

**Highway Patrol Fines**

**Revenue Description**

The Montana Highway Patrol issues citations for speeding, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and other misdemeanors. The fines and forfeitures associated with these citations are collected by various state and local courts.

**Statutory Reference**

Tax Rate – General fines: [61-3-601, MCA](#); [61-5-307, MCA](#); [61-7-118, MCA](#); [61-8-711, MCA](#); [61-9-511, MCA](#); multiple others

Tax Distribution – [3-10-601, MCA](#) (fines collected in justice court are included in “All Other Revenue”); [61-10-148, MCA](#) (violations of vehicle size, weight & load); [61-12-701, MCA](#) (fines by Highway Patrol)

Date Due – Upon conviction

**Applicable Tax Rates:** Variable

**Collection Frequency:** Monthly

**Distribution:** All Highway Patrol fines and forfeitures on all offenses that result from citations issued by the Highway Patrol, except those paid to a justices’ court, and received by the state are deposited in the general fund.

**Summary of Legislative Action**

[Senate Bill 375](#) – This legislation increases the maximum speed limit on federal-aid interstate highways from 75 MPH to 80 MPH and increases the penalties assessed for violation of speed limits.

| Highway Patrol Fines – Legislation Passed by 64th Legislature<br>General Fund Impact (\$ Millions) |         |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| Bill Number and Short Title  | FY 2015 | FY 2016 | FY 2017 |
| SB0375 Revise certain highway speed limits   | -       | \$0.094 | \$0.065 |
| <b>Total General Fund Impact</b>   | -       | \$0.094 | \$0.065 |

**Revenue Estimate Methodology**

Data

SABHRS data provide a history of highway patrol fine revenue.

Analysis

Highway patrol fine revenue is forecast using an autoregressive moving average time series model.

**Revenue Estimate Assumptions**

This section contains the assumptions used to generate the revenue estimates contained in House Joint Resolution 2. It does not reflect changes, if any, enacted by the 2015 Legislature.

| FY     | Total Tax<br>\$ Millions | GF Tax<br>\$ Millions | MT. Pop.<br>>=16<br>Millions |
|--------|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| A 2002 | \$4.062                  | \$4.062               | 0.718                        |
| A 2003 | 4.110                    | 4.110                 | 0.727                        |
| A 2004 | 4.084                    | 4.084                 | 0.738                        |
| A 2005 | 4.293                    | 4.293                 | 0.749                        |
| A 2006 | 4.316                    | 4.316                 | 0.760                        |
| A 2007 | 4.155                    | 4.155                 | 0.771                        |
| A 2008 | 4.049                    | 4.049                 | 0.780                        |
| A 2009 | 4.180                    | 4.180                 | 0.788                        |
| A 2010 | 4.646                    | 4.646                 | 0.794                        |
| A 2011 | 4.359                    | 4.359                 | 0.801                        |
| A 2012 | 4.385                    | 4.385                 | 0.808                        |
| A 2013 | 4.140                    | 4.140                 | 0.817                        |
| A 2014 | 4.142                    | 4.142                 | 0.825                        |
| F 2015 | 4.224                    | 4.224                 | 0.832                        |
| F 2016 | 4.255                    | 4.255                 | 0.840                        |
| F 2017 | 4.251                    | 4.251                 | 0.847                        |

**Revenue Projection**

