

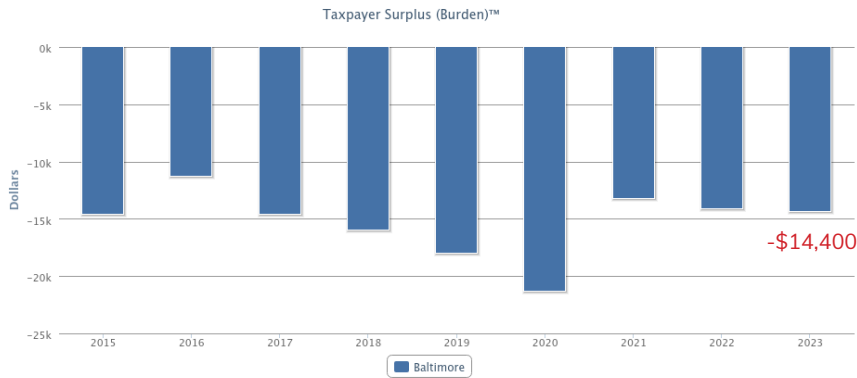
FINANCIAL STATE OF BALTIMORE



\$3.2 billion
MONEY NEEDED TO PAY BILLS

\$14,400
TAXPAYER BURDEN™

Baltimore's financial condition worsened. Based on our analysis of its audited financial report for fiscal year 2023, its financial hole deepened with a need for \$3.2 billion to cover its bills. This created a Taxpayer Burden™ of \$14,400, earning the city a “D” grade from Truth in Accounting and solidifying its status as a Sinkhole City.



Baltimore's finances declined as its primary government reported expenses exceeded revenues by nearly \$179 million. Additionally, pension debt grew, with accruing benefits and interest surpassing investment income and contributions. On a positive note, Baltimore uses up-to-date pension data for its city plans, a practice uncommon among cities that typically rely on outdated, one-year-old data. This proactive approach ensures more accurate financial reporting.

In fiscal year 2023, governmental expenses rose by \$1 billion, with notable increases across various sectors. Public safety and regulation saw the largest rise, increasing by \$400.2 million, followed by education expenses, which grew by \$248.2 million. Health conservation expenses rose by \$122.1 million, and spending on highways and streets increased by \$118.5 million. These growing expenditures reflect Baltimore's focus on critical services and infrastructure needs, but also highlight the financial strain in balancing the budget.

The data included in this report is derived from Baltimore's 2023 audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and retirement plans' reports. To compare prior years and other states' and cities' financial, demographic, and economic information, go to Data-Z.org.

FINANCIAL STATE OF BALTIMORE

D
FINANCIAL GRADE

68 out of 75
RANKING

FINANCIAL FACTS

- Baltimore had \$4.1 billion available to pay \$7.3 billion worth of bills.
- The outcome was a \$3.2 billion shortfall, which breaks down to a burden of \$14,400 per taxpayer.
- Baltimore's finances declined, reporting expenses \$179 million higher than revenues, while pension debt grew due to accruing benefits.

The City's Bills Exceeded Its Assets

Total Assets	\$16,268,231,000
Minus: Capital Assets	-\$11,124,302,000
Restricted Assets	-\$1,071,885,000
Assets Available to Pay Bills	\$4,072,044,000
Minus: Total Bills*	-\$7,267,103,000
Money needed to pay bills	\$3,195,059,000
Each taxpayer's share of this burden	\$14,400

*Breakdown of Total Bills

Bonds	\$4,547,839,000
Other Liabilities	\$4,157,478,000
Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets	-\$3,466,781,000
Unfunded Pension Benefits	\$2,007,618,000
Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits	\$20,949,000
Total Bills	\$7,267,103,000

Grade:	Bottom line:
D	Baltimore would need \$14,400 from each of its taxpayers to pay all of its outstanding bills and received a “D” grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting's grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Burden between \$5,000 and \$20,000 is given a “D” grade.

Truth in Accounting is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to educating and empowering you with understandable, reliable, and transparent government financial information so you can be a knowledgeable participant in your government and its budget process.