

Interior Design Occupational Group

Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and Orange counties

Summary

- Employment for the interior design occupational group is expected to **increase 1%** over the next five years in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties, **16,974 job openings** will be available over the five-year period.
- The entry-level wage for each of the occupations in the interior design occupation group is **above the MIT Living Wage estimate of \$12.10 per hour** for a single adult living in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties for each of the occupations in this group.
- Based on the average annual number of program completions for the selected community college program (**8 average annual community college awards**), and the annual openings for interior design occupations in the San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties (**3,395 annual job openings**), there appears to be an opportunity for program growth.

Job Opportunities

In 2016, there were more than 34,800 interior design occupational group jobs in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties. Across the four counties, employment related to the interior design occupational group is expected to increase 1% through 2021. Employers in the region will need to hire nearly 17,000 workers over the next five years to fill new jobs and to backfill jobs that workers are leaving (includes retirements). Riverside and San Bernardino counties represent about 10% of the current employment in this occupational group and about 11% of the total employment growth over the next five years. Appendix A, Table 1 shows the projected job growth for each of the occupations in this group.

Exhibit 1: Five-year projections for the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties

Region	2016 Jobs	5-Yr % Change (New Jobs)	5-Yr Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)	Annual Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)	% of workers age 55+
San Bernardino and Riverside counties	3,617	3%	1,835	367	20%
Los Angeles and Orange counties	31,201	1%	15,140	3,028	18%
TOTAL San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties	34,818	1%	16,974	3,395	19%

Source: EMSI 2017.3

This report focuses on the three occupations listed below, along with the keywords “interior design” to ensure that all real-time job postings are relevant to interior design. In the last 12 months (December 2016 to November 2017), there were 305 advertisements (ads) for jobs in the interior design occupational group in the San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties. In the full-year 2016, there were 520 job ads; 554 job ads in 2015; 441 job ads in 2014; and 366 job ads in 2013. Exhibit 2 shows the number of job ads posted during the last 12 months for each of the occupations in this occupational group.

Exhibit 2: Job ads in the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties during the last 12 months, Dec 2016 – Nov 2017

Occupation	Job Ads
Interior Designers	251
Graphic Designers	43
Commercial and Industrial Designers	11
TOTAL	305

Source: Burning Glass – Labor Insights

Earnings

The entry-level wage and the annual average earnings for each occupation in the interior design occupational group are above the MIT Living Wage estimate of \$12.10 per hour, or \$25,172 annually for a single adult living in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA. The living wage in Los Angeles County is \$13.08 per hour and \$14.48 per hour for Orange County. Hourly wages and average annual earnings for commercial and industrial designers are consistent from the Riverside and San Bernardino counties to Los Angeles and Orange counties. Interior and graphic designers in Los Angeles and Orange counties earn higher average annual salaries than the same occupations in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. See Exhibit 3 for wage information by occupation for the local region.

Exhibit 3: Earnings for the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties

Region	Occupation	Entry to Experienced Hourly Earnings Range*	Median Wage*	Avg. Annual Earnings
San Bernardino and Riverside counties	Commercial and Industrial Designers	\$20.48 to \$47.68	\$27.01	\$64,300
	Interior Designers	\$16.70 to \$30.13	\$21.01	\$46,300
	Graphic Designers	\$14.91 to \$30.73	\$19.94	\$44,800
Los Angeles and Orange counties	Commercial and Industrial Designers	\$20.36 to \$45.99	\$28.36	\$65,600
	Interior Designers	\$16.94 to \$42.59	\$22.02	\$57,200
	Graphic Designers	\$15.23 to \$41.16	\$21.28	\$52,300
TOTAL San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties	Commercial and Industrial Designers	\$20.34 to \$45.48	\$28.20	\$65,500
	Interior Designers	\$16.91 to \$41.04	\$21.87	\$56,000
	Graphic Designers	\$15.12 to \$40.31	\$21.07	\$51,600

Source: EMSI 2017.3

*Entry Hourly is 10th percentile wage, the median is 50th percentile wage, experienced is 90th percentile wage.

Work Locations, Skills, and Education

According to job ads, the top worksite regional cities for jobs in this occupational group were Los Angeles, Irvine, Torrance, and Newport Beach. The top employers were La-Z-Boy, Ware Malcomb, Gensler, and Ethan Allen. Exhibit 4 lists the top specialized, soft, and software and programming skills that employers are seeking when looking for workers to fill these occupations.

Exhibit 4: Top skills in highest demand for the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties, Dec 2016-Nov 2017

Occupation	Specialized skills	Soft skills	Software and Programming skills
Interior Designers (n=230)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior Design Adobe InDesign Space Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication Skills Creativity Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AutoCAD Adobe Photoshop Revit
Graphic Designers (n=42)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graphic Design Adobe Creative Suite Interior Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity Communication Skills Detail-Oriented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adobe Photoshop Adobe InDesign Adobe Illustrator
Commercial and Industrial Designers (n=8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Management Architectural Design Supervisory Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity Mentoring Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Office Design Software Google SketchUp

Source: Burning Glass – Labor Insights

Exhibit 5 displays the entry-level education level education typically required to enter each occupation according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, educational attainment for incumbent workers with “some college, no degree” and an “associate degree” according to the U.S. Census, and the minimum advertised education requirement requested by employers in online job ads. The majority of employers were seeking job candidates in this occupations group with a bachelor’s degree or higher, agreeing with the typical entry-level education requirement established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Exhibit 5: Educational attainment and online job ads with minimum advertised education requirements for the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties, Dec 2016-Nov 2017

Occupations	Typical Entry-Level Education Requirement	Educational Attainment (Percentage of incumbent workers with a Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework)	Minimum Advertised Education Requirement from Job Ads		
			High school diploma or vocational training	Associate degree	Bachelor's degree or higher
Interior Designers (n=171)	Bachelor's degree	30%	13%	2%	85%
Graphic Designers (n=32)	Bachelor's degree	30%	3%	6%	91%
Commercial and Industry Designers (n=8)	Bachelor's degree	30%	12%	-	88%

Source: EMSI 2017.3, Current Population Survey, Burning Glass – Labor Insights

Industry

Exhibit 6 displays the industries that employ the most interior design occupations in the three-county region. Staffing patterns show the industries employ the most of a specific occupation.

Exhibit 6: Top Industries employing each interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties

Occupation	Top Industries Staffing Pattern (NAICS)	Top Industries Job Ads (NAICS)
Interior Designers (n=150)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Design Services (5414) Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services (5413) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Design Services (5414) Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services (5413)
Graphic Designers (n=21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Design Services (5414) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Design Services (5414)
Commercial and Industrial Designers (n=7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Design Services (5414) Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services (5413) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialized Design Services (5414) Architectural, Engineering, and Related Services (5413)

Source: EMSI 2017.3, Burning Glass – Labor Insights

Interior Designers in Furniture Stores – Retail/Sales focus

Utilizing the same four-county area and timeframe (December 2016 – November 2017), a real-time job posting search was conducted to gauge sales-focused interior design job demand. Again, the keywords “interior design” was used, but the results were filtered to only include job postings that also contained the word “sales” or “retail.” This search yielded 1,112 postings. Summarized results are displayed in Exhibit 7.

Exhibit 7: Retail/sales focused interior design job postings in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties

Skills (n=1,051)	Education (n=634)	Top Job Titles (n=1,112)	Employers (n=731)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior Design (n=762) Sales (n=335) Retail Setting (n=280) Customer Service (n=277) Project Management (n=227) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor’s degree or higher – 63% (n=395) High school – 23% (n=148) Associate degree – 14% (n=86) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merchandiser (n=128) Interior Designer (n=52) Sales Associate (n=42) Design Consultant (n=36) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowe’s (n=53) La-Z-Boy (n=38) Lamps Plus (n=31) Bob’s Discount Furniture (n=25) Ethan Allen (n=24)

Source: Burning Glass – Labor Insights

Interior Design Occupational Group in Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and Orange counties, December 2017

Student Completions

Exhibit 8 shows the annual average regional community college awards (associate degrees and certificates) conferred during the three academic years between 2013 and 2016 with the relevant TOP code. Please note, an award is not equivalent to a single person in search of a job opening since a student may earn more than one award, such as an associate degree in addition to a certificate. It is also important to note that only student completions for the Inland Empire/ Desert region are displayed this report. A student completing this program would find many more job opportunities in Los Angeles and Orange counties they would also be competing with many more programs and incumbent workers for the same jobs.

Community College student outcome information was obtained from the CTE LaunchBoard based on the selected TOP code(s) and region:

Exhibit 8: Annual average community college student completions for the interior design program in the Inland Empire/Desert Region

1302.00 Interior Design and Merchandising	Annual Avg. CC Headcount (2015-16)	CC Annual Avg. Awards (2013-16)
Chaffey	116	
Associate Degree		3
Certificate 30 to < 60 semester units		5
Total CC Headcount (2015-16)	116	
Total annual average community college awards		8

Source: LaunchBoard, IPEDS

1302.00 – Interior design program outcomes in the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA in the academic year 2014-15:

- No median annual earnings data available in local region (California median = \$19,571).
- No living wage data available in the local region (40%).
- No median change in earnings data available in the local region (35%).
- No number of students employed within six months data available in the local region (53%).



Sources

O*Net Online

Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division, OES

Employment Development Department, Unemployment Insurance Dataset

CTE LaunchBoard

Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey

MIT Living Wage Calculator

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)

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Appendix A: Occupation definitions, five-year projections, and earnings for the interior design occupational group

Occupation Definitions (SOC code), Education and Training Requirement, Community College Education Attainment

Commercial and Industrial Designers (27-1021)

Develop and design manufactured products, such as cars, home appliances, and children's toys. Combine artistic talent with research on product use, marketing, and materials to create the most functional and appealing product design.

Sample Job Titles: Design Engineer, Designer, Engineer, Industrial Designer, Mechanical Designer, Product Design Engineer, Product Designer, Product Development Engineer, Product Engineer, Project Engineer

Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Bachelor's degree

Training Requirement: None

Percentage of incumbent workers with a Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework:
30%

Graphic Designers (27-1024)

Design or create graphics to meet specific commercial or promotional needs, such as packaging, displays, or logos. May use a variety of mediums to achieve artistic or decorative effects.

Sample Job Titles: Artist, Creative Director, Creative Manager, Design Director, Designer, Graphic Artist, Graphic Designer, Online Producer, Production Artist, Publications Designer

Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Bachelor's degree

Training Requirement: None

Percentage of incumbent workers with a Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework:
30%

Interior Designers (27-1025)

Plan, design, and furnish interiors of residential, commercial, or industrial buildings. Formulate design which is practical, aesthetic, and conducive to intended purposes, such as raising productivity, selling merchandise, or improving life style. May specialize in a particular field, style, or phase of interior design.

Sample Job Titles: Decorating Consultant, Design Manager, Designer, Interior Design Consultant, Interior Design Coordinator, Interior Design Director, Interior Design Principal, Interior Design Project Manager, Interior Designer, Showroom Executive Director

Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Bachelor's degree

Training Requirement: None

Percentage of incumbent workers with a Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 30%

Table 1. 2016 to 2021 job growth for the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino and Riverside counties

Occupation (SOC)	2016 Jobs	2021 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	5-Yr Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)	Annual Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)
Graphic Designers (27-1024)	2,380	2,449	69	3%	1,203	241
Interior Designers (27-1025)	923	946	23	2%	461	92
Commercial and Industrial Designers (27-1021)	314	332	18	6%	170	34
Total	3,617	3,727	110	3%	1,835	367

Source: EMSI 2017.3

Table 2. 2016 to 2021 job growth for the interior design occupational group in Los Angeles and Orange counties

Occupation (SOC)	2016 Jobs	2021 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	5-Yr Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)	Annual Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)
Graphic Designers (27-1024)	20,869	21,043	174	1%	10,045	2,009
Interior Designers (27-1025)	7,413	7,593	180	2%	3,703	741
Commercial and Industrial Designers (27-1021)	2,918	2,904	(14)	(0%)	1,391	278
Total	31,201	31,540	339	1%	15,140	3,028

Source: EMSI 2017.3

Table 3. 2016 to 2021 job growth for the interior design occupational group in San Bernardino, Riverside, Los Angeles, and Orange counties

Occupation (SOC)	2016 Jobs	2021 Jobs	5-Yr Change	5-Yr % Change	5-Yr Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)	Annual Openings (New + Replacement Jobs)
Graphic Designers (27-1024)	23,249	23,492	243	1%	11,248	2,250
Interior Designers (27-1025)	8,336	8,539	203	2%	4,165	833
Commercial and Industrial Designers (27-1021)	3,232	3,236	4	0%	1,561	312
Total	34,818	35,267	449	1%	16,974	3,395

Source: EMSI 2017.3