



GEOFFREY E. SNYDER
COMMISSIONER

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

March 20, 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 March 2024, the ninth month of fiscal year 2024. The attached table shows March 2024 month-to-date tax revenue collections through March 15, 2024, along with changes from the equivalent period in March 2023.

Revenue collections are uneven and usually weighted toward month-end. Therefore, mid-month figures should not be used to assess trends or project future revenues.

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

Context for March Revenues

Historically, March is a mid-size month for revenue collections, ranking sixth of the twelve months in nine of the last ten years. Many corporate and business taxpayers are required to make estimated payments during the month. The tax filing season is underway, and March is typically a significant month for refund payments (outflows), which reduce total net revenue.

Highlights

Total Tax collections for the month-to-date period were \$2.236 billion, \$59 million or 2.7% more than the collections during the same period in March 2023. March results show increases in personal income tax, sales and use tax, and corporate and business tax, partially offset by a decrease in “all other” tax.

- **Income Taxes** totaled \$1.034 billion, up \$63 million or 6.5% versus the same period in March 2023.
- **Sales & Use Taxes** totaled \$150 million, up \$4 million or 2.4% versus the same period in March 2023.
- **Corporate & Business Taxes** totaled \$1.010 billion, up \$20 million or 2.0% versus the same period in March 2023.
- **All Other Taxes** totaled \$41 million, down \$27 million or 39.9% versus the same period in March 2023.

Details

Total Income Tax of \$1.034 billion for mid-month March is comprised of the following:

- **Withholding** of \$967 million, up \$111 million versus the same period in March 2023;
- **Estimated Payments** of \$67 million, up \$9 million versus the same period in March 2023;
- **Returns/Bills** of \$236 million, down \$17 million versus the same period in March 2023; and
- **Refunds** of \$236 million, up \$40 million (unfavorable) versus the same period in the same period in March 2023.

Sales & Use Tax of \$150 million is up \$4 million versus the same period in March 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 \$150 million is comprised of the following:

- **Regular sales** tax of \$71 million, up \$3 million versus the same period in March 2023;
- **Meals** tax of \$28 million, down \$2 million versus the same period in March 2023; and
- **Motor vehicle** sales tax of \$52 million, up \$3 million versus the same period in March 2023.

Corporate & Business Tax of \$1.010 billion is up \$20 million versus the same period in March 2023. The month-to-date increase is primarily due to increases in estimated and return payments.

All Other Taxes of \$41 million, down \$27 million versus the same period in March 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Snyder', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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 March 2024 (in \$ Millions)
Tax Collections as of March 15, 2024, Compared to Same Collection Period in FY2023

	March (Through March 15th) (\$Millions)			FY24 YTD (Through March 15th) (\$Millions)		
	03/2024 MTD Actual Collections	03/2024 MTD v. 03/2023 MTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	03/2024 MTD v. 03/2023 MTD % Fav/(Unfav)	03/2024 YTD Actual Collections	03/2024 YTD v. 03/2023 YTD \$ Fav/(Unfav)	03/2024 YTD v. 03/2023 YTD % Fav/(Unfav)
Income						
Income Withholding	967	111	+12.9%	12,536	789	+6.7%
Income Est. Payments	67	9	+16.3%	2,489	(164)	-6.2%
Income Returns/Bills	236	(17)	-6.9%	1,117	(163)	-12.7%
Income Refunds Net (outflow)	(236)	(40)	-20.2%	(1,595)	(136)	-9.3%
Subtotal Income	1,034	63	+6.5%	14,547	326	+2.3%
Sales & Use						
Sales - Regular	71	3	+3.9%	4,498	(95)	-2.1%
Sales - Meals	28	(2)	-6.6%	1,068	46	+4.5%
Sales - Motor Vehicles	52	3	+5.8%	833	22	+2.8%
Subtotal Sales & Use	150	4	+2.4%	6,399	(27)	-0.4%
Corporate & Business - Total	1,010	20	+2.0%	3,030	(122)	-3.9%
All Other	41	(27)	-39.9%	1,726	(303)	-15.0%
Total Tax Collections	2,236	59	+2.7%	25,703	(127)	-0.5%

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.