



The Dice Report*

March 2007

Most tech professionals feel that coming from a well-known, well-respected college or university does not necessarily provide an advantage for job seekers. According to this month's Dice Tech Topic Poll, 45 percent of tech professionals surveyed felt that specific skills and experience were the most important advantage. Thirty-three percent, however, felt that coming from such an institution does provide a job seeker with instant credibility "most of the time."

The Boston metro area continues to be a popular market for today's technology professionals, particularly within the financial services industry. Ranking seventh in Dice's Top Tech Metro Areas, Boston has grown by 30 percent in the last year to 3,701 postings (up from 2,849 postings).

Popular tech skills showing the greatest growth since March 2006 include: SQL (39 percent); .NET (up 38 percent); and Linux (up 37 percent).

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

Top Tech Metro Areas

(Based on jobs posted on Dice as of 3.1.07*)

1. New York/New Jersey (New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Northern New Jersey)	12,377
2. Silicon Valley (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, CA)	9,392
3. Washington D.C. (Baltimore, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland)	7,759
4. Los Angeles (Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange County, CA)	6,604
5. Chicago (Chicago and Suburbs)	4,288
6. Philadelphia (Philadelphia, Allentown, Southern New Jersey, Delaware)	3,705
7. Boston (Boston and Suburbs)	3,701
8. Dallas (Dallas, Fort Worth and Surrounding Suburbs)	3,030
9. Atlanta (Atlanta and Suburbs)	2,790
10. Seattle (Seattle and Suburbs)	2,282

Available Tech Jobs:

(Number of jobs posted on Dice as of 3.1.07*)

95,786

Consultant Countdown

(Number of contract vs. permanent positions on Dice as of 3.1.07*)

Contract:	37,781
Permanent:	65,075

Top Tech Skills

(Skills most in demand based on jobs posted on Dice as of 3.1.07*)

Operating Systems	1.	Windows	16,299
	2.	Unix	14,710
Databases	1.	Oracle	17,181
	2.	SQL	14,827
Programming Languages	1.	C, C++	18,290
	2.	.Net	14,807

Tech Topic Poll Results:

Do you believe a degree from a well-known, well-respected college or university gives IT job seekers an advantage over similar candidates who graduated from smaller or lesser-known schools?

No. It's all about specific skills and experience.	45%
Most of the time. A recognized school provides instant credibility.	33%
Occasionally. But employers know smaller schools have good IT programs too.	23%

* Please note that data reflects public information posted by Dice users and customers. For example, 14,710 jobs posted on Dice as of March 1, 2007 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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