

# Police budgets as dollars per resident

"I think the best comparisons would be to other tourist destinations and other places with similar draws from outside."

**Larry T. Hoover** | professor of criminal justice at Sam Houston State University

## Select U.S. cities

- Boca Raton, Fla.** \$458.95
- Coral Springs, Fla.** \$354.48
- Alameda, Calif.** \$352.37
- Lakewood, Colo.** \$288.96
- Lincoln, Neb.** \$133.33

## Select Texas cities

- Richardson** \$224.61
- Irving** \$232.30
- Plano** \$211.84
- Grand Prairie** \$207.73
- League City** \$180.61
- Galveston** \$346.32

**SOURCE:** Information for cities other than Galveston and League City came from the Overland Park, Kan., Police Department "Benchmark Cities Survey" for 2013. These cities were picked from among the 30 assessed in the annual survey because they were the highest or lowest in the set or because they were Texas cities.

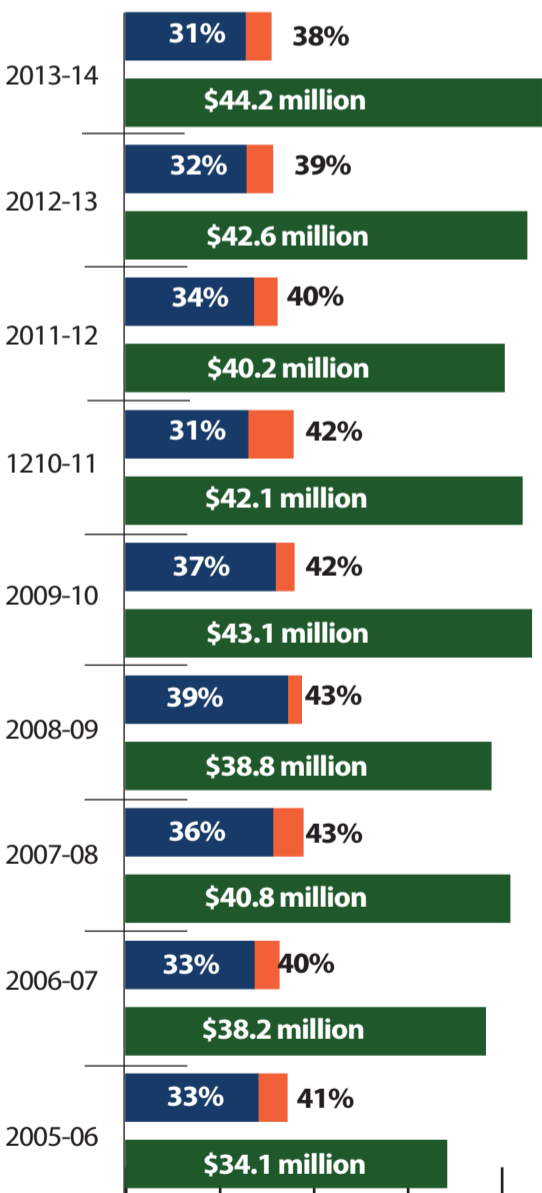
Information about Galveston and League City came from municipal budget documents for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

GRAPHIC: Dave Mathews/The Daily News

# General fund and police expenditures

## Galveston

- General fund expenditures**
- Police expenditures as a percent of general fund expenditures**
- Salaries as a percent of the Police Department expenditures**



Source: City of Galveston budget documents for fiscal years 2005 through 2014

## Select U.S. cities

(in millions of dollars)	Expenditures General fund	Police	Police % of total
Daytona Beach, Fla.	\$62.3	\$30.5	49%
Coral Springs, Fla.*	\$98.8	\$44.4	45%
Lakewood, Colo.*	\$99.3	\$41.3	42%
Alameda, Calif.*	\$67.1	\$26.4	39%
<b>Galveston</b>	<b>\$44.2</b>	<b>\$16.9</b>	<b>38%</b>
Myrtle Beach, SC	\$91.1	\$31.7	35%
Grand Prairie, Texas*	\$111.5	\$37.7	34%
League City	\$52.4	\$16.5	31%
Irving, Texas*	\$182.7	\$51.2	28%
Fort Walton Beach, Fla.	\$18.4	\$5.0	27%
Plano, Texas*	\$230.4	\$56.2	24%
Richardson, Texas*	\$104.2	\$22.70	22%
Edmond, Okla.*	\$117.5	\$20.0	17%

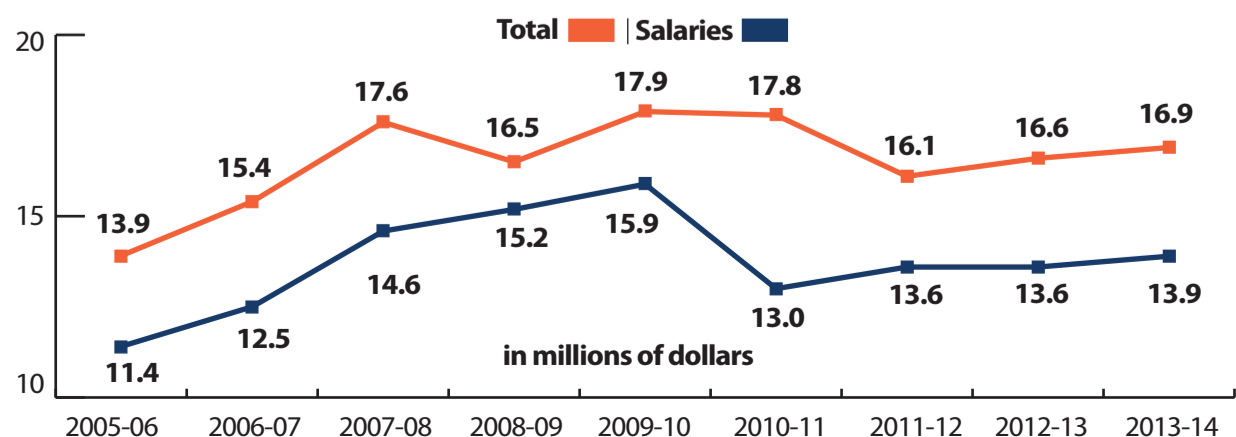
## Note

Too much variety exists in the way cities account for money in their budget documents to make more than very broad comparisons among cities and police departments. It was mostly unclear, for example, whether police department expenditures included the entire cost of 911 dispatch operations, as is the case in Galveston, or whether that cost was shared among police, fire and EMS budgets. Likewise, some departments include capital operational costs for equipment such as vehicles in the police department budget, while others lump those in among citywide fleet costs.

**SOURCES:** Information for cities marked "\*" came from the Overland Park, Kan., Police Department "Benchmark Cities Survey" for 2013. These cities were picked from among the 30 assessed in the annual survey because they were the highest or lowest in the set or because they were Texas cities.

Information about other cities came from municipal budget documents for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. These cities were chosen for regional comparison or because they, like Galveston, are tourist destinations.

# Galveston police expenditures: Total and salaries



Source: City of Galveston budget documents for fiscal years 2005 through 2014