

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OFFICE OF REVENUE ANALYSIS

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# Taxes on real property value and transactions accounted for 38% of FY 2011 DC tax revenues

For Over the past 25 years, real property's share of all tax revenues has varied between 23% (in 2000) and 41% (in 2010)

In FY 2011 the District of Columbia collected \$5.33 billion in tax revenue (before earmarks). Of this total, \$2.02 billion (38%) of came from two taxes on real estate.

The larger of these two real-estate related taxes is the real property tax levied each year on the assessed value of residential and commercial property. Of the total related to real property, \$1.72 billion (85% of the total) was from this source. The other real property-related tax, that on the transfer and recordation of deeds, generated \$311 million in FY 2011 revenues.

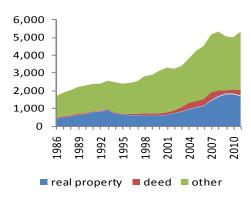
Looking back over the 25-year period from FY 1986 to FY 2011, the amount of real property-related revenue increased more than four fold—from \$482 million in 1986 to \$2,026 million in 2011. The compound rate of growth of real property-related axes over the period—5.9%—exceeded that of DC's GDP (5.2%), and all DC tax revenue (4.9%). Revenues generated from real property grew at a rate almost twice the inflation rate (3.0%).

The amount the tax revenue collected from real property values and transactions has contributed substantially to all DC tax revenue each year from 1986 to 2011, averaging 31.8% over those 25 years. The proportion has, however, varied considerably over the period.

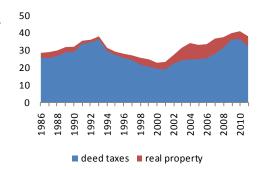
From 28.6% in FY 1986, the real property-related share of all taxes rose to 38.0% in 1993 (a year that incorporated an extra payment due to a change in the collection schedule). The share then fell until FY 2000, when it reached 23.0%. By FY 2010 it had risen to 41.0% and has fallen only slightly since.

The decade of the 1990's tells a very different story than the one following 2000. *(continued on p. 2)* 

DC tax revenues from FY 1986 to FY 2011: real property related and all other (\$million)



Real property and deed tax revenues as percent of all DC tax revenue: FY 1986 to FY 2011



#### This briefing document was prepared by Stephen Swaim, DC Office of Revenue Analysis.

This brief first appeared in the May 2012 <u>DC Economic and Revenue Trends</u>. District of Columbia briefing documents are prepared by the Office of Revenue Analysis, which is part of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia government. The purpose of these documents is to make information available that is not of a policy nature. See also *District of Columbia Economic and Revenue Trends* and *Economic Indicators* issued monthly by the D.C. Office of the Chief Financial Officer (<a href="www.cfo.dc.gov/Economy">www.cfo.dc.gov/Economy</a> and Revenue).

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## DC real property tax revenue, continued from p.1

In the decade from FY 1990 to FY 2000, real property-related revenues unadjusted for inflation actually declined by 2.0%. From FY 2000 to FY 2010, however, real property-related revenues rose by 186%, accounting for 70.5% of the increase in all DC tax revenue for the decade. (The increase in the decade after FY 2000 occurred despite cuts to effective real property tax rates enacted during this period.)

The decade of the 1990's reflected the decline in the District's economic fortunes after the US recession and subsequent federal government cutbacks in the first half of the 1990's. The decade after FY 2000 reflected the strong DC and US economic performance in the run-up to the US recession that began in December 2007 (the first quarter of FY 2008). Although DC real estate was greatly affected by the recession, the length of time it took to work through

Real estate-related taxes in two decades: 1990 to 2000 and 2000 to 2010								years) meant that it wasn't
tax	Amount (\$ million)			Change (\$ million)		Change (%)		until FY 2011 that real-est
	1990	2000	2010	1990 -2000	2000-2010	1990 -2000	2000-2010	- Iell.
Real property	665	611	1,821	-54	1,211	-8.1	198.2	
Deed taxes	66	106	226	39	120	59.0	113.6	
subtotal	731	717	2,047	-15	1,331	-2.0	185.7	
All other taxes	1,548	2,400	2,958	852	558	55.0	23.3	
Total	2,279	3,116	5,005	837	1,889	36.7	60.6	
Source: Office of Revenue Analysis		5						bases to which rates are ap

The trend in revenues related to real property values and transactions reflects changes in tax rates and in the under-

the assessment process (two years) meant that it wasn't until FY 2011 that real-estate related tax revenues actually

bases to which rates are applied. Next month's Trend re-

port will look at some of these factors. -Stephen Swaim, ORA

DC real property and deed taxes: FY 1896 to FY 2011 Amount of tax (\$ million) real estate-

related Real % ch from All DC taxes real estate taxes (\$ million) property Deed subtotal (\$2010 M) prior yr. 1986 437 45 482 1,685 28.6 991 480 63 544 12.8 1.874 29.0 1.087 1987 607 1988 544 62 11.5 2,022 30.0 1,169 1989 638 65 704 16.0 2.205 31.9 1.300 1990 665 731 3.9 2 279 32.1 1,286 66 40 842 15.2 2,372 35.5 1,408 1991 802 859 2.0 2,384 1,398 1992 821 38 36.0 1993 928 43 971 13.0 2.558 38.0 1,528 1994 731 46 776 -20.0 2.470 31.4 1,181 1995 654 45 699 -10.0 2,391 29.2 1,029 684 2.434 1996 624 60 -2.1 28.1 975 1997 686 618 68 0.2 2,522 27.2 953 725 5.7 2,808

719

717

773

883

1,066

1,301

1,408

1,514

1,893

1.996

2.010

2.047

2,026

-0.8

-0.3

7.9

14.3

20.7

22.0

8.3

7.5

25.0

5.5

0.7

1.8

-1.0

2,880

3,116

3,294

3.229

3,384

3,805

4,249

4,516

5,155

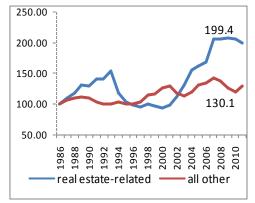
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5.052

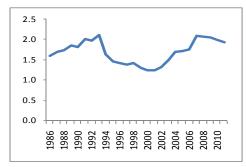
5,005

5,325

Inflation-adjusted real estate-related and all other dc tax revenue: FY 1986 to FY 2011 (index numbers: 1986 = 100)



Real estate-related tax revenues as percent of DC Gross State Product: FY 1986 to FY 2011



1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

617

598

611

633

726

823

948

1,061

1,154

1.449

1.673

1.823

1.821

1,715

Source: Office of Revenue A nalysis

108

121

106

140

157

243

353

348

360

444

323

187

226

25.8

25.0

23.0

23.5

27.4

31.5

34.2

33.1

33.5

36.7

37.5

39.8

40.9

38.0

989

962

934

978

1.103

1.298

1,545

1,618

1,676

2,044

2.052

2,059

2,047