



**WISCONSIN
BUDGET
PROJECT**

An Initiative of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families

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Wisconsin Budget Project Greet Tax Day with a Brief, a Quiz and a New Website

The Wisconsin Budget Project is marking the approach of Tax Day with the release of a new brief comparing Wisconsin to the rest of the nation on state and local spending and expenditure growth; a quiz about taxes and spending in Wisconsin; and the launch of a new website, <http://www.wisconsinbudgetproject.org/>, on which both of these items, and much more, can be found.

The new brief is titled “How Does Wisconsin Compare in State and Local Spending and Expenditure Growth?” (<http://www.wccf.org/budgetprojworking/howcompare.pdf>). It compares total state and local spending in Wisconsin with other states, examines how spending in Wisconsin has changed over time, and addresses the question of whether our budget difficulties can be resolved by relying primarily on spending cuts.

The website features a new “Wisconsin Budget Basics Guide,” (<http://www.wccf.org/budgetprojworking/budgetbasics.pdf>) which outlines key facts about where the state’s revenue comes from, how it is spent, and the budget-making process.

“This is the time of year when a lot of people are thinking more than usual about where their tax dollars end up,” said Jon Peacock, director of the Wisconsin Budget Project. “We hope the information we are providing via the new website—along with our ongoing series of publications--helps Wisconsinites better understand how state finances work, and empowers them to play an active role in determining spending priorities at the state, local and federal levels.”

The Wisconsin Budget Project, an initiative of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, was launched in 1999. The Project is engaged in analysis and public education on state budget and tax issues, particularly those relating to low- and moderate-income families, with the aim of broadening the policy debate on these issues. The Wisconsin Budget Project is part of the State Fiscal Analysis Initiative (SFAI), a network of independent, nonpartisan nonprofits in 32 states engaged in similar work across the country.

For more information about the Wisconsin Budget Project, visit wisconsinbudgetproject.org, or contact Jon Peacock at 608-284-0580, ext. 307 or jpeacock@wccf.org.

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