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NMTCB 1995-1996 Employment and Salary Survey Results

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 (1). 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 (1). 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 per-

centage of men with these job titles. In comparison to the 1992-1993 survey, there is no significant statistical difference (1).

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 (1). Possible reasons for this could be the overall changes occurring in health care or an

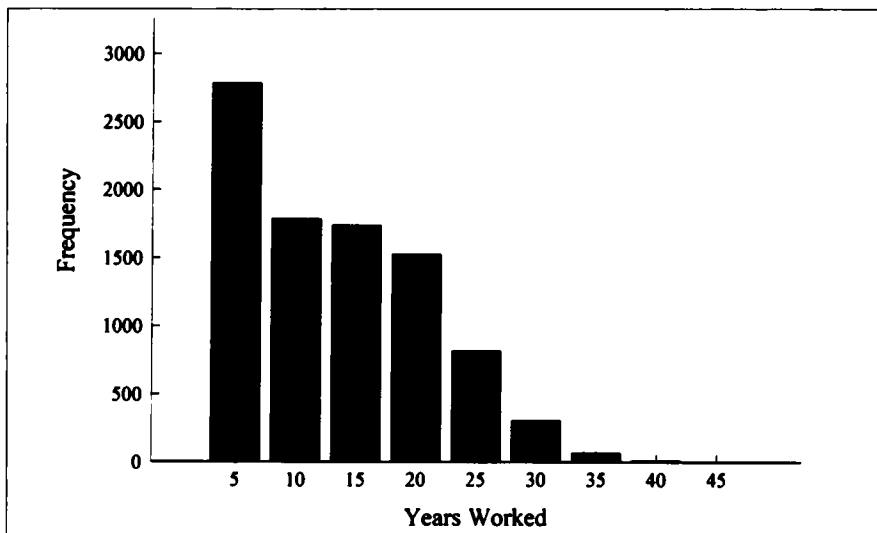


Figure 1. Years Worked in Nuclear Medicine

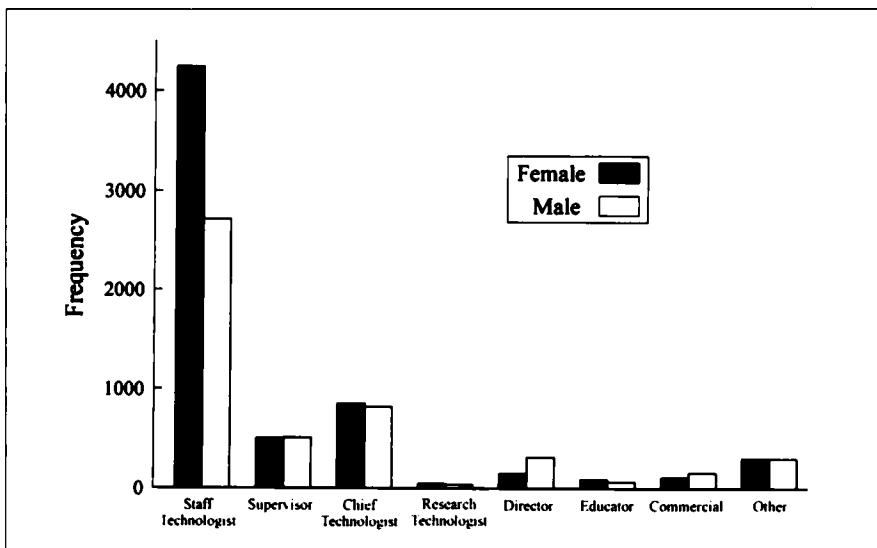


Figure 2. Job Title According to Gender

Title	Female	Male	% Total	% Female	% Male
Staff Technologist	4242	2714	62	67	55
Supervisor	504	508	9	8	10
Chief Technologist	851	818	15	14	17
Research Technologist	45	35	1	1	1
Director	145	313	4	2	6
Educator	88	67	1	1	1
Commercial	111	155	2	2	3
Other	299	298	5	5	6
Total	6285	4908			
Grand Total	11193				

Table 1. Job Title According to Gender

Job Responsibility	Female	Male	% Total	% Female	% Male
Management	622	837	13	10	17
Quality Control	101	87	2	2	2
Nuclear Pharmacy	46	54	1	1	1
Nuclear Cardiology	915	691	14	15	14
Medical Technology	116	98	2	2	2
Imaging	3751	2513	57	60	52
RIA	60	21	1	1	0
Education	115	87	2	2	2
Computers	104	119	2	2	2
Research	54	59	1	1	1
Sales/Marketing	78	108	2	1	2
Other	254	192	4	4	4
Total	6216	4866			
Grand Total	11082				

Table 2. Job Responsibility According to Gender

Code	Salary Range	Female	Male	% Total	% Female	% Male
1	<\$16,000	174	65	2	3	1
2	\$16,000-\$19,999	105	37	1	2	1
3	\$20,000-\$23,999	176	76	2	3	2
4	\$24,000-\$27,999	341	208	5	6	4
5	\$28,000-\$31,999	788	462	12	13	10
6	\$32,000-\$35,999	1235	751	19	21	16
7	\$36,000-\$39,999	1148	843	19	19	18
8	\$40,000-\$43,999	824	672	14	14	14
9	\$44,000-\$47,999	420	454	8	7	10
10	\$48,000-\$51,999	327	389	7	5	8
11	\$52,000-\$55,999	171	238	4	3	5
12	\$56,000-\$59,999	78	150	2	1	3
13	\$60,000-\$63,999	84	86	2	1	2
14	\$64,000-\$67,999	20	56	1	0	1
15	\$68,000-\$71,999	21	44	1	0	1
16	\$72,000-\$75,999	11	31	0	0	1
17	>\$76,000	28	97	1	0	2
Total		5951	4659			
Grand Total		10610				

Table 3. Salary Range According to Gender

increase in the span of control on the managerial level. However, if the margins of error in these surveys are between 5% to 7%, the drop in managerial responsibility 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 less than \$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-

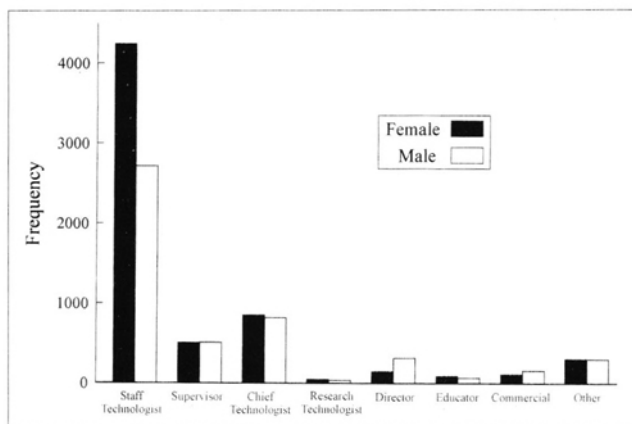


Figure 3. Job Responsibility According to Gender

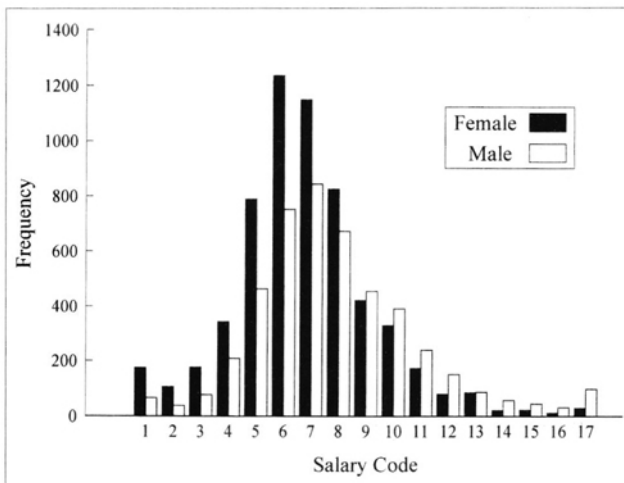


Figure 4. Salary Ranges According to Gender (See Table 3 for dollar amount of each salary code.)

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tories 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.

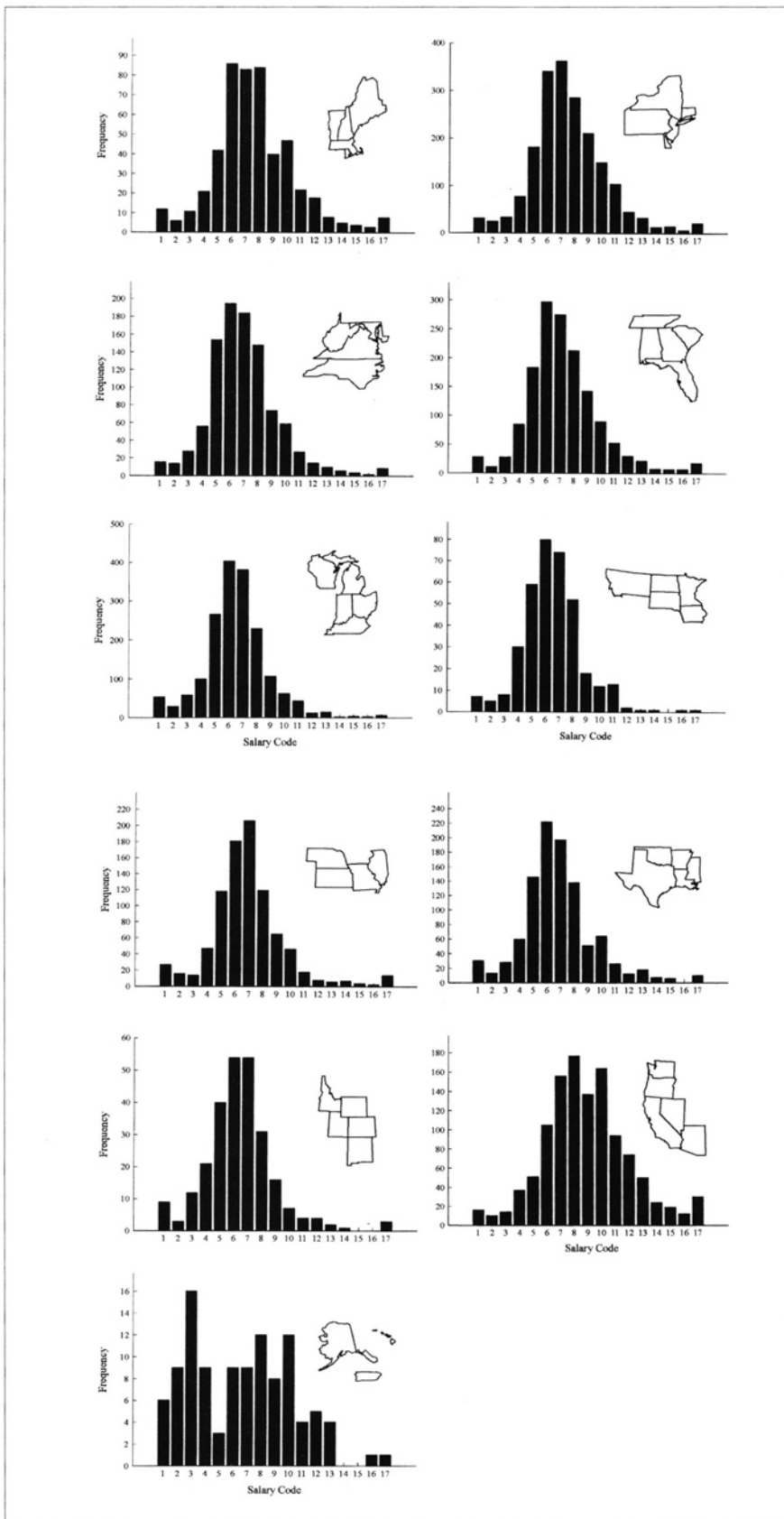


Figure 5. Salary Ranges According to Geographic Region (See Table 3 for dollar amount of each salary code.)