning Glass)

Job Postings – Proportion of Job Postings by Minimum Educational Attainment Required

To gauge employer preference for candidates with particular education levels, the proportion of job postings by minimum advertised education appears in Exhibit 11. Employers posting job ads for Tax Studies have frequently sought candidates with a bachelor’s degree.

Exhibit 11 – Occupational Demand by Education, Minimum Advertised

Minimum Education Requirement	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
HS Diploma / Vocational Training	22%	18%	13%	12%	12%
Associate Degree	3%	4%	4%	7%	5%
Bachelor’s Degree	74%	77%	82%	80%	82%
Graduate Degree	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Education and Training

Exhibit 12 shows the typical entry-level education requirement for the occupations of interest, along with the typical on-the-job training needed to attain competency in the occupation.

Exhibit 12 – Education and Training Requirements

SOC	Occupation	Typical entry-level education	Typical on-the-job training
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	Bachelor's degree	None
13-2061	Financial Examiners	Bachelor's degree	Long-term on-the-job training
13-2081	Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	Bachelor's degree	Moderate-term on-the-job training
13-2082	Tax Preparers	High School diploma or equivalent	Moderate-term on-the-job training

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Projections (Educational Attainment)

Regional Completions and Openings

There were 749 regional completions (2021) and 738 regional openings (2021) in the South Central Coast region for programs related to the occupations in this report.

Exhibit 13 – Completions and Openings

15 Regional Institutions had Related Programs (2021)	749 Regional Completions (2021)	738 Annual Openings (2021)
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Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Related Programs

CIP Code	Program	Completions (2021)
52.0302	Accounting Technology/Technician and Bookkeeping	602
52.0301	Accounting	82
52.0801	Finance, General	23
52.1601	Taxation	22
52.0299	Business Administration, Management and Operations, General	15
52.0803	Banking and Financial Support Services	5

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

CCC and Non-CCC Awards

Exhibit 14 lists the number of completers from programs related to Tax Studies in the South Central Coast region.

Exhibit 14 – CCC and Non-CCC Awards the South Central Coast, 2021

CCC Programs	Completers
College of the Canyons	305
Ventura College	125
Moorpark College	75
Cuesta College	46
Allan Hancock College	28
Antelope Valley College	18
Santa Barbara City College	16
Non-CCC Programs	Completers
California Lutheran University	70
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	34
Ventura Adult and Continuing Education	15
The Master's University and Seminary	13
Santa Barbara Business College – Santa Maria	4

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Student Outcomes

The CTE LaunchBoard provides student outcome data on the effectiveness of CTE programs. The following student outcome information was collected from exiters of the regional Tax Studies Programs (TOP: 0502.10) for the 2019-2020 academic year.

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- 46% of students **attained a living wage** within a year of completion.
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Sources

O*Net Online, Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass), Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI), MIT Living Wage Calculator, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Education Attainment, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS) Data Mart, CTE LaunchBoard, Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey, Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

Notes

Data included in this analysis represent the labor market demand for relevant positions most closely related to Tax Studies. 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. Real-time labor market information captures job post advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study and 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. 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.