



Labor Market Analysis for Program Recommendation

Respiratory Care Occupations

Napa Valley College

Prepared by Bay Regions Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research

October 2024

Recommendation

Based on all available data, there appears to be an “undersupply” of Respiratory Care workers compared to the demand for this cluster of occupations in the Bay region and in the North Bay sub-region (Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma counties). There is a projected annual gap of about 135 students in the Bay region and 8 students in the North Bay Sub-Region.

Introduction

This report provides student outcomes data on employment and earnings for TOP 1210.00 - Respiratory Care/Therapy programs in the state and region. It is recommended that these data be reviewed to better understand how outcomes for students taking courses on this TOP code compare to potentially similar programs at colleges in the state and region, as well as to outcomes across all CTE programs at Napa Valley College and in the region.

This report profiles Respiratory Care Occupations in the 12 county Bay region and in the North Bay sub-region for program recommendation at Napa Valley College.

- **Respiratory Therapists (29-1126):** Assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders. Assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including the supervision of respiratory therapy technicians. Initiate and conduct therapeutic procedures; maintain patient records; and select, assemble, check, and operate equipment.
Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Associate’s degree
Training Requirement: None
Percentage of Community College Award Holders or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 64%

Occupational Demand

Table 1. Employment Outlook for Respiratory Care Occupations in Bay Region

Occupation	2023 Jobs	2028 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	5-yr Total Openings	Annual Openings	25% Hourly Earning	Median Hourly Wage
Respiratory Therapists	3,331	3,718	387	12%	1,255	251	\$50	\$61
Total	3,331	3,718	387	12%	1,255	251	\$50	\$61

Source: Lightcast 2024.3

Bay Region includes: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano and Sonoma Counties

Table 2. Employment Outlook for Respiratory Care Occupations in North Bay Sub-Region

Occupation	2023 Jobs	2028 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	5-yr Total Openings	Annual Openings	25% Hourly Earning	Median Hourly Wage
Respiratory Therapists	510	520	10	2%	140	28	\$45	\$56
Total	510	520	10	2%	140	28	\$45	\$56

Source: Lightcast 2024.3

North Bay Sub-Region includes: Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma Counties

Job Postings in Bay Region and North Bay Sub-Region

Table 3. Number of Job Postings by Occupation for latest 12 months (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024)

Occupation	Bay Region	North Bay
Respiratory Therapists	978	219

Source: Lightcast

Table 4a. Top Job Titles for Respiratory Care Occupations for latest 12 months (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024) Bay Region

Title	Bay	Title	Bay
Respiratory Therapists	216	Pulmonary Function Technicians	8
Respiratory Care Practitioners	212	Respiratory Therapist Assistants	8
Registered Respiratory Therapists	117	NICU Respiratory Therapists	5
Travel Respiratory Therapists	95	Neurodiagnostic Technicians	5
Registered Respiratory Care Practitioners	81	Respiratory Specialists	5
Travel Registered Respiratory Therapists	50	Clinical Liaisons	4
Respiratory Care Practitioners/Registered Respiratory Therapists	46	Respiratory Clinicians	4
Certified Respiratory Therapists	43	Respiratory Technicians	4
Respiratory Care Managers	10	Respiratory Assistants	3

Source: Lightcast

Table 4b. Top Job Titles for Respiratory Care Occupations for latest 12 months (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024) North Bay Sub-Region

Title	North Bay	Title	North Bay
Respiratory Care Practitioners	90	Clinical Liaisons	1
Registered Respiratory Therapists	23	Lead Respiratory Therapists	1
Respiratory Therapists	22	NICU Respiratory Therapists	1
Registered Respiratory Care Practitioners	19	Neurodiagnostic Technicians	1
Travel Respiratory Therapists	17	Pulmonary Function Technicians	1

Title	North Bay	Title	North Bay
Respiratory Care Practitioners/Registered Respiratory Therapists	16	Respiratory Managers	1
Travel Registered Respiratory Therapists	10	Respiratory Specialists	1
Certified Respiratory Therapists	9	Travel Technicians	1
Instructional Facilitators	2		

Source: Lightcast

Industry Concentration

Table 5. Industries hiring Respiratory Care Workers in Bay Region

Industry - 6 Digit NAICS (No. American Industry Classification) Codes	Jobs in Industry (2023)	Jobs in Industry (2028)	% Change (2023-28)	% Occupation Group in Industry (2023)
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	1,703	1,787	5%	51%
Hospitals (Local Government)	589	731	24%	18%
Hospitals (State Government)	207	250	21%	6%
Specialty (except Psychiatric and Substance Abuse) Hospitals	141	180	28%	4%
HMO Medical Centers	130	156	20%	4%
Nursing Care Facilities (Skilled Nursing Facilities)	105	116	11%	3%
Temporary Help Services	56	54	-4%	2%
Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists)	45	48	7%	1%
Computer and Computer Peripheral Equipment and Software Merchant Wholesalers	37	35	-6%	1%
All Other Outpatient Care Centers	24	32	33%	1%

Source: Lightcast 2024.3

Table 6. Top Employers Posting Respiratory Care Occupations in Bay Region and North Bay Sub-Region (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024)

Employer	Bay	Employer	North Bay
Healthcare Employment Network	138	Healthcare Employment Network	28
Kaiser Permanente	88	Providence	22
Sutter Health	84	Kaiser Permanente	17
Vetted Health	51	Sutter Health	13

Employer	Bay	Employer	North Bay
University of California	26	Body Fit Plus	11
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital	24	Vetted Health	10

Source: Lightcast

Educational Supply

There are five community colleges in the Bay Region issuing 116 awards on average annually (last 3 years ending 2021-23) on TOP 1210.00 - Respiratory Care/Therapy. In the North Bay Sub-Region, there is one community college that issued 20 awards on average annually (last 3 years) on this TOP code.

Table 7. Community College Awards on TOP 1210.00 - Respiratory Care/Therapy in Bay Region

College	Subregion	Associate Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Low unit Certificate	Total
Foothill	Silicon Valley	23	0	7	30
Hartnell	SC-Monterey	17	0	0	17
Napa	North Bay	20	0	0	20
Ohlone	East Bay	18	0	0	18
Skyline	Mid-Peninsula	18	13	0	31
Total	-	96	13	7	116

Source: Data Mart

Note: The annual average for awards is 2020-21 to 2022-23.

Gap Analysis

Based on the data included in this report, there is a labor market gap in the Bay region with 251 annual openings for the Respiratory Care occupational cluster and 116 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 135 students. In the North Bay Sub-Region, there is also a gap with 28 annual openings and 20 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 8 students.

Student Outcomes

Table 8. Four Employment Outcomes Metrics for Students Who Took Courses on TOP 1210.00 - Respiratory Care/Therapy

Metric Outcomes	Bay All CTE Program	Napa Valley College All CTE Program	State 1210.00	Bay 1210.00	North Bay 1210.00	Napa Valley College 1210.00
Students with a Job Closely Related to Their Field of Study	74%	82%	91%	98%	100%	100%
Median Annual Earnings for SWP Exiting Students	\$53,090	\$48,682	\$44,755	\$73,166	\$72,983	\$72,983
Median Change in Earnings for SWP Exiting Students	24%	37%	46%	39%	89%	89%
Exiting Students Who Attained the Living Wage	54%	61%	59%	67%	77%	77%

Source: Launchboard Strong Workforce Program Median of 2018 to 2021.

Skills, Certifications and Education

Table 9. Job Postings Top Skills for Respiratory Care Occupations in Bay Region (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024)

Skill	Posting	Skill	Posting
Respiratory Therapy	729	Critical Care	163
Respiratory Care	592	Pulmonary Function Testing	163
Pulmonology	432	Mechanical Ventilation	157
Patient Treatment	268	Electrocardiography	144
Arterial Blood Gas Analysis	226	Intensive Care Unit	141
Pediatrics	199	Spirometry	141
Computerized Physician Order Entry	189	Tracheotomy	137
Circulatory System	187	Life Support	132
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	186	Mechanics	128
Medical Records	177	Patient Education And Counseling	127

Source: Lightcast

Table 10. Job Postings Certifications for Respiratory Care Occupations in Bay Region (Oct. 2023 - Sep. 2024)

Certification	Posting	Certification	Posting
Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification	444	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification	35
Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Certification	296	American Red Cross (ARC) Certification	8
Neonatal Resuscitation Program Certification (NRP)	282		

Source: Lightcast

Table 11. Education Requirements for Respiratory Care Occupations in Bay Region

Education Level	Job Postings	% of Total
High school or GED	122	25%
other	184	38%
Bachelor's degree & higher	179	37%

Source: Lightcast

Note: 73% of records have been excluded because they do not include a degree level. As a result, the chart above may not be representative of the full sample.

Methodology

Occupations for this report were identified by use of job descriptions and skills listed in O*Net. Labor demand data is sourced from Lightcast occupation and job postings data. Educational supply and student outcomes data is retrieved from multiple sources, including CCCCO Data Mart and CTE Launchboard.

Sources

O*Net Online

Lightcast

CTE LaunchBoard www.calpassplus.org

Launchboard

Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey

Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development

Chancellor's Office MIS system

Contacts

For more information, please contact:

- Yumi Huang, Research Analyst, Bay Region Center of Excellence, yuhuang@cabrillo.edu or (831) 275-0043
- Marcela Reyes, Director, Research and Center of Excellence, mareyes@cabrillo.edu or (831) 219-8875