

Annual State and Local Government Finances Summary: 2018

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State and Local Government Revenues

In 2018, state and local government revenues increased 4.1 percent from the 2017 estimate of \$3.92 trillion to \$4.08 trillion. State and local government general revenues totaled \$3.29 trillion in 2018 compared to \$3.12 trillion in 2017, an increase of 5.4 percent. The major shares of general revenue for state and local governments were taxes (53.5 percent), federal support (22.5 percent), charges (16.6 percent), and other general revenue (7.3 percent). Insurance trust revenue (\$607.5 billion), utility revenue (\$173.7 billion), and liquor store revenue (\$10.1 billion) account for the difference between revenue and general revenue for state and local governments (Figure 1).

Taxes represented the largest source of general revenue for state and local governments in 2018. Sales and gross receipts taxes and property tax remain the largest sources of state and local government tax revenues in 2018, at \$611.4 billion (34.7 percent) and \$547.0 billion (31.1 percent), respectively (Figure 2).

The balance of state and local government general revenue included support from the federal

government directly at \$739.7 billion, current charges at \$547.5 billion, and miscellaneous general revenue at \$241.3 billion.

State and Local Government Expenditures

State and local government expenditures increased 4.0 percent to \$3.67 trillion in 2018 from \$3.54 trillion in 2017. Education was the largest source of state and local government expenditures at \$1.01 trillion, up 3.2 percent from the \$973.2 billion in 2017. Following education, public welfare, insurance trust expenditures, and utilities were the next largest sources of state and local government expenditures at 18.8 percent, 9.5 percent, and 2.9 percent, respectively (Figure 3).

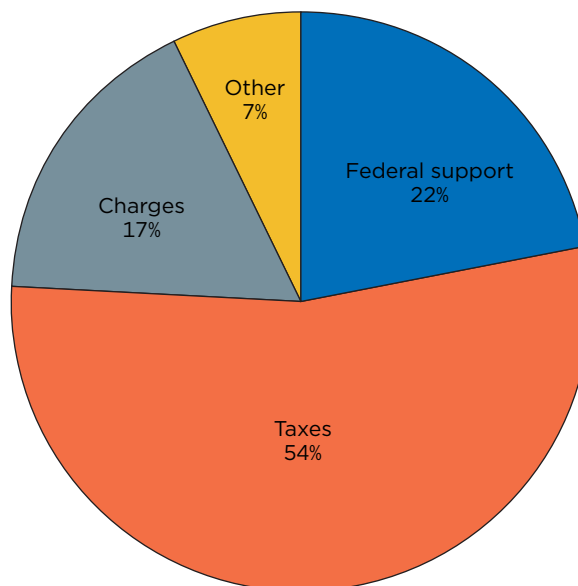
State and Local Government Debt

State and local governments combined had an outstanding debt of \$3.1 trillion in 2018, with the local government share of the debt total at 61.7 percent, while the state government share was at 38.3 percent. This was an increase of 2.3 percent compared to 2017 for state and local governments' outstanding debt.

State and Local Government Cash and Security Holdings

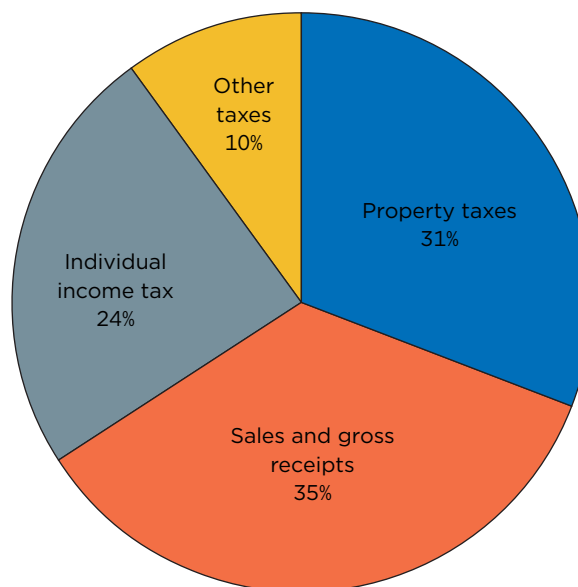
In 2018, cash and security holdings of state and local governments increased 6.5 percent to \$7.34 trillion compared to \$6.89 trillion in 2017. State governments accounted for 70.7 percent of the total, and local governments accounted for the remainder. Insurance trust funds for state and local governments increased 7.9 percent in 2018 to \$4.59 trillion.

Figure 1.
Source of State and Local Government General Revenue: 2018



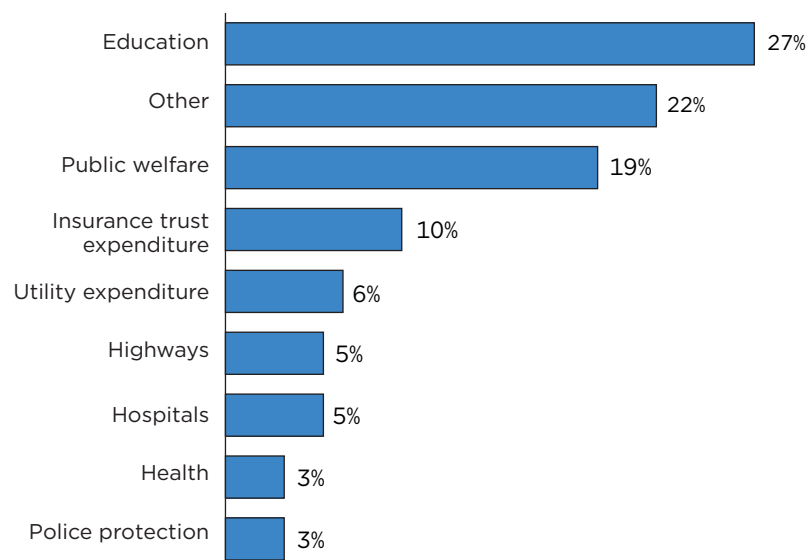
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finances.

Figure 2.
State and Local Government Tax Revenue: 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finances.

Figure 3.
State and Local Government Expenditures: 2018



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finances.

Public employee retirement funds comprised the largest source of cash and security holdings at \$4.34 trillion, an increase of 7.6 percent compared to the 2017 estimate of \$4.03 trillion.

For further information on state and local government finances, please contact the Economy-Wide Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau, at 1-800-832-2839 or by e-mail at <ewd.local.finance@census.gov>.

The data and technical documentation for this release can be found at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/gov-finances.html>.