

**2007 Follow-Up Study  
of  
2005-06 Students**

**Employment**

## **Employment**

### ***Summary: Employment Data***

Overall, the current data indicate that career technical graduates continued to have an advantage over career technical no formal award (NFA) respondents in obtaining related jobs and in obtaining higher incomes.

#### **Employment status:**

Seventy-four percent of all respondents were employed either full- or part-time (Table 20).

#### **Employed in present job before attending Lane:**

After taking classes at Lane, 88 percent (88.7%) of employed career technical respondents were working in a different job than the job they held before attending Lane (Table 23).

#### **Job related to training:**

As in past follow-up surveys, graduate career technical majors have a substantial advantage over non-graduate career technical majors in obtaining employment related to their fields of study (89.6% and 62.1% respectively—Table 25).

For the much smaller number of career technical respondents whose jobs were not related to their fields of study (36 respondents), the reason cited most often was because they did not complete their program or pass their licensure test (nine respondents) or were in a temporary job in transition (nine respondents). See table 27.

#### **Relevance of classes to employment:**

Eighty-two percent of employed career technical respondents indicated Lane's courses were "very relevant" or "relevant" to the employment related to their fields of study (Table 28).

#### **Income:**

Career technical graduates generally achieve higher monthly incomes shortly after leaving Lane than do no formal award career technical respondents (Table 30).

## ***Employment Status***

### **What is your current employment status?**

- ☐ **Employed full-time**
  - ☐ **Employed part-time**
  - ☐ **Full-time military service**
  - ☐ **Unemployed (actively seeking employment)**
  - ☐ **Temporarily laid off (expect to be called back in 6 months)**
  - ☐ **Not in the labor force (not employed and not seeking employment)**
- More than three-quarters of the graduate respondents (79.5) were employed full- or part-time. Over 67 percent of the no formal award respondents were employed full- or part-time.
  - A higher percentage of career technical (CT) graduates indicated they were employed full- or part-time (83.2%—Table 21) compared to career technical no formal award respondents who indicated they were employed full- or part-time (73%). See the line chart on page 42 for a comparison of full-time CT employment with Lane County unemployment rates.
  - For those respondents not attending school full-time (Table 22), respondents were nearly three times as likely to be employed full-time (63.3%) compared to part-time (19.5%).

### **Interpretation/Further Analysis:**

Overall, a higher percentage of respondents were working full-time compared to part-time, and graduate respondents were more likely to have full-time employment compared to no formal award respondents.

Over 57 percent of career technical (CT) respondents were working full-time, and 62.3 percent of CT respondents not in school full-time were working full-time.

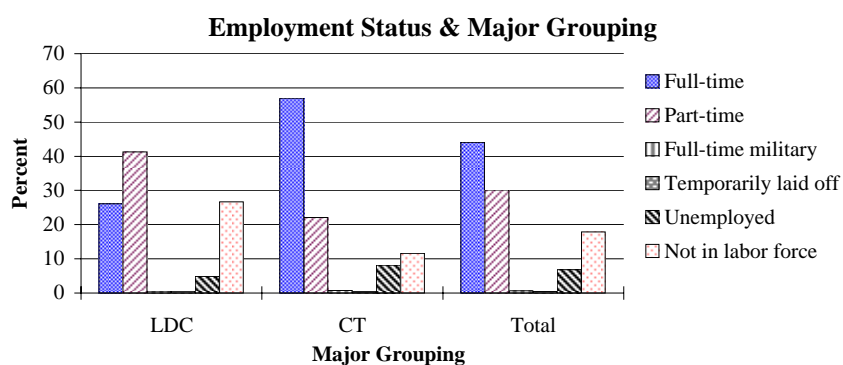
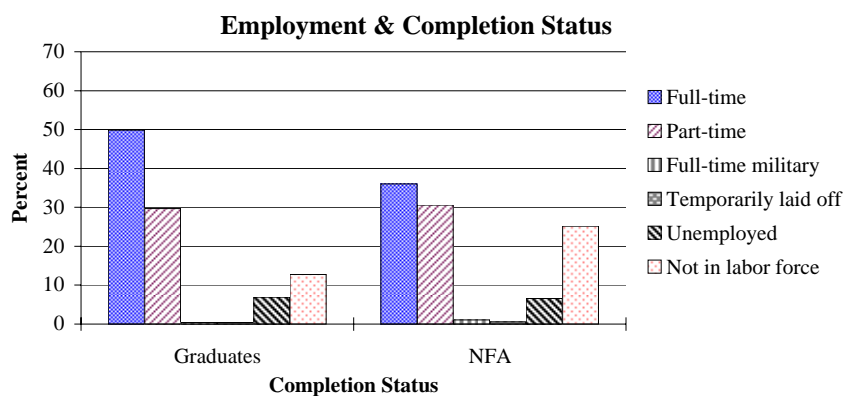
Additionally, employment rates among respondents seemed to differ along gender lines. CT males were more likely than CT females to be employed full-time (65.6% versus 52.8%). CT females were more likely than CT males to be employed part-time (27.6% versus 12.5%).

**Table 20: Employment Status (All Respondents)**

Employment Status	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Full-time	129	49.8	66	36.1	48	26.1	147	57.0	195	44.1
Part-time	77	29.7	56	30.6	76	41.3	57	22.1	133	30.1
Full-time military	1	0.4	2	1.1	1	0.5	2	0.8	3	0.7
Temporarily laid off	1	0.4	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.4	2	0.5
Unemployed	18	6.9	12	6.6	9	4.9	21	8.1	30	6.8
Not in labor force	33	12.7	46	25.1	49	26.6	30	11.6	79	17.9
Total	259	100.0	183	100.0	184	100.0	258.0	100.0	442	100.0
No Response	3		3		5		1		6	

Example: The percentage of responding graduates who indicated they were employed full-time was 49.8%.

Note: "No responses" are not included in the calculation of percentages.



Respondents are represented three times:

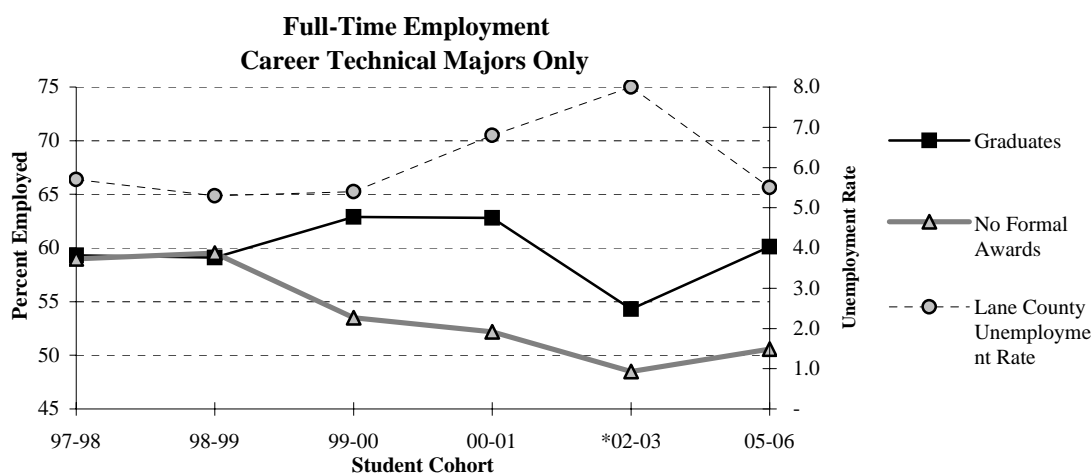
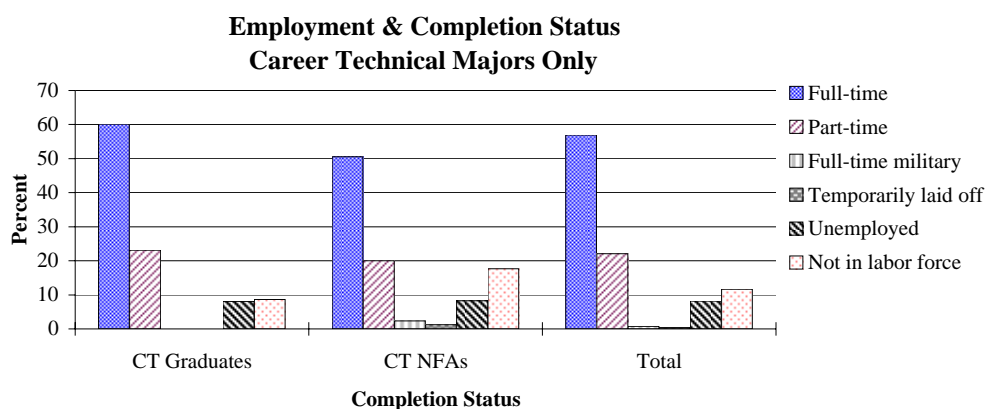
- Once in Completion Status as either a graduate or NFA (no formal award).
- Secondly in Major Grouping as either LDC (lower division collegiate transfer) or CT (career technical).
- A third time in the total.

**Table 21: Employment Status** (Career Technical Majors Only)

Employment Status	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs			
CT Majors Only	n	%	n	%	n	%
Full-time	104	60.1	43	50.6	147	57.0
Part-time	40	23.1	17	20.0	57	22.1
Full-time military	0	0.0	2	2.4	2	0.8
Temporarily laid off	0	0.0	1	1.2	1	0.4
Unemployed	14	8.1	7	8.2	21	8.1
Not in labor force	15	8.7	15	17.6	30	11.6
Total	173	100.0	85	100.0	258	100.0
No response	1		0		1	

Example: The percentage of responding CT graduates who indicated they were employed full-time was 60.1%.

Note: "No responses" are not included in the calculation of percentages.



Example: 60.1 percent of the 2005-06 CT graduate respondents were employed full-time.

50.6 percent of 2005-06 CT no formal award (NFA) respondents were employed full-time.

The annual average civilian unemployment rate (CPS adjusted) for Lane County in 2006 was 5.5 %.

\*No study done for '01-02, '03-04 or '04-05 students.

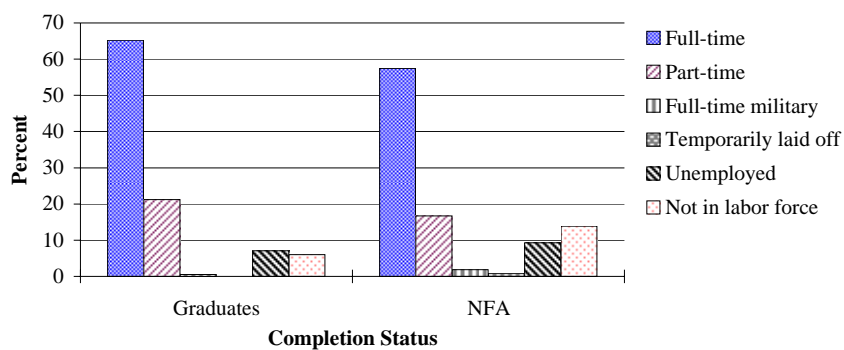
**Table 22: Employment Status** (All Respondents Not Attending School Full-Time)

Employment Status	Completion Status				Major Grouping				Total	
	Graduates		NFA		LDC		CT			
Not in School Full-Time	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Full-time	120	65.2	62	57.4	37	50.7	145	66.2	182	62.3
Part-time	39	21.2	18	16.7	16	21.9	41	18.7	57	19.5
Full-time military	1	0.5	2	1.9	1	1.4	2	0.9	3	1.0
Temporarily laid off	0	0.0	1	0.9	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.3
Unemployed	13	7.1	10	9.3	5	6.8	18	8.2	23	7.9
Not in labor force	11	6.0	15	13.9	14	19.2	12	5.5	26	8.9
Total	184	100.0	108	100.0	73	100.0	219	100.0	292	100.0
No Response	2		3		5		0		5	

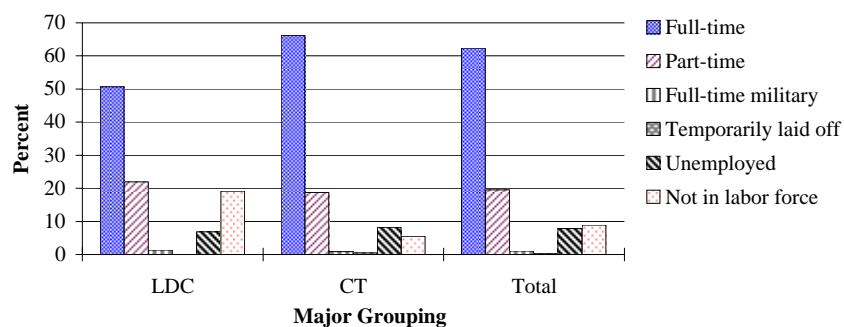
Example: The percentage of responding graduates who were not attending school full-time and indicated they were employed full-time was 65.2%.

Note: "No responses" are not calculated in the percentages.

**Employment & Completion Status**  
**Not in School Full-Time**



**Employment Status & Major Grouping**  
**Not in School Full-Time**



## ***Employed in Present Job Before Attending Lane***

(Employed Career Technical Majors Only)

**Were you employed in your present job when you began taking classes at Lane?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

- The vast majority of employed career technical (CT) respondents were not employed in their present job before attending Lane. After taking classes at Lane, nearly 89 percent of the career technical respondents were working in a different job than the job they had before attending Lane.
- Career technical no formal award respondents were a little more likely to be employed in a different job than before attending Lane (91.5%) than were CT graduates (87.5%).
- Eighty-eight percent of employed CT respondents not attending school full-time indicated they were working in a different job than the job they had before attending Lane (Table 24).

### **Interpretation/Analysis:**

Across the prior five studies, an average of 81.7 percent of Lane's former career technical respondents were not employed in their present job before attending Lane.

Employment in a new job after attending Lane is similar when comparing men and women (Table 23a below).

**Table 23a: Career Technical Respondents Not Employed in Present Job Before Lane by Gender**

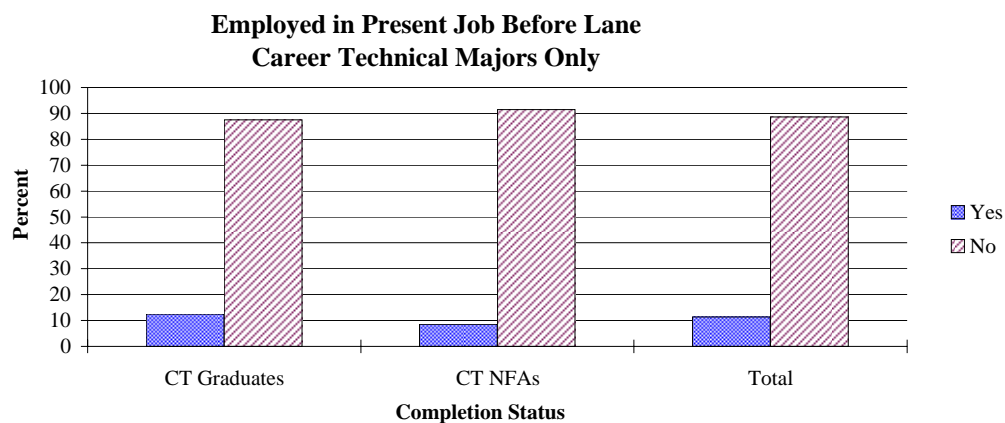
Not employed in present job before Lane	Employed CT Majors Only		Employed CT Not in School Full-Time	
	n	%	n	%
Female	115	88.5	103	88.0
Male	65	89.0	61	88.4

Example: Employed female CT respondents (115) were *not* employed in their present job before Lane (88.5%).

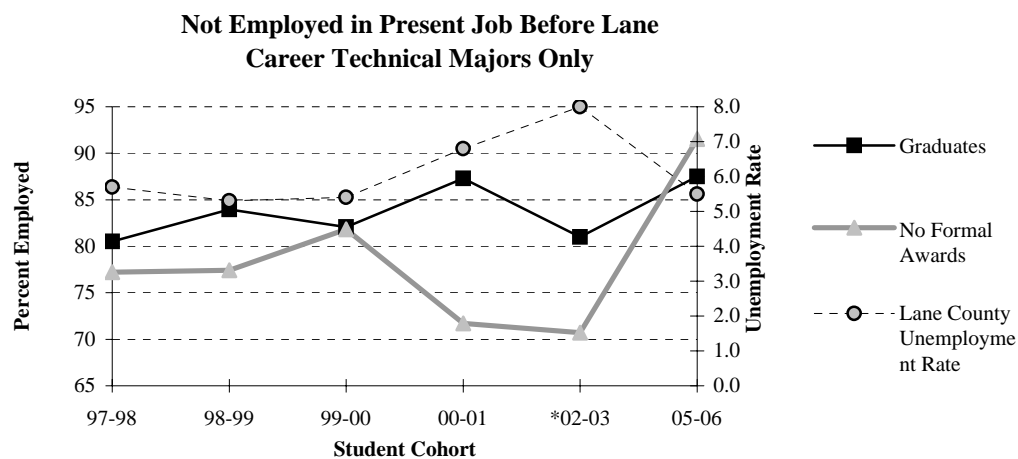
**Table 23: Employed in Present Job Before Lane** (Employed Career Technical Majors Only)

Present Job Before Lane? CT Majors Only	CT Graduates		CT NFAs		CT Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	18	12.5	5	8.5	23	11.3
No	126	87.5	54	91.5	180	88.7
Total	144	100.0	59	100.0	203	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding CT graduates who were *not* employed in their present job before Lane was 87.5%.



An average of 84 percent of Lane's former career technical graduates from the last six studies were not employed in their present job before attending Lane.



Example: The percentage of employed 05-06 CT grads who were not employed in their present job before attending Lane was 87.5%.

The percentage of employed 05-06 CT NFAs who were not employed in their present job before attending Lane was 91.5%.

The annual average civilian unemployment rate (CPS adjusted) for Lane County in 2006 was 5.5 %.

\*No study done for '01-02, '03-04 or '04-05 students.



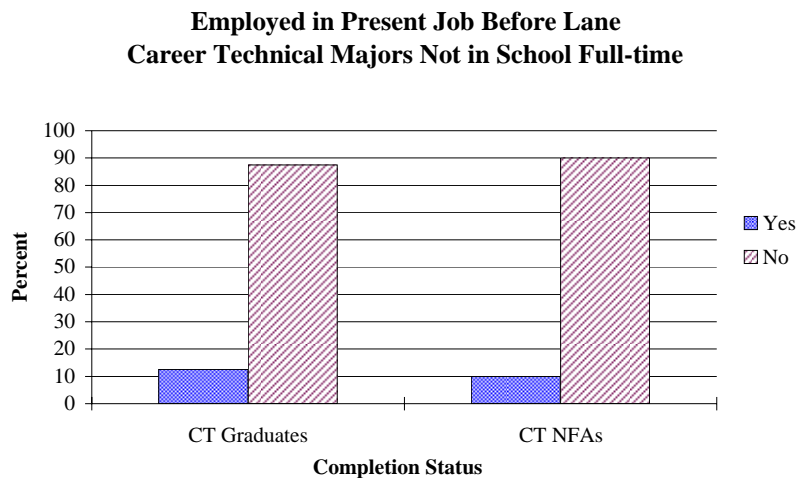
**Table 24: Employed in Present Job Before Lane**

(Employed Career Technical Respondents Not Attending School Full-Time)

Present Job Before Lane?	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs			
Not in School Full-Time	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	17	12.5	5	10.0	22	11.8
No	119	87.5	45	90.0	164	88.2
Total	136	100.0	50	100.0	186	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding employed career technical graduates who were not attending school full-time and who were *not employed in their present job before Lane* was 87.5%.

Note: "No responses" are not included in the calculation of percentages.



## ***Job Related to Field of Training***

**Is your job related to your Lane Community College program of study?**

☐ **Yes, it is directly or closely related.**

☐ **No, it is only remotely or is not related at all.**

- Over 81 percent of all employed career technical (CT) major respondents indicated they were employed in related fields.
- Over 89 percent of employed CT graduate respondents indicated they were employed in related fields compared to nearly 62 percent of CT NFA respondents.
- Over 90 percent of employed CT graduate respondents *who were not in school full-time* indicated they were employed in related fields compared to 59.2 percent of CT NFA respondents who were not in school full-time (Table 26).

### **Interpretation/Analysis:**

Findings from the current study indicate that employment prospects in fields related to a respondent's training are substantially better for graduate CT respondents than for no formal award CT respondents. See the line chart on the next page for a six-year comparison.

Employment in a related job seems to differ depending on the respondent's gender.

- ❖ A higher percentage of employed career technical females (84.7%) indicated they were working in related jobs compared to males (76.1%—Table 25a below.)
- ❖ Of career technical respondents not in school full-time, 86.3 percent of females and 75 percent of males were employed in related jobs.

**Table 25a: Career technical Respondents Employed by Gender**

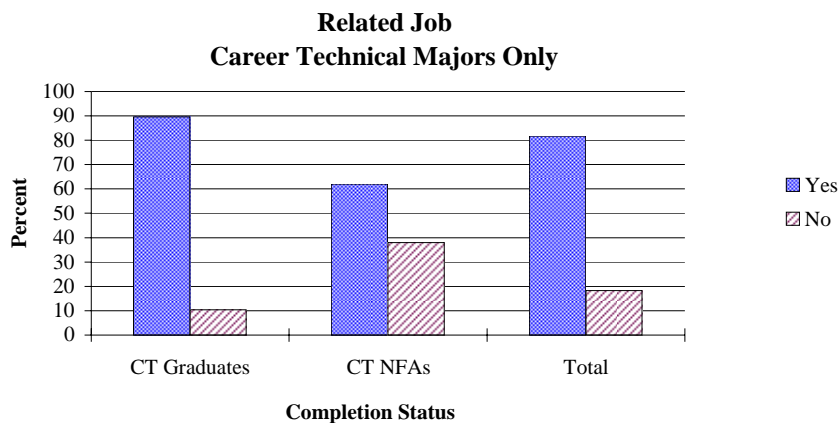
	CT Majors Empl/Not in Sch	CT Majors Employed in Related Jobs		CT Majors Employed in Related Jobs—Not in School Full-Time	
	n	n	%	n	%
Female	131 / 117	111	84.7%	101	86.3%
Male	71 / 68	54	76.1%	51	75.0%

Example: For employed career technical female respondents, 111 out of 131 (84.7%) were employed in a job related to their Lane field of study. One-hundred-one out of 117 (86.3%) employed CT female respondents who were not in school full-time were employed in a job related to their field of study.

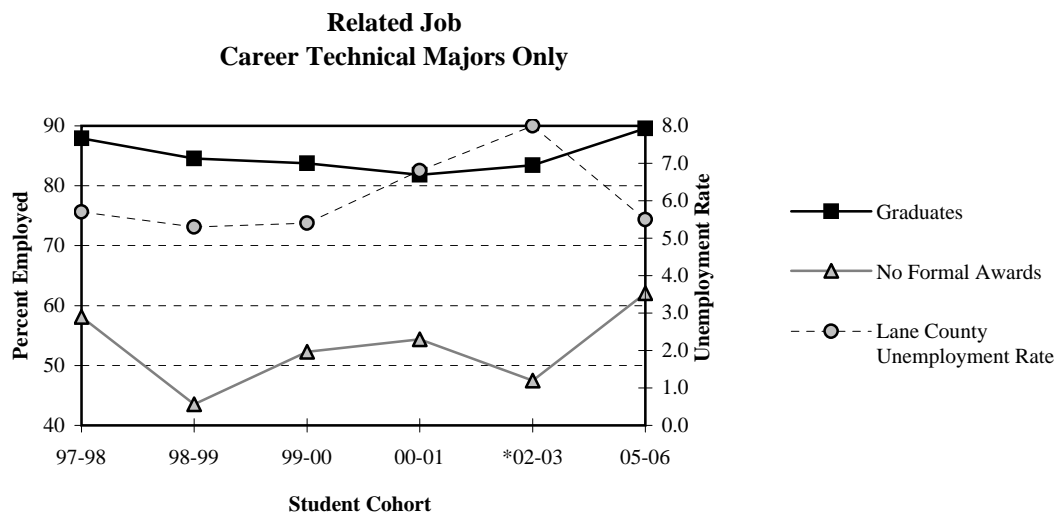
**Table 25: Is Job Related to Field of Study?** (Employed Career Technical Majors Only)

Is Job Related? CT Majors Only	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs		n	%
Yes	129	89.6	36	62.1	165	81.7
No	15	10.4	22	37.9	37	18.3
Total	144	100.0	58	100.0	202	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding CT graduates who were employed in a job related to their field was 89.6%.



An average of 85% of Lane's former career technical employed *graduates* from the last six studies were employed in a related job compared to an average of 53% of CT NFA employed former students.



Example: Over 89 percent of employed 05-06 CT grads were employed in a related field.

62.1 percent of employed 05-06 CT NFAs were employed in a related field.

The annual average civilian unemployment rate (CPS adjusted) for Lane County in 2006 was 5.5 %.

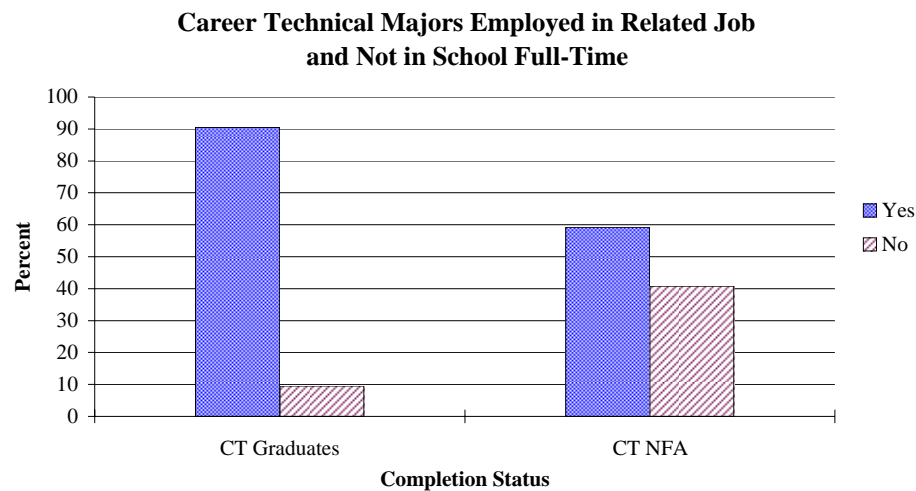
**Table 26: Is Job Related to Field of Study?**

(Employed Career Technical Respondents Not Attending School Full-Time)

Is Job Related?	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFA			
Not in School Full-Time	n	%	n	%	n	%
Yes	123	90.4	29	59.2	152	82.2
No	13	9.6	20	40.8	33	17.8
Total	136	100.0	49	100.0	185	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding employed career technical graduates who were not attending school full-time and who were employed in a related job was 90.4%.

Note: "No responses" are not included in the calculation of percentages.



### ***Reasons Why Job is Not Related to Field of Training***

**If your present job is not related to your field of study, please check the one best reason why:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preferred to work in another field         | <input type="checkbox"/> Did not complete program or pass license test |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Found better paying job in another field   | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary job while in transition             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Could not find job in field of preparation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

- Twenty-five percent of all employed career technical respondents who were not employed in related fields (nine out of 36) indicated the reason was because they did not complete their program or pass their licensing test. Another 25 percent indicated the reason they were not employed in related fields was because they had a temporary job while in transition.
- Nearly one-half of all employed career technical graduate respondents who were not employed in related fields (12 out of 26) indicated the reason was because they could not find a job in their field of preparation.
- Nine of 21 (42.9%) career technical NFA respondents indicated the reason they were not employed in related fields was because they didn't complete their program or pass their licensing test.

### **Interpretation/Analysis:**

It is clear from the previous section and from the chart on the next page that a much higher number of employed career technical respondents are employed in related fields than not.

Other reasons respondents indicated their present job was not related to their field of study:

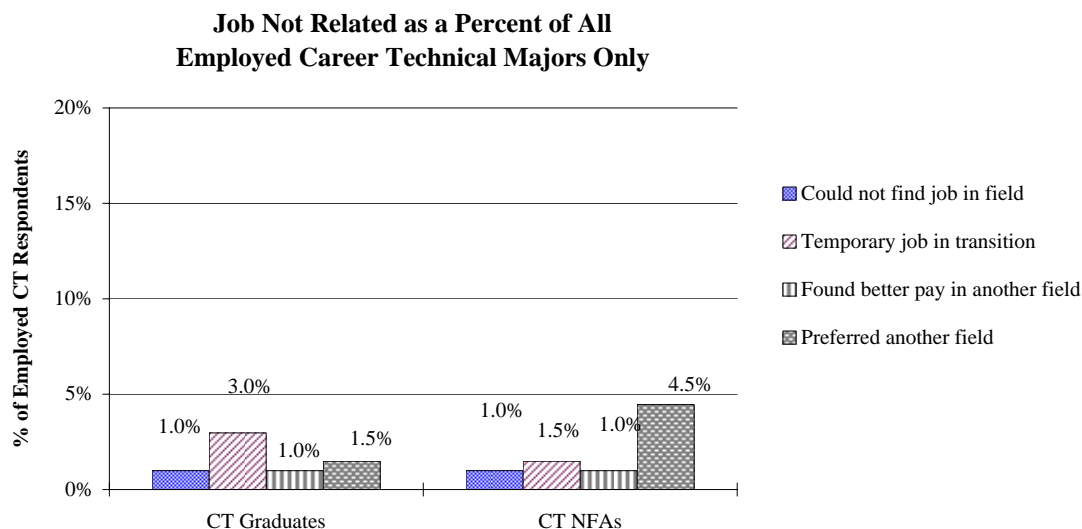
- \* *Unable to relocate.*
- \* *Found this job more enjoyable than degree.*
- \* *Couldn't find a job because this is my first work experience.*
- \* *I changed my area of study.*
- \* *I was preparing to transfer so my schooling at Lane wasn't aiming at a particular career.*

**Table 27: Job Not Related to Field of Study** (Employed Career Technical Majors Only)

Why Job is Not Related CT Majors Only	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs			
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Preferred another field	3	20.0	0	-	3	8.3
Found better pay in another field	2	13.3	2	9.5	4	11.1
Could not find job in field	2	13.3	2	9.5	4	11.1
Didn't complete program/pass test	0	-	9	42.9	9	25.0
Temporary job in transition	6	40.0	3	14.3	9	25.0
Other	2	13.3	5	23.8	7	19.4
Total	15	100.0	21	100.0	36	100.0
No response	0		1		1	

Example: The percentage of responding employed CT graduates not working in a related job who indicated the reason they were not employed in a related field was because they preferred another field was 20% (three out of 15).

Out of 202 employed CT respondents (Table 25 on page 48), only 2 (1%) indicated the reason they were not employed in a related field was because they could not find a job in their field (see chart below).



Note: Of the respondents in career technical majors, 202 indicated they were employed; 165 (81.7%) in related fields and 37 (18.3%) in unrelated fields. (See Table 25 on page 48.)

## ***Relevance of Courses in Related Jobs***

**Rate the relevance of your Lane classes to the knowledge and skills you need on the job.**

- ☐ **(5) Very relevant**
- ☐ **(4)**
- ☐ **(3) Somewhat relevant**
- ☐ **(2)**
- ☐ **(1) Not at all relevant**

- Over 91 percent of employed CT graduates who reported they were employed in jobs related to their Lane programs indicated their Lane courses were “very relevant” or “relevant” to their employment.
- Over three-fourths of career technical graduates (77.9%) indicated their Lane courses were “very relevant” to the knowledge and skills needed in their jobs compared to less than half (45.5%) of career technical NFA’s indicating their Lane courses were “very relevant” to the knowledge and skills needed in their jobs.
- Eighty-two percent of CT respondents who reported they were employed in jobs related to their Lane programs and also reported they were not in school full-time indicated Lane’s courses were “very relevant” or “relevant” to their employment (Table 29).

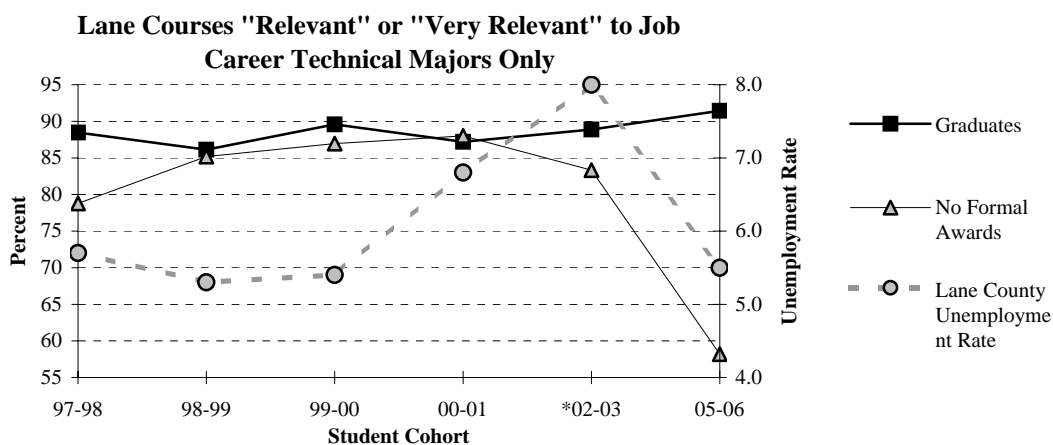
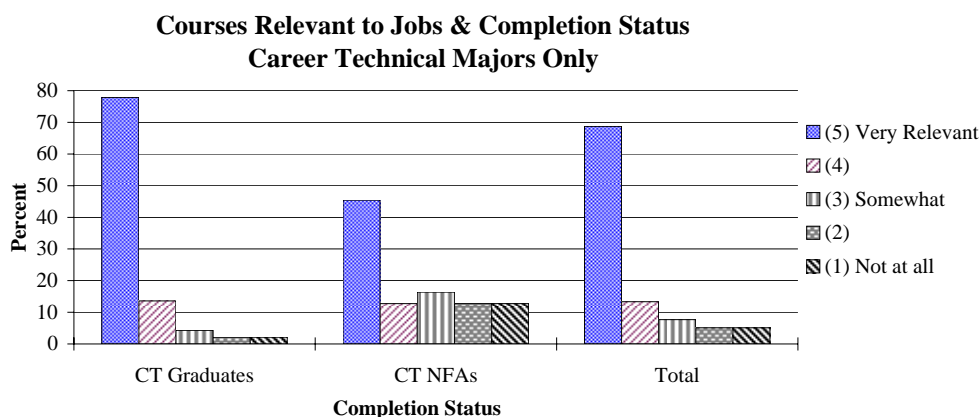
### **Further Questions:**

It is difficult to determine why career technical NFA respondents indicated classes were less relevant in related jobs than graduates. Did graduates who by definition complete their programs assimilate and synthesize their coursework better than NFA respondents? Did NFA respondents leave before certain “capstone” courses that could have drawn together all their coursework toward a better understanding of their fields of study? These are key questions.

**Table 28: Relevance of Courses in Related Jobs (Career Technical Majors Only)**

Relevance on the Job	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs			
CT Majors Only	n	%	n	%	n	%
(5) Very Relevant	109	77.9	25	45.5	134	68.7
(4)	19	13.6	7	12.7	26	13.3
(3) Somewhat	6	4.3	9	16.4	15	7.7
(2)	3	2.1	7	12.7	10	5.1
(1) Not at all	3	2.1	7	12.7	10	5.1
Total	140	100.0	55	100.0	195	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding CT graduates who indicated courses were "very relevant" in related jobs was 77.9%



Example: The percentage of 05-06 CT graduate respondents who indicated courses were "relevant" or "very relevant" to their jobs was 91.5%.

The percentage of 05-06 CT NFA respondents who indicated courses were "relevant" or "very relevant" to their job was 58.2%

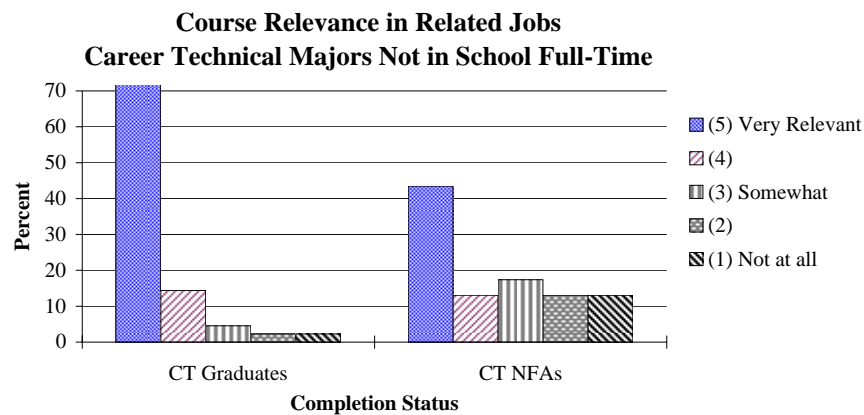
\*No study done for '01-02, '03-04 or '04-05 students.



**Table 29: Relevance of Courses in Related Jobs**  
(Employed Career Technical Respondents Not in School Full-Time)

Relevance on the Job Not in School Full-time	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs			
	n	%	n	%	n	%
(5) Very Relevant	101	76.5	20	43.5	121	68.0
(4)	19	14.4	6	13.0	25	14.0
(3) Somewhat	6	4.5	8	17.4	14	7.9
(2)	3	2.3	6	13.0	9	5.1
(1) Not at all	3	2.3	6	13.0	9	5.1
Total	132	100.0	46	100.0	178	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding employed CT graduates who were not attending school full-time and indicated courses were "very relevant" in related jobs was 76.5%.



## ***Income***

**Please estimate your average monthly income from this employment, before taxes and deductions.**

- Nearly one-half (45.8%) of employed career technical respondents were making near or more than the annual average covered wage<sup>1</sup> for Lane County.
- Nearly 57 percent of employed career technical graduate respondents were making near or more than the annual average covered wage for Lane County compared to only 21.6 percent of employed career technical NFA respondents.
- Nearly half (49%) of employed career technical respondents not attending school full-time were earning near or above the average wage for Lane County (Table 31).
- Over half (52.5%) of career technical respondents working full-time were earning near or above the average wage for Lane County (Table 32).

### **Interpretation/Analysis:**

The average monthly income for all career technical respondents employed full-time increased \$231 in this year's study (\$2,679) compared to the 2004 study (\$2,448) representing a 9.4 percent increase. The minimum wage during the prior study (spring of 2004) was \$7.05. The minimum wage during this study (spring of 2007) was \$7.80 representing a 10.6% increase in the minimum wage between the two study years.

The average monthly income of all responding career technical graduates employed full-time (\$2,898) is \$891 greater than the average monthly income for all NFA career technical respondents employed full-time (\$2,007). This difference represents the largest difference between graduate and NFA respondents since the 1999 study of 1997-98 students when these numbers were first compared. As in the immediate prior study, the distribution of incomes around the average (standard deviation) was greater for graduate respondents than for NFA respondents (e.g., more NFA respondents earned closer to the NFA average compared to graduate respondents to the graduate average).

### **Further Questions:**

How do the income patterns observed for former Lane students who have been out of school for less than one year compare to patterns found among former students who have been out of school for several years? Does the tendency toward an income differential between graduate and no formal award respondents become more or less distinct as the number of years after leaving Lane increases? Longer-term follow-up of students could provide data needed to help answer these sorts of questions. Access to State of Oregon wage data would enable research into these and other related questions.

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<sup>1</sup> The annual average covered wage is the average wage of all employees who are "covered" by a state's unemployment insurance program or the federal unemployment insurance program. In Oregon, approximately 85 percent of all workers are covered by unemployment insurance. In 2005, the annual average covered wage for Lane County was \$32,298 and the annual average covered wage for Oregon was \$36,591.

**Table 30: Monthly Income** (Employed Career Technical Majors Only)  
(Income Greater than Zero)

Monthly Income CT Majors Only	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFAs			
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under \$1000	11	8.7	8	20.0	19	11.4
\$1000-1499	14	11.1	10	25.0	24	14.5
\$1500-1999	15	11.9	7	17.5	22	13.3
\$2000-2499	17	13.5	8	20.0	25	15.1
\$2500-2999*	17	13.5	1	2.5	18	10.8
\$3000-3499	17	13.5	4	10.0	21	12.7
\$3500-3999	13	10.3	1	2.5	14	8.4
\$4000+	22	17.5	1	2.5	23	13.9
Total	126	100.0	40	100.0	166	100.0

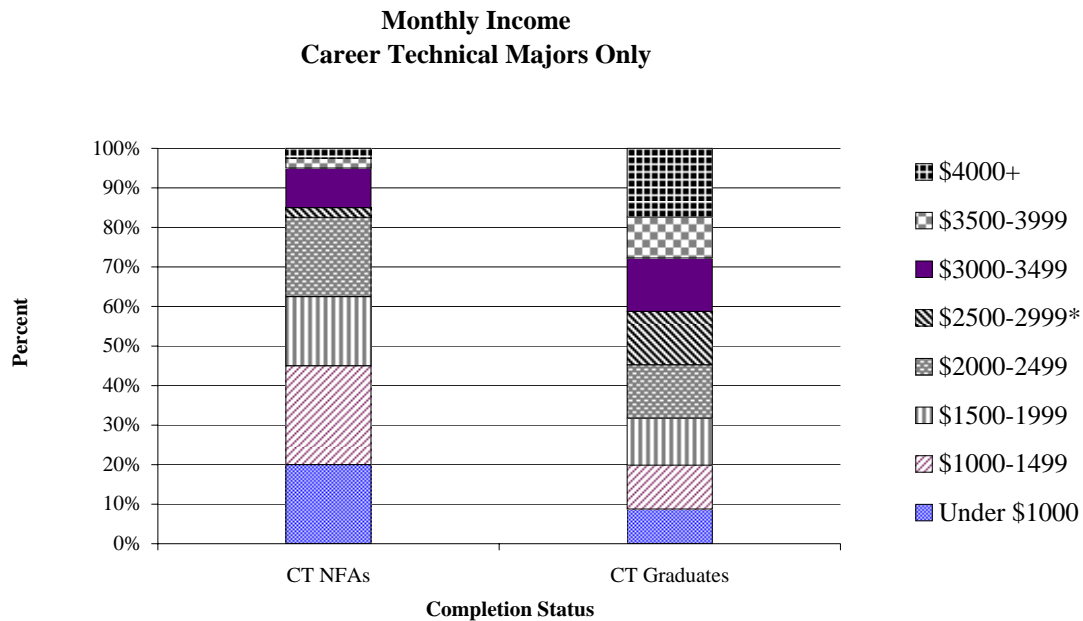
Example: The percentage of responding employed CT graduates who indicated monthly income of greater than zero and less than \$1000 was 8.7%.

\*\$2500-2999/month is equivalent to \$30,000-\$35,988/year.

The average covered wage in 2005 for Lane County was \$32,298.

The average covered wage in 2005 for Oregon was \$36,591.

Note: "Covered wage" refers to wages that are covered by unemployment insurance.



**Table 31: Monthly Income**

(Employed Career Technical Respondents Not Attending School Full-Time)  
(Income Greater than Zero)

Monthly Income	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFA			
Not in School Full-time	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under \$1000	8	6.6	4	12.5	12	7.8
\$1000-1499	13	10.7	8	25.0	21	13.7
\$1500-1999	15	12.4	6	18.8	21	13.7
\$2000-2499	17	14.0	7	21.9	24	15.7
\$2500-2999*	17	14.0	1	3.1	18	11.8
\$3000-3499	17	14.0	4	12.5	21	13.7
\$3500-3999	13	10.7	1	3.1	14	9.2
\$4000+	21	17.4	1	3.1	22	14.4
Total	121	100.0	32	100.0	153	100.0

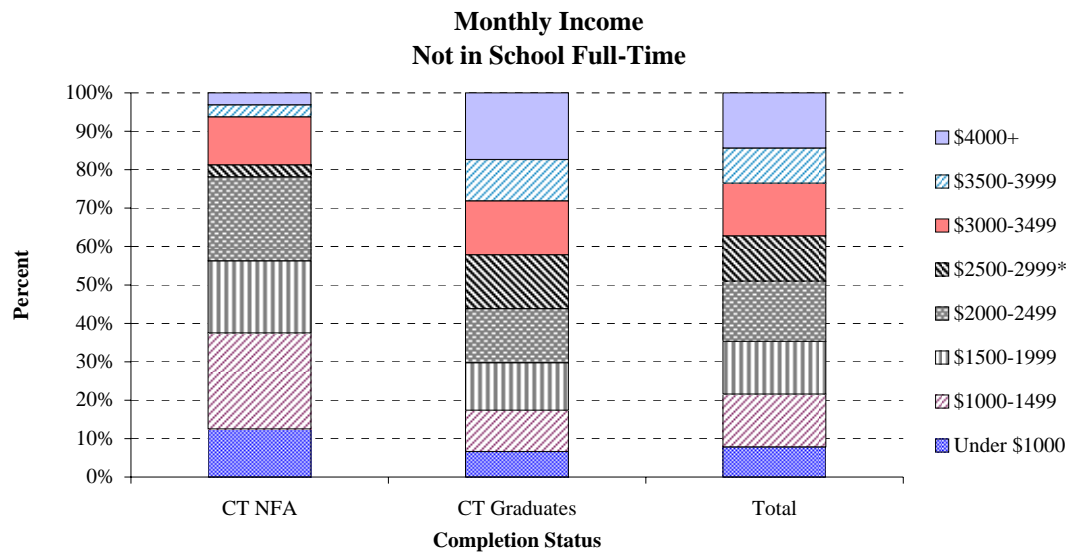
Example: The percentage of responding employed CT graduates not in school full-time who indicated monthly income of greater than zero and less than \$1000 was 6.6%.

\*\$2500-2999/month is equivalent to \$30,000-\$35,988/year.

The average covered wage in 2005 for Lane County was \$32,298.

The average covered wage in 2005 for Oregon was \$36,591.

Note: "Covered wage" refers to wages that are covered by unemployment insurance.



**Table 32: Monthly Income**

(Career Technical Respondents Employed Full-Time and Reporting Income)

Monthly Income Employed Full-time	Completion Status				CT Total	
	CT Graduates		CT NFA			
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under \$1000	1	1.1	2	6.7	3	2.5
\$1000-1499	10	10.9	7	23.3	17	13.9
\$1500-1999	11	12.0	6	20.0	17	13.9
\$2000-2499	13	14.1	8	26.7	21	17.2
\$2500-2999*	14	15.2	1	3.3	15	12.3
\$3000-3499	12	13.0	4	13.3	16	13.1
\$3500-3999	12	13.0	1	3.3	13	10.7
\$4000+	19	20.7	1	3.3	20	16.4
Total	92	100.0	30	100.0	122	100.0

Example: The percentage of responding career technical graduates employed full-time who indicated monthly income of greater than zero and less than \$1000 was 1.1%.

\*\$2500-2999/month is equivalent to \$30,000-\$35,988/year.

The average covered wage in 2005 for Lane County was \$32,298.

The average covered wage in 2005 for Oregon was \$36,591.

Note: "Covered wage" refers to wages that are covered by unemployment insurance.

