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## 121st Annual Meeting

New Frontiers in Newspapering

Oct. 15-17 Renaissance Chicago Hotel



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Practical help for progressive newspapers.

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## Research

National Cost and Revenue Study  
Newspaper Industry Compensation Survey (NICS)  
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## NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY COMPENSATION SURVEY (NICS)



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Tuesday, July 18, 2006

### Inland releases NICS

Inland Staff Report

**Online editors** enjoyed the biggest increases in base pay and incentives last year, according to the 2006 Newspaper Industry Compensation Survey.

Specific salary figures and ranges from the confidential survey are released only to study participants. The percentage changes released to the public are useful in identifying patterns and trends in occupational groupings, said Robert Greene, principal and CEO at Reward Systems, Glenview, Ill., and quality control consultant to the NICS for more than 10 years. Persistence of rapid upward trends can indicate a function is taking on more significance in organizations, he said.

The position of online editor recorded an **8.1 percent** increase in base pay from 2005 to 2006, according to the NICS. The position also posted an **8.8 percent** increase in total direct pay, which consists of salary and incentives.

Greene noted that the NICS figures are highly reliable. The 2006 NICS includes data from **521 daily newspapers**, up from 519 last year. Participation has been up significantly from 455 newspapers in 2003. The number of papers reporting and Inland's more than 75 years of compiling confidential compensation data make the NICS the industry standard in measuring newspaper compensation levels.

Year-to-year comparisons measured by the NICS are based on responses from newspapers reporting in both years. For 2005 and 2006 comparisons, 484 newspapers were used. The percentages reflect changes only at those newspapers participating in both years.

A comparison of all newspapers reporting in 2006 with all newspapers reporting in 2005 shows an average increase in base pay of **2.58 percent** across all occupations, a slight dip from last year's 2.72 percent.

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Newspaper Compensation Best Circulation Managers Credibility Crisis Copy Editing

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**Address:** Inland Press Association/Inland Press Foundation, 701 Lee Street,  
Suite 925, Des Plaines, IL 60016 | **Phone:** (847) 795-0380 | **Fax:** (847) 795-0385  
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118th Annual Meeting



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