



No. **70**

# Dallas Finances Earn 'F' Grade

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## The Financial State of Dallas

A new analysis of the latest available audited financial report found Dallas has a Taxpayer Burden™ of \$21,600, earning it an "F" grade based on Truth in Accounting's grading scale.

Dallas' elected officials have made repeated financial decisions that have left the city with a debt burden of \$7.8 billion, according to the analysis. That equates to a \$21,600 burden for every city taxpayer.

Dallas' financial problems stem mostly from unfunded retirement obligations that have accumulated over many years. Of the \$13.3 billion in retirement benefits promised, the city has not funded \$7.3 billion in pension and \$499.9 million in retiree health care benefits.

Here's the truth:



Data included in this report is derived from the city of Dallas 2017 audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and retirement plans' reports.

# DALLAS

## FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

### FAST FACTS

- + Dallas has \$2.2 billion available in assets to pay \$10 billion worth of bills.
- + The outcome is a \$7.8 billion shortfall and a \$21,600 Taxpayer Burden.
- + The city is hiding \$235.7 million of retiree health care debt from its balance sheet.

### THE CITY'S BILLS EXCEED ITS ASSETS

Assets	\$13,704,539,000
Minus: Capital assets	-\$10,932,660,000
Restricted assets	-\$549,320,000
Assets available to pay bills	\$2,222,559,000
Minus: Bills	-\$10,026,242,000
Money needed to pay bills	-\$7,803,683,000
Each taxpayer's share of this debt	-\$21,600

### BILLS THE CITY HAS ACCUMULATED

Bonds	\$5,491,814,000
Other liabilities	\$2,010,532,000
Minus: Debt related to capital assets	-\$5,238,374,000
Unfunded pension benefits	\$7,262,356,000
Unfunded retiree health care	\$499,914,000
Bills	\$10,026,242,000

### GRADE: F

Bottom line: Dallas would need more than \$20,000 from each of its taxpayers to pay all of its bills, so it has received an "F" for its finances from Truth in Accounting.