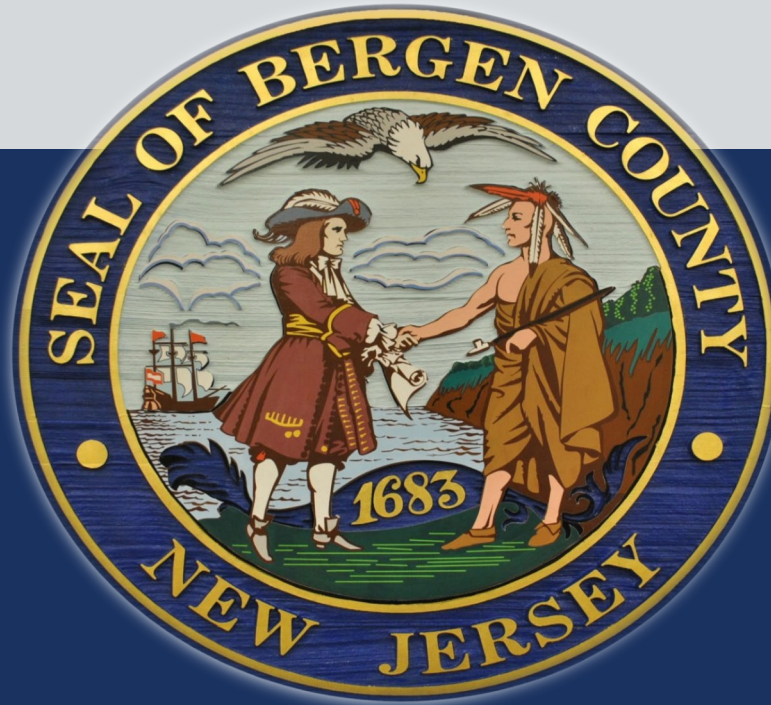


BUILDING A BETTER BERGEN

2019 BUDGET



JAMES J. TEDESCO, III
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



PROVEN LEADERSHIP & FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY BUILDING A BETTER BERGEN



James J. Tedesco, III
Bergen County Executive

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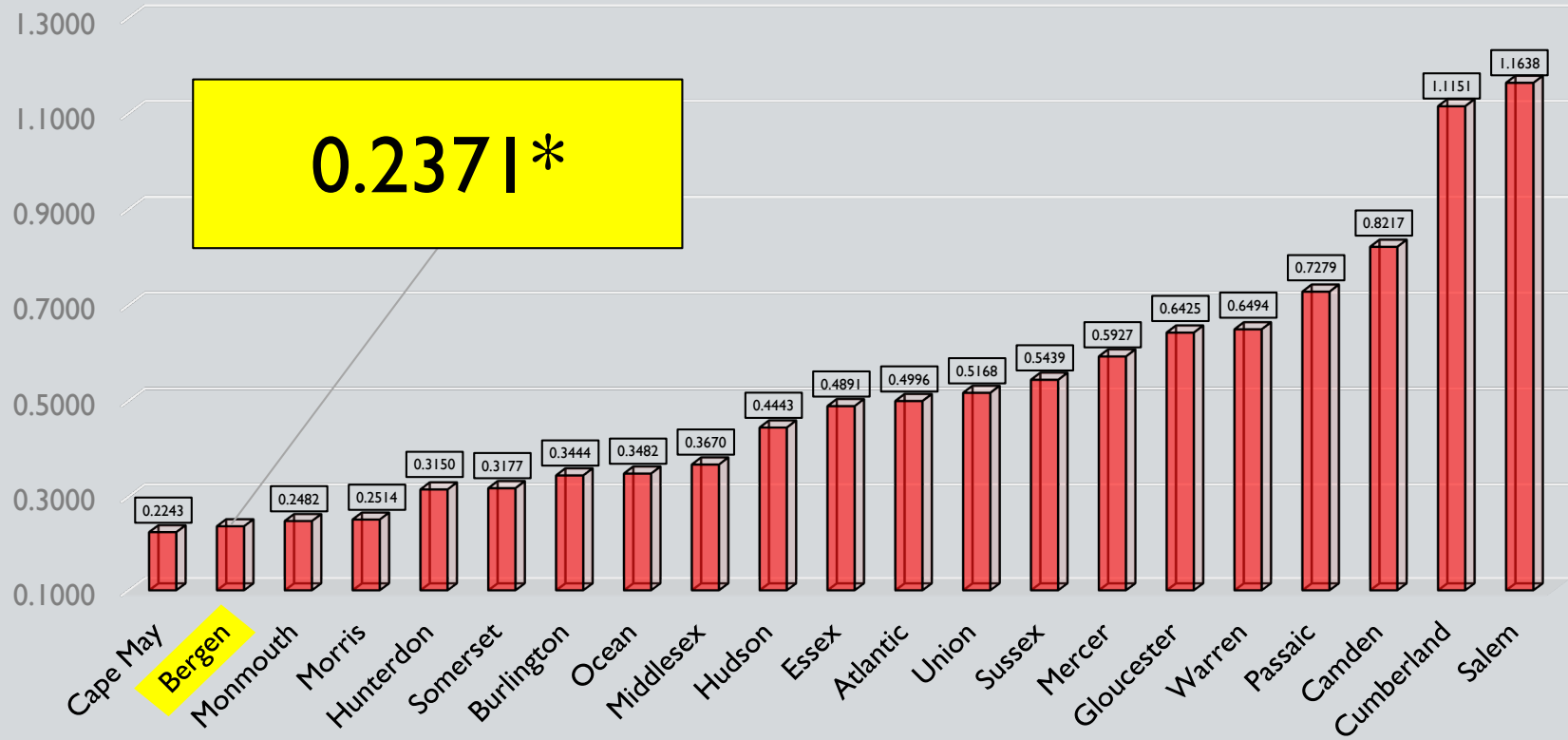
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BERGEN COUNTY HAS THE 2ND LOWEST TAX RATE IN NEW JERSEY

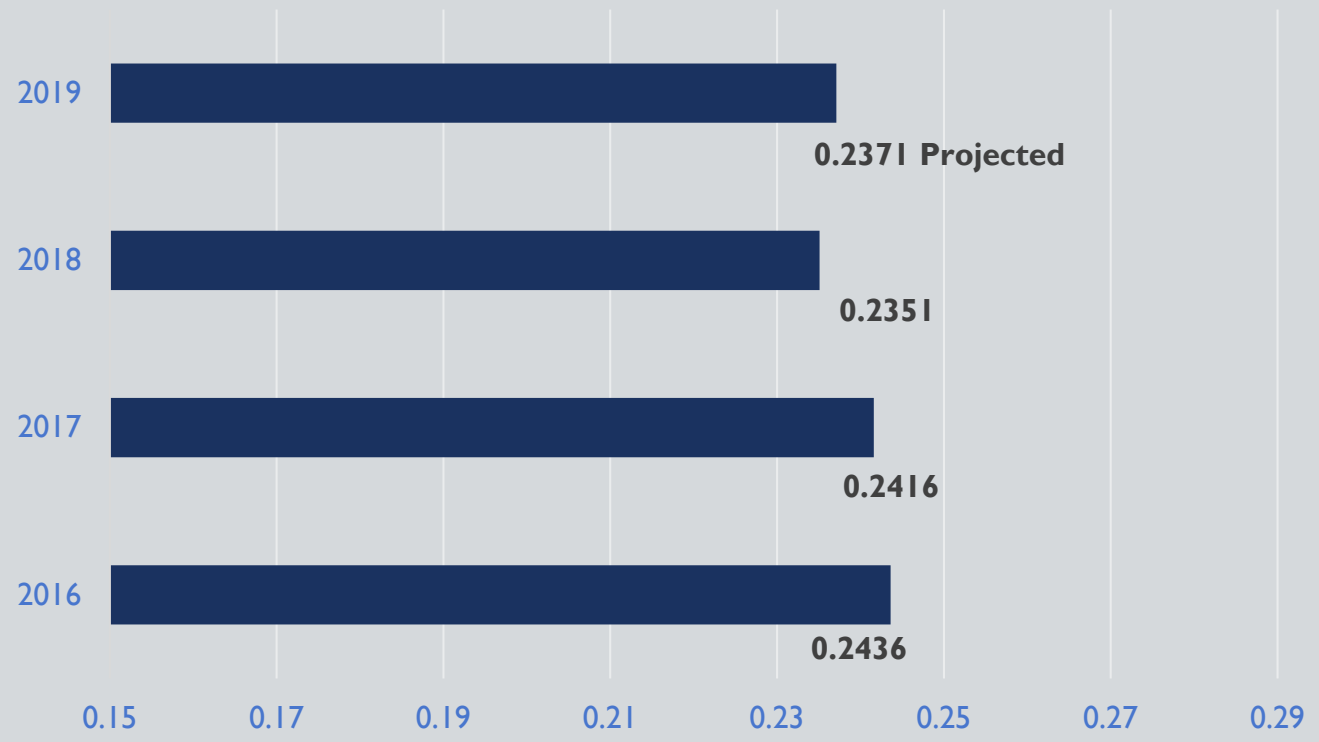


*2019 Projected Tax Rate
Source: State of N.J. Taxation



KEEPING TAXES STABLE 2016 - 2019

Tax Rate 2016 to 2019





BERGEN COUNTY'S AAA BOND RATING THE BEST RATING POSSIBLE

Aaa Bond Rating Reaffirmed Throughout Tedesco Administration

Aaa Rating Rationale:

- Bergen County has strong management and conservative budgeting.
- A strategic and well executed debt and capital plan has allowed Bergen County to maintain stable debt services.
- The county has an aggressive approach in seeking to find shared services agreements to further reduce expenditures.

Credit Strengths:

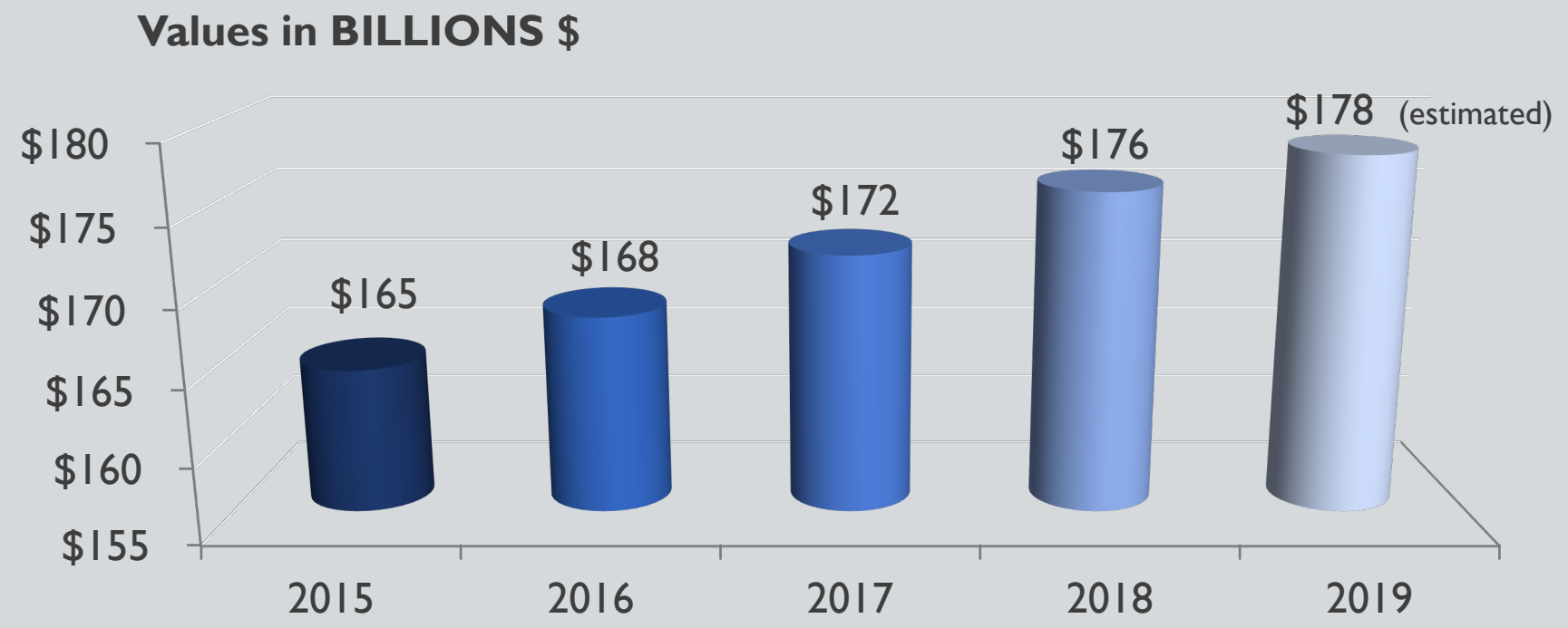
- Continued growth in the fund balance as evidenced by an 49% increase over the last four years.
- Stable, structurally balanced financial operations.
- Substantial and diverse tax base with favorable location.
- Strong socioeconomic profile and above-average wealth levels.



“Bergen County has a history of strong management and conservative budgeting. The county has a long-standing debt and capital plan, which has enabled it to maintain stable debt service. In addition, the County has a history of seeking shared service agreements to reduce expenditures... The county’s financial position should remain strong in the medium term as management continues to budget conservatively.” – Moody’s 2018 Credit Opinion



GROWTH OF BERGEN COUNTY'S EQUALIZED REAL ESTATE VALUES

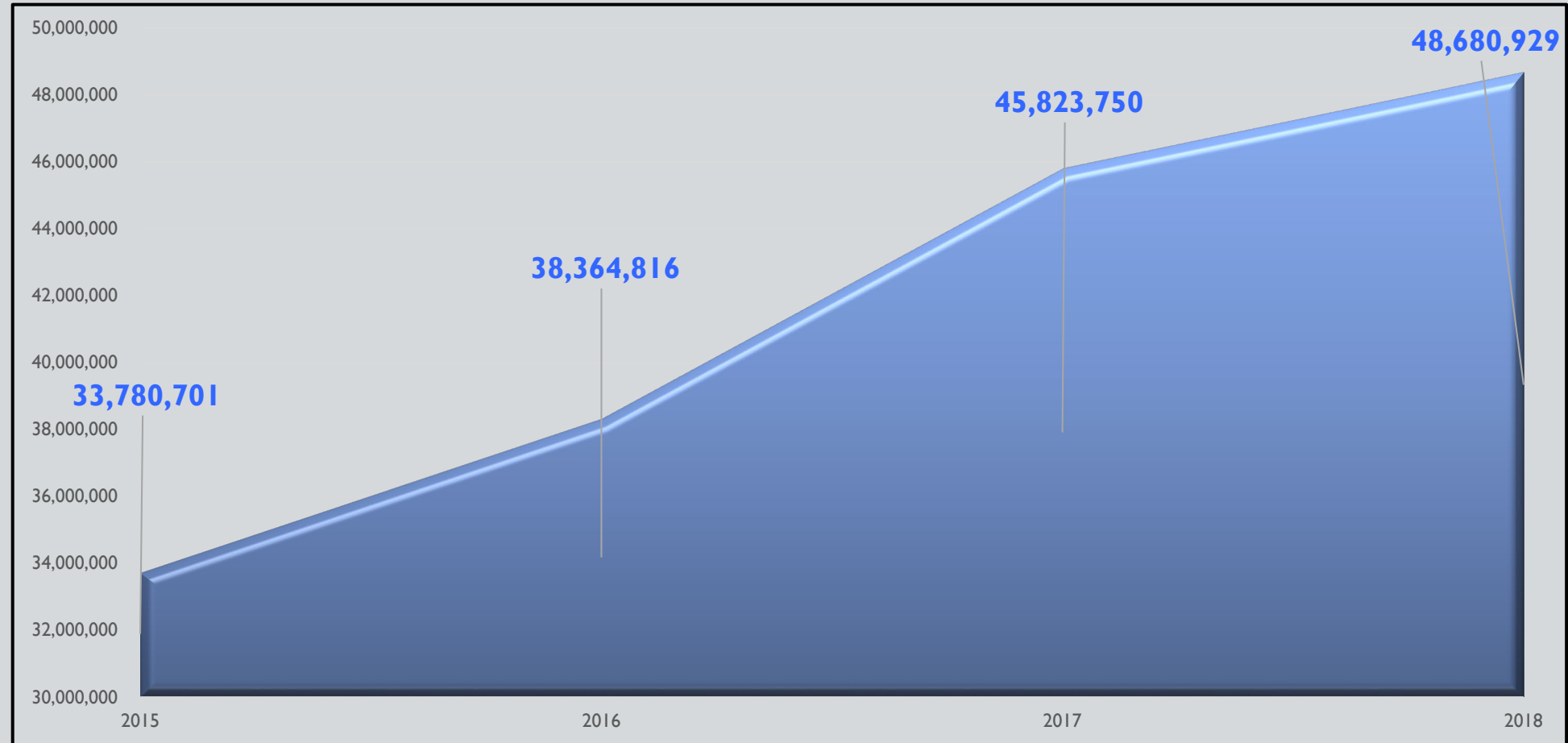


Evaluation from the Rating Agencies

Growth in tax base is an important factor in maintaining Bergen's Aaa bond rating because it demonstrates stability in the underlying County tax base. A larger tax base allows the County to have more financial flexibility to help keep taxes stable.



GROWTH IN FUND BALANCE UNDER COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO ADMINISTRATION



HEALTHY FUND BALANCE IS NECESSARY TO OFFSET FIXED COST INCREASES AND MAINTAIN COUNTY'S CREDIT STRENGTH



2019 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Responsible and balanced budget.
 - ❖ Growth of budget and tax rate below State Cost of Living increase!
- ❖ Improvements to County facilities and assets to make necessary repairs and upgrades.
 - ❖ Parks & golf course upgrades and amenities
 - ❖ Senior Center improvements in Garfield and Midland Park
 - ❖ Culinary Learning Center at BCC Hackensack Campus
 - ❖ OBCP elevators, HVAC, piazza upgrades
- ❖ 23% increase in revenues through additional shared services, inter-local agreements, and parks revenue from 2015 to present.
- ❖ Capital planning on long-term, six year basis allows County to responsibly budget for future facility and equipment needs and defray costs over time.
 - ❖ 911 Trunked Radio upgrades
 - ❖ New, upgraded school buses for Bergen County Technical Schools and Bergen County Special Services Districts
 - ❖ IT cybersecurity upgrades to safeguard and preserve private and confidential info, election security and integrity



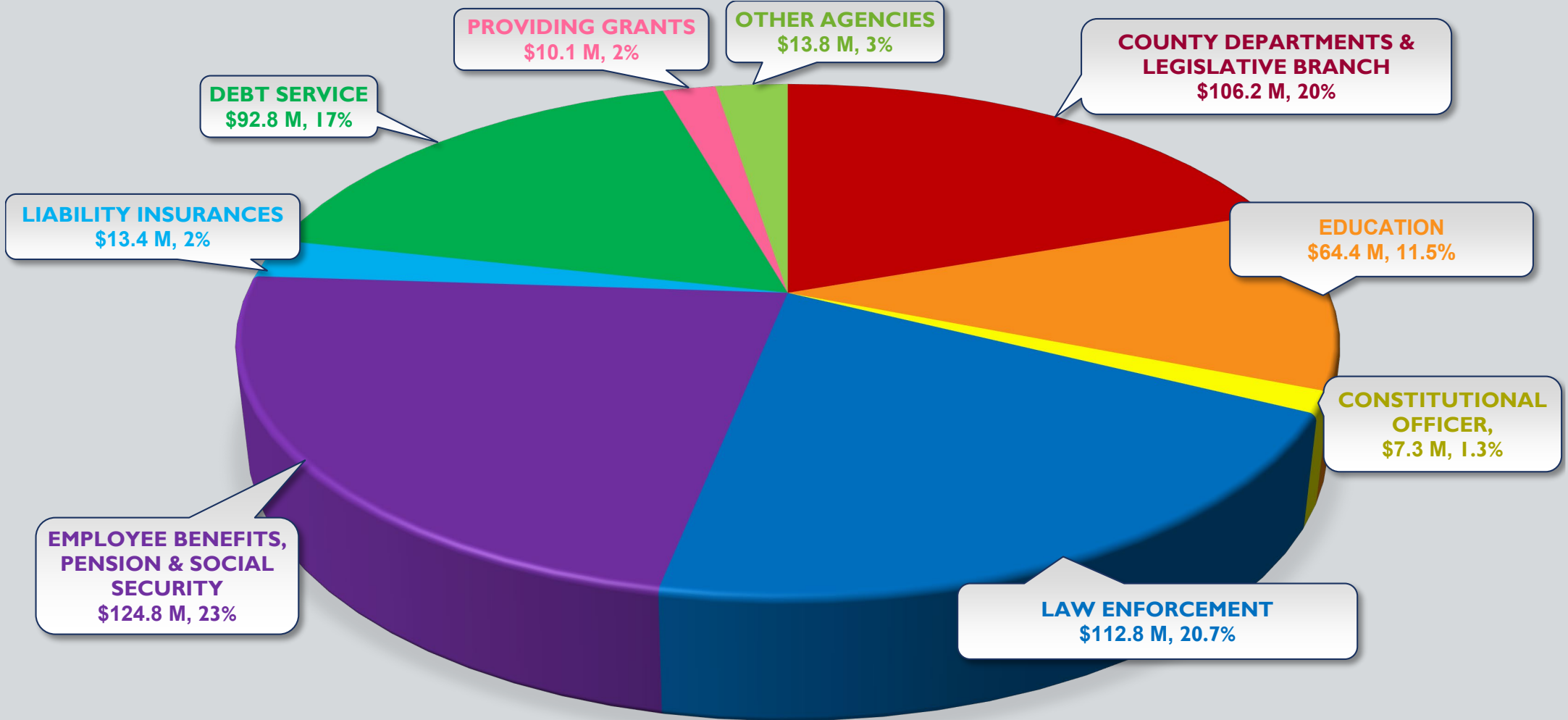
2019 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

- ❖ Millions of dollars invested in infrastructure improvements including bridges, roads, culverts, drainage, and dams throughout the entire county.
 - ❖ Over \$20m in NJ DOT funding for road resurfacing
 - ❖ \$7.4m in bridge, culvert, and drainage replacement and repairs
 - ❖ \$4.2m in intersection and road improvements
- ❖ Usage of Open Space trust and capital funding to expand public recreation areas, improve flood stabilization, and preserve open space.
 - ❖ Saddle River County Park – Duck Pond and Tennis Courts
 - ❖ Darlington Lake inflatable modular water feature
 - ❖ Overpeck Improved Rowing Facilities
 - ❖ Van Saun Carousel upgrades for year-round use
- ❖ New partnerships and enhancement of existing programs.
 - ❖ Medical Examiner's Office partnership with Rutgers Medical
 - ❖ Partnership between Bergen New Bridge and Rutgers Medical for physician training and research programs
 - ❖ Partnership with Hackensack Riverkeeper to improve access to the northern end of Hackensack River



WHAT'S IN THE BUDGET?

2019 BUDGET \$545,576,564 ALLOCATION





TEDESCO ADMINISTRATION'S CONTINUED INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION

Bergen Community College 2019 Appropriation	Total Appropriation	
Capital and Operating		\$24,765,928
County Schools 2019 Appropriation		
Hackensack, Teterboro, Paramus, Applied Technology High Schools and Special Service Schools including 2019 Capital Improvements & Debt Service		\$53,562,399
Bergen County Superintendent of Schools 2019 Appropriation		\$445,601
TOTAL EDUCATIONAL APPROPRIATION		2019: \$78,773,928 2018: \$73,973,143

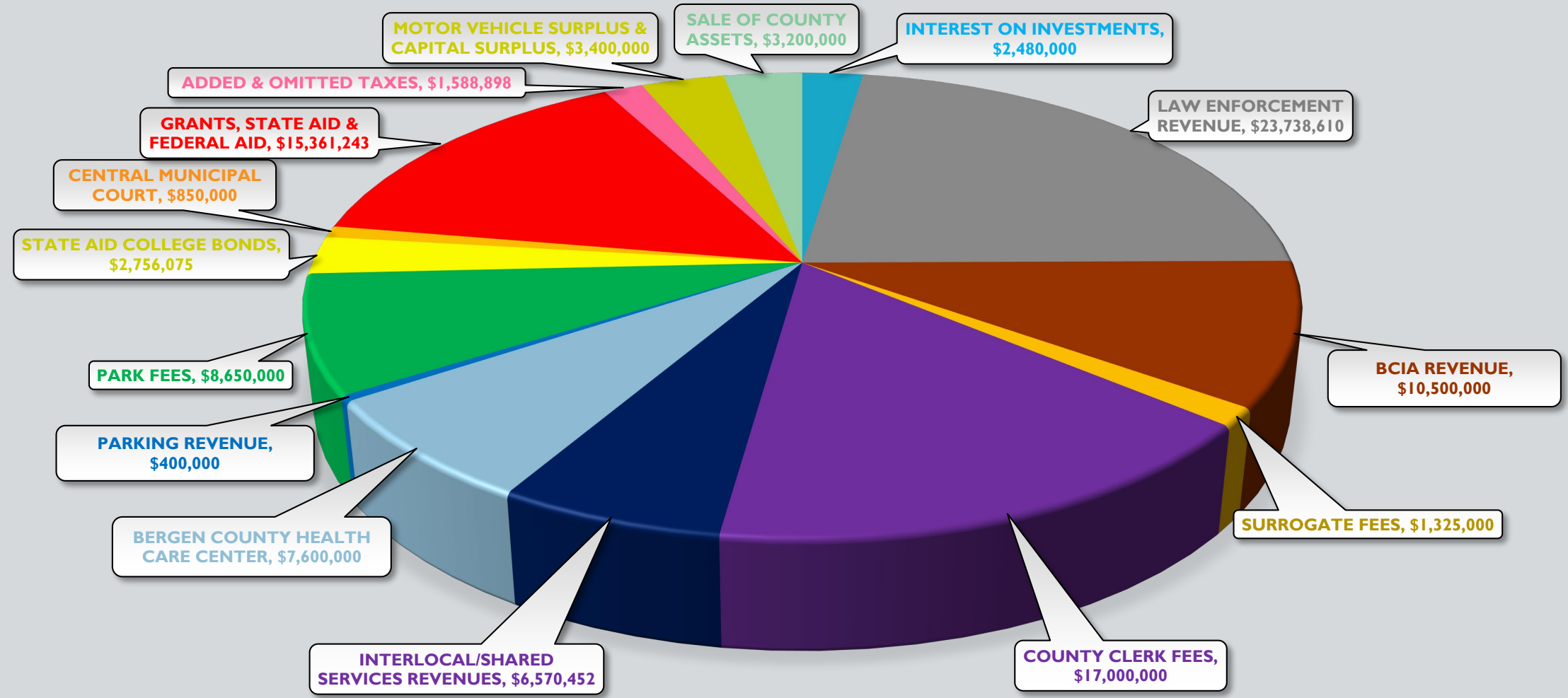
2019 EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Bergen Community College was rated #1 in New Jersey for Associate degree graduates and #26 in the nations according to Middle States Commission on Higher education.
2. December 2018 USA Today rated Bergen County Academies #2 as the best high school in the State of NJ with an average SAT score of 1450 composite for Math and English.
3. 2018 US News ranked Bergen County Technical High School in Teterboro as the #3 High School in New Jersey and #58 in the Nation.



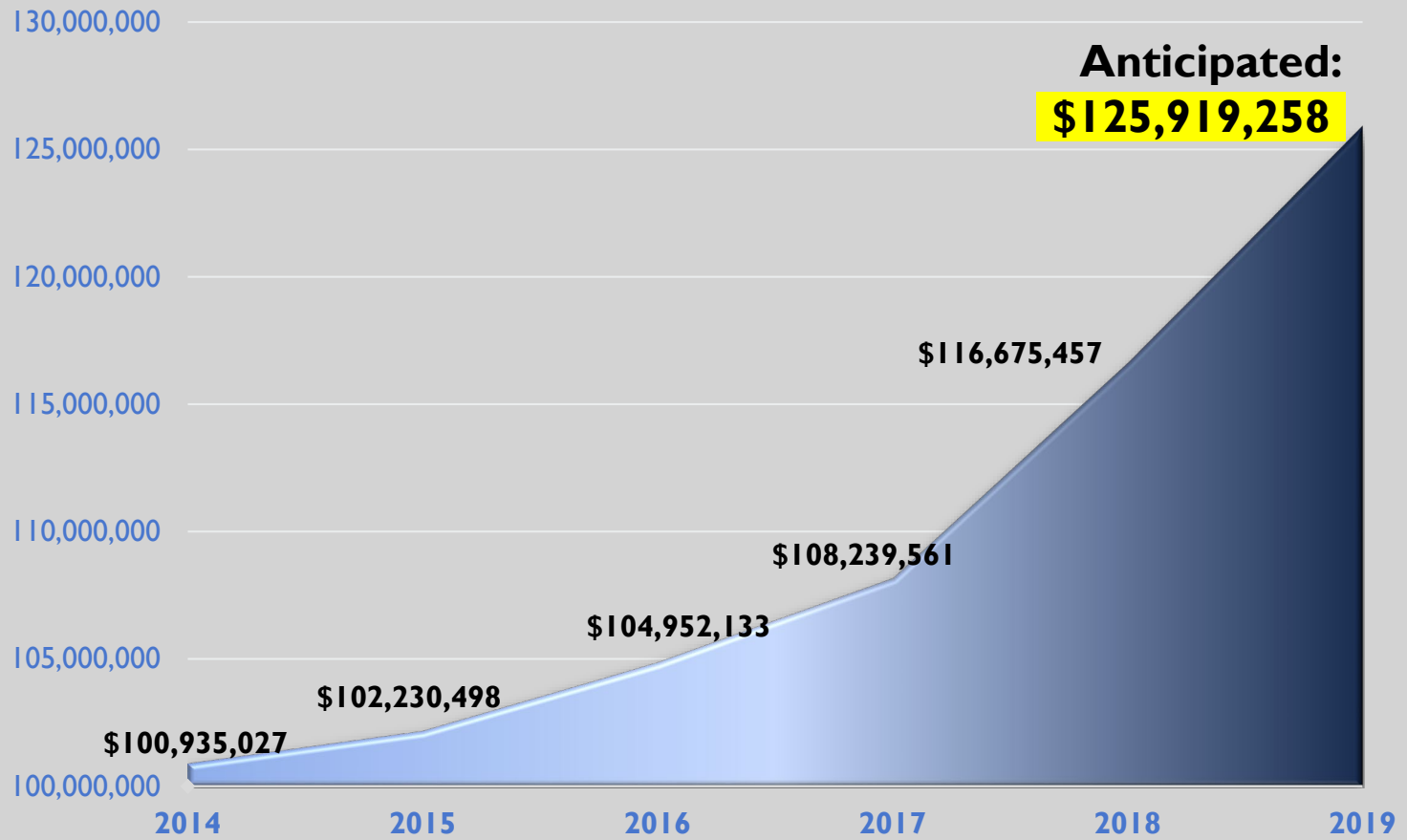


2019 ANTICIPATED COUNTY REVENUE FROM ALL SOURCES: \$125,919,258



GROWTH IN REVENUE 2014 - 2019

Revenue 2014 to 2019



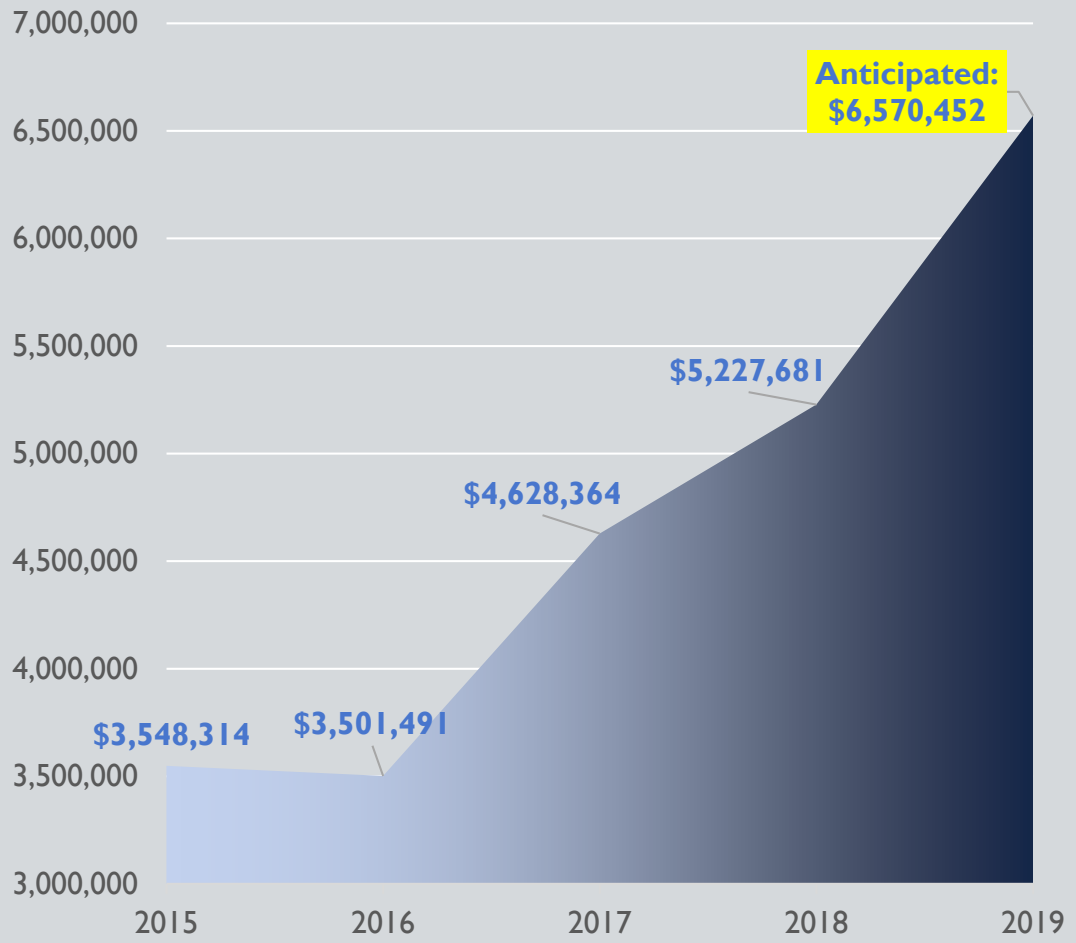
25% Overall Increase in Revenue 2014 – 2019

Increases doubled over last four years

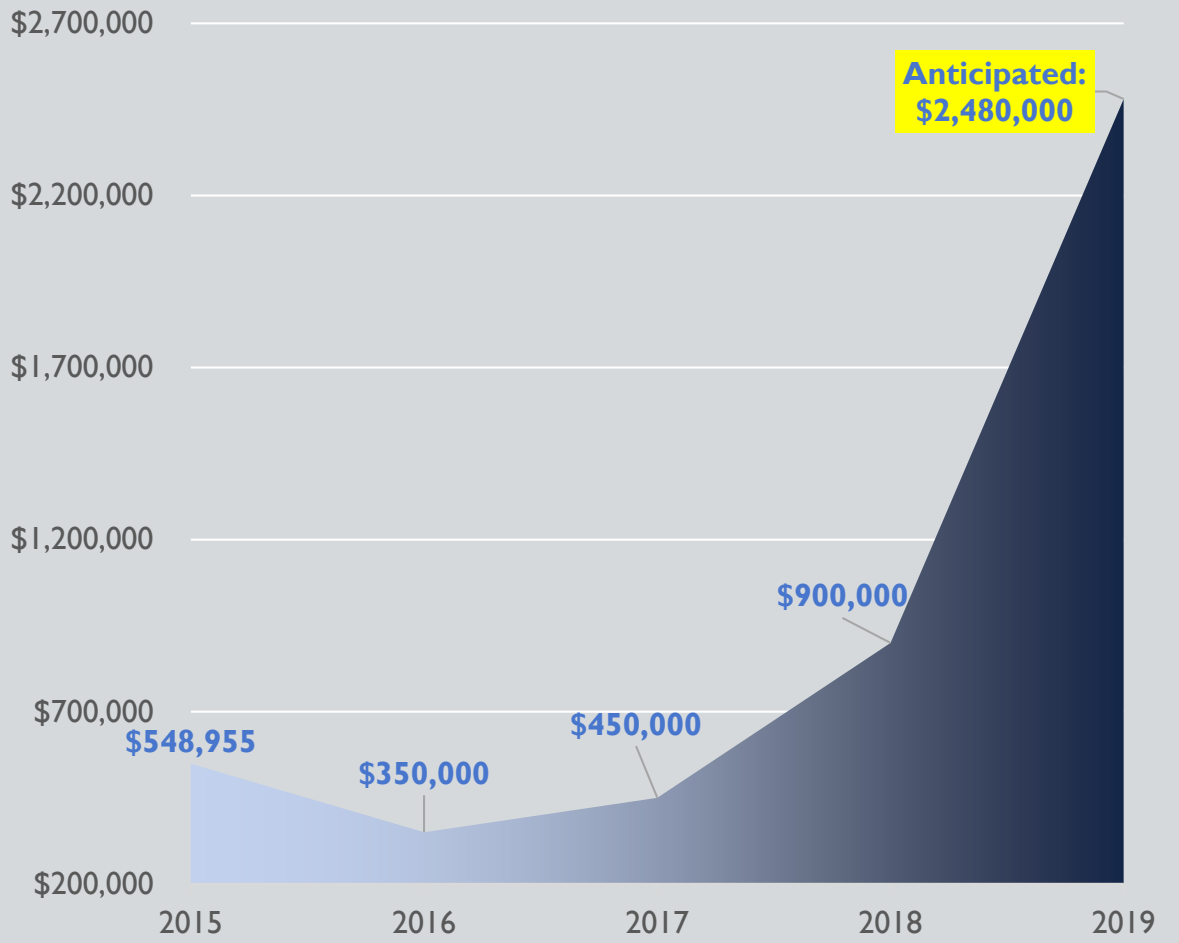
- **Interlocal Health Contracts**
- **Parks and Golf Fees**
- **Grants, State Aid, and Federal Aid**
- **911 Dispatch Municipal Contracts**

SELECTED REVENUE GROWTH 2015 TO 2019

Shared Service Revenue 2015 - 2019

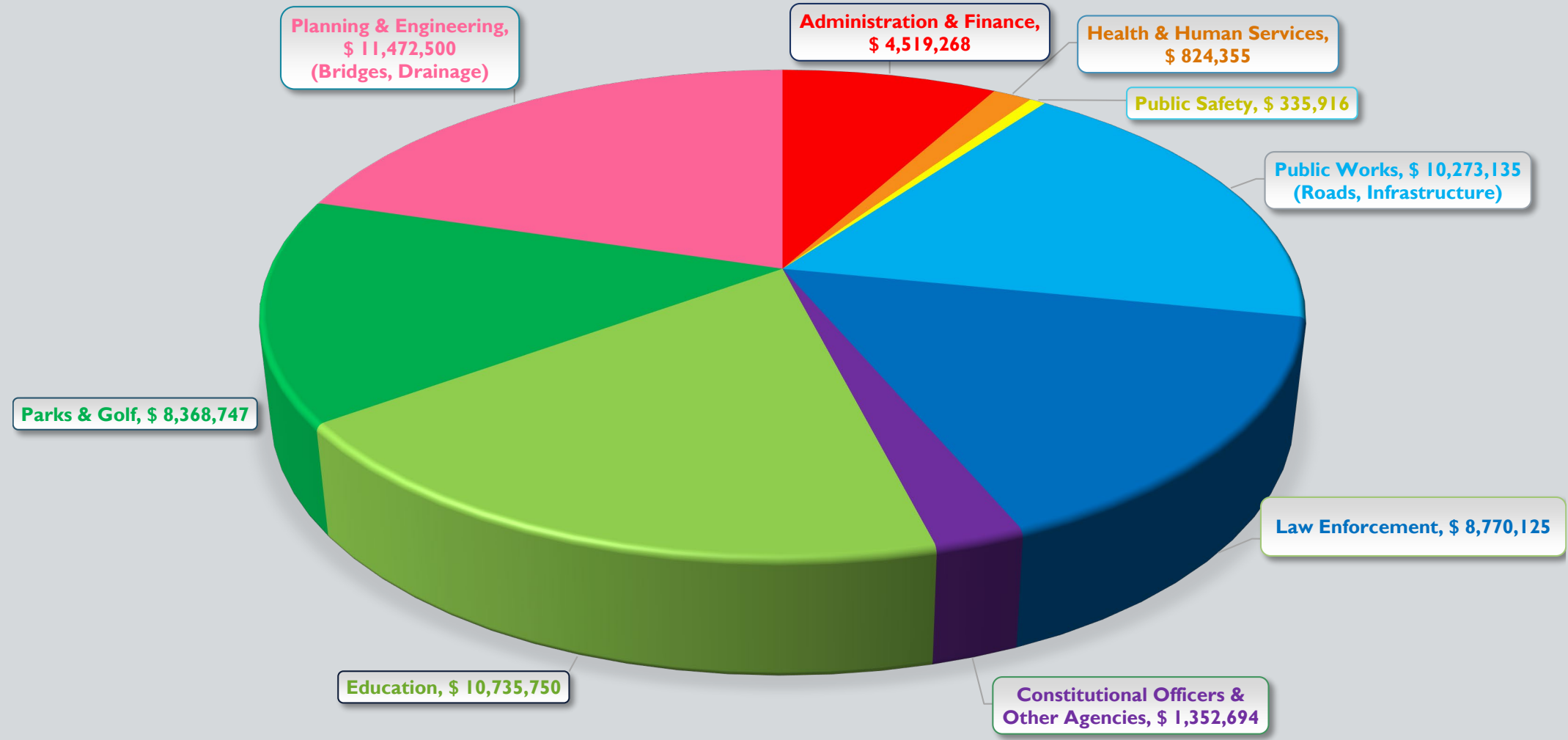


Investment Interest 2015 - 2019





\$53,469,052 COUNTY OF BERGEN 2019 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN





FIXED COSTS ACCOUNT FOR 73% OF TOTAL INCREASE



- ❖ 1.99% levy increase – below cap!
- ❖ \$9.50 increase on average assessed home of \$465,000
- ❖ Fixed costs account for 73% of total increase in allocations!
 - ❖ Includes: Pensions, Debt Service, Insurance, Liability, Contractual increases
 - ❖ 10.4% are increases to Education
 - ❖ 10.1% are increases to Law Enforcement
- ❖ Increases for services that help residents!
 - ❖ 9.2% increase to Mental Health supporting Stigma Free and other initiatives
 - ❖ 19% increase to Senior Activity Centers for additional activities, staffing, meals, and transportation
 - ❖ 9.3% increase to Mechanical Services to accommodate additional Shared Services

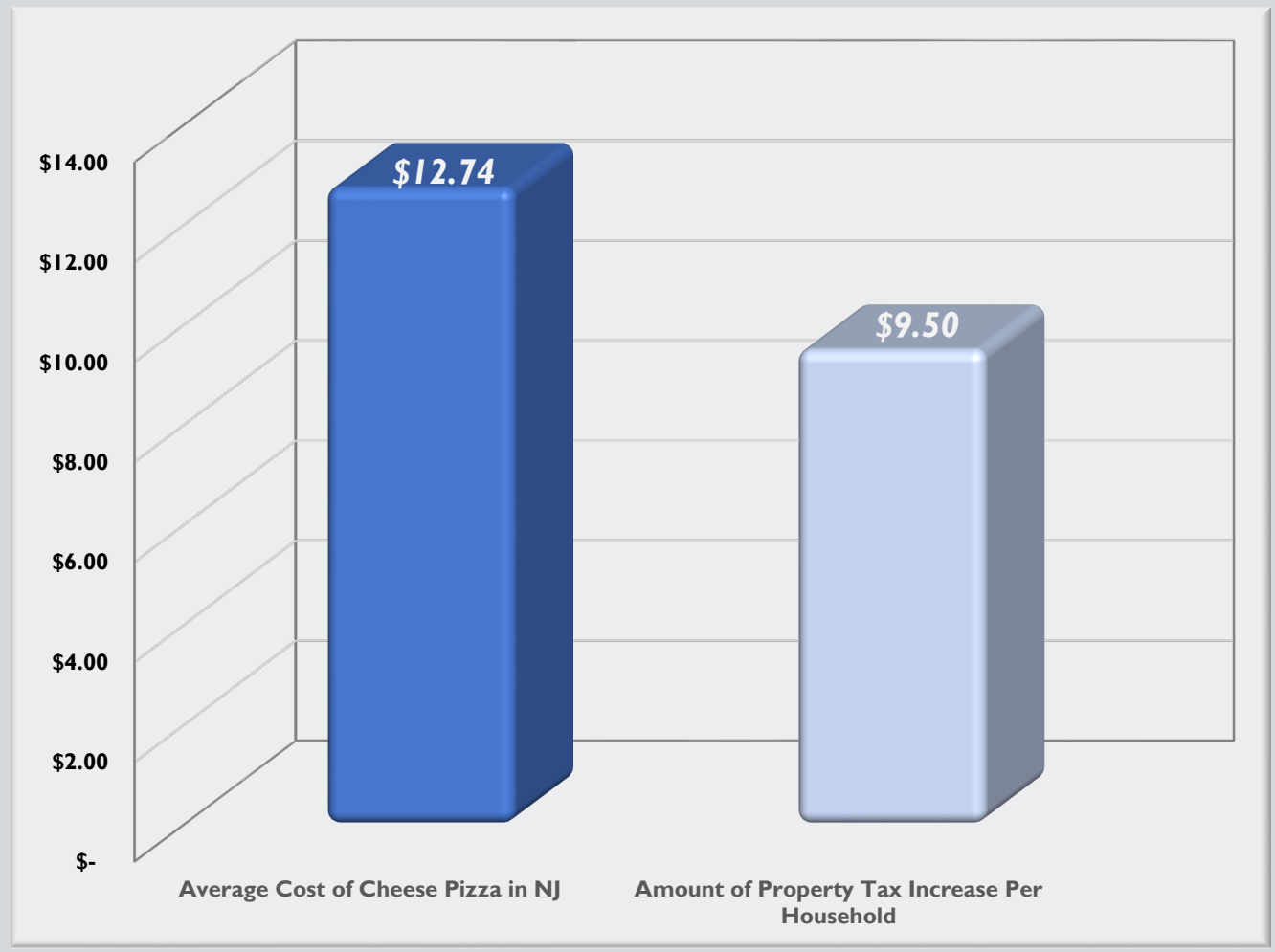


PROPERTY TAX INCREASE IS LESS THAN A CHEESE PIZZA!

Average Cost of Pizza

New York City	\$16
New Jersey	\$12.74
US Average	\$13.21

Source: Eater.com Price Index Survey, 2014



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IN CONCLUSION

Increased Revenues
+ Proper Capital Planning
+ Continued Growth in Fund Balance
= A Formula for a Successful and Balanced Budget!

- Four years of strong fiscal control allows Bergen County keep the budget stable and not put unnecessary burden on taxpayers.
- Investment in County beginning in 2015:
 - Investment in long-term financial planning to chart a sound fiscal course for the County.
 - Investment in County programs leads to increased revenues.
 - Investment in capital costs and planning for the future saves money on last-minute large expenditures caused by lack of upkeep.
 - Investments leveraging our Aaa bond rating to refinance old bonds, saving millions in interest costs for County and participating municipalities.
- We are keeping the tax rate stable while delivering necessary services for County residents!



BUDGET CREDITS

The County Executive James J. Tedesco, III extends his appreciation to following individuals and their staff for their dedication, work ethic and professionalism in the formulation of the 2019 Operating and Capital Budget.

Treasury & Division of Budget & Capital Planning

- ❖ Joseph Luppino, CPA - CFO/Treasurer
- ❖ Melissa Howard – Assistant Treasurer
- ❖ Marlene Golden - Budget Examiner
- ❖ Michael Kaplan - Budget Analyst
- ❖ Julie Calabrese - Executive Assistant
- ❖ Sadie Ortiz – Executive Assistant
- ❖ Cathy Di Falco – Principal Accountant
- ❖ Kelly Lee – Principal Accountant

Executive Office

- ❖ Michael Bellucci, MPA - Deputy County Administrator
- ❖ Jared Lautz – Senior Strategic Planning Advisor

