## **REVENUE TRENDS - SEPTEMBER 1997**

Statewide tax collections for the month of September totaled \$304.0 million, a decrease of \$3.2 million or 1.1% when compared with the previous September. As a result of this decline, cumulative state collections at the end of the first quarter of fiscal 1997-1998 totaled \$832.4 million, which was \$39.7 million or 4.6% less than what was collected during the same period of the previous fiscal year.

September's largest revenue decrease was a \$7.9 million drop in withholding taxes on wages. Much of this decrease was attributable to the maximum withholding rate, which was 10% in September 1996 and 8% in September 1997.

September also witnessed a decline in tax collections from the state's largest revenue source, general excise and use taxes, which slipped \$2.0 million. With this decline, cumulative fiscal year totals from this source fell \$22.5 million or 5.9% behind the previous year's pace.

September's largest revenue increase was a \$3.5 million rise in declarations of corporate estimated taxes. Next largest was a \$2.9 million increase in public service company tax revenue, which most likely represents a month-to-month variation in payment patterns.

Transient accommodations taxes is a measure of the direction of the state's most important industry. September collections from this source rose \$0.9 million. But cumulative fiscal year totals from this tax remained \$0.5 million or 1.5% below the amount collected during the comparable period last year.



STATE TAX COLLECTIONS

## STATE GENERAL FUND

Revenue accruing to the state general fund for the month of September totaled \$273.8 million, a decrease of \$2.0 million or 0.7% when compared to September 1996.

Cumulative general fund accruals at the end of the first quarter of fiscal 1997-1998 stood at \$704.7 million, which was \$34.2 million or 4.6% less than the total accrued for the same period the previous fiscal year.