



How to Read a Local Government Data Summary

Pursuant to the Fiscal Responsibility Report Card Act (35 ILCS 200/30-30 and 200/30-31), the Comptroller has prepared a Fiscal Year 99 Data Summary for each local government that submitted an annual financial report before its statutory deadline. Each Data Summary is divided into two sections – the Local Government Profile and Fiscal Indicators.

The **Local Government Profile** contains basic information about the local government for which the Data Summary has been prepared. This section includes information from the Comptroller's local government database and the local government's annual financial report. An explanation of each element included in the Local Government Profile is provided below.

UNIT NAME: The legal name of the government.

COUNTY: The county in which all or the majority part of the local government is contained.

POPULATION: Each government is required to report an estimated population. If a local government failed to do so, the most current Census Bureau figure was used for municipalities and counties; and the Township Officials of Illinois' figures were used for townships. If a special government failed to report its population, a figure could not be included in the Data Summary as there is no reliable reference data available for special governments.

EQUALIZED ASSESSED VALUATION (EAV): The result of applying the state equalization factor to the assessed value of all property within the governmental unit's boundaries.

UNIT CODE: The unique identification number assigned to each local government by the Office of the Comptroller.

APPROPRIATION/BUDGET: The amount of money the local government can spend during the fiscal year according to its appropriation or budget ordinance. (If a local government fails to pass an appropriation or budget ordinance, they are instructed to report their expenditures for this question on the Annual Financial Report.)

ACCOUNTING METHOD: Indicates whether the government uses cash or modified accrual accounting. Governments that have proprietary funds use both methods of accounting.

EMPLOYEES: The number of people paid as employees by the local government, i.e., those who receive federal W-2 tax forms from the local government.

SALARIES PAID: The total amount paid to all full-time and part-time employees reported.

FISCAL YEAR END: The local government's fiscal year end date.

DATA CATEGORY: Type of government (county, municipality, township, or special purpose district).

DATA SUB-SETS: Municipal Sub-sets: Municipalities have been ranked into four sub-sets as follows:

- Small - Populations under 1,000; 609 units in this sub-set
- Medium Population between 1000 - 25,000, 565 units in this sub set
- Large Population over 25,000; 74 units in this sub set

County Sub-sets: Counties have been ranked into three sub-sets as follows:

- Small Population under 10,000; 13 units in this sub set
- Medium Population between 10,000 and 275,000, 82 units in this sub set
- Large Population over 275,000; 4 units in this sub set

Other Governments Sub-sets: All other governments have been ranked into two sub-sets by annual appropriation:

- Small Units with an appropriation under \$200,000
- Large Units with an appropriation over \$200,000

BLENDED COMPONENT UNITS INCLUDED: Lists the number of dependent governmental units for which elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. Financial data from blended component units has been combined with that of the primary government.

The **Fiscal Indicators** section lists a series of financial “indicators” or measurements designed to assess the basic fiscal position of each unit of government. The data on each individual Data Summary is listed as it was reported to the Comptroller by the local government. Figures used to calculate the averages and medians are those reported by the local governments for each specific measurement included. The Fiscal Indicators are divided into three distinct groupings. An explanation of each grouping and indicator is listed below.

➤ **FISCAL INDICATOR COLUMNS:**

AMOUNTS: The figures for all indicators are represented in whole dollars and exactly as they were reported to the Comptroller by the local government.

AVERAGES: Sum of values for each indicator divided by the number of governments in the named set. Averages are calculated by data category and sub set of local government.

MEDIANS: The value representing the point at which there are as many values above as there are below. The median has been calculated by data category and sub-set of local government.

➤ **GENERAL AND SPECIAL FUNDS GROUPING:** The general fund is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Special Funds are legally restricted funds used to pay for specified purposes. Special funds also include the general funds of all blended component units. These two funds indicate the majority of stable operating funds for local governments.

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE FOR FY 99: The amount of general and special funds the government had at the beginning of the fiscal year. This number can be compared to the Ending Fund Balance for FY 99 to measure growth.

PER CAPITA BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: The beginning fund balance divided by population.

REVENUE COLLECTED DURING FY 99: The general and special funds collected, including local government taxes, intergovernmental receipts, and other funding sources such as fees, charges and interest. This field represents the majority of all-operating revenues and receipts.

EXPENDITURES DURING FY 99: A total of general and special fund expenditures by function. This field depicts operating expenditures.

PER CAPITA REVENUE: Revenue divided by population – this represents the amount in taxes paid by each resident. If a population was not provided, this indicator is not calculated.

PER CAPITA EXPENDITURES: Expenditures divided by population – this represents the amount in government services spent for each resident. If a population was not provided, this indicator is not calculated.

REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: The total of general and special fund expenditures subtracted from general and special fund revenues. If the figure is a positive number, the government collected enough revenue during the fiscal year to pay for services provided. If the figure is negative, the government did not collect enough revenue to cover expenditures.

RATIO OF FUND BALANCE TO EXPENDITURES: Represents the amount of general and special fund expenditures divided by the fund balance. Each government should have at least a three-month reserve (33% of expenditures) and generally, no more than a two-year reserve (200% of expenditures).

ENDING FUND BALANCE FOR FY 99: The general and special fund revenues minus expenditures, plus adjustments, plus the previous year's fund balance. This number should always be positive.

PER CAPITA ENDING FUND BALANCE: The general and special revenues fund balance divided by population. This is the amount in reserve funds each resident paid.

➤ **DEBT GROUPING:**

OUTSTANDING DEBT FOR FY 99: Debt that a government owes for all fund types. Debt instruments include revenue bonds, general obligation bonds, alternate bonds, contractual commitments, and others.

PER CAPITA DEBT: Total debt divided by the population. This represents the amount in debt that each resident represents. If a population was not provided, this indicator is not calculated.

GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT OVER EAV: Governments are restricted in how much debt they can incur based on their Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV). This ratio is the percent of debt the unit is carrying.

➤ **ENTERPRISE FUND GROUPING:**

BEGINNING RETAINED EARNINGS: The amount of enterprise funds available at the beginning of the year.

PER CAPITA BEGINNING RETAINED EARNINGS: The Enterprise Fund beginning balance divided by population.

ENTERPRISE REVENUES: Includes charges for services, taxes and other miscellaneous revenues in the enterprise fund.

ENTERPRISE EXPENSES: A total of enterprise expenses.

OPERATING INCOME (LOSS): Total enterprise funds subtracted from enterprise expenses. Indicates whether the government collected enough funds to pay for services provided during the fiscal year.

RATIO OF RETAINED EARNINGS TO EXPENSES: The enterprise fund expenses divided by the fund balance.

RETAINED EARNINGS FOR FY 99: The enterprise fund revenues minus expenses, plus adjustments, plus the previous year's fund balance. This number should always be positive.

PER CAPITA RETAINED EARNINGS: Retained earnings divided by the population.