



# COLUMBIA



# THE GREEN BOOK

*A book of county facts, 6th Edition*



22 East Mifflin Street, Suite 900  
Madison, Wisconsin  
[www.forward-analytics.net](http://www.forward-analytics.net)

A publication of Forward Analytics  
*A Division of the Wisconsin Counties Association*



# COLUMBIA

The 6th edition of *The Green Book* from Forward Analytics provides, for all 72 counties, the most recent information on a variety of organizational, demographic, financial, and economic measures. The data is the most recent available, typically from 2021 or 2022. The book displays the data for all counties, which is useful for quick comparisons between counties.

This county insert presents all of your county’s data in an easy-to-use form. Here you will find information on three measures of your county board and administration, seven measures of population and demography, eight measures of county finances, and 10 measures of your county’s economy, development, and infrastructure, including two new housing measures.

Each table also provides, for each measure, your county’s rank among Wisconsin’s 72 counties. A rank of one

always indicates the lowest value while a rank of 72 indicates the highest value, regardless of whether a low value is considered better or worse than a high value. The third column in each table shows the state average for each measure. For the median values, consult *The Green Book*.

The value of each measure is from latest data available as of June 15, 2023. The applicable year is listed with each measure. To provide comparable numbers for counties with varying populations, many measures are converted to per capita figures.

Additional copies of this pamphlet or one for another county are available on the Forward Analytics website ([www.forward-analytics.net/the-green-book](http://www.forward-analytics.net/the-green-book)) or by calling 1-608-663-7188.

## BOARD & ADMINISTRATION

Counties vary in the type of administration and the size of their county boards. The maximum board size is set in state law and depends on county population. Population per district measures the size of each district in constituent terms.

	County	State Avg.
Board Size (2023).....	28	22
Pop. Per District (thousands, 2023).....	2.1	3.7
Administration Type (2023).....	Coord.-PT	

## POPULATION

Seven demographic measures provide insights on county growth and demography. Veterans are a percent of the 18-or-older population and education is a percent of 25-or-older population. Ranks are low values (1) to high values (72).

	County	Rank	State Avg.
Population (2022) .....	58,627	47	82,627
Five-Year % Change .....	2.76	46	2.87
% of Population (2021).....			
5 to 19.....	17.7	28	18.8
25 to 64.....	53.1	69	51.1
65 or Older.....	18.9	25	17.9
Veterans % of Adult Pop. (2020) .....	9.4	44	8.1
Assoc. Degree or More (2021) .....	36.2	39	41.8

## ECONOMY/DEVELOPMENT

Six indicators of economic health, a net commuting measure, and three measures of development and infrastructure are shown below. Ranks are low values (1) to high values (72). For some measures, a low rank is good, while for others a high rank is preferred.

	County	Rank	State Avg.
Per Capita Personal Income (2021) .....	\$60,708	65	\$59,626
5-Year Employment Growth (2022) .....	-3.2	24	0.9
Unemployment Rate (2022) .....	2.6	15	2.90
% Net In-Commuting (2020).....	-29.5	19	-1.7
Poverty Rate (2021) .....	7.7	11	10.8
Per Capita Prop. Values (Thous., 2022)..	127.0	47	125.3
Net New Construction (2022) .....	1.31	34	1.7
House Prices (2022).....	\$267,850	53	\$264,875
Home Affordability Index (2022) .....	132.1	34	119.3
County Highway Miles (2021).....	714	59	558

## FINANCES

Major county revenues and three spending measures are shown below on a per capita basis. The property tax rate is the property tax levy divided by equalized property value. Ranks are low amounts (1) to high amounts (72).

	County	Rank	State Avg.
<i>All per capita except tax rate</i>			
Spending (2021)			
Total .....	\$1,180	34	\$1,042
Highways .....	102	22	93
Health & Human Services.....	309	16	367
State Aids (2021).....	326	34	275
Property Tax Levy (2022/23) .....	491	33	413
Property Tax Rate (2022/23) .....	3.92	28	3.45
County Sales Taxes (2022) .....	110	44	99
General Obligation Debt (2021).....	840	58	495