EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
RESPONDENT PROFILE

The following tables and charts provide information about the respondents of this year’s study.

Over two-thirds of the respondents indicated the United States as their primary residence. Outside the U.S., the largest percentage of respondents reported Europe as their primary residence.

WHERE IS YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE?

U.S. Region Definitions

New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont;
Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania;
South Atlantic: Washington D.C., Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia;
East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin;
East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee;
West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota;
West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas;
Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming; and
More than two-thirds (71%) of the respondents were female.

**GENDER**

![Gender Pie Chart]

The typical (median) respondent was 50 years old. More than one-third (39%) of the respondents were 55 or older.

**WHAT IS YOUR AGE?**

![Age Pie Chart]
The vast majority of respondents were ATA members (90%).

**ARE YOU AN ATA MEMBER?**

- Yes, 90.4%
- No, 9.6%

More than one-third of respondents have worked in the translation and/or interpreting professions for more than 20 years. Only 14% reported 5 or less years in the profession.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED IN THE TRANSLATION AND/OR INTERPRETING PROFESSIONS?**

- More than 20 years, 35.8%
- 16 to 20 years, 16.9%
- 11-15 years, 18.3%
- 6-10 years, 15.3%
- 3-5 years, 9.2%
- 1-2 years, 3.5%
- Less than 1 year, 1.1%
Three-quarters of the respondents work primarily on translation or translation-related activities. Only 12% indicated they worked primarily on interpreting or interpreting-related activities.

**IS YOUR WORK PRIMARILY...**

- Translation or translation-related, 74.3%
- Interpreting or interpreting-related, 11.5%
- Both about equal, 14.2%

More than half of the respondents identified themselves as a full-time independent contractor. Independent contractors (full-time and part-time) made up over three-quarters of the respondents.

**WHAT IS YOUR PRIMARY T&I EMPLOYMENT STATUS?**

- Full-time independent contractor: 55.3%
- Part-time independent contractor: 20.6%
- Full-time private sector employee: 6.4%
- Part-time private sector employee: 1.1%
- T&I company owner: 10.4%
- Educator: 1.5%
- Government employee: 2.4%
- Other: 2.4%
More than half of the respondents had an advanced degree.

**HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION COMPLETED**

- Master's degree, 45.6%
- Doctorate degree, 10.3%
- Professional degree, 5.5%
- High school, 3.2%
- Associate's degree, 3.0%
- Bachelor's degree, 32.4%

Thirty percent of the respondents reported having a degree in translation.

**DO YOU HAVE A DEGREE IN TRANSLATION?**

- Yes, 29.5%
- No, 70.5%
Only 12% of the respondents reported having a degree in interpreting.

**DO YOU HAVE A DEGREE IN INTERPRETING?**

- Yes, 11.9%
- No, 88.1%

About half reported having a non-degree or professional certificate in translation or interpreting.

**DO YOU HAVE A NON-DEGREE OR PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN TRANSLATION OR INTERPRETING?**

- Yes, 49.5%
- No, 50.5%
Less than one-third of the respondents reported being ATA-certified.

**ARE YOU ATA-CERTIFIED?**

- Yes, 31.6%
- No, 68.4%

State Court Interpreter Certification and the U.S. Department Exam were the most common certifications or exams attained by respondents.

**PERCENTAGE HOLDING A CERTIFICATION OR SUCCESSFULLY PASSING A QUALIFYING EXAM FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:**

- State Court Interpreter Certification: 8.1%
- U.S. State Department Exam: 6.0%
- Federal Court Interpreter Certification Exam: 3.2%
- Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters: 2.4%
- Defense Language Proficiency Test: 2.2%
- National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters: 2.0%
- United Nations Exam: 0.9%
- National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators: 0.8%
- European Union Inter-Institutional Accreditation: 0.5%
The average respondent reported gross household income of $88,406 in 2014. T&I company owners’ reported the highest household income at $134,108 followed by independent contractors ($84,928) and government employees ($83,324).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary T&amp;I Employment Status</th>
<th>Total 2014 Household Gross Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Respondents</td>
<td>$88,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time Independent Contractor</td>
<td>$84,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-Time Independent Contractor</td>
<td>$81,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time Private Sector Employee</td>
<td>$78,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-Time Private Sector Employee</td>
<td>$71,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T&amp;I Company Owner</td>
<td>$134,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educator</td>
<td>$79,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Employee</td>
<td>$83,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When looking at personal gross compensation in 2014 from T&I language services alone, T&I company owners, full-time private sector employees, and full time independent contractors earned the most. Educators reported the lowest gross compensation at $17,344.

**PERSONAL 2014 GROSS COMPENSATION FROM T&I LANGUAGE SERVICES AND LANGUAGE-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary T&amp;I Employment Status</th>
<th>All Respondents</th>
<th>Full-Time Independent Contractor</th>
<th>Part-Time Independent Contractor</th>
<th>Full-Time Private Sector Employee</th>
<th>Part-Time Private Sector Employee</th>
<th>T&amp;I Company Owner</th>
<th>Educator</th>
<th>Government Employee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased, 46.5%</td>
<td>$44,611</td>
<td>$52,323</td>
<td>$17,46</td>
<td>$55,547</td>
<td>$33,750</td>
<td>$55,630</td>
<td>$17,344</td>
<td>$37,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreased, 22.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not change, 30.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearly half of the respondents reported that their T&I language services compensation increased in 2014 compared to 2013.
Respondents earned 76% of their translation income, on average, from translating services. Editing/proofreading services made up 15% of their translation income.

**PERCENTAGE OF YOUR 2014 TRANSLATION INCOME EARNED FROM PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:**

- Translating: 76%
- Editing/proofreading: 15%
- Localization: 2%
- Teaching/training: 2%
- Transcription: 2%
- Post-editing machine translation: 1%
- Dubbing/subtitling: 1%
- Desktop publishing: 0%
- Abstracting: 0%
- Other: 2%

On average, interpreters responding to the survey earned gross income of $24,517 from interpreting and interpreting-related services in 2014.

**2014 GROSS COMPENSATION FROM INTERPRETING SERVICES AND INTERPRETING-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(N)</th>
<th>423</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>$24,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Percentile</td>
<td>$1,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75th Percentile</td>
<td>$38,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More than twice as many respondents reported that their interpreting services compensation increased (44%) than decreased (18%) in 2014 compared to 2013. More than one-third reported their interpreting services income did not change.

**Compared to Your 2013 Interpreting Services Compensation, Your 2014 Interpreting Services Compensation**

- Increased, 44.3%
- Decreased, 17.5%
- Did not change, 38.2%

More than half of the interpreters provided consecutive (96%) and simultaneous (74%) services. Other common services included sight (44%) and phone (42%).

**Percentage Providing the Following Interpreting Services From:**

- Consecutive: 95.6%
- Simultaneous: 73.8%
- Sight: 43.8%
- Phone: 41.7%
- Remote: 12.0%
- Video remote interpreting (VRI): 9.5%
- Sign: 1.9%
- Other: 3.5%
Responding interpreters earned the largest percentage of their income from the following services/settings: judiciary (27%), medical/life sciences (22%), business (12%), and conference (12%).

### PERCENTAGE OF 2014 INTERPRETING INCOME FROM PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING SERVICES/SETTINGS:

- Judiciary: 27%
- Medicine/Life Sciences: 22%
- Business: 12%
- Conference: 12%
- Community: 6%
- Diplomacy/Government: 4%
- Industry/Manufacturing: 3%
- Teaching/Training: 3%
- Law Enforcement: 2%
- Labor Relations/Immigration: 2%
- Liaison/Escort: 1%
- Tourism/Entertainment: 1%
- Media/Audiovisual: 1%
- Disaster Relief/Humanitarian: 0%
- Military/Conflict Zone: 0%
- Other: 3%
At least half of the respondents reporting using headsets, transmitters, headphones, and receivers. A small percentage used multimedia terminals.

**PERCENTAGE OF INTERPRETERS USING THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:**

- **Headset**: 77.2%
- **Transmitter**: 59.2%
- **Headphones**: 54.8%
- **Receiver**: 50.4%
- **Video monitor**: 23.9%
- **Multi-language interpretation system**: 21.7%
- **Multimedia terminal**: 5.9%
- **Other**: 8.1%