



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Research Report #2015-9

December 18, 2015

INTEREST RATES FOR REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX

Prior to 1981, the County Assessor calculated interest rates for delinquent real estate excise taxes. From 1981 through 1998 the interest rate was 1 percent per month, or 12 percent for the calendar year.

Starting in 1999, the interest rate for delinquent real estate excise taxes became the same as those for excise taxes. Currently this is the average of the federal short-term rate using data from four months: October of the previous preceding year and, January, April, and July of the previous year, plus two percentage points, as set forth in [RCW 82.32.050 \(2\)](#).

The table below shows the *annual* interest rate history and provides a link to the Excise Tax Interest Rates.

| <u>Calendar Year</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Prior to 1981 | See County Assessor |
| 1981 through 1998 | 12% |
| 1999 to 2016 | Please see Excise Tax Interest Rates |