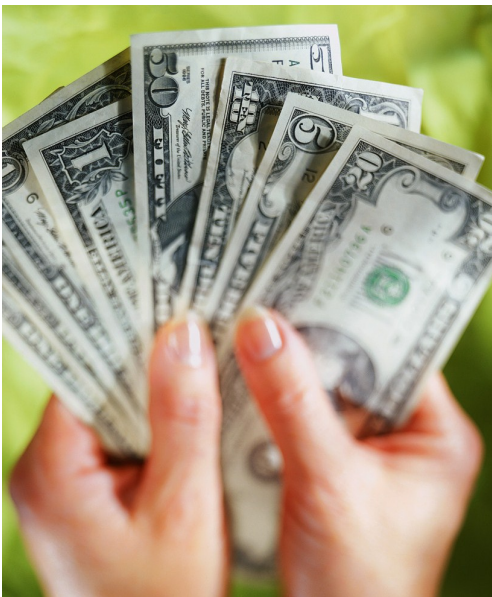


MSUE “I Know MI Numbers” Program Summary

Helping Michigan’s Cities and Towns Succeed Through Fiscal Education

As Michigan cities navigate tough fiscal times and look to provide a solid foundation for Michigan’s future, it is important for residents and policymakers to have access to important fiscal information.

Michigan State University (MSU) Extension worked in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Treasury and other partners to create a new database with fiscal information for all 1,856 cities, villages, townships and counties in Michigan. This database serves as a resource for city officials and residents, and gives them access to revenues, expenditures, assets, capital outlays and more. In all, there are more than 1,300 data fields in the database.



MSU Extension has also hosted conferences and training sessions on new revenue sharing guidelines and the updated emergency manager law so communities can better navigate fiscal crises.

Mission

Michigan State University helps people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

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OUTCOMES

The F-65 fiscal database is located at f65.mitreasury.msu.edu/Default.aspx. From there, users can access reports containing various types of important fiscal information:

- » **Citizen's Guide Report** – These reports provide a snapshot of a municipality's fiscal situation. It is mandatory that the reports be available to the public. The reports are a requirement of the Economic Vitality Incentive Program, which gives municipalities that comply access to state revenue-sharing dollars.
- » **Data Summary Report** – These reports include information on the primary categories of revenue, expenditures, capital outlays and statements of position, with several subcategories under each primary category.
- » **TV, SEV, and Population Report** – These reports cover taxable value, state equalized value and population data.
- » **Comparison Report** – These reports offer fiscal information on two local units (cities, counties, towns, townships) to allow for easy comparisons.
- » Additional reports are available only for Treasury use and will save time in providing key fiscal indicators to legislators and other decision makers.

As the database expands and more features are added, the benefits will be numerous. Policymakers will be able to compare the fiscal state of comparable or neighboring communities. This will enable them to find cost efficiencies and forge cooperative ventures. Citizens can use the database to access basic fiscal information that will help them become more informed and engaged in the issues affecting their communities.

Efforts to increase access to and knowledge of important financial data continue to be a focus for MSU Extension across the state.

