








Upholstery Repair - Automotive

Labor Market Analysis for San Diego College of Continuing Education

September 2021

Summary

| NEW PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION? | EVIDENCE OF A SUPPLY GAP? | AT OR ABOVE THE LIVING WAGE? | EXPECTED LEVEL OF EDUCATION |
|---|---|---|--|
|  <p>Do Not Proceed with New Program</p> |   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree+ <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Degree <input type="checkbox"/> Some College or Certificate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HS Diploma or Equivalent <input type="checkbox"/> Less than a HS Diploma <input type="checkbox"/> Apprenticeship |
| SUPPORT FOR PROGRAM MODIFICATION? | NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE TRAINING | NUMBER OF ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS | |
| <p>The COE defers to the region</p> | <p>LOW</p>  | <p>LOW</p>  | |

This report provides labor market information for an occupation selected by San Diego College of Continuing Education for its *Upholstery Repair - Automotive* program. The training provided by this program is likely to lead to employment as *Upholsterers*. According to available labor market information, *Upholsterers* in San Diego County have a labor market demand of 25 annual job openings (while average demand for a single occupation in San Diego County is 242 annual job openings). On average, no institution supplies for-credit awards and one institution supplies 13 noncredit awards in San Diego County for this occupation. In short, the region supplies 13 for-credit and noncredit awards for 25 annual job openings, suggesting that there is a supply gap in the labor market. Entry-level wages and median wages for this occupation are below the living wage. This brief recommends not proceeding with developing a new program and defers to the region for a program modification because 1) there is a supply gap; 2) there is a low number of annual job openings; and 3) entry-level and median wages are below the living wage.

Introduction

This report provides labor market information in San Diego County for an occupation related to the six-digit Taxonomy of Programs (TOP)¹ code, Upholstery Repair - Automotive (TOP 0949.10). The purpose of this brief is to assist noncredit program providers in the region, such as San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE), with program development and review. SDCCE identified one occupation from the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)² system for *Upholstery Repair - Automotive*, which will be the focus of this report:

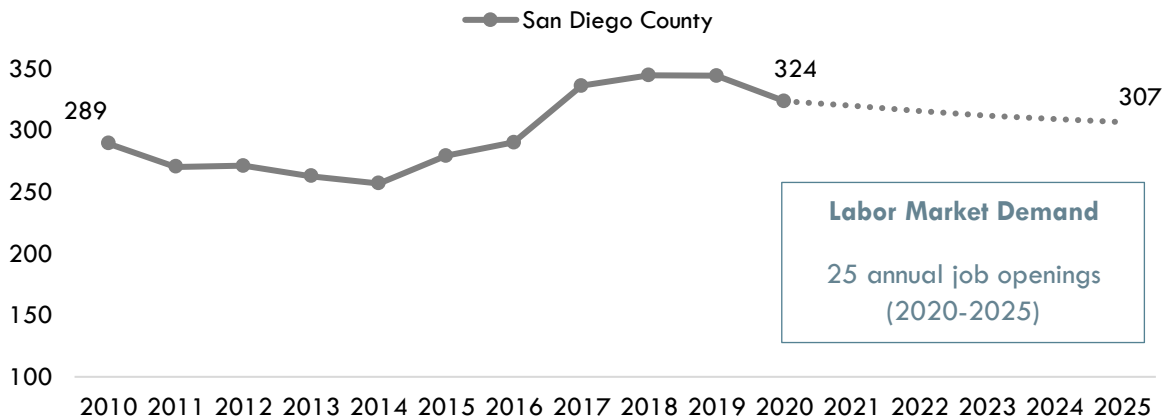
Upholsterers (SOC 51-6093): Make, repair, or replace upholstery for household furniture or transportation vehicles.

- Furniture Upholsterer
- Upholstery Cutter
- Trimmer
- Upholstered Goods Crafter
- Sofa Back Upholsterer
- Upholstery Trimmer
- Inside Upholsterer
- Stapler
- Box Spring Upholsterer

Projected Occupational Demand

Between 2020 and 2025, *Upholsterers* are projected to decrease by 17 net jobs or five percent (Exhibit 1). Employers in San Diego County will need to hire 25 workers annually to fill new jobs and backfill jobs due to attrition caused by turnover and retirement, for example.

Exhibit 1: Number of Jobs for *Upholsterers* (2010-2025)³



¹ Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) is a system of codes used by the California Community Colleges for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data about similar training programs.

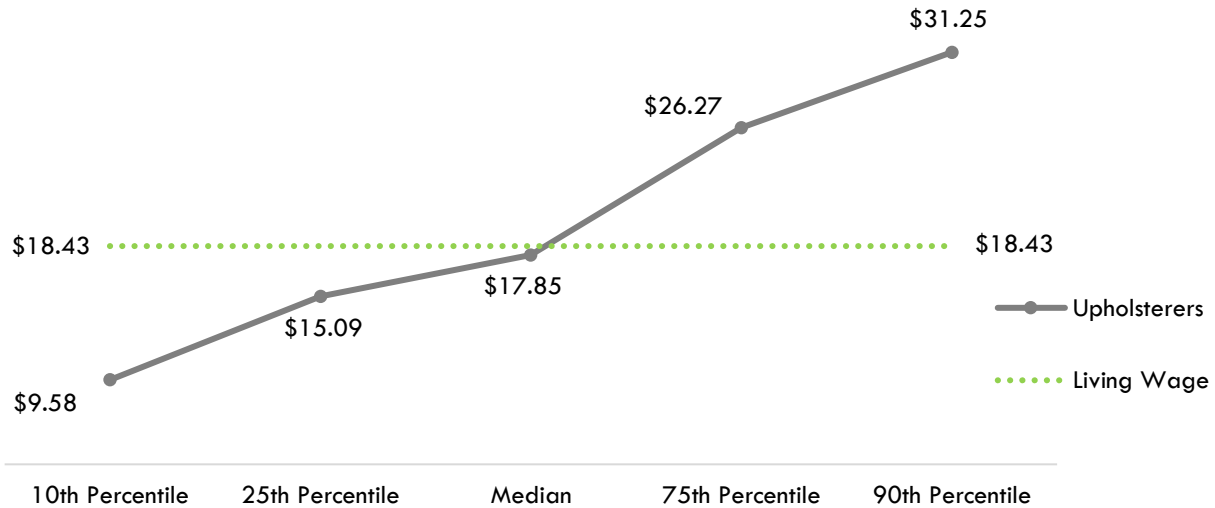
² The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is used by federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data. [bls.gov/soc](https://www.bls.gov/soc/).

³ EMSI 2021.2; QCEW, Non-QCEW, Self-Employed.

Earnings

Upholsterers receive entry-level hourly earnings of \$15.09; this is less than the living wage for a single adult in San Diego County, which is \$18.43 per hour (Exhibit 2).⁴

Exhibit 2: Hourly Earnings⁵ for Upholsterers in San Diego County⁶



Educational Supply

Educational supply for an occupation can be estimated by analyzing the number of awards in related Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) or Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes.⁷ According to TOP and CIP⁸ data, no community college supplies the region with for-credit awards for Upholstery Repair - Automotive (TOP 0949.10) (Exhibit 3).

Exhibit 3: Number of For-Credit Awards (Certificates and Degrees) Conferred by Postsecondary Institutions (Program Years 2017-18 through 2019-20)

| College | Award Type | PY 17-18 | PY 18-19 | PY 19-20 | 3-Yr Total Average |
|---------|------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| N/A | N/A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

⁴ "Family Needs Calculator (formerly the California Family Needs Calculator)," Insight: Center for Community Economic Development, last updated 2021. insightccd.org/family-needs-calculator/.

⁵ 10th and 25th percentiles could be considered entry-level wages, and 75th and 90th percentiles could be considered experienced wages for individuals who may have been in the occupation longer, received more training than others, etc.

⁶ EMSI 2021.2; QCEW, Non-QCEW, Self-Employed.

⁷ TOP data comes from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office MIS Data Mart (datamart.cccco.edu) and CIP data comes from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data).

⁸ There is one CIP code related to Upholstery Repair - Automotive (TOP 0949.10): Upholstery/Upholsterer (CIP 48.0303).

In terms of noncredit awards, only San Diego College of Continuing Education provides noncredit awards for Upholstery Repair - Automotive (TOP 0949.10), with a three-year average of 13 noncredit awards (program years 2017-18 through 2019-20) (Exhibit 4).

**Exhibit 4: Number of Noncredit Awards Conferred by SDCCE
(Program Years 2017-18 through 2019-20)**

| Program Title | Award Type | PY 17-18 | PY 18-19 | PY 19-20 | 3-Yr Total Average |
|----------------------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------|
| Combined Upholstery Trades | Noncredit | 14 | 17 | 8 | 13 |

Demand vs. Supply

Comparing labor demand (annual openings) with labor supply⁹ suggests that there is a supply gap in San Diego County, with 25 annual openings and 13 for-credit and noncredit awards supplied by the region (Exhibit 5).

Exhibit 5: Labor Demand (Annual Openings) Compared with Labor Supply (Average Annual Awards)

| TOP6 Program | Demand (Annual Openings) | Supply (Total Annual Average Supply) | | Supply Gap or Oversupply |
|---|-----------------------------|---|------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Noncredit | For-Credit | |
| Upholstery Repair - Automotive (TOP 0949.10) | 25 | 13 | 0 | 12 |

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

⁹ 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.

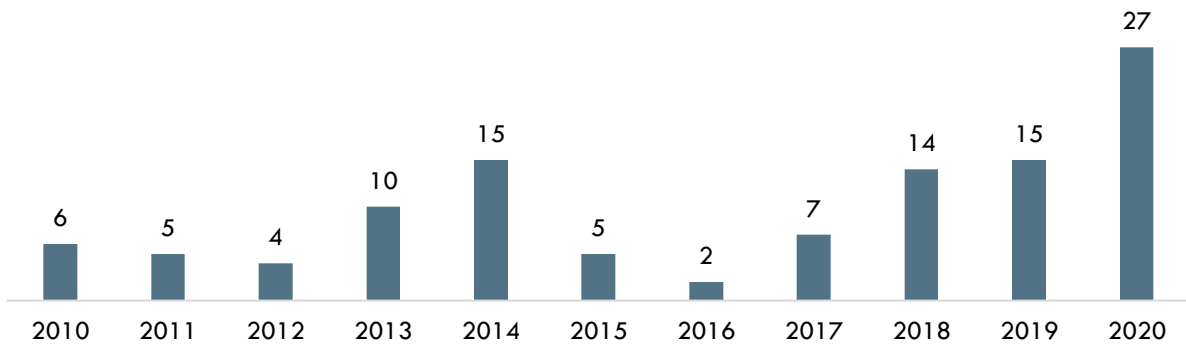
Student Outcomes and Regional Comparisons

According to the California Community Colleges LaunchBoard, there was insufficient data to calculate the “Percentage of Students Who Earned a Living Wage by Program”¹⁰ and the “Percentage of Students in a Job Closely Related to Field of Study by Program”¹¹ after completing an Upholstery Repair - Automotive (0949.10) program in the San Diego-Imperial region and statewide.

Online Job Postings

This report analyzes not only historical and projected (traditional LMI) data, but also recent data from online job postings (real-time LMI). Online job postings may provide additional insight about recent changes in the labor market that are not captured by historical data. Between 2010 and 2020, there was an average of 10 online job postings per year for *Upholsterers* in San Diego County (Exhibit 6). Please note that online job postings do **not** equal labor market demand; demand is represented by annual job openings (see Exhibit 1). Employers may post a position multiple times for various reasons, such as increasing the pool of applicants, for example.

Exhibit 6: Number of Online Job Postings for *Upholsterers* in San Diego County (2010-2020)¹²



¹⁰ “California Community Colleges Strong Workforce Program,” California Community Colleges, calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/SWP.aspx.

¹¹ “California Community Colleges Strong Workforce Program,” California Community Colleges, calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/SWP.aspx.

¹² Burning Glass Technologies, “Labor Insight Real-Time Labor Market Information Tool.” 2010-2020.

Top Employers

Between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2020, the top five employers in San Diego County for this occupation were Furniture Build and Renew, Touch Up Home, Boat Yard San Diego, Caesar's Entertainment and AccuFleet International based on online job postings (Exhibit 7).

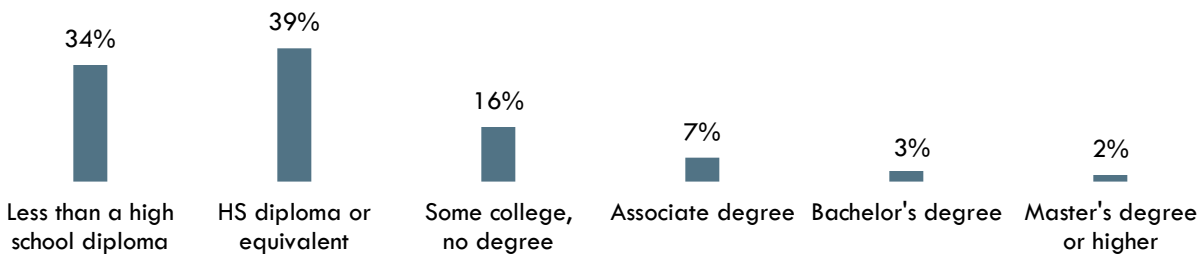
Exhibit 7: Top Employers for Upholsterers in San Diego County¹³

| Top Employers | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Furniture Build and Renew | • Strategos Consulting, LLC |
| • Touch Up Home | • Armandos Upholstery |
| • Boat Yard San Diego | • Autobahn Interiors, LLC |
| • Caesar's Entertainment | • Bard's Decorators |
| • AccuFleet International, Inc. | • Garcia Furniture |

Education, Skills, and Certifications

Exhibit 8 indicates the educational attainment for this occupation found currently in the national labor force. The typical entry-level education is a high school diploma or equivalent.¹⁴

Exhibit 8: National Educational Attainment of Upholsterers¹⁵



*may not total 100 percent due to rounding

¹³ Burning Glass Technologies, "Labor Insight Real-Time Labor Market Information Tool." 2018-2020.

¹⁴ EMSI 2021.2; QCEW, Non-QCEW, Self-Employed.

¹⁵ "Educational Attainment for Workers 25 Years and Older by Detailed Occupation," Bureau of Labor Statistics, last modified April 4, 2021. bls.gov/emp/tables/educational-attainment.htm.

Exhibit 9 lists the top specialized, soft, and software skills that appeared in online job postings between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2020.

Exhibit 9: Top Skills for Upholsterers in San Diego County¹⁶

| Specialized Skills | Soft Skills | Software Skills |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewing • Repair • Cleaning • Hand Tools • Schematic Diagrams • Nail Guns • Blueprints • Calculation • Cooking • Hiring Practices • Industrial Equipment Industry Knowledge • Lifting Ability • Sales System • Sanitation Programs • Appointment Setting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detail-Oriented • English • Physical Abilities • Teamwork / Collaboration • Organizational Skills • Persuasion • Preventive Maintenance • Work Area Maintenance • Bilingual • Computer Literacy • Creativity • Time Management • Troubleshooting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caching • Eclipse • Firmware • LabVIEW • MATLAB • Object-Oriented Analysis and Design |

Exhibit 10 lists the top certifications that appeared in online job postings between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2020.

Exhibit 10: Top Certifications for Upholsterers in San Diego County¹⁷

| Top Certifications in Online Job Postings |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Security Clearance 2. Casino Gaming License |

¹⁶ Burning Glass Technologies, "Labor Insight Real-Time Labor Market Information Tool." 2018-2020.
¹⁷ Burning Glass Technologies, "Labor Insight Real-Time Labor Market Information Tool." 2018-2020.

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Important Disclaimers

All representations included in this report have been produced from primary research and/or secondary review of publicly and/or privately available data and/or research reports. This study examines the most recent data available at the time of the analysis; however, data sets are updated regularly and may not be consistent with previous reports. Efforts have been made to qualify and validate the accuracy of the data and the report findings; however, neither the Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE), COE host district, nor California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office are responsible for the applications or decisions made by individuals and/or organizations based on this study or its recommendations.

This workforce demand report uses state and federal job projection data that was 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.