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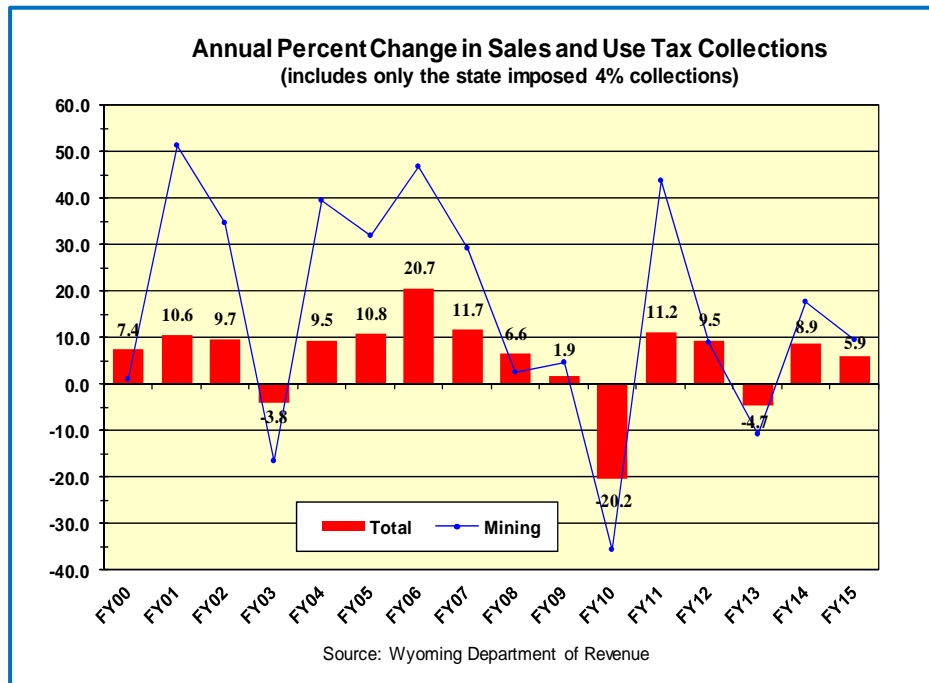
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SALES AND USE TAX COLLECTIONS INCREASED 5.9 PERCENT IN FY 2015

CHEYENNE -- Total sales and use tax collections in fiscal year (FY) 2015 showed solid growth according to an annual report released by the Economic Analysis Division. The report, entitled “Wyoming Sales, Use, and Lodging Tax Revenue Report,” is produced annually and contains sales and use tax collection information categorized by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) super sector. In addition, sales tax collections for the retail trade sub-sector components, and for the accommodation and food services sector are provided in the report. Also included in this publication are yearly lodging tax collections by local entity.

Total sales and use tax collections for FY 2015, reached \$1.1 billion, an increase of 5.9 percent from the previous year level. The annual growth rate for the state-imposed 4% tax collections was also 5.9 percent, slower than the 8.9 percent expansion recorded in FY 2014. Because locally imposed optional taxes often change during a fiscal year, an accurate comparison should only include the state-imposed 4% taxes to reflect changes in taxable sales over time.



Driven by mineral exploration, Wyoming’s economy recovered after a severe recession in 2009. As a result, sales tax collections in the state experienced robust growth in both FY 2011 and FY 2012, after a record breaking contraction of 20.2 percent in FY 2010. “After a slowdown during FY 2013, the state’s economy regained strength gradually from the third quarter of 2013 to the fourth quarter of 2014, thanks to rebounding natural gas prices, expansion of oil drilling, and the strength of service providing

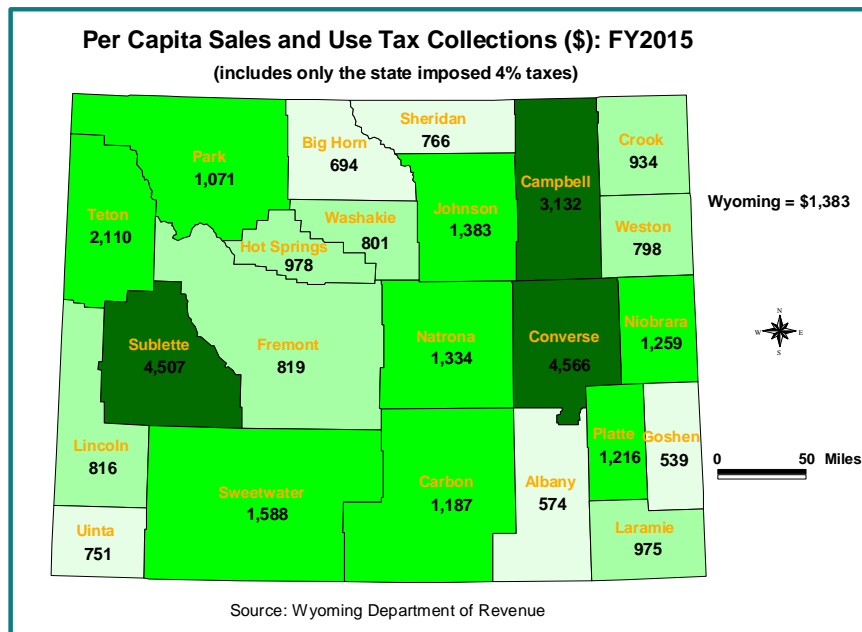
industries,” said Dr. Wenlin Liu, Chief Economist with the Economic Analysis Division. However, amid the dramatic drop in oil prices, the trend of solid recovery was abruptly stalled during the spring of 2015, taking its toll on mineral extraction industry. As a result, sales and use tax collections started to experience year-over-year declines in April 2015. A majority of industrial super sectors demonstrated increases in FY 2015. The professional & business services experienced the fastest increase, 22.1 percent, during the year. The construction and public administration sectors also showed strong growth of 14.2 and 13.1 percent, respectively. However, the mining industry (including oil & gas extraction) alone contributed to over one-third of the total sales tax increase. The State does not impose a sales tax on the production of minerals, but on supplies and equipment used in mineral extraction. Additionally, certain services rendered within an oil or gas well site are subject to sales and use taxation, as are services rendered under contract for other mining (including coal) and crushing minerals. “About 22.5% of collections are from the mining industry, therefore the changes in total sales and use tax collections in Wyoming have been greatly affected by the dramatic swing in mineral activities,” commented Liu. Collections from the leisure & hospitality industry, which mostly reflect restaurant and lodging sales, also demonstrated a significant increase of 10.1 percent from a year earlier. The sales and use tax collections reported in the public administration sector were primarily comprised of taxes generated through automobile sales.

Annual sales tax collections in sixteen of Wyoming’s twenty-three counties expanded from previous year levels. Converse County recorded the fastest increase of 25.6 percent, followed by Platte County’s 24.8 percent from the 2014 level. Campbell, Crook, Laramie, Teton, and Weston counties, each, experienced double-digit growth. These aforementioned counties experienced notable increases in activities either directly associated with mineral extraction or tourism.

Sales tax collections declined in seven counties during FY 2015. Johnson County experienced the biggest decrease, at -18.6 percent, while Big Horn and Hot Springs counties also experienced steep declines, at -17.9 and -17.2 percent, respectively.

Total lodging tax collections, at \$17.2 million for FY 2015, were up substantially from the \$14.8 million collected in the previous year, or by 16.3 percent. However, part of the increase was attributed to one-time lodging tax payments resulting from an

audit for an eight year period on online travel businesses. As a result of a lodging tax rate change from 2 percent in Guernsey town to 3 percent countywide on January 1, 2015, the collections in Platte County for FY 2015 were six times as much as the amount in FY 2014. For all other counties, Big Horn, Campbell, and Johnson showed at least 30.0 percent growth rates, respectively, in FY 2015. After fifteen years of suspension, the lodging tax (2%) in Teton County resumed on April 1, 2011. Lodging tax collections in this tourism oriented county, the highest in the state, grew 16.6 percent from FY 2014 to FY 2015.



The complete report is available online: <http://eativ.state.wy.us/s&utax/s&u.html>

TOTAL SALES AND USE TAX COLLECTIONS (\$)	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		% Ch FY14-15
	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	4% Taxes
ALBANY	29,161,003	19,394,441	30,644,242	20,375,140	32,627,097	21,694,678	6.5%
BIG HORN	9,270,463	7,407,215	12,620,554	10,086,825	10,368,265	8,283,237	-17.9%
CAMPBELL	183,089,241	121,666,206	206,280,095	137,306,870	222,472,510	151,349,544	10.2%
CARBON	26,394,423	17,564,714	28,062,896	18,669,370	28,260,540	18,816,033	0.8%
CONVERSE	61,237,365	47,578,564	76,977,508	51,268,139	96,672,815	64,372,141	25.6%
CROOK	8,429,067	5,606,396	8,067,940	6,010,981	8,680,492	6,769,975	12.6%
FREMONT	31,854,182	30,912,619	40,146,979	32,155,201	41,541,814	33,355,317	3.7%
GOSHEN	9,852,522	7,493,327	9,962,942	7,577,572	9,575,330	7,279,580	-3.9%
HOT SPRINGS	5,594,301	4,470,066	7,119,866	5,689,703	5,896,989	4,711,682	-17.2%
JOHNSON	13,972,434	11,165,376	18,221,780	14,563,047	15,186,666	11,856,599	-18.6%
LARAMIE	95,537,538	71,085,060	126,385,045	84,076,541	141,345,447	94,007,522	11.8%
LINCOLN	17,733,686	14,169,092	17,889,073	14,294,337	18,961,602	15,149,451	6.0%
NATRONA	127,485,311	101,878,446	132,511,671	105,885,561	136,253,432	108,869,123	2.8%
NIOBRARA	4,360,464	2,900,311	5,067,706	3,370,747	4,665,788	3,102,001	-8.0%
PARK	26,240,167	26,240,095	33,225,407	32,982,154	31,086,783	31,036,229	-5.9%
PLATTE	10,120,722	7,013,258	12,890,996	8,574,562	16,092,837	10,703,103	24.8%
SHERIDAN	31,172,462	20,734,252	34,403,957	22,878,194	34,602,947	23,009,078	0.6%
SUBLETTE	40,667,478	40,667,478	43,803,240	43,803,240	45,322,913	45,322,913	3.5%
SWEETWATER	96,571,279	75,454,381	109,365,872	72,866,147	107,293,106	71,475,286	-1.9%
TETON	62,444,249	40,172,183	67,597,130	43,408,011	75,248,962	48,380,230	11.5%
UINTA	20,005,785	15,991,646	19,101,413	15,263,076	19,648,043	15,697,790	2.8%
WASHAKIE	8,715,282	5,798,604	7,955,601	6,189,013	7,982,698	6,669,364	7.8%
WESTON	6,089,470	4,865,101	6,481,563	5,177,960	7,196,648	5,749,113	11.0%
WYOMING	\$925,998,893	\$700,228,831	\$1,054,783,475	\$762,472,391	\$1,116,983,723	\$807,659,988	5.9%

SALES AND USE TAX COLLECTIONS (\$) BY INDUSTRY	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		% Ch FY14-15
	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	Total Taxes	4% Taxes	4% Taxes
Agr, Fores., Fish., & Hunting	303,931	229,581	340,379	250,285	329,593	242,716	-3.0%
Mining	181,569,297	140,926,973	223,745,517	165,789,936	248,776,092	181,723,308	9.6%
Utilities	42,518,476	31,821,202	50,178,759	36,290,221	47,709,348	34,478,648	-5.0%
Construction	22,340,478	17,179,211	28,934,648	20,714,276	33,090,741	23,649,072	14.2%
Manufacturing	32,262,036	24,832,846	36,545,120	26,328,432	36,216,339	26,201,919	-0.5%
Wholesale Trade	88,723,934	65,609,418	93,166,262	65,840,117	97,388,601	69,403,470	5.4%
Retail Trade	273,515,739	206,746,201	301,338,451	217,390,110	310,594,421	224,800,036	3.4%
Transp. & Warehousing	4,639,408	3,417,874	6,097,972	4,281,754	5,387,162	3,759,602	-12.2%
Information	17,868,647	13,405,926	19,909,431	14,344,536	20,483,855	14,873,759	3.7%
Financial Activities	45,122,048	33,867,778	53,393,116	38,429,609	50,900,004	36,981,146	-3.8%
Professional & Busi. Services	6,063,432	4,514,940	6,339,158	4,519,248	7,582,047	5,518,478	22.1%
Edu. & Health Services	804,921	581,160	767,903	530,946	758,241	523,291	-1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	88,032,362	63,992,244	96,791,159	67,735,188	106,504,065	74,543,186	10.1%
Other Services	40,601,622	30,583,581	45,250,802	32,559,776	47,890,808	34,660,212	6.5%
Public Administration	81,632,562	62,519,895	91,984,798	67,467,956	103,372,405	76,301,145	13.1%
TOTAL	\$925,998,893	\$700,228,831	\$1,054,783,475	\$762,472,391	\$1,116,983,723	\$807,659,988	5.9%

Note: **Total Taxes** include 4% state imposed sales taxes and all local optional (up to 2%) taxes, while **4% Taxes** include only the 4% state imposed sales taxes.

Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue

LODGING TAX COLLECTIONS	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	% Ch FY14-15
ALBANY	655,833	646,025	704,281	717,006	744,284	876,409	17.8%
BIG HORN	23,447	27,710	31,512	26,543	25,198	32,833	30.3%
CAMPBELL	415,355	468,117	464,142	431,762	505,759	735,708	45.5%
CARBON	377,234	380,133	426,017	471,047	519,755	517,003	-0.5%
CONVERSE	155,361	166,694	273,349	293,143	328,774	371,647	13.0%
CROOK	57,836	57,279	57,217	57,633	63,491	75,492	18.9%
FREMONT	283,199	325,722	670,993	624,311	640,400	771,447	20.5%
GOSHEN	99,154	102,428	110,805	114,908	125,171	120,004	-4.1%
HOT SPRINGS	82,269	167,622	174,151	164,931	159,008	174,827	9.9%
JOHNSON	139,703	152,743	176,363	162,599	174,398	228,446	31.0%
LARAMIE	1,137,215	1,402,783	1,379,734	1,425,438	1,669,352	1,966,864	17.8%
LINCOLN	93,593	121,299	124,208	80,582	109,786	98,989	-9.8%
NATRONA	943,285	1,005,051	1,204,887	1,288,626	1,349,272	1,693,494	25.5%
NIOBRARA	30,937	33,781	40,393	39,585	45,606	47,060	3.2%
PARK	1,481,819	1,613,825	1,724,017	1,794,207	1,925,815	2,052,294	6.6%
PLATTE	3,288	7,307	9,756	9,075	10,556	64,188	508.1%
SHERIDAN	519,447	484,797	502,316	540,502	577,191	676,771	17.3%
SUBLETTE	29,761	70,056	199,267	143,377	169,394	168,867	-0.3%
SWEETWATER	516,051	520,586	650,065	626,502	626,472	701,393	12.0%
TETON	NA	35,493	3,972,252	4,227,899	4,612,088	5,377,737	16.6%
UINTA	231,595	232,240	283,877	248,731	254,171	280,010	10.2%
WASHAKIE	85,738	90,763	113,685	92,809	106,928	118,937	11.2%
WESTON	64,735	61,674	65,273	68,368	67,700	75,419	11.4%
WYOMING	\$7,426,857	\$8,174,127	\$13,358,561	\$13,649,585	\$14,810,570	\$17,225,839	16.3%

NA = Not Applicable

Platte County changed lodging tax rate from 2% in Guernsey town only to 3% countywide on January 1, 2015.

For the following counties, lodging tax is imposed only in certain cities or towns, i.e. not on a county-wide basis:

Big Horn County: Lovell and Greybull only.

Lincoln County: Afton, Cokeville, Diamondville, and Kemmerer only.

Niobrara County: Lusk only.

Sheridan County: Sheridan only.

Sublette County: Pinedale only.

Uinta County: Evanston only.

Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue