

## Water and Wastewater Occupations in the Bay Region

A joint project of BAYWORK (Bay Area Water/Wastewater Workforce Development Collaborative) and the California Community Colleges' Centers of Excellence.

### Survey employment data for San Francisco and Marin counties

The following table contains the sample data collected for the seven mission critical occupations in the Water and Wastewater Occupations study for utilities and/or agencies located in San Francisco and Marin counties. Employers were asked to detail their current employment, project future growth (new jobs), and estimate retirement eligibility (replacement jobs).<sup>1</sup> For each occupation, the following job levels were included: apprentice or trainee, journey-level, and supervisory. In San Francisco and Marin counties, the sample data set includes information collected from 7 employers.<sup>2</sup>

- The 7 water and wastewater utilities and agencies that responded to the workforce survey collectively employ more than 420 workers in the target occupations. In five years, there may be as many as 220 new and replacement jobs for these positions.<sup>3</sup>
- Wastewater treatment operator is the largest occupation surveyed, with almost 160 jobs in 2009. Retirement eligibility for wastewater treatment operators may be as high as 66% over the next five years and the demand for workers will be close to 100 jobs (new and replacement jobs).
- Wastewater collections operator has 50 workers currently employed. With a replacement rate of 39%, San Francisco and Marin employers may need workers to fill as many as 40 positions (new and replacement jobs) within five years.

Water and Wastewater Occupations	2009 Employment	5-year Growth Rate (new job growth)	Eligible to Retire in 5 years (replacement rate)	New & Replacement Jobs (in 5 years)
Water Treatment Operator	74	0%	45%	32
Water Distribution Operator	19	0%	50%	8
Wastewater Treatment Operator	158	0%	66%	97
Wastewater Collections Operator	50	46%	39%	42
Mechanic/Machinist	28	0%	19%	4
Electrician/Electrician Technician	47	2%	39%	17
Electronic Maintenance Technician/ Instrument Technician	47	2%	56%	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>224</b>

<sup>1</sup> Data shown here reflects 5-year expectations.

<sup>2</sup> Caution should be used when considering this data set as it represents data from 7 employers, with one respondent (employer) representing 74% of the total employment from this sample.

<sup>3</sup> New and replacement job totals are calculated from raw survey data. New job growth and replacement rate percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.