

# Impact of Shopping Local

The impact of local retail businesses may most often be seen in the jobs they create and the benefits of having their services offered locally.

In Miami County, retail businesses are the second largest non-government employer with more than 1,000 persons employed with a total payroll exceeding \$21 million.

The firms are typically located in a facility that pays a commercial property tax rate, which is more than double the amount paid on an individual's home.

Business owners are also many of the first approached to donate goods and services for community fundraisers. They are the primary financial sponsors of many community events.

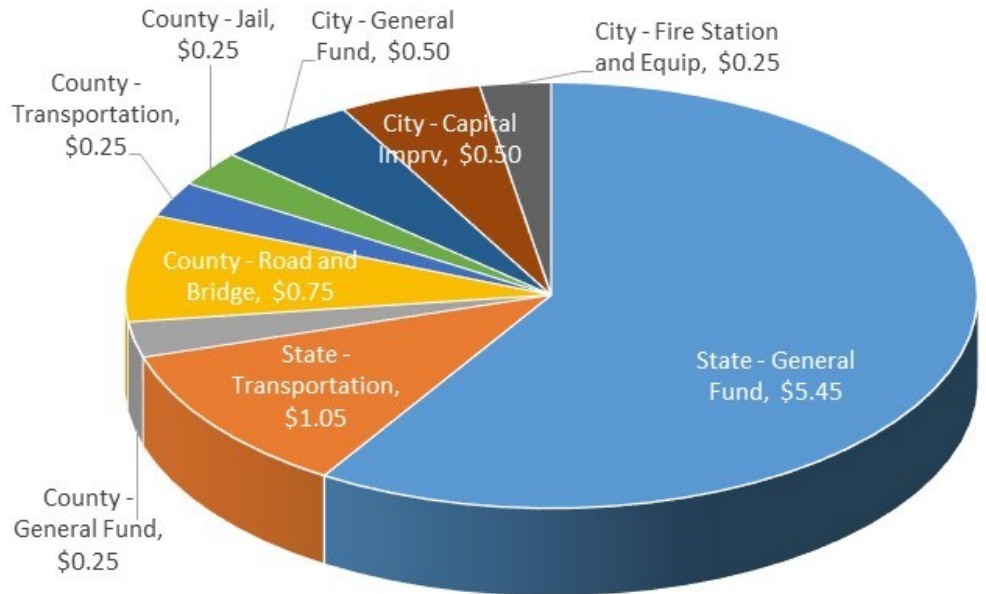
Some shoppers may not be aware that the sales tax collected by retail businesses is passed along for distribution to others. The firms are not allowed to keep those dollars for themselves. Actually, firms that fail to remit their sales tax collections oftentimes face fines and penalties from the State of Kansas. In severe cases, their businesses can be seized by the state.

Sales tax revenue is just one source of funds for the city's operations. Goods purchased within Paola are subject to a combined sales tax of 9.25%. That equates to \$9.25 for goods valued at \$100.

Kansas businesses collect this tax and submit it to the state. Local entities typically receive their portion of the tax about 90 days after the sale takes place. Many important services are funded through sales tax.

When you buy locally, your sales tax revenue supports:

- **State General Fund:** General operations which includes education and social services
- **State Transportation Fund:** Road and bridge projects
- **County General Fund:** General operations
- **County Road and Bridge:** Snow removal along with maintenance and repairs
- **County Transportation:** Larger capital improvements such as bridges
- **County Jail:** Construction of county jail
- **City General Fund:** General operations
- **City Capital Improvements:** Improvements to the Aquatic Center, Police Station, City Hall, Library, Community Center and Streets
- **City Fire Station and Equipment:** Renovation and related equipment for the fire station



Paola Sales Tax  
Total Tax on \$100 Purchase - \$9.25

## Miami County Economic Development

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