

BLS OEWS — Firefighters (SOC 33-2011), May 2024

BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

Firefighters — SOC Code 33-2011, May 2024 Survey

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), May 2024

Published: March 2025

URL: <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes332011.htm>

National Employment and Wage Data — May 2024

Statistic	Value
Total employment	~332,240 firefighters
Median hourly wage	\$28.62/hr
Median annual wage	\$59,530
Mean hourly wage	\$30.72/hr
Mean annual wage	\$63,890

Percentile distribution (hourly wage):

Percentile	Hourly
10th percentile	~\$16.58
25th percentile	~\$21.77
50th percentile (median)	\$28.62
75th percentile	~\$40.77
90th percentile	~\$48.72

Use in BleedIO Investor Materials

Claim in DD Answers (Q2 — Public Sector section):

“Dedicated accountability officer (PAO): 1 officer required per entry point per NFPA 1561; \$37–\$40/hr (BLS median \$28.62/hr, May 2024 + 30–40% public safety benefits)”

Derivation: - BLS median base wage: \$28.62/hr - Public safety benefits burden (30–40%): +\$8.59 to +\$11.45/hr - Fully burdened rate: **\$37.21–\$40.07/hr** (rounded to \$37–\$40/hr) - PAO cost per structural incident (2 hrs × \$37–\$40/hr): **~\$74–\$80** (stated as “\$57–\$80” — lower bound uses closer to 1.5 hrs) - Annual PAO labor at 200 responses: **\$11,400–\$16,000/year**

Note on median vs. mean: The DD Answers cite the median (\$28.62), which is the standard BLS reference figure. The mean (\$30.72) is higher due to high-wage municipal departments pulling the average up. Both figures are from the same May 2024 survey.

Additional Context

Firefighters held approximately 344,900 jobs as of 2024 (BLS Occupational Outlook Handbook). About 79% work for local governments (municipal/county fire departments). Pay varies significantly by geography — coastal metro departments pay 50–100% above the national median.

Source for DataRoom use: This document summarizes publicly available BLS data. The original data is freely accessible at <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes332011.htm>. A screenshot of the BLS OEWS firefighter page should be added to `99_Source_Documents/` to provide a point-in-time reference.

Prepared April 2026 as a DataRoom source reference. Data from BLS May 2024 OEWS survey.