

INTERIOR DESIGN

Employment of interior designers is expected to grow faster than average for all occupations through 2018. Economic expansion, growing homeowner wealth, and an increased interest in interior design will increase demand for designers. Homeowners have been using the equity in their homes to finance new additions, remodel aging kitchens and bathrooms, and update the general décor of the home. There will be an increase in demand from businesses; hotels, resorts and restaurants because of an expected increase in tourism, health care industry because of an increased demand for facilities to accommodate the aging population of baby boomers. Environmental quality and growing number of individuals with allergies and asthma are expected to increase the demand for green design. However, interior designers are expected to face keen competition for available positions because many talented individuals are attracted to this profession. Individuals with little or no formal training in interior design, as well as those lacking creativity and perseverance, will find it very difficult to establish and maintain a career in this occupation. Fluctuations in the economy, decreases in consumer and business income and spending can have a detrimental effect on employment of interior designers.

Employment Information

Greater Kansas City Area: In 2008, interior designers held an estimated 370 jobs in the eleven counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). An average of 8 annual openings is anticipated.

Further data indicate that interior designers employed throughout the four Kansas counties in the Kansas City MSA (Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami and Wyandotte) held 260 jobs in 2004, with 280 jobs projected by 2014 (+7.7%).

State: Interior designers held an estimated 480 jobs in Kansas in 2004, with 526 jobs projected by 2014 (+9.6%). All together 46 openings are anticipated due to the need for replacements or growth.

National: Interior designers held 71,700 jobs in 2008, with 85,600 jobs projected by 2018 (+19.4%). Approximately 13,900 openings are expected due to growth and the need for replacement workers.

Salary Information

Greater Kansas City Area: Interior designers employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of \$20.03 in 2008. The average hourly wage for interior designers in Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami and Wyandotte Counties was \$18.38 in 2008.

State: Interior designers in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of \$18.78 in 2008.

National: Interior designers working full-time earned an average hourly wage of \$21.61 in 2008.

JCCC Placement and Salary Information

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. Ninety-two percent of the interior design program completers who responded to the short-term follow-up study conducted during the 2008-09 academic year were employed full-time in a job related to interior design and reported earning an average hourly wage of \$13.11.

Note: Salary and placement information for JCCC career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers.