



Yakima County Treasurer

A Report to Our Citizens Fiscal Year 2016

Ilene Thomson, Yakima County Treasurer

How the Office Operates

The County Treasurer’s Office acts as the bank for the County departments, school districts, fire districts, special purpose districts and other units of local government, by receipting, disbursing, investing, and accounting for the funds of each of these entities. The Treasurer’s Office is also charged with the collection of various taxes that benefit a wide range of governmental functions.

Some of the major responsibilities of the Treasurer’s Office is as follows:

- Receipting and Accounting of Revenue
- Billing and Collection of Taxes and Assessments
- Disbursement of Funds
- Debt Management
- Cash and Investment Portfolio Management
- Banking Services
- Real Property/Mobile Home Transfers
- Real and Personal Property Foreclosure
- Property Tax Adjustments and Refunds

Fiscal Year	2016	2015
Employees	18	18
Parcel Count	107,179	106,275
Taxes & Assessments Billed	\$212,379,700	\$207,324,780
Operating Budget General Fund	\$1,452,115	\$1,381,776
Actual Expenses General Fund	\$1,356,350	\$1,323,840
Operating Budget Investment Pool	\$195,833	\$186,950
Actual Expenses Investment Pool	\$150,974	\$159,238
Operating Budget Revolving Fund	\$486,806	\$446,191
Actual Expenses Revolving Fund	\$365,965	\$377,783

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Mission Statement

To prudently handle and manage the public funds that have been entrusted to our care, to serve the taxpayers and our business partners with respect and professionalism, and to provide accurate financial reporting services.



Contact Us

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www.yakimacounty.us/treasurer

(509) 574-2800 Tax Information

(509) 574-2780 Accounting Division

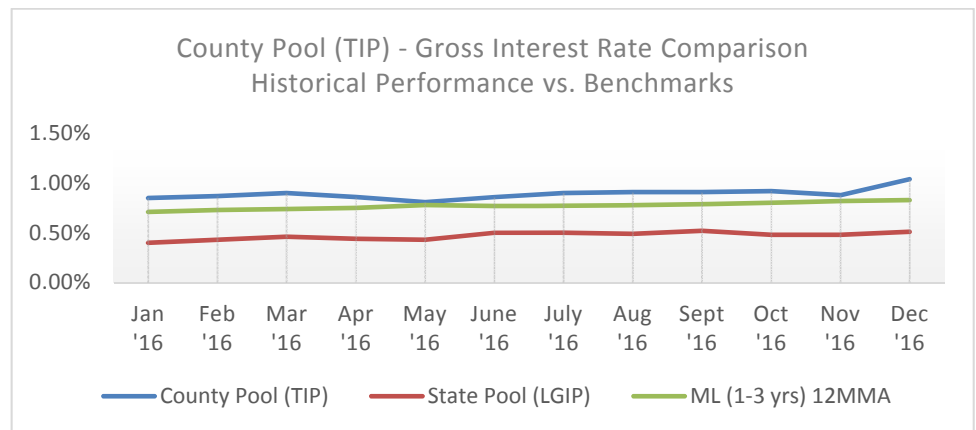
2016 Accomplishments

- Installed a secure drop box outside of the Yakima County Courthouse to assist taxpayers in making timely, safeguarded property tax payments.
- Increased the percentage of taxpayers receiving electronic tax statements (eNotices) by 44% from 2015 to 2016.
- Enhanced the property tax information application on our website with new robust technology which will improve future development and create efficiencies.
- Expanded the current partial payment program allowing taxpayers to make payments through a third party escrow company on delinquent taxes.
- Increased the percentage of electronic real estate excise tax affidavits from 2015 to 2016 by 14%.
- Worked with Yakima County Technology Services to install solid state hard drives in several PCs to reduce the cost of computer upgrades for Yakima County.
- Enhanced the Electronic Excise upload process to include the associated Supplemental data required by Department of Revenue.

<i>Receipting Activity</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2015</i>
General Deposits	\$774,232,668	\$792,472,916
Property Taxes & Assessments	202,395,135	197,270,939
Interest & Penalties on Property Taxes & Assessments	1,808,936	1,910,231
Real Estate Excise Taxes	13,794,866	13,952,235
Investment Maturities	695,810,598	684,778,583
Investment Interest	3,253,220	2,565,324
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,797,010	4,496,961
Total	\$1,695,092,433	\$1,697,447,189

County Treasurer's Investment Pool Portfolio

The Yakima County Treasurer's Office actively manages an investment pool portfolio of approximately \$350 million. The Treasurer's Investment Pool (TIP) was established to provide the districts and departments with a locally managed diversified investment option that would take advantage of economies of scale, simplify administration and achieve a potentially higher yield than other investment options. The investments of Yakima County, as well as most districts in the County, are pooled together in TIP. There are over 270 different funds currently participating in the TIP.



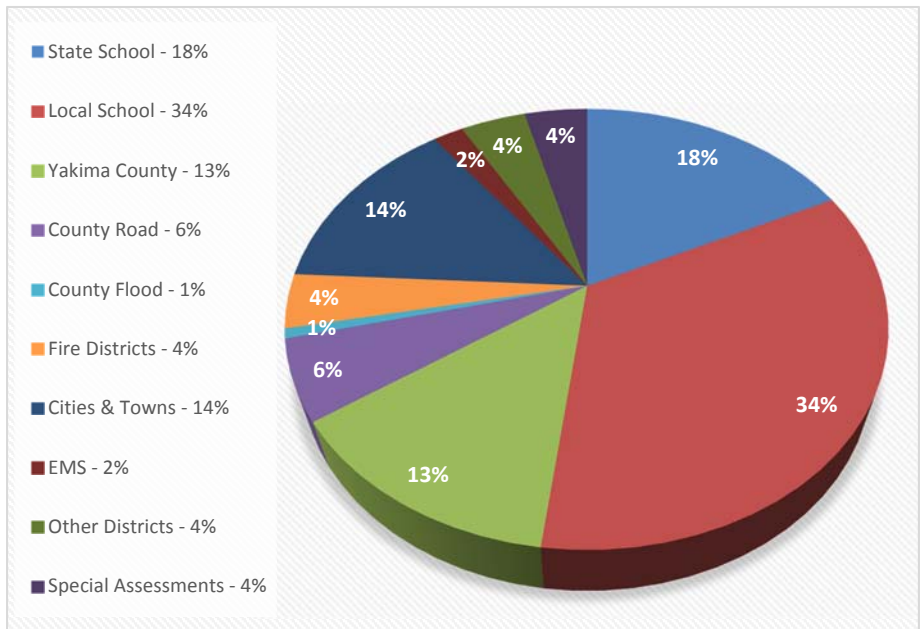
Property Tax and Assessment Collection

(includes current year and delinquent taxes)

<i>YEAR</i>	<i>Beginning Outstanding</i>	<i>Total Collection</i>	<i>Ending Outstanding</i>	<i>Percentage of Collection</i>
2016	\$209,893,553	\$202,395,135	\$7,498,418	96.43%
2015	\$204,891,595	\$197,270,939	\$7,620,656	96.28%
2014	\$204,436,310	\$196,307,679	\$8,128,631	96.02%
2013	\$199,428,994	\$190,703,039	\$8,725,955	95.62%

Distribution of Property Tax and Assessments

Taxes & Assessments	2016	2015
State School	\$35,900,805	\$35,075,939
Local School	69,375,411	67,792,769
Yakima County	26,934,412	26,443,242
County Road	11,863,301	11,463,555
County Flood	1,435,238	1,402,286
Fire Districts	8,080,774	7,940,476
Cities & Towns	28,162,823	27,479,352
EMS	3,944,654	3,852,096
Other Districts	8,476,320	7,931,907
Special Assessments	8,221,397	7,889,317
Total	\$202,395,135	\$197,270,939



Other Districts: Library, Port and Park Districts

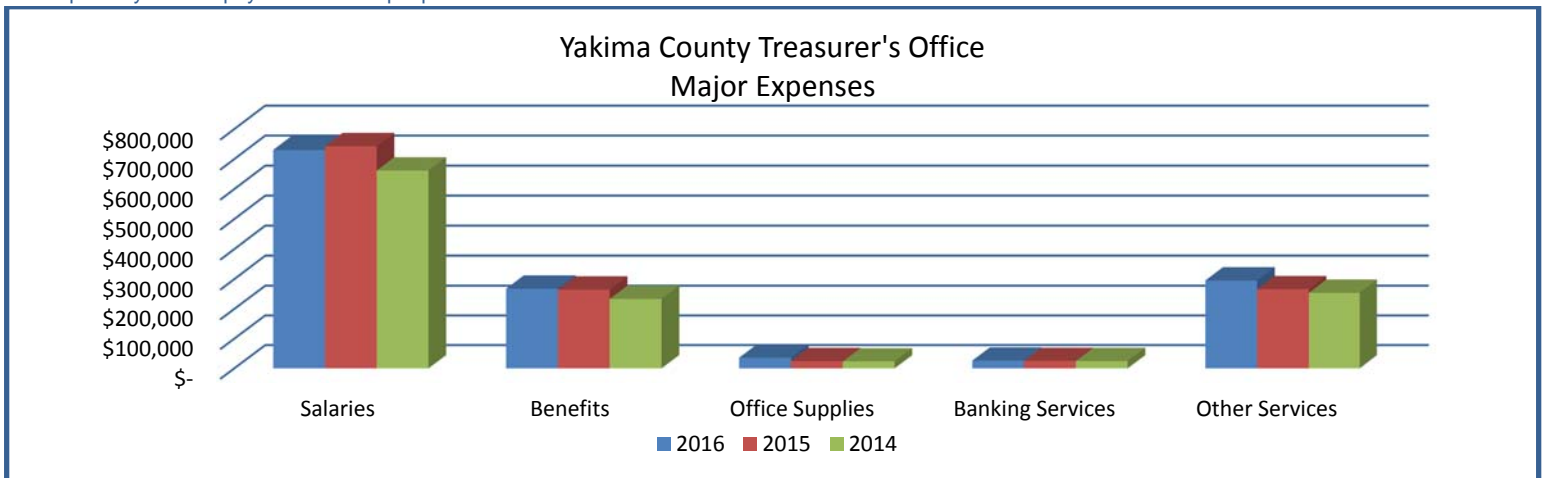
Special Assessment Districts: Irrigation, Conservation, Mosquito, Diking, Drainage, Weed, Stormwater, Horticulture, County Road and Local Improvement Districts and State Forest Patrol Assessments

Receipts Processed **	2016	2015
Mortgage Company	56,229	55,689
By Mail	43,027	43,826
In Person *	19,277	19,598
Credit Card/Debit Card/E-Check *	7,576	6,636
ACH Debit	472	502

*includes payment for Real Estate Excise Tax affidavits

**receipts may include payment for multiple parcels

Annual Production	2016	2015
Property Tax Record Adjustments	2,024	4,535
Real Estate Excise Tax Affidavits	7,374	7,082
General Deposits	10,436	10,700
Investment Transactions	3,027	3,039
Property Tax Refunds	2,323	2,253



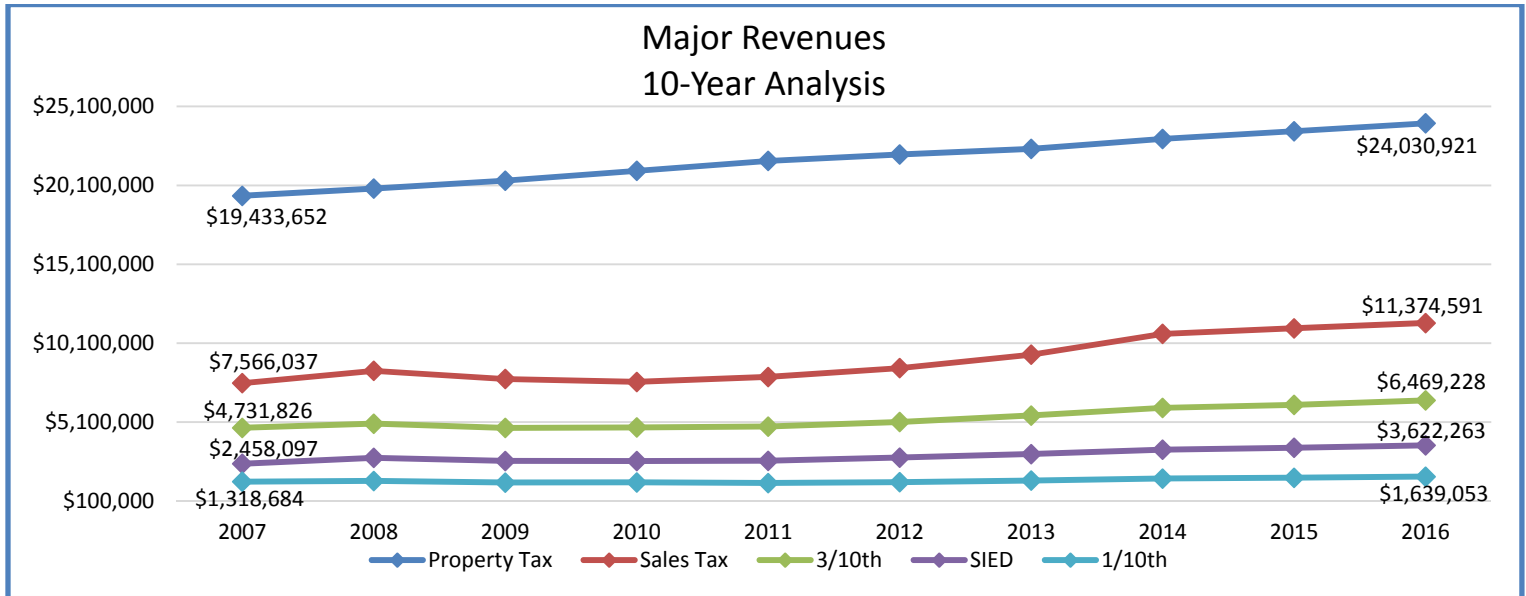
*Other Services include: Armored car, technology services, courthouse security, postage, telephones, advertising, rent, insurance, repairs and maintenance.

Independent Audit: The Yakima County Treasurer's Office does not issue separate financial statements; however, the Treasurer's Office contributes to a major portion of the analysis and statements included in the Yakima County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The 2016 audit report on Yakima County's CAFR has not been issued as of the date of this report. Complete financial information can be found at Yakima County's website: <http://www.yakimacounty.us/>

A Report to Our Citizens

Fiscal Year 2016

The Yakima County Treasurer's Office analyzes, budgets and forecasts for over 50 major revenues received by Yakima County. The five largest revenue contributors are listed below. In addition to these, the Treasurer's Office also tracks Hotel/Motel revenue received within Yakima County and the inclusive cities, as well as Real Estate Excise Tax, Private/Public Harvest Tax (TAV), State and Federal Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT), Liquor Excise Tax and Liquor Board Profits, to name a few. Detailed information, including a month-by-month listing of all major revenues received can be found on our website at the following link: <http://www.yakimacounty.us/treasurer>



Economic Forecast

- Yakima County's population increased from 249,970 in 2015 to 250,900 in 2016.
- The three largest categories included in Local Sales Tax revenue are Retail, Construction and Wholesale Services. These categories increased from 2015 to 2016 by 4.78%, 15.91% and 4.42%, respectively.
- Building permits processed for construction projects over \$500,000 within unincorporated Yakima County increased by 20% from 2015 to 2016.
- New single-family construction, as well as commercial and institutional building construction have shown consistent growth throughout 2016.
- Hotel/Motel revenue increased by \$41,436 over 2015. This is expected to continue increasing through 2017 due to the prospective construction of two new hotels.
- The Treasurer's Investment Pool (TIP) annual interest earnings increased 31.27% from 2015, resulting in additional revenue in the amount of \$82,957.

Goals for 2017

Purchase and install a drive-up, secured drop box for taxpayers to easily make payments from their vehicles.

Submit a Request for Proposal to various annual tax statement vendors, as well as Qualified Public Depositories to ensure Yakima County is receiving the most competitive pricing for printing, mailing and banking services.

Submit the Yakima County Cash Handling Policy for review by the Association of Public Treasurers to receive certification.

Assist various County departments in implementing the option to accept debit/credit cards and e-check payments through the Treasurer's Office third-party vendor.

Provide outreach to taxpayers with multiple parcels and assist them with registering for paperless billing (eNotices) in an effort to reduce costs and resources.

Consolidate several Yakima County departmental bank accounts under the Treasurer's Office banking services contract to reduce banking service fees.