

TABLE 5. ESTATE TAX COLLECTIONS
[§ 105 ARTICLE 1A.]

Fiscal year	Estate tax/ Inheritance tax* gross collections [\$]	Refunds [\$]	Net collections before transfers [\$]	Collection fees on overdue tax debts [\$]	OSBM Civil Penalty & Forfeiture Fund [\$]	Collection cost of fines/ forfeitures [\$]	Collections to General Fund [\$]	Year-over-year % change		
								Estate tax/ Inheritance tax* gross collections	Estate tax/ Inheritance tax* refunds	Estate tax/ Inheritance tax* collections to General Fund
1996-97.....	134,895,053	2,826,727	132,068,325	-	-	-	132,068,325	15.52%	-26.72%	16.97%
1997-98.....	141,418,546	3,293,884	138,124,663	-	-	-	138,124,663	4.84%	16.53%	4.59%
1998-99.....	173,469,645	3,534,424	169,935,220	-	-	-	169,935,220	22.66%	7.30%	23.03%
1999-00.....	167,729,782	4,402,463	163,327,319	-	-	-	163,327,319	-3.31%	24.56%	-3.89%
2000-01.....	126,552,430	3,386,988	123,165,443	-	-	-	123,165,443	-24.55%	-23.07%	-24.59%
2001-02.....	107,906,309	3,125,754	104,780,555	29,670	-	-	104,750,885	-14.73%	-7.71%	-14.95%
2002-03.....	116,016,859	3,431,610	112,585,249	80,843	-	-	112,504,407	7.52%	9.79%	7.40%
2003-04.....	131,682,261	3,129,731	128,552,530	73,087	-	-	128,479,443	13.50%	-8.80%	14.20%
2004-05.....	139,347,961	4,122,908	135,225,053	13,709	-	-	135,211,344	5.82%	31.73%	5.24%
2005-06.....	137,058,981	3,575,744	133,483,238	43,264	60,500	-	133,379,473	-1.64%	-13.27%	-1.35%
2006-07.....	165,052,571	3,224,538	161,828,033	90,682	149,916	625	161,586,810	20.42%	-9.82%	21.15%
2007-08.....	161,713,644	2,889,461	158,824,183	13,857	45,291	185	158,764,850	-2.02%	-10.39%	-1.75%
2008-09.....	110,183,105	5,872,856	104,310,249	12,486	41,574	175	104,256,014	-31.87%	103.25%	-34.33%
2009-10.....	76,141,125	4,203,752	71,937,373	12,414	19,104	88	71,905,766	-30.90%	-28.42%	-31.03%
2010-11**.....	26,472,373	2,538,503	23,933,870	126,748	51,454	222	23,755,446	-65.23%	-39.61%	-66.96%

Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

*The inheritance tax (Article 1. §§ 105-2 to 105-32) was repealed effective January 1, 1999, and applied to the estates of decedents dying on or after that date. Collection amounts shown for estates of decedents dying prior to the repeal date are a combination of inheritance and supplementary estate taxes (as applicable). Estate taxes are due to be filed nine months from the date of death, as were inheritance taxes. Depending on date of death, collections for 1999-00 reflect either revenue generated from the estate tax (§§ 105-32.1 to 105-32.8) as result of the law change, or revenue generated from the inheritance tax (§§ 105-2 to 105-32) prior to repeal. The estate tax is imposed on the right to transfer property at death; the inheritance tax was based on the relationship of beneficiaries.

The inheritance tax was assessed on property or interest over which the State had jurisdiction when the title passed by will, contract, entirety, or by descent and distribution. The property was taxed based on one of three graduated rate scales determined by the relationship of the beneficiary to the decedent. Certain tax credits applied to property passing to lineal ancestors or descendants. [Property passing to a surviving spouse was exempt, along with other types of property.] When the combined total of inheritance taxes was less than the credit allowed under the basic rates of the federal estate tax, a supplementary estate tax was imposed equal to the difference between the total North Carolina inheritance tax and the maximum state tax credit allowed by the Federal Estate Tax Act. When the inheritance tax was repealed, the estate tax was retained. The estate tax was equal to the state tax credit for federal purposes. Under the new federal estate tax law, effective for estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2002, the exclusion amount from federal estate tax was increased and the state tax credit was phased out over a three-year period beginning in 2002.

The 2002 General Assembly conformed North Carolina exclusion amounts to the federal exclusion amounts, but amended § 105-32.2(b), electing not to adopt the phase-out provision. For decedents dying on or after January 1, 2005, the North Carolina estate tax is the amount of the state tax credit that (as of December 31, 2001) would have been allowed under section 2011 of the IRC against federal taxable income and is limited to the amount of federal estate tax determined without regard to the deduction for state taxes allowed under section 2058 of the IRC and the tax credits allowed under sections 2011-2015 of the IRC. Effective January 1, 2006, the State increased the allowable exemption from \$1.5 to \$2.0 million to conform with the federal estate tax.

**Provisions of the 2010 Tax Relief Act effectively repealed the North Carolina estate tax for the estates of decedents whose death occurred during the January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 period.

