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Detailed tables

State Government Revenues Fall 16 Percent *Eleven States Top 25 Percent Spending on Public Welfare*

State governments took in nearly \$1.7 trillion in total revenues in fiscal year 2008, a 15.8 percent decrease from 2007, according to new data on state government finances released by the U.S. Census Bureau. The largest share of those revenues came from taxes (\$780.7 billion), which made up 46.5 percent. The decline was primarily because of a decrease in insurance trust revenue, which fell by \$377.7 billion (72.7 percent).

Insurance trust systems are comprised of public employee retirement systems, the unemployment compensation system, state government workers' compensation programs and other state social insurance trusts.

Total state government expenditures increased 6.2 percent from fiscal year 2007, totaling slightly more than \$1.7 trillion in 2008. Education (\$546.8 billion), public welfare (\$412.1 billion) and highways (\$107.2 billion) represented the top three outlays, accounting for nearly two-thirds of all state government total expenditures.

The findings come from the *2008 Annual Survey of State Government Finances*, which includes data on revenues, expenditures, debt, and cash and security holdings for each state, as well as a national level summary. The major source of these finance statistics is the governments' own accounting systems, either directly from a government's own records or through intermediate reporting systems.

Eleven states spent more than 25 percent of total expenditures on public welfare, with Tennessee (32.8 percent), Maine (30.5 percent) and Rhode Island (29.8 percent) spending the highest percentage of their total expenditures. (See table)

(more)

Editor's note: The information can be accessed at <<http://www.census.gov/govs/state/index.html>>.

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Public welfare spending is used to support people based on need and includes such items as old-age assistance, temporary assistance for needy families, and commodities and services provided under welfare programs, including medical care or burial services.

Hawaii (11.5 percent), Alabama (10.1 percent) and South Carolina (9.9 percent) led in spending on public health and hospitals as a percentage of total expenditures.

In addition to state taxes, state lotteries were another way many state governments (including Washington, D.C.) raised revenue in 2008. Total state lottery ticket sales reached \$77.3 billion in 2008, an increase of 1.8 percent from 2007. Lottery prize payouts represented \$56.7 billion in expenditures, a 1.4 percent increase over the previous year. And lottery proceeds represented \$18.2 billion in state government revenue, an increase of 2.9 percent. New York (\$2.7 billion), Florida (\$1.4 billion) and California (\$1.2 billion) led the nation in lottery proceeds.

The data used in the tabulations came from state government records. As such, they are not subject to sampling error. Although quality assurance methods were applied to all phases of data collection and processing, the data are subject to nonsampling error, including errors of response and miscoding. For information, visit the Census Bureau's Web site at: <<https://www.census.gov/govs>>.

Total and Welfare Expenditures of State Governments with United States Summary: 2008 and 2007

(Dollar amounts in thousands)

State and US Summary	2008			2007			Percent Change in Welfare Expenditures
	Total Expenditures	Welfare Expenditures 1/	Percentage of Welfare Expenditures	Total Expenditures	Welfare Expenditures 1/	Percentage of Welfare Expenditures	
United States	1,735,949,390	412,141,472	23.7	1,634,801,176	393,142,174	24.0	4.8
Alabama	24,892,739	4,582,199	18.4	23,192,507	4,768,598	20.6	-3.9
Alaska	10,115,914	1,477,255	14.6	9,191,744	1,478,593	16.1	-0.1
Arizona	30,778,930	7,927,027	25.8	28,332,841	7,249,710	25.6	9.3
Arkansas	15,655,753	3,771,732	24.1	14,948,566	3,624,917	24.2	4.1
California	246,683,951	60,191,685	24.4	233,578,021	56,306,480	24.1	6.9
Colorado	22,856,848	4,557,057	19.9	21,243,982	4,271,325	20.1	6.7
Connecticut	23,528,530	5,621,038	23.9	22,115,190	5,136,934	23.2	9.4
Delaware	7,151,941	1,451,463	20.3	6,751,452	1,324,814	19.6	9.6
Florida	76,972,938	18,063,299	23.5	72,773,050	17,340,927	23.8	4.2
Georgia	41,165,128	9,644,769	23.4	41,843,352	9,685,127	23.1	-0.4
Hawaii	10,533,869	1,563,961	14.8	9,848,210	1,494,003	15.2	4.7
Idaho	7,675,083	1,614,703	21.0	6,895,319	1,485,151	21.5	8.7
Illinois	63,368,160	17,167,067	27.1	59,302,221	15,565,800	26.2	10.3
Indiana	30,783,257	8,034,079	26.1	28,809,586	6,823,359	23.7	17.7
Iowa	16,522,737	3,904,781	23.6	15,461,766	3,612,004	23.4	8.1
Kansas	14,968,811	3,167,907	21.2	13,183,436	2,970,898	22.5	6.6
Kentucky	25,421,531	6,198,814	24.4	23,680,419	5,827,463	24.6	6.4
Louisiana	33,003,929	5,828,886	17.7	27,855,931	4,918,292	17.7	18.5
Maine	8,175,152	2,492,721	30.5	7,935,673	2,442,219	30.8	2.1
Maryland	34,029,818	7,118,659	20.9	31,610,548	6,847,770	21.7	4.0
Massachusetts	45,634,948	12,682,783	27.8	44,048,424	12,195,223	27.7	4.0
Michigan	56,869,012	13,430,826	23.6	54,745,355	12,690,079	23.2	5.8
Minnesota	34,283,510	9,045,789	26.4	31,880,478	8,415,365	26.4	7.5
Mississippi	18,642,916	4,405,435	23.6	18,628,639	4,175,865	22.4	5.5
Missouri	26,788,804	6,231,774	23.3	25,318,686	5,804,854	22.9	7.4
Montana	6,137,669	888,748	14.5	5,554,244	837,857	15.1	6.1
Nebraska	8,443,129	2,099,052	24.9	7,829,584	2,024,945	25.9	3.7
Nevada	10,845,375	1,580,454	14.6	10,755,326	1,641,032	15.3	-3.7
New Hampshire	6,601,654	1,544,997	23.4	6,226,121	1,445,654	23.2	6.9
New Jersey	58,539,173	12,420,936	21.2	56,076,165	11,895,707	21.2	4.4
New Mexico	15,793,049	3,558,863	22.5	14,907,060	3,115,453	20.9	14.2
New York	157,397,509	44,763,366	28.4	151,338,991	46,614,760	30.8	-4.0
North Carolina	46,994,653	11,652,949	24.8	44,009,293	10,972,023	24.9	6.2
North Dakota	4,125,920	773,278	18.7	3,777,523	706,358	18.7	9.5
Ohio	67,788,590	16,113,757	23.8	66,207,138	16,352,684	24.7	-1.5
Oklahoma	19,517,639	4,821,034	24.7	18,104,268	4,432,291	24.5	8.8
Oregon	22,386,883	4,311,257	19.3	20,605,597	3,854,060	18.7	11.9
Pennsylvania	71,940,224	19,032,829	26.5	68,292,746	19,146,526	28.0	-0.6
Rhode Island	7,495,870	2,230,969	29.8	7,071,396	2,079,486	29.4	7.3
South Carolina	27,593,614	5,477,881	19.9	24,824,628	5,404,269	21.8	1.4
South Dakota	3,698,335	811,709	21.9	3,571,741	759,061	21.3	6.9
Tennessee	26,403,221	8,664,226	32.8	24,992,628	8,067,623	32.3	7.4
Texas	100,938,886	23,048,973	22.8	90,623,748	20,646,360	22.8	11.6
Utah	14,293,669	2,203,414	15.4	12,774,196	2,113,615	16.5	4.2
Vermont	5,070,156	1,253,623	24.7	4,993,860	1,202,700	24.1	4.2
Virginia	39,879,609	7,354,674	18.4	36,774,042	6,982,641	19.0	5.3
Washington	39,689,815	7,612,755	19.2	37,116,177	6,982,213	18.8	9.0
West Virginia	10,139,699	2,565,426	25.3	9,766,972	2,405,778	24.6	6.6
Wisconsin	32,649,254	6,524,417	20.0	30,895,963	6,393,090	20.7	2.1
Wyoming	5,081,586	656,176	12.9	4,536,373	610,218	13.5	7.5

1/ Includes transfers to local governments.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Governments Division, 2008 Survey of State Government Finances. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this report should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. The data in this table are based on information from public records and contain no confidential data. Although the data in this table come from a census of state governmental units and are not subject to sampling error, the Census results do contain nonsampling error. Additional information on nonsampling error, response rates, and definitions may be found at: http://www.census.gov/govs/state/how_data_collected.html

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