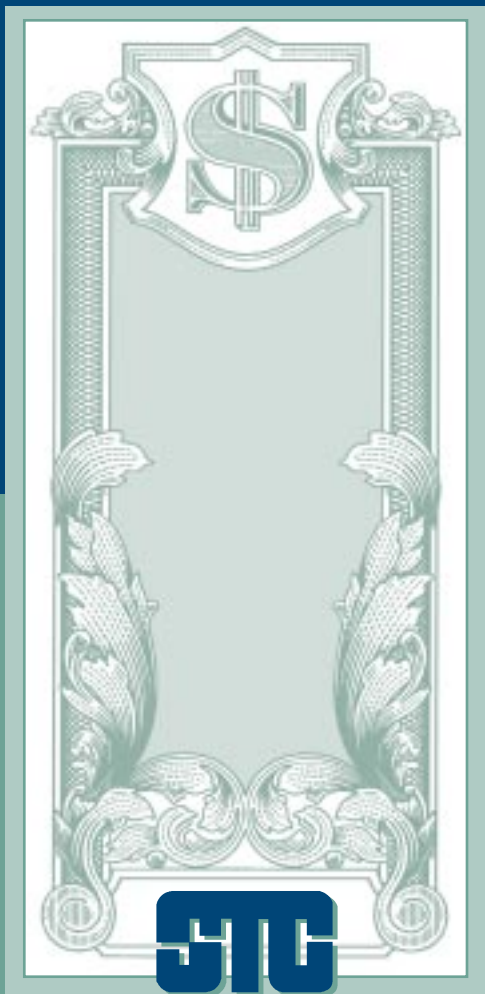


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1998 TECHNICAL COMMUNICATOR



SALARY SURVEY

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1998 TECHNICAL COMMUNICATOR

SALARY SURVEY



THE SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION recently surveyed a random sample of its members regarding their current salaries and benefits. Questionnaires were mailed to approximately 2,200 members residing in the United States or Canada who were employed as writers/editors. More than 1,000 questionnaires were completed and returned, for a response rate of approximately 46 percent.

Results are given separately for the United States and Canada.

SALARY PERCENTILES

The tables on the following pages show the salary data for technical writers/editors residing in the United States or Canada. The salary data is presented by selected groupings and shown in percentiles. All figures are in U.S. dollars unless otherwise stated.

The following definitions pertain:

Base: The total responses in a given category.

Mean: The value computed by averaging the tabulated responses.

10% Ten percent of the responses were below this value; ninety percent were above this value.

25% Twenty-five percent of the responses were below this value; seventy-five percent were above this value.

50% Fifty percent of the responses were below this value; fifty percent were above this value. (This is also called the *median*.)

75% Seventy-five percent of the responses were below this value; twenty-five percent were above this value.

90% Ninety percent of the responses were below this value; ten percent were above this value.

1998 UNITED STATES SALARY SURVEY

(By selected groupings)

Grouping	Base	Mean	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
Total	578	\$48,250	\$33,000	\$38,500	\$46,500	\$55,000	\$68,000
Employment Level							
Entry	52	36,100	28,600	31,800	35,500	39,000	44,800
Mid-Level, Non-supervisory	207	42,410	31,500	35,000	41,300	48,350	54,650
Mid-Level, Supervisory	57	47,730	35,000	39,930	48,000	52,970	59,200
Senior-Level, Non-supervisory	186	55,500	42,000	46,000	54,510	62,800	72,000
Senior-Level, Supervisory	64	55,900	39,940	46,000	55,000	65,000	71,920
Education Level							
Bachelor's Degree	358	47,300	32,500	37,650	44,260	54,940	65,000
Master's Degree	148	49,460	35,000	38,700	50,000	56,000	68,600
Doctorate	16	59,480	—	—	59,000	—	—
Sex							
Female	396	47,540	33,000	38,000	45,330	55,000	63,640
Male	180	49,690	33,800	39,000	49,500	58,000	70,000
Age							
20-29	82	37,800	28,200	33,100	36,070	41,510	49,600
30-39	178	47,290	32,930	38,890	46,000	53,040	63,620
40-49	200	50,440	35,000	41,550	49,050	58,000	69,300
50 years and over	114	52,950	35,000	43,250	52,000	61,900	71,480
Years of Experience							
(in technical communication field)							
Less than 2 years	37	37,940	—	29,950	35,000	43,250	—
2-5 years	164	41,650	31,320	35,000	40,000	46,500	55,000
6-10 years	171	49,810	35,520	41,000	48,000	56,000	69,000
11 years or more	202	53,960	39,040	45,000	52,880	61,750	71,640

1998 CANADIAN SALARY SURVEY

(By selected groupings)

(All figures in Canadian dollars)

Grouping	Base	Mean	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
Total	263	\$48,300	\$35,000	\$41,000	\$46,660	\$54,130	\$63,850
Employment Level							
Entry	23	37,530	—	32,940	35,500	40,130	—
Mid-Level, Non-Supervisory	101	43,440	34,000	38,100	44,000	47,000	52,000
Mid-Level, Supervisory	25	48,280	—	42,000	48,000	51,880	—
Senior-Level, Non-Supervisory	54	53,380	43,250	47,150	50,250	57,660	64,400
Senior-Level, Supervisory	52	57,080	43,000	48,000	55,000	67,000	71,800
Education Level							
Bachelor's Degree	167	47,880	35,000	41,000	46,500	53,130	60,000
Master's Degree	51	47,400	35,150	39,750	45,000	52,500	62,250
Sex							
Female	173	47,470	34,300	40,000	46,500	52,000	60,000
Male	89	49,820	35,900	41,250	46,660	55,000	67,020
Age							
20-29	55	41,380	32,130	35,000	40,000	46,000	51,050
30-39	103	48,390	36,650	42,000	46,500	53,000	64,000
40-49	75	51,660	40,000	45,000	50,000	58,000	67,000
50 years and over	30	52,240	—	45,000	50,750	57,180	—
Years of Experience							
(in technical communication field)							
Less than 2 years	20	36,970	—	34,000	35,500	38,000	—
2-5 years	108	44,000	33,750	39,600	43,500	48,750	53,200
6-10 years	81	52,110	41,000	44,250	50,000	58,450	69,950
11 years or more	51	55,690	45,000	46,880	55,000	60,500	67,180

MEDIAN CANADIAN SALARY BY PROVINCE

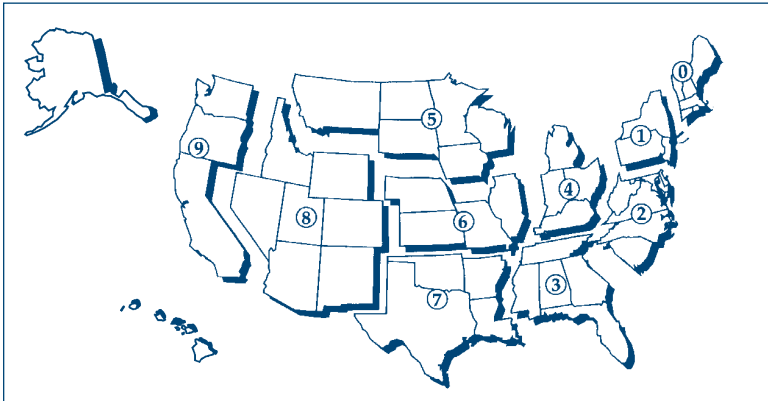
(All figures in Canadian dollars)



Province	Median Salary	Province	Median Salary
Alberta	\$45,000	Ontario	\$50,000
British Columbia	47,700	Quebec	44,600
Manitoba	36,000		

(Only the provinces for which data is available are shown.)

MEDIAN U.S. SALARY BY ONE-DIGIT ZIP CODES



Zip Code	Salary	Zip Code	Salary
0****	\$52,000	5****	\$40,880
1****	49,150	6****	43,030
2****	44,550	7****	46,000
3****	47,200	8****	43,000
4****	39,400	9****	54,250

MEDIAN U.S. SALARY BY TWO-DIGIT ZIP CODES

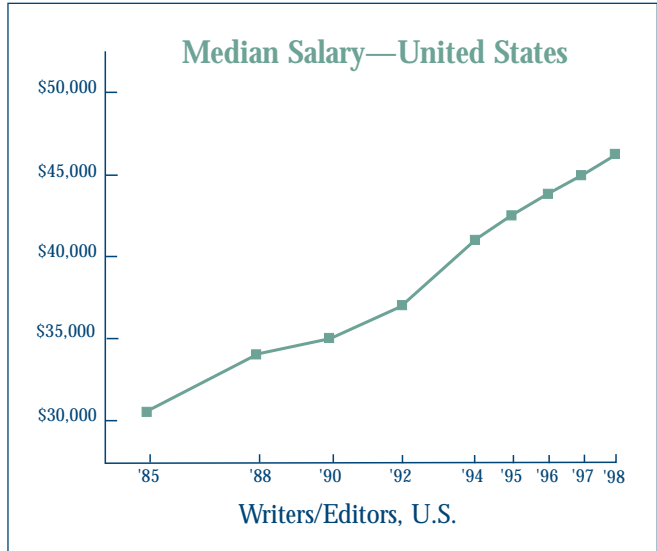
01 MA	\$51,920	50 IA	\$39,900
02 MA/RI	55,500	53 WI	40,880
03 NH	59,300	55 MN	42,000
06 CT	50,000	60 IL	47,930
07 NJ	52,500	63 MO	50,000
10 NY	51,800	64 MO	34,800
15 PA	46,800	75 TX	52,500
19 DE/PA	48,000	77 TX	51,160
20 . . DC/MD/VA	57,750	78 TX	42,000
21 MD	50,000	80 CO	45,750
22 VA	52,000	83 ID/WY	30,000
27 NC	40,000	84 UT	38,500
29 SC	40,000	85 AZ	43,350
30 GA	48,000	87 NM	39,000
33 FL	40,900	90 CA	51,500
37 TN	47,250	91 CA	52,190
43 OH	39,600	92 CA	48,000
44 OH	40,000	94 CA	61,500
45 OH	38,000	95 CA	60,000
46 IN	39,000	97 OR	48,000
48 MI	44,910	98 WA	42,750

(Only the two-digit zip codes for which data is available are shown.)

MEDIAN SALARY

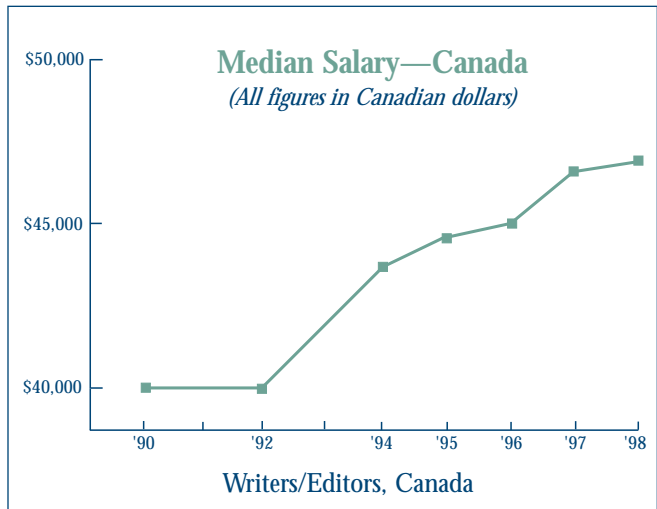
United States

This is the ninth in a series of surveys conducted by the STC office measuring the salaries of its U.S. members. The graph below shows the change in the median salaries over time.



Canada

This is the seventh in a series of surveys conducted by the STC office measuring the salaries of its Canadian members. The graph below shows the change in the median salaries over time.

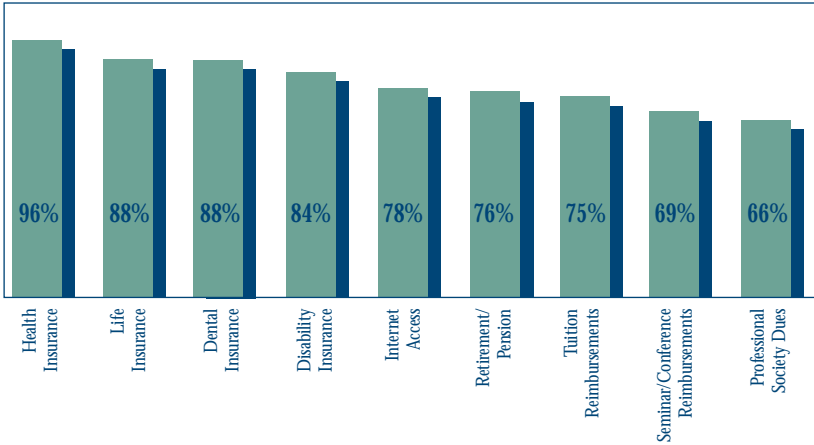


ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

This survey addressed some of the most common benefits for technical writers/editors residing in the United States or Canada. The results are shown in the graphs below.

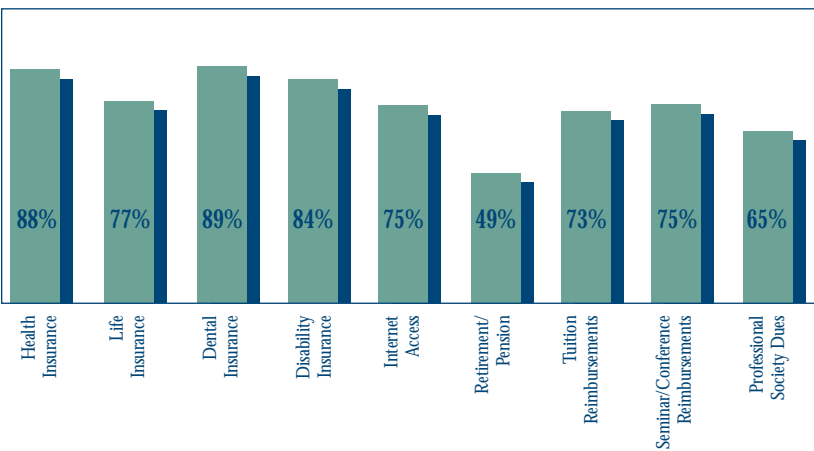
United States Benefits

Writers/Editors, U.S.
(Percent receiving benefits)



Canadian Benefits

Writers/Editors, Canada
(Percent receiving benefits)



ABOUT THE SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION

STC is an individual membership organization dedicated to advancing the arts and sciences of technical communication—it is the largest organization of its type in the world. Its 23,000 members include technical writers, editors, graphic designers, videographers, multimedia artists, and others whose work involves making technical information available to those who need it.

Through the efforts of a small, full-time staff and a large network of volunteers, STC promotes the public welfare by educating its members and industry about issues concerning technical communication.

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