

Fiscal year totals agree with Total retail and use tax (licenses when applicable) category in Table 31. The difference in the totals in Table 32 and the State sales and use tax gross collections column in Table 28 is attributable each year to the amounts of State retained portion of local sales and use tax/other administrative costs and refunds of local sales taxes to state agencies.  
 n/a not applicable

Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Changes in general sales tax rate:

Effective July 16, 1991, the rate increased from 3% to 4%.

Effective October 16, 2001, the rate increased from 4% to 4.5%.

Other use tax category:

Amounts shown for 1988-89 through 2000-01 reflect use taxes generated from sales of manufactured homes, airplanes, and boats; effective for 2001-02, use taxes collected from such transactions are no longer shown separately, but are, instead, included within the attributable county of collection.

8% highway use tax - motor vehicle leasing:

1989-90 Effective October 1, 1989, retail sales of motor vehicles became exempt from sales tax and, instead, became subject to the 3% rate of highway use tax under Article 5A of G.S. Chapter 105, with a minimum tax of \$40, with certain exceptions, and a maximum tax of \$1,000 on any one motor vehicle. Beginning with 1989-90, collections from retail sales of motor vehicles are not included in the table. Concurrently, lessors of motor vehicles were given the option of either paying the highway use tax on the purchase price of the vehicles to be leased or collecting and remitting sales tax on the lease receipts at a rate of 8% for the first 90 continuous days of vehicle rental to the same person; after 90 days the rate would revert to 3%. [See 8% highway use tax-motor vehicle leasing classification for tax collections of the 8% rate.]

Changes in sales tax rate applicable to purchases of food for home consumption:

1996-97 Effective January 1, 1997, the State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was reduced from 4% to 3%.

1998-99 Effective July 1, 1998, the State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was reduced from 3% to 2%.

Effective May 1, 1999, the 2% State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was repealed.

Utility services group:

1996-97 Effective August 1, 1996, sales of electricity and piped natural gas to farmers, manufacturers, and commercial laundries and dry cleaners for prescribed purposes were made subject to a 2.83% rate rather than 3%.

1999-00 Effective July 1, 1999, sales of piped natural gas became exempt from sales tax and, instead, became subject to the piped natural gas excise tax.

2001-02 Effective December 1, 2001, sales of spirituous liquor, other than mixed beverages, became subject to a 6% State sales and use tax. Mixed beverages were already subject to State and local sales and use taxes and were unaffected by the law change.

Effective January 1, 2002, gross receipts of direct-to-home satellite service to subscribers in this State became subject to a 5% State sales tax.

Effective January 1, 2002, gross receipts derived from providing telecommunications services became subject to a 6% State sales and use tax.

Prior to the law change, local telecommunications services were subject to a 3% State sales tax rate and a 3.22% utility franchise tax rate; intrastate long distance calls were taxed at 6.5% and interstate long distance calls were exempt. Telecommunications services include local, interstate, intrastate, toll, private telecommunications, and mobile telecommunications services.

Unallocated: 2001-02 The unallocated category includes \$74,989,019 in payments that were unassignable to specific counties due to legislative changes affecting payment and return due dates.

