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Senate Committee Staff Pay, Selected Positions, FY2001-FY2025

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CRS REPORT
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Committees of Congress

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SUMMARY

R44325

September 11, 2026

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Senate Committee Staff Pay, Selected Positions, FY2001-FY2025

The level of pay for congressional staff is a source of recurring interest among Members of Congress, congressional staff, and the public. There may be interest in congressional pay data from multiple perspectives, including assessment of the costs of congressional operations; guidance in setting pay levels for staff in committee offices; consideration by staff when negotiating compensation for a new position or promotion; or comparison of congressional staff pay levels with those of other federal government pay systems.

This report provides pay data for the following 16 staff position titles that are used in Senate committees: Archivist; Chief Clerk; Chief Counsel; Communications Director; Counsel; Deputy Chief Clerk; Deputy Staff Director; General Counsel; Legislative Aide; Professional Staff Member; Research Assistant; Senior Counsel; Senior Professional Staff Member; Staff Assistant; Staff Director; and Systems Administrator. The following table provides FY2025 pay levels and the change in median pay levels for these positions in constant 2026 dollars, between FY2024 and FY2025.

FY2025 Median Pay and Percentage Change for Selected Staff Positions in Senate Committees, 2026 Dollars and Percentage Change, FY2024-FY2025

Position	FY25 Pay, 2026$	Change, FY24-FY25	Position	FY25 Pay, 2026$	Change, FY24-FY25
Archivist	$116,946	--	Legislative Aide	$81,009	4.18%
Chief Clerk	$184,316	-3.60%	Professional Staff Member	$125,499	9.08%
Chief Counsel	$198,762	4.90%	Research Assistant	$81,411	17.26%
Communications Director	$183,497	11.50%	Senior Counsel	$142,654	-9.80%
Counsel	$145,374	6.27%	Senior Professional Staff Member	$141,090	-11.61%
Deputy Chief Clerk	$145,259	3.57%	Staff Assistant	$61,282	-1.11%
Deputy Staff Director	$212,925	10.66%	Staff Director	$230,148	0.81%
General Counsel	$194,772	1.44%	Systems Administrator	$115,661	6.08%

Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations based on based the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026. "—" indicates no data available.

Report tables provide aggregate statistics on pay for each staff position for FY2001, FY2006, FY2011, FY2016, and FY2021-FY2025, including quartiles, median pay, and average pay, based on available data. Graphic displays are also included, providing representations of pay from the following two perspectives:

- a line graph showing change in median pay, FY2001-FY2025, in nominal (current) and constant 2026 dollars; and
- distributions of FY2025 pay in 2026 dollars, in $10,000 increments.

Other data, which may not represent the entire FY2001-FY2025 period, are available to congressional staff upon request.

The Congressional Research Service provides a number of products on congressional staffing matters. These include CRS Report R44322, *House Committee Staff Pay, Selected Positions, 2001-2025*; CRS Report R44323, *Staff Pay, Selected Positions in House Member Offices, 2001-2025*; CRS Report R44324, *Staff Pay, Selected Positions in Senators' Offices, FY2001-FY2025*; and CRS Report R46262, *Congressional Staff: Duties and Qualifications Identified by Members of Congress for Selected Positions*.

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Introduction

Levels of pay for congressional staff are a source of recurring interest among Members of Congress, congressional staff, and the public. In Senate committees, the chair and ranking member set the terms and conditions of employment for majority and minority staff, respectively. This includes job titles and descriptions; rates of pay, subject to maximum levels;[1] and resources available to carry out their official duties. There may be interest in congressional pay data from multiple perspectives, including assessment of the costs of congressional operations; guidance in setting pay levels for staff in committee offices; consideration by staff when negotiating compensation for a new position or promotion; or comparison of congressional staff pay levels with those of other federal government pay systems.

Publicly available information sources do not provide aggregated congressional staff pay data in a readily retrievable form.[2] Pay information in this report is based on the Senate *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, published semiannually by the Senate,[3] as collated by LegiStorm. Data in this report are based on official Senate reports, which afford the opportunity to use consistently collected data from a single, authoritative source. Additionally, this report provides annual data by fiscal year, which allows for observations about the nature of Senate committee staff compensation over time.

This report provides pay data for 16 staff position titles that are used in Senate committees, and for which sufficient data could be identified. The positions include the following:

Archivist	Deputy Staff Director	Senior Counsel
Chief Clerk	General Counsel	Senior Professional Staff Member
Chief Counsel	Legislative Aide	Staff Assistant
Communications Director	Professional Staff Member	Staff Director
Counsel	Research Assistant	Systems Administrator
Deputy Chief Clerk		

When committees had more than two staff members with the same job title, data for no more than two staff per committee were collected. Senate committee staff had to hold a position with the same job title on the same committee for the entire year examined and not receive pay from any other congressional employing authority for their data to be included. Every recorded payment ascribed in the LegiStorm data to those staff for the fiscal year is tabulated. Data collected for this report may differ from an employee's stated annual salary due to the inclusion of overtime, bonuses, or other payments in addition to base salary paid in the course of a year.[4]

The Congressional Research Service provides a number of products on congressional staffing matters. These include CRS Report R44322, *House Committee Staff Pay, Selected Positions,*

[1] The maximum annual pay for staff in Senate committees is $228,000. See 2 U.S.C. 4571 and 2 U.S.C. 4575 note. Maximum payable rates for Senate committee staff since 2001 are available in

Table 1.

[2] In this report, *pay* refers to monies paid by the Senate to staff, and excludes other components of total compensation, which might include paid leave or employer contributions to various insurance and retirement benefits.

[3] Volumes of the *Report of the Secretary of the Senate* since April 2011 are available at https://www.senate.gov/legislative/common/generic/report_secsen.htm.

[4] Other forms of payment do not appear to be recorded in a consistent manner. Sometimes overtime and other pay are listed as separate entries and in other instances, significant one-time changes in a semiannual total may suggest payments in addition to regular salary.

2001-2025; CRS Report R44323, *Staff Pay, Selected Positions in House Member Offices, 2001-2025*; CRS Report R44324, *Staff Pay, Selected Positions in Senators' Offices, FY2001-FY2025*; and CRS Report R46262, *Congressional Staff: Duties and Qualifications Identified by Members of Congress for Selected Positions*.

Data Concerns

Data presented here are subject to some challenges that could affect findings presented or their interpretation. Some of the concerns include the following:

- A large number of position titles in Senate committees are held by only one Senate employee. Data provided here almost certainly do not represent all of the jobs carried out by Senate committee staff.
- The manner in which staff titles are assigned might have implications for the representativeness of the data provided. Of positions for which data were collected, two broad categories emerge. The first category identifies position titles that usually appear to apply to one staff member per committee.[5] Since almost all available data were collected for those positions, pay information provided is likely to be highly representative of what Senate committees pay staff in those positions. The second category includes positions for which committees might hire two or more staff members.[6] Since pay data were collected for no more than two staff per committee for each position, it is more likely that data for those positions are a sample of staff in those positions rather than nearly complete data. Those data may be less closely representative of what all staff in those positions are paid.
- Pay data provide no insight into the education, work experience, position tenure, and full- or part-time status of staff, or other potential explanations for levels of compensation.
- Differences might exist in the job duties of staff in positions with the same title. Aggregation of pay by job title rests on the assumption that staff with the same title carry out the same or similar tasks. Given the wide discretion congressional employing authorities have in setting the terms and conditions of employment, there may be differences in the duties of similarly titled staff that could affect their levels of pay. Acknowledging the imprecision inherent in congressional job titles, an older edition of the *Senate Handbook* states, "Throughout the Senate, individuals with the same job title perform vastly different duties."[7]

Data Tables and Visualizations

Tables in this section provide background information on Senate pay practices, comparative data for each position, and detailed data and visualizations for each position.

[5] Positions that typically employ one staff member per committee include staff director and systems administrator.

[6] Positions that typically employ two or more staff members per committee include counsel, staff assistant, and professional staff member.

[7] U.S. Senate, Committee on Rules and Administration, *Senate Handbook* (Washington: 1996), pp. I-13, available to congressional clients from the author.

Table 1 provides the maximum payable rates for Senate committee staff since FY2001 in both nominal (current) and constant 2026 dollars. Constant dollar calculations throughout the report are based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

Table 2 provides FY2025 pay levels in median pay in 2026 dollars and percentage changes for each of the 16 positions; for Members of Congress; and for salaries paid under the General Schedule in Washington, DC, and surrounding areas and in the Rest of the United States (RUS) area. **Table 3** through **Table 18** provide available tabular pay data for each staff position for FY2001, FY2006, FY2011, FY2016, and FY2021-FY2025, including data distributed by quartile, median pay, and average pay. Staff pay tables also provide a comparison, at various intervals to FY2025, based on data availability, of the cumulative percentage change in median pay for that position, in 2026 dollars.[8]

Graphic displays are also included for each position, providing representations of pay from the following two perspectives:

- distributions of FY2025 pay in 2026 dollars, in $10,000 increments; and
- a line graph showing change in median pay, FY2001-FY2025 (or available data), in nominal (current) and 2026 dollars.

Senate Committee Staff Pay Tables

Table 1. Senate Committee Staff Pay, Annual Maximums, 2001-2026

Year	Nominal $	Constant 2026 $	Year	Nominal $	Constant 2026 $	Year	Nominal $	Constant 2026 $
2001	$142,415	$265,952	2010	$171,315	$259,832	2019	$173,900	$224,961
2002	$147,315	$270,820	2011	$171,315	$251,882	2020	$173,900	$222,220
2003	$152,015	$273,234	2012	$171,315	$246,775	2021	$173,900	$212,248
2004	$155,415	$272,099	2013	$171,315	$243,212	2022	$203,700	$230,198
2005	$159,415	$269,956	2014	$171,315	$239,330	2023	$212,100	$230,214
2006	$162,515	$266,605	2015	$171,315	$239,046	2024	$221,900	$233,950
2007	$162,515	$259,222	2016	$171,315	$236,068	2025	$225,700	$231,856
2008	$166,615	$255,935	2017	$171,315	$231,144	2026	$228,000	$228,000
2009	$171,315	$264,094	2018	$171,315	$225,633			

Source: 2 U.S.C. 4571, 2 U.S.C. 4575 note, CRS calculations based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

[8] 2026 CPI-U based on the first half of the year.

Interpreting Pay Tables: Statistics Describing Pay Data

For each year that data are available, statistical values for staff positions are included in **Table 3**-**Table 18**, including the following:

Minimum & Maximum	The smallest and largest pay level, respectively, for each position
Average (Mean)	The mean is the average of a list of numbers, in which the sum of all the values is divided by the total number of values. For example, if three salaries, $30,000, $45,000, and $90,000, were identified for a given staff position, the average (mean) would be ($30,000 + $45,000 + $90,000) ÷ 3 = $55,000.
Median	The midpoint at which half of the numbers in a list are higher and the other half lower. For example, if three salaries, $30,000, $45,000, and $90,000, were identified for a given staff position, the midpoint (median) would be $45,000.
Statistical Quartiles	Statistical values that divide data into quarters for more detailed analysis. In a list of numbers, Quartile 1 (Q1) is a number that falls in the middle between the lowest number, or minimum, and the median. For example, if Q1 for a given staff position was $50,000, this would indicate that 25% of employees in that position make $50,000 or less. Quartile 2 (Q2) is also the median. Quartile 3 (Q3) is a number that falls in the middle between the median and the highest number in the list, or maximum. Numbers between Q1 and Q3 compose the interquartile range, the difference between the largest and smallest values in the middle 50% of a list of numbers. Quartiles might also be described as percentiles, as shown below.

Statistical Measures Used in Pay Tables

Minimum	Quartile 1 (Q1)	Quartile 2 (Q2) Median	Quartile 3 (Q3)	Maximum	Average
Lowest number in a list	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th percentile	Highest number in a list	The mean, or number expressing the central value in a set of data
	25% of staff make less than Q1	50% of staff make less than Q2	75% of staff make less than Q3		
	Middle number between Minimum and Median	Median—midpoint at which half of the numbers in a list are higher and the other half lower	Middle number between Median and Maximum		
	Lower Quartile	Interquartile Range = Q3-Q1	Upper Quartile		

Table 2. FY2025 Median Pay, 2026 Dollars, and Changes in Pay for Selected Senate Committee Staff, Members of Congress, and Selected General Schedule Employees

Position	FY25 Pay, 2026$	FY24-FY25	FY21-FY25	FY16-FY25	FY11-FY25	FY06-FY25	FY01-FY25
Archivist	$116,946	--	16.10%	18.36%	26.25%	--	--
Chief Clerk	$184,316	-3.60%	0.07%	-0.71%	-7.27%	3.87%	28.84%
Chief Counsel	$198,762	4.90%	-5.20%	-11.14%	-17.16%	-14.45%	5.17%
Communications Director	$183,497	11.50%	14.02%	-11.22%	-0.33%	10.15%	--
Counsel	$145,374	6.27%	5.01%	11.74%	-9.26%	-14.17%	-7.47%
Deputy Chief Clerk	$145,259	3.57%	--	--	--	--	--
Deputy Staff Director	$212,925	10.66%	4.05%	-4.87%	--	--	--
General Counsel	$194,772	1.44%	-7.19%	--	--	--	--
Legislative Aide	$81,009	4.18%	--	--	--	--	--
Professional Staff Member	$125,499	9.08%	-6.88%	6.05%	-10.37%	-19.49%	-7.88%
Research Assistant	$81,411	17.26%	--	--	--	--	--
Senior Counsel	$142,654	-9.80%	-7.79%	-26.44%	-30.38%	-12.93%	--
Sr. Professional Staff Mbr.	$141,090	-11.61%	-13.76%	-16.14%	-14.77%	--	--
Staff Assistant	$61,282	-1.11%	6.83%	15.89%	-0.27%	-8.29%	-12.44%
Staff Director	$230,148	0.81%	8.83%	-2.26%	-8.04%	-11.11%	-6.39%
Systems Administrator	$115,661	6.08%	6.48%	-15.00%	-20.96%	-9.98%	16.86%
Congressional Staff Positions Pay Change Summary							
Increase		11	8	4	1	2	3
Decrease		4	5	8	10	7	4
Members of Congress, General Schedule Pay Change							
		2024-2025	2021-2025	2016-2025	2011-2025	2006-2025	2001-2025
MCs	$178,746	-2.56%	-15.83%	-25.45%	-30.13%	-34.04%	-34.03%
General Schedule, DC	Varies	-0.40%	-2.12%	-2.45%	-5.38%	-2.39%	4.93%
General Schedule, RUS	Varies	-0.70%	-3.74%	-6.96%	-10.01%	-10.91%	-6.12%

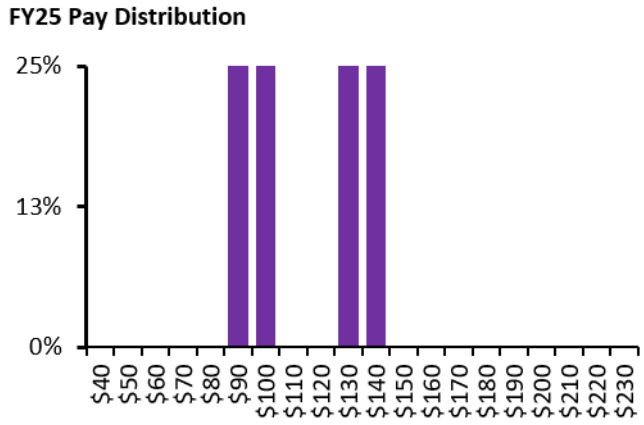
Source: CRS calculations, based on data provided in **Table 3**-**Table 18** for congressional positions; CRS Report 97-1011, *Salaries of Members of Congress: Recent Actions and Historical Tables*, for Members of Congress; and the Office of Personnel Management for federal civilian workers in the District of Columbia and surrounding areas and rest of the U.S. localities, various years. Nominal Member pay in 2026 is $174,000. General Schedule pay for individuals varies by grade, step and locality, but percentage changes are consistent within each locality. "—" indicates no data available. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

Table 3. Archivist

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY11	5	$56,331	$61,024	$63,000	$63,083	$64,119	$61,511	$82,822	$89,722	$92,628	$92,750	$94,273	$90,439
FY16	6	$62,212	$69,424	$71,703	$72,517	$75,500	$70,428	$85,726	$95,665	$98,805	$99,927	$104,037	$97,049
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	4	$78,500	$80,422	$82,531	$86,792	$95,167	$84,682	$95,811	$98,156	$100,731	$105,931	$116,153	$103,356
FY22	4	$67,137	$80,315	$88,354	$92,522	$94,089	$84,484	$75,870	$90,763	$99,847	$104,558	$106,328	$95,473
FY23	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
FY24	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
FY25	4	$94,583	$97,342	$113,841	$132,897	$143,330	$116,399	$97,163	$99,997	$116,946	$136,522	$147,239	$119,573

Change	
FY24-FY25	--
FY21-FY25	16.10%
FY16-FY25	18.36%
FY11-FY25	26.25%

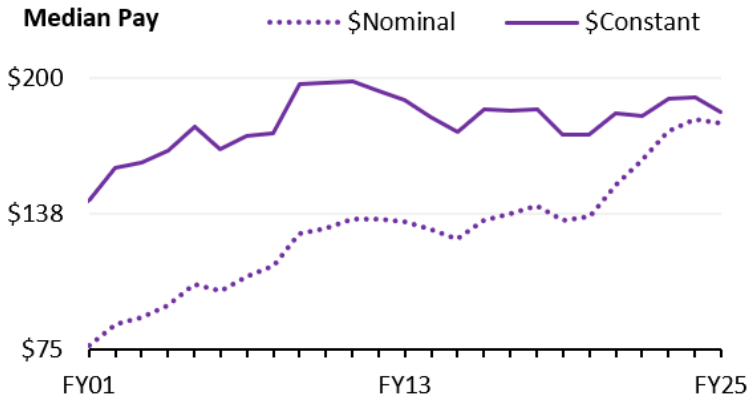
Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. "—" indicates no data available. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

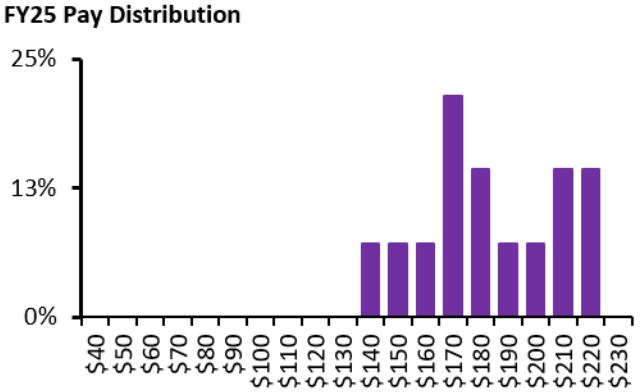
Table 4. Chief Clerk

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	13	$61,583	$74,115	$76,604	$90,812	$103,271	$80,403	$115,003	$138,405	$143,054	$169,587	$192,853	$150,148
FY06	14	$41,878	$84,775	$101,996	$111,669	$146,260	$100,753	$68,700	$139,073	$167,324	$183,193	$239,938	$165,285
FY11	18	$87,078	$130,631	$135,185	$153,600	$171,000	$138,801	$128,029	$192,064	$198,761	$225,835	$251,418	$204,076
FY16	15	$93,986	$121,189	$134,714	$151,664	$171,000	$134,358	$129,510	$166,996	$185,633	$208,989	$235,634	$185,142
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	13	$101,235	$131,627	$150,907	$164,308	$168,709	$147,769	$123,559	$160,653	$184,184	$200,541	$205,912	$180,355
FY22	16	$127,368	$152,203	$161,807	$171,219	$186,750	$160,264	$143,936	$172,002	$182,855	$193,492	$211,043	$181,112
FY23	15	$122,175	$155,358	$175,880	$186,867	$196,409	$170,225	$132,609	$168,626	$190,901	$202,826	$213,182	$184,762
FY24	18	$126,740	$155,557	$181,354	$194,748	$211,965	$175,888	$133,623	$164,005	$191,203	$205,323	$223,476	$185,440
FY25	14	$140,000	$170,243	$179,422	$205,573	$219,203	$183,775	$143,818	$174,887	$184,316	$211,180	$225,182	$188,787



Change	
FY24-FY25	-3.60%
FY21-FY25	0.07%
FY16-FY25	-0.71%
FY11-FY25	-7.27%
FY06-FY25	3.87%
FY01-FY25	28.84%

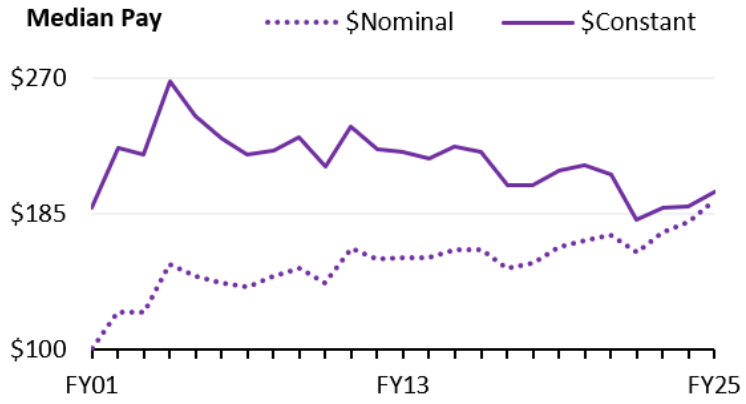
Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. Percentage change is based on change in median pay for the periods noted. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

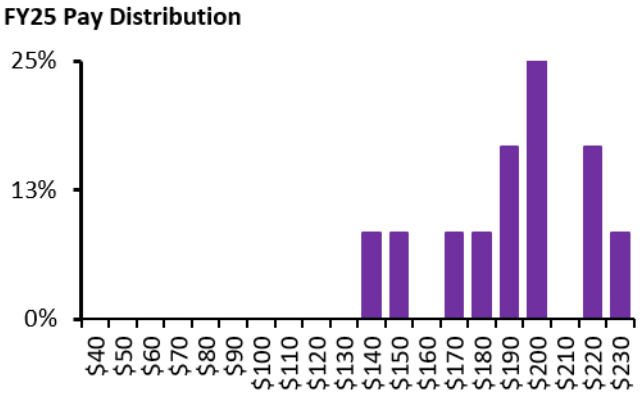
Table 5. Chief Counsel

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	7	$84,486	$96,958	$101,201	$119,531	$136,993	$107,951	$157,774	$181,064	$188,987	$223,218	$255,826	$201,593
FY06	11	$79,000	$124,603	$141,617	$152,002	$161,740	$132,776	$129,599	$204,411	$232,321	$249,359	$265,334	$217,819
FY11	4	$140,000	$151,312	$163,199	$171,315	$171,315	$159,428	$205,840	$222,472	$239,949	$251,881	$251,881	$234,405
FY16	13	$103,000	$151,000	$162,333	$171,315	$171,315	$156,588	$141,931	$208,074	$223,691	$236,068	$236,068	$215,774
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	8	$123,908	$165,389	$171,791	$173,015	$173,900	$164,776	$151,232	$201,860	$209,674	$211,168	$212,248	$201,113
FY22	11	$110,930	$141,327	$160,833	$186,311	$189,521	$161,178	$125,360	$159,711	$181,755	$210,546	$214,174	$182,144
FY23	8	$139,430	$149,640	$173,654	$198,689	$201,831	$172,909	$151,338	$162,419	$188,484	$215,657	$219,067	$187,675
FY24	17	$137,058	$155,000	$179,725	$212,100	$217,000	$180,405	$144,501	$163,417	$189,485	$223,618	$228,784	$190,202
FY25	12	$138,744	$180,115	$193,485	$206,708	$224,750	$190,401	$142,528	$185,028	$198,762	$212,346	$230,880	$195,594



Change	
FY24-FY25	4.90%
FY21-FY25	-5.20%
FY16-FY25	-11.14%
FY11-FY25	-17.16%
FY06-FY25	-14.45%
FY01-FY25	5.17%

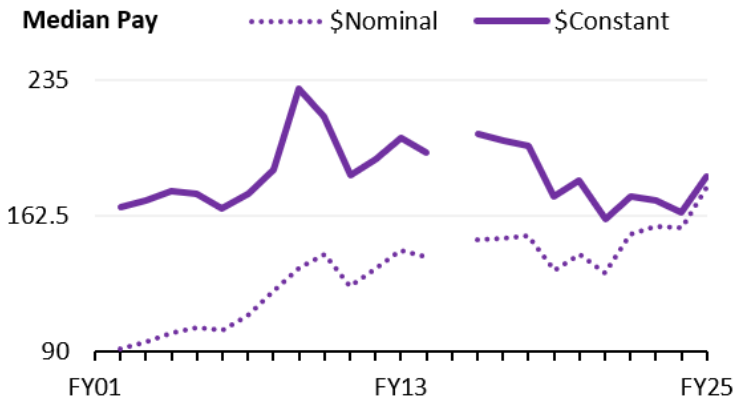
Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. Percentage change is based on change in median pay for the periods noted. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

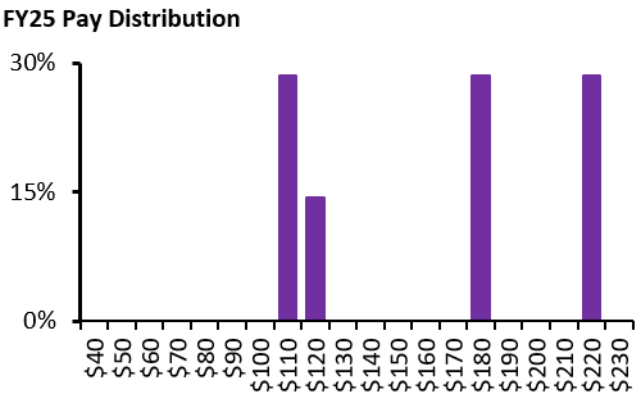
Table 6. Communications Director

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY06	8	$68,125	$96,997	$101,551	$117,497	$143,366	$105,953	$111,759	$159,123	$166,594	$192,753	$235,191	$173,816
FY11	5	$116,096	$123,552	$125,214	$126,443	$153,024	$128,866	$170,695	$181,657	$184,100	$185,906	$224,988	$189,469
FY16	7	$105,000	$127,015	$150,000	$166,285	$171,315	$144,702	$144,687	$175,024	$206,696	$229,137	$236,068	$199,396
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	6	$98,917	$107,243	$131,862	$141,181	$142,330	$124,716	$120,730	$130,893	$160,940	$172,314	$173,716	$152,218
FY22	11	$99,167	$134,441	$153,065	$172,489	$185,121	$150,486	$112,066	$151,929	$172,976	$194,927	$209,202	$170,062
FY23	8	$125,732	$134,954	$157,111	$182,803	$202,765	$161,000	$136,470	$146,479	$170,529	$198,415	$220,081	$174,750
FY24	10	$110,000	$148,468	$156,088	$181,994	$212,492	$161,302	$115,974	$156,531	$164,564	$191,877	$224,031	$170,062
FY25	7	$108,748	$113,771	$178,625	$199,250	$221,917	$162,190	$111,714	$116,874	$183,497	$204,684	$227,969	$166,614



Change	
FY24-FY25	11.50%
FY21-FY25	14.02%
FY16-FY25	-11.22%
FY11-FY25	-0.33%
FY06-FY25	10.15%

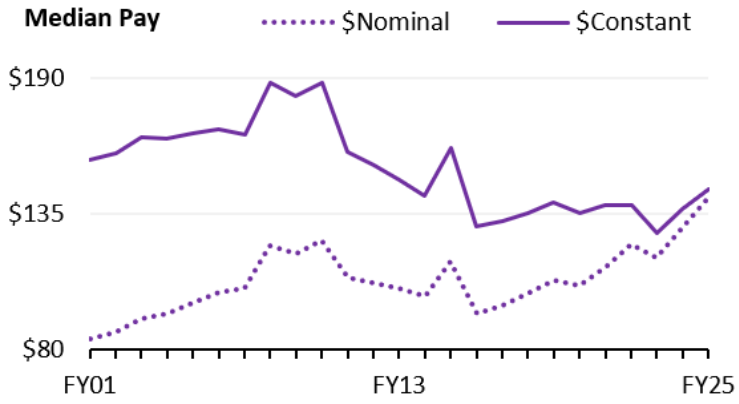
Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. Percentage change is based on change in median pay for the periods noted. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. "—" indicates no data available. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

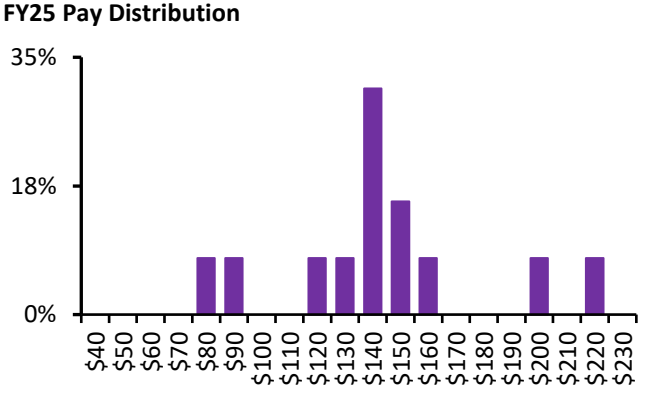
Table 7. Counsel

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	15	$45,667	$71,588	$84,134	$92,014	$113,854	$82,655	$85,280	$133,686	$157,115	$171,832	$212,616	$154,353
FY06	17	$57,500	$91,916	$103,245	$132,766	$161,611	$107,137	$94,328	$150,787	$169,374	$217,802	$265,122	$175,758
FY11	21	$65,587	$81,708	$108,961	$140,145	$171,147	$115,139	$96,431	$120,134	$160,203	$206,053	$251,634	$169,287
FY16	20	$67,475	$79,213	$94,417	$139,964	$161,449	$108,291	$92,979	$109,153	$130,104	$192,867	$222,473	$149,222
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	14	$70,037	$100,861	$113,427	$129,418	$173,500	$118,085	$85,481	$123,103	$138,440	$157,958	$211,760	$144,125
FY22	18	$81,087	$109,991	$122,647	$135,487	$183,572	$124,478	$91,635	$124,299	$138,602	$153,112	$207,452	$140,670
FY23	19	$85,370	$102,771	$117,239	$151,000	$184,721	$127,879	$92,661	$111,548	$127,252	$163,895	$200,497	$138,800
FY24	20	$96,250	$121,241	$129,750	$141,750	$209,100	$135,438	$101,477	$127,825	$136,796	$149,448	$220,455	$142,793
FY25	13	$84,709	$126,742	$141,514	$154,667	$215,817	$143,747	$87,019	$130,198	$145,374	$158,885	$221,703	$147,668



Change	
FY24-FY25	6.27%
FY21-FY25	5.01%
FY16-FY25	11.74%
FY11-FY25	-9.26%
FY06-FY25	-14.17%
FY01-FY25	-7.47%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. Percentage change is based on change in median pay for the periods noted. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. "—" indicates no data available. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

Table 8. Deputy Chief Clerk

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY22	6	$79,991	$96,664	$119,324	$127,733	$146,417	$114,117	$90,396	$109,238	$134,846	$144,349	$165,463	$128,961
FY23	6	$100,333	$100,990	$115,234	$138,790	$145,333	$119,836	$108,902	$109,614	$125,075	$150,643	$157,745	$130,071
FY24	6	$110,318	$115,588	$133,027	$148,842	$153,417	$132,279	$116,309	$121,865	$140,251	$156,924	$161,748	$139,463
FY25	6	$115,773	$122,253	$141,402	$148,406	$158,783	$137,329	$118,931	$125,588	$145,259	$152,454	$163,114	$141,074

Change	
FY24-FY25	3.57%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

2025 Pay Distribution

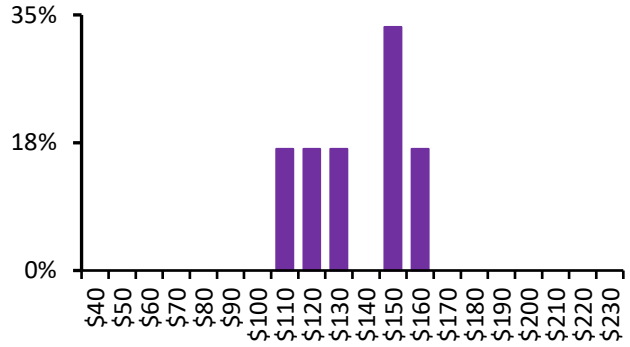


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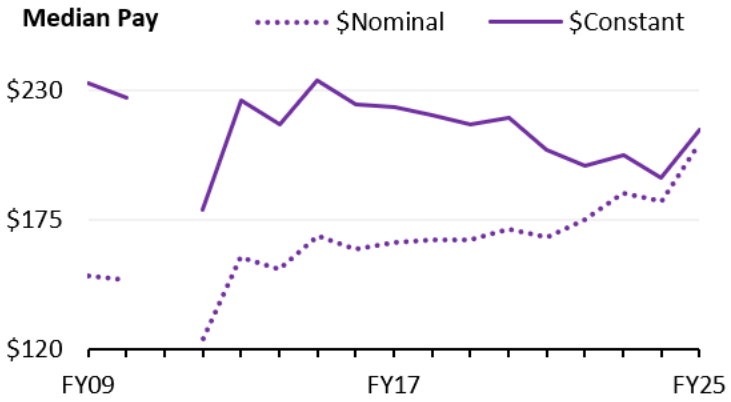
Table 9. Deputy Staff Director

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY16	11	$135,000	$155,980	$162,429	$168,157	$171,315	$160,500	$186,027	$214,937	$223,824	$231,717	$236,068	$221,165
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	8	$124,667	$162,080	$167,667	$172,332	$173,900	$162,770	$152,158	$197,822	$204,640	$210,335	$212,248	$198,664
FY22	13	$129,917	$168,450	$175,000	$188,800	$190,042	$172,574	$146,816	$190,362	$197,764	$213,359	$214,763	$195,023
FY23	6	$141,010	$173,331	$186,246	$196,445	$210,000	$182,062	$153,052	$188,134	$202,151	$213,221	$227,934	$197,610
FY24	15	$131,763	$169,167	$182,500	$203,059	$217,000	$183,910	$138,918	$178,353	$192,411	$214,086	$228,784	$193,897
FY25	13	$189,375	$202,466	$207,272	$220,150	$224,750	$210,355	$194,540	$207,988	$212,925	$226,154	$230,880	$216,092



Change	
FY24-FY25	10.66%
FY21-FY25	4.05%
FY16-FY25	-4.87%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

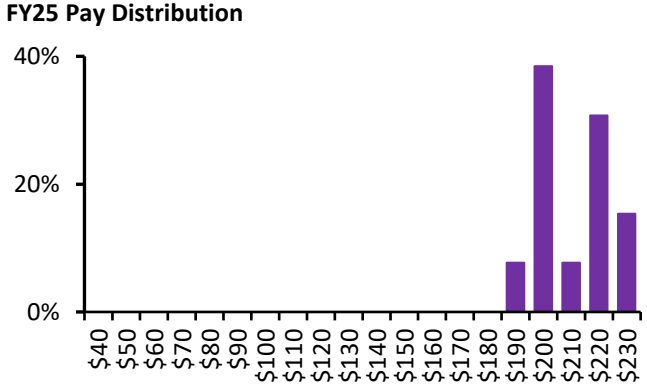


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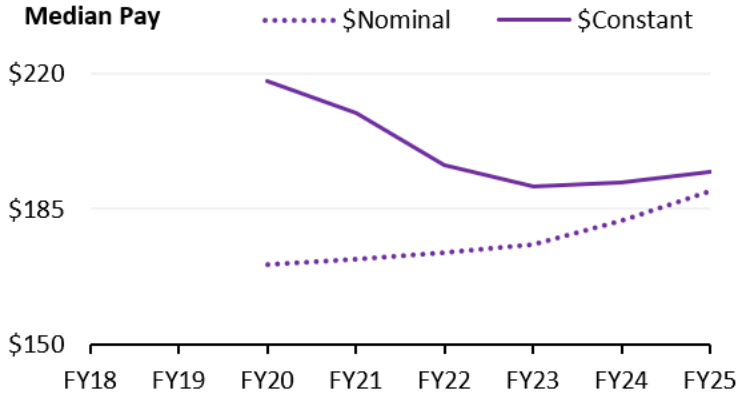
Table 10. General Counsel

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY21	4	$167,225	$170,166	$171,938	$172,837	$173,158	$171,065	$204,101	$207,691	$209,854	$210,951	$211,343	$208,788
FY22	6	$140,833	$170,508	$173,785	$181,187	$187,204	$171,446	$159,153	$192,688	$196,391	$204,757	$211,556	$193,748
FY23	6	$157,783	$168,377	$175,832	$185,517	$196,866	$176,825	$171,258	$182,757	$190,848	$201,361	$213,678	$191,926
FY24	11	$160,000	$173,068	$182,125	$197,507	$212,975	$185,626	$168,689	$182,467	$192,015	$208,233	$224,541	$195,706
FY25	11	$169,593	$179,868	$189,601	$203,627	$221,523	$193,016	$174,219	$184,774	$194,772	$209,181	$227,565	$198,280



Change	
FY24-FY25	1.44%
FY21-FY25	-7.19%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

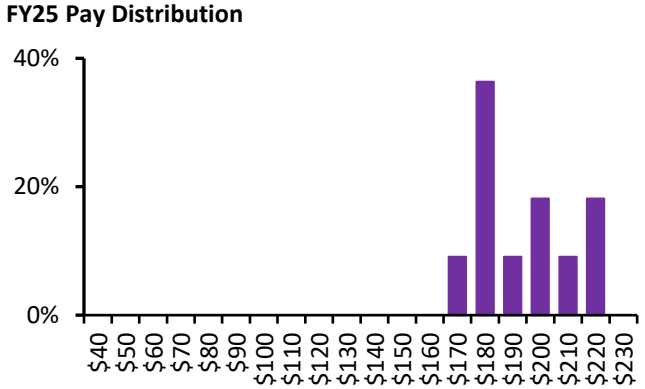


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Table 11. Legislative Aide

Year	#	Nominal, Current $ Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Constant 2026 $ Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY22	10	$49,167	$55,781	$66,058	$75,135	$85,554	$66,072	$55,562	$63,037	$74,651	$84,909	$96,683	$74,667
FY23	5	$64,083	$81,625	$83,783	$83,992	$90,283	$80,753	$69,556	$88,596	$90,938	$91,165	$97,993	$87,650
FY24	7	$59,821	$69,375	$73,750	$84,971	$96,810	$77,010	$63,069	$73,142	$77,755	$89,586	$102,067	$81,192
FY25	4	$78,200	$78,301	$78,858	$79,676	$80,565	$79,120	$80,333	$80,437	$81,009	$81,850	$82,762	$81,278

Change	
FY24-FY25	4.18%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

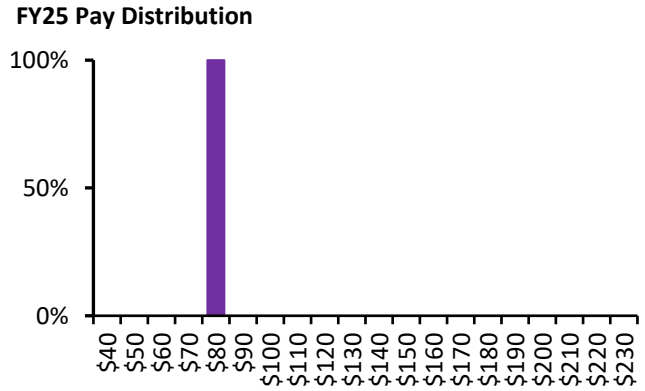

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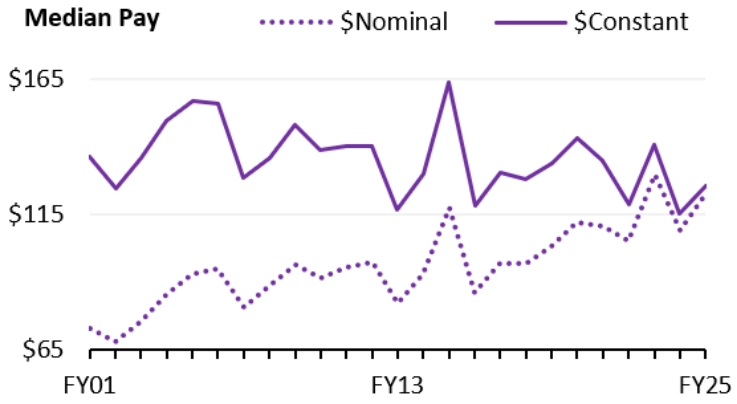
Table 12. Professional Staff Member

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	20	$39,833	$60,937	$72,950	$89,726	$132,792	$77,309	$74,386	$113,797	$136,231	$167,559	$247,980	$144,369
FY06	31	$46,383	$72,174	$95,025	$106,743	$132,982	$90,325	$76,092	$118,401	$155,888	$175,112	$218,156	$148,178
FY11	31	$20,065	$71,500	$95,228	$121,194	$171,184	$97,814	$29,501	$105,125	$140,012	$178,190	$251,688	$143,814
FY16	33	$44,279	$67,000	$85,876	$120,000	$171,147	$93,392	$61,016	$92,324	$118,335	$165,357	$235,836	$128,692
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	28	$61,000	$95,167	$110,417	$132,396	$163,362	$111,521	$74,452	$116,153	$134,766	$161,592	$199,387	$136,114
FY22	33	$49,412	$88,668	$105,000	$129,192	$186,750	$108,471	$55,840	$100,202	$118,659	$145,997	$211,043	$122,581
FY23	24	$47,390	$97,842	$129,562	$145,985	$186,528	$122,880	$51,437	$106,198	$140,627	$158,453	$202,457	$133,374
FY24	30	$47,390	$87,333	$109,128	$152,289	$200,415	$120,069	$49,963	$92,076	$115,055	$160,559	$211,299	$126,589
FY25	27	$75,000	$109,056	$122,167	$149,999	$190,917	$128,484	$77,046	$112,030	$125,499	$154,090	$196,124	$131,988



Change	
FY24-FY25	9.08%
FY21-FY25	-6.88%
FY16-FY25	6.05%
FY11-FY25	-10.37%
FY06-FY25	-19.49%
FY01-FY25	-7.88%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

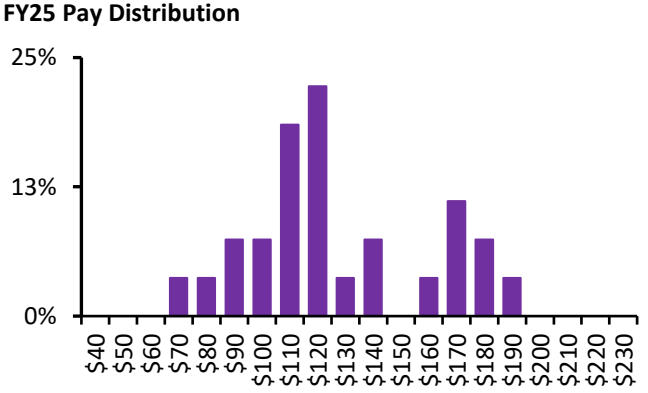


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Table 13. Research Assistant

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY22	6	$49,167	$54,674	$57,007	$59,672	$69,823	$57,910	$55,562	$61,786	$64,423	$67,435	$78,906	$65,443
FY23	7	$56,875	$60,788	$65,417	$70,960	$80,833	$66,660	$61,732	$65,980	$71,003	$77,020	$87,737	$72,353
FY24	8	$60,250	$63,387	$65,854	$67,466	$83,748	$66,985	$63,522	$66,830	$69,430	$71,130	$88,296	$70,622
FY25	7	$66,417	$71,934	$79,250	$84,050	$85,000	$77,519	$68,228	$73,896	$81,411	$86,342	$87,318	$79,634

Change	
FY24-FY25	17.26%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

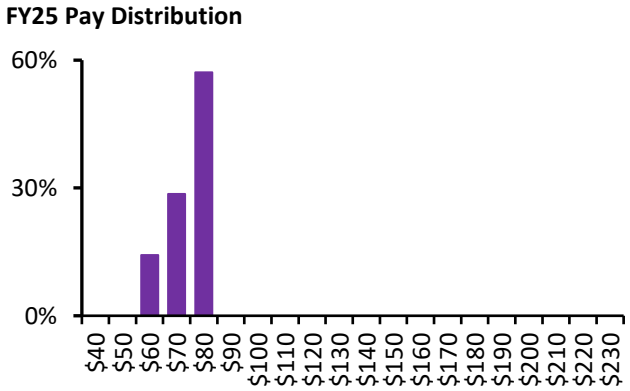

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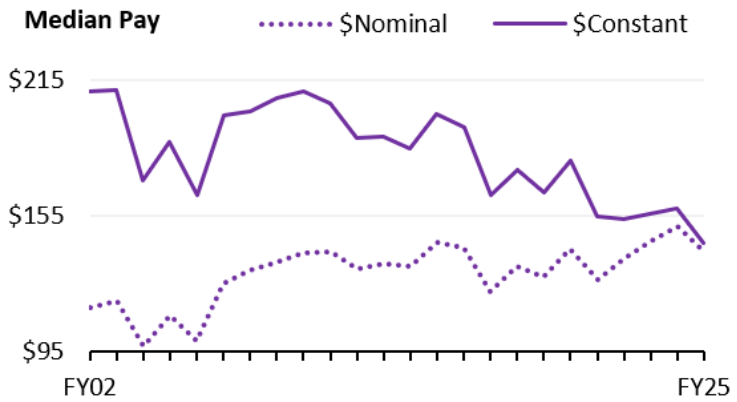
Table 14. Senior Counsel

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY06	8	$87,268	$92,880	$99,871	$112,869	$143,270	$104,884	$143,163	$152,369	$163,839	$185,161	$235,034	$172,062
FY11	10	$79,792	$107,439	$139,372	$156,703	$171,315	$131,807	$117,316	$157,966	$204,916	$230,398	$251,881	$193,794
FY16	16	$71,663	$118,191	$140,740	$158,934	$161,604	$133,461	$98,749	$162,865	$193,937	$219,008	$222,687	$183,906
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	11	$98,302	$112,280	$126,750	$147,724	$163,475	$129,051	$119,979	$137,040	$154,701	$180,300	$199,524	$157,509
FY22	11	$103,125	$129,191	$136,000	$157,614	$184,999	$144,083	$116,539	$145,997	$153,691	$178,117	$209,063	$162,826
FY23	7	$100,625	$103,859	$143,875	$177,713	$189,667	$142,473	$109,218	$112,728	$156,162	$192,890	$205,864	$154,640
FY24	15	$112,708	$134,100	$150,000	$171,012	$192,371	$150,995	$118,829	$141,382	$158,146	$180,299	$202,817	$159,195
FY25	8	$122,933	$130,012	$138,867	$152,230	$177,528	$142,454	$126,286	$133,559	$142,654	$156,382	$182,370	$146,340



Change	
FY24-FY25	-9.80%
FY21-FY25	-7.79%
FY16-FY25	-26.44%
FY11-FY25	-30.38%
FY06-FY25	-12.93%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

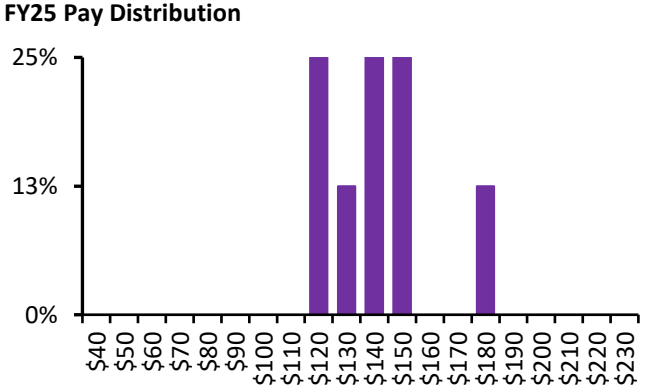


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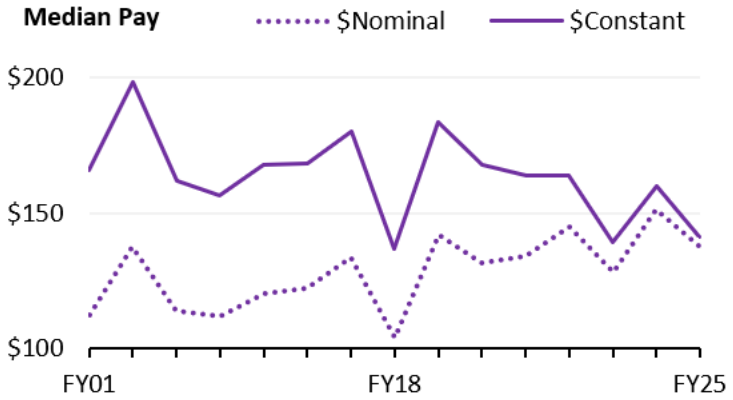
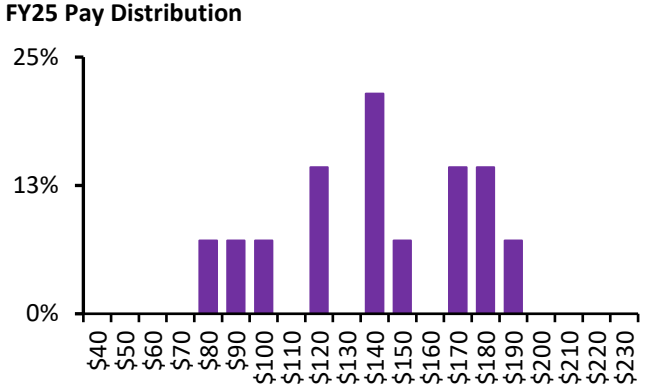
Table 15. Senior Professional Staff Member

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY11	6	$87,200	$105,010	$112,585	$114,092	$120,000	$108,242	$128,209	$154,395	$165,532	$167,748	$176,434	$159,146
FY16	12	$71,051	$111,270	$122,102	$133,161	$171,315	$119,523	$97,906	$153,327	$168,254	$183,493	$236,068	$164,700
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	10	$83,250	$121,410	$134,050	$144,175	$164,321	$131,539	$101,608	$148,183	$163,610	$175,968	$200,556	$160,546
FY22	11	$105,000	$134,220	$144,873	$159,256	$169,562	$145,318	$118,659	$151,680	$163,718	$179,972	$191,619	$164,221
FY23	8	$110,835	$112,632	$128,269	$152,742	$176,333	$135,158	$120,301	$122,251	$139,224	$165,787	$191,392	$146,701
FY24	10	$105,625	$134,125	$151,398	$169,025	$182,585	$149,386	$111,361	$141,409	$159,620	$178,204	$192,501	$157,498
FY25	14	$79,052	$119,562	$137,344	$174,519	$186,302	$141,724	$81,208	$122,823	$141,090	$179,279	$191,383	$145,590



Change	
FY24-FY25	-11.61%
FY21-FY25	-13.76%
FY16-FY25	-16.14%
FY11-FY25	-14.77%

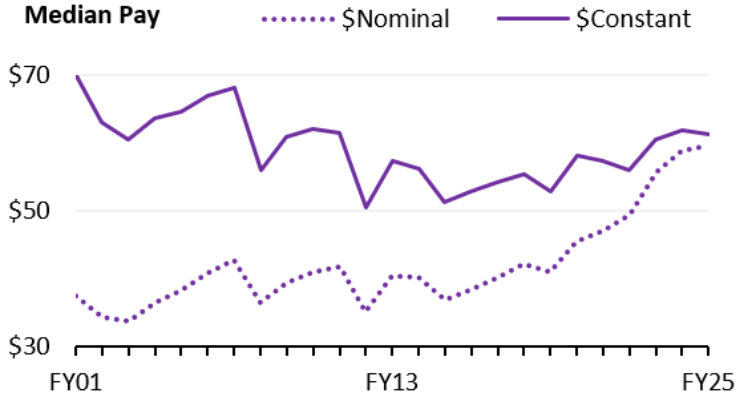
Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. Percentage change is based on change in median pay for the periods noted. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

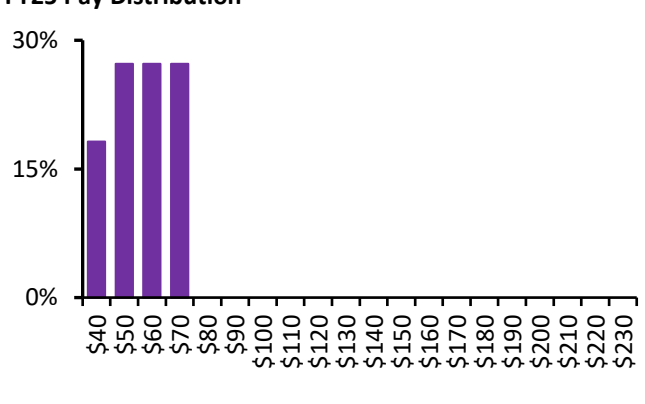
Table 16. Staff Assistant

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	19	$25,750	$32,297	$37,480	$48,082	$62,500	$40,255	$48,086	$60,314	$69,991	$89,790	$116,715	$75,174
FY06	19	$24,375	$34,559	$40,792	$43,515	$79,962	$42,797	$39,987	$56,694	$66,919	$71,386	$131,178	$70,208
FY11	24	$32,169	$35,137	$41,793	$47,657	$87,002	$43,959	$47,297	$51,662	$61,448	$70,069	$127,917	$64,633
FY16	18	$28,401	$36,102	$38,373	$43,107	$105,062	$45,265	$39,136	$49,748	$52,878	$59,400	$144,773	$62,374
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	14	$33,500	$41,946	$47,000	$58,203	$112,164	$54,962	$40,887	$51,195	$57,364	$71,038	$136,898	$67,082
FY22	19	$34,479	$45,370	$49,494	$55,677	$119,409	$54,944	$38,964	$51,272	$55,933	$62,919	$134,941	$62,091
FY23	13	$40,000	$44,629	$55,727	$65,057	$123,402	$58,940	$43,416	$48,440	$60,487	$70,613	$133,941	$63,974
FY24	21	$39,917	$53,600	$58,779	$65,417	$70,362	$57,850	$42,084	$56,510	$61,971	$68,969	$74,183	$60,992
FY25	11	$44,000	$50,069	$59,655	$67,045	$69,542	$58,455	$45,200	$51,435	$61,282	$68,874	$71,438	$60,050



Change	
FY24-FY25	-1.11%
FY21-FY25	6.83%
FY16-FY25	15.89%
FY11-FY25	-0.27%
FY06-FY25	-8.42%
FY01-FY25	-12.44%

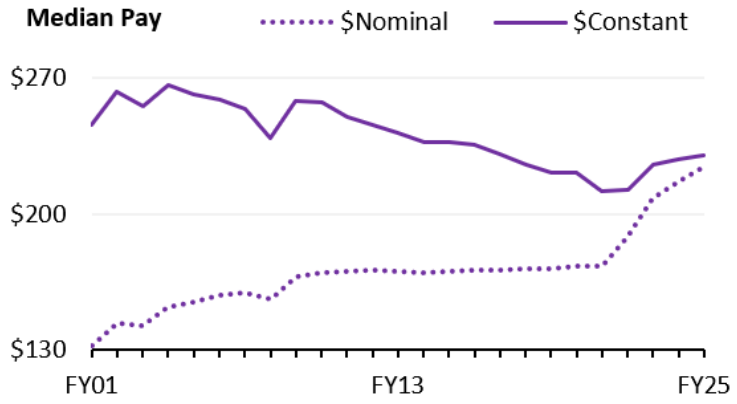
Dollars in figures are in thousands.



Source: *Report of the Secretary of the Senate*, as collated by LegiStorm, various years, and CRS calculations. Percentage change is based on change in median pay for the periods noted. In the visualizations, position pay information based on 2026 dollars in thousands of dollars, or change in those levels, is presented in solid purple. 2026 dollars are based on Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the first half of 2026.

Table 17. Staff Director

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	7	$122,300	$127,396	$131,658	$139,564	$141,465	$132,763	$228,389	$237,904	$245,863	$260,627	$264,177	$247,927
FY06	15	$101,512	$137,568	$157,829	$160,877	$161,740	$145,942	$166,530	$225,680	$258,917	$263,918	$265,334	$239,417
FY11	11	$102,000	$165,915	$170,217	$171,315	$171,315	$159,853	$149,969	$243,942	$250,267	$251,881	$251,881	$235,030
FY16	18	$112,500	$160,682	$170,881	$171,315	$171,315	$163,513	$155,022	$221,415	$235,470	$236,068	$236,068	$225,317
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	16	$123,750	$168,045	$173,269	$173,900	$186,942	$167,963	$151,039	$205,102	$211,478	$212,248	$228,167	$205,002
FY22	21	$141,667	$182,037	$188,077	$189,463	$190,042	$181,458	$160,095	$205,717	$212,543	$214,109	$214,763	$205,062
FY23	13	$142,320	$203,546	$207,900	$210,000	$227,758	$203,066	$154,474	$220,929	$225,655	$227,934	$247,208	$220,408
FY24	29	$142,328	$209,952	$216,550	$219,450	$219,450	$207,961	$150,057	$221,353	$228,310	$231,367	$231,367	$219,255
FY25	18	$155,950	$219,367	$224,037	$224,750	$224,750	$215,956	$160,203	$225,350	$230,148	$230,880	$230,880	$221,846



Change	
FY24-FY25	0.81%
FY21-FY25	8.83%
FY16-FY25	-2.26%
FY11-FY25	-8.04%
FY06-FY25	-11.11%
FY01-FY25	-6.39%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.

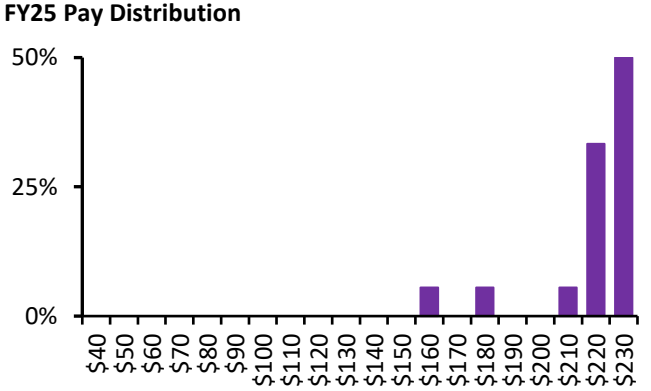


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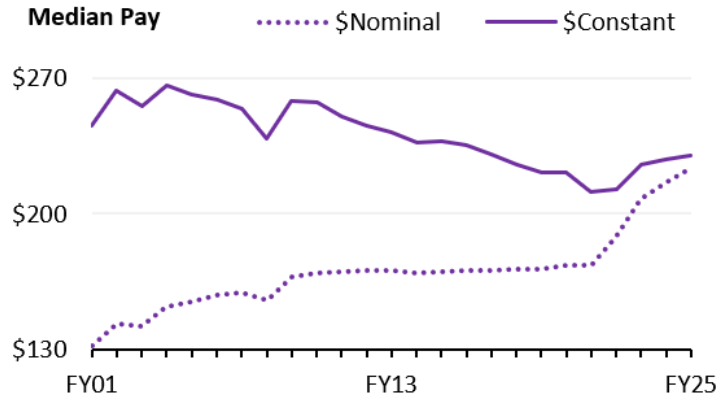
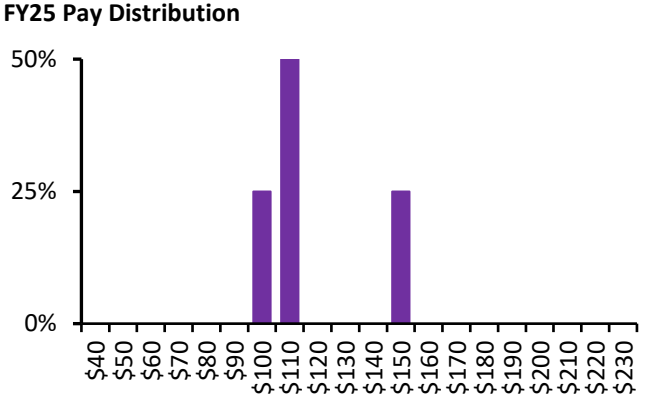
Table 18. Systems Administrator

Year	#	Nominal, Current $						Constant 2026 $					
		Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average	Minimum	Q1	Q2, Median	Q3	Maximum	Average
FY01	7	$37,766	$47,907	$53,000	$60,723	$79,902	$55,418	$70,526	$89,464	$98,974	$113,397	$149,212	$103,491
FY06	9	$61,917	$75,965	$78,318	$82,083	$104,374	$79,205	$101,574	$124,620	$128,480	$134,657	$171,224	$129,936
FY11	7	$79,802	$92,854	$99,527	$131,625	$171,315	$107,283	$117,331	$136,522	$146,332	$193,526	$251,881	$157,736
FY16	6	$77,579	$82,621	$98,752	$101,847	$110,988	$94,366	$106,903	$113,850	$136,078	$140,343	$152,939	$130,034
Most Recent Five Years													
FY21	5	$79,603	$86,333	$89,000	$133,333	$133,724	$104,399	$97,157	$105,371	$108,626	$162,736	$163,213	$127,421
FY22	7	$80,153	$86,432	$88,500	$125,297	$145,711	$105,403	$90,579	$97,676	$100,012	$141,596	$164,665	$119,114
FY23	6	$94,167	$97,744	$99,188	$113,305	$155,935	$94,167	$102,209	$106,091	$107,658	$122,981	$169,252	$102,209
FY24	5	$97,250	$102,042	$103,417	$121,700	$154,561	$115,794	$102,531	$107,584	$109,033	$128,309	$162,955	$122,082
FY25	4	$102,000	$107,835	$112,590	$125,145	$154,382	$120,391	$104,782	$110,777	$115,661	$128,559	$158,593	$123,674



Change	
FY24-FY25	6.08%
FY21-FY25	6.48%
FY16-FY25	-15.00%
FY11-FY25	-20.96%
FY06-FY25	-9.98%
FY01-FY25	16.86%

Dollars in figures are in thousands.



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