

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY JOBS

Employment in IT occupations in non-IT industries as a share of total jobs.⁶

Why Is This Important? The Information Technology revolution continues to permeate the economy. As it does, states with a larger share of workers trained and skilled in the use of information technology will do better than states with a smaller share. And it's not just software and computer companies that employ workers skilled in information technology; it's virtually all sectors. For example, more than 90 percent of IT professionals in the Chicago area are employed by firms that use IT (such as insurance, banking, and health-care administration) rather than those that produce IT or provide IT services. Even "traditional" industries use IT, such as the automobile industry, which employs thousands of IT professionals designing and managing Web sites, operating electronic ordering systems, and using software to design and build cars. As a result, the average worker has more than \$8,000 of IT hardware at her disposal.

The Rankings: Even after controlling for the size of states' software and IT-producing industries, in order to measure IT jobs in non-IT sectors, most of the states with high scores are high-tech states such as Colorado, Washington, and Massachusetts. Low-scoring states tend to have natural resources or traditional manufacturing-based economies.

The top five		Percentage of jobs in IT occupations
1	Colorado	3.32%
2	Washington	2.81%
3	Virginia	2.53%
4	Massachusetts	2.51%
5	Maryland	2.36%
U.S. average		1.70%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2000 data.

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