

GEOFFREY E. SNYDER COMMISSIONER The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Revenue Office of the Commissioner PO Box 7091 Boston, MA 02204-7091

October 18, 2024

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 October 2024, the fourth month of fiscal year 2025. The attached table shows October 2024 month-to-date tax revenue collections through October 15, 2024, along with a comparison to the equivalent period in October 2023.

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

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 October Revenues

In general, October is among the lower months for revenue collection, because neither individual nor business taxpayers make significant estimated payments during the month. Historically, roughly 6.5% of annual revenue, on average, has been received during October.

Highlights

Total tax collections for the month-to-date period were \$950 million, \$55 million or 5.5% less than the collections during the same period in October 2023. Mid-month October results show decreases in non-withheld income tax, corporate & business tax, sales tax, and "all other" tax, partially offset by an increase in withholding.

- **Income** tax totaled \$730 million, up \$28 million or 4.1% versus the same period in October 2023.
- Sales & use tax totaled \$133 million, down \$45 million or 25.4% versus the same period in October 2023.
- **Corporate & business** tax totaled \$49 million, down \$10 million or 16.4% versus the same period in October 2023.
- All other taxes totaled \$38 million, down \$29 million or 42.7% versus the same period in October 2023.

Details

Total income tax of \$730 million for mid-month October is comprised of the following:

- Withholding of \$654 million, up \$34 million versus the same period in October 2023;
- Estimated payments of \$44 million, up \$2 million versus the same period in October 2023;
- Returns/bills of \$85 million, up \$5 million versus the same period in October 2023; and
- **Refunds** of \$54 million, up \$13 million (unfavorable) versus the same period in October 2023.

Sales & use tax of \$133 million is down \$45 million versus the same period in October 2023. 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 \$133 million is comprised of the following:

- **Regular sales** tax of \$50 million, down \$35 million versus the same period in October 2023;
- Meals tax of \$36 million, down \$9 million versus the same period in October 2023; and

• Motor vehicles sales tax of \$48 million, down \$1 million versus the same period in October 2023.

Corporate & business tax of \$49 million is down \$10 million versus the same period in October 2023.

All other taxes of \$38 million, down \$29 million versus the same period in October 2023, 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 October 2024 (in \$ Millions)

Tax Collections as of October 15, 2024, Compared to Same Collection Period in FY2024

	October (Through October 15th)			FY25 YTD (Through October 15th)		
	10/2024 MTD Actual Collections	10/2024 MTD v. 10/2023 MTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	10/2024 MTD v. 10/2023 MTD % Fav/(Unfav)	10/2024 YTD Actual Collections	10/2024 YTD v. 10/2023 YTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	10/2024 YTD v. 10/2023 YTD % Fav/(Unfav)
Income						
Income Withholding	654	34	+5.5%	4,982	290	+6.2%
Income Est. Payments	44	2	+4.7%	1,226	229	+23.0%
Income Returns/Bills	85	5	+6.4%	391	14	+3.6%
Income Refunds Net (outflow)	(54)	(13)	-31.1%	(235)	(19)	-8.6%
Subtotal Income	730	28	+4.1%	6,365	514	+8.8%
Sales & Use						
Sales - Regular	50	(35)	-41.5%	1,766	84	+5.0%
Sales - Meals	36	(9)	-20.7%	476	24	+5.2%
Sales - Motor Vehicles	48	(1)	-1.8%	341	(4)	-1.2%
Subtotal Sales & Use	133	(45)	-25.4%	2,583	103	+4.2%
Corporate & Business - Total	49	(10)	-16.4%	1,130	(38)	-3.2%
All Other	38	(29)	-42.7%	699	(92)	-11.6%
Total Tax Collections	950	(55)	-5.5%	10,777	488	+4.7%

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.