



**ASHLAND
COUNTY**

**THE
GREEN
BOOK**

A book of county facts, 7th Edition



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

The 7th 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 2022 or 2023. 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 July 1, 2024. 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) 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 (2024).....	21	22
Pop. Per District (thousands, 2024).....	0.8	3.7
Administration Type (2024).....	Admin.	

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 (2023).....	15,937	10	82,627
Five-Year % Change	-1.27	14	2.32
% of Population (2022).....			
5 to 19.....	18.4	49	18.4
25 to 64.....	48.0	22	50.6
65 or Older.....	21.8	41	18.7
Veterans % of Adult Pop. (2021)	9.9	54	7.3
Assoc. Degree or More (2022)	35.1	30	43.2

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 (2022)	\$46,014	4	\$61,475
5-Year Employment Growth (2023)	-3.3	22	1.6
Unemployment Rate (2023)	3.7	56	3.03
% Net In-Commuting (2021).....	2.8	60	-1.5
Poverty Rate (2022)	14.1	65	10.8
Per Capita Prop. Values (Thous., 2023) ..	110.3	14	141.6
Net New Construction (2023)	0.58	1	1.7
House Prices (2023).....	\$190,000	9	\$285,000
Home Affordability Index (2023)	108.5	47	92.2
County Highway Miles (2021).....	183	4	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.
All per capita except tax rate			
Spending (2022)			
Total	\$1,694	59	\$1,107
Highways	181	41	118
Health & Human Services.....	702	70	373
State Aids (2022)	674	70	285
Property Tax Levy (2023/24)	589	46	423
Property Tax Rate (2023/24)	5.45	61	3.13
County Sales Taxes (2023)	121	51	103
General Obligation Debt (2022).....	240	20	518