



Economic and Revenue Forecast Council

EMBARGOED until March 16, 2017, 10:00 am PST when it will be released at www.erfc.wa.gov

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March revenue forecast update

OLYMPIA, March 16, 2017 – The General Fund-State (GF-S) revenue forecast has been increased by \$247 million for the 2015-17 biennium and increased by \$303 million for the 2017-19 biennium.

The level of uncertainty in the baseline remains elevated, with downside risks outweighing upside risks. Major threats to the U.S. and Washington economies remain, including slower growth in developed countries, weaker exports, and sluggish growth in labor productivity. Solid employment growth and strong residential construction activity suggest potential upside risks to the forecast.

The economic and revenue forecasts are updated quarterly. The next update to the revenue forecast will be presented on Tuesday, June 20, 2017.

Forecast of GF-S Revenue (probabilities in parenthesis): 2015-17

Baseline (60%): \$38.227 billion; \$247 million higher than the previous forecast.

Optimistic (15%): \$38.502 billion; \$275 million more than the baseline forecast.

Pessimistic (25%): \$37.790 billion; \$437 million less than the baseline forecast.

Governor's Council of Economic Advisors: \$38.206 billion; \$21 million less than the baseline forecast.

Forecast of GF-S Revenue (probabilities in parenthesis): 2017-19

Baseline (60%): \$40.817 billion; \$303 million higher than the previous forecast.

Optimistic (15%): \$42.801 billion; \$1.985 billion more than the baseline forecast.

Pessimistic (25%): \$38.192 billion; \$2.625 billion less than the baseline forecast.

Governor's Council of Economic Advisors: \$40.523 billion; \$294 million less than the baseline forecast.

Please see our full report for more information. You can access this report at:
<http://www.erfc.wa.gov/forecasts/documents/rev20170316.pdf>

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About the ERFC:

The ERFC was established under RCW 82.33 to provide the Governor and the Legislature with official independent and professional forecasts of the state economy and revenues.