

## REVENUE TRENDS - DECEMBER 2001

December state tax collections from all revenue sources amounted to \$241.8 million, a decrease of \$16.1 million or 4.5% when compared with the previous December. This decrease caused cumulative state tax collections at the halfway point of the 2002-2002 fiscal year to fall \$9.0 million or 0.5% behind the previous year's pace.

General excise and use tax collections were up \$10.8 million, but this was probably not a true increase because of the "weekend effect". Also subject to the "weekend effect" is the transient accommodations tax, which inched up less than \$0.1 million in December. The "weekend effect" occurs whenever a tax due on the last day of the month is not due until the following month because the last day fell on a weekend or holiday. December 2000 collections were artificially low because the last day of that month was a holiday, pushing some December 2000 revenue into January 2001. Without the weekend effect, December 2001 would probably have shown a revenue decrease. Cumulative general excise and use tax revenue remained \$20.7 million or 2.6% ahead of the previous year's pace.

December tax collections were negatively affected by large increases in income tax refunds. Corporate refunds ballooned \$16.2 million and individual refunds jumped \$9.8 million.

## STATE GENERAL FUND

Tax collections accruing to the state general fund for the month of December totaled \$213.2 million, \$18.3 million or 7.9% less than the amount that accrued the previous December.

Cumulative general fund accruals for the first four months of fiscal 2001-2002 amounted to \$1,528.2 million, an increase of \$14.0 million or 0.9% when compared with the same period the prior fiscal year. For the full fiscal year, the Council on Revenues has projected a decrease of 0.7%



