Summary: Carroll Cnty, MD; General Obligation, Local GO Oct 98

Description: Abstract
The rating on Carroll County, Md.'s debt reflects the county's: * Economy that participates in the diverse Baltimore metropolitan area, * Sustained and strong financial position, and * Manageable debt burden. Located in north central Maryland, the county is bordered by western Baltimore County and southern Pennsylvania. Population growth of 10%, nearly three times the comparable state average in 1992-1996, brings total residents to 143,648. Several utility companies account for 7.2% of the taxpayer base, which totals $8.6 billion and has grown 7% on average in each of the past four years. Employment has grown in tandem with expansion in the labor force while unemployment, which stood at 4% at 1997, continues to decrease. Wealth per capita is 9% below...

Companies mentioned in this report are:
- Carroll Cnty

Action: New Rating

Standard and Poors RatingsXpress Credit Research provides in-depth coverage of international corporates, financial institutions, insurance companies, utilities, sovereigns and structured finance programs. RatingsXpress Credit Research lets users determine the credit rating of holdings and identify key factors underlying an issuer's creditworthiness, distinguishes the different risk exposures for new and existing deals, and provides an understanding of how their analysts interpret key regulatory, political and environmental events and their economic impact.

This product consists of a Summary Analysis: Bi-annual (at least). An abbreviated analysis containing Standard & Poor's issuer credit ratings as of the time the article was published. The analysis includes a rating rationale - the basis on which the rating was assigned - and an outlook section if the issuer is not on CreditWatch. Financial statistics are not included.

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