

2012 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2012

Prepared by
Department of Management & Budget
Laurie Van Pelt, Director



L. BROOKS PATTERSON
OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE



TO THE RESIDENTS OF OAKLAND COUNTY, MI

I am pleased to present the county's Financial Summary for Fiscal Year 2012. This document will help you to better understand your county government and how it utilizes your tax dollars.

Oakland County has a reputation for fiscal excellence. Our prudent fiscal management is a result of our balanced three-year budget which allows us to continue to provide residents with outstanding services, innovate the way in which we deliver those services, while continuing to manage the decline in tax revenue. We call it "thoughtful management versus crisis management." It's what earns the county a AAA bond rating every year from Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's (S&P).

When my management team and I held our annual meeting last year with Moody's and S&P, one of the bond ratings analysts paid Oakland County the highest compliment we have ever received for our fiscal practices. He said, "In my 20 years as a bond ratings analyst, you are the best AAA-rated county I have ever seen. You are doing things some states don't even do. In fact, you are doing things some countries don't even do."

Each year, Oakland County publishes a document called the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Much of the information in the CAFR report is technical and complex, resulting in a document that is not very user-friendly for the average person. It contains the county's financial statements which are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the standards and guidelines set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The CAFR also includes an independent auditor's report which states the information contained in the financial statements has been reviewed by the firm, and with reasonable assurance, the financial information is complete, presented accurately, and in the correct format. Oakland County offers this financial summary for residents to provide a clearer, simpler picture of your county finances. It also includes a brief discussion of select county programs and initiatives.

Oakland County's Financial Summary for 2011 received the prestigious Popular Annual Financial Report Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, which is detailed on page 20 of this document. I hope you enjoy our 2012 edition.


Oakland County Executive
L. Brooks Patterson



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012



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CITY/TWP OF RESIDENCE

- Clawson
- Ferndale
- Novi
- Farmington Hills
- Bloomfield Hills
- Troy
- Auburn Hills
- Pontiac
- Highland
- Southfield
- Commerce Township
- Madison Heights
- Clarkston
- Farmington Hills
- Ortonville
- Birmingham
- Southfield
- White Lake
- Waterford
- Bloomfield Township
- South Lyon
- Royal Oak
- Huntington Woods



AN OVERVIEW OF OAKLAND COUNTY

Did you know?

The county's museums include Cranbrook Academy of Art, Cranbrook Institute of Science, the W.P. Chrysler Automotive Museum and the Holocaust Memorial Center.

Some of the world's top musicians perform at DTE Energy Music Theatre in Independence Township, Meadow Brook Music Festival in Rochester and the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The Detroit Zoo is located in Oakland County.

Popular annual events in Oakland County include the Fire & Ice winter festival; Woodward Dream Cruise; Arts, Beats & Eats; Quake on the Lake; and the Michigan Renaissance Festival.

Oakland County, Michigan is synonymous with excellence. Its prosperous communities, natural landscapes, premier entertainment venues, diverse restaurants, quality schools, leading medical facilities and dependable business resources offer an unparalleled quality of life for those who live, work or spend leisure time in Oakland County.

Over 1.2 million residents enjoy distinct neighborhoods including rural regions, walkable downtowns and thriving cities. Oakland County's diverse living accommodations ensure a broad selection for every budget and lifestyle – from rolling farmland to newer homes in modern communities and everything in between. Whatever your lifestyle, you'll find the right fit in Oakland County.

Business leaders – from small startups to major corporations – depend on Oakland County's world-class resources, thriving business climate and proven infrastructure. The county offers a solid environment of support, with programs and technologies focused on ongoing economic growth and development.

Oakland County has a reputation as home to many of the region's top educational facilities, from Pre-K through higher education to dedicated research facilities focused on high-tech skills that meet the region's increasing need for tech-savvy talent.

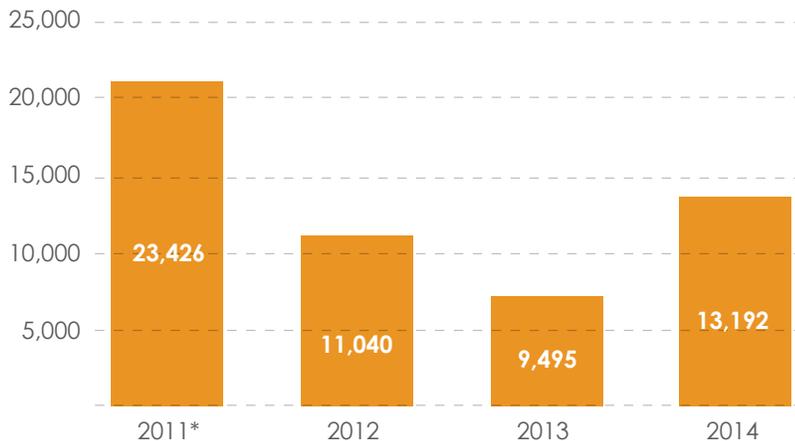
No matter where they live, residents are never more than a 20-minute drive or walk from the nearest park, nature trail or lake. Oakland County contains more than 89,000 acres of recreational property, approximately 1,450 inland lakes and the headwaters of five major rivers within its borders. With over 16,300 lakefront home sites, Oakland County is a true water wonderland.

When you visit Oakland County, you'll quickly understand why it consistently ranks among the top counties in the United States for quality of life, business success and educational advancement.



OAKLAND COUNTY'S ECONOMY

PROJECTED JOB GROWTH IN OAKLAND COUNTY



Source: George Fulton and Donald Grimes, Institute of Research on Labor, Employment, and the Economy, University of Michigan
*Estimate

Figure 1

In 2011, Oakland County experienced the beginning of an economic recovery locally, experiencing our second best year for job growth since 1994. The 23,426 new jobs created last year in Oakland County—more than double the number that economists had projected—exceeded expectations and constituted almost one-third of all new jobs created in Michigan in 2011. According to the April 2012 Oakland County Economic Outlook report prepared by the University of Michigan, more than 33,700 new jobs will be added in Oakland County over the next three-year period from 2012 through 2014. **Figure 1** illustrates this upward trend.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

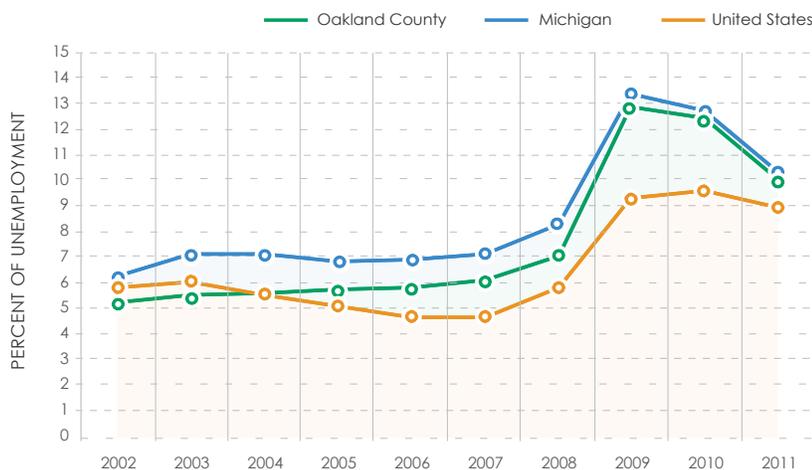


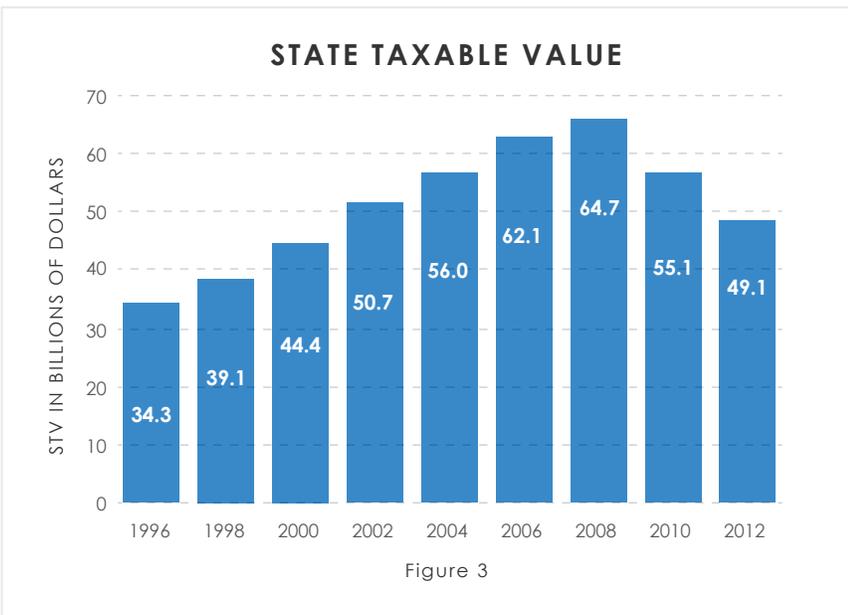
Figure 2

Oakland County's per capita income (PCI) was \$53,297 in 2011, the highest in Michigan and tenth highest nationally for counties with over 1 million population.

In September 2012, Oakland's unemployment rate was 8.6% which exceeded both the national average of 7.6% and the State of Michigan's 8.2%. Unemployment rates for the past decade are illustrated in **Figure 2**.



OAKLAND COUNTY'S TAX BASE



Oakland County has not escaped the adverse impact which the negative real estate market has had on our state and nation. The real estate downturn has proven to be a severe problem nationally, causing record-setting numbers of property foreclosures and declining property values. In comparison with the rest of the country, the real estate market began trending downward earlier in southeast Michigan because of the magnitude of job losses in the region.

The county has consistently maintained a prudent and conservative approach to tax revenues by controlling the millage rate levied on the tax base. The county millage rate for the July 1, 2011 property tax levy remained at 4.19 mills for operations. In fact, this rate has not changed in over a decade. Although signs indicate an economic recovery has begun in Michigan, property values have not recovered from the real estate market collapse. The resulting decrease in taxable value and subsequent decline in tax levies are depicted in **Figures 3 and 4.**



OAKLAND COUNTY'S FINANCIAL CONDITION

Oakland County employs policies and practices designed to ensure its continuing ability to provide quality services despite economic or budgetary challenges. Oakland County government's strong financial position is primarily a reflection of its adherence to policies and practices that result in strong long-term financial planning, low debt obligations, and maintaining responsible fund balance amounts in conformance with GFOA Recommended Practices.

The county has continually maintained a AAA bond rating. This rating allows the county to borrow at the lowest possible interest rate, saving the county millions of dollars in future borrowing costs. Local municipalities can also utilize the county's bond rating to borrow funds.

The issuance of debt is also limited. Debt is only issued after other sources of funding (operating budget, existing fund balance, etc.) have been explored. The county has the authority to issue up to \$5.25 billion in debt (10% of its State Equalized Value); however, the actual outstanding debt is \$798.6 million, 15.2% of the permissible amount.

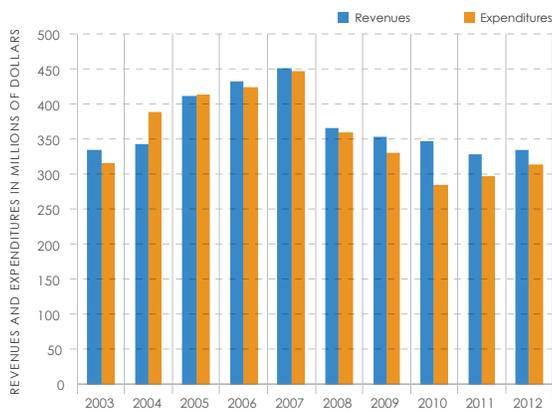
Fiscal stability is also enhanced through the annual budget process which appropriates for full utilization of the county's 4,268 authorized positions. Should vacancies occur or positions be filled at a level lower than authorized, the resulting favorable variance has a positive impact on fund balance.

The General Fund is the county's principal operating fund. A favorable General Fund balance is an indicator of a healthy operating environment. Since 2003, Oakland County's general fund balance has increased by a total of \$110.9 million. The increase is primarily attributable to the county's effort to limit spending while maintaining services. A concentrated effort to build additional resources to cover anticipated revenue reductions has also contributed to the increase in recent years.

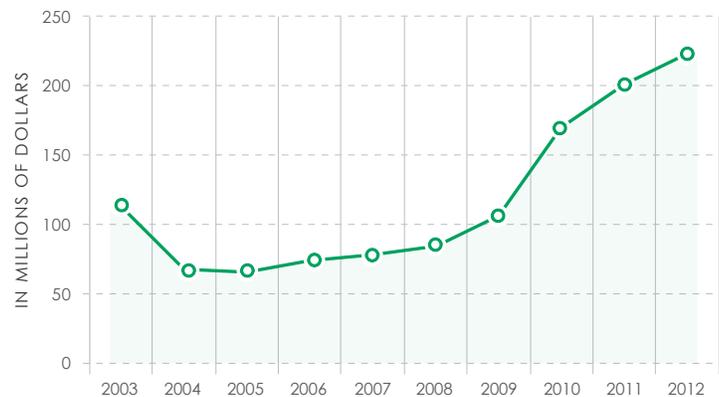
Figure 5 provides a historical view of the county's General Fund balance.



GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES



CHANGE IN GENERAL FUND EQUITY



Source: Oakland County Comprehensive Financial Reports

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES (IN MILLIONS)

	2003	2004(a)	2005(b)	2006(b)	2007(b)	2008	2009	2010(c)	2011	2012
Total Revenue	\$334.8	\$343.8	\$412.4	\$432.9	\$452.1	\$365.1	\$352.9	\$347.8	\$328.9	\$335.4
Total Expenditures	<u>317.0</u>	<u>388.9</u>	<u>414.4</u>	<u>424.2</u>	<u>447.4</u>	<u>359.6</u>	<u>330.9</u>	<u>284.2</u>	<u>297.7</u>	<u>313.1</u>
Excess (Shortfall)	17.8	(45.1)	(2.0)	8.7	4.7	5.5	22.0	63.6	31.2	22.3
Beginning Equity	<u>94.7</u>	<u>112.5</u>	<u>67.4</u>	<u>65.4</u>	<u>74.1</u>	<u>78.8</u>	<u>84.3</u>	<u>106.3</u>	<u>169.9</u>	<u>201.1</u>
Ending Equity	\$112.5	\$67.4	\$65.4	\$74.1	\$78.8	\$84.3	\$106.3	\$169.9	\$201.1	\$223.4
As a % of Revenue	33.60%	19.60%	15.86%	17.12%	17.43%	23.09%	30.12%	48.85%	61.14%	66.61%

(a) 2004 decrease in fund equity due to \$50.9 million transfer to Retiree Health Care Trust Fund to help reduce the unfunded liability of the Trust.

(b) 2005, 2006 & 2007 revenues/expenditures reflect an increase in the July levy due to an acceleration in the collection of County property taxes pursuant to Michigan Public Act 357 of 2004.

(c) 2010 figures adjusted per GASB 54 restatement see Note 20 of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Figure 5



OAKLAND COUNTY'S FINANCIAL CONDITION (CONT.)

Many other types of funds are used in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) to record the programs and services provided by the county.

- Special Revenue funds are used to record the activities that receive monies for restricted purposes such as Friend of the Court and grant-funded activities.
- Debt Service funds record the transactions related to the assessment of tax levies and payment of principal and interest of long-term debt, usually bonds.
- Capital Project funds account for the purchase or construction of major capital facilities, such as buildings, drains and sewer projects.
- Enterprise funds account for functions that are financed primarily through user charges and operate similar to businesses, such as the airports, water and sewer operations and the parks.

The overall revenues and expenditures for county functions illustrated in **Figure 6** are derived from Governmental and Proprietary Fund Statements presented in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Revenue Trend graphs provide a 5-year history on county revenue sources. Please note that Intergovernmental Revenue includes federal and state grants as well as other intergovernmental revenue. The Expenditure Trend graphs show expenditures by major activities within the county. Internal Service fund revenues and expenditures have not been included in these totals. Also, the funds of the component units (Road Commission and Chapters 20 & 21 Drainage Districts) are not presented as these services are provided by other county entities. However, General Fund transfers to the Internal Service funds are included as expenditures to more accurately reflect the use of county tax revenues.



FIVE YEAR REVENUE & EXPENDITURE TRENDS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

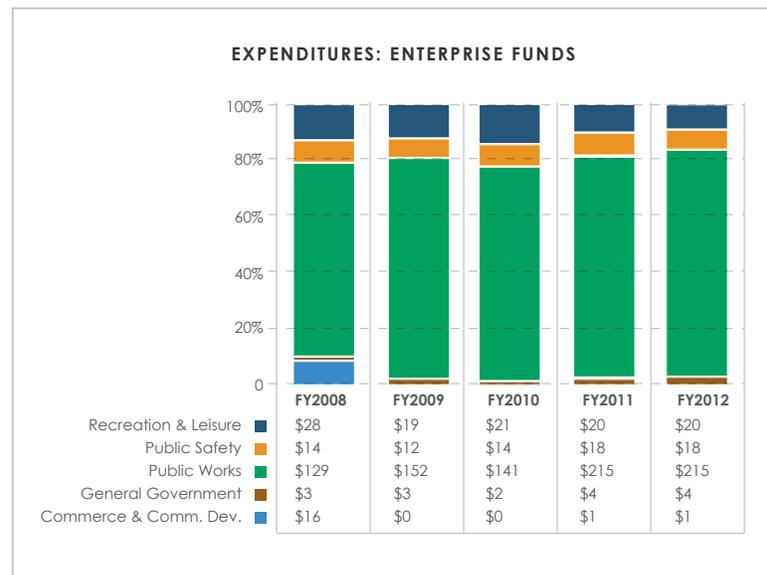
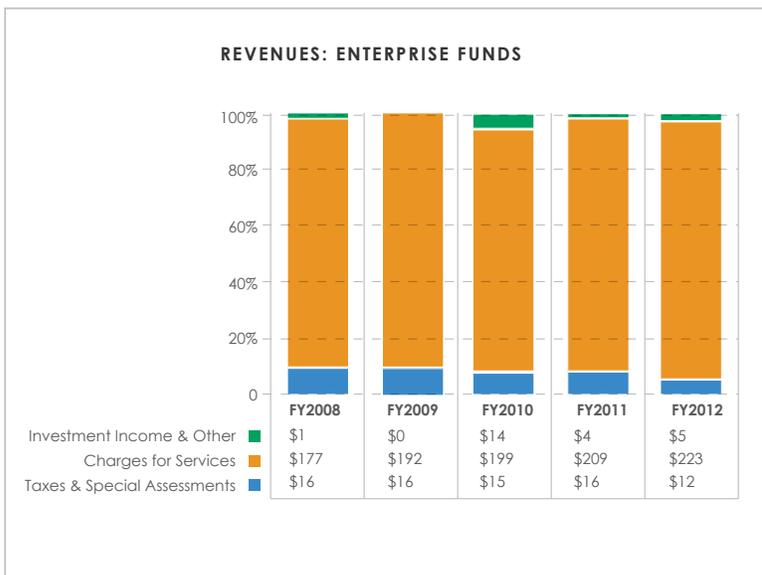
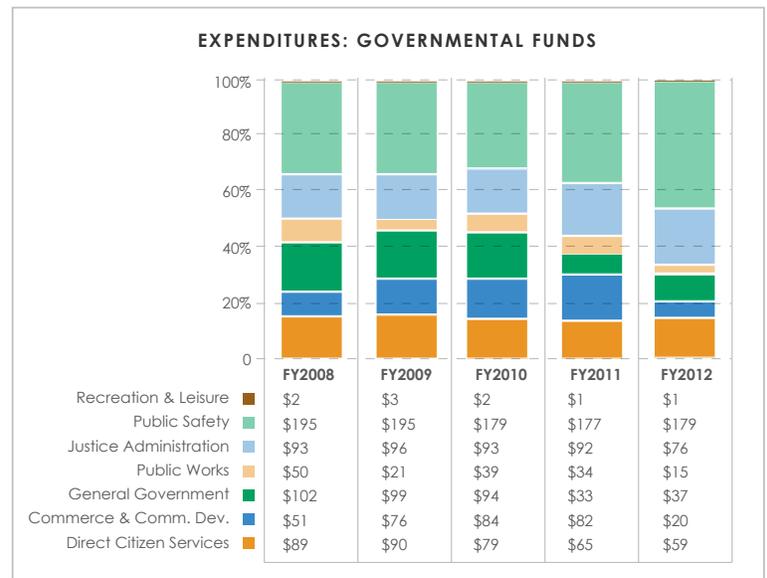
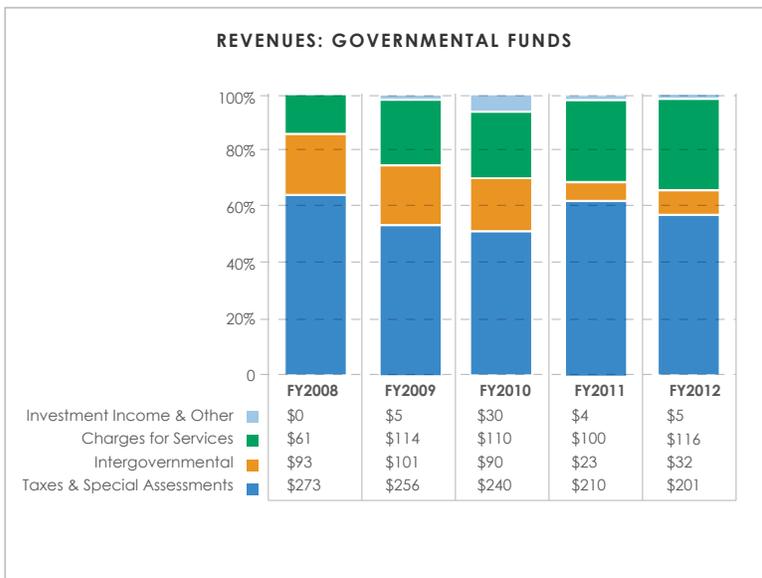
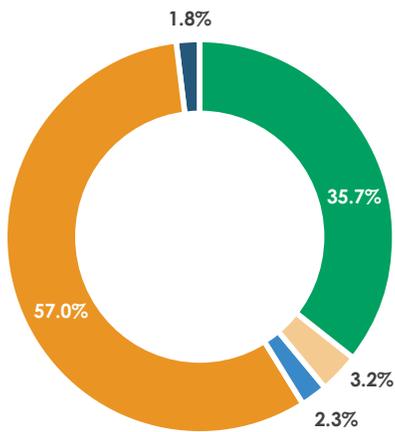


Figure 6



REVENUES



- Taxes & Special Assessments
- Federal & State Grants
- Intergovernmental
- Charges for Services
- Investment Income & Other

The receipt of county revenues are defined as follows:

Taxes: The county's actual property tax for General Fund operations is based on a rate of 4.19 mills which is less than the maximum authorized millage rate of 4.2240 mills. Parks and Recreation is also supported by taxes of .2415 mills and is reported as an Enterprise fund.

Special Assessments: Funds received from charges to parties benefiting from the county's drainage systems and lake level controls.

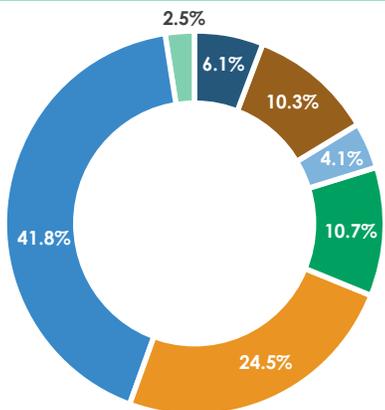
Federal and State Grants: Restricted funding provided by federal or state governments.

Other Intergovernmental: Revenue from state or local governments in the form of shared revenue or reimbursements.

Charges for Services: Revenue from fees received for purchased services.

Investment Income and Other: Interest on investments, revenue from rebates, refunds of prior year's expenditures, transfers in from other funds and miscellaneous sources.

MAJOR PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

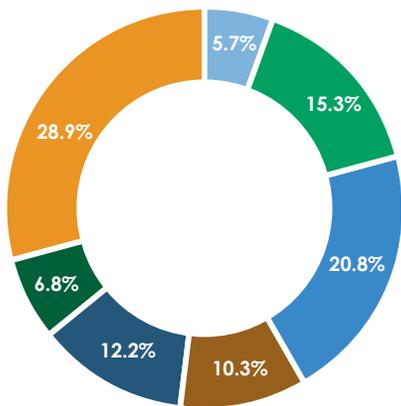


For presentation purposes, county expenditures were broken into seven broad program areas: General Government, Public Safety, Justice Administration, Recreation and Leisure, Direct Citizen Services, Commerce and Community Development, and Public Works.

- Commerce and Community Development
- Direct Citizen Services
- General Government
- Justice Administration
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Recreation and Leisure



GENERAL GOVERNMENT



- Election
- Executive
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Legislative
- Support Services
- Treasury

Did you know?

Oakland County Board of Commissioners meetings can be viewed online, either live or recorded at OakGov.com.

Oakland County received the president's "Champions of Change" award which showcases "the amazing movement of innovation in government across America."

General Government includes all areas of the county involved in the administration and financial aspects of county business. Included in this program are the County Executive, Board of Commissioners, Treasurer, Management and Budget, Human Resources and Central Services Departments. The Election Division is also included.

The **County Executive** is responsible for coordinating county activities, maintaining fiscal policies and interacting with the County Board of Commissioners and other countywide elected officials.

The **Board of Commissioners** is the governing body of Oakland County. The board is responsible for the adoption of the annual budget, establishing the county property tax millage rate, formulating and establishing county policies, making appointments to various boards and commissions, and adopting ordinances and rules.

The **Treasurer** serves as the banker of the county and acts as the custodian of all county funds and as the collector and distributor of all revenues.

The **Department of Management and Budget** oversees the finance functions of the county including Purchasing, Equalization, and Fiscal Services. The Director is designated as the Fiscal Officer of the county and is responsible for ensuring that the county operates within a balanced budget and that all financial transactions and financial reporting are completed in accordance with the accounting and reporting standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

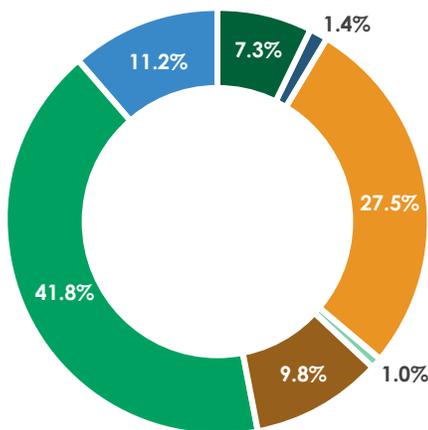
The **Human Resources Department**, as mandated by Public Act 139, "directs the performance of all personnel and labor relations functions for the county."

Central Services is responsible for the overall administration and operations of the Support Services Division which provides a wide variety of governmental and internal services to county departments including Vehicle Operations, Record Retention, Mailroom, and the Courthouse Cafeteria. This department also oversees the Airport Division.

The **Elections Division** is responsible for overseeing all county and multi-jurisdictional elections, programming elections tabulators, printing ballots, training poll workers and maintaining permanent records of election results. The division also maintains all campaign finance records for local offices and updates the statewide Qualified Voter File (QVF) database. Additionally, the Elections Division records and maintains the official minutes of the Board of Commissioners.



PUBLIC SAFETY



- Alternative Corrections Program
- Animal Control
- Community Law Enforcement
- Crime Prevention
- Homeland Security
- Incarceration
- Law Enforcement

Did you know?

Operation Medicine Cabinet™, an outstanding prescription drug take-back program provides citizens a means to properly dispose of their expired and/or unused prescriptions at several collection sites throughout the county.

Public Safety consists of all aspects of law enforcement.

The **Sheriff's Office** is divided into seven (7) divisions: the Sheriff's Office, which houses the command staff; Administrative Services, conducting the business operations; Corrective Services, which oversees operations of the main jail and inmate support services; Corrective Services - Satellites, which oversees the operations of facilities outside the main jail, including court security; Emergency Preparedness; Patrol Services, which administers law enforcement activities including contracted patrol; and Investigative/ Forensic Services, which provides countywide police service support including investigations for numerous areas such as narcotics, fire, homicide, crime scene and computer crime in addition to forensic analysis.

The **Community Corrections Division** provides a wide array of sentencing alternatives for all types of non-violent offenders. These programs offer rehabilitative value without compromising public safety. All programs are cost effective alternatives to incarceration, which allows for the jail space to be reserved for the most serious offenders.

The **Circuit Court Probation Division** provides the Oakland County Circuit Court with a Pre-Sentence Investigation Report consistent with Michigan Compiled Law 771.14 prior to sentencing on each defendant convicted of a felony and referred by the court. The Circuit Court Probation Division is a multi-funded agency, which is funded by both the State of Michigan and Oakland County.

Children's Village is the county's residential facility for children and youths, ranging in age from birth to eighteen years, who are court-ordered into care or who have been placed in the facility by the Michigan Department of Human Services.

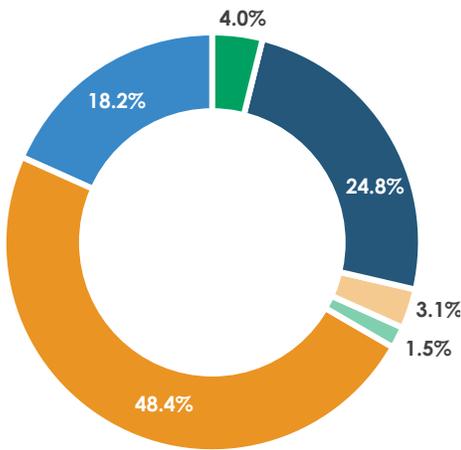
The **Homeland Security Division** provides emergency management planning, response, recovery and mitigation services for natural, technological, national security and nuclear emergencies or disasters affecting Oakland County.

Animal Control is responsible for the enforcement of state laws pertaining to domestic animals and livestock.

Information Technology programs that support local community law enforcement are also included in this area.



JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION



- Case Records
- Civil Enforcement
- Estates and Mental Health
- Investigations
- Judicial Process
- Litigation

Justice Administration includes the Circuit, 52nd District and Probate Courts as well as the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. A portion of the County Clerk, the official recorder of county records and Clerk to the Circuit Court, is also included.

The **Circuit Court** serves all the citizens of Oakland County. It hears civil, criminal, and family cases, as well as appeals from district courts, administrative agencies, and some Probate Court matters. The job of the court is to dispense justice, interpret the law, and settle disputes.

The **52nd District Courts** have jurisdiction over all misdemeanor, ordinance and charter violations and preliminary examinations on all felony cases. The District Court has exclusive jurisdiction of General Civil actions when the amount in controversy does not exceed \$25,000, Landlord Tenant and Land Contract Forfeiture cases, as well as Small Claims cases with disputes not exceeding \$5,000. The District Court may also conduct marriages. There are four divisions of the court: Division I in Novi, Division II in Clarkston, Division III in Rochester Hills and Division IV in Troy.

Probate Court is responsible for the probating of wills, guardianships, conservatorships and the administration of estates of deceased persons by personal representatives.

The **Prosecuting Attorney** is the chief law enforcement officer of the county, primarily charged with the duty to see that state criminal laws are faithfully enforced. The Prosecuting Attorney represents the People of the State of Michigan in all State law criminal matters pending before all courts in Oakland County, advocates for new legislation and other reforms in the system, and assists in the training of police officers to ensure they are able to perform their functions in accordance with the law.

The **Office of the County Clerk** is responsible for recording and maintaining all 6th Judicial Circuit Court paper and electronic documents in accordance with all statutory and Supreme Court guidelines.

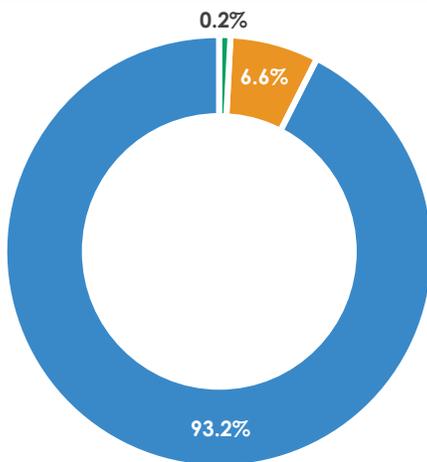
Did you know?

For \$25, residents can store their will for safekeeping with the Probate Court.

Circuit Court legal records can be searched online through Court Explorer.



RECREATION & LEISURE



- Arts, Culture, & Film
- Library
- Parks and Recreation

Recreation and Leisure includes services that promote recreational, leisure and cultural activities for county citizens which are provided by Parks and Recreation, the Libraries and the Office of Arts, Culture & Film.

Parks and Recreation: With nearly 6,700 acres of natural landscapes and outdoor recreation for Oakland County residents, the 13 Oakland County Parks offer a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities ranging from camping, hiking, swimming, boating, golfing and picnicking to cross-country skiing, ice skating and ice fishing. Explore Oakland County Parks and Recreation at DestinationOakland.com.

In 2012, Parks and Recreation assumed responsibility for the management and operation of the Oakland County Market. The market is a mainstay for providing grower-direct fresh produce and flowers to county residents and visitors. The venue features a Farmers Market as well as a Flea Market and welcomes more than 300,000 visitors annually.

Did you know?

There are 72 public and private golf courses in Oakland County, including world-renowned courses such as Oakland Hills Country Club and Indianwood Country Club

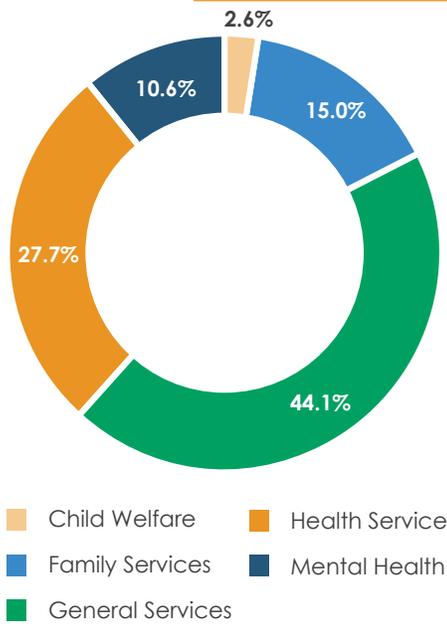
There are three downhill ski sites: Pine Knob in Independence Township, Mt. Holly in Groveland Township and Alpine Valley in White Lake Township

The **Law and Research Library** serves government and court employees, attorneys, students and the general public and offers patrons access to a current Michigan, state and federal law collection to help them answer their questions about the law. Visitors may perform their own legal research in a variety of formats: print, online databases, and the Internet.

The **Arts, Culture & Film** office serves to enhance, strengthen and promote the arts and cultural life in Oakland County through advocacy, promotion, funding and programming initiatives.



DIRECT CITIZEN SERVICES



Direct Citizen Services represents all areas which provide direct services to individual citizens.

The **Health Division** protects the public's health through health promotion, disease prevention and protection of the environment. In addition to its traditional public health role, the Health Division is committed to protecting the public through continual review and improvement of its emergency response capabilities, having developed nationally recognized preparedness programs. The Health Division executes all of these responsibilities in an exemplary manner in an environment of continually diminishing resources and increasing requirements from State and Federal authorities.

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) is part of the National Cooperative Extension Service (CES) system that provides unbiased research-based education to address critical issues. The mission of MSUE is to help people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

The **Veterans' Services Division** provides technical, local-level advocacy and assistance to Oakland County veterans and/or dependents to obtain federal, state and local veterans' benefits.

The **Medical Examiner's** office investigates and determines cause and manner of death in any violent, sudden, unexpected, suspicious or otherwise unexplained death, inclusive of all jail deaths and deaths in police custody occurring within Oakland County.

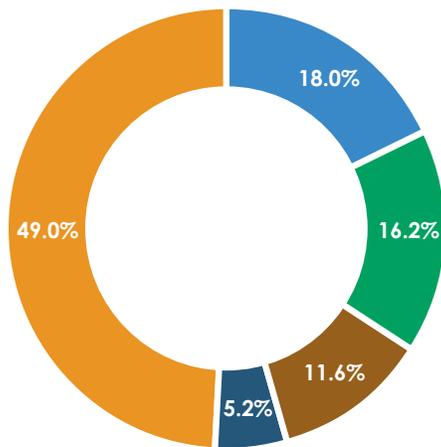
The **Office of the County Clerk Vital Records Unit** is responsible for recording and safeguarding birth, death, marriage, notary public and assumed names documents in addition to processing concealed weapons permits. The Legal Records Unit processes passport applications.

Did you know?
Oakland County Health Division has its own Facebook page to make public health information more accessible and provide up-to-the-minute health news, events, emergency updates, prevention tips, and links to public health resources.

Oakland County veterans can obtain a Veterans ID Card through the Oakland County Clerk's Office. Veterans may use this ID card to obtain discounts at many merchants in the area.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



- Community Development
- Community Services
- Economic Development
- Environmental Protection
- Workforce Development

Commerce and Community Development reflects all efforts to promote and sustain a strong business and economic climate, a healthy environment and vibrant communities.

The **Community Development** program prepares and provides land use information to, and zoning and master plan reviews for, Oakland County communities to improve land use coordination and decision-making. Also, Main Street Oakland County maximizes the economic potential and preserves the heritage and sense of place of Oakland County's historic commercial districts.

Economic Development programs support the retention and expansion of existing businesses and entrepreneurs through a comprehensive range of services and information. This program increases Oakland County's economic base by attracting new companies throughout the world via its Emerging Sectors initiative.

Environmental Stewardship supports sustainable economic growth, development, and redevelopment through the preparation and communication of information, plans, visions, and options which advance proactive, coordinated, locally-driven conservation and recreation initiatives.

The **Financial Services** program strives to enhance economic activity by providing Oakland County companies with fixed asset financing at favorable rates through the U.S. Small Business Administration 504 Loan Programs and tax-exempt industrial development bonds.

The **Product Development and Services** program researches, collects, and disseminates data and maps that describe Oakland County, its communities, businesses, and demographic/development trends. Through the One Stop Shop Business Center, customers are introduced to and assisted in utilizing the state-of-the-art information kiosk.



Did you know?

The Department of Economic Development & Community Affairs launched a new website AdvantageOakland.com. The site contains a wealth of information for citizens and businesses, such as starting a new business, expanding or relocating a business, checking on available financing options and incentives, workforce programs, community and home programs, Main Street Oakland County or learning about any of the county's 61 cities, villages and townships.

Skilled trades are in high demand. The MiTradeSchool.org website was created to connect those looking to apply for training in the skilled trades with trade schools located in our region.

Since the inception of Emerging Sectors in 2004, 230 companies have invested more than \$2 billion in Oakland County creating more than 27,000 jobs and retaining 12,700.

The **Waste Resource Management** program develops and administers the county's solid waste planning efforts.

The **Community & Home Improvement Division** administers six federal housing and community development grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These grants are designed to create viable communities by providing decent, safe and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities for persons of low and moderate income, homeless persons and persons with housing issues.

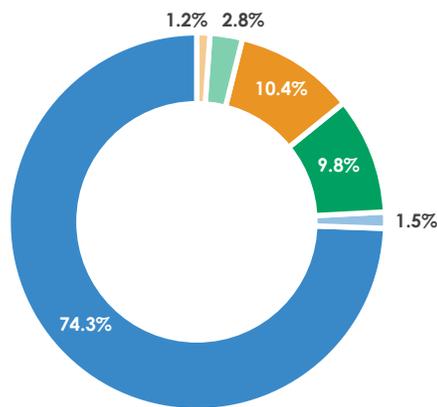
Under the joint direction of the Oakland County Workforce Development Board and the county Executive, the **Workforce Development Division** administers numerous programs that serve the county's job seekers and employers. These programs include the Workforce Investment Act, the Welfare-to-Work initiative, the Employment Service, and the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act.

The **Register of Deeds** records and safeguards all land related documents including subdivision plats and condominium plans. This office was one of the first to become fully automated and has the distinction of being the first in Michigan to accept electronic filings.

The **Equalization Division** assists the Board of Commissioners in ascertaining whether the real and personal property in the townships and cities of Oakland County have been equally and uniformly assessed at true cash value.



PUBLIC WORKS



- Advanced Technology
- Drainage Systems
- Transportation
- Public Utilities
- County Facilities
- Debt Service

Public Works refers to all operating systems that form the infrastructure of basic County functions.

Facilities Management plans, designs, constructs, renovates, operates, maintains, repairs, and provides security for the facilities and grounds owned and maintained by the Oakland County General Fund.

The **Aviation Division** oversees three county-owned airports; Oakland County International Airport, Oakland/Troy Airport, and Oakland/Southwest Airport.

The **Water Resources Commissioner** provides leadership in areas of regional cooperation in order to make responsible decisions about infrastructure, the environment and water quality. These responsibilities include the operation and maintenance of county-owned sewers and many individual municipal sewer systems and drinking water systems under contract. Other functions of the office include operations and maintenance of facilities such as sewage pump stations, retention treatment basins, storm water retention facilities and lake level augmentation sites. Duties also include drain and sewer construction inspection, sewage flow metering, engineering plan review and permitting, as well as a soil erosion control program to monitor construction activities to protect Oakland County lakes and streams from the effects of soil erosion and sedimentation.

The **Department of Information Technology (IT)** is a service bureau that provides IT services to 82 county divisions, more than 100 local governmental units (assessors, treasurers, law enforcement, etc.), over 50 private sector customers, and over 1,700 Access Oakland customers. IT is responsible for over 150 major applications consisting of more than 8,000 programs and provides systems support, maintenance, enhancements, and new development for all major systems applications.

Did you know?

Oakland County International Airport's new terminal is the first airport terminal in Michigan and the first general aviation terminal in the nation to attain LEED Gold Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

Oakland County, Michigan was ranked among the most digitally advanced counties in America for the eighth year in a row in the 2012 Digital Counties Survey by the Center for Digital Government (CDG).



AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2012

Oakland County received 10 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACO) in 2012.

Biannual Local Government Tour: The Clerk's Bi-Annual Local Clerk Tour was created to interact with every local clerk to learn first-hand the needs and concerns of those on the frontlines of election and record services.

Deeds Express: The Clerk's Deeds Express is an automated entry book that records real estate documents digitally, saving postage by instantly recording deeds and other documents and not requiring they be returned by mail.

Election Reminder Service - The Clerk's Online Election Reminder Service, launched in 2011, sends emails to voters about upcoming elections. One of the first-such services offered at the county level, the office wanted to improve voter turnout by offering residents a reminder about approaching elections.

G2G Cloud Solutions: In 2011, Oakland County launched G2G (Government to Government) Cloud Solutions, a cloud infrastructure set up to support technology sharing among governments via the web. Through G2G Cloud Solutions, Oakland County leveraged its IT solutions to help other municipalities save money and share technology solutions with each other.

Immunization Services in Women, Infants and Children Program: The Oakland County Health Division General Clinic and its partners developed a process to evaluate the immunization status of children scheduled for an appointment and provide needed immunizations during same visit.

Medical Main Street: Oakland County Michigan's Medical Main Street is a unique alliance of world-class hospitals, universities, medical device and BioPharma companies creating a global center of innovation in health care, research and development, education and commercialization in the life sciences industry.

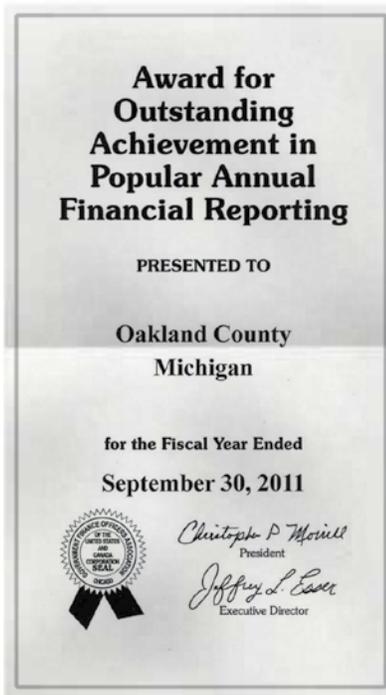
Oakland County Clerk E-Filing Services Center: In 2011, the Clerk launched a new E-filing Services Center for citizens who file or search Oakland County Circuit Court records, saving county taxpayers over \$1 million by generating fees for using the system and making the court system more efficient, transparent and accessible.

Open Oakland: Open Oakland is a free, online and public search program for county records. These records include minutes, agendas and resolutions of the Board of Commissioners from 1970 forward.

Transparency Dashboard: The Transparency Dashboard is a central information point to all of the public transparency and accountability resources on the County's web site.

Weekend Farmers Market/Festivals Mobile Office: From spring to fall of 2011, the Clerk offered a no-frills mobile office services at major community farmers markets throughout the county.

GFOA AWARD



The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Oakland County for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. Oakland County has received a popular award for the last fifteen consecutive years (fiscal years ending 1997-2011). We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to the GFOA.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Oakland County Website

A wealth of information on county services is available on the website at OakGov.com. Copies of this document as well as the county's Line Item Budget, Program Budget and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report are also available in pdf format on the website.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

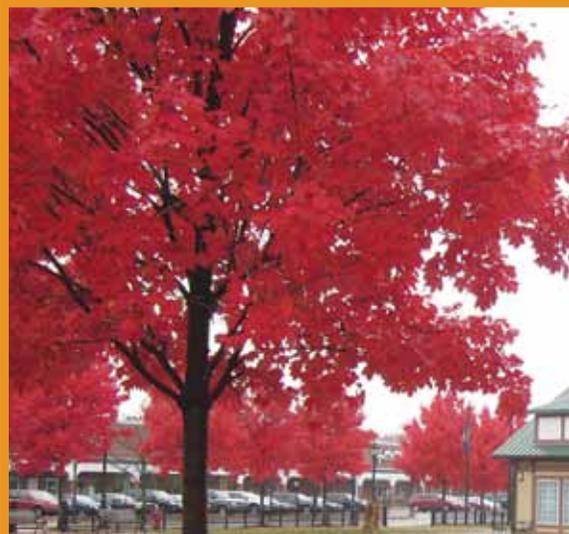
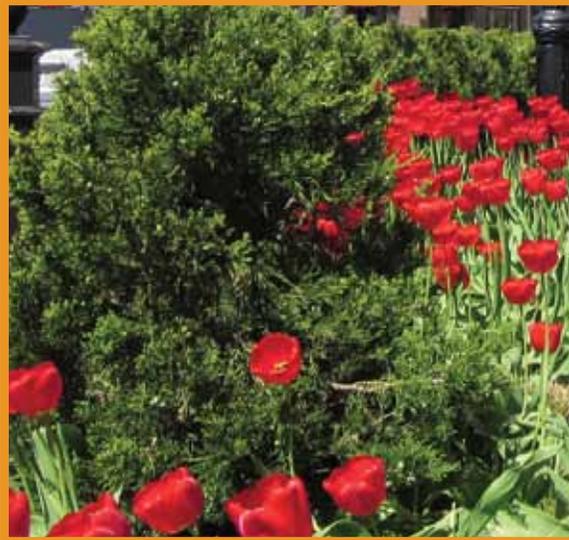
Complete financial statements of Oakland County, with additional demographic and economic information, are provided in the county's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The document is available in pdf format on the county website. A printed version of this report can be viewed at the following location:

Oakland County Research Library

1200 North Telegraph | Building 14 East | Pontiac, MI 48341-0453

Acknowledgements

Project Manager: Gaia V. Piir | Graphic Design: Danielle Gravelle, Pam Tremble



The logo for Oakland County, Michigan, features a stylized outline of the county's shape on the left and a sunburst icon on the right. The text "OAKLAND" is written in a large, serif font, and "COUNTY MICHIGAN" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font below it, separated by a horizontal line. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the right of the sunburst icon.
OAKLAND
COUNTY MICHIGAN