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.

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 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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

EMPLOYMENT

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

Data are provided by the Virginia Employment Commission.