



County Commissioners

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Look inside for:

- 2014 Levy breakdown
- Commissioner's priority areas
- Primary expenses and revenue sources
- About St. Louis County

Strategic Investments

Smarter government, better processes and aggressive budget management, coupled with additional state aid and the sales tax exemption are all evident in the 2014 budget.

Infrastructure

St. Louis County is committed to funding critical infrastructure investments, including annual debt service payment on the \$21 million bond to renovate the Government Services Center, to support services to and access by citizens.

Uniform and affordable assessment services

Beginning in 2014, cities and townships choosing to work with the county no longer pay for these services, resulting in significant cost reductions to local governments.

Prevention initiatives

Investments in new ideas and programs that:

- ensure public assistance goes to all who need it
- recognize and treat the underlying causes that drive people to need assistance

1.5% levy increase funds debt service

The balance of the budget requires no levy increase - the adopted levy funds debt service. Significant effort has been made to incorporate strategic investments, reduce costs to local government agencies and absorb all other ongoing or fluctuating costs.



Duluth Courthouse



Virginia Courthouse



Hibbing Courthouse

Commissioner's priority areas

Strong County infrastructure

Health and well-being of citizens

Thriving local economy

Viable, flourishing ecosystem

Effective, efficient government

For information on progress in each area, visit the Online Performance Data Gallery, stlouiscountymn.gov/performance

Where do our property tax dollars go?

Property tax dollars support about 36% of St Louis County's \$320 million budget. These funds are invested in efficient services to ensure public safety, strong county infrastructure and care for the most vulnerable.

This amount is divided up between all property owners based on the assessed value of their property. If your property's value changes, this doesn't change the overall amount of money the County collects. What changes is the percentage of the overall amount that you pay. The County Assessor team works hard to provide accurate and fair assessments to all so that no one has to pay an unfair amount.

Budget: \$320 Million*

Total budget includes funding for land and minerals, community development programs, environmental services, and all state- and federal-funded programs.

Levy: \$113,344,211

1.5% increase (fifth consecutive year below rate of inflation)

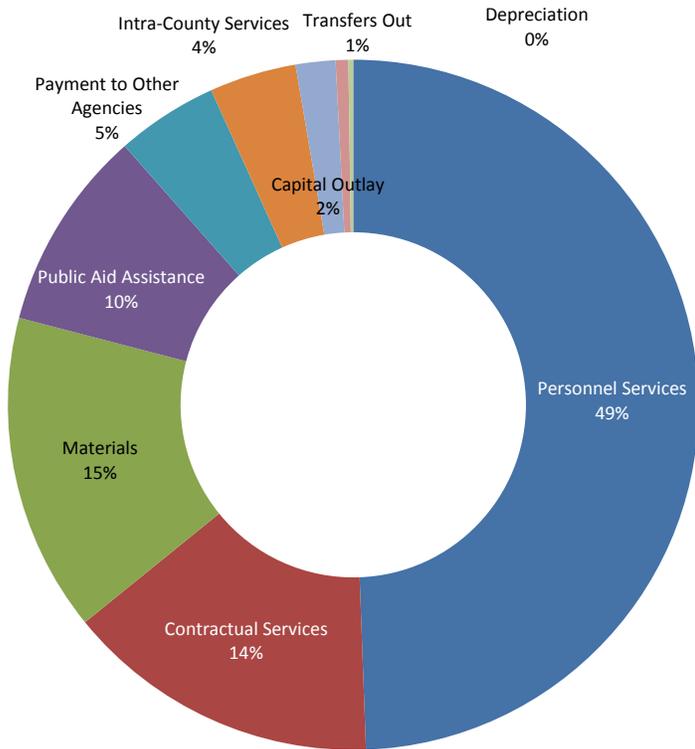


Your taxes at work

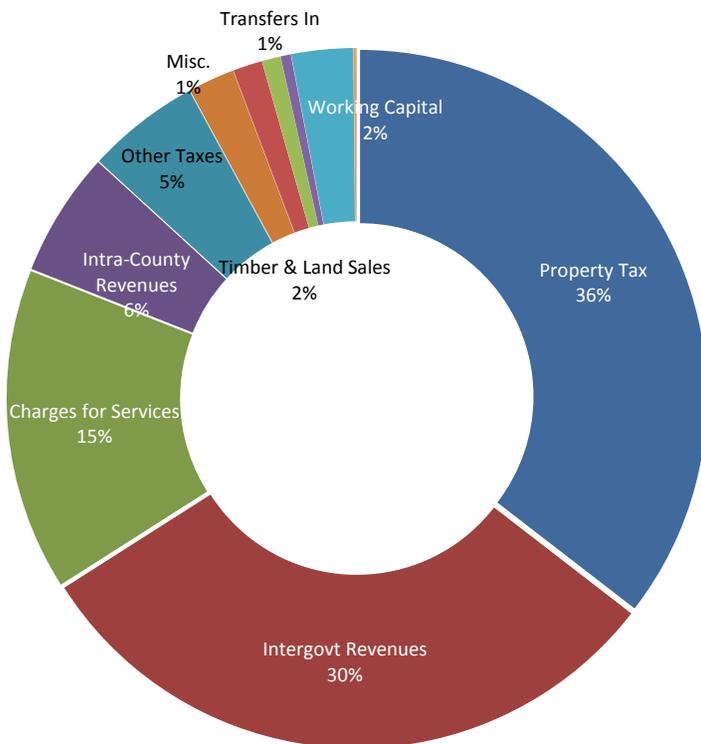
General Government	Public Safety	Public Works	Public Health and Human Services	Debt Service
<p>15%</p>	<p>32%</p>	<p>19%</p>	<p>28%</p>	<p>6%</p>
<p>16,240 veterans </p> <p>served by St. Louis County in 2012.</p>	<p>911 Service </p> <p>156,656 calls answered in 2012; 94% answered within 10 seconds.</p>	<p>34% decline </p> <p>in fatal crashes over last decade.</p>	<p>95.9% of children </p> <p>who experienced one incident of substantiated child abuse did not have a recurrence within 12 months.</p>	<p>\$162 per capita </p> <p>to improve and maintain County buildings and fleet equipment; this number is well below established debt limits.</p>
<p>100% of ballots </p> <p>accurately counted, based on post-election audit.</p>	<p>87% </p> <p>of adult probation clients do not reoffend.</p>	<p>3,000 miles of roads </p> <p>maintained and cleared in less than 6 hours on average per snowfall event.</p>	<p>\$3.08 per person </p> <p>to provide public health services focusing on women, infants and children; the elderly; disaster preparedness; and healthy communities.</p>	<p>AA+ bond rating </p> <p>Third time the county's credit rating has improved since 2004.</p>

*Final budget and levy adopted December 17, 2013.

Primary expenses and revenue sources



Activity	2014 Adopted Expenses
Personnel Services	\$157,895,836 (49.4%)
Materials	47,640,359 (14.9%)
Contractual Services	47,094,943 (14.7%)
Public Aid Assistance	30,140,165 (9.4%)
Payment to Other Agencies	15,223,995 (4.8%)
Intra-County Services	12,998,705 (4.1%)
Capital Outlay	5,943,747 (1.9%)
Transfers Out	1,892,317 (0.6%)
Depreciation	718,270 (0.2%)
Loss/Gain Asset Disposal	2,000 (0.0%)
TOTAL	\$319,550,337



Source	2014 Adopted Revenue
Property Taxes	\$113,344,211 (35.5%)
Intergovernmental Revenues	97,466,828 (30.5%)
Charges for Services	47,978,230 (15.0%)
Intra-County Revenues	18,569,975 (5.8%)
Other Taxes	16,889,458 (5.3%)
Working Capital	9,176,832 (2.9%)
Timber and Land Sales	6,950,000 (2.2%)
Miscellaneous	4,394,659 (1.4%)
Transfers In	2,773,804 (0.9%)
Investment Earnings	1,516,440 (0.5%)
Licenses and Permits	321,300 (0.1%)
Fines and Forfeitures	159,250 (0.0%)
Gifts and Contributions	9,350 (0.0%)
TOTAL	\$319,550,337

More budget information online: stlouiscountymn.gov/budget



About St. Louis County

Located in northeastern Minnesota at the tip of Lake Superior and bordering Canada to the north, St. Louis County is home to 200,226 people living in rural settings, mining towns, farm communities and busy cities. Residents enjoy a unique quality of life in a county blessed with scenic beauty and diverse natural resources.

St. Louis County encompasses 7,092 square miles, making it the largest county in the state, and in the nation, east of the Mississippi River. In fact, St. Louis County is larger than the District of Columbia and some states including Rhode Island (1,045 square miles) and Connecticut (4,845 square miles). Measuring straight distance, it is as far from Duluth to St. Paul (136 miles) as from Duluth to the northwest corner of St. Louis County (135 miles).

Minnesota is one of a minority of states whose form of government is state managed and county administered. This means that many government services are provided by the county, not the state. Our mission is to deliver high quality yet efficient services to citizens in the areas of planning and zoning, land and minerals management, solid waste and recycling, public works, health, human services, criminal justice and community development.

County Seat

St. Louis County Courthouse
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