

# Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue for 2015: Q3<sup>1</sup>

## PROPERTY, INCOME, AND SALES TAXES SHOW GROWTH

Released December 23, 2015

G15-QTAX3

### 2015 QUARTER 3

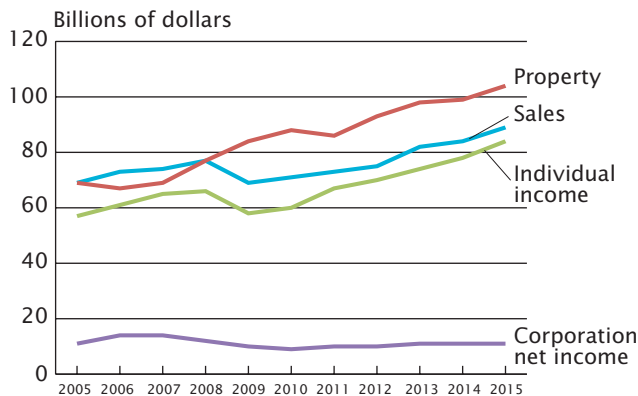
Third quarter 2015 tax revenues for the four largest state and local government tax categories increased 5.7 percent to \$287.7 billion from \$272.2 billion in the same quarter of 2014.<sup>2</sup> See category breakouts in Figure 1.

### State and local governments collect over \$100 billion in property tax revenue

The estimated total for third quarter 2015 state and local property tax revenue was \$103.5 billion ( $\pm 2.6$  billion). This is statistically different from the \$99.4 billion ( $\pm 2.4$  billion) collected in the same quarter of 2014 (see Figure 2). Local governments collected \$100.1 billion of total property tax revenue in the third quarter of 2015.

Figure 1.

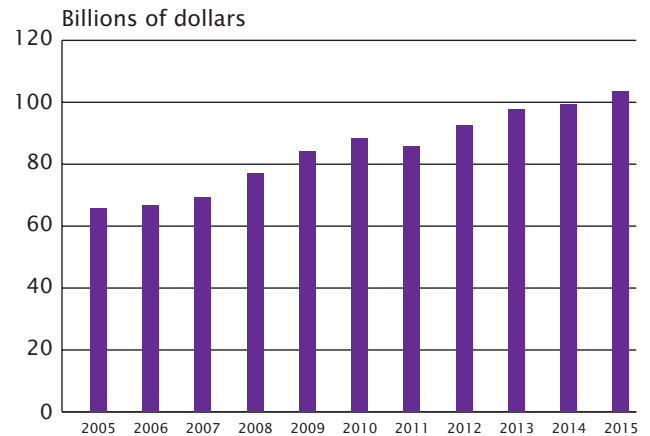
#### Historical State and Local Tax Revenue Trends for Selected Taxes (Q3): 2005–2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue.

Figure 2.

#### Historical State and Local Property Tax Revenue (Q3): 2005–2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue.

<sup>1</sup> The estimates for local or state and local totals are subject to sampling error. All estimates are subject to nonsampling errors, which include nonresponse, response, and keying errors. All comparative statements in this report have undergone statistical testing, and unless otherwise noted, all comparisons are statistically significant at the 10 percent significance level.

<sup>2</sup> As of the third quarter of 2013, the local nonproperty tax survey (F-73) was redesigned to include only general sales, personal income, and corporation net income taxes. No changes were made to the local property tax survey (F-71).

For further information on state and local government tax revenue, please contact Economy-Wide Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau at (800) 242-2184 or by e-mail at <[ewd.outreach@census.gov](mailto:ewd.outreach@census.gov)>.

The data and technical documentation for this release can be found at <[www.census.gov/govs/www/qtax.html](http://www.census.gov/govs/www/qtax.html)>.

### Individual income tax collections continue to rise

The third quarter of 2015 saw continued growth in individual income tax collection. State and local revenue in the third quarter of 2015 was \$83.5 billion (±0.5 billion), up 7.7 percent from \$77.5 billion (±0.4 billion) in the same quarter of 2014.

### General sales tax continues to increase

General sales and gross receipts tax revenue was \$89.3 billion (±0.6 billion) in the third quarter, up 6.5 percent from the \$83.8 billion (±0.4 billion) collected in the same quarter of 2014.

### Corporation net income tax revenue for the third quarter remains steady at \$11.4 billion (±0.1 billion).

### STATE TAX COLLECTIONS CONTINUE TO GROW

Total state tax revenue rose 3.6 percent to \$211.5 billion in the third quarter of 2015, from \$204.2 billion reported in the same quarter of the prior year. Individual income tax, at \$75.6 billion, is up 6.0 percent from the same quarter of 2014. The second largest category of state tax revenue, general sales and gross receipts taxes, accounted for \$68.9 billion, an increase of 3.8 percent from the same quarter in 2014. At \$9.6 billion, corporation net income tax collections remained consistent with the amount in the same quarter in 2014.

The majority of the nation's state tax revenue came from sales and gross receipts (35.8 percent) and individual income (32.6 percent). Figure 3 illustrates the third quarter percentage distribution of state government revenues by tax type for the nation and the four Census regions. In the Northeast, Midwest, and West regions, individual income tax collections accounted for the largest percentage of tax collections with 46.1 percent, 35.0 percent, and 40.0 percent of total tax collections, respectively. In the South, sales and gross receipts taxes were the largest of the nine categories at 38.7 percent.

Total amounts of state tax revenue for the two largest tax subcategories, individual income and general sales and gross receipts, are summarized in Figure 4. Since the third quarter of 2012, individual income tax collections have been higher than general sales and gross receipts tax collections, especially in the second quarter due to the annual individual income tax collection deadline. This trend continues for 2015.

Figure 3.

### Distribution of State Government Revenue by Type of Tax for Nation and Census Regions: 2015 Q3

(In percent)

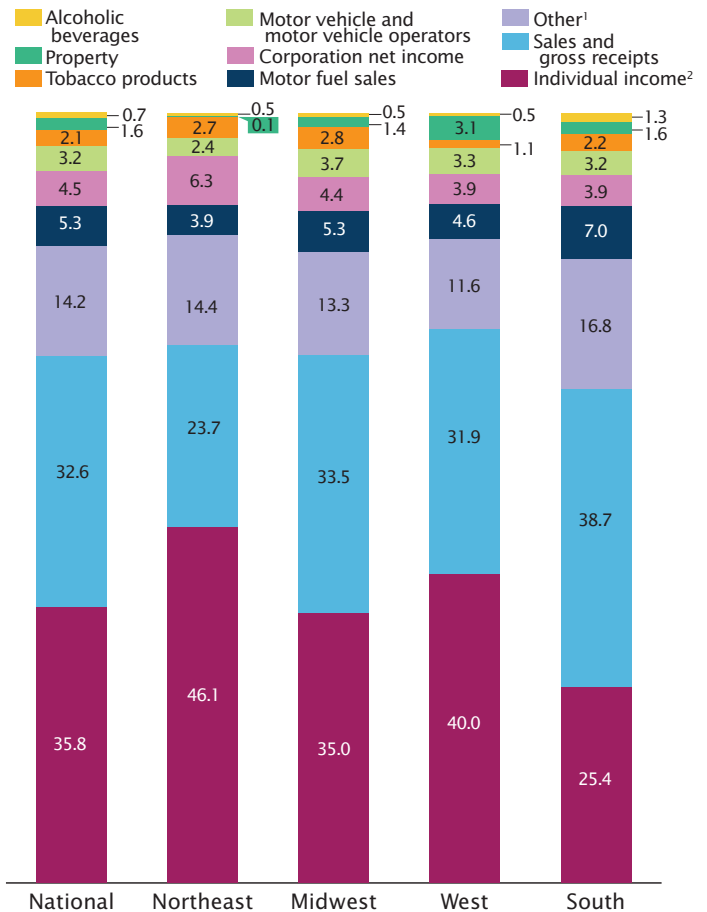
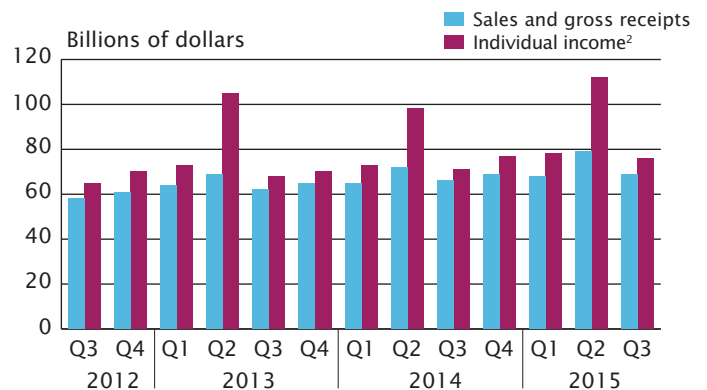


Figure 4.

### Historical State Government Totals of General Sales and Gross Receipts and Individual Income Taxes: 2012-2015



<sup>1</sup> The category "other" consists of other taxes, not elsewhere classified.

<sup>2</sup> Individual income tax returns are typically filed in the second quarter resulting in higher second quarter collections.

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue.