

THE NEW YORK HEALTH ACT SAVES COUNTIES BILLIONS BY ELIMINATING LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAID

COUNTY GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS FOR MEDICAID

Medicaid, a program typically funded by federal and state governments, is uniquely financed in New York State by payments from counties. While the State is capping these county payments, in 2012 they still amounted to 16.3% of the total cost of Medicaid in New York. In total, \$8.6 billion was levied from county governments across the state in 2012, forcing cash-strapped counties to assess property taxes at some of the highest levels in the nation. Some upstate and western New York counties, such as Erie, spend as much as 80% of property tax revenue on Medicaid. New York City contributed over \$6.2 billion to Medicaid in 2012 equivalent to nearly 10% of its total spending! Check out the table on the reverse side of this page to see what your own county now spends on Medicaid.

WHAT WILL THE NEW YORK HEALTH ACT DO?

The New York Health Act would "[end] the requirement for local social services districts to pay part of the cost of Medicaid and replacing those payments with revenue from the assessments under the [New York Health] revenue proposal."² This simultaneously terminates county Medicaid payments while providing Medicaid beneficiaries (and everyone else!) with better, more comprehensive coverage.

WHO WILL BENEFIT?

Together, "downstate suburban counties would save over \$1 billion, upstate cities over \$600 million, and rural areas and elsewhere \$1.3 billion." And New York City would save around 10% of its current spending. Clearly, the taxpayers in each of these jurisdictions would see substantial savings on their property taxes and other taxes and fees.

¹New York State Division of the Budget. "FY 2012 Enacted Budget". Page 68.

https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy1112archive/enacted1112/2011-12EnactedBudget.pdf

² New York Health Act, A5062-2015 Article 51 Section 5109-3, NYS Assem. (2015)

³ Friedman, Gerald. "Economic Analysis of the New York Health Act". The Campaign for New York Health. Mar. 2015. Page 37.

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/pnhpnymetro/pages/132/attachments/original/1428277733/Fiscal_Study_New_York_Health_Act - GFriedman - April 2015b.pdf?1428277733

COUNTY	PROPERTY TAXES 2012	MEDICAID SPENDING	MEDICAID SPENDING AS A PERCENT OF PROPERTY TAX
Albany	\$82,507,617	\$67,159,771	81.4%
Allegany	\$28,631,680	\$10,333,801	36.1%
Broome	\$67,935,347	\$43,713,149	64.3%
Cattaraugus	\$48,929,116	\$20,741,139	42.4%
Cayuga	\$36,006,209	\$15,440,605	42.9%
Chautauqua	\$61,643,172	\$35,184,688	57.1%
Chemung	\$36,013,045	\$25,314,398	70.3%
Chenango	\$22,667,382	\$11,388,933	50.2%
Clinton	\$22,004,635	\$18,938,642	86.1%
Columbia	\$42,161,460	\$11,097,666	26.3%
Cortland	\$31,591,745	\$10,737,600	34.0%
Delaware	\$26,854,326	\$9,730,540	36.2%
Dutchess	\$107,297,926	\$43,717,119	40.7%
Erie	\$292,358,873	\$242,318,364	82.9%
Essex	\$16,236,219	\$6,993,761	43.1%
Franklin	\$15,053,544	\$10,307,070	68.5%
Fulton	\$28,288,961	\$14,325,626	50.6%
Genesee	\$25,312,467	\$11,049,112	43.7%
Greene	\$21,199,360	\$9,899,911	46.7%
Hamilton	\$6,656,230	\$649,624	9.8%
Herkimer	\$25,434,514	\$14,297,858	56.2%
Jefferson	\$48,372,868	\$21,589,469	44.6%
Lewis	\$13,003,011	\$6,789,058	52.2%
Livingston	\$25,024,051	\$11,805,864	47.2%
Madison	\$26,894,708	\$11,261,662	41.9%
Monroe	\$390,327,217	\$182,203,044	46.7%
Montgomery	\$27,775,966	\$11,994,829	43.2%
Nassau	\$985,059,377	\$248,188,000	25.2%
Niagara	\$82,292,637	\$45,787,501	55.6%
Oneida	\$69,219,515	\$57,262,488	82.7%
Onondaga	\$206,319,069	\$114,680,932	55.6%
Ontario	\$48,901,054	\$17,876,674	36.6%
Orange	\$115,199,983	\$81,239,001	70.5%

COUNTY	PROPERTY TAXES 2012	MEDICAID SPENDING	MEDICAID SPENDING AS A PERCENT OF PROPERTY TAX
Orleans	\$15,447,357	\$8,743,510	56.6%
Oswego	\$47,955,137	\$27,621,520	57.6%
Otsego	\$12,484,678	\$12,518,779	100.3%
Putnam	\$38,054,618	\$9,780,503	25.7%
Rensselaer	\$65,612,758	\$34,362,028	52.4%
Rockland	\$138,458,708	\$76,522,830	55.3%
Saratoga	\$61,514,985	\$26,538,787	43.1%
Schenectady	\$65,995,068	\$27,104,150	41.1%
Schoharie	\$18,206,620	\$35,530,241	195.2%
Schuyler	\$10,171,788	\$5,942,040	58.4%
Seneca	\$9,927,792	\$4,006,485	40.4%
St. Lawrence	\$49,105,309	\$6,111,528	12.4%
Steuben	\$39,310,590	\$20,957,174	53.3%
Suffolk	\$720,823,935	\$254,229,891	35.3%
Sullivan	\$51,841,622	\$21,892,231	42.2%
Tioga	\$21,432,162	\$8,679,398	40.5%
Tompkins	\$41,824,693	\$12,157,498	29.1%
Ulster	\$80,719,710	\$37,164,833	46.0%
Warren	\$38,986,964	\$13,220,044	33.9%
Washington	\$29,386,919	\$12,414,609	42.2%
Wayne	\$34,997,667	\$14,648,829	41.9%
Westchester	\$695,119,537	\$276,094,418	39.7%
Wyoming	\$15,672,559	\$7,349,030	46.9%
Yates	\$13,278,918	\$4,454,867	33.5%
State Total (excl NYC)	\$5,399,503,378	\$2,402,063,122	44.5%
New York City	\$5,451,600,127	\$6,206,000,000	113.8%
State Total (incl. NYC) Table Source	\$10,851,103,505	\$8,608,063,122	79.3%

Table Sources:

http://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/orptbook/taxrates.htm

http://www.nyc.gov/html/omb/downloads/pdf/sum5_11.pdf

^{1.} Office of the New York State Comptroller: Local Government and School Accountability "Financial Data: Overlapping Real Property Tax Rates and Levies." 2012.

^{2.} NYC Executive Budget 2012