



Waukesha County Sales Tax: Fast Facts

Overview:

- The proposed County ordinance implements a 0.5% County sales tax to be added to the State's existing 5% Sales and Use Tax
- County sales tax collection would begin July 1, 2025
- The county portion of the sales tax is projected to collect \$50-60M per year
- 69 of the state's 72 counties have already implemented a county sales tax

Proposed Ordinance:

- Cuts property taxes to partially offset the impact of the sales tax on property owners. The property tax cut reduces the sales tax impact to \$7.25 per month. Up to 20% of sales tax collections would go toward direct reduction of property tax bills
- Eliminates the county's annual budget shortfall for at least the next 8 to 10 years
- Provides aid to local municipalities based upon population. Up to 20% of the first full year's sales tax collections would go toward local municipal aid. Local aid levels would be revisited every two years in conjunction with the state budget cycle

Lack of State Support:

- State-imposed levy limits prevent the county from meeting critical public safety needs
- Waukesha County sends \$1.5 Billion per year in sales and income taxes to the state and the county receives \$60M in return
- Waukesha County ranks dead last of every City, County, Village and Town in per capita State Shared Revenue and 2nd to last in total per capita state aid
- Waukesha County is forced to use 44% (\$51 million per year) of property tax dollars to pay for unfunded state mandates

Waukesha County's Statewide Ranking:

	Waukesha County	State Average	State High
Total Spending per capita	\$637 (Lowest of any County)	\$1,107	\$2,582
Per Capita Tax Levy	\$289 (3 rd lowest)	\$423	\$1,347
Per Capita Total State Aid	\$148 (2 nd lowest)	\$285	\$1,039
Levy (Property Tax) Rate	\$1.44 (2 nd lowest)	\$3.13	\$7.14