



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Local Services

Supporting a Commonwealth of Communities

**Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About
Cherry Sheets**



Cherry Sheets

- Official notification from the Commissioner of Revenue of the upcoming fiscal year's state aid and assessments
- Named for the cherry-colored paper on which it was originally printed
- Estimates posted on the DLS website

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- FY2023 Cherry Sheet Estimates
- FY2022 Cherry Sheet Estimates
- FY2021 Final Cherry Sheet Estimates
- Trends in Cherry Sheet Aid
- Historical Cherry Sheet Spreadsheets (FY81 to FY2009)
- Income, EQV and Population data used for Cherry Sheet Calculations

FY2023 Cherry Sheet Estimates

FY2023 Municipal Cherry Sheet Estimates +

FY2023 Regional School Cherry Sheet Estimates +

Cherry Sheet Estimates by all Municipalities, School Districts and Programs, FY2010 to present +

Select a Fiscal Year: 2023 Select a Municipality: All Municipalities Submit Export Table

Receipt Estimates Assessments & Charges

C.S. 1-ER Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue FY2023
NOTICE TO ASSESSORS OF ESTIMATED RECEIPTS
General Laws, Chapter 58, Section 25A
All Municipalities

← Final
Cherry Sheet

Select a Fiscal Year: 2023 Select a Municipality: All Municipalities Submit Export Table

FY2023 Preliminary Cherry Sheet Estimates
All Municipalities

Estimated Receipts Estimated Assessments & Charges

PROGRAM	FY2022 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY2023 Governor's Budget Proposal	FY2023 House Budget Proposal	FY2023 Senate Budget Proposal	FY2023 Conference Committee
Education Receipts:					
Chapter 70	€ 175,241,033	€ 171,267,180	€ 170,200,141	€ 170,200,141	€ 170,200,141

← Preliminary
Cherry Sheet



Cherry Sheets

- Cherry Sheets include receipts and assessments
 - Receipt programs include those based on a formula and those based on reimbursement for a cost incurred by the community
 - › Examples of distributions include chapter 70, unrestricted general government aid (UGGA) and state-owned land
 - › Reimbursements include programs like veterans' benefits, exemptions and charter reimbursements
 - Assessment programs are deductions to state aid for services provided through the Commonwealth or by another community
 - › State assessments included services like mosquito control and retiree health insurance premiums
 - › Transportation assessments
 - › Tuition assessments
 - › Annual charges for loan type programs
-



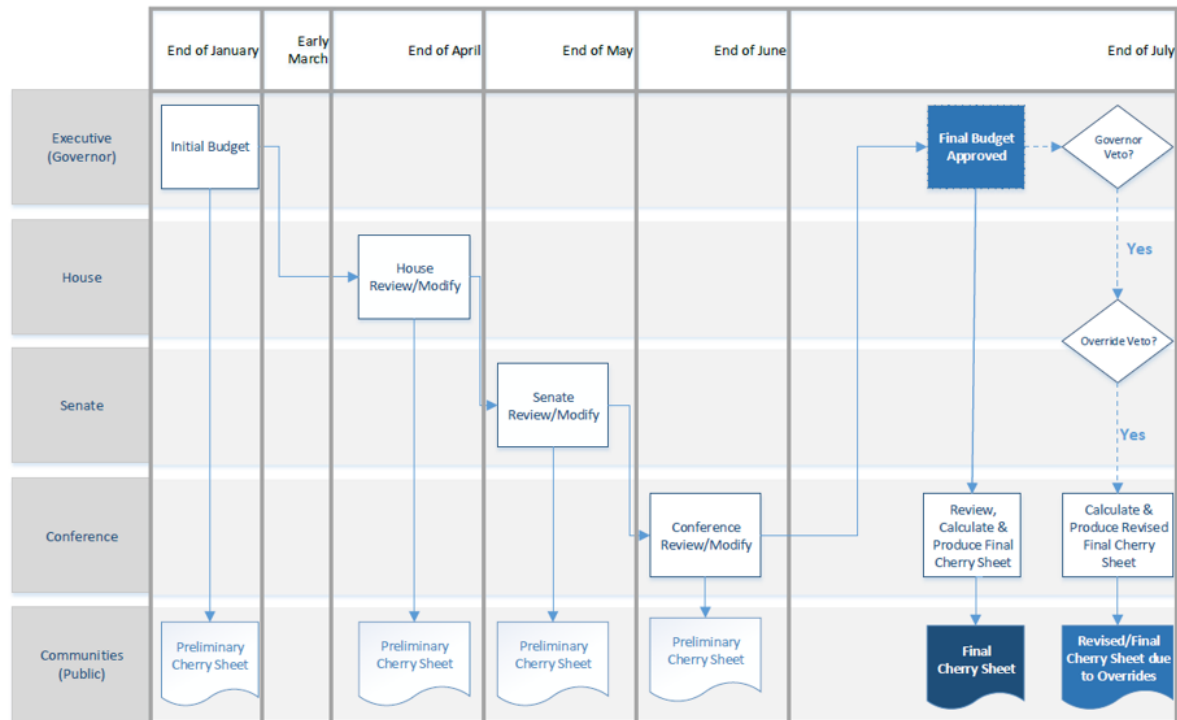
Cherry Sheets

- DLS updates the estimates during each budget iteration
 - How do I know when an updated version has been released?
 - For my local planning purposes what is the state budget cycle?
 - › Starts with the Governor's budget proposal
 - › Legislature makes their recommendations using the Governor's budget as a base
 - › Any differences between the two legislative bodies are compromised in a conference committee report
 - › Once it lands on the Governor's desk, he has 10 days to review, approve or make line-item vetoes and sign the bill into law
 - The chart on the next slide graphically shows the budget cycle
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Cherry Sheets

State Budget Cycle





Cherry Sheets

- Final budget has been signed
 - Cherry sheets are updated to reflect final budget
 - DLS alert prepared and sent
 - Now what?
 - › Update the tax rate recapitulation sheet with final estimates
 - » Page 2 of the tax recap is updated to show the final offsets (line IIb - 5), state and county charges (line IIc) and cherry sheet receipts (line IIIa – 1) see next slide
 - » But wait, I already set my rate!
 - › Prepare for the upcoming Fiscal Year monthly local aid payments
-



Cherry Sheets & The Recap

II. Amounts to be raised

IIa. Appropriations (col.(b) through col.(g) from page 4) 0.00

IIb. Other amounts to be raised

1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes	0.00
2. Debt and interest charges not included on page 4	0.00
3. Final Awards	0.00
4. Retained Earnings Deficit	0.00
5. Total cherry sheet offsets (see cherry sheet 1-ER)	0.00
6. Revenue deficits	0.00
7. Offset receipts deficits Ch. 44, Sec. 53E	0.00
8. CPA other unappropriated/unreserved	0.00
9. Snow and ice deficit Ch. 44, Sec. 31D	0.00
10. Other : <input type="text"/>	0.00
TOTAL IIb (Total lines 1 through 10)	0.00

IIc. State and county cherry sheet charges (C.S. 1-EC) 0.00

IId. Allowance for abatements and exemptions (overlay) 0.00

IIe. Total amount to be raised (Total IIa through IId) 0.00

III. Estimated receipts and other revenue sources

IIIa. Estimated receipts - State

1. Cherry sheet estimated receipts (C.S. 1-ER Total)	0.00
2. Massachusetts school building authority payments	0.00

TOTAL IIIa **0.00**

IIIb. Estimated receipts - Local



Cherry Sheets

- What have we learned?
 - Cherry sheets are required under MGL
 - There is a picture of the state budget cycle, and once this is posted you will have it too
 - Cherry sheets are estimates and actual payments will be different
 - They really were printed on cherry color paper at one time
 - The updates should provide local officials guidance during the local budget process
 - The data is used by assessors when completing and submit the tax recap