475 - Office of Public Utility Counsel

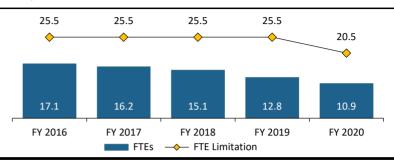
Workforce Summary Document prepared by the State Auditor's Office.

Based on information **self-reported** by the agency, the following items are noteworthy.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Employees

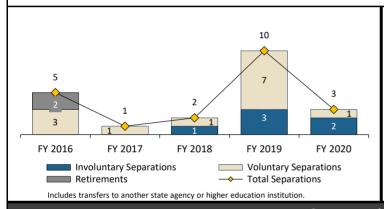
The agency's full-time equivalent (FTE) employee limitation decreased by 19.6 percent to 20.5 FTEs in fiscal year 2020 compared with fiscal year 2019. Compared with fiscal year 2016, the agency had a decrease of 6.2 (36.3 percent) in the total number of FTEs.

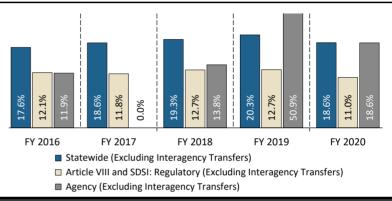
FTEs Below/Above FTE Limitation									
	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020				
FTE Limitation	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	20.5				
Number Below or Above Limitation	-8.4	-9.3	-10.4	-12.7	-9.6				
Percent Above or Below Limitation	-32.9%	-36.5%	-40.8%	-49.8%	-46.8%				



Employee Turnover a

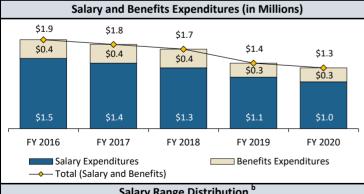
Excluding interagency transfers, the turnover rate within the agency (18.6 percent) was the same as the statewide turnover rate (18.6 percent) and higher than the turnover rate of Article VIII and Self-Directed, Semi-Independent (SDSI) agencies (11.0 percent) during fiscal year 2020. The fiscal year 2020 agency turnover rate including employees who transferred to another state agency or higher education institution was 27.9 percent.





Compensation Information ^a

The average agency salary of \$84,676 in fiscal year 2020 represented an increase of 11.8 percent compared with the average agency salary in fiscal year 2016. In fiscal year 2020, 62.8 percent of employees were paid below the midpoint of the salary range in which they were assigned. Total agency expenditures for salaries and benefits were lower compared with fiscal year 2016.



Salary Salary **Totals**

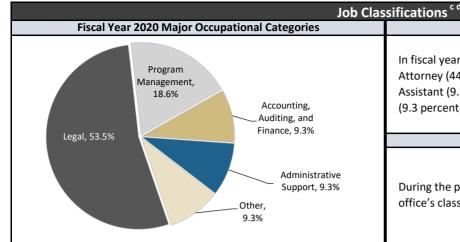
Average Salary Trends										
	F	Y 2016	F	Y 2017	FY 2018		FY 2019		FY 2020	
Public Counsel	\$	131,151	\$	131,151	\$	133,940	\$	133,940	\$	143,630
Agency Average	\$	75,709	\$	76,453	\$	78,138	\$	77,883	\$	84,676
Article Average	\$	58,297	\$	59,285	\$	60,376	\$	61,598	\$	63,503
Statewide Average	\$	45,365	\$	46,475	\$	47,506	\$	47,994	\$	49,500

Note: With the exception of the public counsel, the average salary is for classified regular, full-time employees only. Article salary average includes Article VIII and SDSI agencies.

				Number of and Total Dollars Spent on Salary Actions						
FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018 FY 2	019 FY 2020	Fiscal Year 2019			Fiscal Year 2020			
Salary Ex	penditures	□ Bene	efits Expenditures		Actions	Dollars Spent	Actions	Dollars Spent		
→ Total (Sa	lary and Benefits			Promotions	3	\$ 1,526	0	\$ 0		
Salary Range Distribution b			Merits	0	\$ 0	2	\$ 1,933			
	Employees	Below Midpoint	At or Above Midpoint	One-Time Merits	5	\$ 27,000	0	\$ 0		
y Schedule A	0.00	N/A	N/A	Equity Adjustments	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0		
y Schedule B	10.75	62.8%	37.2%	Reclassifications	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0		
s	10.75	62.8%	37.2%	Totals	8	\$ 28,526	2	\$ 1,933		

^a Turnover and salary trends information was taken from the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts' Uniform Statewide Payroll/Personnel System and Standardized Payroll/Personnel Reporting System. Unless otherwise indicated, the data reported is for classified regular, full-time and part-time employees. Salary and benefit information was taken from the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts' Uniform Statewide Accounting System.

b Includes classified regular, full-time employees only. The total percentage for salary range distribution is not the sum of salary schedules A and B percentages.



Agency Job Classifications

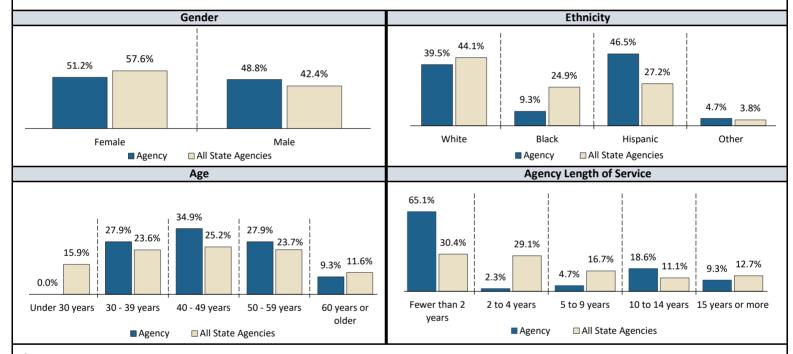
In fiscal year 2020, employees were classified in the following job titles: Attorney (44.2 percent), Government Relations Specialist (9.3 percent), Legal Assistant (9.3 percent), Executive Assistant (9.3 percent), Program Specialist (9.3 percent), Budget Analyst (9.3 percent), and Manager (9.3 percent).

Classification Compliance Audit

During the past two years, this agency was not selected as part of our office's classification compliance audits.

Fiscal Year 2020 Workforce Demographics ^c

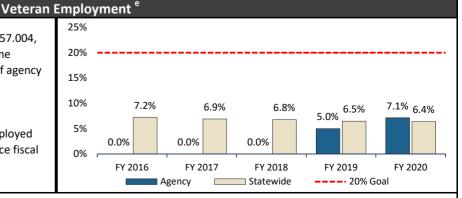
On average, employees at the agency were 47.3 years old and had 5.4 years of agency length of service. Of the agency's employees, 72.1 percent were 40 years old or older, and 67.4 percent had fewer than 5 years of agency length of service.



^c Job classification and demographic information was taken from the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts' Uniform Statewide Payroll/Personnel System and Standardized Payroll/Personnel Reporting System. Data includes classified regular, full-time and part-time employees. Demographic data may appear skewed for agencies with fewer than 50 employees.

Effective fiscal year 2016, Texas Government Code, Section 657.004, sets for state agencies a goal of employing veterans in full-time positions equal to at least 20.0 percent of the total number of agency employees.

In fiscal year 2020, the agency's total percent of veterans employed was higher than the statewide average and had increased since fiscal year 2019.



e Veteran employment information was obtained from the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts. Statewide totals include state agencies and higher education institutions.

Source: State Auditor's Office 475 - Office of Public Utility Counsel January 2021

^d Percentages may not sum exactly due to rounding.