

# Occupational Profile: Network Systems & Data Communications Analysts

## GENERAL OCCUPATION DESCRIPTION

Analyze, design, test, and evaluate network systems, such as local area networks (LAN), wide area networks (WAN), Internet, intranet, and other data communications systems. Perform network modeling, analysis, and planning. Research and recommend network and data communications hardware and software. Include telecommunications specialists who deal with the interfacing of computer and communications equipment. May supervise computer programmers.

Source: O\*NET online. <http://online.onetcenter.org>

## REQUIRED EDUCATION

As shown in the table to right, over 65% of interviewed employers reportedly require a two-year degree or the equivalent, with the remaining 34% requiring a four-year college degree or more.

Required Education	
Percent of Employers Requiring HS Diploma or Less	0%
Percent of Employers Requiring 2-Year Degree or Equiv	65.58%
Percent of Employers Requiring BS Diploma or More	34.41%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## WAGES

Network Systems & Data Communications Analyst is considered a high-wage occupation, with excellent possibility for wage advancement with experience. Employers in Greater Phoenix and the State of Arizona generally pay less as compared with the overall United States.

Location	Pay Period	2005				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	\$17.74	\$22.69	\$29.69	\$38.66	\$47.42
	Yearly	\$36,900	\$47,200	\$61,800	\$80,400	\$98,600
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$17.39	\$20.54	\$25.90	\$33.43	\$41.19
	Yearly	\$36,189	\$42,744	\$53,898	\$69,568	\$85,716
Arizona	Hourly	\$15.95	\$20.02	\$25.99	\$34.07	\$43.25
	Yearly	\$33,200	\$41,600	\$54,100	\$70,900	\$90,000

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison of wages for this occupation reveals Arizona ranks 33rd in terms of median wages.

RANK	Location	Median Wage 2005	
		Hourly	Annual
1	Massachusetts	\$35.57	\$74,000
2	New Jersey	\$34.64	\$72,100
3	Virginia	\$33.50	\$69,700
4	New York	\$33.08	\$68,800
5	Minnesota	\$33.02	\$68,700
33	ARIZONA	\$25.99	\$54,100

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The table below provides a comparison of wages by sub-industry for the Greater Phoenix region (2005). As shown, the main employment sector, "Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services," pays comparably to other main employment sectors.

Wages by Industry: Greater Phoenix MSA (2005)	Rounded Employment	Mean Wage	10th Percentile Wage	25th Percentile Wage	Median Wage	75th Percentile Wage	90th Percentile Wage
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	400	\$29.72	\$15.05	\$19.47	\$27.11	\$38.28	\$49.50
Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals, and Data Processing Services	270	\$22.27	\$16.18	\$18.01	\$23.00	\$25.81	\$27.67
Telecommunications	250	\$29.04	\$16.52	\$22.88	\$27.98	\$36.40	\$42.70
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	180	\$33.64	\$22.64	\$25.78	\$32.93	\$41.45	\$48.99
Public Administration	140	\$27.53	\$18.06	\$21.37	\$26.68	\$33.39	\$39.58
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	140	\$25.86	\$15.35	\$17.13	\$25.19	\$33.10	\$39.43
Administrative and Support Services	90	\$27.23	\$13.06	\$18.73	\$25.62	\$34.80	\$45.75
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	80	\$29.89	\$22.44	\$24.69	\$28.57	\$35.32	\$41.57
Educational Services	70	\$24.75	\$18.11	\$19.94	\$23.25	\$28.91	\$34.63
Hospitals	30	\$24.91	\$17.96	\$19.76	\$23.67	\$30.12	\$34.11
Management of Companies and Enterprises	10	\$30.68	\$18.98	\$21.59	\$26.99	\$44.02	\$50.91
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	.	\$29.67	\$18.55	\$22.84	\$29.16	\$35.90	\$42.90
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	.	\$29.65	\$18.26	\$23.34	\$28.19	\$33.51	\$47.46
Ambulatory Health Care Services	.	\$26.88	\$15.80	\$18.00	\$24.46	\$33.76	\$43.89
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	.	\$18.00	\$13.94	\$14.59	\$15.66	\$16.74	\$28.77

## EMPLOYMENT

As shown in the table below, this occupation has a projected 51% growth rate over 10 years (between 2003 and 2013) for the Greater Phoenix region. There are an average projected 129 job openings each year, comprised of 105 new jobs and 24 positions vacated by individuals leaving the field (due to retirement, death, career changes, or other reasons).

	10-YEAR CHANGE			AVERAGE ANNUAL		
	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
United States	2004	2014				
Network systems and data communications analysts	231,300	357,500	55%	15,340	n/a	n/a
Arizona	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
	2004	2014				
Network systems and data communications analysts	3,740	5,760	54%	250	n/a	n/a
Greater Phoenix	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
	2003	2013				
Network systems and data communications analysts	2,070	3,119	51%	129	105	24

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*\*N/A is displayed in cases where data is not available or cannot be published because of federal data privacy standards.

An additional source of information regarding this occupation can be provided by analysis of employer survey data collected for the Maricopa County Community Colleges by the ERISS Corporation in 2004. As shown, the ERISS survey data shows a projected 1-year growth rate of 3%, which is comparable with the average of 5.1% per year reflected by the BLS data above.

Additionally, the ERISS data provides an indicator of yearly turnover for this occupation, which is reported to be moderate at 10%.

ERISS Occupational Survey Data (2004)			
Greater Phoenix	Growth	Turnover	Demand
Network Systems & Data Communications Analysts	3%	10%	14%

### Comparison of employment projections for top five regions for Network Systems & Data Communications Analyst

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison reveals the State of Arizona ranks 13th in terms of projected 10-year growth for this occupation (54%).

RANK	Location	Employment		Percent Change
		2004	2014	
1	Nevada	1,180	2,290	93%
2	Colorado	5,820	10,350	78%
3	Utah	2,330	4,080	75%
4	Wyoming	250	420	69%
5	Tennessee	2,680	4,410	64%
13	ARIZONA	3,740	5,760	54%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

### Employment by Industry

The table below shows the industries that most commonly employ Network Systems & Data Communications Analyst, and the proportion of employment accounted for at the national level. As shown, "Self-employed workers, primary job" is the largest employer for this occupation (14.7%).

Percent of Employment Nationally by Industry	
Percent	Industry
14.7%	Self-employed workers, primary job
12.3%	Computer systems design and related services
8.1%	Self-employed workers, secondary job
5.3%	Management of companies and enterprises
2.7%	Wired telecommunications carriers
2.5%	State government, excluding education and hospitals
2.4%	Local government, excluding education and hospitals

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Geo-Location Overlay of Employers with 10 or More Employees that Potentially Employ Occupation (n = 140)**

