

## TRENDS FOR ICT JOB HUNT

by:  
**Rafael A. Ramel**  
*Teacher III*

Technology has been dictating the flow of industries nowadays. From construction to food processing, and even in the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry, technology has a say, which means that relevant jobs are becoming in demand nowadays, making the Information and Communications technology (ICT) strands in senior high school one of the most ambitious programs to date. The Cambridge College of Healthcare and Technology explained that the primary reason for the increasing demand for Information Technology (IT) personnel is the imminent retirement boom in 2030, which was elevated by the situation called COVID-19, wherein companies needed staff to work on their remote and online set-up as well as improve website management and marketing.

Among the most in-demand jobs related to IT is the Data Analyst. From simply encoding to providing solutions to the client's problems, data analysts enjoy the grand attention for recently being the one with the highest demand. In this job, personnel combine encoding with statistics and data analysis. They will have to collect, organize, and interpret the information for the clients to understand it (Ang, 2023). International clients usually hire data analysts through portals.

Software engineering jobs are also among the top tier in the industry today, and ICT graduates may opt to take the program of the same name in college. A software engineer's task is to apply engineering principles to provide solutions to software troubles and improve the stability of various applications (Michigan Tech, 2023). While thousands of companies are vying for a spot to be on the trend, they are hiring software engineers

to create games, applications, middleware, system protection, and operating systems for various devices. Skilled software engineers are needed today, where hacking and online attacks are prevalent, compromising the safety and security of people's information worldwide.

Lastly, Animator. Animators are in demand in modern times, considering the pandemic has brought multimedia dependence to another level. Children became interested more in digital content rather than traditional games. Animations on television and video streaming platforms are also rising to fame, with various Filipino creators taking big leads. Employees working as animators enjoy using their creativity and skills in computer-generated animations, 2D and even 3D model creations (Prospects, 2024). Animators are also relevant in film industries, with Filipino artists featured in internationally acclaimed companies.

Senior High School ICT graduates are expected to become the engineers and developers of the internet. Employment opportunities will remain increasing even after decades as technology calls for more skillful and creative individuals to create a product that is accessible to everyone. ICT students are already being honed in SHS with sufficient foundational skills to be qualified. As early as now, educational institutions offering ICT strands should at least adjust the teachings based on the target job so that learners are assured of a good opportunity after schooling. In the ever-evolving landscape of technological advancement come thriving careers, and investment in holistic skill development might be needed to succeed.

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