



Culinary Occupations

July 2016

Prepared by Los Angeles/Orange Counties Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research

Current and Future Employment

In the Los Angeles and Orange Counties, culinary occupations are expected to increase by 10% between 2015 and 2020. In 2015, there were a total of 238,556 culinary related jobs in the region. By 2020, it is estimated that there will be 261,982 jobs, an increase of 23,426.

The occupations with the highest number of jobs in 2015 were: restaurant cooks (50,758 jobs), food preparation workers (48,771), and first-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers (35,725).

Median hourly earnings for these culinary occupations range between \$9.73 and \$33.54.

Table 1 – Culinary Occupations (by 2015 jobs)

SOC	Description	2015 Jobs	2020 Jobs	5-Year Change	5-Year % Change	Annual Openings	Median Hourly Earnings
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	50,758	58,175	7,417	15%	2,580	\$11.25
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	48,771	52,101	3,330	7%	2,129	\$9.91
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	35,725	40,324	4,599	13%	2,014	\$15.02
35-9011	Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	26,230	28,414	2,184	8%	1,650	\$9.73
11-9051	Food Service Managers	20,491	21,889	1,398	7%	663	\$17.81
51-3011	Bakers	14,019	14,453	434	3%	433	\$11.51
35-2012	Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	10,358	11,724	1,366	13%	496	\$13.76
35-3041	Food Servers, Nonrestaurant	9,312	10,535	1,223	13%	540	\$11.39
35-2015	Cooks, Short Order	6,759	7,239	480	7%	236	\$10.90
35-1011	Chefs and Head Cooks	6,700	7,294	594	9%	234	\$16.86
51-3092	Food Batchmakers	4,681	4,576	(105)	(2%)	151	\$11.09
29-1031	Dietitians and Nutritionists	2,992	3,366	374	13%	113	\$33.54
29-2051	Dietetic Technicians	1,061	1,174	113	11%	34	\$15.73
19-1012	Food Scientists and Technologists	700	718	18	3%	28	\$30.22
		238,556	261,982	23,426	10%	11,302	\$12.55

Source: EMSI Employment Data – 2015.4

Top Employers, Skills and Certifications Required

In 2015, there were a total of 31,515 job postings for culinary occupations in the Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The top employers hiring for culinary occupations were Compass Group (664 job postings), Marriott International Incorporated (464), and Sodexo (341).

Table 2 – Top Employers for Culinary Occupations (n=31,515)

Employer	Job Postings, Full Year 2015
Compass Group	664
Marriott International Incorporated	464
Sodexo	341
Hilton Hotel Corporation	261
Interstate Hotels & Resorts	224
Nordstrom	195
Benihana	193
Restaurant Depot	185
Aramark	180
Hyatt	162

Source: Burning Glass

Table 3 lists the top 10 skills mentioned in job postings for culinary occupations. The most highly sought skills include scheduling, cooking, supervisory skills, and restaurant management.

Table 3 – Top Skills for Culinary Occupations (n=31,515)

Skills	Number of Job Postings
Scheduling	4,168
Cooking	4,161
Supervisory Skills	3,513
Restaurant Management	3,339
Food Preparation	2,748
Cost Control	2,704
Cleaning	2,644
Customer Service	2,532
Budgeting	2,452
Food Safety	2,331

Source: Burning Glass

There are many preferred certifications for culinary occupations. ServSafe (2,496 job postings) was by far the most desired certification for culinary workers, followed by registered dietitian (641) and food service certification (332).

Table 4 – Top Certifications for Culinary Occupations (n=31,515)

Certifications	Number of Job Postings
ServSafe	2,496
Registered Dietitian	641
Food Service Certification (E.G. FMP)	332
First Aid CPR AED	177
Certified Dietary Manager	169
Food Service Sanitation Certification	102
Alcohol Server Certification	64
Alcohol Awareness Certification	48
Certified Executive Chef	45
Cooking Certification	44

Source: Burning Glass

Educational Programs

Currently, there are 15 community colleges in the Los Angeles and Orange Counties that prepare students for the culinary field. In the last three years, 798 awards (average) have been conferred.

Table 5 displays the breakdown of award type for the related community college programs.

Table 5 – Student Completions in Los Angeles & Orange Counties (by Program)

Program	Annual 2012-2013	Annual 2013-2014	Annual 2014-2015	3-Year Average
Culinary Arts-130630	648	517	435	533
Dietetic Services and Management-130620	63	36	45	48
Dietetic Technology-130660	34	20	34	29
Hospitality-130700	58	70	78	69
Nutrition, Foods, and Culinary Arts-130600	35	64	39	46
Restaurant and Food Services and Management-130710	51	83	84	73
Total / Average	889	790	715	798

Source: www.datamart.cccco.edu