SUMMARY

On the basis of its solvency in five separate categories, West Virginia ranks 43rd among the US states for fiscal health. West Virginia has between 1.27 and 1.78 times the cash needed to cover short-term obligations. Revenues exceed expenses by 1 percent, with an improving net position of $89 per capita. In the long run, West Virginia has a net asset ratio of –0.12. Long-term liabilities are lower than the national average, at 43 percent of total assets, or $4,194 per capita. Total unfunded pension liabilities that are guaranteed to be paid are $27.75 billion, or 41 percent of state personal income. OPEB are $3.06 billion, or 4 percent of state personal income.

2016 TOTAL LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE DEBT</th>
<th>General obligation bonds</th>
<th>Total primary government debt</th>
<th>State personal income</th>
<th>Ratio of debt to state personal income</th>
<th>Total primary debt per capita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>$0.39 billion</td>
<td>$2.03 billion</td>
<td>$68.46 billion</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$1,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National average</td>
<td>$5.85 billion</td>
<td>$12.65 billion</td>
<td>$319.33 billion</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>$1,830</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PENSION LIABILITY</th>
<th>Unfunded pension liability</th>
<th>Funded ratio</th>
<th>Market value of unfunded liability</th>
<th>Market value of funded liability ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>$4.33 billion</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>$27.75 billion</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National average</td>
<td>$23.43 billion</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>$135.50 billion</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)</th>
<th>Total unfunded OPEB</th>
<th>Funded ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>$3.06 billion</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National average</td>
<td>$14.51 billion</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Nebraska
2. South Dakota
3. Tennessee
4. Florida
5. Oklahoma
6. Wyoming
7. Idaho
8. Utah
9. North Carolina
10. Nevada
11. Alaska
12. New Hampshire
13. Virginia
14. Alabama
15. Missouri
16. Montana
17. Kansas
18. Georgia
19. North Dakota
20. South Carolina
21. Indiana
22. Texas
23. Ohio
24. Minnesota
25. Arkansas
26. Wisconsin
27. Arizona
28. Colorado
29. Iowa
30. Washington
31. Oregon
32. Michigan
33. Maryland
34. Maine
35. Pennsylvania
36. Mississippi
37. Louisiana
38. Hawaii
39. Vermont
40. Rhode Island
41. New York
42. California
43. West Virginia
44. Delaware
45. New Mexico
46. Kentucky
47. Massachusetts
48. New Jersey
49. Connecticut
50. Illinois
For a complete explanation of the methodology used to calculate West Virginia’s fiscal health rankings, see Eileen Norcross and Olivia Gonzalez, “Ranking the States by Fiscal Condition, 2018 Edition” (Mercatus Research, Mercatus Center at George Mason University, Arlington, VA, October 2018).