



How Hot are Your Programming Skills?

Software Developers/Software Engineers were the most in-demand individuals across the technology industry in 2007, but what **specific** Programming skills were being sought-after?

We analysed the demand we had seen in 2007 from companies in the technology industry for people with specific Programming Languages as their main or primary skill. The results, ranked by percentage of new requirements we received, were as follows:

Position	Language	%age of all
1	C#	30.95
2	C++	21.70
3	C	16.72
4	Java	9.25
5	Embedded C	6.66
6	J2EE	5.68
7	VB/VB.NET	2.16
8	PHP	1.79
9	Perl	1.35
10	Delphi	1.24
11	XML	1.15
12	J2ME	0.92
13	ASP	0.38
14	Ruby/Ruby on Rails	0.16
15	COBOL	0.05

We've kept this particular list refined to core programming languages and some web languages. Some more niche languages were left out - this doesn't necessarily mean there is no demand, but more that we felt that a comparison with the more popular languages wasn't fair.

We then compared the demand for requirements involving particular Programming skills in 2007 and compared the data with the number of available candidates who claimed each skill as being their main skill, in order to work out which Programming Languages were the rarest in the commercial marketplace. The results:





Position	Language	CV:Vacancy Ratio
1	Embedded C	0.93
2	C#	3.14
3	C++	3.22
4	C	3.27
5	Delphi	3.65
6	Ruby/Ruby on Rails	3.67
7	PHP	4.00
8	Perl	4.28
9	J2ME	4.35
10	J2EE	4.53
11	Java	4.61
12	VB/VB.NET	6.65
13	XML	12.81
14	ASP	51.57
15	COBOL	64.00

To add another layer of interest, we compared 2007 with 2006, to try and spot any emerging trends. Here's the data, ranked first by demand (the list is slightly shorter, primarily because there was much more limited demand for these specific skills):

Position	Language	%age of all
1	C#	30.11
2	C++	18.95
3	C	17.26
4	Java	9.89
5	J2EE	8.63
6	Embedded C	7.58
7	VB/VB.NET	2.23
8	J2ME	1.68
9	Perl	1.47
10	PHP	1.26
11	Delphi	0.63
12	COBOL	0.21





And here it is, ranked by rarity:

Position	Language	Ratio
1	Embedded C	3.14
2	PHP	4.83
3	J2ME	7.25
4	C	7.27
5	Perl	7.29
6	C++	8.02
7	C#	8.90
8	J2EE	12.15
9	Java	13.74
10	COBOL	14.00
11	Delphi	15.00
12	VB/VB.NET	21.09

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