

# NEBRASKA FINANCES STILL IN GOOD SHAPE

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## THE FINANCIAL STATE OF NEBRASKA

Unlike most states, Nebraska's elected officials have only promised the amount of benefits they can afford to pay. Because of this, Nebraska has enough money to pay all of its bills. When broken down, the amount available to pay future bills results in a surplus of \$2,600 for each Nebraska taxpayer.

Although Nebraska has enough money to pay all of its bills, it is still not completely transparent with taxpayers. Because of a new accounting standard from last year, it now has to report its pension debt on the face of the balance sheet. However, Nebraska is still hiding 4% of its debt.

### Here's the truth:

**\$1.7  
billion**

money available  
to pay future  
bills

**\$2,600**

taxpayer  
surplus™

**B**

Nebraska's  
financial grade

Data included in this report is derived from the state of Nebraska's 2016 audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and retirement plans' actuarial reports.

# NEBRASKA FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

## FAST FACTS

- + Nebraska has \$4.6 billion available in assets to pay \$2.9 billion worth of bills.
- + The outcome: A \$1.7 billion surplus, which breaks down to \$2,600 per taxpayer.
- + The state has become more transparent with its pension liabilities in recent years, but it is still hiding \$111.1 million from its balance sheet. Unlike most states, Nebraska has no retiree health care debt.

### THE STATE'S ASSETS EXCEED ITS BILLS

Assets	\$22,100,458,000
<i>Minus:</i> Capital assets	-\$11,659,097,000
Restricted assets	-\$5,855,848,000
Assets available to pay bills	\$4,585,513,000
<i>Minus:</i> Bills	-\$2,930,161,000
Money available to pay bills	\$1,655,352,000
<b>Each taxpayer's share of surplus</b>	<b>\$2,600</b>

### BILLS THE STATE HAS ACCUMULATED

Bonds	\$893,674,000
Other liabilities	\$2,376,566,000
<i>Minus:</i> Debt related to capital assets	-\$782,426,000
Unfunded pension benefits	\$442,347,000
Unfunded retiree health care	\$0
<b>Bills</b>	<b>\$2,930,161,000</b>

## GRADE: B

Bottom line: Nebraska 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 states with a taxpayer surplus™ between \$100 & \$10,000.

Truth in Accounting is committed to educating and empowering citizens with understandable, reliable, and transparent government financial information. To be knowledgeable participants in their government and its budget process, citizens need truthful and transparent financial information.