

OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: Information Security Analysts

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Information security analysts plan, implement, upgrade, or monitor security measures for the protection of computer networks and information. They may ensure appropriate security controls are in place that will safeguard digital files and vital electronic infrastructure. Additionally, information security analysts may respond to computer security breaches and viruses.¹

To become an information security analyst, a bachelor's degree in computer science, programming, or a related field is typically required. Employers sometimes prefer applicants who have a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) in information systems. An MBA program in information systems generally requires two years of study beyond the undergraduate level and includes both business and computer-related courses.²

As of May 2014, 780 of the nation's 80,180 information security analysts work in Connecticut. Connecticut has

a below average concentration of the occupation with a location quotient of 0.79. A location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. The states with the largest employment level of information security analysts are: Virginia (10,270), California (7,700), Texas (6,170), New York (4,760), and Florida (3,790). The highest concentration of jobs and location quotients for this occupation can be found in Virginia, Arkansas, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Arizona.¹

The annual mean wage in 2014 for information security analysts in Connecticut was \$91,920. This is slightly higher than the national annual mean wage of \$88,890 for the occupation. The top paying states for this occupation are: New York (\$111,970), New Jersey (\$107,390), California (\$106,200), District of Columbia (\$105,440), and Virginia (\$104,700).¹

As cyberattacks continue to grow in frequency and sophistication, businesses have shown an increase in demand for information security analysts. In fact, the occupation is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations at 37% according to the 2012 to 2022 outlook. Computer occupations in general are expected to grow 18% and all occupations have an expected growth rate of 11%. In Connecticut, the occupation is expected to have a lower, though still above average, growth rate at 19%.³

The top employing industries for information security analysts in Connecticut are financial activities with 47% and professional and business services with 45%. The remaining analysts can be found in the manufacturing, trade, transportation & utilities, and education & health services industries.⁴ Nationally, the largest employing industries for the occupation are professional, scientific and technical services (39%), finance and insurance (19%), and information (10%).⁵

As the reliance on computers grows, so will the need for the information security analyst occupation. It is crucial for industries ranging from healthcare to government to protect their vital information from hackers. ■

¹ <http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes151122.htm>

² <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/information-security-analysts.htm#tab-4>

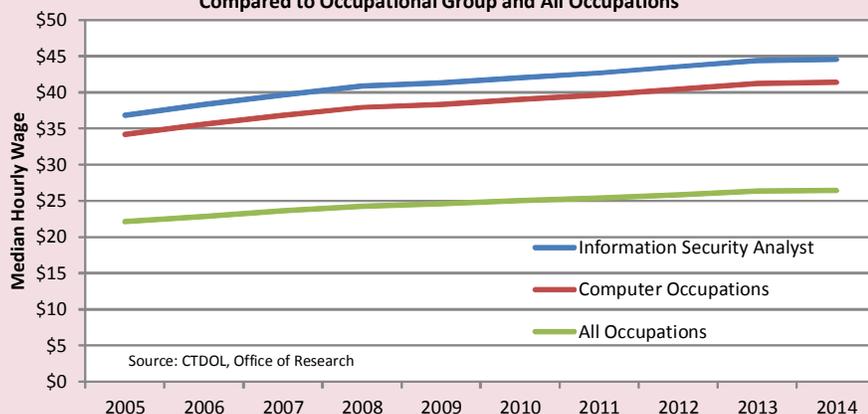
³ <http://www.onetonline.org/link/details/15-1122.00#WagesEmployment>

⁴ <http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/wages/statewide/15-1122.asp>

⁵ <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-1122.00#Education>

Information Security Analysts Wage in Connecticut

Compared to Occupational Group and All Occupations



Information Security Analysts	Employment		Percent Change	Projected Annual Job Openings ¹
	2012	2022		
United States	75,100	102,500	37%	3,920
Connecticut	730	870	19%	30

¹ Projected Annual Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.