



OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

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Special Quarterly Report of Receipts and Disbursements

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The December 2008 Cash Report indicates that tax collections, while in line with current Financial Plan projections released with the Governor's proposed budget on December 16, again illustrate a slowing economy. The Division of the Budget has lowered revenue projections by a total of \$3.4 billion since the Enacted Budget Financial Plan was released in May, of which \$3.1 billion was from taxes (a nearly 5 percent decline from May projections). As illustrated in the chart below, the majority of change is expected in the fourth quarter.

**SFY 2008-09 Projected Tax Collections by Quarter
Compared to SFY 2007-08
(in millions of dollars)**



General Fund

In the General Fund, total receipts (including transfers from other funds) of \$38.2 billion, were \$72.6 million below Financial Plan estimates through December 31 but 7.5 percent or \$2.7 billion above last year for the same period. Although the growth in Personal Income Tax collections is slowing, \$16.2 billion in year to date collections is \$114.8 million over December Financial Plan projections and \$2.3 billion over the same period last year, primarily due to estimated taxes collected in April on 2007 liabilities. However, this is offset by lower collections for consumption/use tax (\$82.9 million below last year and \$95.1 million below Plan) and business tax collections (\$227.5 million below last year and \$12.9 million below Plan).

General Fund disbursements (including transfers to other funds) of \$39.2 billion are \$122.6 million over Financial Plan projections through December 31 and \$2.3 billion or 6.3 percent over last year. The growth is primarily attributable to school aid (up \$1.3 billion) and Medicaid (up \$786 million). The variance from Financial Plan is primarily due to State Operations and General State Charges (\$138.4 million over Plan) and support for Debt Service and State Capital Projects (\$75.2 million over Plan). This is offset by lower than anticipated local assistance grants. Note that General Fund spending for State Operations and General State Charges are down a combined \$1.9 billion from the same period last year primarily because that spending is occurring outside the General Fund as part of the Division of the Budget's Medicaid transparency initiative.

As a result of lower than anticipated receipt collections and higher than anticipated disbursements through December, the General Fund closing balance of \$1.7 billion is \$195.2 million below Financial Plan projections through December 31.

All Governmental Funds

All Funds spending of \$88.2 billion is approximately \$591 million below projections through December 31. The variance is primarily due to lower than anticipated spending for local assistance programs (\$489 million below plan) in addition to lower than anticipated spending for General State Charges (\$93.3 million) and capital projects (\$50.5 million). All Funds spending was \$5.1 billion, or 6.2 percent, higher than the same period from State Fiscal Year 2007-08, primarily due to growth in spending for education, Medicaid and health and environment programs.

All Funds revenues were \$85.0 billion through December 31 and \$394.7 million below projections. The variance is primarily from lower than anticipated federal receipts (\$228.4 million) and miscellaneous receipts (\$181.9 million). All Funds tax collections through December of \$45.4 billion were \$15.6 million higher than anticipated and \$2.7 billion over last year.