COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Employment of programmers is expected to be as fast as average skills and who understand an employer’s business and its programming requirements. Programmers will have to keep abreast of changing programming languages and techniques. Demand for programmers with strong object-oriented programming capabilities and technical specialization in areas such as client/server programming, wireless applications, multimedia technology, and graphic user interface likely will stem from the expansion of intranets, extranets, and Internet applications. A growing emphasis on cyber security will lead to increased demand for programmers who are familiar with digital security issues, and are skilled in using appropriate security technology.

Employment for computer systems analysts is expected to grow faster than average for all occupations. The growth of electronic commerce, the integration of Internet technologies, and the introduction of the wireless Internet and of mobile computers has created a need for new systems that can integrate these technologies into existing networks. Explosive growth in these areas is expected to fuel demand for analysts who are knowledgeable about systems integration and network, data and communications security. Jobs for both systems and applications programmers should be most plentiful in data-processing service firms, software houses, and computer consulting businesses.

As technology evolves and newer, more sophisticated tools emerge, programmers and analysts will need to update their skills in order to remain competitive. Individuals who want to become programmers can enhance their prospects by combining the appropriate formal training with practical work experience.

Employment Information

Greater Kansas City Area: In 2016, those in the computer information systems field held an estimated 10,066 jobs in the fifteen counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) with 10,763 projected by 2021 (+6.9%). Of those, 3,747 were computer programmers (3,669 projected by 2021, -2%); and 6,319 were computer systems analysts (7,094 projected, +12%).

State: In Kansas, those in the computer information systems field held an estimated 7,941 jobs in 2016, with 8,801 jobs projected by 2021 (+10.8%). Of those, 2,918 were computer programmers (2,997 projected, +3%) and 5,023 were computer systems analysts (5,805 projected, +16%).

National: About 1,042,248 jobs were held in the computer information systems field in 2016, with 1,120,871 jobs projected by 2021 (+7.5%). Of those, 373,900 were computer programmers (374,234 projected, +0%) and 668,348 were computer systems analysts (746,637 projected, +12%).

September 2017
Salary Information

**Greater Kansas City Area:** Computer programmers employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of $34.86 in 2016. Additionally, computer systems analysts earned $38.87 per hour.

**State:** Computer programmers in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of $31.66 in 2016. Additionally, computer systems analysts earned $35.53 per hour.

**National:** Computer programmers working full-time earned an average hourly wage of $36.85 in 2016. Additionally, computer systems analysts earned $39.85 per hour.

**JCCC Placement and Salary Information**

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. Sixty-three percent of the graduates who responded to the follow-up study conducted during 2015-16, and were employed, were employed in a related field and reported earning an average hourly wage of $30.11.

**Note:** Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2016 third quarter data. JCCC information for career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers. Other sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics.