



Iowa Department of  
**REVENUE**

Retail Sales and Use Taxes  
Annual Report  
Fiscal Year 2020

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Tax Research and Program Analysis Section

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
SALES AND USE TAXES ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2020  
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## **Foreword**

Each fiscal year, July 1 to June 30, the Iowa Department of Revenue publishes a quarterly Retail Sales and Use Tax Report for each of the four quarters ending September 30, December 31, March 31, and June 30. This Retail Sales and Use Taxes Annual Report encompasses data for all four fiscal year 2020 quarters, covering sales between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Quarterly statistical summaries are also provided on the Department's [website](#).

**Tax Collection Distributions:** In FY 2020, \$3.1 billion in tax was reported on sales and use tax quarterly and annual returns filed with the Department of Revenue (see Table 1). Of that tax, 76.1% was reported on retail sales tax returns, 18.4% on retailer's use tax returns, and 2.4% on consumer's use tax returns and 3.2% on Remote Seller returns (see Figure 1). There was a decrease in the share associated with retail sales and consumer use sales (remitted by taxpayers who purchase from retailers with no nexus), while there was an increase in the share associated with retailer's use sales (remitted by retailers located outside of Iowa with physical nexus) over last year. The remote sellers (remitted by retailers located outside of Iowa that do not have physical nexus in the state) is a new category that began in January 2019. The data recorded on sales and use tax returns and aggregated in this report only reflect the fiscal year in which the economic activity occurred. In contrast, fiscal year cash receipts include payments that represent economic activity in other fiscal years; thus numbers in this report do not equal cash receipts.

**Retail Sales Tax Summary:** This section contains a brief history of the development of the Iowa retail sales tax, listing some major legislation that changed the Iowa sales tax base. The remaining pages of the section present various retail sales tax statistics.

Retail sales activity by type of business is classified using the 2007 North American Industry Code Classification System (NAICS). In 1999, the Department of Revenue converted many of the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes to the appropriate four digit NAICS code. Where an exact match was not possible, the Department attempted to match as closely as possible with the NAICS codes. These tables match presentations of sales and use tax data in prior annual reports. However, between the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2013 and the first quarter in fiscal year 2014 the Department reviewed the business class codes assigned to retailers in the sales and use tax database. In that review, approximately 12 percent of retailers were reassigned to a different business class code to more accurately reflect the type of business in which the business is engaged. These business classes comprise the business groups presented in several tables, thus these reassigned classes impact tables where data are presented by business group. In addition, the Convenience Stores and Gas Stations business class was moved from the Motor Vehicle group to the Food Dealers group. These changes make data in this report not comparable to reports from FY 2013 or prior years. However, the Department has updated historical taxable sales data to be consistent with the current business groups and posted data by county from FY 2000 through this quarter on [data.iowa.gov](http://data.iowa.gov).

**Retail Sales Tax Statistics:** This section contains various looks at retail sales tax data including taxes by city population, filing frequency, and taxable sales (see Tables 2 through 8).

The following retail sales tax data are included in the MS Excel file: (1) "Retail Sales by County" provides total returns filed, taxable sales and computed tax as well as a count of unique establishments in the county filing at least one return during the fiscal year. (2) "Retail Sales by County and City" provides data for all cities in Iowa where at least 10 permits filed during the fiscal year. The "Other" category provides data for all cities in each county not satisfying the minimum permit requirement and any retailers located in unincorporated areas. (3) "Retail Sales by County and Group" provides data by 12 business groups for each county. Breakouts are provided for each business group within a county where at least 5 or more permits filed in a fiscal year. An "S", representing "Suppressed", is used for any business group that does not have at least 5 permits. (4) "Retail Sales by Business Classification" provides state-wide data by the 12 business groups further broken out into 82 business classifications. In order to protect the confidentiality of individual businesses, information for any business classification with less than 10 permits filed during the fiscal year are aggregated and put in the "Unclassified" category in the "Miscellaneous" group.

**Use Tax Summary:** This section begins with a history of the development of the Iowa Use Tax followed by a summary of the various types of use taxes.

**Use Tax Statistics:** This section contains retailer's use and consumer's use tax receipts in Tables 9 through 11.

The spreadsheet contains the following use tax data (1) "Retailer's Use by Business Class" provides sales by out-of-state retailers to Iowa taxpayers by the 12 business groups further broken out into 82 business classifications. In order to protect the confidentiality of individual businesses, information for any business classification with less than 10 permits filed during the fiscal year are aggregated and put in the "Unclassified" category in the "Miscellaneous" group, (2) "Consumer's Use Tax by Business Class" provides purchases by Iowa taxpayers by the 12 business groups further broken out into 82 business classifications. In order to protect the confidentiality of individual businesses, information for any business classification with less than 10 permits filed during the fiscal year are aggregated and put in the "Unclassified" category in the "Miscellaneous" group, (3) "Consumer's Use Tax by County" provides total returns filed, taxable sales and computed tax on returns filed by taxpayers making taxable purchases out-of-state for use in Iowa during the fiscal year. In addition, a summary of Local Hotel and Motel Tax Receipts by jurisdiction and Motor Vehicle Use Fees reported by County Treasurers are also included.

## Glossary

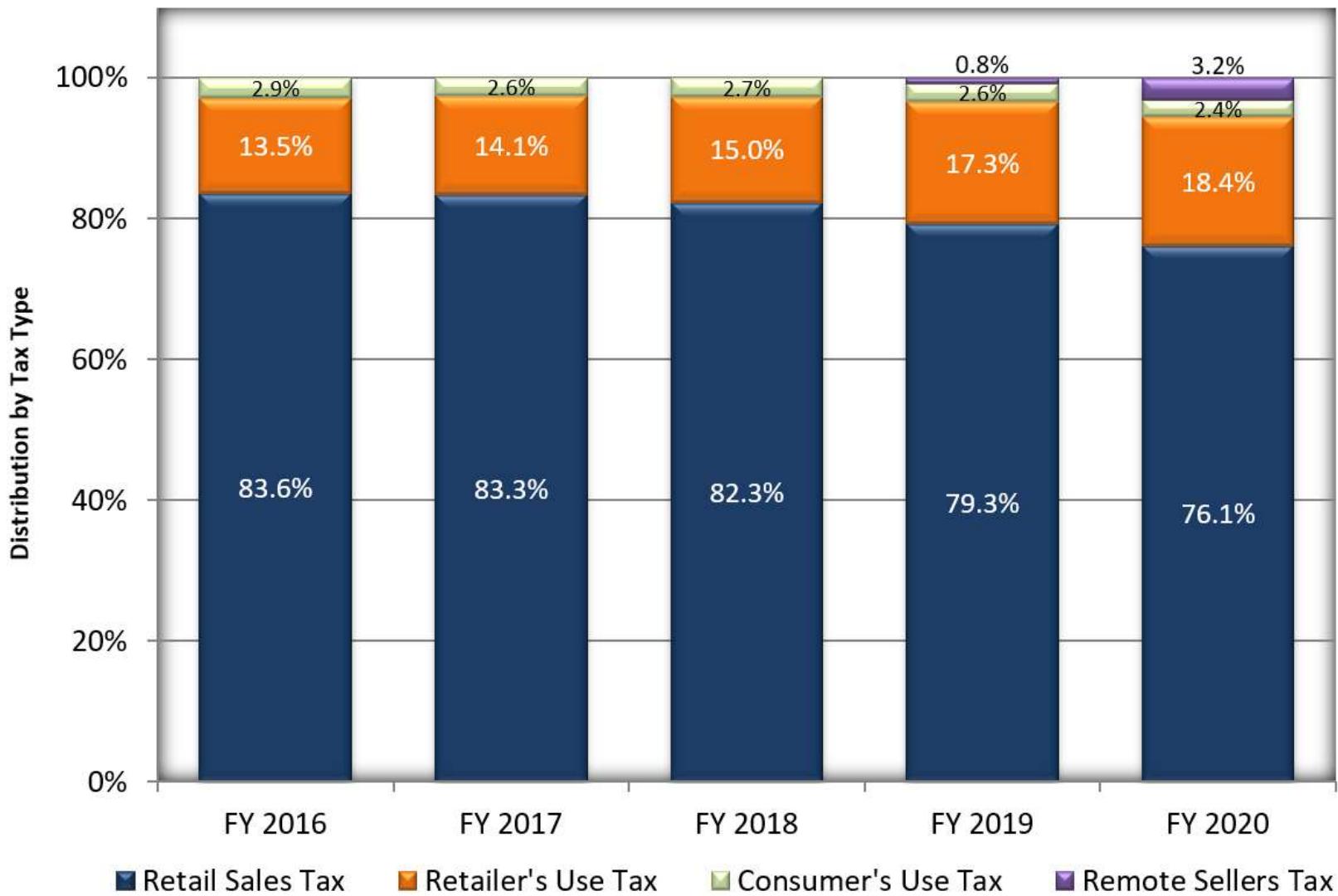
<b>BUSINESS CLASSIFICATION</b>	Business classifications are based on the major type of activity performed by the business. As a result, business classifications may include sales other than normally suggested by the class title. Classifications are based on the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).
<b>BUSINESS GROUP</b>	Consolidation of related business classifications into 12 broader business groups.
<b>COMPUTED TAX</b>	The applicable tax rate times the taxable sales.
<b>CONSOLIDATED FILER</b>	A business with multiple locations in Iowa that aggregates sales tax data over all the locations and files a single sales tax return per quarter.
<b>NUMBER OF RETURNS</b>	A count of all quarterly or annual returns filed by a combination of consolidated and nonconsolidated filers during the fiscal year. When state-level data is presented, the number of returns counts each consolidated filer as one return. When county-level and business classification data is presented the number of returns counts each consolidated location separately.
<b>NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS</b>	An establishment is each unique location where business is conducted that filed at least one tax return during the fiscal year. However, the number of establishments includes each separate location of a consolidated filer even if only one return was filed for all of those locations.
<b>OTHER</b>	Includes all businesses located in unincorporated areas of a county and those cities with less than 10 permits filed for the annual report.
<b>TAXABLE SALES</b>	Gross receipts plus the value of taxable goods and services consumed by the business that were purchased tax exempt, minus the amount of tax exempt sales.
<b>UNCLASSIFIED</b>	Includes all businesses where less than 5 permits filed for the applicable business classification during the fiscal year. These are included in the "Miscellaneous" business group.

**Table 1. Retail Sales and Use Tax Collections by Tax Type in Millions**

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
<b>Retail Sales Tax</b>	\$1,967.5	\$2,064.7	\$2,080.1	\$2,142.3	\$2,242.0	\$2,295.2	\$2,327.3	\$2,349.5	\$2,396.4	\$2,391.5
<b>Retailer's Use Tax</b>	\$298.4	\$317.1	\$347.0	\$360.2	\$381.6	\$371.2	\$392.9	\$428.4	\$522.0	\$577.0
<b>Consumer's Use Tax</b>	\$61.7	\$66.4	\$66.6	\$67.1	\$75.0	\$78.4	\$72.7	\$78.4	\$79.5	\$74.1
<b>Remote Sellers Tax</b>	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$24.6	\$100.0
<b>FY Totals</b>	\$2,327.6	\$2,448.2	\$2,493.7	\$2,569.6	\$2,698.6	\$2,744.8	\$2,792.9	\$2,856.3	\$3,022.5	\$3,142.6

Note: Collections are based on return data filed by businesses, and are not the same as cash receipts

**Figure 1. Distribution of Sales and Use Tax Collections by Tax Type for Fiscal Years 2016-2020**



## **History of Iowa Retail Sales Tax**

A 6 percent tax is imposed on the gross receipts received from the retail sales of tangible personal property in Iowa and from receipts received for the performance of certain taxable services in Iowa. The amount of gross receipts is adjusted by adding the value of goods consumed by businesses that were purchased tax exempt and subtracting the amount of any exempt sales.

The Iowa sales tax was first imposed in 1934 at the rate of 2 percent. The tax was imposed only on the gross receipts received from the sale of tangible personal property; the sale of metered gas, electricity, water, and communication services; and the sale of admissions to places of amusement or athletic events. The tax was set to sunset in three years. On April 1, 1937 the tax was made permanent and a use tax was imposed. On July 1, 1955 the rate was increased to 2.5 percent. The rate was dropped back to 2 percent on July 1, 1957 but was increased to 3 percent effective October 1, 1967. The rate was increased to 4 percent on March 1, 1983, and to 5 percent on July 1, 1992. The most recent increase to 6 percent was effective July 1, 2008. The one percent increase to 6 percent is dedicated to school infrastructure and property tax relief, but is set to be repealed December 31, 2029.

Since 1934 there have been many changes to the Iowa sales tax base. Some of the major sales tax base expansions are listed below:

- April 24, 1947: Retail sales tax was imposed on sales of all forms of amusement devices and commercial amusement enterprises.
- January 1, 1966: Extended tax to hotel and motel rooms.
- October 1, 1967: Extended tax to certain services.
- July 1, 1971: Sales of all vehicles subject to registration were made subject to use tax.
- July 1, 1985: An exception to the exemption for food for human consumption was made for candy, candy-coated items, certain beverages, and certain prepared food.
- January 1, 2019: Senate File 2417 expanded the sales and use tax base to include additional types of items and services, including digital goods, ride sharing, subscription services, online sellers, online marketplaces, and online travel company websites. In addition, Senate File 2417 imposed new requirements for the collection of sales and use tax on online marketplace facilitators and out-of-state retailers.

Some of the major exemptions are listed below:

- July 1, 1974: The sales of food purchased for home consumption, prescription drugs, and medical devices were exempted.
- July 1, 1979: Sales by cities and counties were exempted except utility services.
- July 1, 1987: Purchases of certain farm and industrial equipment and machinery were exempted.
- January 1, 2002: Phase out of Iowa sales tax on residential utilities was passed at a rate of 1 percent per year until the phase out was completed January 1, 2006.

## **Year in Review**

### **Summary of FY 2020 Annual Retail Sales Tax Data**

Total retail sales computed tax on returns filed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 was \$2,391.5 million, a 0.23 percent decrease from the \$2,396.4 million computed in fiscal year 2019 (see Figure 2). The number of quarterly and annual returns filed decreased from 297,948 in fiscal year 2019 to 297,605 in fiscal year 2020, a 0.12 percent decrease (see Table 7).

### **Summary of FY 2020 Quarterly Retail Sales Tax Data**

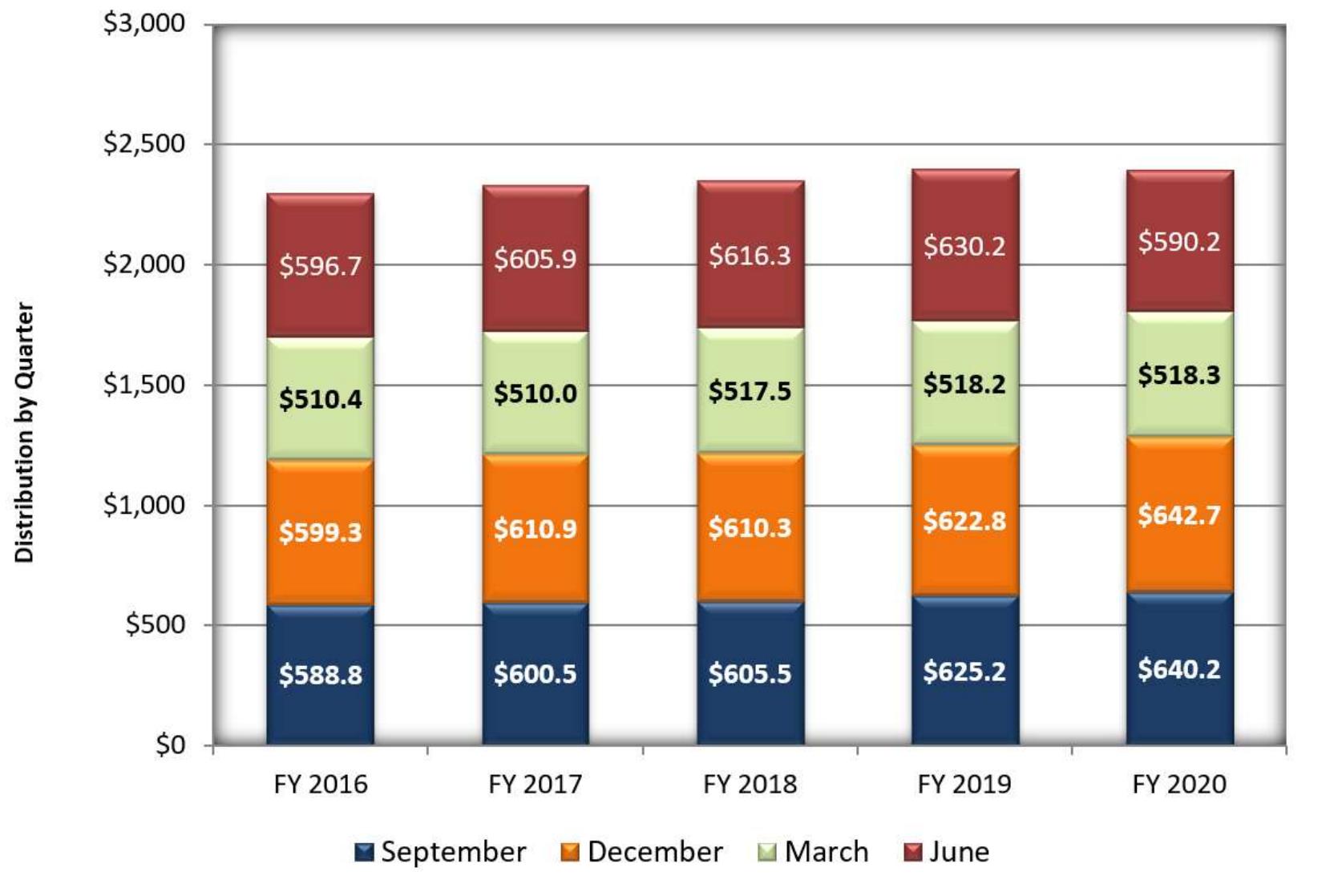
Due to the Covid disruption, June quarterly sales were down from previous years. The December quarter had the most computed tax, 26.9 percent of the 2020 fiscal year total, with the September quarter second at 26.8 percent (see Table 2).

**Table 2. Distribution of Retail Sales Tax Collections by Quarter**

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
September	25.5%	25.3%	25.6%	25.5%	25.7%	25.7%	25.8%	25.8%	26.1%	26.8%
December	26.6%	26.3%	26.4%	26.2%	26.3%	26.1%	26.2%	26.0%	26.0%	26.9%
March	22.2%	22.7%	22.2%	21.9%	22.1%	22.2%	21.9%	22.0%	21.6%	21.7%
June	25.7%	25.7%	25.8%	26.3%	25.9%	26.0%	26.0%	26.2%	26.3%	24.7%
FY Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Collections are based on return data filed by businesses, and are not the same as cash receipts

**Figure 2. Retail Sales Tax Collections in Millions by Quarter  
for Fiscal Years 2016-2020**



**Table 3. Retail Sales Tax  
by City Population  
Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>City Population</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Percent of Returns</b>	<b>Growth in Returns From FY 2019</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Percent of Tax</b>	<b>Growth in Tax From FY 2019</b>
50,000 and Above	75,876	22.13%	-1.18%	\$906,662,613	37.91%	-1.00%
25,000 to 50,000	32,767	9.56%	-0.37%	\$311,781,002	13.04%	-0.03%
10,000 to 25,000	35,191	10.26%	-0.27%	\$343,811,548	14.38%	-0.64%
5,000 to 10,000	47,030	13.72%	-0.31%	\$296,956,099	12.42%	-2.43%
2,500 to 5,000	39,868	11.63%	0.50%	\$197,024,561	8.24%	0.24%
1,000 to 2,500	47,698	13.91%	-0.90%	\$157,790,766	6.60%	1.84%
500 to 1,000	28,725	8.38%	-1.02%	\$78,942,096	3.30%	0.00%
Less than 500	24,608	7.18%	-0.65%	\$67,870,645	2.84%	5.00%
Unincorporated Areas	11,096	3.24%	24.01%	\$30,628,353	1.28%	28.53%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>342,859</b>		<b>0.05%</b>	<b>\$2,391,467,683</b>		<b>-0.23%</b>

Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding

**Table 4. Retail Sales Tax  
by Filing Frequency  
Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Sales Tax Filing Frequency</b>	<b>Number of Quarterly or Annual Returns</b>	<b>Distribution of Quarterly or Annual Returns</b>		<b>Growth in Quarterly or Annual Returns</b>		<b>Distribution of Quarterly or Annual Growth in Tax Computed Tax</b>		
		<b>Quarterly Returns</b>	<b>Annual Returns</b>	<b>From FY 2019</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Quarterly Computed Tax</b>	<b>From FY 2019</b>	
Semi-Monthly	37,842	11.04%		3.25%	\$1,495,112,798	62.52%	-0.15%	
Monthly	96,361	28.11%		-0.02%	\$699,858,221	29.26%	-0.95%	
Quarterly	187,492	54.68%		-0.41%	\$188,200,826	7.87%	1.34%	
Annual & Other	21,164	6.17%		-0.95%	\$8,295,838	0.35%	14.14%	
Total	342,859	100.0%		0.05%	\$2,391,467,683	100.00%	-0.23%	

Notes:

Semi-Monthly: Businesses that remit more than \$60,000 per year are required to remit tax receipts electronically twice per month the last payment is due when the quarterly return is filed.

Monthly: Businesses that remit more than \$6,000 but less than \$60,000 per year are required to remit tax receipts once per month the last payment is due when the quarterly return is filed.

Quarterly: Businesses that remit more than \$120 but less than \$6,000 per year are required to remit tax receipts with each quarterly return.

Annual & Other: Businesses that remit less than \$120 per year are required to file an annual return.

**Table 5. Retail Taxable Sales and Tax  
by Amount of Taxable Sales Reported on Quarterly or Annual Returns  
Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Amount of Taxable Sales</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Taxable Sales</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Percent of Tax</b>
\$0-\$499	76,512	\$4,142,410	\$245,653	0.01%
\$500-\$999	12,670	\$9,310,410	\$553,952	0.02%
\$1,000-\$1,999	17,965	\$26,368,346	\$1,572,458	0.07%
\$2,000-\$2,999	13,048	\$32,310,736	\$1,929,263	0.08%
\$3,000-\$3,999	10,628	\$36,929,291	\$2,205,675	0.09%
\$4,000-\$4,999	8,573	\$38,410,186	\$2,296,610	0.10%
\$5,000-\$9,999	28,557	\$205,734,362	\$12,305,312	0.51%
\$10,000-\$24,999	35,267	\$571,242,201	\$34,168,214	1.43%
\$25,000-\$49,999	25,309	\$911,192,491	\$54,504,985	2.28%
\$50,000-\$99,999	24,057	\$1,729,048,560	\$103,329,044	4.32%
\$100,000-\$249,999	24,638	\$3,907,845,735	\$232,891,955	9.74%
\$250,000-\$499,999	10,719	\$3,721,010,412	\$221,521,942	9.26%
\$500,000-\$999,999	5,221	\$3,583,966,735	\$213,234,423	8.92%
\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999	2,348	\$3,252,079,533	\$194,207,974	8.12%
\$2,000,000-\$4,999,999	1,274	\$3,896,555,529	\$232,810,963	9.74%
\$5,000,000-\$9,999,999	523	\$3,595,247,615	\$215,043,320	8.99%
\$10,000,000 and Above	296	\$14,491,254,403	\$868,645,941	36.32%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>297,605</b>	<b>\$40,012,648,955</b>	<b>\$2,391,467,683</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

The total number of returns does not equal totals presented in the other tables of the report because consolidated returns are counted as only one return in this table.

**Table 6. Total Retail Sales and Exempt Sales  
by Amount of Total Sales Reported on Quarterly or Annual Returns  
Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Amount of Total Sales</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>Percent of Total Sales</b>	<b>Exempt Sales</b>	<b>Exempt Sales as Percent of Total Sales</b>
\$0-\$499	64,197	\$3,392,782	0.00%	\$1,432,453	42.22%
\$500-\$999	10,679	\$7,851,217	0.01%	\$603,418	7.69%
\$1,000-\$1,999	15,387	\$22,600,292	0.02%	\$1,748,208	7.74%
\$2,000-\$2,999	11,496	\$28,459,947	0.02%	\$2,624,088	9.22%
\$3,000-\$3,999	9,488	\$32,971,306	0.02%	\$3,134,640	9.51%
\$4,000-\$4,999	7,616	\$34,138,968	0.03%	\$3,518,303	10.31%
\$5,000-\$9,999	26,218	\$189,321,681	0.14%	\$23,121,400	12.21%
\$10,000-\$24,999	33,745	\$549,925,181	0.40%	\$100,010,283	18.19%
\$25,000-\$49,999	25,803	\$932,919,745	0.68%	\$213,625,540	22.90%
\$50,000-\$99,999	25,386	\$1,825,464,014	1.34%	\$459,168,721	25.15%
\$100,000-\$249,999	29,034	\$4,655,415,768	3.41%	\$1,448,762,668	31.12%
\$250,000-\$499,999	15,373	\$5,392,204,364	3.95%	\$2,192,419,955	40.66%
\$500,000-\$999,999	9,437	\$6,590,056,150	4.83%	\$3,418,462,488	51.87%
\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999	5,653	\$7,900,163,322	5.79%	\$4,992,016,522	63.19%
\$2,000,000-\$4,999,999	4,275	\$13,178,075,155	9.66%	\$9,313,648,381	70.68%
\$5,000,000-\$9,999,999	1,964	\$13,784,539,214	10.11%	\$10,286,546,157	74.62%
\$10,000,000 and Above	1,854	\$81,227,993,391	59.57%	\$64,184,147,481	79.02%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>297,605</b>	<b>\$136,355,492,497</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$96,644,990,706</b>	<b>70.88%</b>

**Total Sales =Gross Sales+Goods Consumed**

Gross Sales are all sales of a business.

Goods Consumed are goods originally purchased tax free by a business for direct resale or to be incorporated for resale but were used in the course of business or for personal use.

Exempt sales are sales made by the business in which sales tax was not required to be charged.

Taxable Sales=(Gross Sales+Goods Consumed-Exempt Sales)

The total number of returns does not equal totals presented in the other tables.  
of the report because consolidated returns are counted as only one return in this table.

**Table 7. Retail Sales Tax  
by Amount of Tax Due Reported on Quarterly or Annual Returns  
Fiscal Year 2020**

Amount of Tax Due	Number of Returns	Percent of Returns	Growth in		Growth in	
			FY 2019	Computed Tax	Percent of Tax	Tax From FY 2019
\$0 - \$24	74,197	24.93%	7.11%	\$182,257	0.01%	3.15%
\$25 - \$49	11,396	3.83%	1.78%	\$420,463	0.02%	1.45%
\$50 - \$99	16,458	5.53%	-0.90%	\$1,209,888	0.05%	-0.74%
\$100 - \$149	12,186	4.09%	-3.45%	\$1,508,008	0.06%	-3.54%
\$150 - \$199	10,017	3.37%	-2.26%	\$1,745,679	0.07%	-2.36%
\$200 - \$249	8,296	2.79%	-1.14%	\$1,859,849	0.08%	-1.27%
\$250 - \$499	28,160	9.46%	-3.92%	\$10,212,156	0.43%	-4.30%
\$500 - \$999	27,651	9.29%	-3.27%	\$19,859,900	0.83%	-3.18%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	14,971	5.03%	-4.37%	\$18,434,010	0.77%	-4.36%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	10,582	3.56%	-0.45%	\$18,395,606	0.77%	-0.36%
\$2,000 - \$2,499	8,218	2.76%	-0.52%	\$18,402,841	0.77%	-0.61%
\$2,500 - \$2,999	6,549	2.20%	-3.55%	\$17,970,005	0.75%	-3.50%
\$3,000 - \$3,999	10,219	3.43%	-0.98%	\$35,523,125	1.49%	-0.88%
\$4,000 - \$4,999	7,667	2.58%	-2.16%	\$34,362,826	1.44%	-2.23%
\$5,000 - \$9,999	21,180	7.12%	-2.34%	\$150,256,164	6.28%	-2.60%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	18,166	6.10%	-2.33%	\$281,721,044	11.78%	-2.33%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	6,315	2.12%	-2.31%	\$217,720,995	9.10%	-2.03%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	2,803	0.94%	-1.86%	\$192,669,031	8.06%	-1.48%
\$100,000 - \$199,999	1,334	0.45%	-4.30%	\$182,431,475	7.63%	-3.88%
\$200,000 - \$499,999	851	0.29%	3.53%	\$266,798,851	11.16%	2.39%
\$500,000 - \$999,999	223	0.07%	-3.04%	\$151,112,545	6.32%	-2.24%
\$1,000,000 and Above	166	0.06%	-2.92%	\$768,670,966	32.14%	2.84%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>297,605</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>-0.12%</b>	<b>\$2,391,467,683</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>-0.23%</b>

Percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

The total number of returns does not equal totals presented in the other tables of the report because consolidated returns are counted as only one return in this table.

**Table 8. Change in Retail Sales Tax Returns, Establishments and Computed Tax  
by Business Group for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020**

Business Group	Number of								
	Number of Returns			Establishments			Computed Tax		
	Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent
Business Group	FY 2019	FY 2020	Change	FY 2019	FY 2020	Change	FY 2019	FY 2020	Change
Apparel	6,552	6,650	1.50%	2,024	2,117	4.59%	\$59,182,582	\$50,095,347	-15.35%
Building Materials	5,477	5,424	-0.97%	1,612	1,634	1.36%	\$175,848,983	\$192,750,613	9.61%
Eating and Drinking	31,196	30,959	-0.76%	8,894	8,750	-1.62%	\$271,580,570	\$254,210,382	-6.40%
Food Dealers	12,317	11,999	-2.58%	3,405	3,363	-1.23%	\$218,290,031	\$228,382,751	4.62%
General Merchandise	3,157	3,355	6.27%	921	1,084	17.70%	\$276,829,654	\$275,183,495	-0.59%
Home Furnishings	5,360	5,147	-3.97%	1,625	1,573	-3.20%	\$70,783,336	\$67,382,942	-4.80%
Miscellaneous	50,407	51,045	1.27%	15,756	16,059	1.92%	\$203,821,120	\$215,709,612	5.83%
Motor Vehicle	9,089	8,852	-2.61%	2,701	2,629	-2.67%	\$122,646,833	\$127,825,804	4.22%
Services	130,089	131,151	0.82%	39,317	40,820	3.82%	\$340,737,109	\$320,015,996	-6.08%
Specialty Retail	56,462	55,900	-1.00%	22,672	22,409	-1.16%	\$185,213,709	\$189,909,507	2.54%
Utilities and Transportation	15,954	15,784	-1.07%	4,340	4,317	-0.53%	\$238,522,281	\$229,132,969	-3.94%
Wholesale	16,615	16,593	-0.13%	4,825	4,912	1.80%	\$233,492,632	\$240,868,267	3.16%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>342,675</b>	<b>342,859</b>	<b>0.05%</b>	<b>108,092</b>	<b>109,667</b>	<b>1.46%</b>	<b>\$2,396,948,840</b>	<b>\$2,391,467,683</b>	<b>-0.23%</b>

The number of returns counts total quarterly or annual returns filed by businesses. The number of establishments counts the unique number of businesses that filed at least one return during the fiscal year.

Computed tax equals taxable goods and services subject to the 6% State sales tax multiplied by that rate plus hotel/motel room rentals and qualified construction equipment purchases subject to the 5% State excise tax multiplied by that rate.

## **History of Iowa Use Taxes**

Effective July 1, 2008, Iowa raised the use tax to 6 percent of the purchase price of tangible personal property which is purchased outside of Iowa for use in Iowa. The tax is also owed on taxable services purchased outside of Iowa when such services or the result of such services are used in Iowa.

A use tax was first imposed in Iowa in 1937 in conjunction with the permanent adoption of the sales tax. Since its adoption, the development of the use tax has generally paralleled that of the sales tax both in terms of tax base and rates. Credits are provided, however, against the amount of use tax due in Iowa for any sales, use, or occupational taxes paid to another state.

Iowa use tax is collected under two complementary use taxes: Retailer's Use Tax and Consumer's Use Tax. Beginning July 1, 2008 the Motor Vehicle Use Tax was replaced with a one-time registration fee on new and used vehicles.

(1) Retailer's Use Tax is collected by registered retailers from the purchaser on the sale of all taxable tangible property and services. Retailers located outside of the State who maintain a place of business in Iowa are required to register with the Department of Revenue and collect the tax on all sales made into Iowa.

(2) Consumer's Use Tax is paid by individuals or businesses that purchase taxable goods or services outside of Iowa for use in the State. Individuals or businesses that regularly purchase taxable goods or services of property on which the tax has not been paid are required to file a quarterly Consumer's Use Tax return in conjunction with payment of the tax. Individuals who make occasional taxable purchases for use in Iowa are also required to remit Consumer's Use Tax, but do not need to register for a use tax permit.

(3) A 5 percent one-time registration fee is imposed on the sale of new and used motor vehicles which are subject to registration in Iowa. The tax is imposed on the taxable price which is the delivered price less cash discounts and the value of any traded property. Payment of the tax is made to the County Treasurer where the vehicle is registered. Credits are also provided for sales or use taxes paid on motor vehicles to other states.

**Table 9. Iowa Use Taxes**  
**Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Retailer's Use Tax by Business Group</b>					
<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Percent of Returns</b>	<b>Taxable Sales</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Percent of Tax</b>
Apparel	813	1.35%	\$217,089,637	\$13,025,378	2.26%
Building Materials	1,055	1.75%	\$141,484,111	\$8,489,047	1.47%
Eating and Drinking	422	0.70%	\$11,897,930	\$713,876	0.12%
Food Dealers	323	0.54%	\$55,096,808	\$3,305,615	0.57%
General Merchandise	209	0.35%	\$70,622,670	\$4,237,360	0.73%
Home Furnishings	1,204	2.00%	\$131,531,777	\$7,891,907	1.37%
Miscellaneous	15,391	25.53%	\$1,162,966,304	\$69,765,943	12.09%
Motor Vehicle	750	1.24%	\$57,051,467	\$3,423,088	0.59%
Services	14,463	23.99%	\$1,811,477,261	\$108,677,360	18.84%
Specialty Retail	14,571	24.17%	\$3,375,752,144	\$202,528,675	35.10%
Utilities and Transportation	2,481	4.12%	\$1,247,480,712	\$74,848,843	12.97%
Wholesale	8,602	14.27%	\$1,336,736,881	\$80,069,999	13.88%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>60,284</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$9,619,187,702</b>	<b>\$576,977,091</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Computed tax equals taxable goods and services subject to the 6% State sales tax multiplied by that rate plus hotel/motel room rentals and qualified construction equipment purchases subject to the 5% State excise tax multiplied by that rate.

**Comparison of Use Taxes**  
**Fiscal Year 2019 and 2020**

<b>Use Tax</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
<b>Retailer's</b>			
Number of Returns	60,757	60,284	-0.78%
Computed Tax	\$519,991,165	\$576,977,091	10.96%
<b>Consumer's</b>			
Number of Returns	26,745	26,473	-1.02%
Computed Tax	\$79,490,371	\$74,147,464	-6.72%
<b>Motor Vehicle</b>			
Number of Units	965,867	1,006,499	4.21%
Fee	\$350,286,151	\$356,187,224	1.68%

**Table 10. Retailer's Use Tax  
by Amount of Tax Due on Quarterly or Annual Returns  
Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Amount of Tax Due</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Percent of Returns</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Percent of Tax</b>	<b>Growth in Tax From FY 2019 to FY 2020</b>
\$0 - \$24	24,148	40.06%	\$29,436	0.01%	-9.56%
\$25 - \$49	1,771	2.94%	\$64,782	0.01%	-7.31%
\$50 - \$99	2,288	3.80%	\$167,260	0.03%	-11.72%
\$100 - \$149	1,759	2.92%	\$218,087	0.04%	-3.87%
\$150 - \$199	1,363	2.26%	\$236,813	0.04%	-3.32%
\$200 - \$249	1,117	1.85%	\$250,096	0.04%	-7.96%
\$250 - \$499	3,853	6.39%	\$1,393,674	0.24%	-4.95%
\$500 - \$999	4,337	7.19%	\$3,134,402	0.54%	-2.43%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	2,646	4.39%	\$3,258,778	0.56%	0.73%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	1,877	3.11%	\$3,272,290	0.57%	6.47%
\$2,000 - \$2,499	1,344	2.23%	\$3,014,565	0.52%	-1.99%
\$2,500 - \$2,999	1,123	1.86%	\$3,076,409	0.53%	1.46%
\$3,000 - \$3,999	1,749	2.90%	\$6,099,549	1.06%	-2.45%
\$4,000 - \$4,999	1,291	2.14%	\$5,779,663	1.00%	4.25%
\$5,000 - \$9,999	3,417	5.67%	\$24,106,501	4.18%	0.80%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	3,214	5.33%	\$50,617,078	8.77%	5.84%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	1,358	2.25%	\$47,495,513	8.23%	-1.83%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	845	1.40%	\$59,865,483	10.38%	-0.12%
\$100,000 and Above	784	1.30%	\$364,896,711	63.24%	17.71%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>60,284</b>		<b>\$576,977,091</b>		<b>10.96%</b>

**Table 11. Consumer's Use Tax  
by Amount of Tax Due on Quarterly or Annual Returns  
Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Amount of Tax Due</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Percent of Returns</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Percent of Tax</b>	<b>Growth in Tax From FY 2019</b>
\$0 - \$24	13,818	52.20%	\$25,499	0.03%	-1.81%
\$25 - \$49	1,287	4.86%	\$47,026	0.07%	-13.62%
\$50 - \$99	1,572	5.94%	\$113,673	0.16%	-9.75%
\$100 - \$149	1,006	3.80%	\$124,724	0.19%	-15.83%
\$150 - \$199	759	2.87%	\$131,892	0.17%	-2.87%
\$200 - \$249	553	2.09%	\$124,130	0.17%	-9.52%
\$250 - \$499	1,740	6.57%	\$619,960	0.87%	-10.32%
\$500 - \$999	1,493	5.64%	\$1,074,933	1.50%	-10.12%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	762	2.88%	\$934,086	1.34%	-12.32%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	484	1.83%	\$837,322	1.23%	-14.61%
\$2,000 - \$2,499	340	1.28%	\$764,418	1.06%	-9.62%
\$2,500 - \$2,999	278	1.05%	\$763,870	0.98%	-1.89%
\$3,000 - \$3,999	385	1.45%	\$1,340,441	1.70%	-0.70%
\$4,000 - \$4,999	266	1.00%	\$1,185,460	1.56%	-4.68%
\$5,000 - \$9,999	680	2.57%	\$4,872,085	6.67%	-8.08%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	625	2.36%	\$9,768,688	13.23%	-7.09%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	232	0.88%	\$7,821,754	9.94%	-0.98%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	94	0.36%	\$6,350,409	9.51%	-16.00%
<b>\$100,000 and Above</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>0.37%</b>	<b>\$37,247,094</b>	<b>49.61%</b>	<b>-5.56%</b>
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>26,473</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$74,147,464</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>-6.72%</b>

**Table 12. Remote Sellers Tax**  
**by Amount of Tax Due on Quarterly or Annual Returns**  
**Fiscal Year 2020**

<b>Amount of Tax Due</b>	<b>Number of Returns</b>	<b>Percent of Returns</b>	<b>Computed Tax</b>	<b>Percent of Tax</b>	<b>Growth in Tax From FY 2019</b>
\$0 - \$24	5,440	27.93%	\$10,546	0.01%	203.39%
\$25 - \$49	1,502	7.71%	\$20,019	0.02%	199.24%
\$50 - \$99	1,736	8.91%	\$51,366	0.05%	162.94%
\$100 - \$149	1,206	6.19%	\$69,236	0.07%	171.68%
\$150 - \$199	780	4.01%	\$81,056	0.08%	200.11%
\$200 - \$249	611	3.14%	\$93,179	0.09%	206.29%
\$250 - \$499	1,925	9.88%	\$547,954	0.55%	208.14%
\$500 - \$999	1,670	8.58%	\$1,236,189	1.24%	233.17%
\$1,000 - \$1,499	860	4.42%	\$1,307,341	1.31%	223.44%
\$1,500 - \$1,999	565	2.90%	\$1,269,927	1.27%	254.94%
\$2,000 - \$2,499	379	1.95%	\$1,180,246	1.18%	190.45%
\$2,500 - \$2,999	282	1.45%	\$1,146,661	1.15%	281.03%
\$3,000 - \$3,999	390	2.00%	\$1,882,729	1.88%	229.13%
\$4,000 - \$4,999	278	1.43%	\$1,624,289	1.62%	245.05%
\$5,000 - \$9,999	741	3.80%	\$6,164,517	6.16%	233.71%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	673	3.46%	\$11,192,129	11.19%	199.00%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	229	1.18%	\$9,985,025	9.98%	317.32%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	115	0.59%	\$9,233,592	9.23%	263.32%
\$100,000 and Above	93	0.48%	\$52,918,102	52.91%	328.37%
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>19,475</b>		<b>\$100,014,103</b>		<b>283.91%</b>