



The Dice Report*

December 2006

According to the latest Dice Tech Topic Poll, 38 percent of technology professionals feel that the current IT boom will “definitely last a while,” citing an all-time high demand for technology. Some feel that the boom will continue depending upon the strength of the economy (32 percent), while others believe that it’s already over (13 percent).

Dice’s Top Tech Metro Areas support this assertion as most major technology markets continue to show job posting gains over the course of the year, including the New York/New Jersey metro area (11,405 postings, up 23 percent since January) and Silicon Valley (9,164 postings, up 26 percent since January).

Popular tech skills showing the greatest growth since the beginning of the year include: Linux (up 51 percent), .NET (up 41 percent), and SQL (up 36 percent).

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Top Tech Metro Areas

(Based on jobs posted on Dice as of 12.1.06*)

1. New York/New Jersey (New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Northern New Jersey)	11,405
2. Washington D.C. (Baltimore, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia, Southern Maryland)	9,509
3. Silicon Valley (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, CA)	9,164
4. Los Angeles (Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange County, CA)	5,366
5. Chicago (Chicago and Suburbs)	3,805
6. Philadelphia (Philadelphia, Allentown, Southern New Jersey, Delaware)	3,418
7. Boston (Boston and Suburbs)	3,093
8. Dallas (Dallas, Fort Worth and Surrounding Suburbs)	2,548
9. Atlanta (Atlanta and Suburbs)	2,446
10. Seattle (Seattle and Suburbs)	1,890

Available Tech Jobs: 90,439
(Number of jobs posted on Dice as of 12.1.06*)

Consultant Countdown

(Number of contract vs. permanent positions on Dice as of 12.1.06*)

Contract:	34,816
Permanent:	62,916

Top Tech Skills

(Skills most in demand based on jobs posted on Dice as of 12.1.06*)

Operating Systems	1.	Windows	15,468
	2.	Unix	14,507
Databases	1.	Oracle	16,376
	2.	SQL	13,856
Programming Languages	1.	C, C++	17,572
	2.	.Net	13,230

Tech Topic Poll Results:

Some believe the current IT boom will last several years. What's your opinion?

It'll definitely last a while. Demand for technology is at an all-time high.	38%
It'll last a little longer, probably as long as the economy stays strong.	32%
The boom is almost over. We'll never see another spurt like the late 90s.	17%
It's already about over. When the buyouts begin, the end is near.	13%

* Please note that data reflects public information posted by Dice users and customers. For example, 14,507 jobs posted on Dice as of December 1, 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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