

# THE 2001 CHP SALARY SURVEY

**Gary Lautenschlager**

## Introduction

The 2001 Certified Health Physicist (CHP) survey data was collected by having CHPs submit their responses to survey questions on a web-based data entry form. As was done last year, data was collected in coordination with a salary survey of the entire Health Physics Society (HPS).

Chris Graham and Andy King will report the HPS salary survey results separately in the Health Physics Newsletter.

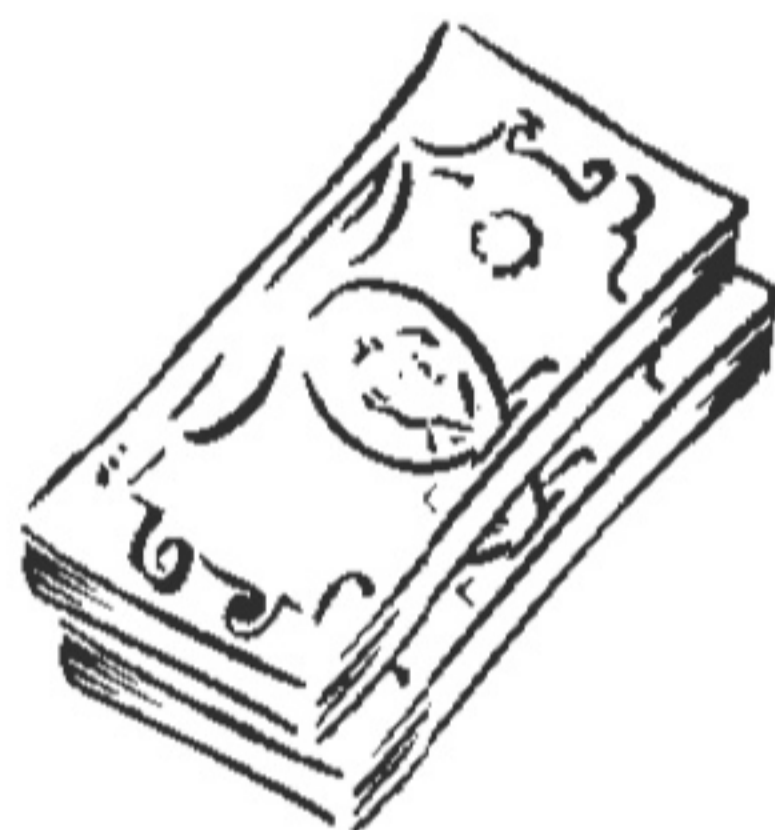
The survey was also available in hardcopy form for those who preferred to fax or mail their responses.

Questions about this survey should be directed to Gary Lautenschlager, via email: [glauten@hotmail.com](mailto:glauten@hotmail.com)

## Data Analysis

The salary ranges marked by CHPs on the completed survey forms were rounded to the midpoints of those ranges before statistical analyses were performed. For example, if a CHP marked the salary range \$50,000 to \$54,999; their salary was rounded to the midpoint value of \$52,500.

Responses from CHPs who were either part time or retired were not analyzed, since the data did not appear to allow meaningful comparisons to be made.



To avoid skewing the results, data from six survey respondents were excluded from the data analysis because they indicated that they earned \$170,000 or more per year.

Of 42 respondents who reported receiving a significant (10 % or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification: 19% received this increase from their current employer, 26% from a promotion with their current employer, 48% received this increase from a new employer, 2% from part-time consulting, and 5% did not specify.

CHP salaries by region are also presented in this report.

## Data Presentation

In an effort to make the results of the survey interesting and useful, CHPs were subcategorized in several ways by education, primary job responsibility, years of experience, and combinations of these subcategories.

Readers are cautioned that for statistical validity, results were usually given only if there were 10 or more CHPs within that subcategory. Data presented for one subcategory of CHPs may not be possible for another subcategory. However, some exceptions were made for general interest.

The subcategories in the tables may also change from year to year, depending on the number of responses received. Every effort was made to keep the subcategories consistent with previous surveys, but if there were an insufficient number of CHPs the results were not given.

## Tables and Figures

Tables show results for full-time CHPs who received health, vacation, and retirement benefits from their primary employer unless otherwise noted.

Histograms of the data shown in Table 1 - All CHPs and Table 2 - Masters Health Physics are included as Figure 1 and Figure 2, respectively.

**Table 1: All CHPs**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
CHPs	241	\$88,662	\$87,500	\$162,500	\$42,500	\$20,148

**Table 2: CHPs by Education and Field**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Health Physics	13	\$81,731	\$82,500	\$102,500	\$47,500	\$16,053
Bachelors Other Field	27	\$85,463	\$82,500	\$132,500	\$42,500	\$19,673
Masters Health Physics	118	\$89,364	\$82,500	\$162,500	\$52,500	\$21,100
Masters Other Field	24	\$87,500	\$87,500	\$117,500	\$52,500	\$17,446
Masters Nuclear Engineering	13	\$87,885	\$87,500	\$112,500	\$57,500	\$16,890
Ph.D. Health Physics	16	\$91,875	\$85,000	\$137,500	\$47,500	\$26,513
Ph.D. Other Field	12	\$98,333	\$100,000	\$117,500	\$72,500	\$12,029
Ph.D. Nuclear Engineering	10	\$89,500	\$85,000	\$112,500	\$72,500	\$13,581

**Table 3: CHPs by Education and 6-15 Years Experience**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs 6-15 yrs Experience	70	\$78,429	\$77,500	\$122,500	\$42,500	\$16,946
Masters Health Physics	37	\$78,851	\$72,500	\$122,500	\$52,500	\$17,937
Ph.D. Health Physics	10	\$82,000	\$82,500	\$112,500	\$47,500	\$19,784

**Table 4: CHPs by Education and >15 Years Experience**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs >15 yrs Experience	171	\$92,851	\$87,500	\$162,500	\$42,500	\$19,894
Bachelor's Health Physics	10	\$83,000	\$87,500	\$102,500	\$47,500	\$18,174
Bachelor's Other Field	23	\$87,065	\$82,500	\$132,500	\$42,500	\$20,830
Master's Health Physics	81	\$94,167	\$87,500	\$162,500	\$67,500	\$20,782
Masters Other Field	20	\$90,750	\$92,500	\$117,500	\$52,500	\$16,486
Master's Nuclear Engineering	9	\$93,056	\$87,500	\$112,500	\$57,500	\$17,756
Ph.D. Other Field	11	\$97,955	\$97,500	\$117,500	\$72,500	\$12,541

**Table 5: CHPs by U.S. Regions\***

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Northeast	54	\$91,111	\$87,500	\$162,500	\$42,500	\$21,619
Midwest	60	\$88,917	\$82,500	\$162,500	\$42,500	\$25,447
South	98	\$88,265	\$82,000	\$162,500	\$42,500	\$21,096
West	113	\$92,013	\$87,500	\$162,500	\$42,500	\$20,583

\* The four major regions of the United States as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau for which data are presented represent groups of States as follows:

*Northeast.* Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

*Midwest.* Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

*South.* Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

*West.* Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Table 6: CHPs by Education and NRRPT**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Other Field	14	\$81,429	\$80,000	\$122,500	\$42,500	\$20,864
Masters Health Physics	12	\$88,750	\$80,000	\$142,500	\$67,500	\$22,475

**Table 7: Masters Health Physics and Primary Employer**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Consulting Firm	12	\$92,500	\$90,000	\$147,500	\$67,500	\$23,932
Commercial	15	\$97,833	\$92,500	\$147,500	\$57,500	\$24,456
Federal Government	22	\$85,000	\$82,500	\$122,500	\$62,500	\$16,165
Government Contractors	16	\$96,875	\$87,500	\$147,500	\$67,500	\$23,796
National Laboratory	21	\$96,071	\$92,500	\$162,500	\$72,500	\$22,591
Nuclear Power Facility	13	\$86,346	\$82,500	\$112,500	\$67,500	\$14,165
University	14	\$74,286	\$75,000	\$92,500	\$52,500	\$14,224

**Table 8: All CHPs by Other Certifications**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
PE	13	\$96,346	\$102,500	\$122,500	\$42,500	\$20,932
NRRT	43	\$82,616	\$82,500	\$142,500	\$42,500	\$20,773
Other	23	\$92,065	\$87,500	\$162,500	\$47,500	\$26,582

**Table 9: Masters Health Physics and Primary Job Responsibility**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	16	\$105,313	\$102,500	\$162,500	\$57,500	\$27,262
Applied Health Physics	46	\$85,978	\$82,500	\$142,500	\$52,500	\$19,318
Dosimetry	10	\$89,500	\$82,500	\$122,500	\$77,500	\$14,181
Environmental	10	\$79,000	\$77,500	\$92,500	\$67,500	\$7,835
Radiological Assessment	10	\$100,500	\$97,500	\$147,500	\$67,500	\$24,404
Reactors, Power	10	\$87,000	\$82,500	\$112,500	\$67,500	\$15,357

**Table 10: All CHPs by Primary Job Responsibility**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	21	\$104,405	\$102,500	\$162,500	\$57,500	\$28,437
Medical Physics CHPs	9	\$96,944	\$92,500	\$137,500	\$72,500	\$21,715
Regulations, Standards	9	\$78,611	\$77,500	\$97,500	\$67,500	\$11,118
Applied Health Physics	80	\$83,313	\$82,500	\$142,500	\$42,500	\$20,399
Dosimetry	19	\$89,079	\$82,500	\$122,500	\$67,500	\$12,916
Environmental	23	\$82,283	\$77,500	\$112,500	\$42,500	\$16,270
Radiological Assessment	22	\$90,455	\$87,500	\$147,500	\$57,500	\$20,682
Reactors, Power	26	\$92,115	\$87,500	\$122,500	\$67,500	\$15,226

**Table 11: CHPs as Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	125	\$85,180	\$82,500	\$147,500	\$42,500	\$17,558
Bachelors Other Field	15	\$82,500	\$82,500	\$132,500	\$42,500	\$20,874
Master's Health Physics	57	\$83,640	\$82,500	\$147,500	\$52,500	\$17,035
Master's Other Field	14	\$86,071	\$90,000	\$112,500	\$57,500	\$17,478
Ph.D. Health Physics	10	\$85,000	\$80,000	\$112,500	\$47,500	\$20,983

**Table 12: CHPs as 1<sup>st</sup> Line Supervisors (All CHPs in this category)**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	13	\$82,885	\$82,500	\$112,500	\$57,500	\$13,763

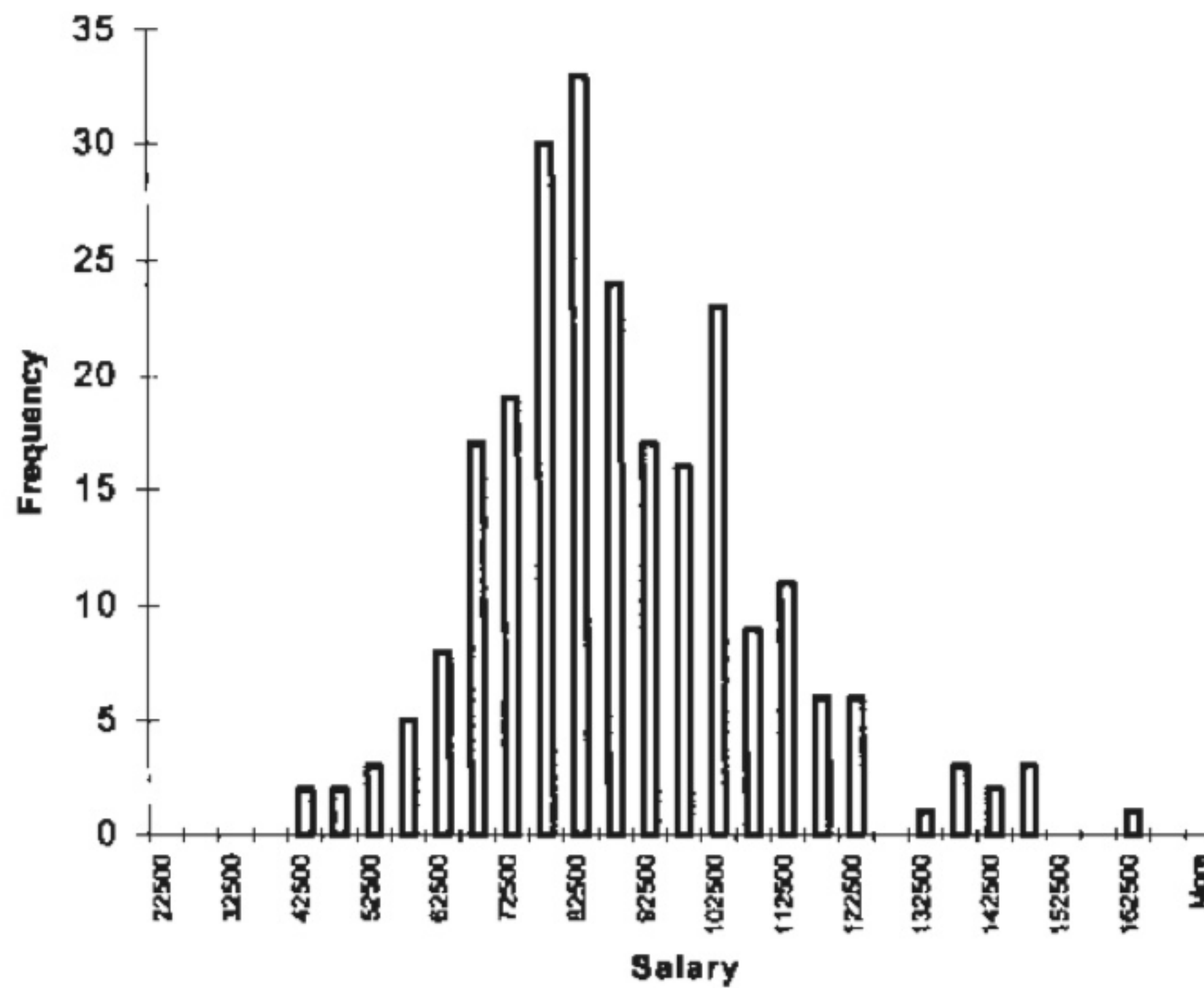
**Table 13: CHPs as Supervisors of Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	35	\$91,214	\$87,500	\$147,500	\$47,500	\$23,052
Master's Health Physics	17	\$98,088	\$97,500	\$147,500	\$67,500	\$25,180

**Table 14: CHPs as RPM/RSO (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	49	\$92,092	\$87,500	\$137,500	\$52,500	\$18,815
Master's Health Physics	22	\$86,591	\$87,500	\$112,500	\$52,500	\$14,111

**Histogram of Table 1 Data (All CHPs)**



**Histogram of Table 2 Data  
Masters Health Physics CHPs**



**Acknowledgements**

Thank you to all who participated in this survey. If you did not participate this year, please plan to do so next year. The more CHPs that respond to our survey the better the results will be. Confidentiality is maintained throughout, and Scott Medling has built in safeguards to protect your privacy. Your participation will benefit the entire health physics community. Special thanks to Scott for his work to put our survey on the web and make it easier for all of us.