



## Iowa's Financial Report is Tardy

### Financial State of Iowa

As of August 25, 2023, Iowa had not released its fiscal year 2022 annual financial report. Based upon the state's last audited financial report for fiscal year 2021, it had a Taxpayer Surplus™ of \$5,000, earning it a "B" grade from Truth in Accounting. Using its 2021 data, the state had \$5.3 billion available to pay its bills, but this could change dramatically because of the decline in the financial markets in 2022 and 2023

Unfunded pension promises are determined by subtracting the earned and accrued pension benefits from the value of the pension investments. The information for many states that have produced their 2022 financial reports revealed that the large unrealized gains of 2021 turned into losses in 2022. When newer data is available, the state's amount of unfunded pension promises could increase significantly.

Iowa is extremely tardy with its annual financial report. The Government Finance Officers Association standard for timeliness is 180 days after the fiscal year-end. Truth in Accounting believes governments should release their financial reports within 100 days of the fiscal year-end. Without the information from the financial report, citizens and elected officials are left in the dark during the budgeting process.

The data included in this report is derived from Iowa's 2021 audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and retirement plans' reports. To compare prior years and other states' financial, demographic, and economic information, go to [Data-Z.org](http://Data-Z.org).

# Iowa's Financial Breakdown

- In 2021 Iowa had \$14.7 billion available to pay \$9.3 billion worth of bills.
- The outcome was a \$5.3 billion surplus, which breaks down to \$5,000 per taxpayer.
- As of August 25, 2023, Iowa had not released its fiscal year 2022 annual financial report. The information in this report could be very valuable during the state's budget process and other financial decisions.

## The State's Assets Exceeded Its Bills

Total Assets	\$40,384,480,000
Minus: Capital Assets	-\$17,615,387,000
Restricted Assets	-\$8,118,512,000
Assets Available to Pay Bills	\$14,650,581,000
Minus: Total Bills*	\$9,333,911,000
Money available to pay bills	\$5,316,670,000
Each taxpayer's share of this surplus	\$5,000

## \*Breakdown of Total Bills

Bonds	\$5,656,753,000
Other Liabilities	\$5,257,622,000
Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets	-\$1,908,329,000
Overfunded Pension Benefits	-\$144,759,000
Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits	\$472,624,000
Total Bills	\$9,333,911,000

**Grade:**

**B**

Bottom line: Iowa had more than enough money to pay its outstanding bills and received a "B" grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting's grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Surplus between \$1 and \$9,999 is given a "B" grade.

Truth in Accounting is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to educating and empowering you with understandable, reliable, and transparent government financial information so you can be a knowledgeable participant in your government and its budget process.