The Bottom Line
Salary and Other Benefits of an Industrial Hygiene Career

If you are a self-starter who takes pride in your work and cares about people and the environment, industrial hygiene may be the career for you. Because the field is so diverse, industrial hygienists are able to choose among many types of work. Plus, there is always the opportunity to become a consultant or start your own business if total employment freedom is your goal.

The salary you earn, of course, depends on many things, including education, tenure, and certification. [The following figures are based on the 2008 AIHA Salary Survey.] For example, as of January 1, 2008, 25% of the respondents earned $81,000 or less, and 25% earned $120,000 or more. The average mean salary for all respondents was $94,947. The median was $90,000, and the maximum was $375,000.