ARKANSAS

$1.87 Billion
Unfunded Retiree’s Healthcare Benefits Due

$3.12 Billion
of Retirement Benefits Owed BUT NOT Funded

Arkansas
  • Little Rock

$1.25 Billion
Unfunded Pension Benefits Due
Arkansas has $25.1 billion in assets, but most of these assets are not available to pay state bills.

The $14.5 billion of capital assets, such as roads, buildings, and land should not be sold to pay bills. The use of $3.4 billion of the assets is restricted by law or contract.

That leaves $7.3 billion of state's assets available to pay $8.4 billion of bills as they come due.

The -$1.1 billion shortfall represents compensation and other costs incurred in prior years that should have been paid in those prior years. Instead these costs have been shifted to future taxpayers.

Each Taxpayer's Share of Arkansas' Debt: -$1,500

A detailed study of Arkansas' actuaries' schedules found retirement benefits totaling $3.1 billion have been promised, but not funded. A review of the state's balance sheet determined only $1 billion of these liabilities are reported. This means the state does not report $2.1 billion of retirement liabilities on its balance sheet.

Data is derived from the state of Arkansas' June 30, 2014 audited Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and retirement plans' actuarial reports.

Number of taxpayers is based on an estimation of the state's population with a federal tax liability.

To be knowledgeable participants in their government and its budget process, citizens need to be provided with truthful and transparent financial information.

Truth in Accounting is committed to educating and empowering citizens with understandable, reliable and transparent government financial information.

We call on governments to truthfully balance their budgets by including all real and certain expenses when incurred not when paid.

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