Harry Wight

Prof. Holleran

CRI 498

Nov 29th, 2018

In 2016, the New Jersey pension system paid out $10.4 billion in pension funds with only a total $5.2 billion being brought in to fund it. Of this $5.2 billion only $2 billion came from employees and $3 billion from other contributions; this means the state of New Jersey spent 200% of their pension budget. Additionally, New Jersey lost $1.9 billion on investments. According to the New Jersey Open Data Center (2018) the highest median salary in New Jersey for an active duty police officer is $155,508, while the lowest median salary was $43,875 in Woodlynne Township. In that same vein, the median New Jersey household income is $80,088 (Census Reporter, 2018). Moreover, Camden County Regional Police, despite only making on median $50,335, saw a violent crime rate of 2,566 crimes per 100,000 people. A city such as West Deptford’s police median income was$97,936 while only seeing a violent crime rate of 51.2 per 100,000 people. The inequality of cities experiencing high violent crime rates and those who are receiving most the most amount of income is not justifiable.

* Pension program bankrupting NJ
* Police in high-crime areas get low wages
  + Use data given by the NJ.gov Data center with police salaries from each town and UCR data of violent crimes in each town in New Jersey. Cross analyze data in SAS to support hypothesis that there is a negative relationship between police salaries and violent crime rate.
* Cost-Benefit Analyses of salary cap for police officers/State wide police salary program

References

<https://ballotpedia.org/Public_pensions_in_New_Jersey>

<https://data.nj.gov/Government-Finance/YourMoney-Active-Pension-Members/44xg-bswk/data>

Federal Bureau of Investigation. (September 2018). Crime in the United States, 2018 *State of New Jersey department of law and public safety division of state police*

Federal Bureau of Investigations (2017) Uniform crime report. *Single agency reported crime*. Retrieved from: https://www.ucrdatatool.gov/Search/Crime/Local/JurisbyJurisStepTwo.cfm