



MEMORANDUM

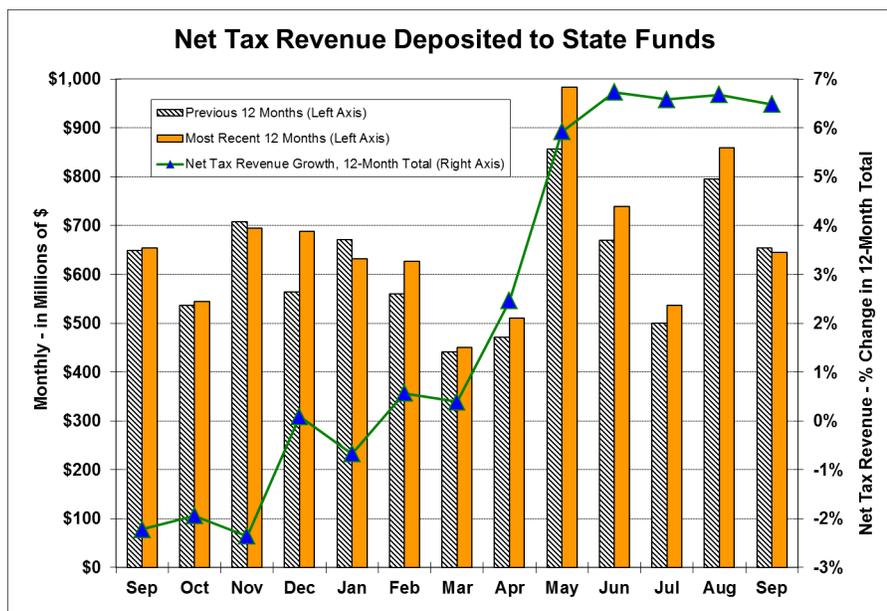
TO: Members of the Iowa Senate and
 Members of the Iowa House of Representatives

FROM: Jeff Robinson

DATE: October 20, 2015

Twelve-Month Total Net Tax Receipts Through September 30, 2015

The attached spreadsheet presents net tax revenue deposited to State funds for the 12-month period ending September 2015 with comparisons to the previous 12 months. September 2014 to September 2015 one-month comparisons are also presented. The source of the information is the State accounting system, including non-General Fund accounts. All accounting transactions related to taxes remitted to the State were reviewed, along with the refunds issued against those taxes.



Overview of Current Situation

Although the month of September posted a decline of 1.4%, net tax revenue increased 6.5% over the most recent 12 months. The significant drivers of recent revenue growth have been corporate and individual income tax, while the March 2015 increase in Iowa fuel tax rates has contributed approximately \$85.0 million to growth over the period. Sales/use tax growth has slowed over recent months while the franchise (bank) tax has accelerated.

Month of September 2015

September net tax receipts totaled \$644.4 million, a decrease of \$9.4 million (-1.4%) compared to September 2014. Corporate and individual income tax revenue declined 11.3% and 4.0% respectively. Fuel tax, driven by a rate increase enacted early in the year, increased 34.8%. Sales/use tax posted a gain for the month.

Year-Over-Year Comparison – Net Tax Revenue

During the 12-month period ending September 2015, net revenue from all taxes deposited to State funds totaled \$7.908 billion, an increase of \$481.3 million (6.5%), compared to the prior 12 months. Major contributors to the year-over-year dollar and percentage changes include:

- Individual Income Tax (positive \$247.3 million, 7.7%) – After two years of significant swings caused in large part by changes in federal income tax rates and the introduction of an Iowa Taxpayer Trust Fund Tax Credit, the Iowa individual income tax has returned to its role as the main driver of Iowa tax revenue growth.
- Corporate Income Tax (positive \$82.7 million, 20.1%) – Over the most recent 12 months, corporate tax receipts, net of refunds paid, totaled \$493.6 million, down slightly from the all-time high established last month.
- Sales/Use Tax (positive \$33.3 million, 1.3%) – While gross tax receipts from the sale of vehicles (deposited to the Road Use Tax Fund) increased 8.0% over the last 12 months, sales/use tax deposited to the State General Fund increased just 2.2%. Over those same 12 months, refunds of General Fund sales/use tax payments increased \$52.6 million. It is this combination of low General Fund sales/use tax growth and high General Fund sales/use tax refunds that has produced the recent lackluster growth in net sales/use tax revenue.
- Bank Franchise Tax (positive \$5.6 million, 18.7%) – After a significant decline that began in March 2014, the annual growth in bank tax net revenue turned positive in April 2015. Over the most recent 12 months, tax deposits have increased while tax refunds have remained stable.
- Fuel Tax (positive \$97.9 million, 22.0%) – According to Department of Revenue monthly fuel sales reports, over the most recent 12-month period, Iowa taxable gasoline/ethanol gallons sold increased 1.3% and taxable diesel sales decreased 0.7%. The combination of gasoline and diesel taxable fuel gallons increased 0.7% over the period. Due in large part to the Iowa gas tax increase (effective March 1, 2015), fuel tax net deposits increased \$88.3 million (39.2%) over the past six months.
- Gambling Tax (positive \$11.4 million, 4.0%) – According to Racing and Gaming Commission statistics, six Iowa casino/track locations recorded negative annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR) growth for the 12 months ending August 2015. A new casino opened near Jefferson in July 2015. The combined AGR change for the 19 facilities was positive 2.3% over the previous 12 months. Across all facilities, the AGR for the 12 months totaled \$1.422 billion, an amount that is 3.2% below the annual AGR peak (December 2012).
- Real Estate Transfer Tax (positive \$1.3 million, 7.1%).
- Cigarette and Tobacco Tax (negative \$2.1 million, -0.9%).

Tax Spotlight – Beer and Wine Tax

The Iowa beer tax was first imposed in 1933 by the enactment of HF 587 (Beer and Malt Liquors Act) at a rate of \$0.04 per gallon. The current beer tax rate went into effect July 1, 1986, with enactment of HF 2484 (Government Appropriations Act of 1986). The Iowa wine tax was first imposed with the enactment of SF 395 (Sales and Local Option Tax and Wine Sales Act of 1985) at a rate of \$1.50 per gallon. The rate was increased to its current level of \$1.75 per gallon in 1986 (HF 2484). The wine gallonage tax was expanded to include sales of wine shipped directly to consumers (not for resale) with enactment of HF 2531 (FY 2011 Standing Appropriations Act of 2010).

Beer and wine sales in Iowa are taxed under [Iowa Code chapter 123](#). The current tax rates are:

- Beer - \$0.19 per gallon
- Wine - \$1.75 per gallon

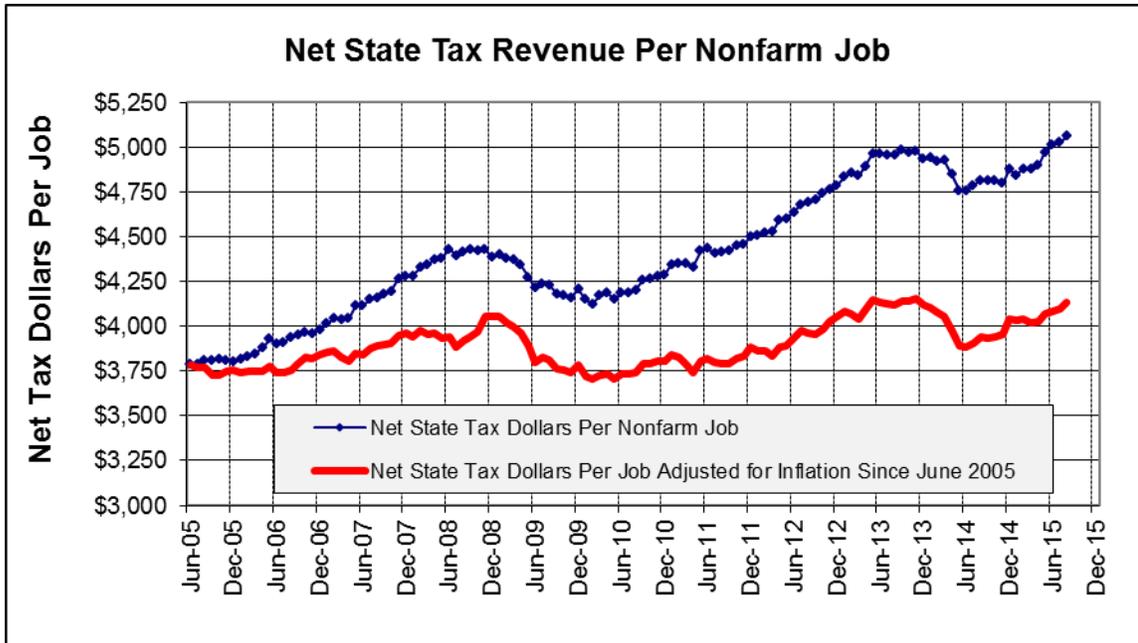
Revenue generated from the tax on beer is deposited in the State General Fund. Tax revenue generated from the sale of wine produced out-of-state is deposited in the Liquor Control Fund administered by the Iowa Alcoholic Beverage Division of the Iowa Department of Commerce. Tax revenue generated from the sale of wine produced in Iowa is deposited in the Wine Gallonage Tax Fund under control of the Iowa Economic Development Authority to be used for the promotion of native Iowa wine and beer.

The State does not have a special tax for distilled spirits. Instead, the Alcoholic Beverage Division operates a distilled spirit wholesale distribution system and the State generates fee revenue through a wholesale price mark-up system established in 1987 (HF 2484). Prior to the wholesale system, the State operated retail liquor stores. The original wholesale mark-up rate of 60.0% was reduced to 50.0% in April 1987. Revenue generated through the mark-up system is deposited in the Liquor Control Fund as fee revenue. Excess revenue from that Fund is transferred to the State General Fund on a monthly basis.



Tax Revenue and Employment

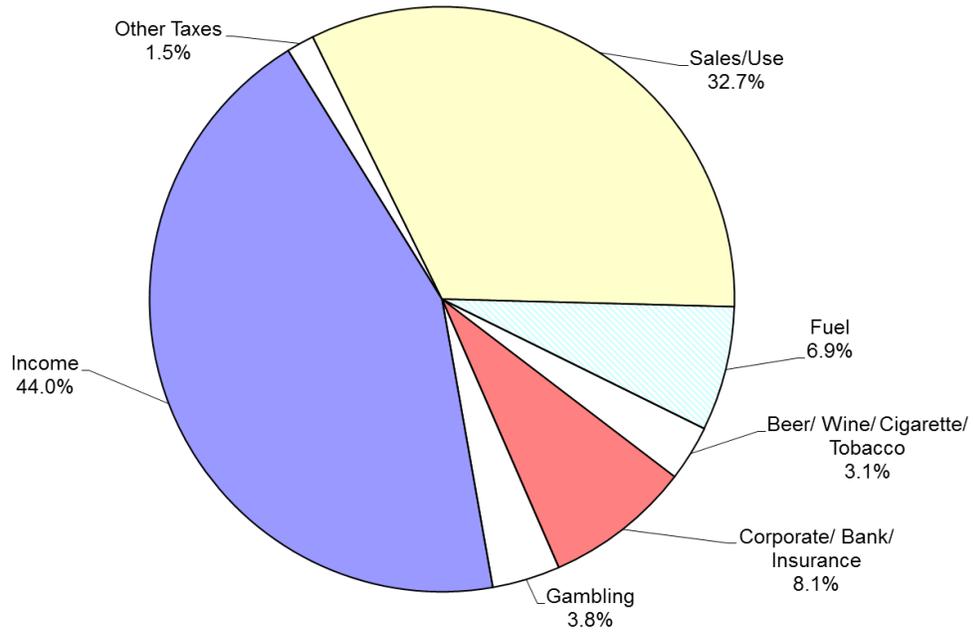
The average reading for Iowa nonfarm employment over the 12 months ending August 2015 is 1,564,900 and net State tax receipts over the same 12 months totaled \$7.917 billion, or \$5,059 per nonfarm job. This is \$1,274 higher than the per job average for the 12 months ending June 2005. The blue line on the following chart depicts the annual tax revenue collected by the State per job, calculated monthly. The red line subtracts the impact of inflation since June 2005 from the blue line. The red line indicates that inflation-adjusted tax revenue per job has increased \$350 since June 2005, and the remainder of the \$1,274 increase (\$924) represents the impact of inflation.



Net State Tax Revenue - Twelve Months Ending September 2015

Net Revenue = \$7.908 Billion

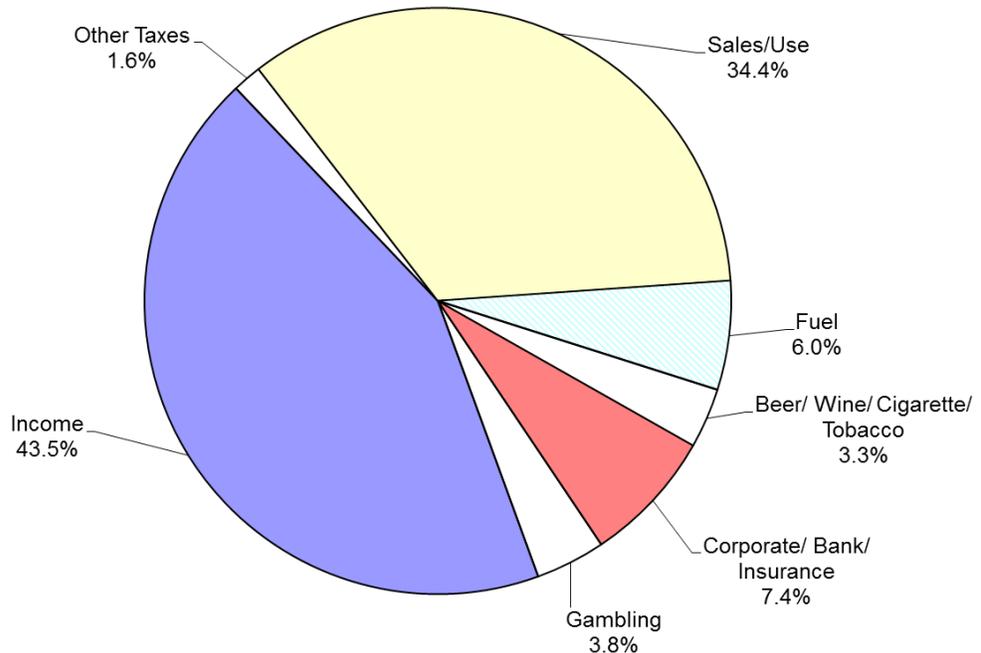
Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding



Net State Tax Revenue - Twelve Months Ending September 2014

Net Revenue = \$7.427 Billion

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding



Net Tax Revenue Deposited to State Funds - Cash Basis

Dollars in millions - columns and rows may not add due to rounding

Net Tax by Tax Type	Previous 12-Month Period Total	Most Recent 12-Month Period Total	12-Month \$ Change	12-Month % Change	Month of September 2014	Month of September 2015	September \$ Change	September % Change
Banking	\$ 30.0	\$ 35.6	\$ 5.6	18.7%	\$ 7.3	\$ 5.8	\$ - 1.5	-20.5%
Beer & Wine	21.9	22.6	0.7	3.2%	1.9	2.0	0.1	5.3%
Cigarette & Tobacco	223.4	221.3	- 2.1	-0.9%	17.5	14.2	- 3.3	-18.9%
Corporate Income	410.9	493.6	82.7	20.1%	75.2	66.7	- 8.5	-11.3%
Fuel	446.0	543.9	97.9	22.0%	40.5	54.6	14.1	34.8%
Gambling	285.7	297.1	11.4	4.0%	23.1	24.1	1.0	4.3%
Individual Income	3,228.6	3,475.9	247.3	7.7%	303.6	291.5	- 12.1	-4.0%
Inheritance	89.6	85.2	- 4.4	-4.9%	8.2	5.7	- 2.5	-30.5%
Insurance	107.9	110.5	2.6	2.4%	0.0	0.0	0.0	--
Other Taxes	11.6	16.6	5.0	43.1%	2.5	2.3	- 0.2	-8.0%
Real Estate Transfer	18.4	19.7	1.3	7.1%	2.4	1.5	- 0.9	-37.5%
Sales/Use	2,552.8	2,586.1	33.3	1.3%	171.6	176.0	4.4	2.6%
Total Net Taxes	\$ 7,426.8	\$ 7,908.1	\$ 481.3	6.5%	\$ 653.8	\$ 644.4	\$ - 9.4	-1.4%
Gross Tax & Refunds								
Gross Tax	\$ 8,871.0	\$ 9,353.3	\$ 482.3	5.4%	\$ 737.5	\$ 720.3	\$ - 17.2	-2.3%
Tax Refunds	\$ - 1,444.4	\$ - 1,445.2	\$ - 0.8	0.1%	\$ - 83.6	\$ - 75.8	\$ 7.8	-9.3%
Net Tax Receipts by Fund								
State General Fund (GF)	\$ 6,103.6	\$ 6,443.7	\$ 340.1	5.6%	\$ 538.2	\$ 511.2	\$ - 27.0	-5.0%
Road Use Tax Fund	\$ 788.4	\$ 913.6	\$ 125.2	15.9%	\$ 70.8	\$ 91.4	\$ 20.6	29.1%
Non-GF Gambling	\$ 284.0	\$ 295.5	\$ 11.5	4.0%	\$ 22.9	\$ 24.0	\$ 1.1	4.8%
Other State Funds	\$ 250.7	\$ 255.3	\$ 4.6	1.8%	\$ 22.0	\$ 18.0	\$ - 4.0	-18.2%
Local Option Taxes *	\$ 898.6	\$ 963.9	\$ 65.3	7.3%	\$ 86.5	\$ 81.5	\$ - 5.0	-5.8%

* Sales, income surtax, hotel/motel, and flood mitigation. Distributed to local governments - not included in numbers above.

Numbers are rounded to the nearest \$0.1 million. Percentages are calculated after rounding.

A percentage change displayed as "--" represents instances where the base year net revenue amount was zero or negative so no meaningful percentage change can be calculated.

Tax Categories Used in Table

Franchise (Bank) Tax: The franchise tax paid by banks is deposited in the State General Fund. Credit unions are taxed under a different system than banks, but the credit union tax is included in this line also. Of the total deposited, the bank tax provides approximately 98.0% of the revenue and the credit union tax 2.0%.

Beer & Liquor Tax: Taxes on beer, liquor, and wine are deposited in the State General Fund, the Liquor Control Fund, and a small amount is deposited in an Iowa Economic Development Authority Fund for wine promotion.

Cigarette & Tobacco Tax: Prior to July 1, 2011, all cigarette and tobacco product tax revenue was deposited in the State General Fund. Since FY 2012, the first \$106.0 million of revenue from cigarette and tobacco taxes has been deposited in the Health Care Trust Fund and the remainder is deposited in the State General Fund. Beginning in FY 2014, all cigarette and tobacco tax revenue is deposited in the Health Care Trust Fund.

Corporate Income Tax: All corporate income tax is deposited in the State General Fund.

Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax: All motor vehicle fuel tax is deposited in one of two road use funds, with the exception of tax revenue from the sale of aviation and marine fuels.

Gambling Tax: Gambling tax is deposited in several State funds. For FY 2013, \$40.0 million was deposited to the General Fund and the remainder to other State funds. Other funds receiving deposits of gambling tax revenue over the last 24 months include the School Infrastructure Fund, the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund, the County Endowment Fund, the Vision Iowa Fund, the Revenue Bond Debt and Subsidy Holdback Funds, the Technology Reinvestment Fund, and the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund.

Individual Income Tax: Most individual income tax revenue is deposited in the State General Fund. A total of \$6.0 million per year (\$5.75 million in FY 2015) is deposited in the Workforce Development Fund. An annual \$2.6 million diversion to the Child Daycare Fund ended in FY 2009. In addition, several economic development programs are financed by individual income tax withholding. In those instances, the employer does not remit the tax withheld from employees and it is never deposited in a State fund. That revenue is not included here.

Inheritance Tax: All inheritance tax is deposited in the State General Fund.

Insurance Premium Tax: All insurance premium tax is deposited in the State General Fund.

Other Taxes: Other taxes include brucellosis eradication property tax (deposited in a Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship fund), drug stamp tax (State General Fund), utility replacement property tax (State General Fund), and car rental tax (Road Use Tax Fund). Other taxes also include a suspense account used to hold tax deposits prior to determining the correct tax type for the money and tax revenue transferred by the Department of Revenue to separate accounts to fund tax collection activities (tax gap and Department operations).

Real Estate Transfer Tax: Real estate transfer tax is collected by counties. Counties retain 17.25% and remit the remainder to the State. The distribution of the State portion of real estate transfer tax revenue is currently changing each fiscal year, with the State General Fund portion reduced to 65.0% for FY 2015. The portion not deposited to the State General Fund is deposited to the Housing Trust Fund and the Shelter Assistance Fund.

Sales/Use Tax: General sales/use tax is deposited in the State General Fund, while most vehicle use tax is deposited in the Road Use Tax Fund. Beginning FY 2009, the vehicle use tax is referred to as a fee in the Iowa Code. To allow continuity of data, the revenue from the fee is reflected in this document as tax revenue. Also beginning FY 2009, the School Infrastructure Local Option (SILO) sales tax was converted to a Statewide 1.0% sales/use tax and the revenue from that Statewide tax is transferred out of the State General Fund monthly through a refund appropriation. To allow for continuity of data, the refund transfers are subtracted from State revenue as part of the net sales/use tax calculation. Beginning FY 2014, a portion of State sales/use tax revenue is deposited in a new Sales Tax Increment Fund and used for local flood mitigation projects.

Local Option Taxes: Local option taxes are presented at the bottom of the table and are not included in the numbers above. Prior to FY 2009, local option taxes included the SILO tax, Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) for local government finance, Local Option Income Surcharge for schools, and hotel/motel tax. Beginning in FY 2009, the SILO tax was converted to a 1.0% Statewide tax and the SILO tax was eliminated. To allow for continuity of data, the transfers from the State General Fund as a result of the 1.0% Statewide tax are included in the local option tax amount. Flood mitigation sales tax increment transfers to local governments was added beginning July, 2014.

Report Database: The database for this report is the State accounting system. If transactions are incorrectly coded in the system as tax revenue or tax refunds, the numbers presented here will be impacted.