ABOUT PROS WHO MAKE "ALL SYSTEMS GO"

Are you among those with a nose for designing and refining? If so, you may have some promising career options awaiting you.

Network and computer systems administrators are in demand in an ever-growing number of tech-based careers. Such jobs don't allow for boredom, and network and computer systems administrators design, install, configure, and support multi-user computer systems and/or networks for all sorts of businesses and organizations.
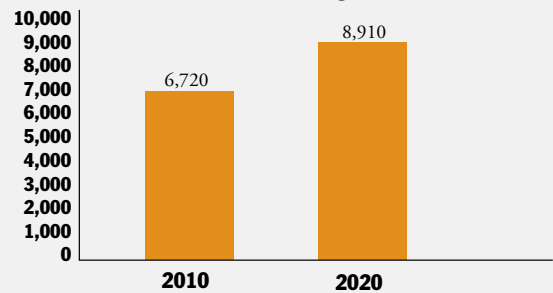
They are responsible for day-to-day on-site administrative support for software users in a variety of work environments, including professional offices, small businesses, government, and large corporations. These intense jobs are driven by constant advancements in technology — requiring regularly updated tech skills. The occupation is both exciting and rewarding for persons wanting to work with cutting-edge technology.
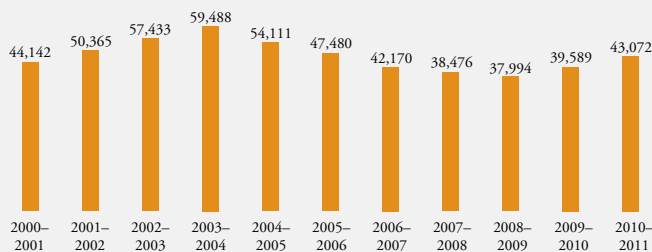
Some Noteworthy Numbers:

Network and computer systems administrator jobs are expecting 32.6 percent job growth between 2010 and 2020, much more than the average for all occupations (22.7 percent). In addition, they earn great wages, averaging nearly $36 an hour — or $74,737 a year.

SMALLER NUMBERS OF COMPUTER GRADUATES ARE LEAVING BUSINESSES STRUGGLING TO MEET RECRUITMENT NEEDS.

Network and Computer System Administrators Gulf Coast Region

Year	Number
2010	6,720
2020	8,910

Degrees in Computer Science and Information Sciences in the U.S.

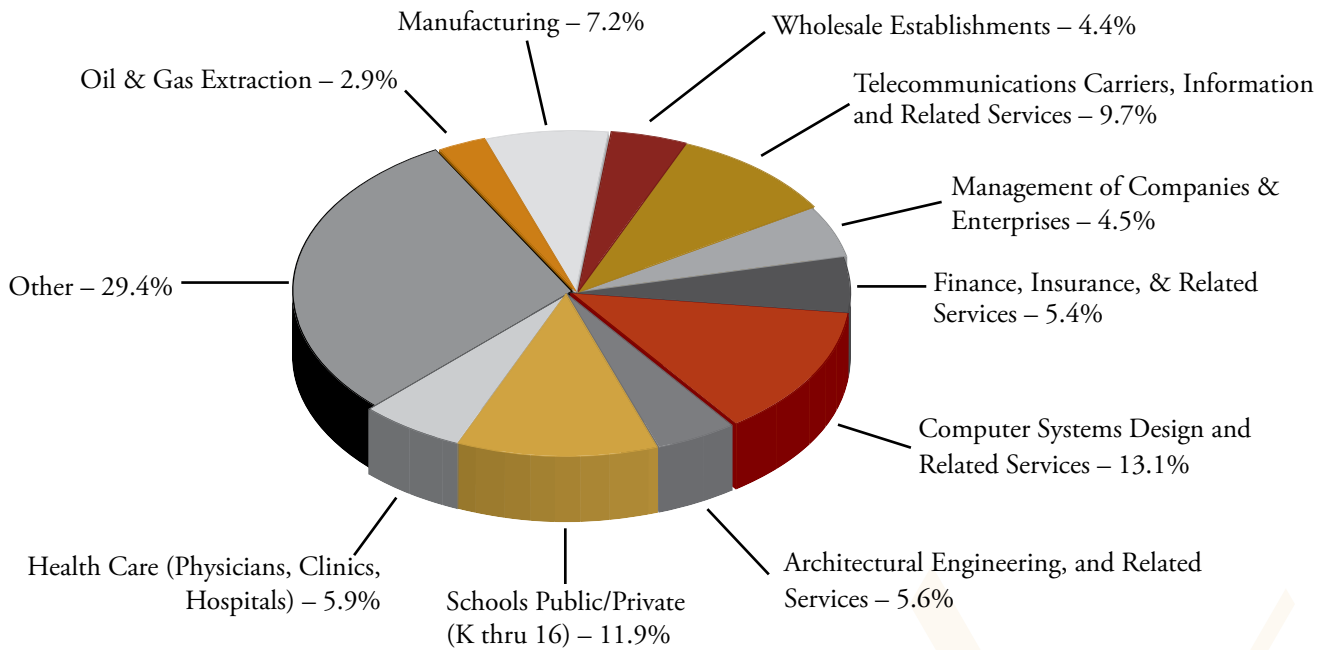| Year	Degrees
2000–2001	44,142
2001–2002	50,365
2002–2003	57,433
2003–2004	59,488
2004–2005	54,111
2005–2006	47,480
2006–2007	42,170
2007–2008	38,476
2008–2009	37,994
2009–2010	39,589
2010–2011	43,072

Brought to you by the Education Committee of The Gulf Coast Workforce Board. For more information visit us on the Web at www.wrksolutions.com Latest data available. June 2013.

*Includes the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton.
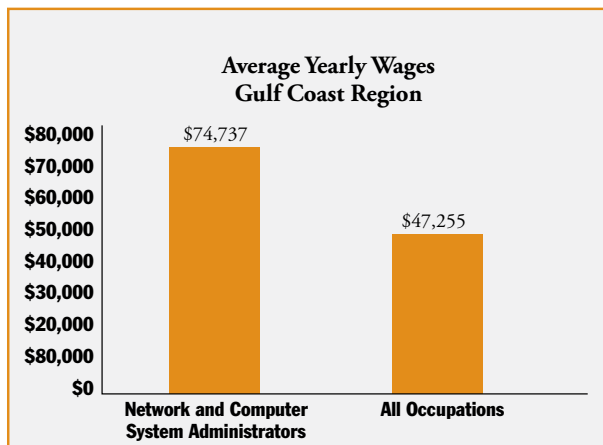
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JOB OPPORTUNITIES WILL NOT BE LIMITED TO ONE SPECIFIC INDUSTRY SINCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXISTS ACROSS MOST BUSINESSES.

**Network and Computer System Administrator
Jobs in the Gulf Coast Region – 2020**

- Manufacturing – 7.2%
- Wholesale Establishments – 4.4%
- Oil & Gas Extraction – 2.9%
- Telecommunications Carriers, Information and Related Services – 9.7%
- Management of Companies & Enterprises – 4.5%
- Other – 29.4%
- Finance, Insurance, & Related Services – 5.4%
- Computer Systems Design and Related Services – 13.1%
- Health Care (Physicians, Clinics, Hospitals) – 5.9%
- Schools Public/Private (K thru 16) – 11.9%
- Architectural Engineering, and Related Services – 5.6%

NETWORK AND COMPUTER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATORS EARN GREAT WAGES, AVERAGING NEARLY $36 AN HOUR OR $74,737 A YEAR.

**Average Yearly Wages
Gulf Coast Region**

	Network and Computer System Administrators	All Occupations
Wage	$74,737	$47,255

Y-axis: $80,000 / $70,000 / $60,000 / $50,000 / $40,000 / $30,000 / $20,000 / $80,000 / $0

Workforce Solutions

PATHWAY TO BECOMING A NETWORK AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

Typically, one needs a bachelor's degree in a computer science-related field to get a job as a network and computer systems administrator. This usually takes 4 to 5 years of college study.

CERTIFICATIONS

Depending on the needs of an organization, some employers require individuals to possess specific certifications. These may be a Microsoft certification (Microsoft Certified Systems Analyst, Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer), or certification as a Red Hat Certified Engineer, Novell Certified Network Administrator, Certified Novell Engineer, Cisco Certified Network Administrator, CompTIA's A+ or Network+, or Sun Certified SCNA.

START EARLY AND BE PREPARED

High school students should strive for a high GPA. This will give them an advantage when applying for acceptance into a computer science training program. In addition, degree programs in computer science focus heavily on mathematics.

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PREPARING FOR A NETWORK AND COMPUTER SYSTEM ADMINSTRATOR CAREER*

9th Grade	Suggested Coursework		
	English I	World Geography	**Career-Related Electives:**
	Algebra I	Languages other than English I	Introduction to Information
	Biology	Health/PE or Equivalent	Technology or Network Essentials
10th Grade	**Suggested Coursework**		
	English II	World History	**Career-Related Electives:**
	Geometry	Languages other than English II	Telecommunications and Networking or Introduction to Computer
	Chemistry	Technology Applications	Maintenance or Computer Cabling and Design
11th Grade	**Suggested Coursework**		
	English III	United States History	**Career-Related Electives:**
	Algebra II	Communication Applications	Internetworking Technologies I
	Physics	PE or Equivalent	or Computer Maintenance I
12th Grade	**Suggested Coursework**		
	English IV	Government/Economics	**Career-Related Electives:**
	Statistics	Fine Arts	Internetworking Technologies II or
	Environmental Systems		Computer Maintenance II or related Career Preparation program or Independent Study or Precalculus

*Source: AchieveTexas.org

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GULF COAST REGION NETWORK AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR AND RELATED DEGREE PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Alvin Community College
- Brazosport College
- College of the Mainland
- Galveston College
- Houston Community College System
- Lee College
- Lone Star College System
- San Jacinto College
- Wharton County Junior College

UNIVERSITIES

- Houston Baptist University
- Prairie View A&M University
- Rice University
- Sam Houston State University
- Texas Southern University
- Texas Woman's University
- University of Houston
- University of St. Thomas

MAJOR EMPLOYERS IN THE GULF COAST REGION

- 365 Solutions
- ABB
- Altra Energy Technologies
- BEI Computer & Information
- BSI Consulting
- CGI Systems International
- Cisco Systems Inc.
- Comsys Information Technology
- CSC Consulting Inc.

- I-Sector Corp (now INX)
- Interliant Inc.
- Jack Henry & Associates Inc.
- Kean Inc.
- National Integrated Systems
- Resourceaq
- Robert Half Technology
- Solid Systems

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