

EMPIRE CENTER

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UTICA COPS, FIREFIGHTERS ARE HIGHEST-PAID IN MOHAWK VALLEY

The Empire Center for Public Policy today released the 2014 edition of “What They Make,” an overview of local government payrolls (outside New York City) for the period of April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

The following table shows the five highest-paying employers in the Mohawk Valley, which includes Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida and Schoharie counties, for general employees and police or firefighters:

General Employees			Police or Firefighters		
Employer	#	Avg.	Employer	#	Avg.
Little Falls (city)	38	\$43,092	Utica (city)	279	\$72,428
Ilion (villages)	41	\$42,797	New Hartford (town)	26	\$65,751
Sherrill (city)	30	\$42,451	Amsterdam (city)	73	\$65,159
Schoharie (county)	385	\$41,012	Johnstown (city)	48	\$64,331
Gilboa (town)	12	\$40,321	Rome (city)	160	\$63,250

The two highest-paid local government employees in the region were Utica police officers Wayne A. Manolescu, who was paid \$162,559, and James B. Watson, Jr., who was paid \$153,697. The names, employers and pay of the 10 highest-paid employees in the region are attached.

The amounts listed in the report do not include fringe benefits such as health insurance or pension contributions, which can add more than 35 percent to the cost for taxpayers.

“The Empire Center produces this report because it is committed to protecting the right of taxpayers to know how their money is being spent,” said Executive Director Tim Hofer. “Employee compensation is the single largest component of most municipal budgets. Pairing this pay data with the localized spending data in SeeThroughNY’s Benchmarking NY tool, taxpayers can get a real sense of how their local governments are spending their tax dollars.”

The Empire Center is an independent, non-partisan, 501(c)3 think tank based in Albany. Each year, the Empire Center obtains and processes payroll information from public employers across the state. To read the full report, visit empirecenter.org/publications/wtm14. The Benchmarking New York tool, as well as individual payroll records, are posted at the Empire Center’s transparency website SeeThroughNY.net.

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Top 10 Municipal Employee Pay in the Mohawk Valley April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

Employee	Employer	Pay
Wayne A. Manolescu	Utica Police Dept.	\$162,559
James B. Watson, Jr.	Utica Police Dept.	\$153,697
Scott D. McNamara	Oneida County	\$153,324
Mark W. Williams	Utica Police Dept.	\$150,346
James L. Sacket	Schoharie County	\$146,400
Louise A. Sira	Fulton County	\$146,283
Jeffrey S. Carpenter	Herkimer County	\$145,839
James E. Conboy	Montgomery County	\$145,722
John J. Toomey	Utica Police Dept.	\$135,826
Scott D. Cifonelli	Utica Police Dept.	\$132,496

Source: *SeeThroughNY.net*