

## THE 2013 CHP SALARY SURVEY

*By Gary Lauten*

### Introduction

The 2013 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 conjunction 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 Lauten, 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.

To minimize skewing the results, data from three survey respondents were excluded from the data analysis because they indicated that they earned less than \$58,750 or more than \$203,750 per year.

Of 70 respondents who reported receiving a significant (10% or more) salary increase upon attaining ABHP certification: 27% received this increase from their current employer, 24% from a promotion with their current employer, 46% received this increase from a new employer, and 3% 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 advised 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 less than 10 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.

A histogram of the data shown in Table 1- All CHPs is included as Figure 1 and 2.

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     | 247   | \$129,266 | \$126,250 | \$203,750 | \$58,750 | \$28,054 |

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

| Education                   | Count | Average   | Median    | Max       | Min      | Std Dev  |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Bachelors Health Physics    | 16    | \$129,688 | \$123,750 | \$181,250 | \$98,750 | \$19,555 |
| Bachelors Other Field       | 31    | \$119,637 | \$121,250 | \$153,750 | \$78,750 | \$20,510 |
| Masters Health Physics      | 106   | \$130,731 | \$131,250 | \$203,750 | \$58,750 | \$29,254 |
| Masters Other Field         | 22    | \$127,614 | \$126,250 | \$196,250 | \$71,250 | \$30,146 |
| Masters Nuclear Engineering | 16    | \$125,000 | \$121,250 | \$171,250 | \$88,750 | \$27,809 |
| Ph.D. Health Physics        | 22    | \$138,864 | \$131,250 | \$201,250 | \$96,250 | \$27,897 |
| Ph.D. Nuclear Engineering   | 14    | \$133,571 | \$121,250 | \$203,750 | \$76,250 | \$37,551 |

**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 | 26    | \$112,981 | \$111,250 | \$166,250 | \$76,250 | \$19,922 |
| Masters Health Physics       | 14    | \$109,286 | \$107,500 | \$136,250 | \$86,250 | \$15,354 |

**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 | 219   | \$131,159 | \$128,750 | \$203,750 | \$58,750 | \$28,117 |
| Bachelors Health Physics    | 15    | \$129,083 | \$121,250 | \$181,250 | \$98,750 | \$20,086 |
| Bachelors Other Field       | 30    | \$120,167 | \$122,500 | \$153,750 | \$78,750 | \$20,644 |
| Masters Health Physics      | 90    | \$134,000 | \$133,750 | \$203,750 | \$58,750 | \$29,177 |
| Masters Nuclear Engineering | 13    | \$129,519 | \$123,750 | \$171,250 | \$88,750 | \$28,657 |
| Masters Other Field         | 19    | \$126,908 | \$123,750 | \$196,250 | \$71,250 | \$30,332 |
| Ph.D. Health Physics        | 22    | \$138,864 | \$131,250 | \$201,250 | \$96,250 | \$27,897 |
| Ph.D. Other Field           | 10    | \$128,500 | \$131,250 | \$191,250 | \$71,250 | \$35,968 |

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

| CHPs by Region | Count | Average   | Median    | Max       | Min      | Std Dev  |
|----------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Northeast      | 43    | \$130,901 | \$126,250 | \$201,250 | \$83,750 | \$29,376 |
| Midwest        | 33    | \$120,189 | \$116,250 | \$176,250 | \$76,250 | \$24,375 |
| South          | 74    | \$126,453 | \$123,750 | \$201,250 | \$63,750 | \$26,935 |
| West           | 68    | \$131,949 | \$131,250 | \$203,750 | \$71,250 | \$24,246 |

\*- 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                        | 15    | \$132,917 | \$136,250 | \$156,250 | \$88,750 | \$21,101 |
| University                                | 13    | \$109,327 | \$101,250 | \$171,250 | \$63,750 | \$32,995 |
| National Laboratory                       | 25    | \$131,950 | \$128,750 | \$203,750 | \$86,250 | \$24,891 |
| Other Commercial                          | 14    | \$144,286 | \$135,000 | \$201,250 | \$91,250 | \$38,345 |

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

| All CHPs by Other Certifications | Count | Average   | Median    | Max       | Min      | Std Dev  |
|----------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| ABIH                             | 11    | \$135,568 | \$136,250 | \$196,250 | \$71,250 | \$30,230 |
| NRRPT                            | 46    | \$125,815 | \$121,250 | \$203,750 | \$73,750 | \$24,846 |
| PE                               | 10    | \$134,500 | \$126,250 | \$186,250 | \$91,250 | \$29,227 |
| Other                            | 35    | \$126,036 | \$128,750 | \$203,750 | \$71,250 | \$27,078 |

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

| Masters Health Physics & Primary Job Responsibility | Count | Average   | Median    | Max       | Min       | Std Dev  |
|---|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Administration                                      | 14    | \$142,857 | \$141,250 | \$198,750 | \$108,750 | \$22,968 |
| Applied Health Physics                              | 31    | \$126,492 | \$121,250 | \$203,750 | \$63,750  | \$32,726 |
| Dosimetry   | 13    | \$131,250 | \$128,750 | \$166,250 | \$91,250  | \$22,032 |

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

| Primary Job Responsibility | Count | Average   | Median    | Max       | Min       | Std Dev  |
|----------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Accelerator Health Physics | 10    | \$124,500 | \$128,750 | \$163,750 | \$91,250  | \$26,222 |
| Administration             | 23    | \$137,880 | \$136,250 | \$198,750 | \$76,250  | \$26,985 |
| Applied Health Physics     | 74    | \$124,662 | \$121,250 | \$203,750 | \$63,750  | \$28,146 |
| Dosimetry                  | 26    | \$130,096 | \$128,750 | \$166,250 | \$78,750  | \$22,139 |
| Emergency Preparedness     | 11    | \$132,159 | \$128,750 | \$171,250 | \$88,750  | \$23,272 |
| Environmental              | 17    | \$132,721 | \$128,750 | \$201,250 | \$58,750  | \$37,113 |
| Medical Health Physics     | 14    | \$132,857 | \$131,250 | \$181,250 | \$71,250  | \$34,287 |
| Power Reactor              | 18    | \$132,778 | \$125,000 | \$188,750 | \$106,250 | \$23,673 |
| Regulations/Standards      | 14    | \$136,071 | \$140,000 | \$181,250 | \$83,750  | \$24,287 |

**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   | 124   | \$124,153 | \$123,750 | \$203,750 | \$58,750 | \$24,404 |
| Bachelors Other Field       | 19    | \$120,197 | \$123,750 | \$153,750 | \$78,750 | \$22,225 |
| Masters Health Physics      | 53    | \$126,675 | \$126,250 | \$201,250 | \$58,750 | \$27,275 |
| Masters Other Field         | 12    | \$121,042 | \$121,250 | \$148,750 | \$96,250 | \$16,701 |
| Masters Nuclear Engineering | 10    | \$119,000 | \$121,250 | \$156,250 | \$88,750 | \$23,525 |

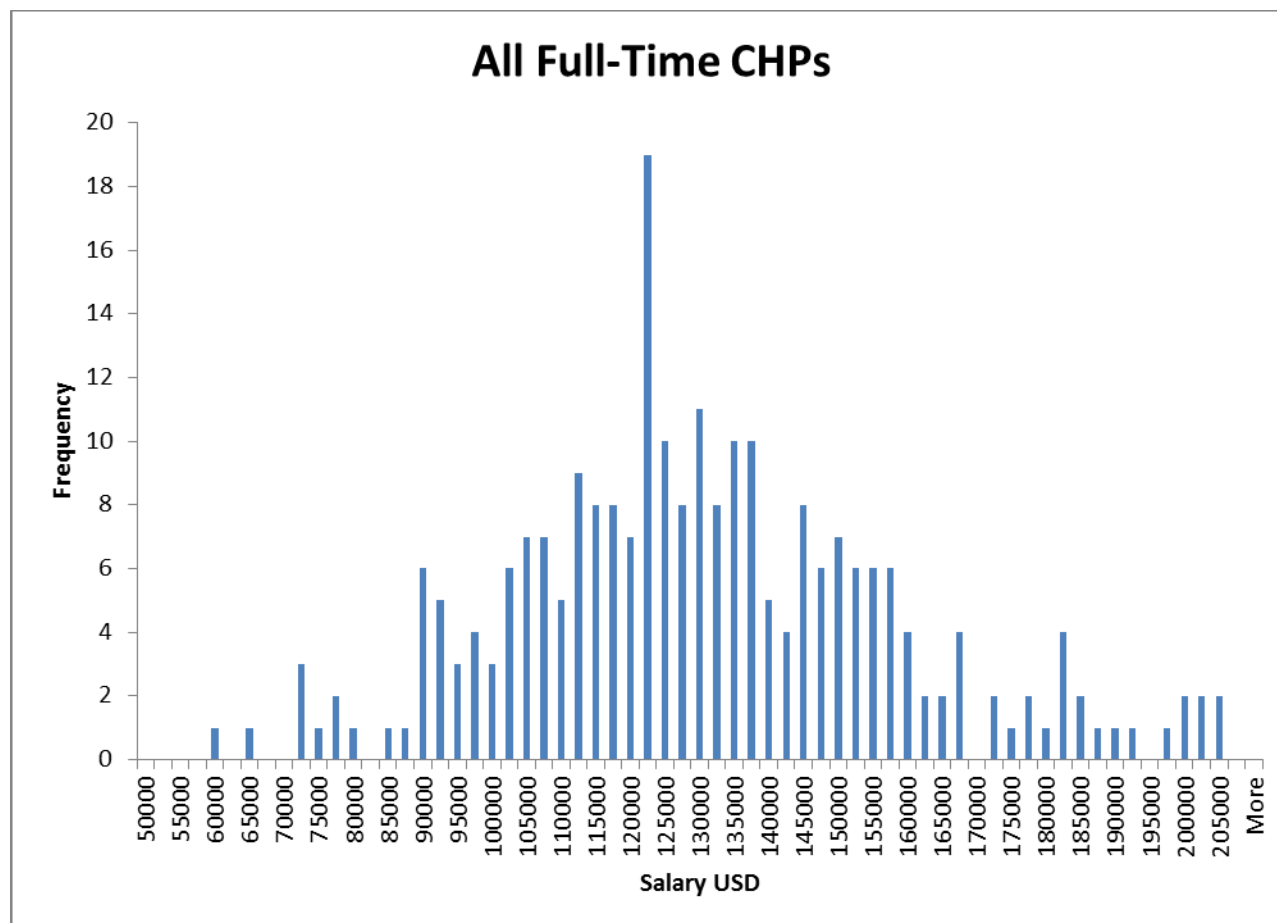
**Table 11: CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff (All CHPs in this category and by Education)**

| CHPs as Supervisor of Professional Staff | Count | Average   | Median    | Max       | Min      | Std Dev  |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| All CHPs in this Category                | 54    | \$138,426 | \$136,250 | \$203,750 | \$76,250 | \$27,291 |
| Masters Health Physics                   | 23    | \$138,641 | \$136,250 | \$203,750 | \$88,750 | \$26,495 |

**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            | 19    | \$132,171 | \$133,750 | \$196,250 | \$98,750  | \$27,351 |
| All CHPs University RSO     | 12    | \$100,208 | \$106,250 | \$136,250 | \$63,750  | \$23,943 |
| All CHPs Medical RSO        | 10    | \$137,500 | \$121,250 | \$183,750 | \$106,250 | \$30,670 |
| All CHPs University-Med RSO | 11    | \$140,795 | \$133,750 | \$181,250 | \$88,750  | \$30,017 |

**Figure 1: Histogram of Table 1 Data, all CHPs**



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.