

WHERE DO YOUR UNION DUES GO?

A LOOK AT AFSCME SPENDING IN 2022



AMERICANS FOR
FAIR TREATMENT

The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) represents over 1.2 million workers throughout the country. Since 2020, AFSCME has lost over 100,000 members. As a labor union that represents both public and private sector employees, AFSCME files a Form LM-2 financial disclosure with the United States Department of Labor. An examination of the union's finances can help explain why the union is losing so many members.

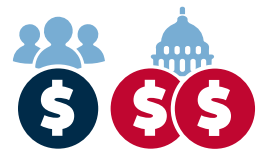
AFSCME's revenue reached \$191 million during the 2021-2022 reporting period, an increase of \$7 million compared to the previous year. The union collected \$177 million of this revenue from member dues, about \$5 million more than last year.

This revenue increase was a result of increased dues, which went from a minimum of \$19.65 per month to a minimum of \$20.15 per month. Since 2020, AFSCME minimum membership dues have increased by 85 cents per month. The maximum dues of 2% of an employee's salary has remained consistent.

With only 13% of spending going towards membership representation, it is no wonder why AFSCME has lost over 100,000 members since 2020. With increasing dues and decreasing membership, AFSCME decided to double down, with over 75% of spending going to left-wing politics, running the union, and purchasing investments. If these spending trends continue, AFSCME can expect to lose more members.

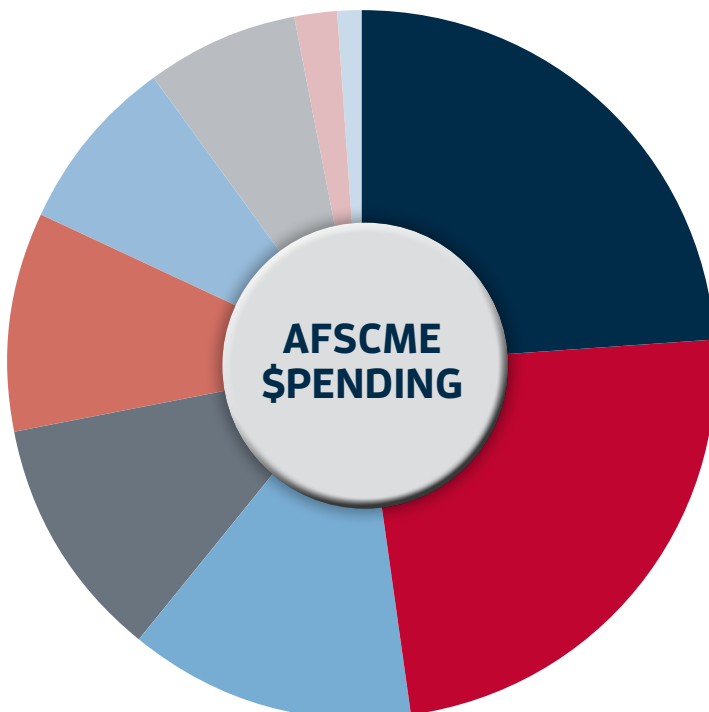


**AFSCME has lost
100,000 members
since 2020**



**Twice as much
was spent on
political activities
and lobbying than
on representing
members**

AFSCME SPENDING 2022



- 24% POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND LOBBYING
- 24% PURCHASE OF INVESTMENTS AND FIXED ASSETS
- 13% REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES
- 11% GENERAL OVERHEAD
- 10% BENEFITS
- 8% UNION ADMINISTRATION
- 7% PER CAPITA TAX
- 2% DIRECT TAXES
- 1% CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS, GRANTS
- 0% TO AFFILIATES OF FUNDS COLLECTED ON THEIR BEHALF

AFSCME POLITICAL DONATIONS

Using its members' regular dues, AFSCME spent over \$60 million on political activities and lobbying, compared to only \$34 million on membership representation. **Over 99% of this went to left-of-center political organizations.** The union also spent \$3.6 million on contributions, gifts, and grants, some of which went to progressive groups. Here are some big-ticket examples of AFSCME's political spending in 2022:

\$7.6M to union employees and officers as compensation for their political and lobbying activities.

\$4M to state and local Democratic parties.

\$2.2M to candidates for public office, mostly benefitting Democrats.

\$3.5M to For Our Future Action Fund and For Our Future PAC, which seek to build a progressive network to help Democrats win elections across the country.

\$2M to A Stronger Nevada, a group dedicated to opposing Joe Lombardo in Nevada's Republican gubernatorial primary. The group has links to the Democratic Governors Association.

\$2M to state and local affiliates in support of their political activity.

\$1.7M to Alliance for Common Sense, a group backed by the Democratic Governors Association, dedicated to opposing Republican Tim Michaels' candidacy for Wisconsin governor.

\$1.5M to Put Michigan First, an organization dedicated to reelecting Michigan's governor Gretchen Whitmer.

\$1.5M to Senate Majority PAC, an organization dedicated to building a Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate

\$1.35M to 21st Century Fund, a mysterious Michigan-based political action committee (PAC) that shares an address with the Michigan Democratic Party.

\$1.3M to House Majority PAC, an organization dedicated to building a Democratic majority in the U.S. House of Representatives.

\$1.25M to Strategic Victory Fund, a Democracy Alliance-affiliated super PAC funded by liberal billionaire George Soros.

\$1.25M to Working America, a non-union workers organization run by the AFL-CIO.

\$1M to Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, which fights to elect Democrats to state-level public office.

\$1M to One Georgia Inc, Stacy Abrams' leadership PAC.

AFSCME FINANCIAL HEALTH

Despite all this political spending, AFSCME is in a good financial position, holding over \$359 million in assets and only \$93 million in liabilities. Since 2021, the union's net financial position has improved by over \$19 million. This trend may not continue though, as AFSCME spent almost \$64 million more than it brought in last year.

Of the union's \$255 million in expenditures, nearly \$73 million went toward operating the union. **Spending on union overhead, operating expenses, and union employee salaries and benefits was more than twice the amount of spending on membership representation.** Top earners include AFSCME President Lee Saunders (\$384,155) and Secretary-Treasurer Elissa McBride (\$313,261).

AFSCME spent an additional \$61 million to purchase investments and fixed assets, most of which went toward U.S. Treasury bills.

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