



# Sound Engineering Technicians in 4 California Counties

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## What is Lightcast Data?

Lightcast data is a hybrid dataset derived from official government sources such as the US Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and Bureau of Labor Statistics. Leveraging the unique strengths of each source, our data modeling team creates an authoritative dataset that captures more than 99% of all workers in the United States. This core offering is then enriched with data from online social profiles, resumé, and job postings to give you a complete view of the workforce.

Lightcast data is frequently cited in major publications such as *The Atlantic*, *Forbes*, *Harvard Business Review*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *USA Today*.



## Report Parameters

### 1 Occupation

27-4014 Sound Engineering Technicians

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### 4 Counties

6001 Alameda County, CA

6075 San Francisco County, CA

6013 Contra Costa County, CA

6077 San Joaquin County, CA

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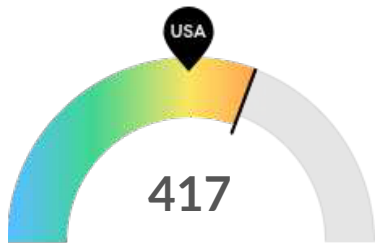
### Class of Worker

QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, and Self-Employed

The information in this report pertains to the chosen occupation and geographical areas.

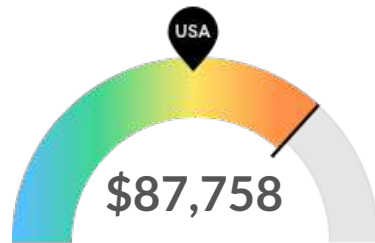
## Executive Summary

### Aggressive Job Posting Demand Over a Deep Supply of Regional Jobs



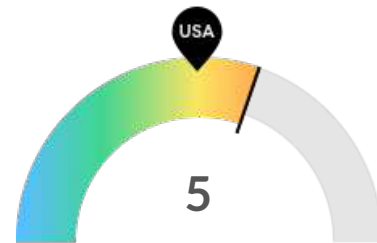
**Jobs (2026)**

Your area is a hotspot for this kind of job. The national average for an area this size is 303\* employees, while there are 417 here.



**Compensation**

Earnings are high in your area. The national median salary for Sound Engineering Technicians is \$64,062, compared to \$87,758 here.



**Job Posting Demand**

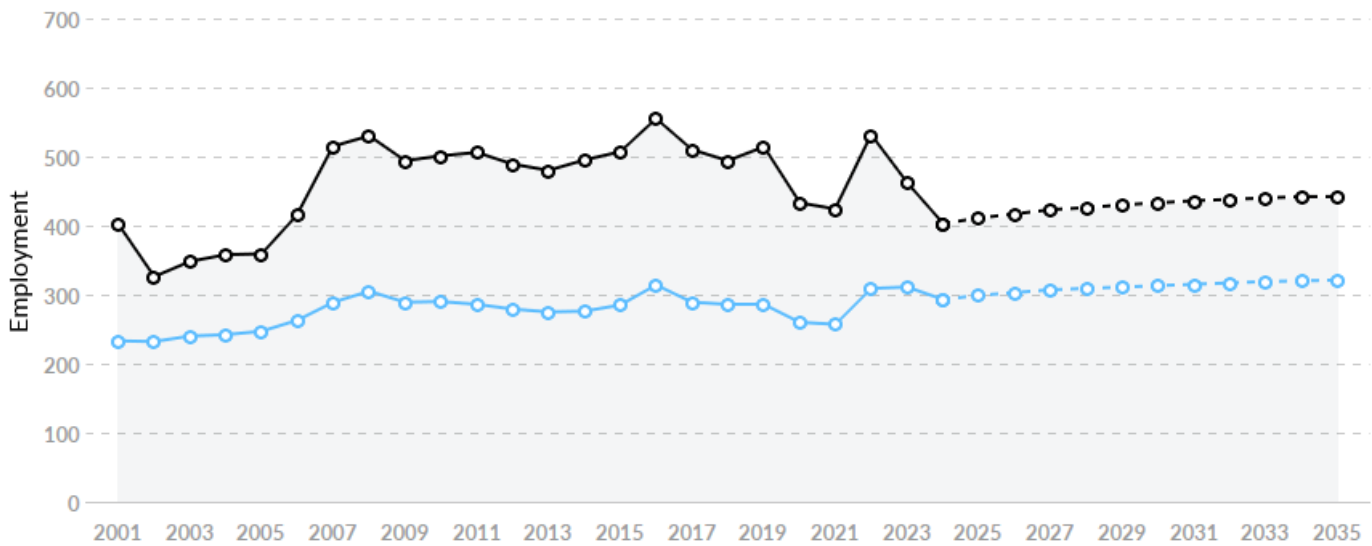
Job posting activity is high in your area. The national average for an area this size is 4\* job postings/mo, while there are 5 here.

\*National average values are derived by taking the national value for Sound Engineering Technicians and scaling it down to account for the difference in overall workforce size between the nation and your area. In other words, the values represent the national average adjusted for region size.

# Jobs

## Regional Employment Is Higher Than the National Average

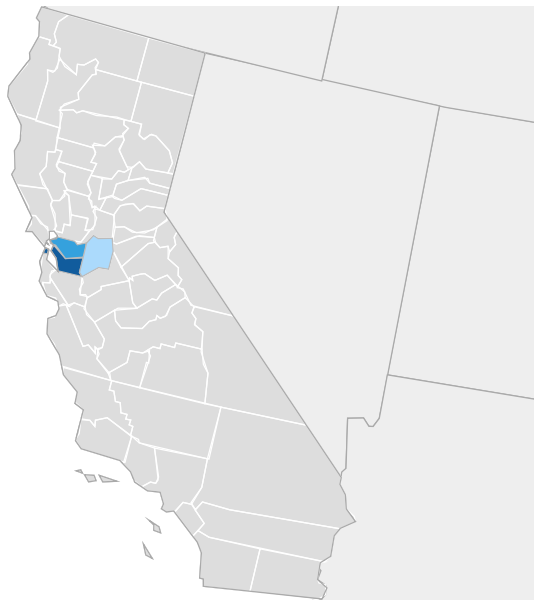
An average area of this size typically has 303\* jobs, while there are 417 here. This higher than average supply of jobs may make it easier for workers in this field to find employment in your area.



Region	2026 Jobs	2031 Jobs	Change	% Change
● 4 California Counties	417	436	18	4.4%
● National Average	303	315	12	4.1%

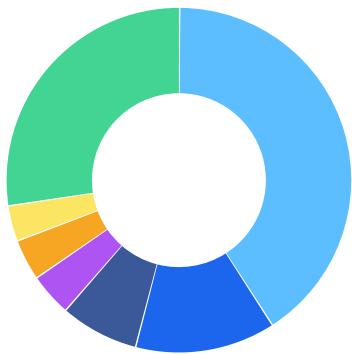
\*National average values are derived by taking the national value for Sound Engineering Technicians and scaling it down to account for the difference in overall workforce size between the nation and your area. In other words, the values represent the national average adjusted for region size.

## Regional Breakdown



County	2026 Jobs
San Francisco County, CA	183
Alameda County, CA	158
Contra Costa County, CA	62
San Joaquin County, CA	15

### Most Jobs are Found in the Sound Recording Industries Industry Sector

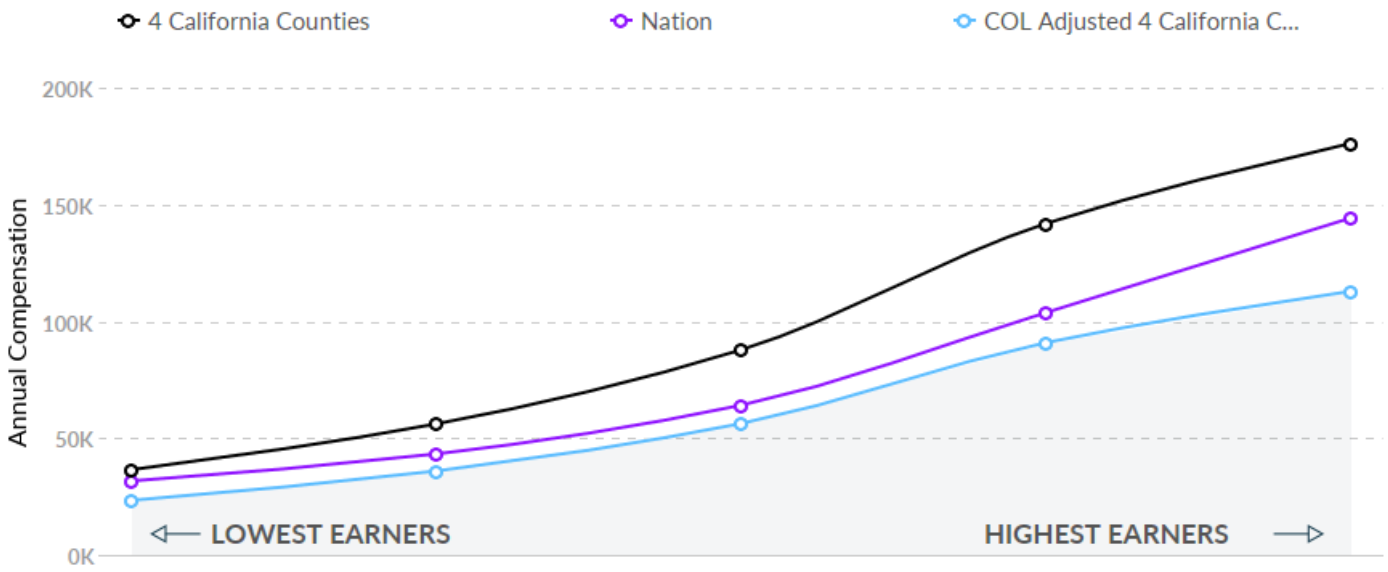


Industry	% of Occupation in Industry (2026)
Sound Recording Industries	40.8%
Motion Picture and Video Industries	13.2%
Performing Arts Companies	7.4%
Media Streaming Distribution Services, Social Networks, and Other Media Networks and Content Providers	4.0%
Promoters of Performing Arts, Sports, and Similar Events	3.9%
Software Publishers	3.3%
Other	27.5%

# Compensation

## Regional Compensation Is 37% Higher Than National Compensation

For Sound Engineering Technicians, the 2024 median wage in your area is \$87,758, while the national median wage is \$64,062.



## Job Posting Activity



**60 Unique Job Postings**

The number of unique postings for this job over the last 12 months.



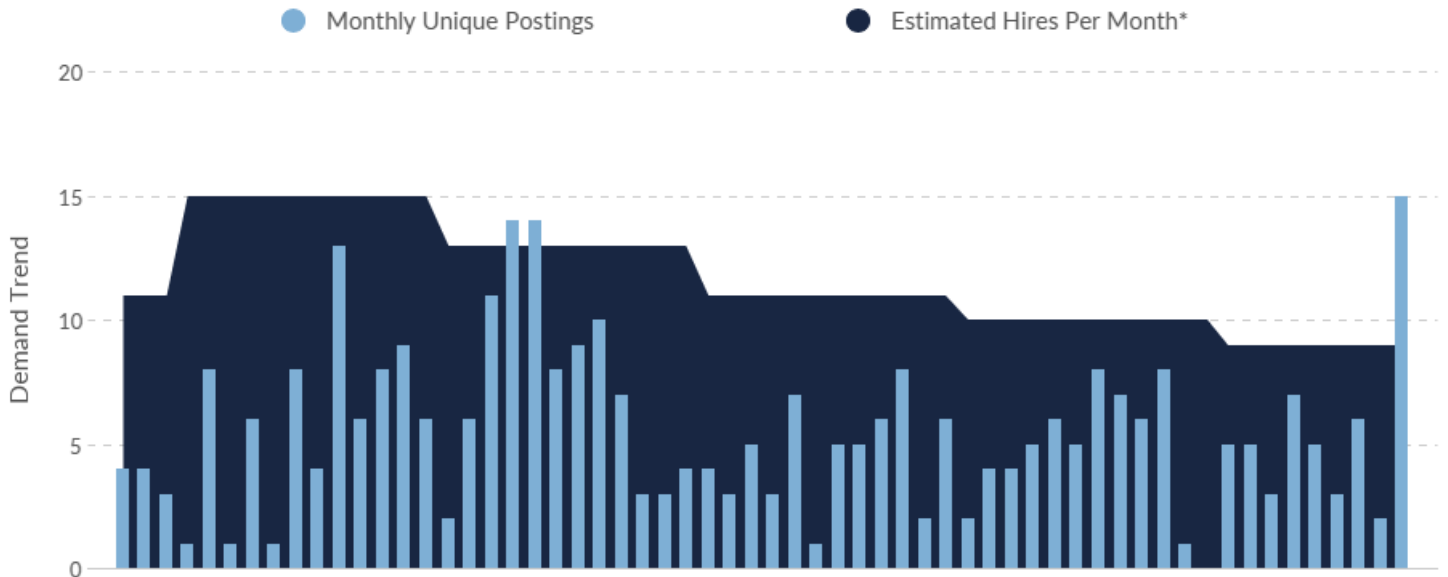
**15 Employers Competing**

All employers in the region who posted for this job over the last 12 months.



**33 Day Median Duration**

Posting duration is 8 days longer than what's typical in the region.



Occupation	Avg Monthly Postings (Oct 2024 - Sep 2025)	Avg Monthly Hires (Oct 2024 - Sep 2025)
Sound Engineering Technicians	5	9

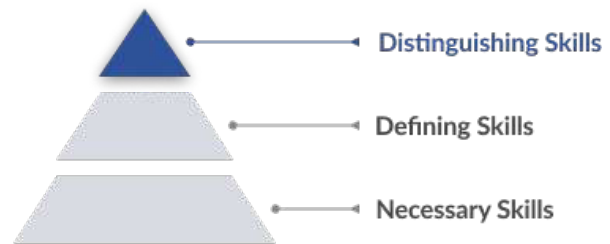
\*A hire is reported by the Quarterly Workforce Indicators when an individual's Social Security Number appears on a company's payroll and was not there the quarter before. Lightcast hires are calculated using a combination of Lightcast jobs data, information on separation rates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and industry-based hires data from the Census Bureau.

Top Companies	Unique Postings
Meta	6
Arup	5
(Twenty)2 Films	1
Allegis Group	1
Berkeley Rep School Of Theatre	1
Berkeley Repertory Theatre	1
Futures Explored	1
Lucid Motors	1
Satisfill Foods	1
SmithGroup	1

Top Job Titles	Unique Postings
Sound Designers	8
Acoustical Consultants	4
House Cleaners	4
Audio Engineers	2
Music Assistants	2
Neuroscience Specialists	2
Sound Engineers	2
Assistant Budget Directors	1
Audio Technicians	1
Audio Visual Managers	1

## Top Distinguishing Skills by Demand

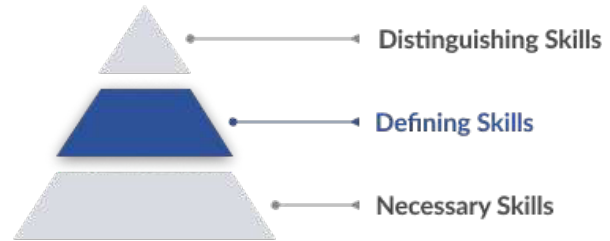
An occupation's Distinguishing Skills are the advanced skills that are called for occasionally. An employee with these skills is likely more specialized and able to differentiate themselves from others in the same role.



Skill	Salary Boosting	Job Postings Requesting	Projected Growth	Growth Relative to Market
Live Sound Mixing		6	+21.9%	<b>Rapidly Growing</b>
Sound Effects		6	+5.8%	<b>Stable</b>

## Top Defining Skills by Demand

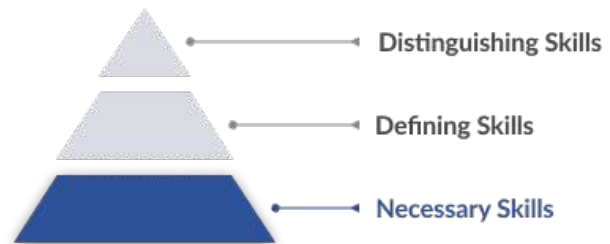
An occupation's Defining Skills represent the day-to-day tasks and responsibilities of the job. An employee needs these skills to qualify for and perform successfully in this occupation.



Skill	Salary Boosting	Job Postings Requesting	Projected Growth	Growth Relative to Market
Audio Engineering	✘	8	+7.6%	Stable
Smart Device	✘	5	+20.8%	Rapidly Growing

## Top Necessary Skills by Demand

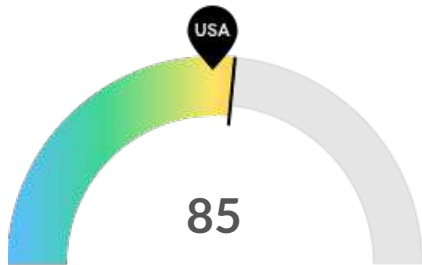
An occupation's Necessary Skills are the specialized skills required for that job and relevant across other similar jobs. An employee needs these skills as building blocks to perform the more complex Defining Skills.



Skill	Salary Boosting	Job Postings Requesting	Projected Growth	Growth Relative to Market
Sound Design	✘	9	+6.7%	Stable
Radiology	✘	3	+9.6%	Growing
Anesthesiology	✘	0	+10.2%	Growing

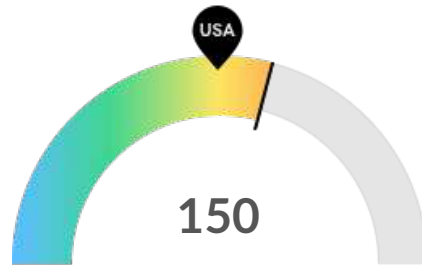
# Demographics

## Retirement Risk Is About Average, While Overall Diversity Is High



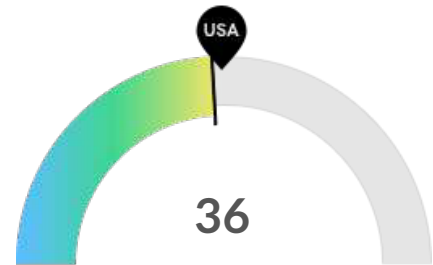
**Retiring Soon**

Retirement risk is about average in your area. The national average for an area this size is 78\* employees 55 or older, while there are 85 here.



**Racial Diversity**

Racial diversity is high in your area. The national average for an area this size is 120\* racially diverse employees, while there are 150 here.

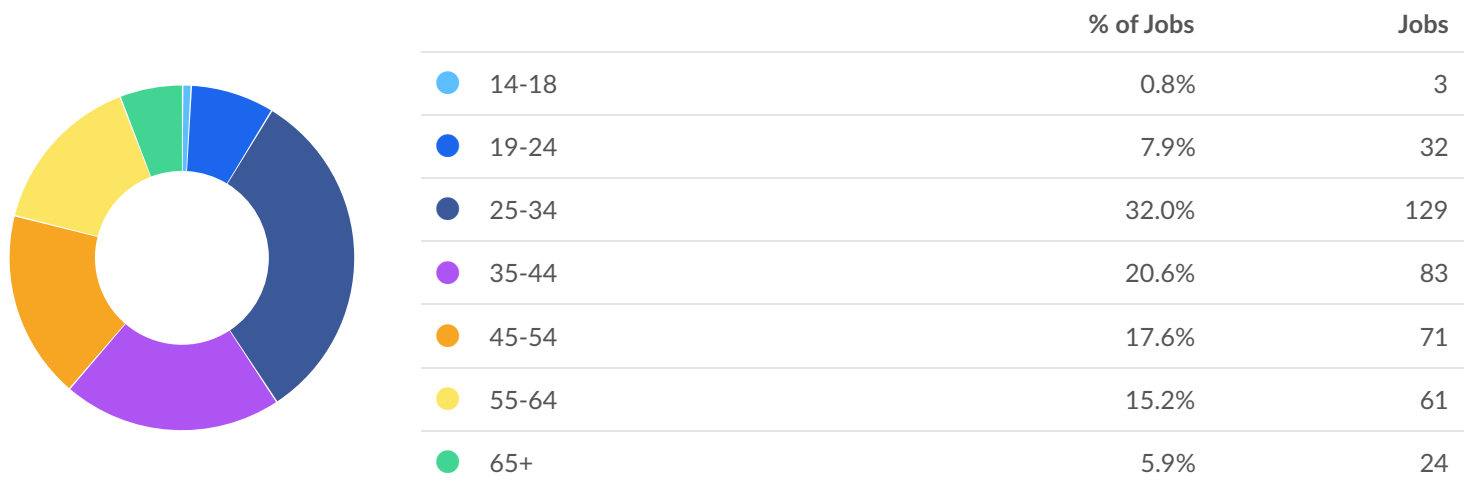


**Gender Diversity**

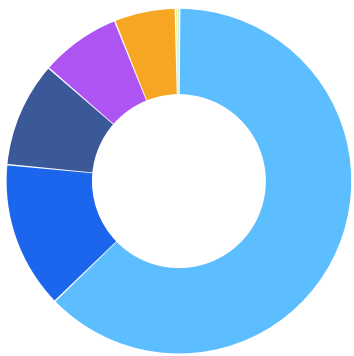
Gender diversity is about average in your area. The national average for an area this size is 38\* female employees, while there are 36 here.

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## Occupation Age Breakdown

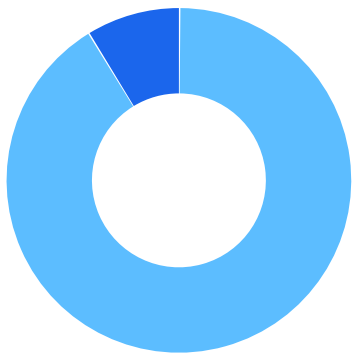


## Occupation Race/Ethnicity Breakdown



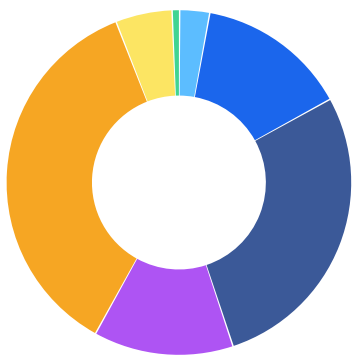
	% of Jobs	Jobs
White	62.7%	253
Hispanic or Latino	13.8%	56
Black or African American	9.9%	40
Asian	7.6%	30
Two or More Races	5.7%	23
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2%	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.2%	1

## Occupation Gender Breakdown



	% of Jobs	Jobs
Males	91.2%	368
Females	8.8%	36

## National Educational Attainment



	% of Jobs
<span style="color: #00AEEF;">●</span> Less than high school diploma	2.8%
<span style="color: #0070C0;">●</span> High school diploma or equivalent	14.1%
<span style="color: #1A3A6A;">●</span> Some college, no degree	27.9%
<span style="color: #800080;">●</span> Associate's degree	13.1%
<span style="color: #FFA500;">●</span> Bachelor's degree	36.0%
<span style="color: #FFD700;">●</span> Master's degree	5.3%
<span style="color: #008000;">●</span> Doctoral or professional degree	0.7%

## Occupational Programs



### 8 Programs

Of the programs that can train for this job, 8 have produced completions in the last 5 years.



### 651 Completions (2023)




The completions from all regional institutions for all degree types.



### 48 Openings (2023)

The average number of openings for an occupation in the region is 411.

CIP Code	Top Programs	Completions (2023)
09.0701	Radio and Television	232
50.0501	Drama and Dramatics/Theatre Arts, General	171
50.0901	Music, General	152
10.0203	Recording Arts Technology/Technician	61
50.0913	Music Technology	25
50.0502	Technical Theatre/Theatre Design and Technology	10

Top Schools	Completions (2023)	
San Francisco State University	199	
University of California-Berkeley	85	
Diablo Valley College	83	
City College of San Francisco	41	
California State University-East Bay	39	
Saint Mary's College of California	26	
San Francisco Conservatory of Music	25	
Chabot College	23	
Ohlone College	23	
Academy of Art University	22	

## Appendix A

**Sound Engineering Technicians (SOC 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. Excludes Audio and Video Technicians (27-4011).

**Sample of Reported Job Titles:**

- Sound Engineer
- Recording Engineer
- Sound Editor
- Audio Engineer
- Dub Room Engineer
- Studio Engineer
- Sound Technician
- Mixing Engineer
- Mixer
- Mastering Engineer

**Related O\*NET Occupation:**

Sound Engineering Technicians (27-4014.00)

## Appendix B - Data Sources and Calculations

### Location Quotient

Location quotient (LQ) is a way of quantifying how concentrated a particular industry, cluster, occupation, or demographic group is in a region as compared to the nation. It can reveal what makes a particular region unique in comparison to the national average.

### Occupation Data

Emsi occupation employment data are based on final Emsi industry data and final Emsi staffing patterns. Wage estimates are based on Occupational Employment Statistics (QCEW and Non-QCEW Employees classes of worker) and the American Community Survey (Self-Employed and Extended Proprietors). Occupational wage estimates are also affected by county-level Emsi earnings by industry.

### Staffing Patterns Data

The staffing pattern data in this report are compiled from several sources using a specialized process. For QCEW and Non-QCEW Employees classes of worker, sources include Occupational Employment Statistics, the National Industry-Occupation Employment Matrix, and the American Community Survey. For the Self-Employed and Extended Proprietors classes of worker, the primary source is the American Community Survey, with a small amount of information from Occupational Employment Statistics.

### Cost of Living Data

Lightcast's cost of living data is based on the Cost of Living Index published by the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER).

### Lightcast Job Postings

Job postings are collected from various sources and processed/enriched to provide information such as standardized company name, occupation, skills, and geography.

### Institution Data

The institution data in this report is taken directly from the national IPEDS database published by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics.