

Interior Design

Inland Empire/Desert Region (Riverside and San Bernardino counties) & Los Angeles and Orange Counties

This workforce demand report uses state and federal job projection data developed before the economic impact of COVID-19. The COE is monitoring the situation and will provide more information as it becomes available. Please consult with local employers to understand their current employment needs.

Introduction

This labor market brief provides employer demand related to California Community College interior design and merchandising programs. Students successfully exiting this program should have the knowledge, skills, and abilities that will lead to two, four-year degree-level occupations. These occupations will typically require a bachelor's degree to enter employment. Occupational definitions are provided below:

Interior Designers (SOC 27-1025)

Plan, design, and furnish the internal space of rooms or buildings. Design interior environments or create physical layouts that are practical, aesthetic, and conducive to the intended purposes. May specialize in a particular field, style, or phase of interior design.

Sample job titles: Decorating Consultant, Designer, Interior Design Consultant, Interior Design Coordinator, Interior Designer

- *Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Bachelor's Degree*
- *Training Requirement: None*
- *Work Experience: None*
- *Incumbent workers with a Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 24.4%*

Set and Exhibit Designers (SOC 37-1012)

Design special exhibits and sets for film, video, television, and theater productions. May study scripts, confer with directors, and conduct

research to determine appropriate architectural styles.

Sample job titles: Designer, Display Coordinator, Exhibit Designer, Exhibit Preparator, Production Designer, Scenic Designer, Set Decorator, Set Designer

- *Entry-Level Educational Requirement: Bachelor's Degree*
- *Training Requirement: None*
- *Work Experience: None*
- *Incumbent workers with a Community College Award or Some Postsecondary Coursework: 29.1%*

Interior Design and Merchandising Jobs Counts and Projections

In 2019, there were 553 interior designers jobs and 325 set designer and exhibit designers jobs in the Inland Empire/Desert Region. Interior designers are expected to increase employment by 6% by 2024 and have 55 annual job openings to fill new or backfill jobs that workers are permanently vacating (including occupational transfers and retirements). Set and exhibit designers are expected to grow by 3% and have 30 annual job openings. Table 1 displays job counts and projections for the interior design and merchandising occupations in the Inland Empire/Desert Region.

Program completers willing to commute or relocate to the Los Angeles and Orange Counties (LA/OC) can expect to find more interior design and merchandising job opportunities. LA/OC interior designers are projected to have 555 annual job openings, and set and exhibit designers are expected to have 388 annual job openings. This labor market brief does not quantify interior design and merchandising programs in LA/OC counties that may be producing qualified job seekers to fill job demand in the area. Table 12 displays job counts and projections for the interior design and merchandising occupations in LA/OC.

Table 1 Interior Design and Merchandising Job Counts and Projections, Inland Empire/Desert Region

Occupations	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	2019 - 2024 Change	2019 - 2024 % Change	Avg. Annual Openings
Interior Designers	553	584	31	6%	55
Set and Exhibit Designers	325	334	9	3%	30

Table 2 Interior Design and Merchandising Job Counts and Projections, Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupations	2019 Jobs	2024 Jobs	2019 - 2024 Change	2019 - 2024 % Change	Avg. Annual Openings
Interior Designers	6,254	6,237	-17	0%	555
Set and Exhibit Designers	4,493	4,395	-98	-2%	388

Earnings

Hourly earnings by percentile for interior design and merchandising occupations in the Inland Empire/Desert Region and LA/OC are available in Tables 3 and 4. Community colleges should ensure their training programs lead to employment opportunities that provide a self-sustainable income level. The University of Washington estimates that a self-sufficient hourly rate for a single adult with one school-age child is \$21.78 per hour or \$45,992 annually in Riverside County; \$21.24 per hour or \$44,867 annually in San Bernardino County (Pearce, 2020). The higher hourly rate in Riverside County is adopted as the self-sustainability standard for the region. In the Inland Empire/Desert Region, the median hourly earnings for interior designers is above the self-sustainability standard, while wages for set and exhibit designers does not exceed the self-sustainable standard until the 75th percentile.

Table 3 Interior Design and Merchandising Earnings by Percentile, Inland Empire/Desert Region

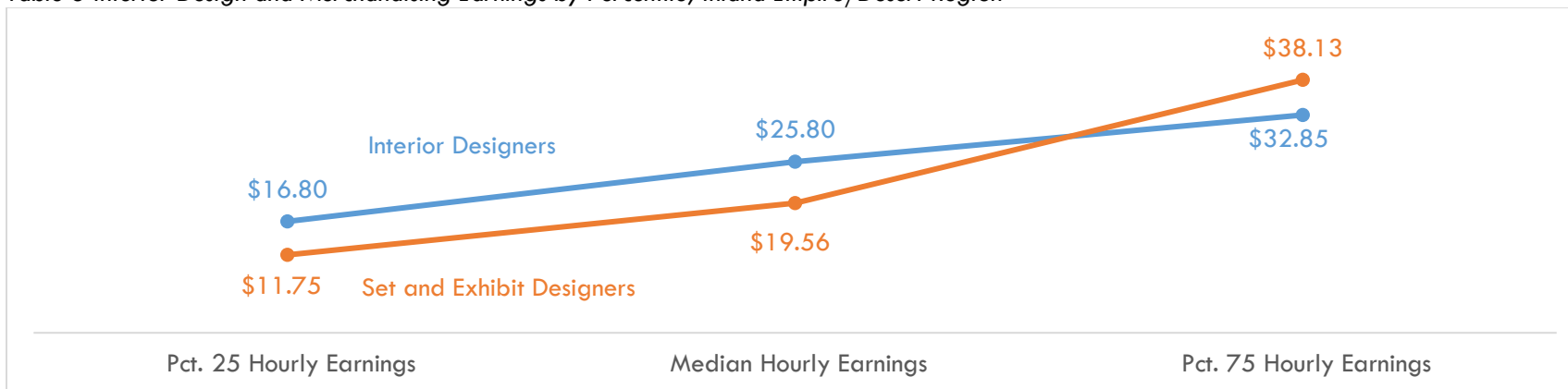
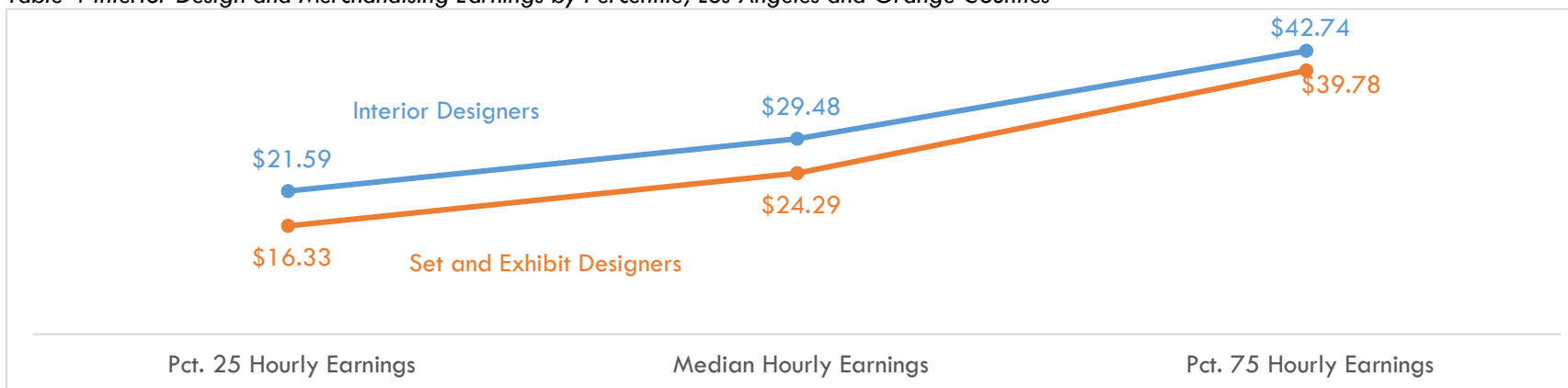


Table 4 Interior Design and Merchandising Earnings by Percentile, Los Angeles and Orange Counties



Employer Online Job Posting

The sections below provide online job posting analytics data for interior design and merchandising occupations in the Inland Empire/Desert Region and LA/OC over the last 12 months, from March 2020 to February 2021. All results are for full-time positions, and staffing companies were

removed from this search. There were 830 unique job postings for interior designers and 13 for set and exhibit designers. Results for set and exhibit designers were omitted due to the low number of reliable results.

The sample of top companies posting online job ads reveals the name of companies that have been posting the most unique online job ads. Hard skills are specific, learnable, measurable, often industry- or occupation-specific abilities related to a position. Common skills can be self-taught and usually do not necessitate a certain completed level of education, such as a Master's degree, or other certifications/credentials. They are essential in many industries and occupations (e.g., problem-solving, project management).

Table 5 Sample of Top Companies Posting the Most Unique Online Job Ads for Interior Designers

Companies	Job Ads
Home Depot	328
La-Z Boy Incorporated	28
Aecom	19
Rh, LLC	17
Gensler	16

Table 6 Sample of Top Hard Skills from Interior Designers Online Job Ads

Skills or Qualifications	Frequency in Postings
Purchasing	45%
Showrooms	44%
AutoCAD	23%
Furnishing	22%
Space Planning	16%

Table 7 Sample of Top Common Skills from Interior Designers Online Job Ads

Skills or Qualifications	Frequency in Postings
Sales	59%
Communications	29%
Presentations	25%
Microsoft Office	14%
Customer Service	12%

Community College Program:

Community college interior design and merchandising (TOP 1302.00) programs provide preparation to design and its functional application to the environment, housing, furnishings, accessories, and equipment to provide commercial and residential environments that meet the psychological, sociological, emotional, and physical needs of the users and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the general public (Taxonomy of Programs, 2012). Only one regional community college program provides training specific to interior design and merchandising.

TOP 1302.00 - Interior Design and Merchandising (Local Title)	2017-18	2018 -19	2019 -20	Latest 3 Yr Avg
Chaffey				
Associate Degree (Interior Design)	4	10	10	8
Certificate 30 < 60 semester units (Interior Design)	15	14	9	13
Certificate 16 < 30 semester units ((Interior Design and Visual Communication)	-	-	4	1
130200 - Interior Design and Merchandising Total	19	24	23	22
Grand Total	19	24	23	22

This labor market brief provides an occupational and community college program overview and is not intended for regional program recommendation or submission to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Contact

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