

# THE 2004 CHP SALARY SURVEY

**Gary Lautenschlager**

## Introduction

The 2004 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.

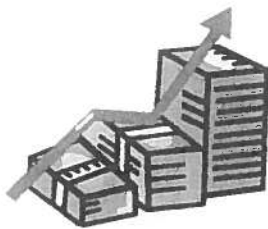
The survey was also available in hardcopy form for those who preferred to fax or mail their responses.

Questions about this survey should be directed to Gary Lautenschlager, via email: [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 52 respondents who reported receiving a significant (10 % or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification: 19% received this increase from their current employer, 19% from a promotion with their current employer, 56% received this increase from a new employer, 2% from part-time consulting, and 4% 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.

All of the following tables are for fulltime CHPs with health, vacation, and retirement benefits unless otherwise indicated.

**Table 1: All CHPs**

All CHPs	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
CHPs	236	\$101,356	\$98,750	\$173,750	\$51,250	\$23,214

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

Education	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Health Physics	13	\$108,942	\$103,750	\$173,750	\$86,250	\$23,771
Bachelors Other Field	20	\$100,625	\$98,750	\$151,250	\$68,750	\$20,946
Masters Health Physics	118	\$99,174	\$96,250	\$168,750	\$56,250	\$21,864
Masters Other Field	23	\$98,641	\$98,750	\$163,750	\$56,250	\$24,314
Masters Nuclear Engineering	18	\$99,722	\$97,500	\$133,750	\$61,250	\$21,440
Ph.D. Health Physics	17	\$111,103	\$108,750	\$161,250	\$68,750	\$24,566
Ph.D. Other Field	12	\$108,333	\$111,250	\$156,250	\$51,250	\$33,657

**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	61	\$89,611	\$88,750	\$148,750	\$63,750	\$14,368
Masters Health Physics	30	\$88,083	\$86,250	\$148,750	\$63,750	\$15,946

**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	171	\$105,431	\$101,250	\$173,750	\$51,250	\$24,526
Bachelors Health Physics	10	\$114,750	\$107,500	\$173,750	\$93,750	\$24,244
Bachelors Other Field	18	\$100,278	\$98,750	\$151,250	\$68,750	\$21,508
Masters Health Physics	85	\$102,985	\$98,750	\$168,750	\$56,250	\$22,671
Masters Other Field	19	\$101,645	\$98,750	\$163,750	\$56,250	\$25,239
Masters Nuclear Engineering	12	\$102,917	\$101,250	\$133,750	\$61,250	\$23,653
Ph.D. Health Physics	10	\$121,500	\$118,750	\$161,250	\$81,250	\$25,371
Ph.D. Other Field	10	\$111,750	\$117,000	\$156,250	\$51,250	\$36,071

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

CHPs by Region	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Northeast	30	\$99,500	\$93,750	\$168,750	\$53,750	\$23,918
Midwest	32	\$101,484	\$96,250	\$163,750	\$61,250	\$26,414
South	81	\$97,762	\$96,250	\$153,750	\$56,250	\$20,455
West	70	\$105,036	\$101,250	\$173,750	\$51,250	\$22,181

\*- 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**

Education & NRRPT	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Other Field	10	\$98,250	\$98,750	\$123,750	\$73,750	\$17,192
Masters Health Physics	14	\$103,571	\$93,750	\$168,750	\$76,250	\$25,692

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

Masters Health Physics & Primary Employer	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Consulting Firm	11	\$99,205	\$96,250	\$146,250	\$73,750	\$18,160
Commercial	10	\$103,000	\$95,000	\$163,750	\$78,750	\$25,250
Federal Government	19	\$95,987	\$93,750	\$121,250	\$68,750	\$13,041
Government Contractors	18	\$109,028	\$100,000	\$153,750	\$73,750	\$25,465
National Laboratory	18	\$114,722	\$106,250	\$168,750	\$86,250	\$22,754
Nuclear Power Facility	16	\$100,313	\$97,500	\$141,250	\$78,750	\$17,197
University	16	\$79,688	\$77,500	\$108,750	\$56,250	\$14,773

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

All CHPs by Other Certifications	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
PE	12	\$106,458	\$101,250	\$143,750	\$73,750	\$21,650
NRRPT	40	\$101,625	\$98,750	\$171,250	\$61,250	\$22,678
Other	36	\$105,139	\$101,250	\$156,250	\$61,250	\$22,034

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

Masters Health Physics & Primary Job Responsibility	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	15	\$106,750	\$96,250	\$168,750	\$68,750	\$28,319
Applied Health Physics	42	\$92,679	\$91,250	\$151,250	\$56,250	\$19,287
Regulations/Standards	12	\$98,333	\$101,250	\$126,250	\$66,250	\$18,085
Reactors, Power	11	\$106,023	\$101,250	\$141,250	\$78,750	\$17,764

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

Primary Job Responsibility	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	18	\$108,611	\$96,250	\$168,750	\$68,750	\$28,767
Medical Physics CHPs	16	\$104,219	\$97,500	\$161,250	\$73,750	\$25,499
Regulations, Standards	18	\$96,389	\$101,250	\$126,250	\$53,750	\$20,570
Applied Health Physics	75	\$97,450	\$93,750	\$173,750	\$56,250	\$23,374
Dosimetry	21	\$101,726	\$98,750	\$138,750	\$73,750	\$15,261
Reactors, Power	18	\$105,417	\$102,500	\$141,250	\$68,750	\$18,630
Radiological Assessment	21	\$102,917	\$98,750	\$156,250	\$68,750	\$20,981
Environmental	13	\$105,673	\$91,250	\$163,750	\$73,750	\$23,097

**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	121	\$97,221	\$96,250	\$171,250	\$51,250	\$20,344
Masters Health Physics	54	\$96,713	\$96,250	\$148,750	\$61,250	\$16,880
Masters Other Field	12	\$90,417	\$90,000	\$121,250	\$56,250	\$17,784

**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	51	\$101,985	\$98,750	\$163,750	\$66,250	\$21,871
Masters Health Physics	30	\$98,083	\$93,750	\$163,750	\$66,250	\$23,128

**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	50	\$102,350	\$98,750	\$173,750	\$56,250	\$23,756
Masters Health Physics	27	\$94,306	\$91,250	\$136,250	\$56,250	\$18,297

**Table 14: All CHPs with vacation and health benefits but no retirement benefits**

All CHPs no Retirement Benefit	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	17	\$100,809	\$98,750	\$156,250	\$76,250	\$22,934

Acknowledgements

Thank you for participating 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. Maintaining strict confidentiality is important to the surveyors, and Scott Medling has built in safeguards to protect your privacy. Survey data is never shared such that it would be possible to identify individual participants.