



Athletic Training and Sports Medicine (TOP 1228.00)

May 2024

**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 – Athletic Training and Sports Medicine. 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 that align with this occupation:

- Athletic Trainers

Key Findings

- In 2022, there were 185 jobs for athletic trainers in the South Central Coast Region.
- This number is expected to increase by 11% through 2027.
- Projections show approximately 25 annual openings in the region. There were 6 awards conferred in relevant programs, indicating an undersupply.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Athletic Trainers typically require a bachelor's degree.

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 is one occupation in the standard occupational classification (SOC) system that was identified for this analysis. 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
29-9091	Athletic Trainers	Evaluate and treat musculoskeletal injuries or illnesses. Provide preventive, therapeutic, emergency, and rehabilitative care.	Athletic Instructor, Athletic Lecturer, Athletic Trainer, Certified Athletic Trainer, Personal Trainer, Resident Athletic Trainer, Women's Athletic Trainer

Source: O*NET Online

Current and Future Employment

In the South Central Coast region, the number of jobs for athletic trainers is expected to increase 11% through 2027. Approximately 25 annual openings are expected through 2027.

Exhibit 2 – Five-Year Projections for Athletic Trainers in the South Central Coast Region

SOC	Occupation	2022 Jobs	2027 Jobs	2022-2027 Change	2022-2027 % Change	Annual Openings
29-9091	Athletic Trainers	185	206	21	11%	25
		185	206	21	11%	25

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Earnings

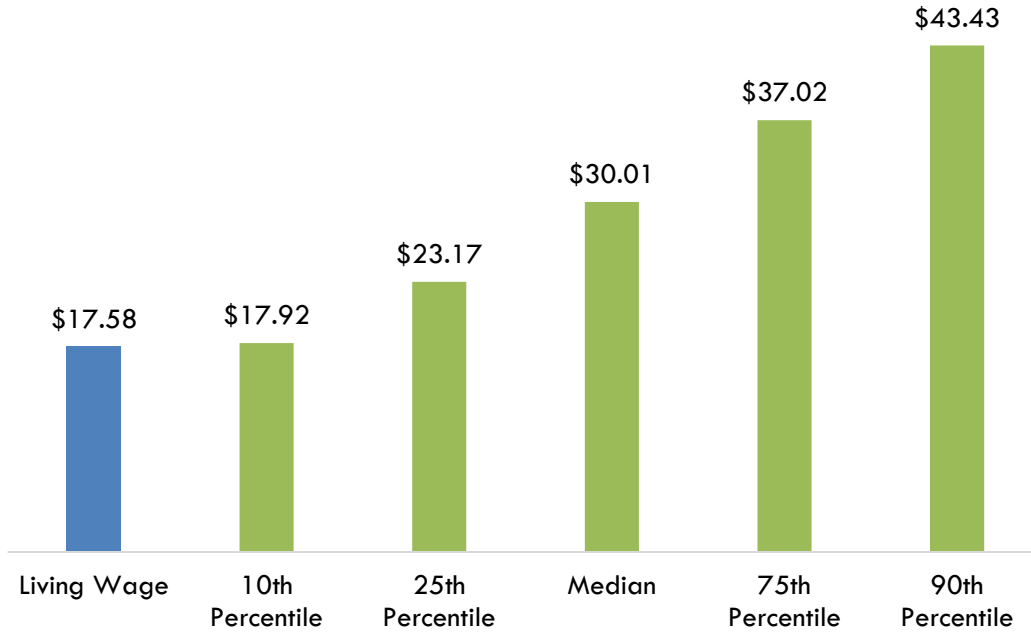
Exhibit 3 contains hourly wages for the occupation of interest. Entry-level hourly earnings are represented by the 25th percentile of wages, median hourly earnings are represented by the 50th percentile of wages, and experienced hourly earnings are represented by the 75th percentile of wages, demonstrating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

Exhibit 3 – Earnings for Athletic Trainers in the South Central Coast Region

SOC	Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
29-9091	Athletic Trainers	\$23.17	\$30.01	\$37.02

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

**Exhibit 3b – Earnings for Athletic Trainers
in the South Central Coast Region**



Source: Family Needs Calculator (Living wage is based on Single Adult households with no children); Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

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 the occupation relevant to the field of study. Employer job postings are consulted to understand who is looking for professionals in a given field, and what they are looking for in potential candidates. To identify relevant job postings, the following occupation was used:

29-9091 Athletic Trainers

Top Occupations

Over the past 12 months (May 2023 to April 2024), there have been 70 employer job postings for Athletic Trainers.

Exhibit 4 – Job Postings by Occupation

SOC Code	Occupation	Job Postings, Last 12 months
29-9091	Athletic Trainers	70
	Total	70

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Top Titles

The top job titles for employers posting ads for Athletic Trainers are listed in Exhibit 5.

Exhibit 5 – Job Titles

Title	Job Postings, Last 12 months
Athletic Trainers	23
Assistant Athletic Trainers	12
Certified Athletic Trainers	11
Athletic Assistants	10
Fitness Professionals	9

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Top Employers

Exhibit 6 lists the major employers hiring professionals in the field of interest. The top employer posting job ads was Santa Barbara City College. The top worksite cities for these jobs were Santa Barbara, Thousand Oaks, and Oxnard.

Exhibit 6 – Top Employers

Employer	Job Postings, Last 12 months
Santa Barbara City College	9
Adventist Health	4
CommonSpirit Health	4
Beginners Edge Sports Training	4
Advantage Physical Therapy	3
Ventura County Community College District	3
California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo	2
St. John's Regional Medical Center	2

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Skills

The tables in Exhibit 7 list employers' most commonly requested skills in job postings related to Athletic Trainers. Athletic Training is the most sought-after specialized skill for employers. Communication was the most requested baseline skill. Microsoft Excel was the most requested software and programming skill.

Exhibit 7 – Specialized Skills

Skills	Job Postings, Last 12 months
Athletic Training	43
Rehabilitation	25
Sports Medicine	18
Physical Education	15
Medical Records	14
Bloodborne Pathogens	12
Injury Prevention	12
Kinesiology	12
Sports Injuries	11
Exercise Science	8

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Exhibit 7b – Baseline Skills

Skills	Job Postings, Last 12 months
Communication	28
First Aid	24
Interpersonal Communications	16
Writing	15
Coaching	13
Record Keeping	12
Coordinating	12
Word Processing	11
Report Writing	10
Tactfulness	10

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Exhibit 7c – Software and Programming Skills

Skills	Job Postings, Last 12 months
Microsoft Excel	13
Spreadsheets	10
Google Calendar	6
Google Workspace	5
Microsoft Office	5

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst 2023

Education and Training

Exhibit 8 shows the typical entry-level education requirement for Athletic Trainers along with the typical on-the-job training needed to attain competency in the occupation.

Exhibit 8 – Education and Training Requirements

SOC	Occupation	Typical entry-level education	Typical on-the-job training
29-9091	Athletic Trainers	Bachelor's degree	None

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

Regional Completions and Openings

Between 2020 and 2023, there were 6 awards conferred in the South Central Coast region aligned with the programs that have historically trained for the occupation of interest.

Exhibit 9 – Three-Year Average of Awards Conferred in the Region

TOP/CIP Code	Program	3-Year Average (2020-2023)
1228.00	Athletic Training and Sports Medicine	6
51.0913	Athletic Training/Trainer	-
	Average	6

Source: Datamart and IPEDS

CCC Awards

Exhibit 10 shows the average number of awards granted by community colleges within programs historically dedicated to training for Athletic Trainers.

Exhibit 10 – CCC Awards in the South Central Coast Region, 2020-2023 Average

CCC Programs	3-Year Average
Allan Hancock	1
Canyons	5

Source: DataMart, 2023

Sources

O*Net Online, Lightcast™ Analyst 2023, 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 Athletic Trainers. 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.