

Program Endorsement Brief: 0614.40/Animation Animation

Orange County Center of Excellence, May 2019

Summary

The Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide Los Angeles/Orange County regional labor market supply and demand data related to the animation occupation: Multimedia Artists and Animators (SOC 27-1014). This report is intended to help determine whether there is demand in the local labor market that is not being met by the supply from community college programs that align with relevant occupations.

The following summarizes key findings from this data brief:

- The number of jobs for multimedia artists and animators is projected to **decrease by 7% through 2023**. Despite this decrease, over **600 job openings** will be available annually due to new job growth and replacement need.
- Nearly **22% of multimedia artists and animators in the region are self-employed**. Wages for self-employed workers in this occupation are considerably lower than wages for workers who receive their paycheck from an employer.
- In the past 12 months, there were **897 online job postings** for multimedia artists and animators throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties.
- There are **12 community colleges** in the region that have animation programs. Of those, eight colleges are located in Los Angeles County and four colleges are located in Orange County.
- Between 2015 and 2018, community colleges in the region **conferred an average of 83 awards annually** (associate degrees and certificates) in related training programs under the same TOP Code.
- Between January 2018 and April 2019 **8 related program recommendation requests under the same TOP Code (0614.40)** were received.

Occupational Demand

Exhibit 1 shows the five year occupational demand projections for multimedia artists and animators. In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs related to this occupation is projected to decrease by 7% through 2023. There will be 614 job openings per year through 2023.

Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties¹

Geography	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	7,214	6,630	(584)	(8%)	548
Orange	766	792	26	3%	66
Total	7,979	7,422	(557)	(7%)	614

¹ Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

Wages—Over half (53%) of all multimedia artists and animators in the state are employed in the region (49% in Los Angeles County and 4% in Orange County). While higher demand for well-qualified workers drives up median wages and wages for experienced workers, it also increases the number of self-employed workers who tend to earn lower wages. Overall, regional average entry-level and median hourly wages for multimedia artists and animators are \$12.69 and \$32.21, respectively. Regional average wages (\$34.34) are below the average statewide wage of \$34.83 for this occupation. Wage information, by county, is included in Appendix A.

More lucrative and prestigious industries, such as the entertainment industry in Hollywood, tend to pay higher wages, particularly in some art and entertainment occupations.² The average entry-level wage for workers who receive their paycheck from an employer is \$20.28, which is higher than the MIT Living hourly wage estimate for one adult in the region (\$14.36 in Los Angeles County, \$15.85 in Orange County). Experienced workers employed by companies earn \$62.35 which is higher than the living wage estimates for both counties.

Conversely, there are over 1,700 workers (22%) that are self-employed as multimedia artists and animators in the region. The average entry-level wage for these self-employed workers is \$10.12, which is lower than the MIT Living hourly wage estimate for one adult in the region. On average, experienced self-employed workers earn \$15.76, which is higher than the living wage estimate in Los Angeles County, but lower than the living wage estimate in Orange County.

Job Postings—There were 897 online job postings related to multimedia artists and animators listed in the past 12 months. The highest number of job postings were for animator, graphic designer, and visual effects artist. The top specialized skills were: animation, Maya, and Adobe Photoshop. The top three employers, by number of job postings, in the region were: Activision, Electronic Arts Incorporated, and Blizzard Entertainment.

Educational Attainment—The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) lists bachelor's degree as the typical entry-level education required for multimedia artists and animators. The national-level educational attainment data indicates that 27.8% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. There are too few job postings that list a minimum education requirement in Los Angeles/Orange, so data is not available for education levels requested by employers.

Community College Supply

Exhibit 2 shows the three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in the related TOP code: Animation (0614.40). Mt. San Antonio has the most completions in the region. Between January 2018 and April 2019, there were eight other related program recommendation requests from regional community colleges.

² Elka Torpey, "Same occupation, different pay: How wages vary," Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2015, accessed May 2, 2019, <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2015/article/wage-differences.htm>.

Exhibit 2: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2015-2018

TOP Code	Program	College	2015-16 Awards	2016-17 Awards	2017-2018 Awards	3-Year Award Average
0614.40	Animation	Cerritos	3	4	3	3
		Cypress	1	9	3	4
		East LA	9	3	6	6
		El Camino	1	-	1	1
		Fullerton	-	-	1	0
		Glendale	3	4	6	4
		Irvine	-	-	1	0
		LA Mission	3	4	4	4
		Mt San Antonio	26	19	53	33
		Rio Hondo	10	11	11	11
		Santa Ana	2	5	2	3
		Santa Monica	13	12	17	14
		Total/Average	71	71	108	83

Appendix A: Occupational demand and wage data by county

Exhibit 3. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Multimedia Artists and Animators (27-1014)	7,214	6,630	(584)	(8%)	548	\$12.84	\$33.57	\$59.36
	7,214	6,630	(584)	(8%)	548			

Exhibit 4. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Multimedia Artists and Animators (27-1014)	766	792	26	3%	66	\$11.78	\$24.25	\$43.73
	766	792	26	3%	66			

Exhibit 5. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Multimedia Artists and Animators (27-1014)	7,979	7,422	(557)	(7%)	614	\$12.69	\$32.21	\$59.02
	7,979	7,422	(557)	(7%)	614			

Appendix B: Sources

- O*NET Online
- Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)
- Economic Modeling Specialists, International (EMSI)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
- Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES
- Employment Development Department, Unemployment Insurance Dataset
- Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development
- California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- MIT Living Wage
- Chancellor’s Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI 2.0)

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