

Data Visualization and Job Information Report

To: Professor Dr. Soto.

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Date: Feb 28th, 2026

Subject: 10-Year Career Outlook and Geographic Analysis for Information Security Analysts

As a Senior IT manager shifting to a Cybersecurity role, it is crucial to assess the field's long-term viability and geographic markets for optimal salary. This report utilizes Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC) data to analyze projected job growth over ten years, state salary estimates, and the cost of living for Information Security Analysts.

The 10-Year Job Outlook: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for information security analysts will increase by 29% from 2024 to 2034, significantly outpacing the national average job growth rate of approximately 3%. This trend illustrates the strong future job stability associated with earning a cybersecurity degree.

Geographic Comparison: Salary vs. Cost of Living To identify the best geographic area to utilize this degree, I analyzed the tech hubs of New York, New Jersey, and North Carolina.

- **Raw Salary:** Graph 2 demonstrates that New York offers the highest annual mean wage for Information Security Analysts at \$143,000, followed by New Jersey (\$135,000) and North Carolina (\$120,000).
- **Purchasing Power:** Combining raw salary with the Cost of Living Index is essential. The national average is 100, with New York at 125.1 and New Jersey at 115.1, indicating high costs. North Carolina's index score of 95.7 shows it is approximately 4% less expensive than the national average.

In conclusion, the New York metropolitan area has higher raw **incomes, and** North Carolina has the lowest cost of living among the three states, which enhances the purchasing power of IT professionals. Integrating salary with cost of living data indicates that regions like North Carolina's Research Triangle provide a more favorable financial outlook for cybersecurity professionals.

Works Cited

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