

**SHORT TERM IT JOB TRENDS**

- Connecticut ●
- Massachusetts ●
- New York Metro ●
- National ▼

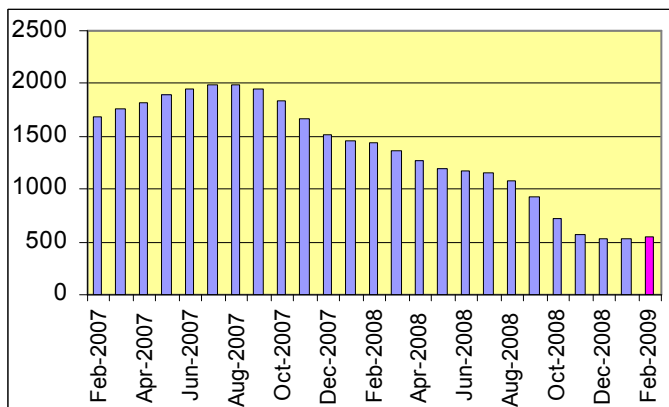
In February, the IT job market in Connecticut continued to improve at a slow pace. While new job opportunities are trickling in, there is no real turnaround on the horizon. In February, employers posted 530 vacancies for IT professionals, 3.9% more than in January. Since 2004, employers have increased their posted vacancies at a clip of 10% per month during the first quarter gearing up for the year signaling a healthy job market. Not so this year.

**Table 1: IT Job Openings, Connecticut\***

Feb 09	Jan 09	Dec 08	Feb 08	Feb 07
530	510	520	1,460	1,770

While the Connecticut IT job market shows signs of improvement, surrounding job markets continue to contract. IT professionals in New York City are facing a job market which is still searching for a bottom. Employers there reduced their openings by another 13.2% compared to January. The decline in Massachusetts was not as dramatic (down 3.5%) but still fewer opportunities. The national IT job market declined 7.1%.

**Fig.1: IT Open Positions, Connecticut**



Demand for all job categories improved except for positions in IT Management. Demand for Systems Engineering / Support was up 16.7% followed by Software Development (up 12.5%) and IT Architects / Consultants (up 10.0%).

\* Estimated monthly averages are based on actual count of job openings.

**Table 2: IT Job Opening Estimates by Category\***

	Feb 09	Feb 08
Total IT Job Market	530	1460
Systems Eng./Support	140	340
IT Architects/Consultants	110	200
IT Management	100	400
Software Development	90	270
Systems Administration	50	80
Business/Process Design	20	90
IT Sales and Marketing	20	50
Training/Tech Writing	0	20
Misc.IT Job Categories	10	20

**Table 3: Top 15 Needed Skills (Job Openings\*)**

	Feb 09	Feb 08
SQL	150	380
Large system technologies	140	310
Business Analysis	120	360
Oracle DBMS	110	270
Unix	100	240
Mainframe	100	140
Windows OS	90	200
Microsoft SQL Server	90	150
DB2 (IBM)	90	140
Java	80	190
XML	70	110
Web Services	60	70
C++/VC++	60	50
C#	50	40
VB/VB.NET	50	130



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**METHODOLOGY**

SkillPROOF surveys the inventories of job openings at large, regional and nationwide direct employers. Job openings are counted and verified every 24 hours. All data sources have been verified for timely removal of filled or closed positions. No data from job boards or search firms are included.

For this report SkillPROOF estimates the counts of job openings. Estimates are calculated directly from SkillPROOF's actual daily counts of job openings. As a base for its calculations, SkillPROOF uses data and findings from reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) <http://www.bls.gov>.



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