



2019 SOMERSET COUNTY OPERATING BUDGET

Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders:
Director Brian D. Levine, Deputy Director Patricia L. Walsh,
Freeholder Brian G. Gallagher, Freeholder Shanel Y. Robinson,
Freeholder Sara Sooy

Somerset County 2019 Budget

Prepared and Presented by:

Michael J. Amorosa
County Administrator


Nicola Trasente
Director of Finance and Administrative Services

Christopher Hart
Deputy Director of Fiscal Operations




Somerset County Mission Statement

The County of Somerset is committed to excellence and innovation in public service, promoting the well-being of all residents and communities by providing effective, efficient, and responsive leadership.



Freeholders 2019 Budget Directives

- Fund all existing services
 - Maintain a AAA bond rating
 - Maintain “A healthy fund balance” (surplus)
 - Fund all statutory obligations (e.g. Debt Service, Pension, Pay Equity)
 - Embrace a workforce that is diverse, inclusive, innovative, and that takes risks
 - Present a well thought-out budget funded by a sensible tax rate
 - “No surprises” for the taxpayer
- 

Bond Rating

Aaa

Exceptionally
Strong

Fitch

Aaa

Highest
Quality

Moody's

Aaa

Extremely
Strong

**Standard
& Poor's**

Regenerated Fund Balance

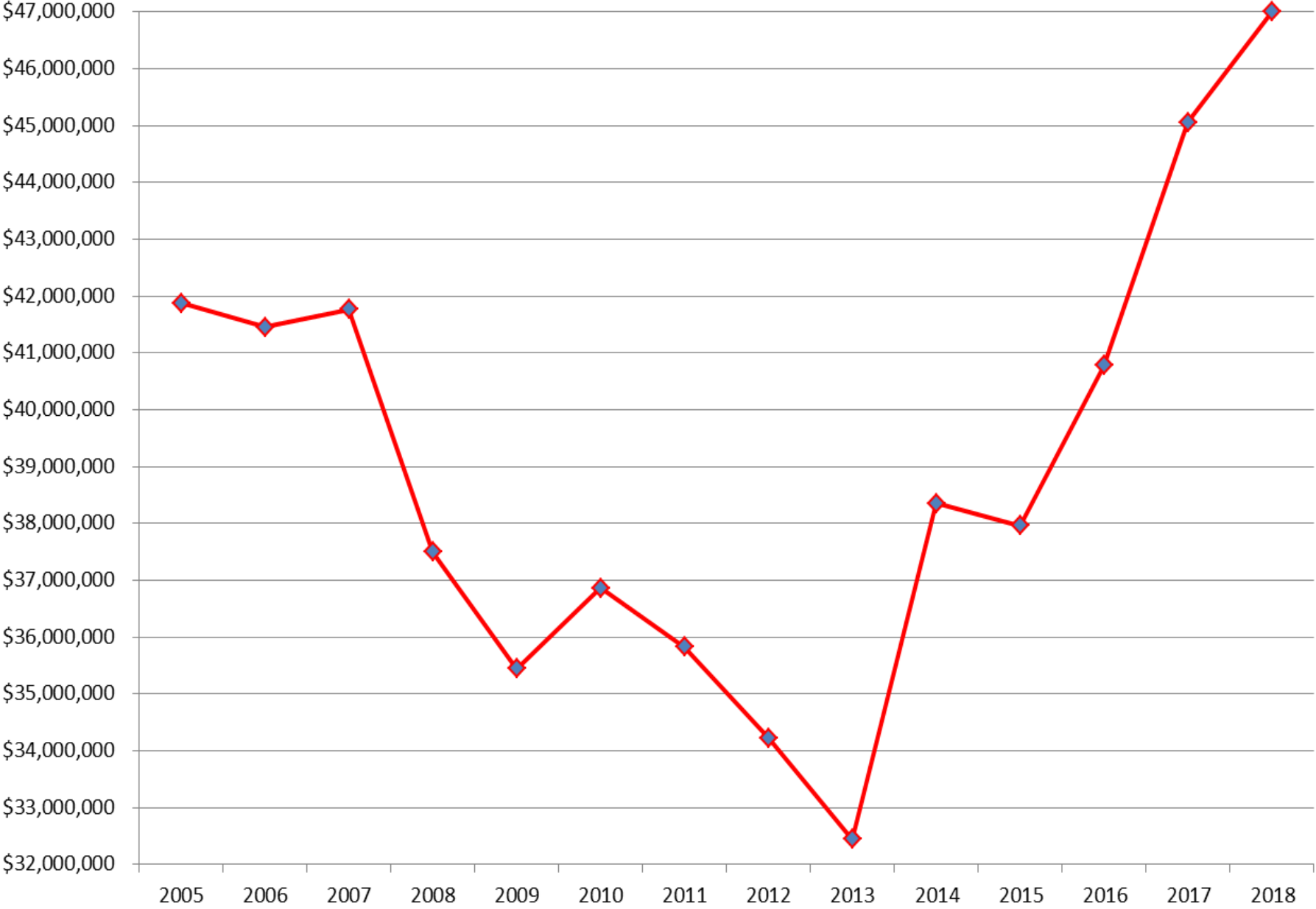
<u>Year</u>	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Utilized</u>	<u>Regenerated</u>	<u>Sub Total</u>	<u>Reserved</u>	<u>Ending</u>
2014	\$32,445,157	\$15,900,000	\$21,803,967	\$38,349,124		\$38,349,124
2015	\$38,349,124	\$19,725,000	\$21,339,747	* \$39,963,871	\$2,000,000	\$37,963,871
2016	\$37,963,871	\$19,000,000	\$23,811,641	* \$42,775,512	\$2,000,000	\$40,775,512
2017	\$40,775,512	\$19,000,000	\$25,279,597	* \$47,055,109	\$2,000,000	\$45,055,109
2018	\$45,055,109	\$19,000,000	\$20,940,153	\$46,995,262	\$0	\$46,995,262

2014-2018

Fund Balance has increased by	\$14,550,105
Reserves for Emergencies increased by	<u>\$6,000,000</u>
Total Reserve and Fund Balance increase	\$20,550,105

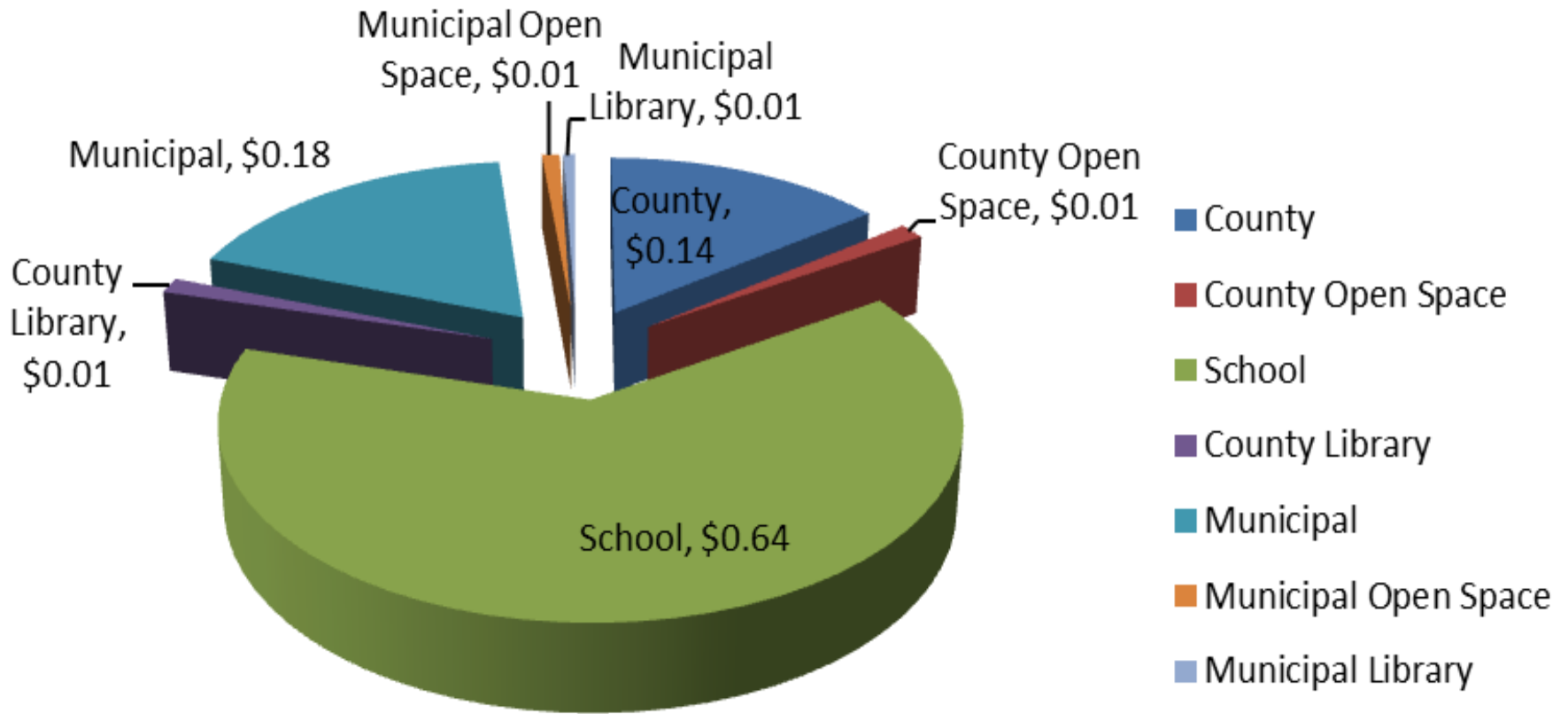
*Denotes years when \$2,000,000 was placed in reserve for Snow and Self-Insurance Emergencies

Fund Balance Regenerated



Where Do Your Taxes Go?

2018 Tax Dollars



What Does This Budget Do?

- Keeps health benefits cost flat- 2nd year in a row
- Fully funds county employee health center
- Maintains 248 centerline miles of county roads and 752 bridges
- Maintains 38 parks, recreation and open space areas encompassing 15,000 acres
- Funds nearly 200 shared services with local governments and other organizations in the county
- Partially funds Somerset County Vocational Technical School, Raritan Valley Community College, Social Services and Somerset County Park Commission
- Fully funds Somerset County Emergency Services Training Academy
- Partially funds the Somerset County Business Partnership

Shared Services

Cost Shared with Other Agencies

- Recycling- 21 municipalities, including schools
- Transportation- 3 municipalities, 4 non-profits
- Vehicle Maintenance - 14 municipalities
- Vehicle Fuel- Over 50 agencies
- Fire Academy Service- State wide
- Health Services- 8 municipalities
- Housed inmates from Hunterdon County

Cost Covered by County Only

- 911 PSAP - 20 municipalities
- Full Dispatch Service- 14 municipalities, 13 in county , 1 fully funded out of county police department, 39 fire departments and 17 EMS stations

Facts About Somerset County Operations

Office on Aging and Disability Services

Nutrition & Wellness Program

- 157,297 meals provided throughout the county
 - 65,421 at Senior Centers feeding 1,702 county residents
 - 91,876 delivered to 733 homebound county residents
- Responded to 8,079 inquiries to 4,168 residents

Community Development

- \$2,111,052.00 annually benefits to 12,500 residents

One Stop Career Center

- Assisted 982 job seekers
 - 307 qualified for federal dollars
 - 80% resulted in employment

Facts About Somerset County Operations (Cont.)

Richard Hall

- Primary health care and dental care to over 400 residents
- Medication Clinic has 6 prescribers, services to 1,200 residents annually
- 2,424 unduplicated residents cared for

Rutgers Cooperative Extension

- 74 4-H clubs reaching 950 youth
- 214 school enrichment programs reaching 4,500 youth
- 92 FCHS adult classes reaching 1,183 people and 61 classes reaching 1,048 youth

Rutgers Cooperative Extension - Volunteers Expanded Outreach

- Provided 421,215 hours of volunteer service valued at \$11,928,808.80

Facts About Somerset County Operations (Cont.)

Veterans Services

- 311 VA claims resulted in \$2.5 million of recovery for Somerset County Veterans

Volunteer Services

- 3,600 seniors take part in the yearly tax program
- Over 500 jobs per year created by the Handy Man Program
- 500 students at risk of failing participated in tutoring program

Youth Services

- 432 referrals of families with crisis, 197 seen for family therapy
- 44 prevention programs for approx. 5,501 at risk youth throughout the county

Facts About Somerset County Operations (Cont.)

911 Communications:

- 319,143 — CAD Entries
- 184,151 — Incoming Calls
- 92,173 — Outgoing Calls
- 91,898 — 911 Calls

Emergency Management:

- 70 County Hazmat incidents responded to
- 65 County Fire and EMS Coordinators incidents responded to
- 1,212 volunteer hours for Emergency Response Team

ESTA: Training Services Academy

- 235 courses
- 5,800 students taught
- 65 outside agencies utilized facility

Facts About Somerset County Operations (Cont.)

Health Department (27 total FTE):

- 24 out of 27 positions are funded by grants or inter-local agreements

Consumer Health(14 FTE):

- 976 Nuisance complaint investigations
- 857 Restaurants Licensed
- 1462 Restaurants Inspected
- 1271 Housing Inspections

County Environmental Health Section(4 FTE)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness(6FTE)

Chronic & Infectious Diseases & Lead Poisoning Prevention(3FTE)



Cost Drivers

Budget Line

Increase

• Debt Service	\$2,185,761
• Public Safety*	\$1,679,939
• Pension	\$1,095,413
• Public Health & Safety (911/Dispatch Services)	\$635,249
• Park Commission Contribution	\$437,000
• Salary Adjustments – Equal Pay Act	\$350,000
• RVCC Contribution	\$321,292

* Budget items that provide added service to county residents

Total Budget-Revenue

Year to Year Revenue Comparisons

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>19 vs 18</u>	<u>Inc/(Dec)%</u>	<u>Revenue %</u>
Section A Local Revenues	7,960,200	7,740,000	220,200	2.84%	3.4%
Section C assumption of State Costs	484,000	619,096	-135,096	-21.82%	0.2%
Section E: Other Special Items	1,910,349	1,859,375	50,974	2.74%	0.8%
Section E: Increase in Fees Chapter 370	945,000	945,000	0	0.00%	0.4%
Shared Services ***	4,126,009	6,394,101	-2,268,092	-35.47%	1.8%
FEMA	509,645	579,000	-69,355	-13.61%	0.2%
Debt Service Reimbursement	223,317	227,035	-3,718	-1.64%	0.1%
Pension Reimbursement	1,161,606	1,056,706	104,900	9.93%	0.5%
Fund Balance	19,000,000	19,000,000	0	0.00%	8.1%
Tax Levy	197,696,981	191,689,404	6,007,577	3.13%	84.5%
Total Revenues	234,017,107	230,109,717	3,907,390	1.70%	100.0%

Total Budget-Expenditures

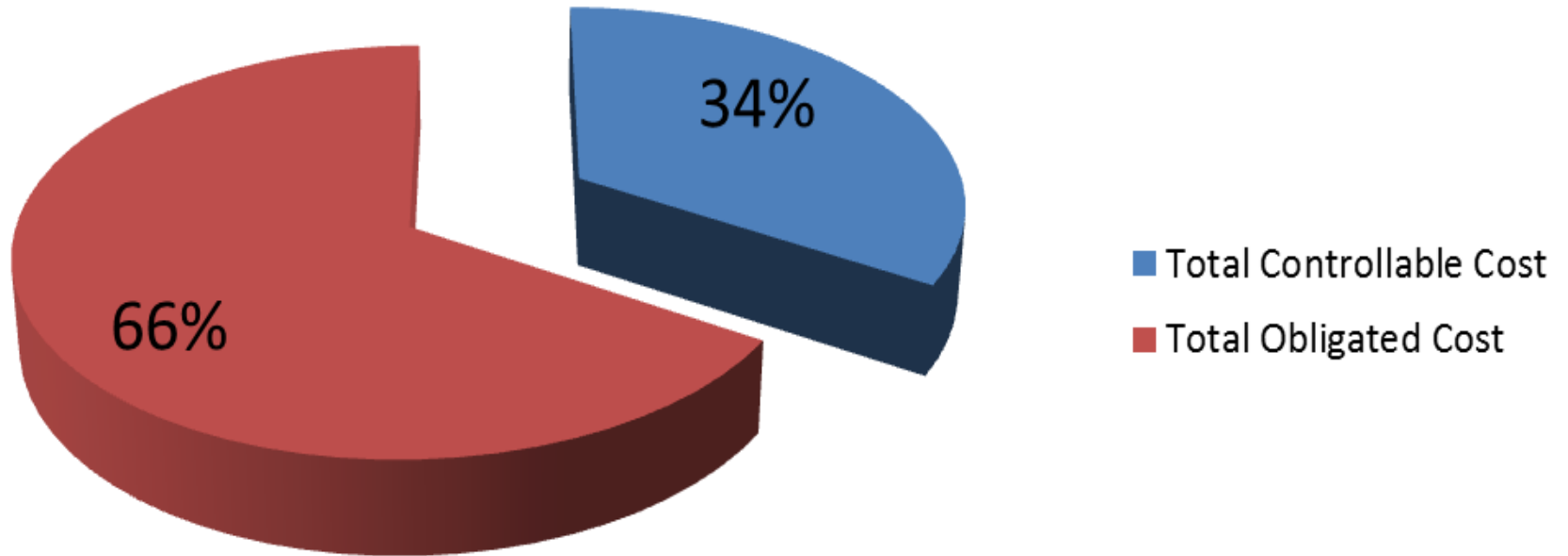
Category	2018	2019	19 vs 18	%
County Departments	107,324,169	110,677,540	3,353,371	3.12%
Outside Agencies	40,596,945	41,297,395	700,450	1.73%
Insurance(s)	31,500,981	31,749,673	248,692	0.79%
State Program Costs	3,529,278	2,824,286	(704,992)	-19.98%
Pension	13,795,020	14,861,015	1,065,995	7.73%
Capital	8,606,000	5,863,000	(2,743,000)	-31.87%
Debt Service	18,209,638	20,395,399	2,185,761	12.00%
Other	6,197,686	6,348,799	151,113	2.44%
Total	230,109,717	234,017,107	3,907,390	1.70%

Cash Capital

Total Cash Capital	\$5,863,000
Amount for Down Payment on Bonds	\$990,000
Reserve for Green Brook Flood Control	\$700,000
Reserve for Preliminary Cost	\$650,000
Fleet Vehicles Replacement	\$523,000
Various Capital Projects – Capital Ord.	\$3,000,000

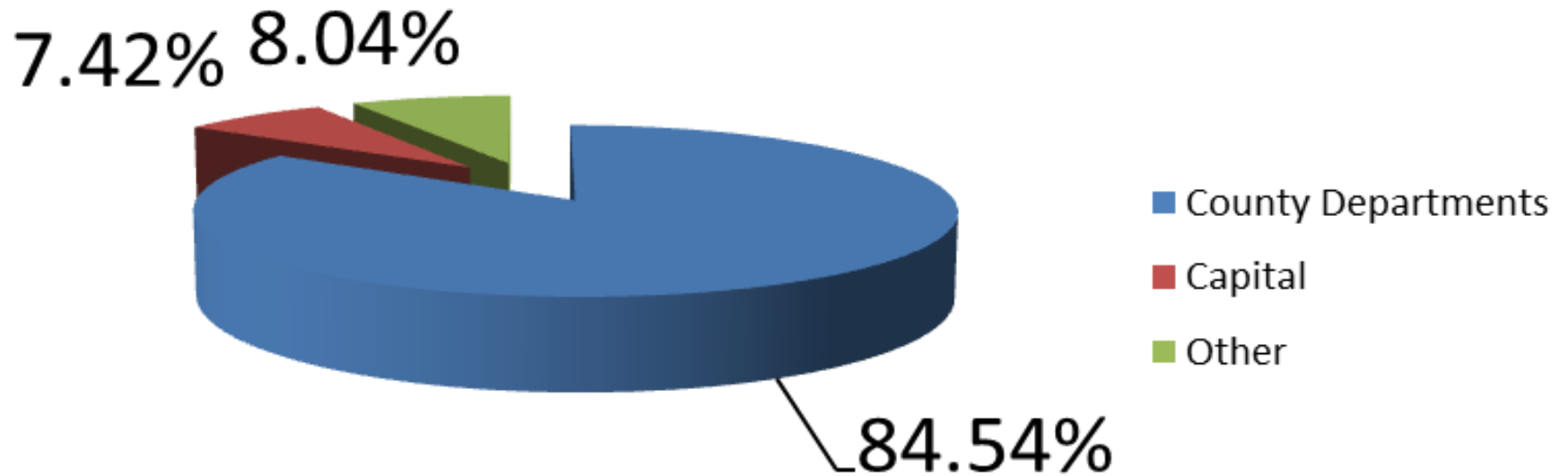
Cost We Can Control vs. Cost We Are Obligated For

Total Controllable + Obligated Cost



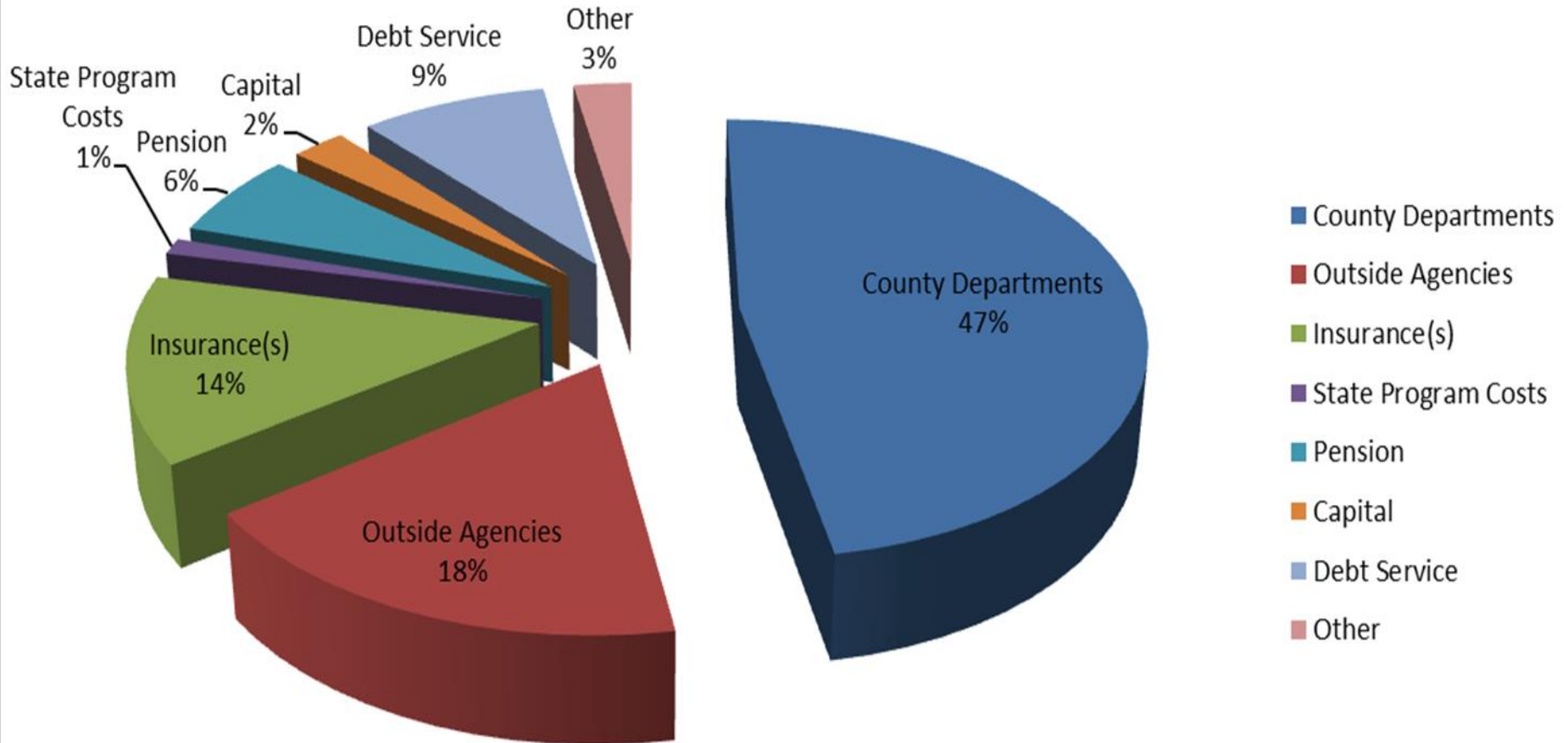
Cost We Can Control

Cost we can control



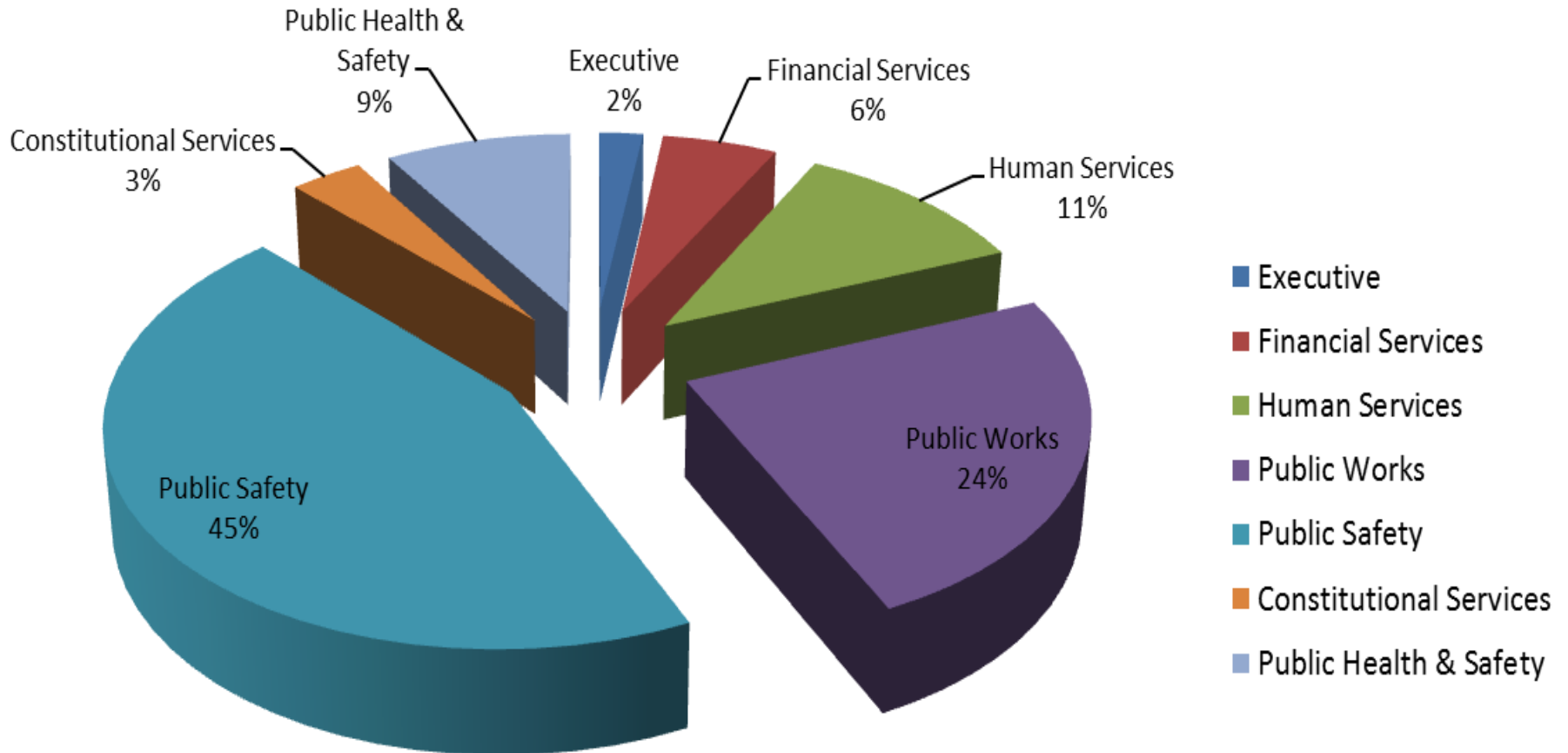
County Department vs. Other

Total Budget - Expenditures



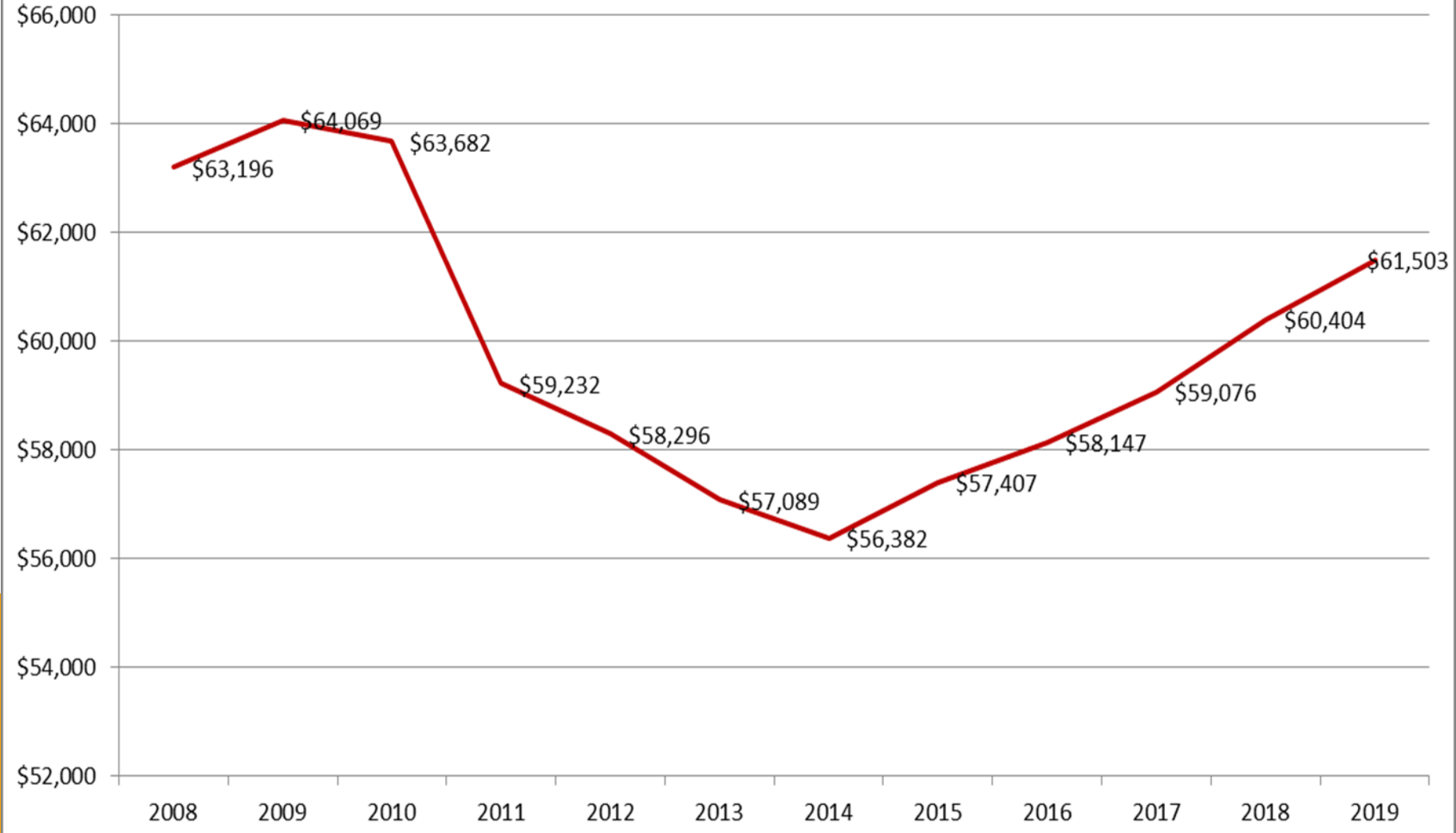
County Department

Salary & Wages by County Department



Increase In Assessed Value

Somerset County's Abstract of Ratables (Millions)



Tax Rate Effect on Average Home \$436,652 \$37.62 Per Year For 2019

COUNTY OF SOMERSET 2019 Introduced Budget Info

	2018	Intro 2019	Dollar Change	% Change
Total Net Value Assessed	60,404,458,157	61,503,152,576	1,098,694,419	1.82%
Total Budget w/ Grants	237,581,934	238,830,945	1,249,011	0.53%
County Levy	191,689,404	197,696,981	6,007,577	3.13%
Without Grants	230,109,717	234,017,107	3,907,390	1.70%
Grants	7,472,217	4,813,838	(2,658,379)	-35.58%
Tax Rate	0.3177	0.3218	0.004121	1.30%
Average House Annual Tax	1,367	1,405	37.62	2.75%
Per Month	114	117	3.13	2.75%

Note: Plus Sign (+) = increase, Minus Sign = Decrease