



American Physical Therapy Association Median Income of Physical Therapist Summary Report

The following tables present salary data for physical therapists by geographic region, employment setting, years of experience, highest earned academic degree, level of professional degree, and sex. The data reflect the median gross earned income reported by respondents who were employed on a full-time salaried or self-employed basis. Hourly rates of those respondents who are employed on an hourly basis are also included. Median, rather than mean, salaries are presented as the median is not as sensitive to extreme values. To ensure the confidentiality of respondents, salaries are not reported unless there were at least 25 cases in each grouping.

Data are based on responses to APTA Practice Profile surveys representing the years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2010, 2013, and 2016.

Table 1. Median Gross Earned Income of Physical Therapists by Geographic Region

	2004	2005	2006	2008	2010	2013	2016
Northeast							
New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)	\$65,000	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$77,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$84,000
Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA))	\$70,750	\$73,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$86,000	\$85,000
Midwest							
East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI)	\$66,000	\$70,000	\$73,000	\$77,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$83,000
West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD)	\$62,000	\$67,200	\$70,000	\$73,000	\$75,000	\$75,500	\$80,000
South							
South Atlantic (DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV)	\$67,000	\$70,000	\$74,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$83,000	\$85,000
East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN)	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$83,600
West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX)	\$70,500	\$73,750	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$86,450	\$86,000
West							
Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT WY)	\$65,000	\$68,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$83,000	\$82,000
Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)	\$72,000	\$75,500	\$80,000	\$86,000	\$90,000	\$93,500	\$92,000
National							
	\$68,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$85,000

Table 2. Median Gross Earned Income of Physical Therapists by Employment Setting¹

	2010	2013	2016
Acute care hospital	\$85,000	\$92,000	\$89,000
Hospital-based outpatient facility or clinic	\$80,000	\$83,000	\$85,000
Private outpatient office or group practice	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Skilled nursing facility (SNF)/long-term care	\$88,000	\$91,000	\$95,000
Patient's home/home care	\$85,500	\$87,000	\$90,000
School system (preschool/primary/secondary)	\$70,000	\$71,000	\$72,000
Academic institution (post-secondary)	\$85,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
Health and wellness facility	N/A	N/A	N/A
Research center	N/A	N/A	N/A
Industry	\$85,000	N/A	N/A
Inpatient rehab facility (IRF)	\$74,000	\$70,000	\$82,000
Other	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$90,000

¹APTA updated its standard list of facility types/practice settings for the 2010 survey to better represent current practice. Data reflect 2010 – 2016 only.

N/A: To ensure confidentiality, salaries are not reported in categories with fewer than 25 respondents.

Table 3. Median Gross Earned Income of Physical Therapists by Years as a Physical Therapist

	2004	2005	2006	2008	2010	2013	2016
0-3	\$51,000	\$54,000	\$56,000	\$60,000	\$60,660	\$64,000	\$67,000
4-6	\$58,000	\$62,000	\$65,000	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$73,000	\$74,000
7-9	\$64,000	\$69,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$77,000	\$78,000	\$80,000
10-15	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$82,500	\$90,000	\$89,000
16+	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$86,000	\$90,000	\$92,000	\$96,250

Table 4. Median Gross Earned Income of Physical Therapists by Highest Earned Academic Degree¹

	2005	2006	2008	2010	2013	2016
Baccalaureate	\$75,000	\$78,000	\$84,000	\$86,000	\$88,000	\$96,000
Master's	\$70,000	\$72,000	\$80,000	\$82,000	\$90,000	\$95,000
DPT (entry-level) ²	\$55,000	\$60,000	\$63,000	\$65,000	\$70,000	\$72,000
DPT (transition)	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$90,000	\$92,000
PhD or equivalent	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$89,500	\$90,000	\$96,000	\$100,000
tDPT and Other Doc	N/A	N/A	\$98,000	\$98,000	N/A	\$100,000
DPT and Other Doc	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$80,000

¹Data from 2004 are not reported here. The wording of this question was updated in 2005 to reflect the acceleration of the award of the tDPT degree.

²Those with an entry-level DPT reported the lowest median income. This is likely a function of the large numbers of new graduates within this group and the corresponding small number of years of experience for these respondents.

N/A: To ensure confidentiality, salaries are not reported in categories with fewer than 25 respondents.

Table 5. Median Gross Earned Income of Physical Therapists by Entry-Level Program

	2004	2005	2006	2008	2010	2013	2016
Baccalaureate	\$72,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$88,377	\$90,000	\$96,000
Post baccalaureate	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$82,000	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$96,000	\$100,000
Master's	\$60,000	\$65,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$90,000	\$92,000
Doctoral ¹	\$58,000	\$56,555	\$58,000	\$60,550	\$64,000	\$68,000	\$71,000

¹ Those with an entry-level DPT reported the lowest median income. This is likely a function of the large numbers of new graduates within this group and the corresponding small number of years of experience for these respondents.

Table 6. Median Gross Earned Income of Physical Therapists by Sex

	2004	2005	2006	2008	2010	2013	2016
Female	\$65,000	\$68,000	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$78,000	\$80,000	\$81,118
Male	\$75,000	\$78,000	\$80,000	\$86,000	\$90,000	\$92,500	\$90,000

Table 7. Physical Therapists Employed on an Hourly Basis: Rates and Hours Worked Per Week

		2013	2016
Full-time hourly	Hourly rate	\$38	\$40
	Median hours worked	40	40
Part-time hourly rate	Hourly rate	\$40	\$45
	Median hours worked	22	23

Contact: research-dept@apta.org | Last updated: 5/15/18]