



No. 4

Lincoln Finances in Good Shape

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The Financial State of Lincoln

A new analysis of the latest available audited financial report found Lincoln has a Taxpayer Surplus™ of \$2,900, earning it a "B" grade based on Truth in Accounting's grading scale.

Unlike most cities, Lincoln's city government has enough resources available to pay all of its bills, including public employees' retirement benefits. When broken down, the amount available to pay future bills results in a surplus of \$2,900 for each Lincoln taxpayer.

Here's the truth:

\$280.3
million
Money available
to pay future
bills

\$2,900
Taxpayer
Surplus

B
Financial grade

Data included in this report is derived from the city of Lincoln 2017 audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and retirement plans' reports.

LINCOLN

FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

FAST FACTS

- + Lincoln has \$576.4 million available in assets to pay \$296.1 million worth of bills.
- + The outcome is a \$280.3 million surplus, which breaks down to \$2,900 per taxpayer.
- + The city is hiding \$3 million of retiree health care debt from its balance sheet.

THE CITY'S ASSETS EXCEED ITS BILLS

Assets	\$3,620,367,000
Minus: Capital assets	-\$2,856,836,000
Restricted assets	-\$187,089,000
Assets available to pay bills	\$576,442,000
Minus: Bills	-\$296,104,000
Money available to pay bills	\$280,338,000
Each taxpayer's share of surplus	\$2,900

BILLS THE CITY HAS ACCUMULATED

Bonds	\$1,212,672,000
Other liabilities	\$342,449,000
Minus: Debt related to capital assets	-\$1,328,189,000
Unfunded pension benefits	\$51,899,000
Unfunded retiree health care	\$17,273,000
Bills	\$296,104,000

GRADE: B

Bottom line: Lincoln has enough money to pay its bills, so it has received a "B" for its finances from Truth in Accounting. A "B" grade is given to cities with a Taxpayer Surplus between \$100 and \$10,000.