

.SHORTAGE

There's a shortage of talent for a particular skill in every geographic section of the U.S. and if novices are looking to break into the tech industry, it's also an accessible entry point. It's the technology developers love to hate – Microsoft's .NET.

Part of the gap between supply and demand is that technology workers are concerned that if they specialize in .NET application development they will not be able to easily branch out to other platforms. Another worry? The money gap. Tech professionals who regularly develop for .NET earn about \$83,000 a year, as compared to more than \$91,000 for those specializing in Java.

More than 10 years into .NET, it's safe to say tech professionals will not be pigeonholed. Likewise, demand is there – one of the most frequent refrains we hear from clients is distress in trying to find .NET talent and they've posted more than 10,000 positions requesting .NET experience. That job count is up more than 25 percent as compared to last year, faster growth than total jobs posted on Dice. If demand continues to outstrip supply, wages will adjust.

Another way to look at the .NET shortage conundrum is that it's a relatively straight forward framework to learn. Hiring managers and recruiters consistently chase mid-career talent. However, 27 percent of searches in the Dice resume database that included both .NET and years of experience were for talent with less than three years of experience.

The bottom line? Companies are looking for .NET talent and targeted talent featuring C# and .NET will not get lost in the shuffle. But negotiate hard at the outset of a new job, because that initial salary may set the base for the next three years.

Alice Hill
Managing Director, Dice.com

Media Contact:

Jennifer Bewley
212.448.8288
dicemedia@dice.com

Dice by the Numbers

As of October 1, 2011*

Available Tech Jobs**	83,567
Full-time Positions	50,486
Contract Positions	35,907
Part-time Positions	1,603

Top Tech Metro Areas

Based on the number of jobs posted by zip code on Dice as of October 1, 2011 and the change as compared to the same period a year ago.

New York/New Jersey	9,156	+8%
Washington DC/Baltimore	8,247	+6%
Silicon Valley	5,578	+22%
Chicago	3,666	+19%
Los Angeles	3,302	+18%
Atlanta	3,233	+42%
Boston	3,205	+26%
Dallas	2,925	+36%
Seattle	2,543	+8%
Philadelphia	2,222	+12%

.NET Resume Database Searches

Experience Level

0-3 years	27%
4-7 years	46%
8-10 years	21%
10 years+	6%

Source: Dice.com resume database searches over the last 30 days.

* A single job posting may reflect more than one skill, location or type of position; therefore total figures for those attributes may be greater than total jobs posted.

** As the result of a job posting trial by a Dice customer, the reported job count on the site may be higher than normal by as many as 3,000 jobs. The trial is expected to run through mid-November. As reported, the October 1, 2011 job counts exclude any impact from this trial.