

TABLE 32. STATE SALES AND USE TAX: GROSS COLLECTIONS BY BUSINESS GROUPS AND UNITS
[G.S. 105 ARTICLE 5]

Business groups	Fiscal year									
	1992-1993		1993-1994		1994-1995		1995-1996		1996-1997	
	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total
Retail:										
Apparel.....	81,978,961	3.3%	86,570,012	3.2%	92,768,198	3.2%	95,450,439	3.1%	96,246,850	2.9%
Automotive:	140,374,492	5.7%	151,491,739	5.6%	161,916,368	5.5%	175,564,895	5.6%	179,432,550	5.4%
Motor vehicle dealers.....	20,330,625	0.8%	22,458,124	0.8%	24,794,511	0.8%	26,571,412	0.9%	27,656,981	0.8%
Airplanes, boats - (3%) rate.....	20,786,371	0.8%	7,406,254	0.3%	9,657,427	0.3%	11,112,787	0.4%	9,246,368	0.3%
Manufactured home (mobile home) dealers.....	507,674	0.0%	730,017	0.0%	915,889	0.0%	942,307	0.0%	872,889	0.0%
Manufactured home (mobile home)-(2%) rate... [included in airplanes and boats group]	[included in airplanes and boats group]		14,384,749	0.5%	15,483,706	0.5%	16,748,017	0.5%	17,075,679	0.5%
Modular home-(2% rate; 2.5% eff 1-1-04)	[included in airplanes and boats group]		[included in mfd home group]							
Other automotive.....	98,749,822	4.0%	106,512,595	3.9%	111,064,835	3.8%	120,190,372	3.9%	124,580,633	3.8%
Food.....	593,886,077	24.1%	629,357,489	23.2%	662,838,679	22.7%	701,781,868	22.6%	715,500,403	21.7%
Furniture.....	100,672,961	4.1%	113,779,238	4.2%	120,967,820	4.1%	125,592,766	4.0%	134,629,117	4.1%
General merchandise.....	436,756,541	17.7%	477,256,954	17.6%	521,898,188	17.8%	578,134,287	18.6%	616,428,509	18.7%
Lumber and building material.....	205,242,906	8.3%	246,361,024	9.1%	283,387,255	9.7%	295,341,240	9.5%	329,716,424	10.0%
Utility services, cable, satellite, and liquor..... [See Utility services group notes for imposition and effective dates of the various tax types in category]	279,161,417	11.3%	312,209,380	11.5%	307,728,433	10.5%	329,155,356	10.6%	338,718,853	10.3%
Unclassified.....	337,526,708	13.7%	364,945,222	13.4%	402,090,764	13.7%	501,794,371	16.1%	630,798,541	19.1%
Farm, mill, laundry machinery; fuel to farmers, manufacturers, laundries; other - 1%..... [see notes for changes in 2005-06]	39,798,801	1.6%	41,471,029	1.5%	44,376,737	1.5%	46,341,333	1.5%	50,320,348	1.5%
Total retail.....	2,215,398,864	89.8%	2,423,442,087	89.3%	2,597,972,442	88.8%	2,849,156,555	91.6%	3,091,791,595	93.7%
8% Highway use tax - motor vehicle leasing.....	20,189,023	0.8%	22,070,026	0.8%	25,272,634	0.9%	29,737,767	1.0%	32,388,443	1.0%
Wholesale licenses..... [Repealed for taxes paid on or after July 1, 1998.]	1,191,022	0.0%	1,056,984	0.0%	1,120,985	0.0%	425,522	0.0%	1,025,185	0.0%
Use tax (see note).....	231,558,987	9.4%	267,421,582	9.9%	300,062,300	10.3%	232,305,760	7.5%	173,143,800	5.2%
Total retail and use tax (licenses when applicable)	2,468,337,897	100.0%	2,713,990,677	100.0%	2,924,428,360	100.0%	3,111,625,603	100.0%	3,298,349,023	100.0%

TABLE 32. - Continued

Business groups	Fiscal year									
	1997-1998		1998-1999		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
	Amount [\$]	% of total								
Retail:										
Apparel.....	100,886,318	2.9%	97,797,118	2.7%	101,312,348	2.8%	103,360,801	2.8%	111,403,687	2.8%
Automotive:	182,729,329	5.3%	194,445,894	5.4%	199,762,787	5.5%	200,666,251	5.4%	208,599,593	5.2%
Motor vehicle dealers.....	28,890,773	0.8%	30,580,041	0.9%	30,114,110	0.8%	29,838,988	0.8%	32,029,558	0.8%
Airplanes, boats - (3%) rate.....	11,130,350	0.3%	10,757,869	0.3%	10,803,837	0.3%	10,816,022	0.3%	9,371,592	0.2%
Manufactured home (mobile home) dealers.....	1,182,115	0.0%	1,433,685	0.0%	1,583,215	0.0%	1,794,168	0.0%	2,703,611	0.1%
Manufactured home (mobile home)-(2%) rate... [see notes for applicable rates]	17,368,139	0.5%	20,152,619	0.6%	19,389,423	0.5%	15,764,953	0.4%	13,938,318	0.3%
Modular home-(2% rate; 2.5% eff 1-1-04)	[included in mfd home group]									
Other automotive.....	124,157,952	3.6%	131,521,680	3.7%	137,872,202	3.8%	142,452,120	3.9%	150,556,514	3.8%
Food.....	740,721,893	21.5%	672,949,487	18.7%	524,284,128	14.5%	544,829,232	14.8%	592,373,707	14.8%
Furniture.....	142,354,550	4.1%	152,953,893	4.3%	154,258,498	4.3%	147,154,473	4.0%	152,256,737	3.8%
General merchandise.....	625,352,352	18.2%	684,542,657	19.0%	715,701,673	19.8%	739,689,728	20.0%	779,544,745	19.5%
Lumber and building material.....	342,385,447	9.9%	379,355,975	10.5%	402,377,626	11.1%	398,824,508	10.8%	417,621,545	10.5%
Utility services, cable, satellite, and liquor..... [See Utility services group notes for imposition and effective dates of the various tax types in category]	351,593,637	10.2%	366,961,469	10.2%	375,669,973	10.4%	382,383,571	10.4%	502,420,816	12.6%
Unclassified.....	693,807,982	20.1%	771,872,702	21.5%	840,673,522	23.3%	879,966,505	23.8%	1,159,122,440	29.0%
Farm, mill, laundry machinery; fuel to farmers, manufacturers, laundries; other - 1%..... [see notes for changes in 2005-06]	54,697,552	1.6%	52,009,309	1.4%	54,188,149	1.5%	54,284,377	1.5%	44,467,748	1.1%
Total retail.....	3,234,529,060	93.9%	3,372,888,504	93.8%	3,368,228,704	93.3%	3,451,159,446	93.5%	3,967,811,018	99.3%
8% Highway use tax - motor vehicle leasing.....	31,112,642	0.9%	35,398,039	1.0%	31,320,520	0.9%	25,710,847	0.7%	26,196,182	0.7%
Wholesale licenses..... [Repealed for taxes paid on or after July 1, 1998.]	1,103,852	0.0%	20,557	0.0%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Use tax (see note).....	178,177,998	5.2%	187,927,990	5.2%	209,335,666	5.8%	213,868,145	5.8%	-	-
Total retail and use tax (licenses when applicable)	3,444,923,553	100.0%	3,596,235,091	100.0%	3,608,884,890	100.0%	3,690,738,438	100.0%	3,994,007,200	100.0%

TABLE 32. - Continued

Business groups	Fiscal year									
	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005		2005-2006		2006-2007	
	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total	Amount [\$]	% of total
Retail:										
Apparel.....	117,690,127	2.7%	127,897,863	2.8%	142,766,762	2.9%	157,105,070	2.9%	164,582,009	3.0%
Automotive:	227,265,003	5.3%	245,227,323	5.3%	254,507,573	5.2%	268,416,687	5.0%	294,970,807	5.4%
Motor vehicle dealers.....	37,646,002	0.9%	39,596,595	0.9%	40,597,056	0.8%	42,583,989	0.8%	45,734,450	0.8%
Airplanes, boats - (3%) rate.....	9,659,261	0.2%	12,569,582	0.3%	11,395,303	0.2%	11,335,806	0.2%	11,951,215	0.2%
Manufactured home (mobile home) dealers.....	4,300,358	0.1%	3,705,412	0.1%	2,396,813	0.0%	2,626,920	0.0%	2,842,309	0.1%
Manufactured home (mobile home)-(2%) rate... [see notes for applicable rates]	10,035,961	0.2%	9,055,266	0.2%	5,607,207	0.1%	5,572,123	0.1%	5,025,574	0.1%
Modular home-(2% rate; 2.5% eff 1-1-04)	[included in mfd home group]		2,385,872	0.1%	7,032,204	0.1%	6,203,637	0.1%	6,636,691	0.1%
Other automotive.....	165,623,421	3.9%	177,914,596	3.8%	187,478,990	3.8%	200,094,212	3.7%	222,780,568	4.0%
Food.....	647,561,215	15.1%	698,906,710	15.1%	725,611,884	14.8%	783,417,598	14.6%	831,453,408	15.1%
Furniture.....	163,022,146	3.8%	168,784,595	3.7%	181,087,138	3.7%	198,490,297	3.7%	208,499,382	3.8%
General merchandise.....	836,211,296	19.5%	905,225,841	19.6%	987,088,322	20.2%	1,089,864,576	20.3%	1,221,612,749	22.2%
Lumber and building material.....	442,421,857	10.3%	509,484,600	11.0%	594,458,884	12.1%	665,026,475	12.4%	686,415,346	12.5%
Utility services, cable, satellite, and liquor..... [See Utility services group notes for imposition and effective dates of the various tax types in category]	638,345,779	14.9%	645,652,114	14.0%	669,470,423	13.7%	763,745,628	14.2%	855,902,217	15.5%
Unclassified.....	1,145,217,411	26.7%	1,237,648,867	26.8%	1,249,760,813	25.5%	1,362,051,125	25.3%	1,190,113,490	21.6%
Farm, mill, laundry machinery; fuel to farmers, manufacturers, laundries; other - 1%..... [see notes for changes in 2005-06]	43,686,015	1.0%	43,196,807	0.9%	46,272,351	0.9%	36,214,021	0.7%	2,795,484	0.1%
Total retail.....	4,261,420,849	99.3%	4,582,024,720	99.1%	4,851,024,149	99.1%	5,324,331,477	99.1%	5,456,344,892	99.1%
8% Highway use tax - motor vehicle leasing.....	29,768,723	0.7%	40,780,642	0.9%	43,909,573	0.9%	49,821,633	0.9%	49,250,929	0.9%
Total retail and use tax (licenses when applicable)	4,291,189,572	100.0%	4,622,805,361	100.0%	4,894,933,722	100.0%	5,374,153,110	100.0%	5,505,595,819	100.0%

Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.

Business classifications

Business classifications are not indicative of sales of specific items (merchandising lines), but are, instead, reflective of all transactions reported by a business coded under a particular classification. For instance, the food category includes sales of all items sold by bakeries, candy and confectionery stores, dairies and dairy bars, vending machine operators, drink stands, restaurants, cafeterias, grills, snack bars, taverns, nightclubs, and grocers (taxable food, cleaning products, toiletries, hardware, floral sales, taxable pharmaceutical items, gifts, toys, office supplies, and miscellany). Sales of taxable food items sold by discount stores, wholesale buying clubs, and convenience stores are included in the general merchandise group - not the food group.

The apparel category includes all transactions (including accessories) by merchants coded as apparel businesses; apparel transactions of department stores, discount stores, wholesale buying clubs, etc. are included in the general merchandise group - not the apparel group.

The furniture category includes all transactions (including accessories) by merchants coded as furniture dealers; furniture items sold by department stores, discount stores, flea markets, etc. are included in the general merchandise group - not the furniture group.

Data are by-product data compiled during the processing of reports and remittances filed by taxpayers required to register for, collect, and remit sales and use taxes, and are classified according to sales and use tax registration numbers.

TABLE 32. - Continued

Changes in general sales tax rate:

Effective October 16, 2001, the rate increased from 4% to 4.5%. The rate was reduced to 4.25% effective December 1, 2006; the 2007 General Assembly enacted legislation to extend the 4.25% rate through September 30, 2008. Effective October 1, 2008, the rate will increase to 4.5% (4.75% effective October 1, 2009).

Use tax category:

Amounts shown for 1992-93 through 2000-01 reflect use tax generated from the general State rate. Effective for 2001-02, use tax amounts generated from the general State rate are no longer shown separately, but are, instead, included within the attributable business group.

1%, 2%, 2.5%, and 3% tax group:

2001-02 Effective October 1, 2001, the \$1,500 tax limit applicable to the sale or continuous lease or rental of noncommercial vehicles was repealed.

2003-04 Effective for sales made on or after January 1, 2004, modular homes are subject to a 2.5% State sales and use tax rate under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(8). Twenty percent (20%) of the taxes collected under this statute is distributed to counties and municipalities. G.S. 105-164.44G [Prior to the law change, modular homes were taxed at the 2% State sales and use tax rate under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(1a).]

2005-06 Effective January 1, 2006, sales of railway cars, locomotives, and mobile classrooms and offices became taxable at the general State rate and applicable local rates (previously taxed at the State 3% rate with a \$1,500 maximum tax per article). Various farm items and fuel used for farming and commercial laundry operations were exempted from taxation (previously taxed at the 1% State sales tax rate). Additionally, various types of machinery (farm, telephone company property, laundry, freezer plant, and broad-casting) and various types of equipment (tobacco, air courier, and flight training) along with farm storage facilities and farm containers were exempted from the 1% State rate with an \$80 maximum tax per article. Concurrently, manufacturing machinery and fuel and qualifying recycling facility equipment were exempted from the State sales tax and made subject to the new privilege tax levied under Article 5F (refer to *Table 45*).

2006-07 Effective July 1, 2006, sales of certain commercial logging machinery and related attachments, repair parts, lubricants, and fuel used to operate logging machinery were exempted from taxation (items are also exempt from the privilege tax under Article 5F). (Items were previously subject to the 1% sales or use tax or 1% privilege tax as appropriate.)

Food group:

1996-97 Effective January 1, 1997, the State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was reduced from 4% to 3%.

1998-99 Effective July 1, 1998, the State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was reduced from 3% to 2%.

Effective May 1, 1999, the 2% State rate applicable to food purchased for home consumption was repealed.

2003-04 Effective July 1, 2003, all sales of soft drinks (fountain, those sold for home consumption, and vending) were made subject to both the State and local rates. [Prior to this date, soft drinks sold for home consumption were not taxable at the State level.] [Effective January 1, 2004, sales of closed container soft drinks sold through vending machines were made subject to a partial exemption; only fifty percent (50%) of the sales price of closed container soft drinks sold through vending machines is taxable and subject to both the State and local rates under G.S. 105-164.13(50).] Effective January 1, 2004, candy was exempted from the State tax and subject to only the 2% local tax. [Candy sold through vending machines is taxed at fifty percent (50%) of the sales price and is subject to both the State and local rates under G.S. 105-164.13(50).]

2005-06 Effective October 1, 2005, all sales of candy are subject to the combined general State and county tax rate; taxation of candy sold through vending machines remains unchanged.

Utility services group:

1996-97 Effective August 1, 1996, sales of electricity and piped natural gas to farmers, manufacturers, and commercial laundries and dry cleaners for prescribed purposes were made subject to a 2.83% rate rather than 3%.

1999-00 Effective July 1, 1999, sales of piped natural gas became exempt from sales tax and, instead, became subject to the piped natural gas excise tax.

2001-02 Effective December 1, 2001, sales of spirituous liquor, other than mixed beverages, became subject to a 6% State sales and use tax. Mixed beverages were already subject to State and local sales and use taxes and were unaffected by the law change.

Effective January 1, 2002, gross receipts of direct-to-home satellite service to subscribers in this State became subject to a 5% State sales tax.

Effective January 1, 2002, gross receipts derived from providing telecommunications services became subject to a 6% State sales and use tax.

Prior to the law change, local telecommunications services were subject to a 3% State sales tax rate and a 3.22% utility franchise tax rate; intrastate long distance calls were taxed at 6.5% and interstate long distance calls were exempt. Telecommunications services include local, interstate, intrastate, toll, private telecommunications, and mobile telecommunications services.

2005-06 Effective October 1, 2005, the sales and use tax imposed on the gross receipts of providing telecommunications and direct-to-home satellite services and on the sales of spirituous liquor, other than mixed beverages, increased to the combined general rate of 7%; voice mail services became taxable as part of telecommunications services. Effective January 1, 2006, the combined general rate of 7% sales and use tax is imposed on the gross receipts of providing cable services; gross receipts derived from providing satellite digital audio radio service is taxable being subject to both the State general rate of tax and local rates.

2006-07 Effective December 1, 2006, the combined general rate was reduced from 7% to 6.75% to coincide with the 0.25% State general rate reduction. The combined general rate is the State general rate plus the sum of the rates of local tax authorized for every county in the State (2.5%). The combined general rate is imposed on the gross receipts of providing telecommunications service and ancillary service, video programming services (direct-to-home satellite and cable), and to sales of spirituous liquor other than mixed beverages.

Effective January 1, 2007, the credit allowed against the sales tax imposed for locally paid cable television franchise taxes was repealed as cable service providers no longer pay franchise taxes on cable services to local governments; legislation authorized a quarterly payment from the State to local governments as replacement for the taxing authority.

Unclassified group:

2001-02 The *unclassified* category includes \$74,989,019 in payments that were unassignable to specific business classifications due to legislative changes in payment and return due dates.