In the fall of 1995, the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) collected employment and salary information from its certificants during the annual renewal process. Similar data were collected during the 1992–1993 renewal process, allowing some data comparison between both surveys. Although some comparisons will be made, the goal of this article is to analyze statistics from the 1995–1996 survey.

Data Collection
The types of data collected from the 1995–1996 survey include annual salary, employment status, job title, job responsibility, and gender. Some general inferences can be made between the 1992–1993 and the 1995–1996 surveys. However, only slight statistical variations between the surveys were noted. As there is a 5% to 7% margin of error between both surveys, certain comparisons made between the surveys would be statistically unsound.

Two renewal notices with a questionnaire were sent out to 14,245 certificants in November 1995 and February 1996. Data from the survey represent all responses received on or before June 24, 1996. The information collected was used to generate a database for statistical analysis and only valid responses were considered in the analysis of the data. A total of 12,246 responses was tabulated. However, not all respondents answered every question in the survey, which caused variation between each data field. Therefore, an overall valid response rate cannot be tabulated.

1995–1996 Employment and Salary Survey Results
Initial data indicate that of the 12,246 respondents, 56% were women and 44% were men. A breakdown between full-time and part-time employment was not determined.

Figure 1 identifies the frequency response of years worked in nuclear medicine. Data were subdivided into 5-year increments, starting at 0–5 years and ending at 41–45 years. The 1992–1993 and 1995–1996 surveys clearly show that most certificants still have 20 years or less work experience. However, the 1995–1996 survey shows an increase in the number of certificants with more than 20 years work experience. This may indicate a significant retention of nuclear medicine technologists within the profession.

Figure 2 and Table 1 identify frequency response in job title as related to gender. A greater number of women work as staff technologist when compared to men. In the areas of supervisor, chief technologist and director, however, there is a greater percentage of men with these job titles. In comparison to the 1992–1993 survey, there is no significant statistical difference.

An analysis of job responsibility according to gender is presented in Figure 3 and Table 2. A total of 57% of all nuclear medicine technologists work in the area of imaging and this remains unchanged from the previous survey results. Likewise, the percentage of men is greater than women in the area of managerial responsibility (17% men to 10% women). In comparison to the 1992–1993 survey, men had a greater percent of management responsibility. One possible inference is that the total respondents that had managerial responsibility dropped from 18% in 1992–1993 to 13% in 1995–1996. Possible reasons for this could be the overall changes occurring in health care or an
The most frequent error in these surveys may not be statistically significant.

Annual salary ranges for certified nuclear medicine technologists according to gender are presented in Table 3 and Figure 4. The salary range begins at $16,000 and ends at more than $76,000 per year, with $4,000 increments. Referring to the salary codes in Figure 4, the histogram indicates that the most frequent salary range for women is $32,000 - $35,999, while men earn $36,000 - $39,999. There is no statistical difference from the 1992-1993 survey. Furthermore, the analysis of overall salaries for both surveys shows a median range of $36,000 - $39,999. This is the same as the previous survey. These data indicate no significant increase or decrease in salaries within the profession. Monetary inflation was not considered when determining this relationship (1).

General salary codes were divided into 11 regions within the U.S. However, gender was not taken into account (Fig. 5). Most regions showed the highest frequency response in the $32,000 - $35,999 range. However, two regions showed the highest median salary ranges: the region containing Missouri, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Delaware, and Pennsylvania at $36,000 - $39,999, and the region consisting of Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona at $40,000 - $43,999. The region of noncontiguous states and terri-
Figures consisting of Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam have the greatest overall statistical variation due to the small sample size. A comparison to the 1992–1993 survey was not made.

Conclusion
The majority of data reflects little to no statistical difference between the 1992–1993 and 1995–1996 surveys. However, the one exception may be the possible reduction of managerial roles within the nuclear medicine profession. Future surveys may render additional information and will be published as data become available.
NMTCB 1995–1996 Employment and Salary Survey Results

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