

## State Legislative Retirement Benefit Comparison

(Information gathered from: <http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc>)

State	Participation	Plan Name	Requirements for regular retirement	Employee contribution rate	Benefit formula
California	Legislators elected after 1990 are not eligible for retirement benefits for legislative service.	NA	NA	NA	NA
Connecticut	Mandatory	State Employees Retirement System Tier IIA	Age 60, 25 yrs. Credited service; age 62, 10-25 yrs. Credited service; age 62, 5 yrs. Actual state service. Reduced benefit available with earlier retirement ages.	2%	$(.0133 \times \text{av. Annual salary}) + (.005 \times \text{avg. annual salary in excess of "breakpoint"} ) \times \text{credited service up to 35 years.}$ 2003- \$36,400 2004- \$39,600 2005- \$40,900 2006- \$43,400 2007- \$46,000 2008- \$48,800 2009- \$51,700 After 2009- increase breakpoint by 6% per year rounded to nearest \$100.

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Illinois	Optional	General Assembly Retirement System	Age 55, 8 yrs. Service; or age 62, 4 yrs. Service.	8.5% for retirement; 2% for survivors; 1% for automatic increases; 11.5% total.	3% of each of 1st 4 yrs; 3.5% for each of next 2 yrs.; 4% for each of next 2 yrs.; 4.5% for each of next 4 yrs.; 5% for each yr. above 12.
Massachusetts	Optional after each election or re-election to the General Court.	State Retirement System legislator's plan	Age 55 with 6 years of service; unreduced benefit at 65. Vesting at 6 years. Reduced benefits for retirement before age 65.	9%. Some legislators are grandfathered at lower rates.	2.5 times years of service times FAS. FAS= average of highest 36 months. Service credit is allowed for membership in other Massachusetts retirement plans.
New York	Mandatory	New York State and Local Retirement System	Age 62 with 5 years of service; 55 with 30 years; reduced benefit available at 55/5. Vesting at 5 years.	3% for first 10 years of membership (Tier 4 provisions).	Tier 4: For less than 20 yrs. of service, pension= 1/60th for (1.66%) of final average salary (FAS) x years of service: for 20 years of service, pension= 1/50th (2%) of FAS x years of service; each year of service beyond 39, pension= 3/200th (1.5%) of FAS.

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Ohio	Optional	Public Employees Retirement System	Age 60 with 5 years of service or 55 with 25 years of service or at any age with 30 years of service.	8.5% of gross salary. A 10% contribution rate for legislators will be phased in over three years starting in 2006.	2.2% of final average salary times years of service up to and through 30 years of service. 2.5% starting with the 31st year of service and every year thereafter.
Texas	Optional	Employee Retirement System: Elected Class Members	Age 60, 8 yrs. service; age 50, 12 yrs. service. Vesting at 8 yrs.	8%	2.3% x district judge's salary x length of service, with the monthly benefit capped at the level of a district judge's salary, and adjusted when such salaries are increased. Various annuity options are available. Military service credit may be purchased to add to elective class service membership. In July 2005, a district judges' salary was set at \$125,00 a year