



Economic and Revenue Forecast Council

EMBARGOED until November 18, 2015 10:00 am PDT when it will be released at www.erfc.wa.gov

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Small forecast change as economy continues to grow at moderate pace

OLYMPIA, November 18, 2015 –The General Fund-State (GF-S) revenue forecast has been increased by \$113 million for the 2015-17 biennium and by \$30 million for the 2017-19 biennium.

Overall, our November forecast for Washington State is similar to the September forecast with slightly weaker growth in U.S. GDP and U.S. and Washington employment.

Risks to the baseline include slowing economic growth in the U.S. and globally, the impact of a stronger dollar on exports, and weaker manufacturing activity. The level of uncertainty in the baseline forecast remains elevated, with downside risks outweighing upside risks.

We expect the moderate pace of the economic recovery to continue in both the U.S. and Washington economies. The forecast also assumes that the Federal Reserve will gradually increase interest rates starting in December.

The economic and revenue forecasts are updated quarterly. The next update to the revenue forecast will be on Wednesday, February 17, 2016.

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

Baseline (55%): \$37.204 billion; \$113 million higher than the previous forecast.

Optimistic (15%): \$39.094 billion; \$1.889 billion more than the baseline forecast.

Pessimistic (30%): \$35.341 billion; \$1.863 billion 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/rev20151118_color.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.