

# Tucson Fire Department Overview



## Mission Statement

*To be excellent public safety professionals, compassionately serving our community with integrity and courage through all-hazards response, innovative prevention, public education, and active intervention.*

The Tucson Fire Department (TFD) provides essential life safety services through a wide range of specialized divisions. Each division supports the Department's mission by promoting community safety, operational efficiency, and firefighter readiness.

The **Training** division provides professional development for firefighters and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to ensure personnel are highly trained and equipped to respond effectively to all types of emergencies.

The **Administration** division oversees departmental policies, fiscal operations, and personnel management. The team also ensures compliance with all internal procedures and Public Safety Personnel Retirement System requirements.

The **Hazardous Materials** division manages the safe collection, handling, and disposal of hazardous waste generated by the City, ensuring full compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.

The **Suppression** division delivers rapid, all-hazards emergency response through a team of dedicated fire and rescue personnel. Key responsibilities include focusing on safety, modern technologies, and continuous improvement to meet community needs.

The **Fire Prevention** division protects the public through enforcement of fire codes and standards. Key responsibilities include conducting inspections, fire investigations, and public education initiatives to reduce fire risks and promote life safety.

The **Resource Management** division coordinates logistics, including supply distribution, invoice processing, and facility maintenance to ensure stations are well-equipped and operational.

The **Medical Services** division manages Advanced Life Support (ALS) operations and ambulance billing. Key responsibilities include developing medical protocols, equipment standards, and addressing quality assurance issues to ensure high-quality pre-hospital care.

The **Data Analytics** division leverages technology and data to support emergency response and administrative decision-making. Key responsibilities include overseeing GIS mapping, tech upgrades, and providing insights through data visualization and analysis.

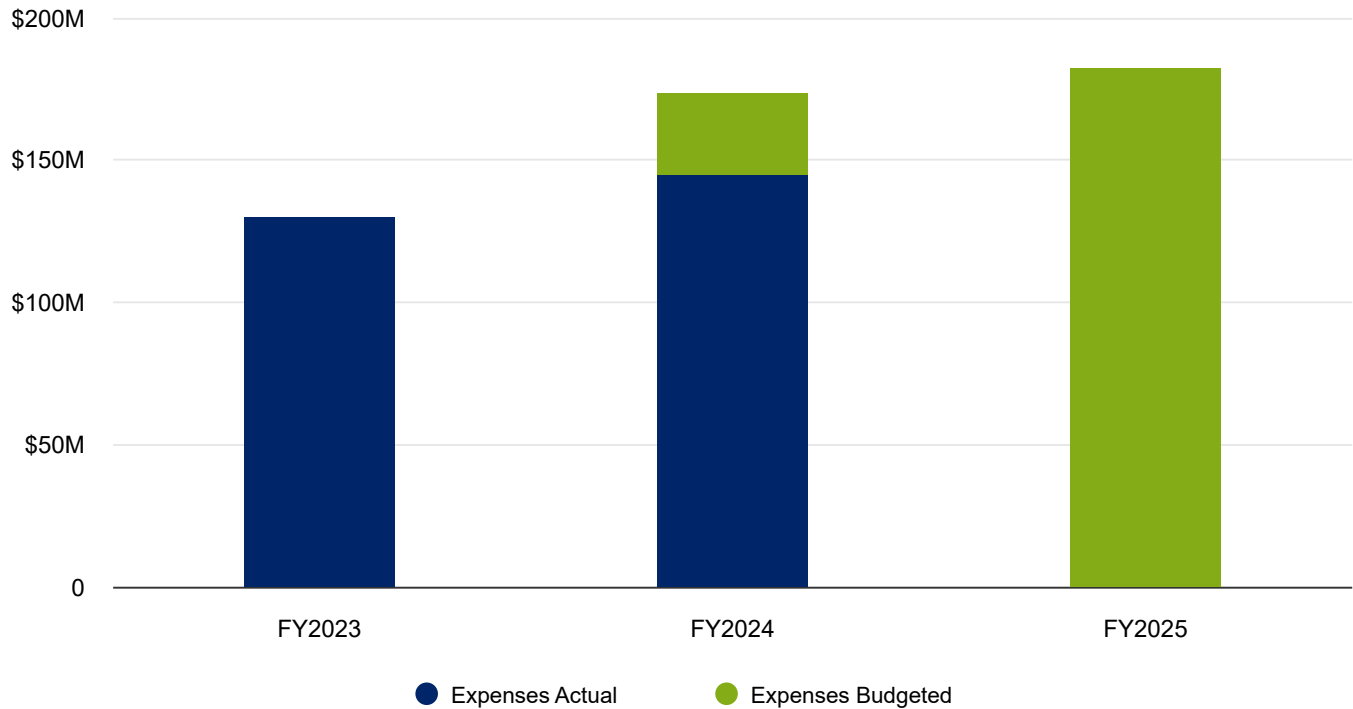
The **Fire Grants** division manages all grant funding and ensures it aligns with operational goals, enhancing departmental capacity and resources through strategic use of external funds.

## Expenditure Summary

**\$182,082,738**

**\$8,266,698 / 4.75% Higher Than the Prior Year's Budget**

### Historical Expenditures Across Department



### Significant Changes

The Tucson Fire Department's adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2025 is \$166.4 million (*excluding PSPRS contributions*), representing a decrease of \$7.4 million compared to last year's budget. Key changes include:

- +\$700,000 increase in funding for essential paramedic medical supplies
- -\$6.2 million reduction in salaries and overtime
- -\$662,000 decrease in liability insurance costs
- -\$650,000 reduction in repair and maintenance supplies handled by contractors
- -\$425,000 decrease to the Safer City Improvement Fund

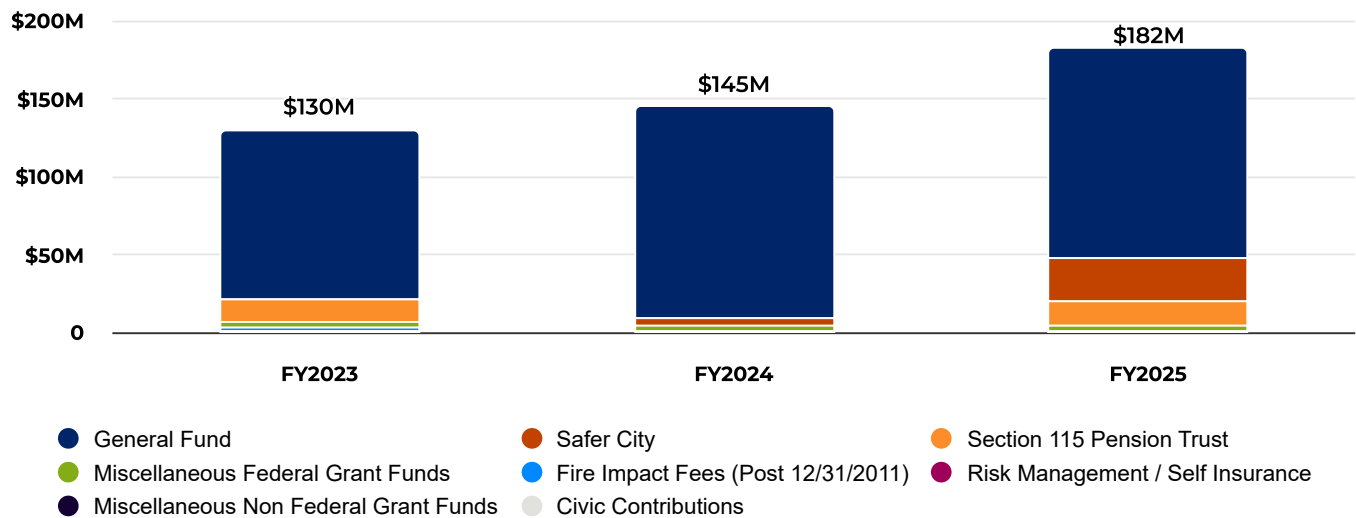
### Trends

- Emergency call volume hit a record high, with over 103,500 separate incidents in 2023—the busiest year in department history.
- Structure fires, brush fires, and wildland interface fires continue to increase in frequency.
- Emergency medical calls related to fentaNYL and other narcotics—especially among the homeless population—have significantly increased.
- Tucson Fire's out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survival rate remains among the best in the country, and was once again the highest in Arizona for the second consecutive year.

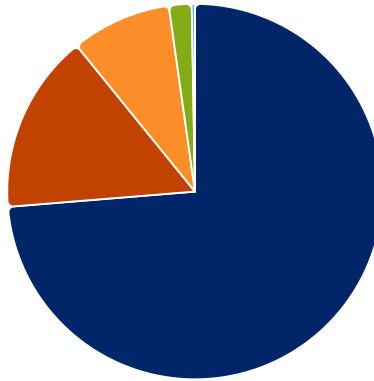
## Expenditures by Fund

- Fiscal Year 2023: Total expenditures were approximately \$130 million, with the majority funded by the General Fund. Small allocations came from grants, Safer City funds, and pension-related sources, including the Section 115 Pension Trust.
- Fiscal Year 2024: Spending increased to about \$145 million, continuing to rely heavily on the General Fund. The department also maintained steady use of grants, Safer City, and pension trust funding, helping to support operations and workforce stability.
- Fiscal Year 2025: Expenditures rose sharply to \$182 million, reflecting strategic investments in public safety services. While the General Fund remains the primary source, there is a notable increase in support from:
  - Safer City funds
  - Section 115 Pension Trust
  - Federal and Non-Federal Grants
  - Fire Impact Fees and Civic Contributions

Historical Expenditures by Fund



## Fiscal Year 2025 Expenditures by Fund



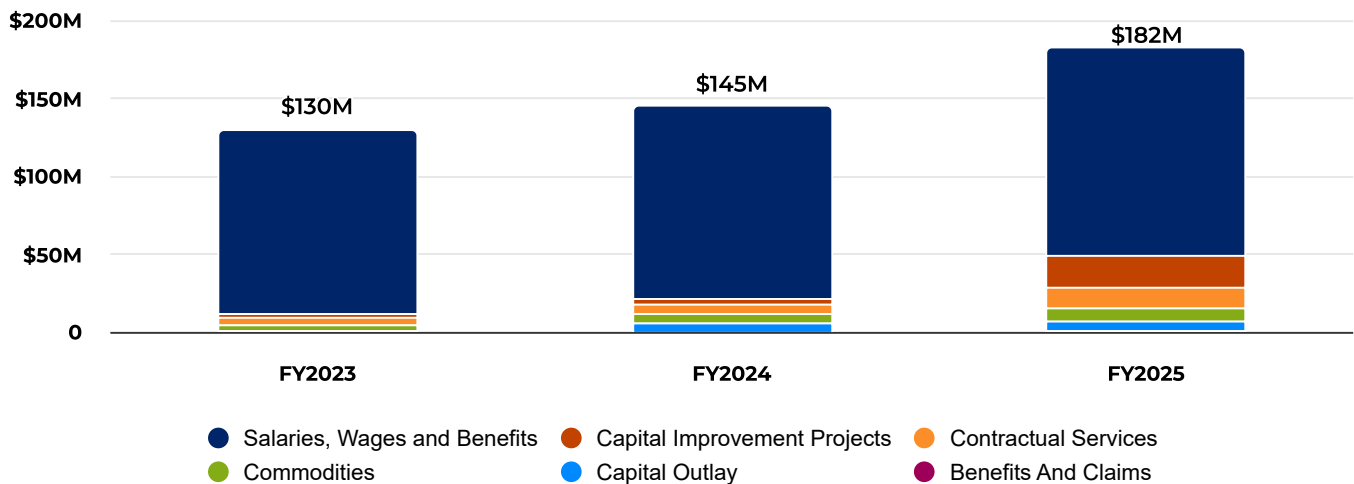
General Fund	\$134,208,565	73.71%
Safer City	\$28,117,076	15.44%
Section 115 Pension Trust	\$15,698,503	8.62%
Miscellaneous Federal Grant Funds	\$3,548,148	1.95%
Risk Management / Self Insurance	\$470,896	0.26%
Miscellaneous Non Federal Grant Funds	\$39,550	0.02%

## Expenditures by Type

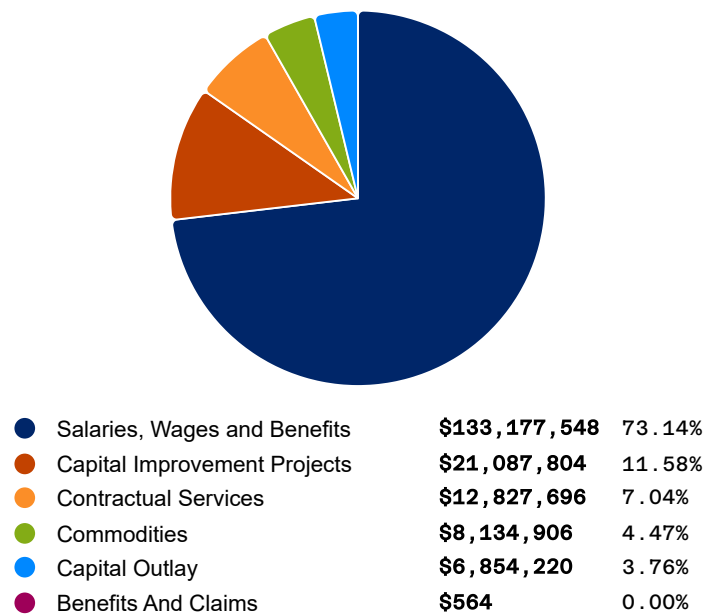
The Tucson Fire Department's expenditures have steadily increased over the past three fiscal years, reflecting the City's ongoing investment in emergency services, personnel, and operational capacity.

- Fiscal Year 2023: Total expenditures reached \$130 million, with the majority allocated to Salaries, Wages, and Benefits, supporting the department's core workforce. A small portion was directed toward Capital Improvement Projects, such as facility upgrades and equipment purchases.
- Fiscal Year 2024: Spending rose to \$145 million, continuing to prioritize personnel costs and service contracts. A substantial increase in Commodities—including medical supplies and operational materials—supported growing service demands and emergency response readiness.
- Fiscal Year 2025: Expenditures are projected to climb to \$182 million, with Benefits and Claims becoming a notable cost category. This likely reflects increased retirements, rising healthcare costs, and long-term benefit obligations, pointing to the financial impact of an evolving workforce and expanding service responsibilities.

Historical Expenditures by Type



## Fiscal Year 2025 Expenditures by Type



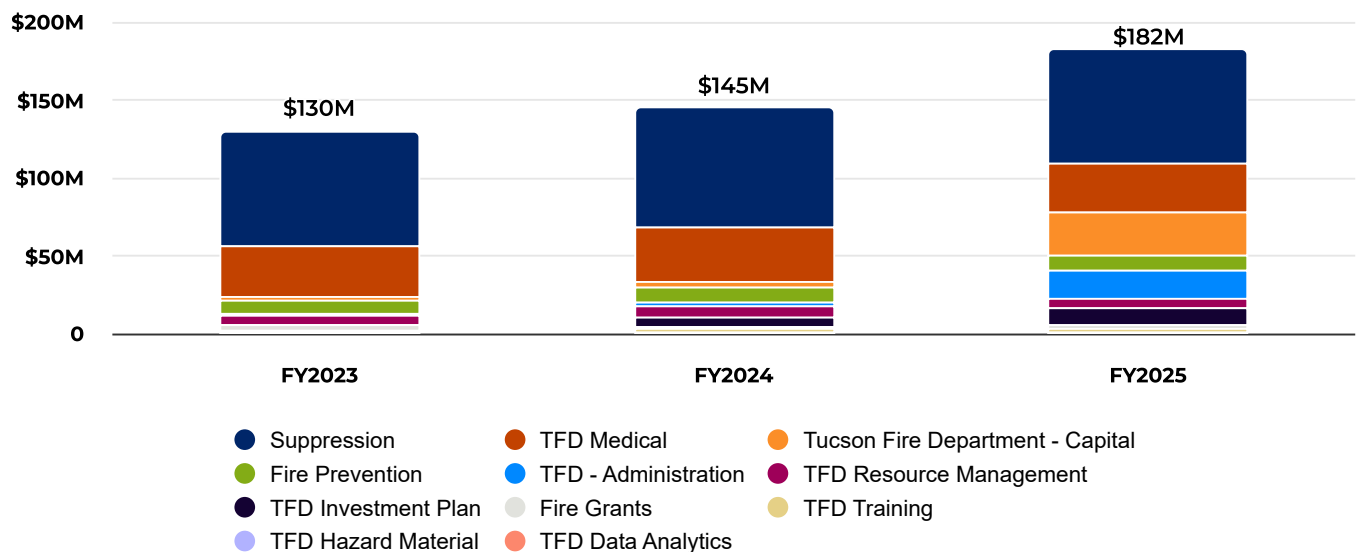
Note: Charts may not total 100% due to rounding.

## Expenditures by Cost Center

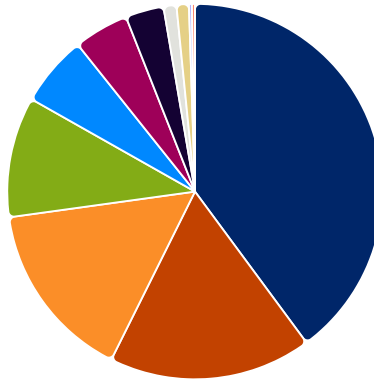
The Tucson Fire Department's expenditures have shown a consistent upward trend from FY 2023 through FY 2025, reflecting both growth in service demand and strategic investment shifts.

- Fiscal Year 2023: Total expenditures reached \$130 million, with the bulk of funding allocated to Suppression and Medical Services. Administration, Fire Prevention, and Training received steady but modest funding, while Capital Projects and Data/Analytics remained lower priorities.
- Fiscal Year 2024: Spending increased to \$145 million, marked by moderate growth across most cost centers. Suppression and Medical Services continued to lead in funding. Notable, though modest, increases in Capital Projects, Training, and Data Analytics signaled the beginning of a shift toward infrastructure development and innovation.
- Fiscal Year 2025 (Projected): Expenditures are expected to surge to \$182 million, driven by a significant expansion in Capital Investment, highlighting a strong focus on long-term infrastructure improvements. Substantial increases are also projected for Medical Services, Suppression, and Administration. Every cost center is slated to receive additional funding, demonstrating the department's broad commitment to service enhancement and modernization.

### Historical Expenditures by Cost Center



## Fiscal Year 2025 Expenditures by Cost Center



● Suppression	\$72,620,940	39.88%
● TFD Medical	\$31,827,649	17.48%
● Tucson Fire Department - Capital	\$28,117,076	15.44%
● TFD - Administration	\$18,914,849	10.39%
● TFD Investment Plan	\$11,098,944	6.10%
● Fire Prevention	\$8,604,636	4.73%
● TFD Resource Management	\$5,992,056	3.29%
● TFD Training	\$2,022,948	1.11%
● Fire Grants	\$1,944,960	1.07%
● TFD Hazard Material	\$470,896	0.26%
● TFD Data Analytics	\$467,784	0.26%



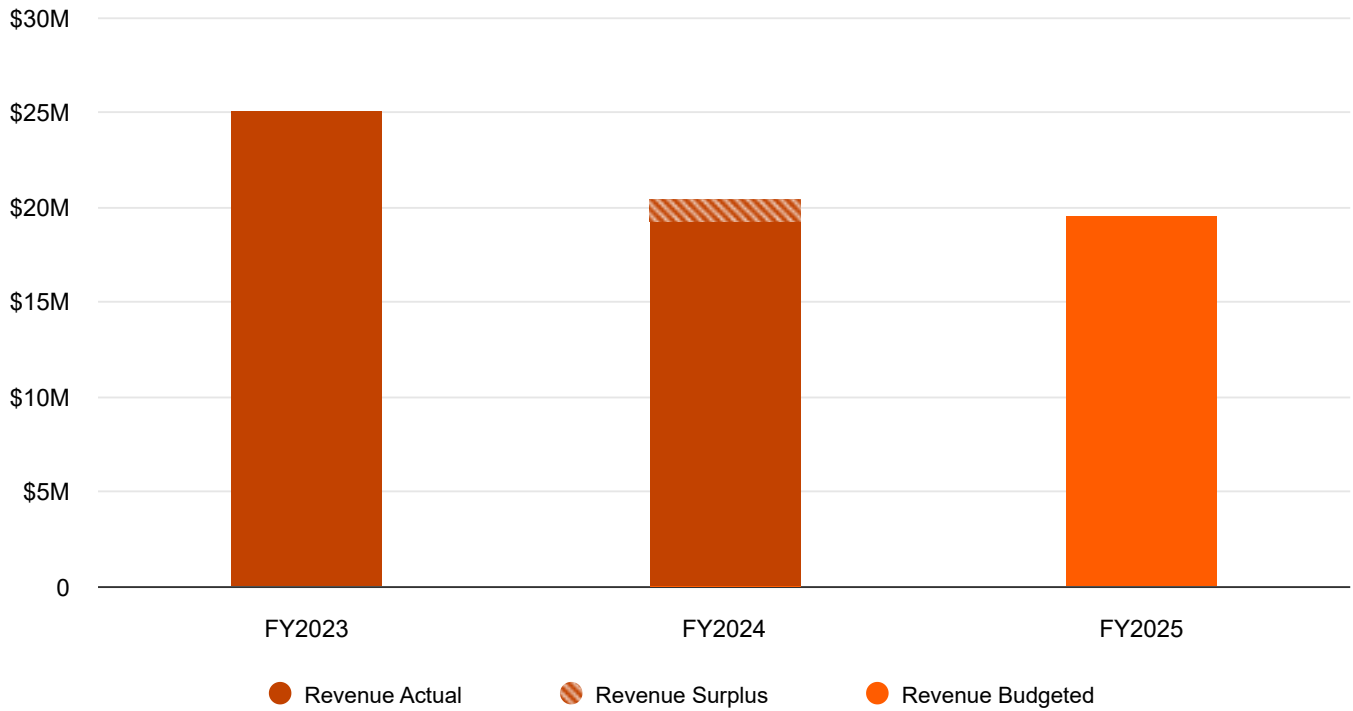
## Revenue Summary

\$19,513,422

Includes Transfers In and Out

\$256,204 / 1.33% Higher Than the Prior Year's Budget

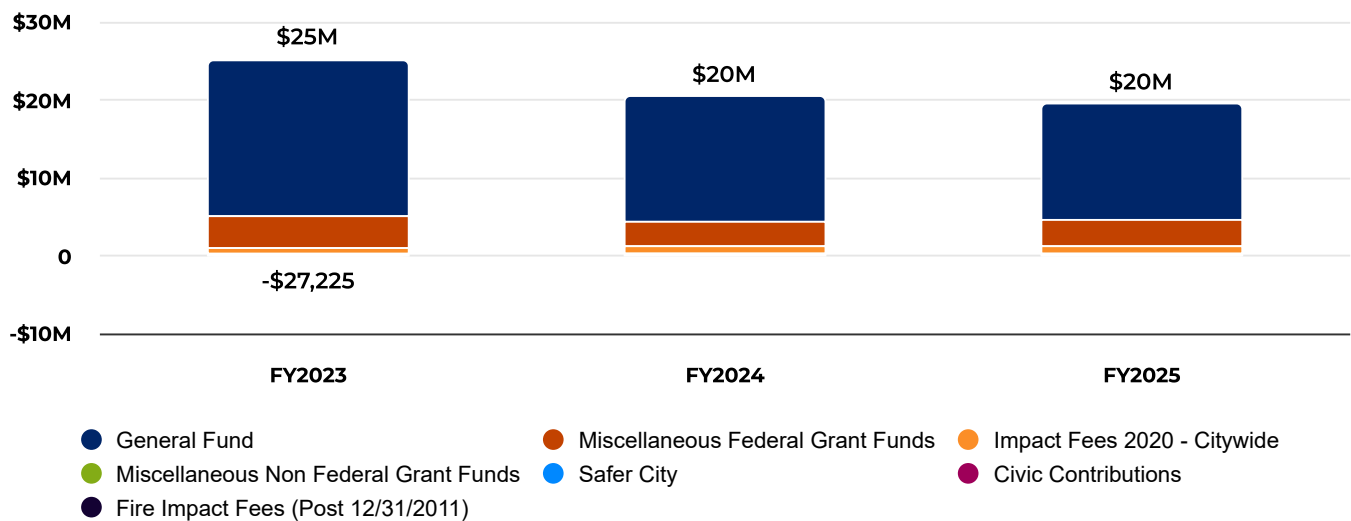
### Historical Revenues Across Department



## Revenues by Fund

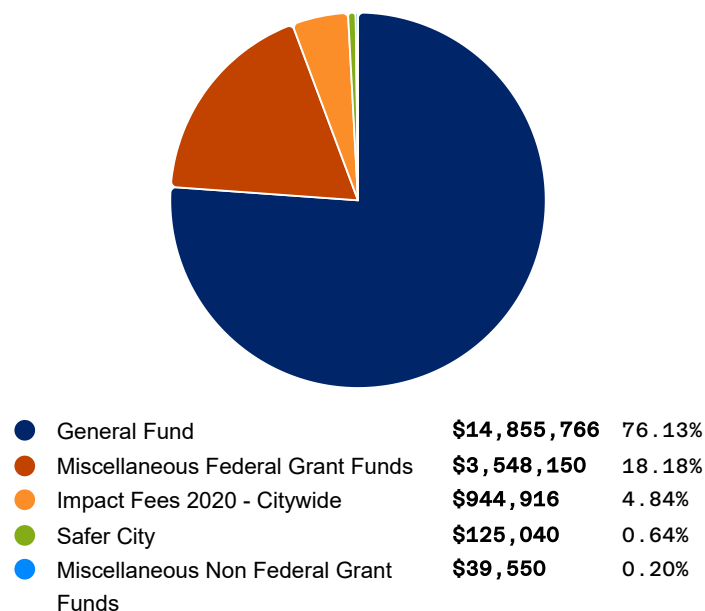
Over the past three fiscal years, the Tucson Fire Department has experienced a decline in total revenues, falling from \$25 million in Fiscal Year 2023 to approximately \$20 million in both Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025.

- Fiscal Year 2023: Revenues totaled \$25 million, primarily sourced from the General Fund and Federal Grant Funds, with a smaller contribution from Impact Fees. A minor negative balance of -\$27,225 appeared as an anomaly, potentially due to a timing issue, fund adjustment, or accounting correction.
- Fiscal Year 2024: Revenues declined to \$20 million, largely due to reductions in Non-Federal Grants, Federal Grants, and General Fund contributions.
- Fiscal Year 2025: Revenue levels remained steady at \$20 million. While overall revenue was unchanged from Fiscal Year 2024, there were increases in funding from Safer City and Federal Grants, partially offsetting prior declines.



Note: Fiscal Year 2023 (-\$27,225) indicates transfer out.

### Fiscal Year 2025 Revenues by Fund

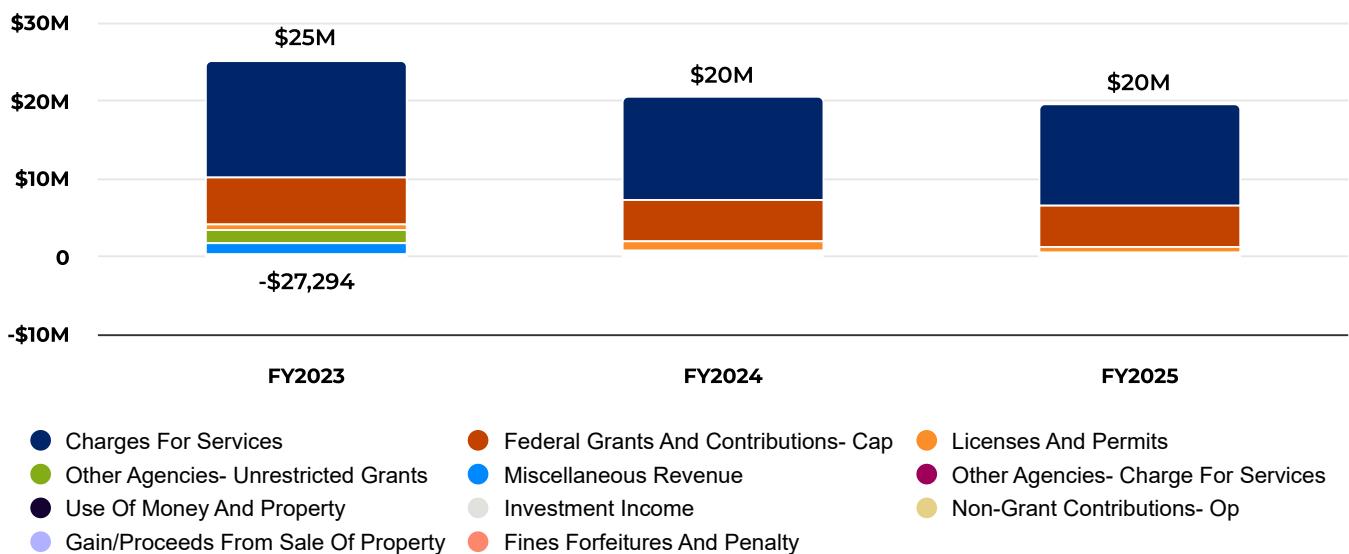


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## Revenues by Funding Source

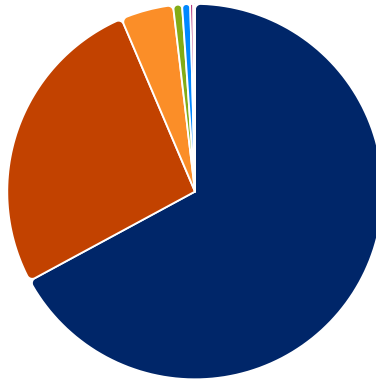
Revenue for the Tucson Fire Department declined from \$25 million in Fiscal Year 2023 to \$20 million in both Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025, reflecting a return to more typical post-pandemic funding levels.

- Fiscal Year 2023: Total revenue reached \$25 million, driven primarily by Charges for Services and Federal Grants and Contributions, with additional support from Licenses and Permits. This higher level of funding may have included temporary or one-time pandemic-related allocations.
- Fiscal Year 2024: Revenues dropped to \$20 million, largely due to a reduction in Other Sources, including miscellaneous revenues, investment income, and grants from other agencies. These sources appear to have normalized following earlier peaks.
- Fiscal Year 2025: Revenues are projected to remain steady at \$20 million, though with further decreases in Charges for Services, Grants, and Use of Money and Property. This suggests a shift in the department's funding mix and continued financial pressure on service-based revenue.



Note: Fiscal Year 2023 (-\$27,294) indicates transfer out.

## Fiscal Year 2025 Revenues by Funding Source



Charges For Services	<b>\$13,097,250</b>	67.12%
Federal Grants And Contributions-Cap	<b>\$5,167,700</b>	26.48%
Licenses And Permits	<b>\$884,960</b>	4.54%
Other Agencies- Charge For Services	<b>\$146,660</b>	0.75%
Investment Income	<b>\$138,036</b>	0.71%
Use Of Money And Property	<b>\$49,704</b>	0.25%
Miscellaneous Revenue	<b>\$28,452</b>	0.15%
Gain/Proceeds From Sale Of Property	<b>\$336</b>	0.00%
Fines Forfeitures And Penalty	<b>\$324</b>	0.00%

## Accomplishments

Tucson Fire remained highly engaged in 2024, responding to a record-breaking volume of incidents while maintaining a consistent distribution across call types. Each bureau played an essential role in meeting the needs of a growing city, reinforcing the department's commitment to public safety, operational readiness, and community trust.

- Maintained a Class 1 Public Protection Classification — the highest rating awarded by the Insurance Services Office (ISO), reflecting excellence in fire protection and emergency response services.
- Launched enhanced EMS coordination with regional automatic aid partners, improving response to the seven most critical medical emergencies.
- Delivered final major equipment and vehicle purchases supported by Proposition 101, ensuring modern, reliable apparatus for frontline response.
- Advanced strategic facility investments, including the rebuild and relocation of Fire Station 14, and significant planning milestones for a new Southside Public Safety Annex and replacement of Fire Station 3.
- Expanded the department's workforce by graduating two firefighter/EMT academies, adding 56 new commissioned firefighters, and welcoming 15 newly certified paramedics through a partnership with Pima College.

These accomplishments underscore Tucson Fire's continued focus on safety, preparedness, and service excellence in an evolving urban environment.

## Future Objectives

Tucson Fire remains committed to advancing public safety and meeting the growing needs of our community. As the city expands, the department will focus on strengthening its emergency response capabilities, enhancing firefighter wellness, and improving service delivery citywide.

- Grow the commissioned workforce and response capacity to reduce response times and ensure timely, effective service for both fire and medical emergencies.
- Adopt the 2024 International Fire Code (IFC) to align with the latest safety standards and best practices in fire prevention and life safety.
- Complete a comprehensive inspection program for all mid-level and high-rise buildings in Tucson to ensure public safety and code compliance.
- Accept delivery of the final fleet of emergency response vehicles supported by Proposition 101, bolstering operational readiness.
- Implement a new records management system (RMS) for improved tracking, reporting, and analysis of fire incident data.
- Advance firefighter health initiatives with continued focus on innovative cancer mitigation strategies.
- Expand professional development opportunities for all personnel, supporting career growth, leadership development, and department excellence.

Through these priorities, Tucson Fire is building a stronger, safer future for the community it proudly serves.

## Position Resources

*\*Full-Time Equivalent Employee (FTE)*

*\*\*645 of the 699 FTE for Fiscal Year 2024/25 are Commissioned Officers*

