

Key takeaways from the 2025 AIA Compensation and Benefits Survey

The AIA Compensation & Benefits Report is the industry's most comprehensive resource on architecture firm compensation trends.

The survey received responses from 817 unique firms representing 1,376 establishments (locations).

Compensation data was recorded for a total of 13,227 positions.

Alabama state data is included in the report for the first time. 34 states 45 positions

37 metro areas

Architectural associates

(non-licensed recent graduates) saw some of the most robust salary growth among architectural staff from 2023 to 2025 at



7%

Top 10 cities

with the highest pay for architectural associates (an unlicensed recent graduate)



Were in the West (the four California metros plus Seattle)



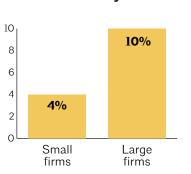
In the Northeast (New York and Philadelphia)



In the Mid-Atlantic (Baltimore and Washington, DC)

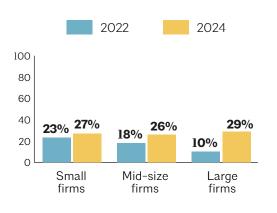


Turnover rates at architecture firms remained relatively low in 2024



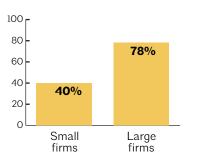
Hiring without a degree

Architecture firms reported being much less likely to hire staff without a professional degree in architecture in 2024 than in 2022.



Student employment

Overall, more than half of architecture firms reported hiring architecture school students for part-time work in 2024.





Salary equity

A higher share of larger firms reported conducting a salary equity assessment by gender in 2024, compared to 2022.

71% vs. 66% IN 2022



Increased opportunities

77%

of large firms offering mentorship opps

75%

offering career path opps



of large firms reported applying <u>AIA's Guides</u> for Equitable Practice in 2024

Greater professional development



Funding

On average, 61% of firms reported offering direct funding for professional development to any staff in 2024.

Small firms: were much more likely to report offering professional development funds on an ad hoc basis to each eligible employee as needed.

78%

vs.

65%

42%

MID-SIZI FIRMS LARGE FIRMS

Large firms: were much more likely to report having a fixed budget for all employees to draw from.

40%

LARGE FIRMS VS.

9%

SMALL FIRMS MID-SIZE

Topics

Training on technology and graphics was the most popular professional development topical area across all firm sizes—with at least three quarters of firms over 5 employees offered this training area.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING



WAS HIGHER AT SMALL FIRMS

TRAINING IN SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE



WAS HIGHER AT LARGE FIRMS

Employee benefits

Firms continued offering their employees a wide variety of fringe benefits in 2024.

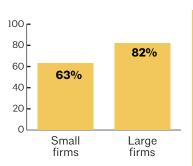


Large firms: Bereavement leave, casual dress, paid maternity leave, and an employee assistance program (EAP) are more common.



Small firms: Pet- and child-friendly offices are more common.

Overall, firms reported that an average of 70% of staff work remotely in some capacity



Juneteenth

The adoption of Juneteenth as a paid holiday continued to grow.

24%

vs.

16% 2022 5%

0-0-0-0 25-30 DAYS

Days of PTO

The number of days of PTO offered has remained generally consistent in recent years.