The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) sponsored a survey to gather information about compensation and benefits in the Interior Design industry. Salary results are based on over 3,000 responding IIDA Members who are employed or self-employed full time in the design industry or a design-related position.
The salary spread in the Interior Design industry is wide with strong correlations between salary and industry tenure, education, professional credentials, job function, supervisory responsibility, and geography, among other variables.

WHERE YOU WORK MATTERS
The average salary of an interior designer changes based on location.

INTERIOR DESIGNER’S INCOME
MEDIAN INCOME: $65,000

MAKE LESS THAN $40,000
MAKE $40,000-$59,999
MAKE $60,000-$99,999
MAKE MORE THAN $100,000

$70,000
$75,500
$58,000
$62,900
### JOB FUNCTION MATTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Function</th>
<th>Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Designer</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architect</td>
<td>$67,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Designer</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Not surprisingly, principals reported the highest median salary at $110,000, but these firm leaders also had the widest range of salaries among respondents.

### WHO PARTICIPATED?

- **3,447** IIDA Members
- **85%** Female
- **44%** NCIDQ-Certification Holders
- **39** Median Age
- **14%** Diverse Backgrounds
- **58%** At Least One Design Credential

Holding at least one design credential or certification can make a big difference in salary.

**$56K** No Credentials or Certification  
**$70K** One or More Credentials

*2016 compensation results based on 3,345 respondents who are employed full time.*
The IIDA Interior Design Compensation Report allows leaders in design to monitor the state of the industry, inform strategic business and hiring decisions, retain talent, and recruit top designers. The report also reveals that designers are in high demand, making it clear that competitive salaries are key to ensuring that interior design remains a viable profession for innovative, driven, and creative individuals.