

# The 2006 HPS Salary Survey

Chris Graham, CHP, and Andy King  
AmerenUE Callaway Plant

## Introduction

This year's health physicist salary survey data was collected in conjunction with a Web-based survey of the entire Health Physics Society (HPS).

**Readers should note that there are two salary surveys: one for CHPs and one for nonCHPs.**

Gary Lautenschlager reported the CHP salary survey results separately in the December 2006 *CHP News*, Volume 16, Number 2. The results reported in this survey do not include respondents who are CHPs.

Response to this year's survey was very low and many categories simply did not have sufficient data to allow presentation.

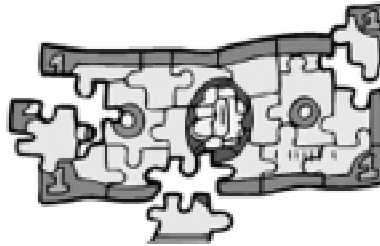
Questions about this survey should be directed to Chris Graham (ccgraham@cal.ameren.com).

## Data Analysis

The salary ranges marked by health physicists on the completed survey forms were rounded to the midpoints of those ranges before statistical analyses were performed. For example, if a salary was marked in the range \$50,000 to \$54,999, then it was rounded to the midpoint value of \$52,500. For salaries greater than \$175,000, the actual value was used.

Responses from those who were either part-time or retired were not analyzed, since the data did not appear to allow meaningful comparisons to be made.

There has been no attempt to analyze and draw conclusions from the data; this is left to the reader.



In addition to the salary information, there are tables which provide a breakdown of experience by education level and job responsibility by education level to assist the reader in interpreting the salary data. Health physicist salaries by region are also presented in this report.

## Data Presentation

In an effort to make the results of the survey interesting and useful, health physicists were subcategorized in several ways by education, primary job responsibility, years of experience, region, and combinations of these subcategories.

Readers are cautioned that for statistical validity and in order to

preserve anonymity, results are provided only if there were 10 or more responses within that subcategory. Data presented for one subcategory may not be possible for another subcategory.

Every effort was made to keep the subcategories consistent with the previous HPS salary surveys, however, the subcategories will vary from one year to the next based on the number of responses.

The tables show results for full-time health physicists who received health, vacation, and retirement benefits from their primary employer.

## Acknowledgments

Many thanks to all who participated in this survey. Your participation benefits the entire health physics community. Special thanks to Scott Medling for his helpful comments and suggestions and for coding the survey and making it available on the Internet, and a very special thanks to Gary Lautenschlager for initiating the CHP salary survey from which this survey was born some years ago. The careful reader may also note an uncanny similarity between this report and the CHP salary survey report. Any similarities are entirely intentional; let's call it recycling good ideas—again.

## Salary by Region (Note 1)

Region	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
MW	37	93,412.16	91,250.00	46,250.00	173,750.00	23,252.55
NE	36	99,513.89	101,250.00	43,750.00	168,750.00	27,241.12
SO	83	93,689.76	91,250.00	33,750.00	156,250.00	25,330.06
WE	78	98,429.49	98,750.00	43,750.00	153,750.00	20,086.50
Total Responses:	234					

## Experience by Education Level

Education	Responses	<6 HP Years	6-15 HP Years	>15 HP Years	<6 Job Years	≥6 Job Years
BS Health Physics	20	4	4	12	13	7
MS Health Physics	95	5	20	70	45	50
PhD Health Physics	15	0	0	6	5	10
MS Nuclear Engineering	13	2	2	9	8	5
Bachelor's Other	47	2	6	39	20	27
Master's Other	35	1	7	17	13	13
PhD Other	12	0	2	10	6	6
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>227</b>					

## Salary by Education Level

Education	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
BS Health Physics	20	88,875.00	91,250.00	46,250.00	148,750.00	23,695.92
MS Health Physics	97	100,219.07	101,250.00	51,250.00	173,750.00	21,927.77
PhD Health Physics	15	108,500.53	106,250.00	73,750.00	175,008.00	28,230.02
MS Nuclear Engineering	13	96,250.00	91,250.00	53,750.00	143,750.00	25,698.57
Bachelor's Other	47	87,632.98	86,250.00	43,750.00	168,750.00	25,446.07
Master's Other	26	95,673.08	96,250.00	53,750.00	148,750.00	19,978.83
PhD Other	13	107,830.77	101,250.00	51,250.00	221,800.00	46,239.25
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>231</b>					

## Salary by Education and Experience

Education	Experiences	Responses	Average	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Std. Dev.
BS Health Physics	>15 Years	12	96,458.33	93,750.00	148,750.0	46,250.00	24,060.96
MS Health Physics	6-15 Years	20	95,000.00	91,250.00	136,250.0	63,750.00	16,868.30
MS Health Physics	>15 Years	72	103,333.3	103,750.0	173,750.0	58,750.00	21,955.46
Bachelor's Other	>15 Years	39	91,506.41	91,250.00	168,750.0	43,750.00	24,773.94
Master's Other	>15 Years	17	100,661.7	96,250.00	148,750.0	78,750.00	16,736.22
PhD Other	>15 Years	11	99,886.36	101,250.0	158,750.0	51,250.00	33,566.42
<b>Total Responses:</b>		<b>171</b>					

## Salary by Job Responsibility

Job Resp	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
Professional Staff	31	99,475.81	98,750.00	43,750.00	173,750.00	30,126.08
2nd Line Supervisor	142	93,362.68	93,750.00	41,250.00	156,250.00	20,929.84
RPM/RSO	39	109,038.67	103,750.00	56,250.00	175,008.00	24,661.86
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>212</b>					

## Job Responsibility by Education Level

Job Title	Responses	NonDegree/Assoc./Tech	Bachelor's	Master's	PhD
Professional Staff	31	0	12	18	1
2nd Line Supervisor	142	8	40	71	23
RPM/RSO	39	4	9	24	2
Facility Manager	18	0	5	11	2
VP/President/CEO	11	0	4	7	0
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>241</b>				

## Salary by Employer

Employer	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
Federal Government	39	106,698.72	103,750.00	58,750.00	156,250.00	22,572.05
Medical Facility	17	94,779.41	93,750.00	63,750.00	138,750.00	22,379.17
Consulting Firm	26	100,961.54	101,250.00	51,250.00	168,750.00	26,299.50
University	41	76,920.73	76,250.00	33,750.00	123,750.00	23,177.47
National Laboratory	28	103,884.21	103,750.00	61,250.00	175,008.00	19,575.07
Government Contractor	41	102,713.41	98,750.00	71,250.00	158,750.00	20,968.54
Nuclear Power Utility	15	96,916.67	93,750.00	63,750.00	146,250.00	21,390.64
Other Commercial	24	92,604.17	86,250.00	56,250.00	173,750.00	26,692.48
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>231</b>					

## Salary by BS and Employer

Employer	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
Consulting Firm	10	99,500.00	91,250.00	73,750.00	168,750.00	26,363.60
University	15	69,583.33	66,250.00	43,750.00	101,250.00	19,722.78
Government Contractor	11	107,613.6	98,750.00	71,250.00	153,750.00	26,205.05
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>36</b>					

## Salary by Master's Degree and Employer

Employer	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
Federal Government	27	109,953.70	103,750.00	58,750.00	151,250.00	22,364.66
Medical Facility	11	91,022.73	91,250.00	63,750.00	123,750.00	20,200.70
Consulting Firm	14	99,464.29	103,750.00	51,250.00	156,250.00	27,932.41
University	16	83,136.23	81,250.00	33,750.00	123,750.00	19,492.92
National Laboratory	14	101,607.14	101,250.00	78,750.00	128,750.00	13,966.21
Government Contractor	18	99,583.33	96,250.00	73,750.00	136,250.00	14,950.90
Other Commercial	12	102,500.00	96,250.00	73,750.00	173,750.00	26,511.15
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>112</b>					

## Salary by PhD and Employer

Employer	Responses	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev.
Government Contractor	10	101,250.00	96,250.00	73,750.00	138,750.00	25,819.89
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>10</b>					

## Salary by Field of Expertise

<u>Expertise</u>	<u>Responses</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Std. Dev.</u>
Administration	25	99,900.32	96,250.00	53,750.00	175,008.00	25,830.74
Applied HP	84	91,785.71	91,250.00	43,750.00	158,750.00	22,955.80
Dosimetry	15	103,750.00	106,250.00	53,750.00	126,250.00	16,174.27
Environmental	29	99,956.90	101,250.00	51,250.00	143,750.00	19,995.77
Radiological Assessment	19	100,986.84	93,750.00	51,250.00	156,250.00	28,527.46
Regulations/Standards	23	99,945.65	96,250.00	43,750.00	151,250.00	28,282.96
Reactors, Power	11	106,250.00	98,750.00	63,750.00	168,750.00	29,474.57
Medical Physics	11	96,250.00	91,250.00	63,750.00	138,750.00	22,721.14
<b>Total Responses:</b>		<b>217</b>				

### Note 1

The four major regions of the United States as defined by the US 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