

# Interpreters and Translators

# Labor Market Information Report

# Solano College

## Prepared by the San Francisco Bay Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research

**October 2021**

## Recommendation

Based on all available data, there appears to be an “undersupply” of Interpreters and Translatorscompared to the demand for this cluster of occupations in the Bay region and in the North Bay sub-region (Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma counties). There is a projected annual gap of about 386 students in the Bay region and 41 students in the North Bay Sub-Region.

## Introduction

This report provides student outcomes data on employment and earnings for TOP 2140.00 – Legal and Community Interpretation 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 Solano College and in the region.

This report profiles Interpreters and Translatorsin the 12 county Bay region and in the North Bay sub-region for a proposed new Spanish/English Communication Specialist program at Solano College.

* **Interpreters and Translators (27-3091):** Interpret oral or sign language, or translate written text from one language into another.  
    Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Bachelor’s degree  
    Training Requirement: None  
    Percentage of Community College Award Holders or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 30%

## Occupational Demand

**Table 1. Employment Outlook for Interpreters and Translators in Bay Region**

| **Occupation** | **2020 Jobs** | **2025 Jobs** | **5-yr Change** | **5-yr % Change** | **5-yr Total Openings** | **Annual Openings** | **25% Hourly Earning** | **Median Hourly Wage** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Interpreters and Translators | 2,954 | 3,288 | 334 | 11% | 1,995 | 399 | $25 | $60 |
| **Total** | **2,954** | **3,288** | **334** | **11%** | **1,995** | **399** | **$25** | **$60** |
| Source: EMSI 2021.3 | | | | | | | | |

**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 Interpreters and Translators in North Bay Sub-region**

| **Occupation** | **2020 Jobs** | **2025 Jobs** | **5-yr Change** | **5-yr % Change** | **5-yr Total Openings** | **Annual Openings** | **25% Hourly Earning** | **Median Hourly Wage** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Interpreters and Translators | 413 | 434 | 21 | 5% | 244 | 49 | $18 | $58 |
| **Total** | **413** | **434** | **21** | **5%** | **244** | **49** | **$18** | **$58** |
| Source: EMSI 2021.3 | | | | | | | | |

**North Bay Sub-Region includes:** Marin, Napa, Solano, and 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 2020 - Sep 2021)**

| **Occupation** | **Bay Region** | **North Bay** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Interpreters and Translators | 863 | 88 |
| Source: Burning Glass | | |

**Table 4a. Top Job Titles for Interpreters and Translators for latest 12 months (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021) Bay Region**

| **Title** | **Bay** | **Title** | **Bay** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sign Language Interpreter | 35 | Pashto Dari Linguist | 7 |
| Tagalog/Indonesian/Cambodian/Samoan Speakers | 17 | Spanish Medical Interpreter | 7 |
| Community Interpreter | 14 | Translator | 7 |
| Spanish Interpreter | 11 | British English Linguist - Remote | 6 |
| Spanish Linguist | 10 | Linguist | 6 |
| British English Linguist | 8 | Linguist I | 6 |
| American Sign Language Interpreter | 8 | Localization Specialist | 6 |
| Interpreter | 7 | Mam Translator | 6 |
| Source: Burning Glass | | | |

**Table 4b. Top Job Titles for Interpreters and Translators for latest 12 months (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021) North Bay Sub-Region**

| **Title** | **North Bay** | **Title** | **North Bay** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sign Language Interpreter | 9 | On Demand Interpreter - Tagalog | 3 |
| Community Interpreter | 7 | Bilingual Interpreter | 2 |
| Certified Educational Interpreter | 4 | Bilingual Interpreter/Translators | 1 |
| Spanish Interpreter | 4 | Bilingual Translator/Interpreter-Special Education Department | 1 |
| Source: Burning Glass | | | |

## Industry Concentration

**Table 5. Industries hiring Interpreters and Translators in Bay Region**

| **Industry – 6 Digit NAICS (No. American Industry Classification) Codes** | **Jobs in Industry (2020)** | **Jobs in Industry (2025)** | **% Change (2020-25)** | **% Occupation Group in Industry (2020)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| All Other Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | 1,081 | 1,204 | 11% | 37% |
| Translation and Interpretation Services | 284 | 325 | 15% | 10% |
| Marketing Research and Public Opinion Polling | 242 | 275 | 14% | 8% |
| Elementary and Secondary Schools (Local Government) | 129 | 128 | -1% | 4% |
| Photography Studios, Portrait | 91 | 104 | 14% | 3% |
| General Medical and Surgical Hospitals | 87 | 85 | -2% | 3% |
| Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals | 70 | 75 | 7% | 2% |
| Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools (Local Government) | 64 | 66 | 2% | 2% |
| Commercial Photography | 53 | 62 | 16% | 2% |
| Federal Government, Military | 60 | 61 | 1% | 2% |
| Source: EMSI 2021.3 | | | | |

**Table 6. Top Employers Posting Jobs for Interpreters and Translators in Bay Region and North Bay Sub-Region (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021)**

| **Employer** | **Bay** | **Employer** | **North Bay** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lucile Packard Childrens Hospital | 34 | Sorenson Communication | 9 |
| Core Communications | 21 | Vallejo City Unified School District | 5 |
| Appen | 21 | Homeland Language Services | 5 |
| Sorenson Communication | 17 | Beyond Juxtaposition Interpreting | 5 |
| Stanford Health Care | 16 | Marin Community Clinics | 3 |
| Beyond Juxtaposition Interpreting | 16 | Language World Services, Inc | 3 |
| T Mobile Usa Incorporated | 10 | Fairfield Suisun Unified | 3 |
| Stepping Stones | 9 | Vivalon | 2 |
| SOS International | 9 | Vacaville Unified School District | 2 |
| Rgis | 9 | System Transport | 2 |
| Source: Burning Glass | | | |

## Educational Supply

There are two (2) community colleges in the Bay Region issuing 13 awards on average annually (last 3 years ending 2018-19) on TOP 2140.00 – Legal and Community Interpretation. In the North Bay Sub-Region, there is one (1) community college that issued eight (8) awards on average annually (last 3 years) on this TOP code.

**Table 7. Community College Awards on TOP 2140.00 – Legal and Community Interpretation in Bay Region**

| **College** | **Subregion** | **Associate** | **Certificate Low** | **Total** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Laney | East Bay | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Santa Rosa | North Bay | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| **Total** |  | **3** | **10** | **13** |
| Source: Data Mart | | | | |

*Note: The annual average for awards is 2016-17 to 2018-19.*

## Gap Analysis

Based on the data included in this report, there is a labor market gap in the Bay region with 399 annual openings for Interpreters and Translatorsand 13 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 386 students. In the North Bay Sub-Region, there is also a gap with 49 annual openings and 8 annual (3-year average) awards for an annual undersupply of 41 students.

## Student Outcomes

**Table 8. Four Employment Outcomes Metrics for Students Who Took Courses on TOP 2140.00 – Legal and Community Interpretation**

| **Metric Outcomes** | **Bay**  **All CTE Programs** | **Solano**  **All CTE Programs** | **State 2140.00** | **Bay 2140.00** | **North Bay 2140.00** | **Solano 2140.00** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Students with a Job Closely Related to Their Field of Study | 73% | 65% | 53% | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Median Annual Earnings for SWP Exiting Students | $44,575 | $31,158 | $24,625 | $42,466 | N/A | N/A |
| Median Change in Earnings for SWP Exiting Students | 30% | 31% | 31% | 37% | 11% | 13% |
| Exiting Students Who Attained the Living Wage | 53% | 50% | 52% | 39% | 46% | N/A |
| Source: Launchboard Strong Workforce Program Median of 2016-18. | | | | | | |

## Skills, Certifications and Education

**Table 9. Top Skills for Interpreters and Translators in Bay Region (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021)**

| **Skill** | **Posting** | **Skill** | **Posting** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Scheduling | 105 | Sales | 36 |
| Customer Service | 100 | Customer Contact | 35 |
| Medical Terminology | 72 | SQL | 35 |
| Medical Translation | 69 | Natural Language Processing | 32 |
| Computational Linguistics | 65 | Machine Learning | 30 |
| Patient Care | 64 | Record Keeping | 29 |
| Teaching | 54 | Data Entry | 27 |
| Quality Assurance and Control | 48 | Multilingual | 27 |
| Legal Document Composition | 47 | Patient/Family Education and Instruction | 24 |
| Legal Documentation | 47 | Data Collection | 23 |
| Crisis Intervention | 46 | Data Quality | 22 |
| Patient Treatment | 43 | Project Management | 21 |
| Python | 43 | Appointment Setting | 20 |
| Informed Consent Procedures | 38 | Budgeting | 20 |
| Source: Burning Glass | | | |

**Table 10. Certifications for Interpreters and Translators in Bay Region (Oct 2020 - Sep 2021)**

| **Certification** | **Posting** | **Certification** | **Posting** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Driver's License | 95 | CDL Class A | 10 |
| Certified Interpreter | 26 | Business License | 10 |
| Sign Language Certification | 14 | Medical Terminology Certification | 8 |
| Security Clearance | 10 | First Aid Cpr Aed | 6 |
| Certified Interpreter For The Deaf | 10 | Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development | 6 |
| Source: Burning Glass | | | |

*Note: 79% of records have been excluded because they do not include a certification. As a result, the chart above may not be representative of the full sample.*

**Table 11. Education Requirements for Interpreters and Translators in Bay Region**

| **Education (minimum advertised)** | **Latest 12 Mos. Postings** | **Percent 12 Mos. Postings** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| High school or vocational training | 182 | 42% |
| Associate's degree | 10 | 2% |
| Bachelor's degree and higher | 238 | 56% |
| Source: Burning Glass | | |

*Note: 51% 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 skills listed in O\*Net descriptions and job descriptions in Burning Glass. Labor demand data is sourced from Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) occupation data and Burning Glass job postings data. Educational supply and student outcomes data is retrieved from multiple sources, including CTE Launchboard and CCCCO Data Mart.

## Sources

O\*Net Online  
Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)  
Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)  
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

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