



Monitoring the Impact of State Mandates

This NYSAC Mandate Monitor is designed to track the impact that state mandated programs and services have on county taxpayers, and to demonstrate that the local taxes are driven largely by decisions being made by State Leaders in the Capitol.

The NYSAC Mandate Monitor can be used by counties to tracks the ongoing impact that major state mandates have on their counties and county taxpayers.

This tool starts with the nine state mandates that equate to 90% of the aggregate county property taxes collected statewide, and it also includes other mandates that counties must administer and fund (at least in part) at the local level.

We encourage NYSAC members to track the net impact that these mandates have on their counties and local taxpayers.

The Impact of Major State Mandates on _____ County

State Mandate	2018	2019
Medicaid		
TANF – Family Assistance		
Safety Net/TANF		
Child Welfare		
Special Education Pre-K		
Early Intervention		
Indigent Defense		
Probation		
Youth Detention		
Pensions		
Public Health		
Community College Funding		
Fashion Institute of Technology		
County Jail (Construction, Expansion)		
County Jail (Housing Parole Violators)		
County Courthouse Construction		
Foster Care		
District Attorney Salary Increases		
Consumer Protection		
AIM Restoration (Proposed)		
PINS funding elimination		
Other Mandates (add lines as needed)		
Cost of these State Mandates		
_____ <i>County Property Tax Levy</i>		



Cost of these Mandates in Comparison to _____ County Tax Levy		
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Defining State Mandates

Unfunded State mandates come in many forms, and occur when the State or federal government directs a county to:

- Implement a program or provide a service created and defined by the State or the federal government,
- Meet an environmental or labor standard,
- Maintain a certain level of financial effort for a particular service, or
- Construct/retrofit/expand a facility.

A mandate usually requires a county to strictly adhere to rules set by the state, which define the scope, eligibility, frequency of service, amount of benefits, etc. Counties have virtually no ability to control the cost of these state mandates.

State Mandates Impact County Property Taxes

Mandates are usually born from good intentions, but once it is realized that a “good intention” may be more expensive than the State can afford on its own, there is often a quick legislative pivot and counties are ordered to help pay for the new or expanded state program.

Over that past several decades, State leaders have required counties in New York to finance and often administer more and more statewide programs. Counties refer to these edicts as “unfunded state mandates.”

Today, New York counties are required under state law to pay for more than 40 state mandates. These programs and services take money from locally collected taxes and use it to fund decisions made by the Governor and State Legislators. These state leaders are taking money out of the county piggy bank that was built up by local homeowners and businesses.

The Impact of Major State Mandates on Counties							
State Mandated Costs Continue to Grow							
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Medicaid	\$2,135,000,000	\$2,203,014,912	\$2,238,900,901	\$2,255,650,783	\$2,255,650,783	\$2,255,650,783	\$2,255,650,783
Safety Net/TANF ⁵	\$306,000,000	\$317,000,000	\$315,251,088	\$332,195,371	\$324,688,946	\$300,379,924	\$285,274,372
Child Welfare	\$270,000,000	\$275,000,000	\$280,500,000	\$286,110,000	\$291,832,200	\$297,668,844	\$303,622,221
Special Education Pre-K ²	\$207,240,882	\$223,155,000	\$241,007,400	\$245,827,548	\$246,573,529	\$258,646,500	\$258,646,500
Early Intervention ¹	\$64,600,000	\$69,600,000	\$74,959,200	\$75,708,792	\$75,708,792	\$76,465,880	\$77,230,539
Indigent Defense ³	\$140,054,572	\$141,857,339	\$150,812,631	\$156,524,780	\$163,711,970	\$165,594,544	\$170,893,569
Probation	\$123,200,000	\$130,800,000	\$138,909,600	\$147,521,995	\$156,668,359	\$166,381,797	\$173,369,833
Youth Detention	\$31,000,000	\$33,100,000	\$35,383,900	\$37,825,389	\$38,581,897	\$39,353,535	\$40,140,606
Pensions	\$687,481,228	\$942,382,326	\$1,056,401,297	\$1,186,635,833	\$1,162,903,116	\$915,764,986	\$924,712,406
Cost of 9 State Mandates	\$3,964,576,682	\$4,335,909,577	\$4,532,126,017	\$4,724,000,491	\$4,716,319,592	\$4,475,906,793	\$4,489,540,828
NYC ⁴	\$4,528,799,053	\$4,637,807,445	\$4,702,246,905	\$4,742,856,905	\$4,832,672,795	\$4,876,589,165	\$4,970,368,437
Cost of These Mandates in Comparison to County Tax Levy	88%	93%	96%	100%	98%	92%	90%