

COMMISSIONER

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue Office of the Commissioner PO Box 7091 Boston, MA 02204-7091

February 20, 2025

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 Laws¹, the Department of Revenue (DOR) hereby submits its mid-month tax revenue report for the month of February 2025, the eighth month of fiscal year 2025. The attached table shows February 2025 month-to-date tax revenue collections through February 14, 2025, along with a comparison to the equivalent period in February 2024.

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¹ http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleII/Chapter14/Section6

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

Context for February Revenues

February has historically been the lowest month for revenue, contributing less than 6% of annual collections. Neither individual nor business taxpayers are required to make estimated payments during the month. February is also the month in which refunds reach substantial levels as the tax filing season begins.

Highlights

Total tax collections for the month-to-date period were \$752 million, \$7 million or 0.9% less than the collections during the same period in February 2024. Mid-month February results show decreases in non-withheld income tax, corporate and business tax, and sales tax partially offset by an increase in withholding.

- **Income** tax totaled \$576 million, up \$17 million or 3.1% versus the same period in February 2024.
- Sales & use tax totaled \$97 million, down \$7 million or 6.9% versus the same period in February 2024.
- **Corporate & business** tax totaled \$32 million, down \$19 million or 37.0% versus the same period in February 2024.
- **All other** taxes totaled \$47 million, up \$2 million or 3.8% versus the same period in February 2024.

Details

Total income tax of \$576 billion for mid-month February is comprised of the following:

- **Withholding** of \$856 million, up \$180 million versus the same period in February 2024;
- **Estimated payments** of \$16 million, down \$27 million versus the same period in February 2024;
- Returns/bills of \$32 million, up \$3 million versus the same period in February 2024; and
- **Refunds** of \$329 million, up \$138 million (unfavorable) versus the same period in February 2024.

Sales & use tax of \$97 million is down \$7 million versus the same period in February 2024. Typically, only a small proportion of expected regular sales and meals tax remittances is received by the mid-month date. The month-to-date sales and use tax of \$97 million is comprised of the following:

• **Regular sales** tax of \$36 million, down \$7 million versus the same period in February 2024;

- Meals tax of \$19 million, up \$1 million versus the same period in February 2024; and
- **Motor vehicles sales** tax of \$42 million, down \$1 million versus the same period in February 2024.

Corporate & business tax of \$32 million is down \$19 million versus the same period in February 2024.

All other taxes of \$47 million, up \$2 million versus the same period in February 2024, includes a number of tax categories, such as motor fuels, cigarette, estate tax, room occupancy, and deeds.

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

cc: Deborah B. Goldberg, Treasurer and Receiver General
Matthew Gorzkowicz, Secretary of Administration and Finance
Senator Karen E. Spilka, Senate President
Representative Ronald Mariano, House Speaker
Senator Bruce E. Tarr, Senate Minority Leader
Representative Bradley H. Jones, Jr., House Minority Leader
Senator Susan L. Moran, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Revenue
Representative Mark J. Cusack, House Chair, Joint Committee on Revenue

Mid-Month Tax Collection Report for February 2025 (in \$ Millions) Tax Collections as of February 14, 2025, Compared to Same Collection Period in FY2024

	February (Through February 14th)			FY25 YTD (Through February 14th)		
	02/2025 MTD Actual Collections	02/2025 MTD v. 02/2024 MTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	02/2025 MTD v. 02/2024 MTD % Fav/(Unfav)	02/2025 YTD Actual Collections	02/2025 YTD v. 02/2024 YTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	02/2025 YTD v. 02/2024 YTD % Fav/(Unfav)
Income						
Income Withholding	856	180	+26.6%	11,644	918	+8.6%
Income Est. Payments	16	(27)	-63.3%	3,056	675	+28.4%
Income Returns/Bills	32	3	+9.0%	980	151	+18.2%
Income Refunds Net (outflow)	(329)	(138)	-72.8%	(972)	(92)	-10.4%
Subtotal Income	576	17	+3.1%	14,709	1,652	+12.7%
Sales & Use						
Sales - Regular	36	(7)	-15.6%	4,130	148	+3.7%
Sales - Meals	19	1	+3.9%	1,012	53	+5.5%
Sales - Motor Vehicles	42	(1)	-2.7%	724	(10)	-1.4%
Subtotal Sales & Use	97	(7)	-6.9%	5,867	190	+3.3%
Corporate & Business - Total	32	(19)	-37.0%	1,905	(88)	-4.4%
All Other	47	2	+3.8%	1,631	138	+9.3%
Total Tax Collections	752	(7)	-0.9%	24,111	1,893	+8.5%

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.