



California Adds Tech Jobs, Businesses in the Face of Pandemic Challenges, CompTIA State of the Tech Workforce Report Reveals

State's standing as the bellwether of the US tech industry continues

SACRAMENTO, Calif., March 29, 2022 – Technology-related employment in California expanded in 2021, one of 44 states to add jobs, a testament to the broad-based impact of tech, according to a new report released today by [CompTIA](#), the nonprofit association for the information technology (IT) industry and workforce.

CompTIA's "[State of the Tech Workforce](#)" shows that California remains the clear leader in the U.S. technology industry, placing at or near the top in nearly every category in the report.

More than 1.4 million people work in tech-related occupations in California, 56% more than the next closest state, Texas. Millions more Californians are employed as digital knowledge workers. The estimated median wage for a tech occupation in California is \$116,729. That is 152% higher than the median wage for all occupations in the state.

In 2021 tech employment in the state grew by 5,165 workers, the third highest total nationally. CompTIA estimates a 2.2% increase in tech employment this year – nearly 32,000 new jobs, the highest projected total among all states. Positions in software development, programming, web development, software quality assurance, data base, data science, cybersecurity and systems engineering are expected to see the most hiring activity.

California ranks in the first, or top quartile for the second consecutive year in the report's diversity index, a measurement of the depth and breadth of diversity in the tech workforce for seven primary race and ethnicity groups, as defined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The tech sector has an estimated direct economic impact of \$515.6 billion, or 18% of the total state economy. There are more than 54,000 tech business establishments in California,

including 1,200 created in 2021. Many of these companies are categorized as small businesses under the Small Business Administration's definition of up to 500 employees.

Though the pandemic-induced drag on the U.S. economy and labor market led some companies to reduce or postpone spending and hiring, the search of tech talent continued in 2021. California employers listed nearly 500,000 job postings for IT occupations.¹ One-third of these postings were for positions in emerging technologies – artificial intelligence, blockchain, the internet of things, robotics and other areas – or for jobs requiring emerging tech skills.

The job posting data also confirms a momentous shift in thinking about work location. Almost one in three tech job postings offered a work from home (WFH) or hybrid work option – a 48% increase over the 2019 pre-pandemic rate. Nearly 30% of all tech job postings offered WFH/hybrid work as an option.

For more from CompTIA's State of the Tech Workforce visit <https://www.cyberstates.org/>.

About CompTIA

The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) is a leading voice and advocate for the \$5 trillion global information technology ecosystem; and the estimated 75 million industry and tech professionals who design, implement, manage, and safeguard the technology that powers the world's economy. Through education, training, certifications, advocacy, philanthropy, and market research, CompTIA is the hub for unlocking the potential of the tech industry and its workforce. Visit <https://www.comptia.org/>.

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¹ Job postings should not be interpreted as unfilled jobs. There is not a 1:1 relationship between postings and actual hires made.