

TABLE 28. STATE SALES AND USE TAX COLLECTIONS  
[§ 105 ARTICLE 5.]

Fiscal year	State sales and use tax gross collections [\$]	Refunds [\$]	Net collections before reimbursements/transfers [\$]	Sales and Use Tax Reimbursements, Distributions, and Transfers									Net collections to General Fund [\$]	Year-over-year % change			
				Local government distributions/state aid reimbursements+ [\$]	Refund of local sales & use tax paid by state agencies [\$]	Reserves/transfers for administrative fees/costs+++ [\$]	Intergovernmental inter-fund transfers++ [\$]	Collection fees on overdue tax debts [\$]	Transfer: State Public School Fund [\$]	OSBM Civil Penalty & Forfeiture Fund [\$]	Collection cost of fines/forfeitures [\$]	Gross collections		Refunds	Net collections before transfers	Amount to General Fund	
1996-97....	3,320,848,414	163,026,308	3,157,822,106	-	13,321,040	9,178,351	7,649,271	-	-	-	-	-	3,127,673,443	6.14%	10.95%	5.90%	5.73%
1997-98....	3,465,824,631	180,716,290	3,285,108,341	-	10,841,574	10,059,505	8,835,214	-	-	-	-	-	3,255,372,048	4.37%	10.85%	4.03%	4.08%
1998-99....	3,617,449,828	210,049,552	3,407,400,276	-	10,921,878	10,292,859	9,978,875	-	-	-	-	-	3,376,206,664	4.37%	16.23%	3.72%	3.71%
1999-00....	3,634,324,711	242,244,229	3,392,080,483	-	14,179,227	11,960,594	11,042,953	-	-	-	-	-	3,354,897,708	0.47%	15.33%	-0.45%	-0.63%
2000-01....	3,715,078,723	242,973,809	3,472,104,914	-	12,471,836	11,868,450	12,206,053	-	-	-	-	-	3,435,558,577	2.22%	0.30%	2.36%	2.40%
2001-02....	4,017,194,236	264,566,631	3,752,627,605	9,704,764	11,055,005	12,340,709	12,900,455	856,840	-	-	-	-	3,705,769,832	8.13%	8.89%	8.08%	7.87%
2002-03....	4,300,424,840	282,959,217	4,017,465,623	55,183,726	11,013,787	13,204,065	13,914,099	1,328,067	-	-	-	-	3,922,821,877	7.05%	6.95%	7.06%	5.86%
2003-04....	4,656,199,353	288,688,759	4,367,510,594	91,754,930	14,456,215	14,500,116	23,365,437	1,232,054	-	-	-	-	4,222,201,842	8.27%	2.02%	8.71%	7.63%
2004-05....	4,923,391,473	309,935,699	4,613,455,774	85,304,241	10,241,254	14,402,267	25,216,590	1,132,245	-	-	-	-	4,477,159,178	5.74%	7.36%	5.63%	6.04%
2005-06....	5,395,492,363	369,284,334	5,026,208,029	74,299,172	3,013,584	14,823,275	26,836,858	1,546,129	-	11,777,792	-	-	4,893,911,220	9.59%	19.15%	8.95%	9.31%
2006-07....	5,530,314,297	321,722,290	5,208,592,006	100,925,884	4,124,281	17,373,938	29,900,058	2,044,586	45,741,278	12,857,559	53,581	-	4,995,570,841	2.50%	-12.88%	3.63%	2.08%
2007-08....	5,596,250,552	321,463,358	5,274,787,194	172,474,452	3,303,137	17,397,117	31,412,624	1,555,489	46,860,032	20,029,341	81,853	-	4,981,673,149	1.19%	-0.08%	1.27%	-0.28%
2008-09....	5,349,888,689	383,328,220	4,966,560,469	175,662,743	1,906,144	16,790,014	32,320,547	1,219,993	47,427,474	13,230,510	55,669	-	4,677,947,376	-4.40%	19.24%	-5.84%	-6.10%
2009-10....	6,154,712,045	294,149,304	5,860,562,741	188,004,041	2,133,686	15,040,761	28,806,786	1,435,910	45,335,756	14,694,637	67,908	-	5,565,043,256	15.04%	-23.26%	18.00%	18.96%
2010-11....	6,671,764,563	481,416,090	6,190,348,473	199,721,561	2,432,477	15,519,895	30,127,529	2,907,504	51,754,988	16,145,723	69,726	-	5,871,669,069	8.40%	63.66%	5.63%	5.51%

Detail may not add to totals due to rounding. See chart below for additional detail of sales and use tax reimbursements, distributions, and transfers.

Fiscal year	Distributions/State Aid Reimbursements+			Inter-fund Transfers++		Reserves/Transfers: Administrative Costs+++				
	Telecommunications tax distribution [municipal shares]* [\$]	Video programming distribution [local shares]* [\$]	Hold harmless payments [local shares]** [\$]	Wildlife Resources Fund	Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Fund	Local sales and use tax administration			various [\$]	
						General Fund:		Other		
				Non-tax revenue	Public Transit tax					
1996-97....	-	-	-	7,649,271	-	6,625,670	2,552,681	-	-	-
1997-98....	-	-	-	8,835,214	-	6,919,412	3,140,093	-	-	-
1998-99....	-	-	-	9,978,875	-	7,248,220	3,044,639	-	-	-
1999-00....	-	-	-	11,042,953	-	7,637,855	3,334,780	287,959	700,000	-
2000-01....	-	-	-	12,206,053	-	8,013,613	3,554,231	300,606	-	-
2001-02....	9,704,764	-	-	12,900,455	-	8,100,089	3,674,225	336,394	230,000	-
2002-03....	55,183,726	-	-	13,914,099	-	8,666,410	3,828,599	434,056	275,000	-
2003-04....	52,922,447	-	38,832,483	15,038,583	8,326,854	9,530,473	4,458,343	486,300	25,000	-
2004-05....	56,290,836	-	29,013,405	16,920,820	8,295,769	10,063,139	3,868,984	470,144	-	-
2005-06....	53,898,653	-	20,400,519	18,573,229	8,263,629	10,300,784	4,055,035	427,447	40,009	-
2006-07....	73,297,054	13,537,031	14,091,799	21,932,726	7,967,332	11,928,057	5,050,856	395,026	-	-
2007-08....	68,922,872	73,965,036	29,586,545	23,710,672	7,701,952	11,745,139	5,237,105	414,873	-	-
2008-09....	77,674,637	81,223,016	16,765,090	24,747,445	7,573,102	9,927,712	5,684,948	477,353	700,000	-
2009-10....	75,187,075	81,944,006	30,872,960	21,500,000	7,293,364	8,597,957	6,004,931	437,872	-	-
2010-11....	68,915,546	79,509,243	51,296,772	21,500,000	7,820,356	7,602,667	6,089,061	405,131	1,423,036	-

\*Telecommunications: Due to enactment of the tax on January 1, 2002, the 2001-02 amount is for less than a full year.  
 \*Video programming: Due to enactment of the distribution provision for revenues collected on/after January 1, 2007 the 2006-07 amount is for less than a full year.  
 \*\*Hold Harmless Payments-Repeal of local reimbursements and revenue replacement option: The 2001 General Assembly repealed local reimbursements effective July 1, 2003; the 2002 General Assembly advanced the date of the scheduled repeal to July 1, 2002. A new Article 44 of Subchapter VIII, Chapter 105 granted counties the authority to impose an additional 1/2% local sales and use tax to replace revenue lost due to repeal of the reimbursements, and provided for a transitional local government hold harmless distribution, § 105-521 (scheduled to sunset in 2012). The 2007 General Assembly enacted § 105-523 to hold harmless any county that does not benefit by \$500,000 annually from the exchange of a portion of the local sales and use taxes (Article 44) for the State's agreement to assume the nonfederal, nonadministrative costs of Medicaid. Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Fund. Effective April 1, 2003, until July 1, 2020, an amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the net State sales and use taxes collected under § 105-164.4(a)(4) during the previous fiscal year is to be transferred quarterly to the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Fund.

State sales and use tax rates and bases:

The general State sales and use tax rate of 5.75% applies to purchases of tangible commodities (to include certain remote click-through transactions), rental of tangible commodities, and selected services such as room and cottage rentals, and laundry and dry cleaning services. The combined general rate of 8% is imposed on the gross receipts of providing telecommunications service and ancillary service, video programming services (direct-to-home satellite and cable), and to sales of spirituous liquor other than mixed beverages. The combined general rate is the State's general rate (5.75%) plus the rate of local tax authorized for every county in the State (2.25%). [See Changes in State sales tax rate by year section for information pertaining to various taxable items and applicable tax rates.]

The Reserves/transfers for administrative fees/costs column includes the State retained portion of the local government sales tax collections for defraying the cost of administering the tax. The monies are deposited into the General Fund as non-tax revenue along with the amounts recorded in the Refund of local sales & use tax paid by state agencies column. Effective July 1, 2004, State agencies became exempt from tax paid on direct purchases of tangible personal property that were previously eligible for refund. [The exemption replaced the refund provision.]

The Transfer: State Public School Fund column reflects the quarterly transfer of State sales and use tax net collections that replaces the provision of annual State sales tax refunds to local school administrative units and joint agencies created by interlocal agreements among local school administrative units. Intergovernmental transfers++ Beginning with 2009-10, TIMS implementation and PDP components costs are included.

TABLE 28. -Continued

Changes in State sales tax rates by year1996-97

Effective August 1, 1996, sales of electricity and piped natural gas to farmers, manufacturers, and commercial laundries and dry cleaners for prescribed purposes were made subject to a 2.83% rate rather than 3%.

Effective January 1, 1997, the State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was reduced from 4% to 3%.

1998-99

Effective July 1, 1998, the State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was reduced from 3% to 2%.

Effective May 1, 1999, the 2% State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was repealed.

1999-00

Effective July 1, 1999, sales of piped natural gas became exempt from sales tax and, instead, became subject to the piped natural gas excise tax.

2001-02

Effective October 1, 2001, the \$1,500 tax limit applicable to the sale or continuous lease or rental of noncommercial vehicles was repealed.

Effective October 16, 2001, the State general rate increased from 4% to 4.5%.

Effective December 1, 2001, sales of spirituous liquor, other than mixed beverages, became subject to a 6% State sales and use tax. Mixed beverages were already subject to State and local sales and use taxes and were unaffected by the law change.

Effective January 1, 2002, gross receipts of direct-to-home satellite service to subscribers in this State became subject to a 5% State sales tax.

Effective January 1, 2002, gross receipts derived from providing telecommunications services became subject to a 6% State sales and use tax. Prior to the law change, local telecommunications services were subject to a 3% State sales tax rate and a 3.22% utility franchise tax rate; intrastate long distance calls were taxed at 6.5% and interstate long distance calls were exempt. Telecommunications services include local, interstate, intrastate, toll, private telecommunications, and mobile telecommunications services.

2003-04

Effective for sales made on or after January 1, 2004, modular homes are subject to a 2.5% State sales and use tax rate under § 105-164.4(a)(8). Twenty percent (20%) of the taxes collected under this statute is distributed to counties. § 105-164.44G [Prior to the law change, modular homes were taxed at the 2% State sales and use tax rate under § 105-164.4(a)(1a).]

Effective July 1, 2003, all sales of soft drinks (fountain, those sold for home consumption, and vending) were made subject to both the State and local rates.

[Prior to this date, soft drinks sold for home consumption were not taxable at the State level.][Effective January 1, 2004, sales of closed container soft drinks sold through vending machines were made subject to a partial exemption; only fifty percent (50%) of the sales price of closed container soft drinks sold through vending machines is taxable and subject to both the State and local rates under § 105-164.13(50).]

Effective January 1, 2004, candy was exempted from the State tax and subject to only the 2% local tax. [Candy sold through vending machines is taxed at fifty percent (50%) of the sales price and is subject to both State and local rates under § 105-164.13(50).]

2005-06

Effective October 1, 2005, all sales of candy are subject to the combined general State and county tax rate (taxation of candy sold through vending machines remains unchanged).

Effective October 1, 2005, the sales and use tax imposed on the gross receipts of providing telecommunications and direct-to-home satellite services and on the sales of spirituous liquor other than mixed beverages increased to the combined general rate of 7%; voice mail services became taxable as part of telecommunications services.

Effective January 1, 2006, the combined general rate of 7% sales and use tax was imposed on the gross receipts of providing cable services; gross receipts derived from providing satellite digital audio radio service is taxable being subject to both the State general rate of tax and local rates.

Effective January 1, 2006, sales of railway cars, locomotives, and mobile classrooms and offices became taxable at the general State rate and applicable local rates (previously taxed at the State 3% rate with a \$1,500 maximum tax per article).

Various farm items and fuel used for farming and commercial laundry operations were exempted from taxation (previously taxed at the 1% State sales tax rate).

Additionally, various types of machinery (farm, telephone company property, laundry, freezer plant, and broadcasting) and various types of equipment (tobacco, air courier, and flight training) along with farm storage facilities and farm containers were exempted from the 1% State rate with an \$80 maximum tax per article. Concurrently, manufacturing machinery and fuel and qualifying recycling facility equipment were exempted from the State sales tax and made subject to the new privilege tax levied under Article 5F (refer to *Table 45*).

2006-07

Effective July 1, 2006, sales of certain commercial logging machinery and related attachments, repair parts, lubricants, and fuel used to operate logging machinery were exempted from taxation (items are also exempt from the privilege tax under Article 5F). (Items were previously subject to the 1% sales or use tax or 1% privilege tax as appropriate.)

Effective October 1, 2006, sales to an eligible internet data center of electricity and eligible business property to be located and used at the center were exempted from taxation. (\$250 million investment required)

Effective December 1, 2006, the State general rate decreased from 4.5% to 4.25% and the combined general rate decreased from 7% to 6.75% to coincide with the 0.25% State general rate reduction.

Effective January 1, 2007, the credit allowed against the sales tax imposed for locally paid cable television franchise taxes was repealed as cable service providers no longer pay franchise taxes on cable services to local governments; legislation authorized a quarterly payment from the State to local governments as replacement for the taxing authority.

2007-08

Effective July 1, 2007, the tax rate applicable to sales of electricity sold to a manufacturing industry or plant for use in connection with the operation of the industry or plant was reduced from 2.83% to 2.6%; the purchase by a research and development company of certain equipment, attachments, or repair parts used in the physical, engineering, and life sciences was exempted from the State and local sales or use tax and instead was made subject to the 1% privilege tax with a maximum tax of \$80 under Article 5F, Manufacturing Fuel and Certain Machinery and Equipment Tax.

Effective October 1, 2007, the tax rate applicable to sales of electricity sold to a manufacturing industry or plant for use in connection with the operation of the industry or plant was further reduced from 2.6% to 1.8%; the tax rate applicable to sales of electricity sold to farmers to be used for any farming purposes other than preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes was reduced from 2.83% to 1.8%; definition of "bundled transaction" set out specific taxation rules applicable for bundles of products that include both taxable and exempt products; baler twine was added to the exemption list of specific items sold to a farmer to be used for qualifying purposes; bakery thrift store sales of bread, rolls, and buns became exempt from State taxation; and the purchase by a software publishing company of certain equipment, attachments, or repair parts that meet certain requirements and the purchase by an eligible datacenter of certain machinery or equipment

TABLE 28. -Continued

**2007-08 -Continued**

to be located and used at the datacenter were exempted from the State and local sales or use tax and instead made subject to the 1% privilege tax with a maximum tax of \$80 under Article 5F. The State began assuming the financial nonfederal, nonadministrative Medicaid responsibilities for the counties over a three-year period that includes provisions for a 1/2% sales tax rate exchange between local and state governments as well as various measures to insure the locals are held harmless (protected from revenue loss) as result of the Medicaid swap legislation. Effective **April 1, 2008**, the combined general rate of sales and use tax increased from 6.75% to 7% to incorporate the additional 1/4% levy authorized for county governments by the 2007 General Assembly.

**2008-09**

Effective **July 1, 2008**, the tax rate applicable to sales of electricity sold to a manufacturing industry or plant for use in connection with the operation of the industry or plant and to farmers to be used for any farming purposes other than preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes was further reduced from 1.8% to 1.4%. Effective **July 16, 2008**, tangible personal property purchased with a client assistance debit card issued for disaster assistance relief by qualified entities became exempt; also, an exemption provision allowable for interior design services provided in conjunction with the sale of tangible personal property became effective. Effective **October 1, 2008**, the State general rate increased from 4.25% to 4.5%. Effective **January 1, 2009**, bakery items sold without eating utensils by an artisan bakery were exempted from the State sales tax.

**2009-10**

Effective **July 1, 2009**, the tax rate applicable to sales of electricity sold to a manufacturing industry or plant for use in connection with the operation of the industry or plant and to farmers to be used for any farming purposes other than preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes was further reduced from 1.4% to 0.8%. Effective **August 7, 2009**, online (remote) sales involving certain click-through transactions are subject to tax. Effective **September 1, 2009**, the State general rate increased from 4.5% to 5.5% (temporary increase scheduled to expire on July 1, 2011); the combined general rate increased from 7% to 8%. Effective **October 1, 2009**, the State general rate increased from 5.5% to 5.75% as the remaining 0.25% local sales and use tax (Article 44) was repealed and simultaneously added to the State general rate. Effective **January 1, 2010**, the 5.75% general State rate and applicable local rates apply to the net taxable sales or gross receipts derived from certain electronically delivered or accessed digital property transactions to include: an audio work, an audiovisual work, a book, magazine, newspaper, newsletter, report, or other publication, a photograph or greeting card; magazine subscriptions are subject to tax. Also, certain computer software transactions are exempt from tax: those designed to run on an enterprise service operating system, those to be used within datacenter operations, and those used to provide ancillary service, cable service, internet access service, telecommunications service, or video programming. Also exempt: computer software or digital property that becomes a component part of other computer software or digital property that is offered for sale or of a service that is offered for sale.

**2010-11**

Effective **July 1, 2010**, the tax rate applicable to sales of electricity sold to a manufacturing industry or plant for use in connection with the operation of the industry or plant and to farmers to be used for any farming purposes other than preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes was repealed (previously 0.8%); such transactions are exempt from sales and use taxation. Electricity sold to a farmer for preparing food, heating dwellings, and other household purposes remains subject to the 3% rate of sales tax. Effective **January 1, 2011**, the definition of sales price of a rental accommodation was expanded to include any facilitation fees incurred necessary to complete the rental; purchases made by motion picture and film production companies are subject to the general State and local sales tax rates (previously such purchases were subject to the 1% privilege tax with a maximum tax of \$80 under Article 5F, Manufacturing Fuel and Certain Machinery and Equipment Tax).

**Figure 28.1 Growth Patterns: State Sales and Use Tax Gross Collections and Refunds**

