When it comes to comparing state legislative salaries, there are lots of caveats. 2016 state legislative salaries by Jennifer Burnett

7 states paid legislators a per diem salary

Legislators also received a session per diem to cover expenses. For example, in Texas, legislators received just under $14 in California.

Utah: Up to $100 + taxes/day for lodging and up to $30/day for meals
North Dakota: Up to $1,682/month in lodging vouchers

10 years ago...

In 2007, legislators in 39 states earned annual salaries with an average of $32,697. When adjusted for inflation, that’s very close to the average in 2016 (within two percent).

38 states paid legislators an annual salary

These annual salaries span a huge range.

For every $1 Texas legislators received...

Legislators received just under $14 in California.

5 states paid legislators unusual or session-based compensation

MAINE $14,074/year for the first regular session
$9,982/year for the second regular session

NEW HAMPSHIRE $200/two-year term and no per diem

NEW MEXICO No salary, but $162/day for expenses and mileage reimbursed at 54¢/mile

SOUTH DAKOTA $6,000/session

VERMONT $693.74/week during session only

The 2016 annual salaries of 16 state legislatures were exactly the same as their 2006 annual salaries.

Arizona $24,000
Colorado $30,000
Connecticut $28,000
Georgia $17,342
Iowa $25,000
Louisiana $16,800
Minnesota $31,141
Mississippi $10,000
Nebraska $12,000
New Jersey $49,000
New York $79,500
North Carolina $13,951
Oklahoma $38,400
South Carolina $10,400
Texas $7,200
Virginia $18,000

Senate
House

2016 salary

$110,000
$100,000
$90,000
$80,000
$70,000
$60,000
$50,000
$40,000
$30,000
$20,000
$10,000
$0

CA
NY
FL
TX
IL
MI
WA
MD
TN
CO
PA
NJ
OR
MN
CA
AZ
MO
IN
OK
RI
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LA
NE

The 2016 average salary for 38 states is $37,447.

17 states had annual legislative salaries that were above the 2016 average.

21 states had salaries that were below the average.

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