

2001 Salary Survey Results Preview

by Carolyn Kelley Klinger

Thank you to all chapter members that participated in the STC Washington, DC Chapter's 2001 Salary Survey. The information you provided is helpful to all of us looking to stay competitive in the local technical communication job market. We are pleased to present a preview of the full survey analysis in this article.

The survey was open for responses from 6 November until 7 December 2001. Chapter members were invited to participate through an email invitation generated through the Zoomerang Web-based survey tool. Our response rate this year, 39.5%, was 7.5% higher than last year. Out of 641 invitations, 51 invitations were rejected due to invalid email addresses, resulting in 233 completed surveys. Out of the 233 completed surveys, 219 included salary data. Summary calculations of the salary data follow. Our complete analysis will feature cross-tabulations of several survey variables and will be available this winter.

Since the Society reports the results of its 2001 STC Salary Survey with averages, we report the data below with both averages and medians. To remind you of the difference between these two terms, you obtain the average by adding several quantities together and dividing the sum by the number of quantities. You obtain the median by determining the number lying exactly in the middle of a distribution of numbers, above and below which are an equal number of values. The median is often more the informative value because outliers do not influence it.

If you have any questions about how these results were calculated, please contact me at carolyn.klinger@mindspring.com.

Annual Salary and Hourly Rate for the Entire Washington, DC Metropolitan Area

Annual Salary

Average: \$63,180

Quartile 1 (25% make this amount or less): \$51,000

Median (Half make more, half make less): \$62,000

Quartile 3 (25% make this amount or more): \$73,150

Hourly Rate

Average: \$47

Median: \$45

Annual Salary by Work Location in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area

Zip Codes in Washington, DC

Average: \$63,496

Median: \$59,550

Zip Codes in Virginia

Average: \$63,354

Median: \$60,000

Zip Codes in Maryland

Average: \$65,419

Median: \$64,000