

Coconino County

CONCLUSION: Based on our audits, we issued opinions on the County's financial statements and federal expenditure schedule concluding that the information in those statements and schedule is reliable. We also issued reports over the County's internal control and compliance over financial reporting and select federal programs, which identified internal control weaknesses and instances of noncompliance over financial reporting and federal awards that are explained on the next page.

County overview

County provided wide range of services for its citizens—In fiscal year 2019, the County provided a wide range of government services for its over 147,000 citizens. In addition to managing general operations, such as property assessments and taxes, budgeting and finance, and elections, the County provided for public safety, such as law enforcement, court services, and flood control infrastructure; public health and welfare by providing medical assistance and contributions to Arizona's long-term care system; road construction and maintenance; and community resources, such as libraries, parks and recreation, and school programs. The County encompasses approximately 18,617 square miles, making it the largest county in Arizona. Federal, State, and reservation lands account for 88 percent of its total square miles.

County responsible for accurate financial report—The County is responsible for accurately preparing its [Comprehensive Annual Financial Report \(CAFR\)](#), maintaining effective internal controls, and being accountable for its use of public monies. Select financial information from the County's CAFR is presented below. However, the County's CAFR should be read to fully understand its overall financial picture. Our [Financial Report User Guide for State and Local Governments](#) will help readers identify and understand important and useful information in the County's CAFR.

County financial information

Asset, liability, and net position balances on June 30, 2019

Total assets/deferred outflows = \$326.2 million

Select asset balances:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| \$177.8 M | Capital assets |
| 89.6 | Cash and investments |
| 17.2 | Due from others and receivables |

Total liabilities/deferred inflows = \$164.9 million

Select liability balances:

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| \$130.6 M | Noncurrent employee benefits |
| 15.3 | Current payables |

County's net position = \$161.3 million

None of this net position is unrestricted

Revenues and expenses during fiscal year 2019

Total revenues = \$152.8 million

Select revenue sources:

| | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| \$43.2 M | County sales taxes |
| 37.8 | Federal and State grants and programs |
| 27.3 | Shared State sales taxes |
| 21.8 | County property taxes |

Total expenses = \$140.7 million

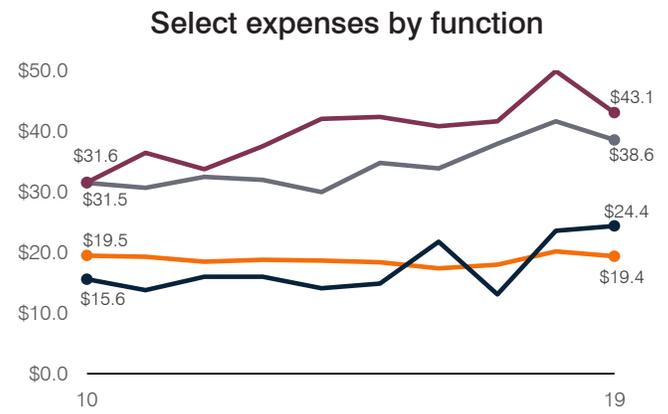
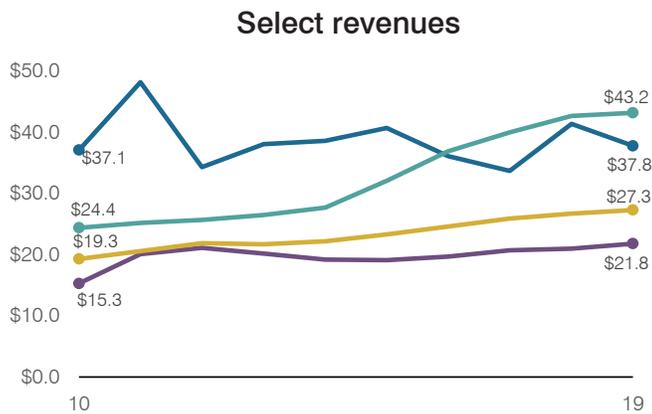
Select expenses by function:

| | |
|----------|----------------------|
| \$43.1 M | Public safety |
| 38.6 | General government |
| 24.4 | Highways and streets |
| 19.4 | Health and welfare |

Select revenues and expenses by function

Fiscal years 2010 through 2019

(In millions)



- **County sales taxes**—Local sales taxes consist primarily of general unrestricted taxes and those restricted for jail operations and highways and streets maintenance. In fiscal year 2019, these amounts were \$16.4 million, \$16.4 million, and \$10.1 million, respectively.
- **Federal and State grants and programs**—Federal and State government grants and programs awarded as assistance to the County and its citizens, including highway user tax revenues for authorized transportation purposes.
- **Shared State sales taxes**—Sales taxes the State of Arizona collects and the Arizona State Treasurer distributes to the County based on the State’s statutory distribution formulas.
- **County property taxes**—Taxes the County levied on the assessed value of real and personal property within the County. The County Treasurer collects the tax revenues.

- **Public safety**—Protection of persons and property of the County. The largest portion of these expenses are for County jail operations, County Sheriff’s office services, probation services, and Flood Control District operations.
- **General government**—General operation, oversight, and administration of County operations, including property assessments and taxes, budgeting and finance, and elections.
- **Highways and streets**—Construction and maintenance of highways, streets, and bridges within the County.
- **Health and welfare**—Public assistance and institutional care for individuals who are economically unable to provide for themselves, including required State shared sales taxes withheld for Arizona’s long-term care system.

Source: Auditor General staff summary of information obtained from the County’s CAFRs.

Audit findings and recommendations

Below is a summary of our reports on the County’s internal control and compliance over financial reporting and over federal programs that are included in the County’s [Single Audit Report](#) where there is detailed information about our findings and the County’s responses. For help in understanding important information presented in these reports, please refer to our [Internal Control and Compliance Reports User Guide](#).

Financial reporting internal control

We found that the County misspent \$22,524 on food and beverage purchases from transactions we sampled and also identified in County records another \$120,000 that may have been misspent on food and beverages. These purchases put the County at risk of gifting public monies in violation of the Arizona Constitution. In addition, for its public officers and employees to avoid conflicts of interest, the County needs to ensure its public officers and employees disclose substantial interests and refrain from being involved in County decisions involving their substantial interests. Finally, the County needs to continue to improve policies and procedures over its financial statement preparation and IT systems and data.

Financial findings and recommendations

Federal internal control and compliance

The County spent over \$7.9 million of federal program monies during the fiscal year. We tested 2 federal programs selected under the major program guidelines established by the Single Audit Act, including workforce innovation and schools and roads programs, which totaled over \$3.5 million in federal expenditures. We reported an internal control weakness over the County’s administration of the schools and roads program.

Federal findings and recommendations