

# Construction Laborers

## Labor Market Analysis: San Diego County

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December 2017

### Summary

The following list summarizes findings from the labor market analysis below for *Construction Laborers*:

- Between 2016 and 2021, *Construction Laborers* are projected to increase by 972 jobs (or seven percent) in San Diego County.
- Employers in San Diego County will need to hire 1,583 workers annually to fill new jobs and to backfill jobs due to attrition such as retirement or turnover.
- Between 2010 and 2017, there was an average of 321 online job postings per year for *Construction Laborers* in San Diego County.
- *Construction Laborers* earn median hourly earnings of \$14.92, slightly more than the self-sufficiency wage (\$13.09 per hour)<sup>1</sup> for a single adult in San Diego County.
- According to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information System (MIS) Data Mart, no community colleges supply the region with awards for this occupation (Exhibit 6). This may be due to the fact that this occupation's typical entry-level education is no formal educational credential. If an occupation does not require any formal training, then there may be no need for an institution to provide education or training to meet labor demand.
- Comparing the labor demand (annual openings) with labor supply from the region's community colleges, there is a supply gap for this occupation in San Diego County, with 1,583 annual openings and zero awards. However, this number does not count the labor force currently able and looking for work. Comparatively, there are 17,759 annual openings in California and 71 completions.
- Between January 1, 2015 and November 30, 2017, the top five employers in San Diego County for this occupation were General Atomics, Action Fire Systems Company Incorporated, Associa, Cox Communications and Decton Group of Companies.
- The typical on-the-job training for this profession is short-term on-the-job training. The typical entry-level education is no formal educational credential.

### Introduction

This report provides labor market information in San Diego County for the following occupational code in the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)<sup>2</sup> system:

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<sup>1</sup> The self-sufficiency wage in San Diego for one adult is \$13.09 ([insightcced.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california](http://insightcced.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california)).

<sup>2</sup> The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is used by federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating or disseminating data. [bls.gov/soc](http://bls.gov/soc).

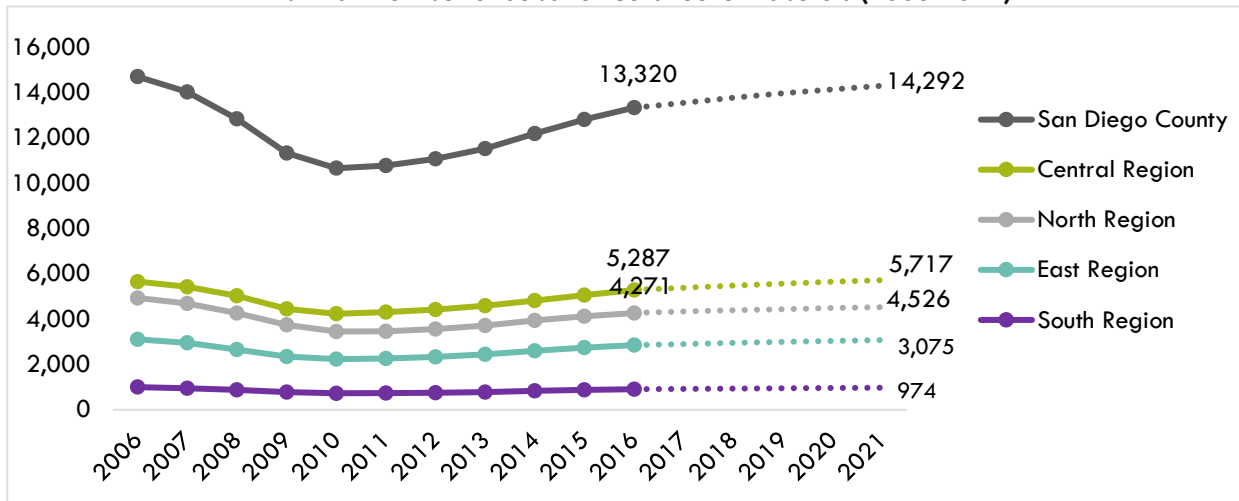
**Construction Laborers (SOC 47-2061):** Perform tasks involving physical labor at construction sites. May operate hand and power tools of all types: air hammers, earth tampers, cement mixers, small mechanical hoists, surveying and measuring equipment and a variety of other equipment and instruments. May clean and prepare sites, dig trenches, set braces to support the sides of excavations, erect scaffolding, and clean up rubble, debris and other waste materials. May assist other craft workers. Construction laborers who primarily assist a particular craft worker are classified under "Helpers, Construction Trades" (47-3010). Sample reported job titles include:

- Construction Worker
- Helper
- Construction Laborer
- Union Laborer
- Skill Labor
- Laborer
- Screedman/Laborer
- Screedman
- Screed Person
- Punch Out Crew Member

### Projected Occupational Demand

Between 2016 and 2021, *Construction Laborers* are projected to increase by 972 jobs (or seven percent) in San Diego County (Exhibit 1a and Exhibit 1b).<sup>3</sup>

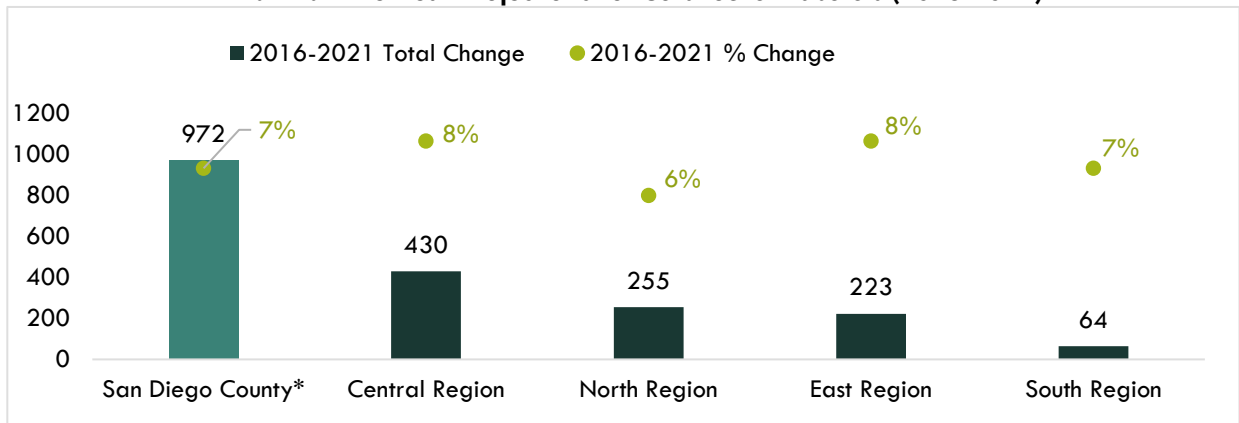
**Exhibit 1a: Number of Jobs for Construction Laborers (2006-2021)<sup>4</sup>**



<sup>3</sup> South, East, Central and North Regions' ZIP codes in this report are defined by the local Workforce Development Board, the San Diego Workforce Partnership.

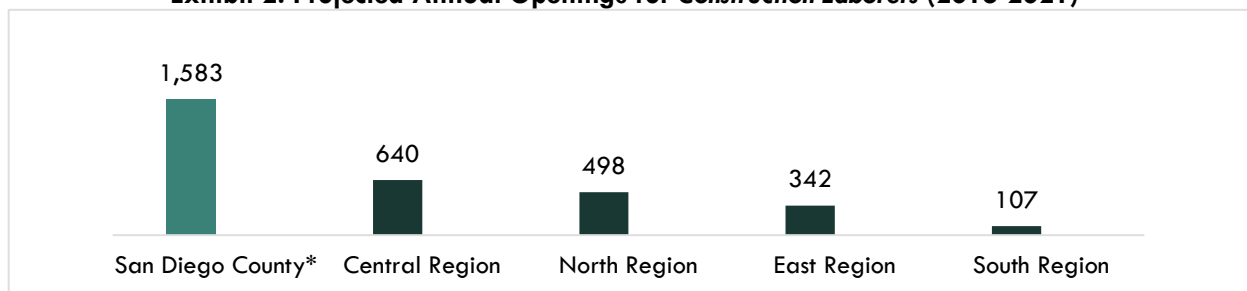
<sup>4</sup> Economic Modeling Specialists, Int'l. (EMS). San Diego County (6073). 2017.03 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW+ Self-Employed. 2006-2021.

**Exhibit 1b: Five-Year Projections for Construction Laborers (2016-2021)<sup>5</sup>**



Employers in San Diego County will need to hire **1,583** workers annually to fill new jobs and backfill jobs due to attrition such as retirement or turnover (Exhibit 2).

**Exhibit 2: Projected Annual Openings for Construction Laborers (2016-2021)<sup>6</sup>**



\*Total annual openings for the subregions in San Diego County may not add up exactly due to rounding.

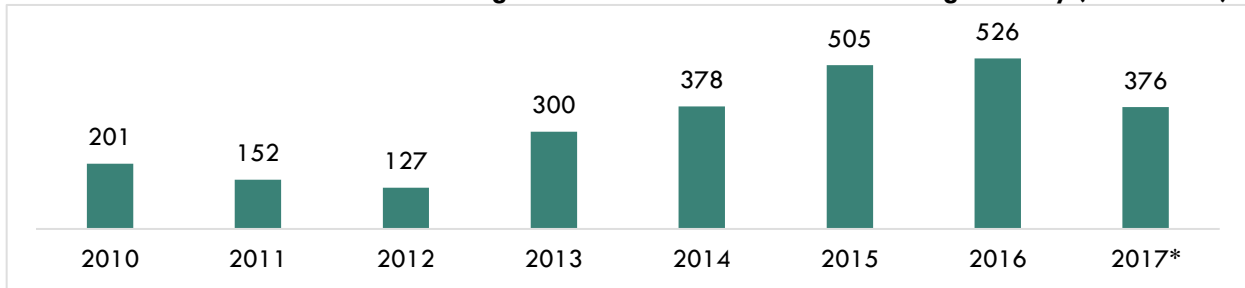
## Online Job Postings

Between 2010 and 2017, there was an average of **321** online job postings per year for *Construction Laborers* in San Diego County (Exhibit 3).

<sup>5</sup> EMSI. San Diego County (6073). 2017.04 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2016-2021.

<sup>6</sup> EMSI. San Diego County (6073). 2017.04 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2016-2021.

**Exhibit 3: Number of Online Job Postings for Construction Laborers in San Diego County (2010-2017)<sup>7</sup>**

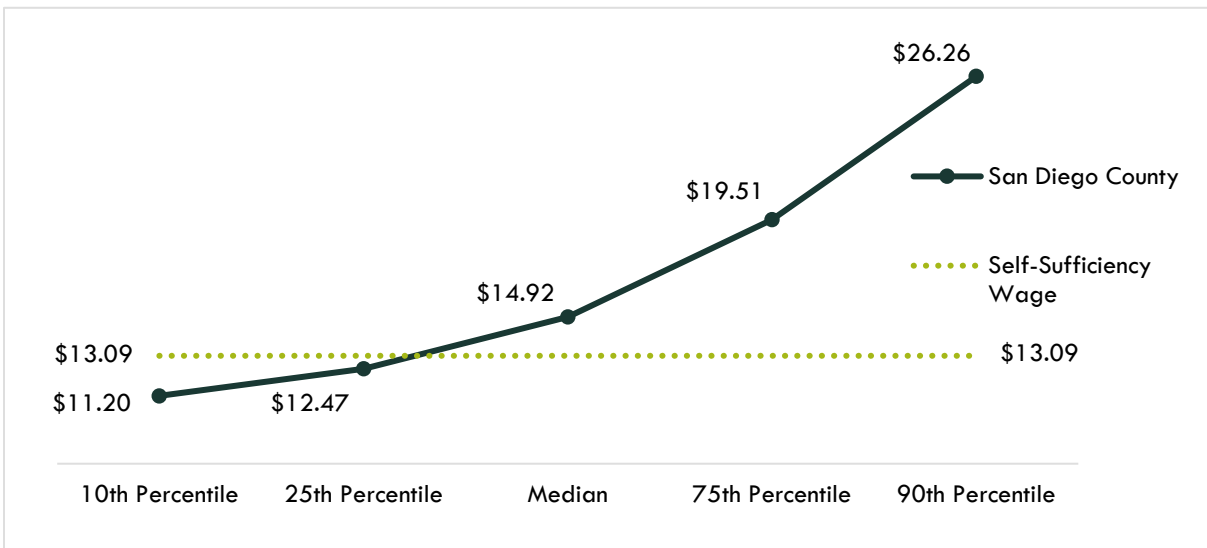


\*January 2017 through November 2017

## Earnings

Construction Laborers earn median hourly earnings of \$14.92, more than the self-sufficiency wage (\$13.09 per hour)<sup>8</sup> for a single adult in San Diego County (Exhibit 4).

**Exhibit 4: Hourly Earnings for Construction Laborers in San Diego County<sup>9</sup>**



## Educational Supply

Educational supply for an occupation can be estimated by analyzing the number of related program completers/graduates/awards in San Diego County. To determine what programs are available, Exhibit 5 lists the Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) code(s) related to the SOC code analyzed.

<sup>7</sup> Labor Insight Jobs. Burning Glass Technologies. San Diego, CA. Full years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. Jan.-Nov. 2017.

<sup>8</sup> The self-sufficiency wage in San Diego for one adult is \$13.09 ([insightcced.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california](http://insightcced.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california)).

<sup>9</sup> EMSI. San Diego County (6073). 2017.04 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2016-2021.

### Exhibit 5: Related TOP Codes in San Diego County

#### SOC 47-2061: Construction Laborers

TOP: N/A

According to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information System (MIS) Data Mart, no community colleges supply the region with awards for this occupation (Exhibit 6). This may be due to the fact that this occupation's typical entry-level education is no formal educational credential. If an occupation does not require any formal training, then there may be no need for an institution to provide education or training to meet labor demand.<sup>10</sup>

#### Exhibit 6: Number of Awards (Certificates and Degrees) Conferred by Postsecondary Institutions by Occupation (Program Year 2012-13 through PY2015-16 Average)

TOP06	TOP06 Title	3-Yr Annual Average Supply (PY13-14 to PY15-16)	3-Yr Annual Average CC Awards (PY13-14 to PY15-16)	Other Educational Institutions 3-Yr Annual Average Awards (PY12-13 to PY14-15)
N/A	N/A	0	0	0

\*Total number of awards may not add up exactly due to rounding.

### Demand vs. Supply

Comparing the labor demand (annual openings) with labor supply<sup>11</sup> from the region's colleges, there is a supply gap for this occupation in San Diego County, with 1,583 annual openings and zero awards. However, this number does not count the labor force currently able and looking for work. Comparatively, there are 17,759 annual openings in California and 71 completions.<sup>12</sup>

#### Exhibit 7: Labor Demand (Annual Openings) Compared to Labor Supply (Average Annual Awards)

Community Colleges and Other Postsecondary Educational Institutions	Demand (Annual Openings)	Supply (Total Annual Average Supply)	Supply Gap or Oversupply
San Diego County	1,583	0	1,583
California	17,759	71	17,688

<sup>10</sup> EMSI. San Diego County (6073). 2017.04 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2016-2021.

<sup>11</sup> Labor supply can be found from two different sources: EMSI or the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office MIS Data Mart. EMSI uses CIP codes while MIS uses TOP codes. Different coding systems result in differences in the supply numbers.

<sup>12</sup> EMSI. San Diego County (6073). 2017.04 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2016-2021.

**Please note:** This is a basic analysis of supply and demand of labor for these occupations. This data should be used to discuss the potential gaps or oversupply of workers for these occupations; however, it should not be the only basis for determining whether or not a program should be developed. Additionally, the data does not include workers who are currently in the labor force who could fill these positions or workers who are not captured by publicly available data.

## Student Outcomes

Based on the information available in the CTE LaunchBoard,<sup>13</sup> students who took courses in the related TOP codes exhibited the following outcomes (Exhibit 8).

**Exhibit 8: Strong Workforce Program Metrics for  
N/A vs. All Programs in San Diego-Imperial Region (PY2014-15)**

Metric	N/A	All Programs
Number of course enrollments <sup>14</sup>	N/A	1,009,712
Number of students who got a degree or certificate <sup>15</sup>	N/A	17,536
Number of students who transferred <sup>16</sup>	N/A	6,269
Employed in the second fiscal quarter after exit <sup>17</sup>	N/A	66%
Employed in the fourth fiscal quarter after exit <sup>18</sup>	N/A	65%
Job closely related to field of study <sup>19</sup>	N/A	N/A <sup>20</sup>
Median earnings in the second fiscal quarter after exit <sup>21</sup>	N/A	\$9,134
Median change in earnings <sup>22</sup>	N/A	31%
Attained a living wage <sup>23</sup>	N/A	50%

<sup>13</sup> [calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/SWP.aspx](http://calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/SWP.aspx).

<sup>14</sup> The number of enrollments in courses assigned to the TOP code in the selected year.

<sup>15</sup> The number of unduplicated students who earned a locally-issued certificate, Chancellor's Office approved certificate, associate degree, and/or California Community Colleges bachelor's degree in the selected TOP code.

<sup>16</sup> Students who took non-introductory courses or completed a California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office award in the selected TOP code in selected year who subsequently enrolled for the first time in a four-year institution the following year.

<sup>17</sup> Among all exiters with a valid SSN, the percentage who were employed two quarters after exiting California Community Colleges.

<sup>18</sup> Among exiting students with a valid SSN, the percentage who were employed four quarters after exiting California Community Colleges.

<sup>19</sup> Among students who responded to the CTEOS, the percentage reporting employment in the same or similar field as their program of study.

<sup>20</sup> Data for this metric has not been released for PY2014-15; however, in PY2013-14, the result was 81%.

<sup>21</sup> Among exiting students, the median second-quarter earnings one year after the year in which they exited California Community Colleges.

<sup>22</sup> Among exiting students with a valid SSN, the percentage change in earnings one year before and one year after exiting California Community Colleges.

<sup>23</sup> Among completers and skills-builders who exited, the proportion of students who attained a living wage.

## Top Employers

Between January 1, 2015 and November 30, 2017, the top five employers in San Diego County for this occupation were **General Atomics, Action Fire Systems Company Incorporated, Associa, Cox Communications and Decton Group of Companies** (Exhibit 9).

### Exhibit 9: Top Employers in San Diego County for Construction Laborers

Top Employers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Atomics</li> <li>• Action Fire Systems Company Incorporated</li> <li>• Associa</li> <li>• Cox Communications</li> <li>• Decton Group of Companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labor Finders</li> <li>• Postmates</li> <li>• Time Warner</li> <li>• Tuff Shed Incorporated</li> <li>• Ledcor Group</li> </ul>

## Skills, Education and Certifications

Exhibit 10 indicates the educational attainment for the occupation found currently in the national labor force. The typical on-the-job training for this profession is **short-term on-the-job training**. The typical entry-level education is **no formal educational credential**.<sup>24</sup>

**Exhibit 10: National Educational Attainment of Construction Laborers**

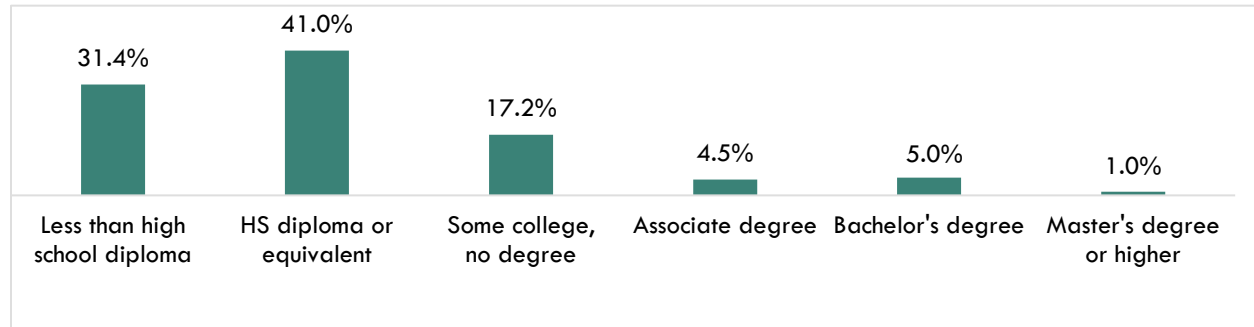


Exhibit 11 lists the top specialized, soft and software skills that appeared in online job postings for between January 1, 2015 and November 30, 2017.

**Exhibit 11: Top Skills for Construction Laborers in San Diego County<sup>25</sup>**

Specialized Skills	Soft Skills <sup>26</sup>	Software Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduling</li> <li>• Repair</li> <li>• Hand Tools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication Skills</li> <li>• Physical Demand</li> <li>• Organizational Skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Word</li> <li>• Microsoft Office</li> <li>• Microsoft Excel</li> </ul>

<sup>24</sup> EMSI. San Diego County (6073). 2017.04 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2016-2021.

<sup>25</sup> Labor Insight Jobs. Burning Glass Technologies. San Diego, CA. Full years 2015 and 2016. Jan.-Nov. 2017.

<sup>26</sup> Also known as "Baseline Skills" in Labor Insight, Burning Glass Technologies.

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- Project Management
  - Budgeting

- Computer Skills
- Writing

- Microsoft PowerPoint
  - Microsoft Vista
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