

Member wage survey, January 2006

Once a year, we anonymously poll all members listed as having worked in the last twelve months, to ask them what they have been most recently paid. The results are a barometer of the "going rates," as opposed to the contract minimums. For comparison purposes, all salaries are computed on a forty-hour week. Percentages responding are shown in each category; for categories of unit rates (i.e. piecework), the number of responses are also shown.

	respon- ses	journey minimum	2006 WAGE SURVEY			2005 SURVEY	
			minimum ²	median average ³	maximum	median average ³	difference
Writers (response¹: 38%)							
Staff Story Editors ⁴		\$1,629.04	\$1,875.00	\$2,545.00	\$4,200.00	\$2,350.00	+ \$195.00
Staff Writers		\$1,416.56	\$956.18	\$2,050.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,200.00	- \$150.00
<u>Unit rates:</u>							
Theatrical feature	1	\$9,338.50	\$450,000.00	—	—	—	
Feature first draft	1	\$9,338.50	\$62,500.00	—	—	\$42,500.00	+ \$20,000.00
Direct-to-video feature	4	\$9,338.50	\$9,000.00	\$29,500.00	\$75,000.00	\$15,000.00	+ 14,500.00
One hour or more (TV)	1	\$9,338.50	\$38,000.00	—	—	—	
Story editing, per half hour ⁴	10	—	\$6,500.00	\$8,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$7,500.00	+ \$500.00
Bibles	9	—	\$7,800.00	\$7,800.00	\$25,000.00	\$6,000.00	+ \$1,800.00
30-minute pilots	5	\$6,253.16	\$7,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$19,000.00	\$4,000.00	+ \$4,000.00
4 to 7 minutes	2	\$2,602.47	\$2,540.00	\$2,540.00	\$2,540.00	—	
7 to 11 minutes	12	\$3,318.52	\$2,000.00	\$3,250.00	\$8,000.00	\$3,250.00	0
30 minute episodes [network]	8	\$6,253.16	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,500.00	0
30 minute episodes [cable]	7	\$6,253.16	\$6,250.00	\$6,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,000.00	+ \$500.00
30 minute eps [syndicated]	5	\$6,253.16	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,150.00	- \$150.00
Producers⁴ (responses: 19%)							
		\$1,629.04	\$956.18	\$1,780.00	\$1,872.00	\$2,813.64	- \$1,033.64
Directors/Timers (response: 38%)							
Directors (Theatrical feature) ⁴		\$1,629.04	\$1,750.00	\$2,909.00	\$6,609.38	\$3,200.00	- \$290.91
Directors (TV, etc.)		\$1,629.04	\$1,562.50	\$2,472.00	\$4,300.00	\$2,350.00	+ \$122.00
Assistant Directors		\$1,329.52	\$1,125.00	\$1,312.50	\$3,347.00	\$1,825.00	- \$512.50
Sheet Timers		\$1,329.52	\$1,100.00	\$1,873.20	\$2,530.00	\$1,830.00	+ \$43.20
<u>Unit rates:</u>							
Sheet timing, per foot	18	—	\$1.00	\$3.00	\$5.00	—	
Story Art (response: 35%)							
Story Supervisors		\$1,629.04	\$2,187.50	\$2,705.45	\$4,150.00	—	
Story Development		\$1,629.04	\$1,718.75	\$2,099.38	\$2,480.00	—	
Story Artists (Feature)		\$1,629.04	\$901.00	\$2,188.49	\$5,800.00	\$2,000.00	+ \$188.49
Production Board (TV, etc.)		\$1,629.04	\$850.00	\$1,825.00	\$3,200.00	\$1,762.50	+ \$62.50
Production Board Revisions		\$1,207.96	\$1,000.00	\$1,425.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,375.00	+ \$50.00
<u>Unit rates:</u>							
Theatrical feature, per page	1	—	\$750.00	—	—	—	
"Beat board" panels, per panel	1	—	\$540.00	—	—	—	
7-11 minutes, per storyboard	6	\$1,289.58	\$2,000.00	\$4,100.00	\$9,000.00	\$4,750.00	- \$650.00
Half hour, per page	6	—	\$300.00	\$325.00	\$375.00	\$300.00	+ \$25.00
Half hour, per act	3	—	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00	—	
Half hour, per storyboard	7	\$2,448.86	\$4,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	0
Design (response: 38%)							
Art Directors		\$1,629.04	\$1,436.88	\$2,545.45	\$4,670.00	\$2,000.00	+ \$545.45
Visual Development		\$1,416.56	\$1,416.56	\$2,200.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,918.75	+ \$281.25
Model Designers		\$1,416.56	\$1,031.25	\$1,600.00	\$2,250.00	\$1,550.00	+ \$50.00
Assistants/Clean-Up		\$1,207.96	\$1,208.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,500.00	—	
Color Key/Color Stylists		\$1,207.96	\$980.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,300.00	+ \$100.00
Layout/Background (response: 29%)							
Character Layout		\$1,416.56	\$1,207.96	\$1,568.00	\$2,763.64	\$1,764.00	- \$196.00
Background Layout/Design		\$1,416.56	\$1,062.50	\$1,700.00	\$2,200.00	\$1,700.00	0
Background Painters		\$1,416.56	\$1,125.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,880.00	\$1,750.00	+ \$50.00
Workbook		\$1,416.56	\$1,500.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,625.00	+ \$125.00
Technical Direction/Compositing (response: 25%)							
Technical Directors		\$1,416.56	\$951.27	\$1,924.50	\$4,400.00	\$1,724.18	+ \$200.32
Key/Lead Lighters		\$1,416.56	\$1,745.45	\$2,231.58	\$2,400.00	—	
Lighters		\$1,416.56	\$951.20	\$1,600.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,712.73	- \$112.73
Look Development		\$1,416.56	\$1,300.00	\$2,450.00	\$2,850.00	—	
Surfacers		\$1,416.56	\$987.16	\$1,492.37	\$2,400.00	—	
Texture Painters		\$1,416.56	\$987.16	\$1,854.55	\$3,762.00	\$1,375.32	+ \$479.23
Visual Effects		\$1,416.56	\$1,300.00	\$1,960.84	\$3,757.00	\$1,700.00	+ \$260.84
Assistant/Apprentice TDs		\$1,207.96	\$1,008.10	\$1,228.98	\$1,418.18	\$1,329.00	- \$100.03
3D Compositors		\$1,264.64	\$1,381.82	\$2,000.00	\$2,700.00	\$1,800.00	+ \$200.00
2D Compositors		\$998.40	\$1,200.00	\$1,726.37	\$2,500.00	—	
Animation/Modeling (response: 29%)							
Supervising Animators		\$1,629.04	\$2,545.45	\$3,025.00	\$5,818.18	\$2,700.00	+ \$325.00
3D Animators		\$1,416.56	\$857.14	\$1,809.09	\$5,500.00	\$2,011.32	- \$202.23
3D Modelers		\$1,416.56	\$1,416.00	\$1,950.00	\$2,500.00	—	
2D Animators		\$1,416.56	\$650.00	\$1,425.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,785.23	- \$360.23
Assistant Animators		\$1,207.96	\$814.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,200.00	0
Animatics ⁴		—	\$1,350.00	\$1,475.00	\$1,600.00	—	
Animation Processors [Flash]		\$1,016.56	\$928.00	\$1,134.09	\$1,500.00	—	
Checkers/Technicians (response: 22%)							
Digital Animation Checkers		\$1,207.96	\$825.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,635.00	\$1,300.00	+ \$75.00
Scene Planners ⁴		\$1,256.08	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,300.00	—	
Scanners		\$987.80	\$980.00	\$1,040.00	\$1,100.00	—	
Opaquers		\$998.40	\$1,600.00	\$1,780.00	\$1,872.00	—	

TOTAL RETURNS: 33.5% (2005: 25.7%)

¹ Of those members listed in our records as most recently employed in the category, the percentage who responded to the 2005 survey.

² Many of the minimums listed are for persons working at non-union shops at less than journey level.

³ The "median averages" represent the middle rates when the results were listed in order from lowest to highest. These numbers should be viewed in the context of the minimums and maximums reported, and the percentage of response.

⁴ Not all persons working in this category are under the Guild's jurisdiction; results should be judged accordingly.

Categories not listed had insufficient replies for tallying.