

Spending Affordability Committee

2025 Interim Report

Annapolis, Maryland December 2025

For further information concerning this document contact:

Library and Information Services
Office of Policy Analysis
Department of Legislative Services
90 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-946-5400 • 1-800-492-7122, Extension 5400 TTY: 410-946-5401
TTY users may also use the Maryland Relay Service to contact the General Assembly.

Email: libr@mga.maryland.gov
Maryland General Assembly Website: https://mgaleg.maryland.gov
Department of Legislative Services Website: https://dls.maryland.gov

The Department of Legislative Services does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in the admission or access to its programs, services, or activities. Pursuant to Section 35.107 of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) regulations, the Department of Legislative Services' Information Officer has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements of Part 35 of the DOJ regulations, which implement provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Requests for assistance should be directed to the Information Officer at the telephone numbers shown above.



MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

December 19, 2025

The Honorable Wes Moore Governor, State of Maryland State House Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Moore:

We are pleased to submit the fiscal policy recommendations of the Spending Affordability Committee made during the 2025 interim. These recommendations were adopted by the committee at its meeting on December 18, 2025. The committee reviewed data concerning the economic condition of the State, revenue and expenditure trends during the past several years, personnel data, the Transportation Trust Fund, and the results of the Capital Debt Affordability Committee report.

Recommendations were made concerning the fiscal 2027 spending limit and sustainability, general fund and reserve fund balances, general obligation and higher education debt limits, State employment, and the Transportation Trust Fund.

As required by law, the recommendations of the committee have been submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Policy Committee.

We are most appreciative of the time and effort expended by each member of the committee. A special note of thanks and appreciation is extended to John L. Bohanan, Jr., Citizens Advisor, for his valuable assistance and input.

Sincerely,

Senator Jim Rosapepe Presiding Chair

MC:JR/MM/mrm

Enclosure

Delegate Mark S. Chang House Chair

as11. ls



MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

December 19, 2025

The Honorable Bill Ferguson, Co-Chair The Honorable Joseline A.Peña-Melnyk, Co-Chair Members of the Legislative Policy Committee

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to submit the fiscal policy recommendations of the Spending Affordability Committee made during the 2025 interim. These recommendations were adopted by the committee at its meeting on December 18, 2025. The committee reviewed data concerning the economic condition of the State, revenue and expenditure trends during the past several years, personnel data, the Transportation Trust Fund, and the results of the Capital Debt Affordability Committee report.

Recommendations were made concerning the fiscal 2027 spending limit and sustainability, general fund and reserve fund balances, general obligation and higher education debt limits, State employment, and the Transportation Trust Fund.

As required by law, the recommendations of the committee have been submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Policy Committee.

We are most appreciative of the time and effort expended by each member of the committee. A special note of thanks and appreciation is extended to John L. Bohanan, Jr., Citizens Advisor, for his valuable assistance and input.

Sincerely,

Senator Jim Rosapepe Presiding Chair

MC:JR/MM/mrm

Enclosure

Delegate Mark S. Chang

as11. ls

House Chair

Maryland General Assembly Spending Affordability Committee 2025 Interim Membership Roster

Senator Jim Rosapepe, Senate Chair Delegate Mark S. Chang, House Chair

Senators

Pamela Beidle
Paul D. Corderman
Bill Ferguson
Guy Guzzone
Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.
Nancy J. King
Cory V. McCray
Johnny Ray Salling
Ron Watson
Craig J. Zucker

Delegates

Vanessa E. Atterbeary
Ben Barnes
Jason C. Buckel
Jefferson L. Ghrist
Jazz Lewis
David Moon
Josaline A. Peña-Melnyk
Jesse T. Pippy
Stephanie Smith
Courtney Watson
Jheanelle K. Wilkins

Citizens Advisory Committee

John L. Bohanan, Jr.

Committee Staff Madelyn C. Miller

Contents

Governor's Le	etter of Transmittaliii
Legislative Po	olicy Committee's Letter of Transmittalv
Membership I	Rostervii
	g Affordability Committee Report and Recommendations to the Governor and the blicy Committee
Part 1	Economic Outlook and General Fund Revenues
Part 2	General Fund Budget and Forecast
Part 3	Fiscal 2027 Baseline Budget Estimate
Part 4	State Employment
Part 5	Local Government Assistance
Part 6	Transportation81
Part 7	Capital Program and State Debt Policy

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report and Recommendations to the Governor and the Legislative Policy Committee

The Spending Affordability Committee was created in 1982 (Chapter 585). The committee is composed of equal numbers of senators and delegates and includes the Presiding Officers, the majority and minority leaders, the chairs of the fiscal committees (or their designees), and other members appointed by the Presiding Officers. A citizen advisory committee assists the committee.

The committee's primary responsibility is to recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly a level of spending for the State operating budget that is reflective of the current and prospective condition of the State's economy. Historically, this has been in the form of a recommended growth limit. More recently, however, the structural budget gap has been the focus of the committee's recommendations. The full list of the committee's prior recommendations and legislative action on the operating budget are reflected in the table in **Appendix 1**. Since the committee's inception over 40 years ago, its recommendations have been adhered to by the legislature in all but 1 year.

The committee's statutory responsibility is to consider spending in relation to the State's economy. In determining its recommendations, the committee has considered economic performance, revenue estimates, and current and future budget requirements.

Economy

The U.S. economy experienced strong growth in the last two years with inflation-adjusted gross domestic product increasing 2.9% in calendar 2023 and 2.8% in calendar 2024. Growth slowed in the first half of calendar 2025 to 2.1% compared to the first half of 2024. Employment growth also slowed in 2025, increasing 1.1% in the first nine months of 2025 compared to 1.3% in 2024. Year-over-year growth in the third quarter (July through September) was 0.9% and since December, the economy has added 684,000 jobs, an increase of just 0.4%. A significant reduction in federal employment has been a drag on the labor market. Between December 2024 and September 2025, federal employment fell by 94,000 jobs, or 3.1%.

With its proximity to Washinton, D.C., federal employment is more important to the Maryland economy than average. In calendar 2024, federal employment accounted for 5.7% of jobs in Maryland compared to 1.9% nationally. The Maryland share is understated because employment data does not include classified agencies like the National Security Agency. In addition to direct jobs in the State, many Marylanders commute to federal jobs in Washington, D.C. and Virginia. As of September 2025, total federal jobs in Maryland are down 14,000 since December 2024, a decline of 8.6%. Maryland has experienced the largest drop of any state and accounts for about 14% of the total federal job loss. Over this same period, Washington, D.C. saw federal employment fall by 9,100 (-4.7%), and Virginia lost 11,300 federal jobs (-5.7%).

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report

In September, the Board of Revenue Estimates (BRE) issued a revised economic forecast for Maryland, its first since March 2025. BRE estimated that employment, which grew 1.9% in calendar 2024, will increase 0.4% in calendar 2025 and fall 0.3% in 2026. Employment growth slows to just 0.1% in calendar 2027 and 2028 due to low population growth and an aging workforce. Wage growth is projected to slow from 6.4% in 2024 to 3.4% in 2025. With the small decline in employment, BRE estimated wage growth will slow to 2.7% in calendar 2026. In December 2025, BRE revised down their estimate of personal income growth in calendar 2025 due to revisions and new data for the second quarter. The economic forecast beyond 2025 was little changed in December.

Revenues

Fiscal 2025 general fund revenues exceeded the estimate by \$520.6 million, or 2.1%. General fund revenues totaled \$25.7 billion in fiscal 2025, an increase of 3.4% over fiscal 2024, reflecting a one-time transfer in 2024 of \$150 million from the local income tax reserve account to the General Fund. In fiscal 2025, ongoing revenues grew 4.1% over fiscal 2024.

Among the major revenue sources, the personal income tax was above the estimate by \$263.8 million, or 1.8%. The sales tax exceeded the estimate by \$72.4 million (1.2%), and the corporate income tax was below the estimate by \$46.9 million (-2.4%). The State lottery was slightly below the estimate in fiscal 2025 by \$4.0 million (-0.8%). All other sources exceeded the estimate with substantial overattainment for franchise taxes, the tax on insurance premiums, interest on investments and miscellaneous revenues, mostly related to unclaimed property. Combined, the other revenue sources were over the estimate in fiscal 2025 by \$235.4 million, or 9.5%.

In September 2025, BRE lowered its estimate for fiscal 2026 general fund revenues by \$19.1 million, or -0.1%, reflecting the pass-through effects of the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). Total general fund revenues were projected to increase by 3.7% in fiscal 2026 as a variety of State tax law changes from Chapter 604 of 2025 (Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act) take effect. Ongoing revenues were forecasted to grow 3.6% in fiscal 2026 and 1.7% in fiscal 2027.

In December, BRE increased the estimate for fiscal 2026 general fund revenues by \$90.7 million, or 0.3%. Growth over fiscal 2025 is projected to be 4.1%. The personal income tax estimate was increased by \$79 million (0.5%), and there were substantial upward revisions to the estimates for estate and inheritance taxes and interest earnings based on strong year-to-date collections. BRE also reduced their estimate for the corporate income tax by \$97 million (-5.4%) and the sales tax by \$77 million (1.2%). For fiscal 2027, BRE revised up their estimate by \$9 million and is projecting 1.4% growth over fiscal 2026.

Budget Requirements

General fund deficiency appropriations totaling \$803 million are forecast for fiscal 2026. The figure includes \$356 million related to prior year expenses, with provider reimbursements in the Maryland Department of Health representing the largest share (approximately \$300 million). The remaining \$447 million in anticipated general fund deficiencies relate to projected shortfalls in fiscal 2026. The largest projected deficiencies are to pay provider reimbursements related to developmental disabilities services (\$140 million) and behavioral health (\$107 million), which were understated due to higher than expected utilization growth. Other significant deficiency appropriations support:

- foster care maintenance payments (\$41 million);
- personnel costs due to lower than expected vacancy savings (\$30 million);
- child care scholarships (\$29 million); and
- inmate medical contracts (\$26 million).

The committee's forecast assumes the transfer of \$265 million from the Revenue Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund) in fiscal 2026 to offset a portion of the deficiencies. With this transfer, a cash deficit of about \$17 million is forecast at the close of fiscal 2026.

The baseline estimate for fiscal 2027 projects that general fund spending will increase by \$1.34 billion compared to the fiscal 2026 legislative appropriation after adjusting for anticipated deficiencies. The fiscal 2027 general fund ending balance is projected to be a shortfall of \$1.56 billion, after accounting for a transfer of \$304 million from the Rainy Day Fund that represents the amount over 8% of general fund revenue. The significant general fund spending increase reflects \$343 million related to entitlements, driven primarily by Medicaid and Medicaid-eligible behavioral health provider reimbursements (\$310 million). In addition, the baseline anticipates a net increase of \$432 million in appropriations to the Reserve Fund. Spending on local aid increases by \$112.5 million, driven primarily by retirement costs (\$79 million) and community college funding (\$31 million).

State agency costs are projected to increase by \$568 million. The largest increase in State agency spending supports an increase in personnel costs, including \$94 million for a 2% general salary increase and \$50 million for health insurance costs. Additional significant increases include provider reimbursements for the Developmental Disabilities Administration and non-Medicaid-eligible behavioral health services (\$131 million), Information Technology Investment Fund projects (\$97 million), and the State share of administrative costs for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program due to the lower federal share beginning on October 1, 2026 (\$60 million).

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report

The committee budget forecast assumes that the State will close fiscal 2027 with a balance of \$2.17 billion in the Rainy Day Fund, which represents 8% of general fund revenues.

As shown in **Exhibit 1**, which provides the cash and structural balance projections for the General Fund through fiscal 2031, the cash deficit worsens over time, growing from \$1.56 billion in fiscal 2027 to \$3.9 billion by fiscal 2030. The projected structural shortfall also increases substantially, rising from \$1.2 billion in fiscal 2027 to \$2.7 billion in fiscal 2028 with additional increases through fiscal 2030 before slightly improving to \$3.5 billion in fiscal 2031. Both the cash and structural shortfalls increase beginning in fiscal 2028 due to the need for general funds to support costs related to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future (Blueprint). The general funds required to support Blueprint costs rise from \$0 in fiscal 2027 to \$1.57 billion in fiscal 2028, increasing further to \$3.43 billion in fiscal 2031.

Exhibit 1 General Fund Budget Outlook Fiscal 2026-2031 Est. (\$ in Millions)

	Working Appropriation 2026	Est. 2027	Est. 2028	Est. 2029	Est. 2030	Est. 2031
Cash	<u>2020</u> -\$17	-\$1,562	-\$2,709	-\$3,132	-\$3,850	-\$3,669
Structural Balance	-259	-1,239	-2,720	-2,965	-3,682	-3,501

Note: Estimates assume a Revenue Stabilization Account balance of 8% of general fund revenues.

Recommendations

In light of the considerations discussed earlier, the committee proposes the following recommendations for the 2026 session:

1. Operating Budget Spending Limit and Sustainability

A structural deficit of \$1.2 billion is forecast for fiscal 2027 and is projected to increase to \$3.7 billion by fiscal 2030. Cash shortfalls are expected to grow from \$1.6 billion in fiscal 2027 to \$3.9 billion by fiscal 2030.

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report

The State's budget challenges reflect the negative impact of the Donald J. Trump Administration's policies and the costs of entitlement and education programs surpassing planning estimates. Federal job cuts have weakened the State's economy, contributing to a March 2025 revenue write-down of more than \$1 billion over the fiscal 2025 through 2030 period. The OBBBA ALONE will increase State spending by about \$100 million annually and reduce taxes paid by businesses by more than \$350 million over the next two years. In addition, the Trump Administration's unpredictable policies on trade, federal employment, and government services add material downside risks to Maryland's economy and fiscal situation.

In recognition of the fiscal outlook, the committee recommends that the fiscal 2027 budget, as introduced and enacted, reduce the gap between general fund revenues and ongoing spending by 50% (\$600 million).

The committee notes that the reliability of budget actions depends heavily on the quality, consistency, and alignment of underlying fiscal projections. In recent budget cycles, changes to revenue and expenditure outlooks have materially affected the State's structural balance, underscoring the need for enhanced coordination, consensus, and shared forecasting assumptions. Recently, the Department of Legislative Services (DLS), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and BRE have increased coordination and data sharing. To support more durable budget decisions, the committee recommends continued and regular consultation among the agencies, including more frequent cross-checks and updates.

2. Fund Balances

After assuming the transfer of funds in excess of 8% of general fund revenues from the Rainy Day Fund, it is anticipated that there will be a cash shortfall of \$1.6 billion at the close of fiscal 2027. Reducing the Rainy Day Fund balance below 8% would assist the State in resolving the short-term fiscal challenges but leave the State vulnerable to the impact of a recession. It is important to keep in mind that the Rainy Day Fund is supposed to be used in emergency situations such as when unemployment is above 5% or unexpected revenue write-downs occur in the middle of drafting the fiscal 2027 budget.

In light of current economic uncertainties, it is prudent to retain a healthy fund balance so that funds remain available in the event of a recession or additional federal actions that harm the Maryland economy. Before considering drawing on the Rainy Day Fund, opportunities should be explored to (1) better align ongoing spending with ongoing revenues and (2) achieve one-time budgetary savings. The committee recommends:

• the fiscal 2027 budget as introduced maintain a Rainy Day Fund balance of <u>at least</u> 8.0% of general fund revenues to ensure that resources are available to mitigate the impact of an economic downturn and/or federal actions that harm the Maryland economy; and

• a minimum ending balance of at least \$100 million in the General Fund for fiscal 2027.

Notwithstanding the goal of 8%, in the event that March revenues are revised downward by \$100 million or more or the State's unemployment rate reaches 5.0% or more, a Rainy Day Fund balance of at least 7.5% will be maintained.

Excluding COVID-19 related disaster assistance, between fiscal 2010 and 2025 Maryland received \$325.8 million in federal disaster assistance, an average of \$21.4 million per year. Federal policymakers appear to be transitioning to a policy of severely limiting future aid to states. The Federal Emergency Management Agency denied a request for a disaster declaration and resulting aid from the May 2025 floods in Western Maryland, for which Maryland had requested \$33.7 million in aid. Maryland has two funds that can be used to support costs related to disasters: (1) the Catastrophic Event Account – which supports disaster assistance and federal employee hardship related to layoffs, relocations, and government shutdowns; and (2) the State Disaster Recovery Fund – which supports disaster relief regardless of an official disaster declaration. Historically, the Catastrophic Event Account is maintained with a balance of \$10 million, and it is expected to require replenishment in fiscal 2027 to be at this level following use for federal government shutdown assistance. DLS anticipates a balance of \$2.3 million at the close of fiscal 2027 in the State Disaster Recovery Fund. Since the federal government appears less likely to provide disaster assistance in the future, the State should maintain a combined balance of at least \$15 million in these two funds beginning in fiscal 2027. The Treasurer's Office should also explore the cost of purchasing disaster recovery insurance to cover at least a portion of the cost of assisting communities impacted by natural disasters.

3. Capital Budget

A. General Obligation Debt

In its 2025 report, the Capital Debt Affordability Committee (CDAC) recommended keeping annual general obligation (GO) bond authorizations at \$1.750 billion in fiscal 2027 and through the five-year planning period, which is consistent with the amount planned by CDAC last year and with the amount programmed in the 2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The committee recommends the authorization of \$1.750 billion in new GO bonds for the 2026 session. For planning purposes, the level of authorizations should remain at the CDAC-recommended level of \$1.750 billion from fiscal 2028 through 2031.

CDAC also considered alternative assumptions regarding the annual level of GO bond issuances. The 2025 *Joint Chairmen's Report* (JCR) directed the State Treasurer's Office to work with DBM and DLS to convene a workgroup to evaluate the issuance assumptions used by CDAC, which are based on a formula that has been unchanged for several decades. The workgroup recommended that CDAC adopt issuance assumptions based on a 10-year weighted average of actual project expenditures.

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report

Although DBM participated in the JCR workgroup, DBM proposed and CDAC adopted an alternative recommendation to use issuance assumptions based on recent experience of lower expenditure levels.

Because the CDAC-adopted issuance assumptions are based on trends in expenditure levels rather than trends in expenditure rates, the adopted assumptions significantly underestimate future issuance needs. The GO bond authorization level increased significantly in fiscal 2025, from \$1.205 billion in fiscal 2024 to \$1.750 billion in fiscal 2025. Issuances would also be expected to increase significantly as projects authorized in fiscal 2025 begin to expend funds. Accordingly, the committee recommends using the JCR workgroup recommendation based on expenditure rates for the purposes of debt affordability analysis.

B. Higher Education Debt

The University System of Maryland (USM) intends to issue \$30 million in academic debt for fiscal 2027, which is the amount recommended by CDAC and is consistent with the level of issuance authorized for fiscal 2026. This level of issuance will result in a ratio of debt service, including payments on capital lease obligations, to operating revenues and State appropriations of 3% or less through fiscal 2031. This is well below the 4.0% limit recommended by the system's financial advisers.

The committee recommends the level of Academic Revenue Bond authorizations be set at \$50 million for fiscal 2027 and for planning purposes remain at \$50 million annually through fiscal 2031. The recommendation is affordable within USM debt limitation policies and will provide \$20 million of additional authorization in fiscal 2027 and a total of \$100 million through the planning period above the amounts currently programmed in the 2025 CIP. The committee also recommends that the additional \$20 million annual authorization be earmarked for USM stand-alone State-owned projects included in the CIP.

4. State Employment

Personnel costs comprise approximately 18% of the State's operating budget. The committee anticipates a net decrease of 318.7 positions in the fiscal 2027 budget compared to the fiscal 2026 legislative appropriation, adjusted to account for positions abolished in October 2025 by the Board of Public Works. The resulting authorized number of State employees would be 85,958.8 in fiscal 2027.

The Executive Branch currently has a vacancy rate of 10.0% with 5,194 Executive Branch vacancies in October 2025, excluding higher education. While the vacancy rate is relatively high, the budgeted turnover rate is higher, at 10.5%. The Executive Branch is approximately 318 vacancies short of meeting budgeted turnover in fiscal 2026. Compared to one year ago, the Executive Branch has grown by approximately 650 filled positions.

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report

The committee recommends that the Executive Branch maintain current levels of authorized positions, fill vacancies in mission critical positions, and increase vacancies overall to meet budgeted turnover.

5. Transportation

The target closing balance for the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) is intended to ensure that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) has sufficient working cash to administer its operating and capital programs. System preservation spending is necessary to maintain or bring capital assets into a State of Good Repair (SOGR), which is where assets are performing as designed, and the chance of breakdowns is small. MDOT's most recent calculation of the SOGR funding needs and the amount of programmed and projected funding identified a 10-year gap of \$12.5 billion. **The committee recommends:**

- a fiscal 2027 target closing balance of at least \$550 million for the TTF, which is \$50 million greater than the target closing balance assumed by MDOT in its draft September 2025 financial forecast. The committee is recommending a larger TTF fund balance to ensure the continued ability of MDOT to meet its cash flow needs in the case that federal fund attainment, including federal reimbursement for capital projects, is less than currently projected by the department; and
- fiscal 2027 spending on system preservation of at least \$1.15 billion, which is the average annual amount spent over the previous 10 years.

Appendix 1
Prior Recommendations and Legislative Action on the Operating Budget
(\$\\$\text{in Millions}\)

	Commit	ttee Recommenda	tion	Legislati	ve Action
Session Year	Growth Rate	<u>Amou</u>	<u>nt</u>	Growth	Amount
1983	9.00%	\$428.0		5.70	\$269.8
1984	6.15%	326.7		8.38	402.0
1985	8.00%	407.2		7.93	404.6
1986	7.70%	421.5		7.31	402.2
1987	7.28%	430.2		7.27	429.9
1988	8.58%	557.5		8.54	552.9
1989	8.79%	618.9		8.78	618.2
1990	9.00%	691.6		8.98	689.7
1991	5.14%	421.8		5.00	410.0
1992	No	recommendation		10.0	823.3
1993	2.50%	216.7		2.48	215.0
1994	5.00%	443.2		5.00	443.2
1995	4.50%	420.1		4.50	420.0
1996	4.25%	415.0		3.82	372.8
1997	4.15%	419.6		4.00	404.6
1998	4.90%	514.9		4.82	506.6
1999	5.90%	648.8		5.82	640.6
2000^{1}	6.90%	803.0		6.87	800.0
2001^{2}	6.95%	885.3		6.94	884.6
2002	3.95%	543.2		3.40	468.1
2003	2.50%	358.2		0.94	134.1
2004	4.37%	635.2		4.33	629.0
2005^{3}	6.70%	1,037.1		6.69	1,036.3
2006^{3}	9.60%	1,604.7		9.57	1,599.0
2007	7.90%	1,450.0		7.51	1,378.4
2008	4.27%	848.7		4.16	826.8
2009^{4}	0.70%	145.7		0.19	39.2
2010^4	0.00%	0.0		-	-626.9
2011	Reduce fiscal 20	012 structural defic	eit by 331/3%	36.90%	/46.00% ⁵
2012	Reduce fiscal 20	013 structural defic	eit by 50.0%	50.	60%
2013		2014 structural	deficit by		
	\$200.0 million				-211.2
2014	4.00%	937.8		2.76	646.4
		2015 structural	deficit by		
	\$125.0 million				-126.1

2025 Spending Affordability Committee Report

	Committee Re	commendation	Legis	lative Action
Session Year	Growth Rate	Amount	Growt	<u>Amount</u>
2015	Reduce fiscal 2016 stru	ectural deficit by 50.0)%	68.27%
2016	4.85%	1,184.2	4.55	1,111.2
2017	Reduce fiscal 2018 states 50.0%	tructural deficit by		90.19%
2018	Eliminate 100% of the deficit	e fiscal 2019 structur	ral	100%
2019	3.75%	1,019.0	3.31	900.7
	Maintain structural bal	ance in fiscal 2020		76.0^{6}
2020	Maintain structural bal	ance in fiscal 2021		160.2
2021	Limit fiscal 2022	structural deficit	to	
	\$700 million or less			63.0
2022	Maintain structural bal	ance in fiscal 2023		276.0
2023	Structural surplus of	of \$100 million	in	
	fiscal 2024			146.0
2024	Limit fiscal 2025	structural deficit	to	
	\$508 million or less			483.1
2025	Eliminate 100% of the deficit	e fiscal 2026 structur	ral	100%

¹2000 legislative action does not reflect \$266 million of Cigarette Restitution Fund (CRF) appropriations. CRF dollars were excluded because it had not previously been available to the State. The 2000 growth rate, including CRF dollars, was 9.16%.

²Methodology revised effective with the 2001 session.

³The committee initially approved a limit of 5.70% for 2005 and 8.90% for 2006.

⁴Legislative action calculation includes federal funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 used in lieu of ongoing general fund spending.

⁵Spending reduction/total reduction.

⁶Amount reflects difference between the estimated structural deficit of \$64 million in the Governor's allowance and the structural surplus of \$12 million in the legislative appropriation.

Part 1

Economic Outlook and General Fund Revenues

Maryland Economic Performance Year-over-year Percent Change

				Initial			
	Unemployment	Initial	Continuing	Federal	Vehicle	Existing	Median
<u>Month-Year</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>UI Claims</u>	<u>UI Claims</u>	<u>UI Claims</u>	<u>Sales</u>	Home Sales	Home Price
Jan-25	3.0%	-3.0%	4.6%	50	0.7%	2.1%	5.5%
Feb-25	3.0%	-0.1%	4.0%	374	-6.7%	-9.6%	2.3%
Mar-25	3.0%	-6.0%	7.0%	465	8.5%	-10.0%	3.7%
Apr-25	3.1%	0.0%	7.2%	165	5.1%	-7.0%	4.8%
May-25	3.2%	0.1%	6.4%	251	-0.2%	-10.6%	2.3%
Jun-25	3.3%	4.7%	15.0%	131	2.6%	-1.3%	3.3%
Jul-25	3.4%	-3.1%	16.2%	455	-4.0%	-9.6%	2.8%
Aug-25	3.6%	-7.4%	18.8%	435		-9.1%	2.4%
Sep-25		0.6%	24.5%	322		-0.1%	1.4%
Oct-25				4,466			
CY 24 YTD	3.0%	108,096	24,050	474	519,316	52,093	\$416,928
CY 25 YTD	3.2%	106,424	26,801	7,114	524,600	48,726	430,000
YTD	3.2%	-1.5%	11.4%	1400.8%	1.0%	-6.5%	3.1%

CY: calendar year

UI: unemployment insurance

YTD: year to date

Note: The unemployment rate is based on seasonally adjusted data. Monthly unemployment insurance claims and claims for the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees program (UCFE) come from the U.S. Department of Labor. UCFE claims are the sum of the weekly numbers. Vehicle sales from the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration includes both new and used vehicles. Existing home sales and the median home price from the Maryland Association of Realtors.

Federal Government in Maryland

- In 2024, there were about 162,000 civilian federal jobs located in Maryland with wages totalling \$25 billion, around 11% of total wages. Virginia and the District of Columbia each have around 193,000 federal jobs, and many Marylanders commute to those jurisidictions.
- An analysis of tax year 2023 data by the Comptroller's Office found 269,000 Marylanders received a federal W-2, representing about 9.5% of taxpayers. St. Mary's, Charles, Prince George's and Calvert counties are especially dependent on federal employment. Statewide, federal wages were 9.2% of adjusted gross income in 2023 and 22% in St. Mary's and Charles counties.
- Federal contract spending is important to the Maryland private sector economy. In federal fiscal year 2024, federal contract obligations for work performed in Maryland totaled \$42 billion, which is equal to about 10.7% of Maryland's private sector gross State product. The Department of Defense and the Department of Health and Human Services account for about 40% and 20%, respectively.
- Since January, there has been a significant reduction in federal employment. Maryland has seen the largest decline of any state.

	<u>Jan. 2025</u>	Aug. 2025	<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Maryland	163,100	148,000	-15,100	-9.3%	51
D.C.	192,800	184,100	-8,700	-4.5%	44
Virginia	196,700	185,200	-11,500	-5.8%	47
	552,600	517,300	-35,300	-6.4%	
United States	3,015,000	2,918,000	-97,000	-3.2%	

Maryland Employment: August 2025 vs. January 2025

- Since January, Maryland has lost over 15,000 federal government jobs, a decline of 9.3%. Strong growth in State and local government employment has partially offset this so total government jobs are down 0.2%.
- Private sector job growth has been very weak since January (0.1%). Declines across a variety of sectors were offset by growth in four sectors: construction; education; health care, and leisure and hospitality services.
- Overall, Maryland employment has essentially not grown since the beginning of the year.

<u>Jan. 2025</u>	<u>Aug. 2025</u>	<u>Change</u>	% Change	
163,100	148,000	-15,100	-9.3%	Federal Government
124,000	128,900	4,900	4.0%	State Government
267,400	276,400	9,000	3.4%	Local Government
159,100	163,200	4,100	2.6%	Construction, Natural Resources, and Mining
110,000	108,500	-1,500	-1.4%	Manufacturing
117,700	114,000	-3,700	-3.1%	Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities
360,600	357,500	-3,100	-0.9%	Retail and Wholesale Trade
34,500	33,500	-1,000	-2.9%	Information
142,400	142,000	-400	-0.3%	Financial Activities
479,300	478,300	-1,000	-0.2%	Professional and Business Services
87,500	90,200	2,700	3.1%	Educational Services
410,700	416,500	5,800	1.4%	Health Care and Social Assistance
268,200	273,300	5,100	1.9%	Leisure and Hospitality Services
121,900	116,500	-5,400	-4.4%	Other Services
2,846,400	2,846,800	400	0.0%	Total
554,500	553,300	-1,200	-0.2%	Government
2,291,900	2,293,500	1,600	0.1%	Private Sector

Source: Seaonally adjusted payroll employment from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Maryland Economic Forecasts

Year-over-year Percent Change

Calendar	Calendar Employment		Wage and Sal	ary Income
<u>Year</u>	<u>Mar. 2025</u>	Sep. 2025	<u>Mar. 2025</u>	Sep. 2025
2022	2.4%	2.5%	6.0%	6.0%
2023	1.1%	1.7%	5.2%	5.2%
2024	0.5%	1.9%	5.0%	6.5%
2025E	0.5%	0.4%	3.5%	3.4%
2026E	0.1%	-0.3%	3.5%	2.7%
2027E	0.1%	0.1%	3.5%	3.7%
2028E	0.1%	0.1%	3.5%	3.6%

Calendar Personal		Income	Taxable Capital G	Sains Income*
<u>Year</u>	<u>Mar. 2025</u>	Sep. 2025	<u>Mar. 2025</u>	Sep. 2025
2022	3.1%	3.1%	-49.2%	-49.2%
2023	6.0%	6.0%	4.0%	4.0%
2024	5.2%	5.9%	5.0%	40.0%
2025E	3.8%	3.9%	1.0%	-15.0%
2026E	3.7%	3.0%	0.0%	1.0%
2027E	3.8%	3.7%	0.0%	3.0%
2028E	4.1%	4.0%	0.0%	2.0%

^{*} The figures for 2024 wage and personal income growth under the Mar. 2025 column are estimates. For capital gains income, the calendar 2023-2024 figures are estimates for both March and September.

General Fund Revenues: Fiscal 2025 (\$ in Millions)

	Fiscal					Fiscal 202		
	2024		Fiscal	2025		Percentage Change		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Actual</u>	\$ Diff.	% Diff.	<u>Estimated</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Personal Income Tax	\$13,617	\$14,301	\$14,565	\$264	1.8%	5.0%	7.0%	
Corporate Income Tax	1,904	1,924	1,877	-47	-2.4%	1.0%	-1.4%	
Sales and Use Tax (1)(2)	5,897	5,976	6,049	72	1.2%	1.3%	2.6%	
State Lottery	655	523	519	-4	-0.8%	-20.2%	-20.8%	
Tobacco Tax ⁽³⁾	405	363	370	7	1.8%	-10.3%	-8.7%	
Interest on Investments	380	335	359	24	7.1%	-11.8%	-5.6%	
Other	1,856	1,772	1,978	205	11.6%	-4.5%	6.6%	
Ongoing General Funds	\$24,713	\$25,195	\$25,716	\$521	2.1%	2.0%	4.1%	
GAAP Transfer ⁽⁴⁾	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$0				
Total General Funds	\$24,863	\$25,195	\$25,716	\$521	2.1%	1.3%	3.4%	

GAAP: Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

Note: The estimate from March 2025 has been adjusted for actions taken at the 2025 legislative session.

Source: Office of the Comptroller; Board of Revenue Estimates

⁽¹⁾ The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund (BMFF) share of certain sales and use tax revenues increased from 11.0% in fiscal 2024 to 11.3% in fiscal 2025.

⁽²⁾ Chapters 254 and 255 of 2023 imposed a 9% sales tax on cannabis. Fiscal 2024 general fund revenue includes \$30.5 million. Total revenue from cannabis sales increased 12.6% in fiscal 2025, but the portion devoted to the administrative costs of the Maryland Cannabis Administration increased from \$2.8 million in fiscal 2024 to \$30.1 million in fiscal 2025, resulting in general fund revenue of \$20.8 million. Total cannabis revenue underattained the fiscal 2025 estimate by \$15.1 million.

⁽³⁾ The Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2024 (Chapter 717) increased tobacco tax rates and added a new distribution of tobacco revenues to the BMFF. In fiscal 2025, the distribution was set at \$88.3 million equal to the expected impact of the rate increases.

⁽⁴⁾ The Comptroller's annual analysis of the local income tax reserve account determined the account was overfunded at the end of fiscal 2023 by \$315.7 million. The Board of Revenue Estimates chose to transfer a little less than half that amount to reduce the over-funding in the account.

General Fund Revenue Forecast (\$ in Millions)

	Fiscal 2025		Fiscal 2026 E	stimate		Percent Change vs.	Fiscal 2027	Percent Change vs.	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>March</u>	September	\$ Diff.	%Diff.	Fiscal 2025	<u>Estimate</u>	Fiscal 2026	
Personal Income Tax (1)	\$14,565	\$15,306	\$15,342	\$36	0.2%	5.3%	\$15,679	2.2%	
Corporate Income Tax	1,877	1,938	1,791	-147	-7.6%	-4.5%	1,748	-2.4%	
Sales and Use Tax (2)(3)	6,049	6,674	6,639	-35	-0.5%	9.8%	6,949	4.7%	
State Lottery	519	521	532	11	2.1%	2.5%	475	-10.6%	
Tobacco Taxes (4)	370	293	273	-20	-6.7%	-26.1%	262	-4.0%	
Other (5)	2,336	1,934	2,069	135	7.0%	-11.4%	1,989	-3.9%	
Ongoing General Funds	\$25,716	\$26,666	\$26,647	-\$19	-0.1%	3.6%	\$27,103	1.7%	
Transfer Tax	0	25	25	0	n.a	n.a	25	n.a	
Total General Funds	\$25,716	\$26,691	\$26,672	-\$19	-0.1%	3.7%	\$27,128	1.7%	
Impact of Federal Tax Bill Included in BRE Estimate (6) -\$118 -\$71									

BRE: Board of Revenue Estimates

Note: The estimate from March 2025 has been adjusted for actions taken at the 2025 legislative session.

⁽¹⁾ The Budget Reconciliation & Financing Act (BRFA) of 2025 (Chapter 603) included several personal income tax provisions: (a) added two new income tax brackets at the top of rate schedule, increasing the top rate from 5.75% to 6.5%; (b) increased the standard deduction in tax year 2025; (c) capped itemized deductions for taxpayers with federal adjusted gross income over specified levels; (c) increased the income eligibility threshold for the child tax credit; and (d) imposed a 2% surtax on certain net capital gains income for taxpayers with federal adjusted gross income over \$300,000 with 37.5% of the revenue distributed to the Transportation Trust Fund and the remainder to the general fund. Combined the provisions were projected to increase general fund revenue by \$580 million in fiscal 2026 and \$440 million in fiscal 2027.

⁽²⁾ The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund (BMFF) share of non-cannabis sales tax revenues after other distributions increases from 11.3% in fiscal 2025 to 11.7% in fiscal 2026 and 12.1% in fiscal 2027.

⁽³⁾ The BRFA of 2025 included several sales tax provisions: (a) increased the rate on cannabis from 9% to 12% and directed the first 25% to the general fund; (b) repealed the exemptions for snack food in vending machines and photographic equipment; (c) imposed the sales tax on the sale of certain precious metal coins and bullion; and (d) imposed a 3% tax on certain data and information technology services with all revenue going to the General Fund. Combined the provisions were projected to increase general fund revenues by \$549.7 million in fiscal 2026 and \$757.6 million in fiscal 2027.

⁽⁴⁾ The BRFA of 2024 (Chapter 717) increased tobacco tax rates and added a new distribution of tobacco revenues to the BMFF. In fiscal 2025, the distribution was set at \$88.3 million. In fiscal 2026, the distribution is equal to 32.6% of tobacco tax revenues, rising to 33.2% in fiscal 2027.

⁽⁵⁾ Includes \$26.2 million in fiscal 2026 and \$27.7 million in fiscal 2027 from sports wagering revenue. The BRFA of 2025 increased the tax on mobile sports wagering from 15% to 20% and distributed the extra 5% to the general fund beginning in fiscal 2026.

⁽⁶⁾ The federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act (P.L. 119-21) was adopted in July 2025. BRE analyzed the impact of the bill's changes to the federal tax code in their 60-Day Report issued in early September. That analysis estimated that certain changes to federal personal and corporate income taxes would pass through to Maryland and result in a general fund revenue loss of \$117.9 million in fiscal 2026 and \$71.4 million in fiscal 2027. The revenue loss is reflected in the BRE general fund revenue estimates for fiscal 2026 and 2027.

General Fund Revenue Forecast (\$ in Millions)

	Fiscal					Percent					Percent
	2025		Fiscal 2026 E	stimate		Change vs.		Fiscal 2027 E	stimate		Change vs.
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>December</u>	\$ Diff.	%Diff.	Fiscal 2025	<u>September</u>	<u>December</u>	\$ Diff.	%Diff.	<u>Fiscal 2025</u>
Personal Income Tax	\$14,565	\$15,342	\$15,421	\$78.6	0.5%	5.9%	\$15,679	\$15,789	\$110	0.7%	2.4%
Corporate Income Tax	1,877	1,791	1,694	-97	-5.4%	-9.7%	1,748	1,658	-90	-5.1%	-2.1%
Sales and Use Tax	6,049	6,639	6,563	-77	-1.2%	8.5%	6,949	6,870	-79	-1.1%	4.7%
State Lottery	519	532	543	11	2.0%	4.6%	475	475	0	0.0%	-12.4%
Tobacco Taxes	370	273	262	-11	-4.1%	-29.1%	262	252	-11	-4.0%	-4.0%
Other	2,336	2,069	2,255	186	9.0%	-3.5%	1,989	2,068	79	4.0%	-8.3%
Ongoing General Funds	\$25,716	\$26,647	\$26,738	\$91	0.3%	4.0%	\$27,103	\$27,112	\$9	0.0%	1.4%
Transfer Tax	\$0	\$25	\$25	\$0	n/a	n/a	\$25	\$25	\$0	n/a	n/a
Total General Funds	\$25,716	\$26,672	\$26,763	\$91	0.3%	4.1%	\$27,128	\$27,137	\$9	0.0%	1.4%

Traditional Lottery Revenue Forecast Fiscal 2024-2031 \$ in Millions

	Actual <u>2024</u>	Actual <u>2025</u>	Estimate <u>2026</u>	Estimate 2027	Estimate <u>2028</u>	Estimate <u>2029</u>	Estimate <u>2030</u>	Estimate <u>2031</u>
Total Net Sales	\$2,736.9	\$2,638.3	\$2,687.1	\$2,657.7	\$2,661.2	\$2,665.5	\$2,670.0	\$2,675.9
Year-over-year Percent Change	-1.2%	-3.6%	1.8%	-1.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Total Net Revenue	\$699.6	\$667.2	\$680.8	\$667.0	\$666.6	\$666.5	\$666.4	\$666.8
Year-over-year Percent Change	-2.1%	-4.6%	2.0%	-2.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Distributions	\$44.6	\$148.2	\$148.9	\$191.7	\$194.5	\$197.0	\$197.1	\$197.9
Share of Net Revenue	6.4%	22.2%	21.9%	28.7%	29.2%	29.6%	29.6%	29.7%
General Fund	\$655.0	\$519.0	\$531.9	\$475.2	\$472.1	\$469.4	\$469.3	\$469.0
Year-over-year Percent Change	-0.1%	-20.8%	2.5%	-10.6%	-0.7%	-0.6%	0.0%	-0.1%
Distrbution Detail:								
Stadium Facilities Fund	\$14.2	\$13.4	\$11.3	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$3.4	\$3.4
Baltimore City School Construction Fund	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Camden Yards Football Sports Facility Fund		34.7	34.7	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0
Camden Yards Baseball Sports Facility Fund			13.5	41.6	41.6	41.6	41.6	41.6
Bus Rapid Transit Fund		27.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0
Prince George's County Blue Line Corridor Fund	1.1	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0
Sports Entertainment Facility Fund		12.4	18.4	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Major Sports/Entertainment Event Fund	8.2	7.6	4.5	6.8	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Veterans Trust Fund	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Michael Erin Busch Sports Fund	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Maryland Humanities Council	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Maggie McIntosh School Arts Fund	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Prince George's County Local Impact Grant		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
VLT Local Impact Grant Hold Harmless	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.0	8.0	0.5	0.3	0.1
Racetrax Local Impact Grants			0.3	0.3				
Racetrack Renewal - Net Transfer	-2.3		-3.6			2.8	3.1	4.1

VLT: video lottery terminals

Part 2

General Fund Budget and Forecast

General Fund: End-of-year Balances Fiscal 2025-2027 (\$ in Millions)

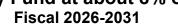
	2025 <u>Actual</u>	2026 <u>Working</u>	2027 Baseline
Total Funds Available	\$27,578	\$27,624	\$27,543
Total Spending	27,307	27,625	29,039
Cash Balance	\$271	\$0	-\$1,496
Structural Balance (Ongoing Revenues Less Ongoing Spending)	-\$753	-\$259	-\$1,173
Ratio (Ongoing Revenues/Ongoing Operating Costs)	97.2%	99.0%	95.9%
Reserve Fund Activity			
Appropriations to Rainy Day Fund	\$0	\$0	\$450
Transfers to General Fund	346	484	304
Estimated Rainy Day Fund Balance – June 30	\$2,380	\$1,980	\$2,170
Rainy Day Fund Balance in Excess of 5%	\$1,123	\$648	\$815

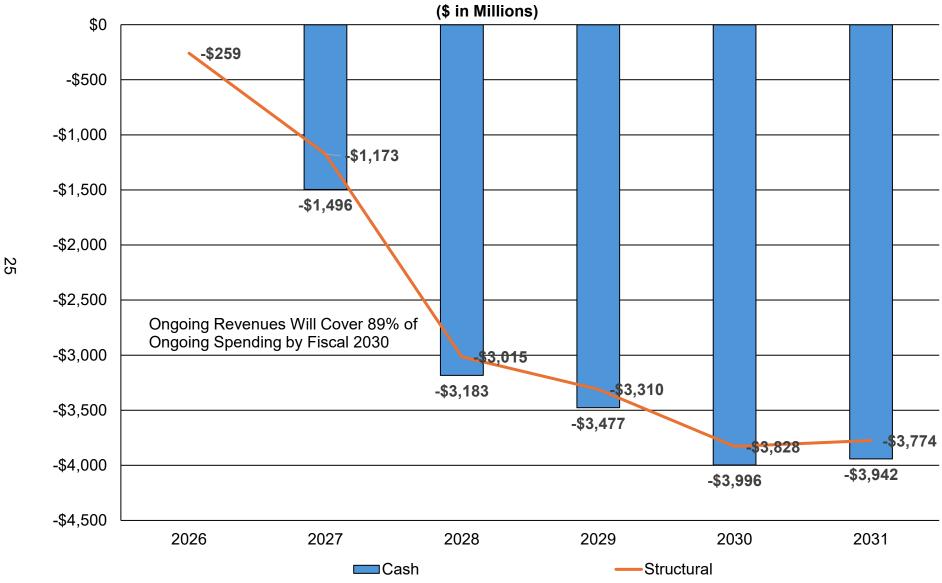
Why Is Fiscal 2027 General Fund Outlook Worse Than Post-session? (\$ in Millions)

Revenues Are Lower		\$718
OBBBA Impact	\$371	
No Fiscal 2026 Balance Due to Deficiencies	321	
Other	26	
Ongoing Spending Is Higher		\$778
Medicaid Behavioral Health	\$217	·
K-12 Education (Fund Swap/Retirement Costs)	175	
OBBBA	100	
Employee Health Insurance/Retirement	100	
Various Entitlement Programs	50	
Disparity Grant	35	
Other	101	
Revenue Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Full Mandated Appropriation of Amount Equal to	nd)	
Fiscal 2025 Surplus to the Rainy Day Fund		\$450
Use of Rainy Day Fund Balance in Excess of		
8% of Revenues		-304
Net Deterioration in Fiscal Outlook		\$1,642

OBBBA: One Big Beautiful Bill Act

Cash and Structural Budget Shortfalls Forecast with Rainy Day Fund at about 8% of Revenues





2

Change in Budget Outlook Since November SAC Meeting Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)

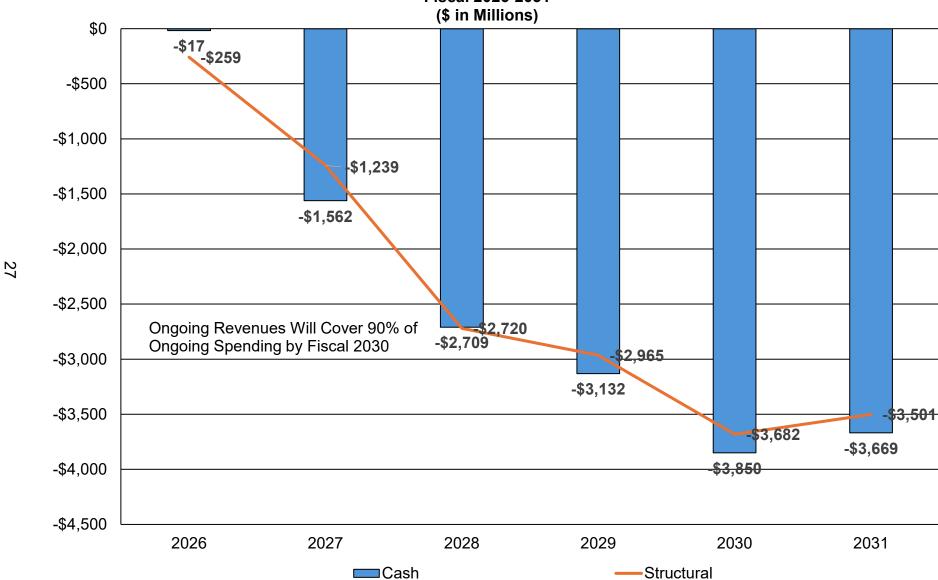
	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>2031</u>
November SAC Cash Balance with Rainy Day at 8%	\$0	-\$1,496	-\$3,183	-\$3,477	-\$3,996	-\$3,942
December Adjustments						
BRE Revenue Update	\$91	\$9	\$80	\$67	-\$10	\$11
Revenue Volatility Adjustment					-\$141	-\$71
Developmental Disabilities Administration Costs Understated in Baseline	-85	-156	-162	-169	-175	-182
K-12 Education Updated for Actual Fall Enrollment and Retirement	0	75	534	413	437	479
Autism Waiver – Based on Updated Information from MSDE, Including Higher Than Budgeted Fiscal 2025 Costs, and Savings Related to						
Enrollment Freeze	-23	7	22	34	36	36
Total December Adjustments	-\$17	-\$66	\$474	\$345	\$146	\$273
December SAC Cash Balance with Rainy Day at 8%	-\$17	-\$1,562	-\$2,709	-\$3,132	-\$3,850	-\$3,669

MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education

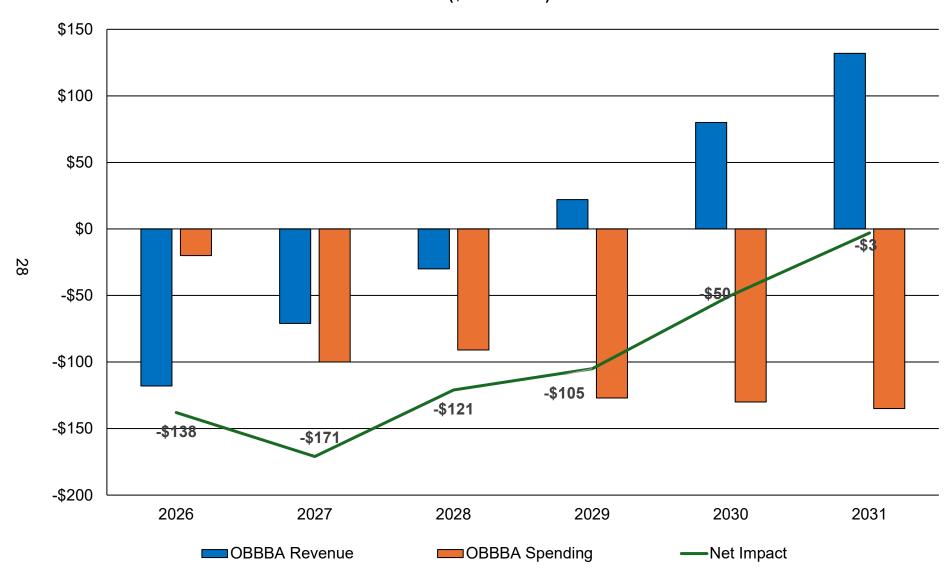
SAC: Spending Affordability Committee

Cash and Structural Budget Shortfalls Forecast with Rainy Day Fund at about 8% of Revenues



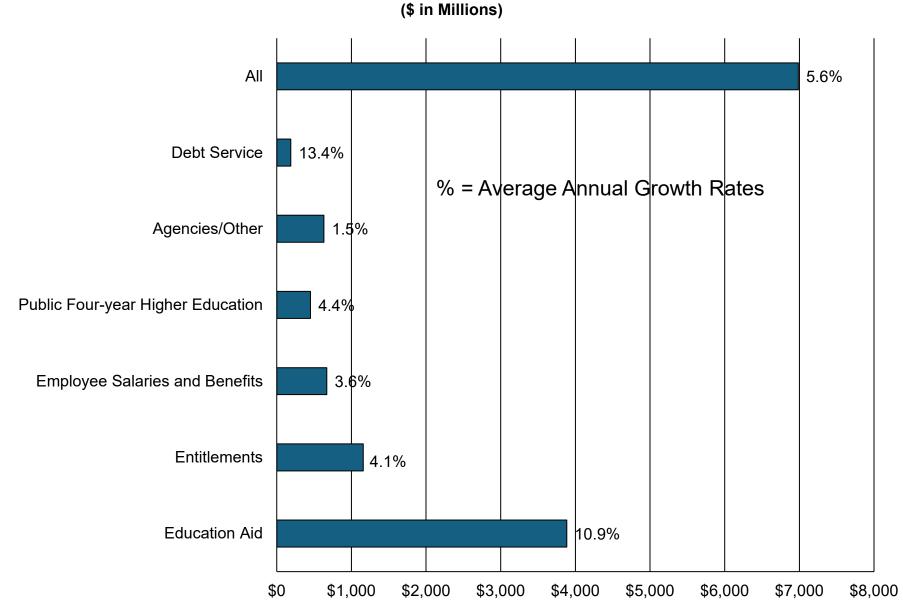


OBBBA Impact on General Fund Balance Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)

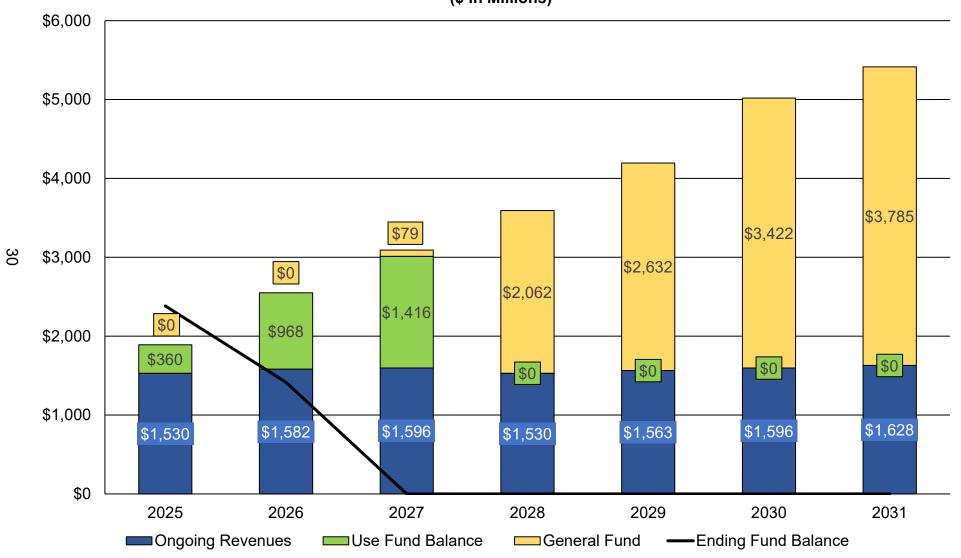


OBBBA: One Big Beautiful Bill Act

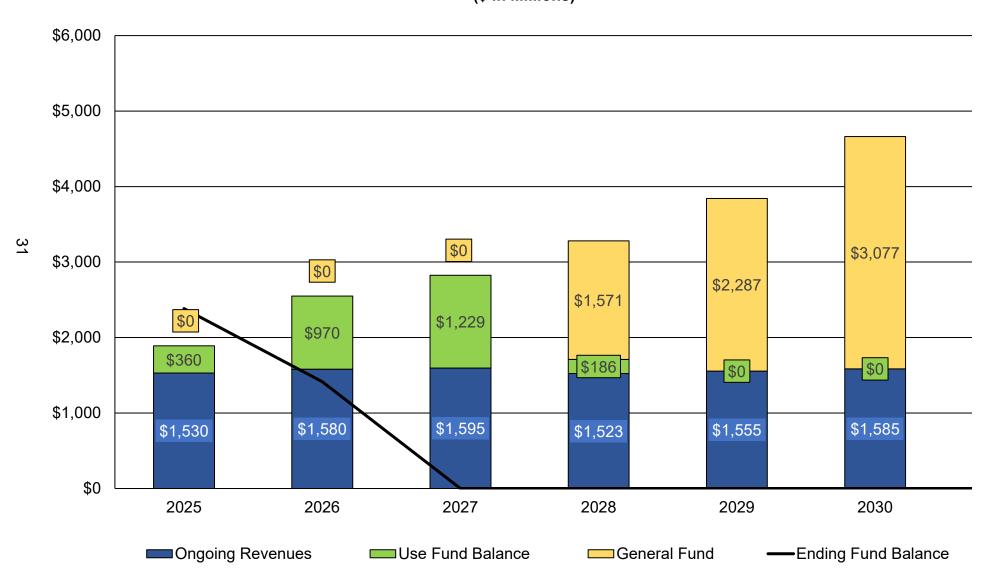
Drivers of Ongoing General Fund Spending Growth Fiscal 2027-2031



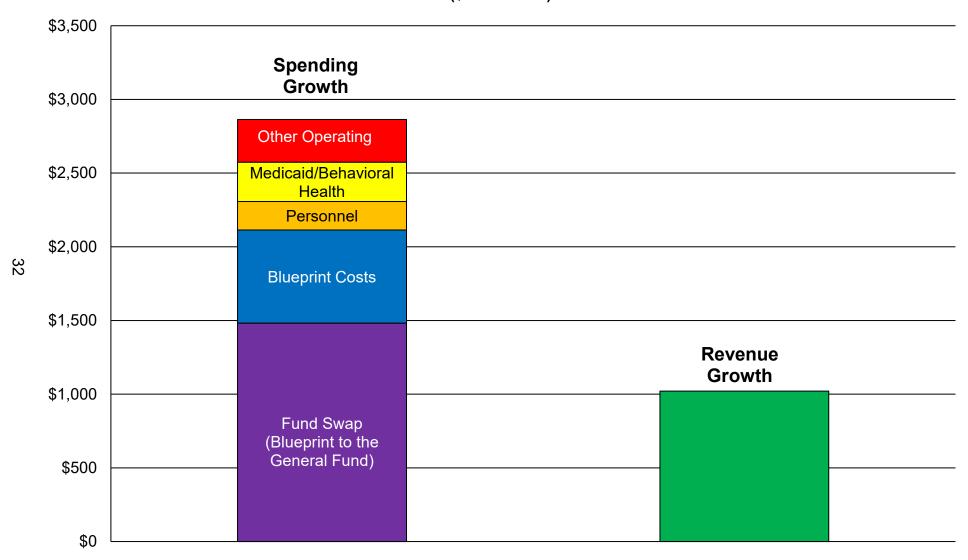
Estimated Blueprint Costs and Funding Sources Fiscal 2025-2031 (\$ in Millions)



Estimated Blueprint Costs and Funding Sources Fiscal 2025-2031 (\$ in Millions)

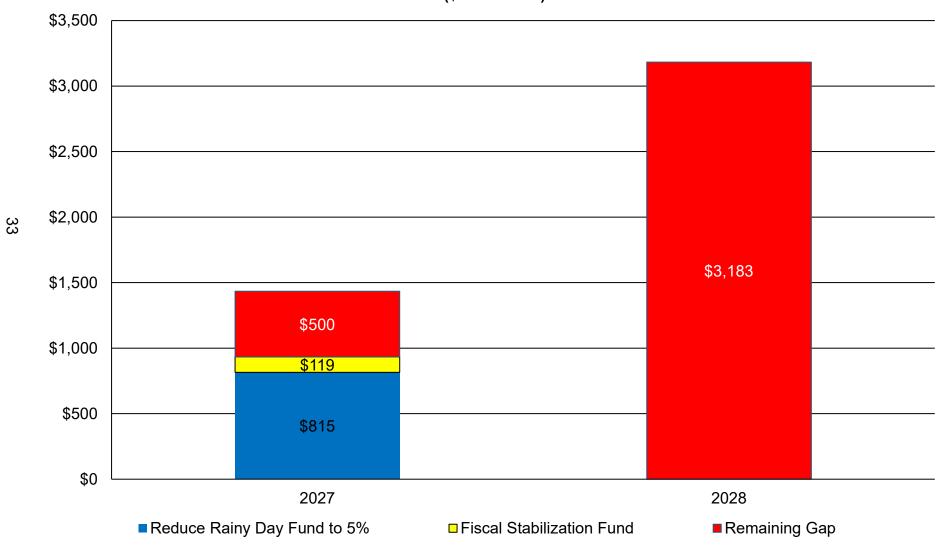


Projected General Fund Spending Growth of \$2.8 Billion for Fiscal 2028 Far Outpaces Revenue Growth (\$ in Millions)

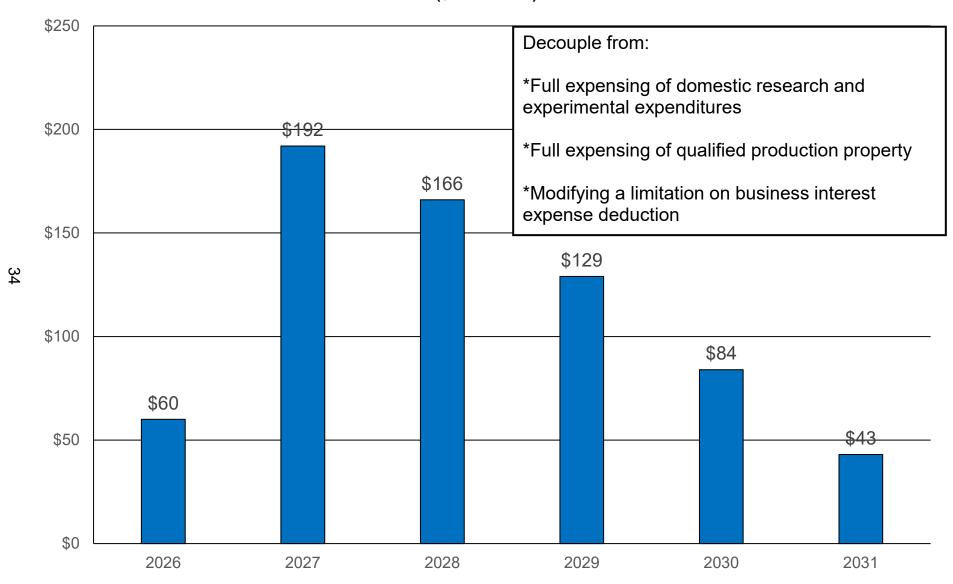


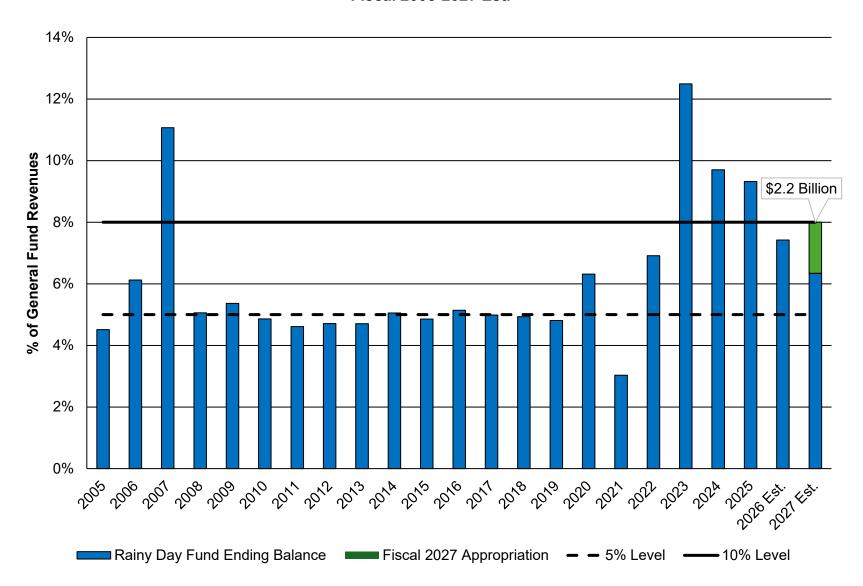
Applying Cash Balances from the Fiscal Stabilization Fund and Rainy Day Fund (While Still Leaving Amount Equal to 5% of General Fund Revenues) Would Erase Two-thirds of Fiscal 2027 Cash Shortfall

FIsal 2027-2028 (\$ in Millions)

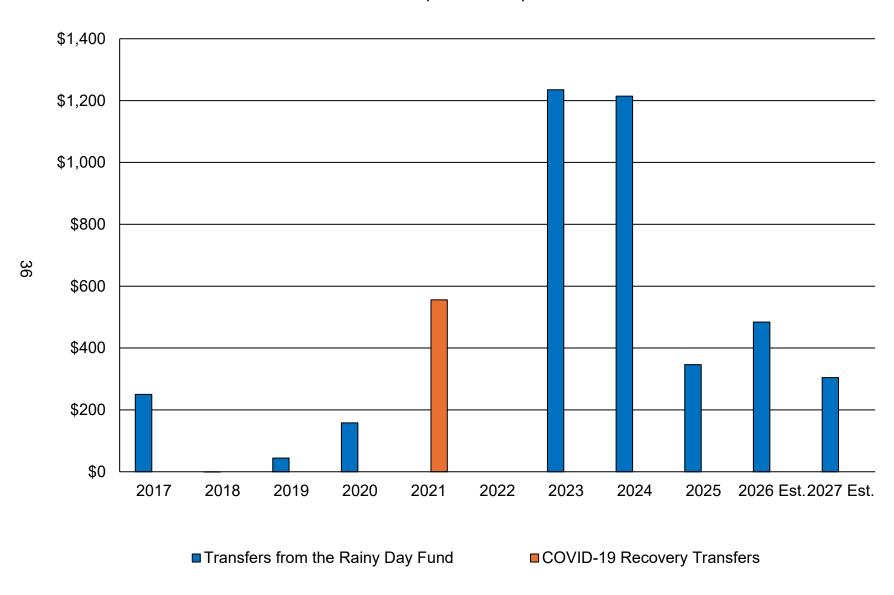


Additional General Fund Revenue from Permanent Business Tax Decoupling Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)





Transfers from the Rainy Day Fund Fiscal 2017-2027 Est. (\$ in Millions)



Part 3

Fiscal 2027 Baseline Budget Estimate

Key Baseline Budget Assumptions

- The baseline budget is an estimate of the cost of government services in the next budget year based on a set of assumptions. Assumptions include that current laws, policies, and practices are continued; federal mandates and multi-year commitments are observed; legislation adopted at the prior session is funded; and full-year costs of programs, rate increases, and any other enhancements started during the previous year are included.
- The baseline and forecast account for the implementation of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. General fund impacts in fiscal 2027 are limited to additional administrative costs for Medicaid and the impact of the administrative match rate change in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Beginning in fiscal 2028, impacts on general fund spending expand to include benefit cost sharing for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the impact of more frequent eligibility determinations and work requirements for certain Medicaid populations.
- K-12 enrollment is projected to increase; however, actual enrollment will not be known until December 1, 2025, when the Maryland State Department of Education is required to release the official enrollment counts for the current school year.
- Medicaid, Foster Care, and Public Assistance Entitlement caseload trends reflect current experience.
- The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) has some concerns about the
 accuracy of the Department of Human Services (DHS) fiscal 2025 closeout and is
 working with DHS and the Department of Budget and Management to determine
 the impact on fiscal 2026 and 2027 costs. DLS will revise its baseline as necessary
 for the December meeting of the Spending Affordability Committee.

Caseload Assumptions Fiscal 2025-2027

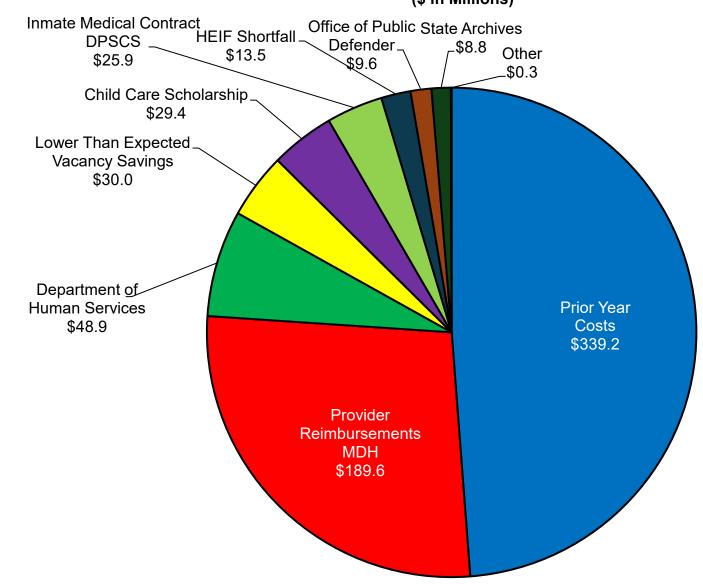
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	% Change 2026-2027
Pupil Enrollment*	853,933	853,121	855,622	2.9%
Medicaid/Maryland Children's Health Program	1,550,511	1,476,985	1,478,597	0.1%
Temporary Cash Assistance	50,088	48,084	49,046	2.0%
Foster Care/Adoption/Guardianship	10,226	10,425	10,498	0.7%
Prison Population**	18,444	18,549	18,859	1.7%

^{*} Data for fiscal 2025 and 2026 reflect actual full-time equivalent enrollments. Fiscal 2027 is a projection.

^{**}Data for fiscal 2026 is based on three months of the actual population, with projections for the remaining nine months.

- \$115.6 million of fiscal 2026 legislative additions are assumed to be one time, including \$68.1 million in general funds and \$47.5 million of special funds.
- Tuition and fee increases at the public higher education institutions are estimated at 2%.
- Required appropriation to the Revenue Stabilization Account (Rainy Day Fund) in fiscal 2026 totals \$449 million. The fiscal 2027 baseline assumes transfers from the Rainy Day fund balance in fiscal 2026 and 2027 to leave a balance of 8% of general fund revenues in fiscal 2027.
- Personnel assumptions for fiscal 2027 include:
 - 2% general salary increase effective July 2026 funded for all State employees.
 - an increase of 8.5% in employee and retiree health insurance costs; and
 - vacancy savings included in Section 38 of the fiscal 2026 budget bill are ongoing, however, a one-time deficiency appropriation of \$30 million reduces the anticipated level of vacancy savings to be achieved in fiscal 2026.
- Higher than expected inflation will result in the need for deficiency appropriations to cover certain fiscal 2026 costs: natural gas (\$11.6 million); food (\$4.6 million); and electricity (\$2.1 million). These deficiency appropriations result in a net increase of \$4.4 million in general funds.
- Inflation, after accounting for deficiency appropriations, anticipated for fiscal 2027 will increase costs for postage (7.5%), prescription drugs (7.5%), food (6.0%), natural gas (3.5%), electricity (1.0%). Costs are expected to decrease for gas and oil (-9.3%).
- The baseline and forecast do not make any assumptions about spending needs related to any State liability under the Child Victims Act.

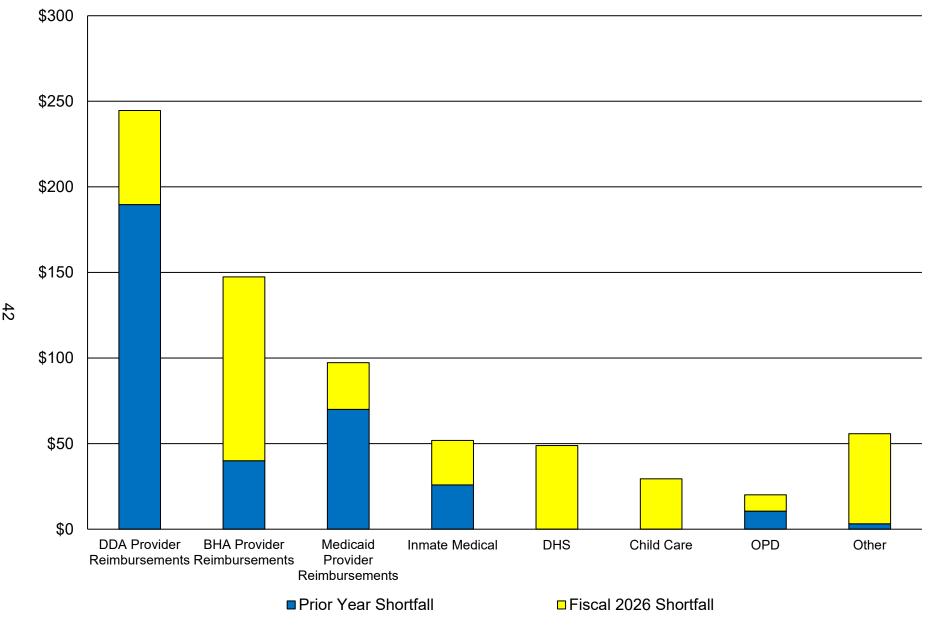
General Fund Deficiency Appropriations Total \$695 Million (\$ in Millions)



DPSCS: Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

HEIF: Higher Education Investment Fund MDH: Maryland Department of Health

Fiscal 2026 Deficiencies Cover Prior Year Shortfalls and Fiscal 2026 Shortfalls (\$ in Millions)



BHA: Behavioral Heath Administration

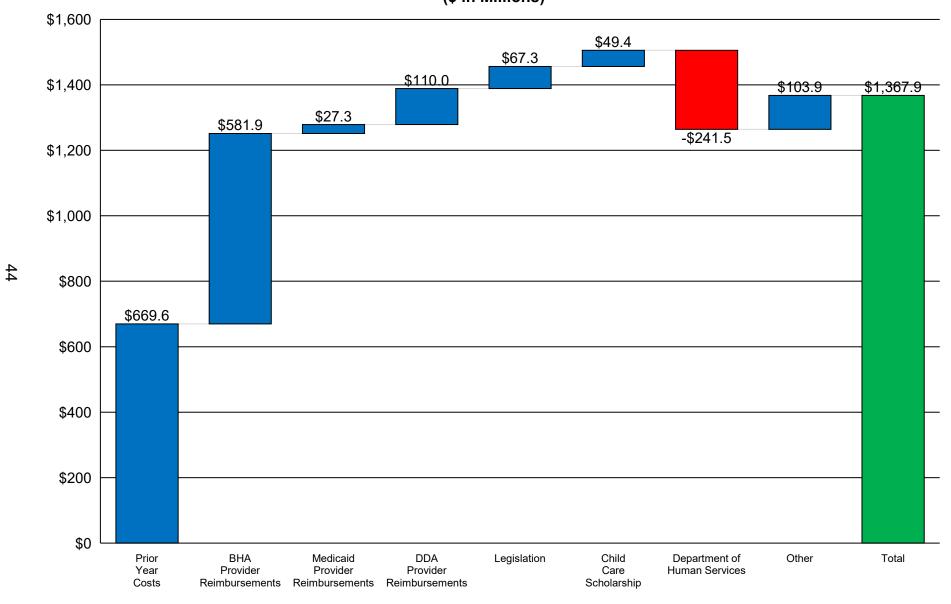
DDA: Developmental Disabilities Adminstration

DHS: Department of Human Services OPD: Office of the Public Defender

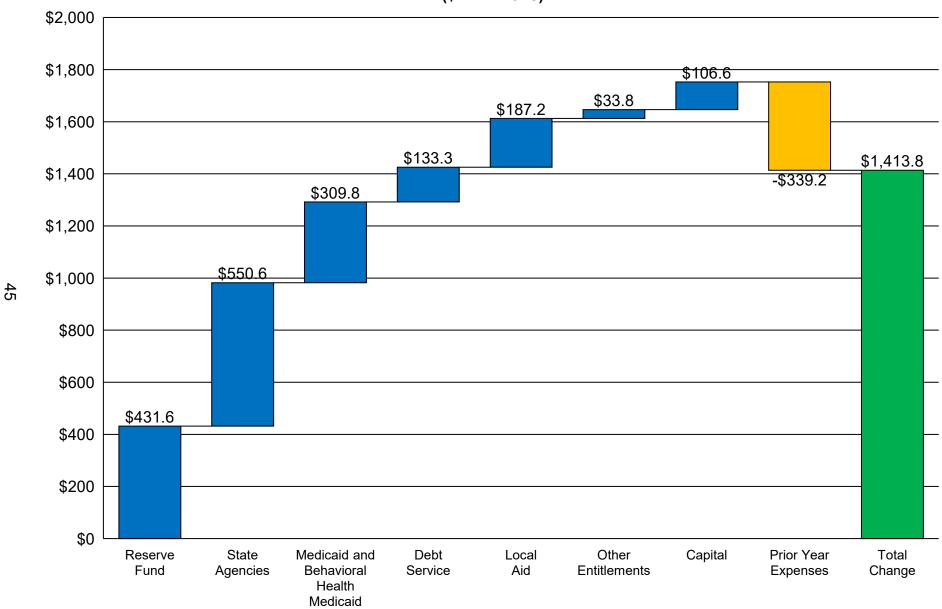
\$695.2 Million in Potential General Fund Deficiencies (\$ in Millions)

Developmental Disabilities Administration Provider Reimbursements: Fiscal 2025 bills for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$189.7 million); fiscal 2026 shortfall (\$55.0 million)	\$244.6
Behavioral Health Provider Reimbursements : Fiscal 2026 shortfall for Medicaid-eligible services (\$160.3 million); fiscal 2025 bills to be paid in fiscal 2026 (\$40 million); partially offset by lower expected expenditures to align with fiscal 2025 expenses for Medicaid-eligible individuals for non-Medicaid-eligible services (-\$8.8 million) and for the Uninsured (-\$44.1 million)	147.4
Medicaid Provider Reimbursements: Fiscal 2025 bills to be paid in fiscal 2026 (\$70.0 million); federal disallowance for Nursing Home Rates (\$27.3 million)	97.3
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services: Fiscal 2025 expenditures for the Inmate Medical Contract for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$25.9 million); fiscal 2026 shortfall for the Inmate Medical Contract (\$25.9 million)	51.8
Department of Human Services: Foster Care Maintenance Payments due to higher flexible fund spending, caseloads, placement costs, and lower levels of special and federal funds (\$41.2 million); Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Payments Program Payment Error Rate penalty for federal fiscal 2023 expected to be paid in fiscal 2026 (\$16.6 million); partially offset by lower expected expenditures for	40.0
Assistance payments (-\$8.9 million)	48.9
Lower Than Expected Vacancy Savings	30.0
Child Care Scholarship	29.4
Office of Public Defender: Fiscal 2025 expenditures for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$10.5 million); fiscal 2026 shortfall primarily for panel attorneys (\$9.6 million)	20.1
Fund Swap Due to Lower Than Budgeted Revenue in the Higher Education Investment Fund	13.5
State Archives: Fiscal 2026 shortfall to replace special funds from fee revenue due to suspension of fee schedule changes (\$8.8 million) and to resolve a negative special fund balance after suspension of fee schedule changes due to equipment purchase (\$1.0 million)	9.8
Agency Expenses: Department of Juvenile Services to align overtime funding with fiscal 2025 expenditures (\$3.6 million) and fiscal 2025 expenditures for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$2.9 million); Statewide expenses for natural gas, electricity, and food (\$4.4 million); reversions in error for Canal Place Development Authority (\$1.3 million) and West North Avenue Development Authority (\$1.2 million); Veterans Home fiscal 2025 expenditures for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$1.3 million) and fiscal 2026 shortfall (\$1.3 million); Criminal Injuries Compensation Board expenses due to lower than expected federal fund awards (\$1.1 million); Department of General Services fiscal 2025 expenses for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$0.8 million); Comptroller's Office for fiscal 2025 expenditures for which there was insufficient appropriation (\$0.2 million); one-time programming costs for the licensing portal for security guards (\$0.1 million); partially offset by savings from the temporary closure of the FreeState Challenge Academy (-\$0.4 million); the availability of special funds in lieu of general funds for costs in the Department of State Police (-\$4.8 million); lower expected spending for behavioral health investments (-\$5.0 million)	\$8.1
Expected Reversion for the Nonpublic Placements Program Due to Lower Costs in Fiscal 2025	-\$5.6
Total Deficiencies	\$695.2

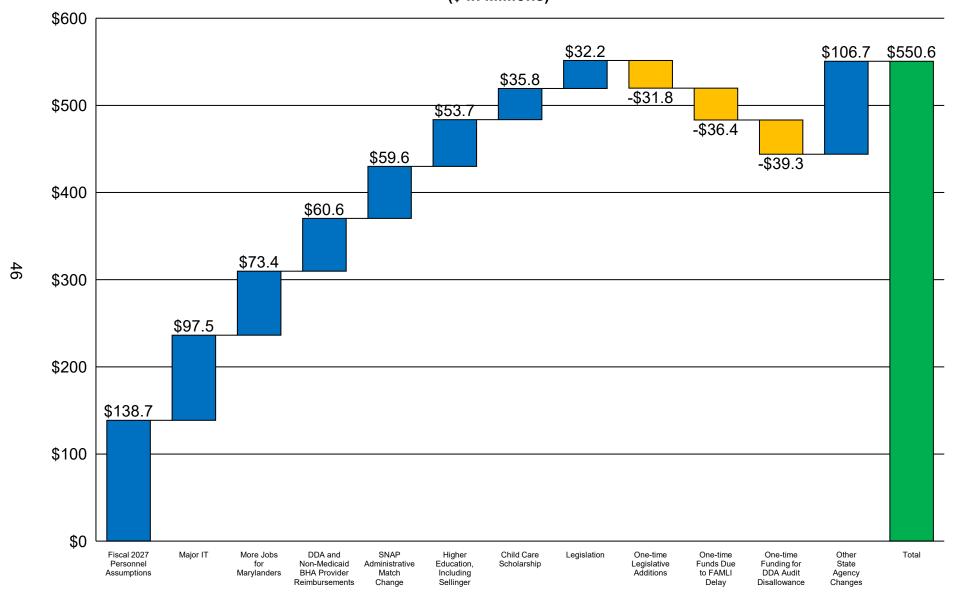
Deficiency Appropriations Total \$1.37 Billion \$695 Million in General Funds (\$ in Millions)



General Fund Spending Increases by \$1.4 Billion, Net of Deficiency Appropriations (\$ in Millions)



General Funds Increase by \$550.6 Million in State Agencies, Net of Deficiency Appropriations (\$ in Millions)



BHA: Behavioral Health Administration

DDA: Developmental Disabilities Administration FAMLI: Family and Medical Leave Insurance

IT: information technology

SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Summary of Baseline Budget Growth Compared to Adjusted Legislative Appropriation (\$ in Millions)

State Agency Costs	\$550.6
Entitlements	343.6
Local Aid	187.2
Debt Service	133.3
Growth in Operating Budget, Accounting for Anticipated Deficiencies	\$1,214.7
Appropriation to Reserve Fund	\$431.6
PAYGO	106.6
One-time deficiency appropriations for prior year expenses	-339.2
Total Baseline Change In State Expenditures	\$1,413.8
Ongoing Requirements/Entitlements	
Medicaid and Maryland Children's Health Program provider reimbursements	\$215.5
Debt service	133.3
Medicaid-eligible behavioral health provider reimbursements	83.3
First year of required funding to implement Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics	33.9
Assistance Payments program based on anticipated caseload increases in TCA and	
Temporary Disability Assistance Payments Program, anticipated increases in benefit levels,	
and lower anticipated availability of federal funds to support TCA	23.4
Foster Care Maintenance Payments due to anticipated increased placement costs and	
changes in caseload	8.4
Mandated support for providers related to the implementation of FAMLI scheduled to begin	
in January 2027 under Chapter 363 of 2025	4.4
Aligning Homeowners Tax Credit with recent levels	2.0
One-time deficiency appropriation for a nursing home rate disallowance in Medicaid	-27.3
	\$476.9
Local Aid	
General funds for Blueprint Costs due to insufficient fund balance to support costs	\$79.3
Retirement aid for teachers, libraries, and community colleges	77.2
Disparity Grant funding formula	36.2
Community college due to formula growth	31.2
Election Aid primarily due to major information technology projects	6.3
All other Education Aid primarily driven by increased costs of the transportation formulas	4.6
Local Health Department funding formula	2.6
Library Aid	1.9
Other Local Aid	0.3
Mandates that expire after fiscal 2026 for Warrants and Absconding grants through GOCPP	-1.1
(-\$1.0 million) and the Maryland Park Explorer Grant Pilot Program in DNR (-\$0.1 million)	-1.1 -13.8
Repeal of Teacher Supplemental Retirement Grants in Chapter 604 of 2025	-13.0
One-time legislative additions to increase the maximum amount of uncapped disparity grants to local jurisdictions (-\$17.1 million), a grant to the College of Southern Maryland	
\$0.3 million), and a grant for the Damascus Main Street (-\$50,000)	-18.2
Nonpublic Placements due to second year of the phase in of the change in local cost share	-10.2
partially offset by growth in costs	-19.4
partially and by growth in docto	\$187.2
	Ψ101.2

State Agency Costs

Statewide Personnel and Standard Inflation Adjustments	
2% salary increase for State employees and contractual personnel	\$94.3
Health insurance contributions	49.8
Food	3.6
Other inflationary adjustments including natural gas, electricity, and postage	1.5
Gasoline	-1.1
Retirement contribution rate changes	-5.4
	\$142.8
Impact of Legislation and New Mandates	4400
Chapter 237 of 2025 established the Academic Excellence Fund	\$19.3
Chapter 479 and 480 of 2025 authorizes funding for staffing of 5 additional beds at the John L. Gildner RICA	3.0
Chapter 97 of 2025 increases mandated funding for the Office of Attorney General for	3.0
activities related federal government actions from \$1.0 million to \$2.5 million	1.5
Chapter 623 and 624 of 2025 (Renewable Energy Certainty Act) for DNR primarily for the	
Power Plant Research Program (\$1.2 million) and MD Labor for development and	
implementation of a new solar contractor license (\$0.2 million)	1.4
Chapter 501 of 2025 (Procurement Reform) primarily for positions in the Department of	
Information Technology	0.9
Chapters 639 and 640 of 2025 increased the authorized funding level for the Professional	0.0
and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program	0.6
New mandates: Chapter 242 of 2025 establishes a \$250,000 mandate for the Boys and Girls Club of Maryland; Chapter 288 of 2025 establishes a \$250,000 mandate for	
Community Action Agencies; and Chapter 317 of 2025 establishes a \$50,000 mandate for	
the Holocaust Education Assistance Grant Program; Chapters 325 and 326 of 2025	
establish the mandate for the Deaf Culture Library at \$450,000 (an increase of \$49,000	
compared to the fiscal 2026 funding level)	0.0
	0.6
Other Select Legislation	4.9
Other Select Legislation	
Other Select Legislation	4.9
	4.9
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses	4.9 \$32.2
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund	4.9
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase	4.9 \$32.2
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated	4.9 \$32.2
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible	4.9 \$32.2
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated	4.9 \$32.2
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and Maryland New Start Microloan Program (\$1.1 million); Maryland State Arts Council formula	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and Maryland New Start Microloan Program (\$1.1 million); Maryland State Arts Council formula growth (\$0.5 million); partially offset by additional capitalization for the Child Care Capital	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and Maryland New Start Microloan Program (\$1.1 million); Maryland State Arts Council formula growth (\$0.5 million); partially offset by additional capitalization for the Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund (-\$2.2 million), the end of mandates in fiscal 2026 for the	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and Maryland New Start Microloan Program (\$1.1 million); Maryland State Arts Council formula growth (\$0.5 million); partially offset by additional capitalization for the Child Care Capital	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and Maryland New Start Microloan Program (\$1.1 million); Maryland State Arts Council formula growth (\$0.5 million); partially offset by additional capitalization for the Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund (-\$2.2 million), the end of mandates in fiscal 2026 for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Innovation Initiative Pilot, and the Western	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6 51.2
Other Major Agency Programmatic and Operating Expenses Information Technology Investment Fund MDH Provider Reimbursements: DDA including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$38.2 million); Behavioral Health Services for the Uninsured including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$12.7 million); Behavioral Health for nonMedicaid eligible services including an anticipated 2% provider rate increase (\$5.7 million); required payments to providers related to the FAMLI program (\$4.0 million) SNAP Administrative federal match rate reduced from 50% to 25% effective October 1, 2026 Public four-year institutions Commerce: More Jobs for Marylanders due in part to use of fund balance in fiscal 2026 to support costs (\$73.4 million); one-time reductions to the RISE Zone Rental Program and Maryland New Start Microloan Program (\$1.1 million); Maryland State Arts Council formula growth (\$0.5 million); partially offset by additional capitalization for the Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund (-\$2.2 million), the end of mandates in fiscal 2026 for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Innovation Initiative Pilot, and the Western Marland Economic Future Investment Fund (-\$12.3 million), and one-time deposit into the	4.9 \$32.2 \$97.5 60.6 59.6 51.2

DSCI: Increase funding to mandated level for the Maryland Corps, provide funding to meet the participation targets established in Chapter 604 of 2025, and general fund need after	
the exhaustion of fund balance to support program costs	26.4
MHEC: Special fund balance available to support Education Excellence Awards in	
fiscal 2027 is lower than fiscal 2026 (\$14.3 million); 2% increase in funding for Education	
Excellence Awards and legislative scholarships consistent with anticipated tuition increase	
(\$2.6 million), Joseph A. Sellinger Formula for Non-public Institutions of Higher Education	
based on enrollment estimates and state funding per full-time equivalent students	
(\$2.4 million)	19.3
Other MSDE: Autism Waiver based on increased slot utilization and higher expected costs	
per individual (\$12.8 million), lower availability of special funds to support BOOST	
(\$4.7 million), formula funding for the Maryland School for the Blind (\$0.8 million), additional	
funding for the adult high school program (\$0.3 million), partially offset by the end of the	
mandate for the Growing Child Care Opportunities Program (-\$0.5 million)	18.0
DNR: General fund need due to lower availability of revenue from the Chesapeake and	
Atlantic Coastal Bays 2010 Trust Fund (\$11.8 million) and general funds to replace	
one-time use of Program Open Space Land Acquisition Fund Balance partially offset by	
higher availability of Transfer Tax revenue to support the Maryland Park Service	
(\$3.9 million)	15.7
Other DHS Changes: Estimated costs for CSMS and CJAMS contracts (\$10.0 million);	
Montgomery County Block Grant including adjustments to fund splits to align with recent	
trends (\$8.6 million); the portion of the federal fiscal 2024 SNAP payment error rate penalty	
to be paid in fiscal 2027 (\$5.7 million); general funds needed to replace lower estimated levels of Child Support Reinvestment Funds (\$1.2 million); more than offset by one-time	
deficiency for the federal fiscal 2023 SNAP payment error rate penalty (-\$16.6 million)	8.9
DJS: Anticipated operational cost of operating the Alfred Noves Center as an adolescent	0.9
treatment center, net of fiscal 2026 costs of de-hardening facility (\$7.0 million) and	
anticipated 2% provider rate increase for residential community providers (\$0.4 million)	7.4
Other MDH Changes: Realign funding for a capital lease with MEDCO from the Dedicated	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Purpose Account (\$3.8 million); higher cost of a contract for long term care nurse surveyors	
(\$2.7 million); end of a limited time authorization to use Opioid Restitution Funds in lieu of	
general funds for the Buprenorphine Initiative (\$2.4 million); partially offset by lower	
expected spending on behavioral health investments to better align with recent trends	
(-\$3.0 million)	5.9
DSP: Replacement of special funds with general funds after the expiration of enhanced	
use of MEMSOF to support costs authorized in Chapter 604 of 2025 for fiscal 2025 and	
2026 only (\$5.5 million), partially offset by one-time costs to update the licensing portal for	
security guards (\$0.1 million)	5.4
MDP: Restore funding for the Small Commercial Program of the Historic Revitalization Tax	
Credit to the mandated level	2.0
DoIT: Radio replacements (\$2.6 million) partially offset by one-time funds for permitting	4.4
work (-\$1.2 million)	1.4
Maryland School for the Deaf formula funding	1.1
DPSCS: Replacement of Opioid Restitution Funds with general funds for inmate medical	
contract (\$5.0 million), partially offset by one-time costs for purchase of body worn cameras	
(-\$0.4 million); lower expected equipment lease costs (-\$0.6 million); inmate medical and mental health contracts (-\$2.4 million); and savings from the Closure of MCI Jessup	
(-\$3.0 million)	-1.4
MSA: Lower expected costs for the Ocean City Convention Center operating subsidy,	-1.4
maintenance, and debt service (\$0.9 million) and Baltimore City Convention Center	
operating subsidy and maintenance (\$-1.2 million)	-2.1
DHCD: End of mandated funding for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program in fiscal 2026	-5.0

due to lower federal fund availability (-\$1.1 million) and lower general fund need to meet the VOCA mandate due to higher federal fund availability (-\$8.9 million)	-10.0
One-time legislative additions MD Labor: One-time mandate for the Rosecroft Raceway required in Chapter 410 of 2024 (-\$4.5 million) and replacement of general funds with special funds in the Division of Paid	-31.8
Leave following the delay in implementation of the FAMLI program (\$36.4 million)	-40.9
Other Agency Personnel and Operating Expenses	6.1 \$375.7
Reserve Fund	
Required appropriation to the Rainy Day Fund, no appropriation provided in fiscal 2026 Anticipated cost to replenish Catastrophic Event Account to \$10 million, based on anticipated transfers to the Federal Government Employee Assistance Loan Fund created	\$449.8
in Chapter 97 of 2025 due to layoffs and government shutdown Realign appropriation for the Maryland Department of Health capital lease with MEDCO to	8.4
MDH Administration	-3.8
One-time appropriations to the Dedicated Purpose Account in Fiscal 2026 for the Capital of Quantum (-\$17.5 million), DPSCS Division of Parole and Probation staffing (-\$5.0 million),	
one-time legislative addition for a grant to MEDCO (-\$0.2 million)	-22.7 \$431.6
PAY CO	Ψ-10110
PAYGO Appropriation in the Dedicated Purpose Account to support WMATA Capital as planned in	
the Capital Improvement Program	\$167.0
MCA: Limited time funding for the Cannabis Incubator One-time legislative additions for a grant to Baltimore County for the Randallstown Library	-5.0
(-\$12 million) and MEDCO for dredging (-\$6.0 million)	-18.0
DGS: State Center redevelopment consultant cost (\$0.8 million); more than offset by removal of one-time or limited time funding for Tradepoint Atlantic (-\$16.0 million), lonQ (-\$10.0 million); Downtown Frederick Hotel project (-\$7.5 million), DPSCS Life Skills and Re-Entry Center for Women (-\$2.0 million), Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering (-\$2.0 million), SEED School roof repairs (-\$0.5 million), and a feasibility study	
for a Hagerstown Public Safety project (-\$0.3 million)	-\$37.5
	\$106.6
Fiscal 2025 Shortfalls and Reversions in Error Funded through Deficiency Appropriation	-\$339.2
Total	\$1,413.7

GOCPP: One-time deficiency appropriation for the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board

BOOST: Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

CSMS: Child Support Management System

CJAMS: Child, Juvenile, and Adult Management System

DDA: Developmental Disabilities Administration

DGS: Department of General Services

DHCD: Department of Housing and Community Development

DHS: Department of Human Services
DJS: Department of Juvenile Services
DNR: Department of Natural Resources

DoIT: Department of Information Technology

DPSCS: Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

DSCI: Department of Service and Civic Innovation

DSP: Department of State Police

FAMLI: Family and Medical Leave Insurance

GOCPP: Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy

MCA: Maryland Cannabis Administration
MCI: Maryland Correctional Institution
MDH: Maryland Department of Health
MD Labor: Maryland Department of Labor
MDP: Maryland Department of Planning

MEDCO: Maryland Economic Development Corporation

MEMSOF: Maryland Emergency Medical Services Operations Fund

MHEC: Maryland Higher Education Commission

MSA: Maryland Stadium Authority

MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education

PAYGO: Pay-as-you-go

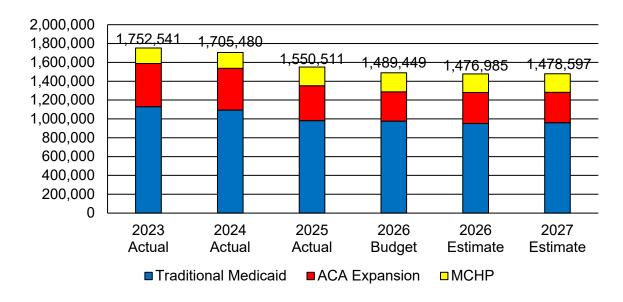
RICA: Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents

TCA: Temporary Cash Assistance VOCA: Victims of Crime Act

Medicaid

- Between fiscal 2023 and 2025, combined Medicaid and Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP) enrollment gradually decreased from 1.75 million to 1.55 million due to ongoing unwinding processes and system reconciliation following the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency (during which disenrollments were frozen as a condition of states receiving enhanced federal funding).
- Adults served through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) expansion and traditional Medicaid enrollees drove the overall decline, while MCHP participation increased. MCHP serves low-income children with household incomes that exceed eligibility for Medicaid; therefore, the resumption of eligibility redetermination moved children from Medicaid into the higher MCHP income threshold.

Medicaid and MCHP Average Monthly Enrollment Fiscal 2023-2027 Estimate



ACA: Affordable Care Act

MCHP: Maryland Children's Health Program

Note: Beginning in fiscal 2024, MCHP includes noncitizen pregnant women served through the Healthy Babies initiative.

Source: Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

- Average monthly enrollment in fiscal 2026 is expected to further decrease as disenrollments in the prior year are annualized. Based on monthly caseloads through September 2025, the baseline projects fiscal 2026 enrollment of 1.48 million, which is slightly lower than the 1.49 million enrollees assumed in the budget.
- However, major provisions in the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), such as implementing work requirements and more frequent eligibility checks for ACA expansion adults, cause uncertainty for Medicaid. Due to the delayed effective dates for these provisions, estimated disenrollments would appear in the second half of fiscal 2027 and later. As a result, projected fiscal 2027 caseloads are largely level with fiscal 2026 at approximately 1.48 million.
- Despite the decline in enrollment, Medicaid expenditures outpace the fiscal 2026 budget as increases in health care costs and utilization drive higher per capita spending. The baseline estimates deficiency appropriations totaling \$935.1 million (\$297.5 million in general funds). Of this funding, \$273 million supports a shortfall in funds carried over to pay for fiscal 2025 services billed in the following fiscal year. The remaining \$662.1 million covers projected deficits for fiscal 2026 costs, mainly for Medicaid-funded behavioral health services.

Medicaid and MCHP Total and Per Capita Expenditures Fiscal 2025-2027 Baseline

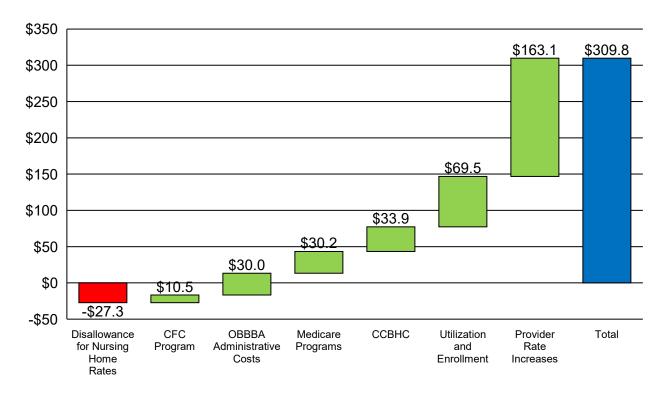
	Actual <u>2025</u>	Adjusted 2026	Baseline <u>2027</u>	\$ Change 2026 Adjusted-20	% Change 27 Estimate
Total Expenditures	(\$ in Millions	<u> </u>			_
General Funds	\$5,762.3	\$5,654.3	\$5,964.1	\$309.8	5.5%
Special Funds	822.6	862.6	869.3	6.6	0.8%
Federal Funds	10,048.5	9,481.3	10,418.0	936.7	9.9%
Total	\$16,633.4	\$15,998.2	\$17,251.4	\$1,253.1	7.8%
Cost per Enrollee					
Medicaid	\$10,878	\$11,640	\$12,049	\$409	3.5%
MCHP	3,748	3,715	3,749	34	0.9%
ACA Expansion	10,565	11,500	12,265	765	6.7%
Total	\$9,891	\$10,550	\$10,998	\$448	4.2%

ACA: Affordable Care Act MCHP: Maryland Children's Health Program

Note: Expenditures reflect provider payments (including Medicaid-funded behavioral health services) and some administrative costs. Fiscal 2025 expenditures include \$273 million to account for insufficient funds carried over to reimburse fiscal 2025 bills in fiscal 2026. Fiscal 2026 includes anticipated deficiencies.

- The fiscal 2027 baseline for Medicaid and MCHP increases by \$1.25 billion in total funds compared to fiscal 2026 after accounting for estimated deficiencies. General fund spending in fiscal 2027 reflects a net increase of \$309.8 million.
- Major components of the general fund growth include \$163.1 million for provider rate increases and a net increase of \$69.5 million resulting from utilization and enrollment changes. Assumptions for provider rate increases include:
 - a 6.4% increase in regulated hospital rates;
 - an average 5.4% increase in calendar 2026 managed care organization rates totaling \$90.2 million in general funds; and
 - 2% rate increases for long-term services and supports and community behavioral health providers, effective July 1, 2026.

Fiscal 2027 General Fund Spending Growth Over Fiscal 2026 (\$ in Millions)



CCBHC: Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

CFC: Community First Choice OBBBA: One Big Beautiful Bill Act

- In fiscal 2027, general fund spending is projected to increase by \$33.9 million for the implementation of the first-year demonstration grant for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC). The CCBHC model expands the availability of specific behavioral health services, including 24-hour crisis support. The baseline uses average costs per clinic from other states in the first year of the demonstration grant and assumes 10 clinics operate under the demonstration.
- Although the baseline assumes OBBBA impacts on enrollment do not begin until the second half of fiscal 2027, upfront administrative spending on system changes, personnel needs, and outreach efforts related to the program changes are significant and assumed to begin in fiscal 2026. Specifically, the baseline assumes \$20 million in State administrative costs in fiscal 2026 increasing to \$50 million in fiscal 2027. Many of these costs are limited time, and lower levels of additional administrative costs are expected in the out-years.
- The Maryland Department of Health reported a shortfall of \$27.3 million to pay back the federal government for a disallowance of matching funds provided for nursing home rates. This one-time cost partially offsets the growth in general fund spending in fiscal 2027.

One Big Beautiful Bill Act Impact on State Expenditures State Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)

	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	2029	<u>2030</u>	<u>2031</u>
Suppemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)						
Administrative Cost Share Increased from 50% to 75%		\$59.6	\$79.5	\$81.1	\$82.7	\$84.3
Benefit Cost Sharing up to 15% *			182.9	251.9	260.2	268.8
Heat and Eat			-23.5	-31.3	-31.3	-31.3
Expanded Work Requirements and Loss of Benefits for Refugee and Asylees			-15.1	-20.8	-21.5	-22.2
Medicaid Work Requirements (starting January 1, 2027) and Eligibility Redetermination Starting Every 6 Months (Calendar 2027) for Affordable Care Act Expansion Population**		-\$9.5	-\$143.2	-\$163.6	-\$170.5	-\$177.1
Cost of Administering New Requirements	\$20.0	50.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Net Impact (Medicaid and SNAP)	\$20.0	\$100.1	\$90.6	\$127.2	\$129.6	\$132.5

^{*}Assumes Error Rate remains above 10%, but below levels that would allow for a delay. If delayed, impacts would begin in either fiscal 2029 or 2030.

Enrollee Impacts

The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) estimates 7,555 SNAP case closures in fiscal 2026 increasing to 31,466 in fiscal 2027 and a net reduction of 140,000 Medicaid recipients.

The Department of Human Services estimates up to 118,700 households may see a reduction in SNAP benefits due to the changes to Heat and Eat. DLS estimates some households may be able to document utility costs to maintain benefit levels.

^{**} Could be delayed to January 1, 2029 if Maryland receives a good faith effort exemption.

State Expenditures – General Funds Fiscal 2025-2027

(\$ in Millions)

	2025	2026			
Category	Working <u>Appropriation</u>	Adj. Legislative <u>Appropriation</u>	2027 <u>Baseline</u>	\$ Change \$ <u>2026 to</u>	_
Debt Service	\$397.1	\$154.7	\$288.0	\$133.3	86.2%
County/Municipal	\$415.6	\$396.1	\$406.2	\$10.1	2.5%
Community Colleges	477.6	503.1	539.5	36.4	7.2%
Education/Libraries	7,383.8	7,429.2	7,567.3	138.0	1.9%
Health	111.2	115.0	117.6	2.6	2.3%
Aid to Local Governments	<i>\$8,388.2</i>	\$8,443.5	\$8,630.7	<i>\$187.2</i>	2.2%
Foster Care Payments	\$279.0	\$361.8	\$370.2	\$8.4	2.3%
Assistance Payments	136.4	136.7	160.1	23.4	17.1%
Medical Assistance	5,281.5	5,654.3	5,964.1	309.8	5.5%
Property Tax Credits	96.0	87.1	89.1	2.0	2.3%
Entitlements	<i>\$5,792.9</i>	<i>\$6,239.8</i>	<i>\$6,583.4</i>	\$343.6	5.5%
Health	\$3,141.9	\$3,153.2	\$3,224.9	\$71.7	2.3%
Human Services	513.3	551.2	577.0	25.8	4.7%
Juvenile Services	340.9	354.4	376.9	22.5	6.3%
Public Safety/Police	2,122.2	2,209.9	2,317.4	107.5	4.9%
Higher Education	2,277.9	2,312.2	2,435.9	123.6	5.3%
Transportation	196.9	1.1	0.0	-1.1	-100.0%
Other Education	1,039.6	1,046.8	1,153.6	106.7	10.2%
Agriculture/Natural Res./Environment	210.9	200.1	229.3	29.1	14.6%
Other Executive Agencies	1,708.2	1,738.4	1,780.7	42.3	2.4%
Judiciary	689.6	704.5	722.4	17.9	2.5%
Legislative	160.8	162.1	166.7	4.5	2.8%
State Agencies	<i>\$12,402.3</i>	<i>\$12,434.0</i>	<i>\$12,984.6</i>	<i>\$550.6</i>	4.4%
Deficiencies (for Prior Years)	\$267.6	\$339.2	\$0.0	-\$339.2	-100.0%
Total Operating	\$27,248.0	\$27,611.2	\$28,486.7	\$875.5	3.2%
Capital	\$158.3	\$62.4	\$169.0	\$106.6	170.9%
Subtotal	<i>\$27,406.4</i>	\$27,673.6	<i>\$28,655.7</i>	\$982.1	3.5%
Reserve Funds	\$2.5	\$26.5	\$458.1	\$431.6	1628.8%
Appropriations	\$27,408.9	\$27,700.1	\$29,113.8	\$1,413.8	5.1%
Reversions	-\$75.0	-\$75.0	-\$75.0	\$0.0	0.0%
Grand Total	\$27,333.9	\$27,625.1	\$29,038.8	\$1,413.8	5.1%

Note: The fiscal 2026 adjusted legislative appropriation reflects anticipated deficiencies of \$695.2 million.

State Expenditures – Special and Higher Education Funds* Fiscal 2025-2027

(\$ in Millions)

	2025	2026			
Catagony	Working	Adj. Legislative	2027	\$ Change	•
Category	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>2026 to</u>	<u> 2021</u>
Debt Service	\$1,556.9	\$1,681.6	\$1,675.3	-\$6.3	-0.4%
County/Municipal	\$595.2	\$658.0	\$665.0	\$7.0	1.1%
Community Colleges	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Education/Libraries	1,807.0	2,429.9	2,863.4	433.6	17.8%
Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Aid to Local Governments	\$2,402.3	\$3,087.8	<i>\$3,528.4</i>	\$440.6	14.3%
Foster Care Payments	\$2.7	\$2.3	\$2.3	\$0.0	0.0%
Assistance Payments	6.2	7.9	7.9	0.0	0.0%
Medical Assistance	793.3	862.6	869.3	6.6	0.8%
Property Tax Credits	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Entitlements	\$802.2	\$872.8	\$879.4	\$6.6	0.8%
Health	\$759.7	\$861.2	\$951.0	\$89.8	10.4%
Human Services	164.3	235.3	282.9	47.5	20.2%
Juvenile Services	3.4	3.5	3.7	0.2	6.4%
Public Safety/Police	218.9	246.9	248.7	1.8	0.7%
Higher Education	6,068.1	6,230.7	6,231.6	0.9	0.0%
Other Education	311.0	308.0	282.9	-25.1	-8.2%
Transportation	2,660.5	2,915.6	3,018.2	102.6	3.5%
Agriculture/Natural Res./Environment	381.7	413.3	408.6	-4.7	-1.1%
Other Executive Agencies	1,589.6	1,714.5	1,813.2	98.7	5.8%
Judiciary	84.3	83.5	86.1	2.7	3.2%
State Agencies	\$12,241.6	<i>\$13,012.4</i>	<i>\$13,326.9</i>	<i>\$314.4</i>	2.4%
Deficiencies (for Prior Years)	\$5.6	\$0.4	\$0.0	-\$0.4	n/a
Total Operating	\$17,008.5	\$18,655.0	\$19,410.0	\$755.0	4.0%
Capital	\$1,942.5	\$1,902.1	\$2,096.2	\$194.1	10.2%
Transportation	1,492.5	1,450.6	1,355.7	-94.9	-6.5%
Environment	209.6	196.7	195.0	-1.7	-0.9%
Other	240.4	254.9	545.5	290.7	114.0%
Subtotal	\$18,951.0	\$20,557.1	\$21,506.1	\$949.0	4.6%
Reserve Funds	\$90.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	n/a
Grand Total	\$19,041.0	\$20,557.1	\$21,506.1	\$949.0	4.6%

^{*} Includes higher education funds (current unrestricted and current restricted) net of general and special funds.

Note: The fiscal 2026 adjusted legislative appropriation includes anticipated deficiencies of \$99.1 million. Fiscal 2025 excludes \$75.1 million, fiscal 2026 excludes \$79.8 million, and fiscal 2027 excludes \$267.8 million that double count general fund spending.

State Expenditures – Federal Funds Fiscal 2025-2027

(\$ in Millions)

Category	2025 Working <u>Appropriation</u>	2026 Adj. Legislative <u>Appropriation</u>	2027 <u>Baseline</u>	\$ Change <u>2026 t</u>	% Change <u>o 2027</u>
Debt Service	\$4.9	\$2.6	\$0.8	-\$1.8	-69.2%
County/Municipal	\$82.1	\$82.1	\$82.1	\$0.0	0.0%
Community Colleges	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Education/Libraries	1,329.2	1,217.8	1,217.8	0.0	0.0%
Health	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Aid to Local Governments	<i>\$1,436.3</i>	\$1,300.0	\$1,300.0	\$0.0	0.0%
Foster Care Payments	\$106.7	\$61.8	\$62.7	\$0.9	1.5%
Assistance Payments	2,058.9	1,543.0	1,411.7	-131.3	-8.5%
Medical Assistance	9,075.8	9,481.3	10,418.0	936.7	9.9%
Property Tax Credits	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Entitlements	\$11,241.4	\$11,086.1	<i>\$11,892.4</i>	\$806.3	7.3%
Health	\$2,745.2	\$2,871.0	\$3,094.1	\$223.1	7.8%
Human Services	734.8	772.3	668.9	-103.4	-13.4%
Juvenile Services	6.3	6.3	6.5	0.2	3.3%
Public Safety/Police	37.6	37.6	38.9	1.4	3.6%
Higher Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
Other Education	376.2	401.4	407.4	6.0	1.5%
Transportation	139.9	140.5	141.0	0.5	0.4%
Agriculture/Natural Res./Environment	108.4	109.6	117.2	7.7	7.0%
Other Executive Agencies	1,627.5	1,534.4	1,577.2	42.8	2.8%
Judiciary	2.2	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0%
Legislature	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	n/a
State Agencies	<i>\$5,778.</i> 0	<i>\$5,874</i> .0	<i>\$6,052.3</i>	<i>\$178.3</i>	3.0%
Deficiencies (for Prior Years)	\$335.6	\$330.0	\$0.0	-\$330.0	-100.0%
Total Operating	\$18,796.3	\$18,592.7	\$19,245.5	\$652.8	3.5%
Capital	\$1,658.5	\$1,453.9	\$1,644.4	\$190.5	13.1%
Transportation	1,205.8	1,230.4	1,349.9	119.6	9.7%
Environment	173.2	174.6	180.0	5.4	3.1%
Other	279.4	48.9	114.5	65.6	134.2%
Grand Total	\$20,454.8	\$20,046.6	\$20,889.9	\$843.3	4.2%

Note: The fiscal 2026 adjusted legislative appropriation includes anticipated deficiencies of \$573.0 million.

State Expenditures – State Funds Fiscal 2025-2027

(\$ in Millions)

	2025	2026			
	Working	Adj. Legislative	2027	\$ Change	% Change
<u>Category</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Baseline</u>	<u>2026 to</u>	2027
Debt Service	\$1,954.0	\$1,836.3	\$1,963.3	\$127.0	6.9%
County/Municipal	\$1,010.8	\$1,054.1	\$1,071.2	\$17.1	1.6%
Community Colleges	477.6	503.1	539.5	36.4	7.2%
Education/Libraries	9,190.8	9,859.1	10,430.7	571.6	5.8%
Health	111.2	115.0	117.6	2.6	2.3%
Aid to Local Governments	<i>\$10,790.5</i>	\$11,531.3	<i>\$12,159.1</i>	\$627.7	5.4%
Foster Care Payments	\$281.7	\$364.0	\$372.4	\$8.4	2.3%
Assistance Payments	142.5	144.5	168.0	23.4	16.2%
Medical Assistance	6,074.8	6,516.9	6,833.4	316.5	4.9%
Property Tax Credits	96.0	87.1	89.1	2.0	2.3%
Entitlements	\$6,595.1	\$7,112.6	<i>\$7,462.8</i>	\$350. <i>2</i>	4.9%
Health	\$3,901.6	\$4,014.4	\$4,175.9	\$161.5	4.0%
Human Services	677.6	786.6	859.9	73.3	9.3%
Juvenile Services	344.3	357.8	380.5	22.7	6.3%
Public Safety/Police	2,341.1	2,456.7	2,566.1	109.3	4.5%
Higher Education	8,346.1	8,543.0	8,667.4	124.5	1.5%
Other Education	1,350.6	1,354.8	1,436.4	81.6	6.0%
Transportation	2,857.4	2,916.7	3,018.2	101.5	3.5%
Agriculture/Natural Res./Environment	592.7	613.4	637.8	24.5	4.0%
Other Executive Agencies	3,297.8	3,452.9	3,594.0	141.1	4.1%
Judiciary	773.9	787.9	808.5	20.6	2.6%
Legislative	160.8	162.1	166.7	4.5	2.8%
State Agencies	<i>\$24,643.9</i>	<i>\$25,446.4</i>	<i>\$26,311.5</i>	\$865.1	3.4%
Deficiencies (for Prior Years)	\$273.2	\$339.6	\$0.0	-\$339.6	-100.0%
Total Operating	\$44,256.5	\$46,266.2	\$47,896.7	\$1,630.5	3.5%
Capital	\$2,100.8	\$1,964.5	\$2,265.1	\$300.6	15.3%
Transportation	1,496.6	1,456.6	1,522.7	66.1	4.5%
Environment	210.6	197.3	195.7	-1.7	-0.9%
Other	393.6	310.6	546.8	236.2	76.0%
Subtotal	<i>\$46,357.3</i>	\$48,230.7	\$50,161.8	\$1,931. <i>2</i>	4.0%
Reserve Funds	\$92.5	\$26.5	\$458.1	\$431.6	1628.8%
Appropriations	\$46,449.8	\$48,257.2	\$50,620.0	\$2,362.8	4.9%
Reversions	-\$75.0	-\$75.0	-\$75.0	\$0.0	0.0%
Grand Total	\$46,374.8	\$48,182.2	\$50,545.0	\$2,362.8	4.9%

Note: The fiscal 2026 adjusted legislativeg appropriation includes anticipated deficiencies of \$794.4 million. Fiscal 2025 excludes \$75.1 million, fiscal 2026 excludes \$79.8 million and fiscal 2027 excludes \$267.8 million of special funds that double count general fund spending.

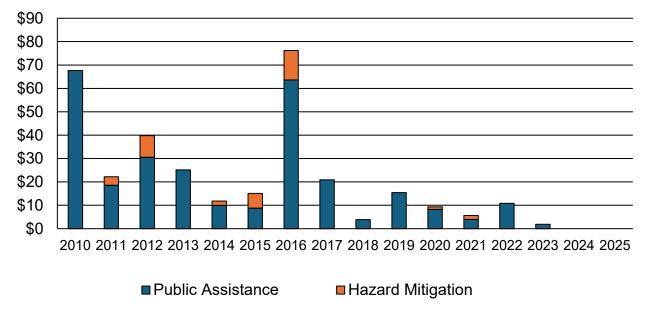
State Expenditures – All Funds Fiscal 2025-2027 (\$ in Millions)

	2025	2026	0007	(* O le	0/ 01
Category	Working <u>Appropriation</u>	Adj. Legislative <u>Appropriation</u>	2027 <u>Baseline</u>	\$ Change 2026 to	% Change 2027
Debt Service	\$1,958.9	\$1,838.9	\$1,964.1	\$125.2	6.8%
County/Municipal	\$1,092.9	\$1,136.2	\$1,153.3	\$17.1	1.5%
Community Colleges	477.6	503.1	539.5	36.4	7.2%
Education/Libraries	10,520.0	11,076.9	11,648.6	571.6	5.2%
Health	136.2	115.0	117.6	2.6	2.3%
Aid to Local Governments	<i>\$12,226.8</i>	<i>\$12,831.3</i>	<i>\$13,459.0</i>	<i>\$627.7</i>	4.9%
Foster Care Payments	\$388.4	\$425.8	\$435.1	\$9.3	2.2%
Assistance Payments	2,201.5	1,687.5	1,579.7	-107.9	-6.4%
Medical Assistance	15,150.6	15,998.2	17,251.4	1,253.1	7.8%
Property Tax Credits	96.0	87.1	89.1	2.0	2.3%
Entitlements	<i>\$17,836.5</i>	\$18,198.7	<i>\$19,355.3</i>	\$1,156.6	6.4%
Health	\$6,646.8	\$6,885.4	\$7,270.0	\$384.6	5.6%
Human Services	1,412.4	1,558.9	1,528.8	-30.0	-1.9%
Juvenile Services	350.6	364.2	387.1	22.9	6.3%
Public Safety/Police	2,378.7	2,494.3	2,605.0	110.7	4.4%
Higher Education	8,346.1	8,543.0	8,667.4	124.5	1.5%
Other Education	1,726.9	1,756.2	1,843.8	87.6	5.0%
Transportation	2,997.3	3,057.2	3,159.2	102.0	3.3%
Agriculture/Natural Res./Environment	701.0	723.0	755.1	32.1	4.4%
Other Executive Agencies	4,925.3	4,987.3	5,171.1	183.9	3.7%
Judiciary	776.1	789.0	809.6	20.6	2.6%
Legislative	160.8	162.1	166.7	4.5	2.8%
State Agencies	\$30, <i>422</i> .0	\$31,320.4	<i>\$32,363.8</i>	\$1,043.4	3.3%
Deficiencies (for prior years)	\$608.8	\$669.6	\$0.0	-\$669.6	n/a
Total Operating	\$63,052.8	\$64,858.8	\$67,142.2	\$2,283.4	3.5%
Capital	\$3,759.3	\$3,418.4	\$3,909.6	\$491.1	14.4%
Transportation	2,702.4	2,687.0	2,872.6	185.7	6.9%
Environment	383.9	372.0	375.7	3.7	1.0%
Other	673.0	359.5	661.3	301.8	83.9%
Subtotal	\$66,812.1	\$68,277.3	<i>\$71,051.7</i>	\$2,774.5	4.1%
Reserve Funds	\$92.5	\$26.5	\$458.1	\$431.6	1628.8%
Appropriations	\$66,904.6	\$68,303.8	\$71,509.9	\$3,206.1	4.7%
Reversions	-\$75.0	-\$75.0	-\$75.0	\$0.0	0.0%
Grand Total	\$66,829.6	\$68,228.8	\$71,434.9	\$3,206.1	4.7%

Note: The fiscal 2026 legislative appropriation includes anticipated deficiencies of \$1.4 billion. Fiscal 2025 excludes \$75.1 million, fiscal 2026 excludes \$79.8 million, and fiscal 2027 excludes \$267.8 million of special funds that double count general fund spending.

Maryland Averaged \$21.4 Million in Federal Disaster Aid from Fiscal 2010 to 2025 (Excluding COVID-19)

(\$ in Millions)



- The State has two funds that can be used to cover costs related to natural disasters or catastrophes.
 - The Catastrophic Event Account established in 1990 for this purpose. Chapter 97 of 2025 expanded the purposes of the fund to include former federal employee financial hardship from the closure, relocation, or mass layoff of a unit of the federal government, or other similar circumstances.
 - The State Disaster Recovery Fund established in Chapter 549 of 2023 to provide disaster relief whether an official disaster declaration is made.
- At the close of fiscal 2025, the Catastrophic Event Account had a balance of \$12.5 million. Based on known transfers and anticipated uses related to the federal government shutdown and layoffs, the baseline assumes the fiscal 2025 balance is fully utilized and replenished to \$10 million in fiscal 2027.
- The Department of Legislative Services projects a fiscal 2027 balance in the State Disaster Recovery Fund of approximately \$2.3 million after deposits of \$0.9 million in each of fiscal 2026 and 2027 and the use of \$459,375 for the May 2025 floods in Western Maryland (Requested federal disaster assistance of \$33.7 million was denied).
- Since the federal government appears less likely to provide disaster assistance in the future, the State should consider maintaining a combined balance of at least \$21 million in future years.

Federal Funding Rescissions and Restorations

Through August 2025, approximately \$101.3 million in anticipated federal funding for State agencies has been rescinded or canceled and not restored (see **Exhibit 1**). An additional \$538.2 million has been canceled and subsequently restored under injunctions or settlements (see **Exhibit 2**).

The largest losses include approximately \$46.8 million in federal research funding for University of Maryland institutions and Morgan State University (see **Exhibit 3**). In addition to these losses, multiple federal agencies have also announced a 15% cap on indirect costs that may be covered under federal research grants, which could have an additional unknown cost. The cap on indirect costs is currently being challenged in court. Other losses include an anticipated \$4.6 million for the Local Food Purchase Assistance Agreement, which funds pass-through grants for food banks to buy food from Maryland farmers, and \$3.9 million in annual funding for Maryland Public Broadcasting that was lost when the U.S. Congress terminated the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The largest funding restorations include approximately \$237.8 million in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for local education agencies, provided via the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). MSDE was notified in March that it would not receive the pandemic-era funding, including \$190 million in reimbursement for funds already expended, but the federal Department of Education agreed to release the funds following a multistate lawsuit. An additional \$47.8 million in ESSER funds is expected to be made available in the future.

Funding for at least two programs has been restored under injunctions while litigation continues: \$30.0 million for the National Electric Vehicle and Infrastructure program, awarded to the Maryland Department of Transportation; and \$152.4 million in various grant obligations awarded to the Maryland Department of Health. While programs supported by these funding streams continue under the injunctions, they remain vulnerable to cancellation again in the future, should the injunctions be lifted. Funding for the Department of Natural Resources Police from the U.S. Coast Guard has been restored for fiscal 2025 at nearly \$4.0 million but is uncertain for federal fiscal 2026 as new terms and conditions may be applied to which the department may not agree.

Exhibit 1 Federal Award Rescissions Not Restored

State Agency	Federal Grant or Program	<u>Amount</u>
University of Maryland System	Various Research Grants	\$43,398,685
Maryland Department of Labor	Unemployment Insurance System Modernization	25,000,000
Department of Housing and Community Development	State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program – IIJA	13,427,134
Maryland Department of Agriculture	Local Food Purchase Assistance 2025 Agreement	4,850,000
Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission	Corporation for Public Broadcasting Annual Funding	3,900,000
Maryland Department of Transportation	Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program	3,413,623
Morgan State University	Various Research Grants	3,400,000
Maryland Department of Health	Family Planning Services	2,171,714
Department of Disabilities	Social Security Research and Demonstration	1,275,467
Maryland Department of Agriculture	Spongy Moth Management	180,000
Historic St. Mary's City Commission	Promotion of the Humanities – Public Programs (National Endowment for the Humanities)	143,735
State Board of Elections	2023 State Homeland Security Program (via Maryland Department of Emergency Management)	117,078
Maryland Department of the Environment	Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Program	16,730
Total		\$101,294,166

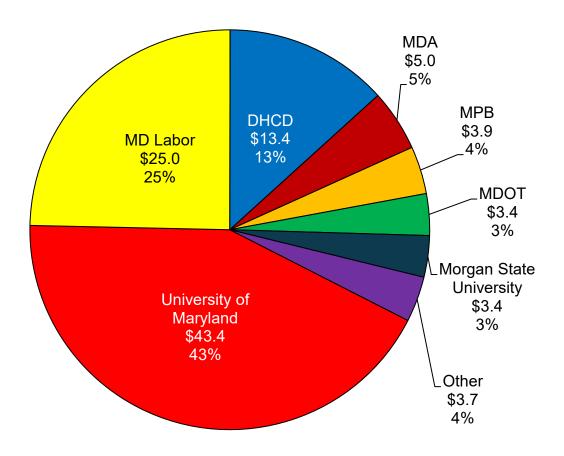
IIJA: Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act

Note: Some amounts are estimates. Funds that were awarded directly to local governments or organizations are not included. Losses that could not be quantified are not included.

Exhibit 2 Federal Funding Restored

State Agency	Federal Grant or Program	<u>Amount</u>
Maryland State Department of Education	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds for Local Education Agencies (LEA), for Expenses Already Incurred	\$190,000,000
Maryland Department of Health	Various Grants from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – Funding Continues under a Preliminary Injunction while Litigation Is Ongoing	152,442,634
Maryland State Department of Education	Titles IC, IIA, III, IVA, and IVB Funding	110,193,772
Maryland State Department of Education	ESSER Funds for LEAs, for Ongoing and Future Expenses	47,800,000
Maryland Department of Transportation	National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program – Funding Continues under a Preliminary Injunction while Litigation Is Ongoing	30,000,000
Department of Natural Resources	U.S. Coast Guard State Recreational Boating Safety Program – Continued Funding in Federal Fiscal 2026 Depends on Whether State and Federal Partners Can Agree on New Terms and Conditions	3,964,905
Maryland State Library Agency	Library Services Program	3,332,465
Department of Natural Resources	AmeriCorps funding for Maryland Conservation Corps	386,231
Historic St. Mary's City Commission	Save America's Treasures (Department of the Interior/National Park Service)	65,161
Total		\$538,185,168

Exhibit 3
Federal Funding Not Restored, by Agency
(\$ in Millions)



DHCD: Department of Housing and Community Development

MDA: Maryland Department of Agriculture
MD Labor: Maryland Department of Labor
MDOT: Maryland Department of Transportation
MPBC: Maryland Public Broadcasting Corporation

Part 4

State Employment

Abolished Vacant and Vacated VSP Positions October 2025

	Fiscal 2026	Section 41		Fiscal 2026 Leg.
	Leg. Approp.	Abolishments	VSP	Approp. Adjusted
Department/Service Area				_
Health and Human Services				
Health	7,332.9	-24.3	-45.0	7,263.6
Human Services	5,978.7	-25.3	-65.0	5,888.4
Juvenile Services	2,146.0	-	-11.0	2,135.0
Subtotal	15,457.5	-49.6	-121.0	15,286.9
Public Safety		-	-	
Public Safety and Correctional Services	9,234.4	-	-35.0	9,199.4
Police and Fire Marshal	2,577.0	-	-3.0	2,574.0
Subtotal	11,811.4	-	-38.0	11,773.4
Transportation	9,360.5	-6.0	-26.0	9,328.5
Other Executive		-	-	
Legal (Excluding Judiciary)	1,806.0	-14.0	-15.0	1,777.0
Executive and Administrative Control	2,185.5	-27.0	-24.0	2,134.5
Financial and Revenue Administration	2,465.5	-13.4	-14.0	2,438.2
Budget and Management and DoIT	591.0	-4.0	-4.0	583.0
Retirement	207.0	-	-3.0	204.0
General Services	732.0	-	-5.0	727.0
Service and Civic Innovation	56.0	-	-	56.0
Natural Resources	1,555.0	- 9.0	-25.0	1,521.0
Agriculture	439.5	-3.0	-6.0	430.5
Labor	1,968.6	-15.7	-16.0	1,936.9
MSDE and Other Education	2,069.4	-11.0	-8.0	2,050.4
Housing and Community Development	446.0	-	-	446.0
Commerce	212.0	-1.0	-2.0	209.0
Environment	1,034.0	-17.0	-13.0	1,004.0
Subtotal	15,767.5	-115.1	-135.0	15,517.4
Executive Branch Subtotal	52,396.9	-170.7	-320.0	51,906.2
Higher Education	29,406.3			29,406.3
Judiciary	4,173.0			4,173.0
Legislature	814.0			814.0
Grand Total	86,790.1	-170.7	-320.0	86,299.5

DoIT: Department of Information Technology MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education

VSP: Voluntary Separation Program

Note: Section 41 of the fiscal 2026 Budget Bill required a reduction of 150.5 vacant or new positions. The Governor authorized VSP effective July 10, 2025.

Analysis of Vacancies and Turnover Rate Executive Branch, Excluding Higher Education

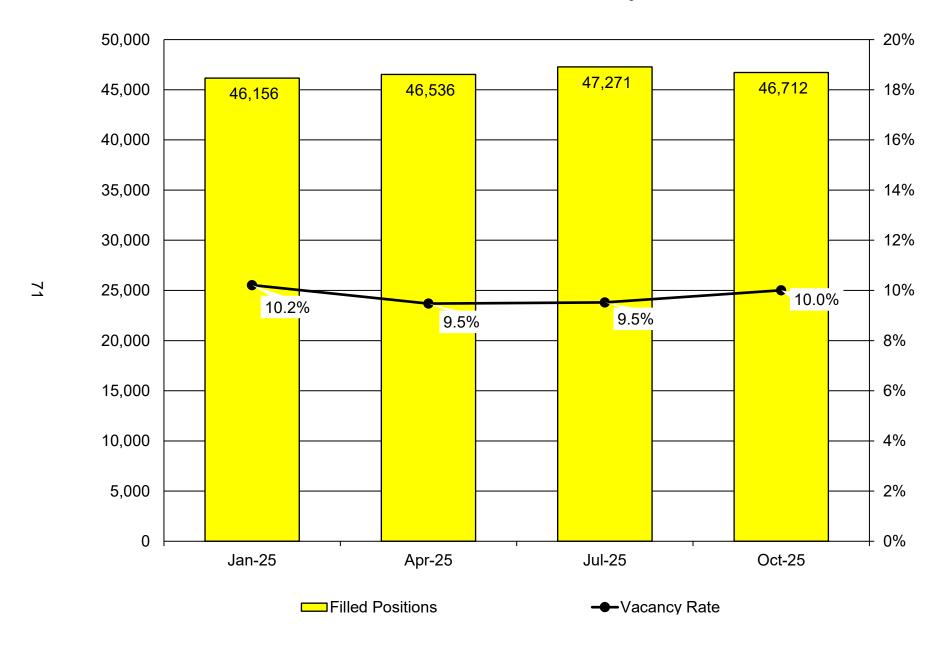
Adjusted Fiscal 2026 Legislative Appropriation Compared to October 2025 Vacancies

		Budgeted	Vacancies		Vacancies Above	October
		Turnover	to Meet	October	(or Below)	
Department/Service Area	<u>Positions</u>	Rate	<u>Turnover</u>	Vacancies	<u>Turnover</u>	Rate
Largest Six State Agencies						
Public Safety and Correctional						
Services	9,199	14.8%	1,362	825	-537	9.0%
Human Services	5,888	9.7%	571	410	-161	7.0%
Health	7,264	10.9%	791	946	154	13.0%
Police and Fire Marshal	2,574	11.2%	289	262	-27	10.2%
Juvenile Services	2,135	11.7%	250	251	1	11.8%
Transportation	9,329	5.7%	529	680	151	7.3%
Subtotal	36,389	7.2%	3,793	3,373	-419	9.3%
Other Executive						
Legal (Excluding Judiciary)	1,777	10.8%	192	181	-10	10.2%
Executive and Administrative	,					
Control	2,135	7.9%	169	237	68	11.1%
Financial and Revenue	,					
Administration	2,438	9.9%	241	171	-70	7.0%
Budget and Management and	,					
DolT	583	7.9%	46	58	12	9.9%
Retirement	204	6.8%	14	27	13	13.2%
General Services	727	9.5%	69	56	-13	7.7%
Service and Civic Innovation	56	16.4%	9	5	-4	8.9%
Natural Resources	1,521	13.9%	211	180	-31	11.8%
Agriculture	431	8.5%	37	41	4	9.4%
Labor	1,937	18.1%	350	514	164	26.5%
MSDE and Other Education	2,050	8.9%	183	170	-13	8.3%
Housing and Community	,					
Development	446	7.3%	33	31	-2	7.0%
Commerce	209	10.2%	21	17	-4	8.1%
Environment	1,004	14.4%	144	133	-11	13.2%
Subtotal	15,517	10.9%	1,720	1,821	101	11.7%
Executive Branch Subtotal	51,906	10.5%	5,512	5,194	-318	10.0%

DoIT: Department of Information Technology MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education

Note: Fiscal 2026 Adjusted Legislative Appropriation includes adjustments for positions abolished at the October 22, 2025 Board of Public Works meeting.

Source: Department of Budget and Management; Department of Legislative Services



Baseline Position Changes

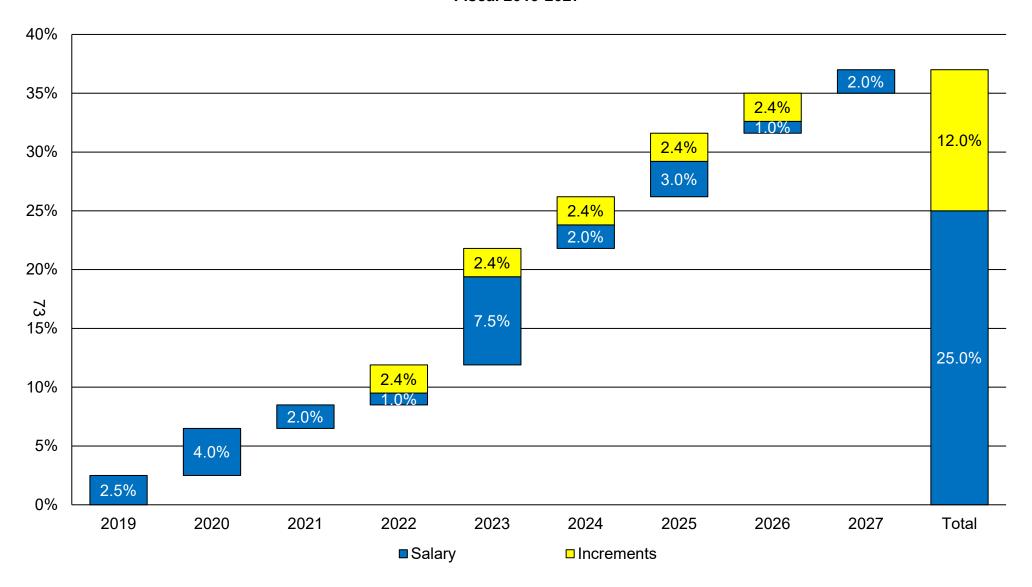
	Fiscal 2026 Leg. Approp. Adjusted	Fiscal 2027 Adjustments	Fiscal 2027 Baseline
Department/Service Area	- 4-p		
Health and Human Services			
Health	7,263.6	-1.0	7,262.6
Human Services	5,888.4	-18.0	5,870.4
Juvenile Services	2,135.0		2,135.0
Subtotal	15,286.9	-19.0	15,267.9
Public Safety			
Public Safety and Correctional Services	9,199.4	4.0	9,203.4
Police and Fire Marshal	2,574.0		2,574.0
Subtotal	11,773.4	4.0	11,777.4
Transportation	9,328.5	-32.0	9,296.5
Other Executive			
Legal (Excluding Judiciary)	1,777.0	33.0	1,810.0
Executive and Administrative Control	2,134.5	45.0	2,131.5
Financial and Revenue Administration	2,438.2	5.0	2,443.2
Budget and Management and DoIT	583.0	27.0	610.0
Retirement	204.0		204.0
General Services	727.0		727.0
Service and Civic Innovation	56.0	24.0	106.0
Natural Resources	1,521.0	15.0	1,536.0
Agriculture	430.5	1.0	431.5
Labor	1,936.9	-106.5	1,830.4
MSDE and Other Education	2,050.4		2,050.4
Housing and Community Development	446.0		446.0
Commerce	209.0		209.0
Environment	1,004.0	9.0	1,013.0
Subtotal	15,517.4	52.5	15,547.9
Executive Branch Subtotal	51,906.2	5.5	51,889.7
Higher Education	29,406.3	-324.2	29,082.1
Judiciary	4,173.0		4,173.0
Legislature	814.0		814.0
Grand Total	86,299.5	-318.7	85,958.8

IT: information technology

MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education

Note: Fiscal 2026 Adjusted Legislative Appropriation includes adjustments for positions abolished at the October 22, 2025 Board of Public Works meeting.

Salary Increases Fiscal 2019-2027



Note: The fiscal 2026 legislative appropriation includes funding for salary step increases for employees represented by a bargaining unit are excluded.

Part 5

Local Government Assistance

State Aid by Governmental Entity Amount and Percent of Total (\$ in Millions)

	Fiscal 2027 State Aid Amount	Percent of Total
Public Schools	\$10,327.2	84.9%
Libraries	103.6	0.9%
Community Colleges	539.5	4.4%
Local Health	117.6	1.0%
County/Municipal	1,071.2	8.8%
Total	\$12,159.1	100.0%

Change in State Aid (\$ in Millions)

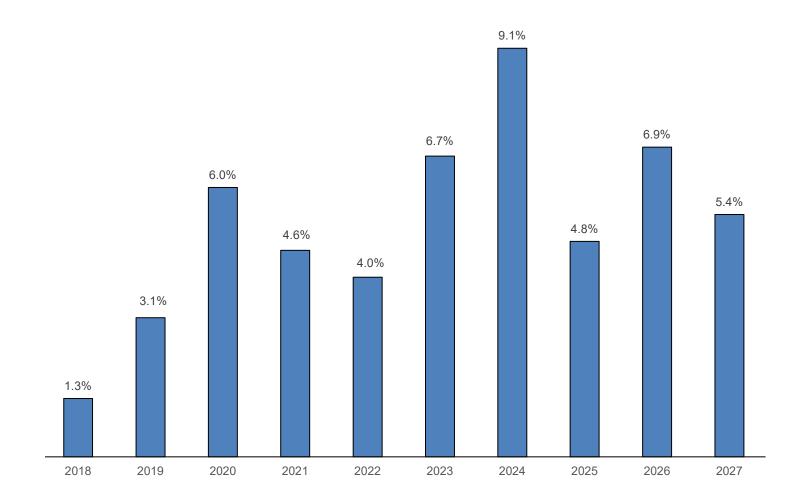
	Fiscal 2027 <u>Aid Change</u>	Percent <u>Change</u>
Public Schools	\$568.7	5.8%
Libraries	3.0	2.9%
Community Colleges	36.4	7.2%
Local Health	2.6	2.3%
County/Municipal	17.1	1.6%
Total	\$627.7	5.4%

State Aid by Major Programs State Funds Fiscal 2024-2027 (\$ in Millions)

	2024	2025	2026	<u>2027</u>	Difference	Percent Difference
Public Schools	2024	2025	2020	<u> 2021 </u>	Difference	Dillerence
Foundation Programs	\$3,958.1	\$3,934.9	\$4,141.4	\$4,279.4	\$138.0	3.3%
Compensatory Aid	1,686.1	1,715.3	1,778.6	1,769.6	- 9.0	
Concentration of Poverty Grant	227.0	363.3	492.6	572.2	79.6	
English Learners Grant	473.5	519.5	554.5	580.0	25.6	
Special Education - Formula Aid	466.0	531.3	589.8	675.9	86.1	
Special Education -Nonpublic	148.6	172.5	147.1	127.7	-19.4	
Student Transportation	363.4	369.6	381.9	387.5	5.5	
Full Day Prekindergarten	98.9	134.9	172.6	331.0	158.4	
Guaranteed Tax Base	56.8	74.9	65.0	65.0	0.1	
Education Effort Adjustment	88.0	96.5	145.4	199.3	53.9	
Other Education Programs	310.6	264.8	307.8	287.2	-20.6	
Subtotal Direct Aid	\$7,876.9	\$8,177.4	\$8,776.7	\$9,274.8	\$498.1	
Retirement Payments	\$745.0	\$917.2	\$981.8	\$1,052.4	\$70.6	
Total Public School Aid	\$8,621.9	\$9,094.6	\$9,758.5	\$10,327.2	\$568.7	
19						
Libraries	***	***				
Library Aid Formula	\$48.7	\$49.5	\$50.5	\$51.9	\$1.4	
State Library Network	21.4	22.5	22.6	23.1	0.5	
Subtotal Direct Aid	\$70.1	\$71.9	\$73.1 ************************************	\$75.0	\$1.9	
Retirement Payments	\$20.7	\$24.3	\$27.5	\$28.6	\$1.1	
Total Library Aid	\$90.8	\$96.2	\$100.6	\$103.6	\$3.0	2.9%
Community Colleges						
Community College Formula	\$393.3	\$384.8	\$404.5	\$435.1	\$30.6	7.6%
Other Programs	37.6	38.6	40.6	41.9	1.2	3.0%
Subtotal Direct Aid	\$430.9	\$423.3	\$445.2	\$477.0	\$31.8	7.1%
Retirement Payments	\$45.1	\$54.3	\$58.0	\$62.6	\$4.6	8.0%
Total Community College Aid	\$476.0	\$477.6	\$503.1	\$539.5	\$36.4	7.2%
Local Health Grants	\$135.0	\$111.2	\$115.0	\$117.6	\$2.6	2.3%
County/Municipal Aid						
Transportation	\$339.2	\$426.1	\$485.5	\$492.4	\$6.9	1.4%
Public Safety	226.8	212.8	213.6	212.2	-1.3	
Disparity Grant	220.2	188.5	193.7	212.8	19.1	
Gaming Impact Aid	103.1	102.9	103.1	103.8	0.7	
Other Grants	81.7	80.1	58.2	49.9	-8.3	
Total County/Municipal Aid	\$971.0	\$1,010.4	\$1,054.1	\$1,071.2	\$17.1	
Total State Aid	\$10,294.6	\$10,790.1	\$11,531.3	\$12,159.1	\$627.7	5.4%

Source: Department of Legislative Services

Annual Change in State Aid to Local Governments Fiscal 2018-2027



Part 6

Transportation

New Transportation Revenues Enacted 2024 and 2025 Sessions Fiscal 2025-2031 (\$ in Millions)

	Actual <u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2028</u>	<u>2029</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>2031</u>	<u>2026-2031</u>
Registrations – Non-HUR Transportation Network Company	\$139	\$187	\$247	\$242	\$240	\$244	\$248	\$1,407
Fee	40	42	44	46	50	53	57	293
Electric Vehicle Surcharge	8	20	26	34	44	60	78	262
SHA Workzone Safety	7	10	10	9	9	8	8	54
Sales Tax – Electricity	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	12
Total 2024 Session New Revenues	\$195	\$261	\$328	\$333	\$345	\$367	\$393	\$2,028
Capital Gains Surcharge		\$137	\$101	\$101	\$101	\$101	\$101	\$641
Certificate of Title Fee Increase		104	104	104	104	104	104	624
Vehicle Excise Tax Increase to 6.5% Registration Fee Increase		94	98	102	105	108	112	620
Acceleration VEIP Fee Increase (Including Late		52	0	0	0	0	0	52
Fee)		30	30	30	30	30	30	180
Increase Cap on MVA Cost Recovery		20	42	38	56	63	70	289
Historic Tags Eligibility Alterations		4	4	4	4	4	4	24
New Tire Fee of \$5		11	23	23	23	23	23	126
Rental Vehicle Excise Tax of 3.5% Rental Car Registration Fee		29	31	32	33	34	35	195
Alteration		3	3	3	3	3	3	18
Total 2025 Session New Revenues		\$484	\$436	\$437	\$459	\$470	\$482	\$2,769
Grand Total All New Revenues	\$195	\$744	\$764	\$770	\$805	\$838	\$876	\$4,796

HUR: Highway User Revenue SHA: State Highway Administration

MVA: Motor Vehicle Administration VEIP: Vehicle Emission Inspection Program

Source: Department of Legislative Services, Maryland Department of Transportation, Draft 2026 Transportation Trust Fund Forecast

Transportation Trust Fund Six-year Forecast Comparisons Fiscal 2025-2031 (\$ in Millions)

	MDOT	MDOT		DLS	
	Jan. <u>2025</u>	Sept. <u>2025</u>	<u>Difference</u>	Nov. <u>2025</u>	Difference
Revenues					
Net Revenues and Fund					
Balance Use	\$31,360	\$32,030	\$670	\$32,103	\$73
Bond Proceeds and			400		100
Premiums	2,155	2,635	480	3,095	460
Total Revenues	\$33,515	\$34,665	\$1,150	\$35,198	\$533
Expenditures					
Debt Service	\$2,756	\$2,871	\$115	\$2,946	\$75
Operating Budget	19,953	20,871	918	20,901	30
State Funds Available for					
Capital	10,806	10,923	117	11,351	428
Total Expenditures	\$33,515	\$34,665	\$1,150	\$35,198	\$533
Capital Summary					
State Program (Excluding					
HUR)	\$8,450	\$8,580	\$130	\$8,989	\$409
Highway User Revenues	2,355	2,342	-13	2,361	19
Net Federal Capital (Cash					
Flow)	7,753	8,317	564	8,317	0
Other Funds	2,645	2,231	-414	2,231	0
Total Capital	\$21,203	\$21,470	\$268	\$21,898	\$428

DLS: Department of Legislative Services HUR: Highway User Revenue

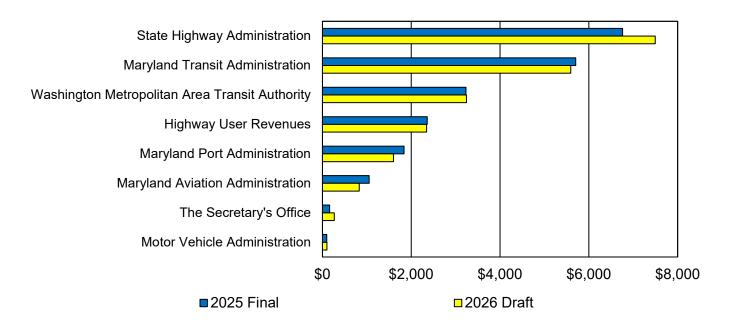
MDOT: Maryland Department of Transportation

- New revenues primarily cover increased operating expenses that are due to employee compensation growth and additional new positions to improve transit service; escalation in major contracts; and projected operating expenses related to the Purple Line, which is projected to open in fiscal 2028.
- Across the six-year forecast period, operating expenses in the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) September 2025 financial forecast total nearly \$20.9 billion, an increase of \$918 million, or 4.6%, from the January 2025 MDOT forecast.

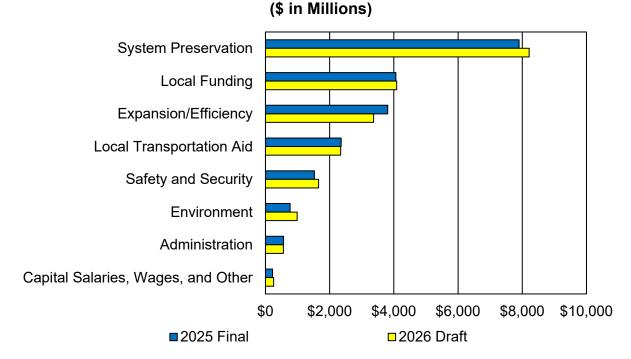
The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) forecast reflects:

- the actual fiscal 2025 closing balance, which is \$46 million higher than assumed in the MDOT September 2025 forecast that was released before closeout was finalized.
- DLS projected revenue attainment from motor fuel taxes and titling taxes, which is
 a net \$27 million higher than assumed in the September 2025 MDOT forecast.
 DLS projects lower attainment in motor fuel revenue across all years of the forecast
 period and lower attainment in titling tax revenue in fiscal 2026 and 2027 but higher
 titling tax revenue in fiscal 2028 to 2031, resulting in a net increase relative to the
 MDOT forecast.
- DLS projected debt issuances and debt service costs reflecting increased debt issuance capacity due to higher projected revenues and lower debt service costs as a result of refunding of previously issued debt in October 2025.
- DLS projected operating expense growth, reflecting baseline projections in fiscal 2026 and 2027, and projected growth rates in fiscal 2028 to 2031 of 3.9% annually for MDOT modes and 3% annually for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Additional operating expense growth in the Maryland Transit Administration is assumed in fiscal 2028 and 2029 due to the annualization of operating expenses for the newly opened Purple Line.

Consolidated Transportation Program Comparison by Mode 2025 Final v. 2026 Draft (\$ in Millions)

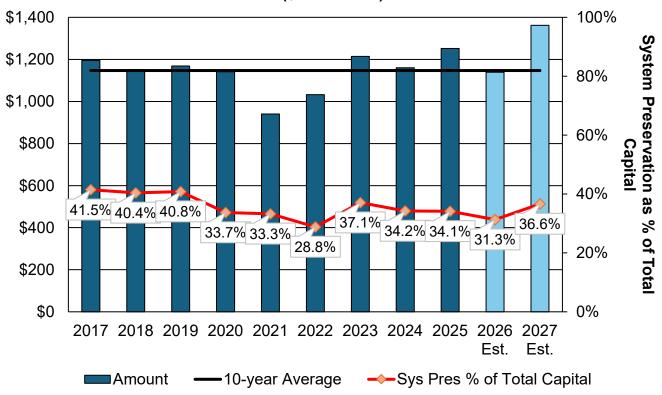


Consolidated Transportation Program Comparison by Investment Category 2025 Final v. 2026 Draft



Consolidated Transportation Program Fiscal 2026 and 2027 System Preservation Programmed Funding

Fiscal 2017 to 2027 Est. (\$ in Millions)



 Average annual spending for system preservation for the 10-year period ending with fiscal 2025 was \$1.147 billion. The draft Consolidated Transportation Program includes \$1.362 billion for system preservation projects in fiscal 2027, which is \$215 million greater than the 10-year average.

Chapters 27 and 563 of 2022 require the Spending Affordability Committee to include recommendations in the report it submits to the Legislative Policy Committee and the Governor on:

- a recommended fund balance for the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF); and
- a recommended minimum expenditure level for system preservation by MDOT.

MDOT's target closing balance for the TTF is set to meet projected working cash flow needs. The draft TTF forecast has a target closing balance of \$500 million in fiscal 2027. This level is an increase from the target closing balance anticipated in the January 2025 financial forecast and is reasonable based on expected revenue and spending levels.

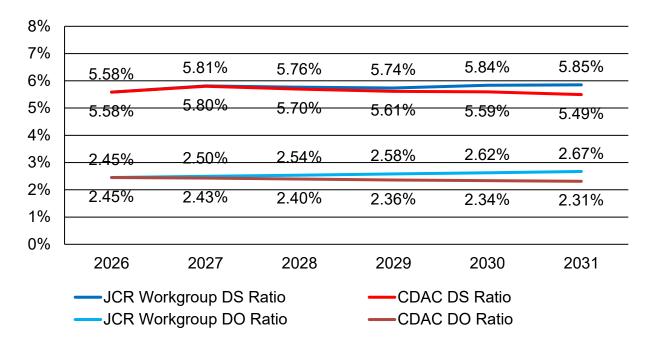
Part 7

Capital Program and State Debt Policy

State Debt Affordability Ratios

- The Capital Debt Affordability Committee (CDAC) develops State debt policy.
 CDAC has two affordability criteria:
 - State debt service cannot exceed 8% of State revenues; and
 - State debt outstanding cannot exceed 4% of personal income.
- Projected debt service and debt outstanding is well within affordability limits for both the CDAC issuance assumptions and the *Joint Chairmen's Report* workgroup issuance assumptions.

Affordability Ratios Fiscal 2026-2031



CDAC: Capital Debt Affordability Committee

JCR: Joint Chairmen's Report

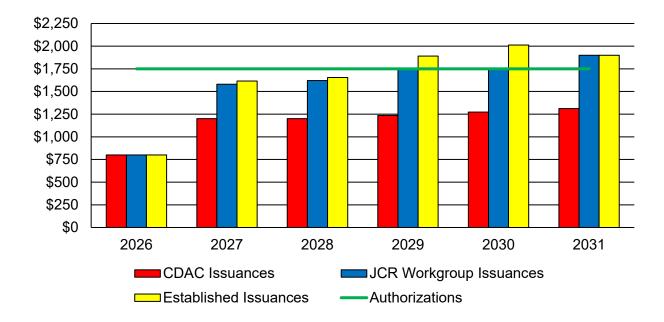
DS: Debt Service DO: Debt Outstanding

Source: Board of Revenue Estimates; Maryland Department of Transportation; State Treasurer's Office; Maryland Stadium Authority; Maryland Department of the Environment; Capital Debt Affordability Committee; State Department of Assessments and Taxation; Department of Legislative Services

General Obligation Bond Authorizations, Issuances, and Debt Service

- The 2025 operating budget Joint Chairmen's Report (JCR) directed the State
 Treasurer's Office to work with the Department of Budget and Management and
 the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) to convene a workgroup evaluating
 the issuance assumptions used by the Capital Debt Affordability Committee
 (CDAC).
- The JCR workgroup recommends that beginning with the 2025 CDAC analysis, the issuance assumptions used by CDAC should be based on the 10-year weighted average of actual project expenditures per capital budget bill.
- CDAC used alternative issuance assumptions.

General Obligation Bond Authorizations and Issuances Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)

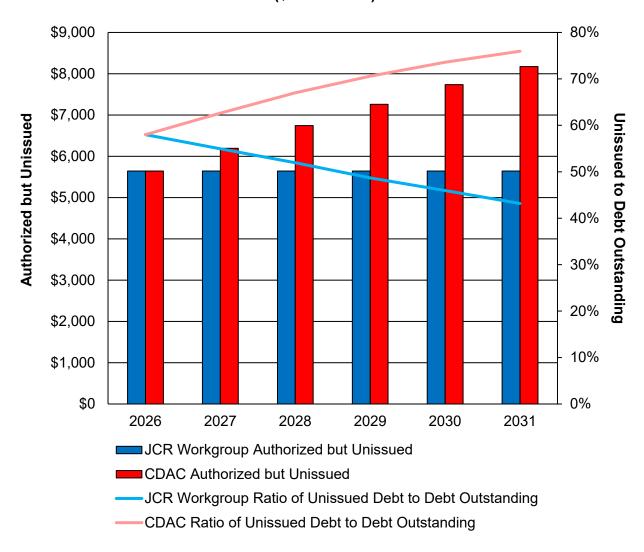


CDAC: Capital Debt Affordability Committee

JCR: Joint Chairmen's Report

Note: The JCR workgroup approach assumes issuances consistent with the 10-year average so that annual authorizations are 29% in the first year, 25% in the second year, 14% in the third year, 8% in the fourth year, and 24% in the fifth year. The established issuance approach assumes that annual authorizations are 31% in the first year, 25% in the second year, 20% in the third year, 15% in the fourth year, and 9% in the fifth year. Estimated issuances from prior authorizations are the same for the 10-year average and established approaches.

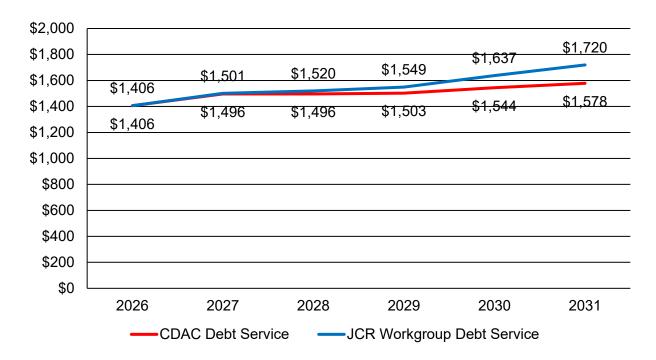
Comparing 10-year Average Issuances to Capital Debt Affordability Committee Recommendation Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)



CDAC: Capital Debt Affordability Committee

JCR: Joint Chairmen's Report

Comparing 10-year Average Debt Service Costs to Capital Debt Affordability Committee Recommendation Fiscal 2026-2031 (\$ in Millions)



CDAC: Capital Debt Affordability Committee

JCR: Joint Chairmen's Report

- The JCR workgroup's recommendation was the product of the State Treasurer's Office, the Department of Budget and Management Office of Capital Budgeting, and DLS reviewing the most recent 10 years of issuance data. The consensus of the workgroup was that a 10-year, weighted, moving average best estimates expected issuances.
 - Having 10 years of data is consistent with the length of most business cycles.
 - A moving average allows the estimate to change if issuances change.
 - The workgroup did not find any data suggesting that issuances should be approximately \$500 million below annual authorizations throughout the forecast period.

DLS recommends that the Spending Affordability Committee use the JCR workgroup's issuance recommendations.

By Any Measure, Maryland Is a High Debt State: Comparing Maryland's Long-term Liabilities to AAA-rated States

			Total			
	State Debt to Personal	Implied Debt Service to	Long-term Liabilities to	Pension Liability to	OPEB Liability to	Capital Asset Depreciation
State	Income	Revenues	Revenues	Revenues	Revenues	Ratio
Maryland	12	9	7	8	6	7
Delaware	4	7	8	23	3	36
Ohio	21	14	30	32	40	11
Texas	34	31	17	15	8	49
Missouri	42	37	22	18	16	23
South Carolina	39	41	14	7	18	43
Georgia	27	19	35	33	34	16
Minnesota	22	26	38	38	32	18
Florida	34	29	36	35	23	22
Virginia	16	17	34	44	30	46
Indiana	43	43	40	29	43	1
North Carolina	34	31	39	39	17	50
lowa	44	43	47	45	35	20
Utah	34	31	44	40	48	42
Tennessee	44	46	49	48	27	33

OPEB: Other Postemployment Benefits

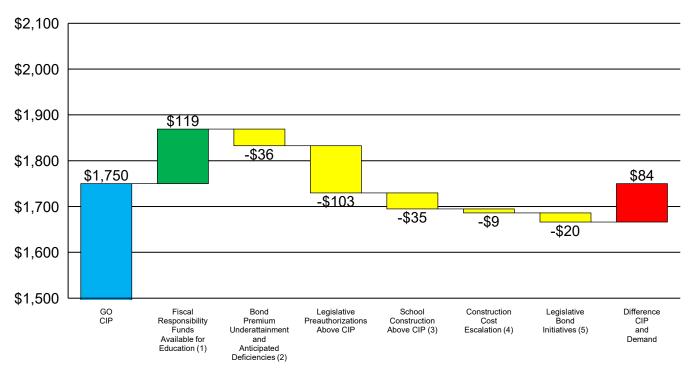
Note: Rankings compare 50 states and do not include the District of Columbia or territories. Lower ranking numbers signify larger liabilities. AAA-rated states with larger liabilities than Maryland are shaded. States are sorted from largest to smallest combined liabilities. Moody's includes debt supported by lottery revenues in its state debt comparisons. Implied debt service normalizes debt service costs so that all debt is amortized over 20 years. Pension liabilities are normalized with a standard discount rate.

Source: Moody's Investor Services, September 2025

Capital Program

 The \$1.75 billion of general obligation bond authorizations recommended by the Capital Debt Affordability Committee, coupled with \$119 million earmarked in the Fiscal Responsibility Fund for capital projects, will fund all but \$84 million of current fiscal 2027 capital commitments.

Capital Commitments and Other Fiscal Pressures in Fiscal 2027 (\$ in Millions)

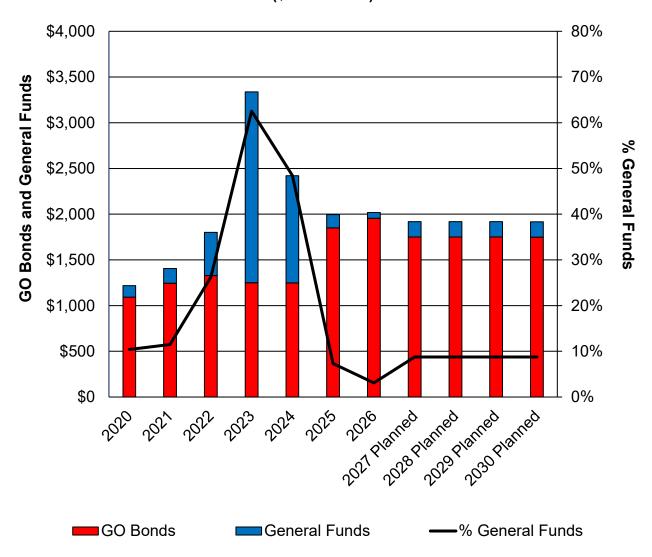


CIP: Capital Improvement Program

GO: general obligation

- (1) Of the \$191 million transferred to the Fiscal Responsibility Fund in the fiscal 2025 closeout, \$72 million is being used to respond to impacts of the federal government shutdown on food assistance, reducing the amount available for capital projects to \$119 million.
- (2) \$36 million shortfall in bond premiums from the June 2025 bond sale used to support fiscal 2026 authorizations.
- (3) \$35 million shortfall in the amount of funds necessary to fund new construction and system renovation public school construction projects that are already approved by the Interagency Commission on School Construction and underway.
- (4) \$9 million to adjust what is programmed in the CIP for anticipated cost escalation in calendar 2026 and 2027.
- (5) Legislative bond initiative funding averaged \$62 million in fiscal 2025 and 2026.

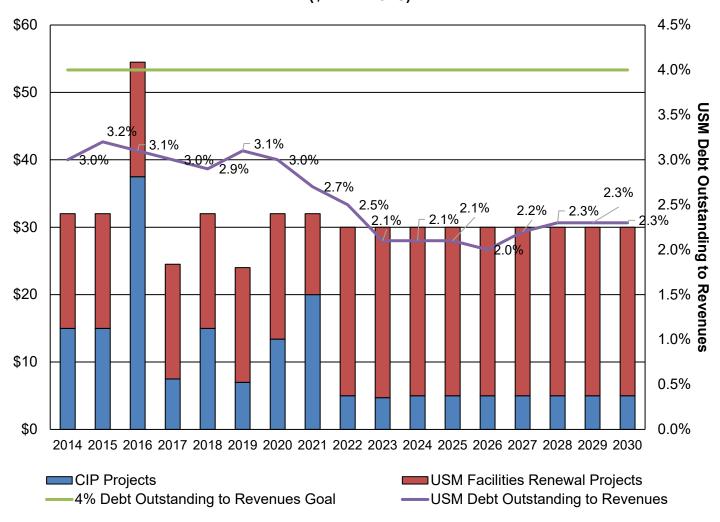
GO Bond and General Fund Components of Capital Program Fiscal 2020-2030 (\$ in Millions)



GO: general obligation

- The Department of Legislative Services' five-year general fund forecast includes \$839 million of pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) general funds, of which \$835 million funds Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority grants.
- In fiscal 2026, \$121 million of prior year general fund PAYGO was withdrawn and replaced with bonds to help mitigate operating budget stress. Without additional capital resources or reductions to planned commitments, the capital program does not have capacity to provide operating budget relief in fiscal 2027.

USM Debt Ratio's Can Accommodate Increased Academic Revenue Bond Authorization Levels Fiscal 2014-2030 (\$ in Millions)



CIP: Capital Improvement Program USM: University System of Maryland

• The University System of Maryland (USM) allocates a portion of its debt portfolio for Academic Revenue Bonds (ARB), which are traditionally used to support facilities renewal spending and offset the need for general obligation (GO) bonds for USM projects programmed in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). USM debt coverage ratios support a moderate increase in the annual ARB authorization that could be used to replace GO funding for USM projects programmed in the CIP or enhance system facilities renewal spending.

Legislative General Obligation Bond Preauthorizations

2026

Agency	Project Title	2026 <u>Session</u>
DNR	Waterway Improvement Fund – Somers Cover Marina	\$8,727,000
UMCP	Graduate Student Housing	5,000,000
UMBC	New Student Service Building	6,000,000
UMGC	Global Campus Administration Building Renovation	3,200,000
BCCC	Unidentified Property Acquisition	9,000,000
MHA	Maryland Hospital Association	12,000,000
MISC	Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center - New Obstetrical Care Tower	10,000,000
MISC	Westminster Fiber	1,000,000
MISC	Maryland Center for History and Culture - Enoch Pratt House and Collections Storage	2,500,000
MISC	St. Agenes Healthcare	1,000,000
MISC	Ellicott City North Tunnel Extension Project	10,000,000
MISC	The Johns Hopkins Hospital	650,000
MISC	Catholic Charities - Intergenerational Center	2,000,000
MISC	Damascus Sidewalk Repair	250,000
MISC	B & O Railroad Museum	3,000,000
MISC	Glen Echo Park Spanish Ballroom Renovation	1,500,000
MISC	MD 32 Noise Mitigation for Fox Valley Estates	1,800,000
MISC	Young Artists of America, Inc.	1,500,000
MISC	Springsong Museum	1,000,000
MISC	Pikesville Armory	3,000,000
MISC	Bowie Mill Bike Trail	2,100,000
MISC	MedStar Southern Maryland	10,000,000
MISC	Baltimore Symphony Orchestra – Myerhoff Hall	1,500,000
MISC	Southern Bridge Career and Education Center	2,500,000
MISC	Kent County Public Schools	4,000,000
Total Le	gislative Preauthorizations	\$103,227,000

Total Legislative Preauthorizations

BCCC: Baltimore City Community College DNR: Department of Natural Resources MHA: Maryland Hospital Association

MISC: miscellaneous

UMBC: University of Maryland Baltimore Campus UMCP: University of Maryland, College Park Campus UMGC: University of mary;and Gobal Campus

Note: Amount shown for MHA Private Hospital grants is net of the \$8 million already programmed in the Capital Improvement Program for the program.