

The Systems Analyst

Presented by Amanda Wolf

Who am I?

Name: Amanda Wolf

Job: Systems Analyst | Finance IT | IT Department

Company: Symetra Financial

Education: Western Washington University

Degree: Management Information Systems

Extra Curricular:

Bellevue College Advisory Board Member

Symetra - IT Internship Program Manager

Topics

What is the Systems Analyst?

- What do Systems Analysts do?
- What job titles should I look for?
- Job outlook, industries, and salaries.
- Who hires Systems Analysts?

What are employers looking for?

- What skills are employers looking for?
- How to change to a tech career in your thirties with no experience.
- Hiring trends.

Questions or Comments

- Questions, comments, and open (informal) discussion.

What is a Systems Analyst?

A systems analyst is a person who uses analysis and design techniques to solve business problems using information technology.

Source: University of Milwaukee; Wikipedia

Systems Analyst Job Titles

Common Job Titles

Systems Analyst, Technical Analyst, Computer Systems Analyst, IT Business Analyst, Application Analyst, Software Analyst, IT Consultant, etc.

Similar Roles

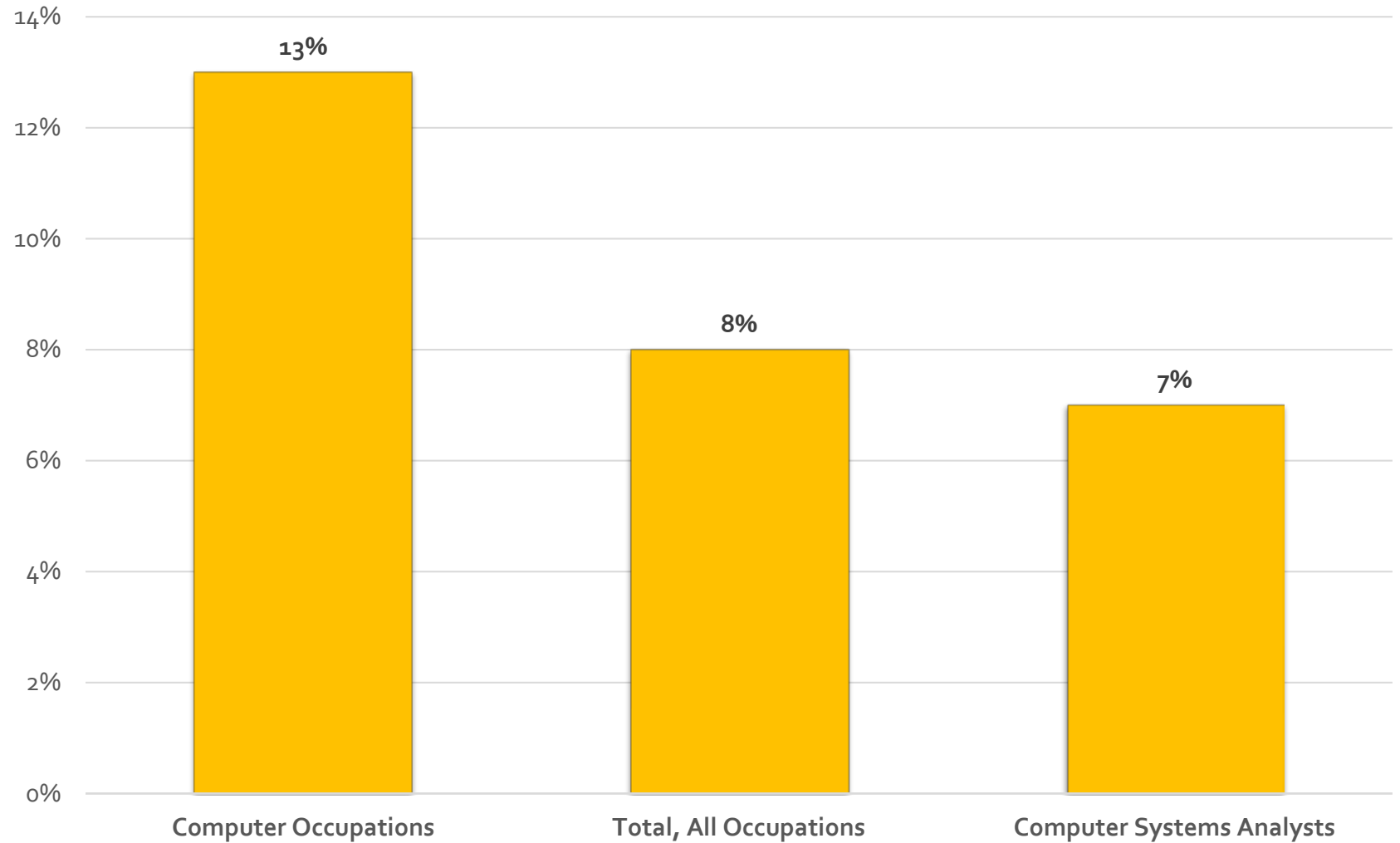
Technical Product Owner, Product Owner, Technical Project Manager, etc.

Entry Level Positions

Look for titles that have “Associate,” “Junior,” or “Recent College Graduate.”

Job Market

Percent Change in Employment, Projected 2020-2030



Industry Profiles

Industry	Employment	Percent of industry employment	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	129,500	5.71	\$ 50.85	\$ 105,770
Management of Companies and Enterprises	55,960	2.20	\$ 49.93	\$ 103,860
Insurance Carriers	28,730	2.39	\$ 48.32	\$ 100,500
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	21,860	1.09	\$ 47.69	\$ 99,190
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	19,690	0.35	\$ 42.74	\$ 88,900



U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Top Paying Industries

Industry	Employment	Percent of industry employment	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage
Oil and Gas Extraction	1,180	1.11	\$ 73.28	\$ 152,410
Aerospace Product and Parts Manufacturing	9,280	1.98	\$ 61.65	\$ 128,230
Scientific Research and Development Services	10,040	1.26	\$ 60.51	\$ 125,860
Rail Transportation	410	0.19	\$ 58.92	\$ 122,550
Computer and Peripheral Equipment Manufacturing	2,150	1.38	\$ 58.85	\$ 122,400



U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Salary Outlook

Location	Annual Low (10%)	Annual Q _L (25%)	Annual Median (50%)	Annual Q _U (75%)	Annual High (90%)
United States	\$60,680	\$77,620	\$99,270	\$126,780	\$158,010
Washington	\$77,340	\$92,200	\$102,930	\$129,550	\$162,930
Bellingham, WA	\$59,620	\$75,640	\$89,530	\$117,820	\$120,430
Bremerton-Silverdale, WA	\$63,470	\$77,640	\$99,640	\$106,980	\$131,370
Eastern Washington nonmetropolitan area	\$62,520	\$76,530	\$79,510	\$97,710	\$101,450
Kennewick-Richland, WA	\$59,430	\$77,750	\$99,130	\$119,990	\$151,400
Lewiston, ID-WA	\$61,050	\$84,080	\$108,250	\$124,550	\$124,550
Longview, WA	\$71,980	\$80,670	\$96,600	\$123,570	\$145,790
Mount Vernon-Anacortes, WA	\$64,660	\$74,840	\$94,770	\$101,690	\$123,250
Olympia-Tumwater, WA	\$77,130	\$80,180	\$101,910	\$101,910	\$129,580
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA	\$66,210	\$80,150	\$100,990	\$127,110	\$151,760
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	\$78,830	\$98,850	\$109,090	\$131,180	\$164,450
Spokane-Spokane Valley, WA	\$61,500	\$72,940	\$85,900	\$99,340	\$123,580
Wenatchee, WA	\$62,530	\$62,860	\$80,290	\$102,600	\$129,090
Western Washington nonmetropolitan area	\$61,860	\$62,460	\$78,810	\$98,340	\$99,350
Yakima, WA	\$62,860	\$79,510	\$92,910	\$102,600	\$121,430

O*NET OnLine

Who hires Systems Analysts in the Seattle area?

Companies' students think of

Companies' students should consider

NORDSTROM



accenture

Microsoft



amazon

T Mobile

VISA



Google



Expeditors



CBRE

slalom

PACCAR



zumiez





What are
Employers looking
for?

What are employers looking for in students?

Basic Requirements

- 2- or 4-year degree, certificate, bootcamp

Stand Out

- 2- or 4-year degree, certificate, bootcamp
- Certifications
- Portfolio
- Volunteering
- Hackathons
- Internships

Core Skills

Active Learning	Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making
Active Listening	Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times
Cognitive Logical Reasoning	The ability to combine multiple cognitive processes to recognize patterns, draw conclusions, and make decisions that use analytics, statistics, and mathematical tools to solve problems
Coordination	Adjusting actions in relation to other's actions
Critical Thinking	Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems
Customer Relations	Understands the relationships that a business has with its customers and departments have with each other, the way in which it treats them as well as understanding. Maintains and knows how to maintain good customer relations that require courtesy, professionalism and effective response.
Growth Mindset	Self-awareness, learning from criticism, and embracing challenges for continuous improvement of yourself, other individuals, or organization
Managing Culture	Maintains and understands the need for organizational culture management that is a collection of values, expectations, and practices that guide and inform the actions of all team members on how they behave when around other people.
Operations Monitoring	Watching reports, dashboards, or other indicators to make sure a system is working properly while ensuring we meet our resiliency and cost guidelines
Reading Comprehension	Understanding content and context of written mediums in work-related documentation.
Social Perceptiveness	Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they do.
Systems Analysis	Determining how a system should work and how changes in conditions, operations, and the environment will affect outcomes.
Time Management	Managing one's own time and the time of others.
Troubleshooting	Determining causes of operating errors and deciding what to do about it.
Writing	Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.

Advanced Skills

Collaboration and Negotiation	Understands and models inclusive collaboration and thoughtfulness during negotiations that includes and models strong listening skills, ability to understand multiple viewpoints.
Complex Problem Solving	Identifying complex problems and reviewing related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions
Judgment and Decision Making	Considering the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one
Learning Strategies	Selecting and using training/instructional methods and procedures appropriate for the situation when learning or teaching new things
Operations Analysis	Analyzing needs and product requirements to create a design
Presentation & Speaking	Knowledge in professional presentation including preparation, presentation and practice of verbal and non-verbal communication to all levels of management and individuals in small and large settings. Ability to present material in a fashion that will clearly communicate the material.
Programming	Familiar with the process and syntax used to write computer programs for various purposes
Systems Evaluation	Identifying measures or indicators of system performance and the actions needed to improve or correct performance, relative to the goals of the system

How to switch to a tech career after thirty with no experience

(He/Him) • 2nd 18h ...
Product Manager at Learnexus | B2B | SaaS | Marketplace | For...

Thanks, for tagging me [redacted]

Hey **Amanda**,

I started pursuing a career as a web developer when I was 30 and I only have a two year degree, so I feel like I can relate.

Speak the part, look the part, and do the part! That's the framework I used to help me get a job.

Speak the part
Speak the lingo that your role requires and know the lingo that will help you communicate with others you'll be working with.

Look the part
Create a personal website, tweet about technology and interact with others in the industry, have your LinkedIn profile up-to-date, and write blog posts about what you've learnt or share it on LinkedIn.

Do the part
Build things! Whether it's personal projects or working on projects with others. I can't tell you how many things I made in the beginning to demonstrate that I belonged here. I also met others in the industry who were working on projects pro bono for nonprofits. Even if I only got to write two lines of CSS, I volunteered and made it my business to contribute.

Last but not least, you have to network and build genuine relationships. I can't tell you how much this has helped me in my career.

I hope this was helpful, and best of luck with your presentation!

(She/They) • 2nd 20h ...
Technical Program Manager | Software Developer | Bias toward...

Thank you, [redacted], for the tag! **Amanda Wolf**, I have a non-traditional background and made the switch after the pandemic began.

I joined a boot camp and what I loved from that was that I learned how to learn and had more of a growth mindset vs. traditional stack learning; that alone I appreciate because it helped me get over the fear of learning something new and just diving in.

I agree with [redacted], I'm in **Mentor Mesh**, and being a part of a community helped me feel more like I was in tech, even if I didn't have a job. I also love **League of Feminist Coders**, **Lesbians Who Tech & Allies :: Queer. Inclusive. Badass.**, **TechTogether**, **Tribaja™**, and **Out in Tech**: these groups hold summits that genuinely helped me transition, and even if they are all remote, you can gain strong connections to help, and you will be able to help.

When I could help others in tech, it helped me feel I belonged even while being new. I hope this helps, and congratulations on your speaking event!

[redacted] • 2nd 23h ...
Program Manager @ Salesforce | Agile Product Owner | Brand ...

Hi **Amanda Wolf** I fully support [redacted] comment about **Mentor Mesh** which is an amazing community! In addition, perhaps these students would be open to contract roles? I've had amazing luck getting into companies I didn't think were possible with contract jobs and then converting to full time. Having a contract job will give you time to develop relationships within your desired company and figure out your path.

I also suggest identifying sourcers/recruiters at desired companies that hire in the analyst category. Business analysts are always needed in tech! If people feel they need projects to work on to demonstrate their expertise, they can check out <https://www.catchafire.org/> and volunteer for opportunities. Last, I know Tableau offers a free service for a year to students. Check it out: <https://www.tableau.com/academic/students>

[redacted] • 2nd 21h ...
Sr Technology Strategist bringing a Product Manager mindset t...

Happy to help [redacted]. As a fellow member with [redacted] everything she said is spot on. I would add that they definitely highlight the transferrable skills from their experience prior to their graduation. Next I would say to make yourself present on LinkedIn - brand yourself through posts, comments, likes. Start following leaders or contacts at target companies. As you build your network, setup Coffee Chats/Informational interviews with people already doing the role to ask them about their experience - just make sure you don't ask for referrals out of the gate - first build the relationship and ensure they know you, let them come to you. Lastly help, do something for someone to help them - they will remember you that way additionally.

[redacted] • 1st 1d ...
Product Manager | Program Manager | Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Leade...

Good luck with your presentation, Amanda!

I've been part of a **#mentormesh** accelerator program over the last several months, led by [redacted] & **Mentor Mesh**. I would say the biggest takeaway has been: knowing how to apply your knowledge and expertise from non-tech roles AND making connections. Getting the first foot in the door can be really tough, but when you have a strong network, add value to others' work and lives, and continuously learn, you've got a leg up. I would love if any of my other **#mentormesh** crew could weigh in on this!

(He/Him) • 1st 1d ...
Lead Systems Analyst at Symetra

1. Learn how to code
2. Research technology trends
3. Take certification courses in areas you feel drawn to and may have crossover with technology (Example: Business Analysis Cert)
4. Get involved with or administrate an application you are familiar with and become a "Subject Matter Expert" (Example: Sharepoint)

Hiring Trends or Emerging Technology



Remote Work



Cloud technology



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

- Open Discussion –
Questions, comments, or thoughts?

