

Changes in Judicial Compensation in the Last 10 Years

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Issue

Summarize the changes to judicial compensation since 2013. This report updates OLR Report [2022-R-0130](#).

Summary

By law, the compensation amount for certain judicial positions is set by statute ([CGS § 51-47](#), as amended by [PA 23-204](#), §§ 81-84). Since 2013, the legislature has changed the salaries as follows:

1. increased salaries by 5.3% for FYs 14 & 15 ([PA 13-247](#), §§ 240-243);
2. increased salaries by 3% for FYs 16 & 17 ([PA 15-5, June Special Session \(JSS\)](#), §§ 460-463);
3. delayed the scheduled FY 17 increase until FY 18 ([PA 16-3, May Special Session](#), §§ 89-92);
4. rescinded the FY 18 increase effective November 1, 2017 (after it had been implemented), and reinstated the increase effective July 1, 2019, for FY 20 ([PA 17-2, JSS](#), §§ 254-257);
5. increased salaries by 4.5% for FY 22 ([PA 21-2, JSS](#), §§ 11-14);
6. increased salaries by 5% for FY 23 ([PA 22-118](#), §§ 131-134); and
7. increased salaries by 3% starting FY 24 and again in FY 25 ([PA 23-204](#), §§ 81-84). (See Table 1 below for specific salary amounts.)

The law also provides (1) judges with extra compensation for taking on certain administrative duties and (2) certain other officials or judges (e.g., probate court judges) with compensation based on the

salary of certain judicial officials (e.g., Superior Court judges). These acts also increased these amounts by the same percentages.

Table 1: Judicial Salaries

| <i>Position</i> | <i>Prior to FY 14</i> | <i>FY 14</i> | <i>FY 15</i> | <i>FYs 16- 19**</i> | <i>FYs 20-21</i> | <i>FY 22</i> | <i>FY 23</i> | <i>FY 24</i> | <i>FY 25 and After</i> |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Supreme Court chief justice | \$175,645 | \$184,954 | \$194,757 | \$200,599 | \$206,617 | \$215,915 | \$226,711 | \$233,512 | \$240,518 |
| Chief court administrator (if a judge) | 168,783 | 177,728 | 187,148 | 192,763 | 198,545 | 207,480 | 217,854 | 224,390 | 231,121 |
| Supreme Court associate judge | 162,520 | 171,134 | 180,204 | 185,610 | 191,178 | 199,781 | 209,770 | 216,063 | 222,545 |
| Appellate Court chief judge | 160,722 | 169,240 | 178,210 | 183,556 | 189,063 | 197,571 | 207,450 | 213,674 | 220,084 |
| Appellate Court judge | 152,637 | 160,727 | 169,245 | 174,323 | 179,552 | 187,663 | 197,046 | 202,957 | 209,046 |
| Deputy chief court administrator (if a Superior Court judge) | 149,853 | 157,795 | 166,158 | 171,143 | 176,277 | 184,209 | 193,420 | 199,223 | 205,199 |
| Superior Court judge | 146,780 | 154,559 | 162,751 | 167,634 | 172,663 | 180,460 | 189,483 | 195,167 | 201,023 |
| Chief family support magistrate | 127,782 | 134,554 | 141,686 | 145,936 | 150,314 | 157,078 | 164,932 | 169,880 | 174,976 |
| Family support magistrate | 121,615 | 128,061 | 134,848 | 138,893 | 143,060 | 149,498 | 156,973 | 161,682 | 166,533 |
| Family support referee | 190/day* | 200/day* | 211/day* | 217/day* | 223/day* | 233/day* | 245/day* | 252/day* | 260/day* |
| Judge trial referee | 220/day* | 232/day* | 244/day* | 251/day* | 259/day* | 271/day* | 285/day* | 294/day* | 302/day* |

*Plus expenses, mileage, and retirement pay

**From July 1, 2017, until October 30, 2017, salaries temporarily increased to the amounts shown for FYs 20-21

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