



This graph combines the Local Government Half-Cent Sales Tax and the Communications Services Tax.

Under the Local Government Half-Cent Sales Tax Program, the State of Florida returns 9.653% of sales tax proceeds to cities and counties. Sales tax revenues have been increasing by an average of 3.8% per year for fiscal years 1998/99 - 2002/03, despite the economic downturn. In fiscal year 2004/05 Sales Tax Revenues will generate an estimated \$6,288,410 for the General Fund, an increase of 3% over fiscal year 2003/04 estimates.

Effective October 1, 2001, the Communications Services Tax Simplification Law replaced certain franchise and utility fees. This law is intended to simplify the tax structure for telecommunications and cable services. These revenue receipts have been significantly less than anticipated over the last two years. Therefore, fiscal year 2004/05 receipts have been budgeted at 16% less than budgeted in the previous year.

The anticipated receipts of the Communications Services/Sales Tax category will be approximately \$13,113,410 in the new fiscal year, representing 12.8% of General Fund Revenues.