

NUJ London Magazine Branch

NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS

Branch Chair: Alan Gibson, 0207 254 5033
181 Richmond Road E8 3NJ

Treasurer: Gordon Jamieson, 0208 806 6229
23 Gunton Road, London E5 9JT
Email: agitator@lineone.net

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NUJ London Magazine Branch pay survey 2005

Questionnaires went to 2,300 NUJ members and 1,100 non-members in September/October 2005
Responses cover 46 companies in and around London, and cover 66 named titles

Staff posts

Junior reporter

Average salary	£20,780
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£21,460
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£20,330
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	£19,750
<i>No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies</i>	
Salary range	£18,000-23,910

Reporter

Average salary	£22,460
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£24,380
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£21,500
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	£21,830
<i>No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies</i>	
Salary range	£18,500-27,130

Senior reporter

Average salary	£25,590
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£28,270
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£22,250
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	£21,000
<i>No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies</i>	
Salary range	£14,000-35,000

Section editor

Average salary	£28,760
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£36,270
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£25,640
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	£25,920
Average salary on weekly titles	£32,340
Average salary on monthly titles	£20,630
Average salary on trade titles	£30,400
Average salary on consumer titles	£35,770
Salary range	£15,000-46,250

News editor

Average salary	£29,860
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£37,000
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£27,370
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	N/A
Average salary on weekly titles	£36,130
Average salary on monthly titles	£28,280
<i>No significant difference between consumer/trade press</i>	
Salary range	£19,000-46,000

Editor

Average salary	£39,800
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£46,500
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£38,460
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	N/A
Average salary on weekly titles	£49,670
Average salary on monthly titles	£37,450
<i>No significant difference between consumer/trade press</i>	
Salary range	£22,000-63,000

Sub-editor

Average salary	£23,960
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£25,150
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£21,000
Average salary for staff in post less than one year	N/A
<i>No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies</i>	
Salary range	£20,000-26,500

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Senior sub-editor

Average salary	£29,760
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£32,380
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£26,270

Average salary for staff in post less than one year N/A
 No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies
 Salary range £19,000-35,000

Chief sub-editor

Average salary	£34,890
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£37,700
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£33,490

Average salary for staff in post less than one year N/A
 No significant difference between consumer/trade press
 Average salary on weekly titles £35,340
 Average salary on monthly titles £34,400
 Salary range £28,500-40,100

Designer

Average salary	£21,930
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£26,500
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£20,400

Average salary for staff in post less than one year N/A
 No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies
 Salary range £15,000-28,000

Senior designer

Average salary	£37,230
Average for NUJ-recognised workplaces	£37,960
Average for non-recognised workplaces	£36,500

Average salary for staff in post less than one year N/A
 No significant difference between consumer/trade press or weeklies/monthlies
 Salary range £33,000-50,000

Freelance rates

Day rate for reporter

Average daily shift	£138.00
Average daily shift in NUJ-recognised workplaces	£152.00
Average daily shift in non-recognised workplaces	£132.90

Average daily shift in trade press £148.60
 Average daily shift in consumer press £119.70
 No significant difference between weeklies or monthlies
 Range £98.00-250.00

Average rate per 1,000 words	£224.00
Average rate per 1,000 in NUJ-recognised workplaces	£235.00
Average rate per 1,000 in non-recognised workplaces	£217.00

Day rate for sub-editor

Average daily shift	£126.50
Average daily shift in NUJ-recognised workplaces	£132.70
Average daily shift in non-recognised workplaces	£124.80

Average daily shift in trade press £141.20
 Average daily shift in consumer press £118.30
 No significant difference between weeklies or monthlies
 Range £110.00-156.00

Responses

'Aside from my promotion, I've never had a pay rise in all the three and a half years I've been with this company.'

'Pay is the big issue here. There are no pay scales. I face losing a large proportion of my team over pay.'

'There is no pay structure; each magazine appears to set its own scale.'

'Magazine day rates still non-negotiable, irrespective of the the level of experience and other skills you bring that would benefit a company.'

'I worked on the launch of a magazine in 1998 for £110 a day – it's still the same rate now.'

How this compares with 2000 survey

Job	2000 average salary	2005 average salary	Percentage change in five years
Junior reporter	16,050	20,780	29.5%
Reporter	22,270	22,460	0.9%
Senior reporter	23,640	25,590	8.2%
Section editor	26,640	28,760	8.0%
News editor	23,400	29,860	27.6%
Editor	29,650	39,800	34.2%
Sub-editor	21,800	23,960	9.9%
Senior sub-editor	24,770	29,760	20.1%
Chief sub-editor	30,400	34,890	14.8%
Designer	18,750	21,930	17.0%
Senior designer	30,000	37,230	24.1%
Sub-editors' day rate, trade press	£131.10	141.20	7.7%
Sub-editors' day rate, consumer press	£104.00	118.30	13.8%