

Labor Market Analysis: 0612.20 – Film Production
Media Arts: Editing; Media Arts: Sound Design; Media Arts: Cinematography
Associate of Arts (A.A.) Degree
 Los Angeles Center of Excellence, August 2024

Program Endorsement:	Endorsed: All Criteria Met <input type="checkbox"/>	Endorsed: Some Criteria Met <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Endorsed <input type="checkbox"/>
Program Endorsement Criteria			
Supply Gap:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Supply met – see below)	
Living Wage: (Entry-Level, 25 th)	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Education:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Emerging Occupation(s)			
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SUMMARY

This report analyzes whether local labor market demand is being met by community college programs aligned with the identified middle-skill occupations¹ or whether a shortage of workers exists. Labor market demand is measured by annual job openings while education supply is measured by the number of awards (degrees and certificates) conferred on average each year.

Based on the available data, there appears to be an oversupply in the region for these five occupations. However, since the gap is within the COE’s acceptable margin (25% over or under the number of annual openings), it is considered “supply met” rather than a “supply gap.” While this program does not meet the traditional supply/demand endorsement criteria, there may be demand for these workers from local employers that is not reflected in traditional labor market data. For this reason, real-time labor market data is included in this report as well – to provide a more nuanced view of the regional job market for these middle-skill occupations related to media arts. Furthermore, entry-level wages exceed the self-sufficiency standard wage in Los Angeles County and more than one-third of current workers in the field have completed an associate degree or less educational attainment.

Recommendation: Due to two of the three program endorsement criteria being met, the Los Angeles Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (LA COE) endorses this proposed program.

¹ Middle-skill occupations typically require some postsecondary education, but less than a bachelor’s degree. The COE classifies middle-skill jobs as the following:

- 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.

Key Findings

Supply Gap

- 2,951 annual job openings are projected in the region through 2028. This number is less than the three-year average of 3,514 awards conferred by educational institutions in the region.
 - Although there are more awards conferred than job openings, the data suggests that the demand has been met for these occupations within the LA/OC region since the three-year average number of awards (supply) is within the COE's 25% margin of annual job openings (demand).
 - Over the past 12 months, there were 2,400 online job postings related to these media arts occupations. The highest number of job postings were for videographers, audiovisual technicians, video editors, audiovisual specialists, lighting technicians, cinematographers, and audio visual managers.

Living Wage

- All five occupations have entry-level wages **above** Los Angeles County's self-sufficiency standard hourly wage (\$18.10/hour).²

Educational Attainment

- 51% of the annual job openings typically require a bachelor's degree for middle-skill occupations related to media arts in the LA/OC region.
- 34-55% of workers in the field have completed an associate degree or less educational attainment, according to national educational attainment data.

Community college supply

- 23 community colleges issued awards related to media arts in the greater LA/OC region over the past three years.
- 1,100 awards (degrees and certificates) were conferred on average each year between 2021 and 2023.

Other postsecondary supply

- 24 educational institutions in the LA/OC region have conferred awards in programs related to media arts over the past three years.
- 2,414 awards were conferred on average each year by other postsecondary institutions throughout the greater LA/OC region between 2020 and 2022.

TARGET OCCUPATIONS

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market and postsecondary supply data related to five middle-skill occupations. Although two of the occupations in this report typically require a bachelor's degree, they are considered middle-skill because approximately one-third of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree or less educational attainment. [For full occupation descriptions, please see Appendix.](#)

² Self-Sufficiency Standard wage data was pulled from The Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool for California. For more information, visit: <http://selfsufficiencystandard.org/california>.

- **Audio and Video Technicians (27-4011)**³
- **Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)**⁴
- **Lighting Technicians (27-4015)**⁵
- **Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Film (27-4031)**⁶
- **Film and Video Editors (27-4032)**⁷

OCCUPATIONAL DEMAND

Exhibit 1 shows the five-year occupational demand projections for these middle-skill media arts occupations. In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the number of jobs related to these occupations is projected to increase by 3% through 2027. There will be nearly 3,000 job openings per year through 2028 due to job growth and replacements. The majority of jobs in 2022 for these middle-skill media arts occupations (91%) were located in Los Angeles County.

Exhibit 1: Current employment and occupational demand, Los Angeles and Orange counties⁸

Geography	2023 Jobs	2028 Jobs	2023-2028 Change	2023-2028 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	28,554	29,299	745	3%	2,675
Orange	2,783	2,908	125	4%	276
Total	31,337	32,207	870	3%	2,951

Detailed Occupation Data

Exhibit 2 displays the current employment, projected occupational demand and additional factors that may impact occupational growth for each of the target occupations in Los Angeles County. Positive scores for automation risk⁹ reflect a lower-than-average threat of the occupation(s) being replaced by automation, while negative scores reflect a greater-than-average risk of automation. The average percentage of workers aged 55+ across all occupations in the Los Angeles/Orange County region is 27%; occupations with a larger share of workers aged 55 and older typically have greater replacement needs to offset the amount of impending retirements.

³ [Broadcast, Sound, and Video Technicians \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁴ [Ibid.](#)

⁵ [Lighting Technicians \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁶ [Film and Video Editors and Camera Operators \(bls.gov\)](#)

⁷ [Ibid.](#)

⁸ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

⁹ Automation risk is calculated based on the percentage of time spent on high-risk compared to low-risk work, the number of high-risk jobs in compatible occupations, and the overall industry automation risk.

Exhibit 2: Current employment, projected occupational demand, automation resilience, percentage of workers aged 55+, Los Angeles County¹⁰

Occupation	2023 Jobs	2028 Jobs	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Auto-mation Resilience	% Aged 55 and older
Audio and Video Technicians	5,519	5,608	2%	517	2.2	23%
Sound Engineering Technicians	5,307	5,419	2%	509	(1.4)	22%
Lighting Technicians	2,604	2,637	1%	237	3.9	23%
Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Film	5,392	5,526	2%	494	0.8	21%
Film and Video Editors	9,732	10,110	4%	917	5.9	21%
Total	28,554	29,299	3%	2,675	-	-

WAGES

The labor market endorsement in this report considers the entry-level hourly wages for these media arts occupations in Los Angeles County as they relate to the county’s self-sufficiency standard wage. Orange County wages are included below in order to provide a complete analysis of the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

Los Angeles County

All five occupations have entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$18.10 in Los Angeles County). Typical entry-level hourly wages are in a range between \$21.08 and \$26.86 (Exhibit 3). Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$46.68 and \$60.92.

Exhibit 3: Earnings for occupations in Los Angeles County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Audio and Video Technicians	\$21.08	\$28.88	\$46.68	\$60,100
Sound Engineering Technicians	\$22.27	\$30.15	\$55.89	\$62,700
Lighting Technicians	\$24.22	\$37.47	\$50.66	\$77,900
Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Film	\$22.19	\$31.65	\$47.50	\$65,800
Film and Video Editors	\$26.86	\$38.00	\$60.92	\$79,000

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

¹⁰ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Orange County

The majority, 64%, of annual openings for these middle-skill media arts occupations have entry-level wages below the self-sufficiency standard wage for one adult (\$20.63 in Orange County). Typical entry-level hourly wages are in a range between \$18.57 and \$22.54 (Exhibit 4).

Two occupations have entry-level wages above the self-sufficiency standard wage:

- *Film and video editors*, \$22.54.
- *Lighting technicians*, \$21.48.

Experienced workers can expect to earn wages between \$42.47 and \$55.35, which are higher than the self-sufficiency standard.

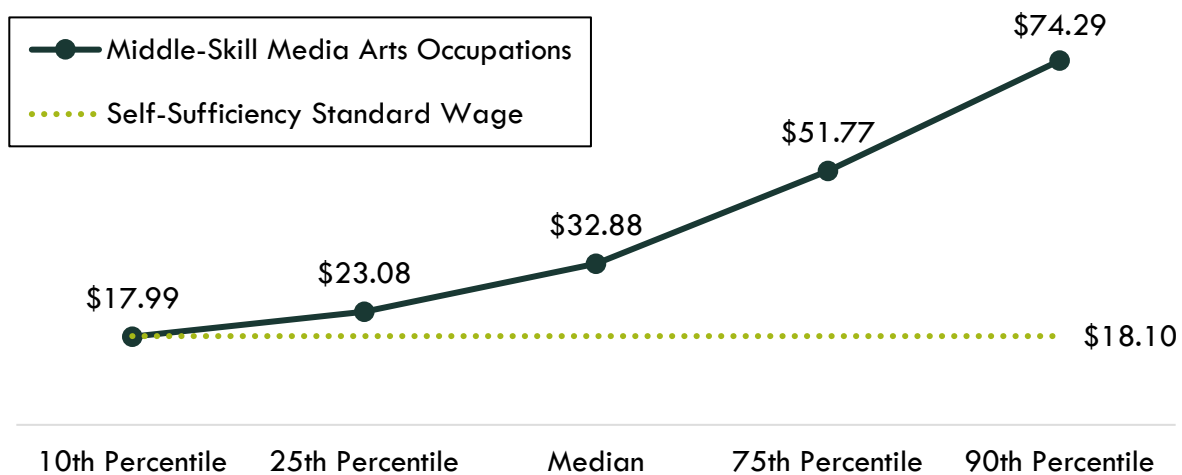
Exhibit 4: Earnings for occupations in Orange County

Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings (25 th Percentile)	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings (75 th Percentile)	Median Annual Earnings*
Audio and Video Technicians	\$19.16	\$26.44	\$42.47	\$55,000
Sound Engineering Technicians	\$19.92	\$27.21	\$49.82	\$56,600
Lighting Technicians	\$21.48	\$33.04	\$44.15	\$68,700
Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Film	\$18.57	\$28.47	\$44.14	\$59,200
Film and Video Editors	\$22.54	\$33.87	\$55.35	\$70,500

*Rounded to the nearest \$100

Across the greater Los Angeles and Orange County region, the average entry-level hourly earnings for the occupations in this report are \$23.08; this is above the living wage for one single adult in Los Angeles County (\$18.10). Exhibit 5 shows the average hourly wage for the occupations in this report, for entry-level to experienced workers.

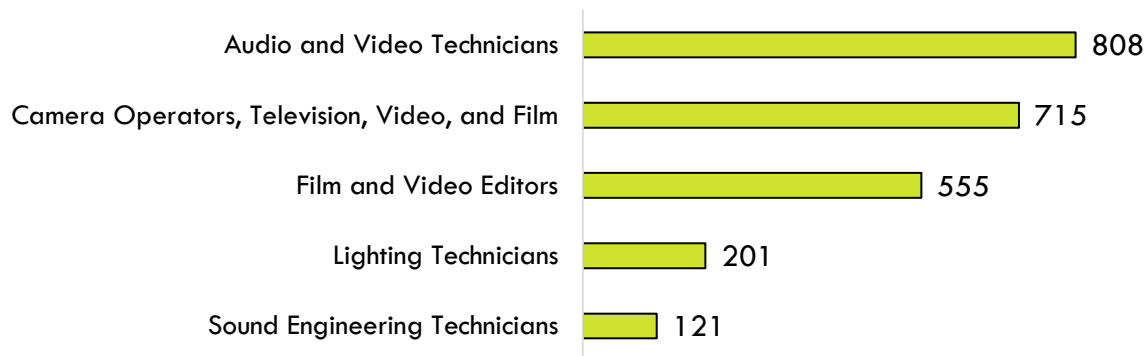
Exhibit 5: Average hourly earnings for middle-skill media arts occupations, Los Angeles and Orange counties



JOB POSTINGS

There were 2,400 online job postings related to media arts listed in the past 12 months in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Exhibit 6 displays the number of job postings by occupation. The majority of job postings (34%) were for *audio and video technicians*, followed by *camera operators, television, video, and film* (30%) and *film and video editors* (23%).

Exhibit 6: Job postings by occupation (last 12 months), Los Angeles and Orange counties



Job postings were analyzed for the most common job titles, skills, and employers associated with the target occupations in this report (Exhibit 7).

Exhibit 7: Most commonly requested job titles, skills and employers in job postings, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Top Job Titles	Top Skills	Top Employers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Videographers • Audiovisual technicians • Video editors • Audiovisual specialists • Lighting technicians • Cinematographers • Audio visual managers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adobe Premiere Pro • Video editing • Adobe After Effects • Post-production • Video production • Social media/marketing • Videography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encore Global • Five Star Audio Visual • Walmart • Gig Life* • University of Southern California • Coalition Technologies

*Staffing company

In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, 29% of the media arts job postings listed a minimum educational requirement. Exhibit 8 shows the number and percentage of job postings by educational level.

Exhibit 8: Education levels requested in job postings for occupations related to media arts, Los Angeles and Orange counties

Education Level	Job Postings	% of Job Postings
Bachelor's degree	325	46%
Associate degree	68	10%
High school diploma or vocational training	309	44%

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

In the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region, the majority of annual job openings (51%) typically require a bachelor's degree (Exhibit 9). Furthermore, the national-level data indicates between 34% and 55% have completed an associate degree or less educational attainment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists the following typical entry-level education levels for the occupations in this report:

Exhibit 9: Entry-level education preferred by employers nationally, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Occupation	Education Level
Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Film	Bachelor's degree
Film and Video Editors	Bachelor's degree
Audio and Video Technicians	Postsecondary non-degree award
Sound Engineering Technicians	Postsecondary non-degree award
Lighting Technicians	High school diploma or equivalent

EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY

Community College Supply

Exhibit 10 shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in programs that have historically trained for the occupations of interest. The colleges with the most completions in the region are Saddleback, LA City, and LA Valley.

Exhibit 10: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2021-2023

TOP Code	Program	College	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	2022-23 Awards	3-Year Average
0604.00	Radio and Television	LA Valley	12	9	15	12
		Long Beach	2	7	9	6
		Mt San Antonio	-	-	1	0
		Santa Monica	16	8	5	10
		LA Subtotal	30	24	30	28
		Fullerton	2	1	1	1

TOP Code	Program	College	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	2022-23 Awards	3-Year Average
		Saddleback	98	144	112	118
		OC Subtotal	100	145	113	119
Supply Subtotal/Average			130	169	143	147
0604.20	Television (including combined TV/film/video)	Cerritos	5	13	11	10
		El Camino	27	32	25	28
		Glendale	17	25	27	23
		LA City	45	35	30	37
		LA Mission	-	-	1	0
		LA Pierce	29	31	31	30
		LA Valley	42	48	38	43
		Long Beach	42	49	43	45
		Mt San Antonio	34	50	78	54
		Pasadena	65	51	37	51
		LA Subtotal	306	334	321	320
		Cypress	16	20	21	19
		Fullerton	52	55	54	54
		Orange Coast	22	46	38	35
		Saddleback	-	15	25	13
		Santa Ana	6	13	17	12
		OC Subtotal	96	149	155	133
Supply Subtotal/Average			402	483	476	454
0612.20	Film Production	Cerritos	11	22	16	16
		LA City	45	116	107	89
		LA Valley	35	54	44	44
		Long Beach	-	-	3	1
		Santa Monica	41	45	55	47
		West LA	28	10	36	25
		LA Subtotal	160	247	261	223
		Orange Coast	26	32	29	29
		Saddleback	-	-	1	0
		OC Subtotal	26	32	30	29
Supply Subtotal/Average			186	279	291	252
1005.00	Commercial Music	Cerritos	8	13	6	9
		Citrus	51	26	36	38
		Compton	1	-	1	1
		East LA	2	-	6	3

TOP Code	Program	College	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	2022-23 Awards	3-Year Average	
		Glendale	2	-	-	1	
		LA City	12	25	11	16	
		LA Harbor	-	7	4	4	
		LA Pierce	-	-	1	0	
		LA Valley	6	18	12	12	
		Long Beach	1	-	-	0	
		Pasadena	2	-	3	2	
		Rio Hondo	-	1	8	3	
		LA Subtotal	85	90	88	88	
		Cypress	10	12	11	11	
		Fullerton	8	7	2	6	
		Orange Coast	1	1	-	1	
		Saddleback	61	95	45	67	
		Santa Ana	7	7	6	7	
		OC Subtotal	87	122	64	91	
	Supply Subtotal/Average			172	212	152	179
	1006.00	Technical Theater	Citrus	7	5	2	5
			East LA	6	32	13	17
			Glendale	-	2	-	1
			LA City	2	4	7	4
			LA Pierce	7	3	-	3
LA Valley			1	1	2	1	
Mt San Antonio			-	-	2	1	
Pasadena			2	1	-	1	
Santa Monica			6	16	8	10	
LA Subtotal			31	64	34	43	
Cypress			7	6	2	5	
Fullerton			33	-	4	12	
Irvine			4	3	1	3	
Saddleback			4	3	2	3	
Santa Ana			6	2	-	3	
OC Subtotal	54	14	9	26			
Supply Subtotal/Average			85	78	43	69	
Supply Total/Average			975	1,221	1,105	1,100	

Other Postsecondary Supply

For a comprehensive regional supply analysis, it is important to consider the supply from other institutions in the region that provide training programs for media arts. Exhibit 11 shows the number of awards conferred by these institutions in relevant programs. Due to different data collection periods, the most recent data is from 2020 to 2022. Between 2020 and 2022, other postsecondary college institutions in the region conferred an average of 2,414 bachelor's and sub-baccalaureate awards. Sub-baccalaureate awards include associate degrees, postsecondary awards, and other academic awards that typically take fewer than four years to complete. Of the awards in Exhibit 11, 69% are bachelor's degrees (1,673 awards), and 31% are sub-baccalaureate awards (741 awards).

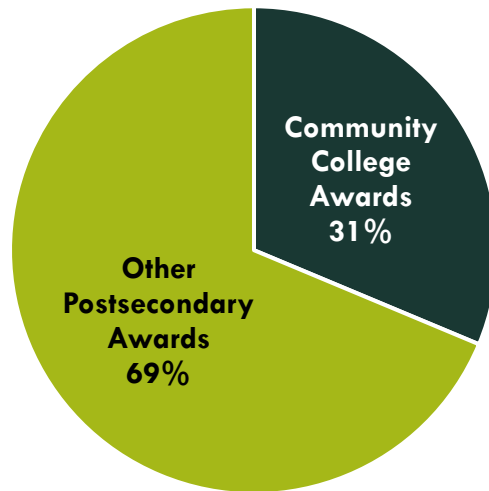
Exhibit 11: Other regional postsecondary awards, 2020-2022

CIP Code	Program	Postsecondary Institution	2019-20 Awards	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	3-Year Average
09.0701	Radio and Television	CSU-Fullerton	185	177	146	169
		CSU-Los Angeles	154	145	108	136
		CSU-Northridge	396	426	469	430
		Loyola Marymount Univ.	-	1	-	0
		Pepperdine Univ.	20	11	6	12
		Univ. of La Verne	7	11	8	9
10.0202	Radio and Television Broadcasting Technology/ Technician	Hollywood Cultural College	20	12	20	17
10.0203	Recording Arts Technology/ Technician	CSU-Dominguez Hills	-	2	9	4
		Columbia College Hollywood	-	21	3	8
		Loyola Marymount Univ.	13	12	13	13
		Musicians Institute	73	48	31	51
50.0502	Technical Theatre/ Theatre Design and Technology	CA Institute of the Arts	18	17	15	17
		Chapman Univ.	-	1	-	0
		Pepperdine Univ.	6	3	1	3
		USC	4	10	8	7
		Vanguard Univ. of Southern CA	1	1	1	1

CIP Code	Program	Postsecondary Institution	2019-20 Awards	2020-21 Awards	2021-22 Awards	3-Year Average
50.0602	Cinema-tography and Film/ Video Production	Art Center College of Design	18	24	28	23
		Azusa Pacific Univ.	-	-	4	1
		Biola University	56	54	75	62
		CA Institute of the Arts	14	11	8	11
		CSU-Dominguez Hills	-	-	12	4
		Chapman University	146	100	201	149
		Columbia College Hollywood	-	105	89	65
		Fashion Institute of Design & Merch.	12	10	13	12
		LA Film School	245	255	177	226
		Loyola Marymount Univ.	77	64	56	66
		Mount Saint Mary's Univ.	13	14	13	13
		NY Film Academy	215	181	179	192
		USC	113	93	95	100
		Woodbury University	15	17	24	19
50.0699	Film/Video and Photographic Arts, Other	CA Institute of the Arts	-	2	-	1
		LA Film School	49	97	111	86
		Woodbury University	10	25	19	18
50.0913	Music Technology	CA College of Music	-	3	3	2
		LA College of Music	21	19	14	18
		Los Angeles Film School	474	524	411	470
Supply Total/Average			2,375	2,496	2,370	2,414

Exhibit 12 shows the proportion of community college awards conferred in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region compared to the number of other postsecondary awards for the programs in this report. The majority of awards conferred in these programs are granted by other institutions in the greater Los Angeles/Orange County region.

Exhibit 12: Percentage of community college awards compared to other postsecondary institution awards in the Los Angeles/Orange County region



APPENDIX: OCCUPATION DESCRIPTIONS

LA COE prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to these target occupations:

- **Audio and Video Technicians (27-4011)** Set up, maintain, and dismantle audio and video equipment, such as microphones, sound speakers, connecting wires and cables, sound and mixing boards, video cameras, video monitors and servers, and related electronic equipment for live or recorded events, such as concerts, meetings, conventions, presentations, podcasts, news conferences, and sporting events.¹¹
- **Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014)** Assemble and operate equipment to record, synchronize, mix, edit, or reproduce sound, including music, voices, or sound effects, for theater, video, film, television, podcasts, sporting events, and other productions.¹²
- **Lighting Technicians (27-4015)** Set up, maintain, and dismantle light fixtures, lighting control devices, and the associated lighting electrical and rigging equipment used for photography, television, film, video, and live productions. May focus or operate light fixtures, or attach color filters or other lighting accessories.¹³
- **Camera Operators, Television, Video, and Film (27-4031)** Operate television, video, or film camera to record images or scenes for television, video, or film productions.¹⁴
- **Film and Video Editors (27-4032)** Edit moving images on film, video, or other media. May work with a producer or director to organize images for final production. May edit or synchronize soundtracks with images.¹⁵

¹¹ [Broadcast, Sound, and Video Technicians \(bls.gov\)](#)

¹² [Ibid.](#)

¹³ [Lighting Technicians \(bls.gov\)](#)

¹⁴ [Film and Video Editors and Camera Operators \(bls.gov\)](#)

¹⁵ [Ibid.](#)

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**DATA SOURCES**

- O*NET Online
- Lightcast (formerly Emsi)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- Self-Sufficiency Standard at the Center for Women's Welfare, University of Washington
- Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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