

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 1.71.2005

Mean and median salaries of county chief law enforcement officials

By county population, region, metro status, and form of government, United States, July-November 2005

	Number of counties	Salary levels			Number of counties	Salary levels	
		Mean	Median			Mean	Median
All counties, total	302	\$70,051	\$63,854	50,000 to 99,999, total	38	\$69,879	\$68,778
<u>Region</u>				<u>Region</u>			
Northeast	10	75,528	77,257	North Central	11	66,556	64,412
North Central	118	61,348	55,911	South	20	71,535	70,143
South	128	74,333	70,143	West	5	79,826	62,691
West	46	79,272	87,858				
<u>County type</u>				<u>County type</u>			
Metro	114	88,438	86,194	Metro	17	68,422	62,587
Nonmetro	188	58,902	55,568	Nonmetro	21	71,058	68,967
<u>Form of government</u>				<u>Form of government</u>			
County commission	176	59,082	54,380	County commission	19	63,428	66,388
Council-manager/administrator	74	89,370	84,476	Council-manager/administrator	10	76,694	67,273
Council-elected executive	52	79,685	73,986	Council-elected executive	9	75,924	71,000
Population over 1,000,000, total	5	150,457	126,813	25,000 to 49,999, total	80	66,150	63,259
<u>County type</u>				<u>Region</u>			
Metro	5	150,457	126,813	North Central	38	64,556	62,087
<u>Form of government</u>				South	34	67,107	67,600
Council-manager/administrator	3	143,537	126,813	West	8	69,652	70,000
500,000 to 1,000,000, total	12	106,238	108,354	<u>County type</u>			
<u>Region</u>				Metro	18	72,841	73,055
North Central	3	113,154	108,309	Nonmetro	62	64,207	61,240
South	4	128,166	126,186	<u>Form of government</u>			
West	3	83,133	95,000	County commission	50	61,374	57,880
<u>County type</u>				Council-manager/administrator	23	76,877	76,021
Metro	12	106,238	108,354	Council-elected executive	7	65,017	61,000
<u>Form of government</u>				10,000 to 24,999, total	77	53,491	51,598
County commission	3	98,533	95,000	<u>Region</u>			
Council-manager/administrator	6	99,297	109,541	North Central	37	50,460	50,846
Council-elected executive	3	127,823	125,552	South	32	53,487	51,702
250,000 to 499,999, total	18	106,444	103,600	West	6	64,288	58,638
<u>Region</u>				<u>County type</u>			
South	12	109,985	114,917	Metro	7	71,180	64,600
West	3	97,962	95,000	Nonmetro	70	51,722	51,126
<u>County type</u>				<u>Form of government</u>			
Metro	18	106,444	103,600	County commission	61	50,897	49,995
<u>Form of government</u>				Council-manager/administrator	5	73,805	68,861
County commission	6	80,413	91,636	Council-elected executive	11	58,645	59,160
Council-manager/administrator	8	127,699	124,476	5,000 to 9,999, total	26	47,592	44,645
Council-elected executive	4	102,983	91,634	<u>Region</u>			
100,000 to 249,999, total	43	87,658	85,705	North Central	14	42,781	38,895
<u>Region</u>				South	5	54,734	57,385
Northeast	3	79,564	85,705	West	7	52,114	48,244
North Central	9	80,160	78,490	<u>County type</u>			
South	19	87,618	84,082	Nonmetro	25	48,376	44,040
West	12	95,368	89,613	<u>Form of government</u>			
<u>County type</u>				County commission	22	46,914	45,909
Metro	36	87,173	85,466	Council-elected executive	3	56,356	41,390
Nonmetro	7	90,152	89,225	2,500 to 4,999, total	3	46,486	44,500
<u>Form of government</u>				<u>County type</u>			
County commission	11	79,763	87,444	Nonmetro	3	46,486	44,500
Council-manager/administrator	18	90,280	85,266	<u>Form of government</u>			
Council-elected executive	14	90,490	86,742	County commission	3	46,486	44,500
Under 2,500, total ^a					NA	NA	NA

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 2005. Of the 3,040 counties surveyed, 427 returned the questionnaires for a response rate of 14%. 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](#).

^aAn insufficient number of counties with populations under 2,500 reported in 2005.

Source: Rollie O. Waters and Joyce C. Powell, "Salaries of County Officials, 2005," in *The Municipal Year Book 2006* (Washington, DC: International City/County Management Association, 2006), pp. 109-124. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.