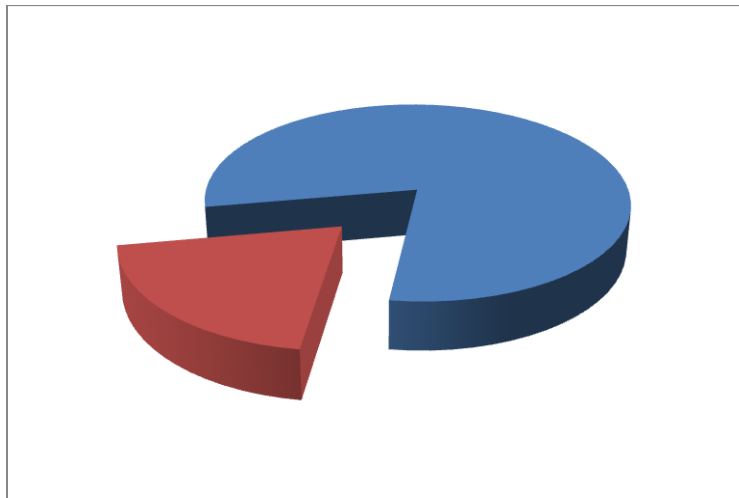


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SCIENCE WRITERS COMPENSATION SURVEY REPORT



**Conducted Exclusively for
The National Association of Science Writers (NASW)
by Cell Associates**

Submitted on January 20, 2014

Revised on March 23, 2014

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Executive Summary

This report summarizes the results of an online survey conducted by Cell Associates on behalf of the National Association of Science Writers (NASW). The intent was to learn more about the types of writing work their members perform and the compensation they receive for such work. During the six weeks the survey was open, 618 individuals who were currently employed as staff or freelance writers and/or editors completed qualified surveys.

This executive summary provides highlights of the findings and the full report includes a more detailed breakdown of types of work as well as the pay range for each type. The full report is available in the members-only section of the NASW website.

Note: Average rates in this report are the median (or the value at the midpoint of the range) of those reported, which is a very common measure of compensations; they are not mean values.

Demographics

Survey respondents were almost evenly split between those who were freelance writers and/or editors (55%) and those holding a staff position (51%). Fifteen percent (15%) of the survey respondents received income from both freelance and staff work in 2012. Of the remaining 85%, 43% received income solely from staff employment while 42% received income solely from freelance work.

Just more than two-thirds (69%) of the survey respondents were female. Two-thirds (66%) of the survey respondents had 10 or more years of work experience as a science writer/editor and about one-half (51%) were 49 years old or younger. Seventy-eight percent (78%) of the respondents worked in a small or large city setting and 67% worked in the Northeast (25%), Mid-Atlantic (22%), or West Coast (20%) region.

Key Findings

Freelance Writers and/or Editors

- More than one-half (54%) of the freelancers who worked 30 hours a week or more had an annual income of \$50,000 or more, with most (25%) earning \$50,000 to \$74,999. The greatest percentage of full-time freelancers however (33%), averaged \$25,000 to \$49,999 in annual earnings for the last two years.
- Freelancers who worked less than 30 hours a week earned less: 65% earned less than \$25,000 per year, 21% earned \$25,000 to \$49,999 per year, and 13% earned \$50,000 or more per year.
- Only 26% of freelance respondents reported freelancing 40 hours a week or more. Most (58%) spent between 10 and 39 hours per week freelancing.
- As might be expected, the majority of both full-time (FT) and part-time (PT) freelancers' time was spent on reporting/writing (75% each).
- The two types of assignments that made up the bulk of freelancers' income during the last two years were trade or society publications (cited by 45% of freelancers) and national or international consumer magazines (40%). The most common methods of payment for these assignments were per word or per assignment for trade and society publications (40% and 41%, respectively), and per word for national or international magazines (68%).

- When considering dollars per word as the method of payment for the most common types of assignments, full-time freelancers earned an average of \$1.25 per word for national or international consumer publications, \$1.20 per word for news section of scientific journals, \$1.00 per word for trade and society publications, and \$0.50 per word for new media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars).
- When considering dollars per hour as the method of payment for the most common types of assignments, full-time freelancers earned an average of \$75.00 per hour for trade and society publications, \$75.00 per hour for news section of scientific journals, \$40.00 per hour for national or international consumer publications, and \$40.00 per hour for new media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars).
- While median per word pay rates for different types of assignments varied significantly, there was not a great deal of variation between the rates earned by gender. The same was true of median dollar per hour rates.
- The vast majority of freelancers used a sole proprietor organizational structure (88%) and worked from office space in their home (94%).
- Most (70%) freelancers were covered by health insurance. Forty-six percent (46%) of these individuals were covered through a partner's employer, while 29% purchased an individual plan and 11% were covered through an employer.
- Approximately one-half (48%) of freelancers contributed to a retirement plan during the last two years.

Staff Positions

- The majority (76%) of survey respondents working in staff positions worked 40 hours a week or more, with 62% working 40 to 49 hours and 14% working 50 hours or more.
- Most staff who worked 30 hours a week or more (82%) had an annual salary of \$50,000 or higher, with the greatest percentage (38%) earning \$50,000 to \$74,999.
- Staff who worked less than 30 hours a week earned less: 40% earned less than \$25,000 per year, 36% earned \$25,000 to \$49,999 per year, and 24% earned \$50,000 or more per year.
- The most common type of organization at which staff respondents worked was academic, medical, or research; this type of organization was cited by 44% of these respondents.
- For full-time staff, much of their time was spent on reporting/writing (30%) and substantive or developmental writing (20%).
- Fifty-three percent (53%) of staff respondents worked in organizations with fewer than 1,000 employees.
- The vast majority (92%) of staff respondents received benefits from their employer, with the most common being paid vacation (88%), personal or sick days (86%), health insurance (83%), and/or a retirement plan (83%).

Methods

The National Association of Science Writers (NASW) was interested in learning more about the types of writing work their members perform and the compensation they receive for this work. To accomplish this, NASW commissioned Cell Associates to program and conduct an online survey of its members. The survey was identified as being sponsored by NASW. Cell Associates was responsible for monitoring the progress of the survey, analyzing the data, and preparing a written report of findings.

The survey was launched on Tuesday, October 1, 2013 via an e-mail burst by NASW to its members. Reminder e-mail messages were sent periodically until the survey closed on Monday morning, November 11.

Over the six weeks that the survey was fielded, 628 completed surveys were submitted. Of these surveys, 618 were from respondents who were currently employed as staff or freelance writers and/or editors. These 618 surveys serve as the basis for this report. The margin of error for the full set of data is less than $\pm 3.2\%$ at the 95% confidence level.

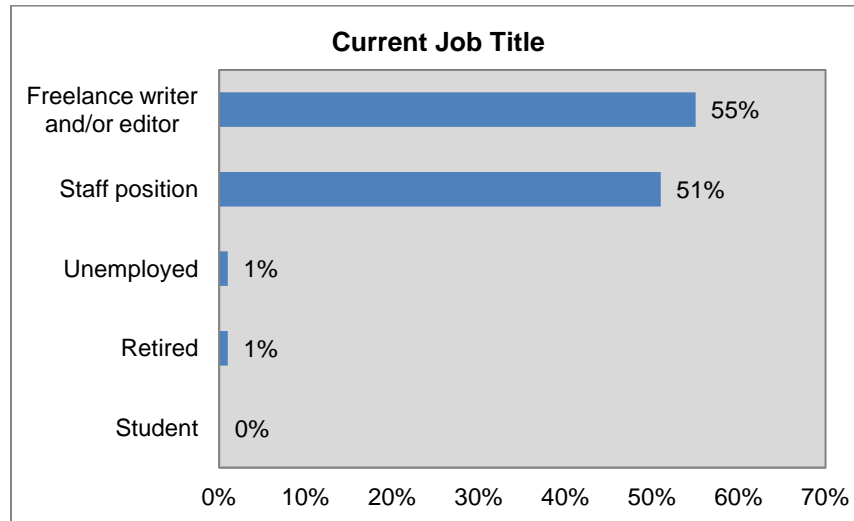
A copy of the survey questions is included in the Appendix of this report.

Results and Conclusions

The following is a recap of each question along with the results and comments.

Current Job Title

1. Which best describes your current job title? (Check all that apply)



Survey respondents were allowed to choose more than one response to this question; therefore the responses total more than 100%.

Regarding current job title, 55% of the survey respondents described their job title as freelance writer and/or editor, while 51% described their job title as staff position. One percent (1%) were unemployed and 1% were retired.

Individuals who described their job title as freelance writer and/or editor were more likely to be 50 years of age or older, working as science writers for 10 or more years, and located in rural or suburban settings. Those who described their title as staff position were more likely to be less than 40 years of age, working as science writers for less than 10 years, and located in small or large towns or cities.

2. Please briefly describe your current unemployment situation.

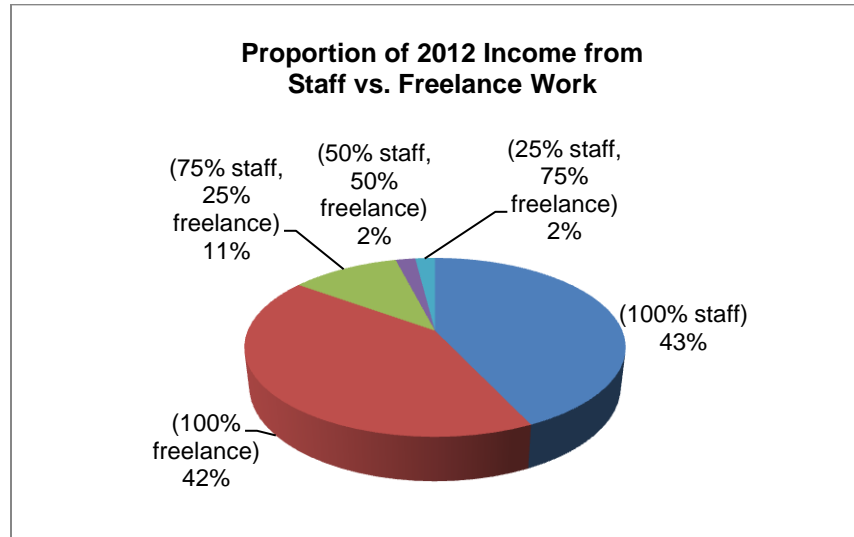
This question was presented only to those respondents who indicated that they were unemployed (from question 1).

Only five respondents were unemployed; three considered themselves 100% staff, while one was 100% freelance and the other was 75% staff/25% freelance. These individuals cited reasons such as recently graduating and looking for their first job as well as having projects eliminated due to funding cuts.

The results on the following pages of this report are based on the survey respondents who indicated that they currently held staff or freelance positions. Respondents who were students, retired, or unemployed were not included in the following results.

Source of Income: Staff vs. Freelance

3. Which best describes the proportion of your 2012 income coming from a staff position (writer, reporter, producer, editor, media relations officer or public information officer) versus freelancing?



The majority (85%) of the survey respondents obtained their 2012 income from either 100% staff (43%) or 100% freelance (42%) work. The remaining 15% obtained their income from a mix of staff and freelance work: 11% from 75% staff/25% freelance, 2% from 50% staff/50% freelance, and 2% from 25% staff/75% freelance work.

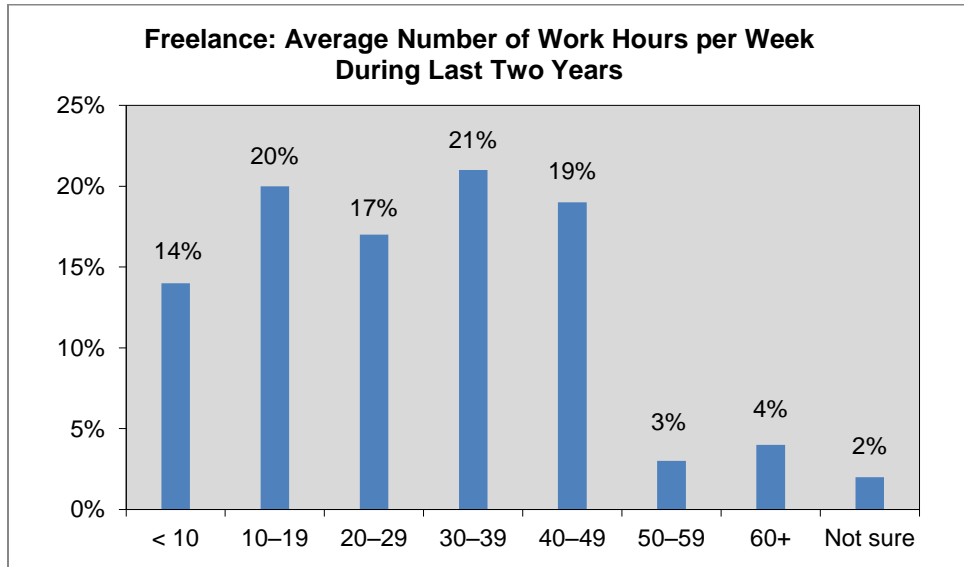
In general, as age and years of work experience increased, so did the likelihood that individuals would obtain more of their 2012 income through freelance work.

Freelance Writers and/or Editors

Questions 10 through 21 were presented only to those respondents who indicated that they received some portion of their 2012 income from freelance work (from question 3).

Hours Spent Freelancing

10. On average, how many hours per week did you spend freelancing during the last two years?



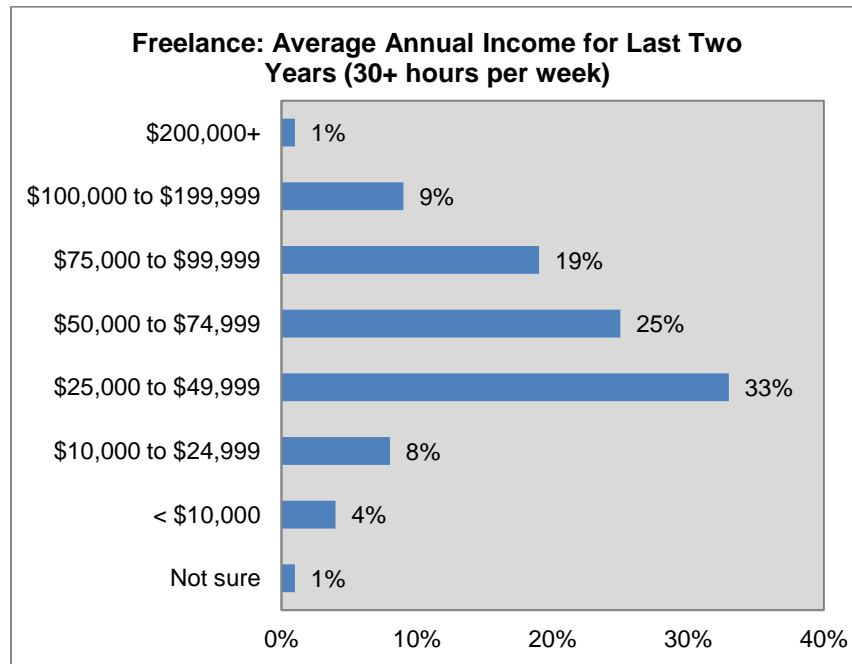
Almost all (98%) of the freelance respondents were able to answer this question; the remaining 2% were not sure.

The number of hours worked per week by freelancers was quite different than for staff. Approximately one-half (51%) of the freelance respondents worked less than 30 hours per week, while 47% worked 30 or more hours per week.

Those individuals who characterized their source of 2012 income as being 100% freelance (from question 3) were much more likely to work 30 hours or more per week. Male freelancers were more likely to work 30 to 49 hours per week, while female freelancers were more likely to work less than 30 hours per week. Those individuals who worked less than 30 hours per week as freelancers were more likely to obtain additional income with part-time staff work.

Average Gross Annual Income

11. What was your average gross annual income from freelance science writing for the last two years?



The above graph depicts the salary distribution for freelance respondents who worked 30 or more hours per week. For the purposes of this report, individuals who worked 30 or more hours per week are also referred to as “full-time” employees.

Almost all (99%) of the survey respondents were able to answer this question; the remaining 1% were not sure.

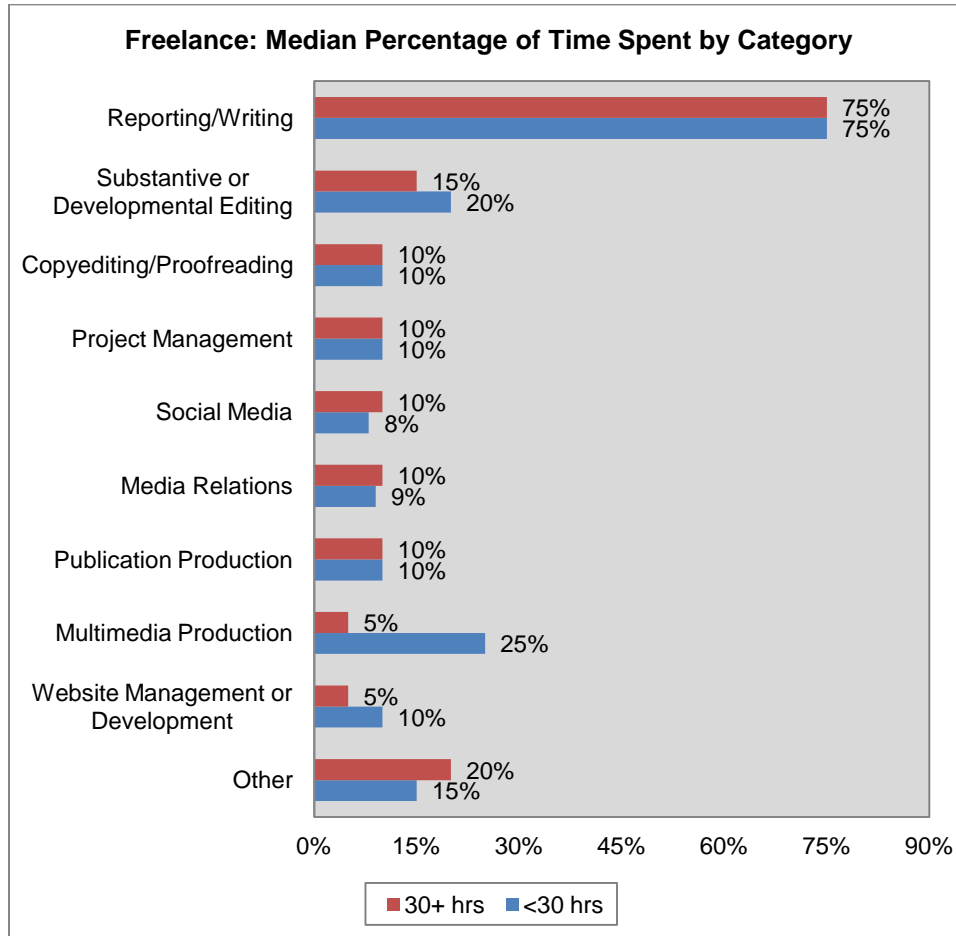
Twelve percent (12%) of these full-time freelance respondents earned less than \$25,000 per year over the last two years, while 33% earned \$25,000 to less than \$50,000. One-fourth (25%) of the freelance respondents earned \$50,000 to less than \$75,000, 19% earned \$75,000 to less than \$100,000, and 9% earned \$100,000 to \$199,000. Only 1% earned \$200,000 or more.

When salaries of full-time freelancers are compared against those of full-time staff, staff salaries were higher. Seventeen percent (17%) of the full-time staff respondents earned \$100,000 or more, while only 10% of full-time freelancers earned this amount. Sixty-five percent (65%) of the full-time staff respondents earned \$50,000 to \$99,999, while only 44% of full-time freelancers earned this amount. When employer benefits are considered, this difference in compensation is even more pronounced.

Those individuals who characterized their source of 2012 income as being 100% freelance (from question 3) were much more likely to have an annual income of \$25,000 or more.

Percentage of Time Spent by Category

12. Thinking about your freelance work during the last two years, please indicate roughly what percentage of your time you spent on each of the following categories. (Please use whole numbers for your responses, such as 10, 25, etc., which must sum to 100%.)



Since these figures are median percentages, the responses for each group total more than 100%. These figures are arranged in descending order for those freelance respondents working 30 or more hours per week.

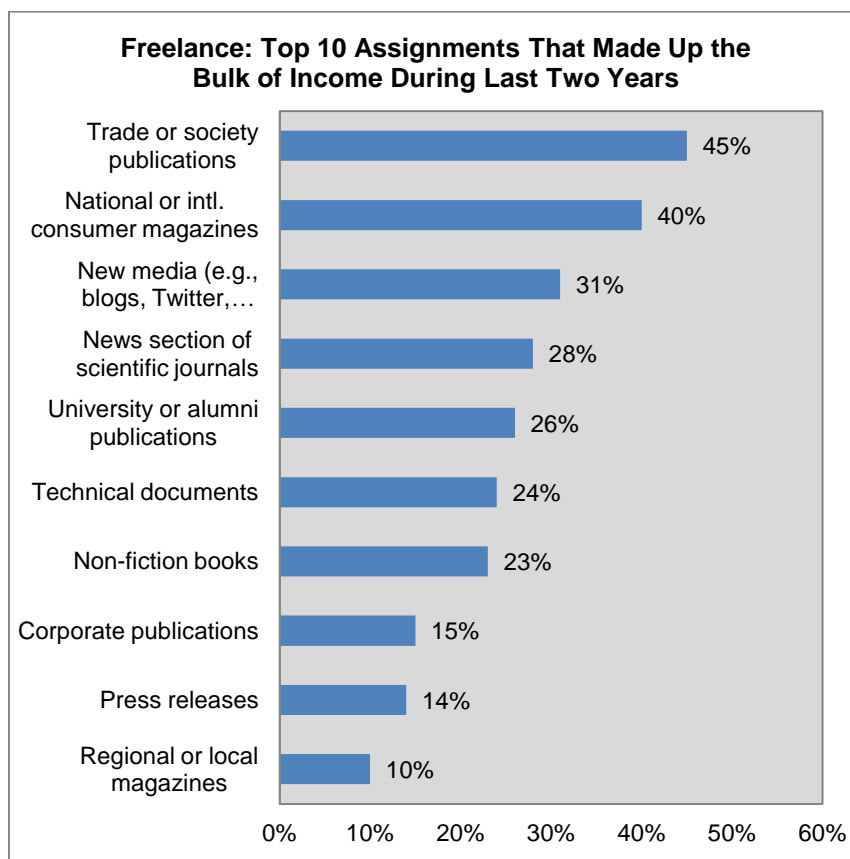
Regarding the percentage of time spent by freelancers on various categories, reporting/writing was by far the category where the most time was spent, with the median time spent being 75% for both full-time and part-time respondents. Substantive or developmental editing occupied 15% of a full-time and 20% of a part-time freelancer's work day. Copyediting/proofreading, project management, social media, media relations, and publication production each accounted for 10% of the work day for full-time and 8% to 10% of the work day for part-time freelancers.

Multimedia production accounted for only 5% of a full-time freelancer's work day, but much more (25%) of a part-time freelancer's work day.

Other fill-in responses (15% to 20%) included administrative tasks and sales and marketing efforts.

Top Five Assignments That Made up Bulk of Income

13. Please choose up to five types of assignments that made up the bulk of your freelance income during the last two years.



Survey respondents were allowed to choose more than one response to this question; therefore the responses total more than 100%. Responses containing an ellipsis have been shortened due to space constraints.

Regarding the types of assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during 2011 and 2012, trade or society publications (45%) and national or international consumer magazines (40%) were cited most often.

Other types of assignments cited less often included new media, such as blogs, Twitter, or webinars (31%), news section of scientific journals (28%), university or alumni publications (26%), technical documents (24%), and non-fiction books (23%).

Males were more likely to work on new media, non-fiction books, and corporate publications, while females were more likely to work on trade or society publications and technical documents.

The following table depicts all of the responses to this question.

| FREELANCE: ASSIGNMENTS THAT MADE UP THE BULK OF INCOME DURING LAST TWO YEARS | |
|---|----------|
| Type of Assignment | % |
| Trade or society publications | 45% |
| National or intl. consumer magazines | 40% |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | 31% |
| News section of scientific journals | 28% |
| University or alumni publications | 26% |
| Technical documents | 24% |
| Non-fiction books | 23% |
| Corporate publications | 15% |
| Press releases | 14% |
| Regional or local magazines | 10% |
| Government publications | 10% |
| National newspapers | 9% |
| Textbooks, ancillary educational materials | 9% |
| Continuing education curricula | 8% |
| Regional newspapers | 7% |
| Television or other video | 5% |
| Radio or podcasts | 5% |
| Other | 2% |

Other fill-in responses (2%) included writing children’s books and coaching scientists.

Most Common Method of Payment by Assignment

14. What was the most common method of payment for each of the following types of assignments? *(If more than one response applies, please choose the response that is most common.)*

The types of assignments are listed in descending order of the top assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during the last two years (from question 13).

| MOST COMMON METHOD OF PAYMENT BY TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Type of Assignment | Method of Payment |
| Trade and society publications | per word or per assignment |
| National or international consumer magazines | per word |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | per assignment |
| News section of scientific journals | per word |
| University or alumni publications | per word |
| Technical documents | per hour |
| Non-fiction books | advance, royalty percentage |
| Corporate publications | per hour or per assignment |
| Press releases | per assignment |
| Regional or local magazines | per word |
| Government publications | per hour |
| National newspapers | per assignment |
| Textbooks, educational materials | flat fee |
| Continuing education curricula | per assignment |
| Regional newspapers | per assignment |
| Television or other video | per assignment |
| Radio or podcasts | per assignment |

The types of assignments that were most often paid per word were national or international consumer magazines, new section of scientific journals, university or alumni publications, and regional or local magazines. Those that were most often paid per hour were technical documents and government publications. Types of work that were most often paid per assignment were new media, press releases, national and regional newspapers, continuing education curricula, television/other video, and radio or podcasts. Trade society publications were most often paid per word or per assignment, while corporate publications were most often paid both per hour and per assignment. Non-fiction books were most often paid by advances and royalty percentage, while textbooks and educational materials were most often paid via a flat fee.

Percentage of Income by Assignment (Full-time vs. Part-time)

15. Please indicate roughly what percentage of your income was generated by each type of assignment during the last two years. (Please use whole numbers for your responses, such as 10, 25, etc., reflecting that portion of your overall work.)

The following table depicts the percentage of income (median) generated by each type of assignment. The types of assignments are listed in descending order of the top assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during the last two years (from question 13). “N” represents the number of respondents providing each figure.

| FREELANCE: PERCENTAGE OF MEDIAN INCOME BY TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT (FOR FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME) | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|----------|--|----------------------------------|----------|
| Type of Assignment | 30+ Hours per Week | N | | <30 Hours per Week | N |
| Trade and society publications | 30% | 68 | | 38% | 74 |
| National or international consumer magazines | 30% | 82 | | 28% | 50 |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | 20% | 34 | | 22% | 36 |
| News section of scientific journals | 20% | 56 | | 30% | 31 |
| University or alumni publications | 18% | 38 | | 30% | 42 |
| Technical documents | 17% | 20 | | 30% | 41 |
| Non-fiction books | 40% | 40 | | 42% | 30 |
| Corporate publications | 30% | 22 | | 20% | 28 |
| Press releases | 20% | 19 | | 20% | 21 |
| Regional or local magazines | 10% | 17 | | 30% | 17 |
| Government publications | 20% | 20 | | 40% | 16 |
| National newspapers | 8% | 26 | | 19% | 7 |
| Textbooks and educational/assessment materials | 50% | 17 | | 40% | 15 |
| Continuing education curricula | 20% | 9 | | 20% | 15 |
| Regional newspapers | 10% | 12 | | 11% | 10 |
| Television or other video | 10% | 7 | | 26% | 6 |
| Radio or podcasts | 10% | 11 | | 18% | 2 |
| Other | 35% | 31 | | 50% | 20 |

Since these figures are median percentages, the responses for each group total more than 100%.

For full-time freelancers, textbooks and ancillary educational/assessment materials (50% of income) and non-fiction books (40%) accounted for the largest median percentages of income. National or international consumer magazines, trade and society publications, and corporate publications each accounted for 30% of the median percentage of income. Other types of assignments each accounted for 20% or less of the median percentage of income.

The median percentage of income for some types of assignments differed between full-time and part-time freelancers. Textbooks and ancillary educational/assessment materials (40%) and corporate publications (20%) had lower median values for part-timers, while trade and society publications (38%), news section of scientific journals (30%), and government publications (40%) had higher median values for part-timers.

Most of the other fill-in responses concerned work done on websites.

Average Pay Rate by Assignment (Dollars per Word)

16–17. Please indicate your average pay rate for each of the following types of freelance work that you did during the last two years.

The following two tables depict the median pay rates in dollars per word for each type of freelance assignment (first by full-time vs. part-time, then by FT male vs. female and PT male vs. female). The types of assignments are listed in descending order of the top assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during the last two years (from question 13). “N” represents the number of respondents providing each figure.

| FREELANCE PAY RATES BY TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT (DOLLARS PER WORD) | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| | 30+ Hours per Week | | | <30 Hours per Week | | |
| Type of Assignment | Median \$ per Word | N | Range | Median \$ per Word | N | Range |
| Trade and society publications | \$1.00 | 52 | \$0.50 - \$2.00 | \$1.00 | 51 | \$0.10 - \$2.00 |
| National or international consumer magazines | \$1.25 | 79 | \$0.25 - \$3.00 | \$1.00 | 46 | \$0.10 - \$3.00 |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | \$0.50 | 17 | \$0.10 - \$2.00 | \$0.50 | 11 | \$0.10 - \$1.10 |
| News section of scientific journals | \$1.20 | 53 | \$0.50 - \$2.00 | \$1.06 | 28 | \$0.30 - \$2.00 |
| University or alumni publications | \$1.00 | 37 | \$0.50 - \$2.00 | \$1.00 | 36 | \$0.50 - \$2.00 |
| Technical documents | \$1.00 | 5 | \$0.80 - \$2.00 | \$0.20 | 5 | \$0.10 - \$0.50 |
| Non-fiction books | \$0.50 | 17 | \$0.25 - \$3.00 | \$0.75 | 9 | \$0.20 - \$2.00 |
| Corporate publications | \$1.50 | 7 | \$1.00 - \$3.00 | \$1.00 | 13 | \$0.40 - \$3.00 |
| Press releases | \$1.10 | 12 | \$0.50 - \$2.50 | \$1.00 | 10 | \$0.85 - \$1.00 |
| Regional or local magazines | \$0.90 | 16 | \$0.30 - \$2.00 | \$0.65 | 17 | \$0.13 - \$1.00 |
| Government publications | \$1.00 | 7 | \$1.00 - \$1.50 | \$1.25 | 7 | \$1.00 - \$2.00 |
| National newspapers | \$0.90 | 25 | \$0.25 - \$2.00 | \$0.75 | 5 | \$0.50 - \$2.00 |
| Textbooks and educational/assessment materials | \$0.50 | 3 | \$0.50 - \$2.00 | \$0.88 | 2 | \$0.25 - \$1.50 |
| Continuing education curricula | \$0.70 | 4 | \$0.40 - \$1.00 | \$2.00 | 1 | |
| Regional newspapers | \$0.30 | 11 | \$0.10 - \$3.00 | \$0.40 | 8 | \$0.15 - \$1.00 |
| Television or other video | \$1.50 | 2 | \$1.00 - \$2.00 | | 0 | |
| Radio or podcasts | \$1.00 | 3 | \$0.50 - \$1.15 | \$0.50 | 1 | |

In general, full-time freelancers charged higher pay rates than part-time freelancers.

The following observations are made for full-time rates where the sample size (N) is 5 or larger. The highest rates when paid dollars per word were for corporate publications (\$1.50 per word), national or international consumer magazines (\$1.25 per word), and news section of scientific journals (\$1.20 per word). The lowest rates when paid dollars per word were new media (\$0.50 per word), non-fiction books (\$0.50 per word), and regional newspapers (\$0.30 per word).

It should be noted that the fee freelancers charge for any given type of assignment may vary significantly from client to client based on deadlines, past experience with that client, payment history, and other factors. As a result, the pay rates shown in the above table should be used only as a guide to “going rates.”

Average Pay Rate by Assignment: Dollars per Word (Male vs. Female)

The following table depicts the differences for median pay rates in dollars per word between males and females. Full-time and part-time groups are each included separately. The types of assignments are listed in descending order of the top assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during the last two years (from question 13). Rates noted in bold font indicate higher pay rates by gender. Cells with no data indicate that there were not responses for this category.

| FREELANCE PAY RATES BY TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT (DOLLARS PER WORD, MALE VS. FEMALE) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|---|
| Type of Assignment | 30+ Hours per Week | | | | <30 Hours per Week | | | | |
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | |
| | Median \$ per Word | N | Median \$ per Word | N | Median \$ per Word | N | Median \$ per Word | N | N |
| Trade and society publications | \$1.00 | 18 | \$1.00 | 34 | \$0.75 | 13 | \$1.00 | 37 | |
| National or international consumer magazines | \$1.25 | 27 | \$1.50 | 53 | \$1.00 | 15 | \$1.15 | 29 | |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | \$0.50 | 9 | \$0.75 | 7 | \$0.75 | 1 | \$0.50 | 10 | |
| News section of scientific journals | \$1.20 | 19 | \$1.25 | 33 | \$1.00 | 7 | \$1.12 | 21 | |
| University or alumni publications | \$1.00 | 10 | \$1.00 | 28 | \$1.00 | 7 | \$1.00 | 29 | |
| Technical documents | \$0.90 | 4 | \$1.50 | 2 | \$0.25 | 2 | \$0.12 | 3 | |
| Non-fiction books | \$1.00 | 7 | \$0.40 | 10 | \$1.50 | 4 | \$0.50 | 5 | |
| Corporate publications | \$1.25 | 4 | \$1.50 | 3 | \$1.00 | 5 | \$1.60 | 7 | |
| Press releases | \$1.25 | 3 | \$1.10 | 10 | \$1.00 | 3 | \$1.00 | 7 | |
| Regional or local magazines | \$0.60 | 5 | \$1.00 | 10 | \$0.70 | 4 | \$0.50 | 13 | |
| Government publications | \$1.00 | 4 | \$1.50 | 3 | \$1.13 | 2 | \$1.25 | 6 | |
| National newspapers | \$0.90 | 13 | \$0.88 | 12 | \$1.38 | 2 | \$0.65 | 3 | |
| Textbooks and educational/assessment materials | | 0 | \$0.50 | 3 | | 0 | \$0.88 | 2 | |
| Continuing education curricula | \$0.90 | 1 | \$0.50 | 3 | | 0 | \$2.00 | 1 | |
| Regional newspapers | \$0.30 | 4 | \$0.50 | 6 | \$0.50 | 4 | \$0.20 | 4 | |
| Television or other video | \$1.50 | 2 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Radio or podcasts | \$1.08 | 2 | \$0.50 | 1 | | 0 | \$0.50 | 1 | |

While the median pay rates (in dollars per word) for males and females did differ for many types of assignments, in general one gender's pay rate was not consistently higher than the other's rate.

Average Pay Rate by Assignment (Dollars per Hour)

The following two tables depict the median pay rates in dollars per hour for each type of freelance assignment (first by full-time vs. part-time, then by FT male vs. female and PT male vs. female). The types of assignments are listed in descending order of the top assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during the last two years (from question 13). "N" represents the number of respondents providing each figure.

| FREELANCE PAY RATES BY TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT (DOLLARS PER HOUR) | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|----|--------------------|--------------------|----|--------------------|
| Type of Assignment | 30+ Hours per Week | | | <30 Hours per Week | | |
| | Median \$ per Hour | N | Range | Median \$ per Hour | N | Range |
| Trade and society publications | \$75.00 | 22 | \$40.00 - \$125.00 | \$75.00 | 30 | \$20.00 - \$200.00 |
| National or international consumer magazines | \$40.00 | 11 | \$15.00 - \$75.00 | \$32.50 | 6 | \$25.00 - \$50.00 |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | \$40.00 | 12 | \$10.00 - \$100.00 | \$36.00 | 18 | \$10.00 - \$80.00 |
| News section of scientific journals | \$75.00 | 7 | \$30.00 - \$100.00 | \$55.00 | 4 | \$40.00 - \$75.00 |
| University or alumni publications | \$60.00 | 6 | \$50.00 - \$100.00 | \$75.00 | 16 | \$40.00 - \$130.00 |
| Technical documents | \$95.00 | 16 | \$40.00 - \$135.00 | \$67.50 | 33 | \$25.00 - \$125.00 |
| Non-fiction books | \$50.00 | 13 | \$20.00 - \$100.00 | \$35.00 | 9 | \$25.00 - \$95.00 |
| Corporate publications | \$77.50 | 18 | \$35.00 - \$160.00 | \$80.00 | 16 | \$35.00 - \$110.00 |
| Press releases | \$65.00 | 9 | \$35.00 - \$95.00 | \$67.50 | 12 | \$20.00 - \$125.00 |
| Regional or local magazines | \$17.50 | 2 | \$15.00 - \$20.00 | \$42.50 | 2 | \$40.00 - \$45.00 |
| Government publications | \$75.00 | 16 | \$35.00 - \$120.00 | \$57.50 | 10 | \$30.00 - \$100.00 |
| National newspapers | \$25.00 | 3 | \$15.00 - \$50.00 | \$30.00 | 3 | \$25.00 - \$50.00 |
| Textbooks and educational/assessment materials | \$55.00 | 9 | \$40.00 - \$75.00 | \$35.00 | 12 | \$20.00 - \$95.00 |
| Continuing education curricula | \$75.00 | 7 | \$50.00 - \$100.00 | \$57.50 | 12 | \$35.00 - \$100.00 |
| Regional newspapers | \$40.00 | 3 | \$25.00 - \$50.00 | \$15.00 | 2 | \$10.00 - \$20.00 |
| Television or other video | \$72.50 | 4 | \$50.00 - \$100.00 | \$100.00 | 5 | \$50.00 - \$150.00 |
| Radio or podcasts | \$42.50 | 6 | \$30.00 - \$75.00 | \$15.00 | 1 | |

In general, full-time freelancers charged higher pay rates than part-time freelancers.

The following observations are made for full-time rates where the sample size (N) is 5 or larger. The highest rates when paid dollars per hour were for technical documents (\$95.00 per hour) and corporate publications (\$77.50 per hour). The lowest rates when paid dollars per hour were radio or podcasts (\$42.50 per hour), national or international consumer magazines (\$40.00 per hour), and new media (\$40.00 per hour).

It should be noted that the fee freelancers charge for any given type of assignment may vary significantly from client to client based on deadlines, past experience with that client, payment history, and other factors. As a result, the pay rates shown in the above table should be used only as a guide to “going rates.”

Average Pay Rate by Assignment: Dollars per Hour (Male vs. Female)

The following table depicts the differences for median pay rates in dollars per hour between males and females. Full-time and part-time groups are each included separately. The types of assignments are listed in descending order of the top assignments that made up the bulk of freelance income during the last two years (from question 13). Rates noted in bold font indicate higher pay rates by gender. Cells with no data indicate that there were not responses for this category.

| FREELANCE PAY RATES BY TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT (DOLLARS PER HOUR, MALE VS. FEMALE) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|----|--------------------|---|--------------------|----|---|
| Type of Assignment | 30+ Hours per Week | | | | <30 Hours per Week | | | | |
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | |
| | Median \$ per Hour | N | Median \$ per Hour | N | Median \$ per Hour | N | Median \$ per Hour | N | N |
| Trade or society publications | \$72.50 | 6 | \$75.00 | 16 | \$60.00 | 6 | \$75.00 | 24 | |
| National or international consumer magazines | \$22.50 | 2 | \$50.00 | 9 | \$30.00 | 4 | \$40.00 | 2 | |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | \$40.00 | 5 | \$40.00 | 7 | \$25.00 | 7 | \$43.50 | 11 | |
| News section of scientific journals | \$57.50 | 4 | \$75.00 | 3 | | 0 | \$55.00 | 4 | |
| University or alumni publications | \$82.50 | 2 | \$55.00 | 4 | \$75.00 | 3 | \$72.50 | 12 | |
| Technical documents | \$100.00 | 3 | \$90.00 | 13 | \$45.00 | 6 | \$75.00 | 27 | |
| Non-fiction books | \$65.00 | 6 | \$50.00 | 7 | \$7.50 | 4 | \$35.00 | 5 | |
| Corporate publications | \$90.00 | 9 | \$72.50 | 9 | \$80.00 | 6 | \$80.00 | 10 | |
| Press releases | \$65.00 | 6 | \$75.00 | 3 | \$57.50 | 2 | \$77.50 | 8 | |
| Regional or local magazines | | 0 | \$17.50 | 2 | | 0 | \$42.50 | 2 | |
| Government publications | \$82.50 | 8 | \$70.00 | 8 | \$80.00 | 1 | \$55.00 | 9 | |
| National newspapers | \$32.50 | 2 | \$25.00 | 1 | | 0 | \$30.00 | 3 | |
| Textbooks and educational/assessment materials | \$40.00 | 4 | \$70.00 | 5 | \$17.50 | 4 | \$40.00 | 8 | |
| Continuing education curricula | \$62.50 | 2 | \$80.00 | 5 | \$55.00 | 3 | \$50.00 | 9 | |
| Regional newspapers | | 0 | \$40.00 | 3 | | 0 | \$15.00 | 2 | |
| Television or other video | \$75.00 | 2 | \$25.00 | 2 | \$70.00 | 3 | \$100.00 | 1 | |
| Radio or podcasts | \$35.00 | 3 | \$50.00 | 3 | | 0 | \$15.00 | 1 | |

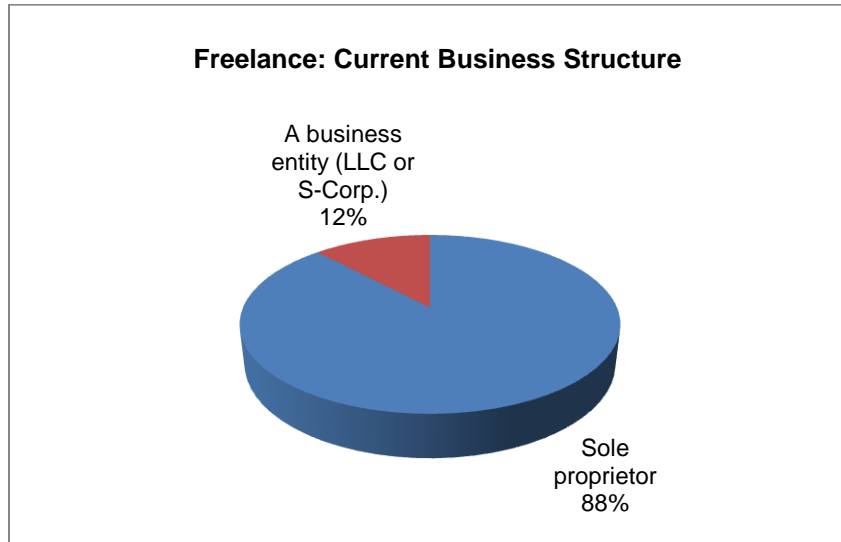
While the median pay rates (in dollars per hour) for males and females did differ for many types of assignments, in general, one gender's pay rate was not consistently higher than the other's rate.

17. You previously indicated that some other type of assignment generated a portion of your income in the last two years. Please indicate your average pay rate for this type of freelance work. *(Please use the same conventions as above and note if the rate is in dollars per word or dollars per hour.)*

Most of the other fill-in responses from question 15 were work done on websites. The median pay rate for this type of assignment was \$20 per hour.

Current Business Structure

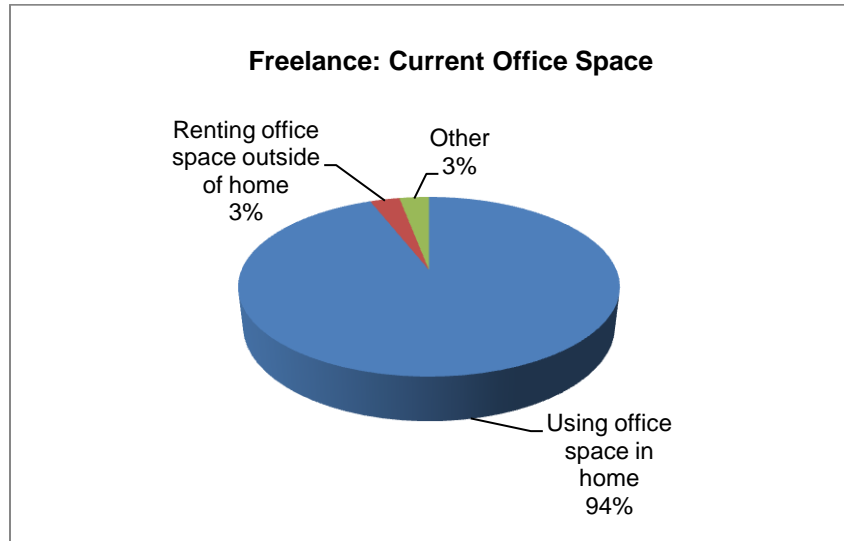
18. Which of the following describes your current business structure as a freelancer?
(Check only one)



The majority (88%) of freelance respondents were organized as sole proprietors. Far fewer (12%) were organized as business entities (LLC or S-Corporation).

Office Space

19. Which of the following describes your current office space as a freelancer?
(Check only one)

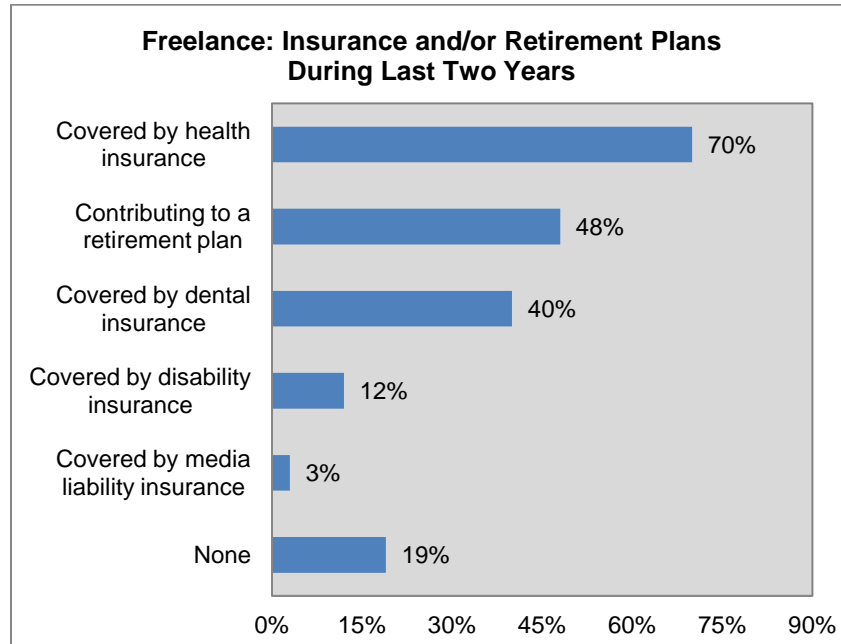


The majority (94%) of freelance respondents used office space in their homes for their work. Only 3% rented office space outside of their home.

Other fill-in responses (3%) included primarily using space at client offices at no charge.

Insurance and/or Retirement Plans

20. Which of the following describe the insurance and/or retirement plans you had as a freelancer during the last two years? (Check all that apply)

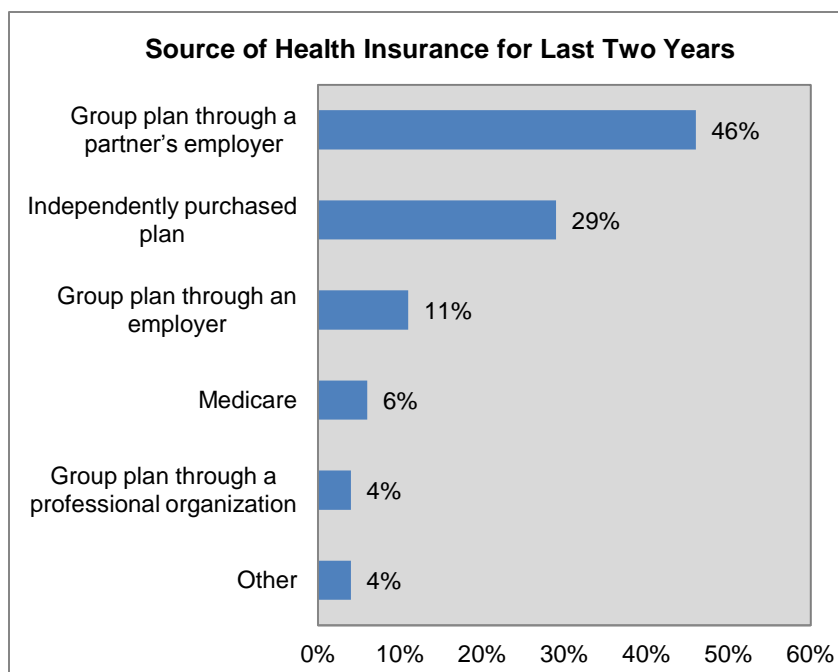


Survey respondents were allowed to choose more than one response to this question; therefore the responses total more than 100%.

The majority (81%) of freelance respondents had some form of insurance or retirement plan during 2011 and 2012. The remaining 19% did not have any insurance or retirement plan in place during this time for their freelance work; however, most had such plans in place through their “day” job or their partner’s employer.

Source of Health Insurance

21. What was the source of your health insurance during the last two years?



Only those freelance survey respondents who indicated that they were covered by health insurance (from question 20) were asked this question.

Three-fifths (61%) of those freelance respondents that had health insurance (from question 20) were covered through some type of group plan: 46% through a partner's employer group plan, 11% through an employer group plan, and 4% through a professional organization group plan.

Twenty-nine percent (29%) independently purchased a health insurance plan, while 6% received health insurance coverage through Medicare.

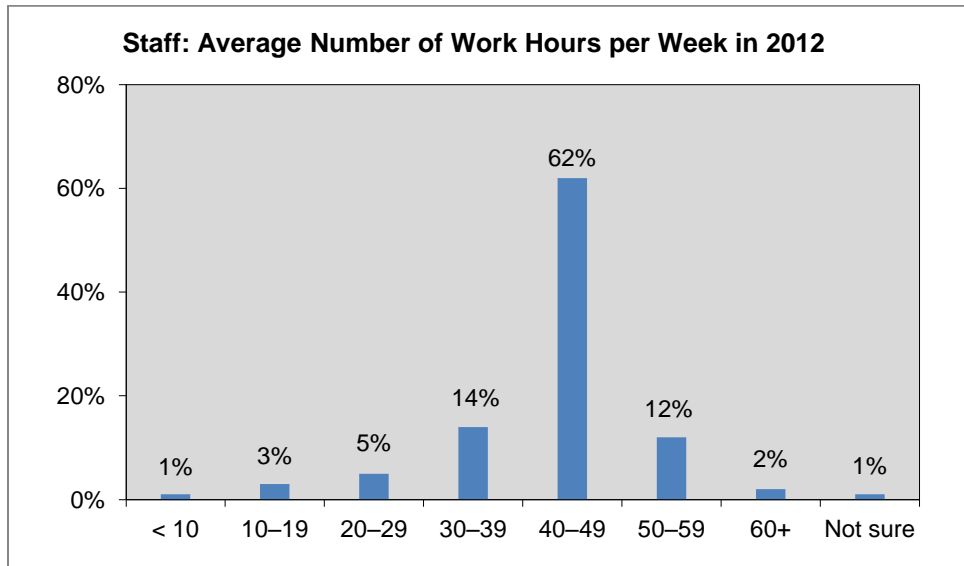
Other fill-in responses (4%) included the Freelancers Union and the Chamber of Commerce.

Staff Positions

Questions 4 through 9 were presented only to those respondents who indicated that they received some portion of their 2012 income from staff work (from question 3).

Hours per Week Worked

4. On average, how many hours per week did you work in your staff position in 2012?



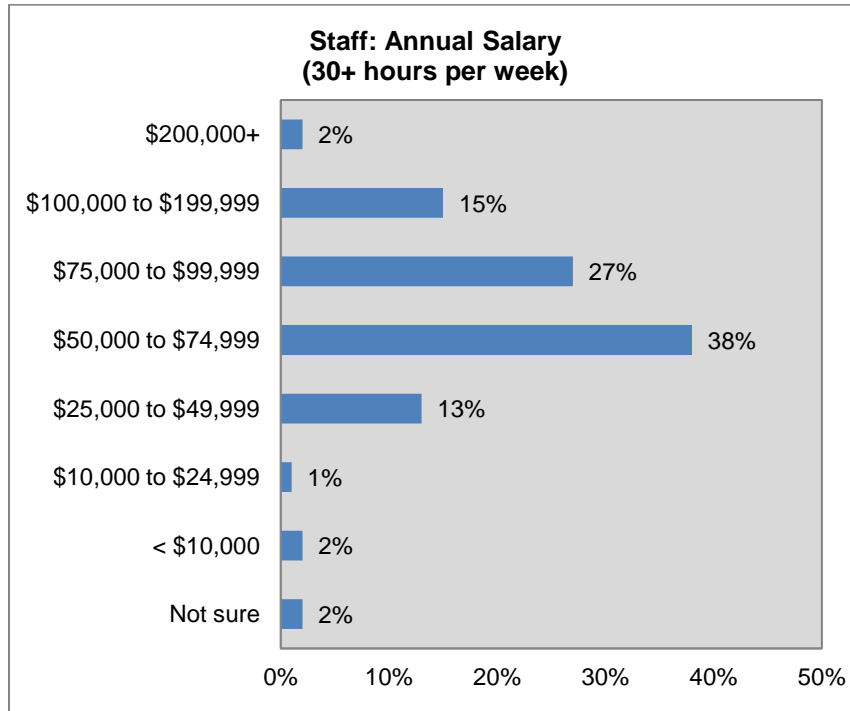
Almost all (99%) of these survey respondents were able to answer this question; the remaining 1% were not sure.

The vast majority (90%) of staff respondents worked 30 or more hours per week in 2012; the most common response was 40 to 49 hours per week, which was cited by 62% of these respondents. Only 9% worked less than 30 hours per week.

Individuals who characterized their source of 2012 income as being 100% staff (from question 3) were much more likely to have worked 30 hours or more per week. Those individuals who worked less than 30 hours per week in staff positions were more likely to obtain additional income with part-time freelance work.

2012 Salary

5. What was your salary from science writing in your staff position in 2012? (Please include any bonuses, if applicable.)



The above graph depicts the salary distribution for staff respondents who worked 30 or more hours per week. For the purposes of this report, individuals who worked 30 or more hours per week are also referred to as full-time or FT, while those who worked less than 30 hours per week are also referred to as part-time or PT.

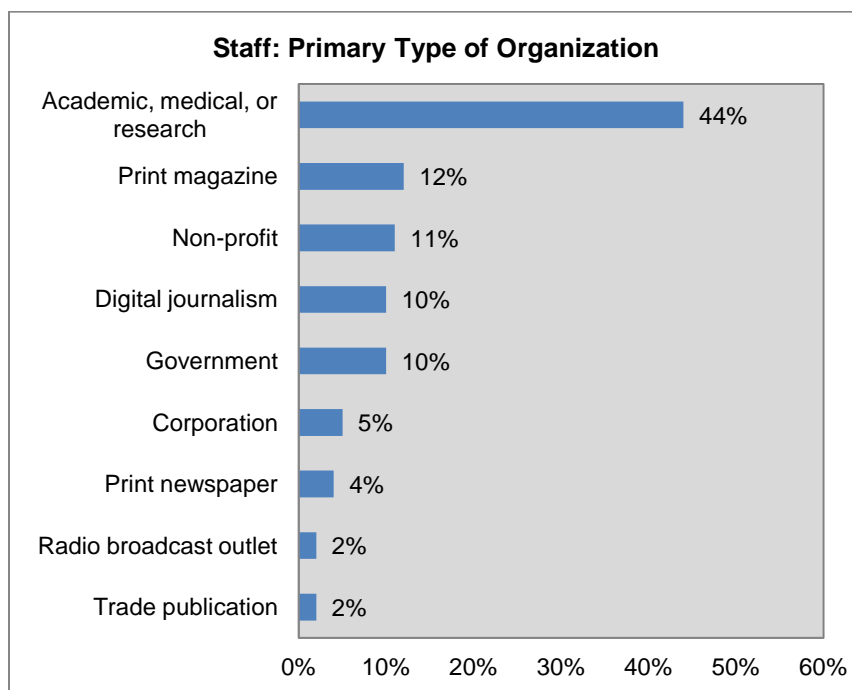
Almost all (98%) of these survey respondents were able to answer this question; the remaining 2% were not sure.

Thirteen percent (13%) of the FT staff respondents earned \$25,000 to less than \$50,000 in 2012, while 38% earned \$50,000 to less than \$75,000, 27% earned \$75,000 to less than \$100,000, and 15% earned \$100,000 to \$199,000. Only 2% earned \$200,000 or more.

Those individuals who characterized their source of 2012 income as being 100% staff (from question 3) were much more likely to have an annual income of \$50,000 or more.

Type of Organization

6. What type of organization did you work for in 2012? (If more than one category applies, please check the one where you spent the most time.)



By far, the most common type of organization at which staff respondents worked was academic, medical, or research (44%). Other types of organizations were cited much less often: print magazine (12%), non-profit (11%), digital journalism (10%), and government (10%).

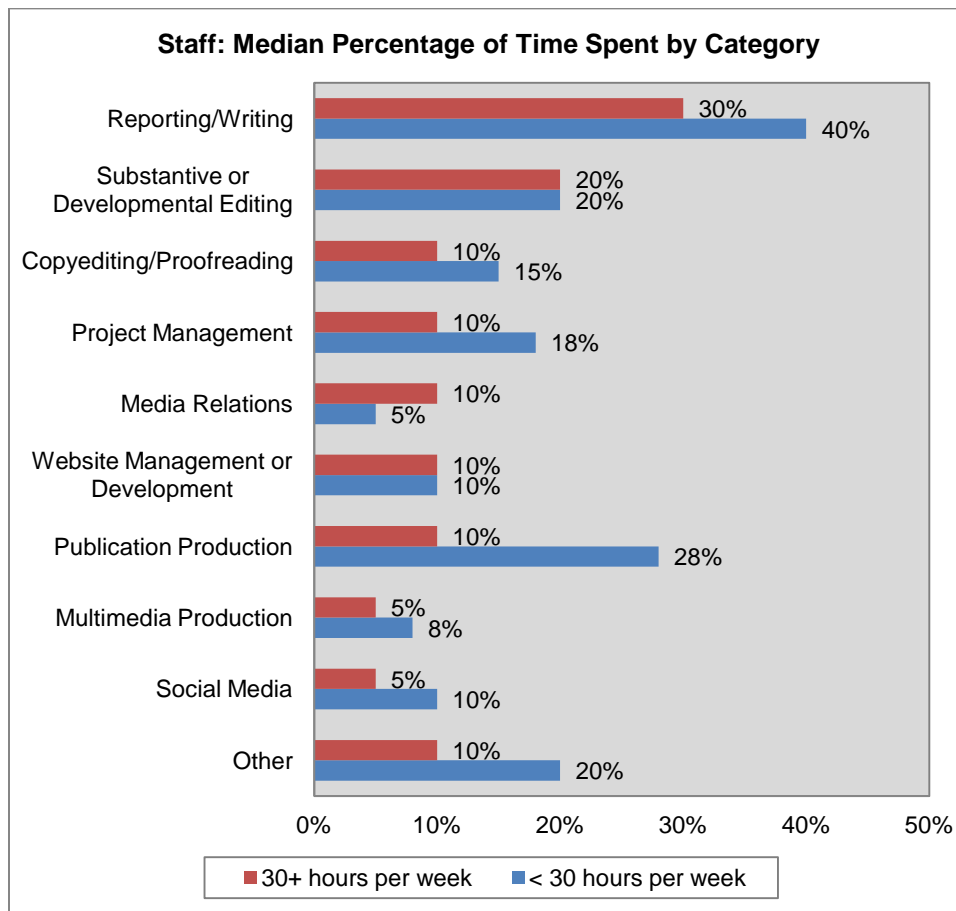
The least-often mentioned organizations were corporation (5%), print newspaper (4%), radio broadcast outlet (2%), and trade publication (2%). None (0%) of the respondents worked in television broadcast outlets.

Individuals who were part-time staff were more likely to work in print newspaper, digital journalism, or corporations, while full-time staff were more likely to work in government agencies or radio broadcast outlets.

Individuals who had less than five years of work experience were more likely to work at non-profit organizations or government agencies.

Percentage of Time Spent by Category

7. Thinking about your staff position in 2012, please indicate roughly what percentage of your time you spent on each of the following categories. (Please use whole numbers for your responses, such as 10, 25, etc., which must sum to 100%.)



Since these figures are median percentages, the responses for each group total more than 100%. These figures are arranged in descending order for those staff respondents working 30 or more hours per week.

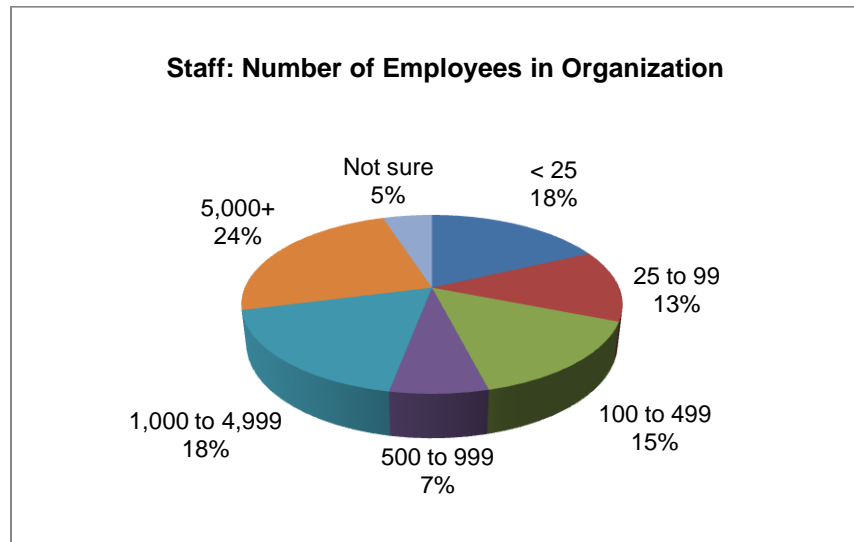
Regarding the percentage of time spent on various categories, reporting/writing was the category where the most time was spent, with the median time spent being 30% for full-time and 40% for part-time staff respondents. Substantive or developmental editing occupied 20% of both groups' work day. Copyediting/proofreading accounted for 10% of full-time and 15% for part-time staff respondents' work day, while project management accounted for 10% of the day for full-time and 18% of the day for part-time staff.

Publication production accounted for 10% of the work day for full-time staff, but much more (28%) of the work day for part-time staff.

Other fill-in responses included personnel supervision and administrative tasks.

Number of Employees in Organization

8. Approximately how many employees are in your organization? (If your organization has multiple locations, please include employees from all locations.)

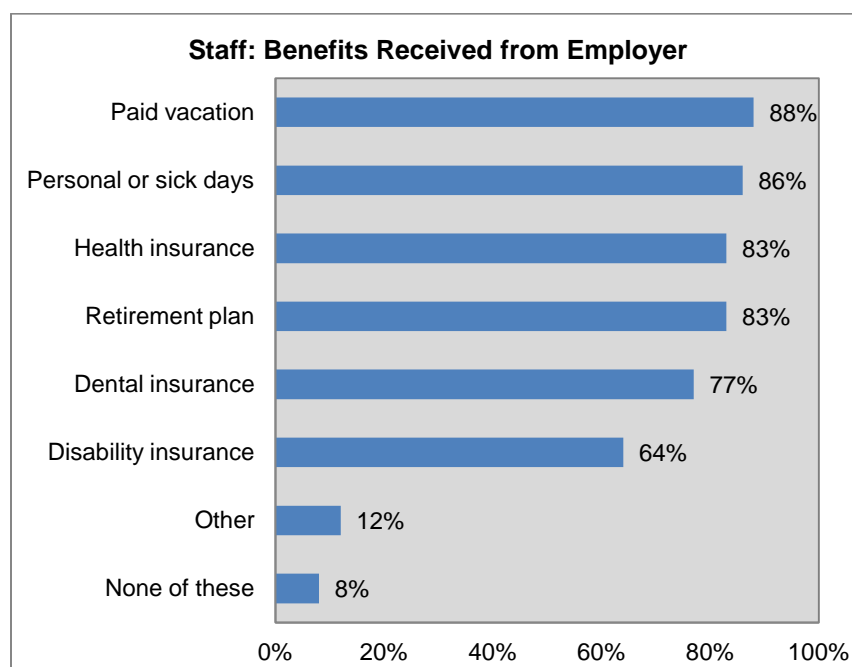


Most (95%) of these survey respondents were able to answer this question; the remaining 5% were not sure.

Just less than one-third (31%) of staff respondents worked in organizations with less than 100 employees, while 22% worked in organizations with 100 to less than 1,000 employees. The remaining 42% worked in organizations with 1,000 or more employees.

Benefits Received Through Employer

9. Which of the following benefits do you receive through your employer?
(Check all that apply)



Survey respondents were allowed to choose more than one response to this question; therefore the responses total more than 100%.

The majority (92%) of the staff respondents received one or more of these benefits from their employers; the remaining 8% did not receive any benefits.

The four most common benefits received by staff respondents were paid vacation (88%), personal or sick days (86%), health insurance (83%), and retirement plans (83%). Dental insurance (77%) and disability insurance (64%) were received less often.

Other fill-in responses (12%) included life insurance, tuition reimbursement, and flexible spending accounts (FSA).

Individuals who received disability insurance from their employer were more likely to work in organizations with 100 or more employees. Individuals who did not receive any benefits from their employer were more likely to work in organizations with less than 100 employees.

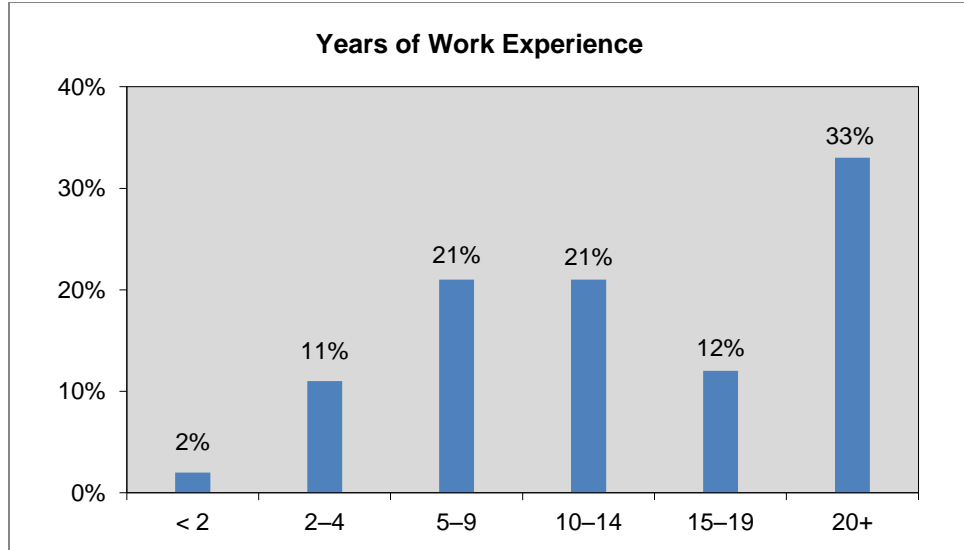
22. What additional services would you like to see NASW provide to its members?

Some of the main themes for these comments included insurance, meetings and networking, references and resources, and training.

Demographics

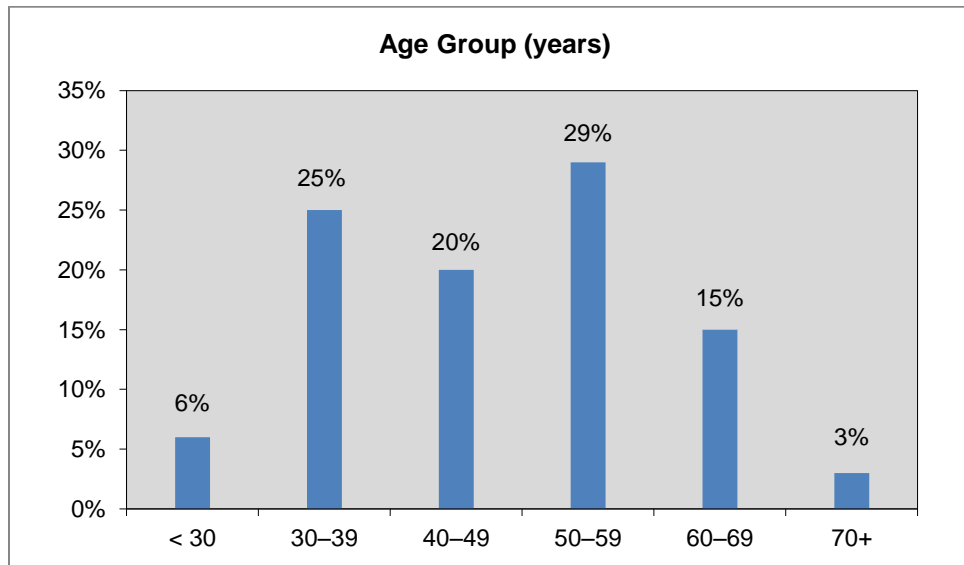
Years of Work Experience

23. How many years have you worked as a science writer/editor?



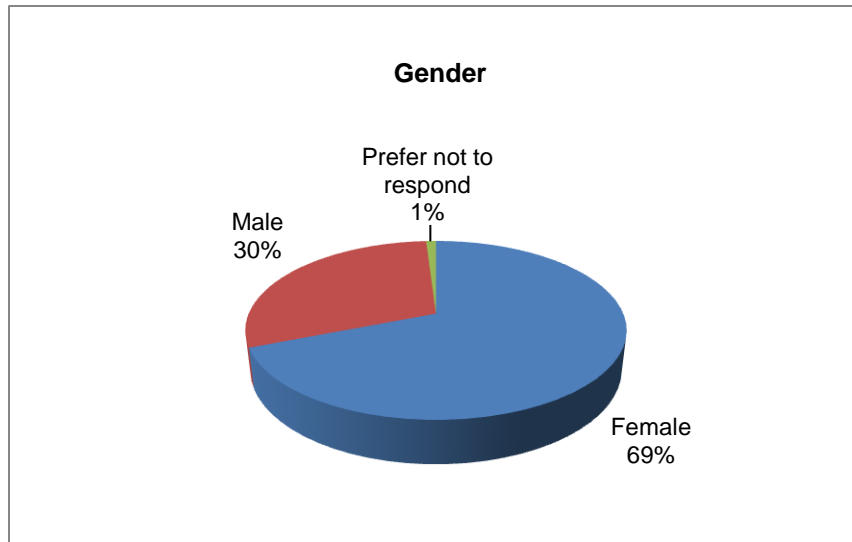
Age

24. How old are you?



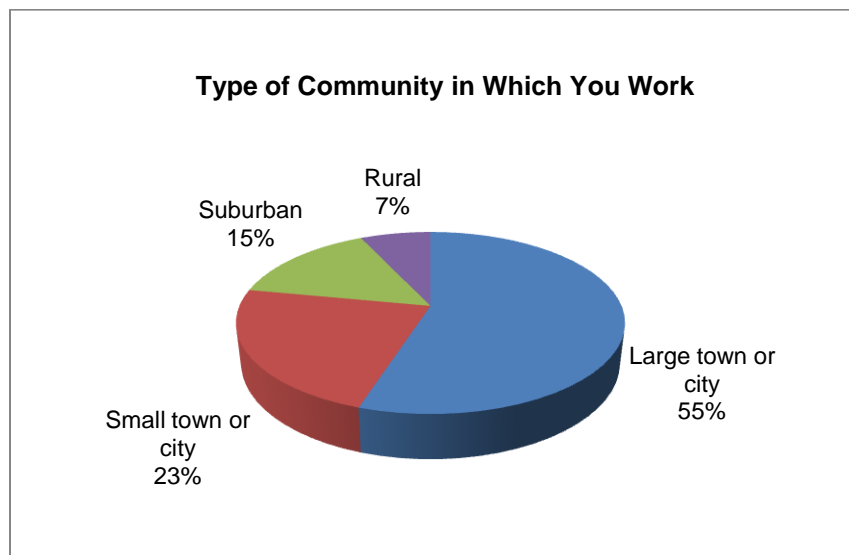
Gender

25. What is your gender?



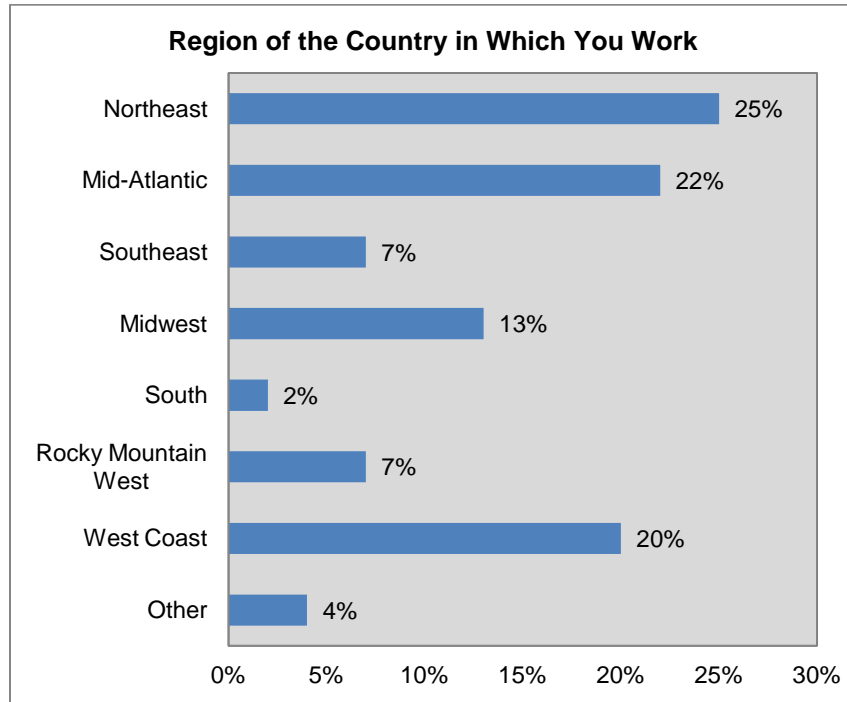
Type of Community

26. Which best describes the community in which you work?



Region

27. In which region of the country do you work? (If you are located outside of the United States, please check "other.")



Other fill-in responses (4%) included Europe, Canada, Asia, Mexico, and South/Central America.

Appendix

Sample of Survey Used in Study

[SURVEY QUESTIONS AND LOGIC](#)

2013 Science Writers Compensation Survey



Welcome to our science writers compensation survey. We are interested in learning more about the type of writing work you did in the recent past and in the compensation you received for that work. This survey should take 10 to 15 minutes to complete. All responses will remain anonymous. A report summarizing the survey results will be available on NASW's website by spring 2014.

By taking the survey, you contribute to NASW's ability to inform its members about the type of work that is available and how much compensation they can expect to receive in various staff positions or for various freelance assignments. We are looking for estimates, not exact answers. You should not need any financial records to complete the survey.

Please use only the "next" and "back" buttons at the bottom of each page to take the survey. Do not use the "forward" and "back" arrows on your browser toolbar.

[page---](#)

1. Which best describes your current job title? *(Check all that apply)* [\[must reply\]](#)

Staff position (e.g., writer, reporter, producer, editor, media relations officer or public information officer)
Freelance writer and/or editor
Unemployed [\[exclusive\]](#)
Student [\[exclusive, go to Q27\]](#)
Retired [\[exclusive, go to Q27\]](#)

[page---](#)

[\[Ask the following question if response to Q1 = 3, then go to Q27.\]](#)

2. Please briefly describe your current unemployment situation.

[\[fill in\]](#)

[page---](#)

3. Which best describes the proportion of your 2012 income coming from a staff position (writer, reporter, producer, editor, media relations officer or public information officer) versus freelancing? [\[must reply\]](#)

100% staff
75% staff, 25% freelance
50% staff, 50% freelance
25% staff, 75% freelance
100% freelance

[\[Ask the following questions for staff writers if response to Q3 = 1–4.\]](#)

Staff Positions

4. On average, how many hours per week did you work in your staff position in 2012?

Fewer than 10
10 to 19

- 20 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 to 49
- 50 to 59
- 60 or more
- Not sure

5. What was your salary from science writing in your staff position in 2012? (Please include any bonuses, if applicable.)

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$199,999
- \$200,000 or more
- Not sure

page---

6. What type of organization did you work for in 2012? (If more than one category applies, please check the one where you spent the most time.)

- Radio broadcast outlet
- Television broadcast outlet
- Print magazine
- Print newspaper
- Digital journalism
- Trade publication
- Academic, medical, or research organization/institute
- Non-profit organization or society
- Corporation
- Government agency
- Other [\[specify\]](#)

7. Thinking about your staff position in 2012, please indicate roughly what percentage of your time you spent on each of the following categories. (Please use whole numbers for your responses, such as 10, 25, etc., which must sum to 100%.) [\[force sum to equal 100%\]](#)

- Reporting/Writing [\[fill in\]](#)
- Substantive or Developmental Editing [\[fill in\]](#)
- Multimedia Production [\[fill in\]](#)
- Copyediting/Proofreading [\[fill in\]](#)
- Project Management [\[fill in\]](#)
- Social Media [\[fill in\]](#)
- Media Relations [\[fill in\]](#)
- Website Management or Development [\[fill in\]](#)
- Publication Production [\[fill in\]](#)
- Other [\[specify\]](#) [\[fill in\]](#)
- Total [\[actual sum will be shown in real time\]](#)

page---

8. Approximately how many employees are in your organization? (If your organization has multiple locations, please include employees from all locations.)

- Fewer than 25 employees
- 25 to 99 employees
- 100 to 499 employees

- 500 to 999 employees
- 1,000 to 4,999 employees
- 5,000 or more employees
- Not sure

9. Which of the following benefits do you receive through your employer? (Check all that apply)

- Health insurance
- Dental insurance
- Disability insurance
- Personal or sick days
- Retirement plan
- Paid vacation
- Other [specify]
- None of these [exclusive]

page---

[Ask the following questions for freelance writers if response to Q3 = 2–5.]

Freelance Writers and/or Editors

The following questions concern facts and figures for the last two years (2011 and 2012).

10. On average, how many hours per week did you spend freelancing during the last two years?

- Fewer than 10
- 10 to 19
- 20 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 to 49
- 50 to 59
- 60 or more
- Not sure

11. What was your average gross annual income from freelance science writing for the last two years?

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$199,999
- \$200,000 or more
- Not sure

page---

12. Thinking about your freelance work during the last two years, please indicate roughly what percentage of your time you spent on each of the following categories. (Please use whole numbers for your responses, such as 10, 25, etc., which must sum to 100%.) [force sum to equal 100%]

- Reporting/Writing [fill in]
- Substantive or Developmental Editing [fill in]
- Multimedia Production [fill in]
- Copyediting/Proofreading [fill in]
- Project Management [fill in]
- Social Media [fill in]
- Media Relations [fill in]

Website Management or Development [fill in]
Publication Production [fill in]
Other [specify] [fill in]
Total [actual sum will be shown in real time]

page---

13. Please choose up to five types of assignments that made up the bulk of your freelance income during the last two years. [must reply, limit of five responses]

National or international consumer magazines
Regional or local magazines
National newspapers
Regional newspapers
News section of scientific journals
University or alumni publications
Trade publications and publications of scientific societies or non-profits
Corporate publications (e.g., white papers, house publications, pamphlets)
Press releases
Government publications
Textbooks and ancillary educational/assessment materials
Non-fiction books (e.g., as sole author, co-author, or ghostwriter)
Continuing education curricula (e.g., medical)
Technical documents (e.g., grant applications, journal articles, regulatory documents, manuals)
Television or other video
Radio or podcasts
New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars)
Other [specify]

page---

[Populate the responses for the following question with those selected in Q13.]

14. What was the most common method of payment for each of the following types of assignments? (If more than one response applies, please choose the response that is most common.)

National or international consumer magazines [drop-down menu 1]
Regional or local magazines [drop-down menu 1]
National newspapers [drop-down menu 1]
Regional newspapers [drop-down menu 1]
News section of scientific journals [drop-down menu 1]
University or alumni publications [drop-down menu 1]
Trade publications and publications of scientific societies or non-profits [drop-down menu 1]
Corporate publications (e.g., white papers, house publications, pamphlets) [drop-down menu 1]
Press releases [drop-down menu 1]
Government publications [drop-down menu 1]
Textbooks and ancillary educational/assessment materials [drop-down menu 2]
Non-fiction books (e.g., as sole author, co-author, or ghostwriter) [drop-down menu 3]
Continuing education curricula (e.g., medical) [drop-down menu 1]
Technical documents (e.g., grant applications, journal articles, regulatory documents, manuals) [drop-down menu 1]
Television or other video [drop-down menu 4]
Radio or podcasts [drop-down menu 4]
New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) [drop-down menu 1]
Other [specify] [drop-down menu 1]

Drop-down menu 1:

per word
per hour

per assignment
Other [\[specify\]](#)

Drop-down menu 2:
per hour
per chapter
flat fee
Other [\[specify\]](#)

Drop-down menu 3:
per chapter
flat fee
advance, royalty percentage
Other [\[specify\]](#)

Drop-down menu 4:
per day
per produced minute
per assignment
Other [\[specify\]](#)

[page---](#)

[\[Populate responses for the following question with those selected in Q13.\]](#)

15. Please indicate roughly what percentage of your income was generated by each type of assignment during the last two years. *(Please use whole numbers for your responses, such as 10, 25, etc., reflecting that portion of your overall work.)* [\[only allow whole numbers\]](#)

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| National or international consumer magazines | [fill in] |
| Regional or local magazines | [fill in] |
| National newspapers | [fill in] |
| Regional newspapers | [fill in] |
| News section of scientific journals | [fill in] |
| University or alumni publications | [fill in] |
| Trade publications and publications of scientific societies or non-profits | [fill in] |
| Corporate publications (e.g., white papers, house publications, pamphlets) | [fill in] |
| Press releases | [fill in] |
| Government publications | [fill in] |
| Textbooks and ancillary educational/assessment materials | [fill in] |
| Non-fiction books (e.g., as sole author, co-author, or ghostwriter) | [fill in] |
| Continuing education curricula (e.g., medical) | [fill in] |
| Technical documents (e.g., grant applications, journal articles, regulatory documents, manuals) | [fill in] |
| Television or other video | [fill in] |
| Radio or podcasts | [fill in] |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | [fill in] |
| Other [specify] | [fill in] |

[page---](#)

[\[Populate responses for the following question with those selected in Q13.\]](#)

16. Please indicate your average pay rate for each of the following types of freelance work that you did during the last two years. *(Even if you are typically paid per assignment, please calculate your responses as either dollars per word or dollars per hour so that we may directly compare members' rates for the same type of work. Please use the following formats for your responses: 2.00, 1.50, etc.)* [\[only allow numbers and decimals\]](#)

Dollars per Word

Dollars per Hour

| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| National or international consumer magazines | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Regional or local magazines | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| National newspapers | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Regional newspapers | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| News section of scientific journals | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| University or alumni publications | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Trade publications and publications of scientific societies or non-profits | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Corporate publications (e.g., white papers, house publications, pamphlets) | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Press releases | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Government publications | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Textbooks and ancillary educational/assessment materials | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Non-fiction books (e.g., as sole author, co-author, or ghostwriter) | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Continuing education curricula (e.g., medical) | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Technical documents (e.g., grant applications, journal articles, regulatory documents, manuals) | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Television or other video | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| Radio or podcasts | [fill in] | [fill in] |
| New media (e.g., blogs, Twitter, webinars) | [fill in] | [fill in] |

[Ask the following question if response to Q15 = Other. Populate "Other [specify]" in the following statement with the "Other" response from Q15.]

17. You previously indicated that Other [specify] generated a portion of your income in the last two years. Please indicate your average pay rate for this type of freelance work. (Please use the same conventions as above and note if the rate is in dollars per word or dollars per hour.)
[fill in]

page---

18. Which of the following describes your current business structure as a freelancer? (Check only one)

- Operating as a sole proprietor
- Operating as a business entity (e.g., an LLC or S Corporation)
- Other [specify]

19. Which of the following describes your current office space as a freelancer? (Check only one)

- Using office space in your home
- Renting office space outside of your home
- Other [specify]

20. Which of the following describe the insurance and/or retirement plans you had as a freelancer during the last two years? (Check all that apply)

- Actively contributing to a retirement plan (e.g., a SEP-IRA)
- Covered by media liability insurance
- Covered by health insurance
- Covered by dental insurance
- Covered by disability insurance
- Other [specify]

page---

[Ask the following question if response to Q20 = 3.]

21. What was the source of your health insurance during the last two years?

Group plan through an employer (i.e., work you do in addition to freelancing; includes COBRA)
Group plan through a spouse's or domestic partner's employer (includes COBRA)
Group plan through a professional organization [\[specify organization\]](#)
Independently purchased plan
Medicare
Other [\[specify\]](#)

[page---](#)

NASW Member Services

22. What additional services would you like to see NASW provide to its members?

[\[fill in\]](#)

[page---](#)

About Yourself

23. How many years have you worked as a science writer/editor? [\[must reply\]](#)

Fewer than 2
2 to 4
5 to 9
10 to 14
15 to 19
20 or more

24. How old are you? [\[must reply\]](#)

Under 30
30 to 39
40 to 49
50 to 59
60 to 69
70 or older
Prefer not to respond

25. What is your gender? [\[must reply\]](#)

Female
Male
Prefer not to respond

[page---](#)

26. Which best describes the community in which you work? [\[must reply\]](#)

Rural
Suburban
Small town or city
Large town or city
Other [\[specify\]](#)

27. In which region of the country do you work? *(If you are located outside of the United States, please check "other.")* [\[must reply\]](#)

Northeast
Mid-Atlantic
Southeast

Midwest
South
Rocky Mountain West
West Coast
Other [\[specify\]](#)

[page---](#)

NOT QUALIFIED

[\[Ask the following question if response to Q1 = 3-5.\]](#)

28. This survey is restricted to NASW members who are currently compensated as staff or freelance writers or editors. Please press the “next” button below to exit this survey.

[page---](#)

CLOSING

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey.

The survey was written by volunteer members of the NASW freelance and public information officer committees. Any member can volunteer to serve on one of NASW’s committees. If you would like to volunteer, please contact NASW executive director, Tinsley Davis at director@nasw.org.

Please press the “submit” button to send us your responses. This may take a few seconds. When the survey has been sent, you will see a “thank you” page.

SURVEY SUBMITTED/THANK YOU

Thank you for completing this survey. Your responses have been sent.

Click here to go to the [NASW](#) home page.

The URL for the NASW home page is: www.nasw.org.

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