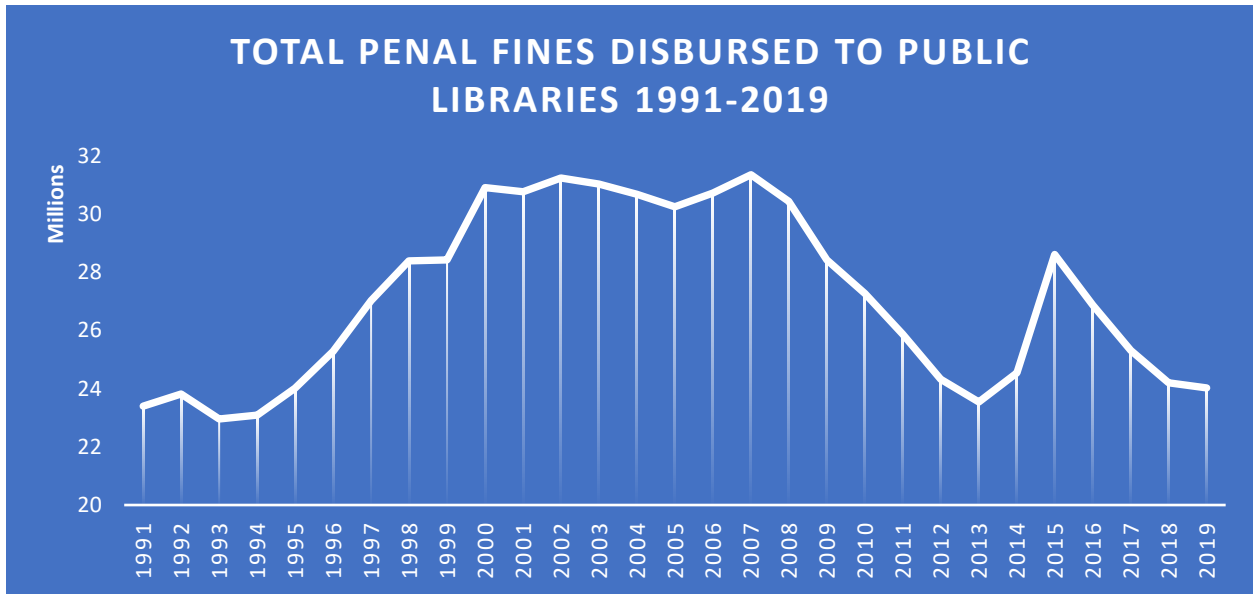


Total Michigan Penal Fines Disbursed to Public Libraries 1991 – 2019

Michigan is the only state that constitutionally mandates the use of penal fines as a funding mechanism for libraries. Michigan has enacted statutes requiring that all fines collected for violations of the state penal laws are paid to the local county treasurer. The courts determine the percentage of each fine/fee that comprise “penal fines” and the percentage of each fine/fee that comprise court “costs.” The county treasurer receives the penal fines collected by the courts in that county. The county treasurer then distributes those penal fines to eligible libraries within that county on a per-capita basis using service population numbers supplied by the Library of Michigan.



<u>Year</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Year</u>			
1991	\$ 23,403,841	2001	\$ 30,786,764	2011	\$ 25,882,600
1992	\$ 23,823,224	2002	\$ 31,259,077	2012	\$ 24,325,961
1993	\$ 22,961,848	2003	\$ 31,045,585	2013	\$ 23,544,063
1994	\$ 23,090,420	2004	\$ 30,693,930	2014	\$ 24,552,779
1995	\$ 24,021,695	2005	\$ 30,265,736	2015	\$ 28,619,939
1996	\$ 25,289,478	2006	\$ 30,735,538	2016	\$ 26,879,620
1997	\$ 27,038,996	2007	\$ 31,370,595	2017	\$ 25,316,250
1998	\$ 28,408,495	2008	\$ 30,450,964	2018	\$ 24,209,390
1999	\$ 28,433,474	2009	\$ 28,433,977	2019	\$ 24,028,654
2000	\$ 30,931,597	2010	\$ 27,283,117		

Notes:

- Penal fines revenue for libraries come from the penalty costs of a traffic violation, minus court costs, and 30% of the costs for overweight commercial vehicles. If a violation is written under a *local ordinance*, the library receives no penal fines. If a violation is written under a *local statute*, like a parking ticket instead of a traffic violation, the library receives no penal fines.
- Do to circumstances within municipal, court, and legislative activities the amount of penal fines ultimately collected by courts and distributed to public libraries fluctuate from year to year and from county to county. Making them an unstable source of library funding.