

# INTRODUCTION

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Corporations in Oregon have paid a form of income tax since 1929. These revenues are projected to be 5.7 percent of total General Fund revenue in the 2003-05 biennium.

Oregon Corporate Tax Receipts 2003-2004 Fiscal Year	
Corporate Tax Revenue	\$320.2 million
Percent of General Fund	6.5%

This summary report describes the characteristics of Oregon corporate taxpayers and is divided into three sections:

**Section 1** contains background information on the taxation of corporations in Oregon. It includes descriptions of the computation of tax and how payments are received.

**Section 2** provides descriptive information based on corporate tax receipts through fiscal year 2004. Tax law requires corporations to make quarterly estimated payments on anticipated taxes for the current year in addition to making payments or receiving refunds at the end of a tax year. This receipt data is a rich source of information that allows for timely analysis of trends in overall corporation payments or within subsectors of the economy.

**Section 3** focuses on corporate tax returns corresponding to tax year 2002. Corporations must file tax returns that contain detailed information about their income and the calculation of final tax liability. These details allow for more thorough analysis of the characteristics of Oregon corporations. Yet because corporations do not file tax returns until well after the end of a tax year and often obtain deadline extensions before filing their returns, the information from return data is not as current as the data from receipts.

Together, these three sections provide a comprehensive description of corporate taxpayers in Oregon using the most current information available at the time of publication.