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Market Research/Competitive Intelligence

Freelance R programmer rates

I'm encouraging the use of R for some of our projects at work, but I'm still the only one with any significant experience writing R code. I have a manager that is interested in using R to program the analysis and results of a year-over-year survey. Because my workload is maxed we may want to outsource. I've been asked how much the hourly rate is for a freelancer and I have no idea. Could anyone provide a ballpark range in US dollars? I'd really appreciate it. PM me if you're not comfortable using the discussion board.

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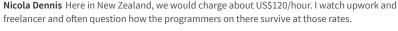
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Paul Rougieux Thanks John Sandall I didn't know about this upwork site, here are the rates for R freelancers:
https://www.upwork.com/hire/r-freelancers/
Rates seem rather low compared to rates suggested in this discussion. I guess it's because most freelancers on that list are based outside USA.

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Nicola Dennis Here in New Zealand, we would charge about US$120/hour. I watch upwork and freelancer and often question how the programmers on there survive at those rates.

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David Harris There is a different issue that hasn't really been discussed here. Not all uses of R are identical. Discipline specific fees probably apply. My own area is econometrics and that has to be substantively different from a person doing biometrics. Programming isn't really the issue, it is programming the appropriate content. I teach R programming, from time to time, to undergraduates as part of an advanced statistical methods course.

I know you are looking at ballpark numbers and I think you have them, but you will want to be careful. I spend some time giving out assignments that "break" R, where doing things the way it looks like they should be done will cause R to suspend. I don't mention that the assignments will cause R to fail in some way, I do it to see how they will use other skills to get R to work, even if it works very slowly.

Since you are experienced, I am sure you have a mental list of the "do nots" of R, but a new person won't. So add more hours in too.

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David Shackleton BSc, MEd Hi Margie Hertneck, PMP, you (and we; thank you!) have received some great insight here into the different worlds of R users - from John Sandall's $X000/day management consultants of London to the most economical souls occupying upwork.com.

I'd certainly recommend leveraging your time by subcontracting out some of your R programming work to upwork.com, freelancer.com, etc. The rates can be competitive as you know and your experience of R programming and project manager - writing specifications, developing timelines, overseeing budget, controlling quality, etc. - is perfect. Your R

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kimtai kiminy Here in Kenya, R-Work professionals are insufficient and also understanding. I is my great hope that as an undergraduate Statistician and junior R-applicant, I will develop my R skills steadily with able help of my lecturer R. Peng along with group discussions. I am dearly looking forward to being the best I can in excel and R analysis. I will appreciate any insights that will help me strengthen my career. Rstudio is amazing.

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Bryan Butler Hi Margie, to get the best value, you mightwant to break down the project more into tasks (data cleaning, modeling, and visualization and reporting). Having free-lanced as a quantitative modeler for financial services, I would say that the rate lies in the range of $500 to $1300 a day depending the the skill you are looking for ($75/hr and up).

With marketing research (having worked in that field), there are some nuances that are different as people pointed out (econometrics, biostatistics, marketing, etc.all have their distinct differences). So, in an ideal world, you would want someone with some marketing research experience as the final outputs may be different from other fields and if you break it down; you could pay less for the data cleaning portion.

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Margie Hertneck, PMP Thank you everyone - your input on this topic has been valuable and given me (us!) much to think about.

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George Hart Hi Margie: it's a difficult question to answer without knowing the problem to be solved. In my case I had three rates.
1] 'grunt work' like data cleansing - a few hundred dollars a day [$400-$1,000].
2] 'interesting' idea problems lasting no more than a month - pay me what you think it is worth i.e. if you are not happy with the work there is no charge. If I can publish the results with you then money is not the concern. The kicker with this is if I think the work was good and worth while but the payment inadequate the next time I will not be interested.
3] 'specialist work in my domain of scientific expertise which is petroleum geology - sky's the limit with a minimum of $2,000 per day.

PLEASE NOTE: I do NOT need any work so do not ask me unless it is in my domain speciality.
George Hart

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ROBERT SOUSEK I try to net $30 per hour(after upwork's take)

Like   · · ·   4h

Margie Hertneck, PMP Thanks Robert!

Like   · · ·   4h

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