Is your municipality wasting your tax dollars?

Gage Haubrich, Prairie Director
Canadian Taxpayers Federation

SEPTEMBER 2026

Canadian Taxpayers Federation

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About the Canadian Taxpayers Federation

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is a federally incorporated, not-for-profit citizen's group dedicated to lower taxes, less waste and accountable government. The CTF was founded in Saskatchewan in 1990 when the Association of Saskatchewan Taxpayers and the Resolution One Association of Alberta joined forces to create a national organization. Today, the CTF has hundreds of thousands of supporters nation-wide.

The CTF maintains a federal office in Ottawa and regional offices in British Columbia, Alberta, Prairie (SK and MB), Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic. Regional offices conduct research and advocacy activities specific to their provinces in addition to acting as regional organizers of Canada-wide initiatives.

CTF offices field hundreds of media interviews each month, hold press conferences and issue regular news releases, commentaries, online postings and publications to advocate on behalf of CTF supporters. CTF representatives speak at functions, make presentations to government, meet with politicians, and organize petition drives, events and campaigns to mobilize citizens to affect public policy change.

Any Canadian taxpayer committed to the CTF's mission is welcome to join at no cost and receive Action Update emails. Financial supporters can additionally receive the CTF's flagship publication *The Taxpayer* magazine published three times a year.

The CTF is independent of any institutional or partisan affiliations. All CTF staff, board and representatives are prohibited from holding a membership in any political party. In 2024-25, the CTF raised $6.6 million on the strength of 75,231 donations. Donations to the CTF are not deductible as a charitable contribution. The CTF does not accept foreign funding.

Canadian Taxpayers Federation

Tandem X Visuals

Introduction

Taxpayers deserve to know how their mayors and councillors are spending their tax dollars. And they deserve to know how much other municipalities are spending in comparison.

The Saskatchewan government promised to help taxpayers with this basic transparency by posting municipalities' financial information online but failed to follow through on its promise for years.

The Saskatchewan government finally posted municipal financial statements online in early 2026.

Using this new transparency and accountability tool, this report calculates and ranks the per-person spending of Saskatchewan's cities and towns in 2024, the latest year available through the government's online system.

The report highlights the cities and towns that spent the most and least per person.

Per-person spending provides the most meaningful and comparable measure of a municipality's performance for taxpayers.

While a municipality is not in full control of how much revenue it takes in, it can decide how much it spends every year. Municipalities that spend more per person should copy those that spend less. That's because municipalities that spend less need to take less from taxpayers.

Out of the two major cities in the province, Saskatoon spends more per person than Regina at $3,254. Saskatoon spent more per person than Regina for the last five years.

Out of the medium and small sized cities in the province, Swift Current spends the most per person at $3,777. Warman spends the least per person at $1,858.

Looking at towns, Gravelbourg spends the most per person in the province at $4,367. Ponteix spends the least at $1,570.

The Saskatchewan government's directory of municipal financial statements can be found HERE.

Analysis: 2024 per-person spending in Saskatchewan municipalities

Saskatoon and Regina

Over the five years between 2020 and 2024, Saskatoon increased per-person spending by four per cent. Regina increased it by 15 per cent. Saskatoon spent $3,254 per person in 2024. Regina spent $3,011.

Saskatoon			
	Total Expenses	Population	Per-Person Spending
2020	$856,386,000	274,971	**$3,114**
2021	$892,301,000	275,202	**$3,242**
2022	$906,989,000	281,698	**$3,220**
2023	$988,598,000	296,007	**$3,340**
2024	$1,011,078,000	310,715	**$3,254**

Regina			
	Total Expenses	Population	Per-Person Spending
2020	$614,194,000	234,137	**$2,623**
2021	$662,588,000	233,674	**$2,836**
2022	$731,910,000	236,282	**$3,098**
2023	$765,498,000	246,053	**$3,111**
2024	$776,544,000	257,915	**$3,011**

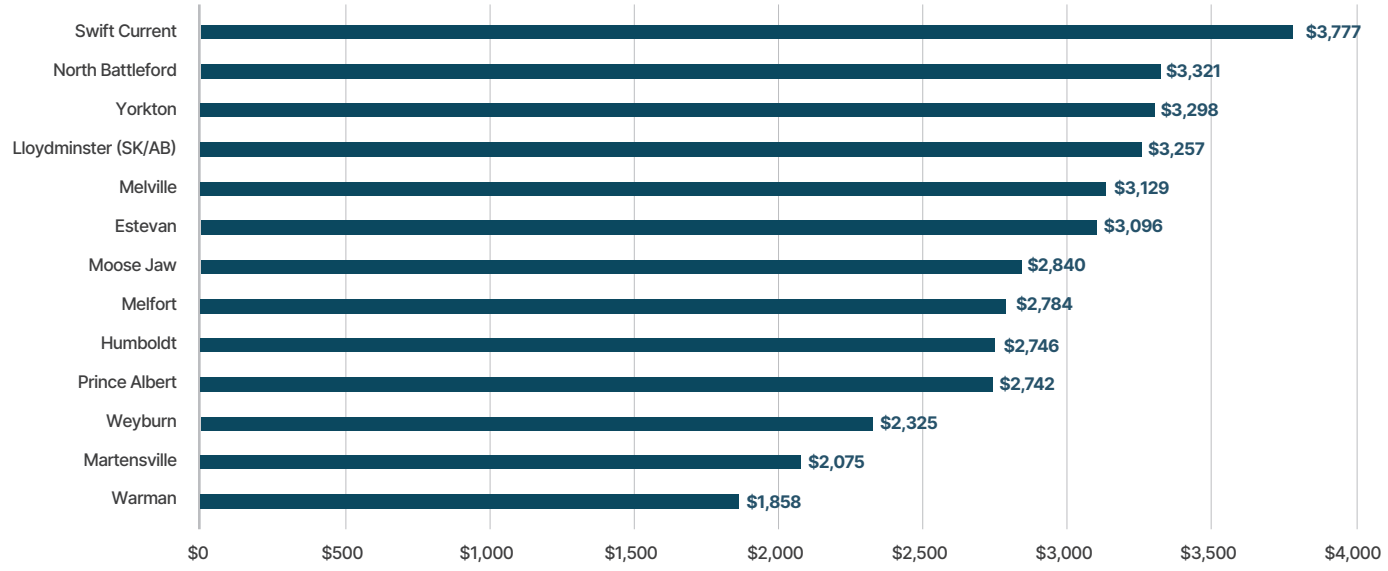
Medium and Small Cities

Of the other cities in the province, Swift Current spent the most per person in 2024 at $3,777. Warman spent the least per person at $1,858.

The annual average per-person spending of these cities was $2,912 in 2024.

Meadow Lake was not included in this ranking because neither the city nor the provincial government has made the 2024 financial statements publicly available.[1]

Medium and Small City Per-Person Spending



Rank	City	Total Expenses 2024	Population	Per-Person Spending
1	**Swift Current**	$67,694,395	17,922	**$3,777**
2	**North Battleford**	$48,003,360	14,455	**$3,321**
3	**Yorkton**	$56,998,867	17,285	**$3,298**
4	**Lloydminster (SK/AB)**	$109,654,193	33,670	**$3,257**
5	**Melville**	$14,207,473	4,541	**$3,129**
6	**Estevan**	$34,809,294	11,244	**$3,096**
7	**Moose Jaw**	$102,964,656	36,256	**$2,840**
8	**Melfort**	$17,013,738	6,112	**$2,784**
9	**Humboldt**	$17,659,587	6,431	**$2,746**
10	**Prince Albert**	$110,073,466	40,137	**$2,742**
11	**Weyburn**	$27,203,293	11,698	**$2,325**
12	**Martensville**	$24,225,287	11,675	**$2,075**
13	**Warman**	$26,011,987	13,999	**$1,858**
	Meadow Lake		5,576	
	All 13 cities (combined)	**$656,519,596**	**225,425**	**$2,912**

[1] https://meadowlake.ca/financials

Towns

The average per-person spending among towns in Saskatchewan was $2,563 in 2024. Gravelbourg spent the most at $4,367 per person, while Ponteix spent the least at $1,570 per person.

Sintaluta is not included as its financial statements are also not available on the portal.

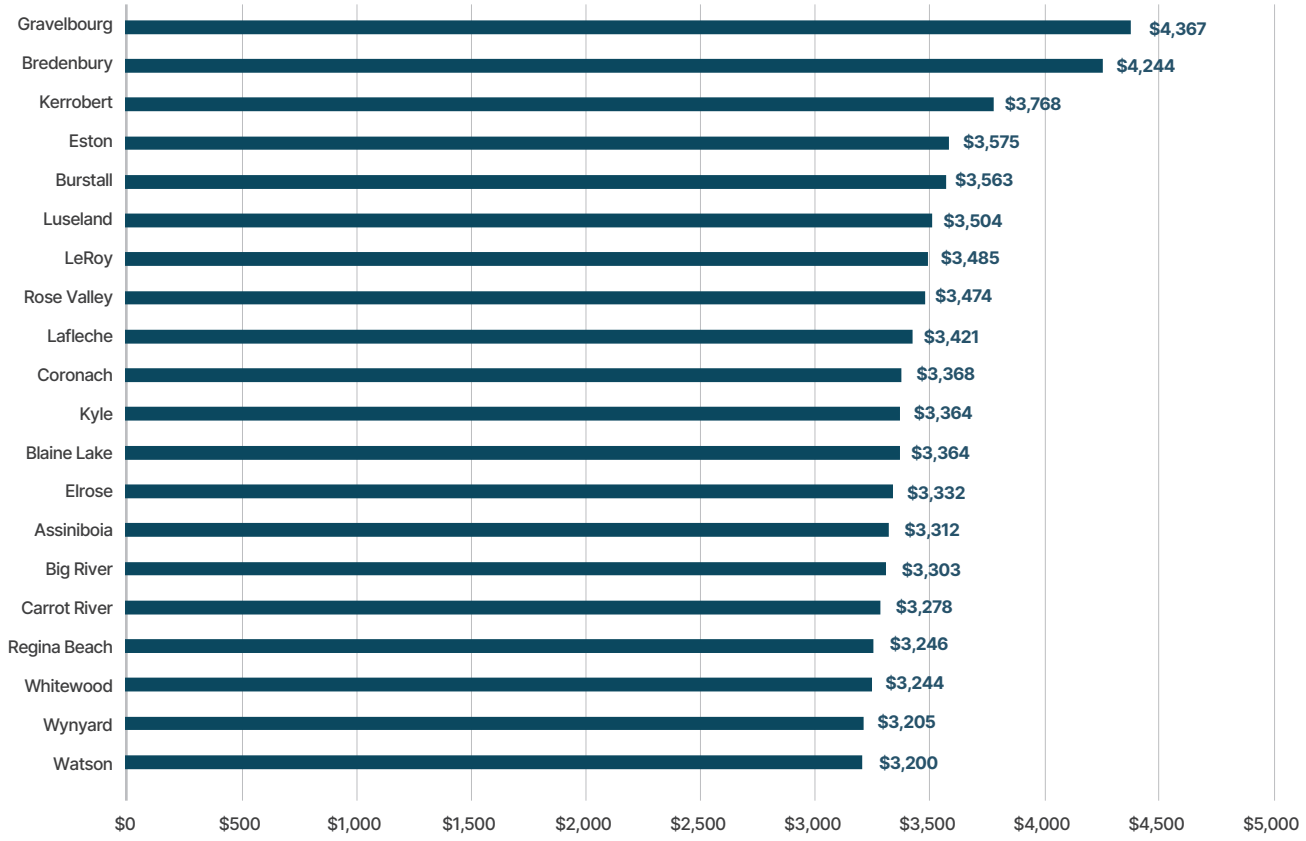
Five highest-spending towns per-person, 2024

Rank	Town	Total Expenses 2024	Population	Per-Person Spending
1	Gravelbourg	$4,340,424	994	**$4,367**
2	Bredenbury	$1,685,034	397	**$4,244**
3	Kerrobert	$3,711,720	985	**$3,768**
4	Eston	$3,578,646	1,001	**$3,575**
5	Burstall	$1,122,345	315	**$3,563**

Five lowest-spending towns per-person, 2024

Rank	Town	Total Expenses 2024	Population	Per-Person Spending
142	Vonda	$750,809	437	**$1,718**
143	Osler	$2,434,644	1,443	**$1,687**
144	Grand Coulee	$1,117,638	685	**$1,632**
145	Francis	$323,107	204	**$1,584**
146	Ponteix	$976,833	622	**$1,570**

Town Per-Person Spending



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2	**Bredenbury**	$1,685,034	397	**$4,244**
3	**Kerrobert**	$3,711,720	985	**$3,768**
4	**Eston**	$3,578,646	1,001	**$3,575**
5	**Burstall**	$1,122,345	315	**$3,563**
6	**Luseland**	$2,025,187	578	**$3,504**
7	**LeRoy**	$1,763,542	506	**$3,485**
8	**Rose Valley**	$969,175	279	**$3,474**
9	**Lafleche**	$1,276,082	373	**$3,421**
10	**Coronach**	$2,027,817	602	**$3,368**
11	**Kyle**	$1,443,342	429	**$3,364**
12	**Blaine Lake**	$1,769,631	526	**$3,364**
13	**Elrose**	$1,619,424	486	**$3,332**
14	**Assiniboia**	$8,012,665	2,419	**$3,312**
15	**Big River**	$2,348,323	711	**$3,303**
16	**Carrot River**	$3,002,890	916	**$3,278**
17	**Regina Beach**	$4,417,145	1,361	**$3,246**
18	**Whitewood**	$2,945,631	908	**$3,244**

19	**Wynyard**	$5,899,538	1,841	**$3,205**
20	**Watson**	$2,236,951	699	**$3,200**
21	**Saltcoats**	$1,521,319	482	**$3,156**
22	**Kindersley**	$14,791,384	4,689	**$3,154**
23	**Carlyle**	$4,844,060	1,563	**$3,099**
24	**St. Walburg**	$2,042,776	660	**$3,095**
25	**Fleming**	$222,314	72	**$3,088**
26	**Lampman**	$2,110,318	689	**$3,063**
27	**Moosomin**	$8,711,093	2,865	**$3,041**
28	**Stoughton**	$2,091,818	691	**$3,027**
29	**Central Butte**	$1,304,667	433	**$3,013**
30	**Kamsack**	$5,356,699	1,789	**$2,994**
31	**Oxbow**	$3,908,587	1,309	**$2,986**
32	**Cabri**	$1,177,061	398	**$2,957**
33	**Eatonia**	$1,528,957	519	**$2,946**
34	**Hudson Bay**	$4,314,800	1,465	**$2,945**
35	**Naicam**	$2,020,803	692	**$2,920**
36	**Tisdale**	$8,851,989	3,063	**$2,890**
37	**Midale**	$1,520,989	528	**$2,881**
38	**Rosetown**	$7,315,268	2,551	**$2,868**
39	**Spiritwood**	$2,862,422	1,002	**$2,857**
40	**Allan**	$1,965,797	689	**$2,853**
41	**Carnduff**	$3,305,270	1,159	**$2,852**
42	**Raymore**	$1,488,000	522	**$2,851**
43	**Birch Hills**	$3,091,494	1,092	**$2,831**
44	**Mossbank**	$1,066,412	377	**$2,829**
45	**Balcarres**	$1,890,619	671	**$2,818**
46	**Leader**	$2,554,864	918	**$2,783**
47	**Eastend**	$1,672,800	603	**$2,774**
48	**Lumsden**	$5,594,923	2,022	**$2,767**
49	**Rocanville**	$2,593,511	938	**$2,765**
50	**Redvers**	$2,921,845	1,059	**$2,759**
51	**Macklin**	$3,373,693	1,223	**$2,759**
52	**Kinistino**	$1,967,372	714	**$2,755**
53	**Foam Lake**	$3,334,148	1,212	**$2,751**
54	**Willow Bunch**	$845,772	309	**$2,737**
55	**Rosthern**	$5,169,465	1,902	**$2,718**
56	**Canora**	$5,808,997	2,158	**$2,692**
57	**Shellbrook**	$4,215,725	1,571	**$2,683**
58	**Cut Knife**	$1,491,400	557	**$2,678**
59	**Nipawin**	$13,264,522	4,963	**$2,673**
60	**Davidson**	$3,016,091	1,134	**$2,660**
61	**Arcola**	$1,796,781	680	**$2,642**
62	**Bengough**	$896,551	340	**$2,637**
63	**Broadview**	$1,439,743	549	**$2,622**

64	**Nokomis**	$1,182,344	451	**$2,622**
65	**Colonsay**	$1,150,253	441	**$2,608**
66	**Ituna**	$1,843,395	708	**$2,604**
67	**Morse**	$591,206	228	**$2,593**
68	**Strasbourg**	$2,191,722	848	**$2,585**
69	**Wapella**	$858,033	332	**$2,584**
70	**Govan**	$591,537	230	**$2,572**
71	**Lemberg**	$739,919	289	**$2,560**
72	**Scott**	$193,439	76	**$2,545**
73	**Shaunavon**	$4,716,174	1,853	**$2,545**
74	**Kipling**	$2,757,221	1,087	**$2,537**
75	**Grenfell**	$2,865,208	1,135	**$2,524**
76	**Bruno**	$1,667,366	661	**$2,522**
77	**Dalmeny**	$4,858,152	1,931	**$2,516**
78	**Alameda**	$866,730	352	**$2,462**
79	**Outlook**	$6,424,538	2,628	**$2,445**
80	**Kelvington**	$2,067,312	846	**$2,444**
81	**Wadena**	$3,140,566	1,287	**$2,440**
82	**Herbert**	$2,014,042	828	**$2,432**
83	**Churchbridge**	$2,143,401	884	**$2,425**
84	**Wolseley**	$2,081,463	860	**$2,420**
85	**Aberdeen**	$1,864,623	771	**$2,418**
86	**Gull Lake**	$2,215,002	916	**$2,418**
87	**Biggar**	$5,676,340	2,353	**$2,412**
88	**Hague**	$2,315,199	962	**$2,407**
89	**Rockglen**	$930,315	387	**$2,404**
90	**Balgonie**	$4,765,170	1,984	**$2,402**
91	**Ogema**	$1,037,440	433	**$2,396**
92	**Watrous**	$4,971,085	2,110	**$2,356**
93	**Duck Lake**	$1,463,011	621	**$2,356**
94	**Hepburn**	$1,921,806	820	**$2,344**
95	**Dundurn**	$1,811,206	781	**$2,319**
96	**Wakaw**	$2,414,936	1,042	**$2,318**
97	**Preeceville**	$2,486,095	1,073	**$2,317**
98	**Lanigan**	$3,652,812	1,580	**$2,312**
99	**Bienfait**	$1,554,052	682	**$2,279**
100	**Wawota**	$1,247,063	548	**$2,276**
101	**Radville**	$1,797,492	792	**$2,270**
102	**Wilkie**	$2,792,217	1,240	**$2,252**
103	**Star City**	$860,658	385	**$2,235**
104	**Cupar**	$1,497,580	671	**$2,232**
105	**Cudworth**	$1,845,632	831	**$2,221**
106	**Maple Creek**	$5,090,991	2,300	**$2,213**
107	**Pilot Butte**	$6,973,554	3,167	**$2,202**
108	**Hanley**	$1,372,655	628	**$2,186**

109	**Arborfield**	$641,856	295	**$2,176**
110	**Radisson**	$1,040,890	479	**$2,173**
111	**Unity**	$5,414,018	2,499	**$2,166**
112	**Turtleford**	$1,152,686	533	**$2,163**
113	**Yellow Grass**	$928,506	430	**$2,159**
114	**Norquay**	$900,319	418	**$2,154**
115	**Esterhazy**	$5,330,369	2,514	**$2,120**
116	**Langenburg**	$2,648,093	1,249	**$2,120**
117	**Delisle**	$2,178,495	1,036	**$2,103**
118	**Rouleau**	$1,122,913	538	**$2,087**
119	**Porcupine Plain**	$1,809,172	872	**$2,075**
120	**Southey**	$1,682,401	813	**$2,069**
121	**Imperial**	$815,309	397	**$2,054**
122	**Lashburn**	$1,906,095	930	**$2,050**
123	**St. Brieux**	$1,378,191	687	**$2,006**
124	**Choiceland**	$703,224	352	**$1,998**
125	**Fort Qu'Appelle**	$4,370,002	2,207	**$1,980**
126	**Pense**	$1,298,099	660	**$1,967**
127	**Asquith**	$1,274,621	661	**$1,928**
128	**Sturgis**	$1,295,438	678	**$1,911**
129	**Craik**	$828,021	435	**$1,903**
130	**Springside**	$1,008,534	534	**$1,889**
131	**Indian Head**	$4,044,990	2,150	**$1,881**
132	**Qu'Appelle**	$1,382,458	741	**$1,866**
133	**Waldheim**	$2,509,791	1,362	**$1,843**
134	**Marshall**	$1,025,579	557	**$1,841**
135	**Maidstone**	$2,264,803	1,245	**$1,819**
136	**White City**	$7,688,060	4,301	**$1,788**
137	**Langham**	$3,066,091	1,756	**$1,746**
138	**Milestone**	$1,167,697	670	**$1,743**
139	**Zealandia**	$135,362	78	**$1,735**
140	**Battleford**	$8,031,473	4,629	**$1,735**
141	**Hafford**	$780,672	450	**$1,735**
142	**Vonda**	$750,809	437	**$1,718**
143	**Osler**	$2,434,644	1,443	**$1,687**
144	**Grand Coulee**	$1,117,638	685	**$1,632**
145	**Francis**	$323,107	204	**$1,584**
146	**Ponteix**	$976,833	622	**$1,570**
	Sintaluta		140	
	All towns (combined)	**$392,386,845**	**154,867**	**$2,563**

Methodology:

All population numbers come from Statistics Canada estimates.
Expense figures come from the government of Saskatchewan.