Trailblazers

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS: ANALYZING DATA FROM INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This Cluster Analysis of *Information Technology* in the Commonwealth highlights information important to each of the four pathways —Information Support and Services; Network Systems; Programming and Software Development; and Web and Digital Communications—included in this career cluster.

What trends do we currently see? What trends may we anticipate?

- With anticipated job growth rate of 25 percent between 2012 and 2022, Information Technology is one of the fastest growing clusters in the Commonwealth.
- While many Information Technology careers employ workers with Bachelor's degrees, the predominant level of education for Computer, Automated-teller, and Office Machine Repairers, and Surveying and Mapping Technicians is an Associate's degree or equivalent.
- Among all pathways in the IT cluster, the greatest number of new jobs is anticipated in Programming and Software Development. By 2022, this pathway is expected to gain nearly 38,000 new positions over its 2012 numbers.

25%

Expected growth in Information Technology jobs by 2022.

EDUCATION

Figure 1 shows the predominant level[1] of education and training in each pathway. Education classification is determined by Trailblazers, based on US Bureau of Labor Statistics occupational education and training data.
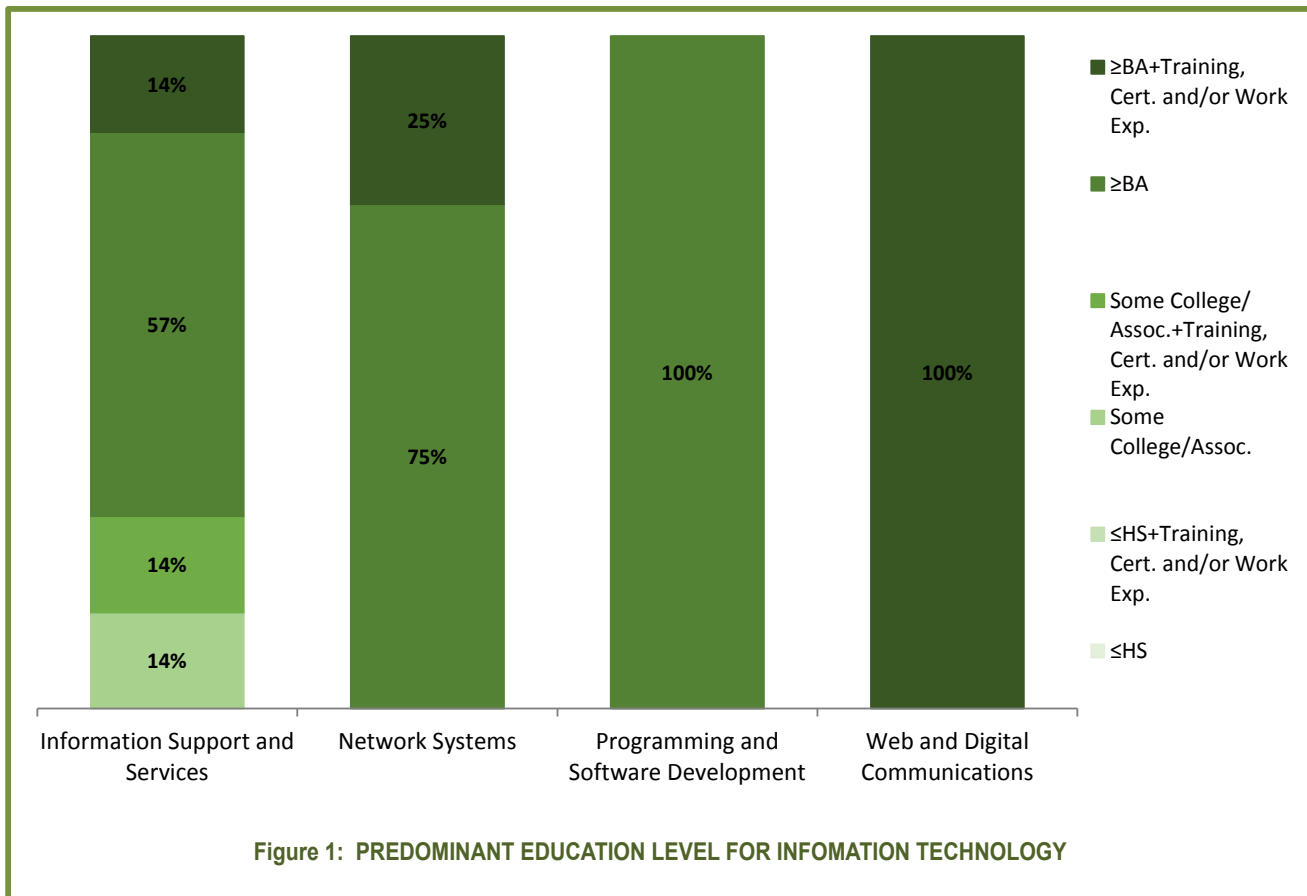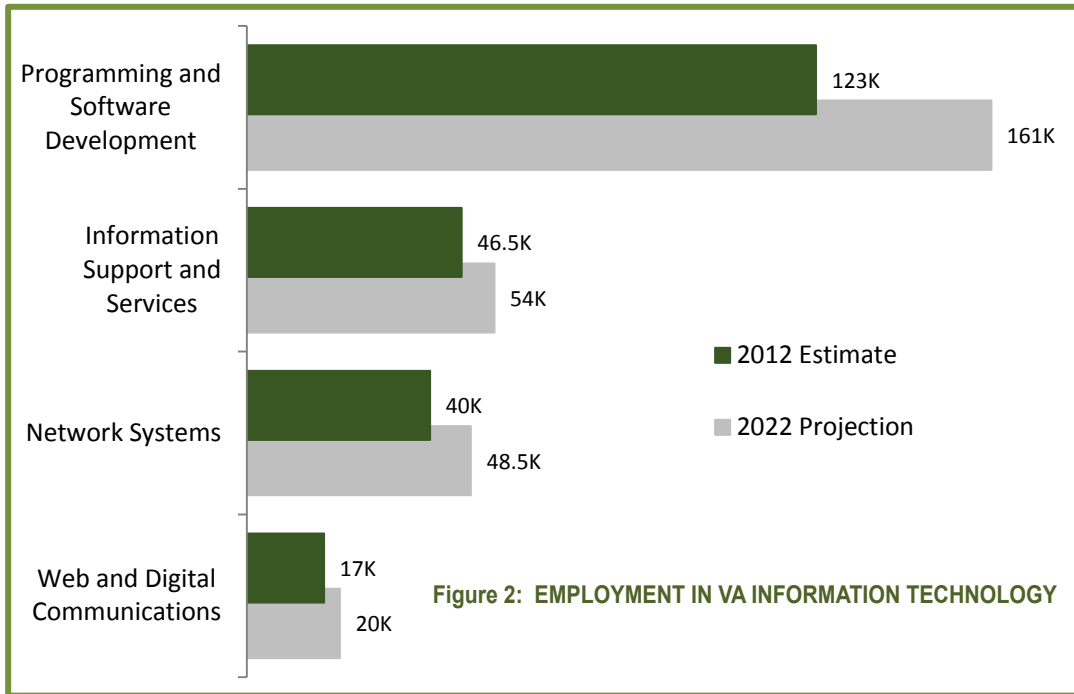

Figure 1: PREDOMINANT EDUCATION LEVEL FOR INFOMATION TECHNOLOGY

Footnote 1: Reflects predominant education by the number of occupations in each pathway, not the number of workers

Figure 2: EMPLOYMENT IN VA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

EMPLOYMENT

Figure 2 compares the estimated 2012 employment for each pathway to projected 2022 employment levels.

Data are provided by the Virginia Employment Commission.

EARNINGS AND GROWTH

Figure 3 presents the size and median wage-earning for the two fastest-growing occupations in each pathway. Wage data are provided by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Employment Statistics program.

Figure 3: EARNINGS and GROWTH FOR SELECT OCCUPATIONS IN VA 2012-2022
(Size of circle represents annual number of job openings in the specific occupation)