



Dollars AND CENTS



FISCAL YEAR 2021 // CITY OF DUBUQUE

CITY PORTION OF PROPERTY TAXES

Dubuque has the **LOWEST FY2021** property tax rate (\$10.14 per thousand assessed value) of Iowa's 11 cities with populations over 50,000.

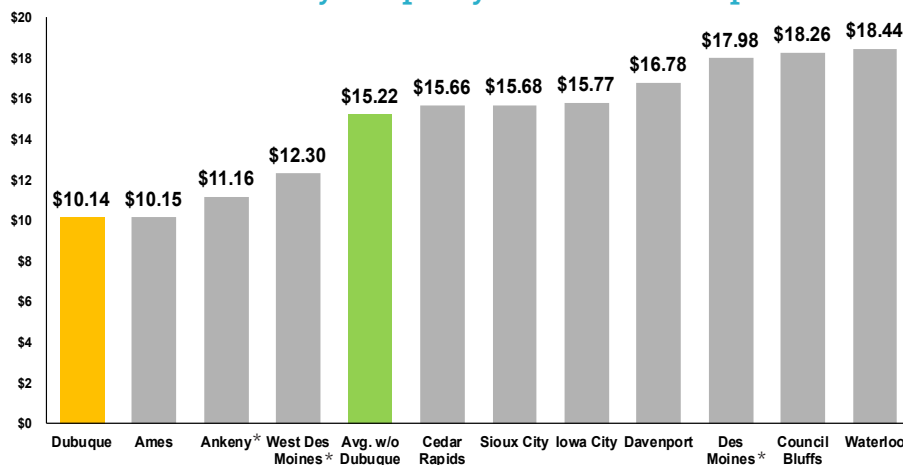
City of Dubuque FY2021 Property Tax Rate

- \$10.1440 per thousand dollars assessed value
- **Decrease** of 1.81% from FY2020

Property Type	Average Property Tax Cost Change from FY2020	% Property Tax Cost Change from FY2020
Residential	\$1.09 less	0.14% decrease
Commercial	\$104.45 less	3.30% decrease
Industrial	\$132.61 less	2.81% decrease
Multi-Residential	\$158.73 more	9.13% increase

Current Property Tax Rate	Next Year's Property Tax Rate	% Change
\$10.33144	\$10.1440	1.8% Decrease

FY2021 City Property Tax Rate Comparison



- Highest-ranked city (Waterloo, \$18.44) is **82% higher than Dubuque**
- Average of other 10 cities (\$15.22) is **50% higher than Dubuque**

*Includes the transit tax levy adopted by the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority for comparability.

Where do your property taxes go?

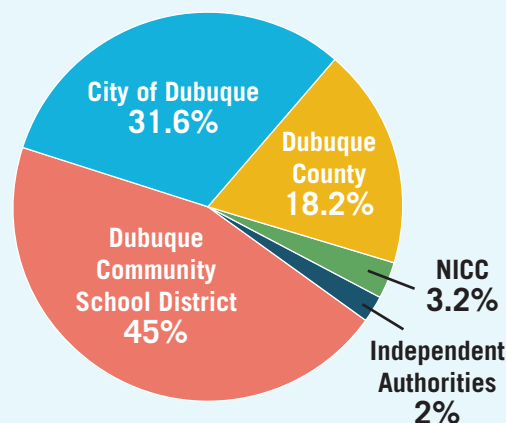
Property taxes are collected by the County and distributed monthly to the City of Dubuque and other taxing bodies. Property taxes are distributed among the Dubuque Community School District (45%), City of Dubuque (31.6%), Dubuque County (18.2%), Northeast Iowa Community College (3.2%), and independent authorities* (2%).

Property taxes are certified July 1 with the first half due on or before September 30 and the second half due on or before March 31. For more information, contact the City Assessor at 563-589-4416.

* "Independent authorities" includes City Assessor, County Hospital (Sunnycrest Manor), Dubuque County Agriculture Extension, and the Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Eradication Fund.

How Your Property Tax Rate Is Split

FY2021 Consolidated Rate of 32.66554



CITY BUDGET

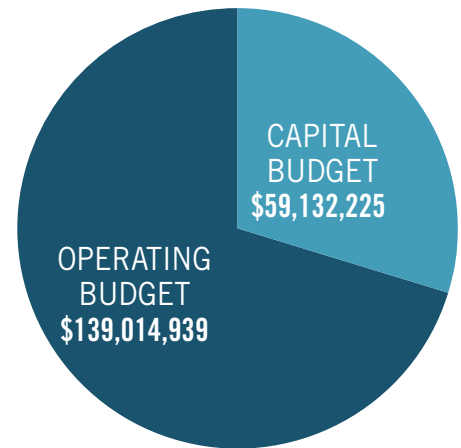
The City's adopted FY2021 budget provides estimated revenues and expenditures for programs and services to be provided during the fiscal year, from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. The budget has two primary components: the operating budget and the capital budget.

The City's total budget for fiscal year (FY) 2021 is \$198,147,164, a 23.96 percent decrease from FY2020. The operating budget (\$139,014,939) is a 3.5 percent increase from FY2020, while the capital budget (\$59,132,225) represents a 53.2 percent decrease from FY2020.

The capital budget funds major improvements to City facilities and infrastructure, and is based on the first year of needs in the five-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Plan. The CIP Plan is an annually revised document that guides the City's investments in public facilities and infrastructure during a five-year horizon. The capital budget is supported through multiple funding sources, including federal and state grants.

The operating budget includes personnel costs and annual facility operating costs. It is funded primarily through local property and sales taxes; revenue transfers between departments; licenses, such as building and development fees; franchise fees for a company's use of the City's rights-of-way; charges for services (like sewer and water); fines; grants; and other smaller sources of revenue such as interest on investments.

Fiscal Year 2021 City Budget



	Operating	Capital
General Fund	\$66,416,660	\$2,229,339
Water Fund	\$10,280,043	\$2,756,073
Sanitary Sewer Fund	\$10,992,418	\$3,820,597
Stormwater Fund	\$4,441,361	\$10,110,959
Refuse	\$2,990,205	\$269,153
Parking	\$2,747,044	\$160,875



WE WANT YOUR IDEAS!

Residents are strongly encouraged to get involved in next year's budget process!

Visit www.cityofdubuque.org/FY2022budget to learn more about virtual community budget input sessions and the following tools:

1. *Balancing Act Budget Simulator* - Adjust revenues and expenditures, and provide comments on how you think the City of Dubuque should spend its money.
2. *Taxpayer Receipt* - Illustrate how your estimated City property taxes and local option sales tax are allocated to services such as Police, Fire, Parks, and Public Works.
3. *Public Comments Form* - share your ideas related to projects, amenities, services, programs, etc., directly with City staff!

General Fund

The general fund is the general operating fund of the City for general service departments. The general fund has an operating budget of \$66.4 million and a capital budget of \$2.2 million. This fund encompasses the bulk of activities that are traditionally considered basic governmental services such as public safety, culture & recreation, health & social services, and general government.

General Fund Reserve Projections

The City maintains a general fund reserve, or working balance, to allow for unforeseen expenses that may occur. The goal is to have at least a 20% reserve. In Fiscal Year 2017, the City had projected reaching this consistent and sustainable 20% reserve level in Fiscal Year 2022. **In fact, the City met the 20% reserve requirement in FY2018, four years ahead of schedule, and with all prior year contributions, this is sustainable.**

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
City's Spendable General Fund Cash Reserve Fund Balance	\$17,119,065	\$17,119,065	\$17,119,065	\$17,119,065	\$17,119,065
% of Projected Revenue	24.00%	24.38%	23.67%	23.41%	23.35%

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN YOUR MONTHLY UTILITY BILL?



Curbside Collection

Basic Rate = \$14.99/month
(4.03% DECREASE from FY2020 or \$0.63 per month)

Curbside refuse collection includes one 35-gallon container per week. Weekly curbside recycling is no extra charge.



Water

Avg. Household Rate* = \$30.72/month
(NO increase from FY2020)

**Average household rate based on 6,000 gallons per month at \$0.00512 per gallon*



Stormwater

Avg. Household Rate* = \$8.29/month
(NO increase from FY2020)

**Monthly rate for majority of Dubuque households based on usage of one single family unit. Stormwater fees are based on the amount of impervious ground coverage on a property. Fees collected are only used for stormwater management activities such as the construction, maintenance and operation of the public stormwater management system.*



Sanitary Sewer

Avg. Household Rate* = \$42.24/month
(NO increase from FY2020)

**Average household rate based on 6,000 gallons per month at \$0.00704 per gallon. The City's wastewater collection and treatment system operates as a self-supporting enterprise fund which means that it is funded only with revenue from user fees.*

HOW DO WE RANK? Among Iowa's 11 largest cities:



5th Lowest: The highest **curbside collection** rate (Ames) is 75.12% higher than Dubuque's rate, and the average is 14.00% higher than Dubuque.



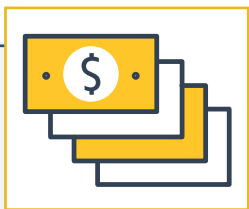
2nd Lowest: The highest **water** rate (West Des Moines) is 20.38% higher than Dubuque's rate, and the average is 9.35% higher than Dubuque.



2nd Highest: The highest **stormwater** rate (Des Moines) is 77.08% higher than Dubuque's rate, and the average is 26.70% lower than Dubuque.



4th Highest: The highest **sanitary sewer** rate (Ankeny) is 45.98% higher than Dubuque's rate, and the average is 3.69% lower than Dubuque.



How General Fund Money is Spent

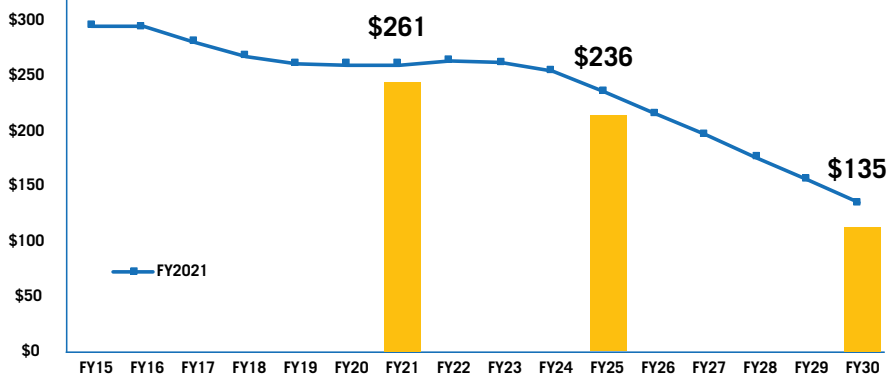


Category	Description	Portion of General Fund
Public Safety	(fire, police, ambulance services, 9-1-1 dispatch, animal control, building inspections, crime prevention, emergency management, flood control, etc.)	41.8%
Culture & Recreation	(AmeriCorps, arts and cultural affairs, civic center, conference center, library, marina, parks, recreation, etc.)	17.6%
General Government	(city attorney and legal services, city clerk, city council, City Hall and general buildings, city manager, finance, information services, etc.)	13.5%
Public Works	(airport, maintenance of streets, bridges, and sidewalks; snow removal, street cleaning, street lighting, traffic control, etc.)	9.2%
Community & Economic Development	(economic development, housing and community development, neighborhood development, planning and zoning, etc.)	6.3%
Transfers Out	(to funds other than General Fund)	6.4%
Capital Projects	(City infrastructure improvements or major equipment purchases)	3.0%
Health & Social Services	(community health, health regulation and inspection, human rights, etc.)	1.4%
Debt Service	(government capital projects, tax-increment financing [TIF] capital projects)	0.9%

Debt Reduction Plan (Adopted August 2015)

Total Debt (in millions)

Debt is being issued each year, but more is being retired than issued.



Stormwater improvements

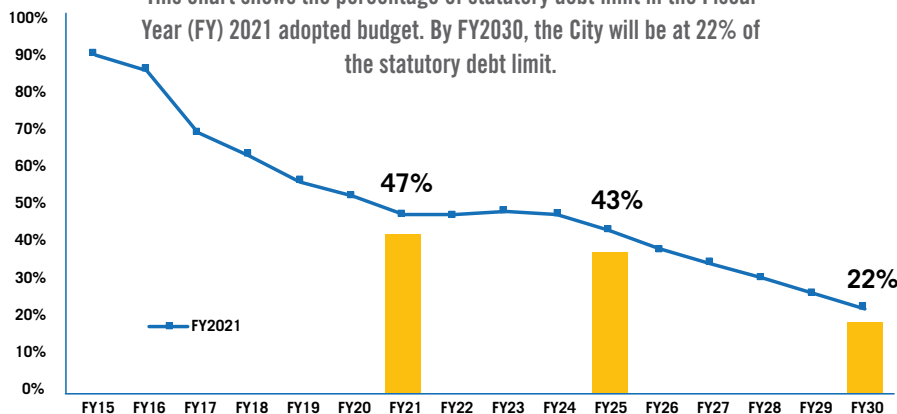


Water & Resource Recovery Center

The City of Dubuque's use of debt can be compared to many average homeowners who borrow to buy their home. The City has borrowed money at low interest rates to invest in infrastructure. Unlike the federal government, the City does not borrow money to cover operating expenses.

Statutory Debt Limit Used (as of June 30)

This chart shows the percentage of statutory debt limit in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 adopted budget. By FY2030, the City will be at 22% of the statutory debt limit.



Top 10 Debt Uses (as of June 30, 2020)

#	Project Description and Amount Outstanding
1	Stormwater Improvements \$73,653,120
2	Water & Resource Recovery Center \$57,961,000
3	Water Improvements \$32,417,569
4	Parking Improvements \$25,019,132
5	Downtown TIF Incentives/Improvements \$20,287,421
6	Sanitary Sewer Improvements \$14,811,522
7	TIF Rebates/Bonds to Businesses \$7,744,839
8	Industrial Park Expansions \$6,250,618
9	Caradco Building Iowa Finance Authority Loan \$3,639,903
10	Street Improvements*
	\$3,298,918
	Total \$245,084,042

* \$145 million was spent on street improvements from 1997-2020

Percentage of Legal Debt Limit Utilized (FY2019)

