

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

### I. Comparative Factors

Much as with the Executive Branch and Judicial functions outlined above, many of the same contextual factors can be relevant for interpreting the differences found in compensation for legislators across states – including differences in organizational structure, scale, and scope of responsibilities and functional duties, regional labor market differences, timing factors, and differences in non-salary compensation. Of particular note with regard to Legislators, different states may have very different practices regarding the part-time vs. full-time status of legislators and the frequency and duration of legislative sessions. In parallel, non-salary payments for expenses may also vary significantly.

The state-level Legislative Branch survey data presented in this preliminary background material is again drawn from *The Book of the States 2012*, based on data from the National Conference of State Legislatures. In addition to such salary information, *The Book of the States* also includes information regarding differences legislative practices and non-salary compensation. Again, detailed excerpts from *The Book of the States* are included as an attachment to this summary, and the complete resource for 2012 and prior years may be found at the following link: <http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/drupal/view-content-type/1219>

### II. State Comparisons

The charts below compare Delaware salaries for legislators and legislative leadership positions with the salaries reported in *The Book of the States 2012* for the seven (7) neighboring states identified as key reference points by past Delaware Compensation Commissions: Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. For rank-and-file legislators, Delaware’s ranking among the 50 states is also presented. In *The Book of the States 2012* full report, salaries for Delaware do not include the most recent pay increases. In the charts below, however, we report the current Delaware salaries. Among the comparison states, there may be others that have similarly provided increases since the National Conference of State Legislatures survey was completed not reflected in the available data.

	DE	NJ	PA	MD	VA	NY	NC	MA	DE Rank of 8 States	DE Rank of 50 States
State Representative	\$44,041	\$49,000	\$82,026	\$43,500	\$17,640	\$79,500	\$13,951	\$61,133	5 of 8	12
State Senator	\$44,041	\$49,000	\$82,026	\$43,500	\$18,000	\$79,500	\$13,951	\$61,133	5 of 8	12

Sources: The Council of State Governments, *The Book of States 2012*, Chapter 3: State Legislative Branch, Table 3.9 – Legislative Compensation and Living Expense Allowances During Sessions; Table 3.11 – Additional Compensation for Senate Leaders; Table 3.12 – Additional Compensation for House/Assembly Members

Delaware Compensation Commission 2012

Leadership positions	DE	NJ	PA	MD	VA	NY	NC	MA	DE Rank of 8 States
Speaker	\$64,024	\$65,333	\$128,048	\$56,500	\$25,640	\$121,000	\$69,058	\$96,133	6 of 8
President Pro Tem of the Senate	\$64,024	\$65,333	\$128,048	\$56,500	\$18,000	\$121,000	\$69,058	\$76,133	6 of 8
House/Senate Majority Leader	\$56,417	\$49,000	\$118,845	\$43,500			\$38,991	\$83,633	3 of 6
House/Senate Minority Leader	\$56,417	\$49,000	\$118,845	\$43,500		\$114,000	\$38,991	\$83,633	4 of 7
House/Senate Majority Whip	\$51,835	\$49,000	\$109,968	\$43,500			\$13,951	\$76,133	3 of 6
House/Senate Minority Whip	\$51,835	\$49,000	\$109,968	\$43,500			\$13,951	\$76,133	3 of 6
Chair and Vice-Chair Joint Finance Committee	\$55,500	\$49,000	\$93,532	\$43,500	\$18,000		\$13,951	\$61,133	3 of 7
Member of Joint Finance Committee	\$53,667	\$49,000	\$82,026	\$43,500	\$18,000	\$79,500	\$13,951	\$61,133	4 of 8
Chair and Vice Chair of Capital Improvement Program Committee	\$48,619	\$49,000	\$93,532	\$43,500	\$18,000		\$13,951	\$61,133	4 of 7
Member of Capital Improvement Program Committee	\$47,893	\$49,000	\$82,026	\$43,500	\$18,000	\$79,500	\$13,951	\$61,133	5 of 8
Chair and Vice Chair of Joint Sunset Committee	\$48,619	\$49,000	\$93,532	\$43,500	\$18,000		\$13,951	\$61,133	4 of 7
Member of Joint Sunset Committee	\$47,893	\$49,000	\$82,026	\$43,500	\$18,000	\$79,500	\$13,951	\$61,133	5 of 8

Sources: The Council of State Governments, The Book of States 2012, Chapter 3: State Legislative Branch, Table 3.9 – Legislative Compensation and Living Expense Allowances During Sessions; Table 3.11 – Additional Compensation for Senate Leaders; Table 3.12 – Additional Compensation for House/Assembly Members

**III. Supplemental Reference Points**

In Wilmington, the annual salary of councilmembers is now fixed by Ord. No. 08-035(sub 1), adopted May 15, 2008, set as follows:

- President of Council: \$34,950
- Finance Committee Chair: \$32,500
- President Pro Tempore: \$31,400
- Council members: \$27,650