

Nevada: Fiscally conservative or just cheap?

Relative to the size of the state's economy, Nevada state government spending is the smallest in the U.S.

2007 state general fund spending compared to state gross domestic product

Rank	State	GDP by state (\$billion)	General fund spending (\$billion)	Gen. fund spending as % of state GDP
1.	Wyoming	31.5	3.1	9.9
2.	Alaska	44.5	4.3	9.7
3.	Alabama	165.8	14.8	8.9
4.	Hawaii	61.5	5.4	8.8
5.	Massachusetts	351.5	27.6	7.9
6.	New Mexico	76.2	6	7.9
7.	Connecticut	216.3	15.3	7.1
8.	Rhode Island	46.9	3.2	6.8
9.	Minnesota	255	16.5	6.5
10.	New Jersey	465.5	30.3	6.5
11.	West Virginia	57.7	3.7	6.4
12.	Maine	48.1	3	6.2
13.	Kentucky	154.2	8.8	5.7
14.	Wisconsin	232.3	13.1	5.6
15.	Delaware	60.1	3.4	5.6
16.	California	1,813	101.4	5.6
17.	Maryland	268.7	14.2	5.3
18.	Ohio	466.3	23.8	5.1
	Average percentage	n/a	n/a	5.1
19.	Idaho	51.1	2.6	5.1
20.	Indiana	246.4	12.2	5
21.	Pennsylvania	531.1	26.3	5
22.	Montana	34.3	1.7	4.9
23.	Vermont	24.5	1.2	4.9
	All states	13,649	652.3	4.8
24.	Kansas	117.3	5.6	4.8
25.	New York	1,103	51.6	4.7
26.	North Carolina	399.4	18.7	4.7
27.	Washington	311.3	14.1	4.5
28.	Mississippi	88.5	3.9	4.4
29.	Utah	105.7	4.7	4.4
30.	Georgia	396.5	16.9	4.3
31.	Louisiana	216.1	9.3	4.3
32.	South Carolina	152.8	6.6	4.3
33.	Virginia	383	16.6	4.3
34.	Arizona	247	10.5	4.2
35.	Arkansas	95.4	4	4.2
36.	Oklahoma	139.3	5.9	4.2
37.	Tennessee	243.9	10.2	4.2
38.	Iowa	129	5.4	4.2
39.	Nebraska	80.1	3.1	3.9
40.	Florida	734.5	27.7	3.8
41.	North Dakota	27.7	1	3.6
42.	Oregon	158.2	5.6	3.5
43.	Illinois	609.6	20.8	3.4
44.	Missouri	229.5	7.8	3.4
45.	Texas	1,142	39	3.4
46.	South Dakota	33.9	1.1	3.2
47.	Colorado	236.3	6.8	2.9
48.	Michigan	382	9.2	2.4
49.	New Hampshire	57.3	1.4	2.4
50.	Nevada	127.2	2.9	2.3

2007 total state spending compared to state gross domestic product

Rank	State	GDP by state (\$billion)	Total state spending (\$billion)	Total spending as % of state GDP
1.	West Virginia	57.7	18.5	32.1
2.	Alaska	44.5	11.5	25.8
3.	Alabama	165.8	36	21.8
4.	Vermont	24.5	5.1	20.8
5.	New Mexico	76.2	14.5	19
6.	Hawaii	61.5	10.7	17.4
7.	Mississippi	88.5	15.3	17.3
8.	Arkansas	95.4	16.1	16.9
9.	Wyoming	31.5	5.1	16.2
10.	Maine	48.1	7.2	15
11.	Wisconsin	232.3	34.3	14.8
12.	Kentucky	154.2	22.3	14.4
13.	Rhode Island	46.9	6.7	14.3
14.	Oklahoma	139.3	19.3	13.9
15.	Louisiana	216.1	29.5	13.7
16.	Montana	34.3	4.7	13.7
17.	Delaware	60.1	7.9	13.1
18.	South Carolina	152.8	20	13.1
19.	Oregon	158.2	20.3	12.8
	Average percentage	n/a	n/a	12.7
20.	North Dakota	27.7	3.4	12.3
21.	Massachusetts	351.5	41.8	11.9
22.	Iowa	129	15.1	11.7
23.	Ohio	466.3	53.2	11.4
24.	Arizona	247	27.4	11.1
25.	Florida	734.5	66.1	11.1
26.	Michigan	382	42.6	11.1
27.	Maryland	268.7	29.5	11
28.	Idaho	51.1	5.5	10.8
29.	Pennsylvania	531.1	56.9	10.7
30.	Minnesota	255	27.1	10.6
31.	Connecticut	216.3	22.8	10.5
	All states	13,649	1437.8	10.5
32.	Kansas	117.3	12	10.2
33.	Nebraska	80.1	8.2	10.2
34.	New York	1,103	112.8	10.2
35.	Tennessee	243.9	24.8	10.2
36.	California	1,813	182.9	10.1
37.	North Carolina	399.4	39.7	9.9
38.	New Jersey	465.5	45.4	9.8
39.	Washington	311.3	29.9	9.6
40.	Utah	105.7	10	9.5
41.	Georgia	396.5	37.4	9.4
42.	Indiana	246.4	22.8	9.3
43.	Missouri	229.5	21	9.2
44.	South Dakota	33.9	3.1	9.1
45.	Virginia	383	34.8	9.1
46.	New Hampshire	57.3	4.5	7.9
47.	Illinois	609.6	46.2	7.6
48.	Colorado	236.3	16.7	7.1
49.	Texas	1,142	81	7.1
50.	Nevada	127.2	8.2	6.4

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(Sources: U.S. Census Bureau Statistical Abstract, [Table 649: "Gross Domestic Product by State in Current and Real \(2000\) Dollars by State: 2000 to 2007"](#); National Association of State Budget Officers, [2007 State Expenditures Report](#), Table 1)

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