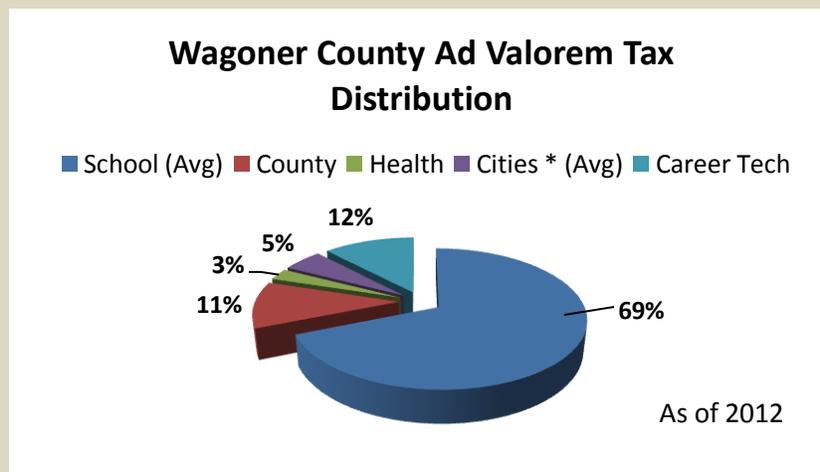




Where Do My Property Taxes Go?

Many folks believe that the majority of their property tax dollars are used to fund County Government. They may also believe that their sales tax dollars are used to fund the schools. In reality, just the opposite is true.

The majority (81%) of your property tax dollars are used to fund schools and Career Tech. Only eleven percent funds County Government and three percent funds the Health Department.



Cities which collect ad valorem tax, do so to fund their sinking funds, which are used to pay for judgments. The county does not currently have a sinking fund.

The County portion of your property tax is used to fund all offices of the county, including maintenance of the Courthouse, the offices of the County Commissioners, County Clerk, Assessor, Treasurer, as well as a portion of the Court Clerk, District Courts and District Attorney's Office. These funds are referred to as the "General Fund". The County is required to publish the budget for these funds annually on the county website as well as in local newspapers.

The Oklahoma State Statutes are very specific about how the county operates and how funds must be accounted for and expended. The majority of these laws appear in Title 19 and 68.

For additional information about the County, please visit our website at:

www.WagonerCounty.OK.gov

What about Sales Taxes?



Sales taxes in Wagoner County are collected by a number of different entities and for a number of different purposes.

COUNTY SALES TAX – 1%

Revenues received from this tax are distributed between each of the Commissioners Districts, the Sheriff, and County General Government.

Commissioners – The Commissioners share 80% of this tax, with each Commissioner’s District receiving an equal share. These funds are used to maintain all of the county’s roads and bridges.

Sheriff – The Sheriff’s Office receives 10% of this tax which they use to fund the operation of the jail facility.

County General Government – The County receives the final 10% of this tax. It is used to fund insurance for county facilities and equipment, worker’s compensation insurance, and other general obligations of the county.



Because the county has a sales tax, statutes allow a “**Use Tax**” which provides for the collection of sales tax on purchases made out of state, for instance, purchases made online. The county utilizes use tax funds to pay for **E-911, economic development, engineering services, storm water and flood plain management**, administrative support to the courts, and to operate programs for juveniles, area senior citizen’s centers, the county fair and much more. Without the sales tax, we cannot collect the “Use Tax” so these valuable services would become unfunded.

FIRE SALES TAX - .3%

The majority (95%) of the Fire Sales tax is divided equally among the county’s 14 fire departments with the remaining 5% to the Fire Trust Authority. This tax is used to fund new trucks, equipment, fuel and training for these volunteer departments throughout the county.

**CITY SALES TAX – Broken Arrow, Coweta, and Wagoner 3%
Catoosa 3.25%**

**Tulsa 3.167%
Porter and Okay 4%**

STATE SALES TAX – 4.5%

The County does not retain any of this sales tax. It is remitted to the State to fund state programs.