

PROPERTY TAX COLLECTIONS—2012

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 2012 (TABLES 1 AND 2)

Property taxes levied in 2011 and due in 2012 were \$9,457 million, increasing \$155 million, or 1.7 percent, from the amount due in 2011. Collections of taxes due in 2012 totaled \$9,235 million, increasing \$173 million, or 1.9 percent, from 2011. The collection response rate was 97.4 percent in 2011 and increased to 97.7 percent in 2012.

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 \$6.0 million. The resulting year-end unpaid balance was \$216 million, down about \$8.0 million from 2011. This amount equaled 2.3 percent of the 2012 tax roll.

Garfield County led all counties last year with a 99.2 percent collection response. Columbia County followed with a 98.6 percent collection response. All together, 33 counties reported collection rates of 95 percent or above, leaving six counties collecting less than 95 percent. The lowest rate of collection was 89.3 percent.

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES (TABLES 3 AND 4)

Delinquent taxes (taxes on the rolls prior to the 2012 tax year) were \$385 million. Of this amount, plus additions, \$214 million was collected during the year. The statewide response rate was 55.6 percent.

Thirty-two counties had a 50 percent or better collection rate in 2012 which is an increase of three counties compared to 2011. For 2012, six counties had delinquent collection rates of 60 percent or greater which is down from nine counties in 2011.

CURRENT AND DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES (TABLES 5 AND 6)

The combined amount of current and delinquent taxes due in 2012 for all 39 counties was \$9,842 million. Collections totaled \$9,449 million, 96.0 percent of the total due. At the end of 2012, delinquent taxes were \$367.9 million, down \$17.2 million, a decrease of 4.5 percent from 2011. Although the collection of current taxes was 96.0 percent (as noted above), the collection rate was 99.9 percent of current rolls, taking into account both current and delinquent taxes.