









Toronto Police Service Backgrounder – 2025 Operating Budget Request

General

- The Toronto Police Service (TPS) 2025 budget strikes a balance between affordability and the critical need for the Service to achieve adequate and effective policing services for the city of Toronto. After over a decade of diligent fiscal management, cost containment, and transformation, TPS faces the pressing challenge of maintaining service levels that aligns with the city’s growth and rising demands.
- The TPS is committed to fiscally responsible budgets, while also balancing the need to delivery adequate and effective policing services and undertake reform and modernization to drive better core service delivery and building trust that is required of a police service in a world-class city.
- 90% of the budget is allocated to people costs.

How the Service budgets

- TPS uses a service-based budgeting approach, essentially highlighting the public safety services provided and the level of resources allocated towards the delivery of those services. For 2025, the proposed budget and staffing levels have been allocated to the six service areas:

2025 Operating Budget Request	911 Response & Patrol 	Investigations & Victim Support 	Crime Prevention 	Events & Protests 	Traffic & Parking Enforcement* 	Courts and Prisoner Management 
Percentage of Gross Budget	41%	35%	9%	2%	5%	8%
Allocation of Gross Budget (\$Ms)	\$582.6M	\$490.4M	\$134.5M	\$33.7M	\$69.6M	\$107.3M
Allocation of Net Budget	\$513.6M	\$434.6M	\$118.9M	\$31.1M	\$61.4M	\$60.5M
Percentage of Total Staff	42%	32%	10%	2%	5%	10%
Allocation of Uniform Staff	2,579	1,882	630	108	303	40
Allocation of Civilian Staff	884	770	155	38	78	740

* Parking Enforcement budget and staff are excluded. Figures may not add due to rounding.

- Note: common/shared costs are allocated across each service (e.g. Information Technology, Toronto Police College, Human Resource functions etc.)

Hiring and deployment

This year’s budget request centres around the continuation of a [multi-year hiring plan approved by the Board in November](#), enabling the hiring of 720 officers over the next two years, with additional ‘maintenance’ hiring to keep pace with the City’s growth for 2027 – 2029. This plan is vital to addressing population growth, rising service demands, and increasing retirements. This hiring commitment is subject to change if other levels of government augment police funding.

RECRUITS	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
March Class	91	90	90	60	75	80
June Class	90	90	90	60	75	80
September Class	90	90	90	70	75	75
December Class	90	90	90	70	75	75
Laterals Hires	27	0	0	7	4	8
TOTAL NEW HIRES	388	360	360	267	304	318
SEPARATIONS	(190)	(210)	(217)	(220)	(215)	(234)
YEAR-END PLANNED DEPLOYED	5,433	5,542	5,685	5,772	5,851	5,935

- Previous hiring freezes have left the TPS with high number of inexperienced officers combined with a high number of officer retirements on the horizon over the next five years.
 - 25% of frontline officers have less than 5 years’ experience, doing the most dangerous and unpredictable work
 - 21% of all Staff Sergeants and Detective Sergeant ranks can retire in 2024 – posing leadership and supervision gaps.
 - By 2029, 61% of all Staff Sergeants and Detective Sergeant ranks and 85% of all senior officers are eligible for retirement.
 - 5% of the total uniform workforce can retire in 2024 – jumping to 20% in 2029.
- Continued civilian hiring up to the approved complement – including the following mass hiring classes:
 - 90 communication operators, to improve call answering times and improve compliance with the National Emergency Number Association (N.E.N.A.) standard.
 - 45 general special constables to augment frontline capacity, support court related processes, and perform prisoner management and transportation functions. This is in addition to the 30 special constables that will be onboarded in December 2024 and deployed in early 2025.
 - 60 parking enforcement officers to keep the city moving.

Growing workload

- Toronto is one of the fastest growing cities in North America. The population of the city has accelerated in growth over the last decade, increasing 21% from 2010 to 2025 (2.676 million to 3.245 million projected in 2025). As an economic, tourism and political hub, there are unique public safety considerations:
 - 87 of 108 consular offices in Ontario are located in Toronto
 - Guns, gangs and human trafficking hub as the largest city along the 401
 - Home to over 2,000 events and demonstrations per year
- Over the past decade, most major crime indicators have risen. According to Statistics Canada, Toronto's Crime Severity Index was 69.2 in 2023, the highest it has been since 2010, which was 75.0.
 - When looking at the city's crime trends, the most notable increases year-to-date compared to 2023 is seen in shootings (38%), hate crimes (31%), homicides (24%) and sexual violation (12%).
 - While not a crime but a matter of road safety, traffic fatalities have increased 18%.
 - These increases in crimes and victimization drive workload in the 9-1-1 Response & Patrol, Crime Prevention, Investigations & Victim Support, and Court Security and Prisoner Management service areas.
- Despite a growing workload, TPS has made progress – for example:
 - While the highest priority calls for service have increased from 2023, TPS has improved response times by 26%.
 - TPS has made approximately 40,000 arrests so far this year.
 - Traffic enforcement (tickets) is up 12% (approximately 280,000 tickets issued this year) and approximately 50,000 warnings have been issued.

Crime prevention and community engagement

- TPS has facilitated over 1,500 referrals to partner organizations in addition to 255 SafeTO call-outs.
 - These are a combination of gang exits, FOCUS (Furthering Our Communities Uniting Services) referrals and other community-based referrals.
 - FOCUS Toronto, a collaboration of community agencies led by a partnership between TPS, the City of Toronto, and the United Way, come together weekly to provide a focused, wrap-around, risk-mitigation approach to help vulnerable individuals and families who are at risk of potential harm and/or victimization.
 - 70% of all FOCUS referrals come from the TPS.
 - 6% of all mental health calls are directed to Toronto Community Crisis Service, while this translates to less than 1% of the total Service workload, it represents continued commitment to review the Service's mental health response.

Continued modernization

- Austerity and cost cutting measures were also combined with modernization to create greater transparency, build trust and divert work where possible.
- TPS has had a cumulative cost avoidance of approximately \$300 million since 2015.
 - Hiring moratorium and civilianization of over 300 positions.
 - Disbanded the Community Response Unit (CRU), Priority Response Group (PRG) and shifted other resources to reallocate towards priority needs (improving response times, Centralized Shooting Response Team, Carjacking Investigative Team, Hate Crimes Unit, Fraud Intake Office, Project Resolute, etc.)
 - Diversion and collaboration efforts such as Toronto Community Crisis Service, Make the Right Call campaign, changing the hospital transfer of care model for mental health calls
 - Investments in technology investments – Automated Licence Plate Recognition, Next Gen 9-1-1, body-worn cameras, video bail, an online parking complaints portal, digital evidence platform, data analytics, and more.