

County School District Comparisons

	Bronte ISD	Robert Lee ISD
Total Tax Revenue 2011-12	\$3,287,533	\$6,383,154
Total Tax Revenue 2012-13	\$3,096,253	
Superintendent Salary 2011-12	\$104,340	\$85,874
Superintendent Salary 2012-13	\$98,000	
Lowest Paid Teacher 2011-12	\$31,390	\$31,492
Lowest Paid Teacher 2012-13	\$33,795	
Highest Paid Teacher 2011-12	\$47,170	\$47,272
Highest Paid Teacher 2012-13	\$47,170	

What can we take away from all of this information?

Several counties do not have Auditors and Constables like Coke County. The counties who do not have these departments are able to save considerable annual sums.

All counties listed have a County Treasurer. Coke County has both a County Treasurer and a County Auditor. Coke County also contracts and pays for an outside audit each year.

Also, there is quite a range in the amounts of the various counties’ road and bridge annual budgets. From what I can gather, there are at least two explanations for this. The first is the number of miles for which each county is responsible for maintaining. The second deals with whether or not the commissioners in a county are administrative or are in charge of the daily activities of the road crews. It appears in the counties where the commissioners are administrative and just paid for attending meetings, etc., and a road superintendent is put in place to run one combined road crew, less tax money is required to operate.

The amount of roads in our county is not likely to change, so the only way of saving money in this area is with a unit road system. That was put forth several years ago, but was voted down by the commissioners whose salaries would have been cut.

What began my consideration of this project were the numerous times when ads were run around the state trying to fill a vacant Sheriff’s Deputy position with no qualified applicants resulting. Why would a certified law enforcement professional put his life on the line for almost poverty level pay? My research proved that Coke County Sheriff’s Office salaries are not only below the oil-rich counties in our area, but also way under the other small counties in our area.

What surprised me was the fact that most of our elected officials and their employees are also under the other counties salaries. Most of the people filling these positions county-wide are here because they want to be. And for the most part, we are not getting what we pay for. We are getting much better people than we are paying for.

I think I know one reason the salaries are so out-of-line. It is because over the last several decades, commissioners and judges didn’t want to anger the voting public by even the smallest tax increase and each year, we were further and further behind.

If you have concerns with law enforcement activities, contact Sheriff Wayne McCutchen. If you have a concern with the Auditor’s Office, contact District Judge Barbara Walther at her office in San Angelo. If your concern is regarding budgets, etc., contact a member of the Commissioners Court (Judge Blair and the four Commissioners). Unlike in year’s past, where Commissioners were seen as road crew bosses, Commissioners now need to be seen the same as a large corporation’s governing board who deal with millions of dollars each year.

When looking at these figures, please keep in mind that county taxes are only a portion of the taxes imposed. Other taxing entities in the county are the school districts, the cities of Bronte and Robert Lee, the hospital districts and the water districts.

Tax Rates

Coke County	.425450	West Coke County Hospital District	.249923
City of Robert Lee	.392149	East Coke County Hospital District	.409447
City of Bronte	.380000	Underground Water District	.007796
Robert Lee ISD	1.460000	Kickapoo Water District	.017600
Bronte ISD	1.040000	FM & FC	.117997

(Farm to Market & Flood Control - Commissioner Funds)

The Coke County Appraisal District is not part of Coke County Government. It is its own entity with its own governing board.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 Salaries For Coke County Employees Set By Court

OFFICE	<i>Includes Longevity</i> SALARIES
County Judge *	\$27,927.00
Commissioner, Prec #1	\$28,836.00
Commissioner, Prec #2	\$27,936.00
Commissioner, Prec #3	\$28,656.00
Commissioner, Prec #4	\$28,296.00
County Attorney*	\$27,320.00
Tax Assessor/collector	\$27,080.00
Sheriff	\$32,871.00
County/district Clerk	\$27,440.00
County Treasurer	\$26,540.00
<u>PARK SUPERINTENDENTS & COURTHOUSE CUSTODIAN</u>	
Robert Lee Park Supt	\$21,556.00
Bronte Park Sup	\$21,616.00
Courthouse Custodian	\$19,902.00
<u>DEPUTIES AND SECRETARIES</u>	
Deputy Sheriff	\$28,430.00
Deputy Sheriff	\$28,610.00
Chief Deputy Sheriff	\$30,302.00
Deputy Sheriff	\$28,790.00
Office Deputy Sheriff	\$22,638.00
Chief Deputy Tax A/c	\$22,338.00
Second Deputy Tax A/c	\$21,461.00
Secretary, Judge	\$22,998.00
Chief Deputy Clerk	\$22,098.00
Second Deputy Clerk	\$13,201.00
Third Deputy	\$ 7,008.00
Auditor’s Office	\$22,998.00
<u>JP’S AND CONSTABLES</u>	
J P Prec #1	\$19,992.00
J P Prec #2	\$21,140.00
Constable, Prec #1	\$14,760.00
Constable, Prec #2	\$14,880.00
<u>ROAD HANDS</u>	
Prec #1	\$23,981.00
Prec #1	\$23,981.00
Prec #2	\$23,981.00
Prec #2	\$23,981.00
Prec #3	\$23,561.00
Prec #3	\$24,461.00
Prec #4	\$24,461.00
Prec #4	\$24,461.00
<u>EXTENSION DEPARTMENT</u>	
County Extension Agent	\$15,344.00
Home Economics Agent	\$10,988.00
<u>OTHER SALARIES</u>	
County Auditor	\$27,440.00
County Librarian	\$ 9,113.00
Extension Office	\$ 8,693.00
Court Reporter	\$ 3,797.00
Dist Judge Supplement	\$ 485.00
Dist Attorney Supplement	\$ 485.00
Co Attorney Office	\$14,494.00
Dist Judge Administrator	\$ 1,023.00
Dist Judge Bailiff	\$ 300.00
Co-ord Bronte Center	\$ 8,781.00
Coordinator RI Center	\$ 9,021.00
Bronte Van Driver	\$18,016.00
Robert Lee Van Driver	\$18,016.00

* Does not include state supplemental pay.