

WHY Minnesota Counties MATTER!

A publication of the
 Association of
 Minnesota Counties

in partnership with the National Association of Counties.

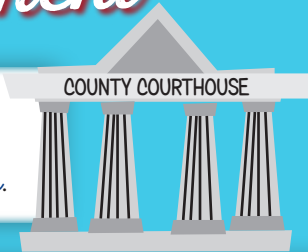
Minnesota's 87 county governments provide the essential services to create healthy, vibrant, and safe communities.

Counties support and maintain public infrastructure, transportation and economic development assets; keep residents healthy; ensure public safety to protect our citizens; maintain public information and coordinate elections; and implement a broad array of programs in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

Minnesotans depend on counties to provide services that build, maintain, and protect their homes, schools and neighborhoods. Counties are also an instrumental player in America's intergovernmental system of federal, state, and local governments.

General Government

447 commissioners serve on
 Minnesota's **87** county boards.



Minnesota counties operate many of the state's license bureaus and distributed

32,174
 marriage licenses in 2014.



Counties **EMPLOY** a wide variety of people in your community, including: *nurses, law enforcement, social workers, engineers, physicians, lifeguards and librarians.*



Economic Development



Minnesota counties invested **\$73 MILLION** in *economic development* and *housing* in 2015.

Health & Human Services

Minnesota counties provided **54%** or more than

\$208 MILLION of the total statewide *funding for child welfare services* in 2013.



Minnesota counties completed more than **50,000** *home visits* to over **7,000** *children* in 2014.



Over **6,000** *food establishments* were inspected by county environmental health programs in 2012.



DINER



Elections

Minnesota counties oversaw voting at

3,174 *polling places* and coordinated
28,665 *election judges* in 2014.



Minnesota counties processed

808,178
voter registration forms between 2012 and 2014.

Minnesota counties recycled

38.9
MILLION POUNDS

of *electronic devices* in 2015.



Environment & Natural Resources

Minnesota counties collected

2.7 MILLION TONS of *recyclable material* in 2013.



In 2013, Minnesota counties diverted

68%
OF WASTE

from *landfills*.

Public Safety & Corrections

Minnesota counties operate the majority of

911 *call centers* in Minnesota, which handle over
2 MILLION *emergency calls* annually.



Minnesota counties employ more than

3,800 *sheriff deputies*.



Transportation & Infrastructure

Counties maintain **44,751** *miles of roads* in Minnesota, which means that 40.7% of all vehicle miles traveled are on county-maintained roads.

Minnesota counties invested

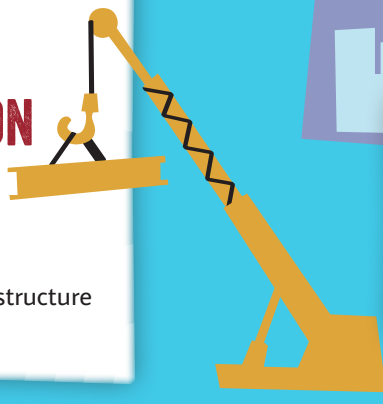
\$470 MILLION in *maintaining* existing roads and bridges in 2015.



There are currently
7,717 *bridges and culverts* in the county system.

Minnesota counties invested

\$1.15 BILLION in *building* roads, bridges, and other public infrastructure in 2015.



Minnesota counties fund
40% of *major transit projects* in the Twin Cities Metro Area.



Sources: "VMT by Route System for each County (1988 to present)" – Minnesota Department of Transportation.
"Minnesota County Budgets: 2015 Summary Budget Data Together with 2014 Revised Summary Budget Data" – Office of the State Auditor, April 2015.
"Minnesota Bridges" – Minnesota Department of Transportation- Bridge Office, March 2015.
"Report on 2013 SCORE Programs: A Summary of Recycling and Waste Management in Minnesota" – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, February 2015.
"The 2014 EAC Election Administration and Voting Survey Comprehensive Report" – U.S. Election Assistance Commission, June 2015.
"Department of Public Safety Division of Emergency Communication Networks 2014 Annual Report to the Minnesota Legislature" – Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Emergency Communication Networks Division, December 2014.



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