

CCIS Class of 2007 Salary Analysis

Methodology

Data were collected via self-reports from students scheduled to graduate as part of the Class of 2007. Graduates were solicited by email multiple times between April 2007 and June 2008. Follow-up calls were made to non-respondents in August 2008. This resulted in a total response rate of 48% (49 responses, n = 102).

Data were collected from graduates on the following measures:

- Salary per year
- Company name and location (City, State).
- Job Title
- Whether the student had completed a co-op previously with the company

Other data were collected as well (from the Northeastern Registrar), including:

- Student GPA as of August 2006
- Student major up to the time of graduation

Overall statistics

The total number of graduates targeted in the survey was 102. This includes all students who were initially listed in the Class of 2007 as of August 2006 plus additions over the course of the following academic year. Of these, 49 ultimately reported salary data (48% response rate).

The mean (average) of reported salaries for the Class of 2007 was **\$61,000**. However, since means can be badly skewed by outliers in small sample sets, median (the point at which 50% fall above or below) will be used from here forth. The median starting salary for 2007 graduates was **\$60,000**. 50% of the salaries fell between \$55,500 and \$68,500.

Statistical Summary, Class of 2007

N	Respondents	49
	No Response	53
Mean salary		60931.33
Median salary		60000.00
Percentiles	25	55500.00
	50	60000.00
	75	68500.00

Median salaries as reported by major:

Please note that the BA and dual degree programs are not well represented in the Class of 2007 respondents. Therefore it is difficult to draw any accurate conclusions from the salary data submitted by these graduates. However, medians are provided for informational purposes.

All, by Major

Major	N	Percent
Computer Science (BS)	67	65.7%
Dual	13	12.7%
Information Science	21	20.6%

Respondents, by Major

Major	N	Median
Computer Science (BS)	32	63000.00
Dual	5	58000.00
Information Science	12	58000.00

Salaries in relation to senior year QPA:

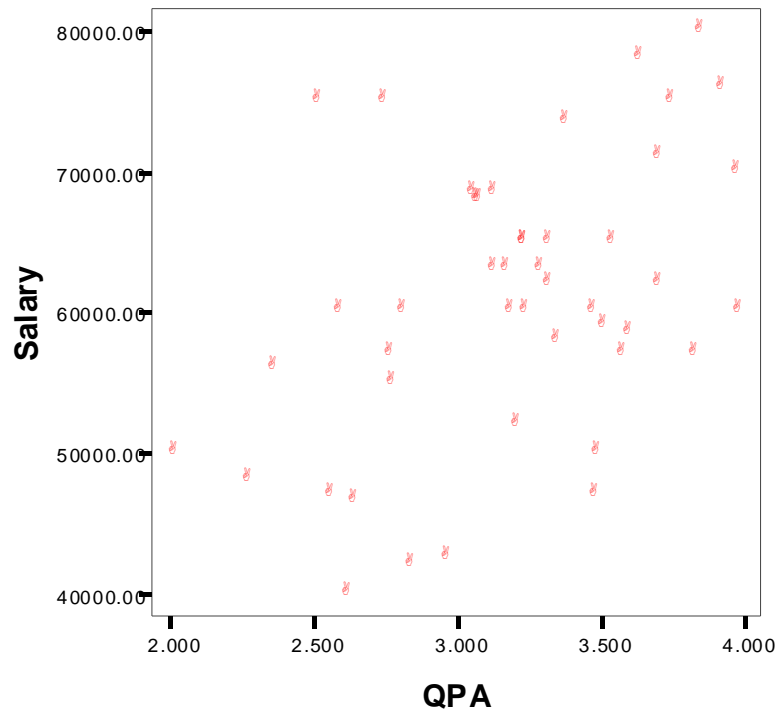
On the theory that students would place their QPAs on the resume during job searching, and that this might affect job offers and salaries as a result, a Pearson correlation test was performed. A weak positive correlation (.452) was found between QPA and reported salaries.

Correlations

		QPA	Salary
QPA	Pearson Correlation	1	.452(**)
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.002
Salary	Pearson Correlation	.452(**)	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.002	

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Scatterplot



Graduates hired by prior co-op companies

Out of the 49 students who responded to this part of the survey, 21 (42.9%) reported accepting jobs from a company with which they had previously worked on co-op.

Students Accepting Offers from Prior Co-op Companies

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	no	26	53.1%
	yes	21	42.9%
Missing	No Response	2	4.1%
Total		49	100%

Data Lists: Companies

The names of hiring companies are listed below. These employers are in the Greater Boston Metropolitan area, except where otherwise noted.

Building Engineers
Bain & Company

Thomson Financial
New England Journal of Medicine

CDM
Harvard Medical School-Biopolymers
Facility
Quest (MN)
Virgin Healthmiles
Permabit Technology Corp
Liberty Mutual (NH)
Sentillion
SMS.ac (CA)
AMD
Emperix
General Electric (WI)
BigBad
Pyxis Mobile, Inc.
SeaChange Intl
ATG
TJX Corporation
DxCG
eons.com
College Media Networks (Viacom)

Invensys
General Dynamics C4S
Citigroup
Goldman Sachs (NY)
IBM (2)
RSA Security
Salesforce.com (CA)
EMC (4)
Dynamic Business Solutions (VT)
HiWired
ThoughtWorks (IL)
Cisco Systems
Fourmangos
Avid Technology
Microsoft (3, WA)
Google (CA)
AgencyPort Insurance Services
Pearson Education

Data Lists: Job Titles

Job titles as reported by students are as follows:

Software Engineer (12)
PC Support
Site Developer
Software Quality Assurance Engineer
Business Intelligence Specialist
Information Management Specialist
Network Operations
Database Developer
Platform Developer
Information Services Analyst
Quality Assurance Engineer
Intern
Software Developer (4)
Information Management Leadership
Program
Application Developer
User Experience Engineer
Developer

Consultant
Senior Security Administrator
Web Developer
IT Analyst
Technology Analyst
Automation Test Architect
Associate Software Engineer
Application Developer
Information Security Engineer
Consultant/Technician
Entry Level Application Developer
Computer Support Engineer
New Product Testing
Firmware/Server programmer
Program Manager
Java Developer
Project Manager

Salary of software jobs vs. non-software jobs

The job titles of Software Engineer, Software Developer, Application Developer, Entry Level Application Developer, and Java Developer were extracted from the remaining job titles. Median salaries were then calculated for each of the two groups. The median starting salary for graduates entering software jobs was \$62,500. The median salary for non-software jobs was \$60,000.

Comparison against 2006

A larger sample was available in 2007 than in 2006 (48% of the Class of 2007 responded to the survey, versus 23% in 2006).

The Class of 2007 saw an overall 2% increase in median starting salary versus the Class of 2006 (\$60,000 versus \$59,000). This increase was 5% for the B.S. in Computer Science (\$63,000 versus \$60,000), and a 26% increase for the Information Science graduates (\$58,000 in 2007 versus \$46,000 in 2006). All increases greatly exceed the inflation rate of 0.8% for the Boston area as measured by the Consumer Price Index (end of 2006 – first half 2007, Bureau of Labor Statistics [<http://www.bls.gov/>]), and thus represent a healthy improvement in the local hiring market for new graduates.

A decrease of 2.5% was seen for the salaries of the dual degrees from 2006 to 2007. Due to the small sample size of this population, this is most likely a poor representative measure of the job market's robustness for these majors.

Summary

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) salary average survey provides to its member schools a very reliable collection of data on starting salaries for new graduates. The survey is national, with no regional breakdown, so direct comparison must take into account the high Boston-area cost of living (since a majority of 2007 CCIS graduates accepted offers with Boston-area companies). Note also that the survey strictly records averages, rather than medians.

National starting salaries as reported on the NACE 2007 surveys are as follows:

- For Bachelors degrees in Computer Science: average offer \$53,051
- For Bachelors degrees in Information Science: average offer \$49,966

Mean Starting Salaries of CCIS Graduates

	N	Mean
Computer Science	32	63238.59
Information Science	12	57000.00

As mentioned in “overall statistics”, the mean (not median) salary for all CCIS graduates was \$60,931 in 2007. The mean starting salary for Computer Science and Information

Science graduates was calculated in order to further compare to the national averages. CCIS graduates with Bachelors degrees in Computer Science had an average starting salary of \$63,238. Information Science graduates had an average starting salary of \$57,000. CCIS graduates therefore compare well against national averages.