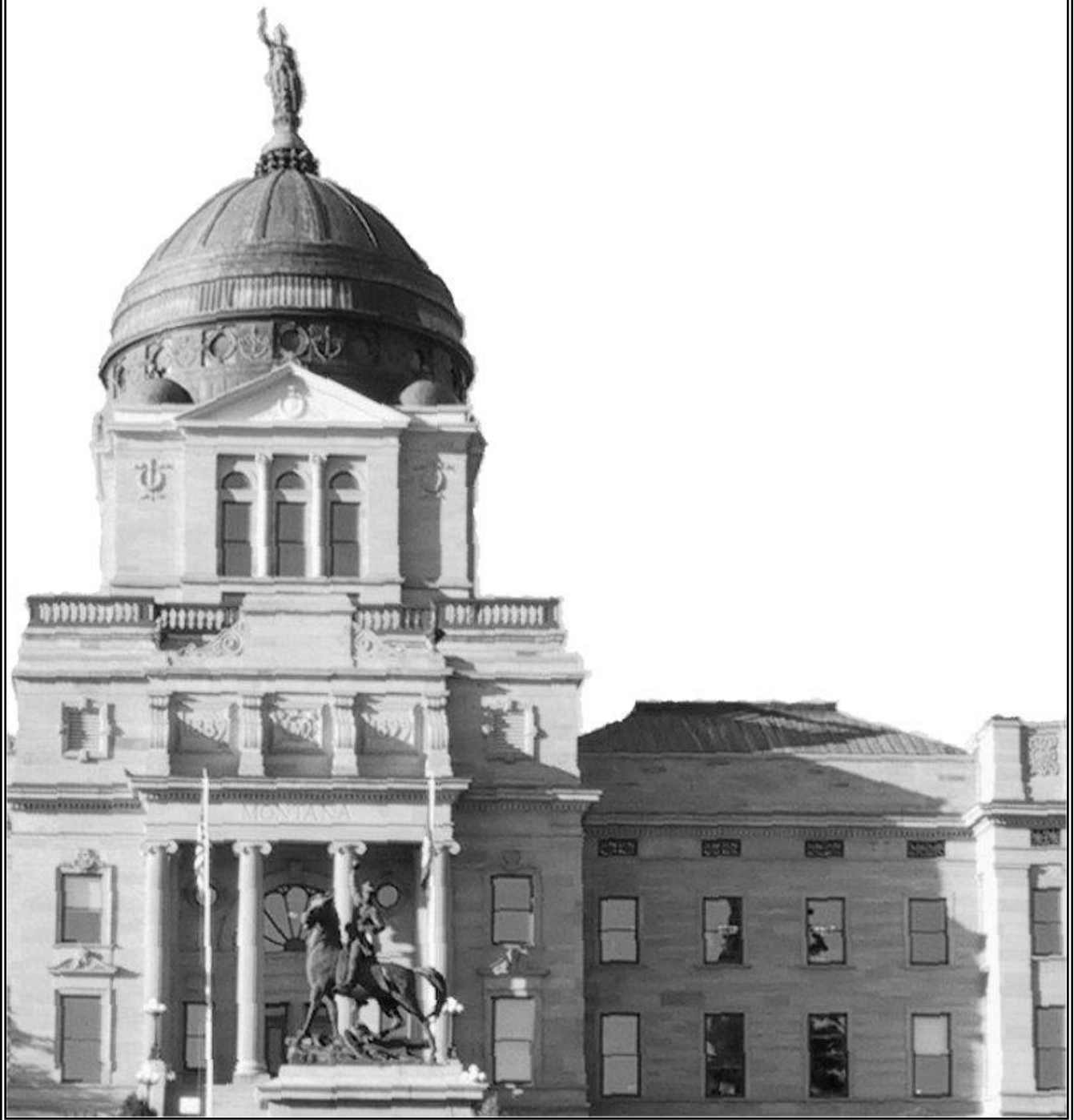


LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ANALYSIS 2017 BIENNIUM

VOLUME 1—STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVES

Preliminary Edition



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ANALYSIS
2017 BIENNIUM
VOLUME 1 – STATEWIDE PERSPECTIVES
PRELIMINARY EDITION**

**REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION
TO THE SIXTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
JANUARY 2015**

Legislative Finance Committee

Senator Llew Jones (Chair)
Representative Galen Hollenbaugh (Vice Chair)
Representative Duane Ankney
Representative Rob Cook
Representative Kimberly Dudik
Representative Steve Gibson
Representative Pat Noonan
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Lois Steinbeck

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Acknowledgements

The Legislative Budget Analysis report is the product of many hours of analysis by the staff of the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD), a nonpartisan office which provides fiscal and policy information and advice to the legislature. The LFD thanks the many entities that assisted in its completion.

For information on this report and others, contact the Legislative Fiscal Division at (406) 444-2986 or visit the division's website at: <http://leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal/default.asp>

The LFD is located at Room 110, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.



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Legislative Fiscal Division

Room 110 Capitol Building * P.O. Box 201711 * Helena, MT 59620-1711 * (406) 444-2986 * FAX (406) 444-3036

Director
AMY CARLSON

December 2014

Members of the Sixty-Fourth Legislature:

I submit for your consideration the high level state budget outlook for 2017 biennium as preliminary Volume 1 of the Legislative Budget Analysis. More details in volumes 2 through 8 will be available prior to session at <http://leg.mt.gov/fbp-2017.asp>. Additional reference material, standard charts and tables are available online at the same website as appendices to this Volume 1. If you are unable to access the online version please let staff know and we will provide you with printed versions of the documents.

The Legislative Fiscal Division works for you, the legislators of Montana. We have no partisan alliance and seek to deliver high quality information and analysis of fiscal issues. A significant quantity of additional information is available online at our general website: www.leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal. Some specific resources that you may be interested in are reports on specific fiscal issues presented to the Legislative Finance Committee over the interim. Reports on state employee pay, local government infrastructure, and our budgeting and analysis methodologies were some of the key areas researched this interim.

In addition to this analysis, the LFD has access to the state accounting system and other resources for researching specific fiscal questions. If a fiscal question arises, please feel free to contact either myself or any member of our staff to help answer your questions.

We look forward to working with you all during the 2015 Session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy Carlson".

Amy Carlson
Legislative Fiscal Analyst

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Balance Sheet Analysis, Web Communications	Susie Lindsay (Ext. 4121, Office #110H)

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VOLUME 1: THE OVERVIEW

The purpose of this report is to provide legislators with the information needed to assist them in crafting a balanced state budget and fiscal policy, and in reflecting their priorities in the 2017 biennium general appropriations act and other appropriations bills. It seeks to accomplish this by providing perspectives on the state's fiscal condition and the budget proposed by the Governor for the 2017 biennium, and identifying some of the major issues now facing the Legislature. As such, this document is intended to complement the Legislative Budget Analysis – 2017 Biennium Online, which contains our review of the 2017 Biennium Executive Budget. In addition, this document is a reference document for all legislators, providing budget information for state government.

While the Legislative Budget Analysis – 2017 Biennium Online reports the results of our detailed examination of revenue estimates and expenditures and proposed budgets of state programs, this Statewide Perspective presents a broader fiscal overview and discusses significant fiscal and policy issues which either cut across program or agency lines, or do not necessarily fall under the jurisdiction of a single fiscal subcommittee of the legislature. Volume 1 provides an updated general fund balance sheet, projects the general fund structural balance and includes a summary of anticipated ongoing general fund revenues, ongoing present law expenditure requirements, including budget risks and budget pressures.

This volume is divided into five parts:

- The Introduction provides a high level summary of our analysis of the proposed executive budget
- State Revenues provides a review of the revenue assumptions adopted by the Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee
- State Expenditures provides an overview of the Governor's state spending plan for the 2017 biennium
- Risks & Pressures highlights key underlying assumptions in revenues and expenditures, and also details some of the pressures that the legislature may face in the upcoming session
- Appendix: Web based only documents that provide additional information

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ANALYSIS - 2017 BIENNIUM ONLINE

Revenue Estimates

A summary and overview of the state's major revenue sources is included online. A review of the table of contents will give the reader a quick idea of revenue sources included and the structure of the report. This volume will be provided to the House and Senate Taxation committees for use as a working document, and delineates the economic assumptions used to derive revenue estimates adopted by the Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee (RTIC) on November 20, 2014.

Budget Analysis

The Budget Analysis offers detailed analyses of individual agency budgets, as proposed through the Governor's Executive Budget submitted in mid-November, but had gone to print before the December 15 revisions were received. These volumes feature program-by-program detail, as well as the LFD analysis of each agency budget. Agency presentations are grouped in sections corresponding to the appropriations subcommittee addressing the agency.

- Section A – General Government
- Section B – Health and Human Services
- Section C – Natural Resources and Transportation
- Section D – Judicial Branch, Law Enforcement, and Justice
- Section E – Education
- Section F – Long-Range Planning

Other Useful Links

In addition to the Legislative Budget analysis prepared for session, there are a number of other documents online that you may find helpful in your deliberations:

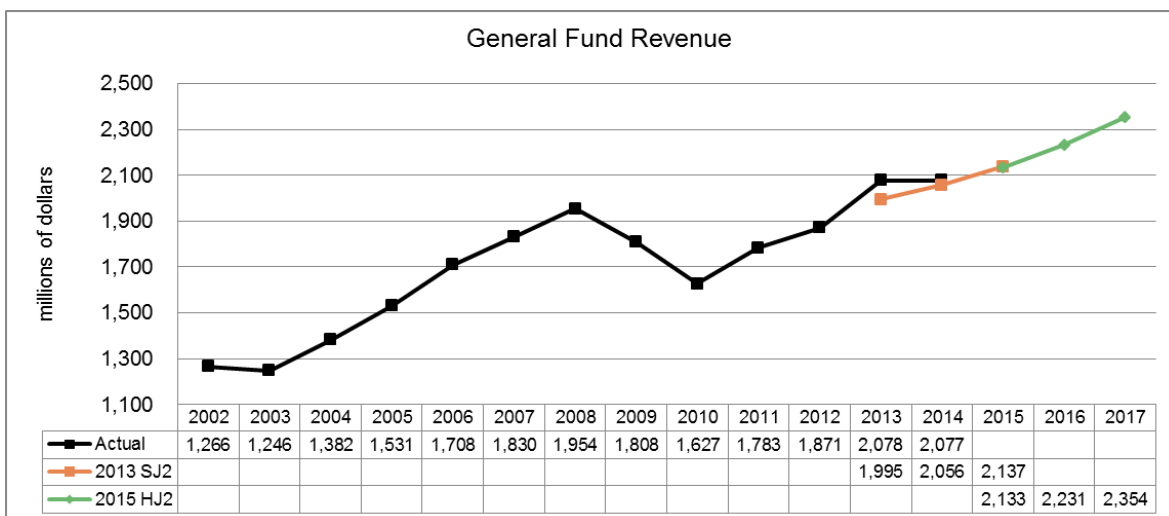
- [Understanding State Finances](#)
- [2015 Session Materials such as General Fund Status Sheets](#)
- [Historical Expenditures Report](#)
- [Personal Services HJR 17 Analysis Report from the interim](#)

OVERVIEW

Relatively Stable General Fund Budget

The 2017 biennium general fund revenues and expenditure pressures are anticipated to be relatively stable. In the past ten years, Montana has experienced high revenue growth as well as significant declines. Recent years have been more stable and this stability is anticipated to continue into the 2017 biennium. In addition, no significant unexpected expenditures, or “expenditure shocks” are currently anticipated. Fire costs had at times been a source of “expenditure shocks”. The 2013 Legislature passed a bill to allocate funds to wildfire suppression, which should take some of the “expenditure shocks” out of future budgets.

The Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee (RTIC) adopted revenue estimates for the 2017 Biennium. The following graphic illustrates the revenue growth from FY 2002 and includes revenue estimates as adopted by RTIC for FY 2015 through FY 2017.



While revenue collections are anticipated to have steady growth, the growth rates in Montana are not anticipated to be as robust as in some parts of the country. The general growth in the nation will keep Montana’s growth levels strong; however, the energy cost reductions aiding the national economy are expected to be a net drag on Montana general fund revenues. RTIC adopted revenue estimates at a level in between the amounts suggested by the Governor, which did not take into account recent oil price reductions, and those calculated by the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD). During the session, the House and Senate Tax committees will have an opportunity to revise revenue estimates as more information becomes available.

Governor Bullock’s Budget

The following table outlines the general fund budget recommendations of Governor Bullock with the revenue recommendations of RTIC. Note that the revenues anticipated by Governor Bullock are materially higher than the RTIC revenues, which causes the lower ending fund balance and negative structural balance. The Governor has until December 15th to amend his recommended budget.

General Fund Balance Sheet				
Governor's Budget Proposal with HJ 2 Revenue, and LFD Statutory, PL, and Transfer Estimates)				
(\$ Millions)				
	Actual FY 2014	Current FY 2015	Proposed FY 2016	Proposed FY 2017
Beginning Fund Balance	\$537.6	\$426.9	\$331.0	\$219.0
RTIC HJ 2 Revenue Estimates	2,077.0	2,133.0	2,230.7	2,353.5
Governor's Revenue Legislation				(0.8)
Expenditures (includes ongoing and one-time)				
Previously authorized (statutory and other)	406.4	321.7	289.5	295.6
HB 2: 2017 Biennium Governor's Budget	1,784.2	1,871.2	2,023.4	2,057.1
HB 13: Pay plan for state employees ongoing			13.0	31.1
Other legislation included in Governor's Budget**		31.6	22.3	31.2
Assumptions				
HB 1 Feed Bill estimate		11.1	1.6	11.0
Reversions		(6.7)	(7.0)	(7.3)
Total Expenditures	2,190.6	2,228.9	2,342.8	2,418.7
Adjustments	2.8			
Ending Fund Balance	\$426.9	\$331.0	\$219.0	\$153.0
Structural Balance (CHIP FMAP savings assumed ongoing)	\$42.6	(\$9.4)	(\$72.2)	(\$46.4)
Structural Balance (CHIP FMAP savings assumed OTO)	\$42.6	(\$9.4)	(\$92.9)	(\$76.0)

**CHIP FMAP change has been included in the HB2 Section B budget assumptions as present law

Executive Present Law Recommendations

While statutory appropriations are estimated for the 2017 biennium, the estimates are governed by statute and not subject to significant variations. HB 2 contains executive recommendations for present law budgets and includes a number of assumptions. The HB 2 executive ongoing budget contains increases in present law from FY 2015 to FY 2016 of 7.0% and from FY 2016 to FY 2017 of 1.6%. The executive present law does not include the increase in CHIP FMAP, or federal matching rate for the Children's Health Insurance Program that is current federal law for FFY 2016 to FFY 2019. It is unknown what the match rate will be after this date; however, it is assumed throughout this analysis to be ongoing. The Legislative Finance Committee will set the rules for whether this funding will be considered one-time or ongoing for purposes of the balance sheet.

As shown in the shaded lines in the adjacent table, adjusting for the CHIP FMAP results in lower growth rates: 5.9% in FY 2016 and 1.1% in FY 2017. While the largest percentage growth is in Section C, the base general fund expenditures are the lowest in Section C. While the percentage growth in Section E is smaller than other sections, it has the largest biennial dollar growth. Section E base general fund expenditures are over half the total HB 2 general fund budget. Section B is a close second in the biennial dollar growth. The large increases in Section B are largely the result of assumptions of increased caseload.

Governor's HB 2 Ongoing Present Law November 15					
	FY 2015 % 2013 session	FY 2016 Increase (\$ Millions)	FY 2016 % Increase	FY 2017 Increase (\$ Millions)	FY 2017 % Increase
Section A	7.2%	\$6.1	6.9%	(\$0.7)	-0.7%
Section B	5.2%	43.2	9.2%	21.3	4.2%
Section B with CHIP FMAP adjusted		22.6	4.8%	12.3	2.5%
Section C	4.8%	3.9	12.2%	0.1	0.2%
Section D	2.5%	29.8	10.5%	0.4	0.1%
Section E	4.8%	45.8	4.7%	10.3	1.0%
Total	4.6%	\$128.9	7.0%	\$31.3	1.6%
Total with CHIP FMAP adjusted		\$108.3	5.9%	\$22.4	1.1%

Key Executive Recommended New Proposals

Several new programs are recommended by the Governor. Total general fund new proposals total \$245 million. With the current bill drafts available, the total of additional all fund appropriations is \$747 million. Not all bill drafts and fiscal impact are available at the time of printing, additional other funds could be included in the total budget request, but are unknown at this time. The largest all fund new proposals include:

- Build Montana, with \$391 million in LC 719 and \$16 million in HB 14 for broadband bonds and bond payments of appropriations and authorizations, are requested for state and local infrastructure. Note that much of this program typically is contained in HB 5, 6, 7, 8, 14, and 15 and is not unusual. In the 2013 Session, approximately \$304 million was appropriated and authorized for infrastructure purposes.
- The HB 13 state employee pay plan proposed by the executive is \$84 million with \$48 million from the general fund. The pay increase requested includes a \$0.50/hour pay increase effective Oct 1, 2015 and a \$0.50/hour pay increase effective Oct 1, 2016. The contribution for state employee health insurance is recommended to increase by 10% on January 1, 2016 and by 8% on January 1, 2017. The Montana university system contribution for group benefits is scheduled to increase by 18% on July 1, 2016. The request also includes \$4 million general fund, \$4.75 million all funds for the personal services contingency fund and \$75,000 general fund for the labor and management training initiative. The 2015 biennium pay plan totaled \$116 million all funds.
- In HB 2, the executive is requesting a total of \$76.9 million for inflation like increases for providers of state services. In general, the request adds a 2% per year increase in rates paid to providers of services to state government. Most of these services are in the health care area, but correctional facility and legal services providers are also included. Some health care providers are also recommended to receive additional funding for health care for their employees. Last session, \$73.6 million was approved for this purpose.
- The Governor's proposal for early childhood education includes \$37.2 million of general fund in HB 2 for preschool for four-year-olds. There is no bill associated with this proposal.
- The HB 10 Information Technology Infrastructure bill contains \$20 million all funds and \$12 million of general fund. The 2015 biennium HB 10 contained \$21 million for information technology infrastructure.
- HB 2 contains a request for \$15 million to improve Montana's economy through research. These funds are intended to serve as seed money to leverage university-based research.

The following table summarizes the known general fund and all funds appropriations requested:

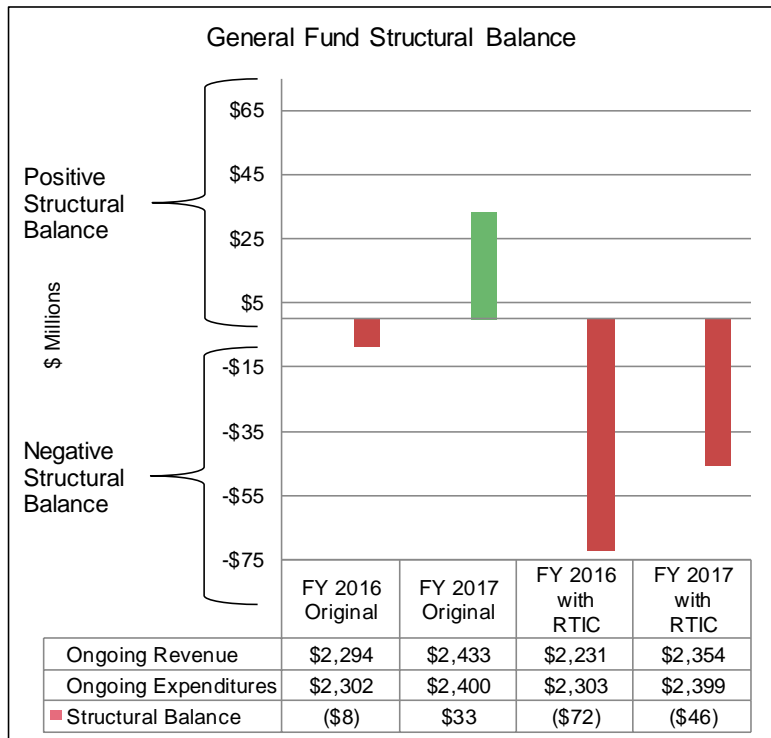
Governor's Preliminary Budget Recommendations - 2017 Biennium		
(\$ Millions)		
New Proposal Item	General Fund	All Funds
Education		
Early Childhood Education (HB 2)	\$37.2	\$37.2
Improve Montana's Economy through Research OTO (HB 2)	15.0	15.0
Student Assistance Fund Allocation (HB 2)	6.2	6.2
Quality Schools Redirect NRD Payment (net of HB 2 + LC717)	7.0	(6.0)
Public Health and Human Services		
Medicaid Autism Services (HB 2)	4.3	12.2
Mental Health (HB 2 + bill unknown)	12.3	10.2
TANF FPL/Benefits Update (HB 2)	-	5.5
SNAP Benefits from HB2 to Statutory Appropriation (HB 2 + LC627)	-	-
Healthy Montana NP general fund other funds not listed (LC631)	(8.3)	(8.3)
Safe Child Initiative general fund other funds not listed (bill unknown)	1.5	1.5
Natural Resources and Transportation		
Sage Grouse Conservation OTO and ongoing (HB 2)	11.2	11.2
Operating Adjustment for Abandoned Mine Lands (HB 2)	-	8.0
Federal Pittman Robertson Funds (HB 2)	-	6.0
Yellowstone Airport Taxiway (HB 2)	-	6.4
Water Adjudication Transfer general fund only (LC398)	4.2	4.2
All others		
Build Montana bill (LC719)	23.1	390.9
HB 13 Pay plan includes ongoing and OTO	48.2	83.7
Provider rate increases (HB 2)	28.8	76.9
Other new proposals: ongoing and OTO (HB 2)	19.8	23.8
HB 10 Information Technology cash infrastructure	12.0	20.0
HB 14 Broadband Bonds	1.2	16.2
Personal Services related new proposals (HB 2)	11.3	12.6
Unexploded Ordnance Remediation for MTARNG (HB 2)	-	8.0
Enhance Economic Development in Montana OTO (HB 2)	5.5	5.5
Fund Switches (HB 2)	4.9	(0.1)
HB 9 Cultural and Aesthetic Grants	-	0.4
Total	\$245.3	\$747.2
Note this list is preliminary as not all bills contain enough detail to determine total impacts		

Managing General Fund Budget Risk

Budget risk is primarily measured by two methods: 1) structural balance, which measures if the ongoing revenues and the ongoing expenditures are in balance and 2) ending fund balance which measures the amount of funds available for one-time expenditure or revenue shocks and cash flow.

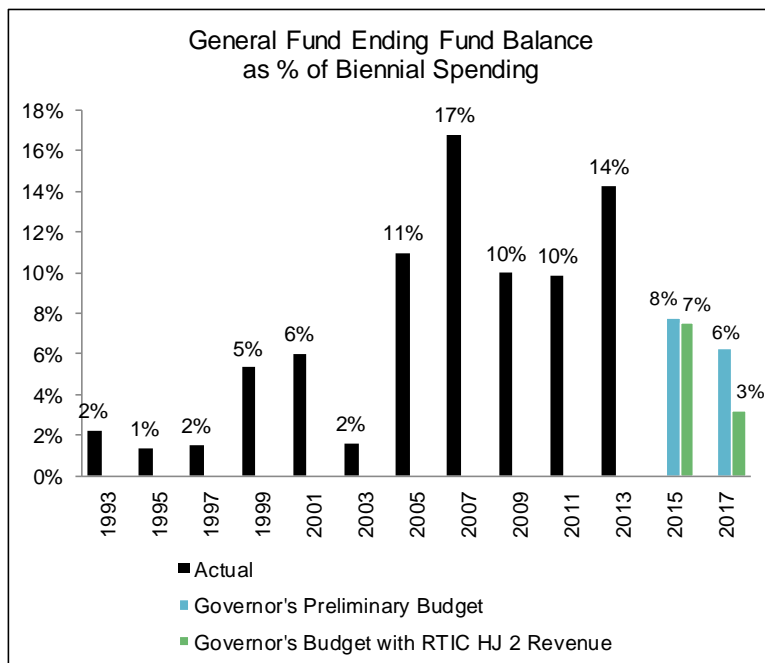
Structural Balance

In all biennia, assumptions on ongoing versus one-time only are made. This biennium a significant assumption needs to be made about whether the additional Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) discussed earlier is considered one-time or ongoing. In this analysis in FY 2017 \$30 million in general fund savings is assumed to be ongoing.



As shown in the chart to the right, the Governor’s recommended ongoing expenditures total \$2,302 million in FY 2016 and \$2,400 million in FY 2017. The Governor’s original revenue estimate was \$2,294 in FY 2016 and \$2,433 in FY 2017. As stated, the RTIC committee adopted revenue estimates for the legislature for HJ 2 (the official legislative revenue estimate) of lower revenue levels. The original Governor’s recommended structural balance was a positive \$33 million in FY 2017 with CHIP FMAP assumed to be ongoing and \$4 million if it were assumed to be one time only. After the RTIC

revenues are taken into consideration, the Governor’s structural balance with CHIP FMAP assumed to be ongoing would be negative \$46 million.



Ending Fund Balance

The Governor’s original recommended ending fund balance is \$300 million or 6% of biennial expenditures. With the RTIC adopted revenues, the ending fund balance at the end of the 2017 biennium is estimated to be 3%.

Statute provides an option for the Governor to submit amendments to the preliminary budget by December 15, 2014. This preliminary Volume 1 Overview will be updated in early January to reflect any recommended amendments.

Legislative Options

Legislative options for managing volatility were researched and reported to the Legislative Finance Committee in September 2012; the link to this report is shown below in the references section. One material change in statute has been made since the writing of that report: in the 2013 Session, the legislature passed HB 354, which provides a funding stream for wildfire suppression. The need to have additional ending fund balance for potential fire suppression costs is greatly reduced with this new statute.

In addition to structural balance and ending fund balance, risk can be seen throughout specific areas of the budget. Examples of other specific budget risk include revenue shocks from economic, demographic, or other tax related risks; and expenditure shocks from caseload estimate inaccuracy, natural disaster costs above those budgeted, and other changes. The legislature will consider estimates of these items primarily in Joint Appropriations Subcommittees and the appropriation committees of House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Claims.

Budget Pressures for 2017 Current Budget

The 2017 Outlook contained a number of budget pressures for the 2017 Biennium. The list of pressures included items such as:

- Financial pressures
- Population
- Cost pressures
- Sunset
- Property Tax Reappraisal

A few items have been added and subtracted to this list as updated information has become available. For updated information regarding these budget pressures, please see the Risks and Pressures section of this document.

References

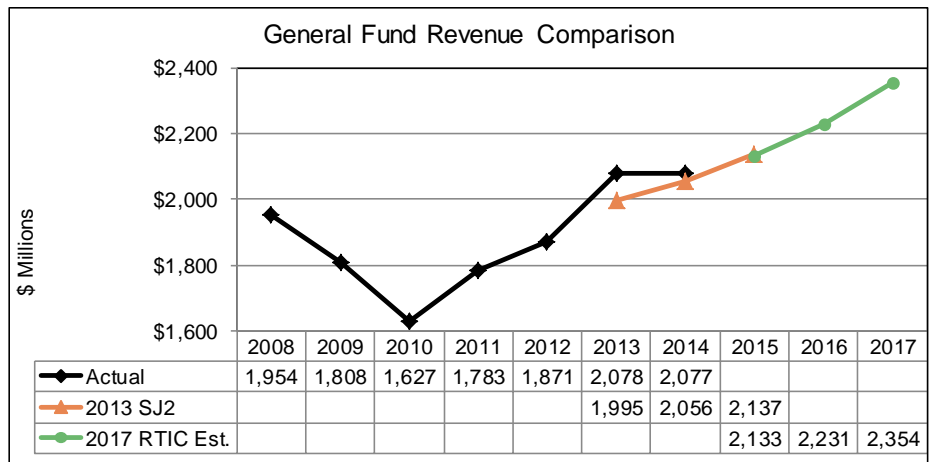
The Legislative Finance Committee considered options for managing volatility in the 2013 interim; further information can be found in the following reports located at <http://leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal/>:

- [Managing Financial Volatility](#)
- [2015 Biennium Budget Update Report](#)
- [2017 Biennium Outlook](#)

STATE REVENUE

General Fund Revenue Estimates as Adopted by RTIC

On November 20, 2014, RTIC met to review and adopt a revenue estimate recommendation. The executive recommendation was \$295.4 million above the LFD recommendation. The committee ultimately adopted the LFD recommendations, with total adjustments in individual income tax and oil & natural gas tax equal to half of the total difference between the executive and LFD recommendations for individual income tax, corporation income tax, and oil & natural gas tax.



The table below shows the annual detail for the top seven general fund revenue sources and subtotal of remaining sources.

General Fund Revenue Estimates as Adopted by RTIC						
(\$ Millions)						
Source of Revenue	Actual FY 2014	Estimated FY 2015	Estimated FY 2016	Estimated FY 2017	Estimated 2015 Bien	Estimated 2017 Bien
Individual Income Tax	\$1,063.3	\$1,108.3	\$1,212.5	\$1,295.8	\$2,171.6	\$2,508.3
Property Tax	250.3	249.8	245.4	255.3	500.2	500.7
Corporation Income Tax	147.5	157.7	148.6	152.5	305.2	301.1
Vehicle Taxes & Fees	101.1	102.3	103.6	104.8	203.4	208.3
Oil & Natural Gas Production Tax	109.6	95.2	90.6	92.7	204.8	183.3
Insurance Tax & License Fees	60.9	63.9	65.4	66.1	124.8	131.5
Video Gambling Tax	57.1	60.4	62.7	66.0	117.6	128.8
Largest Seven Subtotal	1,789.9	1,837.7	1,928.8	2,033.3	3,627.6	3,962.1
Remaining Sources Subtotal	287.2	295.3	301.9	320.2	582.4	622.2
Total General Fund	\$2,077.0	\$2,133.0	\$2,230.7	\$2,353.5	\$4,210.1	\$4,584.2

Executive Estimate

The difference between the executive and LFD revenue estimate were almost entirely explained by the differences in three revenue sources. As summarized in the table below, difference in the individual and corporation income taxes and oil & natural gas production taxes accounted for 95.5% of the overall difference between the two total estimates.

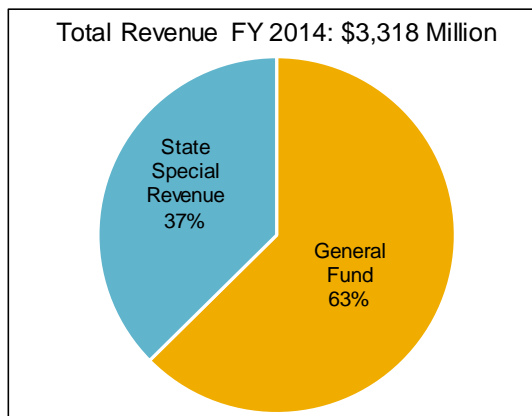
Key Differences from Executive Revenue Estimate (\$ Millions)				
	Executive 3-Year Total	LFD 3-Year Total	3-Year Difference	% Share of Total Difference
Individual Income Tax	\$3,602.8	\$3,486.8	\$115.9	39.2%
Corporation Tax	572.7	458.8	113.9	38.5%
Oil & Natural Gas Production Tax	319.9	267.3	52.5	17.8%
U.S. Mineral Royalties	95.3	76.2	19.2	6.5%
Remaining	2,281.0	2,287.1	(6.1)	-2.1%
Total General Fund	\$6,871.6	\$6,576.2	\$295.4	100.0%

Legislative Options

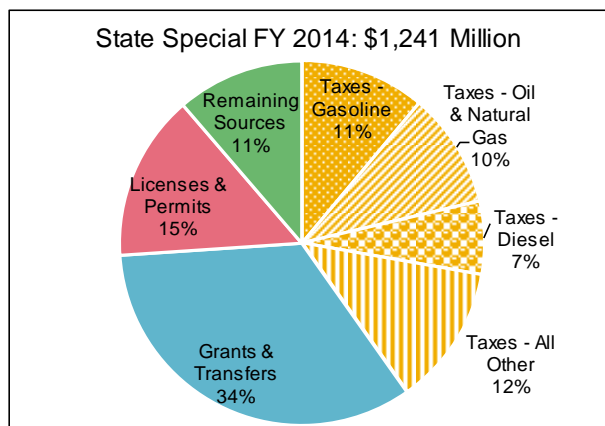
While the RTIC established initial revenue estimates for session, the committee recognized the need to continue evaluating the revenue estimates. During session, as more information becomes available, the LFD will make updates available to the legislature. In addition, throughout session, the House and Senate Tax committees and the House and Senate committees of the whole will have opportunities to revise the revenue estimates contained in HJ 2.

General Fund & Other State Revenue Sources

Most general taxes are deposited in the state general fund. The general fund is used for most broad purposes of state government; education, health, and corrections are the predominant uses of this fund. State special fund revenues are raised and used for specific purposes. For example the state levies a gas tax that is dedicated for use on state roads and highways. Details of all general fund and most major state special fund revenue sources are contained in the Legislative Fiscal Division's [2017 Biennium Budget Analysis: Volume 2](#).

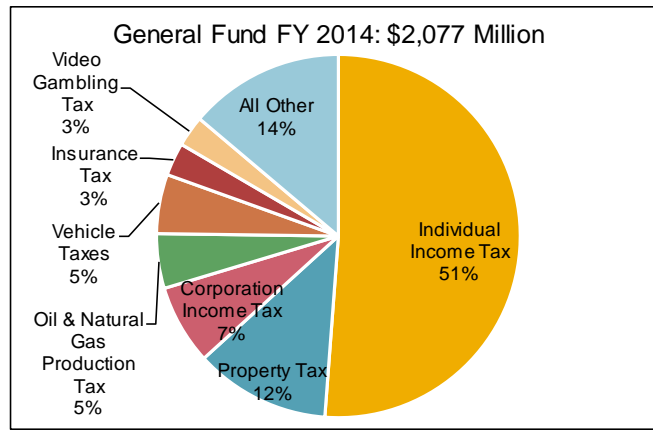


Most of the focus during session tends to be on the state general fund which accounted for 63% of FY 2014 total state revenue. Note that trusts or direct services funds such as unemployment insurance and workers' compensation insurance are not included in the adjacent chart. In addition, there is limited double counting as some sources of revenues are transferred between funds.

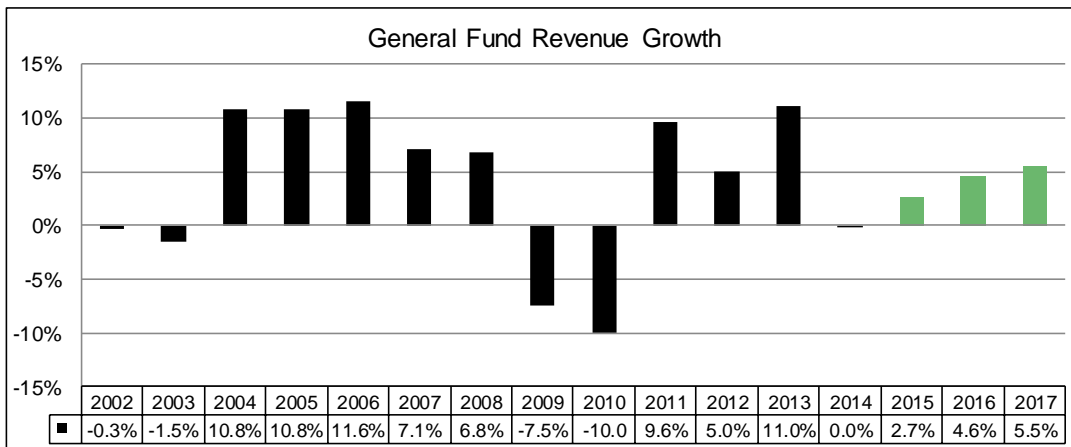


Large sources of state special revenue include the gasoline and diesel taxes, and oil and natural gas production tax. In FY 2014, the various taxes accounted for 40% of total state special revenue. Grants and transfers were the next largest contributor, amounting to 34% of state special revenue.

The largest seven sources of general revenue are individual income tax, property tax, corporation income tax, oil and natural gas taxes, vehicle taxes, insurance tax, and video gambling tax. In FY 2014, these sources accounted for 86% of total general fund revenue.



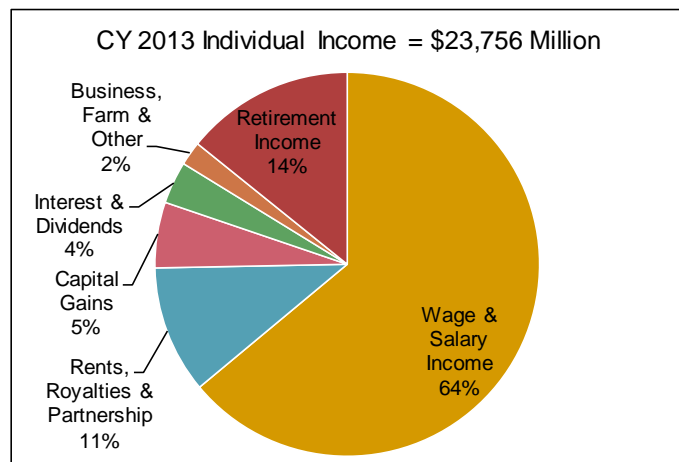
The chart below shows the annual percent change in revenue, with actual values shown in black and estimated values shown in green. The estimate for annual growth in general fund revenue for FY 2015 is 2.7%, for FY 2016 is 4.6% and for FY 2017 is 5.5%. These growth rates are slightly lower than the growth rates contained in the [2017 Outlook Revenue Detail](#), primarily due to the lower IHS estimates of oil price and short-term interest rates, and lower property tax reappraisal values.



Five of the top seven tax sources, the significant economic drivers and their influence on the general fund are highlighted in the following sections. More details on all sources of revenue can be found in the Legislative Fiscal Division’s [2017 Biennium Budget Analysis: Volume 2](#).

Individual Income Tax

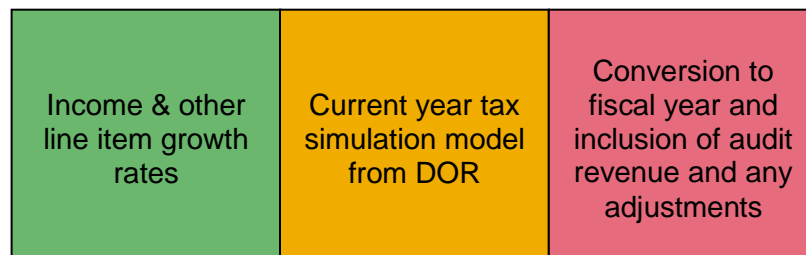
The individual income tax is levied against taxable income, which is defined as total Montana income adjusted for exemptions and deductions. In 2013, full year resident income totaled \$23.8 billion. Once tax liability is determined, the amount of tax due is computed by subtracting allowable credits. Tax rates vary from 1.0% to 6.9%, depending on the level of taxable income. Tax brackets, personal exemption amounts, and the standard deduction are adjusted by the rate of inflation in each year. The tax rate on capital gains income is less than the tax rate on ordinary income by 2%. Wage income accounts for nearly two-thirds of total individual income, while withholding tax on wages accounts for about one-third of total general fund revenue.



The individual income tax estimating process contains three broad steps, which are illustrated in the diagram below. First, growth rates for each income type and other line items are developed—income streams are generally modeled on various IHS predictors, while many of the smaller addition, reduction or deduction items are forecast based on historical trend or an assumption of no growth.

Second, a tax simulation model produces a calendar year state tax liability forecast by applying the modeled growth rates to each resident taxpayer’s income and deduction items. The model is updated each year by the Department of Revenue (DOR) to incorporate the changes in federal and state tax law. The LFD estimate utilized the CY 2013 tax simulation model and CY 2013 taxpayer data provided by DOR as the basis for forecast state tax liability.

Finally, fiscal year collections before audit, penalty, and interest income are modeled on total calendar year liability, and forecast fiscal year collections are then augmented by expected future audit, penalty and interest collections to produce the total individual income tax revenue estimate.



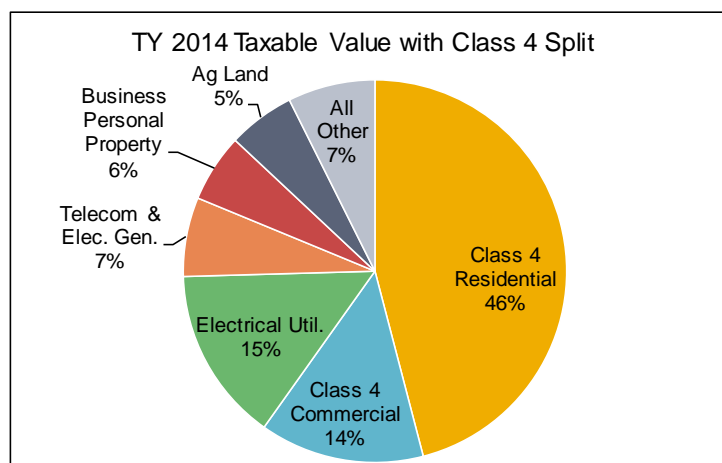
Executive Estimate

The executive estimate relied on the CY 2012 tax simulation model and CY 2013 taxpayer data. Each year DOR updates the tax simulation model to reflect changes in state and federal tax laws, and individualize it to a given tax year’s taxpayer data. Using current taxpayer data with a prior year’s model may lead to an incomplete assessment of state tax liability.

Property Tax

Montana law requires counties to levy a county equalization levy of 55 mills, a state equalization levy of 40 mills, and 6 mills for the university system against all taxable value in each county. A mill levy of 1.5 mills is also applied against all property in the five counties with a vocational technology (vo-tech) college. Taxable value is defined as the market value of statutorily defined property times a statutory tax rate.

Agricultural land, timber land, and residential and commercial land values are reappraised every six years; all other property classes are reappraised annually. The 2014 reappraisal will be the basis for FY 2016 property tax. Further detail on whether the reappraisal may cause a budget pressure is highlighted in the Budget Risks & Pressures section.

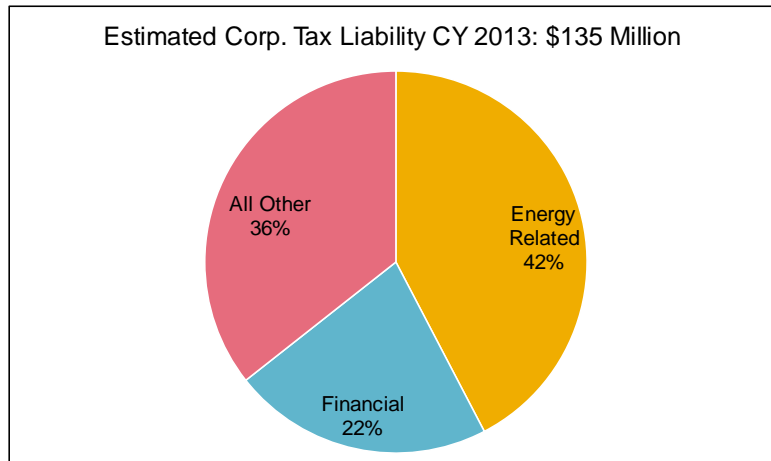


Corporation Income Tax

The corporation income tax is levied against a corporation's net income earned in or attributable to Montana, adjusted for allowable credits. The tax rate is 6.75%, except for corporations making a "water's edge" election (see [15-31-322, MCA](#)), who pay a 7.0% tax on their net income.

Financial and energy related sectors are the largest contributors to corporation income tax liability. Primary economic drivers of this source include oil prices, median house price, and retail sales.

Since several of the sector models rely on the IHS forecast of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) oil price, the IHS November downward revision has a significant impact on the LFD estimate of corporation income tax—resulting in a revenue reduction of about \$25 million over the three-year period.



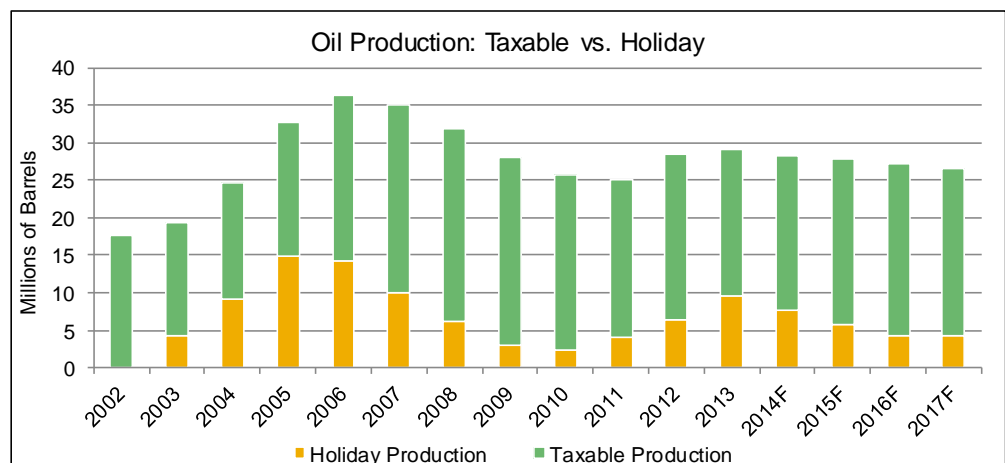
Executive Estimate

The executive forecast is based on a model using lagged U.S. corporate profits, while the legislative forecast takes a multi-sector approach using multiple economic variables to forecast various corporate sectors. The difference between the two approaches has been discussed extensively throughout the interim; for more information, see the report here: [Corporation Tax Estimating: Using Confidence Intervals to Minimize Forecasting Error](#).

Oil & Natural Gas Production Tax

The oil and natural gas production tax is imposed on the production of petroleum and natural gas in the state. The gross taxable value of oil and natural gas production is based on the type of well and type of production, and whether the production occurs within the tax holiday.

Oil production peaked in Montana in 2006 and fell 34% by 2011. Exploratory drilling in 2012 and 2013 resulted in an increase in production; the estimate assumes a gradual decline as the surge in exploratory drilling has tapered off.

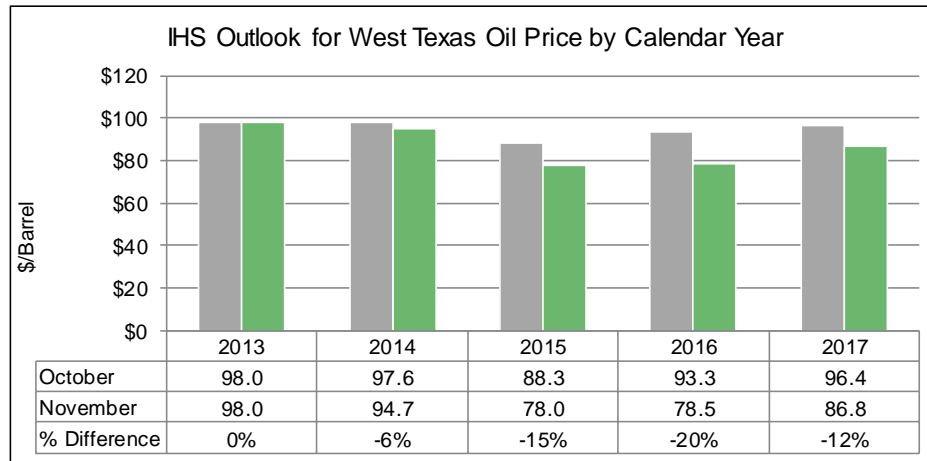


At the national level, lower oil prices tend to

correspond with a better economic outlook; manufacturing and transportation costs are lower, and consumers have more income to spend on goods and services. The impact on Montana revenue is more nuanced, however—although overall consumer activity may increase with lower prices, natural resource extraction and related industry activity may decline, resulting in lower individual, corporation and natural resource tax collections. Montana oil price tracks closely with West Texas Intermediate oil price, with an approximate 10% reduction to account for transportation costs.

Executive Estimate

The difference between the executive and legislative estimates of oil and natural gas production tax stems almost entirely from price differences in oil. The October IHS forecast had much higher estimates for oil prices than the November IHS forecast, which assumes the current price weakness is likely to continue. Due to timing of when estimates are published, this abnormally large price change affected the estimates greatly.



Legislative Options

While the legislative estimate for oil & natural gas production tax is closely tied to the IHS forecast of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) oil price and Henry Hub (HH) natural gas price, the tax committees may wish to explore options regarding the forecast of new drilling in the state. The RTIC estimate assumes an average of 10 oil drilling rigs per month throughout the forecast period. The adjacent table summarizes the revenue impact of assuming alternative drilling rig assumptions.

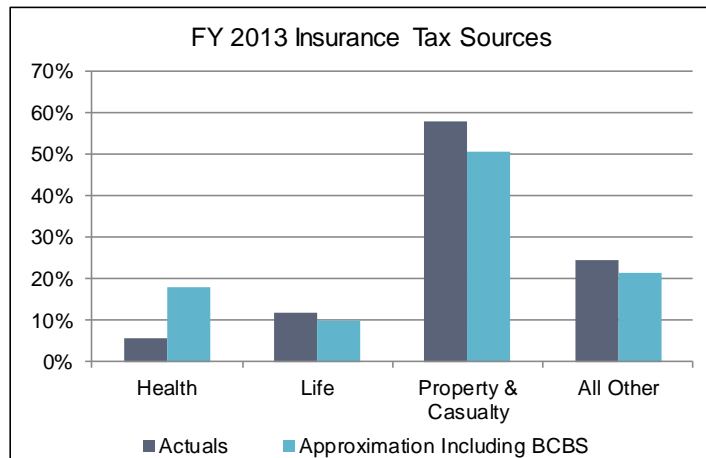
General Fund Impact of Including Alternative Numbers of Oil Rigs (\$ Millions)				
Number of Rigs	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	3-Year Total
0	(\$0.018)	(\$5.294)	(\$11.080)	(\$16.392)
5	(0.846)	(2.647)	(5.540)	(9.033)
10	-	-	-	-
20	1.692	5.294	11.080	18.066

Insurance Tax

The majority of insurance tax collections come from 2.75% of net premiums sold. There is an additional 2.5% levied on fire insurance premiums sold, and a number of small fees.

Two FY 2014 changes impacted this revenue source: Blue Cross and Blue Shield (BCBS) was bought out by Health Care Services Corporation (HCSC) at the beginning of FY 2014 under terms that made all of its policies taxable where they had previously been exempt; and the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

The adjacent chart illustrates changing share of insurance tax sources with the inclusion of former BCBS premiums.

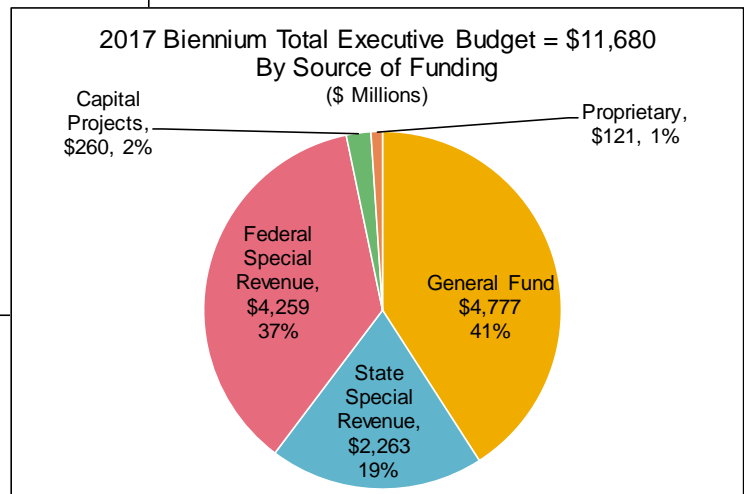
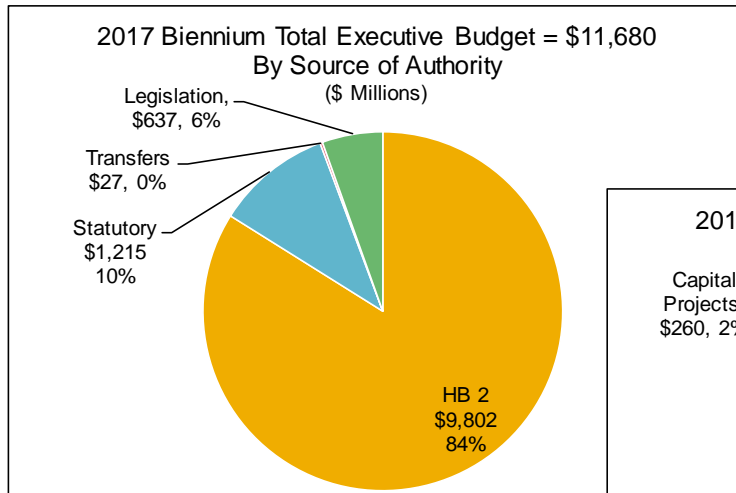


Although the RTIC estimate includes those who became insured during the ACA open enrollment last year, if there are additional enrollees in the upcoming years, revenues may increase slightly above the estimate.

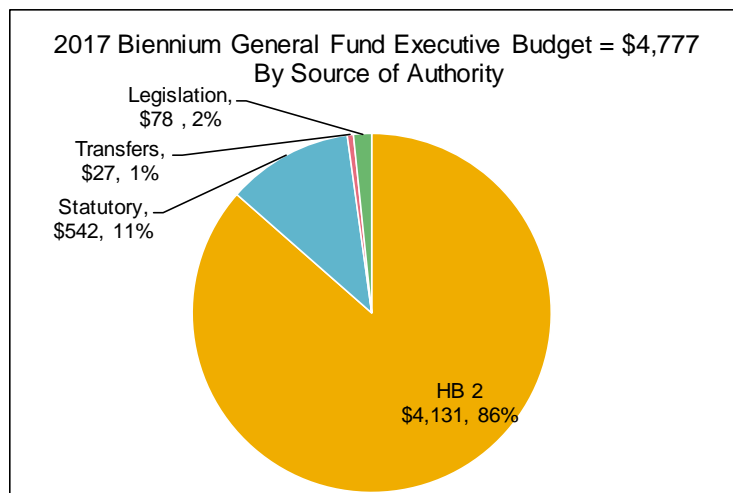
STATE EXPENDITURES

Overview: Executive Proposed Spending by Source of Authority

The following charts shows the executive budget broken down by source of authority (appropriation source) and funding. HB 2 dominates the appropriation sources for total funds, while the general fund is the largest funding source at 41%.



The figure below shows the general fund budget proposed by the executive by appropriation source of authority. Please note that “Legislation” includes Long-Range Planning.



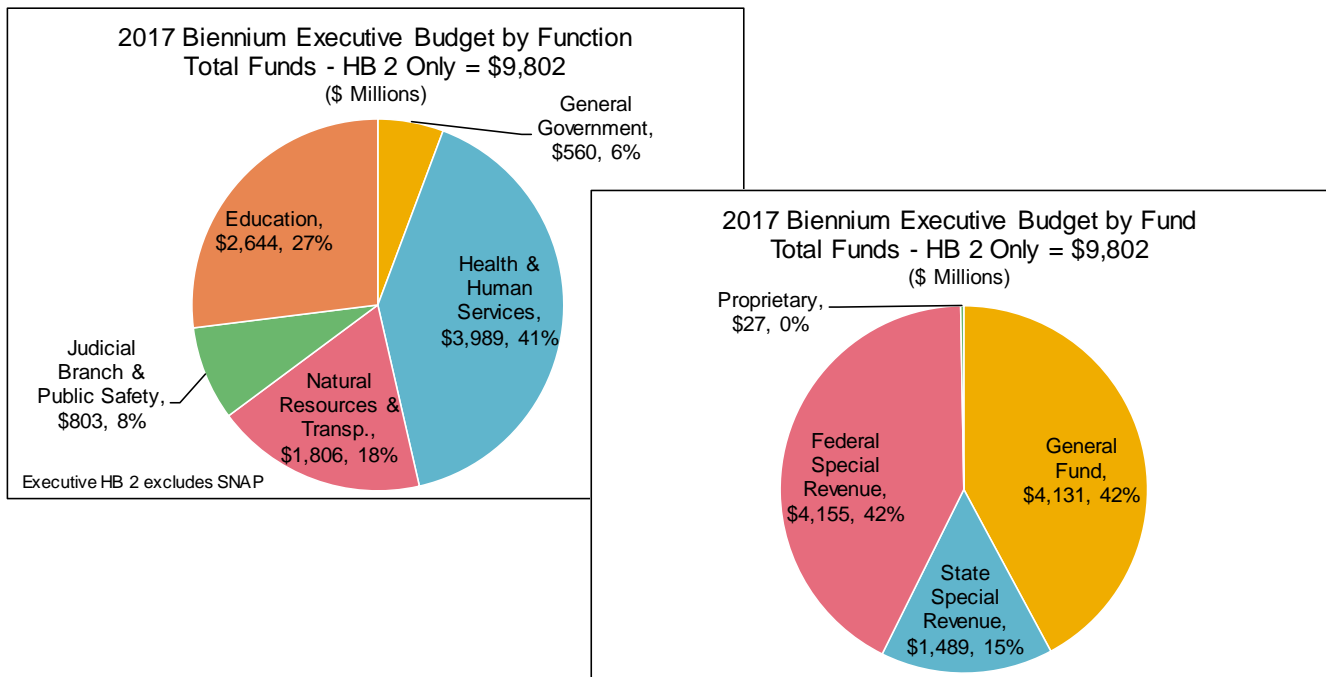
The following sections discuss the various components, beginning with HB 2.

HB 2 Funding

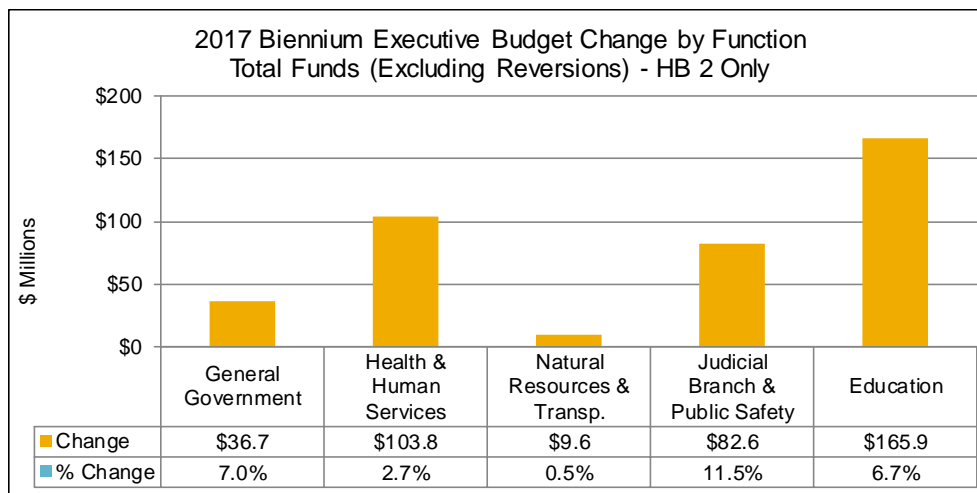
HB 2 is the general appropriations bill, in which about 86% of general fund and 84% of total funds would be appropriated in the 2017 biennium in the executive budget.

Funding by Functional Area

The following figures show the allocation of total funds in HB 2 by functional area and by source of funding. Education and human services account for almost 69% of the total, while federal funds are the largest funding source.



The following chart shows the changes between the 2015 and 2017 biennia in total funds HB 2 by functional area.



The following table shows total funding in HB 2, by agency, and compares each to the 2015 biennium. One-time-only (OTO) funds have been segregated from ongoing expenditures. The chart shows both the biennium to biennium change (“% Change”), as well as the difference when compared from biennial appropriation to proposed biennial appropriation (“Approp to Approp Change”). Please note that the 2015 biennium appropriations used to calculate the appropriation to appropriation change do

not appear in the table. The proposed change in funding for SNAP (food stamps – discussed below) is segregated to show the impact of the change without this factor.

HB 2 Only - All Funds Agency Comparison 2015 versus 2017 Executive Proposed Budget (\$ Millions)						
	2014 Actuals	2015 Executive Budgeted	2016 Executive Request	2017 Executive Request	% Change	Approp to Approp Change
<u>Ongoing</u>						
Section A: General Government						
11040 Legislative Branch	\$12.832	\$16.550	\$15.254	\$14.774	2.2%	2.2%
11120 Consumer Counsel	1.321	1.454	1.450	1.464	5.1%	1.9%
31010 Governors Office	5.882	6.185	6.653	6.604	9.9%	5.6%
32010 Secretary Of State's Office	-	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
32020 Commissioner Of Political Practices	0.490	0.518	0.680	0.671	34.1%	33.3%
34010 State Auditor's Office	8.092	9.372	8.458	8.013	-5.7%	-10.4%
58010 Department Of Revenue	54.375	56.021	58.877	58.465	6.3%	6.1%
61010 Department Of Administration	16.059	18.935	21.565	21.203	22.2%	21.3%
65010 Department Of Commerce	17.182	28.397	30.122	29.540	30.9%	8.9%
66020 Department Of Labor & Industry	71.735	81.529	82.963	83.168	8.4%	3.4%
67010 Department Of Military Affairs	38.462	43.392	48.668	48.692	18.9%	10.4%
Section B: Health & Human Services						
69020 Economic Security Services Branch*	418.040	448.596	252.042	254.972	-41.5%	-43.2%
69040 Directors Office	6.848	4.765	5.769	5.780	-0.6%	45.9%
69060 Operations Services Branch	46.101	52.636	50.779	50.101	2.2%	-3.9%
69070 Public Health & Safety	61.133	66.164	64.115	64.115	0.7%	-2.9%
69110 Medicaid And Health Services Branch	1,339.739	1,431.081	1,569.325	1,669.252	16.9%	16.2%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp						
52010 Department Of Fish, Wildlife & Parks	72.805	78.297	85.747	85.694	13.5%	10.8%
53010 Department Of Environmental Quality	49.465	60.038	62.058	62.070	13.4%	7.7%
54010 Department Of Transportation	618.120	740.475	657.639	651.048	-3.7%	-3.6%
56030 Department Of Livestock	9.971	10.442	12.250	12.209	19.8%	19.0%
57060 Department Of Natural Resources & Conserv.	56.259	59.137	64.879	64.792	12.4%	9.0%
62010 Department Of Agriculture	15.752	17.797	17.866	17.813	6.3%	1.4%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice						
21100 Judicial Branch	38.909	42.067	45.173	45.086	11.5%	9.5%
41070 Crime Control Division	7.965	12.859	8.139	8.139	-21.8%	-5.6%
41100 Department Of Justice	84.446	89.291	98.471	99.190	13.8%	12.3%
42010 Public Service Commission	3.610	3.970	4.251	4.028	9.2%	7.5%
61080 Office Of The Public Defender	26.705	25.810	34.021	34.249	30.0%	26.1%
64010 Department Of Corrections	186.140	192.334	210.057	211.329	11.3%	11.1%
Section E: Education						
35010 Office Of Public Instruction	885.987	945.800	975.675	987.492	7.2%	8.3%
51010 Board Of Public Education	0.285	0.395	0.389	0.374	12.3%	-1.2%
51020 Commissioner Of Higher Ed	272.101	301.819	311.972	312.038	8.7%	8.7%
51130 School For The Deaf & Blind	6.741	7.099	7.303	7.272	5.3%	4.4%
51140 Montana Arts Council	1.415	1.442	1.464	1.443	1.8%	1.8%
51150 Montana State Library	5.609	6.003	6.500	5.422	2.7%	2.1%
51170 Montana Historical Society	<u>5.109</u>	<u>5.305</u>	<u>5.682</u>	<u>5.641</u>	<u>8.7%</u>	<u>7.9%</u>
Ongoing Subtotal	4,445.684	4,865.974	4,826.256	4,932.145	4.8%	4.0%
<u>One Time Only</u>						
Section A: General Government	15.021	19.256	8.840	3.605	-63.7%	-66.0%
Section B: Health & Human Services	2.087	8.270	1.517	1.450	-71.4%	-77.2%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp	2.886	4.574	5.788	5.780	55.1%	31.9%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice	4.316	2.269	0.546	0.564	-83.1%	-70.8%
Section E: Education	<u>8.960</u>	<u>23.787</u>	<u>7.552</u>	<u>7.527</u>	<u>-54.0%</u>	<u>-54.2%</u>
One-Time-Only Subtotal	33.271	58.156	24.243	18.926	-52.8%	-54.6%
Total Submitted HB 2 Before Adjustments	4,478.955	4,924.130	4,850.499	4,951.071	4.2%	
Reversions and Other Adjustments	191.124	-115.837				
Total Submitted HB 2 After Adjustments	\$4,670.080	\$4,808.293	\$4,850.499	\$4,951.071		3.4%
*SNAP moved to statutory approp			181.958	181.958		
Total Submitted HB 2 with SNAP Before Adjustments			5,032.457	5,133.029	8.1%	
Total Submitted HB 2 with SNAP After Adjustments			\$5,032.457	\$5,133.029		7.2%
Reversions and other adjustments: under certain laws, agencies have the authority to move appropriations between years. Growth can be greater than the approp to approp comparison when agencies revert (or do not spend) appropriated level of funding in FY 2014.						

Type of Funding

The largest source of funding for operations of state government is federal funds at 42.4% of the total, followed by general fund at 42.1%. Federal funds decrease and general fund increases as a percentage of the budget compared to the previous biennium primarily for two reasons:

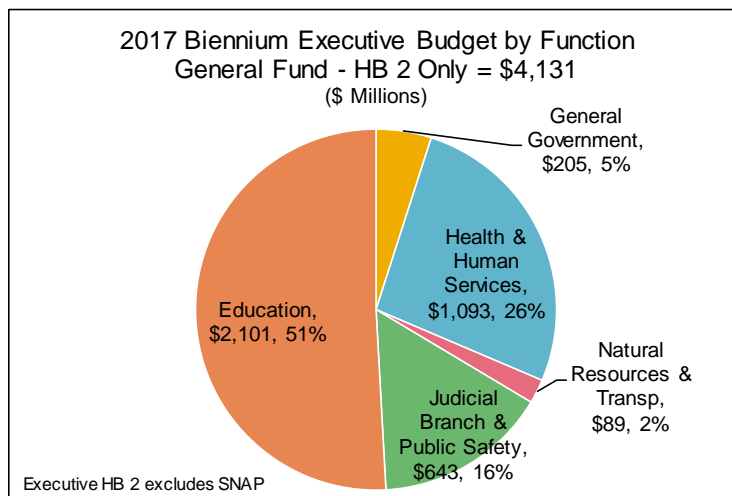
- The executive recommends that a large federally funded function (SNAP – food stamps) be appropriated in a statutory appropriation, reducing federal funds in HB 2 by \$363.9 million in the 2017 biennium
- General fund would increase at a higher rate not only than federal funds, but of state special revenue as well, further increasing its share compared to other sources

If the impact of the proposed change in SNAP funding was removed, federal funds would be 44.6% of the budget and general fund 40.6%.

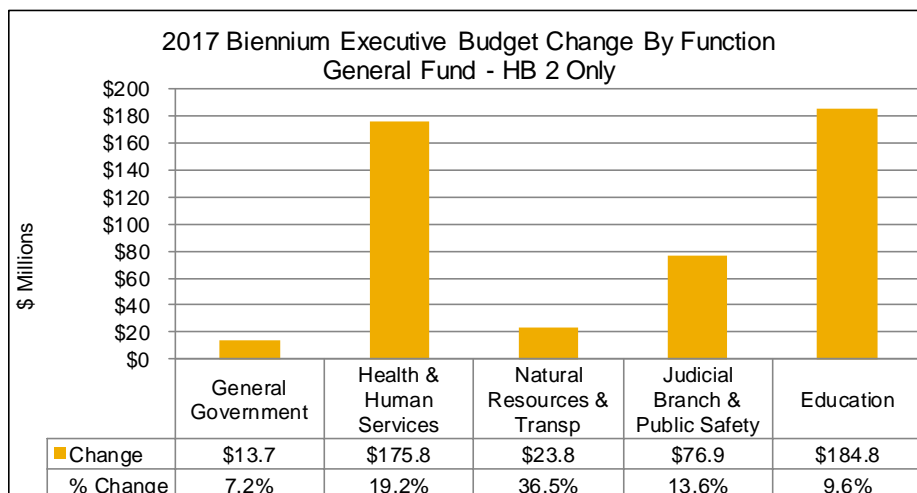
The four primary funding sources in HB 2—general fund, state special revenue, federal funds, and budgeted proprietary funds—are discussed in the following subsections.

General Fund

The following shows total HB 2 general fund expenditures as proposed by the executive, by government functional area. Education, human services, and Judicial Branch and public safety are 93% of the total proposed expenditures.



The following chart shows the total increases from the 2015 biennium, by functional area. As shown, the increases are dominated by human services and education.



Ongoing Expenditures

The Governor would increase ongoing general fund expenditures by over \$480.1 million, or 13.3%. Increases for human services, the public defender, corrections, and K-12 education are over 87% of the total increase. Major present law increases and policy proposals include:

- Caseloads and/or population increases in Medicaid and other human services programs, corrections, the public defender, and K-12 education (including all costs associated with SB 175 from the 2013 legislative session)
- Changes in FMAP (the percent of Medicaid expenses paid by the federal government), which increases state costs
- Annualization of K-12 education costs, as well as K-12 inflation and SB 96 block grants
- Funding various present law increases in the Montana University System (MUS) 46% in FY 2016 and 40% in FY 2017
- All personal services (including to implement the direction in the 2015 biennium HB 2 that FTE reflect the personal services budget), including annualization of all stepped in costs of the 2015 biennium pay plan as negotiated by the Governor and elimination of the additional 2% vacancy savings rate adopted by the 2013 Legislature

The Governor is recommending almost \$110 million in ongoing new proposals. Significant new proposals include:

- A 2% provider rate increase in human services and corrections, as well as a direct care worker wage increase and a per-diem increase at the Shelby prison - \$27.9 million
- Pre-Kindergarten - \$37.0 million
- The “First Step” initiative and other mental health proposals - \$14.0 million
- Autism services - \$4.3 million
- Student assistance fund allocation in the MUS - \$5.2 million
- Water Court and Conservation Districts fund switches - \$3.4 million

One-Time-Only

The Governor proposes \$41.5 million in OTO appropriations. Significant OTO new proposals include:

- Research in the Montana University and activities in the Department of Commerce for economic development - \$20.5 million
- A sage grouse conservation fund - \$10.0 million
- Bridge funding for the Insure Montana program in the Office of the State Auditor - \$4.7 million

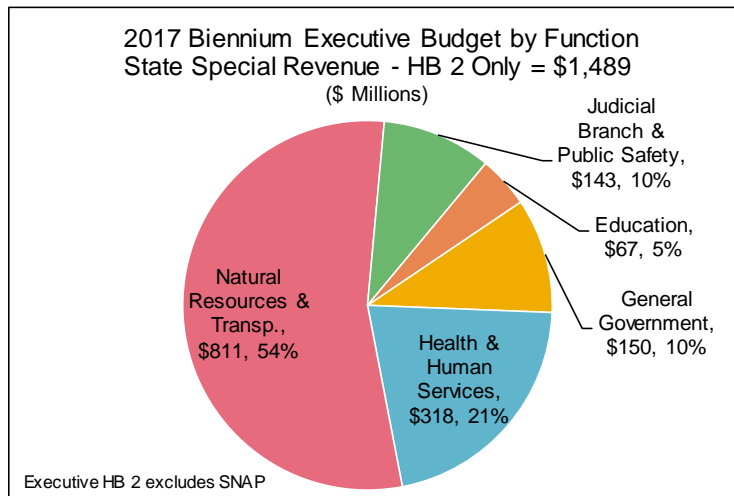
The next figure shows general fund by agency compared to the 2015 biennium.

HB 2 Only - General Fund Agency Comparison 2015 versus 2017 Executive Proposed Budget (\$ Millions)						
	2014 Actuals	2015 Executive Budgeted	2016 Executive Request	2017 Executive Request	% Change	Approp to Approp Change
Ongoing						
Section A: General Government						
11040 Legislative Branch	\$10.615	\$14.046	\$12.661	\$12.736	3.0%	3.0%
31010 Governors Office	5.882	6.177	6.653	6.604	9.9%	5.7%
32020 Commissioner Of Political Practices	0.490	0.518	0.680	0.671	34.1%	33.3%
58010 Department Of Revenue	50.016	51.602	54.067	53.927	6.3%	6.2%
61010 Department Of Administration	5.171	5.456	8.319	8.173	55.2%	56.0%
65010 Department Of Commerce	3.455	3.175	5.371	4.986	56.2%	65.7%
66020 Department Of Labor & Industry	1.347	1.446	2.485	2.484	77.9%	77.7%
67010 Department Of Military Affairs	5.703	6.100	6.456	6.475	9.6%	7.3%
Section B: Health & Human Services						
69020 Economic Security Services Branch	75.249	79.752	80.199	81.963	4.6%	3.4%
69040 Directors Office	3.128	2.030	2.595	2.601	0.7%	49.9%
69060 Operations Services Branch	16.921	18.289	18.835	18.667	6.5%	3.1%
69070 Public Health & Safety	3.672	3.961	3.865	3.864	1.2%	-1.8%
69110 Medicaid And Health Services Branch	346.953	365.022	421.396	455.870	23.2%	23.4%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp						
52010 Department Of Fish, Wildlife & Parks	-	-	1.628	1.533		
53010 Department Of Environmental Quality	5.303	5.508	5.761	5.762	6.6%	6.0%
56030 Department Of Livestock	0.984	1.029	2.536	2.537	151.9%	150.6%
57060 Department Of Natural Resources & Cons	23.638	24.830	28.300	28.379	16.9%	15.9%
62010 Department Of Agriculture	0.969	1.003	1.087	1.043	7.9%	7.1%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice						
21100 Judicial Branch	36.437	39.291	43.457	43.366	14.7%	12.8%
41070 Crime Control Division	2.344	2.411	2.484	2.484	4.5%	3.7%
41100 Department Of Justice	29.364	30.348	35.357	35.525	18.7%	18.5%
61080 Office Of The Public Defender	26.443	25.536	33.760	33.988	30.3%	26.4%
64010 Department Of Corrections	181.629	185.602	204.954	206.228	12.0%	11.9%
Section E: Education						
35010 Office Of Public Instruction	712.686	743.649	798.443	808.917	10.4%	10.4%
51010 Board Of Public Education	0.119	0.218	0.208	0.194	19.2%	-4.9%
51020 Commissioner Of Higher Ed	202.293	214.936	225.229	225.314	8.0%	8.0%
51130 School For The Deaf & Blind	6.416	6.764	6.978	6.947	5.7%	4.8%
51140 Montana Arts Council	0.494	0.494	0.514	0.507	3.3%	3.3%
51150 Montana State Library	2.882	2.962	3.073	3.057	4.9%	4.8%
51170 Montana Historical Society	<u>3.088</u>	<u>3.202</u>	<u>3.516</u>	<u>3.475</u>	<u>11.2%</u>	<u>10.5%</u>
Subtotal	1,763.691	1,845.357	2,020.866	2,068.273	13.3%	13.2%
One Time Only						
Section A: General Government	6.427	13.245	8.275	3.574	-39.8%	-41.1%
Section B: Health & Human Services	0.778	1.251	1.517	1.450	46.2%	37.8%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp	1.040	1.039	5.313	5.313	411.3%	408.7%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice	4.040	2.269	0.500	0.500	-84.1%	-78.9%
Section E: Education	<u>8.354</u>	<u>8.055</u>	<u>7.552</u>	<u>7.527</u>	<u>-8.1%</u>	<u>-9.1%</u>
Subtotal	20.640	25.858	23.157	18.364	-10.7%	-9.1%
Total before adjustments	1,784.331	1,871.215	2,044.023	2,086.637	13.0%	
Reversions and other Adjustments	6.086	-2.153				
Grand Total	\$1,790.417	\$1,869.062	\$2,044.023	\$2,086.637		12.9%
Under certain laws, agencies have the authority to move appropriations between years. Growth can be greater than the approp to approp comparison when agencies revert (or do not spend) appropriated level of funding in FY 2014.						

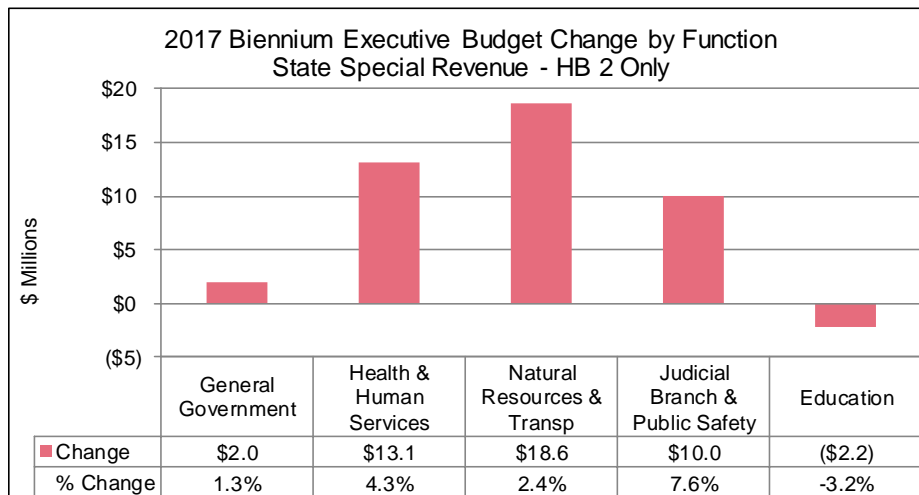
General fund new proposals and present law adjustments are discussed in more detail in Volumes 3-6 of the 2017 Biennium LFD Budget Analysis, and are summarized more fully in Appendix B located online. Each of the OTO proposals is explained more fully in Volumes 3-6, along with any analysis comments or issues.

State Special Revenue

State special revenue is earmarked for specific purposes and totals \$1,488.6 million or 15.2% of total proposed expenditures in the 2017 biennium in HB 2. The following figure shows total state special revenues by function for HB 2 only.



The following shows the proposed change from the previous biennium, by function of state government. The executive would add \$41.5 million for a 2.9% increase.



The executive would increase ongoing expenditures by \$60.7 million or 4.3% compared to the 2015 biennium through recommended adjustments in a number of agencies. Major policy adjustments proposed include the following:

- Annualization of personal services costs, including all stepped in costs of the 2015 biennium pay plan as negotiated by the Governor and elimination of the additional 2% vacancy savings rate adopted by the 2013 Legislature
- A tobacco use prevention program in DPHHS
- Caseload and utilization increases in Medicaid and Healthy Montana Kids
- Various adjustments in Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; the Department of Environmental Quality; and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
- Costs of issuance of new license plates and for drivers' license related services in the Department of Justice

Ongoing new proposals show a reduction, primarily due to several funding shifts to the general fund, including a portion of the water court, the diagnostic lab in the Department of Livestock, and the Conservation and Resource Development Division in DNRC.

One-Time-Only

Proposed OTO expenditures are \$0.4 million and consist of several positive and negative adjustments, the largest of which is a state water project dam analysis in DNRC.

The next figure compares state special revenue by agency in the proposed 2017 biennium budget to the 2015 biennium.

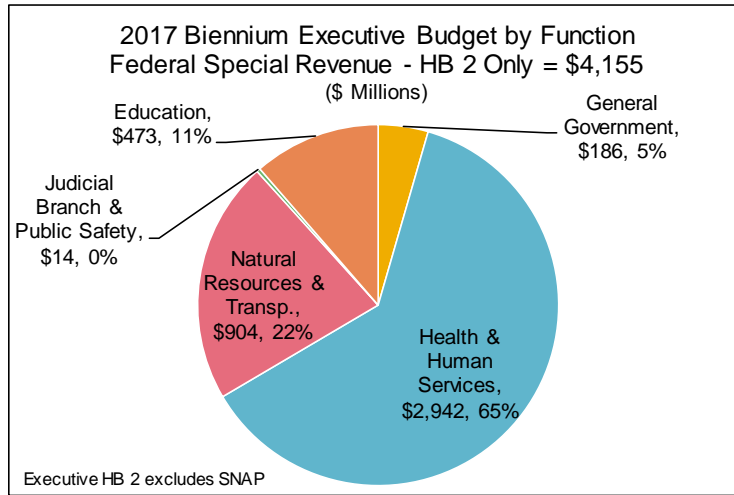
HB 2 Only - State Special Revenue Fund Agency Comparison 2015 versus 2017 Executive Proposed Budget (\$ Millions)						
	2014 Actuals	2015 Executive Budgeted	2016 Executive Request	2017 Executive Request	% Change	Approp to Approp Change
<u>Ongoing</u>						
Section A: General Government						
11040 Legislative Branch	\$2.217	\$2.504	\$2.593	\$2.038	-1.9%	-1.9%
11120 Consumer Counsel	1.321	1.454	1.450	1.464	5.1%	1.9%
31010 Governors Office	-	0.008	-	-	-100.0%	-100.0%
34010 State Auditor's Office	8.092	9.372	8.458	8.013	-5.7%	-10.4%
58010 Department Of Revenue	1.120	1.079	1.252	1.042	4.3%	-2.6%
61010 Department Of Administration	5.843	6.327	6.953	6.883	13.7%	11.0%
65010 Department Of Commerce	3.188	7.328	6.456	6.452	22.7%	-1.1%
66020 Department Of Labor & Industry	40.595	41.858	47.627	47.820	15.8%	15.5%
67010 Department Of Military Affairs	0.688	1.043	0.761	0.758	-12.3%	-29.9%
Section B: Health & Human Services						
69020 Economic Security Services Branch	5.640	6.894	5.813	5.815	-7.2%	-16.6%
69040 Directors Office	0.747	0.587	0.626	0.626	-6.2%	49.0%
69060 Operations Services Branch	2.539	2.566	2.810	2.853	10.9%	13.5%
69070 Public Health & Safety	16.292	16.847	18.152	18.156	9.6%	8.1%
69110 Medicaid And Health Services Branch	121.720	130.667	129.947	133.039	4.2%	1.9%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp						
52010 Department Of Fish, Wildlife & Parks	54.377	58.228	61.090	61.128	8.5%	6.2%
53010 Department Of Environmental Quality	25.977	33.602	32.016	32.023	7.5%	1.5%
54010 Department Of Transportation	234.077	275.032	254.620	254.897	0.1%	2.3%
56030 Department Of Livestock	7.608	7.966	7.949	7.907	1.8%	1.1%
57060 Department Of Natural Resources & Con:	30.745	32.307	34.312	34.148	8.6%	3.7%
62010 Department Of Agriculture	13.275	14.041	14.972	14.964	9.6%	7.9%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice						
21100 Judicial Branch	2.352	2.649	1.596	1.600	-36.1%	-38.7%
41070 Crime Control Division	0.113	0.268	0.127	0.127	-33.2%	-16.6%
41100 Department Of Justice	52.219	55.943	60.076	60.627	11.6%	9.5%
42010 Public Service Commission	3.537	3.887	4.178	3.955	9.6%	7.8%
61080 Office Of The Public Defender	0.262	0.274	0.262	0.262	-2.3%	-5.7%
64010 Department Of Corrections	4.444	6.647	4.995	4.995	-9.9%	-16.0%
Section E: Education						
35010 Office Of Public Instruction	9.615	11.238	9.657	9.657	-7.4%	-7.6%
51010 Board Of Public Education	0.165	0.177	0.181	0.181	5.5%	3.4%
51020 Commissioner Of Higher Ed	20.447	21.052	20.711	20.710	-0.2%	-0.2%
51130 School For The Deaf & Blind	0.256	0.263	0.256	0.256	-1.5%	-2.8%
51140 Montana Arts Council	0.223	0.223	0.235	0.229	4.0%	4.0%
51150 Montana State Library	1.738	1.801	1.748	1.741	-1.4%	-3.1%
51170 Montana Historical Society	<u>0.712</u>	<u>0.715</u>	<u>0.722</u>	<u>0.722</u>	<u>1.2%</u>	<u>1.0%</u>
Subtotal	672.145	754.847	742.601	745.089	4.3%	3.3%
<u>One Time Only</u>						
Section A: General Government	8.227	5.656	0.074	0.074	-101.1%	-101.0%
Section B: Health & Human Services	0.080	0.190	-	-	-100.0%	-100.0%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp	1.801	3.287	0.475	0.467	-81.5%	-85.2%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice	0.277	-	0.046	0.064	-60.2%	-60.2%
Section E: Education	<u>0.300</u>	<u>0.300</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>
Subtotal	10.685	9.432	0.447	0.457	<u>-95.5%</u>	<u>-95.9%</u>
Total before adjustments	682.830	764.280	743.048	745.546	2.9%	
Reversions and other Adjustments	48.670	-33.074				
Grand Total	\$731.499	\$731.206	\$743.048	\$745.546		1.8%
Under certain laws, agencies have the authority to move appropriations between years. Growth can be greater than the approp to approp comparison when agencies revert (or do not spend) appropriated level of funding in FY 2014.						

State special revenue new proposals and present law adjustments are discussed in more detail in Volumes 3-6 of the 2017 Biennium LFD Budget Analysis, and are summarized more fully in Appendix

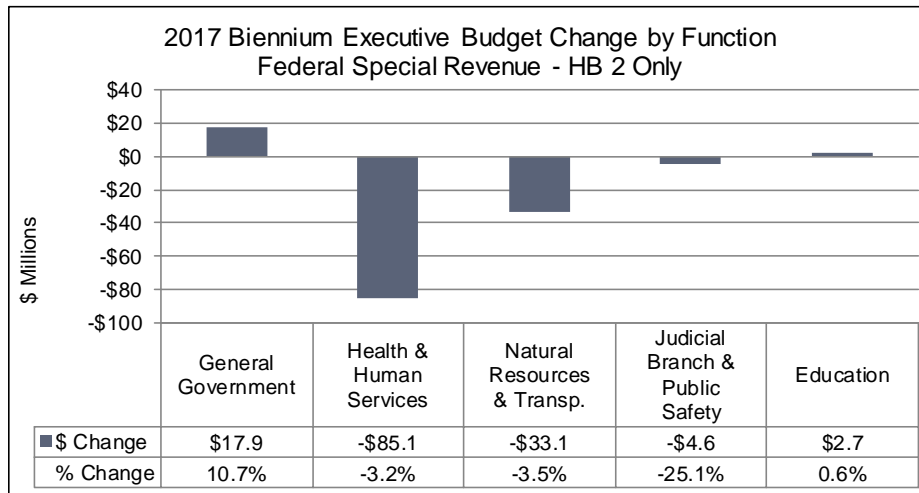
B located online. Each of the OTO proposals is explained more fully in Volumes 3-6, along with any analysis comments or issues.

Federal Funds

Federal funds are, as the name implies, received from various federal funding sources. The federal government provides targeted funding that cannot be used except for the general and/or specific purposes intended. It totals \$4,155.1 million or 42.4% of total proposed expenditures in the 2017 biennium. This figure is the net of the Governor’s proposal to move SNAP (food stamps) benefits from HB 2 to a statutory appropriation. If this proposal was not included, federal funds would comprise 44.5% of proposed expenditures, and would increase by \$281.7 million or 6.1%.



The following shows the proposed change in funding compared to the 2015 biennium. Please note that the figure includes the proposed change in SNAP funding, which results in an overall decrease of \$102.2 million or 2.4%.



Ongoing Expenditures

The executive proposes multiple increases over numerous agencies, with some offsetting reductions. The major increases include the following:

- Caseload increases in Medicaid and other human services programs such as foster care
- Provider rate and direct care worker wage increases in human services and corrections
- Expanded autism services
- A new proposal for unexploded ordnance in the Department of Military Affairs
- Various increases for the Guaranteed Student Loan Program in the Commissioner of Higher Education

- Federal grant and administrative cost adjustments in various agencies
- A taxiway for the Yellowstone airport
- Annualization of personal services costs, including all stepped in costs of the 2015 biennium pay plan as negotiated by the Governor and elimination of the additional 2% vacancy savings rate adopted by the 2013 Legislature

These increases are partially offset by three major reductions:

- The proposed elimination of the HB 2 appropriation for SNAP (food stamp) benefits and establishment of a statutory appropriation for this purpose
- A reduction in the percentage of Medicaid benefit costs (FMAP) the federal government will pay, requiring the state to pay a higher share
- An overestimation when determining the budget in FY 2015 of the amount of funds the state would receive through the federal MAP-21 program in the Department of Transportation, resulting in a biennial reduction. From FY 2014 the increases are primarily in construction

One-Time-Only

The only federally funded OTO appropriation recommended by the Governor is to spend interest income from the Help America Vote Act funds.

The next figure compares federal funds by agency in the proposed 2017 biennium budget to the 2015 biennium. The change in SNAP funding is segregated.

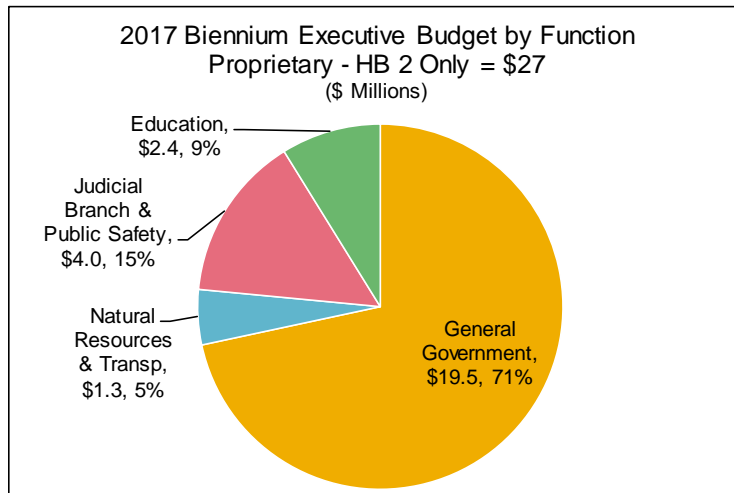
HB 2 Only - Federal Special Revenue Fund Agency Comparison 2015 versus 2017 Executive Proposed Budget (\$ Millions)						
	2014 Actuals	2015 Executive Budgeted	2016 Executive Request	2017 Executive Request	% Change	Approp to Approp Change
Ongoing						
Section A: General Government						
32010 Secretary Of State's Office	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	\$0.000	0.0%	0.0%
58010 Department Of Revenue	0.250	0.268	0.241	0.241	-6.8%	-8.1%
61010 Department Of Administration	0.019	1.864	0.030	0.030	-96.8%	-96.9%
65010 Department Of Commerce	10.538	17.884	18.294	18.102	28.1%	2.5%
66020 Department Of Labor & Industry	29.793	38.225	32.850	32.863	-3.4%	-12.7%
67010 Department Of Military Affairs	32.071	36.249	41.451	41.459	21.4%	12.1%
Section B: Health & Human Services						
69020 Economic Security Services Branch*	337.151	361.950	166.031	167.194	-52.3%	-53.8%
69040 Directors Office	2.973	2.148	2.548	2.553	-0.4%	41.4%
69060 Operations Services Branch	26.641	31.781	29.135	28.581	-1.2%	-9.2%
69070 Public Health & Safety	41.168	45.356	42.098	42.095	-2.7%	-7.0%
69110 Medicaid And Health Services Branch	871.067	935.392	1,017.982	1,080.343	16.2%	15.4%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp						
52010 Department Of Fish, Wildlife & Parks	18.429	20.068	23.029	23.033	19.6%	16.2%
53010 Department Of Environmental Quality	18.184	20.927	24.282	24.286	24.2%	17.7%
54010 Department Of Transportation	384.042	465.443	403.019	396.151	-5.9%	-7.1%
56030 Department Of Livestock	1.379	1.447	1.766	1.766	25.0%	24.1%
57060 Department Of Natural Resources & Conserv.	1.876	2.000	2.267	2.265	16.9%	13.7%
62010 Department Of Agriculture	0.996	2.143	1.143	1.142	-27.2%	-46.2%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice						
21100 Judicial Branch	0.120	0.126	0.120	0.120	-2.6%	-3.8%
41070 Crime Control Division	5.508	10.180	5.528	5.528	-29.5%	-9.0%
41100 Department Of Justice	1.087	1.149	1.152	1.152	3.0%	1.4%
42010 Public Service Commission	0.073	0.083	0.073	0.073	-6.2%	-6.2%
64010 Department Of Corrections	0.000	0.016	0.000	0.000	-97.0%	-98.5%
Section E: Education						
35010 Office Of Public Instruction	161.260	173.743	167.575	168.919	0.4%	0.4%
51020 Commissioner Of Higher Ed	48.858	65.298	65.507	65.487	14.8%	13.9%
51130 School For The Deaf & Blind	0.069	0.072	0.069	0.069	-1.8%	-3.6%
51140 Montana Arts Council	0.698	0.725	0.715	0.707	0.0%	0.0%
51150 Montana State Library	0.989	1.240	1.679	0.624	3.3%	3.3%
51170 Montana Historical Society	<u>0.736</u>	<u>0.775</u>	<u>0.769</u>	<u>0.769</u>	<u>1.8%</u>	<u>1.3%</u>
Subtotal	1,995.977	2,236.551	2,049.351	2,105.552	-1.8%	-3.5%
One Time Only						
Section A: General Government	0.367	0.355	0.105	0.105	-70.9%	-71.3%
Section B: Health & Human Services	1.229	6.830	-	-	-100.0%	-100.0%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp	0.045	0.248	-	-	-100.0%	-100.0%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice	-	-	-	-	-	-
Section E: Education	<u>0.306</u>	<u>15.433</u>	-	-	<u>-100.0%</u>	<u>-100.0%</u>
Subtotal	1.947	22.866	0.105	0.105	-99.2%	-99.2%
Total Submitted HB 2 Before Adjustments	1,997.924	2,259.417	2,049.456	2,105.657	-2.4%	
Reversions and Other Adjustments	139.030	-62.360				
Total Submitted HB 2 After Adjustments	\$2,136.954	\$2,197.057	\$2,049.456	\$2,105.657		-4.1%
*SNAP moved to statutory approp			181.958	181.958		
Total Submitted HB 2 with SNAP Before Adjustments			2,231.414	2,287.615	6.1%	
Total Submitted HB 2 with SNAP After Adjustments			\$2,231.414	\$2,287.615		4.3%
Reversions and other adjustments: under certain laws, agencies have the authority to move appropriations between years. Growth can be greater than the approp to approp comparison when agencies revert (or do not spend) appropriated level of funding in FY 2014.						

Federally funded new proposals and present law adjustments are discussed in more detail in Volumes 3-6 of the 2017 Biennium LFD Budget Analysis, and are summarized more fully in Appendix B located online.

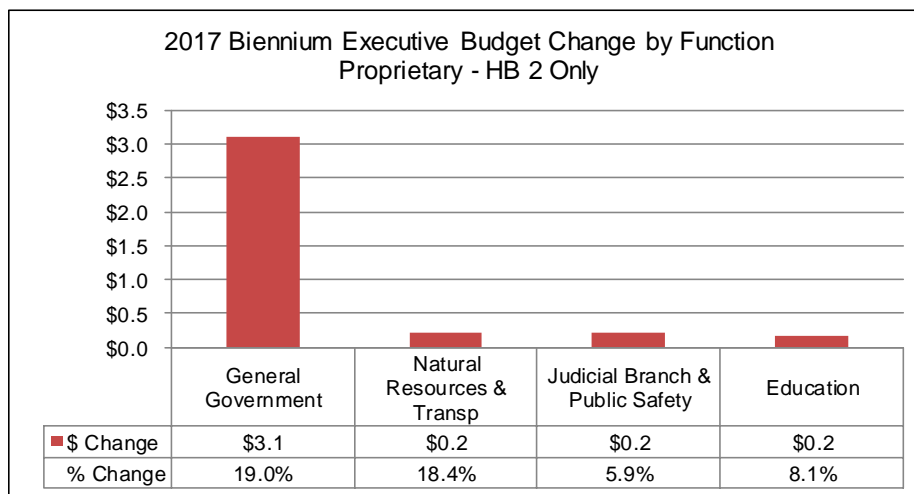
Proprietary

Proprietary funds are designated as either enterprise or internal service funds. Enterprise funds “account for operations: (A) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises whenever the intent of the legislature is that costs (i.e. expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to that general public on a continuing basis are to be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (B) whenever the legislature has decided that periodic determination of revenue earned, expenses incurred, or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.” Internal service funds “account for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of state government or to other governmental entities on a cost reimbursed basis.”

Statute does not require that most proprietary funds be appropriated. Therefore, any increases in the programs supported with these proprietary funds, which is the great majority, are not reflected in any of the figures. Rather, only those proprietary funds that are appropriated in HB 2 are reflected.



The most significant policy adjustments proposed by the Governor are in the Lottery Division in the Department of Administration for operating costs related to increased sales, and expenses related to gaming systems and terminals.



The next figure compares proprietary funds appropriated in HB 2 in the proposed 2017 biennium budget to the 2015 biennium, by agency.

HB 2 Only - Proprietary Fund Agency Comparison 2015 versus 2017 Executive Proposed Budget (\$ Millions)						
	2014 Actuals	2015 Executive Budgeted	2016 Executive Request	2017 Executive Request	% Change	Approp to Approp Change
<u>Ongoing</u>						
Section A: General Government						
58010 Department Of Revenue	\$2.989	\$3.072	\$3.316	\$3.255	8.4%	8.3%
61010 Department Of Administration	5.026	5.288	6.263	6.117	20.0%	19.9%
Section C: Natural Resources & Transp						
62010 Department Of Agriculture	0.512	0.610	0.664	0.664	18.4%	10.6%
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Justice						
41100 Department Of Justice	1.776	1.851	1.886	1.887	4.0%	3.2%
64010 Department Of Corrections	0.066	0.070	0.108	0.106	57.7%	65.6%
Section E: Education						
51020 Commissioner Of Higher Ed	0.503	0.533	0.526	0.526	1.7%	561.7%
51170 Montana Historical Society	<u>0.573</u>	<u>0.614</u>	<u>0.675</u>	<u>0.675</u>	<u>13.7%</u>	<u>10.6%</u>
Subtotal	11.444	12.037	13.438	13.230	13.6%	17.2%
<u>One Time Only</u>						
Section A: General Government	-	-	0.534	-		
Section C: Natural Resources & Tran	-	-	-	-		
Section D: Judicial Br. Law Enf & Jus	-	-	-	-		
Section E: Education	=	=	=	=		
Subtotal	-	-	0.534	-		
Total before adjustments	11.444	12.037	13.972	13.230	15.8%	
Reversions and other Adjustments	-0.034	-0.686				
Grand Total	\$11.410	\$11.351	\$13.972	\$13.230		19.5%
Under certain laws, agencies have the authority to move appropriations between years. Growth can be greater than the approp to approp comparison when agencies revert (or do not spend) appropriated level of funding in FY 2014.						

Legislative Options

All of the HB 2 proposals presented by the executive are discussed in detail in Volumes 3-6 of the 2017 Biennium LFD Budget Analysis, including any issues or comments.

Long-Range Planning

The Long-Range Planning Subcommittee (LRP) analyzes and recommends appropriations and grant authorizations for the executive proposal of capital projects. The capital project budgets include investment in various forms of infrastructure including: the acquisition of lands, construction and major maintenance of lands and buildings, maintenance and development of water related infrastructure, reclamation activities, and information technology.

Executive Proposal

The Governor's budget proposes total funds spending of \$426.3¹ million for LRP budgets. In the 2017 biennium, the legislature will be considering proposals for 11 LRP programs, 8 of which, at a proposed cost of \$390.9 million, are included in the executive's "Build Montana" proposal.

The figure below shows a summary of the proposed appropriations for the LRP programs included in the Governor's budget.

Long-Range Planning Budget Comparison (\$ Millions)					
Budget Item	Bill #	Appropriations	Proposals	Biennium	Biennium
		FY 14-15	FY 16-17	Change	% Change
		<u>Approp.</u>	<u>Proposed</u>		
Long-Range Building Program (LRBP)	LC 719	\$175.6	\$233.6	\$58.0	33.0%
State Building Energy Conservation Program (SBCEP)	LC 719	3.5	2.5	(1.0)	-28.6%
Long-Range Information Technology Program (LRITP)	HB 10	20.9	20.0	(0.9)	-4.2%
Broadband Expansion (BvExp)	HB 14	0.0	15.0	15.0	-
Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP)	LC 719	35.0	26.9	(8.1)	-23.1%
Eastern Montana Grant Program (TSEP-E:MT)	LC 719	0.0	45.0	45.0	-
Treasure State Regional Water Program (TSEPRW)	LC 719	17.0	3.3	(13.7)	-80.8%
Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program (RRGL)	LC 719	54.2	40.4	(13.8)	-25.4%
Reclamation and Development Grant Program (RDGP)	LC 719	6.2	8.0	1.8	28.2%
Cultural and Aesthetic Grant Program (C&A)	HB 9	0.8	0.4	(0.4)	-47.4%
Quality Schools Grant Program (QSFP)	LC 719	12.4	31.2	18.8	151.6%
Total Costs		\$325.5	\$426.3	\$100.8	31.0%
Capital Projects Fund (Capital)		\$66.6	\$15.8	(\$50.8)	-76.3%
General Fund (GF) ¹		11.5	12.0	0.5	4.8%
State Special (SS)		136.8	80.7	(56.1)	-41.0%
Federal Special (FS)		26.2	20.7	(5.5)	-20.9%
Bonds and Loans (Bonds)		24.7	226.9	202.2	818.2%
Proprietary Fund (Prop)		1.0	0.0	(1.0)	-100.0%
Authorization (Author)		58.9	70.2	11.4	19.3%
Total Funds		\$325.5	\$426.3	\$100.8	31.0%

¹General Funds are transfers to the Long-Range Information Technology Capital Project Funds

The LRBP appropriations would fund the construction of three new buildings, additions and renovations at five state buildings, and a significant reduction of the state's deferred maintenance backlog through the overall budget of building maintenance. New buildings would feature the Montana Heritage Center in Helena. The executive proposal includes investments of \$20.0 million in information technology capital projects, where significant projects for five state agencies will be deliberated by the legislature. Additionally, the executive proposes an investment of \$15.0 million for broadband infrastructure in the state. A significant investment in local government infrastructure is also included in the LRP programs, through the Build Montana program with increases of funding in the various LRP programs that are proposed to be funded with total bond authority of \$226.9 million. For more information on all the LRP programs and projects, refer to Section F of the Legislative Fiscal Division, Legislative Budget Analysis.

¹ Amounts of the Governor's proposals and Build Montana program include \$70.2 million of "authority" to spend non-state funds for state facilities, which is not an appropriation.

Statutory Appropriations

Statutory appropriations are, as their name suggests, in statute and are not part of the biennial budgeting process. Because of this, they are not automatically reviewed by the legislature and are not subject to the priority setting process like temporary appropriations (such as those in HB 2). Since the appropriations are in statute, they remain in place until removed or changed by legislation. However, all statutory appropriations are available for the legislature to review and change if desired.

Valid statutory appropriations are contained in a list in 17-7-502, MCA. The list provides statutory citations for each statutory appropriation. Statutory appropriations are intended for limited situations, and guidelines for the appropriateness for establishing them are specified in 17-1-508, MCA. The Legislative Finance Committee periodically reviews statutory appropriations.

Executive Proposal

The following table shows each individual general fund statutory appropriation estimated by the Office of Budget and Program Planning. The Legislative Fiscal Division also creates estimates and these are used as part of the general fund balance sheet.

The executive is proposing two significant initiatives in legislation that would impact the amount of statutory appropriations:

- The issuance of general obligation bonds, the interest from which would be paid for through the general fund statutory appropriation
- A conversion of appropriations for federal SNAP (food stamps) payments from HB 2 to a statutory federal funds appropriation

Further information on the purpose of the bonds can be found in the Long-Range section of this report, and the conversion of SNAP funds is discussed in the Human and Community Services Division in the Department of Health and Human Services.

General Fund Statutory Appropriation Executive Estimates, 2014-2017					
(\$ Millions)					
MCA Cite	Purpose	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Estimate)	2016 (Estimate)	2017 (Estimate)
<u>Retirement</u>					
15-35-108(9)(a)	Coal Severance to PERS	\$14.745	\$15.873	\$15.831	\$15.602
15-35-108(9)(b)(v)	Coal Severance to PERS (Interest)	21.000	17.373	16.801	16.980
19-3-319	Local Government Retirement Contribution	0.952	0.990	1.137	1.247
19-6-404	MHP Retirement Transfer	1.357	1.411	1.729	1.729
19-6-410	MHP Supplemental Benefit Retirement Transfer	0.262	0.272	incl. above	incl. above
19-9-702	Police Retirement Contribution	13.049	13.571	31.385	32.641
19-13-604	Firefighters' Association Contribution	13.007	13.527	incl. above	incl. above
19-17-301	Volunteer Firefighter Fund Contribution	1.818	1.891	incl. above	incl. above
19-18-512	Fire Department Relief Association Contribution	0.368	0.383	incl. above	incl. above
19-19-305	Police (Non-PERS) Retirement Contribution	0.205	0.213	incl. above	incl. above
19-19-506	Police Officer Pension Supplement Contribution	-	-	incl. above	incl. above
19-20-604	Teacher's Retirement Supplemental Contribution	0.821	0.854	0.893	0.928
19-20-607	Teachers' Retirement System Contribution	42.035	42.716	45.683	47.550
19-21-203	MUS Retirement Contribution	<u>1.534</u>	<u>1.577</u>	<u>1.834</u>	<u>1.934</u>
Subtotal		111.152	110.651	115.292	118.611
<u>Economic Development</u>					
15-35-108(9)(b)(i)	Coal Severance to Cooperative Develop Center	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.065
15-35-108(9)(b)(ii)	Coal Severance to Growth Through Ag	0.587	0.625	0.625	0.625
15-35-108(9)(b)(iii)	Coal Severance to Research and Commercialization	1.275	1.275	1.275	1.275
15-35-108(9)(b)(iv)	Coal Severance to Department of Commerce	1.097	1.100	1.100	1.100
15-70-369	Biodiesel Tax Refunds	-	-	-	-
15-70-601	Biodiesel Tax Incentives	-	-	-	-
Subtotal		3.024	3.065	3.065	3.065
<u>Local Assistance</u>					
7-4-2502	Payment of County Attorneys	2.954	2.998	2.954	2.954
15-1-121	Local Government Combined Distribution	118.433	126.583	130.743	134.933
22-1-327	State Aid to Public Libraries	-	-	<u>0.396</u>	<u>0.396</u>
Subtotal		121.387	129.581	134.093	138.283
<u>Other</u>					
10-1-1202	National Guard Death Benefit	-	-	-	-
10-3-310	Incident Response Appropriation	-	-	-	-
10-3-312	Emergency & Disaster Appropriation	0.527	15.973	8.250	8.250
15-1-218	Out of State Collections	0.150	0.170	-	-
16-11-509	Tobacco Enforcement	-	-	-	-
17-3-106	Return of Federal Grant Interest	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
17-3-106	Return of Federal Grant Money (GSD Only)	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064
17-3-106	Return of Federal Grant Money	0.089	0.100	0.089	0.089
17-6-101	Banking Charges	2.160	2.160	2.160	2.160
17-7-502(4)	Bond Fees & Costs	<u>16.071</u>	<u>16.458</u>	<u>12.413</u>	<u>12.455</u>
Subtotal		19.061	34.926	22.977	23.018
Total		\$254.624	\$278.224	\$275.427	\$282.978

General Fund Transfers

The Montana Constitution requires that all money paid out of the state treasury, except interest paid on the public debt, be done with an appropriation. However, the state treasury consists of numerous accounts and – with proper legislative authorization – money may be transferred from one account to another without an appropriation. Like statutory appropriations, these transfers and their authorizations are in statute (or sometimes contained in un-codified legislation) and are not part of the biennial budgeting process. However, they impact the amount of money available for the legislature to appropriate for specific programs. The Legislative Finance Committee has approved a policy that the legislature does not enact legislation that transfers general fund in an on-going manner to another account from which it can be appropriated.

Executive Proposal

The following table shows each individual general fund transfer estimated by the Office of Budget and Program Planning. The Legislative Fiscal Division also creates estimates for non-budgeted transfers that are used in the general fund balance sheet for FY 2015-2017.

The executive's proposed legislation that would impact the amount of non-budgeted general fund transfers:

- LC 398 –transfer to the water adjudication state special revenue account
- LC 717 –transfer to the state facility and technology account
- LC 719 –transfer for infrastructure projects

Further information on the proposed transfer amounts can be found in the Other Legislation section of this book.

General Fund Non-Budgeted Transfer Executive Estimates, 2014-2017					
(\$ Millions)					
MCA Cite	Purpose	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Estimate)	2016 (Estimate)	2017 (Estimate)
Vehicle					
15-1-122(1)	Adoption services	\$0.059	\$0.065	\$0.072	\$0.079
15-1-122(2)(a)	Junk vehicles	1.494	1.514	1.548	1.587
15-1-122(2)(b)	Noxious weeds	1.514	1.534	1.569	1.608
15-1-122(2)(c)(i)	Boat facilities & enforcement, OHV, Parks	0.464	0.471	0.481	0.493
15-1-122(2)(c)(ii)	Snowmobiles	0.101	0.102	0.105	0.107
15-1-122(2)(c)(iii)	Motorboats	0.162	0.164	0.167	0.172
15-1-122(2)(d)	Veterans' Services	0.617	0.625	0.208	0.213
15-1-122(2)(d)	Veterans' Cemetery	0.201	0.203	0.639	0.655
15-1-122(2)(e)	Senior and people with disabilities transportation	0.303	0.307	0.314	0.322
15-1-122(2)(f)	Search & rescue	<u>0.040</u>	<u>0.041</u>	<u>0.042</u>	<u>0.043</u>
Subtotal		4.956	5.026	5.145	5.278
Other Transfers					
15-1-122(3)	Livestock loss reduction and mitigation	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200
15-1-123 (5)(b)	Lower business equipment tax (MUS SB96)	0.450	0.141	0.314	0.314
15-1-123 (5)(b)	Lower business equipment tax (MUS)	0.171	0.375	0.345	0.345
17-1-511(2)	Incentives for rural physicians	0.227	0.227	0.227	0.227
39-71-2352(6)	Old state fund shortfall	8.575	8.319	7.466	6.130
76-13-105	Wildfire suppression fund	39.779	3.653	0.183	-
77-1-108(5a)	Trust land administration	0.080	0.080	0.080	-
87-2-801(6)	Purple heart free hunting license	0.000	0.040	0.001	0.001
87-2-803(12d)	Military free hunting license	<u>0.061</u>	<u>incl. above</u>	<u>0.033</u>	<u>0.033</u>
Subtotal		49.544	13.035	8.849	7.250
Non-Budgeted Activity					
NA	DPHHS Non-budgeted	0.066	-	0.066	0.066
NA	Other Non-budgeted	<u>0.026</u>	-	<u>0.022</u>	<u>0.022</u>
Subtotal		0.040	-	0.088	0.088
Total		\$54.541	\$18.061	\$14.082	\$12.617

Other Legislation

Other than HB 2, Long-Range Building, statutory authority, and non-budgeted changes described above, the executive proposes other legislation that would increase general fund by an additional \$122.6 million. The following figure details the amounts by proposal:

General Fund Proposals - Other Legislation Executive Budget 2017 Biennium (\$ Millions)	
Proposal	2017 Biennium
HB 1 - Feed Bill	\$9.8
HB 3 - Supplemental Appropriations	31.6
HB 13 - Pay Plan	44.1
HB 13 - PS Contingency	4.1
LC 398 - Water Adjudication	4.1 *
LC 182 - Broadband Plan	1.2
LC 631 - Healthy Montana Act	-8.4 *
LC 717 - Quality Schools Redirect	13.0
LC 719 - Build Montana Act	\$23.1
Grand Total	\$122.6
* The Governor's 2017 Biennium Budget Proposal submitted to date is incomplete, therefore these numbers are estimates.	

Executive Proposal

- HB 1 Feed bill – The executive assumes \$9.8 million in the feed bill used to fund the operations of the legislature during the biennium
- HB 3 Supplemental Bill – The Governor proposes that an additional \$31.6 million be provided to the following agencies that anticipate outspending their appropriation authority in FY 2015:
 - \$94,000 Commissioner of Political Practices to hire outside consultants
 - \$9.4 million Office of Public Instruction for BASE-Aid and block grants
 - \$13.4 million Department of Administration for risk management and tort defense
 - \$1.7 million Office of Public Defender for conflict coordinator program and public defender costs
 - \$7.0 million Department of Corrections for secure facilities
- HB 13 Pay plan and contingency – The Governor proposes a state employee pay plan that would provide:
 - \$0.50 increase to the base salary of each employee per year
 - 10% increase in health benefit contribution beginning on January 1, 2016 and an 8% increase on January 1, 2017
 - Contingency fund of \$4.1 million general fund (\$4.8 million total funds) for distribution to agencies that cannot meet their vacancy savings targets and provides \$75,000 for training
- LC 398 Water Adjudication – At the time of this writing, the proposed bill language transferred an unspecified amount of general fund to the water adjudication state special revenue account to pay for costs related to the water courts
- LC 182 Broadband Plan – The executive proposes the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of funding statewide broadband infrastructure development
- LC 631 Healthy Montana Act – The Governor proposes expanding health care coverage to provide certain low income Montanans access to health care services
- LC 717 Quality Schools Account Redirect – The Governor proposes that the natural resource development payment from K-12 BASE-Aid be redirected to the school facility and technology account to fund facility improvements. This redirect impacts the general fund by \$13 million.
- LC 719 Build Montana Act – The executive assumes \$23.1 million in general fund transfers for infrastructure and other projects

References

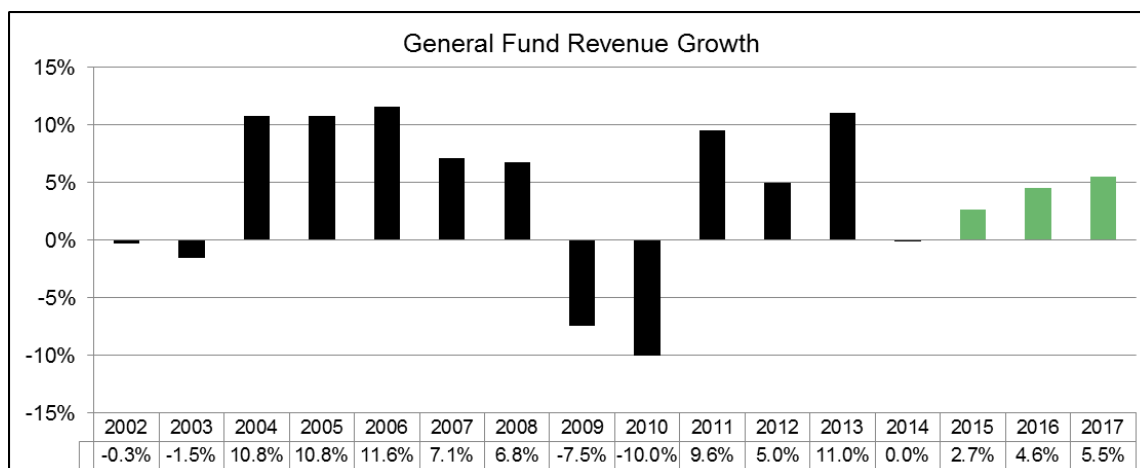
[The Governor's Budget Highlights Fiscal Years 2016-2017 \(Orange Book\)](#)

RISKS AND PRESSURES

This issue builds on the previously discussed concept of managing volatility of the general fund through structural balance and ending fund balance. It includes issues of evaluating the inherent risk of the budget adopted and significant other funds' financial health. Financial pressure in other funds could put additional pressure on the general fund, decrease current services, or require additional revenue.

Revenue Volatility

General fund revenue growth has varied in the past 12 years from +11.6% to -10.0%. Revenue growth contained HJ 2 ranges from 2.7% to 5.5%. While new statistical techniques are have been implemented to minimize the errors, not enough data exists to calculate prediction intervals from these new techniques. Previous experience is captured in the [Managing Volatility Report](#).



Fire Fund Impact on Inherent Financial Risk

The fire suppression account has an estimated FY 2015 ending fund balance of \$42 million and meaningful revenue flows into the fund to maintain this ending fund balance over time. This fund provides a buffer to the general fund from cost shocks due to emergency wildland fire costs. The adjacent table summarizes the anticipated average revenues and expenditures of the fund.

Biennial Average Revenues and Expenditures Wildland Fire Suppression Fund (in Millions)	
	Biennial
Biennial average fire costs	(\$44.5)
Biennial allowed expenditures for forest health	(5.0)
Biennial transfers from reversions exceeding 0.5%	53.2
Biennial transfers from Governor's Emergency Statutory Appropriation	6.5
Potential average biennial growth in fund balance	\$10.2

The [Managing Volatility Report](#) demonstrated that while revenue volatility is the most variable source of risk to the general fund, wildland fire is the next largest source of risk to the budget. The biennium with the greatest expenditure shock was the 2007 Biennium and accounted for 2.4% of general fund expenditures, of which 1% was attributed to fire suppression. On average, fire suppression costs account for 62% of the expenditure volatility or about 1% of biennial general fund spending. Removing this 1% risk reduces the maximum amount of ending fund balance needed to manage risk.

Expenditure Estimate Error or Supplemental

Along with the risk that revenue estimates and fire costs can cause financial stress, so can errors in expenditure estimates. Estimates are used to develop several large appropriations; when required expenditures are greater than the appropriations, a shortfall occurs and the agency must request a supplemental appropriation. Examples of expenditure estimates include caseloads for foster care,

Medicaid benefits, Health Montana Kids benefits, prison populations, and student enrollment in school districts.

Pensions

The legislature passed pension funding bills in the 2013 session that included a reduction in the Guaranteed Annual Benefit Adjustment (GABA) for the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) and Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS). Since last session, lawsuits have been filed and preliminary injunctions have been granted to at least temporarily eliminate the reductions in the GABA. The June 30, 2014 Actuarial Valuations ([PERS](#) and [TRS](#)) became available in October of 2014. In these studies, the funding levels of both large systems do not exceed the actuarial recommended funding period of 30 years even if the GABA reduction does not occur.

Pension systems in Montana still continue to have significant but declining unfunded liabilities. If the lawsuits succeed, the unfunded liability totals \$3.8 billion. These unfunded liabilities are a legal liability of the state and participating local government employers. The unfunded liabilities as measured by the actuaries of the systems are shown on the right:

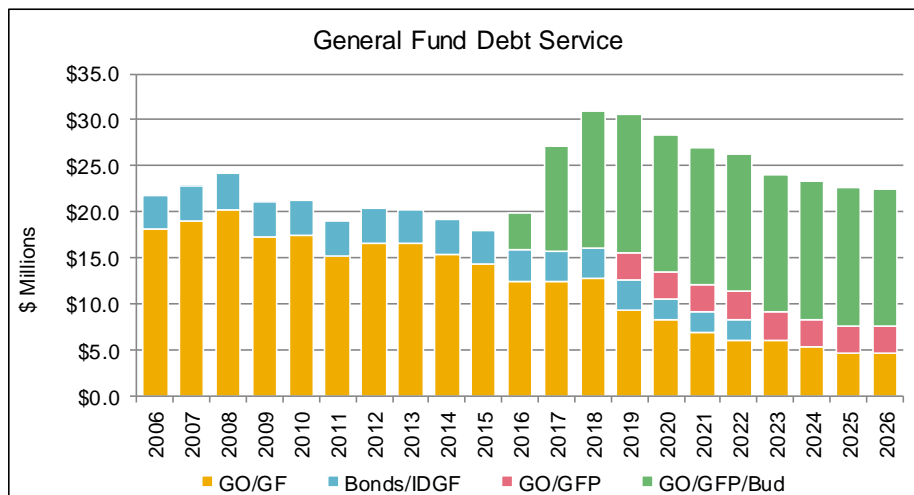
Montana Pension Systems Valuation June 30, 2014		
	Funded Ratio	Years to Amortize
Teachers Retirement System (TRS) prior GABA	65.5%	28.0
Public Employees Retirement (PERS) prior GABA	74.4%	29.3
Judges' Retirement System	155.1%	-
Highway Patrol	63.9%	30.3
Sheriffs' Retirement	81.3%	Does not amortize
Game Wardens	83.7%	Does not amortize
Municipal Police Officers	63.0%	19.6
Firefighters Unified Retirement System	71.8%	11.3
Volunteer Firefighters	82.4%	5.1

Actuarial analysis includes many assumptions that may or may not hold true in the long run. While annual valuations are a good estimate of current funding condition, if the assumptions do not hold true, the funding condition will change.

Moody's Investor Services studies and compares state liabilities. Montana ranks 20th highest out of 50 in Moody's calculated liabilities as a percent of state government revenues. A summary of the report is available at www.moodys.com or directly at this link: [State pension liability levels improve in FY 2013](#). The full Moody's report is available in the office of the Legislative Fiscal Division.

Debt Service

Like pensions, debt is a long term liability with a payment stream. Outside of pensions, Montana's debt liability is relatively low and unless additional bonds are approved, the payments streams will decrease overtime. The following table illustrates current debt service and the Governor's requested budget for debt service.



- Yellow GO/GF – General obligation (GO) bonds paid by the general fund. The bond issues related to this debt service primarily funded the construction of state government buildings
- Blue Bonds/IDGF – This category includes GO bonds and special revenue bonds that are paid indirectly through the general fund. The related bond issues include state building energy conservation bonds and revenue bonds for two of the state's hospitals that offset general fund revenue through institutional reimbursements that would otherwise flow into the general fund.
- Pink GO/GFP – This category includes the projections for debt services costs on authorized but unissued bonds. Included in this category are two issues that cover the state's share of the costs of two tribal compacts, the state's share of the St. Mary's diversion structure repairs, and the remaining authority available for the Montana Heritage Center. For the purpose of this analysis, it is assumed that 20 year bonds would be issued for each of the items in the spring of FY 2017. Given the need for federal action for both the compacts and the St. Mary's project, this schedule may be ahead of actual issuance.
- Green GO/GFP/Bud – This category illustrates the Governor's 2017 biennium budget proposals for general obligation bond issues. This includes an assumption that the \$185.3 million of Build Montana bonds will be issued half in October 2015 and half in October 2016. Additionally, this category includes \$15.0 million of broadband infrastructure bonds that would be issued in October 2015.

In the 2017 biennium, without the executive's bonded budget proposals, the debt service paid directly and indirectly through general fund revenues is expected to average \$15.8 million per year. The Build Montana and broadband infrastructure proposals in the executive budget are estimated to increase the general fund debt service by \$4.0 million in FY 2016 and \$11.5 million in FY 2016. It is expected that the full annual cost of the proposals will be \$14.9 million per year in the future.

Other Fund Balances

Funds outside the general fund may cause pressure on the general fund or other taxes or fees. Examples of other fund pressures include:

- The Water Court state special funding is insufficient to pay for the full adjudication of water rights. The executive proposes to transfer general funds to the adjudication account to cover the shortage of approximately \$4.1 million.
- The General License Account in Fish, Wildlife and Parks is under pressure for funding, the executive proposes to raise hunting and fishing fees by approximately \$6.0 million per year.
- Gas Tax funds that flow into the highway restricted fund are insufficient to support the increasing cost of services, such as highway construction and maintenance and highway patrol, and for the past 4 years the expenditures from the highway restricted fund have exceeded the revenues going into it. There are currently no executive proposals to address this structural imbalance.

Executive Proposal

Over all, the primary methods the Governor proposes to manage risk are contained in the General Fund ending fund balance and structural balance recommendations. The executive budget request includes proposals for additional bonding as shown in the above section on debt service.

The Governor is requesting supplemental appropriations for the 2015 biennium totaling \$31.6 million general fund. Of this amount \$13.4 million is requested to increase the fund balance for the Risk Management and Tort Defense Program.

Legislative Options

The Legislature could maintain higher or lower ending fund balance based on the legislative tolerance for the risk associated with budget volatility. Structural balance of the budget is the general recommendation for budgets. The legislature may wish to contemplate specific consideration of the CHIP FMAP discussed in the introduction relative to structural balance for the 2017 Biennium.

References

A background report on the water adjudication issues is available at the link [Complete Adjudication Report](#) or can be found at www.leg.mt.gov.

Population and Caseloads

Population increases include enrollment adjustments for the Montana University System and K-12 School Districts; Prison, Parole, and Probation estimates; Medicaid, Healthy Montana Kids; and court caseloads. Changes in anticipated population can be reflected in the budget through a variety of ways, including statutory payments, anticipated utilization of services, and staffing and other operating costs. The following chart shows various population and caseload estimates.

Population and Caseload Increases Comparison 2015 and 2017 Biennia							
Requesting Agency	Purpose	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	HB 2 GF	HB 2 All Fund
						Increase from 2015 Bien. (\$ Millions)	Increase from 2015 Bien. (\$ Millions)
Office of Public Instruction*	Enrollment	148,567	149,712	149,694	149,973	\$51.0	\$51.0
Montana University System	Resident Enrollment	29,969	29,969	29,969	29,969	35.7	35.7
Department of Corrections**	Probation and Parole	7,728	7,778	7,844	7,911	37.5	37.0
	Male Prison Beds	2,372	2,392	2,407	2,422	-	-
	Female Prison Beds	209	218	226	235	-	-
	Treatment	1,011	1,044	1,075	1,107	-	-
Dept. of Health & Human Services	Medicaid	118,888	128,623	135,090	141,387	105.2	309.4
	Foster Care/Sub Ado	4,480	4,650	4,837	5,030	4.4	6.4
Office of Public Defender**	All Court Cases	31,705	32,256	33,406	34,391	12.8	12.9
	Lower Courts	19,803	20,082	20,672	20,992	-	-

*Also includes costs associated with ANB increases, as well as annualization of other session adjustments.
 **Costs are summarized due to overlap among functions and/or reorganizations.

Executive Proposal

The executive has addressed changes in anticipated population in the following ways:

- Present law adjustments are proposed in Medicaid and other human services expenditures to account for all estimated increases in population and utilization
- With the exception of the community colleges, an anticipated increase in university enrollment does not have a direct correlation to changes in the budget. Rather, for the University of Montana and Montana State University campuses, the executive is requesting various present law increases for personal services, fixed costs, and other adjustments, funded at 46% in FY 2016 and 40% in FY 2017
- The projected increases in caseload in the Office of the Public Defender are primarily reflected in requests to add positions, provide pay adjustments and/or career ladders, and increase funds for contract attorneys
- In corrections, the executive anticipates population growth, but is requesting funds that reflect an emphasis on community based efforts in an attempt to better control those populations. Therefore, the Governor is requesting additional probation and parole officers and only annualizing secure care beds at 2015 biennium contracted levels

Legislative Options

The impact on the proposed budget of these estimates is analyzed separately in each section of the budget, along with any issues or comments. LFD analysts evaluate caseloads on an individual basis and will provide alternative estimates as appropriate to subcommittee members.

Cost Pressures

Cost pressures include increases applied to current services in costs to maintain ongoing services such as personal services, fixed costs, and inflation, implementing increases approved by the previous legislature, and new changes in workload and/or utilization, some of which would require legislation to reduce. Cost pressures are also due to new proposals for inflation-like items for providers of services in state government and funding shifts to fund certain present law items with state funds, such as Medicaid share and to ease tuition pressure in the Montana University System (MUS).

Statutory Cost Increases

Personal Services: Some cost changes to personal services have been previously approved by the legislature, including: health insurance costs that were funded for the second half of FY 2015; longevity increment adjustments; and phased-in employer cost increases for pensions.

Annualizing the FY 2015 Pay Plan Negotiated by the Governor

HB 13 included an appropriation equivalent to a 3% increase each year (beginning on July 1) and an increase for insurance of 10% each calendar year. The Governor negotiated a pay plan that included a 5% increase in FY 2015, with a delayed implementation date of November 15, 2014. While the cost of the negotiated pay plan is within the HB 13 appropriation for FY 2015, it increases the annualized cost of the pay plan in the 2017 biennium.

2017 Biennium State Employee Pay Plan

State employee pay plans are generally but not always approved by the legislature. In the past ten years, pay plans have ranged from 0% to 3.6% per year for salary increases and 0% to 10% per year for insurance contribution increases. For each 1% per year the employee pay increase would cost \$12.2 million for the biennium without an increase in health insurance. A 1% per year increase in health insurance would cost \$1.6 million for the biennium. A 3% per year increase in pay would cost an estimated \$36.6 million and a 3% per year increase in health insurance would cost \$4.8 million.

Changes in Federal Medicaid Participation

The federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) is based on national economic factors and determines how much of Medicaid (and other medical costs) is funded by the federal government and how much by the state. Because Montana's relative standing has improved compared to other states, the rate Montana must pay will increase in the 2017 biennium.

2017 Provider Rate Increases

The vast majority of medical and community services administered by the Departments of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and Corrections (DOC) are provided through contracts with private businesses. In some instances, the state agency is the primary or only customer for these services. As business entities or private non-profits, contractors are subject to the same economic conditions as other employers. These businesses traditionally request that the legislature consider rate increases to cover cost growth and to maintain operations.

Other Inflation Increases

Other items are inflated or deflated in the budget from FY 2015. These include statewide adjustments for fixed costs such as insurance and car rental rates, and inflation such as natural gas and electricity.

Add Back Funding for 2% Vacancy Savings Approved for the 2015 Biennium

This item is not inflation or inflation like, but is part of the Governor's recommended personal services budget, and thus included in this section. The 2013 Legislature implemented an additional vacancy savings amount equivalent to removing 2% of the cost to personal services from agency budgets for the 2015 Biennium. If this amount is reinstated into agency budgets additional costs would result in an increase in agency budgets.

Executive Proposal

The Governor has included in his proposed budget:

- All personal services annualized costs, including the Governor's FY 2015 increase, reinstatement of the 2% additional vacancy savings reduction enacted by the 2013 Legislature, and a reduction in FTE included in 2015 biennium HB 2 boilerplate language
- All statutory inflation on K-12 BASE Aid - \$40.1 million general fund
- A 2% per year provider rate increase for the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Department of Corrections, as well as a direct care worker wage and Shelby prison per diem increases - \$27.9 million general fund, \$75.5 million total funds
- Additional FMAP at the anticipated level - \$21.6 million general fund and \$5.5 million state special revenue, with a corresponding reduction in federal funds
- Inflation/deflation on selected items and increases in fixed costs
- A negotiated pay plan with a 10% increase in health insurance beginning on January 1, 2016 and an 8% increase on January 1, 2017, and a \$0.50/ hour salary increase beginning the first pay period in October - \$44.1 million general fund and \$78.9 million total funds

Legislative Options

Depending on the source of the type of inflationary adjustment, the legislature may have more or fewer options for funding inflation-like items; items that have a statutory connection are the most locked in with fewer choices. These statutory items may require a statutory change, may impinge on long term commitments like school funding, or may require agencies to fund these items at the expense of other services.

Inflation and fixed cost increases are typically determined by the subcommittee that reviews those rates. Most rates are in Section A: General Government.

Provider rate increases are considered new proposals and are largely a budget policy decision of each legislature.

Services or Funding Available in the 2015 Biennium Sunset in the 2017 Biennium

There were several items funded in the 2015 biennium either on a one-time basis, or the funding and/or statute governing the service will sunset. The 2015 Legislature may consider reinstating some of these one-time only (OTO) or sunset provisions. The following section summarizes these items.

Current Service Level

“Current service level” refers to OTO appropriations provided by the 2013 Legislature that the 2015 Legislature may be under pressure to maintain so that the level of services currently offered by the state will continue. Often these are appropriations that have been funded for several biennia. Alternatively, the legislature may have authorized the appropriation as an OTO in order to trial a new or changed program.

The most significant current service level items, along with the Governor’s proposal, are shown in the following chart.

Current Service Level Compared to Executive Budget 2017 Biennium (\$ Millions)			
Function	Current Service Level	Executive Budget	Difference
Various Natural Resources, inc. Brucellosis and Aquatic Invasive Species	\$2.7	\$3.2	\$0.5
Maintenance of Common Areas in State Buildings	2.3	4.2	1.9
Montana Digital Academy*	1.8	0.0	(1.8)
Economic Development in the Department of Commerce	2.8	2.8	0.0
Overtime in DPHHS funded with OTO**	2.0	2.0	0.0
Total	\$11.6	\$12.2	\$0.6
*Executive continues base level of \$2.3 million over the biennium.			
**Executive includes funding for all anticipated overtime.			

Sunset Items

Treasure State Regional Water Program

The Treasure State Regional Water Program was fully funded in the 2013 session to complete project costs for the two federally approved projects. Under current law the program is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2016. Beginning in July 1, 2016 (FY 2017) revenue that would have flowed into the Treasure State Regional Water Trust will flow into the main body of the trust, and the interest that would have gone to Treasure State Regional projects will now flow to the general fund. In FY 2017, the additional general fund revenue anticipated from this flow is \$3.0 million. Federal approval is being sought for two additional projects. There is currently no funding source that would be targeted for these projects should they be approved, and the Governor has not proposed that statute be changed to continue diversion of any funds.

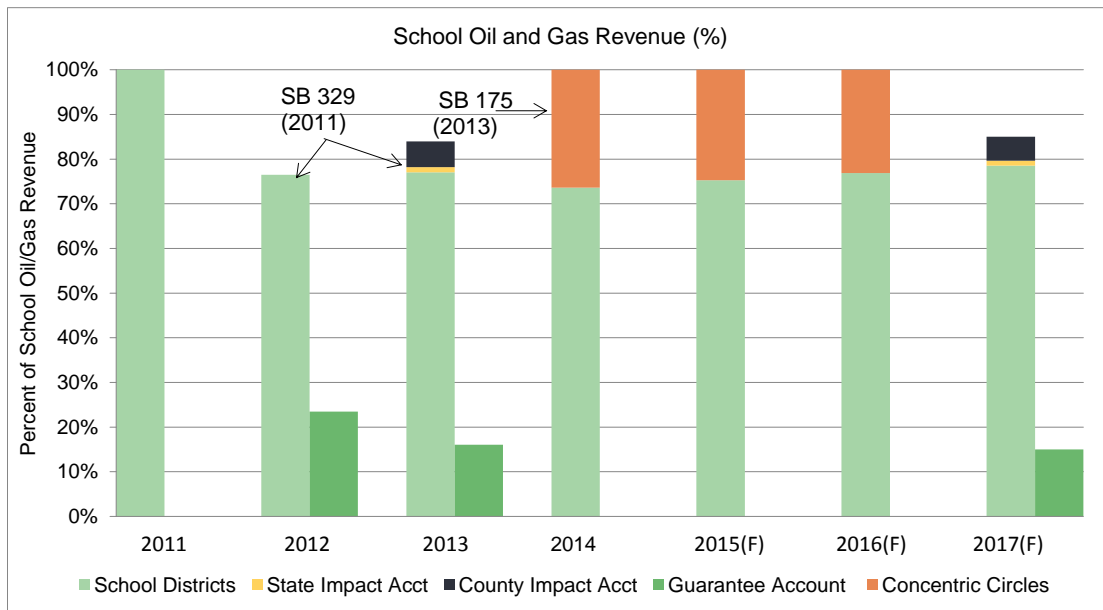
Concentric Circles

Concentric circles is part of the current method of distributing oil and natural gas production tax (ONG tax) to school districts. It essentially diverts money from school districts that have met maximum funding thresholds to nearby school districts that may be affected by oil and natural gas production. This provision sunsets after FY 2016. In FY 2017, these funds will be distributed to the guarantee account and is estimated to reduce general fund spending by \$5.2 million.

The recent history of these funds can be demonstrated as follows:

- Prior to FY 2012 school districts with oil and gas wells within their boundaries received 100% of the statutory distribution of oil and gas taxes.
- In the 2011 Session, SB 329 capped the amount of oil and gas tax revenue districts could retain to 130% of the school district's maximum budget. Revenue beyond the cap flowed as follows: (1) 5% to a state school oil and natural gas impact account; (2) 25% to a county school oil and natural gas impact fund, to provide revenue schools that were not receiving oil and gas taxes but were being affected by oil and natural gas production, and (3) 70% to the guarantee account which offsets state general fund costs.
- In the 2013 Session SB 175 temporarily changed the allocation in order to divert a greater portion of oil and gas taxes, above school district thresholds, to nearby school districts that have not yet met the thresholds. This provision sunsets after FY 2016 at which time the distribution returns to be similar to the provisions of SB 329 in FY 2013.

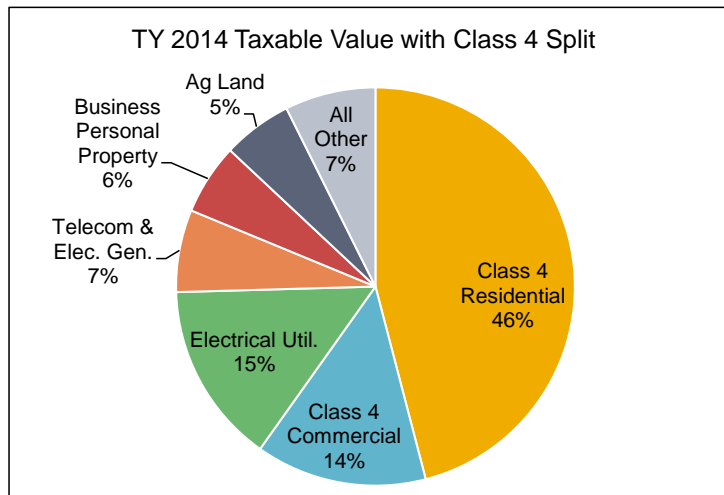
The chart below displays how that money is allocated on a percentage basis in order to see the effects of the distribution. It is anticipated that school districts impacted by the sunset may request a change to current law so that these funds return these districts.



Property Reappraisal Mitigation

Agricultural land (Class 3), timber land (Class 10), and residential and commercial land (Class 4) values are reappraised every six years; all other property classes are reappraised annually. Large increases in property valuation that may occur over a six year reappraisal cycle can put pressure on the legislature to mitigate the tax effects of the valuation increases.

Statewide mitigation of property values is often used to keep the total property tax class revenue neutral while property values increase. When revenue estimates were produced for the [2017 Biennium Outlook](#), there was only very preliminary reappraisal data which suggested reappraisal effects of around \$6.2 million for Class 3 and 4 in FY 2016. It is important to note that reductions in taxable value are phased out completely in the first year. However, increases in taxable value are phased in over a six year period.



Due to Class 3, Class 4, and Class 10 all dropping in taxable value the first year, the reappraisal is expected to decrease state-wide tax collections by \$8.5 million in FY 2016 and \$6.5 million in FY 2017 as compared to no reappraisal. It is unusual that property drops in value, but this will likely put less pressure on mitigation efforts than in past reappraisal cycles.

Executive Proposal

The executive currently has no reappraisal mitigation proposal.

Legislative Options

Reappraisal mitigation can be in different forms; some examples include [HB 658](#) which mitigated reappraisal during the 2009 session, as well as other mitigation proposals from the [2009 session](#), and [SB 461](#) which mitigated reappraisal in the 2003 session.

References

Department of Revenue [2014 Property Reappraisal Presentation](#) to RTIC

Previous Issues Anticipated to be Discussed Again

Local Government Infrastructure

During the 2013 Session local government infrastructure was a significant issue with several funding bills. The legislature passed one of these infrastructure bills: HB 218, which was vetoed by the Governor. In the interim, the Legislative Finance Committee has considered various components that could be used in a program that would fund local infrastructure based on need and community ability to pay.

Executive Proposal

Gov. Bullock proposes HB 5 (commonly referred to as the Build Montana Act), which includes proposed expenditures for eastern Montana infrastructure. The Governor proposes expending over \$300 million using both cash and bond proceeds for the entire Build Montana Act. The portion of the bill focused on this issue is \$45 million in grants to Eastern Montana communities impacted by oil and gas development.

Legislative Options

The Legislative Finance Committee studied options for statewide infrastructure funding for local governments. The following linked reports summarize the options evaluated and are also available at www.leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal:

- [Local Government Economic Impacts Defined](#)
- [Measurement Criteria](#)

References

[HB 218 \(2013 Session\)](#)

[Governor Bullock's 2016-2017 Budget Highlights \(Orange Book\)](#)

Water Compacts

During the 2013 Session, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes water compact did not pass the legislature. The 2013 Session's state cost to this compact was \$55 million and relied on funding from bonds which required a 2/3 vote.

Executive Proposal

At the time of this writing, no water compact legislation was included in the Governor's budget.

Legislative Options

The legislature could choose to pass or not pass the water compacts. Funding for the compacts could come from a one-time appropriation, a payment stream into an escrow account, or bonding.

References

[HB 629 \(2013 Session\)](#)

[Technical review of proposed CSKT water rights settlement for the Water Policy Interim Committee](#)

Medicaid Expansion

In the 2013 Session, the Governor proposed expanding the population eligible for Medicaid as allowed by the Federal Affordable Care Act. This proposal did not pass the legislature.

Executive Proposal

The Governor has proposed LC631 (commonly referred to as Healthy Montana Act), which proposes to expand Medicaid coverage to approximately 70,000 Montanans.

Legislative Options

Many options exist for expanding Medicaid and several options were considered last session including those listed under references.

References

Links to primary 2013 Session bills:

- [HB 458 – Rep Noonan](#)
- [HB 590 – Rep Hunter](#) (Governor's proposal)
- [SB 393 – Sen Kaufmann](#)
- [SB 395 – Sen Wanzenried](#)

Individual Income Tax Simplification

Several individual income tax simplification bills were introduced and debated in the 2013 Session. SB 282 (2013 Session) made it through the legislative process; however, it was ultimately vetoed by the governor. There appears to be a continued high level of interest in simplifying Montana's individual income tax structure.

Executive Proposal

The executive did not propose an income tax simplification bill.

Legislative Options

There have been a variety of approaches to simplification. These approaches usually involve some combination of eliminating various additions, reductions, deductions and credits; changing the income starting point; allowing for joint taxpayer income brackets; and adjusting the rates. Complicating factors may arise by requiring certain outcomes, such as overall revenue neutrality or minimal tax shifting between taxpayers.

References

2013 Session simplification bills:

- [HB 532 – Rep. Hollandsworth](#)
- [HB 581 – Rep. Hansen](#)
- [SB 282 – Sen. Tutvedt](#)

2013 Session Quick Notes: summary document of key elements of the bills

- [HB 532 Quick Note](#)
- [HB 581 Quick Note](#)
- [SB 282 Quick Note](#)

PRELIMINARY EXECUTIVE BUDGET

Executive Proposal

The executive general fund budget based on the revenues forecast by the Office of Budget and Program Planning includes a positive structural balance and a \$300 million ending fund balance. The general fund balance sheet below summarizes the proposed budget.

Preliminary General Fund Balance Sheet				
Governor's Budget Proposal				
in millions				
	Actual	Current	Proposed	
	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Beginning Fund Balance	\$537.6	\$426.9	\$343.3	\$285.4
Governor's Revenue Estimate	2,077.0	2,143.8	2,294.0	2,433.8
Governor's Revenue Legislation				(0.8)
Total Available Funds	\$2,614.6	\$2,570.7	\$2,637.3	\$2,718.4
Ongoing Appropriations and Transfers				
Previously authorized items				
Statutory and non-budgeted transfers, continue				
	\$270.9	\$291.2	\$288.9	\$295.2
HB 2 Ongoing: 2017 Biennium Governor's Budget from IBARS				
Section A: General Governmen	82.6	88.5	96.7	96.1
Section B: Health and Human	445.9	469.1	526.9	563.0
Section C: Natural Resources	30.9	32.4	39.3	39.3
Section D: Public Safety	276.2	283.2	320.0	321.6
Section E: Education	927.9	972.2	1,038.0	1,048.4
HB 2 Subtotal	1,763.5	1,845.4	2,020.9	2,068.3
Governor's legislation recommendations				
HB 13: Pay plan for state employees			12.9	30.8
Other legislation included in Governor's Budget*			(14.8)	1.2
Assumptions				
HB 1 Feed Bill estimate		11.1	1.6	11.4
Reversions		(6.7)	(7.1)	(7.3)
One-Time Appropriations and Transfers				
Previously authorized	135.5	29.0	9.9	-
HB 2: 2017 Biennium Governor's Bu	20.6	25.9	23.2	18.4
Governor's one-time recommendations		31.6	16.5	0.4
Total Expenditures	\$2,190.6	\$2,227.4	\$2,351.9	\$2,418.4
Adjustments	2.8			
Ending Fund Balance	\$426.9	\$343.3	\$285.4	\$300.0
Structural Balance Calculation				
Ongoing Revenues	2,077.0	2,143.8	2,294.0	2,433.0
Ongoing Expenditures	2,034.4	2,140.9	2,302.4	2,399.6
assumed ongoing)	\$42.6	\$2.9	(\$8.4)	\$33.4
assumed OTO)	\$42.6	\$2.9	(\$29.0)	\$3.8

*CHIP FMAP adjustment is included in the proposed legislation line

Several key assumptions are made in the Governor's proposed general fund. First the CHIP FMAP change is assumed to be a new proposal attributed to the Governor's proposal for Healthy Montanans. In addition, this FMAP change is assumed to be of a one-time nature. While there is no federal guarantee of the higher FMAP rate indefinitely, the increased federal match will be available for at least 4 federal fiscal years from October 1 of 2015 to September 30, 2019. This assumption is a key assumption that the legislature will need to consider. The Legislative Finance Committee will establish the rules for the session general fund status sheet and the calculations of this item for the 2015 Legislature.

The Governor's revenue estimates are \$154 million higher than the revenue estimates contained in HJ 2. The lower HJ 2 estimates include \$9.7 million lower corporation tax estimates in FY 2015 which lowers the transfer needed to the fire fund required from HB 354 of the 2013 session.

The Governor has the opportunity to amend his budget until December 15, 2014 and may have further suggestions for the 2015 Legislature.

Legislative Options

The following general fund balance sheet updates the Governor's proposed budget with HJ 2 revenues, the LFD estimates of statutory appropriations and non-budgeted transfers, and adjusts the new legislation and present law HB 2 budgets to account for the CHIP FMAP being included in present law as discussed in the introduction. In addition, a small change was added to Governor's pay bill, HB 13 as requested by the executive.

Preliminary General Fund Balance Sheet				
Governor's Budget Proposal with HJ 2 Revenue, LFD Statutory, CHIP, and Transfer Estimates				
in millions				
	Actual FY 2014	Current FY 2015	Proposed FY 2016 FY 2017	
Beginning Fund Balance	\$537.6	\$426.9	\$331.0	\$219.0
RTIC HJ 2 Revenue Estimates	2,077.0	2,133.0	2,230.7	2,353.5
Governor's Revenue Legislation				(0.8)
Total Available Funds	\$2,614.6	\$2,559.9	\$2,561.7	\$2,571.7
Ongoing Appropriations and Transfers				
Previously authorized items				
Statutory and non-budgeted transfers, continue	\$270.9	\$292.6	\$289.3	\$295.6
HB 2 Ongoing: 2017 Biennium Governor's Budget from IBARS				
Section A: General Government	82.6	88.5	96.7	96.1
Section B: Health and Human Services**	445.9	469.1	506.3	533.4
Section C: Natural Resources	30.9	32.4	39.3	39.3
Section D: Public Safety	276.2	283.2	320.0	321.6
Section E: Education	927.9	972.2	1,038.0	1,048.4
HB 2 Subtotal	1,763.5	1,845.4	2,000.2	2,038.7
Governor's legislation recommendations				
HB 13: Pay plan for state employees			13.0	31.1
Other legislation included in Governor's Budget**			5.9	30.8
Assumptions				
HB 1 Feed Bill estimate		11.1	1.6	11.0
Reversions		(6.7)	(7.0)	(7.3)
One-Time Appropriations and Transfers				
Previously authorized	135.5	29.0	0.2	
HB 2: 2017 Biennium Governor's Budget	20.6	25.9	23.2	18.4
Governor's one-time recommendations		31.6	16.5	0.4
Total Expenditures	\$2,190.6	\$2,228.9	\$2,342.8	\$2,418.7
Adjustments	2.8			
Ending Fund Balance	\$426.9	\$331.0	\$219.0	\$153.0
Structural Balance Calculation				
Ongoing Revenues	2,077.0	2,133.0	2,230.7	2,353.5
Ongoing Expenditures	2,034.4	2,142.4	2,303.0	2,399.9
Structural Balance (CHIP FMAP savings assumed ongoing)	\$42.6	(\$9.4)	(\$72.2)	(\$46.4)
Structural Balance (CHIP FMAP savings assumed OTO)	\$42.6	(\$9.4)	(\$92.9)	(\$76.0)
**CHIP FMAP change has been included in the HB2 Section B budget assumptions as present law				

References

Details to the Governor's Budget recommendations are at this link [2017 Biennium Executive Budget](#) or can be found at www.budget.mt.gov.