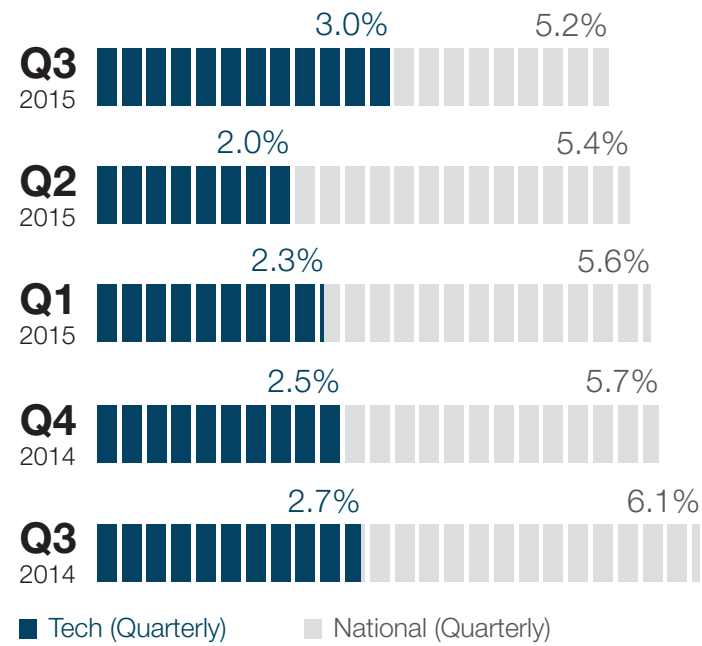


# Tech Employment Snapshot: Q3 2015

## Unemployment Rates



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics; overall unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted – Technology (computer and math) is not seasonally adjusted.

The technology industry's unemployment rate crept upward in the third quarter of 2015, hitting 3.0 percent – its highest rate since the second quarter of 2014, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Despite that uptick, the industry still did better than the overall U.S. labor market, where the unemployment rate dipped slightly to 5.2 percent.

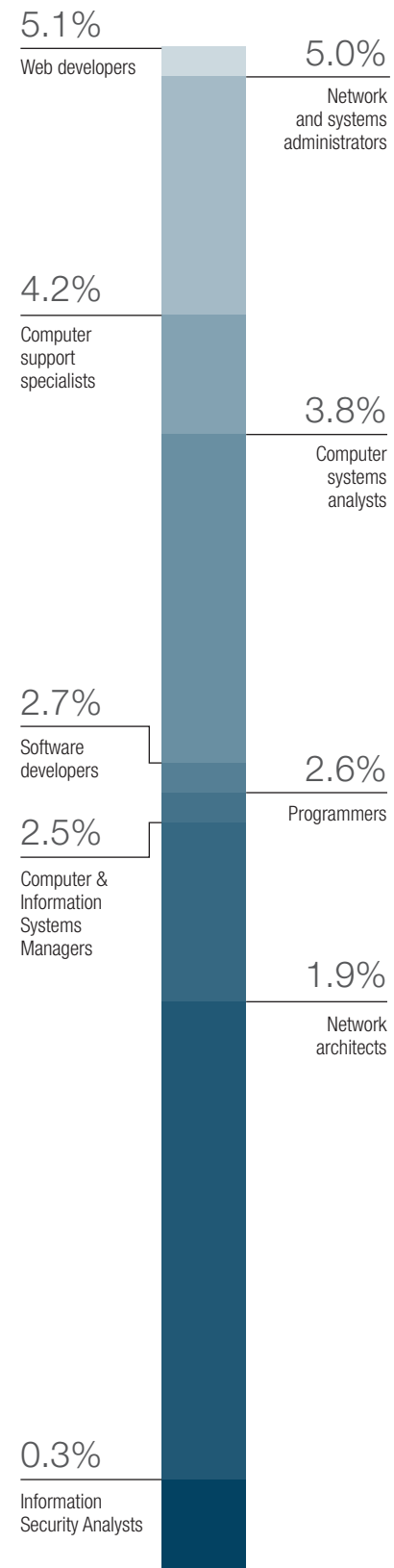
**“Although the unemployment rate has risen slightly for certain technology segments, technology professionals with the right combination of skills will still find themselves in high demand by employers, who will need to make rich offers in order to draw top talent.”**

— Bob Melk, President of Dice

In the third quarter, most technology segments saw an increase in unemployment, albeit by different amounts. The joblessness rate for Web developers hit 5.10 percent in the third quarter, for example, a significant rise from 3.70 percent in the same quarter last year.

Computer systems analysts also saw a net increase over the past 12 months, from 2.20 percent to 3.80 percent.

Programmers, network and systems administrators, software developers, and computer & information systems managers all experienced an uptick in joblessness on a year-over-year basis.

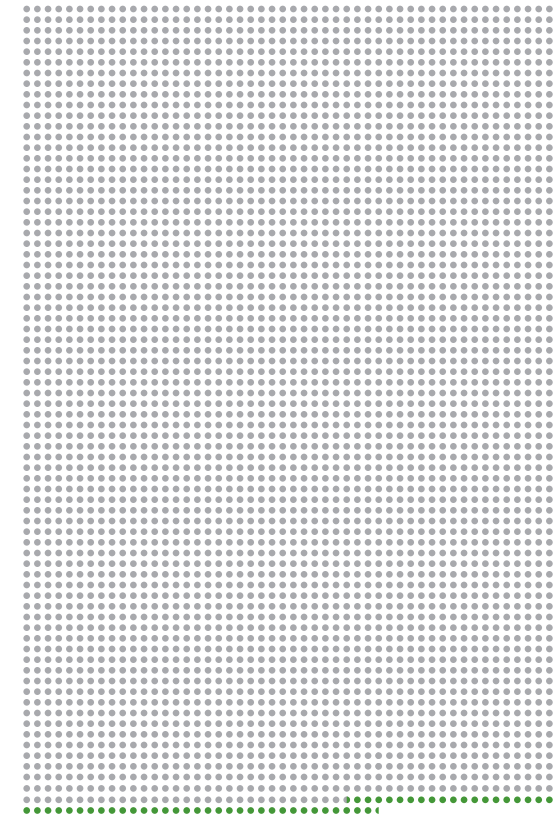


Source: Unemployment rates, Q3 2015, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Household Survey

## Jobs Created/Lost in Q3 2015

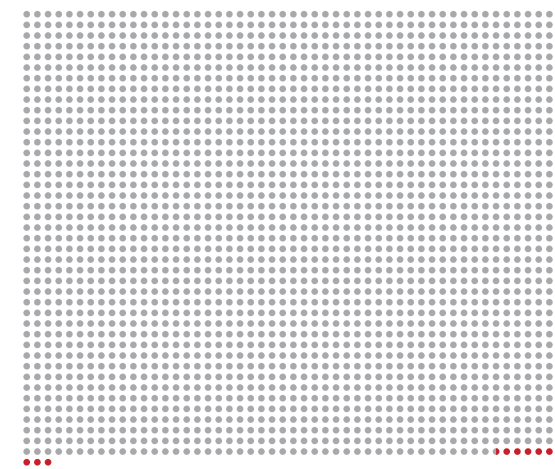
### Computer systems design

Professional and Business Services: 1,891,600 employed\*



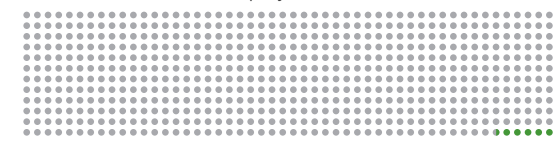
### Computer and electronic products

Manufacturing: 1,051,500 employed\*



### Data processing and hosting

Information: 300,000 employed\*

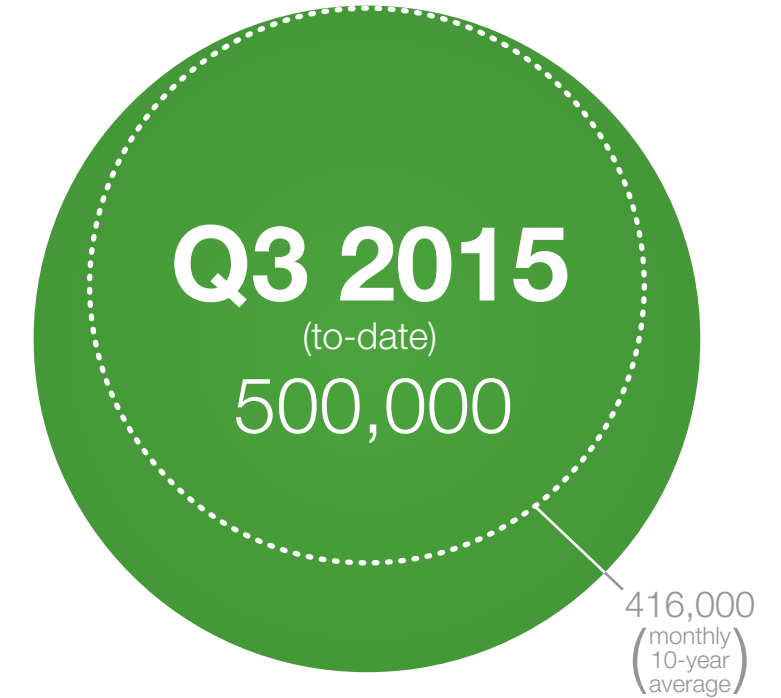


\* preliminary • = 500 people • = gained • = lost

Source: Change in number of employed positions from Q2 2015 to Q3 2015 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Establishment Survey

## Monthly Average of Quits

(Professional and Business Services)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, Professional and Business Services, average preliminary Voluntary Quits, July and August 2015.

Preliminary BLS data suggests that total average layoffs and discharges for July and August, the latest months for which numbers are available, were 377,000 and 378,000, respectively. That's a noticeable decline from the second quarter, when average layoffs and discharges totaled 421,700 per month, and the first quarter, when layoffs and discharges totaled 424,300 per month. For year-ago comparisons, the third quarter of 2014 saw layoffs and discharges of 443,000 per month.

Despite the uptick in unemployment, the BLS data suggests that an average of 500,000 employees per month in the professional and business services industries voluntarily quit their positions in the first two months of the third quarter. While lower than the second quarter (which averaged 510,700 employees per month) and the first quarter (514,700 employees per month), that third-quarter number implies that technology professionals feel good enough about the health of the economy to seek out new employment with better salaries and perks, or even become independent contractors.