

The above chart represents the distribution of Montana's insurance taxes and fees. Insurance tax and fee revenue comes primarily from a 2.75% tax on insurance premiums, in addition to various fees.

Insurance Taxes and Fees

Revenue from the insurance premium tax portion is split primarily between general fund (2/3) and the Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) state special revenue fund (1/3).

Additional insurance revenue streams (from captive insurance and the Genetics Program fees, among others) make up less than 10% of this revenue source and are allocated primarily into various state special funds.

Healthy Montana Kids

The HMK fund was established as part of a citizen initiative to insure low-income children in FY 2009 and was originally allocated 1/3 of the insurance premium tax. Initial uptake in the program was slower than fund growth for FY 2010-2013 and the insurance tax share of HMK funding was reduced to 16.7%. It was returned to the original 33.3% in FY 2014.

Increase in Revenue

Revenue increase in this time period is partially due to the buyout of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana by Health Care Services Corporation, which made a large number of previously tax-exempt premiums newly taxable. It can also be attributed to increased health insurance participation related to the Affordable Care Act.

For further information please visit the 2017 Budget Analysis on insurance tax license fees.

