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TECHNICAL COMMUNICATOR

SALARY
SURVEY

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2000

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 3,500 members residing in the United States or Canada who were employed as technical writers/editors. More than 1,350 questionnaires were completed and returned, for a response rate of 38 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. or Canadian dollars as indicated.

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.

2000 UNITED STATES SALARY SURVEY

(all figures in U.S. dollars)

Grouping	Base	Mean
Total	842	\$51,850

Employment Level

Entry	52	37,050
Mid-Level, Non-Supervisory	281	45,100
Mid-Level, Supervisory	73	52,580
Senior-Level, Non-Supervisory	319	56,440
Senior-Level, Supervisory	98	64,610

Education Level

Bachelor's Degree	466	50,130
Master's Degree	254	54,840
Doctorate	28	58,520

Sex

Female	571	50,520
Male	263	54,420

Age

20-29	130	41,480
30-39	264	51,750
40-49	261	53,890
50 years and over	178	56,500

Years of Experience

(in technical communication field)

Less than 2 years	59	45,050
2-5 years	254	44,230
6-10 years	216	53,490
11 years or more	313	58,170

10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
\$38,000	\$43,550	\$52,000	\$63,375	\$75,000
29,910	33,000	39,000	44,000	48,000
36,000	40,000	46,000	54,000	63,240
36,950	43,020	51,800	61,150	75,070
42,270	50,000	56,650	67,630	77,550
45,760	56,000	64,750	76,370	85,020
36,140	41,650	51,000	62,000	74,820
38,850	45,000	54,930	66,500	85,020
—	47,180	57,250	63,500	—
37,000	42,000	51,000	62,630	73,000
39,000	46,650	55,000	65,000	78,000
32,000	36,280	42,000	47,600	54,000
39,000	44,000	52,330	63,240	74,600
40,000	48,000	55,000	65,000	75,000
40,000	48,000	55,250	69,100	80,000
29,950	36,150	42,000	54,000	67,300
33,620	38,650	44,750	52,000	62,600
40,300	46,400	54,050	63,000	75,000
45,000	51,000	59,000	70,000	80,350

2000 CANADIAN SALARY SURVEY

(all figures in Canadian dollars)

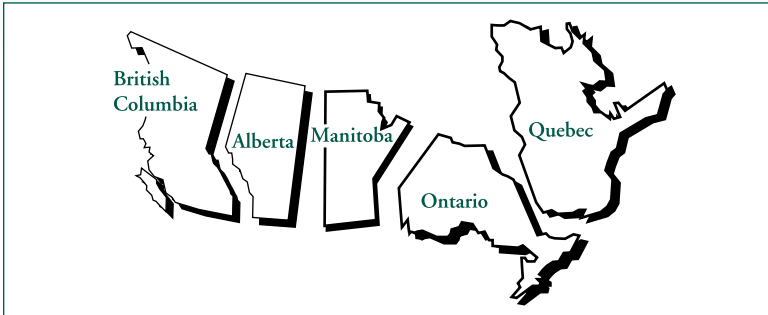
Grouping	Base	Mean
Total	303	\$49,910
Employment Level		
Entry	18	32,670
Mid-Level, Non-Supervisory	125	44,340
Mid-Level, Supervisory	30	50,290
Senior-Level, Non-Supervisory	76	55,510
Senior-Level, Supervisory	48	63,010
Education Level		
Bachelor's Degree	194	49,460
Master's Degree	63	53,590
Sex		
Female	199	48,420
Male	102	52,540
Age		
20-29	63	43,430
30-39	127	50,740
40-49	84	54,060
50 years and over	28	48,680
Years of Experience (in technical communication field)		
Less than 2 years	21	39,730
2-5 years	148	45,820
6-10 years	73	55,680
11 years or more	61	56,820

(by selected groupings)

10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
\$38,000	\$42,000	\$50,000	\$58,000	\$65,000
—	33,400	37,500	40,000	—
37,000	40,130	45,000	50,620	58,000
—	47,500	52,100	55,500	—
45,000	50,000	56,000	62,000	66,400
48,640	55,000	60,000	72,000	80,000
37,000	42,000	50,000	57,000	65,000
40,000	44,000	51,000	59,930	66,700
37,000	42,000	49,000	56,000	64,020
40,000	45,000	52,000	62,000	72,800
36,300	39,000	43,000	50,000	59,330
38,000	44,000	51,000	58,000	65,000
40,000	47,000	54,000	62,000	69,200
—	43,000	51,000	60,000	—
—	40,000	42,000	45,500	—
36,000	40,000	45,000	52,000	60,000
45,000	49,250	55,000	56,750	72,000
45,000	50,000	56,000	64,000	71,800

MEDIAN CANADIAN SALARY BY PROVINCE

(all figures in Canadian dollars)

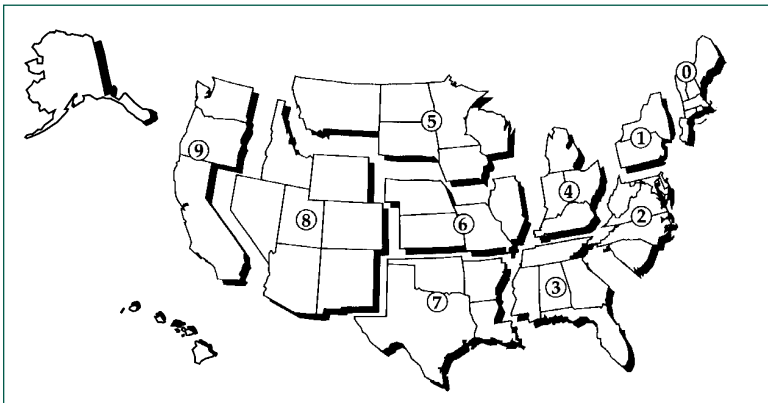


Province	Median Salary	Province	Median Salary
Alberta	\$49,500	Ontario	\$51,000
British Columbia	51,000	Quebec	50,000
Manitoba	44,000		

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

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

(all figures in U.S. dollars)



Zip Code	Salary	Zip Code	Salary
0****	\$58,900	5****	\$44,150
1****	51,000	6****	50,000
2****	52,170	7****	56,510
3****	48,000	8****	49,500
4****	45,000	9****	60,000

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

(all figures in U.S. dollars)

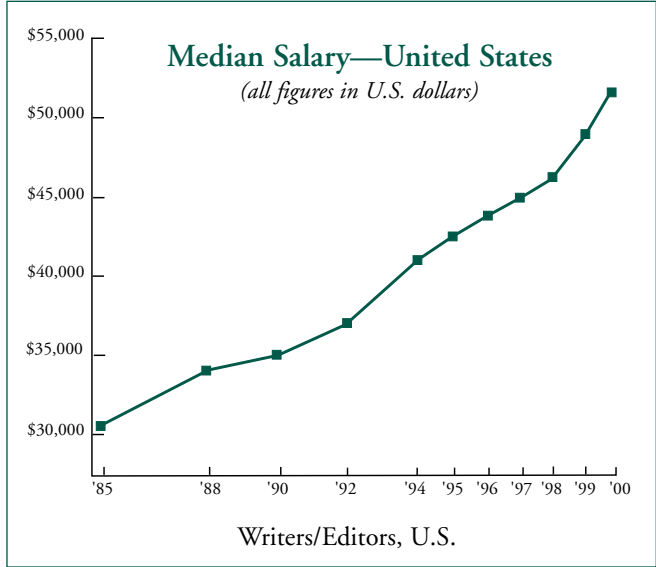
01 . . . MA . . . \$62,500	432 . . . OH . . . \$44,000	801 . . . CO . . . \$50,000
017 . . . MA . . . 59,450	44 . . . OH . . . 48,705	802 . . . CO . . . 47,000
018 . . . MA . . . 66,000	45 . . . OH . . . 45,000	803 . . . CO . . . 41,500
02 . . . MA . . . 64,000	46 . . . IN . . . 48,500	805 . . . CO . . . 56,000
021 . . . MA . . . 63,944	462 . . . IN . . . 48,500	84 . . . UT . . . 50,000
024 . . . MA . . . 65,000	48 . . . MI . . . 47,000	840 . . . UT . . . 51,150
06 . . . CT . . . 58,000	481 . . . MI . . . 49,000	841 . . . UT . . . 45,000
07 . . . NJ . . . 60,000	50 . . . IA . . . 52,400	85 . . . AZ . . . 43,500
08 . . . NJ . . . 62,000	53 . . . WI . . . 41,450	850 . . . AZ . . . 42,500
10 . . . NY . . . 76,000	530 . . . WI . . . 38,500	852 . . . AZ . . . 52,200
12 . . . NY . . . 47,500	532 . . . WI . . . 44,800	90 . . . CA . . . 62,500
146 . . . NY . . . 35,200	54 . . . WI . . . 39,500	902 . . . CA . . . 73,000
15 . . . PA . . . 53,000	55 . . . MN . . . 50,000	91 . . . CA . . . 55,000
19 . . . DE/PA . . . 55,000	551 . . . MN . . . 53,500	92 . . . CA . . . 54,450
193 . . . PA . . . 56,750	553 . . . MN . . . 40,000	921 . . . CA . . . 49,950
20 DC/MD/VA . . . 63,000	554 . . . MN . . . 51,500	926 . . . CA . . . 60,000
201 . . . VA . . . 63,000	60 . . . IL . . . 52,900	94 . . . CA . . . 70,000
22 . . . VA . . . 51,250	600 . . . IL . . . 53,640	940 . . . CA . . . 75,000
23 . . . VA . . . 40,600	601 . . . IL . . . 54,400	944 . . . CA . . . 64,000
27 . . . NC . . . 55,000	605 . . . IL . . . 70,000	945 . . . CA . . . 67,200
275 . . . NC . . . 55,500	606 . . . IL . . . 50,000	946 . . . CA . . . 74,000
277 . . . NC . . . 49,000	61 . . . IL . . . 49,400	95 . . . CA . . . 68,000
28 . . . NC . . . 42,000	63 . . . MO . . . 48,600	950 . . . CA . . . 75,000
30 . . . GA . . . 49,500	68 . . . NB . . . 38,700	951 . . . CA . . . 72,000
300 . . . GA . . . 47,700	681 . . . NB . . . 38,700	956 . . . CA . . . 45,000
303 . . . GA . . . 51,030	75 . . . TX . . . 57,325	97 . . . OR . . . 49,000
32 . . . FL . . . 45,000	750 . . . TX . . . 58,000	970 . . . OR . . . 43,500
327 . . . FL . . . 45,000	752 . . . TX . . . 55,000	972 . . . OR . . . 52,000
33 . . . FL . . . 45,000	77 . . . TX . . . 56,525	98 . . . WA . . . 51,500
337 . . . FL . . . 43,240	770 . . . TX . . . 56,525	980 . . . WA . . . 54,930
37 . . . TN . . . 48,850	78 . . . TX . . . 57,750	981 . . . WA . . . 50,000
43 . . . OH . . . 39,150	787 . . . TX . . . 59,000	99 . . . WA . . . 44,550
430 . . . OH . . . 38,500	80 . . . CO . . . 50,191	

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

MEDIAN SALARY

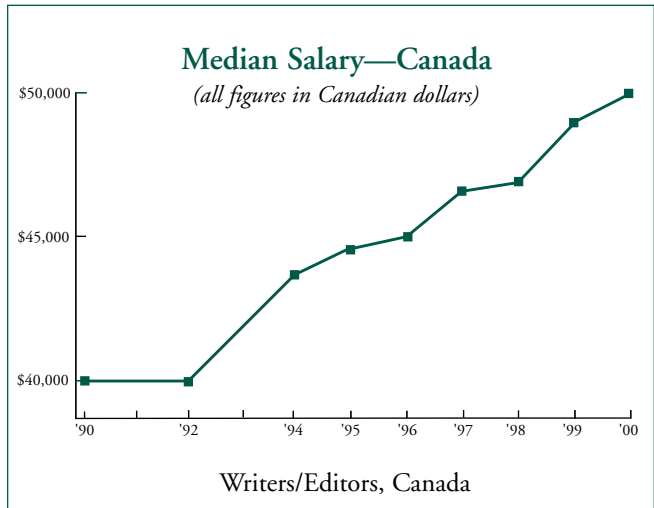
United States

This is the eleventh in a series of surveys conducted by the STC office showing the median salary for U.S. members. The graph below shows the change in the actual median salaries from 1985 to 2000.



Canada

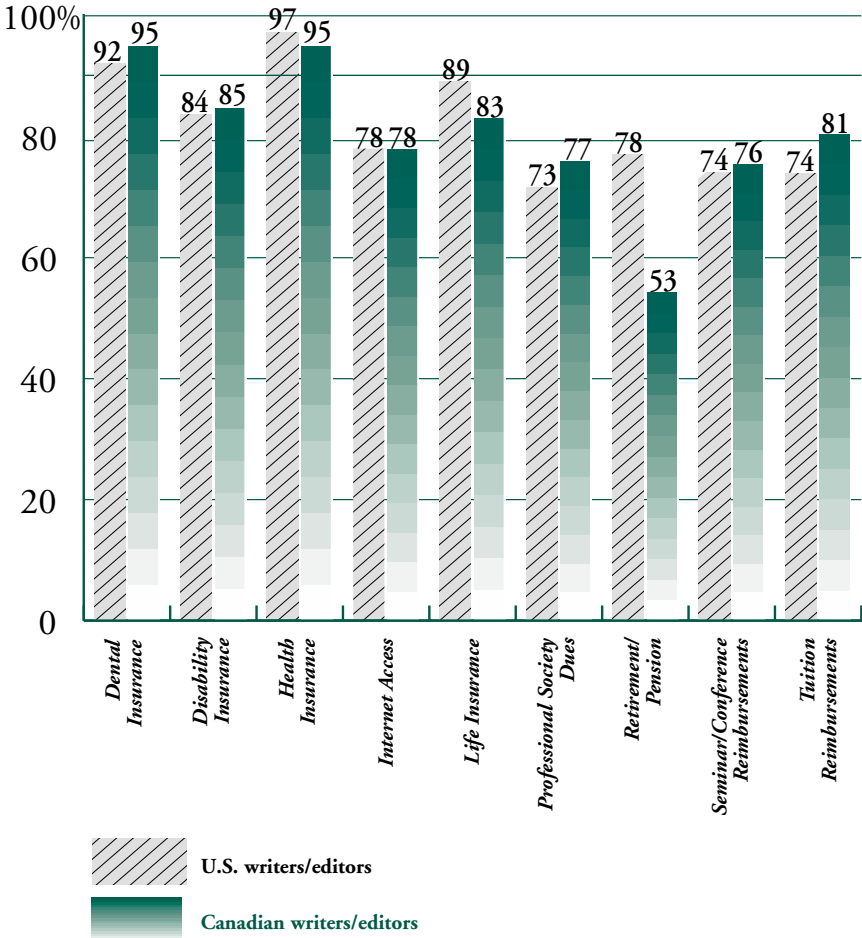
This is the ninth in a series of surveys conducted by the STC office showing the median salary for Canadian members. The graph below shows the change in the actual median salaries from 1990 to 2000.



ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

The chart below lists some of the most common employee benefits and compares benefits offered by U.S. and Canadian employers of technical writers/editors. For each benefit listed, the bars indicate the percentage of respondents who received that benefit.

Benefits: United States and Canada



Note: For Canadians, “Health Insurance” refers to supplemental health insurance.

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 more than 25,000 members include technical writers and editors, graphic designers and technical illustrators, information architects and developers, photographers and audiovisual specialists, Web and intranet page designers, 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.



Society for Technical Communication

901 N. Stuart Street, Suite 904

Arlington, VA 22203-1822

(703) 522-4114

(703) 522-2075 (fax)

stc@stc-va.org

www.stc-va.org