

# 2023

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



DAVID COULTER  
OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE

PREPARED BY: DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
BRIAN J. LEFLER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

# to the residents OF OAKLAND COUNTY, MI



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*The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is available to read on the county's website [oakgov.com/mgtbud/fiscal](https://www.oakgov.com/mgtbud/fiscal). But Oakland County also offers this separate report to provide you a condensed picture of the county's finances.*

There is plenty of good news in Oakland County's Financial Summary for Fiscal Year 2023. This summary provides you with a clear picture of the county's finances and explains how we use your tax dollars. It also includes an explanation of some of the county's programs and initiatives.

Oakland County continues to earn its reputation for fiscal responsibility through prudent management, balanced three-year budgets, outstanding services and innovative ways to deliver those services, all while continuing to manage fluctuating levels of tax revenue, and navigating the COVID-19 pandemic.

Maintaining fiscal discipline and ensuring the county lives within its means is a fundamental principle of good government. That budgetary restraint has earned the county an Aaa / AAA bond rating every year since 1998 from Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's. Oakland County will continue to adopt long-term planning goals and maintain the discipline to achieve those objectives.

It is a task that cannot be done alone. The other countywide elected officials and the Board of Commissioners work cooperatively together to help manage and balance revenues and spending.

Each year, Oakland County publishes its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The document contains the county's financial statements prepared following Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the standards and guidelines set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The ACFR includes an independent auditor's report stating it has reviewed the financial statements and found them to be complete, presented accurately and in the correct format.

The ACFR is available to read on the county's website. <https://www.oakgov.com/government/management-budget/fiscal-services> Oakland County 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. But we also offer this separate financial summary to provide you with a condensed picture of county finances. I hope you enjoy the 2023 edition.

**David Coulter**  
Oakland Executive



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS fiscal year 2023

# an overview OF OAKLAND COUNTY



**DAVID T. WOODWARD**  
CHAIRPERSON



**MARCIA GERSHENSON**  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON

## COMMISSIONERS

**Marcia Gershenson**

**Michael J. Gingell**

**Bob Hoffman**

**Janet Jackson**

**Gary McGillivray**

**Brendan Johnson**

**Dr. Ajay Raman**

**Christine A. Long**

**Penny Luebs**

**Gwen Markham**

**Karen Joliat**

**William Miller**

**Kristen D. Nelson**

**Angela Powell**

**Yolanda S. Charles**

**Michael Spisz**

**Philip J. Weipert**

**David T. Woodward**

**Charlie Cavell**

## CITY/TWP OF RESIDENCE

Bloomfield Hills

Lake Orion

Highland

Southfield

Madison Heights

Rochester

Novi

Commerce Township

Clawson

Novi

Clarkston

Farmington

Pontiac

Pontiac

Southfield

Oxford

South Lyon

Royal Oak

Huntington Woods

## did you know?

The county's museums include Cranbrook Art Museum, Cranbrook Institute of Science, the Holocaust Memorial Center and Meadow Brook Hall.



Some of the world's top musicians have performed at Pine Knob Music Theatre in Independence Township and Meadow Brook Amphitheatre in Rochester.



The Detroit Zoo is located in Oakland County.

Oakland County, Michigan is synonymous with excellence. Its thriving communities, natural landscapes, premier entertainment venues, diverse restaurants, quality schools, leading medical facilities and dependable business resources offer an unparalleled quality of life for those who live, work, or spend leisure time in Oakland County.

Over 1.3 million residents enjoy distinct neighborhoods including rural regions, walkable downtowns and thriving cities. Oakland County's diverse collection of cities, villages and townships offers a broad selection for every budget and lifestyle – from rolling farmland to established city neighborhoods with tree-lined streets, parks and nearby schools, and newer developments and housing options.

Businesses – from small startups to major corporations – depend on Oakland County's world-class resources, thriving business climate and proven infrastructure. The county offers a solid environment of support, with programs and technologies focused on ongoing economic growth and development.

Oakland County's top ten employers cover a diverse mix of manufacturing, health and government sectors:

1. Corewell Health (formerly Beaumont Health and Spectrum Health)
2. Stellantis NV
3. General Motors Corporation
4. United Wholesale Mortgage
5. Henry Ford Health System
6. Ascension Michigan
7. U.S. Postal Service
8. Oakland County Government
9. Amazon
10. Trinity Health

Oakland County has a reputation as home to many of the region's top educational facilities, from Pre-K through higher education to dedicated research facilities focused on high-tech skills that meet the region's increasing need for tech-savvy talent.

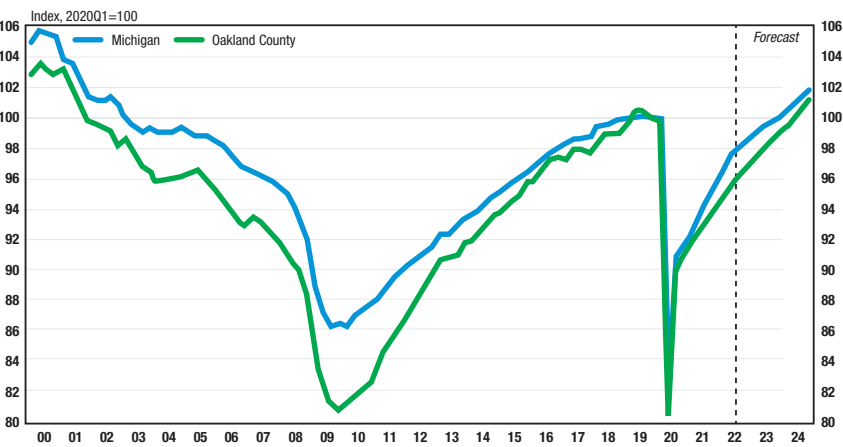
The county's 910 square miles are filled with natural wonders including 89,000 acres of parkland, over 1,400 lakes, rivers and streams and numerous trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding. There are a wide variety of shopping experiences ranging from small boutiques to large high-end multi-level malls. Oakland County provides residents everything they need – great jobs and schools, safe neighborhoods and splendid surroundings.



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S economy

# OAKLAND COUNTY'S tax base

## PROJECTED JOB GROWTH IN OAKLAND COUNTY



Source: Gabriel Ehrlich and Donald Grimes, Institute for Research on Labor, Employment, and the Economy, University of Michigan

Oakland County is recognized as one of the most successful counties in the nation. According to the University of Michigan economists Gabriel Ehrlich and Donald Grimes, the County has enjoyed a strong rebound from the recession and COVID 19 Pandemic and is primed for further growth in the coming years. Since the recorded job loss during the pandemic of 148,900, the County had regained more than two-thirds of that loss by the third quarter of 2021 which was in line with the state's job recovery. It is expected that by the end of 2024 the County will exceed the states job growth Figure 1 illustrates this trend.

Oakland County's 2022 per capita personal income (PCPI) was \$,84,850 is the highest among Michigan's 83 counties according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) most recent published data on November 16, 2023. The 2022 PCPI reflects an increase of 3.7% from 2021. Oakland County's per capita income also compares favorably to the national average \$65,470 and the state average of \$57,038.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Oakland County's unemployment rate had improved steadily from the 2009 high rate of 13.0%. During the pandemic, unemployment spiked to 19.6% in May 2020, but has dropped dramatically to 2.9% in 2023 according to University of Michigan economists Gabriel Ehrlich and Donald Grimes. This is lower than the national unemployment rate of 3.6% and the State of Michigan rate at 3.9% per the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Annual unemployment rates for the past decade are illustrated in Figure 2.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

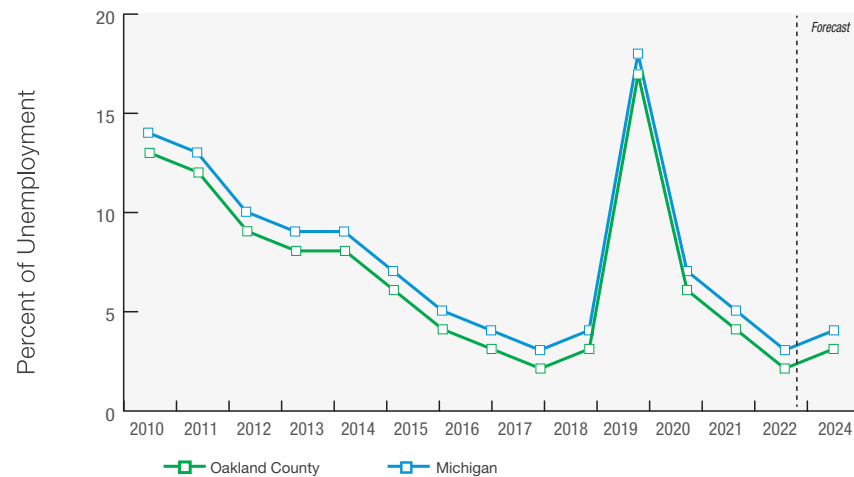


Figure 2

## TAXABLE VALUE

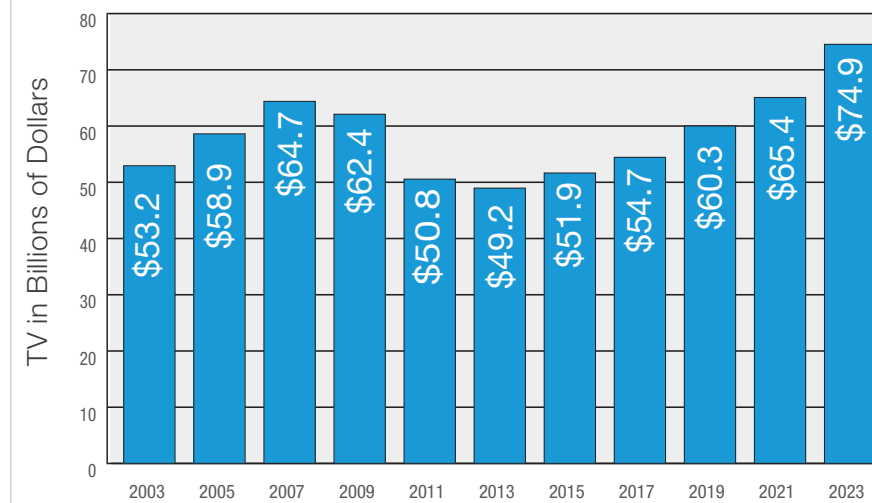


Figure 3

Oakland County's collective property values remain the highest of all 83 counties in Michigan and represents 16.2% of the state's total value (Oakland County's population represents only approximately 12.7% of Michigan's total). The majority of Oakland County's taxable value is within the residential class of property, which is approximately 76.3% of the total property tax base.

Millage rate is the rate at which property taxes are levied on property. A mill is 1/1000 of a dollar. Property taxes are computed by multiplying the taxable value of the property by the number of mills levied. The county millage rate for the July 1, 2023, property tax levy was 3.9686 mills for operations, one of the lowest county tax rates in the State of Michigan.

## TAX LEVY

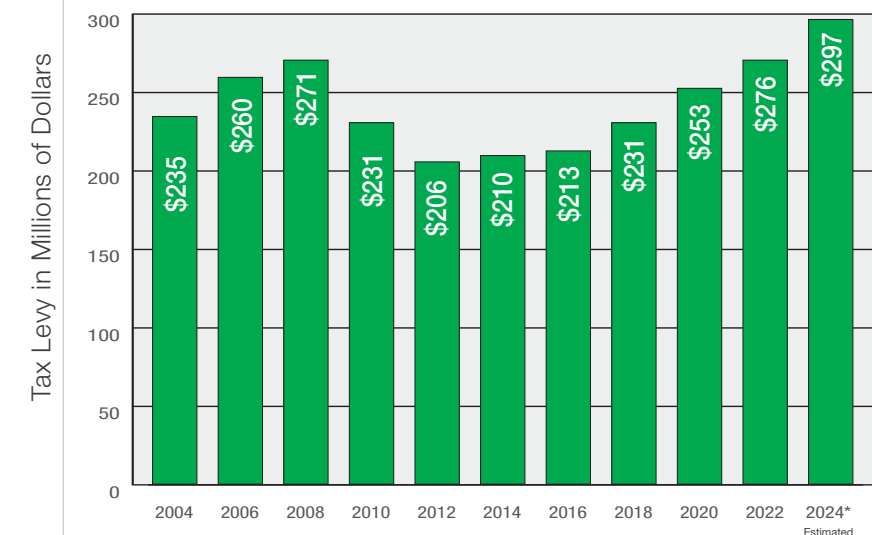


Figure 4

The 2023 market value of property in Oakland County was approximately \$195.4 billion, an increase of approximately \$16.0 billion from 2022 to 2023 (8.86%). The Taxable Value (TV), which is the calculation on which property tax revenue is based, increased 7.52%. This is the eleventh year of increase in property value following five consecutive years of decline. Changes in the county's taxable value and tax levies are depicted in Figures 3 and 4.



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S financial condition

## did you know?

Oakland County owns three public-use airports:

Oakland County International Airport, Oakland/Southwest Airport and Oakland/Troy Airport.

Even through the significant challenges brought about with the COVID-19 pandemic, Oakland County government continued to provide the services expected by its citizens, supported its local cities, villages, and townships, and worked with the private sector to support recovery of the local economy – all while still balancing a multi-year budget and maintaining a healthy fund balance. This was accomplished through the combined efforts of Oakland County's elected officials, administrators, and employees.

Oakland County's response to the pandemic is on-going. As of end of FY 2023, the \$156.3 million appropriated from ARPA funding has been allocated to address ongoing needs of residents and businesses, as well as to support county COVID-19 operations. The County continues to thoughtfully plan out the use of the remaining ARPA funding. Figure 5.

Oakland County's policies and practices are designed for long-term sustainability to ensure its continuing ability to provide quality services. The County's strong financial position is evidenced by its balanced long-term fiscal plan, low debt obligations, and responsible fund balance amounts in conformance with GFOA Recommended Best Practices.

The hallmark of the county's focus on long-term financial planning is preparation and adoption of a triennial budget and five-year forecast. Not only is the budget adopted for the next three fiscal years, the triennial budget is considered a "rolling" budget in that when it is amended, the amendment always reflects the impact for both the remainder of the current fiscal year and the impact on the next two fiscal years.

The county has continually maintained a AAA/Aaa bond rating which is the highest bond rating achievable from Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service. This rating allows the county to borrow at the lowest possible interest rate, saving the county millions of dollars in future borrowing costs. Local municipalities can also utilize the county's bond rating to borrow funds.

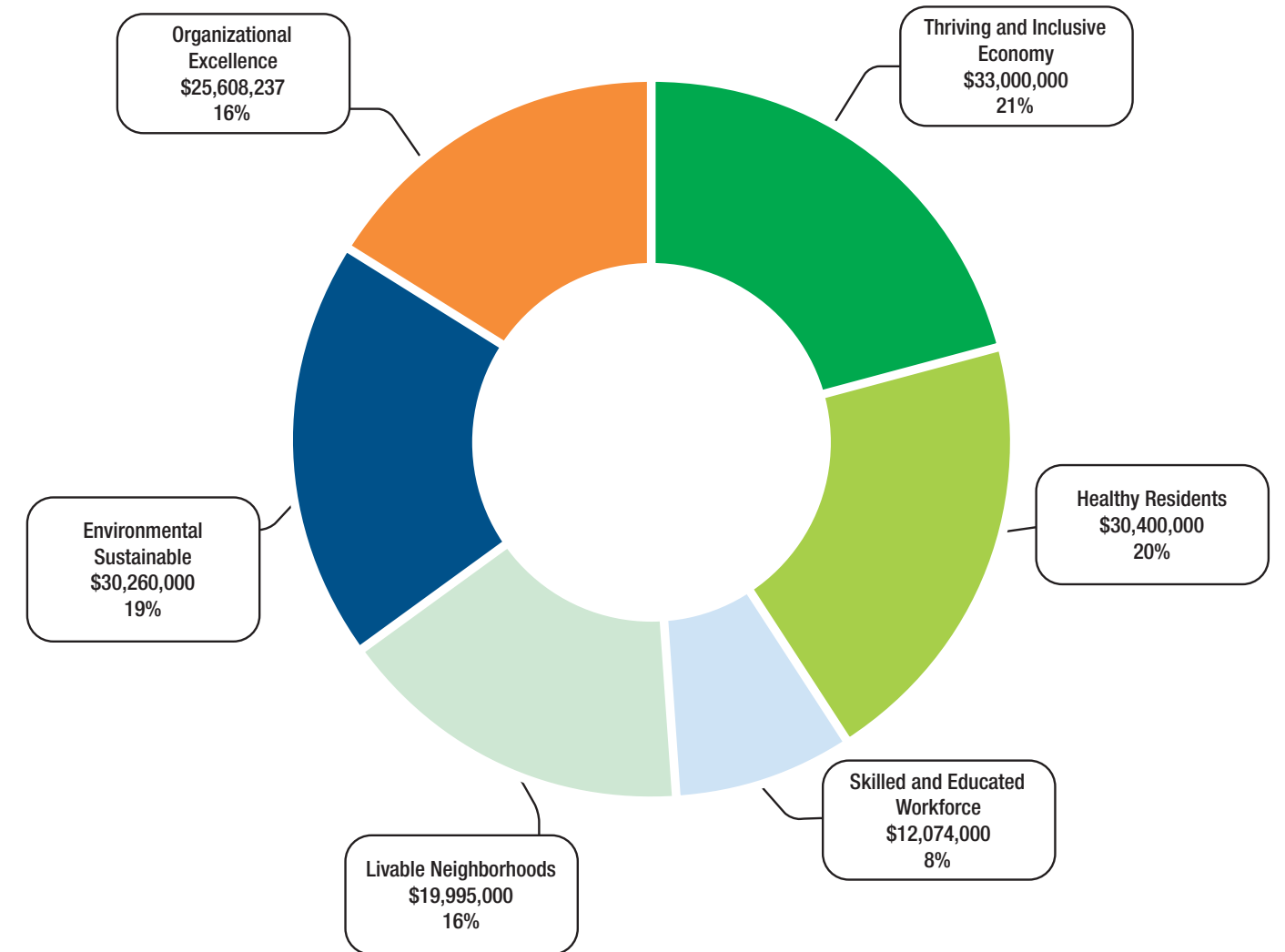
The issuance of debt is also limited. Debt is only issued after other sources of funding (operating budget, existing fund balance, etc.) have been explored. The county has the authority to issue up to \$9.0 billion in debt (10% of its State Equalized Value); however, the actual outstanding debt is \$488.3 million, 5.40% of the permissible amount.

# Oakland County American Rescue Plan

Funding Summary | As of 05/31/2023



DAVID COULTER  
Oakland County Executive



Organizational Excellence	\$25,608,237
Livable Neighborhoods	\$19,995,000
Healthy Residents	\$30,400,000
Thriving and Inclusive Economy	\$33,000,000
Skilled and Educated Workforce	\$12,074,000
Environmental Sustainable	\$30,260,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$156,337,237</b>

Figure 5



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S financial condition (cont.)

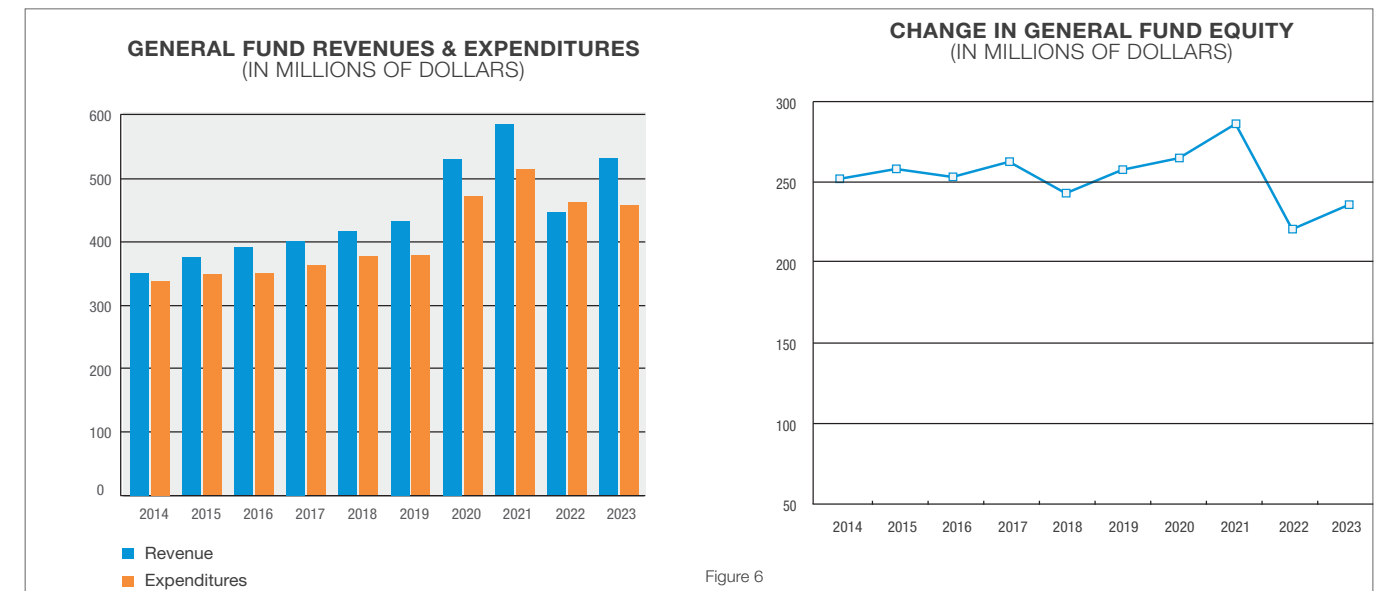
## did you know?

Oakland County has fully funded its post-employment benefit plan.

Oakland County was the first county in the nation to fully fund its long-term retiree health care obligation. The most recent actuarial reports issued for the Oakland County Voluntary Employees' Benefit Association (VEBA) and Employee's Retirement System are for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. The VEBA fund assets were reported at 149.54% of the fund actuarially determined liabilities. The Oakland County Employees Retirement System assets were reported as 90.13% funded. It is important to note that the annual cost of retiree pension and health care benefits, both for the current year's expense and the actuarially determined amount for the future years' costs are accounted for in each year's operating budget. None of the costs are hidden and none are pushed off onto future generations.

The General Fund is the county's principal operating fund. A favorable General Fund balance is an indicator of a healthy operating environment. In July 2021, Oakland County adopted Miscellaneous Resolution #21301 which revised its fund balance policy from a minimum fund balance level from 20% of annual General Fund expenditures. The updated policy reflects a minimum fund balance level of 25% of annual on-going General Fund expenditures to protect the continuity of county services during an economic downturn, with clearer guidelines on the economic circumstances under which those funds can be appropriated, and another 5% of on-going annual expenditures for non-economic budget risks.

In 2023, Oakland County's general fund balance has increased by approximately \$15.3 million. The increase is due to federal and state funding provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the increase in property tax revenues. It is partially offset by net transfers out to other funds supporting capital projects and providing the county match for special revenue funds. Figure 6a and 6b provides a historical view of the county's General Fund balance.



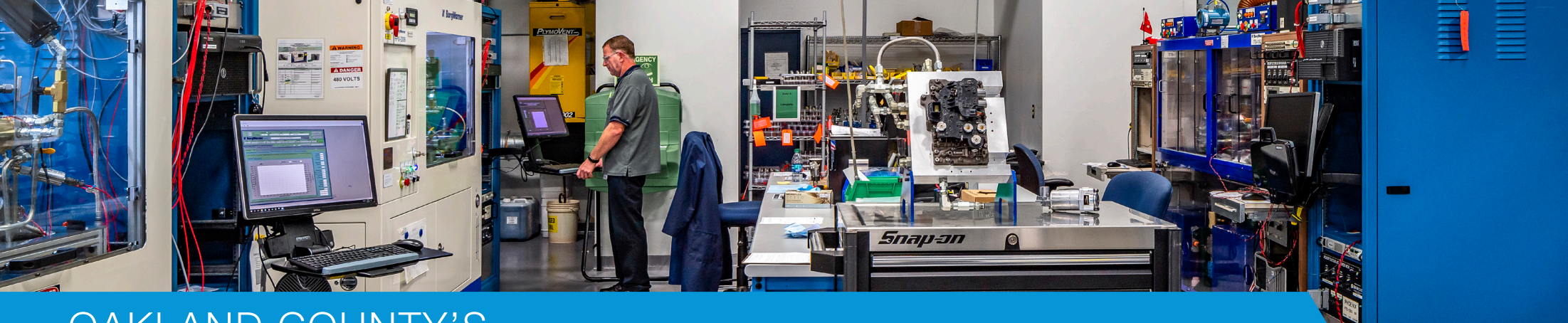
Source: Oakland County Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

**GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES (IN MILLIONS)**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020(a)	2021(a)	2022(a)	2023(a)
Total Revenue	\$347.5	\$372.1	\$387.1	\$397.6	\$412.1	\$429.2	\$526.2	\$579.8	\$440.8	\$526.4
Total Expenditures	335.3	345.3	346.6	359.1	373.5	374.6	467.0	509.8	458.3	453.2
Excess (Deficiency)	\$12.2	\$26.8	\$40.5	\$38.5	\$38.6	\$54.6	\$59.2	\$70.0	\$(17.5)	\$73.2
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1.0)	(20.6)	(45.5)	(29.0)	(58.3)	(39.9)	(51.9)	(48.6)	(50.1)	(57.9)
Beginning Equity	242.8	254.0	260.2	255.2	264.7	245.0	259.7	267.0	288.4	220.8
Ending Equity	\$254.0	\$260.2	\$255.2	\$264.7	\$245.0	\$259.7	\$267.0	\$288.4	\$220.8	\$236.1
As a % of Revenue	73.09%	69.93%	65.93%	66.57%	59.45%	60.51%	50.74%	49.74%	50.09%	44.85%

(a) Includes increased revenue and expenditure activity for CARES Act, ARPA and other pandemic funding.

Figure 6b



# OAKLAND COUNTY'S financial condition (cont.)

Many other types of funds are used in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles to record the programs and services provided by the county:

- Special Revenue funds are used to record the activities that receive monies for restricted purposes such as Friend of the Court and grant-funded activities.
- Debt Service funds account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal and interest, usually bonds.
- Capital Project funds account for the purchase or construction of major capital facilities, such as buildings, drains, water and sewer projects.
- Enterprise funds account for functions that are financed primarily through user charges and operate similar to businesses, such as the airports, water and sewer operations and the parks.
- Internal Service funds account for the financing of goods or services provided by one county department or agency to other departments or agencies on a cost-reimbursement basis.

The overall revenues and expenses for county functions illustrated in Figure 7 are derived from Governmental and Proprietary Fund Statements presented in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged for goods or services. The Revenue Trend graph provides a 5-year history of county revenue sources. The Expense Trend graphs show expenses by major activities within the county. For additional information regarding changes by activity, please refer to the Management Discussion and Analysis section in the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report at <https://www.oakgov.com/government/management-budget/fiscal-services>

Internal Service fund revenues and expenses have not been included in these totals. Also, the funds of the component units (Road Commission for Oakland County and Chapters 20 & 21 Drainage Districts) are not presented as these services are provided by other county entities. However, General Fund transfers to the Internal Service funds are included as expenses to reflect the use of county tax revenues more accurately.

## FIVE YEAR REVENUE & EXPENSE TRENDS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

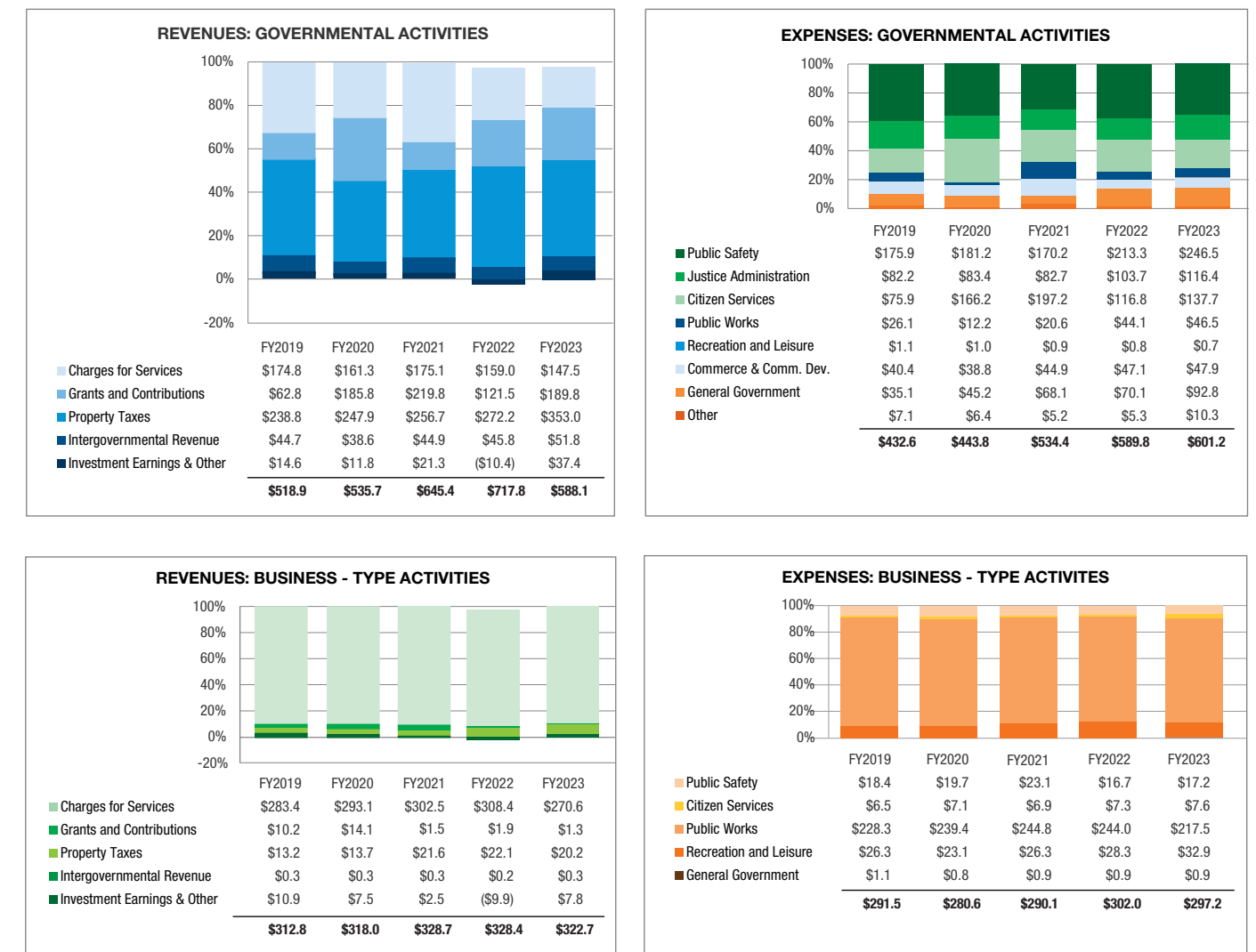
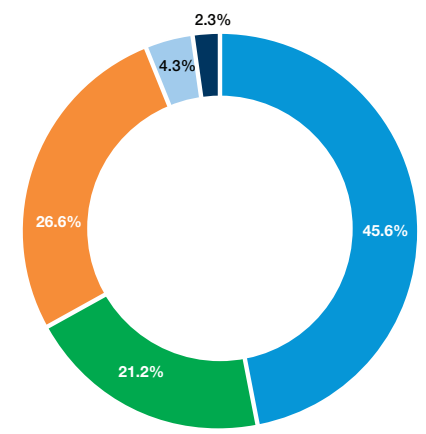


Figure 7



# revenues



- Charges for Services
- Grants & Contributions
- Property Taxes
- Intergovernmental Revenue
- Investment Earnings
- Other

The receipt of county revenues are defined as follows:

**Property Taxes:** The county's actual property tax for General Fund operations is based on a rate of 3.9686 mills. Parks and Recreation is also supported by taxes of .3431 mills and is reported as an Enterprise fund.

**Grants and Contributions:** Restricted funding provided by federal or state governments.

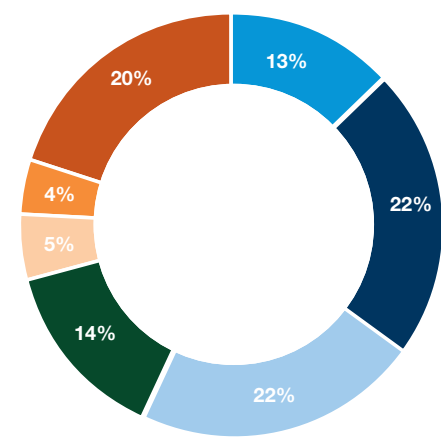
**Intergovernmental:** Revenue from state or local governments in the form of shared revenue or reimbursements.

**Charges for Services:** Revenue from fees received for purchased services.

**Investment Earnings and Other:** Interest on investments, revenue from rebates, refunds of prior year's expenditures, transfers in from other funds and miscellaneous sources.



# general government



- Legislative
- Executive
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Support Services
- Elections
- Treasury

General Government includes all areas of the county involved in the administration and financial aspects of county business. Included in this program are the County Executive, Board of Commissioners, Treasurer, Management and Budget, Human Resources, and Department of Public Communications departments. The Elections Division is also included.

**EXECUTIVE:** The County Executive is responsible for coordinating county activities, maintaining fiscal policies, and interacting with the Board of Commissioners and other countywide elected officials. Corporation Counsel and internal auditing functions are performed under the County Executive. Additionally, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the Department of Public Communications are newly created functions under the Executive for FY 2022.

**LEGISLATIVE:** The Board of Commissioners is the governing body of Oakland County. The board is responsible for the adoption of the annual budget, establishing the county property tax millage rate, formulating and establishing county policies, making appointments to various boards and commissions, and adopting ordinances and rules.

**TREASURY:** The Treasurer serves as the banker of the county and acts as the custodian of all county funds and as the collector and distributor of all revenues.

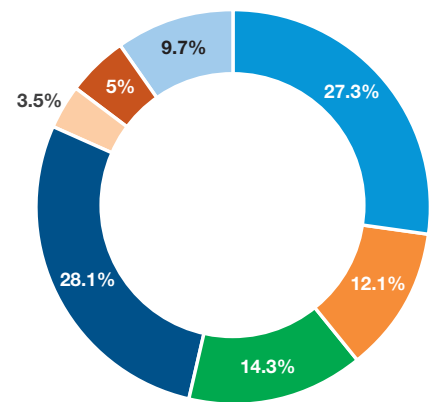
**FINANCE:** The Department of Management and Budget oversees the finance functions of the county including Equalization, Fiscal Services, and Purchasing. The Director is designated as the Fiscal Officer of the county and is responsible for ensuring that the county operates within a balanced budget and that all financial transactions and financial reporting are completed in accordance with the accounting and reporting standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:** The Human Resources Department, as mandated by Public Act 139, directs the performance of all personnel and labor relations functions for the county.

**SUPPORT SERVICES:** Central Services is responsible for the overall administration and operations of the Support Services Division which provides a wide variety of governmental and internal services to county departments including Vehicle Operations, Record Retention, Mailroom, Courthouse Cafeteria and three county airports.

**ELECTIONS:** The Elections Division is responsible for overseeing all county and multi-jurisdictional elections, programming elections tabulators, printing ballots, training poll workers and maintaining permanent records of election results. The division also maintains all campaign finance records for local offices and updates the statewide Qualified Voter File (QVF) database.

# MAJOR PROGRAM expenditures



For presentation purposes, county expenditures were broken into seven broad program areas: General Government, Public Safety, Justice Administration, Recreation and Leisure, Direct Citizen Services, Commerce and Community Development, and Public Works.

- Public Safety
- Justice Administration
- Direct Citizen Services
- Public Works
- Recreation & Leisure
- Commerce & Community Development
- General Government

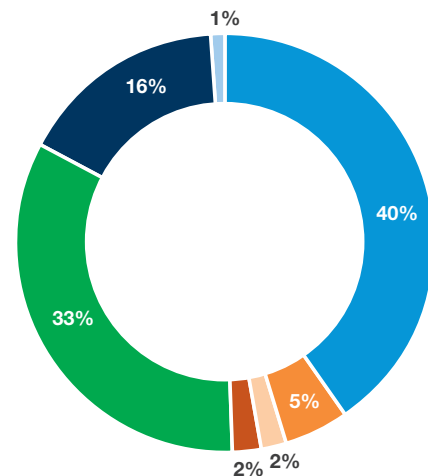
## did you know?

You can sign up for email notification of available County careers through Human Resources at [oakgov.com/jobs](http://oakgov.com/jobs)





# public safety



- Incarceration
- Alternative Corrections Program
- Animal Control
- Homeland Security
- Community Law Enforcement
- Law Enforcement
- Crime Prevention

Public Safety consists of all aspects of law enforcement.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT / INCARCERATION / COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT:

The **Sheriff's Office** is comprised of the Administrative Services Division, which conducts business and human resource functions, and two main groups: the Corrections/Courts and Inmate and Support Services Group and the Law Enforcement Services Group. The Corrections/Courts and Inmate and Support Services Group is made up of Corrective Services, which oversees operations of the main jail and inmate support services and Corrective Services - Satellites, which oversees the operations of facilities outside the main jail, including court security. The Law Enforcement Services Group includes Emergency Response and Preparedness; Emergency Communications and Operations which provides dispatch services; Patrol Services, which administers law enforcement activities including contracted patrol; and Investigative/ Forensic Services, which provides countywide police service support including investigations for numerous areas such as narcotics, fire, homicide, crime scene and computer crime in addition to forensic lab services.

**Children's Village** is the county's residential facility for children and youth who are court-ordered into care or who have been placed in the facility by the Michigan Department of Human Services.

**Information Technology** programs that support local community law enforcement are also included under Public Safety.

**ALTERNATIVE CORRECTIONS PROGRAMS:** The **Community Corrections Division** provides a wide array of sentencing alternatives for all types of non-violent offenders. These programs offer rehabilitative value without compromising public safety. All programs are cost effective alternatives to incarceration, which allows for the jail space to be reserved for the most serious offenders.

The **Circuit Court Probation Division** provides the Oakland County Circuit Court with a Pre-Sentence Investigation Report consistent with Michigan Compiled Law 771.14 prior to sentencing on each defendant convicted of a felony and referred by the court. The Circuit Court Probation Division is a multi-funded agency, which is funded by both the state of Michigan and Oakland County.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY:** The **Emergency and Homeland Security Department** provides emergency management planning, response, recovery and mitigation services for natural, technological, national security and nuclear emergencies or disasters affecting Oakland County.

## did you know?

The Sheriff's Office internationally accredited Forensic Science Lab is responsible for:

- crime scene processing
- biology/DNA
- drug chemistry
- firearms/toolmarks
- latent prints
- toxicology

**ANIMAL CONTROL** is responsible for the enforcement of state laws pertaining to domestic animals and livestock.

**Crime Prevention:** The **Youth Assistance Program**, within **Circuit Court**, is designed to strengthen youth and families to prevent and reduce delinquency, abuse, and neglect through community and volunteer involvement.

**SENIOR CELL PHONE PROGRAM:** Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard's 911 Emergency Senior Cell Phone Program is designed to equip seniors with a mobile means of contacting help in the event of an emergency. The cell phones are available to any Oakland County Senior Citizens free of charge. There is no monthly service fee to use the phone for emergency situations.

**THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMFORT K-9 UNIT:** the first of its kind in the state – is comprised of 12 Cavalier King Charles Spaniel K-9's. The Cavalier breed was chosen due to their personality traits (affectionate with families, good temperament with young children, and good temperament with other dogs). The breed is notable for its four distinct color patterns, each of which, at various times, was associated with a particular noble family: Blenheim (chestnut markings on a white background), Tricolor (black markings on a white background), Black and Tan (black with tan markings), and Ruby (a rich red). There are two Comfort K-9's assigned to the Emergency Response & Preparedness Divisions are Cali (Instagram @deputy.cali) and Scarlet (Instagram @deputy.scarlet). The remaining Comfort K-9's are assigned through the Patrol Divisions and Dispatch. Private donors sponsor the dogs which are assigned to a handler and attend public events, school events, perform community outreach in hospitals and respond to natural disaster scenes or perform crisis intervention.



# justice administration

Justice Administration includes the Circuit, 52nd District and Probate courts as well as the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. A portion of the County Clerk, the official recorder of county records and Clerk to the Circuit Court, is also included.

**JUDICIAL PROCESS:** The **6th Judicial Circuit Court** serves all the residents of Oakland County. It hears civil, criminal and family cases, as well as appeals from district courts, administrative agencies, and some Probate Court matters. The job of the court is to dispense justice, interpret the law and settle disputes.

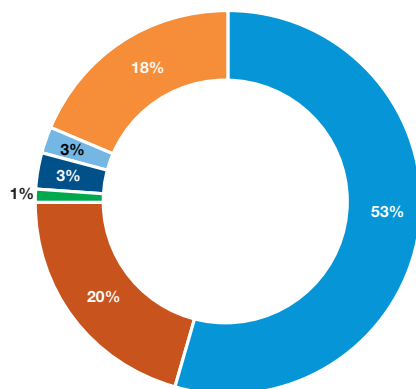
The **52nd District** courts have jurisdiction over all misdemeanor, ordinance and charter violations and preliminary examinations on all felony cases. The District Court has exclusive jurisdiction over General Civil actions when the amount in controversy does not exceed \$25,000, Landlord Tenant and Land Contract Forfeiture cases, as well as Small Claims cases with disputes not exceeding \$6,000. The District Court may also conduct marriages. There are four divisions of the court: Division I in Novi, Division II in Clarkston, Division III in Rochester Hills and Division IV in Troy.

**ESTATES AND MENTAL HEALTH: Probate Court** is responsible for the probating of wills, guardianships, conservatorships and the administration of estates of deceased persons by personal representatives.

**LITIGATION/INVESTIGATIONS:** The **Prosecuting Attorney** is the chief law enforcement officer of the county, primarily charged with the duty to see that state criminal laws are faithfully enforced. The Prosecuting Attorney represents the people of the state of Michigan in all state law criminal matters pending before all courts in Oakland County, advocates for new legislation and other reforms in the system, and assists in the training of police officers to ensure they are able to perform their functions in accordance with the law.

**CASE RECORDS:** The **Office of the County Clerk** is responsible for recording and maintaining all 6th Judicial Circuit Court paper and electronic documents in accordance with all statutory and Supreme Court guidelines.

**CIVIL ENFORCEMENT: Fiscal Services Reimbursement** is responsible for managing collections for the Circuit, Family, and Probate courts for all court ordered fees and determines the ability to pay for various court services. Prosecuting Attorney and Friend of the Court Child Support Enforcement programs are also included in this area.



- Judicial Process
- Litigation
- Investigations
- Estates & Mental Health
- Case Records
- Civil Enforcement

## did you know?

For \$25, residents can store their will for safekeeping with the Probate Court.

//////////  
Circuit Court legal records can be searched online through Court Explorer.



# direct citizen services

Direct Citizen Services represents areas which provide direct services to individual residents.

**HEALTH SERVICES / ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:** The **Health Division** protects the public's health through health promotion, disease prevention and protection of the environment. In addition to its traditional public health role, the Health Division is committed to protecting the public through continual review and improvement of its emergency response capabilities, having developed nationally recognized preparedness programs. The Health Division executes all of these responsibilities in an exemplary manner in an environment of limited resources and increasing requirements from state and federal authorities.

**GENERAL SERVICES: Michigan State University Extension** is part of the National Cooperative Extension Service system that provides unbiased research-based education to address critical issues. The mission of MSUE is to help people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

The **Veterans' Services** Division provides technical, local-level advocacy and assistance to Oakland County veterans and dependents to obtain federal, state and local veterans' benefits.

The **County Clerk Vital Records** Unit is responsible for recording and safeguarding birth, death, marriage, notary public and assumed names documents in addition to processing concealed weapons permits.

The **Medical Examiner's office** investigates and determines cause and manner of death in any violent, sudden, unexpected, suspicious or otherwise unexplained death, inclusive of all jail deaths and deaths in police custody occurring within Oakland County.

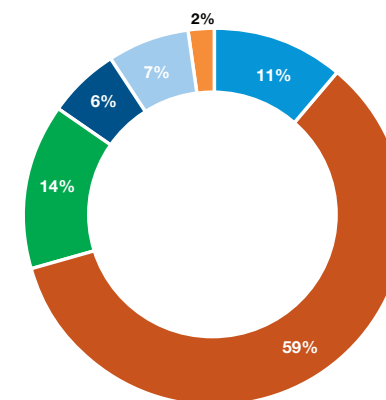
The **Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Center** has been helping animals by providing shelter and care while at the same time attempting to reunite them with their owners or to find new, loving homes. This is also included in the General Services area.

**CHILD WELFARE: Children's Village** shelter care for young people who are in need of protection for reasons of abuse or neglect. This category also encompasses Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) 4-H Youth programs.

**FAMILY SERVICES:** The **Prosecuting Attorney Victim Services Section** offers information and support to all crime victims throughout Oakland County. The information helps victims or families understand and exercise their rights, as well as gain an understanding of the criminal court process.

**Circuit Court Adoption Services** processes adoption petitions for direct placement, agency, adult, stepparent, and relative adoptions.

**MENTAL HEALTH:** represents the annual payment to the Oakland Community Health Network (formerly known as the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority), as required by the Mental Health Code.



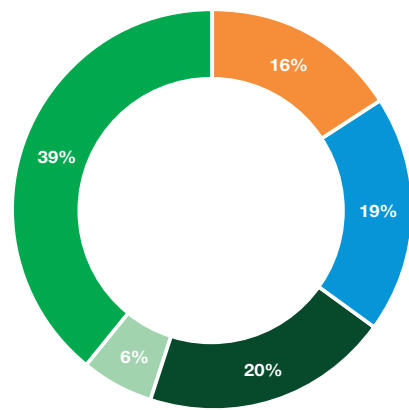
- General Services
- Health Services
- Environmental Health Services
- Family Services
- Mental Health
- Child Welfare

## did you know?

The Oakland County Health Division distributed more than \$15,000 in food assistance benefits at our Family Market Days facilitated by our Healthy Oakland Partnership.



# community development



- Economic Development
- Community Development
- Community Services
- Environmental Protection
- Workforce Development

## did you know?

Oakland Together 40 Under 40 program recognizes and spotlights dynamic leaders under the age of 40 who are making a difference in Oakland County and beyond. In its tenth year, the program is open to individuals under 40 who live or work in Oakland County and a panel of independent judges select top applicants.

Commerce and Community Development reflects all efforts to promote and sustain a strong business and economic climate, a healthy environment and vibrant communities.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** programs prepare and provide land use information and zoning and master plan reviews for Oakland County communities to improve land use coordination and decision-making. Also, Main Street Oakland County maximizes the economic potential and preserves the heritage and sense of place of the county's historic commercial (downtown) districts.

The **Neighborhood Housing Development** (formerly Community & Home Improvement Division) administers federal housing and community development grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These grants are designed to create viable communities by providing decent, safe and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities for persons of low and moderate income, homeless persons, and persons with housing issues.

The **Register of Deeds** records and safeguards all land related documents including subdivision plats and condominium plans. The office has a Super Index, allowing millions of documents filed with Oakland County to become easily searchable by any piece of information contained within them. There is also a Property Records Notification system that notifies residents by e-mail when a document is recorded with their specified search term(s).

**COMMUNITY SERVICES:** The **Equalization Division** assists the Board of Commissioners in ascertaining whether the real and personal property in the townships and cities of Oakland County have been equally and uniformly assessed at true cash value.

Access Oakland Account Services provides secure access to business systems, account management, reporting, and payment options.

The **Water Resources Commissioner** is the delegated authority to maintain the established legal levels of 55 lakes within Oakland County. Under the provisions of the Land Division Act, the Water Resources Commissioner's Office also reviews and approves subdivision plats to ensure that adequate storm drainage facilities have been included in the engineering plan.

## did you know?

Manufacturing Day in Oakland County is a celebration of modern manufacturing - an opportunity for students to get a firsthand look at what today's engineers, technicians and other staff do each day at advanced manufacturing facilities across the region.

As a member of Welcoming America, Oakland County hosts Welcoming Week in the month of September which is a refugee services event that brings representatives from agencies and county departments that work with community members and celebrates the vast array of cultures that makeup the rich fabric of our communities.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** provides leading-edge services and program that help the county continue to make the transitions from a manufacturing-based economy to a knowledge-based economy. These initiatives spearhead a positive business environment and maintain job growth and a high quality of life for the county's residents. Due to its educated work force, Oakland County is well positioned to continue its transformation to the evolving knowledge-based economy. Approximately 68.4% of all county residents hold a degree from an institute of higher education.

Oakland County realigned functions under Economic Development to create a more robust community engagement and communications in FY 2021. The Business Development Division was created which includes National and International Business Development, Business Retention and Expansion, Emerging Growth and Innovations and Financial Services, and External Affairs and Communications. These functional areas are key in driving Oakland County in its efforts to lead the state in real GDP metrics, innovation, and creating an attractive destination for national and international business operations to locate.

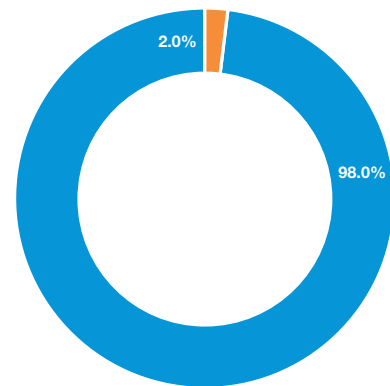
The Planning and Local Business Development Division is comprised of Trails, Transportation and Environment, Local Business Development, and Planning, Zoning and Land Use. These areas provide planning and economic development programs and services to local governments, non-profits, developers and businesses.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** Environmental Stewardship supports sustainable economic growth, development and redevelopment through the preparation and communication of information, plans, visions, and options which advance proactive, coordinated, locally driven conservation and recreation initiatives. A county trail vision provides guidance to local regional and state trail planning efforts.

The Waste Resource Management program develops and administers the county's solid waste planning efforts. The county also facilitates a household hazardous waste program that provides consortium of community residents with regular, easily accessible household hazardous waste collection events.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:** Under the joint direction of the Oakland County Workforce Development Board and the County Executive, the Workforce Development Division administers numerous state and federally funded programs that serve the county's job seekers and employers.

# recreation & leisure



- Parks & Recreation
- Library

Recreation and Leisure includes services that promote recreational, leisure and cultural activities for county residents which are provided by Parks and Recreation, the library and the Office of Arts, Culture & Film.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** With 6,700 acres of natural landscapes and outdoor recreation for Oakland County residents, the 13 Oakland County parks offer a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities ranging from camping, hiking, swimming, boating, golfing and picnicking to cross-country skiing, ice skating and ice fishing. Explore Oakland County Parks and Recreation at [OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com).

**Parks and Recreation** is also responsible for the management and operation of the Oakland County Farmers Market. The market is open three days a week, provides grower-direct fresh produce, flowers and hand-made goods. Vendors showcase their products at indoor and outdoor stalls. Red Wood Grill provides on-site BBQ fare. Special events are held throughout the year, including wine tasting at Oakland Uncorked, food truck rallies and community garage sales. Nutrition and health programs are hosted by Michigan State University Extension and master gardeners, as well as the Oakland Conservation District and the Oakland County Health Division.

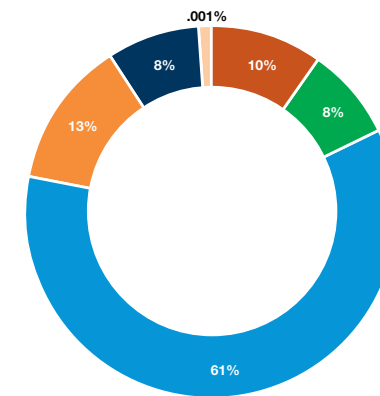
**LIBRARY:** The Oakland County Legal Resources Center provides virtual access to an extensive up-to-date legal research collection for use by the general public and legal professionals alike. The virtual access library assists the public with court proceedings by providing court rules, procedural information, forms, and references to legal research search sites.

**ARTS, CULTURE & FILM:** While Oakland County no longer administers the regional regrating program directly, the county still provides administrative staff to enhance, strengthen and promote the arts and cultural life in Oakland County through advocacy, promotion, funding and programming initiatives.

## did you know?

Oakland County Farmers Market has many programs outside of the produce and artisanal goods sold at the market. Some of these additional programs include exercise activities for yoga and tai chi, as well as dedicated dates for Gleaners Food Distribution, Document Shredding, and Cooking Demonstrations.

# public works



- Public Utilities
- Transportation
- County Facilities
- Drainage Systems
- Advanced Technology
- Debt Services

Public Works refers to all operating systems that form the infrastructure of basic county functions.

**COUNTY FACILITIES:** **Facilities Management** plans, designs, constructs, renovates, operates, maintains, repairs and provides security for the facilities and grounds owned and maintained by Oakland County.

**TRANSPORTATION:** The **Aviation Division** oversees three county-owned airports; Oakland County International Airport, Oakland/Troy Airport and Oakland/Southwest Airport.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES/DRAINAGE SYSTEMS:** The **Water Resources Commissioner** provides leadership in areas of regional cooperation in order to make responsible decisions about infrastructure, the environment and water quality. These responsibilities include the operation and maintenance of county-owned sewers and many individual municipal sewer systems and drinking water systems under contract. Other functions of the office include operations and maintenance of facilities such as sewage pump stations, retention treatment basins, storm water retention facilities and lake level augmentation sites. Duties also include drain and sewer construction inspection, sewage flow metering, engineering plan review and permitting, as well as a soil erosion control program to monitor construction activities to protect Oakland County lakes and streams from the effects of soil erosion and sedimentation.

**ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY:** The **Department of Information Technology (IT)** plays an integral role in county operations by developing, integrating and maintaining innovative technology programs. IT provides service to all units of county government, as well as local municipalities and county-affiliated companies, organizations and individuals.

The county continues to be a leader in efforts to share government resources through intergovernmental cooperative programs. The county's Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information System (CLEMIS) program is a premiere example of regional collaboration with over 250 public safety agencies across Southeast Michigan.

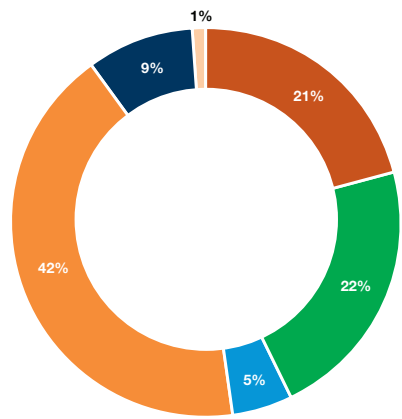
Government to Government, or G2G, Marketplace was developed to offer solutions from government partners and approved vendors to government agencies through an online store experience. The goal of this initiative is to provide governments with an easy way to research, purchase and implement technology solutions and professional services. The G2G Marketplace simplifies the purchase and licensing process with pre-negotiated blanket purchase agreements so government agencies can utilize technology and services quickly. Currently, there are approximately 1,200 registered government users across the United States and in other countries around the world utilizing the G2G Marketplace.

Visit [G2GMarket.com](http://G2GMarket.com) for additional information.

## did you know?

Oakland County's energy use (campus facilities) will utilize 70% solar energy starting 2026, resulting in a 40% greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction.

# Education Attainment Goal oakland80



- Career and Education Navigators
- High School Navigators
- Childcare Scholarships
- Support Services
- Business Resource Network
- Other Services

Oakland80 was launched with the goal of 80 percent of eligible adults earning a post-secondary degree or skills certification by 2030. Oakland County and its Workforce Development Division that oversees Oakland County Michigan Works! are committed to the vision of building the state's most skilled workforce. Highlights from these services through 2023 include:

- Oakland County commissioned the Corporation for A Skilled Workforce to produce "Expanding Post-Secondary Attainment: The Road to Economic Success in Oakland County", a groundbreaking study that highlighted key data on the makeup, needs and potential barriers facing adult residents in Michigan without a post-secondary education.
- 1,200 residents enrolled in or considering post-secondary degrees or certified training programs received one-on-one counseling, resource recommendations and other support from Oakland80 Career and Education Navigators.
- 830 individuals received Oakland80 supportive services from Oakland County Michigan Works! to help them overcome barriers to achieving their educational and career goals. This included assistance with books and supplies, uniforms and equipment, transportation, childcare, and other needs.
- 850 families received \$1,200 Oakland County Childcare Scholarships, to help them offset this cost and retain or return to work or school.
- 660 community events across Oakland County attended or hosted by our Career and Education Navigators and partners to connect with 46,000 residents considering post-secondary education opportunities.
- 7.4% increase in the number of residents in Oakland County who obtained a college degree or skills certification since 2021, from 61 percent then to 68.4 percent today.



# awards & accomplishments IN 2023

## did you know?

Oakland County received twelve Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) in 2022.

Oakland County received 6 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACO) in 2023.

**TRANSIT EDUCATION CAMPAIGN:** Oakland County residents will eagerly tell you they are a part of Motor City. But that automotive enthusiasm does not extend to public transportation. Despite repeated efforts to improve and expand public transit over the last three decades, the transportation system in Oakland County has been a Swiss cheese approach, full of holes that have left hundreds of thousands of residents without the public transit that would provide an easy, affordable way to get to work, shopping or the daily routines of life. However, according to Move.org, Michigan is the most expensive state to own a car in - \$775 per month. As a result, owning a car is unaffordable for many people in Oakland County. With that in mind, Oakland County focused on educating residents on public transportation options that could be available with Oakland Transit, a 10-year, 0.95 mill ballot proposal to maintain and expand public transit services throughout the county. The new millage would fund the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) system, Western Oakland Transportation Authority, North Oakland Transportation Authority and Older Persons Commission. Through press releases, mailers, town hall meetings, flyers, radio and television advertising and social media posts, residents were educated about the proposal and the benefits a countywide millage could bring. On Nov. 8, 2022, voters approved the millage with broad support.

**ANTI VIOLENCE INITIATIVE:** On November 30, 2021, Oakland County was faced with a tragedy that every community hopes it never experiences: a mass shooting at a local school, Oxford High School in Oxford, Michigan. The Board quickly responded with resources to support community partners and those directly impacted by the crisis, and commissioners also began work on programming to address trends of gun violence that would help prevent another crisis like this. The Oakland County Board of Commissioners (BOC) recognized two key action items and formed the Anti- Violence Initiative as the prevention arm of its Oxford response. Through the new Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Pilot Program and a Gun Buyback Pilot Program, the Board aimed to support communities in their efforts to reduce violence. The Board dedicated \$500,000 to expand CIT opportunities for local law enforcement agencies in partnership with Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN), which will better equip law enforcement officers to assist individuals with mental health concerns and/or addictions. Through the Gun Buyback Pilot Program, the Board partnered with seven law enforcement agencies to host four gun buyback events on October 22, 2022. These events collected more than 350 unwanted weapons and distributed more than \$35,000 in gift cards to participants.



# awards & accomplishments

## IN 2023 (cont.)

**INVASIVE SPONGY MOTH PREVENTION:** Currently in its second year, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners Invasive Spogy Moth Suppression Program provides matching grants to communities around the county that are experiencing a Lymantria dispar outbreak. This invasive insect, also known as spongy moth, is a destructive moth that can be pervasive in all areas, whether suburban, urban, or rural. By providing matching grants to communities, the Board's grants go further toward mitigation efforts, which include aerial sprays and mechanical measures. In addition, by providing residents with resources related to spongy moths, the Board empowers residents to take action if they spotted the pest on their own properties. The program is administered in partnership with Oakland County's Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) office, and environmental experts provide training and support to municipalities and residents throughout the year.

**OAKLAND COUNTY HARM REDUCTION PROGRAM:** The nation is currently experiencing an opioid crisis. In 2021 the State of Michigan experienced 3,096 opioid related deaths. In addition, new Hepatitis C cases have steadily increased in the past decade for those aged 18-39. 85-90% of this population has self-reported intravenous drug use. Injecting drugs can lead to other serious health problems such as HIV, skin infections, abscesses, and endocarditis. In the fall of 2020, the State of Michigan approached Oakland County Health Division to launch the first Harm Reduction program in Oakland County. Harm Reduction is a strategy that engages people who use drugs to prevent overdoses and infectious disease transmission, improve the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of those served, and to increase access to substance use treatment and other health care services. The Oakland County Health Division, Harm Reduction (HR) program has successfully enrolled over 400 clients in services. In 2022, approximately 25% of enrolled clients were referred to and engaged in treatment services. Over 2000 doses of Narcan were distributed free of charge to clients. In addition, clients reported 274 rescues, or lives saved, from giving Narcan to a person who was overdosing.

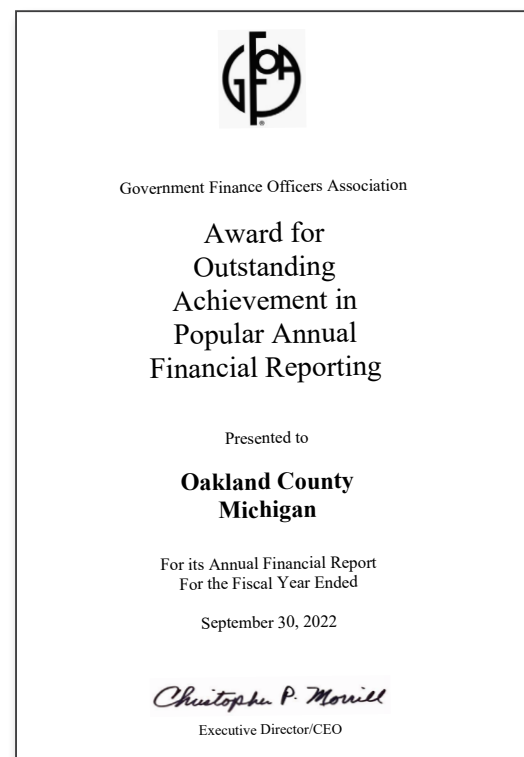
**OXFORD FAMILIES AND LOCAL BUSINESS:** Oakland County was home to a tragedy on November 30, 2021, when a student at Oxford High School shot and killed four fellow students while injuring seven others, including a teacher. In response to this crisis, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners established the Oxford Response Ad Hoc Committee to focus on ways in which the county could support the community. Per the recommendation of the committee, the Board quickly dedicated funds to support the community's economic recovery as it came together to heal. This response included the Mental Health Assistance for Oxford Families Insurance Co-pay and Deductible Relief Program, which was a funding assistance program that helped members of the school community pay for mental health related expenses. Additionally, the Oxford Area Economic Recovery Program provided grants to organizations and businesses that provided indispensable assistance to the community following the shooting. Through this collective response, the county distributed \$158,693 to reimburse those impacted for mental health care costs and \$100,000 to businesses to support the region's recovery. This response was in addition to the Board's Anti-Violence Initiative, which is committed to actions that may help prevent a tragedy like this from happening again.

**DISABILITY DIRT DAYS:** Oakland County Parks (OCP) is committed to providing individuals with disabilities access to parks and recreation activities that support physical, mental and social health. OCP staff work hard to develop accessible programming that connects people with their communities and provides opportunities to try new things. The inaugural Disability Dirt Day took place in October of 2021. The event paired volunteer ORV drivers with participants for thrilling rides around Holly Oaks ORV Park, which offers extreme terrain for off-road vehicles. After the success of the first event, OCP made it a recurring event series. OCP 2022 Disability Dirt Days were held on May 15, June 12, September 25 and October 23. Between participants and family members, the event series drew 588 people. Disability Dirt Days reach an often-underserved community that deserves but does not always have easy access to high quality, diverse recreation opportunities. This event series embodies the spirit of one of OCP four core values: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which prioritizes grounding organizational actions and decisions in equity and justice with the overarching goal of providing parks and recreation services that feel safe and welcoming to everyone. Four more Disability Dirt Days are planned for 2023.

## gfoa award

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 Oakland County for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022. 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. Oakland County has received a popular award for the last twenty-six consecutive years (fiscal years ending 1997-2022). We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA.





# OAKLAND COUNTY mission | vision | values



# additional information

## our mission

To serve through collaborative leadership and to help support communities where residents flourish and businesses thrive.

## our vision

To be a healthy, safe & thriving place where everyone is valued, quality of life is high and economic opportunity abounds.

## our values

- Collaborative Leadership
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Results-oriented
- Respect for people as individuals
- Service excellence
- Social justice
- Transparency
- Ethical government

### OAKLAND COUNTY WEBSITE

A wealth of information on county services is available on the website at [OakGov.com](http://OakGov.com). Copies of this document as well as the county’s line item budget, program budget and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report are also available in PDF format on the website.

### Oakland County Contacts

#### General

Main # (248) 858-1000  
Toll Free 1-888-350-0900

#### Courts

Circuit Court (248) 858-0344  
Probate Court (248) 858-0260

#### District Courts

52-1 Novi (248) 305-6080  
52-2 Clarkston (248) 625-4880  
52-3 Rochester (248) 853-5553  
52-4 Troy (248) 528-0400

#### Elected Officials

Board of Commissioners (248) 858-0100  
Clerk/Register of Deeds (248) 858-0581  
County Executive (248) 858-0480  
Prosecutor (248) 858-0656  
Sheriff (248) 858-5000  
Treasurer (248) 858-0611  
Water Resources Commissioner (248) 858-0958

### Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Complete financial statements of Oakland County, with additional demographic and economic information is provided in the county’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The document is available in PDF format on the county website. A printed version of this report can be viewed at the following location:

#### Adams-Pratt Oakland County Law Library

1200 North Telegraph | Building 14 East – 2nd Floor | Pontiac, MI 48341 | (248) 858-0012

### Acknowledgements

Project Manager: Fiscal Services  
Graphic Designers: Amy Klovski



*All ways,*  
**MOVING FORWARD**

**OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN • OAKGOV.COM**

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