# **49** MASSACHUSETTS

### **SUMMARY**

On the basis of its fiscal solvency in five separate categories, Massachusetts ranks 49th among the US states and Puerto Rico for its fiscal health. On a cash basis, Massachusetts has between 0.39 and 1.12 times the cash needed to cover short-term liabilities. Revenues cover 96 percent of expenses, producing a deficit of \$342 per capita. The state is reliant on debt financing, with a negative net asset ratio of –0.94 and long-term liability per capita of \$6,237. Total liabilities exceed assets by 53 percent. Total debt is \$26.73 billion. Unfunded pension liabilities are \$94.45 billion on a guaranteed-to-bepaid basis, and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) add \$15.38 billion.

## 2014 TOTAL LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

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	General obligation bonds	Total primary government debt	State personal income	Ratio of debt to state personal income	Total primary debt per capita
Massachusetts	\$19.60 billion	\$26.73 billion	\$396.21 billion	6.7%	\$3,963
National average	\$6.60 billion	\$13.76 billion	\$288.25 billion	6.0%	\$2,144

### PENSION LIABILITY

	Unfunded pension liability	Funded ratio	Market value of unfunded liability	Market value of funded liability ratio
Massachusetts	\$26.90 billion	62%	\$94.45 billion	32%
National average	\$20.46 billion	74%	\$86.85 billion	40%

OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

	Total unfunded OPEB	Funded ratio
Massachusetts	\$15.38 billion	3%
National average	\$10.21 billion	13%

1. Alaska

2. Nebraska

3. Wyoming

4. North Dakota 5. South Dakota

6. Florida

7. Utah

8. Oklahoma 9. Tennessee

10. Montana

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11. Ohio

12. Idaho

13. Nevada

14. Missouri

15. Alabama

16. Texas

17. Indiana

18. South Carolina

19. Virginia

20. New Hampshire

21. North Carolina

22. Colorado

23. Georgia

24. Washington

25. Iowa

26. Minnesota

27. Kansas

28. Arkansas

29. Wisconsin

30. Oregon

31. Arizona

32. Mississippi 33. Louisiana

34. New Mexico

35. Michigan

36. Vermont

37. Rhode Island

38. Delaware

39. Pennsylvania

40. West Virginia

41. Maryland

42. New York

43. Maine

44. California

45. Hawaii

46. Kentuckv

47. Illinois

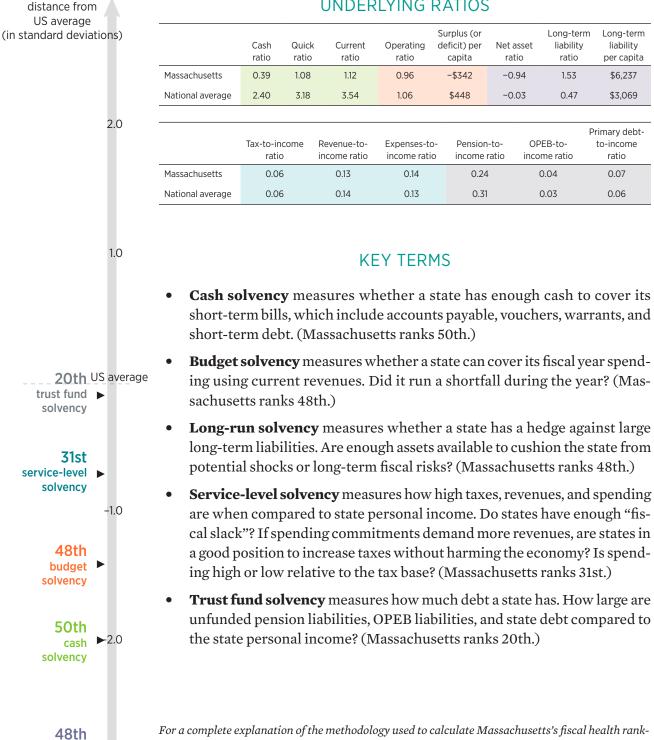
48. New Jersey

49. Massachusetts

50. Connecticut

51. Puerto Rico





3.0

long-run

solvency

-3.0

# UNDERLYING RATIOS

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ings, see Eileen Norcross and Olivia Gonzalez, "Ranking the States by Fiscal Condition," 2016 ed.

(Mercatus Research, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, Arlington, VA, June 2016).