

Capital Budget Staffing

2019 JLARC STUDY

The 2018 Legislature directed JLARC to review how funds authorized in the capital budget were used to pay state employees. The state's workforce can be measured in terms of full-time equivalent staff (FTEs).

The state spent \$149M of capital budget funds for 840 FTEs in 2015-17

An FTE (full-time equivalent)

equals 2,088 hours worked by one or more people in a fiscal year.

50% of salary/benefit costs and FTEs paid from bond-funded accounts



40% from higher ed building accounts

Eight entities reported 71% of FTEs and costs

	Higher Ed Institutions			Agencies					28 other entities (includes 9 with no FTEs)
AVERAGE ANNUAL FTEs	130	120	87	60	59	55	42	41	246
	UW	WSU	SBCTC	DFW	DNR	DES	Parks	ECY	
BIENNIAL SALARY/BENEFIT COSTS	\$24 M	\$19 M	\$17 M	\$12 M	\$9 M	\$11 M	\$8 M	\$7 M	\$43 M

Source: JLARC staff compilation of data from 36 entities authorized to spend capital funds. FTEs and costs are rounded.

Full report includes data for all entities.

For 2015-17 FTEs and costs, the state's accounting system (AFRS):



Lacks detail for the four-year colleges/universities.

Capital-funded FTEs and salary/benefit costs in AFRS are **70% lower** than those compiled by JLARC staff.

Why the discrepancy? Universities pool state and non-state funds to pay for construction projects and related staffing costs. **In AFRS, data is often reported under local (university) accounts rather than capital accounts.** Reporting at this level is authorized under OFM policy.



Has reliable data for agencies.

Capital-funded FTEs and salary/benefit costs in AFRS are **within 1%** of the totals compiled by JLARC staff.

Agency-level discrepancies are **generally due to standard accounting practices.**

Oversight occurs throughout budget development & implementation

Budget instructions give guidance on FTEs and costs paid from capital funds.

Legislature limits some spending through statute and budget provisos.

OFM oversees budget development and spending.

The Legislative Auditor did not make recommendations for this report.

The complete report is on the JLARC web site: www.leg.wa.gov/jlarc

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