

WHY Minnesota Counties MATTER!

A publication of the
 Association of
 Minnesota Counties

in partnership with the National Association of Counties.

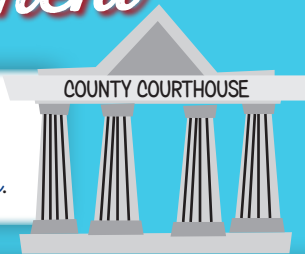
Minnesota's 87 county governments provide the essential services to create healthy, vibrant, and safe communities.

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

31,000
 marriage licenses in 2017.



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



Economic & Community Development



In 2016 and 2017, Minnesota counties coordinated **\$37 MILLION** in loans for *energy efficiency* and *renewable energy upgrades* to commercial buildings through the Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program.

Health & Human Services

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

\$285 MILLION of the total statewide *funding for child welfare services* in 2017.



Minnesota is **1 of only 12 STATES** where *human services programs* such as those that protect vulnerable adults, register residents for financial assistance, and coordinate mental health services are *provided by the county* instead of the state.



In 2016, county environmental health programs *inspected* thousands of *food establishments*, **95%** completing over **DINER** of inspections on time.



Elections

Minnesota counties oversaw voting at

3,003 *polling places* and coordinated

32,313 *election judges* in 2016.



Minnesota counties processed

1,484,767 *voter registration forms* between 2014 and 2016.

Minnesota counties *recycled* **48.4 MILLION POUNDS** of *electronic devices* in 2016.



Environment & Natural Resources

In 2016, Minnesota counties *diverted* **68% OF GARBAGE** from *landfills*, finding ways to reuse, recycle, compost, or process the waste at *resource recovery facilities*.

Minnesota counties *collected* **2.4 MILLION TONS** of *recyclable material* in 2016.



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

3,195 licensed *sheriff deputies*.



Transportation & Infrastructure

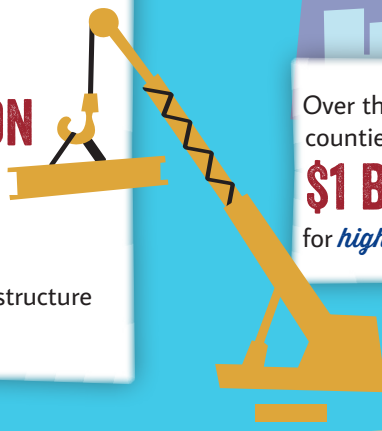
Counties maintain **44,578** *miles of roads* in Minnesota, which means that 24% of all vehicle miles traveled are on county-maintained roads.

Minnesota counties invested **\$497 MILLION** on *maintaining* existing roads and bridges in 2017.



There are currently **7,804** *bridges and culverts* in the county system.

Minnesota counties invested **\$1.27 BILLION** in *building* roads, bridges, and other public infrastructure in 2017.



Over the past decade, Minnesota counties have provided over **\$1 BILLION** in funding for *high-quality transit service*.



Sources: "Social Services Expenditure and Grant Reconciliation Report (SEAGR) 2017." Minnesota Department of Human Services.
 "The Election Administration and Voting Survey: 2016 Comprehensive Report." U.S. Election Assistance Commission, June 2017.
 "Report on 2016 SCORE Programs." Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, January 2018.
 "Minnesota County Budgets 2017 Summary Budget Data Together With 2016 Revised Summary Budget Data." Office of the State Auditor, March 2017.
 "VMT by Route System for each County (1988 to 2016)." Minnesota Department of Transportation.
 "A Five County Collaboration" Hennepin County, September 2017.
 "Minnesota Bridges." Minnesota Department of Transportation, April 2017.



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