Minnesota’s 87 county governments provide the essential services to create healthy, vibrant, and safe communities.

Counties support and maintain public infrastructure, transportation and economic development assets; keep residents healthy; ensure public safety to protect our citizens; maintain public information and coordinate elections; and implement a broad array of programs in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

Minnesotans depend on counties to provide services that build, maintain, and protect their homes, schools and neighborhoods. Counties are also an instrumental player in America’s intergovernmental system of federal, state, and local governments.

**General Government**

447 commissioners serve on Minnesota’s 87 county boards.

Minnesota counties operate many of the state’s license bureaus and distributed 31,000 marriage licenses in 2017.

Counties employ a wide variety of people in your community, including: nurses, law enforcement, social workers, engineers, physicians, lifeguards and librarians.

**Economic & Community Development**

In 2016 and 2017, Minnesota counties coordinated $37 million in loans for energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades to commercial buildings through the Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program.

**Health & Human Services**

Minnesota counties provided or more than $285 million of the total statewide funding for child welfare services in 2017.

In 2016, county environmental health programs inspected thousands of food establishments, completing over 95% of inspections on time.

Minnesota is 1 of only 12 states where human services programs such as those that protect vulnerable adults, register residents for financial assistance, and coordinate mental health services are provided by the county instead of the state.
Minnesota counties collected 2.4 million tons of recyclable material in 2016.

Minnesota counties oversaw voting at 3,003 polling places and coordinated 32,313 election judges in 2016.

Minnesota counties employ more than 3,195 licensed sheriff deputies.

Minnesota counties operate the majority of 911 call centers in Minnesota, which handle over 2 million emergency calls annually.

Minnesota counties invested $497 million on maintaining existing roads and bridges in 2017.

Minnesota counties invested $1.27 billion in building roads, bridges, and other public infrastructure in 2017.

Over the past decade, Minnesota counties have provided over $1 billion in funding for high-quality transit service.