

BUDGET SUMMARY

Category	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2026 Adopted Budget	2025/2026 Variance
Revenues					
1901 Unclaimed Money	0	0	3,500,000	0	(3,500,000)
1902 Personal Property Aid	1,552,371	1,561,543	5,566,825	5,665,346	98,521
1937 Potawatomi Revenue Allocation	5,919,880	6,191,507	5,813,322	6,034,228	220,906
1986 Fire Charge - Uncollectable	0	0	0	0	0
1992 Earnings on Investments	27,641,945	26,243,214	13,234,544	16,406,737	3,172,193
1993 State Shared Taxes	27,227,566	32,676,452	40,109,705	42,049,140	1,939,435
1994 State Exempt Computer Aid	5,292,252	5,296,575	5,292,252	5,304,961	12,709
1995 Milwaukee Bucks Sports Arena & Milwaukee Brewers Stadium Subsidy	0	0	(6,500,000)	(6,500,000)	0
1996 County Sales Tax Revenue	103,531,380	101,335,702	104,475,811	108,924,164	4,448,353
1998 Surplus from Prior Years	0	0	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
1999 Other Miscellaneous Revenue	226,055	1,014,168	1,800,000	1,756,185	(43,815)
Total Revenues	\$171,391,448	\$174,319,160	\$178,292,459	\$184,640,761	\$6,348,302

**The figures stated above are presented as net sales tax collections (less State administrative fees). Org 1996 contains net sales tax collections in the Operating Budget. Effective in the 2024 budget, all cash capital projects are funded with tax levy rather than sales tax.*

***As of January 1, 2024, sales tax includes an additional .4% per Wisconsin 2023 Act 12 which is budgeted in Agency 194 – Non-Departmental Expenditures.*

Budgeted Amounts are based on the following:

Unclaimed Money: Pursuant to Section 59.66 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the County Treasurer is to publish a notice that the Treasurer’s Office possesses unclaimed money. If no legal claim is made within the time specified in such notice, all funds and interest earned are to be turned over to the General Fund of the County treasury. Every other year, the Treasurer widely advertises unclaimed funds before they are forfeited. As a result, this revenue fluctuates from one year to the next and is difficult to predict. Funding is budgeted in this area in odd numbered years. Because 2026 is an even numbered year, \$0 is budgeted.

State Personal Property Aid: As part of 2017 Act 59, municipal and county levy limits were set by the amount equal to an inaugural 2020 Personal Property Aid distribution to compensate local governments for an exemption to personal property tax of machinery, tools and patterns not used in manufacturing. In 2026, Milwaukee County will again receive two separate payments. The Wisconsin Department of Revenue estimates the payments to Milwaukee County to be \$5,665,346.

Land Sales: Accounts for the sale of County land in accordance with state statutes. Monies received through this revenue stream will be allocated in accordance with established policies on one-time revenues and Chapter 6 of the Milwaukee County Code of Ordinances. \$0 is budgeted in 2026.

Potawatomi Revenues: Represents payments based on Class III Net Win during the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 by the Potawatomi Bingo Casino per contract. The 2026 budget increases by \$220,906 for a total of \$6,034,228 due to previous years’ actuals and reported increases in collections of Class III Net Win.

Fire Charge-Uncollectable: The Fire protection charge was eliminated in 2025.

Earnings on Investments: Earnings on investments income is derived from long and short-term investment of operating funds not required for immediate use. To maximize investment revenue, the County sets the investment policy and independent contracted investment advisors directly manage the funds. The 2026 budget for earnings on investments is \$16,406,737, an increase of \$3,172,193 from the 2025 adopted budget. This increase is based on the 2025 actual earnings and projections for 2026.

The 2026 Budget does not include a budget amount for the allocation of earnings on general obligation bonds & notes. There are estimates included for airport debt and airport reserves. Based on the actual investment earnings and unspent bond amounts in individual capital projects, the Office of the Comptroller will perform an administrative appropriation transfer that will adjust both the Earnings on Investments Budget and individual capital projects.

State Shared Revenue: Represents payment from the State under the County and Municipal Aid payment program. The base payment is given to each County on a per capita basis. The Utility Payment compensates local governments for costs incurred in providing services to tax exempt public utilities. Wisconsin 2023 Act 12 increased the State Shared Revenue to the County beginning in 2024. In 2026, the County and Municipal Aid payment increases by \$1,635,154, the Act 12 Supplemental County Aid payment increases by \$263,640, and the Utility Payment increases by \$40,630. Overall, shared revenue increases by \$1,939,435.

The shared revenue supplemental payment is adjusted based on the rate of growth in the state sales tax. The 2025-2027 State Budget extended the sales tax exemption for the sale of electricity and natural gas for residential use from the previous months of November through April, to the entire year. This is anticipated to have two impacts for County government. First, it will reduce county sales tax revenue collected, and second, it will reduce growth on the shared revenue supplemental payment beginning in 2026. Per Wisconsin Statutes 79.037, the supplemental payment shall be used to support specified programs and shall not support administrative services. While the revenue is budgeted in this org unit, it is considered to support the expenditures for specified programs in compliance with 79.037.

Wisconsin State Statute 48.561(3) requires the Wisconsin Department of Administration to reallocate \$20,101,300 from Milwaukee County's shared revenue allocation to the Wisconsin Child Welfare Program.

As outlined in 2015 Wisconsin Act 30 (Act 60), Milwaukee County is required to commit \$4,000,000 annually to the construction of the Milwaukee Bucks Sports Arena. This payment is budgeted in Org 1995-Milwaukee Bucks Sports Arena & Milwaukee Brewers Stadium Subsidy.

As outlined in 2023 Act 40, Milwaukee County is required to commit \$2,500,000 annually into the stadium improvement fund for the Milwaukee Brewers until 2050, or until aggregate contributions reach \$67.5 million. This payment is budgeted in Org 1995-Milwaukee Bucks Sports Arena & Milwaukee Brewers Stadium Subsidy.

The State of Wisconsin (State) received \$67.1 million in Mitigation Trust Funds from the national settlement with Volkswagen (VW) Corporation. The State apportioned part of its award towards a competitive statewide transit capital assistance grant program (Grant Program) to fund the replacement of eligible public transit vehicles. As a condition of the Grant Program (§ 79.035(7)), award recipients receive a reduction in State Shared Revenue (Shared Revenue) of 75% of the actual award amount amortized over a 10-year period. Pursuant to approved County Board file #18-640, the County applied for funding and was awarded \$5,461,500 in Grant Program funding. The Grant Program funding replaced bond funding for eligible County bus replacements. Based upon Grant Program criteria, the County will receive an annual Shared Revenue reduction of \$409,613 beginning with the 2021 budget year through the 2030 budget year.

Statistical Supporting Data

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
Base Payment	47,022,794	47,020,294	48,098,286	49,733,439
Supplemental County Aid	-	7,578,838	7,753,150	8,016,791
Utility Payment	4,455,955	5,022,861	4,769,193	4,809,823
Subtotal State Shared Taxes	51,478,749	59,621,993	60,620,630	62,560,053
VW State Grant (Buses)	(409,613)	(409,613)	(409,613)	(409,613)
State Child Welfare Reallocation	(20,101,300)	(20,101,300)	(20,101,300)	(20,101,300)
Total State Shared Taxes	\$30,967,836	\$39,111,080	\$40,109,717	42,049,140

State Exempt Computer Aid: Represents State payments to compensate for the exemption of computers from property tax rolls, per 1997 Wisconsin Act 237. The formula for determining the county share of State Exempt Computer Aid was discontinued in the 2017-2019 Wisconsin State Budget and replaced with a flat increase of 1.47% in 2018 and 2.42% in 2019. In 2020 and each year thereafter, State Exempt Computer Aid will not have an inflation factor. The estimate at the time of budget preparation is \$5,304,96 for State Exempt Computer Aid.

Milwaukee Bucks Sports Arena & Milwaukee Brewers Stadium Subsidy: Wisconsin State Statute 79.035 (6) requires an annual \$4 million reduction to Milwaukee County’s shared revenue to offset costs for the Milwaukee Bucks sports and entertainment facility through 2036. Wisconsin State Statute 229.695 requires Milwaukee County to commit \$2,500,000 annually into the stadium improvement fund for the Milwaukee Brewers until 2050, or until aggregate contributions reach \$67.5 million. This amount reduces the County’s shared revenue payment but is included in this non-departmental account to emphasize local taxpayers’ commitment to these sports facilities.

County Sales Tax Revenue: The 2026 sales tax budget includes the additional .4% as permitted by Wisconsin 2023 Act 12, which is budgeted in Agency 194 – Non-Departmental Expenditures and is not represented in this Agency. In 2026, sales tax budgeted in Agency 190 increases by 4.3%. This is based on the reported collections to date.

Effective in 2024, all cash capital improvement projects were funded with tax levy rather than sales tax. An allocation of \$41.5 million is provided for debt service, resulting in \$65,477,386 available for general fund purposes.

County Sales Tax Revenue

	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
Gross Sales Tax Collections	105,375,450	103,140,664	106,336,703	110,864,289
State Administrative Fee	(1,844,070)	(1,804,962)	(1,860,892)	(1,940,125)
County Sales Tax Collections	\$103,531,380	\$101,335,702	\$104,475,811	\$108,924,164
Less Sales Tax Allocated to Capital Improvements	(8,103,873)	0	0	0
County Net Sales Tax	95,427,507	101,335,702	104,475,811	108,924,164
Less Allocations to Debt Service	(42,207,938)	(49,088,966)	(32,211,979)	(38,372,715)
Available for General Fund	\$53,219,569	\$52,246,736	\$72,263,832	\$70,551,449

Surplus (Deficit) from Prior Year: Represents \$5,000,000 of the County's overall 2024 surplus as applied to the County's 2026 budget (County Board file #25-224) per 59.60 of Wisconsin State Statutes.

Miscellaneous Revenue: Includes all other revenue sources, including closure of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts. In 2026, \$1.75 million is budgeted. This is mostly comprised of \$1.73 million in available funds remaining from the resolution of all matters associated with the 2003 Credit Assistance Agreement with Midwest Airlines, including proceeds from the sale of two hangars in 2017. These funds will be carried forward from fiscal year 2025. An administrative appropriation will be executed to transfer the funds into Org 190 for use.