



LA CROSSE COUNTY
Exceptional services. Extraordinary place.

POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended December 31, 2024

La Crosse County, WI

La Crosse County Government

La Crosse County is governed by 30 board supervisors, elected to 2-year terms. The County Board of Supervisors serves as the legislative and policymaking body of the County. The Board Chairperson, Tina Tryggstad (elected April 2024), is responsible for providing directives of the Board to the appropriate officials and departments of the County. The County Administrator is Jane Klekamp and is tasked with carrying out policies and ordinances of the Board, preparing the annual budget, appointing department heads and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the County.



County services include the maintenance of public records, a 5-branch circuit court system, public safety and law enforcement, highway maintenance and construction, public health, human services, elderly programs, solid waste management, household hazardous waste center, zoning and conservation, library services, county parks, veteran's affairs and an extension service. The County owns and operates two skilled nursing homes as well as an assisted living center, a senior housing apartment complex, an adult family home, and 3 community based residential facilities. The County is self-insured for health, liability and worker's compensation.

The County's fiscal year is from January 1st to December 31st. In November of each year, the Board passes the budget for the next year. The annual budget serves as the foundation for financial planning and control.



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Jane Klekamp



COUNTY BOARD CHAIR
Tina Tryggstad

As of December 31, 2024, the County Board of Supervisors, terms expiring April 2026, are listed below:

District 1	- Kelly Leibold	District 16	- Dan Ferries
District 2	- Ralph Geary	District 17	- Jack Pogreba
District 3	- David Pierce	District 18	- Mike Baroni
District 4	- Maureen Freedland	District 19	- Rick Cornforth
District 5	- Emily Anderson	District 20	- Steve Doyle
District 6	- Grant Mathu	District 21	- Dave Balduzzi
District 7	- Gary Padesky	District 22	- Joseph Kovacevich
District 8	- Peg Isola	District 23	- Travis Elam
District 9	- Dawn Wacek	District 24	- Vacant
District 10	- Kim Cable	District 25	- Dennis Jacobsen
District 11	- Patrick Scheller	District 26	- David Hundt
District 12	- Randy Erickson	District 27	- Paul Wuensch
District 13	- Tina Tryggstad	District 28	- Ron Rothering
District 14	- Margaret Larson	District 29	- Ken Schlimgen
District 15	- Monica Kruse	District 30	- Dillon Mader





The Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) is an unaudited summary report of the financial activities of the County and is prepared primarily from detailed information contained in the County's 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), with selected information from earlier years. Certain amounts in the prior year comparatives noted in this report have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

The ACFR is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and includes audited financial statements. As such, it provides much more detail as well as full disclosure of all material events, both financial and non-financial. The GAAP presentation also includes the County's component units (related organizations) and information on individual funds.

The information in the ACFR by its nature can be technical and complex and as such, not as useful to citizens wishing to gain an overview of the County's finances. The PAFR has been prepared to simplify the information in the ACFR and better inform the public about the overall financial condition of the County, without the heavy use of technical accounting terms or excessive detail. The financial data presented in the PAFR does not include the discretely presented component unit and fiduciary funds and is not intended to provide a complete financial picture of the County in accordance with GAAP.

Questions or feedback concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information may be directed to the County Finance Department via telephone at 608-785-9580 or via email at financedept@lacrossecounty.org

The ACFR, the PAFR, and the budget are available on the County's website at: <https://lacrossecounty.org/finance/financial-reports>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

La Crosse County's Major Initiatives.....	2
Community and Demographics.....	3
Awards & Recognition.....	5
Financial Highlights.....	6
Net Position.....	7
Revenues.....	8
Expenses.....	9
Capital Assets.....	10
Long-Term Obligations.....	11
Investments.....	12
General Fund.....	13
Ratios and Trends.....	14

Major Initiatives

In January 2024, the County and the City of La Crosse launched an ambitious new partnership to end long-term homelessness in the community. This new five-year plan will result in a more targeted and aligned approach. The goal of the Pathways Home project is to achieve Functional Zero homelessness in La Crosse by 2029, through strategies to increase the availability of housing, improve supports for people so they stay housed, and create a path to ending homeless encampments. As part of the plan, the County hired a County Homelessness System Manager, who will work in tandem with the City's Homelessness Services Coordinator. Progress will be tracked and made available to the public throughout the project.



One of the strategic directions of La Crosse County's Comprehensive Plan was 'Invest in Staff & Grow Future Leaders'. During 2024, the County established a leadership development program called Leadership and Cultural Competencies and started implementing the program across the entire organization. In July 2024, the County Board approved a modification of the pay scales for hourly employees based on a wage review by the County. The new pay scales will increase La Crosse County's competitiveness in the labor market, aid employee retention, and boost morale.

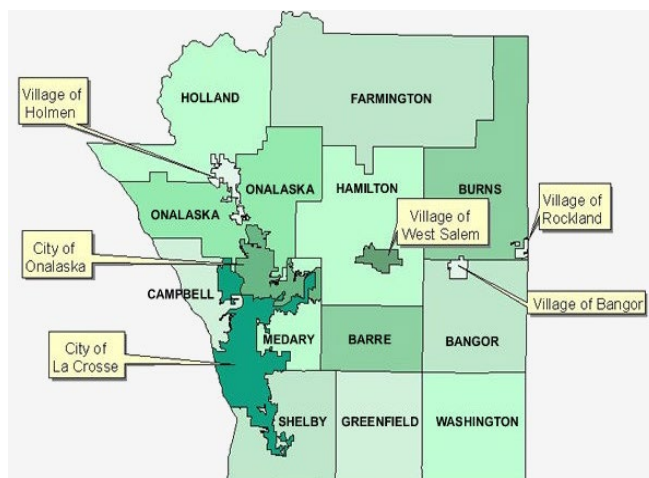
In 2021, the County was awarded \$22.9 million through the American Rescue Plan Act. Three years later, funds have been awarded to local projects that will have a long-lasting impact and were backed by the County Board. The list includes:

- \$3 million to house families
- \$12 million to remodel Hillview Health Care Center
- \$2 million to support stormwater infrastructure
- \$1 million to support housing redevelopment grants
- \$500,000 for childcare grants
- \$1.5 million for solar at multiple County properties
- \$2.4 million to support workforce readiness center



Community and Demographics

La Crosse County, organized in 1851, is located in southwest Wisconsin, along the Mississippi River to the west and beautiful bluffs and farmland to the east. The area provides excellent year-round recreational opportunities including river recreation, hunting, fishing, downhill skiing, and bike trails. La Crosse hosts a variety of semi-professional sports teams and the state's only weekly racing NASCAR-sanctioned track at the La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway.

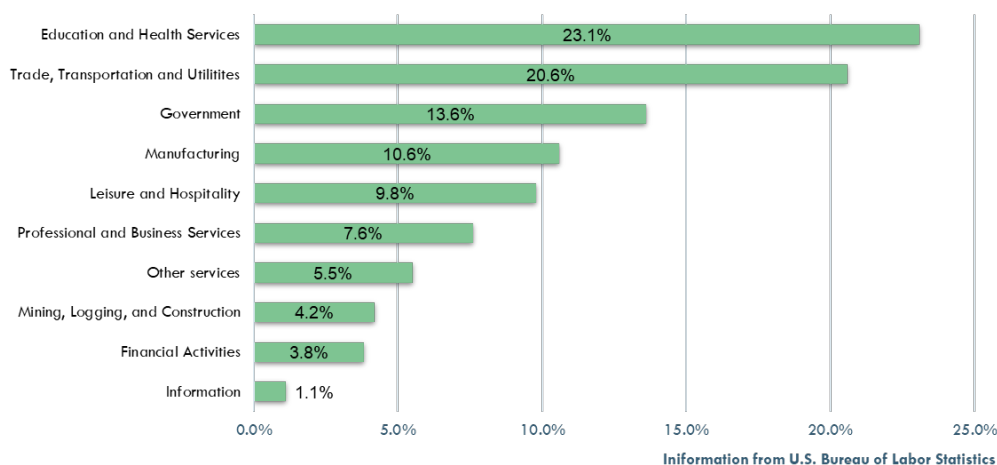


The City of La Crosse is the county seat of La Crosse County, which includes two cities, four villages, and twelve towns. The County occupies a land area of 481 square miles and serves a population of 123,232 (2024 estimate). Since 2015, population within the County has risen 5.3%.



Due in large part to its excellent transportation connections, solid workforce, and well diversified economy, La Crosse County has continued its growth as an employment center for the Coulee Region – serving a regional population of over 400,000. The area also boasts significant natural resources and growing cultural amenities that contribute to the continued success of the tourism industry, as well as the attraction of employers to the area.

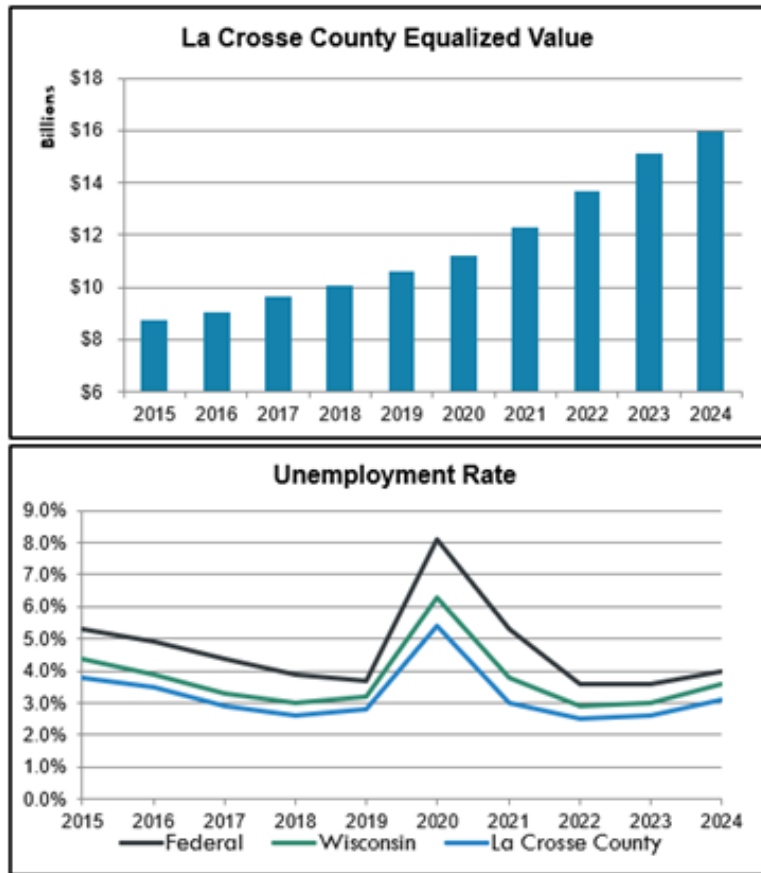
2024 Employment Diversification by Industry



La Crosse County is a major employment center drawing people from surrounding areas and is well diversified. The top 5 employers in La Crosse County in 2024 were Gundersen Health System, Kwik Trip, Mayo Clinic Health System, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and La Crosse County.

Over the past 10 years, the equalized value of taxable property in the County has increased 82.5%, resulting in a taxable equalized value of \$15.9 billion. The Per Capita Personal Income in the County has risen 39.9% since 2014 to \$62,336. The data for 2024 is not available at this time.

La Crosse County has maintained a lower unemployment rate than both the state and national averages for the last 10 years.



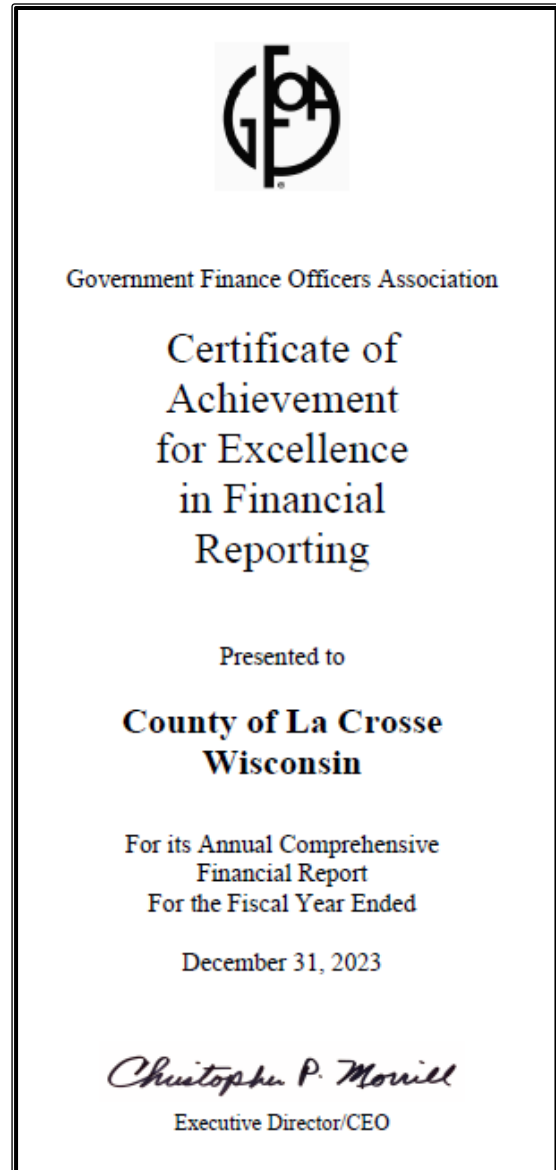
Awards & Recognition

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the County of La Crosse for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. The County of La Crosse has received a Popular Award for the 10th consecutive year. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Award.

The County of La Crosse ACFR for the year ended 2024, from which information throughout this report has been drawn, was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by GFOA. This was the 19th consecutive year that the County has achieved this prestigious award. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting.



In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized ACFR, whose contents conform to the program standards. Such a ACFR must satisfy both GAAP and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current ACFR continues to conform to the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Certificate.



Financial Highlights

The information provided is summarized and represents only selected funds and therefore is not in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and is not intended to represent all of the County's funds, component unit, and fiduciary funds. The following table is a summary of select financial data for the past three years.

Financial Summary	2022	2023	2024
Net Position			
Assets and Deferred Outflows	\$ 468,882,705	\$ 460,365,779	\$ 457,917,636
Liabilities and Deferred Inflows	231,836,714	213,175,302	177,831,610
Total Net Position	237,045,991	247,190,477	280,086,026
Revenues			
Governmental Activities	\$ 128,296,869	\$ 136,890,939	\$ 160,847,447
Business-type Activities	30,192,237	31,480,681	32,675,258
Total Revenues	158,489,106	168,371,620	193,522,705
Expenses			
Governmental Activities	\$ 108,904,342	\$ 127,290,068	\$ 128,589,593
Business-type Activities	30,085,865	30,937,066	32,037,563
Total Expenses	138,990,207	158,227,134	160,627,156
Capital Assets			
Governmental Activities	\$ 160,310,770	\$ 165,784,249	\$ 174,550,206
Business-type Activities	32,228,395	31,626,406	34,403,482
Total Capital Assets	192,539,165	197,410,655	208,953,688
Long-Term Obligations			
Governmental Activities	\$ 61,974,299	\$ 70,043,482	\$ 53,826,476
Business-type Activities	30,840,686	31,445,902	36,660,479
Total Long-Term Obligations	92,814,985	101,489,384	90,486,955

Governmental Activities include: general government; public safety; public works; health and human services; culture, recreation and education; and conservation and development.

Business-type Activities include: Hillview Health Care Center, Hillview Facility, Solid Waste, Lakeview Nursing Home Facility, apartments and assisted living facilities, and household hazardous waste disposal services.



Net Position

The Balance Sheet, known as the Statement of Net Position in governmental financial statements, presents information concerning the County's assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources. Increases and decreases in net position serve as an indicator of the County's financial position and the results of the County's operations.

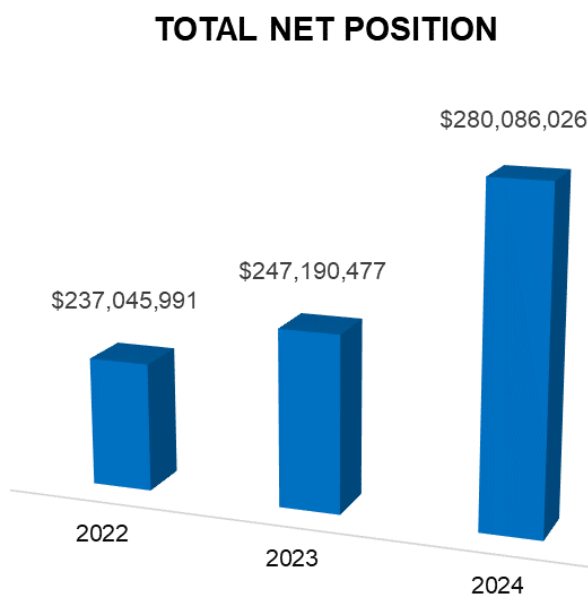
Statement of Net Position	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Current and Other Assets	\$ 157,684,590	\$ 155,504,581	\$ 35,142,078	\$ 55,041,303	\$ 192,826,668	\$ 210,545,884
Capital Assets	174,550,206	174,550,206	34,403,482	34,403,482	208,953,688	208,953,688
Total Assets	\$ 332,234,796	\$ 330,054,787	\$ 69,545,560	\$ 89,444,785	\$ 401,780,356	\$ 419,499,572
Deferred Outflows of Resources	49,883,241	32,356,438	8,702,182	6,061,626	58,585,423	38,418,064
Current and other liabilities	\$ 48,609,535	\$ 17,146,927	\$ (1,115,130)	\$ 5,118,175	\$ 47,494,405	\$ 22,265,102
Long-Term Liabilities	53,826,476	53,826,476	36,660,479	36,660,479	90,486,955	90,486,955
Total Liabilities	\$ 102,436,011	\$ 70,973,403	\$ 35,545,349	\$ 41,778,654	\$ 137,981,360	\$ 112,752,057
Deferred Inflows of Resources	69,394,836	60,554,968	5,799,106	4,524,585	75,193,942	65,079,553
Net Position:	\$ 210,287,190	\$ 230,882,854	\$ 36,903,287	\$ 49,203,172	\$ 247,190,477	\$ 280,086,026
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 120,495,929	\$ 134,994,050	\$ 14,278,884	\$ 17,003,195	\$ 134,774,813	\$ 151,997,245
Restricted	13,823,024	20,142,982	-	-	13,823,024	20,142,982
Unrestricted	75,968,237	75,745,822	22,624,403	32,199,977	98,592,640	107,945,799
Total Net Position	\$ 210,287,190	\$ 230,882,854	\$ 36,903,287	\$ 49,203,172	\$ 247,190,477	\$ 280,086,026

Net investment in Capital Assets: The largest portion of the County's net position (54.3%) reflects the investment in capital assets (e.g. land and easements, structures and improvements, infrastructure, and equipment); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Therefore, even though the County's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, the resources needed to repay debt cannot come from the capital assets themselves and must be provided from other sources.

Restricted Net Position: This portion of the County's net position (\$20.1 million or 7.2%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions as to how they may be used.

Unrestricted Net Position: The remaining portion of net position (\$107.9 million or 38.5%) is unrestricted, may be used to meet the County's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

The County's net position increased \$32,895,549 during the current year. Overall, revenues increased by \$25,151,085 from the prior year, while expenses increased by \$2,400,022. Governmental activities increased the County's net position by \$20,595,664 and business-type activities increased the County's net position by \$12,299,885.



Revenues

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

Within governmental activities, public works capital grants and contributions increased by \$1,882,035 from the previous year. During 2024, the Highway Department received capital contributions from the Federal government and State of Wisconsin for various infrastructure projects such as County roads U and FO, and bridges on County roads M, D and Long Coulee. Operating grants and contributions within health and human services increased by \$17,311,919 from the previous year primarily due to County Board approved projects and spending of the American Rescue Plan Act funding. Gain on disposal of property and equipment increased by \$767,054. This increase was due to a \$1,135,500 land sale in the West Salem industrial park.

Total Revenues - Governmental Activities		
	2023	2024
Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	\$ 22,559,367	\$ 24,713,462
Operating Grants and Contributions	45,842,907	62,839,316
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,759,401	3,640,786
General Revenues		
Property Taxes	37,255,538	37,831,942
Sales Taxes	17,390,626	17,548,458
Other Taxes	181,310	176,837
Nonexchange grants and contributions	4,677,248	6,068,676
Gain on disposal of property & equip.	514,715	1,281,769
Investment Earnings and Interest on		
Delinquent Taxes	6,709,827	6,746,201
Total Revenues- Governmental Activities	\$136,890,939	\$160,847,447

Total Revenues - Business-type Activities		
	2023	2024
Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	\$ 30,013,960	\$ 31,137,617
Operating Grants and Contributions	377,325	257,526
Capital Grants and Contributions	-	883,545
General Revenues		
Property Taxes	186,853	190,889
Gain on disposal of property & equip.	20,656	17,306
Insurance recoveries (losses)	399,792	(407,211)
Investment Earnings and Interest on		
Delinquent Taxes	482,095	595,586
Total Revenues- Business-type Activities	\$ 31,480,681	\$ 32,675,258



A New Vision for Hillview

In September 2023, the County Board approved plans to remodel Hillview Health Care Center into a multi-use facility. The reimagined Hillview campus will feature a 35-bed community-based residential facility, an intergenerational center, a 4-bed crisis stabilization unit, and updates to the existing skilled nursing facilities. The estimated cost of the project is \$19.6 million, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act and general obligation bonds, with repayment supported by revenue from the Hillview. The County issued bonds in fall 2024, and construction is currently underway, with completion expected in 2026. The project is managed through the Hillview Facility Fund. In addition, the County secured a \$1 million federal capital grant to help support the redevelopment.

In September 2023, the County Board approved plans to remodel Hillview Health Care Center into a multi-use facility. The reimagined Hillview campus will feature a 35-bed community-based residential facility, an intergenerational center, a 4-bed crisis stabilization unit, and updates to the existing skilled nursing facilities. The estimated cost of the project is \$19.6 million, funded through

Expenses

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Governmental activities expenses increased in all activity areas except public works and interest of long-term debt. The largest percentage increase (\$992,234 or 16.8%) came from conservation and development due to American Rescue Plan Act expenditures for broadband consulting, neighborhood revitalization, skilled trades program, and stormwater infrastructure.

Total Expenses - Governmental Activities			
	2023	2024	
General Government	\$ 12,512,180	\$ 13,699,382	
Public Safety	21,337,803	22,225,737	
Public Works	13,524,529	12,726,156	
Health and Human Services	68,284,893	67,463,938	
Culture, Recreation and Education	4,641,165	4,646,528	
Conservation and Development	5,921,747	6,913,981	
Interest on Long-Term Debt	1,067,751	913,871	
Total Expenses - Governmental Activities	\$ 127,290,068	\$ 128,589,593	



Total Expenses - Business-Type Activities			
	2023	2024	
Hillview Health Care Center	\$ 9,180,258	\$ 9,119,003	
Hillview Facility	-	243,348	
Lakeview Nursing Home Facility	994,988	1,014,609	
Solid Waste	13,845,736	14,681,947	
Apartments and Assisted Living Facilities	6,519,403	6,557,161	
Hazardous Waste Disposal Services	396,681	421,495	
Total Expenses - Business-type Activities	\$ 30,937,066	\$ 32,037,563	



Business-type activities expenses increased primarily due to the increased costs from Solid Waste. Solid Waste expenditures increased by \$836,211 primarily due to the closure costs on a portion of the landfill.



Capital Assets

WHAT DO WE OWN?

The County needs more than just dollars to provide its citizens with services, and as such, many types of assets are required to keep the County performing and delivering its various services. Capital assets include land, buildings, improvements, highway trucks, sheriff vehicles, machinery and equipment, bridges, culverts, and curbs.

Capital Assets	Governmental activities		Business-type activities		Total	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2024	2023
Capital Assets						
Land	\$ 3,607,696	\$ 3,600,422	\$ 943,173	\$ 943,173	\$ 4,543,595	\$ 4,550,869
Land Improvements	8,355,932	9,914,515	39,709,755	39,974,990	49,889,505	48,065,687
Buildings	96,074,404	96,588,092	28,762,688	29,064,063	125,652,155	124,837,092
Machinery and equipment	32,600,191	36,020,585	9,113,997	8,634,456	44,655,041	41,714,188
Infrastructure	145,537,062	152,289,183	-	-	152,289,183	145,537,062
Intangibles	9,078,768	9,257,078	303,240	290,958	9,548,036	9,382,008
Construction in progress	4,754,746	5,879,090	1,204,033	5,207,071	11,086,161	5,958,779
Right to use leased assets	1,340,066	1,608,586	-	-	1,608,586	1,340,066
Right to use subscription assets	1,536,445	1,687,453	327,278	360,049	2,047,502	1,863,723
Total capital assets	302,885,310	316,845,004	80,364,164	84,474,760	401,319,764	383,249,474
Less:						
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortization	137,101,061	142,294,798	48,737,758	50,071,278	192,366,076	185,838,819
Total Net Capital Assets	\$ 165,784,249	\$ 174,550,206	\$ 31,626,406	\$ 34,403,482	\$ 208,953,688	\$ 197,410,655

Within governmental activities, the significant changes in capital assets were due to infrastructure additions in the Highway Department for road reconstruction, land improvement additions for solar panels and an Emergency Services tower. Within the business-type activities, significant additions were related to construction in progress on the Hillview Facility remodel.



Long-term Obligations

WHAT DO WE OWE?

As of December 31, 2024, the County's long-term obligations totaled \$90,486,955 of which \$61,711,523 was debt outstanding. The County issued \$8 million in new general obligation debt during 2024 for the Hillview Facility remodel.

Long-Term Obligations			
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Due within 1 year:			
Lease and Subscription Liability	\$ 644,106	\$ 72,690	\$ 716,796
Compensated Absences	4,092,946	654,802	4,747,748
Bonds and Notes Payable	5,835,124	2,556,894	8,392,018
Landfill Post Closure Costs	36,808	35,501	72,309
	10,608,984	3,319,887	13,928,871
Due longer than 1 year:			
Lease and Subscription Liability	1,454,418	149,508	1,603,926
Compensated Absences	5,676,392	941,110	6,617,502
Post Employment Benefit Liability	1,109,384	-	1,109,384
Bonds and Notes Payable	30,929,010	22,390,495	53,319,505
Landfill Post Closure Costs	276,813	9,299,476	9,576,289
Net Pension Liability	3,771,475	560,003	4,331,478
	43,217,492	33,340,592	76,558,084
Total Long-Term Obligations	\$ 53,826,476	\$ 36,660,479	\$ 90,486,955

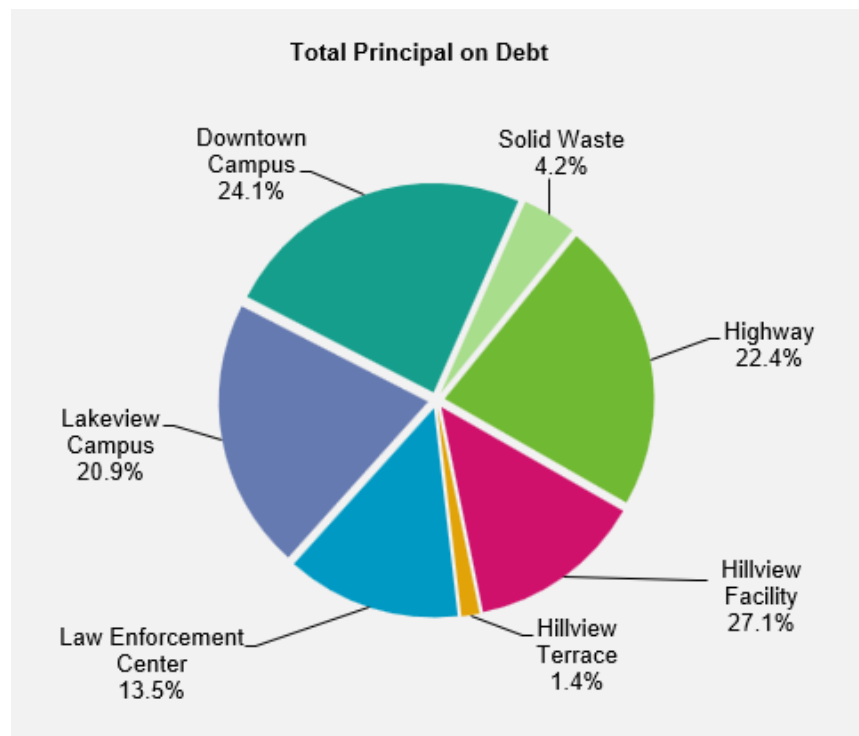


HOW'S OUR CREDIT?

External credit ratings are very important and have a direct influence on the County's ability to (1) minimize borrowing cost and (2) successfully borrow money to complete the acquisition and construction of long-lived capital assets.

The County holds an "Aa1" rating from Moody's Investors Service for general obligation debt. This high-quality rating indicates very low credit risk and reflects the County's strong financial position, proven financial management, and solid capacity to meet its debt obligations.

The County's general obligation debt per capita is \$481.



Investments

HOW SAFE IS OUR MONEY?

The County investment practices and policies are based upon state law and prudent money management. The County's first priority is to maintain the safety of the principal of the investments, which mitigates credit risk.

The County structures the investment portfolio, with the assistance of our investment advisors, to be sure that securities mature concurrently with cash needs and anticipated demands. This mitigates liquidity risk.

Types of Risk:

Credit Risk – the risk that the County will not recover its investments due to the inability of the counterparty to fulfill its obligation.

Liquidity Risk – the risk that the County will not be able to sell an investment security quickly enough to meet cash flow needs or demands.

Custodial Credit Risk – the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the County will not be able to recover the value of its deposits, investments, or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party (i.e. the County's safekeeping institution).

Cash and Investments

Deposits	\$ 16,115,063
Petty Cash	5,913
Cash on Hand	113,337
Investments	117,942,613
Total	\$ 134,176,925

Investments

Investment Types:	Fair Value
U.S. Treasury Notes	\$ 17,421,391
U.S. Agency Securities	36,558,636
U.S. Small Business Administration	2,444,045
Municipal Issues	148,058
Corporate Issues	15,691,313
State of WI Local Government	
Investment Pool	17,806,059
Mutual Funds - other than bond funds	27,873,113
Total Investments	\$ 117,942,613

A variety of investments are used to minimize the exposure to the risk of loss. The County policy also requires all funds on deposits with any financial institution be secured with collateral securities. This mitigates the exposure to the risk of loss and custodial credit risk.

The County policy requires only the highest and second highest rated securities may be purchased which means there is a very to exceptionally strong capacity to meet financial commitments. In addition, the U.S. Treasury securities and notes are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government and are considered the safest investments in the world.

Finally, the investment portfolio is designed to attain the highest market rate of return, taking into account economic cycles and the investment risk constraints and liquidity needs of the County. The return on investment is of secondary importance compared to the safety and liquidity objectives.



General Fund

The General Fund accounts for the County's main operating activities and is used to account for all financial resources except those which are required to be accounted for in another fund. Citizens, other governments, and rating agencies typically look at a municipality's general fund to determine the health and current trends within it.

Unassigned Fund Balance Compared to Expenditures

	2024		2023	
	General Fund	Percentage of Expenditures	General Fund	Percentage of Expenditures
Total Expenditures	\$ 44,306,258	-	\$ 41,502,631	-
Unassigned Fund Balance	24,291,590	54.8%	20,935,086	50.4%
Total Fund Balances	38,414,203	86.7%	33,386,874	80.4%

As a measure of the General Fund's ability to pay off short-term obligations, it is useful to compare unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures.

County policy requires the ratio of unassigned general fund balance to total operating expenditures be maintained at 25 to 50%. As of December 31, 2024, the ratio is 54.8%. County policy limits the use of unassigned fund balance to funding of capital expenditures, prepayment of outstanding debt, start-up costs of new programs, other non-recurring expenditures, or emergencies. The General Fund closed out the year with a gain of \$5,027,329, which was more than projected in the final budget. The original budget projected a deficit of \$4,207,836 after transfer to other funds of \$2,048,750.

One of the main reasons for the increase in General Fund balance was that investment income was \$1,933,686 higher than budget. This was due to the continuation of higher interest rates. Another contributing factor to the increase in General Fund balance was capital outlay expenditures were less than the final budget by \$1,609,164. Large ongoing projects include the emergency services, human capital management and tax systems. Projects that were not completed in 2024 will have funds carried forward to 2025.



Ratios and Trends

HOW ARE WE DOING?

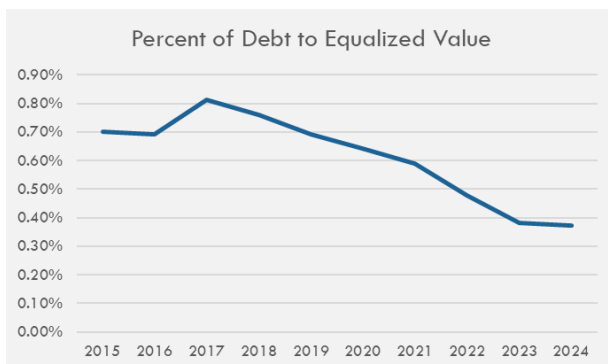
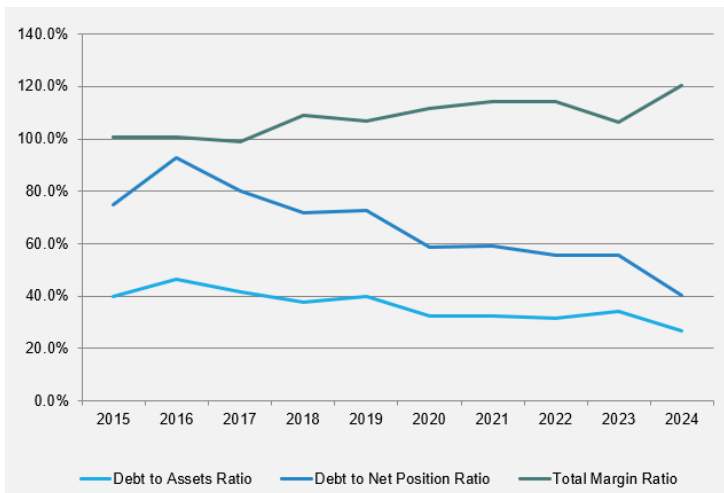
Looking at key financial ratios and trends over several years enables the County to have a clearer picture of where it has been and where it is going.

Primary Government	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Debt to Assets Ratio	40.0%	46.4%	41.7%	37.5%	39.7%	32.4%	32.6%	31.3%	34.3%	26.9%
Debt to Net Position Ratio	74.8%	92.7%	80.0%	72.0%	72.6%	58.8%	59.2%	55.6%	55.8%	40.3%
Total Margin Ratio	100.8%	100.7%	98.8%	108.8%	106.9%	111.6%	114.2%	114.0%	106.4%	120.5%

Debt to Assets Ratio focuses on the extent to which total assets are financed with long-term debt and is a measure of the government's leverage. A lower ratio is desired as a high ratio implies an over reliance on debt for financing assets.

Debt to Net Position Ratio focuses on the ability to meet long-term obligations and is a measure of the government's solvency. A high ratio is desired.

Total Margin Ratio focuses on whether the government lived within its financial means during the fiscal year. A ratio of 100% or higher is desired.



Wisconsin statutes limit the total indebtedness of the County to 5% of equalized value. As noted in the chart to the left, the County has been well under this limit.

Overall Summary: The ratios for the past 10 years show the County has strived to keep debt manageable, taking advantage of low interest rates while providing quality services and replacing aging facilities and infrastructure for citizens.





LA CROSSE COUNTY
Exceptional services. Extraordinary place.

La Crosse County Finance
212 6th Street North
La Crosse, WI 54601
www.lacrossecounty.org
608-785-9580