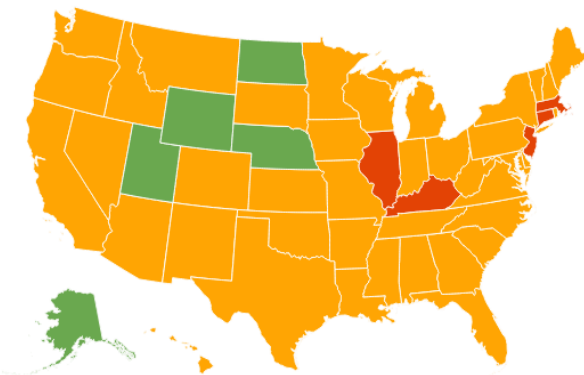




# FINANCIAL STATE OF THE STATES 2015

an annual report by Truth in Accounting



SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

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## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Government reports are complicated, long documents. At Truth in Accounting (TIA), we believe that citizens deserve easy-to-understand, truthful, and transparent financial information from their governments. Without this, how can they effectively participate in democracy?

In order to give citizens the government financial information they deserve, Sheila Weinberg founded TIA in 2002. At TIA's inception, Sheila's work focused on the federal government, specifically how the government could claim it had a surplus even as its debt was rising.

As Sheila became more involved with government financial analysis, her research spread to the state level. In 2009, Sheila expanded her efforts, and completed an analysis of the finances of all 50 state governments. As TIA has grown, its research now also extends to the city and municipal levels.

In the fall of 2012, we created State Data Lab (SDL) to give context to our data. SDL users can utilize the website to see how their state or city government is doing, compare it with other states and cities, and see demographics, economic, and financial trends.

In order to achieve our mission of educating and empowering citizens with understandable, reliable, and transparent government financial information, we produce reports at the federal, state, and local level for citizens. These reports cut through political tricks used in government finance, and are presented in plain English, so citizens can understand their government's true financial condition.

Every September, we launch our report: *The Financial State of the States*. This is a comprehensive analysis of the 50 state governments' finances, and includes background on new finance standards coming into play, trends across the states, and key findings.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Here's a number for you, \$1,328,204,440,079.

That's how much states across the US need to pay all their bills. While there are states, like Illinois and California, that are notorious for their financial woes, did you know that 40 out of the 50 states do not have enough money to pay all their bills?

Our nation is facing a financial crisis- not just at the federal level, but across state and local governments. Across the board, state governments have racked up a total of \$2.4 trillion in debt, but only have \$1 trillion to pay this debt, according to our latest findings.

How has this happened? Through accounting gimmicks, government officials have been able to hide the true cost of government, playing tricks with the balance sheet and not accurately reporting pension and retiree health care debt.

States sink further into debt while keeping the budgets "balanced" through tricks such as borrowing money to balance the budget, delaying the payment of current bills until the next fiscal year, and inflating revenue assumptions.

While these issues may seem boring or complicated, they have real, tangible consequences. When broken down per taxpayer, and looking across the 50 states, the average taxpayer's share of state debt is \$13,514. Do you have an extra 13 grand to send to your state government? In the worst state, New Jersey, each taxpayer's share of state debt is \$59,400. That's just \$150 shy of a full year's tuition at Harvard.

### Why does this matter?

Without an informed electorate, democracy doesn't work very well. Because of

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

existing structures for both accounting and reporting, citizens do not receive truthful, transparent, or timely government financial information. Without access to understandable, reliable, and honest information, how can citizens be knowledgeable participants in their government?

### Why now?

It matters now because the crisis is already beginning in many states. Illinois is one of the most notorious examples. Because of the state's fiscal problems, its credit rating was downgraded to just two steps above junk, its public school system is in crisis, and during the budget impasse, hundreds of nonprofits were forced to lay off employees due to a lack of funding.

### Will we ever have to pay this money back?

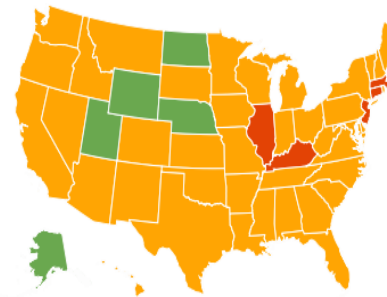
Although taxpayer burden (each taxpayer's share of state debt) may seem like an intangible thing, it is a real cost that taxpayers will eventually have to pay, whether it's in the form of higher interest rates, tax increases, or less government programs. Perhaps your state won't fall into complete crisis in your lifetime, but your children or grandchildren will be on the hook.

Puerto Rico has already begun to see the effects of racking up debts it can't afford. This past year, Puerto Rico defaulted on \$70 billion of its debt, sending bond investors and politicians alike scrambling. If states continue on their current trajectory, some may face the same reality that Puerto Rico and its backers (both explicit bond buyers and implicit taxpayers).

Can the federal government afford to rescue states like it did in Puerto Rico's case? What will happen if it cannot?

## SUMMARY OF 2015 FINDINGS

### 40 states do not have enough money to pay their bills



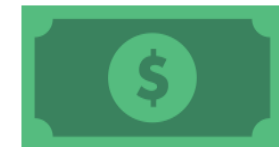
40 states do not have enough money to pay all their bills. This means that in order to balance the budget, they have hidden debt off their balance sheets.

When states do not have enough to pay bills, Truth in Accounting (TIA) takes that number and divides it by the number of taxpayers. We call the resulting number 'taxpayer burden' and rank the states based on this.

The best (green) and worst (red) states have been highlighted.

### \$1.3 trillion in unfunded debt

Because in general, states do not have enough money to pay their bills, states have racked up huge amounts of debt. When combined for all the states, this number comes to a grand total of \$1.3 trillion.



### \$684 billion in pension debt



Pension debt is a major contributing factor in this mammoth \$1.3 trillion of unfunded state debt.

A common accounting trick to make budgets look balanced is under contributing to pension plans. This has created a debt hole to the tune of \$684 billion.

## THE BEST AND THE WORST

TIA ranks each state by its taxpayer burden, or the amount each taxpayer would have to pay to make the state debt-free. We split states into two groups: states without enough money to pay bills are sinkhole states, and those with enough money are sunshine states.

### THE BOTTOM 5 SINKHOLE STATES

State	Taxpayer Burden
Massachusetts	-\$33,300 per taxpayer
Kentucky	-\$33,700 per taxpayer
Illinois	-\$45,500 per taxpayer
Connecticut	-\$49,000 per taxpayer
New Jersey	-\$59,400 per taxpayer

### THE TOP 5 SUNSHINE STATES

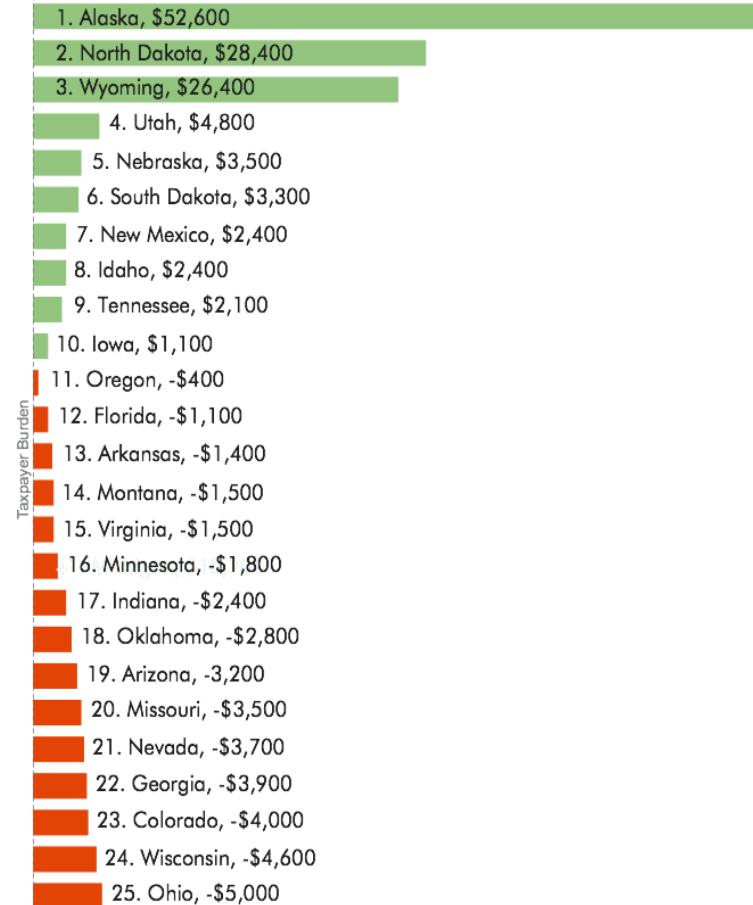
State	Taxpayer Surplus
Nebraska	\$3,500 per taxpayer
Utah	\$4,800 per taxpayer
Wyoming	\$26,400 per taxpayer
North Dakota	\$28,400 per taxpayer
Alaska	\$52,600 per taxpayer

This year, there were 40 sinkhole states and 10 sunshine states. The full 50 state ranking can be found on the next page. A full report for each state can be found on [www.statedatalab.org](http://www.statedatalab.org) by clicking on your state on the interactive map.

[www.truthinaccounting.org](http://www.truthinaccounting.org)

## 50 STATE RANKING

### STATES WITH THE LOWEST TAXPAYER BURDEN

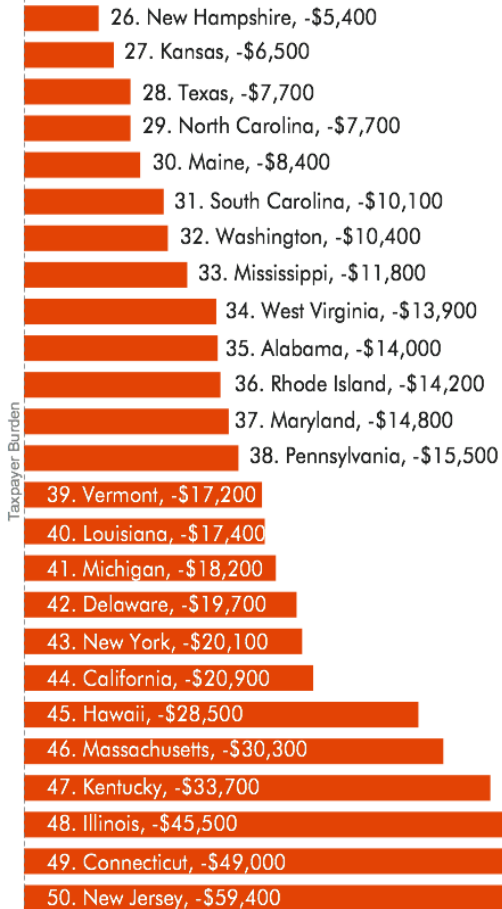


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## 50 STATE RANKING

### STATES WITH THE HIGHEST TAXPAYER BURDEN

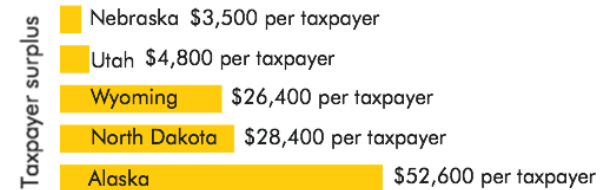


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## REPORT FINDINGS: SINKHOLE AND SUNSHINE STATES

Each year, we rank the 50 states from best to worst based on each taxpayer's share of state debt. We call the best states the sunshine states. This year's top sunshine states are:

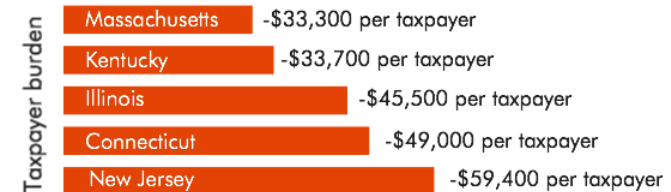
### THE TOP 5 SUNSHINE STATES



This year, Nebraska joined the ranks of the top 5 sunshine states, as its financial condition improved and South Dakota's simultaneously deteriorated. Nebraska's taxpayer surplus increased by \$700, and South Dakota's surplus decreased by \$700.

States without enough money to pay their bills, or states with taxpayer burden, are called sinkhole states. This year, the bottom 5 sinkhole states are:

### THE BOTTOM 5 SINKHOLE STATES



The states in our bottom 5 sinkhole group are the same as last year, but these states' financial conditions got significantly worse in comparison to how the sunshine states improved.

## REPORT FINDINGS: HOW YOUR STATE BALANCES ITS BUDGET WHILE GOING INTO DEBT

If a state has a balanced budget requirement, you would think that means state spending is equal to money brought in during a specific year. Unfortunately, in the world of government accounting, not everything is how it appears.

All 50 states except Vermont have balanced budget requirements. Yet, even with these rules in place, states have accumulated almost \$1.3 trillion of unfunded debt.

How can states rack up debt and balance their budgets at the same time? It all depends on how you count.

States “balance” budgets using accounting tricks, such as:

- Inflating revenue assumptions
- Counting borrowed money as income
- Understating the true costs of government
- Delaying the payment of current bills until the start of the next fiscal year, so they aren’t included in the calculation

One of the biggest accounting tricks states use is to hide a large portion of employee compensation off the balance sheet and budget. Employee compensation packages include benefits like health care, life insurance, and pensions. States become obligated to pay these benefits as employees earn them.

Although these retirement costs will not be paid until the employees retire, these still represent current compensation costs. If states didn’t offer pensions and other benefits, they would have to compensate their employees with higher salaries.

States should be accountable, include these earned benefits in the budget, and fund them in the years employees earn them. Unfortunately, some elected officials have instead chosen to use money that is owed to pension funds to keep taxes low, while paying for more politically popular programs. Instead of funding promised benefits now, they have been charged to future taxpayers. By shifting the payment of employee benefits onto future taxpayers, it allows the budget to look balanced.

## REPORT FINDINGS: FINANCIAL REPORT TIMELINESS

Timely information is crucial during government decision processes, like budgeting. However, most states issue their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) long after their fiscal year-end. The standard deadline for states to publish their CAFRs is 180 days after the end of their fiscal years. The national average for publishing these reports is 192 days, 12 days after the deadline.

To give some perspective, most corporate financial reports are issued within 45 days of their respective fiscal year-ends. Many question why states cannot meet this goal. There are internal difficulties and obstacles for states to reach this standard; however, timely financial information is critical so citizens and legislators can be knowledgeable participants in crucial decision making processes, like voting and budgeting.

In 2015, 28 states published their financial reports after the 180-day deadline. In 10 states, the financial report was not published until over 250 days after the fiscal year end. This number of states publishing late is up from 7 in 2014, and just 4 in 2013. New Mexico was the tardiest state, publishing a full 377 days after its fiscal year end. As of September 13, 2016, Alabama had not issued its financial report for fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.

## REPORT FINDINGS: FINANCIAL REPORT TIMELINESS

22 States Timely	Days to Release
Michigan	92
Washington	122
Utah	127
South Carolina	148
New York	154
North Carolina	156
Kansas	163
Kentucky	164
Minnesota	164
Iowa	167
Maryland	168
Virginia	168
North Dakota	169
Nebraska	170
Rhode Island	170
Wisconsin	170
Wyoming	171
Nevada	174
Louisiana	175
Ohio	175
Indiana	176
Oklahoma	176

18 States Tardy	Days to Release
Delaware	181
Tennessee	182
Texas	182
Vermont	182
Hawaii	183
Arkansas	184
Idaho	184
Maine	184
Oregon	191
Georgia	192
Missouri	198
New Hampshire	199
South Dakota	206
Connecticut	213
Pennsylvania	213
Alaska	216
Florida	241
Montana	244

Five Most Timely States	Days to Release
Michigan	92
Washington	122
Utah	127
South Carolina	148
New York	154

Ten States Excessively Tardy (Over 250 Days)	Days to Release
New Jersey	254
California	262
Illinois	266
Mississippi	297
Colorado	301
West Virginia	314
Massachusetts	323
Arizona	342
Alabama *	349
New Mexico	377

\* Unissued as of September 13, 2016

## REPORT FINDINGS: NEW MEXICO

In our unique world of government accounting, New Mexico is an odd place. It performs poorly every year without fail for financial timeliness. For the past 3 years, New Mexico has won our Tortoise Award for being the worst state for publishing its financial report on time. Last year, the report was 407 days late.

This year, New Mexico garnered our attention for a different reason- its taxpayer burden went from -\$9,700 in 2014 to +\$2,400 in 2015. Hurray for New Mexico? Not quite.

TIA researchers have not been able to ascertain exactly why this difference occurred. The following was noted in the state's financial report:

*"The majority of the increase is primarily due to the reclassification of the Land Grant Private Purpose Trust Fund to the Governmental Land Grant. Due to this reclassification, the restricted fund balance of the governmental increased by over \$12.1 billion."*

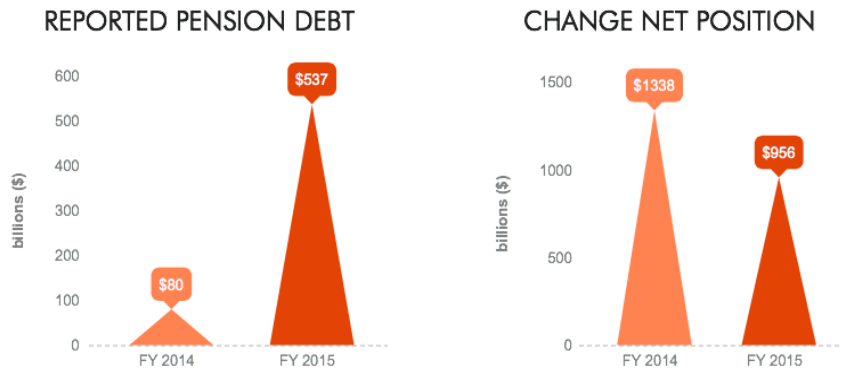
This statement raises questions. Where was this money previously? Is the state the rightful owner of these funds? Why wasn't it reported by the state before? Is the use of the money restricted?

## REPORT FINDINGS: NEW PENSION STANDARD

In 1997, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) created a rule so that states only had to report a portion of their pension debt, rather than their full pension debt. For example, if a state owed \$20,000 in pension debt, they would only have to report 3% of their existing pension debt on the balance sheet. The next year, they would have to report 6% of their existing pension debt on the balance sheet.

Now, the rule has run its course, and GASB 68 is in effect. With this new standard, states have to report their existing pension debt on their balance sheet. In addition, if a state is part of a multi-employer plan, it must also report its proportional share of those plans' pension debt. Most state governments implemented GASB 68 when they published their FY 15 CAFRs.

As a result, governments' reported pension debt changed dramatically. State reported pension debt increased from \$80 billion in FY 14 to \$537 billion in FY 2015 (left chart below). As shown in the right chart below, state governments' reported net positions correspondingly decreased from 29% from \$1.3 trillion to \$956 billion following the implementation of GASB 68.

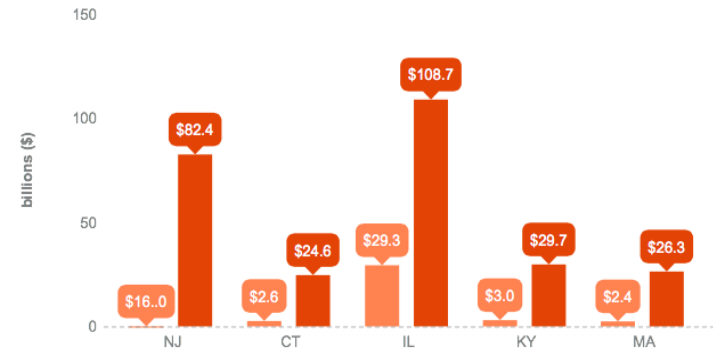


However, some states continue to play games with their pension numbers, such as using 2014 numbers even though 2015 data is available.

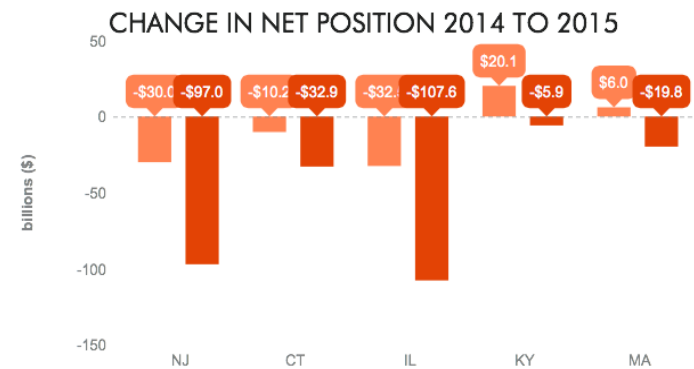
## REPORT FINDINGS: NEW PENSION STANDARD

Below is a chart illustrating the increase in reported unfunded pension debt for TIA's bottom 5 sinkhole states.

CHANGE IN UNFUNDED PENSION DEBT 2014 TO 2015



Below is a chart of TIA's sinkhole states' changes in net position. As you can see, the net position of Massachusetts and Kentucky flipped from a positive amount to a negative. This means that people who looked at those states' balance sheets for FY 2014 and thought the states' finances were fine, received a totally different reality for FY 2015.

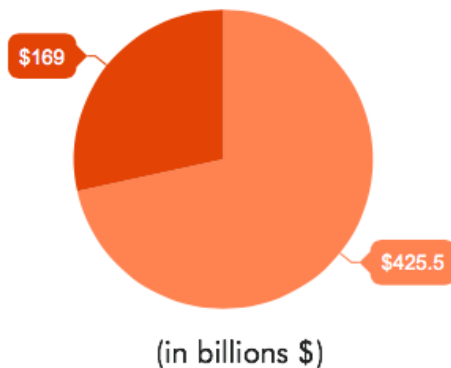


## REPORT FINDINGS: RETIREE HEALTH CARE DEBT RULE

Similar to previously hidden pension debt, in two years a new rule will be enacted forcing states to report all retiree health care debt. Like the new pension standard, this will require states to put their retiree health care debt on their balance sheets. Our study found 72% was not included in 2015.

Below you can see a pie chart comparing reported retiree health care debt (in red) to hidden retiree health care debt (in orange) for 2015.

### RETIREE HEALTH CARE DEBT



## REPORT FINDINGS: TRUTHFUL, TIMELY, AND TRANSPARENT INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT

Without an informed electorate, democracy does not work well. Because of current structures for both accounting and reporting, citizens do not receive truthful, transparent, or timely government financial information. Without access to truthful, timely, and transparent information, how can citizens be knowledgeable participants in their government?

Lack of transparency in government finance leads to the following problems

- Accounting tricks allow elected officials to claim “balanced” budgets, giving citizens a false sense of security, while states sink further into debt.
- Citizens do not know the true cost of their state government, and elected officials are able to spend amounts larger than the state’s revenues.
- Complex pension schemes (that both citizens and elected officials have difficulty understanding) have racked up massive debts, putting the states even further in the red.
- Voters have re-elected leaders based on false claims that budgets were balanced.
- Legislators have created and continued new programs and increased services without knowing the true cost of government spending.
- Our representative form of government is being undermined because citizens have become cynical and do not trust their governments.

States should use financial reports from the previous year to help guide a more accurate and realistic budget for the following year. However, because financial reports are not timely, they cannot be used to assist the

**REPORT FINDINGS:  
TRUTHFUL, TIMELY, AND TRANSPARENT  
INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT**

budgeting process. Furthermore, these budgets do not include all costs—they exclude large portions of compensation costs, because retirement benefits are earned, but not fully funded. Until this year, most pension debt was also hidden. (Thanks to GASB 68, most of the pension debt is now being reported on the face of the balance sheet.) However, some states continue to play games with pension debt, using last year's numbers even though current data is available.

Accurate accounting requires all expenses to be reported in the state's budget and financial statements when incurred, not when they are paid. Truthful budgetary accounting must incorporate all current compensation costs, including the portion of retirement benefits employees earn every year.

States' efforts to begin climbing out from their current financial holes must begin with honest government accounting. Only then can responsible alternatives to place the state on stable financial footing be developed and debated. The saying goes, "if you can't measure it, you can't manage it." How can states begin to find solutions to this crushing debt if they don't know how much debt there is?

**REPORT FINDINGS:  
FACT-BASED BUDGETING**

FACT-based budgeting requires governments to include expenses in their budgets when they are incurred, regardless of when they are paid. If a government promises pension benefits in the current period and must pay retirement claims in future periods, the liability and expense is recorded in the budget when the benefit is promised and earned. When the cash is actually paid, the liability is removed.

FACT-based budgeting allows states to have complete knowledge of the financial health of the government. FACT-based budgeting also ensures that future taxpayers are not left with the bill for services that they never received.

FACT-based budgeting's benefits include:

- Knowing long-term effects of current decisions
- Politicians would stop hiding costs and finances would be transparent
- Accurate, timely information would be available to all

Because state financial statements do not report all of each state's liabilities, elected officials and citizens are making financial decisions without knowing the true financial condition of their state. The lack of truth and transparency in state government accounting prevents even the most sophisticated user of state financial documents from understanding and judging a public sector entity's financial condition.

As a result, Truth in Accounting believes it is imperative to provide an honest accounting of each state's financial condition. Therefore, we developed a sophisticated model to analyze all assets and liabilities of all 50 states, including unreported liabilities. Annually since 2009, TIA has released its "Financial State of the States" study, exposing the truth about each state's financial position.

## REPORT FINDINGS: FACT-BASED BUDGETING

As the Association of Government Accountants has stated,

*“ . . . it is difficult to overstate how efficient reporting of government financial information contributes to a healthy democracy. Without accurate fiscal information, delivered regularly, in an easily understandable format, citizens lack the knowledge they need to interact with—and cast informed votes for—their leaders. In this regard, a lack of government accountability and transparency undermines democracy and gives rise to cynicism and mistrust.”* (Association of Government Accountants, 2008)

Since all levels of government derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, government officials are responsible to report their actions and the results in ways that are truthful and comprehensible to the electorate. Providing accurate, useful, and timely information to citizens, the news media, and other governmental officials is an essential part of government responsibility. The lack of transparency for financial information, state budgets, and financial reports makes it difficult for state governments to meet this responsibility.

This is the motivation and foundation for the non-partisan mission of Truth in Accounting: To educate and empower citizens with understandable, reliable, and transparent government financial information. Truth in Accounting is a non-profit, politically unaffiliated organization composed of business, governmental, and academic leaders interested in improving financial reporting. Truth in Accounting makes no policy recommendations beyond improvements to budgeting and accounting practices that will enhance the public’s understanding of their governments’ financial matters.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Recommendations to citizens:

1. To better understand your state’s finances, go to [StateDataLab.org](http://StateDataLab.org) and read about your state.
2. Encourage your politicians to truthfully balance the budget.
3. Promote accountability of your elected officials by demanding the use of FACT-based budgeting.

### Recommendations to elected officials:

Healthy accounting practices include accurately reporting all debts, while also accounting for expenses as they are incurred – not only when they are paid.

Therefore politicians should:

1. Use FACT-based budgeting
2. Determine the true debt of the state, including all post-employment benefit programs.
3. Stop claiming to “balance” the budget while putting off expenses into the future, placing a larger debt onto incoming generations.
4. Go the extra effort to retrieve the most accurate asset and liability values.
5. Provide state financial information to taxpayers in a more timely fashion and be honest about the publish dates.

### Recommendations to state financial report preparers:

1. Implement new retirees’ health care standard early by putting full- unfunded retirees’ health care liabilities on next year’s balance sheet.
2. Release the financial report on time.
3. Use the most recent pension data, not the previous year’s.

### Recommendations to standard setters:

1. Require governments to use the most recent pension data.
2. Require governments to implement the new retirees’ health care standard in the preparation of the next year’s balance sheet.



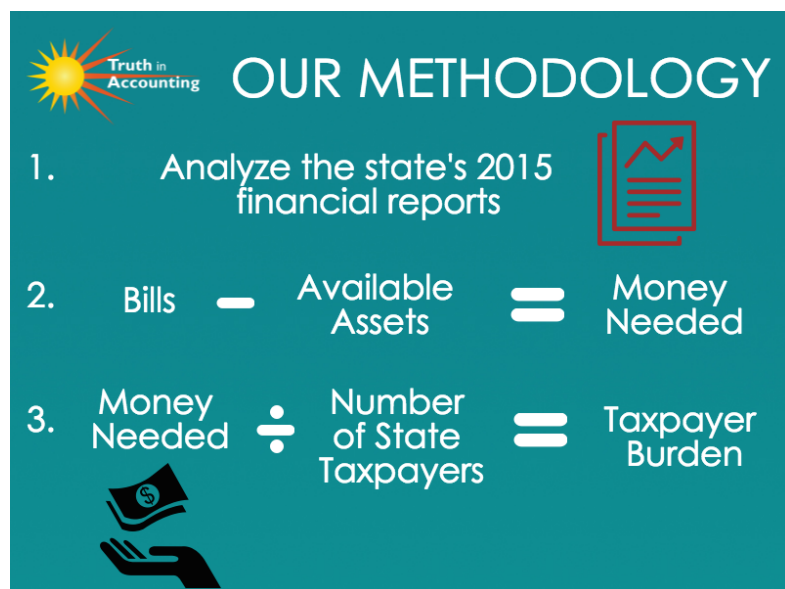
## METHODOLOGY

TIA researchers use a thorough approach to determine the state of government finances. This approach compares bills—including those related to retirement systems (excluding debt related to capital assets)—to state assets available to pay these liabilities.

Data for this report was derived from states' 2015 financial reports and related retirement plans' actuarial reports.

TIA ranks each state by taxpayer burden, or the amount each taxpayer would have to pay the state's treasury in order for the state to be debt free.

See how we calculate a state's taxpayer burden below:



Some states may have a taxpayer surplus, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's surplus.



## 50 STATE RANKING (in order)

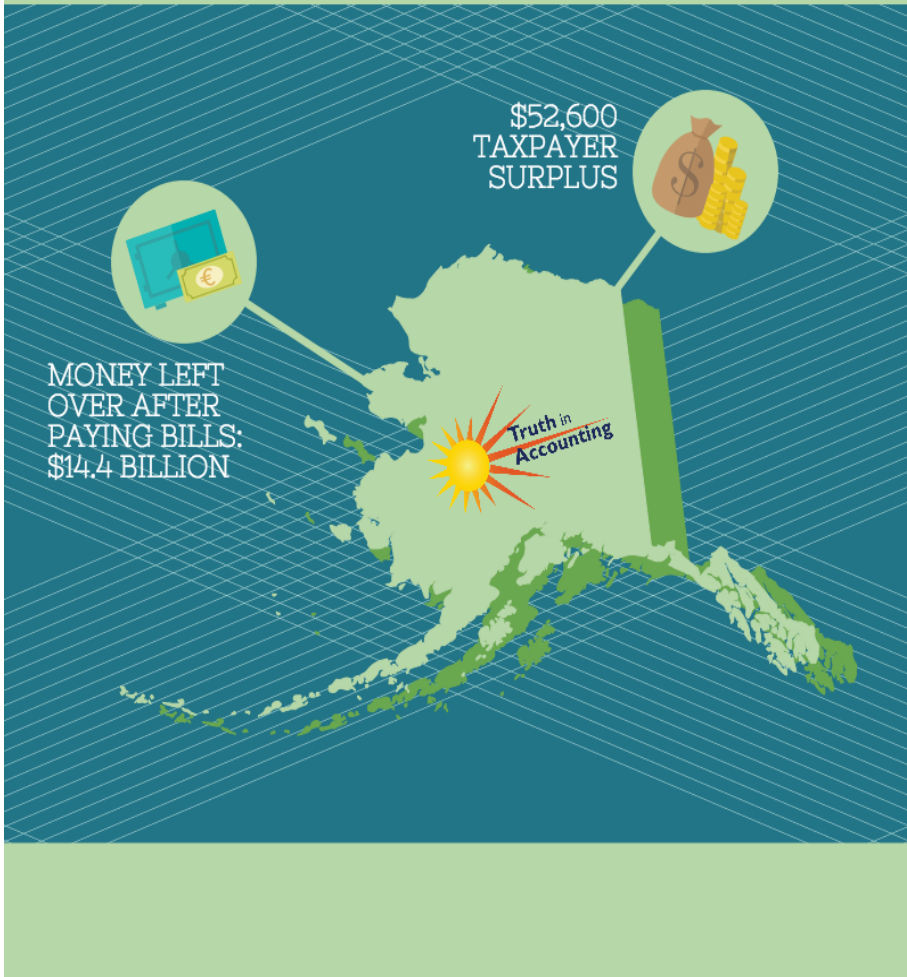
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## 50 STATE RANKING (alphabetical)

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# Financial state of the state

## 1 ALASKA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF ALASKA

### Key Findings

- Alaska is a sunshine state
- The state has \$14.4 billion after its bills are paid
- Alaska has a taxpayer surplus of \$52,600, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$5.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$32.7 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$5.5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$5.3 billion
Other bills	-\$7.5 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$14.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$52,600</b>

Unlike most states, Alaska has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Alaska now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$6.3 billion in 2015.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 59% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$5.5 billion of pension benefits and \$5.3 billion of retirees' health care benefits. Alaska has the assets needed to pay for these promises.

# Financial state of the state

## 2 NORTH DAKOTA



MONEY LEFT  
AFTER PAYING  
BILLS: \$8.2  
BILLION



\$28,400  
TAXPAYER  
SURPLUS



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

### Key Findings

- North Dakota is a sunshine state
- The state has \$8.2 billion after its bills are paid
- North Dakota has a taxpayer surplus of \$28,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$31.7 million of pension debt and \$43.2 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$14.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$364.2 million
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$44.3 million
Other bills	-\$5.5 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$8.2 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$28,400</b>

Unlike most states, North Dakota has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, North Dakota now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$332.4 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$31.7 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 7% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$364.2 million of pension benefits and \$44.3 million of retirees' health care benefits. North Dakota has the assets needed to pay for these promises.

# Financial state of the state

## 3 WYOMING

MONEY LEFT AFTER PAYING BILLS: \$5.4 MILLION



\$26,400 TAXPAYER SURPLUS



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF WYOMING

### Key Findings

- Wyoming is a sunshine state
- The state has \$5.4 billion after its bills are paid
- Wyoming has a taxpayer surplus of \$26,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$173.8 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$12.6 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$412.9 million
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$268.2 million
Other bills	-\$6.6 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$5.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$26,400</b>

Unlike most states, Wyoming has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Wyoming now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$413.7 million in 2015.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 9% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$412.9 million of pension benefits and \$268.2 million of retirees' health care benefits. Wyoming has the assets needed to pay for these promises.

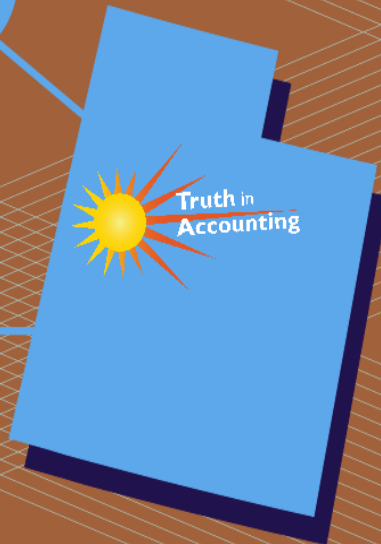
# Financial state of the state

## 4 UTAH

MONEY LEFT  
AFTER PAYING  
BILLS: \$3.87  
BILLION



\$4,800  
TAXPAYER  
SURPLUS



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF UTAH

### Key Findings

- Utah is a sunshine state
- The state has \$3.9 billion after its bills are paid
- Utah has a taxpayer surplus of \$4,800, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$184.8 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$10.5 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.1 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$184.8 million
Other bills	-\$5.4 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$3.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$4,800</b>

Unlike most states, Utah has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

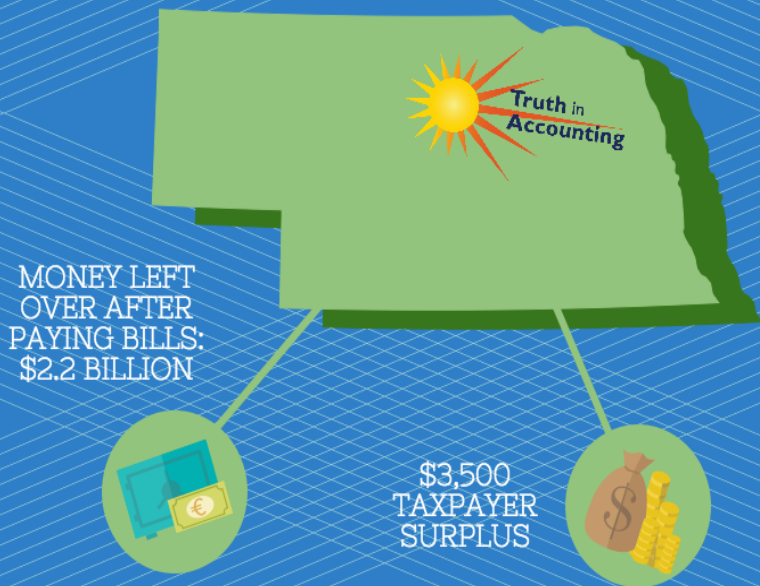
Because of a new accounting rule, Utah now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$1.1 billion in 2015.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 19% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.1 billion of pension benefits and \$184.8 million of retirees' health care benefits. Utah has the assets needed to pay for these promises.



# Financial state of the state

## 5 NEBRASKA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEBRASKA

### Key Findings

- Nebraska is a sunshine state
- The state has \$2.2 billion after its bills are paid
- Nebraska has a taxpayer surplus of \$3,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$25.1 million of pension debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$4.8 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$206.7 million
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	\$0
Other bills	-\$2.4 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$2.2 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>

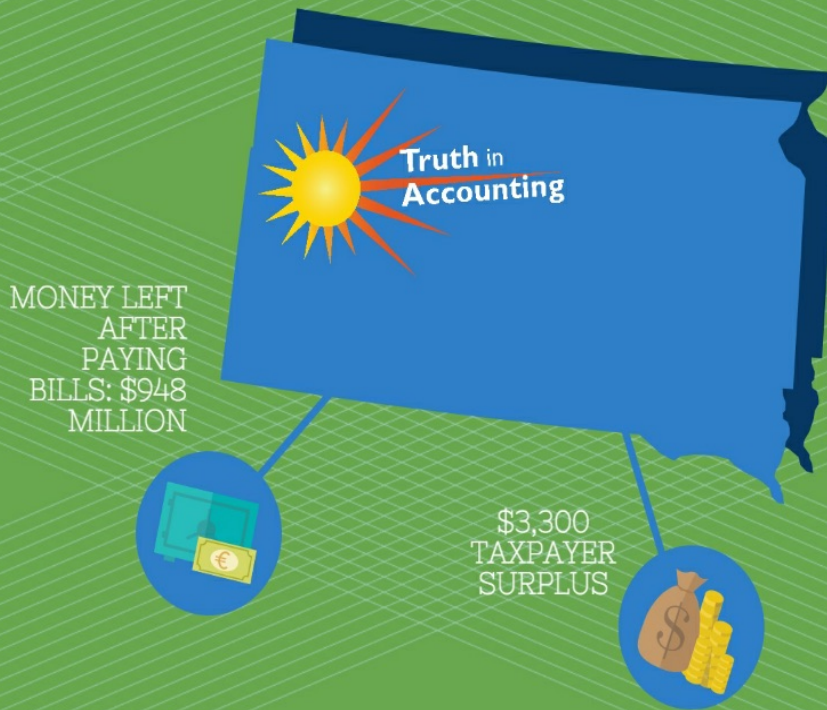
Unlike most states, Nebraska has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Nebraska now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$941,000 in 2014 to \$181.7 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$25.1 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 8% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$206.7 million of pension benefits. Nebraska has the asset needed to pay for these promises.

# Financial state of the state

## 6 SOUTH DAKOTA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

### Key Findings

- South Dakota is a sunshine state
- The state has \$948.1 million after its bills are paid
- South Dakota has a taxpayer surplus of \$3,300, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$3.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Overfunded pension debt	\$162.3 million*
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	\$0
Other bills	-\$2.3 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$948.1 million</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$3,300</b>

Unlike most states, South Dakota has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, South Dakota now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state reported a net pension asset of \$275.7 million in 2015.

\* Further analysis of the pension plans' annual financial reports revealed that the actual net pension asset is \$162.3 million. The reason for the difference is the state uses the prior year's (2014) pension valuation for their financial statements.

# Financial state of the state

## 7 NEW MEXICO



MONEY LEFT  
OVER AFTER  
PAYING BILLS:  
\$1.4 BILLION



\$2,400  
TAXPAYER  
SURPLUS



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEW MEXICO

### Key Findings

- New Mexico is a sunshine state
- The state has \$1.4 billion after its bills are paid
- New Mexico has a taxpayer surplus of \$2,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$3.1 billion of pension debt and \$2.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$16 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$2.4 billion
Other bills	-\$5.6 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$1.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>

Unlike most states, New Mexico has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

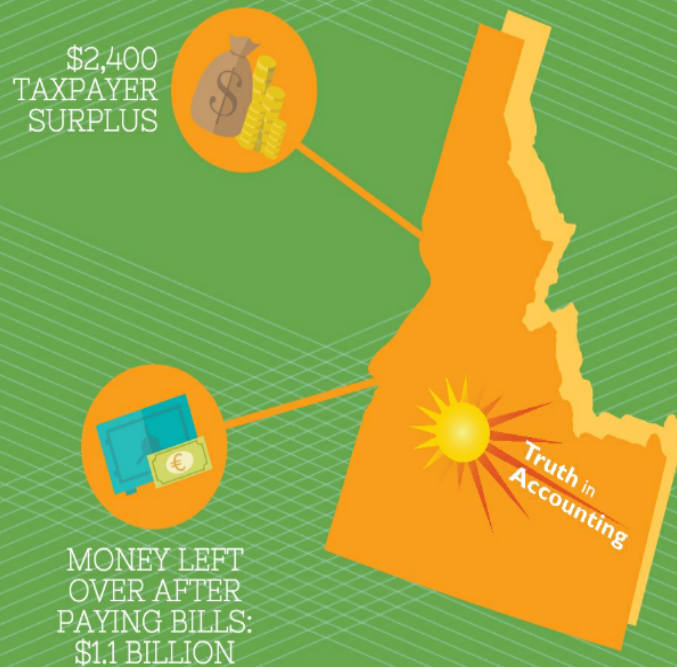
Because of a new accounting rule, New Mexico now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$3.6 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$3.1 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 62% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.7 billion of pension benefits and \$2.4 billion of retirees' health care benefits. New Mexico has the assets needed to pay for these promises.



# Financial state of the state

## 8 IDAHO



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF IDAHO

### Key Findings

- Idaho is a sunshine state
- The state has \$1.1 billion after its bills are paid
- Idaho has a taxpayer surplus of \$2,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$148.3 million of pension debt and \$75.1 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$4.6 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$356.2 million
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$119.3 million
Other bills	-\$3.1 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$1.1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>

Unlike most states, Idaho has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Idaho now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$14.3 million in 2014 to \$207.9 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$148.3 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 13% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$356.2 million of pension benefits and \$119.3 million of retirees' health care benefits. Idaho has the assets needed to pay for these promises.

# Financial state of the state

## 9 TENNESSEE



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF TENNESSEE

### Key Findings

- Tennessee is a sunshine state
- The state has \$3.9 billion after its bills are paid
- Tennessee has a taxpayer surplus of \$2,100, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$103.8 million of pension debt and \$978.4 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$15.6 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$781 million
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$1.8 billion
Other bills	-\$9.2 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$3.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>

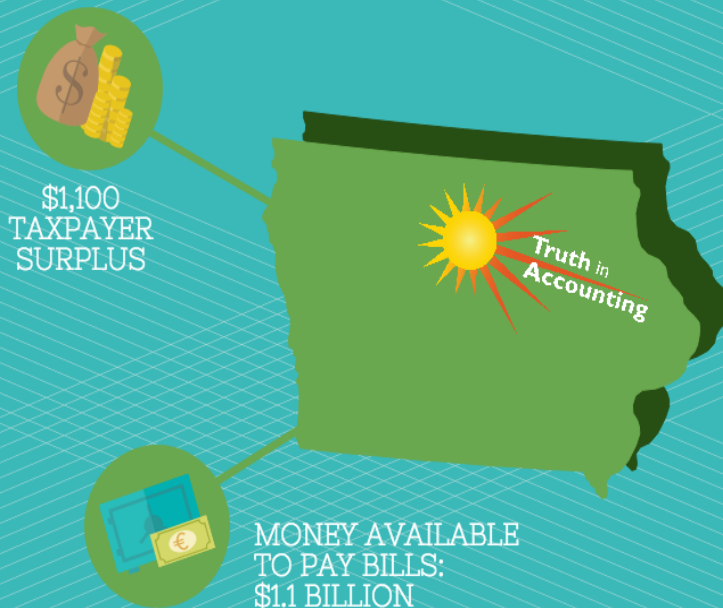
Unlike most states, Tennessee has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Tennessee now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$677.2 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$103.8 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 22% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$781 million of pension benefits and \$1.8 billion of retirees' health care benefits. Tennessee has the assets needed to pay for these promises.

# Financial state of the state

## 10 IOWA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF IOWA

### Key Findings

- Iowa is a sunshine state
- The state has \$1.1 billion after its bills are paid
- Iowa has a taxpayer surplus of \$1,100, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's excess funds.
- The state is hiding \$169 million of pension debt and \$399.3 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's assets exceed its bills

Assets available to pay bills	\$9.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$657.1 million
Other bills	-\$6.3 billion
<b>Money available to pay future bills</b>	<b>\$1.1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$1,100</b>

Unlike most states, Iowa has enough assets to pay its bills. Elected officials have paid for government costs when incurred, instead of shifting them onto future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Iowa now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$63.8 million in 2014 to \$833.9 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$169 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 21% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1 billion of pension benefits and \$657.1 million of retirees' health care benefits. Iowa has the assets needed to pay for these promises.

# Financial state of the state

## 11 OREGON

\$400  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY NEEDED  
TO PAY BILLS:  
\$491.4 MILLION



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF OREGON

### Key Findings

- Oregon is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$491.4 million to pay its bills
- Oregon has a taxpayer burden of -\$400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.6 billion of pension debt and \$116.9 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$18 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.6 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$212.2 million
Other bills	-\$16.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$491.4 million</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$400</b>

The -\$491.4 million of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

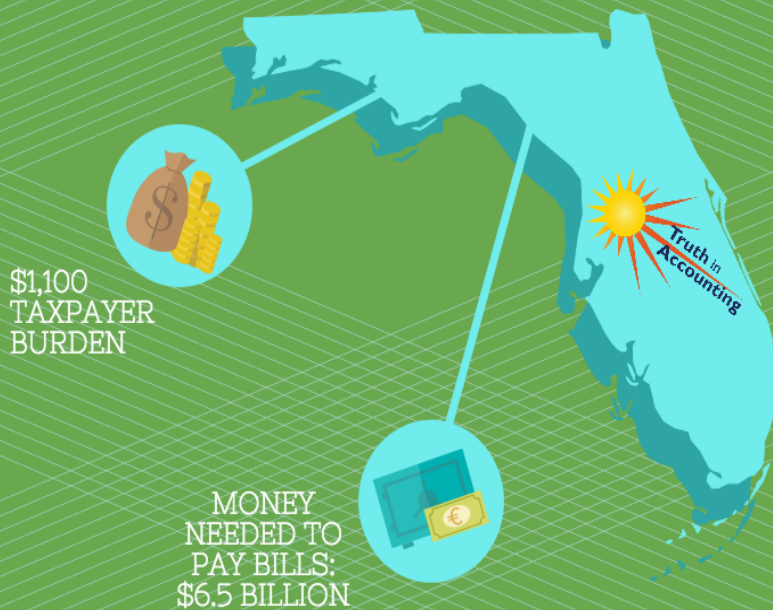
The assets reported on Oregon's balance sheet are overstated by \$626.6 million. The state reported that its pension plan is overfunded by this amount, but a detailed study of the plan's latest financial report found it to be underfunded by \$1.6 billion.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 10% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.6 billion of pension benefits and \$212.2 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 12 FLORIDA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF FLORIDA

### Key Findings

- Florida is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$6.5 billion to pay its bills
- Florida has a taxpayer burden of -\$1,100, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$2 billion of pension debt and \$4.9 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$59.4 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.3 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$7.1 billion
Other bills	-\$52.6 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$6.5 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$1,100</b>

The -\$6.5 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Florida now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$4.2 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$2 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 20% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.3 billion of pension benefits and \$7.1 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 13 ARKANSAS

MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$1.05 BILLION



\$1,400  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF ARKANSAS

### Key Findings

- Arkansas is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$1 billion to pay its bills
- Arkansas has a taxpayer burden of -\$1,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$314 million of pension debt and \$753.1 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$8.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$1.9 billion
Other bills	-\$5.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$1,400</b>

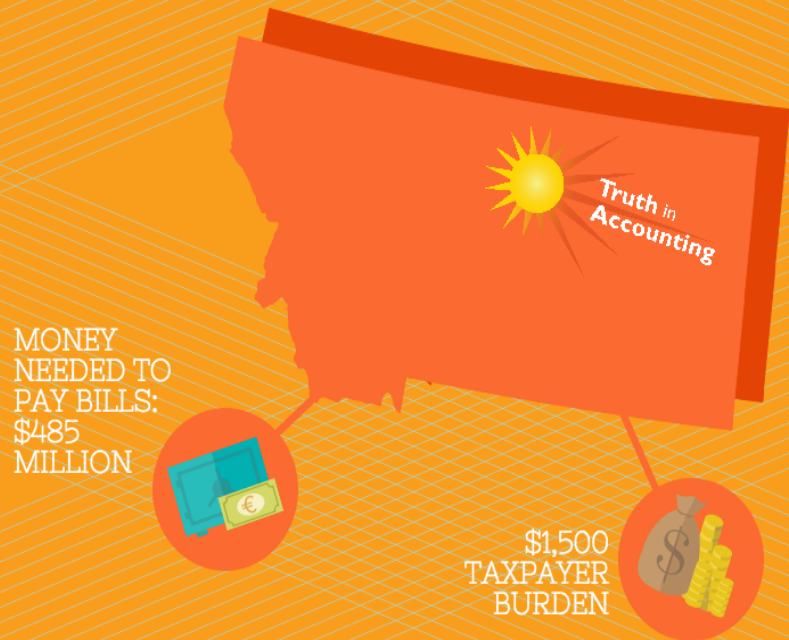
The -\$1 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Arkansas now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$1.2 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$314 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 37% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.5 billion of pension benefits and \$1.9 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 14 MONTANA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MONTANA

### Key Findings

- Montana is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$485.2 million to pay its bills
- Montana has a taxpayer burden of -\$1,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$337.1 million of pension debt and \$119.5 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$5.2 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.9 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$467 million
Other bills	-\$3.3 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$485.2 million</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$1,500</b>

The -\$485.2 million of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Montana now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$1.6 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$337.1 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 41% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.9 billion of pension benefits and \$467 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 15 VIRGINIA

MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS: \$4.2  
BILLION



\$1,500  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF VIRGINIA

### Key Findings

- Virginia is a sinkhole state
- The commonwealth needs \$4.2 billion to pay its bills
- Virginia has a taxpayer burden of -\$1,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the commonwealth's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$361.7 million of pension debt and \$1.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The commonwealth's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$35.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$7.2 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$2.9 billion
Other bills	-\$29.2 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$4.2 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$1,500</b>

The -\$4.2 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

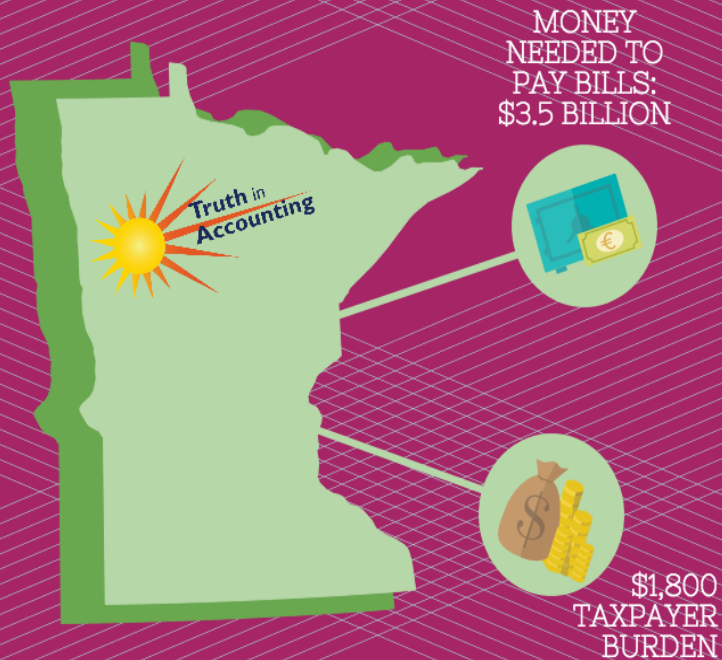
Because of a new accounting rule, Virginia now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the commonwealth's reported pension debt grew from \$3.3 billion in 2014 to \$6.8 billion in 2015. However, the commonwealth is still hiding \$361.7 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 26% of commonwealth bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because employees have been promised \$7.2 billion of pension benefits and \$2.9 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the commonwealth has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 16 MINNESOTA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MINNESOTA

### Key Findings

- Minnesota is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$3.5 billion to pay its bills
- Minnesota has a taxpayer burden of -\$1,800, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$258.1 million of pension debt and \$466.4 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$19.2 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$3.8 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$967.3 million
Other bills	-\$18 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$3.5 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$1,800</b>

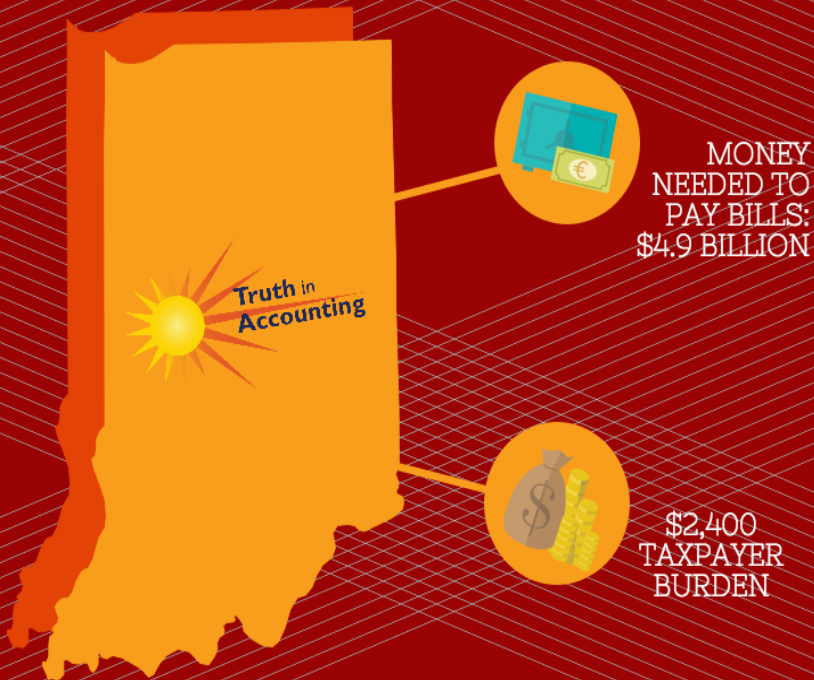
The -\$3.5 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Minnesota now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$140.8 million in 2014 to \$3.5 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$258.1 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 21% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$3.8 billion of pension benefits and \$967.3 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 17 INDIANA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF INDIANA

### Key Findings

- Indiana is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$4.9 billion to pay its bills
- Indiana has a taxpayer burden of -\$2,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.6 billion of pension debt and \$651.5 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$24.2 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$13.5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$818.4 million
Other bills	-\$14.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$4.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$2,400</b>

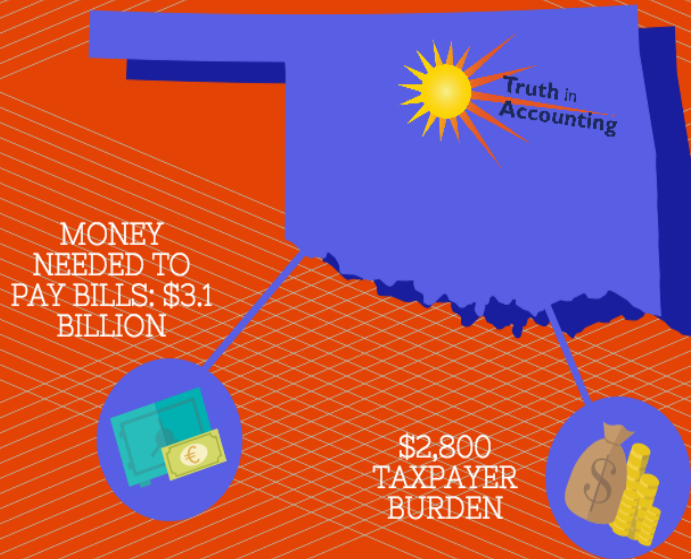
The -\$4.9 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Indiana now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$1.1 billion in 2014 to \$11.9 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1.6 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 49% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$13.5 billion of pension benefits and \$818.4 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

## 18 OKLAHOMA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF OKLAHOMA

### Key Findings

- Oklahoma is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$3.1 billion to pay its bills
- Oklahoma has a taxpayer burden of -\$2,800, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$5.5 billion of pension debt and \$20 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$12.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$7.1 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$209.6 million
Other bills	-\$7.9 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$3.1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$2,800</b>

The -\$3.1 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Oklahoma now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$107.4 million in 2014 to \$1.6 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$5.5 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 48% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$7.1 billion of pension benefits and \$209.6 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

## 19 ARIZONA

MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS: \$6  
BILLION

\$3,200  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF ARIZONA

### Key Findings

- Arizona is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$6 billion to pay its bills
- Arizona has a taxpayer burden of -\$3,200, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$50.5 million of pension debt and \$232.5 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$9.3 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$260.9 million
Other bills	-\$10.2 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$6 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$3,200</b>

The -\$6 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

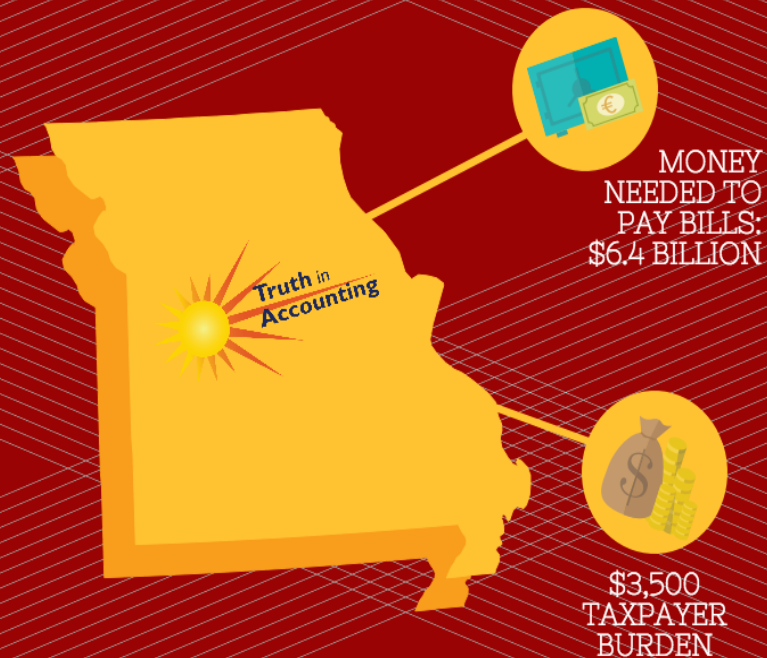
Because of a new accounting rule, Arizona now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$4.9 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$50.5 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 34% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$5 billion of pension benefits and \$260.9 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 20 MISSOURI



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MISSOURI

### Key Findings

- Missouri is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$6.4 billion to pay its bills
- Missouri has a taxpayer burden of -\$3,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$886.7 million of pension debt and \$2.2 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$8.3 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$5.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$3.4 billion
Other bills	-\$5.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$6.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$3,500</b>

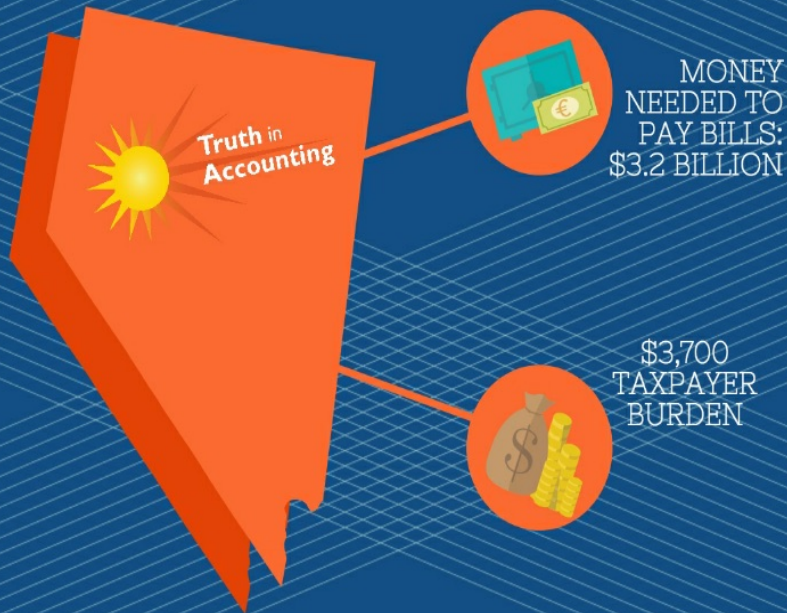
The -\$6.4 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Missouri now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$123.1 million in 2014 to \$4.8 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$886.7 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 61% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$5.7 billion of pension benefits and \$3.4 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

## 21 NEVADA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEVADA

### Key Findings

- Nevada is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$3.2 billion to pay its bills
- Nevada has a taxpayer burden of -\$3,700, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$201.9 million of pension debt and \$1.4 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$5.2 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$2.2 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$1.4 billion
Other bills	-\$4.8 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$3.2 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$3,700</b>

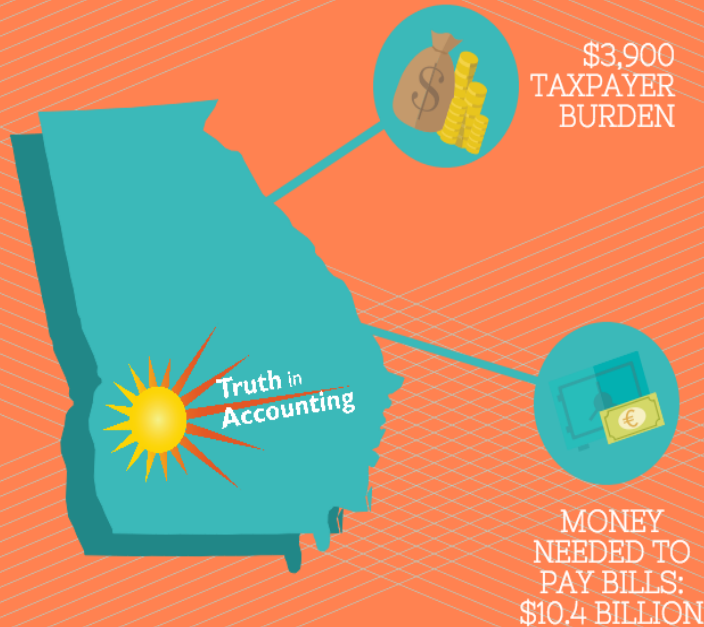
The -\$3.2 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Nevada now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$2 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$201.9 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 43% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$2.2 billion of pension benefits and \$1.4 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but has the state not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 22 GEORGIA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF GEORGIA

### Key Findings

- Georgia is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$10.4 billion to pay its bills
- Georgia has a taxpayer burden of -\$3,900, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$879.8 million of pension debt and \$4.5 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$17.4 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$6.7 billion
Other bills	-\$14.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$10.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$3,900</b>

The -\$10.4 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Georgia now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$5.8 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$879.8 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 48% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.7 billion of pension benefits and \$6.7 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 23 COLORADO

\$4,000  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY NEEDED  
TO PAY BILLS:  
\$7.4 BILLION



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF COLORADO

### Key Findings

- Colorado is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$7.4 billion to pay its bills
- Colorado has a taxpayer burden of -\$4,000, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.4 billion of pension debt and \$787.6 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$12.6 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$10.6 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$1 billion
Other bills	-\$8.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$7.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$4,000</b>

The -\$7.4 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Colorado now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$9.1 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1.4 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 58% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$10.6 billion of pension benefits and \$1 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 24 WISCONSIN



\$4,600  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$9 BILLION

## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF WISCONSIN

### Key Findings

- Wisconsin is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$9.1 billion to pay its bills
- Wisconsin has a taxpayer burden of -\$4,600, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$538.8 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$9.4 billion
Minus: Bills	
Overfunded pension debt	\$765.9 million*
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$1 billion
Other bills	-\$18.3 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$9.1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$4,600</b>

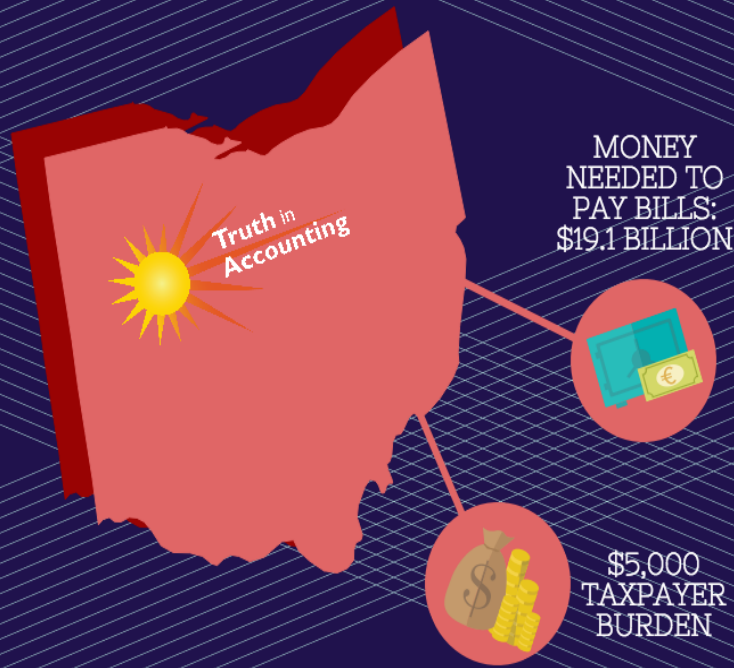
The -\$9.1 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

\* The state's pension plan is extremely well funded, resulting in a net pension asset. Wisconsin endeavors to have enough assets to pay benefits, so the amount of assets on hand attempts to take into account downturns in the market.

While the state's pension plan is well funded, its retiree health care plan has less than 40 cents for every dollar needed to pay promised benefits. State employees have been promised \$1.6 billion worth of health care benefits, but only \$543 million has been set aside to pay these benefits.

# Financial state of the state

# 25 OHIO



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF OHIO

### Key Findings

- Ohio is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$19.1 billion to pay its bills
- Ohio has a taxpayer burden of -\$5,000, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$3.5 billion of pension debt and \$3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$48.2 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$8.5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$3.1 billion
Other bills	-\$55.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$19.1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$5,000</b>

The -\$19.1 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Ohio now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$28.2 million in 2014 to \$5 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$3.5 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 17% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$8.5 billion of pension benefits and \$3.1 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Key Findings

- New Hampshire is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$2.8 billion to pay its bills
- New Hampshire has a taxpayer burden of -\$5,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$43.4 million of pension debt and \$1.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$2.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$877.6 million
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$2.3 billion
Other bills	-\$1.6 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$2.8 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$5,400</b>

The -\$2.8 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, New Hampshire now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$5.8 million in 2014 to \$834.3 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$43.4 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 67% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$877.6 million of pension benefits and \$2.3 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

## Financial state of the state

# 26 NEW HAMPSHIRE

MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$2.8 BILLION



\$5,400 TAXPAYER  
BURDEN





# Financial state of the state

## 27 KANSAS



\$6,500  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$5.9 BILLION



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF KANSAS

### Key Findings

- Kansas is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$5.9 billion to pay its bills
- Kansas has a taxpayer burden of -\$6,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$4.5 billion of pension debt and \$240 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$4 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$370.9 million
Other bills	-\$3.1 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$5.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$6,500</b>

The -\$5.9 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Kansas now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$2 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$4.5 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 69% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.5 billion of pension benefits and \$370.9 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 28 TEXAS

MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$59.7 BILLION



\$7,700  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF TEXAS

### Key Findings

- Texas is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$59.7 billion to pay its bills
- Texas has a taxpayer burden of -\$7,700, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$6 billion of pension debt and \$51.7 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$77.3 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$41.9 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$56.7 billion
Other bills	-\$38.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$59.7 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$7,700</b>

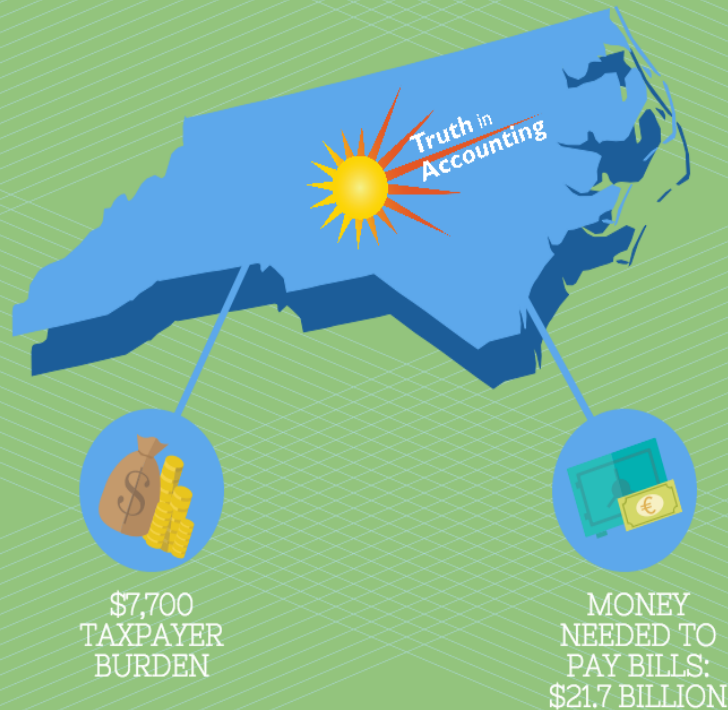
The -\$59.7 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Texas now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$5.4 billion in 2014 to \$35.9 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$6 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 72% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$41.9 billion of pension benefits and \$56.7 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 29 NORTH CAROLINA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### Key Findings

- North Carolina is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$21.7 billion to pay its bills
- North Carolina has a taxpayer burden of -\$7,700, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1 billion of pension debt and \$26.7 billion of retirees' health care debt

The state's bills exceed its assets	
Assets available to pay bills	\$26.9 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$26.7 billion
Other bills	-\$20.2 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$21.7 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$7,700</b>

The -\$21.7 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, North Carolina now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$693.7 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 58% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.7 billion of pension benefits and \$26.7 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

## 30 MAINE



\$8,400  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY NEEDED  
TO PAY BILLS:  
\$3.7 BILLION



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MAINE

### Key Findings

- Maine is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$3.7 billion to pay its bills
- Maine has a taxpayer burden of -\$8,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$432.1 million of pension debt and \$1.7 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$6 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$2.4 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$2 billion
Other bills	-\$5.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$3.7 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$8,400</b>

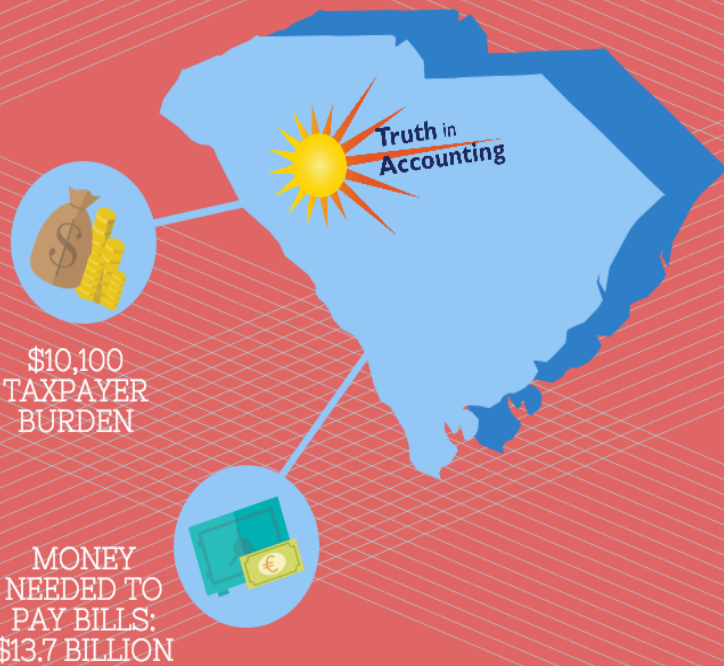
The -\$3.7 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Maine now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$26.6 million in 2014 to \$1.9 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$432.1 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 45% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$2.4 billion of pension benefits and \$2 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 31 SOUTH CAROLINA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### Key Findings

- South Carolina is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$13.7 billion to pay its bills
- South Carolina has a taxpayer burden of -\$10,100, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.5 billion of pension debt and \$9.4 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$12.7 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.6 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$9.4 billion
Other bills	-\$10.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$13.7 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$10,100</b>

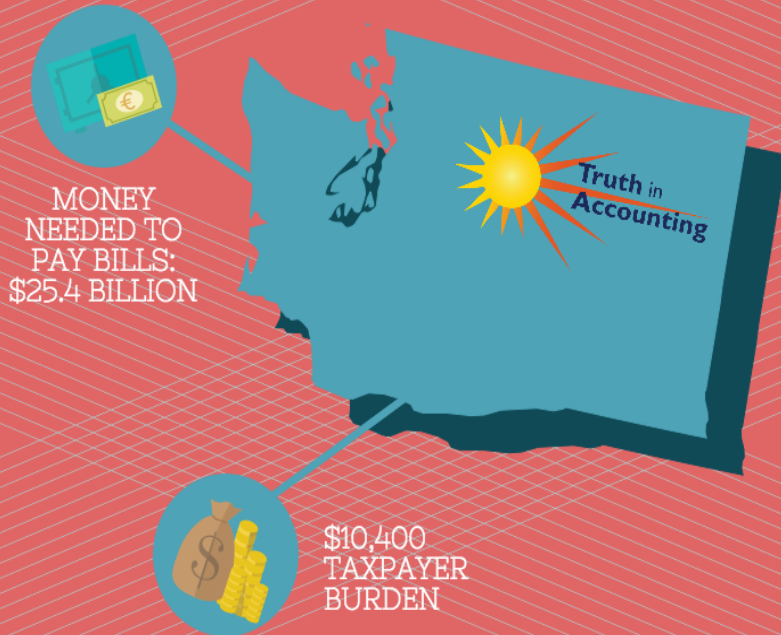
The -\$13.7 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, South Carolina now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$8.8 million in 2014 to \$5.1 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1.5 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 61% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.6 billion of pension benefits and \$9.4 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 32 WASHINGTON



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF WASHINGTON

### Key Findings

- Washington is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$25.4 billion to pay its bills
- Washington has a taxpayer burden of -\$10,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$6.6 billion of pension debt and \$8 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$35 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$9 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$10.4 billion
Other bills	-\$41 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$25.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$10,400</b>

The -\$25.4 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

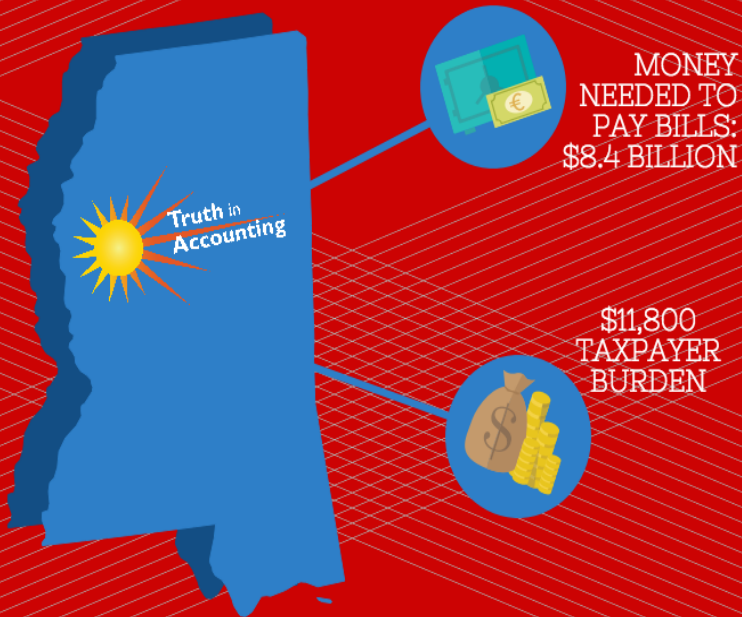
Because of a new accounting rule, Washington now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$380.5 million in 2014 to \$2.4 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$6.6 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 32% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$9 billion of pension benefits and \$10.4 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 33 MISSISSIPPI



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

### Key Findings

- Mississippi is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$8.4 billion to pay its bills
- Mississippi has a taxpayer burden of -\$11,800, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.2 billion of pension debt and \$574.7 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$5 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$5.4 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$732.1 million
Other bills	-\$7.3 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$8.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$11,800</b>

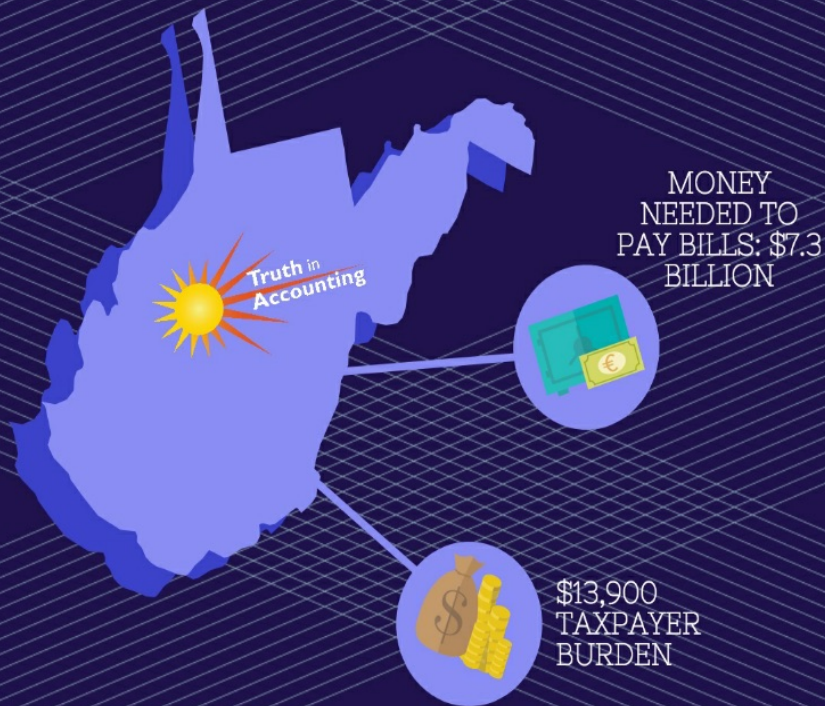
The -\$8.4 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Mississippi now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$4.3 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1.2 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 46% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$5.4 billion of pension benefits and \$732.1 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

## 34 WEST VIRGINIA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

### Key Findings

- West Virginia is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$7.3 billion to pay its bills
- West Virginia has a taxpayer burden of -\$13,900, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$166.8 million of pension debt and \$2.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$8.5 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$3.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$2.3 billion
Other bills	-\$9.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$7.3 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$13,900</b>

The -\$7.3 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, West Virginia now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$3.6 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$166.8 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 38% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$3.7 billion of pension benefits and \$2.3 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

## 35 ALABAMA



MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$17.8 BILLION

\$14,000  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF ALABAMA

### Key Findings

- Alabama is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$17.8 billion to pay its bills
- Alabama has a taxpayer burden of -\$14,000, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$6.8 billion of pension debt and \$10.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$9.8 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.8 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$11.3 billion
Other bills	-\$9.5 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$17.8 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$14,000</b>

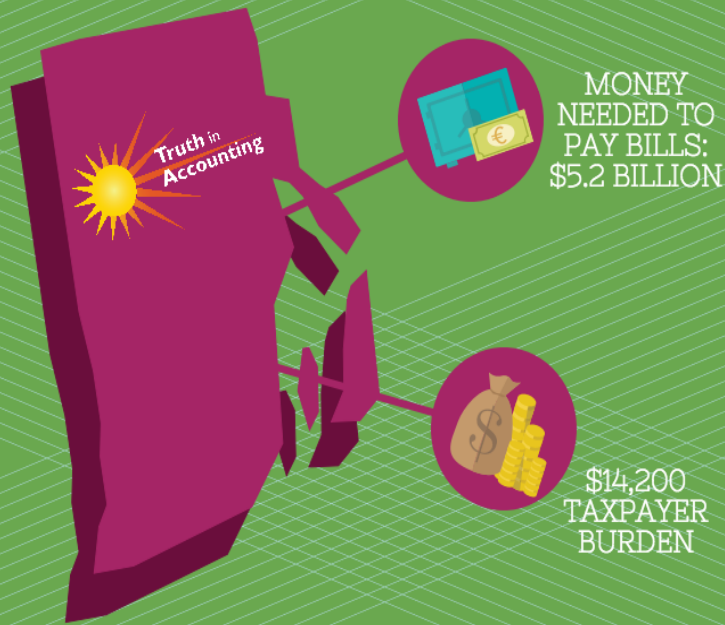
The -\$17.8 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

The numbers reported for Alabama are as of September 30, 2014 because as of September 13, 2016 Alabama had not issued its 2015 report. While most governments endeavor to issue their reports within 180 days of their year-end, more 350 days have passed since Alabama's year-end. To be reliable financial reports must be issued on a timely basis.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 66% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.8 billion of pension benefits and \$11.3 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 36 RHODE ISLAND



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

### Key Findings

- Rhode Island is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$5.2 billion to pay its bills
- Rhode Island has a taxpayer burden of -\$14,200, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$741.8 million of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$3.8 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$3.1 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$811.9 million
Other bills	-\$5 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$5.2 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$14,200</b>

The -\$5.2 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Rhode Island now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$6.7 million in 2014 to \$3.2 billion in 2015.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 44% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$3.1 billion of pension benefits and \$811.9 million of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 37 MARYLAND

\$14,800  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$31.1 BILLION



Truth in  
Accounting



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MARYLAND

### Key Findings

- Maryland is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$31.1 billion to pay its bills
- Maryland has a taxpayer burden of -\$14,800, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$3.7 billion of pension debt and \$5.6 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$16.3 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$20.3 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$10 billion
Other bills	-\$17.1 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$31.1 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$14,800</b>

The -\$31.1 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Maryland now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$3.5 billion in 2014 to \$16.7 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$3.7 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 64% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$20.3 billion of pension benefits and \$10 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 38 PENNSYLVANIA



**MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$65.8 BILLION**



**\$15,500  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN**

## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

### Key Findings

- Pennsylvania is a sinkhole state
- The commonwealth needs \$65.8 billion to pay its bills
- Pennsylvania has a taxpayer burden of -\$15,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the commonwealth's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$21.7 billion of pension debt and \$18.5 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The commonwealth's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$40.7 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$35.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$22.6 billion
Other bills	-\$48.2 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$65.8 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$15,500</b>

The -\$65.8 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

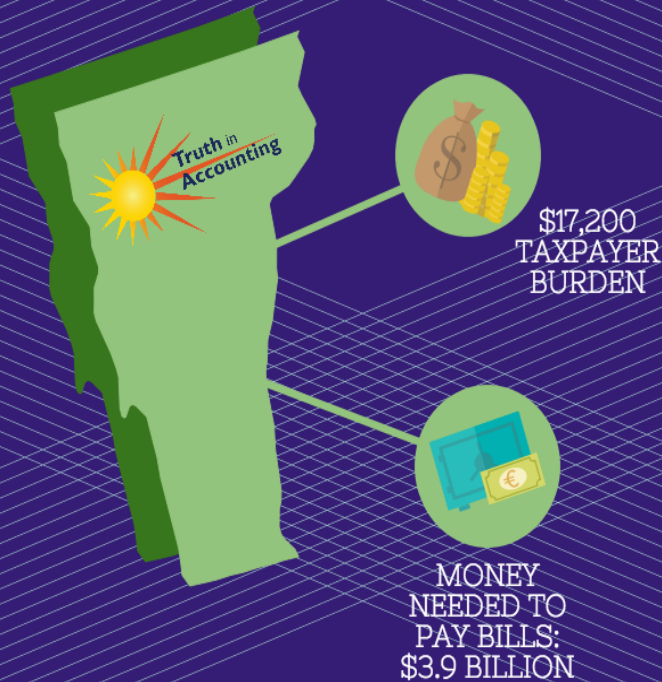
Because of a new accounting rule, Pennsylvania now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the commonwealth's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$14 billion in 2015. However, the commonwealth is still hiding \$21.7 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 55% of commonwealth bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because commonwealth employees have been promised \$35.7 billion of pension benefits and \$22.6 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

## 39 VERMONT



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF VERMONT

### Key Findings

- Vermont is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$3.9 billion to pay its bills
- Vermont has a taxpayer burden of -\$17,200, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$421.5 million of pension debt and \$1.6 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$3.8 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$2.5 billion
Other bills	-\$3.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$3.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$17,200</b>

The -\$3.9 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Vermont now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$198.2 million in 2014 to \$1.3 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$421.5 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 56% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.7 billion of pension benefits and \$2.5 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF LOUISIANA

### Key Findings

- Louisiana is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$22.3 billion to pay its bills
- Louisiana has a taxpayer burden of -\$17,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$820.4 million of pension debt and \$4.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$13.4 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$9.6 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$8.7 billion
Other bills	-\$17.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$22.3 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$17,400</b>

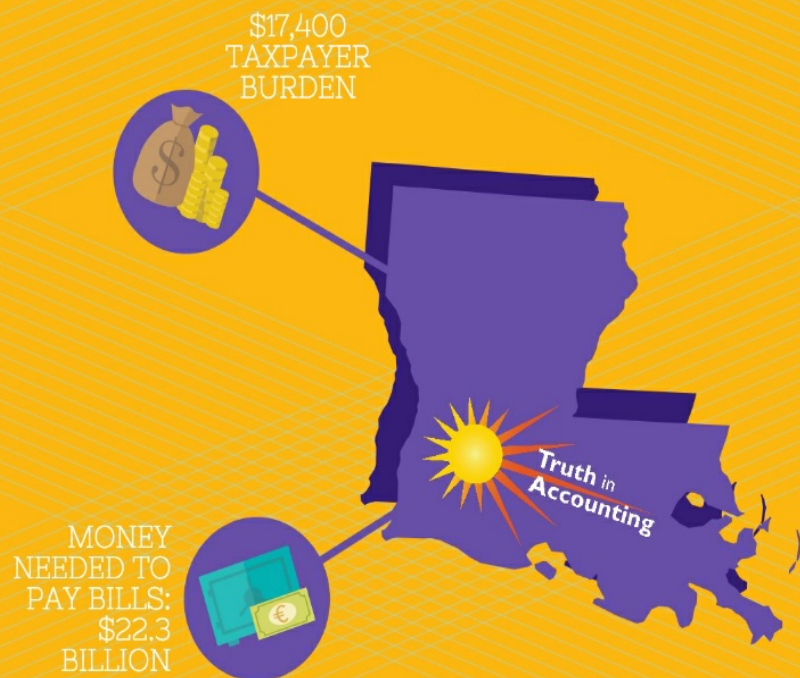
The -\$22.3 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Louisiana now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$258.3 million in 2014 to \$8.8 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$820.4 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 51% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$9.6 billion of pension benefits and \$8.7 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

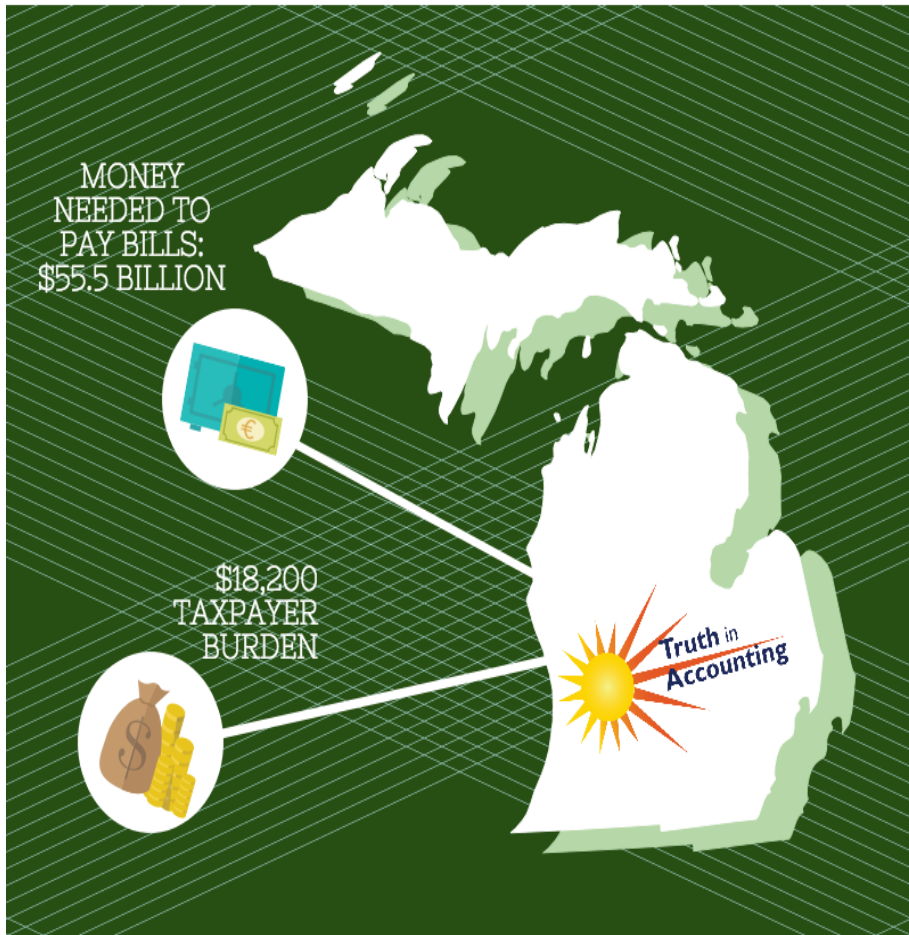
## Financial state of the state

# 40 LOUISIANA



# Financial state of the state

## 41 MICHIGAN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Key Findings

- Michigan is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$55.5 billion to pay its bills
- Michigan has a taxpayer burden of -\$18,200, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$25.1 billion of pension debt and \$17.9 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$25.5 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$31.3 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$20.8 billion
Other bills	-\$28.9 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$55.5 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$18,200</b>

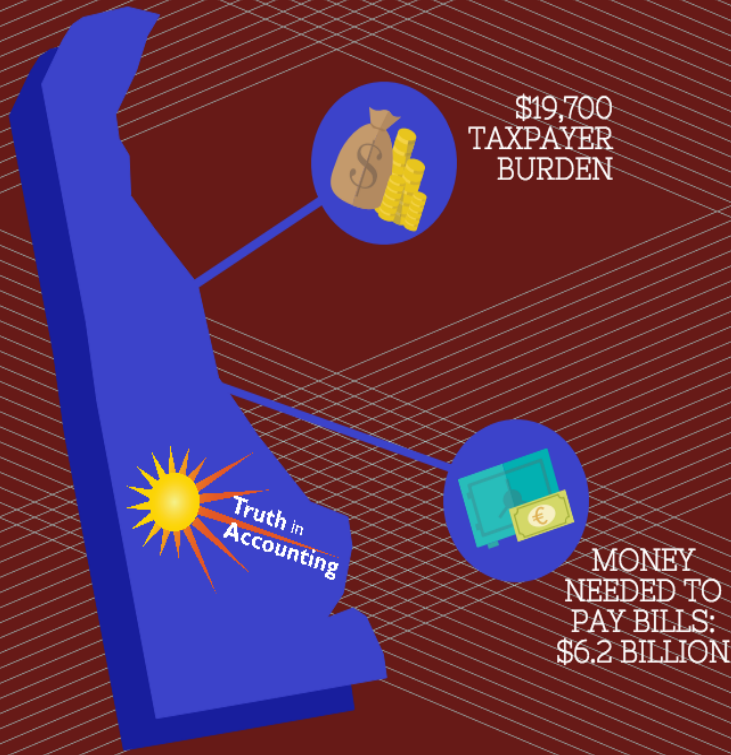
The -\$55.5 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Michigan now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$742.2 million in 2014 to \$6.2 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$25.1 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 64% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$31.3 billion of pension benefits and \$20.8 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 42 DELAWARE



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF DELAWARE

### Key Findings

- Delaware is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$6.2 billion to pay its bills
- Delaware has a taxpayer burden of -\$19,700, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$333.4 million of pension debt and \$3.8 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$3 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$1.1 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$6.1 billion
Other bills	-\$2.1 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$6.2 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$19,700</b>

The -\$6.2 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Delaware now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$116.8 million in 2014 to \$739.8 million in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$333.4 million of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 78% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$1.1 billion of pension benefits and \$6.1 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 43 NEW YORK

MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$126.9 BILLION



\$20,100  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEW YORK

### Key Findings

- New York is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$126.9 billion to pay its bills
- New York has a taxpayer burden of -\$20,100, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$6.5 billion of pension debt and \$70.9 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$129.8 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$9.2 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$102.7 billion
Other bills	-\$144.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$126.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$20,100</b>

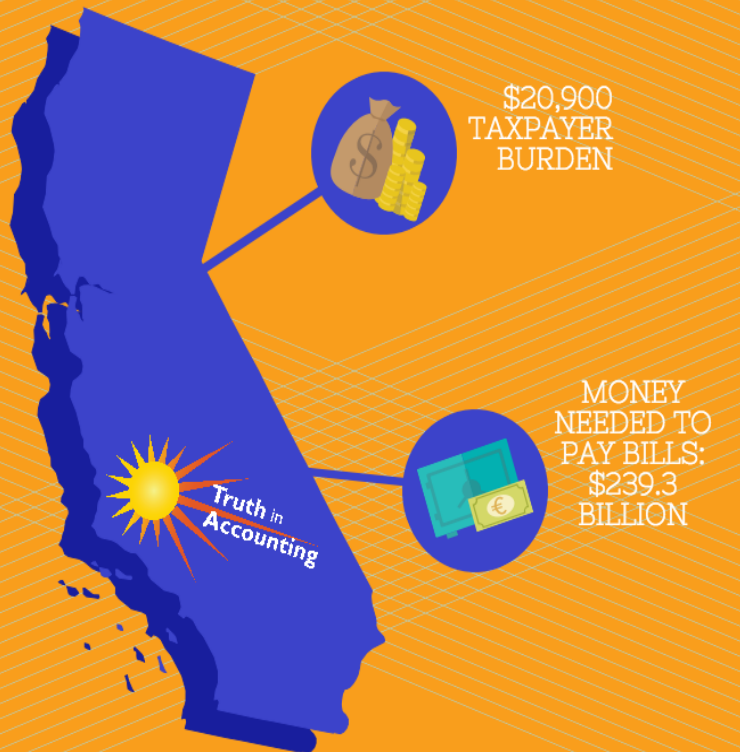
The -\$126.9 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, New York now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$2.7 billion in 2014 to \$2.8 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$6.5 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 44% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$9.2 billion of pension benefits and \$102.7 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 44 CALIFORNIA



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF CALIFORNIA

### Key Findings

- California is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$239.3 billion to pay its bills
- California has a taxpayer burden of -\$20,900, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$4.4 billion of pension debt and \$58.2 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$96.1 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$78.9 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$90 billion
Other bills	-\$166.5 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$239.3 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$20,900</b>

The -\$239.3 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

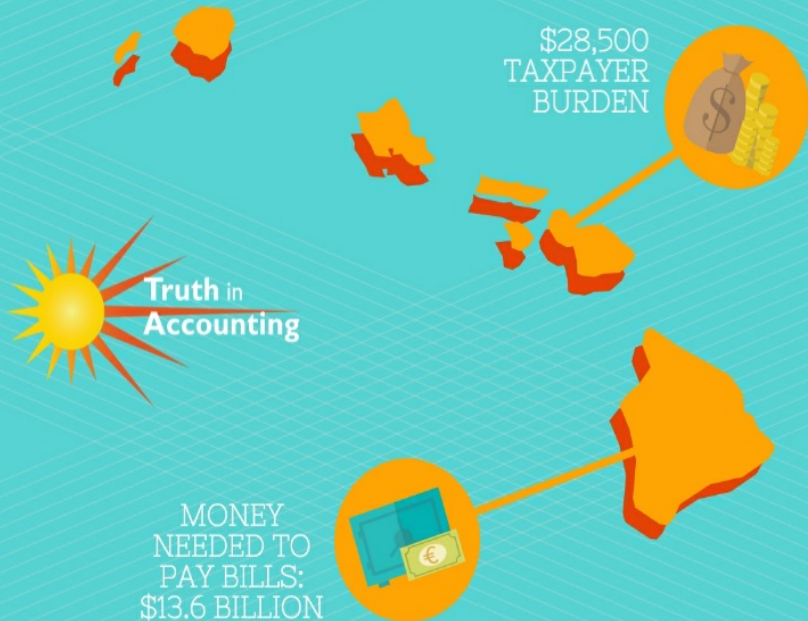
Because of a new accounting rule, California now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$11 billion in 2014 to \$74.5 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$4.4 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 50% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$78.9 billion of pension benefits and \$90 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

## 45 HAWAII



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF HAWAII

### Key Findings

- Hawaii is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$13.6 billion to pay its bills
- Hawaii has a taxpayer burden of -\$28,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.2 billion of pension debt and \$4.4 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$5.7 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$6.9 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$9.1 billion
Other bills	-\$3.3 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$13.6 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$28,500</b>

The -\$13.6 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Hawaii now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$0 in 2014 to \$5.8 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1.2 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 83% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$6.9 billion of pension benefits and \$9.1 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

# 46 MASSACHUSETTS

\$30,300  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



Truth in  
Accounting



MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$74.9 BILLION



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

### Key Findings

- Massachusetts is a sinkhole state
- The commonwealth needs \$74.9 billion to pay its bills
- Massachusetts has a taxpayer burden of -\$30,300, which is each taxpayer's share of the commonwealth's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$6.4 billion of pension debt and \$11.8 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The commonwealth's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$21 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$32.7 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$18.2 billion
Other bills	-\$44.9 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$74.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$30,300</b>

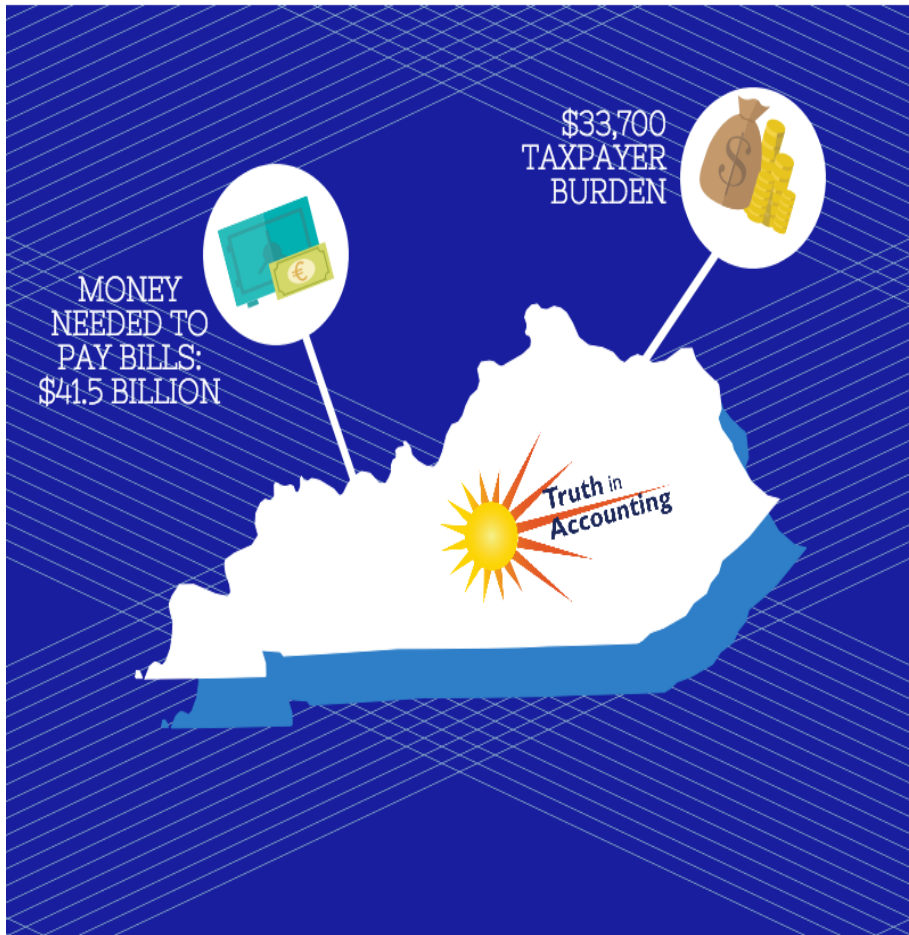
The -\$74.9 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Massachusetts now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the commonwealth's reported pension debt grew from \$2.4 billion in 2014 to \$26.3 billion in 2015. However, the commonwealth is still hiding \$6.4 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 53% of commonwealth bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because commonwealth employees have been promised \$32.7 billion of pension benefits and \$18.2 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

## 47 KENTUCKY



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF KENTUCKY

### Key Findings

- Kentucky is a sinkhole state
- The commonwealth needs \$41.5 billion to pay its bills
- Kentucky has a taxpayer burden of -\$33,700, which is each taxpayer's share of the commonwealth's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$3.8 billion of pension debt and \$1.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The commonwealth's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$12.3 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$33.5 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$4.9 billion
Other bills	-\$15.4 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$41.5 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$33,700</b>

The -\$41.5 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

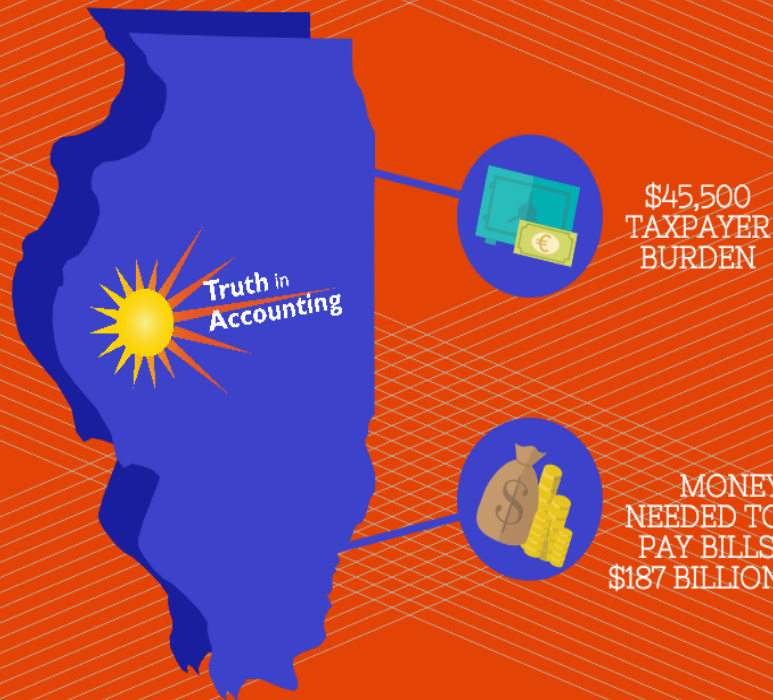
Because of a new accounting rule, Kentucky now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the commonwealth's reported pension debt grew from \$3 billion in 2014 to \$29.6 billion in 2015. However, the commonwealth is still hiding \$3.8 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 71% of commonwealth bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because commonwealth employees have been promised \$33.5 billion of pension benefits and \$4.9 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 48 ILLINOIS



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF ILLINOIS

### Key Findings

- Illinois is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$186.9 billion to pay its bills
- Illinois has a taxpayer burden of -\$45,500, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$8.1 billion of pension debt and \$32.3 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$25.9 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$116.8 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$44.3 billion
Other bills	-\$51.7 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$186.9 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$45,500</b>

The -\$186.9 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

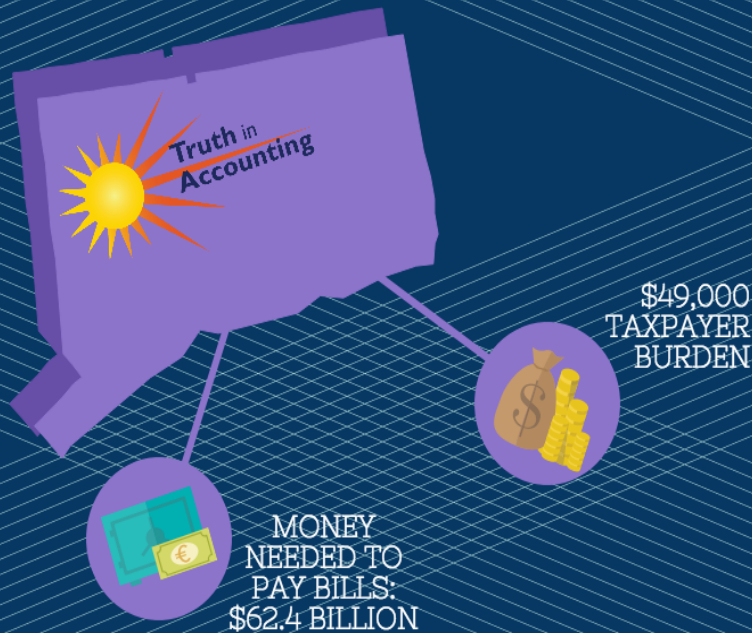
Because of a new accounting rule, Illinois now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$29.3 billion in 2014 to \$108.7 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$8.1 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 76% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$116.8 billion of pension benefits and \$44.3 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.



# Financial state of the state

# 49 CONNECTICUT



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF CONNECTICUT

### Key Findings

- Connecticut is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$62.4 billion to pay its bills
- Connecticut has a taxpayer burden of -\$49,000, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$1.8 billion of pension debt and \$13 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$11.2 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$26.3 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$22 billion
Other bills	-\$25.3 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$62.4 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$49,000</b>

The -\$62.4 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, Connecticut now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$2.6 billion in 2014 to \$24.6 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$1.8 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 66% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$26.3 billion of pension benefits and \$22 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

# Financial state of the state

## 50 NEW JERSEY

\$59,400  
TAXPAYER  
BURDEN



MONEY  
NEEDED TO  
PAY BILLS:  
\$183 BILLION



## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### Key Findings

- New Jersey is a sinkhole state
- The state needs \$183 billion to pay its bills
- New Jersey has a taxpayer burden of -\$59,400, which is each taxpayer's share of the state's unfunded debt.
- The state is hiding \$13 billion of pension debt and \$38.5 billion of retirees' health care debt

### The state's bills exceed its assets

Assets available to pay bills	\$24.6 billion
Minus: Bills	
Unfunded pension debt	-\$95.4 billion
Unfunded retirees' health care debt	-\$67.4 billion
Other bills	-\$44.8 billion
<b>Money needed to pay bills</b>	<b>-\$183 billion</b>
<b>Each taxpayer's share of this debt</b>	<b>-\$59,400</b>

The -\$183 billion of money needed to pay bills represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those years. Instead, these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Because of a new accounting rule, New Jersey now has to report its pension debt on its balance sheet. As a result, the state's reported pension debt grew from \$16 billion in 2014 to \$82.4 billion in 2015. However, the state is still hiding \$13 billion of pension debt from taxpayers.

Unfunded employees' retirement benefits represent 78% of state bills. These unfunded liabilities have accumulated because state employees have been promised \$95.4 billion of pension benefits and \$67.4 billion of retirees' health care benefits, but the state has not adequately funded them.

**APPENDIX I:  
FINANCIAL STATE OF THE STATES SCHEDULE**

<i>(in Billions)</i>						
State	State Bonds	Other Liabilities*	Less Debt Related to Capital Assets	Unfunded Pension Benefits Due	Unfunded Retirees' Health Care Benefits Due	Total Bills
Alabama	\$9.1	\$5.1	\$4.8	\$6.8	\$11.3	\$27.7
Alaska	\$5.4	\$4.3	\$2.1	\$5.5	\$5.3	\$18.3
Arizona	\$7.9	\$8.9	\$6.6	\$5.0	\$0.3	\$15.4
Arkansas	\$4.6	\$3.8	\$2.6	\$1.5	\$1.9	\$9.2
California	\$131.7	\$81.4	\$46.6	\$78.9	\$90.0	\$335.4
Colorado	\$5.3	\$7.8	\$4.6	\$10.6	\$1.0	\$20.0
Connecticut	\$27.9	\$6.4	\$9.0	\$26.3	\$22.0	\$73.6
Delaware	\$3.5	\$1.6	\$3.1	\$1.1	\$6.1	\$9.2
Florida	\$31.4	\$34.0	\$12.9	\$6.3	\$7.1	\$65.9
Georgia	\$14.8	\$10.5	\$10.9	\$6.7	\$6.7	\$27.8
Hawaii	\$9.3	\$2.4	\$8.5	\$6.9	\$9.1	\$19.3
Idaho	\$2.5	\$1.8	\$1.2	\$0.4	\$0.1	\$3.5
Illinois	\$40.9	\$25.2	\$14.4	\$116.8	\$44.3	\$212.8
Indiana	\$9.2	\$10.4	\$4.8	\$13.5	\$0.8	\$29.1
Iowa	\$4.9	\$3.4	\$2.1	\$1.0	\$0.7	\$7.9
Kansas	\$4.5	\$3.3	\$4.7	\$6.5	\$0.4	\$9.9
Kentucky	\$10.4	\$9.8	\$4.8	\$33.5	\$4.9	\$53.8
Louisiana	\$12.5	\$10.8	\$5.9	\$9.6	\$8.7	\$35.7
Maine	\$4.9	\$1.7	\$1.3	\$2.4	\$2.0	\$9.7
Maryland	\$19.1	\$9.2	\$11.3	\$20.3	\$10.0	\$47.4
Massachusetts	\$47.2	\$13.2	\$15.5	\$32.7	\$18.2	\$95.9
Michigan	\$21.4	\$11.6	\$4.1	\$31.3	\$20.8	\$81.0
Minnesota	\$15.2	\$9.6	\$6.8	\$3.8	\$1.0	\$22.7
Mississippi	\$5.5	\$4.3	\$2.5	\$5.4	\$0.7	\$13.4
Missouri	\$6.0	\$5.3	\$5.6	\$5.7	\$3.4	\$14.8
Montana	\$1.0	\$2.8	\$0.4	\$1.9	\$0.5	\$5.7

\*Does not include Net Pension and OPEB Obligations

**APPENDIX I:  
FINANCIAL STATE OF THE STATES SCHEDULE**

<i>(in Billions)</i>						
State	State Bonds	Other Liabilities*	Less Debt Related to Capital Assets	Unfunded Pension Benefits Due	Unfunded Retirees' Health Care Benefits Due	Total Bills
Nebraska	\$0.8	\$2.3	\$0.7	\$0.2	\$0.0	\$2.6
Nevada	\$4.0	\$2.6	\$1.8	\$2.2	\$1.4	\$8.5
New Hampshire	\$2.1	\$1.1	\$1.6	\$0.9	\$2.3	\$4.8
New Jersey	\$43.2	\$36.0	\$34.4	\$95.4	\$67.4	\$207.6
New Mexico	\$5.2	\$3.6	\$3.2	\$6.7	\$2.4	\$14.7
New York	\$96.3	\$131.7	\$83.3	\$9.2	\$102.7	\$256.6
North Carolina	\$12.3	\$15.5	\$7.7	\$1.7	\$26.7	\$48.5
North Dakota	\$1.4	\$4.5	\$0.4	\$0.4	\$0.0	\$5.9
Ohio	\$20.3	\$45.6	\$10.2	\$8.5	\$3.1	\$67.3
Oklahoma	\$7.5	\$5.8	\$5.4	\$7.1	\$0.2	\$15.2
Oregon	\$12.1	\$8.9	\$4.3	\$1.6	\$0.2	\$18.5
Pennsylvania	\$33.2	\$28.0	\$13.0	\$35.7	\$22.6	\$106.5
Rhode Island	\$4.6	\$2.3	\$1.8	\$3.1	\$0.8	\$8.9
South Carolina	\$12.0	\$9.6	\$11.2	\$6.6	\$9.4	\$26.4
South Dakota	\$2.0	\$0.9	\$0.6	(\$0.2)	\$0.0	\$2.1
Tennessee	\$6.2	\$5.2	\$2.2	\$0.8	\$1.8	\$11.8
Texas	\$44.2	\$31.3	\$37.1	\$41.9	\$56.7	\$137.0
Utah	\$5.8	\$3.8	\$4.1	\$1.1	\$0.2	\$6.7
Vermont	\$3.3	\$1.1	\$0.9	\$1.7	\$2.5	\$7.7
Virginia	\$27.3	\$14.8	\$12.9	\$7.2	\$2.9	\$39.2
Washington	\$24.2	\$37.0	\$20.2	\$10.5	\$10.4	\$61.9
West Virginia	\$4.6	\$6.7	\$1.6	\$3.7	\$2.3	\$15.7
Wisconsin	\$13.6	\$11.1	\$6.4	(\$0.8)	\$1.0	\$18.5
Wyoming	\$0.9	\$5.9	\$0.2	\$0.4	\$0.3	\$7.2
<b>All States</b>	<b>\$843.2</b>	<b>\$704.0</b>	<b>\$462.7</b>	<b>\$685.9</b>	<b>\$594.5</b>	<b>\$2,364.9</b>

\*Does not include Net Pension and OPEB Obligations



**APPENDIX II:  
SCHEDULE OF ACCUMULATED BILLS**

Ranking	State	(in Billions)						Each Taxpayer's Financial Surplus (Burden)
		Reported Assets*	Less Capital Assets	Less Assets Restricted By Law or Contract	Assets Available to Pay Bills	Less Bills	Money Available (Needed) to Pay Bills	
35	Alabama	\$50.0	(\$29.4)	(\$10.8)	\$9.8	(\$27.7)	(\$17.8)	(\$14,000)
1	Alaska	\$95.2	(\$11.8)	(\$50.7)	\$32.7	(\$18.3)	\$14.4	\$52,600
19	Arizona	\$45.2	(\$27.1)	(\$8.8)	\$9.3	(\$15.4)	(\$6.0)	(\$3,200)
13	Arkansas	\$27.4	(\$15.1)	(\$4.3)	\$8.1	(\$9.2)	(\$1.0)	(\$1,400)
44	California	\$309.1	(\$162.3)	(\$50.7)	\$96.1	(\$335.4)	(\$239.3)	(\$20,900)
23	Colorado	\$40.1	(\$19.9)	(\$7.5)	\$12.6	(\$20.0)	(\$7.4)	(\$4,000)
49	Connecticut	\$33.8	(\$18.0)	(\$4.6)	\$11.2	(\$73.6)	(\$62.4)	(\$49,000)
42	Delaware	\$13.4	(\$8.9)	(\$1.4)	\$3.0	(\$9.2)	(\$6.2)	(\$19,700)
12	Florida	\$199.0	(\$103.6)	(\$36.0)	\$59.4	(\$65.9)	(\$6.5)	(\$1,100)
22	Georgia	\$60.8	(\$33.7)	(\$9.7)	\$17.4	(\$27.8)	(\$10.4)	(\$3,900)
45	Hawaii	\$24.8	(\$15.4)	(\$3.7)	\$5.7	(\$19.3)	(\$13.6)	(\$28,500)
8	Idaho	\$17.1	(\$7.7)	(\$4.8)	\$4.6	(\$3.5)	\$1.1	\$2,400
48	Illinois	\$74.0	(\$34.8)	(\$13.3)	\$25.9	(\$212.8)	(\$186.9)	(\$45,500)
17	Indiana	\$56.4	(\$23.8)	(\$8.4)	\$24.2	(\$29.1)	(\$4.9)	(\$2,400)
10	Iowa	\$28.8	(\$13.8)	(\$5.9)	\$9.1	(\$7.9)	\$1.1	\$1,100
27	Kansas	\$25.7	(\$16.6)	(\$5.1)	\$4.0	(\$9.9)	(\$5.9)	(\$6,500)
47	Kentucky	\$48.3	(\$30.8)	(\$5.2)	\$12.3	(\$53.8)	(\$41.5)	(\$33,700)
40	Louisiana	\$42.7	(\$21.0)	(\$8.3)	\$13.4	(\$35.7)	(\$22.3)	(\$17,400)
30	Maine	\$13.8	(\$5.8)	(\$2.0)	\$6.0	(\$9.7)	(\$3.7)	(\$8,400)
37	Maryland	\$53.8	(\$33.9)	(\$3.7)	\$16.3	(\$47.4)	(\$31.1)	(\$14,800)
46	Massachusetts	\$73.3	(\$45.4)	(\$6.9)	\$21.0	(\$95.9)	(\$74.9)	(\$30,300)
41	Michigan	\$65.4	(\$27.1)	(\$12.8)	\$25.5	(\$81.0)	(\$55.5)	(\$18,200)
16	Minnesota	\$58.2	(\$24.6)	(\$14.4)	\$19.2	(\$22.7)	(\$3.5)	(\$1,800)
33	Mississippi	\$30.4	(\$19.6)	(\$5.9)	\$5.0	(\$13.4)	(\$8.4)	(\$11,800)
20	Missouri	\$51.4	(\$37.5)	(\$5.5)	\$8.3	(\$14.8)	(\$6.4)	(\$3,500)
14	Montana	\$15.3	(\$6.3)	(\$3.8)	\$5.2	(\$5.7)	(\$0.5)	(\$1,500)

\* Net of Reported Pension Assets and OPEB Assets

**APPENDIX II:  
SCHEDULE OF ACCUMULATED BILLS**

Ranking	State	(in Billions)						Each Taxpayer's Financial Surplus (Burden)
		Reported Assets*	Less Capital Assets	Less Assets Restricted By Law or Contract	Assets Available to Pay Bills	Less Bills	Money Available (Needed) to Pay Bills	
5	Nebraska	\$21.8	(\$11.2)	(\$5.8)	\$4.8	(\$2.6)	\$2.2	\$3,500
21	Nevada	\$16.1	(\$8.3)	(\$2.6)	\$5.2	(\$8.5)	(\$3.2)	(\$3,700)
26	New Hampshire	\$8.6	(\$4.9)	(\$1.6)	\$2.1	(\$4.8)	(\$2.8)	(\$5,400)
50	New Jersey	\$91.0	(\$52.9)	(\$13.5)	\$24.6	(\$207.6)	(\$183.0)	(\$59,400)
7	New Mexico	\$41.0	(\$10.2)	(\$14.7)	\$16.0	(\$14.7)	\$1.4	\$2,400
43	New York	\$334.5	(\$182.9)	(\$21.8)	\$129.8	(\$256.6)	(\$126.9)	(\$20,100)
29	North Carolina	\$98.4	(\$63.3)	(\$8.2)	\$26.9	(\$48.5)	(\$21.7)	(\$7,700)
2	North Dakota	\$26.4	(\$5.0)	(\$7.2)	\$14.1	(\$5.9)	\$8.2	\$28,400
25	Ohio	\$110.6	(\$41.3)	(\$21.1)	\$48.2	(\$67.3)	(\$19.1)	(\$5,000)
18	Oklahoma	\$41.8	(\$19.3)	(\$10.4)	\$12.1	(\$15.2)	(\$3.1)	(\$2,800)
11	Oregon	\$44.9	(\$18.3)	(\$8.5)	\$18.0	(\$18.5)	(\$0.5)	(\$400)
38	Pennsylvania	\$93.3	(\$44.4)	(\$8.2)	\$40.7	(\$106.5)	(\$65.8)	(\$15,500)
36	Rhode Island	\$11.3	(\$6.0)	(\$1.5)	\$3.8	(\$8.9)	(\$5.2)	(\$14,200)
31	South Carolina	\$50.7	(\$28.8)	(\$9.2)	\$12.7	(\$26.4)	(\$13.7)	(\$10,100)
6	South Dakota	\$10.8	(\$5.0)	(\$2.7)	\$3.1	(\$2.1)	\$0.9	\$3,300
9	Tennessee	\$52.3	(\$33.1)	(\$3.6)	\$15.6	(\$11.8)	\$3.9	\$2,100
28	Texas	\$273.2	(\$119.6)	(\$76.3)	\$77.3	(\$137.0)	(\$59.7)	(\$7,700)
4	Utah	\$40.7	(\$22.4)	(\$7.7)	\$10.5	(\$6.7)	\$3.9	\$4,800
39	Vermont	\$8.7	(\$3.3)	(\$1.7)	\$3.8	(\$7.7)	(\$3.9)	(\$17,200)
15	Virginia	\$97.5	(\$46.5)	(\$16.0)	\$35.1	(\$39.2)	(\$4.2)	(\$1,500)
32	Washington	\$90.4	(\$41.5)	(\$12.4)	\$36.5	(\$61.9)	(\$25.4)	(\$10,400)
34	West Virginia	\$24.9	(\$13.1)	(\$3.3)	\$8.5	(\$15.7)	(\$7.3)	(\$13,900)
24	Wisconsin	\$50.3	(\$29.4)	(\$11.5)	\$9.4	(\$18.5)	(\$9.1)	(\$4,600)
3	Wyoming	\$33.9	(\$7.4)	(\$13.9)	\$12.6	(\$7.2)	\$5.4	\$26,400

All States	\$3,226.3	(\$1,611.9)	(\$577.7)	\$1,036.7	(\$2,364.9)	(\$1,328.2)
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\* Net of Reported Pension Assets and OPEB Assets



**APPENDIX III:  
UNREPORTED RETIREMENT LIABILITIES**

State	Unfunded Pension Benefits Due	Unfunded Retirees' Health Care Benefits Due	Total Unfunded Retirement Benefits Due
Alabama	\$6.8	\$11.3	\$18.2
Alaska	\$5.5	\$5.3	\$10.8
Arizona	\$5.0	\$0.3	\$5.2
Arkansas	\$1.5	\$1.9	\$3.4
California	\$78.9	\$90.0	\$168.9
Colorado	\$10.6	\$1.0	\$11.6
Connecticut	\$26.3	\$22.0	\$48.3
Delaware	\$1.1	\$6.1	\$7.2
Florida	\$6.3	\$7.1	\$13.4
Georgia	\$6.7	\$6.7	\$13.4
Hawaii	\$6.9	\$9.1	\$16.0
Idaho	\$0.4	\$0.1	\$0.5
Illinois	\$116.8	\$44.3	\$161.0
Indiana	\$13.5	\$0.8	\$14.3
Iowa	\$1.0	\$0.7	\$1.7
Kansas	\$6.5	\$0.4	\$6.8
Kentucky	\$33.5	\$4.9	\$38.4
Louisiana	\$9.6	\$8.7	\$18.3
Maine	\$2.4	\$2.0	\$4.4
Maryland	\$20.3	\$10.0	\$30.3
Massachusetts	\$32.7	\$18.2	\$50.9
Michigan	\$31.3	\$20.8	\$52.1
Minnesota	\$3.8	\$1.0	\$4.7
Mississippi	\$5.4	\$0.7	\$6.2
Missouri	\$5.7	\$3.4	\$9.1
Montana	\$1.9	\$0.5	\$2.4

\*A negative amount represents a reported net pension and/or OPEB asset(s).

**APPENDIX III:  
UNREPORTED RETIREMENT LIABILITIES**

State	Unfunded Pension Benefits Due	Unfunded Retirees' Health Care Benefits Due	Total Unfunded Retirement Benefits Due
Nebraska	\$0.2	\$0.0	\$0.2
Nevada	\$2.2	\$1.4	\$3.7
New Hampshire	\$0.9	\$2.3	\$3.2
New Jersey	\$95.4	\$67.4	\$162.8
New Mexico	\$6.7	\$2.4	\$9.1
New York	\$9.2	\$102.7	\$111.9
North Carolina	\$1.7	\$26.7	\$28.4
North Dakota	\$0.4	\$0.0	\$0.4
Ohio	\$8.5	\$3.1	\$11.6
Oklahoma	\$7.1	\$0.2	\$7.3
Oregon	\$1.6	\$0.2	\$1.8
Pennsylvania	\$35.7	\$22.6	\$58.3
Rhode Island	\$3.1	\$0.8	\$3.9
South Carolina	\$6.6	\$9.4	\$16.0
South Dakota	(\$0.2)	\$0.0	(\$0.2)
Tennessee	\$0.8	\$1.8	\$2.6
Texas	\$41.9	\$56.7	\$98.6
Utah	\$1.1	\$0.2	\$1.3
Vermont	\$1.7	\$2.5	\$4.3
Virginia	\$7.2	\$2.9	\$10.0
Washington	\$10.5	\$10.4	\$20.8
West Virginia	\$3.7	\$2.3	\$6.0
Wisconsin	(\$0.8)	\$1.0	\$0.3
Wyoming	\$0.4	\$0.3	\$0.7

All States	\$685.9	\$594.5	\$1,280.5
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\*A negative amount represents a reported net pension and/or OPEB asset(s).

## APPENDIX IV: TIMELINESS OF FINANCIAL REPORT RELEASE

22 States Timely	Days to Release
Michigan	92
Washington	122
Utah	127
South Carolina	148
New York	154
North Carolina	156
Kansas	163
Kentucky	164
Minnesota	164
Iowa	167
Maryland	168
Virginia	168
North Dakota	169
Nebraska	170
Rhode Island	170
Wisconsin	170
Wyoming	171
Nevada	174
Louisiana	175
Ohio	175
Indiana	176
Oklahoma	176

18 States Tardy	Days to Release
Delaware	181
Tennessee	182
Texas	182
Vermont	182
Hawaii	183
Arkansas	184
Idaho	184
Maine	184
Oregon	191
Georgia	192
Missouri	198
New Hampshire	199
South Dakota	206
Connecticut	213
Pennsylvania	213
Alaska	216
Florida	241
Montana	244

Five Most Timely States	Days to Release
Michigan	92
Washington	122
Utah	127
South Carolina	148
New York	154

Ten States Excessively Tardy (Over 250 Days)	Days to Release
New Jersey	254
California	262
Illinois	266
Mississippi	297
Colorado	301
West Virginia	314
Massachusetts	323
Arizona	342
Alabama *	349
New Mexico	377

\* Unissued as of September 13, 2016



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