



Changes in Pay for Selected House Member Staff Positions, 2021-2022

September 18, 2023

The FY2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-103) provided \$774.0 million, an increase of 21.0%, for the Member Representational Allowance (MRA), which funds expenditures for House Member offices, including staff salaries. Questions have arisen regarding how the MRA increase, the largest in more than a decade, might have affected staff pay between 2021 and 2022.

This Insight provides summary pay data for 14 staff position titles that are typically used in House Members' offices, and for which comparable data are available for 2021 and 2022. Data for each position, identified in **Table 1**, were developed in the same manner described in CRS Report R44323, *Staff Pay, Selected Positions in House Member Offices, 2001-2021*. The table provides average annual pay levels for entire years in nominal (actual) dollars and constant (inflation adjusted for August 2023) dollars for 2021 and 2022, and percentage changes based on nominal and constant 2023 dollars.

The Congressional Research Service provides a number of products on staffing issues. These can be found in CRS Report R44688, *Congressional Staff: CRS Products*. Detailed information on allowances for congressional offices is available in CRS Report RL30064, *Congressional Salaries and Allowances: In Brief*. Discussion of FY2024 legislative branch appropriations, including proposed changes to MRA funding, is available in CRS Report R47624, *Legislative Branch: FY2024 Appropriations*.

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Table 1. Average Pay and Percentage Change for Selected Staff Positions in House Members' Offices in Nominal and Inflation-Adjusted 2023 Dollars, 2021-2022

Position	Nominal (Actual) \$			Constant, 2023 \$		
	2021	2022	Change	2021	2022	Change
Caseworker	\$55,682	\$67,489	21.21%	\$63,091	\$70,727	12.10%
Chief of Staff	\$164,212	\$180,246	9.76%	\$186,063	\$188,894	1.52%
Communications Director	\$87,658	\$97,467	11.19%	\$99,321	\$102,144	2.84%
Constituent Services Rep.	\$52,157	\$61,220	17.38%	\$59,097	\$64,157	8.56%
Deputy Chief of Staff	\$108,065	\$133,752	23.77%	\$122,444	\$140,169	14.48%
District Deputy Director	\$76,438	\$94,046	23.04%	\$86,609	\$98,558	13.80%
District Director	\$105,009	\$126,800	20.75%	\$118,982	\$132,884	11.68%
Field Representative	\$55,726	\$67,174	20.54%	\$63,141	\$70,397	11.49%
Legislative Assistant	\$61,575	\$72,560	17.84%	\$69,768	\$76,041	8.99%
Legislative Correspondent	\$52,023	\$61,963	19.11%	\$58,946	\$64,935	10.16%
Legislative Director	\$95,449	\$110,099	15.35%	\$108,150	\$115,382	6.69%
Scheduler	\$60,932	\$74,378	22.07%	\$69,040	\$77,947	12.90%
Senior Legislative Assistant	\$69,995	\$72,548	3.65%	\$79,309	\$76,029	-4.14%
Staff Assistant	\$44,646	\$56,209	25.90%	\$50,587	\$58,906	16.45%

Source: *Statement of Disbursements of the House*, as collated by LegiStorm, and CRS calculations. Percentage change in pay is based on the change in annual average pay for the entire year for each position. Data for each position are based on a random sampling of House offices and were developed in the same manner described in CRS Report R44323, *Staff Pay, Selected Positions in House Member Offices, 2001-2021*.

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