

Yuma 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 over financial reporting and internal control weaknesses and instances of noncompliance over 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 212,000 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; highway and street maintenance and construction; and community resources, such as libraries, parks and recreation, and accounting services to school districts. The County is located in the southwest corner of Arizona and encompasses 5,514 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 = \$502.7 million

Select asset balances:

\$365.4 M	Capital assets
97.3	Cash and investments
14.5	Due from others and receivables

Total liabilities/deferred inflows = \$214.2 million

Select liability balances:

\$120.8 M	Noncurrent employee benefits
57.1	Long-term debt and lease obligations
13.9	Current payables

County's net position = \$288.5 million

None of this net position is unrestricted

Revenues and expenses during fiscal year 2019

Total revenues = \$172.3 million

Select revenue sources:

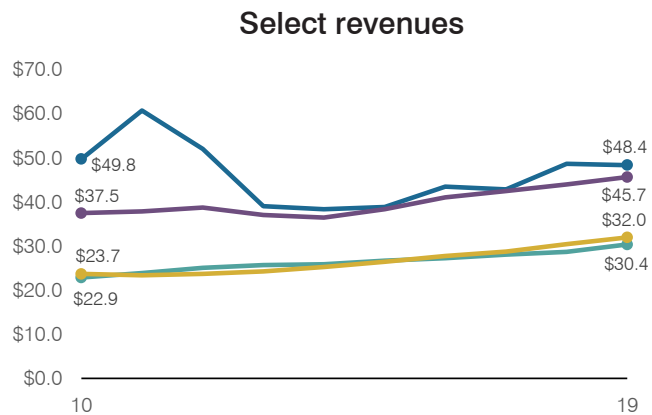
\$48.4 M	Federal and State grants and programs
45.7	County property taxes
32.0	Shared State sales taxes
30.4	County sales taxes

Total expenses = \$150.8 million

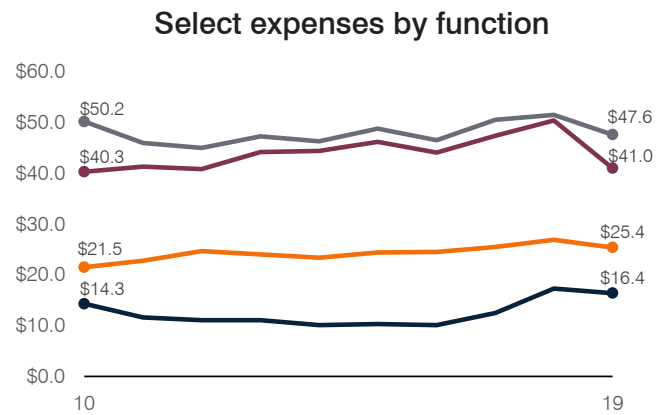
Select expenses by function:

\$47.6 M	General government
41.0	Public safety
25.4	Health and welfare
16.4	Highways and streets

Select revenues and expenses by function Fiscal years 2010 through 2019 (In millions)



- **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.
- **County property taxes**—Taxes the County levies on the assessed value of real and personal property within the County. The County Treasurer collects the tax revenues.
- **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 sales taxes**—Local sales taxes, including restricted amounts of \$13.6 million for the Jail District and \$3.0 million for the Health District for fiscal year 2019.



- **General government**—General operation, oversight, and administration of County operations, including property assessments and taxes, budgeting and finance, and elections.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Highways and streets**—Construction and maintenance of highways, streets, and bridges within the County.

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

Audit findings and recommendations

Below is a summary of our reports over the County's internal control and compliance over financial reporting and over federal programs, which 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 Report User Guide](#).

Financial reporting internal control

We found that the County needed improvements in certain controls over financial reporting and reported 3 findings. Most importantly, we found the County lacked adequate policies and procedures over IT systems and data to effectively identify and respond to risks and to prevent, detect, and respond to unauthorized or inappropriate access or use, manipulation, damage, or loss, including protecting sensitive citizen data. We also found that the County lacked policies and procedures to determine and clearly document that public monies spent for employee appreciation were for a public purpose and benefit.

Financial findings and recommendations

Federal internal control and compliance

The County spent over \$16.6 million of federal program monies during the fiscal year. We tested 3 federal programs selected under the major program guidelines established by the Single Audit Act, including nutrition assistance, community development, and housing assistance. These programs totaled nearly \$4.7 million in federal expenditures. We reported weaknesses in internal control and instances of noncompliance over the County's administration of the housing assistance program.

Federal findings and recommendations