



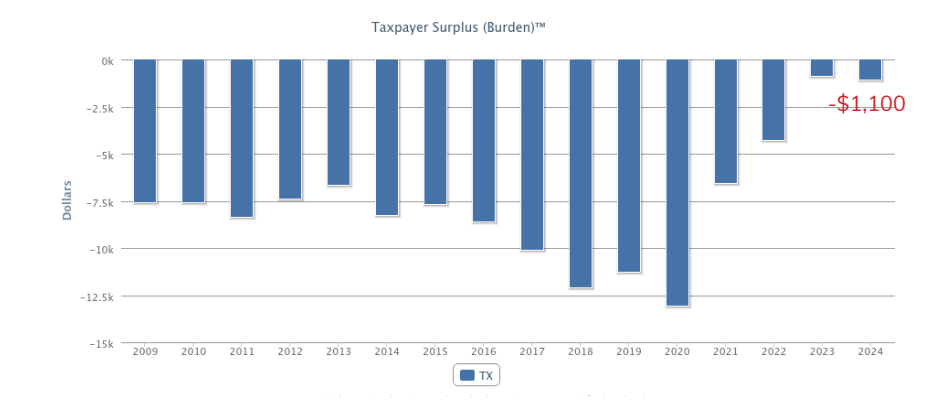


Texas' Financial Breakdown

Money Needed to Pay Bills	\$10.8 billion	
Taxpayer Burden	\$1,100	
Ranking (Out of 50)	27	
Financial Grade	C	

Texas needed more money to pay its bills in 2024, with the shortfall rising to \$10.8 billion. This resulted in a Taxpayer Burden™ of \$1,100, which led to a “C” grade from Truth in Accounting.

Texas had a record budget surplus in 2024, but the money needed to pay bills grew by \$1.3 billion, mainly due to more money tied up in capital investments and funds for specific purposes. While these can help in the future, they reduce cash available for other needs. The state funded a \$5 billion boost in teacher retirement benefits, including a one-time bonus and permanent cost-of-living raises. However, the system remains \$61 billion underfunded, with ongoing financial challenges ahead.



Federal funding for Texas surged during the pandemic through emergency and short-term programs. As these supports expire and federal budget constraints intensify, the risk of funding returning to pre-pandemic levels grows. This report considers a scenario in which federal grants and contributions return to 2019 levels, adjusted for inflation. If that occurs, Texas could lose \$22.7 billion, which is nearly 10 percent of estimated spending for the state's primary government. This loss would place additional strain on a government already facing challenges in meeting its financial obligations.

The data in this report is derived from Texas' audited 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and its retirement systems' reports. To explore prior years or compare financial, demographic, and economic data across other states and cities, visit [Data-Z.org](#).

Texas' Financial Facts

- FACT #1:**
Texas had \$169.7 billion available to pay \$180.4 billion worth of bills.
- FACT #2:**
The outcome was a \$10.8 billion shortfall, which breaks down to a burden of \$1,100 per taxpayer.
- FACT #3:**
Texas may lose \$22.7 billion in federal funding (10 percent of expenses) if allocations return to 2019 levels, adjusted only for inflation.

The State's Bills Exceeded Its Assets

Total Assets	\$548,357,061,000
Minus: Capital Assets	-\$201,209,450,000
Restricted Assets	-\$177,482,729,000
Assets Available to Pay Bills	\$169,664,882,000
Minus: Total Bills*	-\$180,428,419,000
Money Needed to Pay Bills	\$10,763,537,000
Each Taxpayer's Share of this Burden	\$1,100

*Breakdown of Total Bills

Bonds	\$66,712,354,000
Other Liabilities	\$60,000,579,000
Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets	-\$52,559,649,000
Unfunded Pension Benefits	\$51,289,445,000
Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits	\$54,985,690,000
Total Bills	\$180,428,419,000

Grade:
C

Bottom line:
Texas would need \$1,100 from each of its taxpayers to pay all of its outstanding bills and received a “C” grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting's grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Burden between \$0 and \$4,999 is given a “C” grade.



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