Microscopy Today
2007 Salary Survey Results

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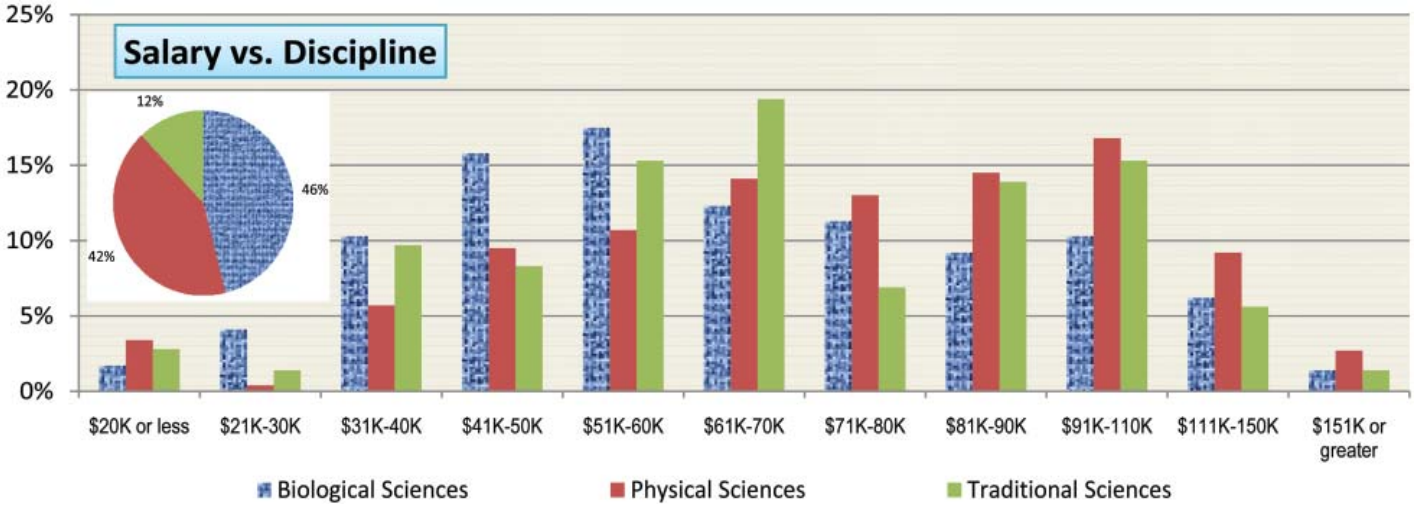
Salary Surveys continue to create considerable interest. We still get requests for our 2004 salary survey results to this day[1]. The current survey parallels the format of the 2004 survey, asking the identical questions to facilitate comparisons. The 2007 survey was sent by email to those Microscopy Today subscribers in the United States for whom we had email addresses. Respondents completed the survey on the internet[2] within an eight-day window in mid-May 2007. We needed 350 respondents in order to have results accurate to ± 3%; we had 674 respondents. The survey was anonymous. Thank you to all that participated.

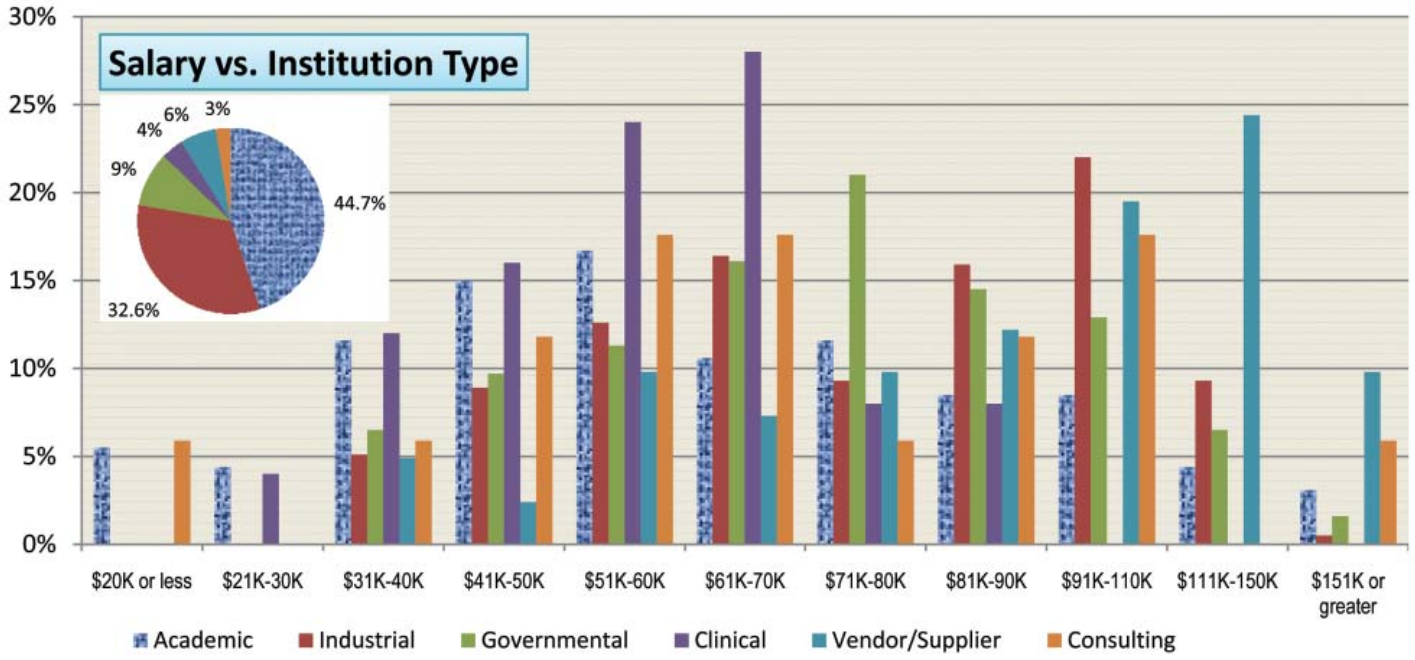
The 2004 salary survey established that regional geographic differences in salary had essentially disappeared at that time. Accordingly, we did not ask respondents what state they resided in for this survey.

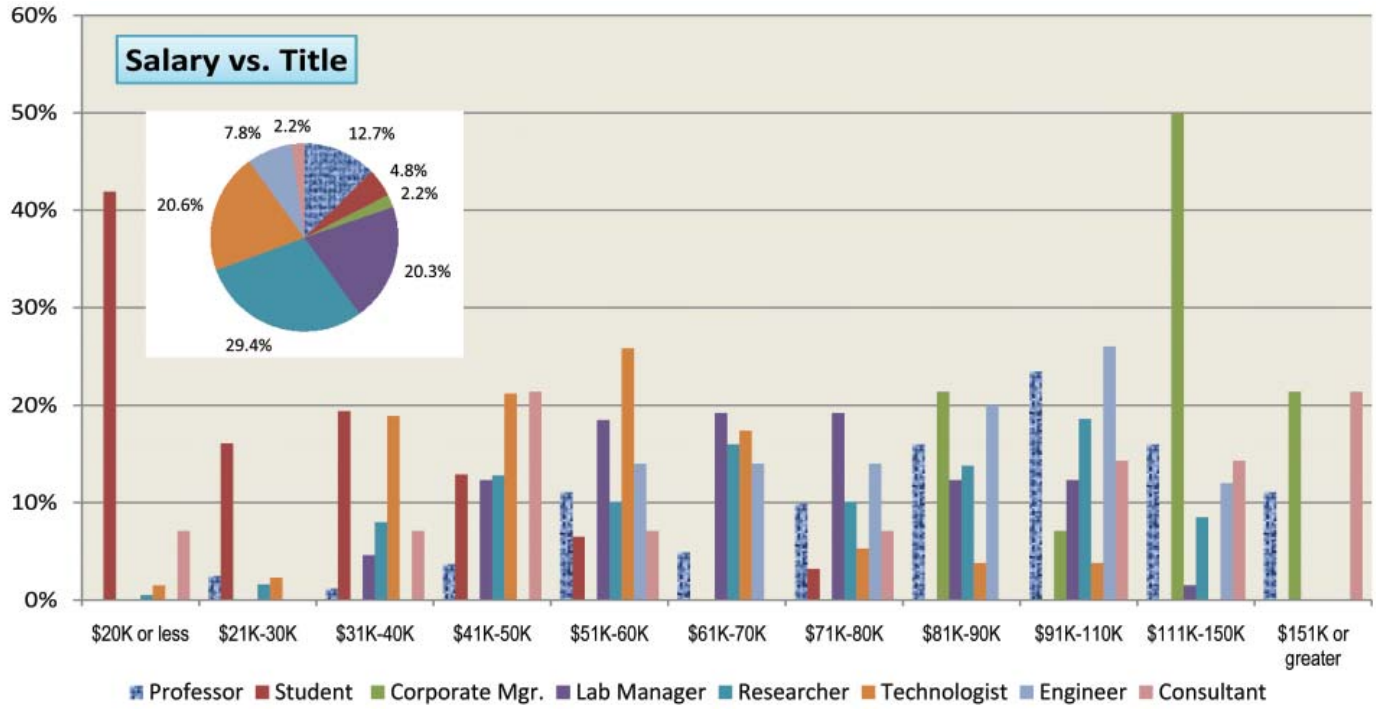
The data are reported graphically rather than in table format except for the instrument cross-correaltion table. To read, simply follow the bars of interest. Each bar denotes the percentage of that population that reported a specific salary range. Overall, the individual histograms should tend towards a log-normal distribution. For example: the salaries of biologists in the first table. The pie-chart inserts shows the percentages of respondents in each case. Groups with a low percentage of participation will have distributions that differ in varying degrees from the expected log-normal distribution.

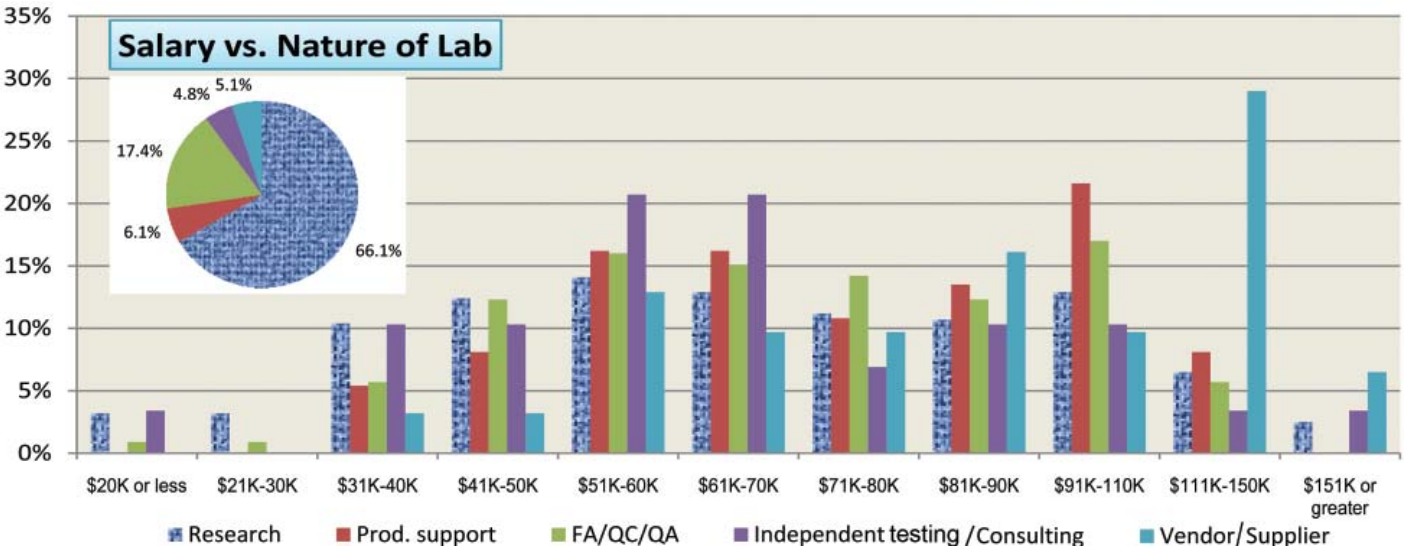
For the most part we are leaving it up to the reader to draw their own conclusions and interpretation of the data. Comparisons between this data and the 2004 data are useful. To facilitate these comparisons we have placed both the 2004 and 2007 data on our website: http://www.microscopy-today.com for PDF download.

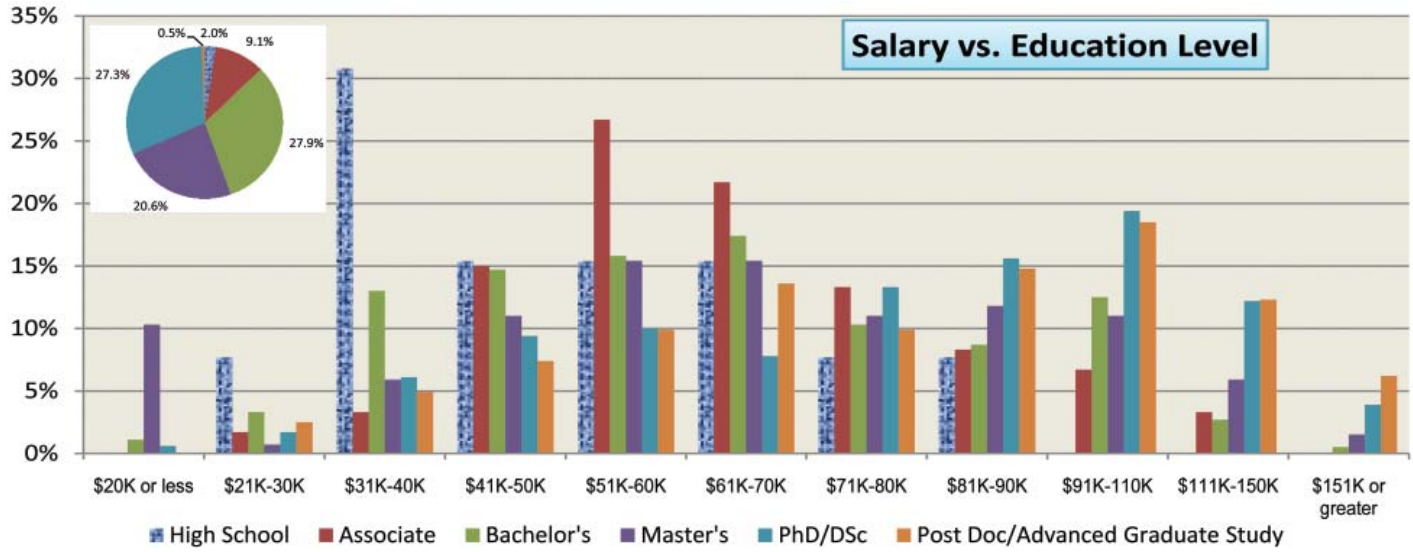


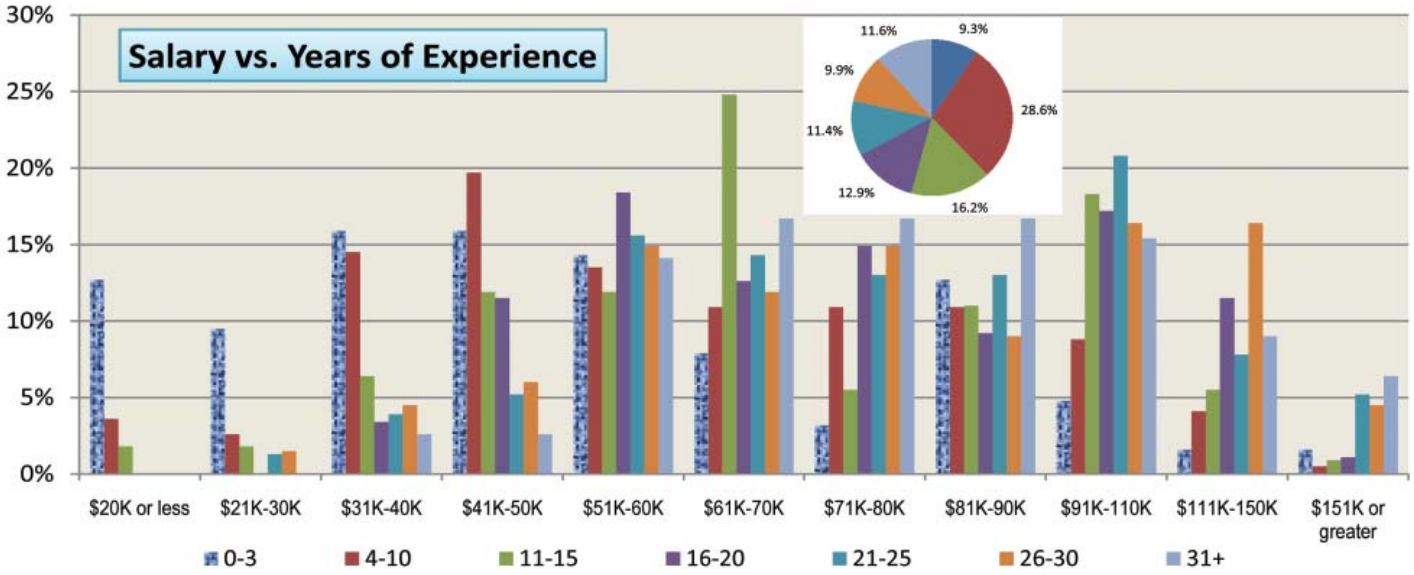
Biological Sciences (biology, biotech, medicine, pharmaceuticals), Physical Sciences (materials science, Nanotechnology, semiconductors, forensics), and Traditional sciences (chemistry, physics, geology, earth and environmental sciences).

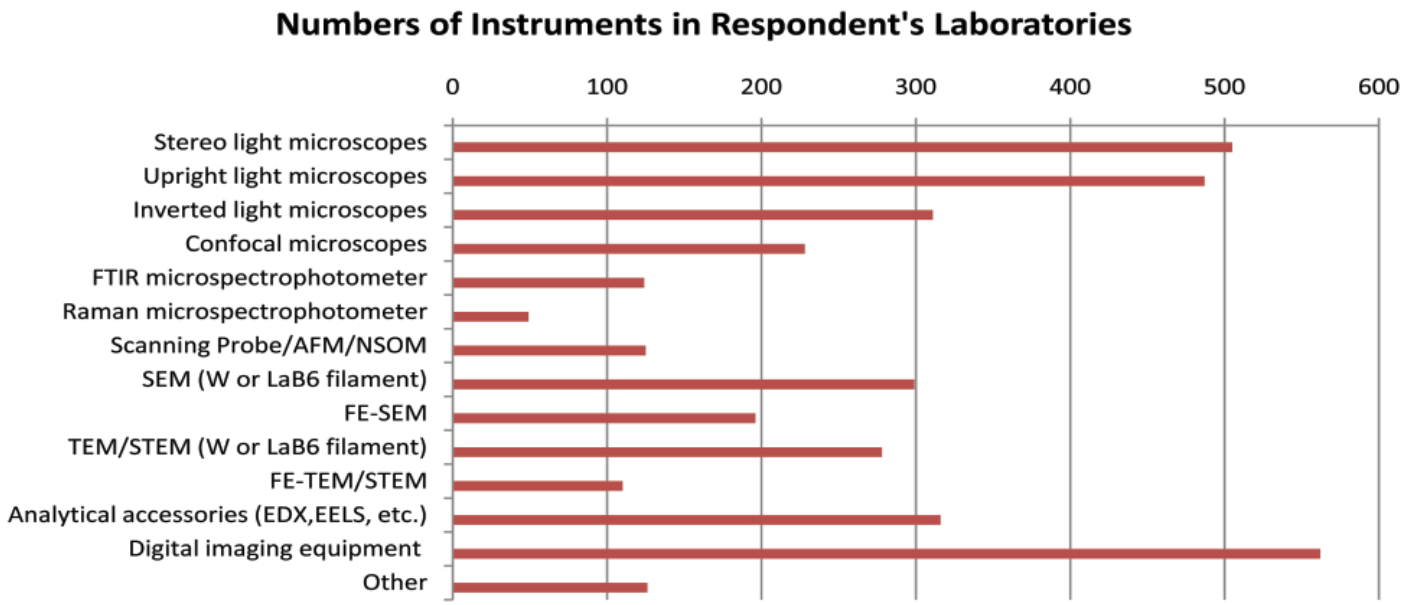



Salary vs. Title
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
7.8%
2.2%
12.7%
4.8%
2.2%
20.6%
20.3%
29.4%
$20K or less
$21K-30K
$31K-40K
$41K-50K
$51K-60K
$61K-70K
$71K-80K
$81K-90K
$91K-110K
$111K-150K
$151K or greater
Professor
Student
Corporate Mgr.
Lab Manager
Researcher
Technologist
Engineer
Consultant


Salary vs. Nature of Lab
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
4.8%
5.1%
17.4%
6.1%
66.1%
$20K or less
$21K-30K
$31K-40K
$41K-50K
$51K-60K
$61K-70K
$71K-80K
$81K-90K
$91K-110K
$111K-150K
$151K or greater
Research
Prod. support
FA/QC/QA
Independent testing /Consulting
Vendor/Supplier


Salary vs. Education Level
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
0.5%
2.0%
9.1%
27.3%
27.9%
20.6%
$20K or less
$21K-30K
$31K-40K
$41K-50K
$51K-60K
$61K-70K
$71K-80K
$81K-90K
$91K-110K
$111K-150K
$151K or greater
High School
Associate
Bachelor's
Master's
PhD/DSc
Post Doc/Advanced Graduate Study





The survey questions pertaining to instrument identification and usage, with two exceptions, will not be reported upon in Microscopy Today. Individuals interested in that data should contact Barbara Foster. The instrument data we deemed to be of interest to the readers of Microscopy Today are presented in the bar graph above and in the table on the next page.

Probably way down the list in importance to our readers, after salary data, is the desire to learn the present situation with regard to the number and types of instruments used by our respondents and the cross correlation of one group of instruments with another group in the same laboratory.

One very obvious conclusion in the number of instruments bar graph, that confirms the reader's intuitive sense, is the number of labs that use digital imaging acquisition and software for data collection. From the numbers in the table, 562 of the 674 repondents have entered the digital age. Subtract away corporate managers and vendor sales people from the 674 respondents and it is probably safe to say that nearly 100% of the microscopist users have gone digital.

It is also useful to note that respondents performing non-visible light microscopy remain strong customers of vendors selling light microscopes. 87% of W or LaB_6 SEM users also have stereo microscopes in their labs, etc. The conclusion an instrument manufacturer can draw from that is that just because a particular laboratory is known to be an electron microscopy facility, that does not mean that there are no opprotunities to sell visible light microscopes as well as specimen preparation supplies, etc.

It is our intention to conduct a salary survey of microscopists every other year from this time forward. ■

1. R. Anderson and B. Foster, Microscopy Today 2004 Salary Survey Results, *Microsc.Today,* 14,1, 2004. Available from R.A. in PDF format.
2. The survey was executed by Zoomerang, A MarketTools Inc. Company, San Francisco, CA. http:www.zoomerang.com.

Instrument Cross Correlation Analysis															
		Stereo light microscopes	Upright light microscopes	Inverted light microscopes	Confocal microscopes	FTIR microspectro-photometer	Raman microspectro-photometer	Scanning Probe/AFM/ NSOM	SEM (W or LaB6 filament)	FE-SEM	TEM/STEM (W or LaB6 filament)	FE-TEM/STEM	Analytical accessories (EDX,EELS, light spectroscopy, etc.)	Digital imaging equipment (camera, image acq. & proc. software)	Other
		**505	487	311	228	124	49	125	299	196	278	110	316	562	126
Stereo light microscopes	*505	505	393	250	180	112	40	98	259	155	213	76	260	444	91
	75%	100%	81%	80%	79%	90%	82%	78%	87%	79%	77%	69%	82%	79%	72%
Upright light microscopes	487	***393	487	256	196	96	40	98	222	143	219	75	226	438	96
	72%	78%	100%	82%	86%	77%	82%	78%	74%	73%	79%	68%	72%	78%	76%
Inverted light microscopes	311	250	256	311	157	50	15	61	134	89	125	50	136	279	62
	46%	50%	53%	100%	69%	40%	31%	49%	45%	45%	45%	46%	43%	50%	49%
Confocal microscopes	228	180	196	157	228	30	16	57	90	67	100	37	93	211	48
	34%	36%	40%	51%	100%	24%	33%	46%	30%	34%	36%	34%	29%	38%	38%
FTIR microspectrophotometer	124	112	96	50	30	124	40	39	91	59	46	22	99	113	21
	18%	22%	20%	16%	13%	100%	82%	31%	30%	30%	17%	20%	31%	20%	17%
Raman microspectrophotometer	49	40	40	15	16	40	49	28	36	32	30	16	42	44	11
	7%	8%	8%	5%	7%	32%	100%	22%	12%	16%	11%	15%	13%	8%	9%
Scanning Probe/AFM/NSOM	125	98	98	61	57	39	28	125	80	77	74	47	93	109	22
	19%	19%	20%	20%	25%	32%	57%	100%	27%	39%	27%	43%	29%	19%	18%
SEM (W or LaB6 filament)	299	259	222	134	90	91	36	80	299	117	157	62	226	271	51
	44%	51%	46%	43%	40%	73%	74%	64%	100%	60%	57%	56%	72%	48%	41%
FE-SEM	196	155	143	89	67	59	32	77	117	196	119	75	169	181	40
	29%	31%	29%	29%	29%	48%	65%	62%	39%	100%	43%	68%	54%	32%	32%
TEM/STEM (W or LaB6 filament)	278	213	219	125	100	46	30	74	157	119	278	83	163	250	46
	41%	42%	45%	40%	44%	37%	61%	59%	53%	61%	100%	76%	52%	45%	37%
FE-TEM/STEM	110	76	75	50	37	22	16	47	62	75	83	110	91	100	20
	16%	15%	15%	16%	16%	18%	33%	38%	21%	38%	30%	100%	29%	18%	16%
Analytical accessories (EDX,EELS, light spectroscopy, etc.)	316	260	226	136	93	99	42	93	226	169	163	91	316	291	62
	47%	52%	46%	44%	41%	80%	86%	74%	76%	86%	59%	83%	100%	52%	49%
Digital imaging equipment (camera, image acquisition & processing software)	562	444	438	279	211	113	44	109	271	181	250	100	291	562	102
	83%	88%	90%	90%	93%	91%	90%	87%	91%	92%	90%	91%	92%	100%	81%
Other	129	94	98	62	49	21	12	22	53	40	47	20	64	104	126
	19.10%	18.60%	20.10%	19.90%	21.50%	16.90%	24.50%	17.60%	17.70%	20.40%	16.90%	18.20%	20.30%	18.50%	100.00 %

* Total number of respondents who own row instrument.

** Total number of respondents who own column instrument.

*** Total number of respondents who own BOTH row AND column instrument.