

# DETROIT POLICE FACT SHEET

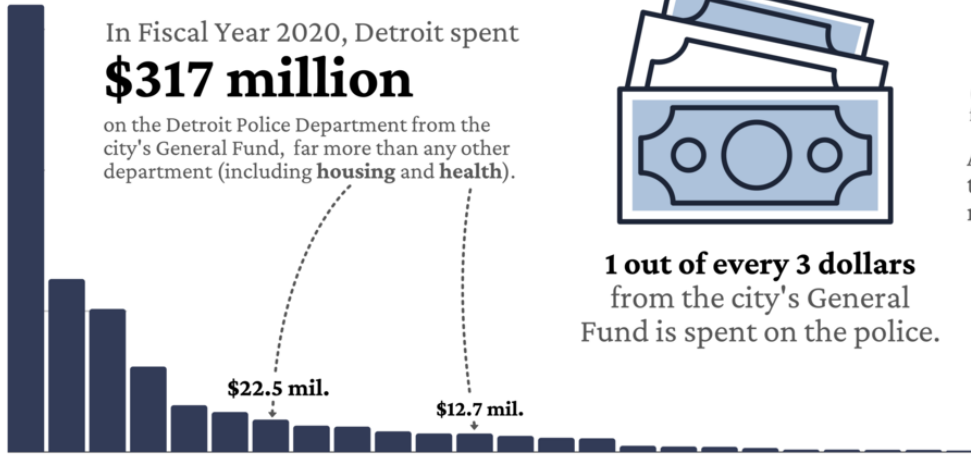


## HOW MUCH ARE WE SPENDING ON THE DPD?

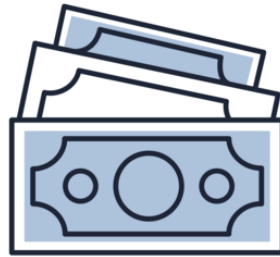
**A lot.**

In Fiscal Year 2020, Detroit spent **\$317 million**

on the Detroit Police Department from the city's General Fund, far more than any other department (including housing and health).



Detroit FY 2020 General Fund Expenditures. Excluding Non-Departmental, Debt Service, and Retail Departments. Source: Detroit FY 2021-2024 Approved Four-Year Financial Plan.

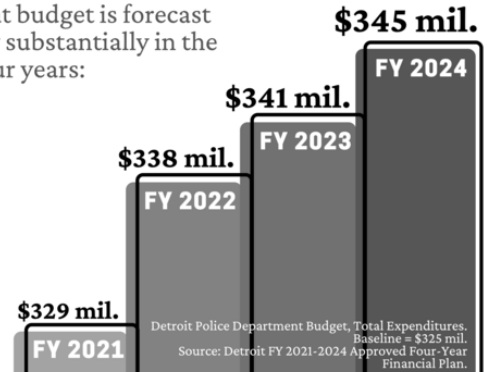


**1 out of every 3 dollars** from the city's General Fund is spent on the police.

Including other funds, such as state and federal grants, the total DPD budget for Fiscal Year 2020 was **\$330 million**.

(As with General Fund expenditures, the DPD budget still far outweighs all other departments in total expenditures.)

And that budget is forecast to grow substantially in the next four years:



Source: Detroit FY 2021-2024 Approved Four-Year Financial Plan.

## WHAT DO THE POLICE DO WITH ALL OF THAT MONEY?

*The Detroit Police Department is not effective at keeping our community safe.*

Detroit has one of the **lowest rates for solving violent crimes** in the country.

**41%:** The DPD's average arrest rate for murder investigations (2010-'17).  
**12%:** The DPD's average arrest rate for rape investigations.

Research has also revealed that in homicide cases, the **DPD is more likely to make an arrest when the victim is white** as opposed to Black or Latinx.

**1/2** of all criminal prosecutions in Michigan are for minor traffic offenses like driving with a suspended license. Many of these offenses directly criminalize poverty and do nothing to improve public safety.

To learn more, visit [detroitjustice.org/highwayrobbery](http://detroitjustice.org/highwayrobbery).



Most importantly, the police don't address the **root causes of crime**.

- There is **no correlation** between the number of police officers and crime rates.
- When the police *try* to stop crime by using "proactive policing" of minor offenses (which is the strategy adopted by the DPD), research shows that communities are destabilized and **severe crime actually increases**.

Sources: "Murder With Impunity," *Washington Post* (June 8, 2018); Groeger, Fahey, & Greenblatt, "Could Your Police Department Be Inflating Rape Clearance Rates?," *ProPublica* (November 15, 2018); Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration, Report and Recommendations (2020).

Sources: Alex Vitale, *The End of Policing* 71 (2017); Sullivan & O'Keefe, "Evidence that curtailing proactive policing can reduce major crime," *Nature Human Behavior* 1, 730-737 (2017); Bergen, "Detroit Picks Broken Theory To Fight Crime," *Forbes* (2012).

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO DEFUND THE POLICE?



"#DefundPolice is a demand to cut funding and resources from police departments and other law enforcement and **invest in things that actually make our communities safer:** quality, affordable, and accessible housing, universal quality health care, including community based mental health services, income support to stay safe during the pandemic, safe living wage employment, education, and youth programming."

**- Movement For Black Lives Defund Toolkit**



## WHAT ELSE COULD THE CITY OF DETROIT DO WITH \$317 MILLION?

Build 18 restorative justice centers (\$17 mil. a piece).



Provide a \$10,000 child care tax income credit to 31,700 families when 48% of children in Detroit are living in poverty.

Create mental health and rehabilitation facilities with beds for 244 patients (\$1.3 mil. per bed).



Create 10,160 living-wage jobs for people in the city.

House every homeless person in Detroit in \$90,000 homes AND give a \$5,000 tax credit to 23,000 homes facing tax foreclosure.



Within two years, renovate and modernize all DPSCD schools (\$500 mil. total).