

# THE 2002 CHP SALARY SURVEY

**Gary Lautenschlager**

## Introduction

The 2002 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.

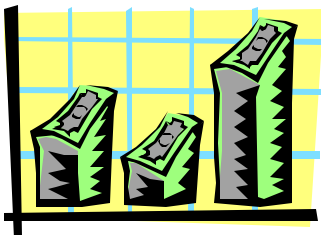
The survey was also available in hardcopy form for those who preferred to fax or mail their responses.

Questions about this survey should be directed to Gary Lautenschlager, via email at: [chpsalarysurvey@yahoo.com](mailto:chpsalarysurvey@yahoo.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 \$52,499; their salary was rounded to the midpoint value of \$51,250.

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 three survey respondents were excluded from the data analysis because they indicated that they earned \$174,499 or more per year.

Of 62 respondents who reported receiving a significant (10 % or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification: 19% received this increase from their current employer, 23% from a promotion with their current employer, 53% received this increase from a new employer, 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.

**All of the following tables are for fulltime CHPs with health, vacation, and retirement benefits**

**Table 1: All CHPs**

All CHPs	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
CHPs	268	\$91,194	\$88,750	\$166,250	\$38,750	\$20,652

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

Education	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Health Physics	22	\$96,023	\$88,750	\$166,250	\$73,750	\$19,924
Bachelors Other Field	21	\$85,060	\$88,750	\$108,750	\$48,750	\$14,612
Masters Health Physics	141	\$91,427	\$88,750	\$153,750	\$51,250	\$20,340
Masters Other Field	19	\$89,276	\$86,250	\$116,250	\$61,250	\$16,532
Masters Nuclear Engineering	14	\$85,179	\$88,750	\$118,750	\$38,750	\$23,282
Ph.D. Health Physics	15	\$89,750	\$86,250	\$141,250	\$48,250	\$23,751
Ph.D. Other Field	24	\$96,042	\$98,750	\$143,750	\$43,750	\$24,846

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

Edu & 6-15 Yrs Experience	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs 6-15 yrs Experience	76	\$81,086	\$81,250	\$131,250	\$43,750	\$14,890
Masters Health Physics	41	\$82,043	\$78,750	\$131,250	\$51,250	\$15,707

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

Edu & >15 Yrs Experience	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs >15 yrs Experience	185	\$95,588	\$93,750	\$166,250	\$38,750	\$21,420
Bachelors Health Physics	16	\$100,781	\$100,000	\$166,250	\$76,250	\$21,413
Bachelors Other Field	16	\$87,188	\$90,000	\$108,750	\$48,750	\$15,299
Masters Health Physics	99	\$95,391	\$91,250	\$153,750	\$58,750	\$20,905
Masters Other Field	10	\$97,000	\$97,500	\$116,250	\$71,250	\$16,075
Masters Nuclear Engineering	10	\$91,000	\$93,750	\$118,750	\$38,750	\$24,536
Ph.D. Other Field	20	\$97,250	\$100,000	\$143,750	\$43,750	\$26,906

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

CHPs by Region	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Northeast	37	\$88,615	\$88,750	\$131,250	\$46,250	\$18,938
Midwest	43	\$87,936	\$81,250	\$151,250	\$48,750	\$22,676
South	87	\$90,043	\$88,750	\$151,250	\$56,250	\$17,032
West	113	\$95,781	\$95,000	\$166,250	\$43,750	\$21,620

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

Education & NRRPT	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Health Physics	9	\$88,194	\$86,250	\$108,750	\$76,250	\$9,665
Bachelors Other Field	12	\$87,917	\$90,000	\$108,750	\$68,750	\$12,216
Masters Health Physics	17	\$88,456	\$83,750	\$128,750	\$61,250	\$17,340

\*- 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 7: Masters Health Physics and Primary Employer**

Masters Health Physics & Primary Employer	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Consulting Firm	13	\$101,058	\$93,750	\$148,750	\$66,250	\$21,758
Commercial	16	\$96,406	\$88,750	\$151,250	\$73,750	\$23,760

Federal Government	24	\$91,563	\$90,000	\$133,750	\$68,750	\$16,848
Government Contractors	23	\$101,902	\$103,750	\$146,250	\$63,750	\$21,149
National Laboratory	18	\$98,333	\$91,250	\$153,750	\$71,250	\$20,459
Nuclear Power Facility	15	\$85,417	\$81,250	\$116,250	\$71,250	\$11,521
University	21	\$78,393	\$76,250	\$103,750	\$56,250	\$15,006

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

All CHPs by Other Certifications	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
PE	9	\$90,694	\$96,250	\$133,750	\$43,750	\$26,480
NRRPT	48	\$87,708	\$87,500	\$128,750	\$43,750	\$14,981
Other	23	\$98,859	\$93,750	\$153,750	\$76,250	\$19,357

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

Masters Health Physics & Primary Job Responsibility	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	20	\$97,250	\$97,250	\$131,250	\$68,750	\$18,126
Applied Health Physics	48	\$91,042	\$86,250	\$146,250	\$56,250	\$20,801
Dosimetry	11	\$84,205	\$81,250	\$111,250	\$58,750	\$15,605
Environmental	13	\$93,365	\$88,750	\$123,750	\$66,250	\$20,838
Regulations/Standards	13	\$89,519	\$91,250	\$121,250	\$51,250	\$18,607
Reactors, Power	9	\$86,250	\$83,750	\$98,750	\$71,250	\$8,660

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

Primary Job Responsibility	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	28	\$98,571	\$97,500	\$141,250	\$68,750	\$17,755
Medical Physics CHPs	9	\$99,028	\$98,750	\$131,250	\$76,250	\$20,404
Regulations, Standards	18	\$89,583	\$92,500	\$121,250	\$46,250	\$22,977
Applied Health Physics	80	\$88,656	\$86,250	\$146,250	\$38,750	\$20,386
Dosimetry	22	\$87,841	\$86,250	\$151,250	\$48,750	\$20,782
Reactors, Power	23	\$91,685	\$86,250	\$113,750	\$71,250	\$12,650
Radiological Assessment	20	\$94,750	\$90,000	\$153,750	\$61,250	\$26,735
Environmental	27	\$91,898	\$91,250	\$123,750	\$58,750	\$18,818

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

CHPs as Professional Staff	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	145	\$86,698	\$86,250	\$133,750	\$38,750	\$18,116
Masters Health Physics	69	\$86,395	\$83,750	\$133,750	\$51,250	\$16,466
Masters Other Field	10	\$93,000	\$96,250	\$116,250	\$61,250	\$20,448
Ph.D. Health Physics	10	\$78,250	\$80,000	\$98,750	\$48,750	\$15,626

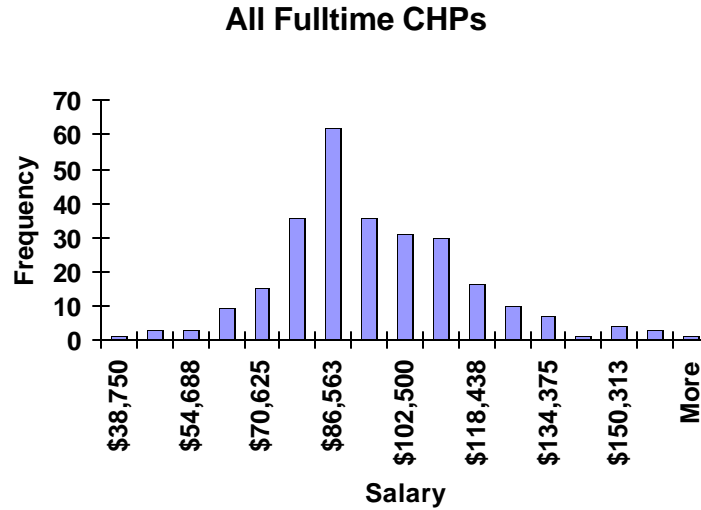
**Table 12: CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	54	\$96,296	\$91,250	\$153,750	\$66,250	\$20,721
Masters Health Physics	29	\$97,629	\$91,250	\$153,750	\$66,250	\$25,900

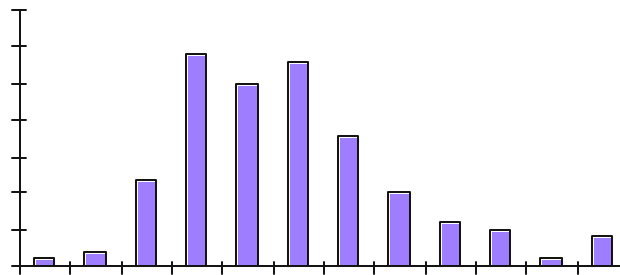
**Table 13: CHPs as RPM/RSO (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

CHPs as RPM/RSO	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	56	\$92,054	\$88,750	\$141,250	\$56,250	\$18,440
Masters Health Physics	35	\$90,893	\$88,750	\$131,250	\$56,250	\$17,958

**Figure 1: Histogram of Table 1 Data**



**Figure 2: Histogram of Table 2 Data, Masters Health Physics CHPs**



Acknowledgements

Thank you to all who participated in this survey. Your participation benefits the entire health physics community. If you did not participate this year, please plan to do so next year. The more CHPs that take the survey, the better the results. Confidentiality is maintained throughout, and Scott Medling has built in safeguards to protect your privacy.