



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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TO: Saratoga County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Steve Bulger
DATE: January 20, 2026
RE: 2026 County Comparison Information

Chairman Barrett & Board Members:

The attached table compares all 57 New York counties outside of NY City on several key metrics involving expenditures, local tax rates, and numbers of county employees. This was developed to provide an overview of spending levels, operational efficiencies, and tax burdens for our Supervisors and residents to compare with other counties statewide.

The summary section details the sources of this information, along with brief descriptions of why they are important. As more details are made available to us, we will update the table as needed. It is important to know that these are only high level publicly available numbers, and that each county's situation is somewhat different in how they deliver and charge for government services.

Some highlights for Saratoga County include the following:

- Saratoga County (\$1,805) is 39% lower than the statewide average County Per Capita spending amount (\$2,982), and the only county under \$2,000 per resident. We are also 15% lower than the next lowest county.
- Saratoga County's property tax rate (\$1.78 per \$1,000) is not only the lowest in the state, but the only county under \$2 per \$1,000, and almost 2/3rds lower than the statewide average (\$5.21 per \$1,000).
- Saratoga's Resident to Employee ratio (183 to 1) is 3rd highest in the state and about 75% higher than the statewide average (105 to 1). This is important as personnel costs are typically the largest expense for municipal governments – a higher ratio is better.
- Our Sales Tax Sharing Rate of 48% is the third highest in the state and is over twice as high as the statewide average of 22.5%. In 2025 \$86 million was shared with the towns and villages, which is more than the entire 2026 Saratoga County property tax levy/revenue. This directly enables our 19 towns, 9 villages, and the city of Mechanicville to lower or eliminate their own property tax on their residents.

Please feel free to contact my office with any questions. Thanks.

Steve B.