Presidential and Congressional Pay 1789 to 2012 Summary

Presidential Pay 1789 to 2012, in Current and Constant (2012) dollars


Source of current-dollar presidential pay: Congressional Quarterly's Guide to the Presidency, at http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/fedprssal.html. Data prior to 1913 should be considered approximations.
Starting in 1949 presidents also have had a \$50,000 per year expense account, worth about \$460,000 that year in 2010 dollars. Calculations of inflation-adjusted doliars for 1789-1912 use data from Historical Statistics of the United States Millenial Edition (Cambridge University Press, 2006).

Note: The two charts for average presidential pay, chronological and ranked, are located at the end because they print more clearly in portrait format.

Pay of US President in Inflation-adjusted (2012) Dollars and Ratio of Average Yearly Compensation of Top 500 CEO to Pay of President, Selected Years 1960 to 2004


Source of current dollar top 500 CEO compensation: Business Week, selected issues; the actual number of corporate CEOs
used by Business Week to calculate averages varie; for example, in 1999 the number was 362

Ratio of Presidential Pay to Median Family Income, 1948 to 2011


## Yearly Pay of Members of Congress 1789 to 2012, in Current and Constant (2012) Dollars



Source of congressional current-dollar pay: Congressional Research Service,
Salaries of Members of Congress: Recent Actions and Historical Tables, January 15, 2013

Ratio of Congress Pay to Median Family Income, 1948 to 2012


Sources: Congressional Reference Service and Census Bureau web site, family income

## Ratio of Top 500 CEO Compensation to Congress Pay and to Family Median Income and Ratio of Congress Pay to Family Median Income, Selected Years 1960 to 2004 (comparable CEO data not available for later years)



Source of CEO Compensation Data: Business Week, selected years

## Average Pay of US Presidents in Inflation-adjusted Dollars, In Current and Constant (2012) Dollars



Presidents Ranked by Inflation-adjusted Pay (2012 \$), from Highest
to Lowest (rounded to nearest $\$ 10,000$ )


