



**The Dice Report\***  
**July 2006**

The Chicago and Boston metro areas have shown the highest gains in job postings since the beginning of the year, with postings increasing 26.6 percent and 35.4 percent respectively. Meanwhile Silicon Valley continued to gain ground on the Washington D.C. metro area, and now fewer than 50 job postings separate the two tech centers.

The demand for core programming skills continued to grow, with C++ postings rising 47 percent, .NET increasing 35 percent and Java increasing 24 percent since the beginning of the year.

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**Top Tech Metro Areas** (Based on jobs posted on Dice.com as of 6.30.06\*)

1.	<b>New York/New Jersey</b> (New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Northern New Jersey)	11,528
2.	<b>Washington D.C.</b> (Baltimore, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland)	8,721
3.	<b>Silicon Valley</b> (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, CA)	8,674
4.	<b>Los Angeles</b> (Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange County, CA)	5,397
5.	<b>Chicago</b> (Chicago and Suburbs)	3,764
6.	<b>Philadelphia</b> (Philadelphia, Allentown, Southern New Jersey, Delaware)	3,501
7.	<b>Boston</b> (Boston and Suburbs)	2,973
8.	<b>Dallas</b> (Dallas, Fort Worth and Surrounding Suburbs)	2,901
9.	<b>Atlanta</b> (Atlanta and Suburbs)	2,382
10.	<b>Seattle</b> (Seattle and Suburbs)	1,982

**Available Tech Jobs:** (Number of jobs posted on Dice.com as of 6.30.06\*) **89,476**

**Consultant Countdown** (Number of contract vs. permanent positions on Dice.com as of 6.30.06\*)

<b>Contract:</b>	<b>35,513</b>
<b>Permanent:</b>	<b>59,405</b>

**Top Tech Skills** (Skills most in demand based on jobs posted on Dice.com as of 6.30.06\*)

Operating Systems	1.	Windows	14,600
	2.	Unix	14,198
Databases	1.	Oracle	16,282
	2.	SQL	13,726
Programming Languages	1.	C, C++	16,465
	2.	.Net	12,703

### Tech Topic Poll Results:

#### How much in-the-trenches information technology experience should IT managers have?

About five years. By then, you've seen just about everything change.	52%
A lifetime. It takes that long to learn the ins and outs of IT.	31%
Almost none. The technology doesn't matter; it's about people.	10%
A year or two. Some know-how, but not enough to get jaded.	7%

**ClearanceJobs Most Wanted** (Most requested positions on ClearanceJobs.com, the premier job board for candidates with active U.S. government security clearances and a Dice company)

1. Engineering-Aerospace and Aviation
2. Systems Engineer
3. IT Software-Java/J2EE
4. Software Development
5. IT Software-Programming

\* Please note that data reflects public information posted by Dice.com users and customers. For example, 14,198 jobs posted on Dice.com as of June 30, 2006 describe Unix as a skill needed for the position advertised. A single job posting may reflect more than one skill, location and type of position (permanent vs. contract); therefore total figures for these attributes may be greater than total jobs posted.

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