

## REVENUE TRENDS - AUGUST 1997

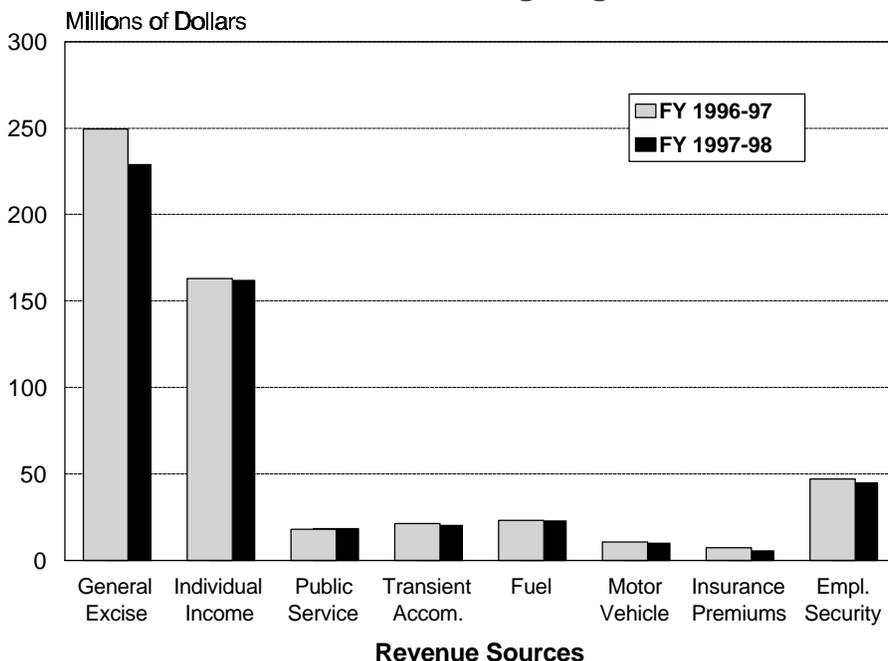
August state tax collections from all revenue sources amounted to \$262.8 million, a decrease of \$9.7 million or 3.6% when compared with the previous August. With this decrease, cumulative state tax collections for the first two months of fiscal 1997-1998 amounted to \$528.4 million, 6.5% behind the amount collected during the same period of the prior fiscal year.

Over two-thirds of August's revenue decline was due to a \$6.8 million drop in general excise and use tax collections. Part of the decrease is likely related to less visitor spending. The Hawaii Convention and Visitors Bureau reported that July eastbound arrivals dropped 4.5%. For the first two months of the fiscal year, cumulative general excise and use tax revenue was down \$20.7 million or 8.3% when compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Decline in July eastbound visitor arrivals and average length of stay is likely also related to August's 7.7% decline in transient accommodations tax revenue. For the first two months of fiscal 1997-1998, revenue from this source was down 6.3% or \$1.4 million.

### STATE GENERAL FUND

## STATE TAX COLLECTIONS Two Months Ending August 31



Tax collections accruing to the state general fund for the month of August totaled \$213.3 million, a decrease of \$12.1 million or 5.4% when compared with the previous August.

Cumulative general fund accruals for the first two months of fiscal 1998 amounted to \$430.9 million, a decrease of \$32.2 million or 7.0% when compared with the same period the prior year. For the whole fiscal year, the Council on Revenues had projected an increase of 2.8% in general fund revenue.