

## Program Endorsement Brief: 0502.00/Accounting

Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence, April 2019

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### Summary

The Los Angeles/Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) prepared this report to provide regional labor market supply and demand data related to accounting. This report is intended to help determine whether there is demand in the local labor market that is not being met by the supply from community college programs that align with relevant occupations.

The following summarizes key findings from this data brief:

- The number of jobs for accounting-related occupations is projected to decrease by 1% through 2023. However, 10,936 job openings will be available annually due to replacement need (e.g. retirements).
- Over the past 12 months, there have been 19,192 **middle-skill** job postings (in Los Angeles/Orange County) for the five accounting-related occupations studied in this report.
- Last year, there were eight other community college requests for data related to a similar program.
- All 28 colleges in the region have accounting and/or tax studies programs.
- Between 2015 and 2018, community colleges in the region conferred an average of 1,245 awards (associate degrees and certificates) in accounting and tax studies programs.

**Occupational Demand** — In Los Angeles/Orange County, the number of jobs for the five occupations of interest is projected to decrease by 1% through 2023. However, there will be 10,936 job openings per year due to replacement need (e.g. retirements).

**Exhibit 1: Occupational demand in Los Angeles and Orange Counties<sup>1</sup>**

Geography	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	2018-2023 Change	2018-2023 % Change	Annual Openings
Los Angeles	73,455	72,416	(1,039)	(1%)	7,941
Orange	26,881	27,215	334	1%	2,994
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,336</b>	<b>99,631</b>	<b>(705)</b>	<b>(1%)</b>	<b>10,936</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Five-year change represents new job additions to the workforce. Annual openings include new jobs and replacement jobs that result from retirements and separations.

**Wages** — Entry-level wages for brokerage clerks; and tax examiners and collectors, and revenue agents are higher than the MIT living hourly wage for one adult in the region (\$14.36 in Los Angeles County, \$15.85 in Orange County). Experienced workers in accounting-related occupations may earn between \$33.08 and \$58.15/hour. Appendix B shows wages by occupation and region.

**Job Postings** — Over the past 12 months, there have been 19,192 middle-skill job postings for the five occupations studied in this report. The majority of job postings were for bookkeepers, accounting clerks, payroll specialists, and tax professionals. Top specialized skills included: accounting, accounts payable/receivable, bookkeeping, data entry, QuickBooks, and payroll processing.

**Educational Attainment** — The BLS lists a high school diploma or equivalent training as the typical entry-level education for tax preparers; payroll and timekeeping clerks; and brokerage clerks; some college/no degree for bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks; and a bachelor's degree for tax examiners and collectors, and revenue agents. The national-level educational attainment data indicates between 34% and 51% of workers in the field have completed some college or an associate degree. Of the 19,192 job postings, 62% of records do not include a degree level, 73% request a high school or vocational training, and 27% request an associate degree.

**Community College Supply** — Appendix A shows the annual and three-year average number of awards conferred by community colleges in Accounting (0502.00) and Tax Studies (0502.10). The colleges with the most completions in the region include: East LA, Santa Ana, and Irvine Valley College. Last year, there were eight other community college requests for data related to a similar program.

**Appendix A: Regional community college awards (certificates and degrees), 2015-18**

<b>TOP Code</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>2015-16 Awards</b>	<b>2016-17 Awards</b>	<b>2017-18 Awards</b>	<b>3-Year Average</b>
0502.00	Accounting	Cerritos	31	25	26	27
		Citrus	4	16	20	13
		Coastline	87	63	43	64
		Compton	8	4	-	6
		Cypress	14	4	5	8
		East LA	134	149	397	227
		El Camino	16	15	8	13
		Fullerton	18	14	18	17
		Glendale	47	55	52	51
		Golden West	26	17	19	21
		Irvine Valley	130	169	142	147
		LA City	9	17	16	14
		LA Harbor	4	8	4	5
		LA Mission	3	10	8	7
		LA Pierce	11	12	5	9
		LA Southwest	-	2	-	2
		LA Trade	27	25	26	26
		LA Valley	44	80	45	56
		Long Beach	34	27	36	32
		Mt San Antonio	65	89	114	89
		Orange Coast	30	22	112	55
		Pasadena	27	20	30	26
		Rio Hondo	6	11	17	11
		Saddleback	28	42	32	34
		Santa Ana	164	95	86	115
		Santa Monica	83	52	169	101
Santiago Canyon	3	6	55	21		
West LA	8	17	7	11		
<b>Subtotal/Average</b>			<b>1,061</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>1,492</b>	<b>1,206</b>
0502.10	Tax Studies	Glendale	3	-	-	3
		Irvine Valley	13	16	9	13
		LA Pierce	13	32	16	20
		Saddleback	6	5	3	5
		<b>Subtotal/Average</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Grand Total/Average</b>			<b>1,096</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>1,245</b>

## Appendix B: Occupational demand and wage data by county

### Exhibit 3. Los Angeles County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents (13-2081)	1,339	1,358	19	1%	97	\$22.17	\$38.05	\$57.84
Tax Preparers (13-2082)	4,838	4,930	92	2%	526	\$13.00	\$23.90	\$46.31
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)	59,599	58,524	(1,075)	(2%)	6,559	\$13.09	\$21.15	\$32.33
Payroll and Timekeeping Clerks (43-3051)	5,932	5,858	(74)	(1%)	583	\$11.46	\$22.04	\$32.87
Brokerage Clerks (43-4011)	1,746	1,747	1	0%	177	\$16.92	\$25.88	\$37.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,455</b>	<b>72,416</b>	<b>(1,039)</b>	<b>(1%)</b>	<b>7,941</b>			

### Exhibit 4. Orange County

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents (13-2081)	402	409	7	2%	29	\$26.06	\$40.40	\$58.88
Tax Preparers (13-2082)	2,072	2,181	109	5%	243	\$13.63	\$25.14	\$38.85
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)	21,182	21,323	141	1%	2,383	\$13.85	\$22.05	\$31.66
Payroll and Timekeeping Clerks (43-3051)	2,692	2,724	32	1%	274	\$16.21	\$25.40	\$33.35
Brokerage Clerks (43-4011)	533	579	46	9%	65	\$19.52	\$26.39	\$37.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,881</b>	<b>27,215</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2,994</b>			

### Exhibit 5. Los Angeles and Orange Counties

Occupation (SOC)	2018 Jobs	2023 Jobs	5-yr Change	5-yr % Change	Annual Openings	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents (13-2081)	1,741	1,766	25	1%	126	\$23.26	\$38.62	\$58.15
Tax Preparers (13-2082)	6,911	7,111	200	3%	769	\$13.02	\$24.19	\$42.47
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks (43-3031)	80,782	79,847	(935)	(1%)	8,942	\$13.29	\$21.39	\$32.24
Payroll and Timekeeping Clerks (43-3051)	8,624	8,581	(43)	(0%)	857	\$12.21	\$23.10	\$33.08
Brokerage Clerks (43-4011)	2,279	2,325	46	2%	242	\$17.70	\$26.00	\$37.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,336</b>	<b>99,631</b>	<b>(705)</b>	<b>(1%)</b>	<b>10,936</b>			

#### Appendix C: 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
- Living Insight Center for Community Economic Development
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS)
- MIT Living Wage

For more information, please contact:

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 April 2019

