

# THE 2008 CHP SALARY SURVEY

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## Introduction

The 2008 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 in previous years, data was collected in coordination with a salary survey of the entire Health Physics Society (HPS).

Jack Crawford 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 two survey respondents were excluded from the data analysis because they indicated that they earned more than \$178,750 per year.



Of 52 respondents who reported receiving a significant (10 % or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification: 25% received this increase from their current employer, 23% from a promotion with their current employer, 42% received this increase from a new employer, 2% received this increase from part-time consulting, and 8% did not answer.

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 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.

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 Figure

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

Histogram of the data shown in Table 1 - All CHPs is included as Figure 1.

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	230	\$113,076	\$111,250	\$163,750	\$48,750	\$21,479

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

Education	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Bachelors Health Physics	11	\$117,841	\$118,750	\$133,750	\$101,250	\$11,952
Bachelors Other Field	27	\$104,583	\$101,250	\$151,250	\$73,750	\$19,278
Masters Health Physics	111	\$114,336	\$111,250	\$163,750	\$61,250	\$21,149
Masters Other Field	19	\$109,803	\$111,250	\$143,750	\$83,750	\$15,350
Masters Nuclear Engineering	14	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$138,750	\$81,250	\$19,752
Ph.D. Other Field	15	\$117,083	\$116,250	\$163,750	\$63,750	\$31,505
Ph.D. Health Physics	19	\$120,724	\$113,750	\$153,750	\$86,250	\$22,339

**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	44	\$104,091	\$101,250	\$156,250	\$61,250	\$20,886
Masters Health Physics	28	\$104,107	\$102,500	\$151,250	\$61,250	\$21,308

**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	178	\$115,098	\$113,750	\$163,750	\$48,750	\$21,078
Bachelors Health Physics	10	\$119,500	\$121,250	\$133,750	\$101,250	\$11,183
Bachelors Other Field	24	\$106,042	\$103,750	\$151,250	\$73,750	\$19,890
Masters Health Physics	80	\$117,969	\$118,750	\$163,750	\$63,750	\$19,903
Masters Nuclear Engineering	12	\$113,958	\$117,500	\$138,750	\$81,250	\$18,354
Masters Other Field	19	\$109,803	\$111,250	\$143,750	\$83,750	\$15,350
Ph.D. Health Physics	11	\$129,886	\$126,250	\$153,750	\$96,250	\$21,458
Ph.D. Other Field	11	\$112,841	\$111,250	\$163,750	\$63,750	\$32,582

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

CHPs by Region	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Northeast	29	\$109,526	\$106,250	\$163,750	\$66,250	\$23,765
Midwest	37	\$104,020	\$101,250	\$153,750	\$68,750	\$19,327
South	82	\$113,598	\$110,000	\$156,250	\$63,750	\$19,854
West	56	\$116,518	\$116,250	\$153,750	\$48,750	\$18,499

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

Masters Health Physics & Primary Employer	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Federal Government	16	\$121,875	\$122,500	\$143,750	\$101,250	\$11,199
Medical	14	\$116,786	\$120,000	\$141,250	\$83,750	\$17,186
University	15	\$97,750	\$93,750	\$138,750	\$61,250	\$22,436
National Laboratory	21	\$113,869	\$111,250	\$153,750	\$66,250	\$20,924
Government Contractors	13	\$116,827	\$123,750	\$148,750	\$83,750	\$21,702
Nuclear Power Utility	12	\$114,375	\$107,500	\$156,250	\$96,250	\$16,792

**Table 7: All CHPs by Other Certifications**

All CHPs by Other Certifications	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
NRRPT	32	\$114,609	\$110,000	\$156,250	\$48,750	\$24,516
PE	11	\$106,705	\$111,250	\$141,250	\$48,750	\$26,311
Other	26	\$119,712	\$118,750	\$163,750	\$63,750	\$25,250

**Table 8: Masters Health Physics and Primary Job Responsibility**

Masters Health Physics & Primary Job Responsibility	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	12	\$123,125	\$123,750	\$153,750	\$96,250	\$18,157
Applied Health Physics	28	\$110,089	\$110,000	\$163,750	\$61,250	\$23,169
Environmental	11	\$113,977	\$111,250	\$141,250	\$98,750	\$13,060
Regulations/Standards	10	\$111,000	\$112,500	\$133,750	\$71,250	\$19,736
Power Reactor	11	\$119,432	\$108,750	\$161,250	\$96,250	\$22,110
Medical Health Physics	13	\$120,481	\$126,250	\$151,250	\$83,750	\$19,984

**Table 9: All CHPs by Primary Job Responsibility**

Primary Job Responsibility	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
Administration	18	\$119,028	\$121,250	\$153,750	\$88,750	\$20,326
Applied Health Physics	66	\$111,250	\$111,250	\$163,750	\$61,250	\$22,399
Dosimetry	12	\$112,708	\$112,500	\$143,750	\$66,250	\$19,437
Environmental	18	\$112,500	\$110,000	\$151,250	\$48,750	\$23,125
Radiological Assessment	19	\$109,145	\$111,250	\$141,250	\$81,250	\$18,205
Regulations/Standards	19	\$112,697	\$108,750	\$153,750	\$71,250	\$19,726
Power Reactor	21	\$115,655	\$108,750	\$161,250	\$86,250	\$20,385
Medical Health Physics	20	\$119,625	\$122,500	\$151,250	\$83,750	\$18,836

**Table 10: 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	115	\$109,467	\$108,750	\$163,750	\$48,750	\$19,906
Bachelors Other Field	16	\$103,906	\$103,750	\$143,750	\$73,750	\$18,674
Masters Health Physics	49	\$110,179	\$106,250	\$163,750	\$66,250	\$19,791
Ph.D. Other Field	10	\$118,000	\$117,500	\$156,250	\$68,750	\$27,840

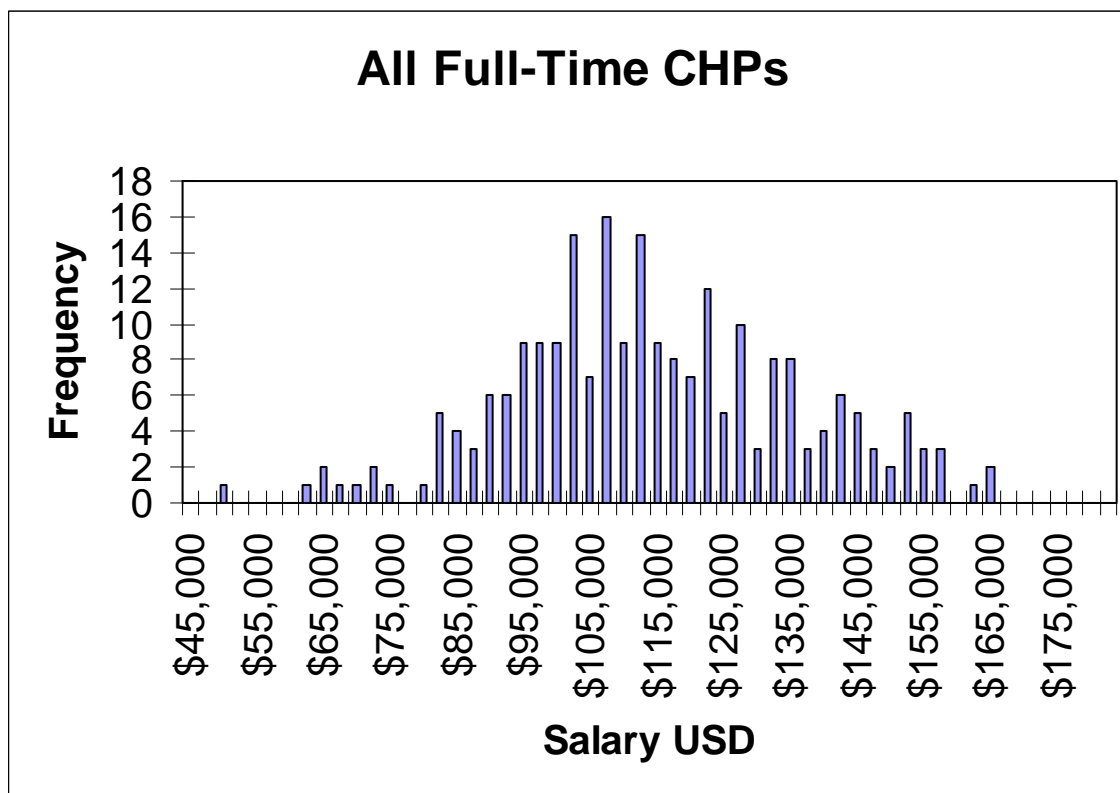
**Table 11: CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs in this Category	50	\$121,000	\$120,000	\$161,250	\$83,750	\$18,107
Masters Health Physics	28	\$121,518	\$120,000	\$161,250	\$98,750	\$15,521

**Table 12: All CHPs as Facility Manager, RPM/RSO, University RSO**

CHPs as RPM/RSO	Count	Average	Median	Max	Min	Std Dev
All CHPs RPM/RSO	15	\$120,083	\$121,250	\$163,750	\$88,750	\$20,197
All CHPs University RSO	17	\$89,632	\$93,750	\$113,750	\$61,250	\$15,760
All CHPs Medical RSO	13	\$120,288	\$126,250	\$153,750	\$91,250	\$17,456
All CHPs University/Med RSO	11	\$112,159	\$106,250	\$153,750	\$93,750	\$20,624

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



Acknowledgements

Thank you for participating in this survey. Your confidential data benefits the entire health physics community, and is never shared such that it would be possible to identify individual participants.