

Legislative Council Staff *Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature*

Memorandum

October 12, 2023

TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Natalie Castle, Director, 303-866-4778

SUBJECT: 2024 and 2025 Salaries for Elected County Officials

Summary

Calendar year 2024 and 2025 salaries for elected county officials are shown in Table 1 on pages 3 and 4. These salaries are determined pursuant to section 30-2-102, C.R.S., which sets a schedule of salaries for calendar years 2016 and 2017 and requires Legislative Council Staff to index the salaries to inflation every two years thereafter.

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Salaries for 2024 and 2025 were increased by the rate of change in the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Consumer Price Index between the first half of 2021 and the first half of 2023, or 14.65 percent. Salaries have increased by a total of 33.0 percent since 2015. Tables 2 through 6 contain a history of salaries for these elected county offices since 2016.

Background

Article XIV, Section 15, of the Colorado Constitution requires the General Assembly to set the salary levels for county commissioners, sheriffs, treasurers, assessors, clerks and recorders, and coroners. County officers cannot have their compensation changed during their terms of office. Further, any change may occur only when the compensation of all county officers within the same county is adjusted, or when the compensation for the same county office in all of the counties of the state is increased or decreased.

1 www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm, CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), All Items in Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, series ID CUURS48BSA0.



Section 30-2-102, C.R.S., sets these salaries for officials within different categories of counties. The law assigns a category to each statutory county based on factors reflecting the tax resources available to and workload of officials within each county, including total population, population in unincorporated areas, assessed values, motor vehicle registration, building permits, and military installations. In general, the counties in categories I through III are larger counties that are required to pay higher salaries than counties in categories IV through VI.

The current schedule of salaries, which is contained in section 30-2-102 (2.3) (a), C.R.S., was enacted by *Senate Bill 15-288* and *House Bill 16-1367* using recommendations from the "County Elected Officials' Salary Commission," an independent commission created and later repealed by the General Assembly. Legislation is required to move counties to another category, and since 2015 three bills have done so, resulting in higher or lower salaries in some counties. These changes are as follows:

HB 18-1242 Effective for terms commencing after August 8, 2018:

- Grand County moved from III-D to III-B
- Rio Grande County moved from IV-D to IV-C
- Saguache County moved from V-D to V-B
- Jackson County moved from VI-D to VI-C
- Sedgwick County moved from VI-B to VI-C

HB 20-1281 Effective for terms commencing after September 14, 2020:

- Alamosa County moved from III-A to III-B
- Yuma County moved from IV-B to IV-C

HB 23-1139 Effective for terms commencing after March 23, 2023:

- Archuleta and Delta counties moved from category III-B to III-A
- Montezuma County moved from III-D to III-A
- Las Animas County moved from III-D to III-C
- Grand County moved from III-B to II-A
- Pitkin County moved from II-C to II-B
- Saguache County moved from V-B to V-A
- Ouray County moved from IV-A to III-A
- Summit, Eagle, and Routt counties moved from II-A to I-A

Finally, *Senate Bill 22-065* modified the salary schedule by allowing counties in some categories to designate the coroner's position as a full time position. The bill increased the pay for the full time coroner to match the salaries for elected treasurers, assessors, clerks, and commissioners. This was effective for coroners whose terms commenced on or after January 1, 2023.

The home rule counties of Weld and Pitkin, and the home rule city and county governments of Broomfield and Denver, are authorized by the state constitution to set their own compensation rates.



Table 1 (continued on the next page) **2024 and 2025 Salaries for Elected County Officers**

(Pursuant to Section 30-2-102, C.R.S.)

Treasurers, Assessors.

			Assessors,	
Category	Commissioners	Sheriffs	& Clerks	Counties
				Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder,
				Douglas, Eagle, El Paso, Jefferson,
				Larimer, Pueblo, Routt, Summit, and
I-A	\$150,991	\$192,155	\$150,991	Weld*
I-B	\$139,376	\$177,374	\$139,376	
I-C	\$127,762	\$162,592	\$127,762	
I-D	\$116,147	\$147,811	\$116,147	Mesa
II-A	\$125,394	\$151,683	\$125,394	Garfield, Grand, and La Plata
II-B	\$115,748	\$140,015	\$115,748	Pitkin*
II-C	\$106,102	\$128,347	\$106,102	Fremont
II-D	\$96,457	\$116,679	\$96,457	
				Archuleta, Chaffee, Clear Creek,
				Delta, Gunnison, Moffat,
				Montezuma, Montrose, Morgan,
				Ouray, Park, Rio Blanco, San Miguel,
III-A	\$101,180	\$131,447	\$101,180	and Teller
III-B	\$93,397	\$121,336	\$93,397	Alamosa, Gilpin, and Logan
III-C	\$85,614	\$111,224	\$85,614	Otero, Las Animas
III-D	\$77,830	\$101,113	\$77,830	
IV-A	\$85,959	\$115,189	\$85,959	Custer, Elbert, and Prowers
IV-B	\$79,347	\$106,328	\$79,347	Kit Carson, Lake, and Washington
IV-C	\$72,735	\$97,468	\$72,735	Huerfano, Rio Grande, and Yuma
IV-D	\$66,123	\$88,607	\$66,123	
				Baca, Conejos, Costilla, Lincoln,
				Mineral, Phillips, Saguache, and San
V-A	\$75,755	\$84,922	\$75,755	Juan
V-B	\$69,928	\$78,389	\$69,928	Crowley and Hinsdale
V-C	\$64,100	\$71,857	\$64,100	Bent and Dolores
V-D	\$58,273	\$65,324	\$58,273	Cheyenne
VI-A	\$68,664	\$80,425	\$68,664	
VI-B	\$63,382	\$74,238	\$63,382	
VI-C	\$58,100	\$68,052	\$58,100	Jackson and Sedgwick
VI-D	\$52,818	\$61,865	\$52,818	Kiowa

^{*} Home rule counties are authorized to set their own compensation rate (Pitkin and Weld Counties). In addition, the cities and counties of Broomfield and Denver are also authorized to set their own compensation rate.



Table 1 *(continued)* **2024 and 2025 Salaries for Elected County Officers**

(Pursuant to Section 30-2-102, C.R.S.)

	Coroners	Coroners		
Category	Part Time	Full Time	Surveyors	Counties
				Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder,
				Douglas, Eagle, El Paso, Jefferson,
				Larimer, Pueblo, Routt, Summit, and
I-A	Not applicable	\$150,991	\$9,513	Weld*
I-B	Not applicable	\$139,376	\$8,781	
I-C	Not applicable	\$127,762	\$8,049	
I-D	Not applicable	\$116,147	\$7,317	Mesa
II-A	\$76,447	\$125,394	\$7,610	Garfield, Grand, and La Plata
II-B	\$70,566	\$115,748	\$7,025	Pitkin*
II-C	\$64,686	\$106,102	\$6,439	Fremont
II-D	\$58,805	\$96,457	\$5,854	
				Archuleta, Chaffee, Clear Creek,
				Delta, Gunnison, Moffat,
				Montezuma, Montrose, Morgan,
	¢57.240	¢101 100	¢5.700	Ouray, Park, Rio Blanco, San Miguel,
III-A	\$57,249	\$101,180	\$5,708	and Teller
III-B	\$52,845	\$93,397	\$5,269	Alamosa, Gilpin, and Logan
III-C	\$48,441	\$85,614	\$4,829	Otero, Las Animas
III-D	\$44,037	\$77,830	\$4,390	
IV-A	\$38,223	\$85,959	\$3,805	Custer, Elbert, and Prowers
IV-B	\$35,283	\$79,347	\$3,512	Kit Carson, Lake, and Washington
IV-C	\$32,343	\$72,735	\$3,220	Huerfano, Rio Grande, and Yuma
IV-D	\$29,403	\$66,123	\$2,927	
				Baca, Conejos, Costilla, Lincoln,
				Mineral, Phillips, Saguache, and San
V-A	\$17,123	Not applicable	\$1,903	Juan
V-B	\$15,806	Not applicable	\$1,756	Crowley and Hinsdale
V-C	\$14,488	Not applicable	\$1,610	Bent and Dolores
V-D	\$13,171	Not applicable	\$1,463	Cheyenne
VI-A	\$15,566	Not applicable	\$1,730	
VI-B	\$14,369	Not applicable	\$1,597	
VI-C	\$13,171	Not applicable	\$1,463	Jackson and Sedgwick
VI-D	\$11,974	Not applicable	\$1,330	Kiowa

^{*} Home rule counties are authorized to set their own compensation rate (Pitkin and Weld Counties). In addition, the cities and counties of Broomfield and Denver are also authorized to set their own compensation rate.



Table 2 2016 and 2017 Salaries for Elected County Officers

Treasurers, Assessors,

			Assessors,		
Category	Commissioners	Sheriffs	and Clerks	Coroners	Surveyors
I-A	\$113,490	\$144,430	\$113,490	\$113,490	\$7,150
I-B	\$104,760	\$133,320	\$104,760	\$104,760	\$6,600
I-C	\$96,030	\$122,210	\$96,030	\$96,030	\$6,050
I-D	\$87,300	\$111,100	\$87,300	\$87,300	\$5,500
II-A	\$94,250	\$114,010	\$94,250	\$57,460	\$5,720
II-B	\$87,000	\$105,240	\$87,000	\$53,040	\$5,280
II-C	\$79,750	\$96,470	\$79,750	\$48,620	\$4,840
II-D	\$72,500	\$87,700	\$72,500	\$44,200	\$4,400
III-A	\$76,050	\$98,800	\$76,050	\$43,030	\$4,290
III-B	\$70,200	\$91,200	\$70,200	\$39,720	\$3,960
III-C	\$64,350	\$83,600	\$64,350	\$36,410	\$3,630
III-D	\$58,500	\$76,000	\$58,500	\$33,100	\$3,300
IV-A	\$64,610	\$86,580	\$64,610	\$28,730	\$2,860
IV-B	\$59,640	\$79,920	\$59,640	\$26,520	\$2,640
IV-C	\$54,670	\$73,260	\$54,670	\$24,310	\$2,420
IV-D	\$49,700	\$66,600	\$49,700	\$22,100	\$2,200
V-A	\$56,940	\$63,830	\$56,940	\$12,870	\$1,430
V-B	\$52,560	\$58,920	\$52,560	\$11,880	\$1,320
V-C	\$48,180	\$54,010	\$48,180	\$10,890	\$1,210
V-D	\$43,800	\$49,100	\$43,800	\$9,900	\$1,100
VI-A	\$51,610	\$60,450	\$51,610	\$11,700	\$1,300
VI-B	\$47,640	\$55,800	\$47,640	\$10,800	\$1,200
VI-C	\$43,670	\$51,150	\$43,670	\$9,900	\$1,100
VI-D	\$39,700	\$46,500	\$39,700	\$9,000	\$1,000



Table 3 2018 and 2019 Salaries for Elected County Officers

Treasurers,
Assessors.

			Assessors,		
Category	Commissioners	Sheriffs	and Clerks	Coroners	Surveyors
I-A	\$120,485	\$153,332	\$120,485	\$120,485	\$7,591
I-B	\$111,217	\$141,537	\$111,217	\$111,217	\$7,007
I-C	\$101,949	\$129,742	\$101,949	\$101,949	\$6,423
I-D	\$92,681	\$117,947	\$92,681	\$92,681	\$5,839
II-A	\$100,059	\$121,037	\$100,059	\$61,001	\$6,073
II-B	\$92,362	\$111,726	\$92,362	\$56,309	\$5,605
II-C	\$84,665	\$102,416	\$84,665	\$51,617	\$5,138
II-D	\$76,968	\$93,105	\$76,968	\$46,924	\$4,671
III-A	\$80,737	\$104,889	\$80,737	\$45,682	\$4,554
III-B	\$74,527	\$96,821	\$74,527	\$42,168	\$4,204
III-C	\$68,316	\$88,753	\$68,316	\$38,654	\$3,854
III-D	\$62,106	\$80,684	\$62,106	\$35,140	\$3,503
IV-A	\$68,592	\$91,916	\$68,592	\$30,501	\$3,036
IV-B	\$63,316	\$84,846	\$63,316	\$28,155	\$2,803
IV-C	\$58,039	\$77,775	\$58,039	\$25,808	\$2,569
IV-D	\$52,763	\$70,705	\$52,763	\$23,462	\$2,336
V-A	\$60,449	\$67,764	\$60,449	\$13,663	\$1,518
V-B	\$55,799	\$62,551	\$55,799	\$12,612	\$1,401
V-C	\$51,149	\$57,339	\$51,149	\$11,561	\$1,285
V-D	\$46,500	\$52,126	\$46,500	\$10,510	\$1,168
VI-A	\$54,791	\$64,176	\$54,791	\$12,421	\$1,380
VI-B	\$50,576	\$59,239	\$50,576	\$11,466	\$1,274
VI-C	\$46,362	\$54,303	\$46,362	\$10,510	\$1,168
VI-D	\$42,147	\$49,366	\$42,147	\$9,555	\$1,062



Table 4
2020 and 2021 Salaries for Elected County Officers

Treasurers,
Assessors.

			Assessors,		
Category	Commissioners	Sheriffs	and Clerks	Coroners	Surveyors
I-A	\$125,913	\$160,239	\$125,913	\$125,913	\$7,933
I-B	\$116,227	\$147,913	\$116,227	\$116,227	\$7,322
I-C	\$106,541	\$135,587	\$106,541	\$106,541	\$6,712
I-D	\$96,856	\$123,261	\$96,856	\$96,856	\$6,102
II-A	\$104,567	\$126,490	\$104,567	\$63,750	\$6,346
II-B	\$96,523	\$116,760	\$96,523	\$58,846	\$5,858
II-C	\$88,479	\$107,030	\$88,479	\$53,942	\$5,370
II-D	\$80,436	\$97,300	\$80,436	\$49,038	\$4,882
III-A	\$84,374	\$109,615	\$84,374	\$47,740	\$4,760
III-B	\$77,884	\$101,183	\$77,884	\$44,068	\$4,393
III-C	\$71,394	\$92,751	\$71,394	\$40,395	\$4,027
III-D	\$64,903	\$84,319	\$64,903	\$36,723	\$3,661
IV-A	\$71,682	\$96,057	\$71,682	\$31,875	\$3,173
IV-B	\$66,168	\$88,668	\$66,168	\$29,423	\$2,929
IV-C	\$60,654	\$81,279	\$60,654	\$26,971	\$2,685
IV-D	\$55,140	\$73,890	\$55,140	\$24,519	\$2,441
V-A	\$63,173	\$70,817	\$63,173	\$14,279	\$1,587
V-B	\$58,313	\$65,369	\$58,313	\$13,180	\$1,464
V-C	\$53,454	\$59,922	\$53,454	\$12,082	\$1,342
V-D	\$48,594	\$54,475	\$48,594	\$10,984	\$1,220
VI-A	\$57,259	\$67,067	\$57,259	\$12,981	\$1,442
VI-B	\$52,855	\$61,908	\$52,855	\$11,982	\$1,331
VI-C	\$48,450	\$56,749	\$48,450	\$10,984	\$1,220
VI-D	\$44,046	\$51,590	\$44,046	\$9,985	\$1,109



Table 5
2022 Salaries for Elected County Officers

Treasurers, Assessors.

			Assessors,		
Category	Commissioners	Sheriffs	and Clerks	Coroners	Surveyors
I-A	\$131,701	\$167,606	\$131,701	\$131,701	\$8,297
I-B	\$121,570	\$154,713	\$121,570	\$121,570	\$7,659
I-C	\$111,439	\$141,820	\$111,439	\$111,439	\$7,021
I-D	\$101,308	\$128,927	\$101,308	\$101,308	\$6,383
II-A	\$109,374	\$132,304	\$109,374	\$66,680	\$6,638
II-B	\$100,960	\$122,127	\$100,960	\$61,551	\$6,127
II-C	\$92,547	\$111,950	\$92,547	\$56,422	\$5,617
II-D	\$84,134	\$101,773	\$84,134	\$51,292	\$5,106
III-A	\$88,253	\$114,654	\$88,253	\$49,935	\$4,978
III-B	\$81,465	\$105,834	\$81,465	\$46,094	\$4,595
III-C	\$74,676	\$97,015	\$74,676	\$42,252	\$4,212
III-D	\$67,887	\$88,195	\$67,887	\$38,411	\$3,830
IV-A	\$74,978	\$100,473	\$74,978	\$33,340	\$3,319
IV-B	\$69,210	\$92,744	\$69,210	\$30,775	\$3,064
IV-C	\$63,443	\$85,016	\$63,443	\$28,211	\$2,808
IV-D	\$57,675	\$77,287	\$57,675	\$25,646	\$2,553
V-A	\$66,077	\$74,072	\$66,077	\$14,935	\$1,659
V-B	\$60,994	\$68,374	\$60,994	\$13,786	\$1,532
V-C	\$55,911	\$62,677	\$55,911	\$12,637	\$1,404
V-D	\$50,828	\$56,979	\$50,828	\$11,489	\$1,277
VI-A	\$59,891	\$70,150	\$59,891	\$13,577	\$1,509
VI-B	\$55,284	\$64,754	\$55,284	\$12,533	\$1,393
VI-C	\$50,677	\$59,358	\$50,677	\$11,489	\$1,277
VI-D	\$46,070	\$53,962	\$46,070	\$10,444	\$1,160



VI-D

Table 6 **2023 Salaries for Elected County Officers**

Treasurers, Assessors, **Coroners** Coroners **Commissioners Sheriffs** and Clerks Full Time* **Category** Part Time Surveyors Not applicable \$131,701 \$167,606 \$131,701 \$131,701 \$8,297 I-A Not applicable \$121,570 \$154,713 \$121,570 \$121,570 \$7,659 I-B \$111,439 \$141,820 \$111,439 Not applicable \$111,439 \$7,021 I-C Not applicable \$128,927 \$101,308 \$101,308 \$101,308 \$6,383 I-D \$109,374 \$132,304 \$109,374 \$66,680 \$109,374 \$6,638 II-A \$100,960 \$122,127 \$100,960 \$61,551 \$100,960 \$6,127 II-B \$92,547 \$111,950 \$92,547 \$92,547 \$5,617 \$56,422 II-C \$101,773 \$5,106 \$84,134 \$84,134 \$51,292 \$84,134 II-D \$88,253 \$114,654 \$88,253 \$49,935 \$88,253 \$4,978 III-A \$81,465 \$105,834 \$81,465 \$46,094 \$81,465 \$4,595 III-B \$74,676 \$42,252 \$74,676 \$4,212 \$74,676 \$97,015 III-C \$67,887 \$88,195 \$67,887 \$38,411 \$67,887 \$3,830 III-D \$74,978 \$100,473 \$74,978 \$33,340 \$74,978 \$3,319 \$69,210 \$92,744 \$69,210 \$30,775 \$69,210 \$3,064 IV-B \$63,443 \$85,016 \$63,443 \$28,211 \$63,443 \$2,808 IV-C \$25,646 \$2,553 \$57,675 \$77,287 \$57,675 \$57,675 IV-D \$66,077 \$74,072 \$66,077 \$14,935 Not applicable \$1,659 V-A \$60,994 Not applicable \$60,994 \$68,374 \$13,786 \$1,532 V-B Not applicable \$55,911 \$62,677 \$55,911 \$12,637 \$1,404 V-C \$50,828 \$56,979 \$50,828 \$11,489 Not applicable \$1,277 V-D \$59,891 Not applicable \$1,509 \$59,891 \$70,150 \$13,577 VI-A Not applicable \$55,284 \$64,754 \$55,284 \$12,533 \$1,393 VI-B Not applicable \$59,358 \$50,677 \$11,489 \$1,277 \$50,677 VI-C Not applicable \$46,070 \$53,962 \$46,070 \$10,444 \$1,160

^{*}Senate Bill 22-065 allowed full time salaries for coroners in certain categories; these salaries apply only to coroners whose terms began on or after January 1, 2023. Coroners whose terms began prior to January 1, 2023 received the salaries listed in Table 5 during 2022 and 2023.