

Comparison of Web-Based Payroll Applications

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Company	AccountantsWorld	Ceridian	CompuPay	Intuit	PayCycle	Paylocity	ADP	SurePayroll
Product	Payroll Relief	Ceridian Payroll & Human Resources	CompuPay Payroll Online	Intuit Online Payroll	PayCycle	WebPay	Run by ADP	SurePayroll (direct model) or SureChoice (accountant referral or wholesale).
Website	www.accountantsworld.com	www.ceridian.com	www.compupay.com	www.intuitonlinepayroll.com	www.paycycle.com	www.paylocity.com	accountant.adp.com	www.surepayroll.com
Telephone:	(888) 999-1366	(800) 729-6555	(877) 729-6299	(800) 267-5519	(866) 729-2925	(800) 520-2687	(866) 566-9727	(877) 954-SURE
Sales Model:	Wholesale through accountant only.	Retail (direct) only.	Retail or wholesale	Retail only	Wholesale through accountant only.	Retail or wholesale.	Wholesale through accountant only.	Retail or wholesale
Best Fit:	Accounting firms who offer payroll services to their clients.	Companies who need multiple location reporting and data importing features.	Companies with 5 to 1,000 employees.	Very simple, do it yourself payrolls. Entry level service for new businesses.	Very simple, do it yourself payrolls. Entry level service for new businesses.	Complex companies with 1-5,000 employees. Best fit is companies with 50-500 employees who need HR.	Very simple, do it yourself payrolls. Entry level service for new businesses.	Companies with 1-100 employees who need HR services and ease of use.
	Firms who want to provide boutique services to their clients and handle all of the details.	Organizations with 300 or fewer employees who have HR and reporting needs.	Organizations who want strong interfaces with accounting systems and support for jobcost and workers comp.	Organizations with 20 or fewer employees who do not need departmental reporting.	Firms who want to provide boutique services to their clients and handle all of the details.	Companies who need some light human resources functions and role-based security, and the flexibility to work with or without their accountant.	Firms who want to provide services to their clients and not handle all of the details.	Companies who need some light human resources functions and role-based security, and the flexibility to work with or without their accountant.
Key strengths:	Integration with numerous write-up applications, including AccountantsRelief, CCH, ATX, and others.	Strong HR content available, including benefit plan interface and administration.	Very strong capabilities for managing large, complex payrolls.	The simplest and easiest to use offering reviewed in this article.	Almost as simple as Intuit Online Payroll, but offers support for larger payrolls and more accounting packages.	Very strong capabilities for managing large, complex payrolls. Interfaces with 45 different 401(k) providers.	ADP offers accountants numerous tools to help them work with clients.	SurePayroll offers a wide variety of services in numerous areas to meet many needs.
	Scales to support very large companies (largest client has 1,100 employees)	Base level of service includes portal access to pay stubs at no additional charge.	Numerous ancillary services make it possible to meet many needs from one provider.	Inexpensive, flat pricing (\$9.95/month, with first six months free for unlimited payroll). Includes direct deposit.	Support for accounting packages, including Quickbooks, Peachtree, and numerous write-up applications.	Supports complex calculations such as labor distributions, union payroll, and job costing.	Automatically populated fill-in forms will recalculate payroll tax returns when an adjustment is needed.	Role-based security is available so access to features can be controlled well.
	Keeps public accountant at the center of the payroll process (e.g. no outsourced tax service), and includes CPA firm marketing materials.	Report writer and import/export features are very strong and product has many big company features like mass updates.	Integration with Peachtree is unique. (CompuPay is Sage's partner for outsourced payroll).	Familiar QuickBooks-like interface makes this a great choice for very small, owner prepared payrolls.	Self-service only model and low cost (<\$20/client) make this a good option for clients who want fixed pricing for do it yourself payroll.	Advanced HR, HIPAA security compliance tools, and role-based security make for a very complete offering.	Support for calculation of payroll taxes in all states as well as 4,000 localities.	Payroll taxes for employees in multiple states are supported.
Key weakness:	Tax outsourcing to AccountantsWorld not supported, and limited human resource offerings.	Does not support drill-down or certified payroll for government contracts.	Setup or data export to many accounting systems requires a custom programming charge. Import of data from timekeeping systems not supported.	Simple model may not meet the needs of those with complex reporting needs, and many state tax forms not supported.	Payroll tax outsourcing not supported, and limited human resource offerings. Does not support payrolls with more than 150 employees.	Complexity may require a more sophisticated user to use effectively.	Does not support complex calculations such as jobcost, departmental reporting, and classes.	Importing of time data and job costing data not supported. Departmental reporting not currently supported.