## SALES TAX REVENUE PAYERS BY BUSINESS GROUP

For the Fiscal Years 2006 & 2015

	2015			2006		
		Tax Liability	Percentage of Total		Tax Liability	Percentage of Total
General merchandise	\$	1,572,224	22.08%	\$	1,089,865	20.47%
Food		1,178,822	16.56%		783,418	14.71%
Utilities		1,389,050	19.51%		763,746	14.35%
Lumber & building material		605,434	8.50%		665,026	12.49%
Automotive		347,722	4.88%		268,417	5.04%
Furniture		198,590	2.79%		198,490	3.73%
Apparel		244,895	3.44%		157,105	2.95%
Farming		_	0.00%		36,214	0.68%
Unclassified		1,583,553	22.24%		1,362,051	25.58%
Total	\$	7,120,290	100.00%	\$	5,324,332	100.00%

## **Recent Significant Sales Tax Rate and Base Changes**

2006-07	Effective June 29, 2007, the combined rate is the State's general rate 4.25% plus the sum of the rates of local tax authorized for every county in the State 2.5%.  Effective January 1, 2007, sales of intermodal cranes, intermodal hostler trucks and railroad locomotives to the owner or lessee of an eligible railroad intermodal facility was exempted. Sales to the owner or lessee of an eligible railroad intermodal facility of sales taxes on building supplies, fixtures, and equipment that become a part of the real property of the facility was exempted.  Effective June 29, 2007, additional 0.25% Sales general and use tax rate, scheduled to be repealed for sales made on or after July 1, 2007, was extended for one month.
2007-08	Effective July 1, 2007, tax on electricity (2.83%) sold to manufacturers was repealed and the new rate is 2.6%. Effective July 1, 2007, manufacturers and assemblers of aircraft parts, professional motorsports racing teams of 50% of tax on property that comprises any part of a professional motor racing vehicle and taxpayers engaged in analytical services of 50% of tax paid on property consumed or transformed in analytical services would receive refunds. Effective July 31, 2007, additional 0.25% State general sales and use tax rate was made permanent. As a result the combined general rate remains at 6.75%.  Effective October 1, 2007, tax on electricity sold to farmers (2.83%) was repealed and the new rate is 1.8%. Effective October 1, 2007, tax on electricity sold to manufacturers (2.6%) was repealed and the new rate is 1.8%. Privilege tax sold to manufacturing industry decreased from 1% to 0.7%. Bundled transaction defined to remain compliant with SSTA. Baler twine sold to farmers and bread sold at a bakery thrift store was exempted. State began three year phase-in assumption of the financial nonfederal, nonadministrative Medicaid responsibility for counties that include a 1/2% sales tax rate exchange between local and state governments as well as various measures to ensure the local governments are held harmless (protected from revenue loss) as a result of the Medicaid swap legislation. Effective April 1, 2008, combined general rate raised from 6.75% to 7%.
2008-09	Retroactive for purchases made on or after <u>January 1, 2004</u> . Refund provision extended to University Affiliated Nonprofit Organizations that procure, design, construct, or provide facilities to or for use by, a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina.  Effective <u>July 1, 2008</u> , tax on electricity sold to farmers and manufacturers (1.8%) repealed. New tax rate is 1.4%. Refund provision expanded to include certain industrial facilities-solar electricity generating materials manufacturing industry. Refund provision expanded to include volunteer fire department or volunteer emergency medical services squad. Privilege tax on fuel sold to a manufacturing industry decreased from 0.7% to 0.5%.  Effective <u>July 16, 2008</u> , new sales and use tax holiday for Energy Star qualified products (1st Friday in November through following Sunday). Refund provision to interstate Passenger Air Carriers was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2011 (previously January 1, 2009).  Effective <u>August 1, 2008</u> , exemption for tangible personal property (tpp) purchased with a client assistance debit card issued for disaster assistance relief by qualified entities. Exemption for interior design services provided in conjunction with the sale of tpp.  Effective <u>October 1, 2008</u> , State general tax raised from 4.25% to 4.5%. Local sales tax rate under Article 44 lowered from 0.5% to 0.25%.  Effective <u>January 1, 2009</u> , exemption for bakery items sold without eating utensils by an artisan bakery.

Source: North Carolina Department of Revenue

Table 9

## **Recent Significant Sales Tax Rate and Base Changes**

2009-10	Effective July 1, 2009, tax on electricity sold to farmers/manufacturers decreased from 1.4% to 0.8%. Privilege tax on fuel sold to a manufacturing industry decreased from 0.5% to 0.3%.  Effective August 7, 2009, online sales- remote sales: certain click-through transactions subject to tax.  Effective August 27, 2009, authorizing legislation for regional transportation authorities and counties to impose a local government sales and use tax rate of 0.25% or 0.5% for public transportation.  Effective September 1, 2009, State general tax rate raised from 4.5% to 5.5%. Combined general rate raised from 7% to 8%. (Temporary additional 1% State general sales and use tax rate, scheduled to be repealed for sales made on or after July 1, 2011).  Effective October 1, 2009, State general tax raised from 5.5% to 5.75%. Local sales tax rate under Article 44 (0.25%) repealed. Exemption for aircraft simulators purchased by interstate passenger air carriers expanded to include all purchasers of such equipment.  Effective January 1, 2010, sales tax on online purchases - certain digital property, magazine subscriptions, computer software subject to tax. Exemption for computer software or digital property that becomes a component part.
2010-11	Effective July 1, 2010, tax on electricity sold to farmers/manufacturers decreased from 0.8% to 0%. Privilege tax on fuel sold to a manufacturing industry decreased from 0.3% to 0%. Refund provision to Interstate Passenger Air Carriers was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2013 (previously January 1, 2011). Refund provision for aviation fuel for motorsports events to professional motorsports racing teams was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2013 (previously January 1, 2011). Effective July 10, 2010, refund provision to joint governmental agency created to operate a cable television system for purchases made on/after July 1, 2007 and before June 30, 2010. Effective January 1, 2011, sales tax law on accommodations was modernized to classify facilitators who assist accommodation owners with rentals as retailers subject to sales and use and room occupancy taxes. Facilitation or similar fees are includable in the sales price. Effective June 18, 2011, refund provision to joint governmental agency created to operate a cable television system extended to purchases made on/after July 1, 2007 and before June 30, 2011 (previously before June 30, 2010).
2011-12	Effective July 1, 2011, additional 1% State General sales and use tax rate expired. This also has the effect of reducing the State combined general rate from 8% to 7%.  Effective June 20, 2012, refund provision to Interstate Passenger Air Carriers was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2014 (previously January 1, 2013). Refund provision for aviation fuel for motorsports events to professional motorsports racing teams was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2014 (previously January 1, 2013). Refund provision to taxpayers engaged in analytical services (the greater of 50% of eligible amount of tax paid on tangible personal property consumed or transformed in analytical services or 50% of the amount of tax paid on medical reagents) was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2014 (previously January 1, 2013). Refund provision to certain industrial facilities for tax paid on building materials, building supplies, fixtures, and equipment installed in the construction of the facility was extended to repeal for purchases made on or after January 1, 2014 (previously January 1, 2013).
2013-14	Effective <u>January 1, 2014</u> , the sale of a modular home is subject to the State general rate of 4.75% (no local rates apply) (transaction previously subject to the State 2.5% preferential rate with 20% of the proceeds shared with local governments). The sale of a manufactured home is subject to the State general rate of 4.75% (no local rates apply) (transaction previously subject to the State 2% preferential rate (maximum tax \$300 per article)). Service contracts (warranty agreements, maintenance agreements, repair contracts, or similar agreements or contracts by which the seller agrees to maintain or repair tangible personal property) are subject to the State general rate of 4.75% (applicable local rates apply). Previously, combined State/local use tax rates assessed on parts applied for certain transactions. Admission charges to the following entertainment activities are subject to the State general rate of 4.75% plus applicable local rates: a live performance or live event, a motion picture or film, a museum, a cultural site, a garden, an exhibit, a show, or a similar attraction or a guided tour at any of these attractions. The following events are exempted from this tax: school sponsored events held at an elementary or secondary school, certain commercial agricultural fairs, certain nonprofit-sponsored festivals or other recreational/entertainment activity, certain youth athletic contests, and certain State attractions. Previously, motion picture show admission charges were subject to a 1% gross receipts privilege tax and certain other amusements were subject to a 3% gross receipts privilege tax. Newspaper street vendors and sales by newspaper vending machines, nutritional supplements sold by a chiropractic physician at a chiropractic office to a patient as part of the patient's plan of treatment, and food and prepared meals sold by institutions of higher education (private and public) are subject to the State general rate of 4.75% plus applicable local rates (previously exempt).

Continued

### SALES TAX REVENUE PAYERS BY BUSINESS GROUP (continued)

Table 9

#### **Recent Significant Sales Tax Rate and Base Changes**

# 2013-14 continued

Effective <u>June 1, 2014</u>, gross receipts derived from the rental of a private residence, cottage, or similar accommodation listed with a real estate broker or agent where a person occupies or has the right to occupy such on or after June 1, 2014, are subject to the 4.75% general State and applicable local and transit rates of sales and use tax and any local occupancy tax imposed by a city or county. Previously, the taxation of gross receipts derived from the rental of a private residence, cottage, or similar accommodation listed with a real estate broker or agent for fewer than 15 days was deemed exempt under provisions of the Important Notice: Tax on Accommodations (Revised June 14, 2002).

#### 2014-15

Effective July 1, 2014, gross receipts derived from sales of electricity billed on or after July 1, 2014, are subject to the combined general rate of 7% (local governments to share proceeds). Previously, electricity sold for residential purposes was subject to the State 3% preferential rate and electricity sold to laundry and dry cleaning establishments for business use was subject to the State 2.83% preferential rate. The legislation concurrently repeals the utility franchise tax rate of 3.22% applicable to gross receipts from sales of electricity, electric lights, current, or power (local governments shared proceeds). [Gross receipts derived from sales of electricity to a farmer for qualifying farm purposes and to manufacturers for manufacturing facility operation may qualify for exemption.] Gross receipts derived from sales of piped natural gas billed on or after July 1, 2014, are subject to the combined general rate of 7% (local governments to share proceeds). Previously, the piped natural gas excise tax was based on monthly therm volumes of gas received by the end-user (local governments shared proceeds). Special phase-in provision for gas cities: Gross receipts derived from sales of piped natural gas billed on or after July 1, 2014 and before July 1, 2015, received by gas cities and delivered by a gas city to a sales customer or transportation customer of the gas city are subject to a 3.5% rate. [Gross receipts derived from sales of piped natural gas to a farmer for qualifying farm purposes and to manufacturers for manufacturing facility operation may qualify for exemption; additionally, sales of piped natural gas to commercial laundry and pressing or dry cleaning establishments and sales to and purchases by State agencies may qualify for exemption.] Bakery thrift store sales are subject to the State general rate of 4.75% plus applicable local rates (previously exempt.) Annual sales tax holiday transactions previously exempted from taxation are subject to the State general rate of 4.75% plus applicable local rates.

Annual energy star holiday transactions previously exempted from taxation are subject to the State general rate of 4.75% plus applicable local rates.

Nonprofit refund limit provision: The aggregate annual refund amount allowed a nonprofit entity for a fiscal year may not exceed \$45 million (\$31.7 million State tax and \$13.3 million local tax).

Effective <u>September 1, 2014</u>, effective for transactions on or after September 1, 2014, fifty percent (50%) of the sales of a modular home or a manufactured home, including all accessories attached when delivered by the purchaser is exempt from taxation.

Effective October 1, 2014, effective for transactions on or after October 1, 2014, the exemption is repealed for sales from vending machines where price is 1¢ per sale. Effective for transactions on or after October 1, 2014, newspapers sold through a coin-operated vending machine no longer qualify for an exemption of 50% of the sales price (taxed on 100% gross receipts).

Effective <u>January 1, 2015</u>, gross receipts derived from admission charges to certain commercial agricultural fairs and to State attractions supported by State funds that offer cultural, educational, historical, or recreational opportunities are subject to the 4.75% general State and applicable local and transit rates of sales and use tax.

New application for real property contracts (designates the real property contractor as the consumer): Effective for sales made (and contracts entered into) on or after January 1, 2015, the sales price of tangible personal property sold to a real property contractor for use by the real property contractor in erecting structures, building on, or otherwise improving, altering, or repairing real property is subject to the general 4.75% State and applicable local and transit rates of sales and use tax.