

# THE 2009 CHP SALARY SURVEY

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## 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](mailto: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.

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.

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.

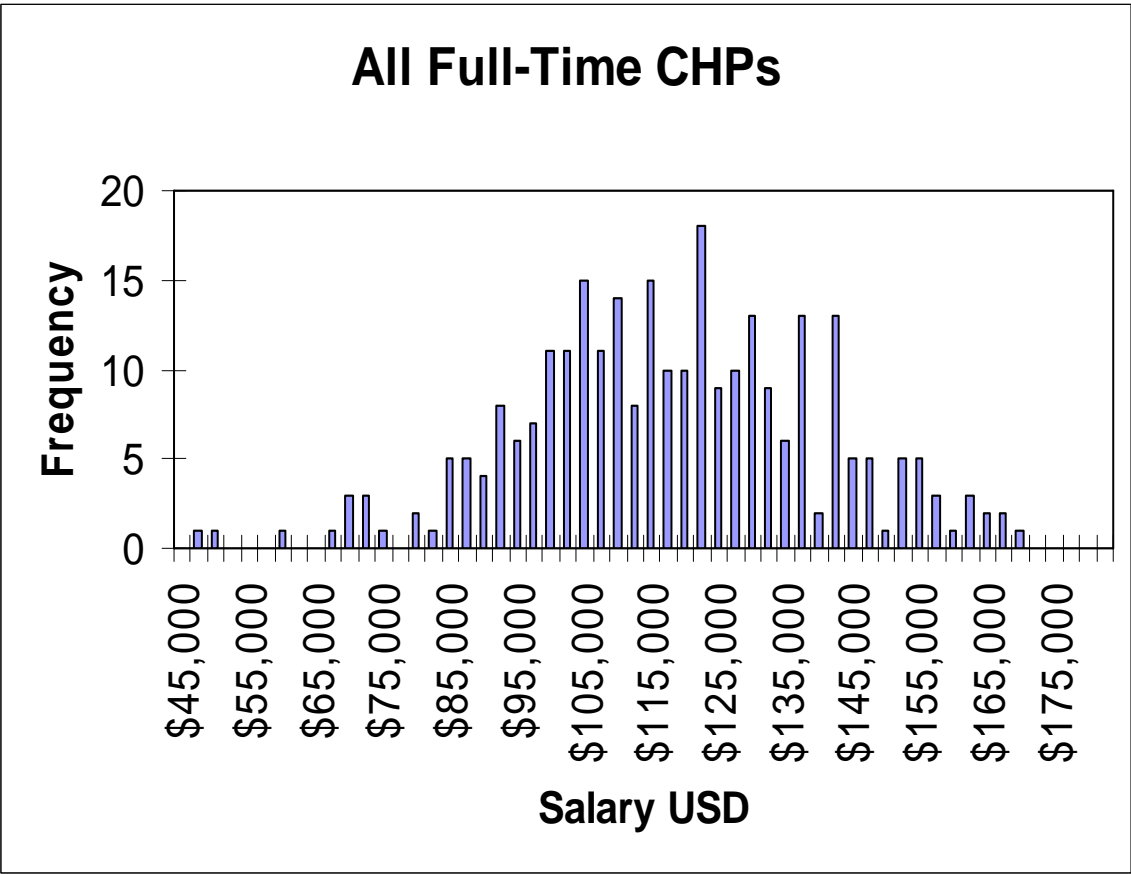
Histograms of the data shown in Table 1- All CHPs and Table 2 - Masters Health Physics, Table 4 – All CHPs >15 Years Experience, and Table 10 – All CHPs as Professional Staff are included as Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively.

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

Readers are cautioned that for

To avoid skewing the results,

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**

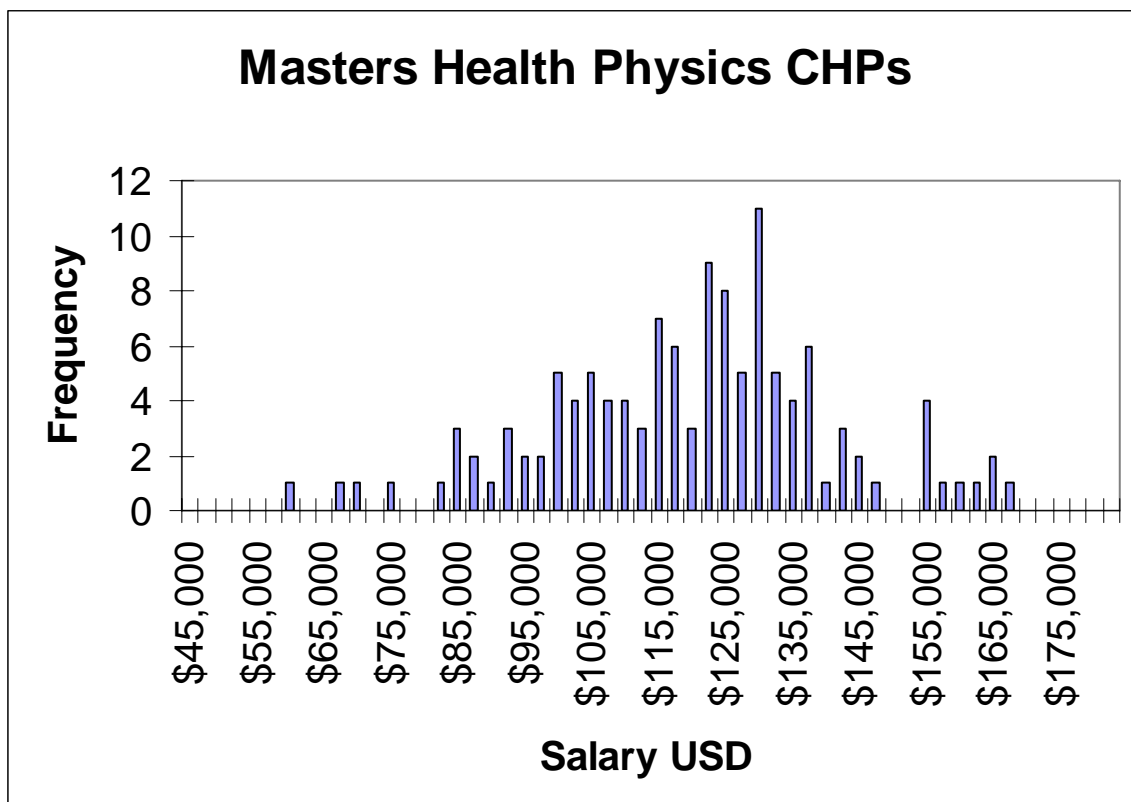


Figure 3: Histogram of Table 4 Data, all CHPs with > 15 years experience

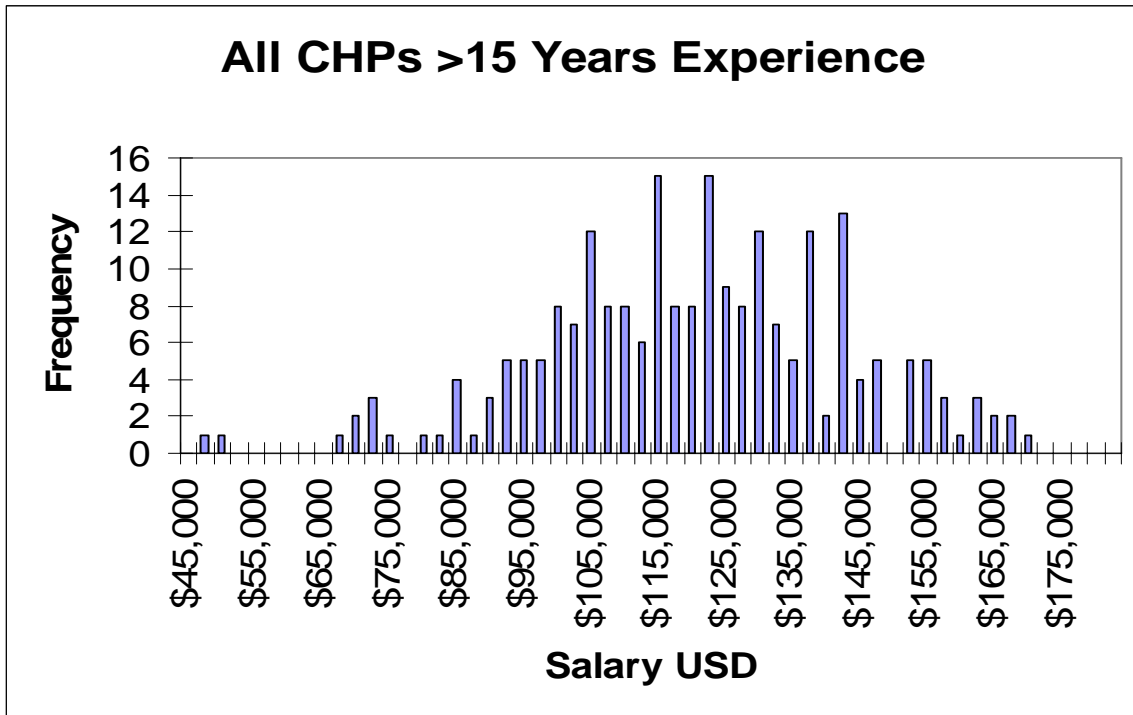
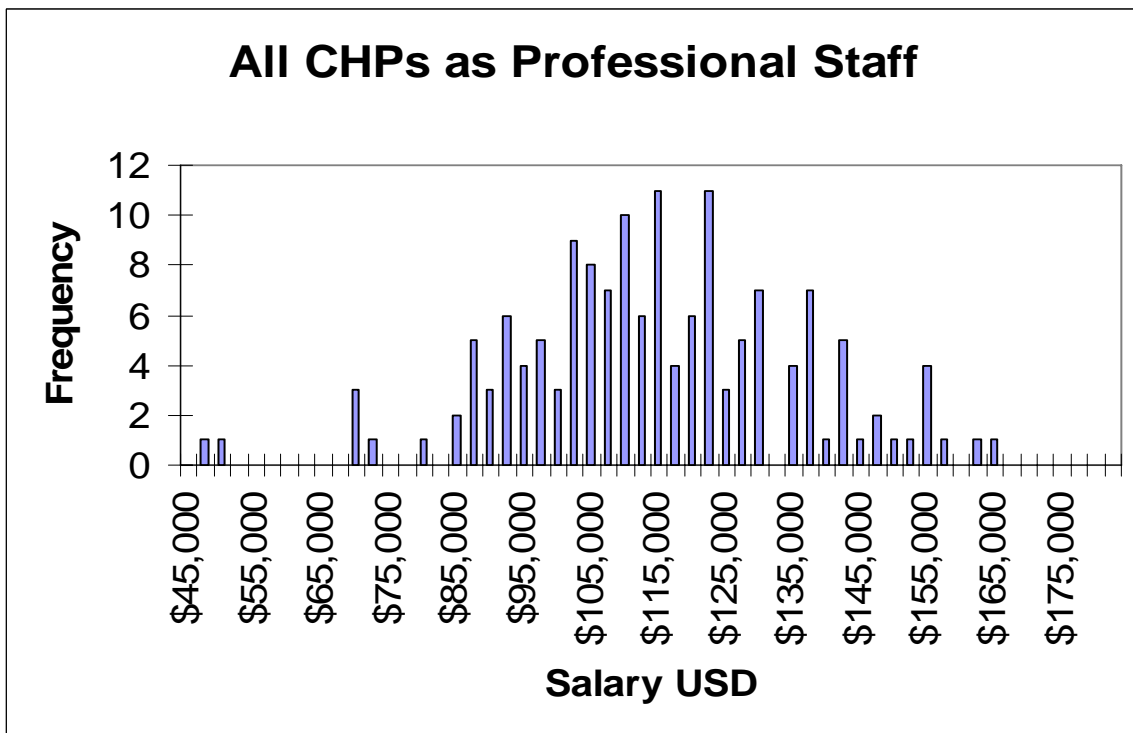


Figure 4: Histogram of Table 10 Data, All CHPs as Professional Staff



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.