



# *Sample of Legislative Operating Budget Responses to Fiscal Crisis*




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# NCSL Survey Structure

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- NCSL surveyed legislative chambers and legislative agencies.
  - Goal: obtain a healthy sample of actions across states.
  - Personnel actions: travel, salaries, staff levels, training.
  - Non-Personnel: purchasing, capital expenditure, legislative business operations.
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# Survey Items



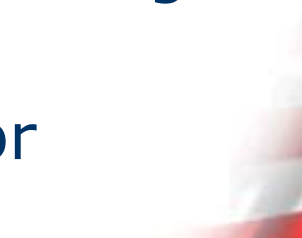
- Salaries & hiring
- Out-of-state travel
- Session only staff
- Training
- Benefits
- Interim activities
- Contracting
- IT spending
- Supplies & equipment
- Capital projects
- District office allowances
- Special projects
- No actions



# NCSL Survey Results

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- Most common action: travel restrictions for legislators and legislative staff, either bans or restrictions on out-of-state travel.
  - Purchasing restrictions on equipment, information technology (IT) and supplies were frequent.
  - Staff salary freezes, hiring freezes, furloughs are taking place.
  - Close review of consulting and vendor contracts.
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# Additional Observations



- FY 2009
  - More non-personnel related actions to cut spending for equipment, IT, supplies.
- FY 2010
  - More states acting on legislative budgets
  - More staff salary and hiring freezes, less training.
- Other
  - Non-reimbursed travel is permitted by half of respondents.

# For More Information

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