

PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS—2010

TABLES 1 - 6

Collections data are obtained from county treasurers for all taxing districts imposing an ad valorem property tax, either authorized by statute or approved by voters. Special benefit assessments levied on other than an ad valorem basis are not included.

PROPERTY TAXES DUE IN 2010 (TABLES 1 AND 2)

Property taxes levied in 2009 and due in 2010 were \$8,940 million, increasing \$177 million, or 2.02 percent, from the amount due in 2009. Collections of taxes due in 2010 totaled \$8,685 million, increasing \$186 million, or 2.2 percent, from 2009. The collection response rate was 97.0 percent in 2009 and increased to 97.1 percent in 2010.

During the year, tax roll cancellations (transfer to exempt status, correction of errors, destroyed property, and uncollectible accounts) exceeded tax roll additions (omitted property, property removed from exempt status, and new structures not previously on the rolls) by \$12.5 million. The resulting year-end unpaid balance was \$243 million, down about \$8.3 million from 2009. This amount equaled 2.7 percent of the 2010 tax roll.

Columbia County led all counties last year with a 99.4 percent collection response. Garfield County followed with a 99.2 percent collection response. All together, 32 counties reported collection rates of 95 percent or above, leaving seven counties collecting less than 95 percent. The lowest rate of collection was 91.4 percent.

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES (TABLES 3 AND 4)

Delinquent taxes (taxes on the rolls prior to the 2010 tax year) were \$379 million. Of this amount, plus additions, \$214 million was collected during the year. The statewide response rate was 56.5 percent.

Twenty-six counties had a 50 percent or better collection rate in 2010 which is a decrease of one county compared to 2009. For 2010, six counties had delinquent collection rates of 60 percent or greater which is down from seven counties in 2009.

CURRENT AND DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES (TABLES 5 AND 6)

The combined amount of current and delinquent taxes due in 2010 for all 39 counties was \$9,318 million. Collections totaled \$8,899 million, 95.5 percent of the total due. At the end of 2010, delinquent taxes were \$393.8 million, up \$15.2 million, an increase of 4.0 percent from 2009. Although the collection of current taxes was 97.1 percent (as noted above), the collection rate was 99.5 percent of current roll, taking into account both current and delinquent taxes.