

OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Apprenticeship Completer Survey is conducted annually to gather data regarding the activities and perceptions of apprentices after receiving their apprentice completion certificate from the Department of Workforce Development.

The primary objectives of the survey are to collect and report employment and wage data in a format similar to the established process for WTCS program graduates. Survey questions are intended to measure satisfaction with both the related instruction and on-the-job training aspects of registered apprenticeship, and intended for use by both the Wisconsin Technical College System and the Department of Workforce Development.

Methodology

The 16 colleges in the Wisconsin Technical College System surveyed apprentices who completed their related instruction in their respective colleges and were awarded Apprentice Completion Certificates from the Department of Workforce Development in 2009-10. This survey was conducted between July, 2010 and November, 2011. A total of **1,127 apprentices** (duplicated - some apprentices completed in more than one program) from 2009-10 were surveyed statewide with **572 responding**, resulting in a **response rate of 51 percent**. These responses were submitted to the state office for compilation of this statewide report. A copy of the survey instrument is included as Appendix A. Basic concepts and measures used throughout the report are defined below.

The **labor force** includes all employed and unemployed respondents except those who are unemployed and not seeking employment. A person is considered **employed** if he or she worked for pay or profit at the time of the survey. Individuals in any of these groups may be employed full-time or part-time (less than 35 hours per week). A person is considered to be seeking employment if he or she performed no work for pay or profit at the time of the survey but was looking for work.

Survey respondents who are employed classified their jobs as related or not related to their trade training. In the follow-up data tables beginning on page 6, employed respondents who indicate their job is related to their training are counted in the **employed related** category. Thus, the employed related category is a subset of the employed category.

Salary figures are reported for respondents who indicate they are employed full-time in jobs related to their training. The **median salary** is the mid-point of salaries reported with half of the salaries below and half above the mid-point. To ensure confidentiality, there must be a minimum of four employed-related respondents in order to publish an average or mean salary for any given program. (Please note that some respondents did not include their salary in the survey.)