



2025 OSA Overview

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AGENDA

- Overview of the Office of the State Auditor
- Role of the Minnesota State Auditor
- National Salary Comparisons



OSA OVERVIEW



Fiscal Oversight

- \$40 billion in local government activity
- \$20 billion in federal funds spent at the state level



OSA OVERVIEW



Examinations

- Audits
- Legal Compliance
- Investigations



Support

- Training
- Accounting Tools
- One on One



Analysis

- Collect Data
- Reports
- Comparison Tools



OSA OVERVIEW

Audit Division

Our largest division and primary source of local government examinations

- 70 financial and compliance audits annually
- Technical assistance and education
- Funded primarily by audit fees
- Hourly rates unchanged for the last three years



OSA OVERVIEW

State Single Audit

This is our third year of completing the single subject audits of federal funds used by the State of Minnesota

- The annual audit covers about \$20 billion of revenue
- First expansion of OSA audit work in over twenty years
- The audit was previously completed by the OLA



OSA OVERVIEW

Government Information Division

Primary source of financial information on Minnesota local governments

- Compiles financial information of over 3,300 entities
- Certifies over \$500 million in state aids
- Supports local governments on legal reporting requirements



OSA OVERVIEW

Legal / Special Investigations Division

Investigates allegations of theft or misuse of public funds

- When appropriate, coordinates with law enforcement
- Findings of certain types of wrongdoing are reported to prosecutors
- Reports are posted to educate the public and local government officials



OSA OVERVIEW

Tax Increment Finance Division

Oversees expenditures of approximately 1,670 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts

- 92% of cities with over 1000 residents have used TIF
- Educates TIF authorities to comply with the law
- Identifies issues with TIF authorities to correct problems
- Funded by 0.36% of the tax increment



OSA OVERVIEW

Pension Division

Supports about 520 local public pension plans

- Most are fire relief associations, also includes St. Paul Teachers' Retirement Fund Association and the University of Minnesota Supplemental Benefits Plan
- First call for help for trustees on these pension plan boards
- Responds to thousands of questions each year



OSA OVERVIEW

Operations Division

Supports the day-to-day operations of the entire office

- Primary work includes technology, office management, and budgeting
- Calculates fiscal notes for the legislature
- Coordinates OSA infrastructure shared with the State of Minnesota



OSA OVERVIEW

Budget

85% of our funding supports staffing

- Most of our budget is funded by fees and other sources
- Our fees are based on the actual costs and approved each year by Minnesota Management & Budget
- Last sessions funding closed the gap since 2000 by 13%
- Our budget is less than 0.05% of the state budget



OSA OVERVIEW

Constitution Division

The Constitution Division is the State Auditor herself and her support staff

- Coordinates legislative activity and policy development
- Communicates with the public
- Supports the State Auditor's work on seven boards



STATE AUDITOR'S ROLE

- Serves as chief executive officer and responsible for meeting constitutional requirements and duties
- Directly connects with the public, elected officials, and stakeholders
- Convenes stakeholders and coordinates action to improve local government oversight
- Serves on boards that oversee more than \$150 billion in state and local funds



STATE AUDITOR'S ROLE

The Auditor serves as a fiduciary of the following boards:

- **Minnesota State Board of Investment** – \$150 billion in assets under management primarily to support public employee pensions
- **Minnesota Housing Finance Agency** – Distributed \$1.96 billion in 2024 to support the housing needs of 73,650 households
- **Minnesota Rural Finance Authority** – \$50 million in bonding authority to support farmers with low interest loans
- **Minnesota Public Employee Retirement Association** – Administers the retirement program of nearly 500,000 public employees



STATE AUDITOR'S ROLE

The Auditor also serves as a member of the following boards:

- **Minnesota Executive Council** – Designates depositories of state funds, acts on emergencies, responds to State of Minnesota legal claims
- **Minnesota Land Exchange Board** – Program to exchange state-owned land for privately-owned land or other publicly-owned land.
- **Minnesota Historical Society** – Budget of \$96 million to preserve Minnesota's history



STATE AUDITOR'S ROLE



Audit and Reporting Group (AaRG)

- Mission to improve local government reporting in light of public finance staff shortages
- Working group of public sector and private sector auditors, legislators, local officials, state officials
- Examining types, timing, thresholds for and basis of accounting requirements



NATIONAL SALARY COMPARISONS



NSAA Salary Benchmarking Tool

Minnesota State Auditor 2024

	Selected Org Data	Percentile of NSAA	NSAA Average
Agency Head Salary	118,249	15%	171,873
Manager Salary	124,894	57%	122,677
Supervisor Salary	110,760	71%	100,851
Upper Level Auditor Salary	94,428	76%	85,104
Middle-Level Auditor Salary	79,019	81%	71,952
Entry Level Salary	65,465	76%	60,379
Cost of Living Index*	95	42%	104



NATIONAL SALARY COMPARISONS



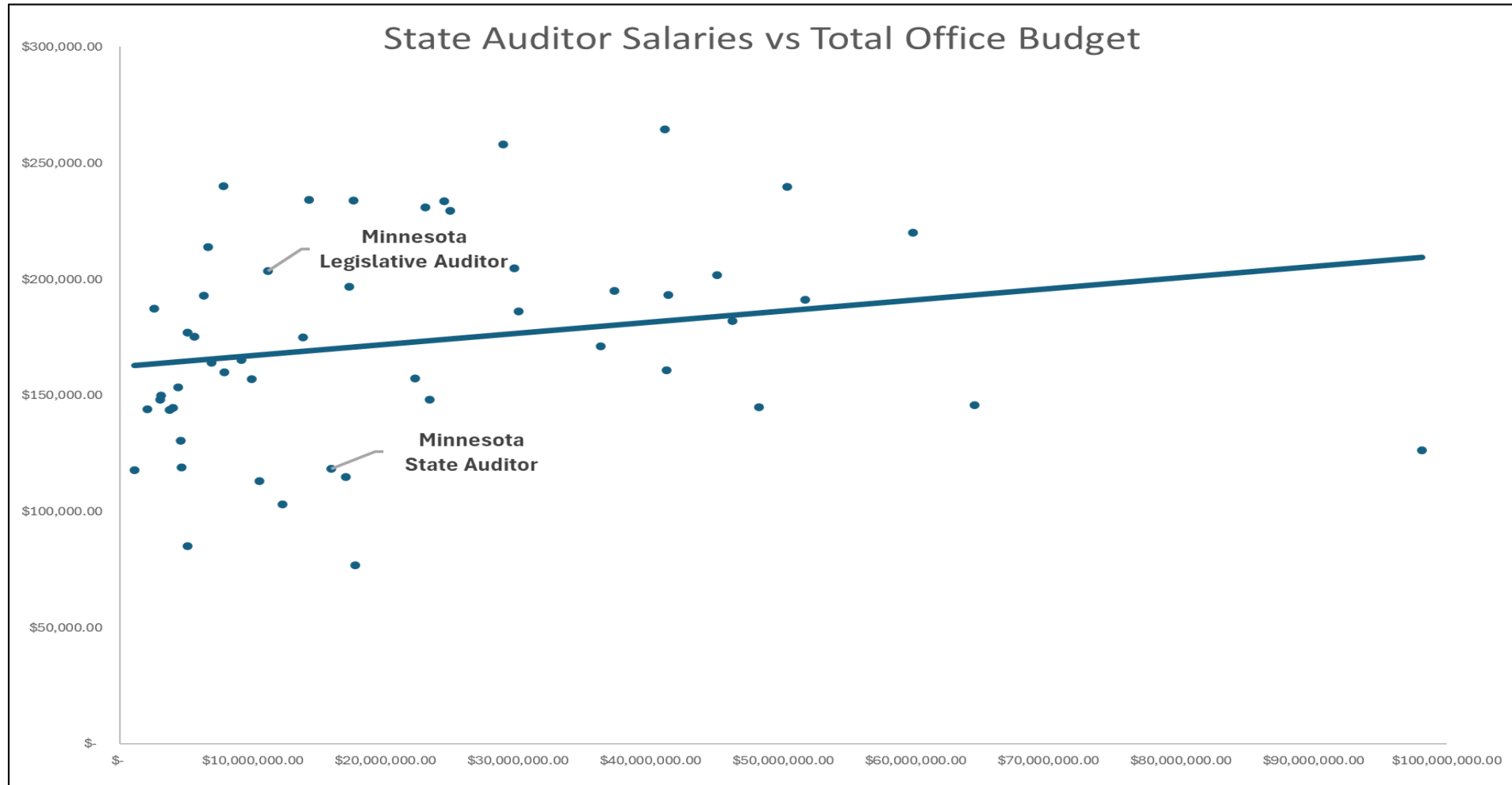
NSAA Salary Benchmarking Tool

Minnesota Legislative Auditor 2024

	Selected Org Data	Percentile of NSAA	NSAA Average
Agency Head Salary	203,559	77%	171,873
Manager Salary	128,854	63%	122,677
Supervisor Salary	117,753	83%	100,851
Upper Level Auditor Salary	96,528	80%	85,104
Middle-Level Auditor Salary	88,365	85%	71,952
Entry Level Salary	72,963	90%	60,379
Cost of Living Index*	95	42%	104



NATIONAL COMPARISONS





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