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TEXAS RESEARCH LEAGUE

40 YEARS OF MORE EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT
THROUGH RESEARCH

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THE Budget IN Brief

The Budget In Brief is published periodically and analyzes the state budget in bite-sized pieces to help readers understand where their tax dollars are spent.

General Safety and Corrections

State agencies responsible for general public safety and corrections received a \$3.7 billion appropriation for the 1992-1993 biennium -- 6.1% of the total state budget. (See Table 1.)

	Appropriated 1990-1991	Expended 1990-1991	Appropriated 1992-1993
Adult Corrections	\$1,873.2	\$1,810.1	\$2,892.9
Youth Corrections	186.3	206.6	253.2
General Safety	471.5	504.0	537.6
Total	\$2,531.0	\$2,520.7	\$3,683.7

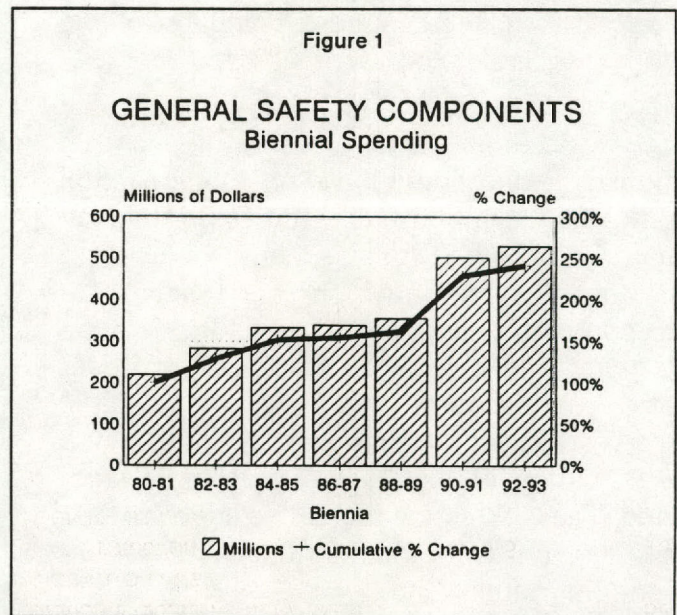
This **Brief** focuses on agencies involved in general safety; the next two **Briefs** will examine the budget for those agencies involved in adult and youth corrections.

General Safety

Five agencies have responsibilities related to providing general public safety: Department of Public Safety, Adjutant General's Department, the National Guard Armory Board, the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education, and the newly created Commission on Fire Protection. Together these agencies were appropriated \$538 million for 1992-1993. (See Table 2.)

General safety spending increased from a little over \$200 million in the 1980-1981 biennium to \$504 million in 1990-1991, an accumulated increase of 250%. The \$530 million appropriation for

	Appropriated 1990-1991	Expended 1990-1991	Appropriated 1992-1993
Dept. of Public Safety	\$421.1	\$429.2	\$432.3
Adjutant General	30.1	30.2	31.4
National Guard Armory	12.5	35.7	52.7
Comm. on Fire Protection	1.1	1.5	13.7
Comm. on Law Enforcement	6.7	7.4	7.5
Total	\$471.5	\$504.0	\$537.6



1992-1993 is a 5.5% increase over the previous biennium spending level. (See Figure 1.)

The Department of Public Safety has responsibilities in three major areas: traffic law enforcement, criminal law enforcement and emergency management. One-half of the \$432 million 1992-1993 appropriation (\$217 million) is targeted for traffic law enforcement. Funding for criminal law enforcement activities (Texas Rangers, narcotics, criminal intelligence, and motor vehicle theft) accounts for \$47 million (11%).

The department's 1992-1993 appropriation represents a 1% increase over 1990-1991 expenditures. DPS receives 84% of its budget from the state highway fund.

The Adjutant General's Department is charged with providing command, administrative and material support to the Texas National Guard and the Texas State Guard for their state and federal military missions. The Texas National Guard's mission is to provide trained and equipped units which assist in rescue and disaster relief operations. The federal mission is to provide trained military personnel for active duty in times of war or national emergency. The state guard supplements the national guard when needed.

Appropriations for the Adjutant General's Department total \$31 million in 1992-1993, roughly the same level expended in 1990-1991. State general revenues fund \$17 million of the total; the remainder comes from federal sources.

The National Guard Armory Board is responsible for the acquisition, construction, rental, control, maintenance, and operation of all home station armories and facilities used by the Texas National or State Guard. Acquisition, support services and armory maintenance functions are funded with state appropriations. Construction and renovation projects are funded through a combination of federal and state-matching funds ranging from 50-50 shared costs for renovation projects to 100% full federal funding for construction projects on federal land. The \$17 million increase over 1990-1991 spending results from federal funds for construction and renovation.

The Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education is responsible for

developing standards and qualifications for law enforcement officers in Texas, and for providing the proper training of law enforcement officers and county jailers. Services provided by the commission are funded by a \$1.50 court cost from all convictions in the state, and consequently require no direct general revenue appropriation. Appropriations to the commission for 1992-1993 total \$7.5 million of which \$4 million is targeted for education services provided by the Law Enforcement Management Institute. The remaining \$3.5 million funds agency administration and other law enforcement officer education activities.

The Commission on Fire Protection is a new agency created from a consolidation of the Fire Protection Emergency Board, the State Fire Marshall and key rate functions from the State Board of Insurance, and the Commission on Fire Protection Personnel Standards and Education. The \$13 million appropriated for 1992-1993 is funded primarily from taxes and fees collected under the state insurance code.

Funding

The agencies providing general safety functions derive revenue from four sources: special funds (most particularly the highway fund); federal funds; general revenue; and grants and other. The least of those sources is the state general revenue fund.

