



**The DICE Report\***  
**September 2003**

Job postings on Dice.com continued to increase, with 28,454 jobs posted at the end of August versus 26,538 in July. Postings are up 46% since the beginning of the year, indicating steady growth in the technology labor market.

Chicago gained on last month's rapid rise, adding approximately 10% to its total number of available jobs (1,309). However it is the Washington D.C. metro area that has shown the most significant growth over the past year, with job postings rising about 27%.

Programmer/Developer maintains its spot as the most popular job of the month, with 5,780 positions. In comparison, the demand for project management jobs has declined 4.5% this month. Java is the top keyword used by Dice customers when searching the site for candidates.

For past issues of The DICE Report, visit Marketplace Trends at <http://about.dice.com>.

<b>Top Tech Skills</b> (skills most in demand based on jobs posted on dice.com*)	
C, C++	4,364
Oracle	4,342
Java	4,176
SQL Software	3,269
ASP	2,824

**Dice's "Little Known Fact"**

Java is the most popular keyword used by Dice customers to search the resumes on Dice.com.

**Tech Stud: (most popular job of the month)**

Programmer/Developer was the top position on Dice with 5,780 postings.

**Tech Dud: (job that has recently declined the most)**

Project Management jobs declined 4.3% to 1,445.

<b>Top Tech Metro Areas</b> (based on jobs posted on dice.com*)	
New York (New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Northern New Jersey)	3,527
Silicon Valley (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, CA)	2,335
Washington D.C. (Baltimore, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland)	1,971
Los Angeles (Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange County, CA)	1,874
Chicago (Chicago and Suburbs)	1,309

**Available Tech Jobs:** 28,454 (number of jobs posted on dice.com as of 08.31.03)

**Average Salary:** \$68,285

**Contract:** \$88,221

**Permanent:** \$66,474

**The Gender Gap:** \$10,868 (the difference in salary between men and women according to dice.com survey results)

**Men:** \$70,412

**Women:** \$59,544

**Consultant Countdown** (number of contract vs. permanent positions on dice.com as of 08.31.03)

**Permanent:** 15,915

**Contract:** 14,319

\*Please note that data reflects public information posted by dice.com users and customers. For example, 4,176 jobs posted on dice.com as of August 31, 2003 describe Java 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.