

Overview of Council Salaries in Palm Beach County

January, 2026

Overall Snapshot

- 10 municipalities compared by population, council member annual salary, and cost per resident (per council member).
- Village of Wellington (VoW) population: 63,258
 - Almost identical to the median population (63,271)
 - 10% below the average population (69,024)

Council Member Annual Salary

- Village of Wellington: \$9,600 (includes annual expense allowance)
- Average salary: \$24,527 average salary
 - VoW is 61% below average
- Median salary: \$24,252
 - VoW is 60% below median
- Highest salary: West Palm Beach: \$47,484
- Lowest salary: Village of Wellington: \$9,600

Key Observation:

Wellington compensates its Council Members at a dramatically lower level than every comparable municipality in the dataset.

Cost Per Resident (Per Council Member)

- Village of Wellington: \$0.15 per resident
- Average: \$0.35 per resident
 - VoW is 57% lower than average
- Median: \$0.34 per resident
 - VoW is 55% lower than median
- Highest cost per resident: Palm Beach Gardens: \$0.58
- Lowest cost per resident: Village of Wellington: \$0.15 per resident

Key Observation:

Wellington has the lowest cost per resident by a substantial margin.

Comparative Positioning

- Municipalities with similar populations (Jupiter, Palm Beach Gardens, Delray Beach):
 - Pay \$18,600–\$36,444 annually
 - Have per-resident costs between \$0.30–\$0.58
 - Despite being population-comparable, Wellington's:
 - Salary is significantly lower
 - Cost per resident is dramatically lower
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Primary Takeaways

- Wellington is an extreme outlier on the low end for both salary and per-resident cost.
- Compensation levels are not aligned with population size when compared to peer cities.
- From a fiscal standpoint, Wellington demonstrates very high cost-efficiency.
- From a market comparison standpoint, Wellington Council compensation is substantially below regional norms.

CITY NAME	POPULATION	COUNCIL MEMBER'S ANNUAL SALARY	COST PER RESIDENT (per Council Member) ACCORDING TO POPULATION
Boca Raton	102,238	\$27,996	\$0.274
Boynton Beach	83,095	\$29,036	\$0.349

Delray Beach	70,140	\$24,000	\$0.342
Greenacres	45,197	\$14,884	\$0.329
Jupiter	62,987	\$18,600	\$0.295
Lake Worth Beach	44,417	\$24,504	\$0.552
Palm Beach Gardens	63,284	\$36,444	\$0.576
Royal Palm Beach	41,948	\$12,727	\$0.303
Village Of Wellington	63,258	\$9,600	\$0.152
West Palm Beach	127,744	\$47,484	\$0.372

AVERAGE	70,431	24,527	\$0.35
<i>Difference from VoW</i>	-10.18%	-60.86%	-57.18%
MEDIAN	63,271	24,252	\$0.34
<i>Difference from VoW</i>	-0.02%	-60.42%	-54.80%
HIGH	127,744	\$47,484	\$0.576
<i>Difference from VoW</i>	-50.48%	-79.78%	-73.65%
LOW	41,948	\$9,600	\$0.152
<i>Difference from VoW</i>	50.80%	0.00%	0.00%

*Wellington's salary includes \$6,000 in annual expense allowance

*Population numbers were obtained from the most recent US Census Bureau information available

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/bocaratoncityflorida,palmbeachcountyflorida>