

ANALYSIS OF THE STATE AID DISTRIBUTION FUND 2001-03 AND 2003-05 BIENNIUMS (REFLECTING THE 2003-05 BIENNIUM EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION)

	<u>2001-03 Biennium</u>	<u>2003-05 Biennium</u>
Beginning balance	\$0	\$0
Add estimated receipts		
Sales, use, and motor vehicle excise taxes (based on 4/10 of 1%)	<u>66,937,897</u>	<u>70,132,000</u>
Total available	\$66,937,897	\$70,132,000
Less estimated expenditures		
Payments to political subdivisions		
County share (53.7%)	\$35,945,651	\$37,660,884
City share (46.3%)	<u>30,992,246</u>	<u>32,471,116</u>
Total estimated expenditures	<u>\$66,937,897</u>	<u>\$70,132,000</u>
Ending balance	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

NOTE: The amounts shown above reflect the revised 2001-03 revenue forecast (December 2000) and the executive budget revenue forecast for the 2003-05 biennium.

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) Section 57-39.2-26.1 provided, prior to January 1, 1999, for the deposit of a portion of sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax collections equal to 60 percent of an amount determined by multiplying the quotient of 1 percent divided by the general sales tax rate that was in effect when the sales were collected times the net sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax allocations by the State Treasurer in the state aid distribution fund. The Tax Commissioner certified to the State Treasurer the portion of sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax net revenues that were deposited in the state aid distribution fund. The state aid distribution fund had historically been allocated, subject to legislative appropriation, with 50 percent of revenues for state revenue sharing and 50 percent for personal property tax replacement.

The 1997 Legislative Assembly amended NDCC Section 57-39.2-26.1 to provide that, effective January 1, 1999, deposits into the state aid distribution fund are based on an amount equal to 40 percent of 1 percent of the net sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax collections instead of an amount equal to 60 percent of 1 percent of the net sales, use, and motor vehicle excise tax collections. In addition, a continuing appropriation was added which appropriates all revenues deposited in the state aid distribution fund for payments to political subdivisions.

The 1997 Legislative Assembly also changed the allocation of the state aid distribution fund from 50 percent for personal property tax replacement and 50 percent for revenue sharing to 53.7 percent for counties and 46.3 percent for cities. The allocation for each county includes townships, rural fire protection districts, rural ambulance districts, soil conservation districts, county recreation service districts, county hospital districts, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, the South-west Water Authority, and other taxing districts within the county, excluding school districts, cities, and taxing districts within the cities. The allocation for each city includes park districts and other taxing districts within the city, excluding school districts. The county allocation to townships must be based on the same percentage allocation that a township received in calendar year 1996.

State revenue sharing funding was allocated to political subdivisions based on population and mill levies, and personal property tax funding was allocated to political subdivisions based on the historic real property taxes levied. The new allocation provides for 53.7 percent of the revenues to be distributed to counties and 46.3 percent to be distributed to cities. The distribution to the counties and cities is based on population categories. Each population category receives a percentage of the county or city share of the total and is then allocated to the counties or cities within the categories based on population. The following chart shows the allocation of the fund to the various county and city population categories:

Population Category			
Counties	Percentage	Cities	Percentage
100,000 or more	10.4%	20,000 or more	53.9%
40,000 or more but less than 100,000	18.0%	10,000 or more but less than 20,000	16.0%
20,000 or more but less than 40,000	12.0%	5,000 or more but less than 10,000	4.9%
10,000 or more but less than 20,000	14.0%	1,000 or more but less than 5,000	13.1%
5,000 or more but less than 10,000	23.2%	500 or more but less than 1,000	6.4%
2,500 or more but less than 5,000	18.3%	200 or more but less than 500	3.5%
Less than 2,500	4.1%	Less than 200	2.2%
Total	100.0%	Total	100.0%

House Bill No. 1025 (2003), recommended by the Legislative Council's Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, would revise the state aid distribution formula for cities and counties to account for population changes resulting from the 2000 federal census and if approved by the Legislative Assembly would become effective August 1, 2003. The bill provides for total distribution percentages to cities and counties to remain at current levels--53.7 percent to counties and 46.3 percent to cities; however, the allocation formula to specific counties and cities would be as follows:

Population Category			
Counties	Percentage	Cities (Based on Population)	Percentage
17 counties with the largest population (allocated equally)	20.5%	80,000 or more	19.4%
17 counties with the largest population (allocated based on population)	43.5%	20,000 or more but less than 80,000	34.5%
Remaining counties (allocated equally)	14.4%	10,000 or more but less than 20,000	16.0%
Remaining counties (allocated based on population)	21.6%	5,000 or more but less than 10,000	4.9%
		1,000 or more but less than 5,000	13.1%
		500 or more but less than 1,000	6.1%
		200 or more but less than 500	3.4%
		Less than 200	2.6%
Total	100.0%	Total	100.0%