

THE 2009 CHP SALARY SURVEY

Gary Lautenschlager

Introduction

The 2009 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).

The HPS salary survey results will be reported 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: chpsalariesurvey@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 five survey respondents were excluded from the data analysis because they indicated that they earned more than \$178,750 per year.

Of 59 respondents who reported receiving a significant (10% or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification: 29% received this increase from their current employer, 29% from a promotion with their current employer, 32% received this increase from a new employer, and 10% 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.

Histograms of the data shown in Table 1- All CHPs and Table 2 - Masters Health Physics, Table 4 – All CHPs >15 Years Experience, and Table 10 – All CHPs as Professional Staff are included as Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively.

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

Figure 1: Histogram of Table 1 Data

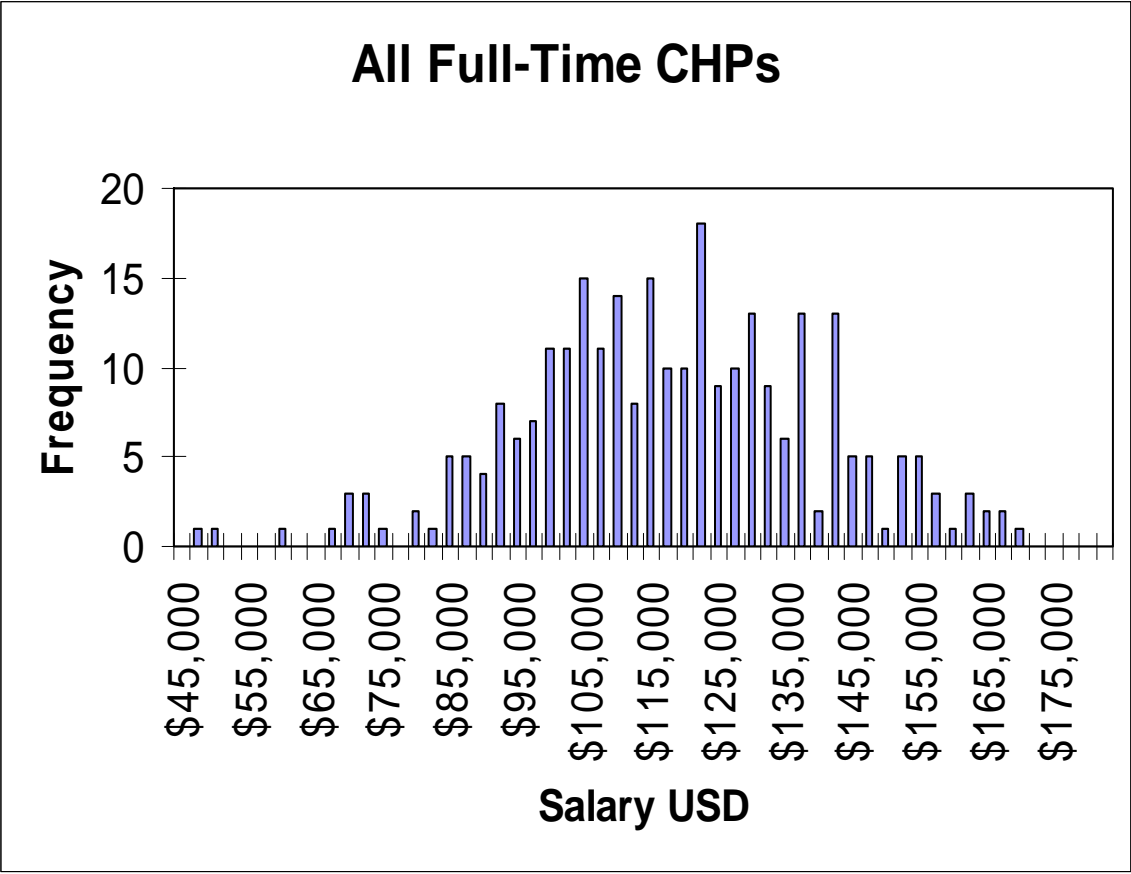


Table 1: All CHPs

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| CHPs | 280 | \$116,723 | \$116,250 | \$168,750 | \$46,250 | \$22,207 |

Table 2: CHPs by Education

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Bachelors Health Physics | 10 | \$125,000 | \$118,750 | \$166,250 | \$101,250 | \$19,445 |
| Bachelors Other Field | 34 | \$110,368 | \$106,250 | \$156,250 | \$68,750 | \$19,246 |
| Masters Health Physics | 124 | \$118,508 | \$121,250 | \$166,250 | \$58,750 | \$21,022 |
| Masters Other Field | 31 | \$111,089 | \$111,250 | \$161,250 | \$71,250 | \$22,903 |
| Masters Nuclear Engineering | 19 | \$115,329 | \$111,250 | \$148,750 | \$68,750 | \$22,271 |
| Ph.D. Other Field | 17 | \$117,132 | \$121,250 | \$151,250 | \$46,250 | \$29,500 |
| Ph.D. Health Physics | 20 | \$121,875 | \$118,750 | \$153,750 | \$93,750 | \$19,123 |
| Ph.D. Nuclear Engineering | 10 | \$122,500 | \$120,000 | \$168,750 | \$86,250 | \$25,583 |

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

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| All CHPs | 49 | \$105,893 | \$106,250 | \$143,750 | \$58,750 | \$17,463 |
| Masters Health Physics | 25 | \$104,050 | \$103,750 | \$133,750 | \$58,750 | \$18,768 |

Table 4: CHPs by Education and >15 Years Experience

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| All CHPs | 228 | \$119,090 | \$120,000 | \$168,750 | \$46,250 | \$22,397 |
| Bachelors Other Field | 29 | \$111,422 | \$106,250 | \$156,250 | \$68,750 | \$20,604 |
| Masters Health Physics | 99 | \$122,159 | \$123,750 | \$166,250 | \$66,250 | \$20,040 |
| Masters Nuclear Engineering | 14 | \$117,143 | \$112,500 | \$146,250 | \$68,750 | \$21,786 |
| Masters Other Field | 27 | \$112,824 | \$113,750 | \$161,250 | \$71,250 | \$22,830 |
| Ph.D. Health Physics | 15 | \$126,417 | \$121,250 | \$153,750 | \$96,250 | \$19,718 |
| Ph.D. Other Field | 15 | \$119,250 | \$126,250 | \$151,250 | \$46,250 | \$30,358 |

Table 5: CHPs by U.S. Regions*

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| Northeast | 44 | \$116,477 | \$117,500 | \$168,750 | \$46,250 | \$28,072 |
| Midwest | 42 | \$113,452 | \$111,250 | \$153,750 | \$71,250 | \$18,021 |
| South | 92 | \$117,853 | \$116,250 | \$166,250 | \$58,750 | \$22,894 |
| West | 78 | \$117,660 | \$118,750 | \$158,750 | \$48,750 | \$19,292 |

*- 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

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Federal Government | 19 | \$129,408 | \$128,750 | \$163,750 | \$86,250 | \$18,254 |
| Medical | 13 | \$118,942 | \$123,750 | \$166,250 | \$81,250 | \$23,639 |
| University | 17 | \$107,574 | \$113,750 | \$141,250 | \$58,750 | \$25,282 |
| National Laboratory | 18 | \$117,361 | \$120,000 | \$141,250 | \$68,750 | \$16,297 |
| Government Contractors | 21 | \$115,893 | \$113,750 | \$153,750 | \$86,250 | \$17,253 |
| Nuclear Power Utility | 13 | \$122,212 | \$121,250 | \$158,750 | \$83,750 | \$19,433 |

Table 7: All CHPs by Other Certifications

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| NRRPT | 45 | \$110,306 | \$113,750 | \$156,250 | \$46,250 | \$23,933 |
| PE | 13 | \$126,250 | \$133,750 | \$168,750 | \$48,750 | \$30,906 |
| Other | 43 | \$117,180 | \$121,250 | \$161,250 | \$46,250 | \$23,023 |

Table 8: Masters Health Physics and Primary Job Responsibility

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Administration | 10 | \$126,500 | \$127,500 | \$153,750 | \$98,750 | \$17,418 |
| Applied Health Physics | 42 | \$116,369 | \$120,000 | \$163,750 | \$58,750 | \$22,127 |
| Environmental | 15 | \$111,583 | \$113,750 | \$153,750 | \$83,750 | \$19,269 |
| Power Reactor | 11 | \$126,932 | \$121,250 | \$163,750 | \$83,750 | \$23,825 |

Table 9: All CHPs by Primary Job Responsibility

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Administration | 17 | \$115,221 | \$113,750 | \$153,750 | \$71,250 | \$20,786 |
| Applied Health Physics | 89 | \$114,958 | \$116,250 | \$163,750 | \$58,750 | \$21,756 |
| Dosimetry | 19 | \$122,303 | \$121,250 | \$151,250 | \$101,250 | \$14,051 |
| Environmental | 23 | \$112,120 | \$113,750 | \$153,750 | \$48,750 | \$23,289 |
| Radiological Assessment | 28 | \$121,071 | \$121,250 | \$153,750 | \$86,250 | \$20,905 |
| Regulations/Standards | 20 | \$118,125 | \$115,000 | \$166,250 | \$46,250 | \$27,385 |
| Power Reactor | 27 | \$122,269 | \$116,250 | \$163,750 | \$83,750 | \$22,978 |
| Medical Health Physics | 15 | \$115,750 | \$118,750 | \$166,250 | \$83,750 | \$23,265 |

Table 10: CHPs as Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| All CHPs in this Category | 151 | \$113,171 | \$113,750 | \$163,750 | \$46,250 | \$21,076 |
| Bachelors Other Field | 25 | \$109,850 | \$106,250 | \$156,250 | \$68,750 | \$18,765 |
| Masters Health Physics | 59 | \$115,403 | \$116,250 | \$163,750 | \$68,750 | \$19,993 |
| Masters Other Field | 17 | \$113,162 | \$111,250 | \$161,250 | \$88,750 | \$19,376 |
| Masters Nuclear Engineering | 15 | \$115,583 | \$111,250 | \$148,750 | \$68,750 | \$22,844 |
| Ph.D. Health Physics | 10 | \$118,000 | \$116,250 | \$151,250 | \$93,750 | \$16,161 |

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

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|---------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| All CHPs in this Category | 52 | \$121,779 | \$122,500 | \$161,250 | \$71,250 | \$19,854 |
| Masters Health Physics | 29 | \$122,629 | \$123,750 | \$158,750 | \$83,750 | \$17,798 |

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

| | Count | Average | Median | Max | Min | Std Dev |
|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| All CHPs RPM/RSO | 22 | \$128,409 | \$128,750 | \$163,750 | \$88,750 | \$20,935 |
| All CHPs University RSO | 19 | \$99,934 | \$98,750 | \$143,750 | \$58,750 | \$21,219 |
| All CHPs Medical RSO | 12 | \$124,167 | \$126,250 | \$166,250 | \$81,250 | \$22,382 |
| All CHPs University/Med RSO | 12 | \$119,167 | \$113,750 | \$153,750 | \$91,250 | \$19,709 |

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

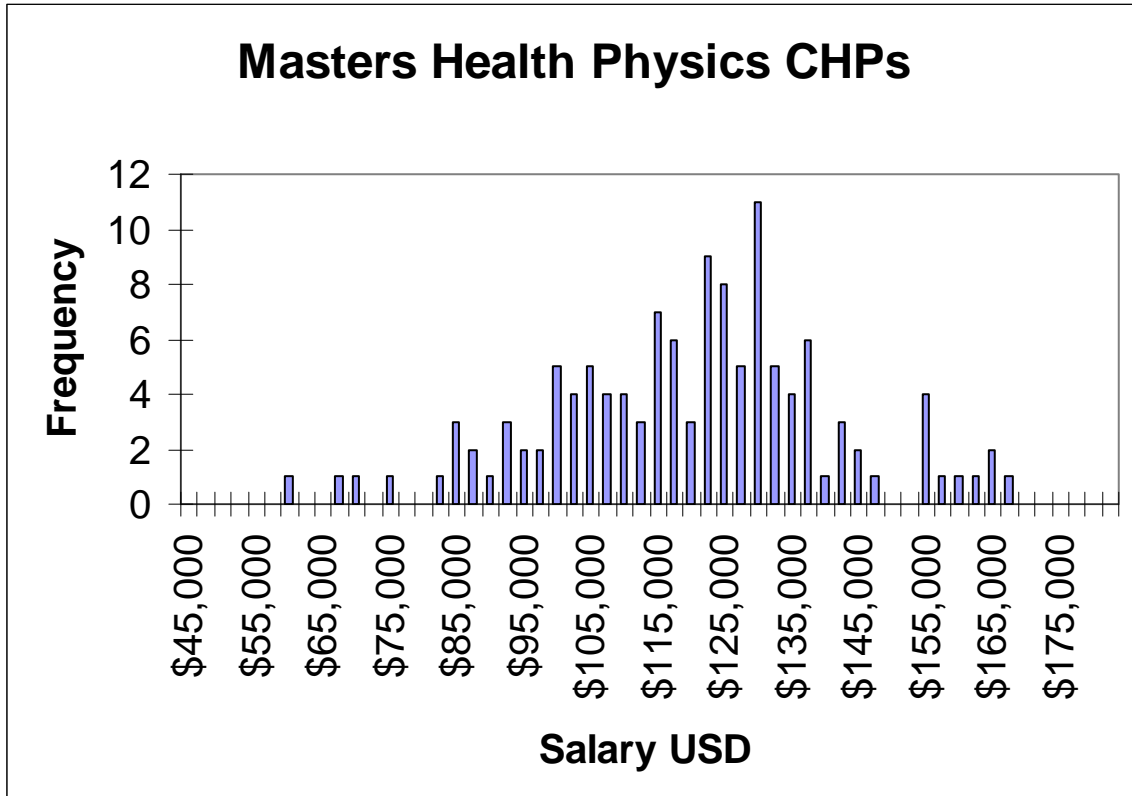


Figure 3: Histogram of Table 4 Data, all CHPs with > 15 years experience

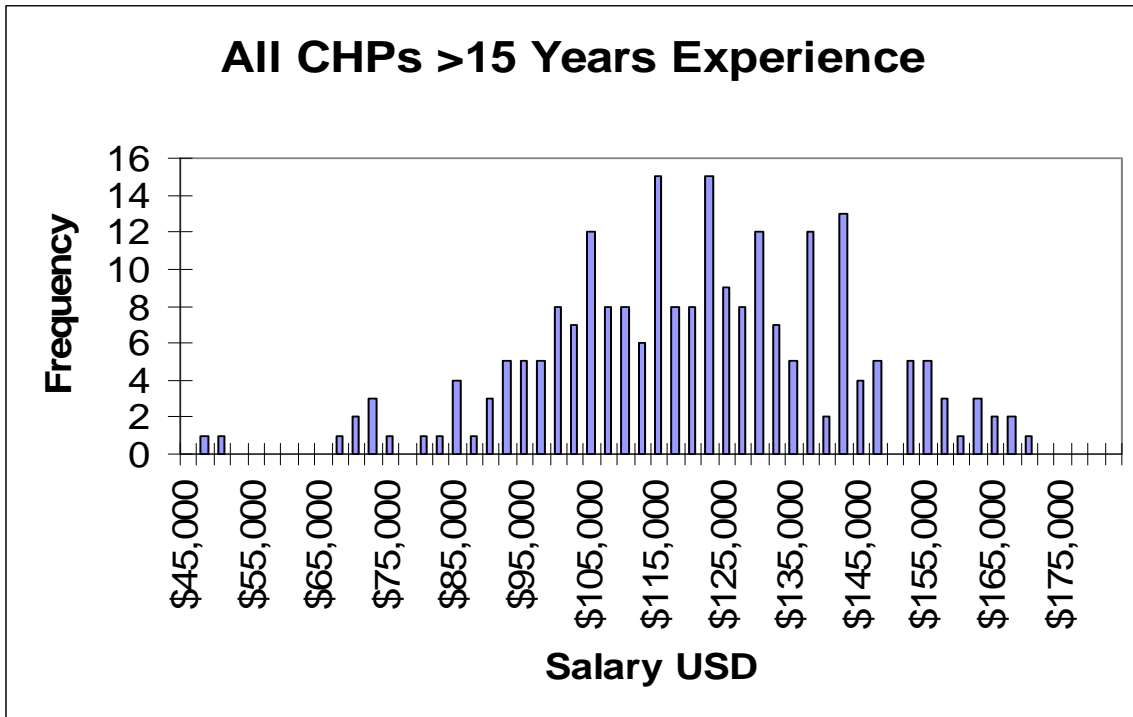
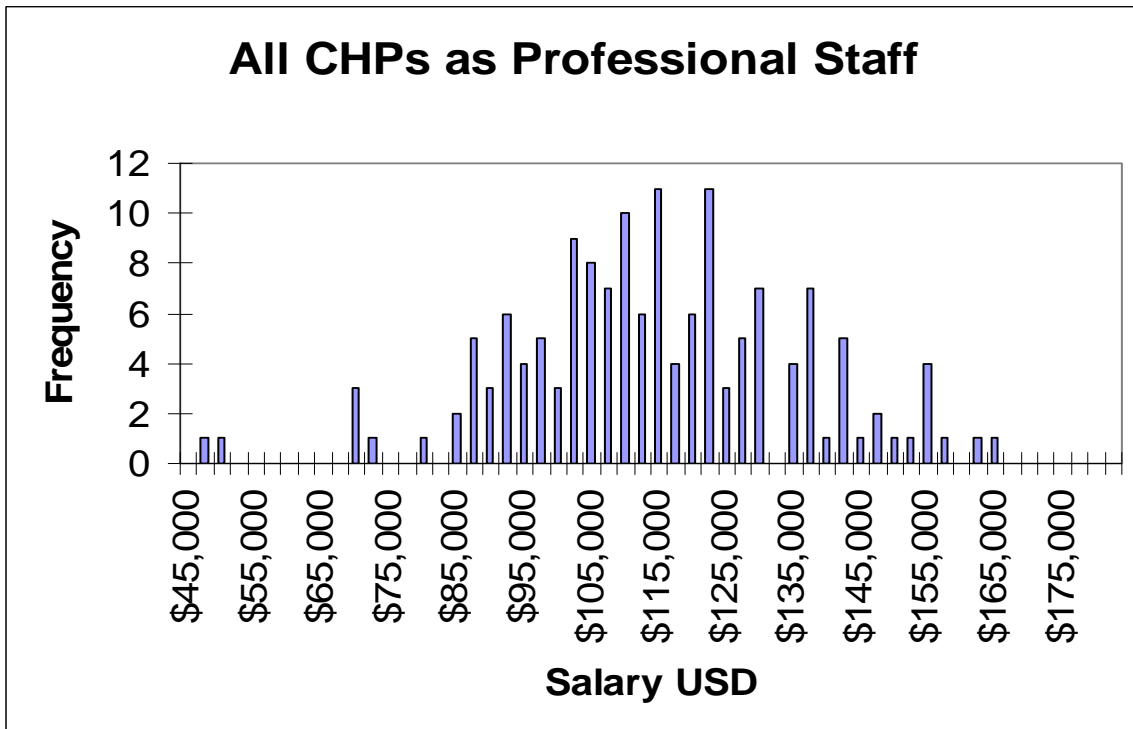


Figure 4: Histogram of Table 10 Data, All CHPs as Professional Staff



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.