

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 1.71.2004

Mean and median salaries of county chief law enforcement officials

By county population, region, metro status, and form of government, United States, July-November 2004

	Number of counties	Salary levels			Number of counties	Salary levels	
		Mean	Median			Mean	Median
All counties, total	339	\$69,107	\$64,384	25,000 to 49,999, total	67	\$57,775	\$55,710
<u>Region</u>				<u>Region</u>			
Northeast	14	73,315	62,585	Northeast	3	45,967	42,970
North Central	131	62,594	59,243	North Central	29	60,355	58,323
South	133	72,040	65,298	South	27	54,508	53,000
West	61	76,228	75,000	West	8	64,750	56,220
<u>Form of government</u>				<u>Form of government</u>			
County commission	87	66,013	58,000	County commission	21	56,413	54,610
Council-elected executive	107	68,824	60,339	Council-elected executive	20	54,314	54,216
Council-manager/administrator	145	71,170	65,630	Council-manager/administrator	26	61,689	53,423
Population over 1,000,000, total	5	140,910	130,969	10,000 to 24,999, total	73	53,512	51,570
<u>Region</u>				<u>Region</u>			
West	3	153,097	160,000	North Central	28	52,169	50,034
<u>Form of government</u>				<u>Form of government</u>			
Council-elected executive	3	140,079	130,969	South	33	54,634	52,765
500,000 to 1,000,000, total	14	125,707	125,307	West	11	53,540	48,768
<u>Region</u>				<u>Form of government</u>			
North Central	3	106,417	122,119	County commission	16	52,568	49,027
South	6	139,765	134,302	Council-elected executive	24	46,985	48,339
West	3	112,676	108,624	Council-manager/administrator	33	58,717	53,799
<u>Form of government</u>				5,000 to 9,999, total			
County commission	4	118,698	122,694	<u>Region</u>			
Council-elected executive	5	128,069	127,584	North Central	20	38,729	38,017
Council-manager/administrator	5	128,952	132,133	South	9	43,699	46,715
250,000 to 499,999, total	23	111,974	110,406	West	9	50,600	45,726
<u>Region</u>				<u>Form of government</u>			
North Central	7	101,249	104,999	County commission	8	41,706	40,521
South	11	120,688	134,000	Council-elected executive	12	39,356	36,576
West	5	107,819	106,132	Council-manager/administrator	18	44,915	41,975
<u>Form of government</u>				2,500 to 4,999, total			
County commission	6	119,899	125,500	<u>Region</u>			
Council-elected executive	6	113,377	107,600	North Central	5	37,524	38,220
Council-manager/administrator	11	106,886	106,132	West	3	52,430	60,360
100,000 to 249,999, total	59	85,922	80,960	<u>Form of government</u>			
<u>Region</u>				County commission			
Northeast	4	86,045	86,218	Council-elected executive			
North Central	20	84,429	80,558	Council-manager/administrator			
South	22	88,130	83,351	Under 2,500, total			
West	13	84,782	78,750	<u>Region</u>			
<u>Form of government</u>				North Central			
County commission	14	83,044	80,901	3			
Council-elected executive	20	85,749	85,162	29,258			
Council-manager/administrator	25	58,113	60,000	29,838			
50,000 to 99,999, total	48	71,920	69,367	<u>Form of government</u>			
<u>Region</u>				County commission			
Northeast	4	56,627	54,933	4			
North Central	14	69,783	65,643	32,443			
South	25	73,687	70,128	30,057			
West	5	84,097	78,486				
<u>Form of government</u>							
County commission	11	69,419	68,115				
Council-elected executive	16	73,581	69,473				
Council-manager/administrator	21	71,842	67,645				

Note: These data are from a survey of local government officials conducted by The Waters Consulting Group, Inc. for the International City/County Management Association beginning in July 2004. Of the 3,042 counties surveyed, 672 returned the questionnaires for a response rate of 22%. Classifications having less than three counties reporting are excluded by the Source because meaningful statistics cannot be computed. Consequently, the number reporting in subcategories does not always add to the total reporting. The mean is calculated by dividing the total number of salaries into the total amount paid in salaries. The median is the salary that marks the point below which and above which 50% of all the salaries fall. When there is an even number of observations, the mean of the two middle observations is reported. For definitions of terms, a list of States in regions, and detail of survey response rates, see [Appendix 2](#).

Source: Rollie O. Waters and Joyce C. Powell, "Salaries of County Officials, 2004," in *The Municipal Year Book 2005* (Washington, DC: International City/County Management Association, 2005), pp. 102-115. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.