Repealed Taxes and Fees

Overview and Table of Contents

This section summarizes the state's transportation repealed taxes and fees. The taxes and fees in this section are arranged in alphabetical order. For the statewide motor vehicle excise tax, refer to the supplementary information following the general description of the tax.

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REVENUE SOURCE: Aircraft Pilot Registration Fee  

Fee Repealed

RCW: 47.68.233

WHO'S TAXED: Pilots residing in Washington or who regularly operate any aircraft in the state; applies to each pilot who is a resident of this state and each nonresident pilot who regularly operates aircraft in this state.

TAX RATE: Prior to repeal the fee was $15 per year.

ADMINISTERED BY: Department of Transportation – Aviation Division


DISTRIBUTION & USE: Appropriated for aircraft search and rescue and for pilot safety and education activities.

TAX EXEMPTIONS: A pilot who operates an aircraft exclusively in the service of U.S. government or political subdivision; a pilot registered under the laws of a foreign country; a pilot engaged in commercial flying in interstate or foreign commerce; a person piloting a dual-controlled aircraft where a licensed instructor is in full charge of one set of controls and flight is solely for instruction or demonstration to prospective purchaser (RCW 47.68.233).

TAX HISTORY:  
1967 Not to exceed $5  
1987 Not to exceed $10  
1996 $8  
2005 Effective July 1, 2005, the aircraft pilot registration fee was repealed by SSB 5414 (C 341, Laws of 2005).

2007–09 ESTIMATE: $0  
2009–11 FORECAST: $0  
VALUE OF INCREASE: $0
REVENUE SOURCE:  Airman/Airwoman Registration Fee

Fee Repealed

RCW: 47.68.234

WHO'S TAXED: Any airman or airwoman not registered as a pilot who resides in Washington or regularly performs the duties of an airman or airwomen in the state.

Airman/airwoman includes in-flight crew members; persons directly in charge of aircraft inspection, maintenance, or repair; and aircraft dispatchers and control tower operators.

TAX RATE: Prior to repeal the fee was $15 per year

ADMINISTERED BY: Department of Transportation – Aviation Division


DISTRIBUTION & USE: Appropriated for aircraft search and rescue and for pilot safety and education activities.

TAX EXEMPTIONS: Airman/airwoman employed outside the U.S., employed as an inspector or mechanic by a manufacturer of aircraft or aircraft components, or who performs inspection and mechanical duties only on his or her own aircraft (RCW 47.68.020(9)).

TAX HISTORY: 1993 Not to exceed $10
2003 $15
2005 Effective July 1, 2005, the airman/airwoman registration fee was repealed by SSB 5414 (C 341, Laws of 2005)

2007–09 ESTIMATE: $0
2009–11 FORECAST: $0

VALUE OF INCREASE: $0
**REVENUE SOURCE:** Centennial License Plates

**RCW:** 46.16.650  
*Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000 repealed the centennial license plates fee, effective January 1, 2000*

**WHO'S TAXED:** Consumers who purchase new plates.

**TAX RATE:** $1 per plate

**ADMINISTERED BY:** Department for Licensing

**WHERE DEPOSITED:** Motor Vehicle Account

**DISTRIBUTION & USE:** As appropriated for highway-related purposes

**TAX EXEMPTIONS:** State/local government vehicles (RCW 46.16.020)

**TAX HISTORY:**  
1986 $1 per plate (from 1-87 to 6-89, 1/2 to Centennial Account and 1/2 to Motor Vehicle Fund; after 6-89, all to Motor Vehicle Fund)  
2000 Repealed by Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000

**2007–09 ESTIMATE:** $0

**2009–11 FORECAST:** $0

**VALUE OF INCREASE:** $0
**REVENUE SOURCE:** Clean Air Excise Tax

**RCW:** 82.44.020 (basic tax)

*Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000 repealed the clean air excise tax, effective January 1, 2000*

**WHO'S TAXED:** Owners of motor vehicles, campers, travel trailers, trailers, and semitrailers.

**TAX RATE:** $2.00 per vehicle

**ADMINISTERED BY:** Department of Licensing

**WHERE DEPOSITED:** Air Pollution Control Account

**DISTRIBUTION & USE:** To implement provisions of Clean Air Act (RCW 70.84)

**TAX EXEMPTIONS:**
- Farm vehicles (RCW 82.44.020)
- Vehicles owned by government agencies (RCW 82.44.010)
- Vehicles owned by nonresident military personnel (RCW 82.44.010)
- Vehicles used entirely on private property (RCW 82.44.010)
- Mobile home, travel trailers, and campers (RCW 82.44.010)
- Private school buses (RCW 82.44.010)

**TAX HISTORY:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2007–09 ESTIMATE:** $0

**2009–11 FORECAST:** $0

**VALUE OF INCREASE:** $0
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Source:</th>
<th>Mobile Home/Travel Trailer Dealer Excise Tax</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RCW:</td>
<td>82.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000 repealed the mobile home/travel trailer dealer excise tax, effective January 1, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who's Taxed:</td>
<td>Mobile home and travel trailer dealers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Rate:</td>
<td>$2 per dealer license plate or duplicate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administered By:</td>
<td>Department of Licensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where Deposited:</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution &amp; Use:</td>
<td>Appropriated for general government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Exemptions:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax History:</td>
<td>1979 $2 per license plate or duplicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2000 Eliminated by Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007–09 Estimate:</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009–11 Forecast:</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Increase:</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statewide Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET)

**REVENUE SOURCE:**

Statewide Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET)

**RCW:**

82.44.020 (tax)
82.44.041 (valuation)

*Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000 repealed the statewide motor vehicle excise tax, effective January 1, 2000.*

**WHO’S TAXED:**

Owners of motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers.

**TAX RATE:**

Annual rate of 2.2% of vehicle value:

- 2.0% of value base
- 0.2% of value dedicated to state transportation

Vehicle value is determined according to two valuation schedules set in statute (see RCW 82.44.041): one for all commercial trucks and noncommercial trucks over 6,000 pounds, and one for all other vehicles. For heavy trucks, original value is determined by sales price; for other vehicles, the manufacturer's suggested retail price is used.

Trucks over 40,000 pounds G.V.W. used in combination with trailers pay rate of 2.78%; MVET eliminated for commercial trailers used in combination with trucks paying the 2.78% rate.

Log trucks pay 2.2% rate.

Simplifying amendments in Referendum 49 (EHB 2894) combined the tax rate to 2.2, changed depreciation curve for "all other vehicles," and adjusted the distribution formula (RCW 82.44.110) to maintain revenue neutrality.

**ADMINISTERED BY:**

Department of Licensing

**WHERE DEPOSITED:**

Motor Vehicle Account
Puget Sound Ferry Operations Account
Puget Sound Ferry Capital Construction Account
Transportation Fund (Former to Multimodal Transportation Account)
High Capacity Transportation Account
Central Puget Sound Public Transportation Account
Public Transportation Systems Account
Passenger Ferry Account
County Criminal Justice Assistance Accounts
Municipal Criminal Justice Assistance Accounts
County Public Health Account
County Sales and Use Tax Equalization Account
Municipal Sales and Use Tax Equalization Account
Violence Reduction and Drug Enforcement Account
Distressed County Assistance Account
City Police and Fire Protection Assistance Account
General Fund
DISTRIBUTION & USE: State and local transportation
City and county criminal justice
City public safety
County public health
Cities and counties for general use
Distressed counties
Mass transit
High capacity transportation development

TAX EXEMPTIONS:
- Vehicles owned by governments (including transit agencies) (RCW 82.44.010)
- Vehicles used entirely on private property (RCW 82.44.010(2)
- Vans used for ridesharing (RCW 82.44.015)
- Mobile homes, travel trailers, and campers (RCW 82.44.010(2)
- Vehicles owned by nonresident military personnel (RCW 82.44.010(2)
- Private school buses (RCW 46.16.035, 82.44.010)
- Vehicles registered by leasing corporations (i.e., rental cars) (RCW 82.44.023)

TAX HISTORY:
1937 1.5% of value
1943 House trailers included
1955 House trailers deleted
1959 2.0% of value
1965 House trailers added
1971 Mobile homes exempt
1977 2.2% (.2% to ferry construction)
1982 2.288% (4% surtax added)
1983 2.354% (increased surtax to 7%)
1987 2.454% (increased 0.1% dedicated to ferry operations and 1% transit match reduced in four counties to fund Rail Development Account).
1990 Changes vehicle valuation schedules and base rate; new 2.0% base rate revenue neutral with prior 2.454% rate (effective 9/1/90).
  - Adds 0.2% surtax to base rate; to be deposited in Transportation Fund (effective 9/1/90).
  - Makes permanent funding for ferry operations.
  - Deposits MVET available to, but not matched by, transit districts in Transportation Fund (effective 7/1/91).
  - Reduces maximum MVET available for transit match from 0.815% (under new law) to 0.725% (effective 1/1/93).
  - Directs revenue that would have been matched by transit under old rate to new accounts to fund transit-related projects (effective 1/1/93).
- Transfers MVET equal to 0.1% vehicle value from General Fund to Transportation Fund (effective 7/1/93).

1992

- Consumers required to pay 5.9% sales tax on vehicle rentals in lieu of dealer paying MVET (effective 1/1/93).

1993

- Transit residual goes to General Fund instead of Transportation Fund for 1993–95 Biennium.
  - 0.1% transfer from General Fund to Transportation Fund deferred from 7/1/93 to 7/1/95.
  - Rate for trucks over 40,000 pounds GVW increased from 2.2% to 2.78%; MVET eliminated for trailers used in combination with such trucks.

1994

- Transit systems receiving less than 80% of the per capita statewide average sales and use tax are eligible for transit sales and use tax equalization payments (effective 1/1/96).

1995

- Modified distributions to High Capacity Transportation Account to fund newly-created Passenger Ferry Account.

1997

- Establishes a permanent funding mechanism for the Violence Reduction and Drug Enforcement Account.

1998

- Referendum 49 changes the MVET structure and distribution and provides a $30 tax credit.
  - Surtax of 0.2% of vehicle value eliminated; MVET rate consolidated at 2.2%.
  - Depreciation schedule adjusted to reduce tax liability for vehicles 2–3 years old.
  - Distribution to motor vehicle fund increases to finance new highway construction projects.
  - General fund receives no MVET revenue; MVET distributions to transit systems and transportation-related accounts paid out of the transportation fund (transportation fund receives additional MVET revenue to make transit distributions).
  - Yakima Transit and Everett Transit eligible to receive MVET distributions
  - MVET distributions to county and municipal criminal justice accounts decreases; general fund revenues replace and supplant criminal justice distributions.
  - Eliminates funding for violence reduction and drug enforcement account.
  - Increases distributions for municipal sales and uses tax equalization.

2000

- Repealed by Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000.

**2007–09 ESTIMATE:** $0
2009–11 FORECAST: $0

VALUE OF INCREASE: $0
### Historical MVET Distributions

(Dollars in Millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>95–97</th>
<th>97–99</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collections:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Collections</td>
<td>$1,374.9</td>
<td>$1,617.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distributions:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOL</td>
<td>$19.5</td>
<td>$24.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferry Capital</td>
<td>101.9</td>
<td>119.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferry Operations</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>59.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counties</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>59.4</td>
<td>70.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Public Health</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>104.5</td>
<td>147.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Fund</td>
<td>188.1</td>
<td>353.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Fund</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>38.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>800.3</td>
<td>734.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$1,374.9</td>
<td>$1,617.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Distributions from General Fund and Transportation Fund:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>95–97</th>
<th>97–99</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transit Districts</td>
<td>345.6</td>
<td>401.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Equalization</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPSPTA &amp; PTSA</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>19.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passenger Ferry</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Capacity Transp. Account</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>14.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Transit district and transit-related distributions were paid from the General Fund and the Transportation Fund (after Referendum 49) in the 97–99 Biennium. CPSPTA and PTSA stand for Central Puget Sound Public Transportation Account and Public Transportation Systems Account.
REVENUE SOURCE: Travel Trailer and Camper Excise Tax

RCW: 82.50.410 (tax)
82.50.425 (valuation)

Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000 repealed the travel trailer and camper excise tax, effective January 1, 2000

WHO'S TAXED: Travel trailer and camper owners

TAX RATE: Annual rate of 1.1% of value of the travel trailer or camper; value is based on statutory schedule (RCW 82.50.425) applied to the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

ADMINISTERED BY: Department of Licensing

WHERE DEPOSITED: General Fund
Transportation Fund

DISTRIBUTION & USE: 1.1% of value:
- 13.64% to cities
- 13.64% to counties
- 63.64% to General Fund; appropriated for schools
- 9.08% to Transportation Fund; appropriated for general transportation purposes

TAX EXEMPTIONS: Dealer inventory held for sale (RCW 82.50.520(1))
Government agency (RCW 82.50.520(2))
Nonresidents (RCW 82.50.520(3))

TAX HISTORY: 1943 1.5% (travel trailer)
1955 1.0% (travel trailer)
1971 2.0% (camper)
1972 1.0% (camper)
1990 1.1% (changed vehicle valuation schedules; added 0.1% surtax to base rate to be deposited in Transportation Fund)
1998 1.1% (eliminated 0.1% surtax and consolidated tax rate at 1.1%; distribution changed to maintain revenue neutrality)
2000 Repealed by Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000

2007–09 ESTIMATE: $0
2009–11 FORECAST: $0
VALUE OF INCREASE: $0
**Vehicle Dealer Excise Tax**

**REVENUE SOURCE:** Vehicle Dealer Excise Tax

**RCW:** 82.44.030

*Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000 repealed the vehicle dealer excise tax, effective January 1, 2000*

**WHO'S TAXED:** Vehicle Dealers

**TAX RATE:** One-time fee of $2 per set of vehicle dealer license plates; for privilege of demonstrating vehicles held for retail sale.

**ADMINISTERED BY:** Department of Licensing

**WHERE DEPOSITED:** The proceeds of this tax are deposited in the same accounts as the motor vehicle excise tax.

**DISTRIBUTION & USE:** Appropriated for general government purposes and highway-related purposes.

**TAX EXEMPTIONS:** None

**TAX HISTORY:**
- 1943 $2 per set of plates
- 2000 Repealed by Chapter 1, 1st Special Session, Laws of 2000

**2007–09 ESTIMATE:** $0

**2009–11 FORECAST:** $0

**VALUE OF INCREASE:** $0