

Geoffrey E. Snyder Commissioner

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue Office of the Commissioner P.O. Box 9550 Boston, MA 02114-9550

April 21, 2022

The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz, Chair House Committee on Ways and Means State House Room 243 Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Todd M. Smola, Ranking Member House Committee on Ways and Means State House Room 124 Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means State House Room 212 Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Patrick M. O'Connor, Ranking Member Senate Committee on Ways and Means State House Room 419 Boston, MA 02133

Honorable Chairs and Ranking Minority Members of the Committees on Ways and Means:

Pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 14 of the General Laws<sup>1</sup>, the Department of Revenue (DOR) hereby submits its mid-month tax revenue report for the month of April 2022, the tenth month of fiscal year 2022. The attached table shows April 2022 month-to-date tax revenue collections through April 15, 2022, along with changes from the equivalent period in April 2021.

Revenue collections are uneven and usually weighted toward month-end, and the brief period covered in the mid-month does not provide sufficient data for comparison to prior years. Therefore, the Department urges that mid-month figures not be used to assess trends or project future revenues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleII/Chapter14/Section6</u>

## **Context for April Revenues**

Historically, April has been the single largest month for collections, ranking first of the twelve months in 8 of the last ten years. There are two main causes for April's relative strength: first, the individual tax filing season reaches its peak. Payments made with returns are concentrated in April, while refunds are spread across February, March, and April. Second, the first income estimated payment installment for tax year 2022 is due in April.

However, because of measures enacted this year and last year, historical comparisons between April 2022 results and prior years should be used with caution. Examples of such measures include, but are not limited to:

- The late start to the 2021 filing season.
- The extension of the income tax filing and payment deadline from April 15th, 2021 to May 17th, 2021.
- The recently enacted elective pass-through entity excise.

# Highlights

Total Tax collections for the month-to-date period were \$2.428 billion, up \$645 million or 36.2% versus the same period in April 2021. The month-to-date increase is mostly due to increases in income returns payments, withholding, and corporate and business tax, partially offset by an increase in income tax refunds and a decrease in other taxes.

- **Income Taxes** totaled \$1.754 billion, up \$615 million or 53.9% versus the same period in April 2021.
- Sales & Use Taxes totaled \$137 million, up \$10 million or 8.0% versus the same period in April 2021.
- **Corporate & Business Taxes** totaled \$475 million, up \$40 million or 9.3% versus the same period in April 2021.
- **Other Taxes** totaled \$62 million, down \$20 million or 24.6% versus the same period in April 2021.

## Details

Total Income Tax of \$1.754 billion for mid-month April is comprised of the following:

- Withholding of \$668 million, up \$75 million versus the same period in April 2021.
- Estimated Payments of \$247 million, up \$8 million versus the same period in April 2021.
- **Returns/Bills** of \$1.048 billion, up \$601 million versus the same period in April 2021.
- **Refunds** of \$208 million, up \$69 million versus the same period in April 2021.

**Sales & Use Tax** of \$137 million, up \$10 million versus the same period in April 2021. Typically, only a small proportion of expected regular sales and meals tax remittances are received by the mid-month date. The month-to-date sales and use tax of \$137 million is comprised of the following:

- \$68 million in regular sales tax collections, up \$6 million from mid-month April 2021.
- \$16 million in meals tax revenues, up \$2 million from mid-month April 2021.
- \$53 million in motor vehicle sales tax revenues, up \$2 million from mid-month April 2021.

**Corporate & Business Tax** of \$475 million, up \$40 million versus the same period in April 2021. The month-to-date increase reflects mostly an increase in corporate and business return payments.

**Other Taxes** of \$62 million, down \$20 million versus the same period in April 2021, includes a number of tax categories such as motor fuels, cigarettes, estate taxes, room occupancy, deeds, and others.

Collections are usually weighted to the end of the month; therefore, we do not use the mid-month figures to project full-month revenue. Comparisons to prior-year periods are unreliable because of normal fluctuations and calendar differences in the short 15-day window of incremental data.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact either me (snyderge@dor.state.ma.us) or Kazim P. Ozyurt, Director of the Office of Tax Analysis (ozyurtk@dor.state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

Geoffrey E. Snyder Commissioner

#### Attachment: 1

 Michael J. Heffernan, Secretary of Administration and Finance Representative Ronald Mariano, House Speaker Senator Karen E. Spilka, Senate President Representative Mark J. Cusack, House Chair, Joint Committee on Revenue Senator Adam G. Hinds, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Revenue Representative Bradley H. Jones, Jr., House Minority Leader Senator Bruce E. Tarr, Senate Minority Leader Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General



Geoffrey E. Snyder Commissioner The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue Office of the Commissioner P.O. Box 9550 Boston, MA 02114-9550

#### Mid-Month Tax Collection Report for April 2022 (in \$ Millions)

	April (Through April 15th) (\$Millions)			FY22 YTD (Through April 15th) (\$Million)		
	04/2022 MTD Actual Collections	04/2022 MTD v. 04/2021 MTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	04/2022 MTD v. 04/2021 MTD % Fav/(Unfav)	04/2022 YTD Actual Collections	04/2022 YTD v. 04/2021 YTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	04/2022 YTD v. 04/2021 YTD % Fav/(Unfav)
Income						
Income Withholding	668	75	+12.6%	12,779	1,070	+9.1%
Income Est. Payments	247	8	+3.2%	3,505	1,485	+73.6%
Income Returns/Bills	1,048	601	+134.3%	2,380	1,300	+120.4%
Income Refunds Net (outflow)	(208)	(69)	-49.0%	(1,355)	(244)	-21.9%
Subtotal Income	1,754	615	+53.9%	17,309	3,612	+26.4%
Sales & Use						
Sales - Regular	68	6	+8.9%	4,730	624	+15.2%
Sales - Meals	16	2	+16.9%	999	334	+50.2%
Sales - Motor Vehicles	53	2	+4.6%	846	70	+9.1%
Subtotal Sales & Use	137	10	+8.0%	6,575	1,028	+18.5%
Corporate & Business - Total	475	40	+9.3%	3,815	678	+21.6%
All Other	62	(20)	-24.6%	2,274	300	+15.2%
Total Tax Collections	2,428	645	+36.2%	29,973	5,618	+23.1%

Tax Collections as of April 15, 2022, Compared to Same Collection Period in FY2021

It would not be advisable to use this data to predict trends.

At the time of the mid-month estimate, the available tax collection data is too early to provide a reliable estimate of full-month results.