FISCAL SNAPSHOT

TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT FEES

Date: March 2026 **Analyst: Aaron A. Meek**

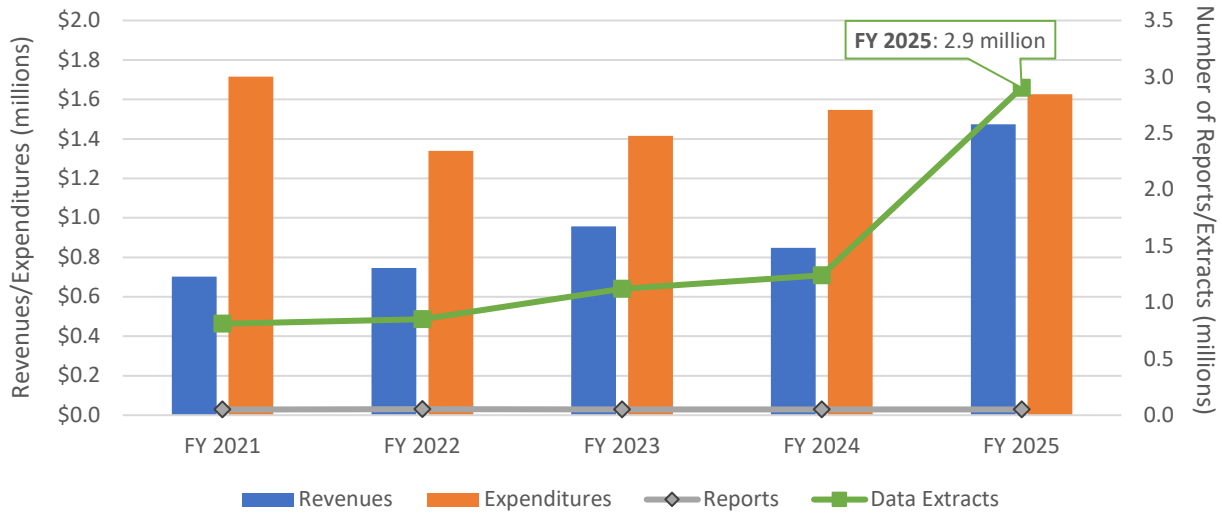
Summary

The Michigan State Police (MSP) Traffic Crash Reporting Unit (TCRU) is responsible for the collection, processing, and compilation of statewide traffic crash data in the Traffic Crash Reporting System (TCRS) database, which is used by federal, state, and local traffic safety authorities to identify traffic safety problems and reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities. Boilerplate language in the annual appropriations act authorizes MSP to collect fees for traffic crash reports and data extracts, which are used to support TCRU operations.

Background

Michigan has collected traffic crash data in various forms since the enactment of 1949 PA 300 (the Michigan Vehicle Code). Under sections 621 and 622 of the code, drivers of any in-transport vehicle involved in an accident that damages highway fixtures, that injures or kills another person, or that results in $1,000 or more in property damage are required to file a qualifying crash report (known as a "UD-10") with law enforcement. The reporting agency then submits the UD-10 to the TCRU for integration into the TCRS, which receives approximately 300,000 reports each year. Individual traffic crash reports can then be accessed for a fee of $15 per incident and extracts of electronic traffic crash data can be accessed for a fee of $0.25 per incident, pursuant to boilerplate section 402(5) of Article 14 of 2025 PA 22. These restricted revenues are used to support the functions of the TCRU, including the production of the unit's annual traffic crash report.

Figure 1: Five-Year Traffic Crash Revenues, Expenditures, and Requests



Recent Activity

Until FY 2016-17, MSP was permitted to determine "reasonable costs" for TCRU information requests; since that time, these fees have been set by boilerplate language in the annual appropriations act. The FY 2016-17 appropriations act set the fees for traffic crash reports at $10 and data extracts at $0.25, and the report fee was later increased to $15 in the FY 2023-24 boilerplate. In FY 2024-25, the TCRU received $1.5 million in fee revenues and spent approximately $1.6 million to support traffic crash reporting activities.

The Bottom Line

Traffic crash reporting revenues and expenditures generally fluctuate in proportion to the number of traffic crashes that occur in Michigan each year. As with many other MSP units housed within the Criminal Justice Information Center, a significant portion of the TCRU's annual spending is supported by fee revenues.