



The Dice Report* January 2007

Despite its much anticipated release, many tech professionals say that it will be “quite a while” before their company upgrades to Microsoft’s Vista operating system according to the latest Dice Tech Topic Poll. Sixty-three percent say that Vista “must prove itself before they feel good about upgrading.” Only five percent said that they will be upgrading “almost immediately.”

In the last year, the Houston metro area has seen a significant increase in demand for technology talent, growing 47 percent since January 2006. Other areas that have shown large job posting gains on Dice over the past year include St. Louis (40 percent, up to 935 postings), Chicago (23 percent, up to 3,654 postings) and Boston (23 percent, up to 2,924 postings).

Popular tech skills showing the greatest growth in the past year include: JavaScript (up 57 percent); C, C++ (up 44 percent); and Linux (up 41 percent).

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Top Tech Metro Areas

(Based on jobs posted on Dice as of 1.2.07*)

1. New York/New Jersey (New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Northern New Jersey)	10,765
2. Washington D.C. (Baltimore, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland)	8,978
3. Silicon Valley (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, CA)	8,206
4. Los Angeles (Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange County, CA)	4,967
5. Chicago (Chicago and Suburbs)	3,654
6. Philadelphia (Philadelphia, Allentown, Southern New Jersey, Delaware)	3,260
7. Boston (Boston and Suburbs)	2,924
8. Dallas (Dallas, Fort Worth and Surrounding Suburbs)	2,490
9. Atlanta (Atlanta and Suburbs)	2,270
10. Seattle (Seattle and Suburbs)	1,795

Available Tech Jobs: 87,259
(Number of jobs posted on Dice as of 1.2.07*)

Consultant Countdown

(Number of contract vs. permanent positions on Dice as of 1.2.07*)

Contract:	33,613
Permanent:	59,827

Top Tech Skills

(Skills most in demand based on jobs posted on Dice as of 1.2.07*)

Operating Systems	1.	Windows	13,932
	2.	Unix	13,545
Databases	1.	Oracle	15,385
	2.	SQL	13,027
Programming Languages	1.	C, C++	16,062
	2.	.Net	12,424

Tech Topic Poll Results:

Microsoft has recently released its new Windows Vista operating system. How quickly do you expect your company to upgrade?

It'll be quite a while. Vista needs to prove itself before we feel good about upgrading.	63%
No sooner than usual. We won't accelerate our upgrade cycle just for Vista.	23%
Relatively soon. Probably within 12 months.	8%
Almost immediately. We've been delaying our upgrades to get it.	5%

* Please note that data reflects public information posted by Dice users and customers. For example, 13,545 jobs posted on Dice as of January 2, 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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