

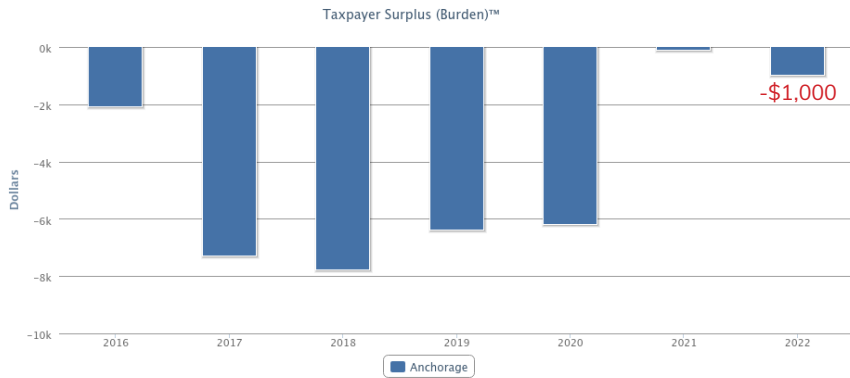
FINANCIAL STATE OF ANCHORAGE



\$115.4 million
MONEY NEEDED TO PAY BILLS

\$1,000
TAXPAYER BURDEN™

As of December 15, 2024, Anchorage had not released its fiscal year 2023 annual financial report. Based on our analysis of its 2022 financial report, the city needed \$115.4 million to cover its financial obligations, resulting in a Taxpayer Burden of \$1,000. This led to a “C” grade from Truth in Accounting, classifying it as a Sinkhole City.



Anchorage’s 2023 financial report was unavailable for this analysis, so we relied on 2022 data. Timely financial information is essential for informed decision-making. Elected officials and citizens need up-to-date data to address the city’s challenges and plan for the future. In 2022, Anchorage’s resources to cover its outstanding obligations grew from \$5.4 million to \$115.4 million. Anchorage’s financial condition declined despite revenues exceeding expenses, primarily due to a 6% increase in its share of the Alaska Public Employees’ Retirement System net pension liability from unrealized losses.

Unfortunately, when critical budget decisions were made, city officials and taxpayers were unaware if all of its obligations had increased in 2023. However, in a rare and commendable approach among cities, the Chief Financial Officer consolidated figures for both the primary government and component units within the financial statements, enhancing clarity and accountability.

The data included in this report is derived from Anchorage’s 2022 audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and retirement plans’ reports. To compare prior years and other states’ and cities’ financial, demographic, and economic information, go to Data-Z.org.

FINANCIAL STATE OF ANCHORAGE

C
FINANCIAL GRADE

27 out of 75
RANKING

FINANCIAL FACTS

- Anchorage had \$1.1 billion available to pay \$1.2 billion worth of bills.
- The outcome was a \$115.4 million shortfall, which breaks down to a burden of \$1,000 per taxpayer.
- Anchorage’s 2023 financial data was unavailable, but its 2022 report showed increased obligations, a declining financial condition, and pension liabilities.

The City’s Bills Exceeded Its Assets

Total Assets	\$8,302,450,000
Minus: Capital Assets	-\$6,516,179,000
Restricted Assets	-\$671,781,000
Assets Available to Pay Bills	\$1,114,490,000
Minus: Total Bills*	-\$1,229,840,000
Money needed to pay bills	\$115,350,000
Each taxpayer’s share of this burden	\$1,000

*Breakdown of Total Bills

Bonds	\$1,551,725,000
Other Liabilities	\$1,080,062,000
Minus: Debt Related to Capital Assets	-\$2,077,791,000
Unfunded Pension Benefits	\$895,721,000
Unfunded Retiree Health Care Benefits	-\$219,877,000
Total Bills	\$1,229,840,000

Grade:	Bottom line:
C	Anchorage would need \$1,000 from each of its taxpayers to pay all of its outstanding bills and received a “C” grade for its finances. According to Truth in Accounting’s grading scale, any government with a Taxpayer Burden between \$0 and \$4,999 is given a “C” 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.