

PUBLISHED JANUARY 2018 BY
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006
aia.org
(c) 2018 by The American Institute of Architects

All rights reserved

ISBN: 978-1-57165-010-8

## Overview \& respondent profile

2017 is the first year the American Institute of Architects (AIA) collected salary data specifically from members working at small architecture firms, defined for the purposes of the survey as those legally structured as sole proprietorships (regardless of number of employees) and architecture firms with fewer than three architectural staff employees. Historically, small firms have not been included in the AIA Compensation Survey due to the fact that employee compensation at small firms can vary widely and is less likely to follow a more formalized salary structure. Instead, it is often more dependent upon firm performance in a given year.

In addition, the business structure at small architecture firms is often very different from
larger firms. In sole proprietorships, the firm owner does not receive a salary but, instead, takes draws (discretionary paychecks) out of the firm profits, with amounts that can vary substantially from year to year depending on business conditions, firm needs, etc. To address these different salary structures, it was critical that the survey allowed firms to report their information in different ways, depending on their organizational structure.

To develop a survey to best meet the unique needs of small firms, AIA collaborated with a working group of members of the AIA Small Firm Exchange (SFx) to develop a new survey that could address the different types of small firmsand to begin to compile a body of reliable and accurate salary data.

## Overview \& respondent profile

FIGURE 01: More than $80 \%$ of small firms have annual revenue of less than $\$ 500,000$
Percent of firms, by total 2016 firm revenue


## Small firms average three employees \& are largely single discipline

The 2017 Small Firm Compensation Survey questionnaire was open only to firms that were either classified as sole proprietorships or had fewer than three architectural staff employees (all other firms were directed to AIA's standard 2017 Compensation Survey). More than half (55\%) of firms responding to the Small Firm Compensation Survey classified themselves as single-discipline architecture firms, in contrast to just one-third of firms responding to the standard 2017 Compensation Survey. An additional 25\% of responding firms classified themselves as multidisciplinary, with architecture as the lead
discipline and interior design as a secondary design discipline.

The average firm size of the responding small firms was three employees; 73\% were full-time employees, $20 \%$ were contract employees, and the remaining $7 \%$ were part-time employees. The majority of firms ( $68 \%$ ) indicated their firm was legally classified as an LLC, corporation, or other business type, with 30\% classified as sole proprietorships and the remaining 2\% classified as partnerships. Firm revenues for 2016 averaged $\$ 430,000$, with $82 \%$ of firms indicating their revenue was less than $\$ 500,000$ for the year. (FIGURE O1)

## Overview \& respondent profile

FIGURE 02: Nearly half of small firm employees have an ownership stake in their firm Percent of full-time incumbents for whom salary data were reported, by employment status


Owner/partner (not a sole proprietor)

## Employees at small firms typically provide a wide variety of professional services

Salary data in the Small Firm Compensation Survey were reported similar to those in the standard 2017 Compensation Survey; one person at each firm location (usually the firm principal) reported the salaries for themselves as well as for all other firm staff. Unlike the standard survey, where positions are described, the small firm survey did not include specific position descriptions. Instead, respondents were asked to select applicable attributes for staff members for whom data were reported, including information such as years of experience, licensure status, and professional services performed. That information was
used to develop the six positions for which compensation data are reported in this report. The results also provide an overview of small firm demographics.

At small firms, 75\% of staff for whom salary data were reported were either licensed architects (57\%) or emerging professionals on the path to licensure ( $18 \%$ ). Of the remaining employees, 9\% were design professionals who were eligible for, but not pursuing, licensure and $16 \%$ were non-architecture staff who were not eligible for licensure. Nearly half of employees at small firms have some sort of ownership stake in the firm, either as a sole proprietor or as an owner or partner. (FIGURE 02)

## Overview \& respondent profile

FIGURE 03: Professional services performed by full-time employees at small firms include architectural design \& contract document production Percent of full-time incumbents for whom salary data were reported and for whom given professional service is part of their job responsibilities


The architecture employees at small firms also tend to be fairly experienced within the profession, with nearly half ( $49 \%$ ) having 20 or more years of full-time architecture experience. However, there is also an infusion of newer employees, as just over one-quarter (28\%) have fewer than ten years of experience, including 16\% who have less than five years of experience.

Employees at small firms are often asked to wear many hats and perform a variety of professional services. Many employees perform architectural design and contract document production as part of their job responsibilities, but there are fewer employees that perform more specialized services like engineering, urban design, and landscape design. (FIGURE 03)

## Overview \& respondent profile

FIGURE 04: Nearly three-quarters of employees at small firms perform project management work
Percent of full-time incumbents for whom salary data were reported and for whom a given job aspect is part of their job responsibilities


* (e.g., proposal writing)
** (e.g., awards programs, social media, outreach)

A significant share of employees is also likely to perform tasks related to project management, contract document quality control, marketing and business development, and firm management. While more than one-third have hiring power, only $43 \%$ of employees supervise other staff members. (FIGURE 04)

## Small firm employee benefits

Like larger firms, small architecture firms tend to offer their employees a wide variety of benefits and perks, primarily those that focus more on employee retention and quality of life enhancement. The largest share of small firms offers their employees assistance with AIA membership dues in addition to other professional membership dues and certification fees and professional development tools like meetings, seminars, and workshops. Benefits to enhance employee quality of life like flex time, a casual dress code, and a pet-friendly office are offered by one-third or more of small firms. (FIGURE 05)

Medical and dental benefits for both employees and dependents generally are offered by fewer small architecture firms compared to larger firms. Less than half of the firms who responded to the

Small Firm Compensation Survey reported that they offered medical coverage for employees in 2016, in contrast to $100 \%$ of firms with 50 or more employees that responded to the standard 2017 Compensation Survey. However, the small firms who responded to the Small Firm Compensation Survey indicating they offered employee medical coverage in 2016 were much more likely to pay for that coverage in full than the firms who responded to the standard 2017 Compensation Survey. Although this number was highest at firms with just one or two employees, more than half of small firms with five or more employees also paid for employee medical coverage in full, in contrast to $45 \%$ of firms with fewer than 10 employees from the standard 2017 Compensation Survey. (FIGURE 06)

## Small firm employee benefits

FIGURE 05: Professional development \& quality of life enhancement benefits are among the employee perks most offered by small firms
Percent of firms offering benefit (regardless of amount paid by firm) to qualifying full-time employees in 2016, by firm size

|  | All small firms | One employee* | Two employees | Three to four employee | Five or more employees |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AIA membership dues | 81\% | 88\% | 75\% | 69\% | 79\% |
| Meetings, seminars, workshops | 75\% | 77\% | 74\% | 72\% | 79\% |
| Casual dress | 70\% | 59\% | 76\% | 80\% | 88\% |
| Licensure fees | 69\% | 78\% | 66\% | 56\% | 64\% |
| Other professional membership dues | 61\% | 71\% | 56\% | 42\% | 60\% |
| Professional certification fees | 53\% | 57\% | 56\% | 43\% | 49\% |
| Medical coverage for employees | 44\% | 28\% | 44\% | 56\% | 84\% |
| Flex-time, parental flexibility | 43\% | 35\% | 44\% | 49\% | 61\% |
| Office-provided cell phone, tablet, and/or laptop | 39\% | 42\% | 40\% | 28\% | 42\% |
| Pet-friendly office | 33\% | 33\% | 33\% | 32\% | 34\% |
| Paid time off for professional exams, professional development | 32\% | 19\% | 34\% | 43\% | 58\% |
| Defined contribution retirement savings plan: 401(k), 401(a), 403(b) | 30\% | 22\% | 26\% | 38\% | 52\% |
| Telecommuting | 27\% | 25\% | 29\% | 26\% | 32\% |
| Medical coverage for dependents | 20\% | 10\% | 22\% | 26\% | 47\% |
| Dental coverage for employees | 19\% | 12\% | 17\% | 22\% | 41\% |
| Paid time off to volunteer | 15\% | 13\% | 15\% | 18\% | 18\% |
| Shorter summer or seasonal hours | 15\% | 16\% | 14\% | 16\% | 14\% |
| Life insurance | 15\% | 14\% | 9\% | 14\% | 32\% |
| Vision care insurance | 14\% | 9\% | 13\% | 18\% | 29\% |
| Paid family leave | 13\% | 6\% | 15\% | 14\% | 29\% |
| ARE exam cost | 13\% | 4\% | 12\% | 19\% | 40\% |
| Long-term disability insurance | 12\% | 8\% | 8\% | 13\% | 29\% |
| ARE study materials, classes | 10\% | 4\% | 11\% | 11\% | 27\% |
| Dental coverage for dependents | 10\% | 4\% | 9\% | 14\% | 28\% |
| Short-term disability insurance | 9\% | 5\% | 7\% | 8\% | 27\% |
| Office retreat | 8\% | 6\% | 7\% | 14\% | 11\% |
| Healthcare flexible spending account (healthcare FSA) | 8\% | 3\% | 10\% | 10\% | 20\% |
| Defined contribution to a profit-sharing plan | 7\% | 4\% | 9\% | 6\% | 16\% |
| Business travel accident insurance | 6\% | 6\% | 4\% | 7\% | 11\% |
| Fitness club discount | 5\% | 5\% | 3\% | 4\% | 7\% |
| Wellness program | 4\% | 4\% | 7\% | 4\% | 5\% |
| College/university tuition | 3\% | 3\% | 3\% | 6\% | 3\% |
| Long-term care insurance | 3\% | 3\% | 1\% | 4\% | 7\% |
| Health reimbursement account | 3\% | 2\% | 2\% | 3\% | 8\% |
| Qualified transportation program | 3\% | 1\% | 3\% | 5\% | 12\% |
| Dependent care account | 2\% | 0\% | 1\% | 3\% | 9\% |
| Defined benefit (pension) plan | 2\% | 3\% | 2\% | 3\% | 1\% |
| Employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) | 2\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 3\% |
| Other flexible spending accounts (FSAs) | 1\% | 0\% | 1\% | 1\% | 4\% |

*In all data tables by firm size, the number of employees is the total number of employees, including owners, at the responding location of the firm.

## Small firm employee benefits

FIGURE 06: Firms responding to the Small Firm Compensation Survey were more likely than firms responding to the standard survey to pay for employee medical coverage in full Percent of firms by amount of medical coverage for employee offered in 2016, of firms that offered benefit, by firm size

|  | All firms (from the standard survey) | All small firms | One employee | Two employees | Three to four employee | Five or more employees |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Offered, contributed 100\% | 38\% | 69\% | 94\% | 78\% | 47\% | 54\% |
| Offered, contributed 75\%-99\% | 34\% | 8\% | 0\% | 0\% | 22\% | 10\% |
| Offered, contributed 50\% -74\% | 21\% | 13\% | 1\% | 4\% | 18\% | 27\% |
| Offered, contributed 0\%-49\% | 7\% | 11\% | 4\% | 18\% | 13\% | 10\% |

FIGURE 07: Benefits average $13 \%$ of salary for professional staff at small firms
Estimated value of all automatic \& defined fringe benefits (note that benefits included will vary by firm) offered to given employee types in 2016, as a percentage of annual base pay, by firm size

|  | All small firms | One employee | Two employees | Three to four employee | Five or more employees |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Professional staff | 13\% | 13\% | 13\% | 14\% | 16\% |
| Technical, nontechnical, \& administrative staff | 11\% | 0\% | 10\% | 12\% | 15\% |
| Part-time \& hourly staff | 5\% | 0\% | 10\% | 5\% | 6\% |

The overall value of employee fringe benefits as a share of base pay is modestly lower at the firms who responded to the Small Firm Compensation Survey compared to firms who responded to the standard 2017 Compensation Survey. However, benefits are still worth an average of $13 \%$ of the annual base pay of full-time professional employees (compared to 16\% for firms with fewer
than 10 employees and who responded to the standard 2017 Compensation Survey). Although part-time and hourly employees at small firms generally receive benefits with less value than full-time employees, there is not much difference between the value for professional staff versus technical, nontechnical, and administrative staff. (FIGURE 07)

## Small firm employee benefits

FIGURE 08: Small firms offer an average of 15 paid days off
Average number of paid days off provided to qualifying full-time employees in 2016, by firm size

|  | All small firms | One employee | Two employees | Three to four employee | Five or more employees |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Paid time off (PTO)* | 8 | 6 | 9 | 11 | 11 |
| Paid holidays** | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| Paid vacation days** | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Paid sick days** | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Other paid time off (e.g., jury duty, bereavement)** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 15 | 9 | 16 | 22 | 24 |

* PTO may include a combination of time off including vacation, sick days, and/or holidays
** If not covered by PTO

Comparable to firms that responded to the standard 2017 Compensation Survey, smaller firms tend to lump the majority of paid days off for employees into a general paid time off bucket instead of splitting days into specifically designated buckets (e.g., vacation days, sick days). Small firms with more employees tend to offer more time off in general, particularly more paid holidays. (FIGURE 08)

## Compensation tables

For the Small Firm Compensation Survey, where pre-defined positions were not established, the following architecture firm positions were defined after all survey data were submitted, based on a review of data patterns:

- A solo architect is a licensed architect working alone, the sole proprietor or owner of the firm.
- A principal is a licensed architect with an ownership interest in a firm with a staff of more than one.
- A staff architect is a licensed architect who is an employee or long-term contractor (i.e., not an owner).
- An emerging architectural professional is an emerging professional on the path to licensure.
- A designer is a design professional eligible for, but not pursuing, licensure.
- Support staff are individuals not eligible for or pursuing licensure.

Salaries were reported in different formats depending on whether the individual was a sole proprietor:

- Salaries for firm owners who were sole proprietors were conveyed as the firm's 2015 net profit, as reported on Line \#31 of IRS Schedule C.
- Salaries for firm owners other than sole proprietors were reported as the full-time annual base pay for the position as of January l, 2017.
- Salaries for nonowner employees were reported as the full-time annual base pay for the position as of January 1, 2017.
- Additional cash compensation (including overtime, commissions, bonuses, incentive pay, share of profits, retirement benefits paid, and any other cash compensation) awarded for the position in the 12 months preceding January l, 2017, was also reported. (The value of employee benefits is not included in the compensation tables, but more information on this subject may be found in the chapter on benefits.)

A blank space in a table indicates insufficient information to report those data. For all compensation tables, the median and upper and lower quartiles include total cash compensation (net profit or base pay plus additional cash compensation). The lower quartile marks where $25 \%$ of the reported values are lower than the figure given and $75 \%$ are higher. The median is the midpoint in the range of values, where $50 \%$ are higher than the figure given and $50 \%$ are lower. The upper quartile marks where $75 \%$ of the reported values are lower than the figure given and $25 \%$ are higher.

## Compensation tables

## ALL SMALL FIRMS

|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect | \$55,870 | \$61,400 | \$7,180 | \$30,000 | \$59,000 | \$89,000 | 234 | 234 |
| Principal | \$89,520 | \$80,570 | \$14,750 | \$65,000 | \$90,000 | \$125,000 | 236 | 294 |
| Staff architect |  | \$73,490 | \$7,970 | \$65,000 | \$77,000 | \$95,000 | 100 | 141 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$50,100 | \$2,150 | \$40,210 | \$49,000 | \$63,800 | 139 | 219 |
| Designer |  | \$57,210 | \$4,020 | \$45,870 | \$60,380 | \$77,300 | 80 | 103 |
| Support staff |  | \$47,150 | \$3,790 | \$33,900 | \$45,400 | \$66,950 | 116 | 193 |

Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.


OTHER FIRM TYPE (E.G., A/E, E/A)

| OTHER FIRM TYPE (E.G., A/E, E/A) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect | \$57,690 | \$49,800 | \$5,120 | \$28,980 | \$50,000 | \$83,080 | 50 | 50 |
| Principal | \$75,040 | \$83,230 | \$15,840 | \$68,950 | \$87,500 | \$125,000 | 45 | 54 |
| Staff architect |  | \$83,610 | \$5,440 | \$64,500 | \$87,310 | \$109,770 | 24 | 30 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$52,800 | \$2,560 | \$42,400 | \$46,500 | \$66,410 | 18 | 31 |
| Designer |  | \$59,210 | \$6,480 | \$57,250 | \$61,350 | \$80,840 | 22 | 28 |
| Support staff |  | \$52,880 | \$5,930 | \$37,130 | \$52,880 | \$76,750 | 22 | 50 |

Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.

## Compensation tables

FIRM LEGAL STRUCTURE

| SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of 1/1/2017 (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
| Solo architect | \$54,510 |  | \$3,390 | \$26,870 | \$50,810 | \$85,000 | 100 | 100 |
| Principal | \$81,850 |  | \$6,730 | \$50,000 | \$95,000 | \$125,000 | 41 | 51 |
| Staff architect |  | \$73,870 | \$4,450 | \$60,050 | \$72,500 | \$97,250 | 21 | 24 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$51,430 | \$1,330 | \$42,610 | \$49,310 | \$59,630 | 31 | 48 |
| Designer |  | \$55,710 | \$3,590 | \$44,350 | \$60,000 | \$75,000 | 17 | 27 |
| Support staff |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| OTHER FIRM LEGAL STRUCTURE (E.G., LLC, PARTNERSHIP) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect | \$57,460 | \$62,530 | \$10,000 | \$35,000 | \$65,000 | \$95,210 | 134 | 134 |
| Principal | \$94,250 | \$79,190 | \$16,430 | \$65,000 | \$90,000 | \$125,000 | 195 | 243 |
| Staff architect |  | \$73,420 | \$8,690 | \$66,500 | \$77,500 | \$92,500 | 79 | 117 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$49,730 | \$2,380 | \$39,000 | \$49,000 | \$64,000 | 108 | 171 |
| Designer |  | \$57,740 | \$4,170 | \$46,350 | \$60,490 | \$77,830 | 63 | 76 |
| Support staff |  | \$47,250 | \$4,070 | \$35,000 | \$46,000 | \$68,500 | 100 | 165 |

[^0]
## Compensation tables



TWO EMPLOYEES


Solo architect
Principal \$83,200

Staff architect
Emerging architectural professional
Designer
Support staff

| Annual base pay <br> as of $\mathbf{1 / 1 / 2 0 1 7}$ <br> (mean) | 2016 <br> Additional <br> cash (mean) | total CASH COMPENSATION <br> Luwer <br> quartile | Median | Upper <br> quartile |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 71,070$ | $\$ 11,850$ | $\$ 58,000$ | $\$ 79,000$ | $\$ 100,000$ |
| $\$ 57,950$ | $\$ 14,900$ | $\$ 58,000$ | $\$ 80,000$ | $\$ 90,000$ |
| $\$ 47,700$ | $\$ 1,920$ | $\$ 35,970$ | $\$ 48,450$ | $\$ 55,000$ |
| $\$ 54,760$ | $\$ 8,630$ | $\$ 42,150$ | $\$ 64,500$ | $\$ 80,480$ |
| $\$ 43,500$ | $\$ 4,770$ | $\$ 19,250$ | $\$ 38,720$ | $\$ 80,000$ |


| Number <br> of firms | Number of <br> incumbents |
| ---: | ---: |
| 96 | 115 |
| 12 | 15 |
| 25 | 25 |
| 18 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 |

## THREE TO FOUR EMPLOYEES



Solo architect
Principal
Emerging architectural professional
Designer
Support staff

| Annual base pay <br> as of $\mathbf{1} / \mathbf{1 / 2 0 1 7}$ <br> (mean) |
| ---: |
| $\$ 67,940$ |
| $\$ 75,370$ |
| $\$ 49,310$ |
| $\$ 55,940$ |
| $\$ 43,900$ |


| 2016 <br> Additional <br> cash (mean) | Lower <br> quartile | Median | Upper <br> quartile |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| $\$ 17,460$ | $\$ 58,560$ | $\$ 80,000$ | $\$ 122,750$ |
| $\$ 10,020$ | $\$ 63,000$ | $\$ 75,000$ | $\$ 101,750$ |
| $\$ 2,060$ | $\$ 38,500$ | $\$ 49,500$ | $\$ 62,180$ |
| $\$ 3,000$ | $\$ 41,200$ | $\$ 61,310$ | $\$ 78,000$ |
| $\$ 4,060$ | $\$ 32,250$ | $\$ 45,470$ | $\$ 61,540$ |


| Number <br> of firms | Number of <br> incumbents |
| ---: | ---: |
| 80 | 93 |
| 33 | 41 |
| 52 | 68 |
| 26 | 34 |
| 44 | 58 |

## FIVE OR MORE EMPLOYEES

|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Principal | \$98,400 | \$105,460 | \$15,680 | \$91,000 | \$110,000 | \$143,510 | 60 | 86 |
| Staff architect |  | \$75,350 | \$5,460 | \$68,500 | \$76,500 | \$88,500 | 45 | 75 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$53,150 | \$2,020 | \$43,000 | \$50,000 | \$67,500 | 50 | 113 |
| Designer |  | \$60,990 | \$3,720 | \$50,250 | \$60,490 | \$79,700 | 26 | 40 |
| Support staff |  | \$50,910 | \$3,720 | \$37,040 | \$50,000 | \$68,500 | 43 | 105 |

Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.

## Compensation tables

## 2016 FIRM REVENUE

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | 20 |
| Solo architect | $\$$ |
| Principal | $\$ 5$ |
| Staff architect |  |
| Emerging architectural professional |  |
| Designer |  |
| Support staff |  |


|  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
|  | 2015 Net <br> profit <br> (mean) |
| Solo architect | $\$ 77,790$ |
| Principal | $\$ 73,870$ |
| Staff architect |  |
| Emerging architectural professional |  |
| Designer |  |
| Support staff |  |


|  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
|  | 2015 |
|  | (m |
| Solo architect | $\$ 80$ |
| Principal | $\$ 92$ |
| Staff architect |  |
| Emerging architectural professional |  |
| Designer |  |
| Support staff |  |


| \$500,000 OR MORE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Principal | \$124,200 | \$108,100 | \$19,320 | \$100,000 | \$121,310 | \$158,000 | 63 | 93 |
| Staff architect |  | \$78,910 | \$7,600 | \$70,440 | \$80,000 | \$102,750 | 53 | 86 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$54,330 | \$2,410 | \$44,470 | \$55,250 | \$69,000 | 60 | 122 |
| Designer |  | \$61,560 | \$4,630 | \$51,880 | \$68,750 | \$80,510 | 33 | 50 |
| Support staff |  | \$51,350 | \$3,800 | \$36,750 | \$49,310 | \$72,000 | 58 | 125 |

Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.

## Compensation tables

## FIRM LOCATION



|  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
|  | 2015 Net <br> profit <br> (mean) |
| Solo architect | $\$ 52,420$ |
| Principal | $\$ 71,820$ |
| Staff architect |  |
| Emerging architectural professional |  |
| Designer |  |
| Support staff |  |


|  | 2015 Net <br> profit | Annual base pay <br> as of $\mathbf{1 / 1 / 2 0 1 7}$ <br> (mean) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Solo architect | $\$ 67,770$ | $\$ 47,160$ |
| Principal | $\$ 94,260$ | $\$ 80,560$ |
| Staff architect |  | $\$ 72,750$ |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | $\$ 49,030$ |
| Designer |  | $\$ 48,740$ |
| Support staff |  | $\$ 47,600$ |

SOUTH

| 2016 <br> Additional <br> cash (mean) | Lotal CASH COMPENSATION <br> quartile | Median | Upper <br> quartile |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 6,490$ | $\$ 38,170$ | $\$ 59,200$ | $\$ 88,750$ |
| $\$ 15,650$ | $\$ 64,320$ | $\$ 83,000$ | $\$ 130,000$ |
| $\$ 6,110$ | $\$ 62,000$ | $\$ 75,000$ | $\$ 85,000$ |
| $\$ 1,730$ | $\$ 37,750$ | $\$ 49,000$ | $\$ 64,100$ |
| $\$ 6,730$ | $\$ 44,350$ | $\$ 52,000$ | $\$ 69,500$ |
| $\$ 3,760$ | $\$ 31,000$ | $\$ 44,000$ | $\$ 66,500$ |


| Number <br> of firms | Number of <br> incumbents |
| ---: | ---: |
| 60 | 60 |
| 72 | 92 |
| 29 | 43 |
| 33 | 49 |
| 20 | 27 |
| 34 | 65 |

WEST

| $\mathbf{2 0 1 5}$ Net <br> profit <br> (mean) | Annual base pay <br> as of $\mathbf{1 / \mathbf { 1 } / 2 0 1 7}$ <br> (mean) |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 51,100$ | $\$ 59,930$ |
| $\$ 90,250$ | $\$ 86,760$ |
|  | $\$ 74,010$ |
| $\$ 53,830$ |  |
|  | $\$ 61,010$ |
|  | $\$ 49,360$ |


| 2016 <br> Additional <br> cash (mean) | $\|c\|$ <br> Lower <br> quartile | Median | Upper <br> quartile |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 6,360$ | $\$ 25,500$ | $\$ 51,260$ | $\$ 89,000$ |
| $\$ 13,550$ | $\$ 67,700$ | $\$ 97,640$ | $\$ 126,500$ |
| $\$ 5,440$ | $\$ 61,760$ | $\$ 71,030$ | $\$ 92,500$ |
| $\$ 1,970$ | $\$ 43,000$ | $\$ 55,250$ | $\$ 65,000$ |
| $\$ 3,190$ | $\$ 46,000$ | $\$ 68,500$ | $\$ 80,000$ |
| $\$ 3,990$ | $\$ 29,500$ | $\$ 46,450$ | $\$ 69,750$ |


| Number <br> of firms | Number of <br> incumbents |
| ---: | ---: |
| 73 | 73 |
| 63 | 76 |
| 30 | 37 |
| 44 | 74 |
| 31 | 39 |
| 36 | 54 |

Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.

## Compensation tables

## INCUMBENT YEARS OF FULL-TIME ARCHITECTURE EXPERIENCE

LESS THAN 5 YEARS

|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Principal |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Staff architect |  | \$56,800 | \$2,000 | \$47,880 | \$61,150 | \$66,000 | 6 | 6 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  | \$43,650 | \$1,560 | \$37,880 | \$43,230 | \$51,000 | 81 | 106 |
| Designer |  | \$45,420 | \$1,970 | \$37,880 | \$43,000 | \$56,060 | 18 | 22 |
| Support staff |  | \$39,790 | \$2,390 | \$24,940 | \$37,000 | \$48,850 | 28 | 41 |


Solo architect \$57,340

| Annual base pay <br> as of $\mathbf{1 / 1 / 2 0 1 7}$ <br> (mean) | 2016 <br> Additional <br> cash (mean) | Lotal CASH COMPENSATION <br> quartile | Median | Upper <br> quartile |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\$ 5,500$ | $\$ 27,500$ | $\$ 58,000$ | $\$ 84,010$ |
| $\$ 65,680$ | $\$ 3,490$ | $\$ 58,480$ | $\$ 65,500$ | $\$ 71,240$ |
| $\$ 53,570$ | $\$ 3,120$ | $\$ 43,250$ | $\$ 53,920$ | $\$ 70,900$ |
| $\$ 52,360$ | $\$ 3,100$ | $\$ 43,450$ | $\$ 51,500$ | $\$ 64,500$ |
| $\$ 51,050$ | $\$ 3,710$ | $\$ 40,000$ | $\$ 50,000$ | $\$ 71,000$ |


| Number <br> of firms | Number of <br> incumbents |
| ---: | ---: |
| 6 | 6 |
| 19 | 20 |
| 55 | 63 |
| 13 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 |

10-19 YEARS

|  | 2015 Net <br> profit |
| :--- | ---: |
| (mean) |  |$|$| $\$ 55,660$ |
| :--- |
| Solo architect |
| Principal |
| Staff architect |
| Emerging architectural professional |
| Designer |
| Support staff |


|  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
|  | 2015 Net <br> profit <br> (mean) |
| Solo architect | $\$ 54,430$ |
| Principal | $\$ 90,410$ |
| Staff architect |  |
| Emerging architectural professional |  |
| Designer |  |
| Support staff |  |


| Annual base pay as of $1 / 1 / 2017$ (mean) | $\begin{array}{r} 2016 \\ \text { Additional } \\ \text { cash (mean) } \end{array}$ | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |
| \$69,420 | \$6,690 | \$30,000 | \$52,050 | \$93,330 |
| \$76,670 | \$14,560 | \$64,770 | \$88,000 | \$120,000 |
| \$83,970 | \$12,540 | \$73,500 | \$90,000 | \$115,000 |
| \$60,520 | \$2,440 | \$49,750 | \$61,100 | \$79,100 |
| \$49,110 | \$8,170 | \$38,500 | \$57,000 | \$79,000 |


| Number <br> of firms | Number of <br> incumbents |
| ---: | ---: |
| 67 | 67 |
| 91 | 105 |
| 37 | 41 |
| 18 |  |
| 20 | 18 |

## Compensation tables

## INCUMBENT YEARS OF FULL-TIME ARCHITECTURE EXPERIENCE

| 30 OR MORE YEARS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2015 Net profit (mean) | Annual base pay as of $\mathbf{1 / 1 / 2 0 1 7}$ (mean) | 2016 <br> Additional cash (mean) | TOTAL CASH COMPENSATION |  |  | Number of firms | Number of incumbents |
|  |  |  |  | Lower quartile | Median | Upper quartile |  |  |
| Solo architect | \$56,760 | \$66,410 | \$7,230 | \$30,000 | \$60,000 | \$94,820 | 111 | 111 |
| Principal | \$89,260 | \$85,010 | \$17,620 | \$67,300 | \$95,000 | \$129,680 | 115 | 133 |
| Staff architect |  | \$69,240 | \$11,160 | \$72,130 | \$82,500 | \$91,250 | 19 | 26 |
| Emerging architectural professional |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Designer |  | \$63,210 | \$9,160 | \$60,600 | \$67,600 | \$98,400 | 7 | 7 |
| Support staff |  | \$47,010 | \$3,340 | \$33,000 | \$46,600 | \$72,000 | 11 | 11 |

Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.

# Appendix 1 Methodology 

## Sample composition

Invitations to the AIA 2017 Compensation Survey were extended to 9,496 uniquely addressable emailable architecture establishments (i.e., single locations of what might be multiple-location firms), developed from three lists supplied by AIA: Its HR Large Firm Roundtable participants, its "firm leaders," and its respondents to the 2015 Compensation Survey. In addition, open invitations to complete the survey were published and broadcast by AIA and its component organizations through different channels.

For the first time, the 2017 invitation list also included a substantial number of email addresses believed to lead to small firms firms who have not historically qualified for the AIA's standard Compensation Survey. A small firm version of the survey was created as an option for those respondents, and this report is based on those responses.

## Data collection

Survey instrument content was developed collaboratively by AIA and Readex Research, working from the instrument used in 2015. Development of the survey website, data collection, data processing, and tabulation were handled by Readex Research.

Prior to survey fielding, Readex contacted the list of 135 emailable AIA component leaders to
alert them to the upcoming survey and to ask them to spread the word locally. After AIA emailed the invitation list on March 15, 2017, Readex broadcasted initial email requests (in the name of AIA's president) to all sample members on March 16, inviting them to participate in the survey by visiting the access-controlled website hosted by Readex Research. 230 of the email addresses (or $2 \%$ of the total) bounced back as undeliverable.

On March 22, reminder emails were sent by Readex to the sample members who had not yet submitted one or the other version of the survey. Three additional reminders to nonrespondents were deployed on March 28, April 3, and April 13. Throughout the fielding, leaders of AIA's various component organizations (metro and state chapters) also assisted in prompting local members to participate.

The survey was closed for processing and tabulation on April 19, 2017. A total of 621 unique firms qualified for the small firm version of the survey, based on the following criteria:

- only one office, in the US
- organized as a sole proprietorship (with or without staff)
- or chartered in some other way but having only one or two architecture employees
- at least one full-time architecture employee


## Appendix 1: Methodology

FIGURE A.1: Distribution of firms responding to the Small Firm Compensation Survey, by size

|  |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| One employee | \% of firms |
| Two employees | $46 \%$ |
| Three to four employees | $21 \%$ |
| Five or more employees | $19 \%$ |

FIGURE A.2: Distribution of full-time incumbents for whom salary data were reported in the Small Firm Compensation Survey, by position

|  |  |
| :--- | ---: |
|  | \% of firms |
| Solo architect | $20 \%$ |
| Principal | $25 \%$ |
| Staff architect | $12 \%$ |
| Emerging architectural professional | $18 \%$ |
| Designer | $9 \%$ |
| Support staff | $16 \%$ |

These 621 firms reported on 1,303 full-time staffers (owner/partners, employees, and/or long-term contractors).

Survey data were edited and cleaned by Readex. Compensation data were screened for outliers and trimmed by position (top and bottom $2 \%$ of distribution) to enhance reliability.

Small firm results are broken out by firm characteristics - firm type, legal structure,
number of employees, revenues, and location (Census regions)-and by characteristics of the staff member-ownership status, licensure, experience, professional services provided, and other aspects of their work.

To preserve participant confidentiality and enhance reliability, no statistics are shown in cases where fewer than five firms reported.

# Appendix 2 Survey questionnaire 

## Appendix 2: Survey

## Contact Info

k1. This firm meets these criteria:

- it has only one office, and it is in the U.S.
- it is organized as a "sole proprietorship" (with or without staff)

OR it is chartered in some way other than sole proprietorship, but has only 1 or 2 architecture employees

- it has at least 1 full-time architecture employee
"Architecture employees" includes principals/partners or other major owners of the firm, licensed architects, nonregistered graduates, and architecture associates (formerly referred to as interns) and/or students. It does not include engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, planners, or other non-architecture staff.
Count full- and part-time employees (on the payroll); do not count contractors.
O yes, this firm meets these criteria
O no
This survey only applies to firms meeting this criteria. After selecting no, click save below to return to the Navigate page, then click close there to return to the Select Survey page, where you may choose to complete the other version of the survey (if appropriate).
k2. Can you personally provide information about staffing and compensation for your firm?
O yes
O no
If yes:
Please complete Q3 below, check the box at the bottom of the page to mark this survey section as ready to submit, then click save to return to the Navigate page, where you can answer the other survey sections.

If no:
Please select no and click save, then either share your User Name and Password with the person(s) who can answer for your firm, or contact us to let us know who can, and we'll invite them.
k3. Who should we contact if we have questions about your firm's survey?
firm name:
your name: $\qquad$
full phone number:
email address: $\qquad$
AIA member \#:
(if a member)

## Appendix 2: Survey

## About Your Firm

Please answer these questions as of January 1, 2017.

1. Which designation(s) best describe your firm?
please select all that apply
$\square$ architecture only
$\square$ architecture with engineering
$\square$ architecture with interior design
$\square$ architecture with other design disciplines
$\square$ engineering with architecture
$\square$ other:
2. What is your firm's legal structure?
please select the one best option
O sole proprietorship

- partnership

O LLC, corporation or other business type
k3. Where is your firm located?
city: $\qquad$
ZIP: $\qquad$
state: $\quad$ (selectone)
k4. Including yourself (if applicable), how many full-time employees did your firm have on its payroll in each of these categories as of January 1, 2017? How many part-time employees? How many long-term contractors, full- or part-time?

Please fill in a whole number for each (headcount); if none, enter 0 . Record each staff person in only one cell.

| Architecture staff: |
| :--- |
| frincipals/partners or other major owners of the firm <br> licensed architects (other than principals/partners) <br> nonregistered graduates <br> architecture associates (formerly referred to as interns) <br> and/or students |
| Other staff: <br> other professional design staff <br> (engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, planners, etc.) <br> all others |

TOTAL LONG-TERM STAFF: \#_000_
k5. Approximately what was your firm's total revenue in 2016?
○ less than \$100,000
○ \$100,000-\$249,999
○ \$250,000 - \$499,999
○ \$500,000 - \$999,999
○ \$1.00-\$2.49 million

- $\$ 2.50-\$ 4.99$ million

○ \$5.00-\$9.99 million
○ \$10.00-\$14.99 million

- $\$ 15.00$ million or more


## Appendix 2: Survey

## Compensation: 0000 Full-Time Staffers

Please answer these questions as of January 1, 2017.

1. Your internal code / title / reference for this position (for your use only):
k2. What is this person's architectural licensure status?
O licensed architect
O emerging professional on the path to licensure
O design professional eligible for, but not pursuing, licensure
O not eligible for or pursuing licensure
k3. Approximately how many years of full-time architecture experience does this person have?
\# $\qquad$ ㅁ not applicable
${ }^{*} 4 \mathrm{a}$. Which of these professional services are part of this person's job responsibilities (if any)? please select all that apply

- architectural design
$\square$ interior design
- engineering (e.g., structural, mechanical, civil)

ㅁ landscape design
$\square$ urban design
$\square$ contract document production
$\square$ specification writing
ㅁ none of these
k4b. Which of these other aspects are part of this person's job responsibilities (if any)? please select all that apply
$\square$ quality control (for contract documents)

- project management
- firm management, strategy, vision
$\square$ staff supervision
- accounting, receivables, payables

ㅁ hiring staff
$\square$ marketing and business development (e.g., proposal writing)
$\square$ promotion (e.g., awards programs, social media, outreach)
$\square$ graphic design

- human resources administration
- IT support
- office management
- secretarial
- none of these


## Appendix 2: Survey

k5. What is this person's employment status?
O owner: sole proprietor (IRS Schedule C or C-EZ filer)
O owner/partner (not a sole proprietor)
O employee (W2)
O long-term contractor (1099)
${ }^{k} 6 a$. If this person is the sole proprietor of the firm, what was the firm's 2015 net profit (as reported on Line \#31 of IRS Schedule C)?
$\qquad$ net profit
k6b. If not the sole proprietor, what was the full-time annual base pay for this position as of January 1, 2017?
If necessary, express pay rates (hourly wage, contractor day rate, etc.) as a full-time annual amount. If base pay is not a part of position's compensation, enter 0.
\$ $\qquad$ per year
k7. How much additional cash compensation (if any) was this position awarded in the 12 months preceding January 1, 2017?

Include overtime (discretionary and/or mandated by law), commissions, bonuses, incentive pay, share of profits, retirement benefits paid, and any other cash compensation. Exclude base pay, deferred compensation, and the monetary value of employee benefits. If nothing, enter 0 .
\$ $\qquad$ additional cash compensation (beyond Q6a/Q6b)
8. Which of these are components of this position's compensation? please select all that apply
$\square$ salary
ㅁ hourly wage
$\square$ long-term contracting rate (hourly, weekly, monthly)
$\square$ variable pay (commissions, incentives, bonuses)
$\square$ share of profits
$\square$ none of these

## Appendix 2: Survey

## Benefits

Please answer these questions as of January 1, 2017.

1. On average, how many paid days off per year did your firm provide to its qualifying full-time employees in 2016? enter an approximate average for each; if none, enter 0
\# $\qquad$
\# $\qquad$
\# $\qquad$
\# $\qquad$
$\qquad$
\#_000_ TOTAL paid days off per year
2. Which of these benefits (if any) were offered to qualifying full-time employees in $\mathbf{2 0 1 6}$ by your firm? please select all that apply
$\square$ paid family leave (e.g., maternity leave)
$\square$ wellness program with incentives for participation
$\square$ fitness club discount
$\square$ flex-time, parental flexibility
$\square$ telecommuting

- office-provided cell phone, tablet, and/or laptop
$\square$ paid time off for professional exams, professional development
$\square$ paid time off to volunteer
$\square$ shorter summer or seasonal hours
$\square$ office retreat
- casual dress
$\square$ pet-friendly office
$\square$ none of these

3. In which of these ways (if any) did your firm contribute to the professional development of qualifying full-time employees in 2016? please select one response for each
firm paid
in full
$\bigcirc$
$\bigcirc$
$O$
$O$
$O$
$O$
$O$
$O$
firm paid
in part
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
firm paid
nothing

- 
- other professional membership dues
- licensure fees
- professional certification fees
- ARE exam cost
- ARE study materials, classes
- meetings, seminars, workshops for professional development
- college/university tuition


## Appendix 2: Survey

4. Did your firm offer medical coverage for qualifying full-time employees in 2016 and, if so, approximately what share of the total premium did the firm contribute? What about medical coverage for their dependents?
please select one response in each column

| for <br> employees | for <br> dependents |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 0 | $\bigcirc$ | did not offer |
| 0 | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed $0 \%$ of total premium |
| 0 | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed $1-24 \%$ |
| 0 | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed $25-49 \%$ |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed $50-74 \%$ |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed $75-99 \%$ |
| 0 | $O$ | offered, contributed $100 \%$ |

a. Was the medical coverage (if offered) considered a high-deductible plan?
O yes
O no
O did not offer medical coverage
5. Did your firm offer dental coverage for qualifying full-time employees in 2016 and, if so, approximately what share of the total premium did the firm contribute? What about dental coverage for their dependents?
please select one response in each column

| for employees | for dependents |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | did not offer |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed 0\% of total premium |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed 1-24\% |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed 25-49\% |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed 50-74\% |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed 75-99\% |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | offered, contributed 100\% |

6. What insurances (if any) did your firm offer qualifying full-time employees in 2016 and, if offered, how much of the premium did the firm pay? please select one response for each

| firm offered, paid in full | firm offered, paid in part | firm offered, paid nothing | firm did not offer |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | vision care insurance |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | life insurance |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | long-term disability insurance |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | short-term disability insurance |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | business travel accident insurance |
| $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\bigcirc$ | long-term care insurance |

## Appendix 2: Survey

7. Which of these accounts (if any) did your firm offer to qualifying full-time employees in 2016 and, if offered, did the firm contribute? please select one response for each

| firm <br> offered, <br> contributed | firm <br> offered, <br> did not <br> contribute | not <br> offered |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | $O$ | healthcare flexible spending account (healthcare FSA) |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | health reimbursement account |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | dependent care account |
| 0 | $O$ | 0 | qualified transportation program (e.g., transit, bikeshare pass) |
| 0 | $O$ | 0 | other flexible spending accounts (FSAs) |

8. Which of these plans (if any) did your firm offer to qualifying full-time employees in 2016 and, if offered, did the firm contribute? please select one response for each

| firm <br> offered, <br> contributed | firm <br> offered, <br> did not <br> contribute | not <br> offered |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | defined contribution retirement savings plan: 401(k), 401(a), 403(b) |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | defined contribution profit sharing plan |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | defined benefit (pension) plan |
| 0 | $O$ | 0 | employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) |

9. For each group listed, approximately what was the value of all fringe benefits offered in 2016 to qualifying employees?

Please compute as a percentage of annual base pay. Include all benefits covered in questions above. Include all items that are automatic and defined; exclude items that depend on financial performance, such as profit sharing and discretionary year-end bonuses.

If no qualifying staff in a category, select the NA box.

| benefits <br> value | NA |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\%$ | $\square$ | professional staff <br> (architects, engineers, and other design professionals) |
| $\ldots$ | $\square$ | technical, nontechnical, and administrative staff |
| $\%$ | $\square$ | part-time and hourly staff |
| $\%$ | $\square$ | other: |

The American
Institute
of Architects

1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006
aia.org


[^0]:    Note: Only sole proprietors were asked to report net profit; all others were asked to report annual base pay.

