



Veterinary Technician (Licensed) TOP: 0102.10

September 2019

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 – Veterinary Technician. 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 for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians are expected to increase over the next five years.
- Veterinary Technologists and Technicians are expected to anticipate a low risk of automation.
- In 2017 there were 62 regional completions in programs related to the occupations identified as related to Veterinary Technician and 60 openings.
- Typical entry-level education suggests an Associate's degree for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians.
- Completers of Veterinary Technician programs from the 2015-2016 academic year had a median annual wage upon completion of \$26,382.
- 80% of students are employed within a year after completing a program.
- Starting salary in the region for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians is \$36,650.

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

Currently, there is one occupation in the standard occupational classification (SOC) system that was identified as related to the program, Veterinary Technician. The occupation title and description, 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
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	Perform medical tests in a laboratory environment for use in the treatment and diagnosis of diseases in animals. Prepare vaccines and serums for prevention of diseases. Prepare tissue samples, take blood samples, and execute laboratory tests, such as urinalysis and blood counts. Clean and sterilize instruments and materials and maintain equipment and machines. May assist a veterinarian during surgery.	Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT), Emergency Veterinary Technician, Internal Medicine Veterinary Technician, Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT), Medical Technologist, Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT), Veterinary Assistant, Veterinary Laboratory Technician (Veterinary Lab Tech), Veterinary Nurse, Veterinary Technician (Vet Tech).

Source: O*NET Online

Current and Future Employment

In the South Central Coast region, the number of jobs for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians are expected to increase over the next five years. Exhibit 2 contains detailed employment projection data for this occupation.

Exhibit 2 – Five-year projections for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians in the South Central Coast region

SOC	Occupation	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	604	744	140	23%

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Earnings

In the South Central Coast region, the average wage for the listed occupation is \$19.78 per hour.

Exhibit 3 contains hourly wages and annual average earnings for this occupation. 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 is represented by the 75th percentile of wages, demonstrating various levels of employment.

Exhibit 3 – Earnings for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians in the South Central Coast region

SOC	Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$16.00	\$19.78	\$23.85

Source: 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 employing Veterinary Technologists and Technicians, and what they are looking for in potential candidates. To identify job postings related to Veterinary Technician, the following standard occupational classifications were used:

29-2056 Veterinary Technologists and Technicians

Top Occupations

In 2018, there were 47 employer postings for occupations related to Veterinary Technician.

Exhibit 4 – Top occupations in job postings and risk of automation tables

SOC Code	Occupation	Job Postings, Full Year 2018
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	47

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

SOC Code	Occupation	Risk of Automation
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	Low

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Top Titles

The top job titles for employers posting ads for jobs related to Veterinary Technicians are listed in Exhibit 5. Veterinary Technician is mentioned as the job title in 91% of all relevant job postings (43 postings).

Exhibit 5 –Job titles

Title	Job Postings, Full Year 2018
Veterinary Technician	43
Animal Technician	2
Food Prep	1
Veterinary Assistant	1

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Top Employers

Exhibit 6 lists the major employers hiring professionals in the Veterinary Technician field. The top employer posting job ads was Banfield Pet Hospital. The top worksite cities in the region for this occupation were Santa Barbara, Westlake Village, Santa Clarita, Ventura, and Newhall.

Exhibit 6 – Top employers (n=39)

Employer	Job Postings, Full Year 2018
Banfield Pet Hospital	14
VCA Inc.	9
La Cumbre Animal Hospital	3

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Skills

Customer Service is the most sought after skill for employers hiring for jobs related to Veterinary Technician.

Exhibit 7 –Job skills (n=39)

Skills	Job Postings, Full Year 2018
Customer Service	20
Anesthesiology	15
Health Care Industry Knowledge	13
Surgery	12
Veterinary Medicine	12
Medical Records Maintenance	11
Patient Flow	10

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Industry Concentration

Exhibit 8 shows the industries with most Veterinary Technician postings in the South Central Coast. Note: 2% 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 Veterinary Technician field, 2018

Industry	Occupation Group Jobs in Industry	% of Occupation Group in Industry
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	28	61%
Health Care and Social Assistance	10	22%
Educational Services	4	9%
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	3	6%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1	2%

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Education and Training

Exhibit 9 shows the typical entry-level education requirement for the occupation of interest, along with the typical on-the-job training needed to attain competency in the occupation.

Exhibit 9 – Education and training requirements

SOC	Occupation	Typical entry-level education	Typical on-the-job training
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	Associate's Degree	None

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

Regional Completions and Openings

There were 62 regional completions (2017) and 60 annual openings (2017) in the South Central Coast region in programs related to the occupation identified as aligned with the program, Veterinary Technician.

Exhibit 10 – Completions and Openings

2 Regional Institutions had Related Programs (2017)	62 Regional Completions (2017)	60 Annual Openings (2017)
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Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Related Programs

CIP Code	Program	Completions (2017)
51.0000	Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General	44
51.0808	Veterinary/Animal Health Technology/Technician and Veterinary Assistant	18

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 Veterinary Technician Program (TOP: 0102.10) in the South Central Coast region for the 2015-16 academic year.

- The median annual wage for students after exiting is \$26,382.
- 80% of students are employed within a year after completing a program.
- Starting salary in the region for Veterinary Technologists and Technicians is \$36,650.
- Most Common middle-skills jobs for this program are:
 - Veterinary Technologists and Technicians

Source: CTE LaunchBoard

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 represents the labor market demand for positions most closely related to Veterinary Technician. 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 posts advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study and should not be used to establish current job openings, because the numbers may include duplicate job postings or postings intended to gather a pool of applicants. Real-time labor market information 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.