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Media contact:
HMRC Press Office
(Individuals)
03000 585020
(Business)
03000 585028
Out-of-hours: 07860 359544

Statistical contacts:
Karen Mason
Tel: 03000 586203
karen.mason@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Alexander Chislett
Tel: 03000 586361
alexander.chislett@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

KAI Indirect Taxes, Customs & Coordination
HM Revenue and Customs
100 Parliament Street
London
SW1A 2BQ

Website:
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hm-revenue-customs-receipts

KAI – Knowledge, Analysis & Intelligence
HM Revenue and Customs Tax and NICs receipts

HM REVENUE AND CUSTOMS TAX AND NICs RECEIPTS .............................................................................. 2

INTRODUCTION .................................................................................................................................................. 3

HMRC tax receipts .............................................................................................................................................. 3

Table 1 Contributions by tax to total HMRC receipts 1980-81 to 2017-18 (%) .............................................. 3

Figure 1 Total HMRC Receipts, 1980-81 to 2017-18 .................................................................................. 4

Figure 2 Total HMRC Receipts, by category, 1980-81 to 2017-18 ............................................................... 5

METHODOLOGY AND DATA QUALITY ............................................................................................................. 6

Methodology ...................................................................................................................................................... 6

Data quality ....................................................................................................................................................... 6

Quality Assurance ........................................................................................................................................... 6

Payovers to the consolidated fund compared with total receipts ................................................................ 6

NATIONAL STATISTICS DATASET – HM REVENUE AND CUSTOMS RECEIPTS ................................................................. 7

COMMENTARY ON RECEIPTS .......................................................................................................................... 8

RECEIPTS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCES ............................................................................................... 8

USEFUL LINKS .................................................................................................................................................... 8

INCOME TAX, CAPITAL GAINS TAX & NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS, & APPRENTICESHIP LEVY ................................................................................................................................. 9

Figure 3 Income Tax, Capital Gains Tax & National Insurance Contributions 1980-2018 ............................. 9

Figure 4 Income Tax, Capital Gains Tax & National Insurance Contributions, & Apprenticeship Levy .......... 9

VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT) .................................................................................................................................. 10

Figure 5 Value Added Tax receipts, 1980-2018 ............................................................................................... 10

Figure 6 Value Added Tax receipts .................................................................................................................. 10

CORPORATION TAX, BANK SURCHARGE, BANK LEVY, PETROLEUM REVENUE TAX & DIVERTED PROFITS TAX ................................................................................................................................. 11

Figure 7 Corporation Tax receipts, 1980-2017 ............................................................................................... 11

Figure 8 Corporation Tax, Bank Surcharge, Bank Levy, Petroleum Revenue & Diverted Profits Tax receipts ................................................................. 11

STAMP TAXES (INCLUDING ATED) .................................................................................................................. 12

Figure 9 Receipts from Stamp taxes, 1980-2018 ............................................................................................. 12

Figure 10 Receipts from Stamp taxes奢 ........................................................................................................ 12

HYDROCARBON OIL DUTY RECEIPTS ........................................................................................................... 13

Figure 11 Receipts from Hydrocarbon oils, 1980-2018 .................................................................................. 13

Figure 12 Receipts from Hydrocarbon oils .................................................................................................... 13

TOBACCO DUTY RECEIPTS ............................................................................................................................. 14

Figure 13 Tobacco Duty receipts, 1980-2018 ................................................................................................. 14

Figure 14 Tobacco Duty receipts .................................................................................................................... 14

ALCOHOL DUTY RECEIPTS ............................................................................................................................. 15

Figure 15 Alcohol Duty receipts, 1980-2018 ................................................................................................. 15

Figure 16 Alcohol Duty receipts ..................................................................................................................... 15

ENVIRONMENTAL TAX RECEIPTS .................................................................................................................. 16

Figure 17 Receipts from Environmental taxes, 1996-2018 .......................................................................... 16

Figure 18 Receipts from Environmental taxes奢 ......................................................................................... 16

AIR PASSENGER DUTY RECEIPTS .................................................................................................................. 17

Figure 19 Air Passenger Duty receipts, 1994-2018 ...................................................................................... 17

Figure 20 Air Passenger Duty receipts ........................................................................................................ 17

INHERITANCE TAX RECEIPTS ....................................................................................................................... 18

Figure 21 Inheritance Tax receipts, 1980-2018 ............................................................................................. 18

Figure 22 Inheritance Tax receipts ................................................................................................................ 18

PUBLICATION DATES ........................................................................................................................................ 19
Introduction

This bulletin only presents information on the taxes collected by HMRC. For complete coverage of all central government tax receipts (including business rates, Vehicle Excise Duty and Television licence) please refer to the Public Sector Finances publication from the Office for National Statistics. For complete coverage of all UK tax receipts, including those from local government, please refer to the Blue Book publication from the Office for National Statistics.

HMRC tax receipts

HMRC collected £594.3 billion in taxes in 2017-18, an increase of 4.4 per cent since 2016-17. The table below shows the total percentage contribution of each tax towards the total HMRC receipts per financial year.

Table 1  Contributions by tax to total HMRC receipts 1980-81 to 2017-18 (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>IT, CGT, NICs &amp; BPT</th>
<th>VAT</th>
<th>CT, BL &amp; PRT</th>
<th>Hydrocarbon oils</th>
<th>Stamp Taxes</th>
<th>Tobacco duties</th>
<th>Alcohol duties</th>
<th>Enviromental</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total HMRC receipts (£m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980-81</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>1982-83</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983-84</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>515,349</td>
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<td>22</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>2017-18*</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>594,300</td>
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</table>

Average (all) 54 19 11 6 2 3 3 1 3
Average (since 2008-09) 55 20 9 5 2 2 2 1 2

1 See for example Table PS46D, https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-finances-bulletin
2 See for example Table 11.1, https://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/nsl/nsl-rl/united-kingdom-national-accounts/index.html
3 Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Over the last decade IT, CGT & NICs (Income tax, Capital Gains Tax and National Insurance Contributions) combined made up on average 55 per cent of total receipts. Value Added Tax (VAT) and Corporation Tax, Bank Levy and Petroleum Revenue Tax (CT, BL and PRT) are the next biggest, contributing an average 20 per cent and 9 per cent of total receipts respectively.

Figure 1 shows annual revenue for total HMRC Receipts, and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. In cash terms, HMRC receipts have grown fairly steadily over the period, but as a percentage of GDP there has been quite a degree of variation. From 1984-85 to 1994-95 the proportion fell from around 30.0 per cent of GDP to around 25.0 per cent of GDP. This was initially due to the economy growing faster than tax receipts and then a drop off in receipts after the economic slowdown of the early 1990s. There was then a rebound to 2000-01 as the proportion rose back to around 29.0 per cent. Since then they have mostly followed the economic cycle.

Figure 1 Total HMRC Receipts, 1980-81 to 2017-18

* Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Figure 2 shows a comparison between taxes since 1980-81 on:

- **Consumption & environmental** (including VAT, Fuel, Tobacco, Alcohol, Betting & Gaming, Air Passenger Duty, Insurance Premium Tax, Landfill Tax, Climate Change & Aggregates Levy)
- **Personal income** (Income Tax, National Insurance Contributions & Bank Payroll Tax)
- **Business income and wealth** (Corporation Tax, Bank Levy & Petroleum Revenue Tax)
- **Capital & other receipts** (Capital Gains Tax, Inheritance Tax, Stamp Taxes, Swiss Capital Tax, Customs duties and older taxes now abolished).

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* * Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Methodology and Data Quality

Methodology

HMRC accounting systems form the basis of these statistics. For some revenue streams adjustments are made to the figures to ensure they are on a National Accounts basis and the definitions align with European System of Accounts (ESA 2010) requirements. ESA 2010 is governed by Eurostat. Adjustments are made to the following taxes:

- National Insurance Contributions - adjustments are made to include amounts paid out in pension contributions and statutory sick/maternity/paternity pay recoveries.
- Corporation tax - adjustments are made to include company tax credits.

For all other taxes the definitions used in the accounts align with ESA 2010 requirements.

Data quality

The HMRC accounts, which are audited by the National Audit Office (NAO), form the basis of the annual statistics. The HMRC Annual Report and Accounts are published on an accruals basis in accordance to the standards specified by the Nation Audit Office in the Whole of Government Accounts. Following publication of this report, our statistics are reviewed and adjustments made to bring them in line with the cash based accounts.


Quality Assurance

We are committed to continuously improving the official statistics we publish. Our quality assurance processes were reviewed in June 2017. As a result further safeguards including systematic automated checks to minimise the risk of error and the use of a quality assurance review checklist in the production of the statistics have been set in place. These measures will enhance the level of assurance and provide a clear audit trail.

As mentioned in the section above, HMRC accounts form the basis of these statistics but as part of quality assurance process to highlight any revisions since the previous month’s publication, checks are made against the data reported to HM Treasury and the Office of National Statistics. Further to this, each section is scrutinised by analytical staff working on each tax/tax credits area. The publication is also peer reviewed by different team members and overseen by the team’s senior statistician.

Payovers to the consolidated fund compared with total receipts

The consolidated fund is essentially a general bank account for the Government. The total paid over to the consolidated fund is the value received by HMRC, which differs from the total receipts are the amount recorded on HMRC accounting systems.

The two figures are different due to varying methods of payment and the speed at which HMRC systems are updated. Total HMRC Receipts includes all payments into the Consolidated Fund and all payovers of NICs including those of Northern Ireland.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>HMIC Receipts</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>HMIC Receipts</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>HMIC Receipts</th>
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<td>24,934</td>
<td>5,989</td>
<td>100,003</td>
<td>48,383</td>
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<td>2014-15</td>
<td>470,445</td>
<td>515,349</td>
<td>183,199</td>
<td>133,500</td>
<td>23,645</td>
<td>5,539</td>
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<td>8,380</td>
<td>124,058</td>
<td>119,759</td>
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<td>594,430</td>
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<td>154,293</td>
<td>23,876</td>
<td>7,386</td>
<td>2,270</td>
<td>15,634</td>
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</table>

This dataset forms the basis of both the cash and accrued receipts in the public sector finances - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-finances-bulletin.
Commentary on Receipts

The following pages include commentary for the main taxes on the total receipts over the last five years and as a proportion of nominal GDP and also the year to date receipts compared against the same period last year. GDP for 2017-18 is the most recent forecast from the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR).

Receipts in the Public Sector Finances

The data in this publication is on a receipts basis i.e. when the cash is received by HMRC. This data is also included within the monthly Public Sector Finance release as part of the Central Net Cash Requirement, published jointly by HM Treasury (HMT) and The Office of National Statistics (ONS).


The table PSA6D contains data on an accrued basis (when the tax liability occurs) and table PSA7D contains data on a receipts basis (when they were received at HMRC).

Please note that the cash receipts data in PSA7D for Income Tax also includes Capital Gains Tax, and the Corporation Tax figure also includes Bank Surcharge and Diverted Profits Tax.

For further information on the Public Sector Finance release, please contact: fraser.munro@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Useful Links

Details of how much National Insurance Contributions are paid by employers and employees can be found here: http://budgetresponsibility.org.uk/download/march-2017-economic-and-fiscal-outlook-supplementary-fiscal-tables-receipts-and-other/

Statistics and analysis of HMRC receipts disaggregated between England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/disaggregation-of-hmrc-tax-receipts

Our publications have moved to the GOV.UK site where you can also find publications by other Government bodies. https://www.gov.uk/

If you wish to see more statistics on your area of interest there are also links at the bottom of each page which will take you to that area on our website. Or if you wish to view all of HMRC taxes areas go to the main menu:

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/about/statistics

Our publications are mainly used for media commentary, policy development and research. A recent survey was completed on our publications, which can be accessed via the link below.


Archived tables can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hm-revenue-customs-receipts
The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Receipts in 2017-18 have continued to increase following the economic slowdown in 2009-10. In 2017-18 receipts as a proportion of the OBR’s forecast GDP level were 15.7 per cent compared to 16.6 per cent in 2008-09; this fall can be mostly attributed to the reduction in economic activity and some structural changes such as above-inflation increases in the personal allowance. Revenue from 2010-11 also include Bank Payroll Tax receipts.

*Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.*
Value added tax (VAT)

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Receipts are now at a peak of £125.3 billion up from £70.2 billion in 2009-10. The fall in 2009-10 and then the subsequent upturn can be explained by the reduction in the standard rate of VAT to 15 per cent in December 2008 then increasing to 17.5 per cent in January 2010, and to 20 per cent in January 2011. Receipts as a percentage of nominal GDP increased from 4.6 per cent in 2009-10 to 6.0 per cent in 2011-12 reflecting changes in the VAT rate. In 2017-18, VAT receipts were equivalent to 6.1 per cent of the OBR’s forecast GDP level.

**Figure 5 Value Added Tax receipts, 1980-2018**

![Graph showing VAT receipts from 1980 to 2018](image)

Monthly receipts in the current and four previous years are shown below. Most VAT receipts are paid quarterly hence the large figures in particular months. Many traders opt to pay in April, July, October and January (stagger 1) as it corresponds with the end of the financial and calendar year. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 1.3 per cent lower than in the same period last year.

**Figure 6 Value Added Tax receipts**

![Graph showing monthly VAT receipts from 2014 to 2019](image)

For more information on VAT receipts, [click here to go to the business taxes section of our website.](#)

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The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Corporation tax receipts as a proportion of GDP have declined since the mid-1980s. The dips in 1990-91, 2000-01 and 2009-10 each reflect declining profits in economic slowdowns. Since 2014-15, growth in both the home, industrial & commercial and financial sectors outweighed lower oil and gas receipts. Oil & gas revenues in 2015-16 and 2016-17 were low mainly due to low oil prices combined with high operating costs, significant levels of investment and increasing amounts of decommissioning expenditure. The reduction in tax rates from January 2016 for PRT and Supplementary Charge (from 50 per cent to zero per cent and 32 per cent to 10 per cent respectively) also contributed to the decrease in oil & gas revenues. Reductions in the main rate of CT have also affected receipts; the rate fell from 26 per cent in 2011-12 to 19 per cent by 2017-18. Receipts have increased since 2015-16 due in particular to growth in companies’ profits and the introduction of the Bank Surcharge.

**Figure 7 Corporation Tax receipts, 1980-2018**

The chart of monthly receipts (below) shows the peak months (Apr, Jul, Oct, Jan) are when the majority of large companies with calendar year and financial year accounting periods make their quarterly instalment payments. Small companies must pay their liabilities nine months and one day after the end of their accounting period. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 5.7 per cent higher than in the same period last year mainly due to Corporation tax.

**Figure 8 Corporation Tax, Bank Surcharge, Bank Levy, Petroleum Revenue & Diverted Profits Tax receipts**

For more information, [click here to go find the corporate tax](#) section on our website.

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8 From 2011-12 the figures include Bank Levy receipts, from 1 January 2016 include bank surcharge and from March 2017, include Diverted Profits Tax (DPT).

9 The 2015-16 and 2016-17 oil and gas figures are provisional and subject to change in the future when payments originally made in respect of a group of companies are subsequently re-allocated to individual companies within the group but which are outside of the ring fence oil and gas regime.

10 Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Stamp taxes (including ATED)\textsuperscript{11}

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Receipts have grown over time, mainly in line with the performance of the housing market. After relatively stable receipts between 2009-10 and 2012-13 there was a 36.5 per cent increase in 2013-14 and a further 10.4 per cent increase in 2014-15, mainly due to increased number of transactions, higher property prices and major policy changes to the marginal rates and thresholds for residential Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT), including an increase in the tax rates for residential properties priced above £925,000, introduced in December 2014. In 2015-16 receipts increased more slowly, likely to be partially due to the devolution of SDLT to Scotland in April 2015. In April 2016 higher rates of duty on additional dwellings were introduced contributing to the sharp rise in receipts in 2016-17 and which have continued through 2017-18.

Figure 9 Receipts from Stamp taxes, 1980-2018\textsuperscript{11,12}

The chart below shows the monthly net receipts. April 2016 represented the largest single month of SDLT receipts since the tax’s introduction in 2003, and is partly explained by forestalling activity ahead of the introduction of the higher rate of SDLT on additional dwellings. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 0.2 per cent lower than in the same period last year.

Figure 10 Receipts from Stamp taxes\textsuperscript{11}

For more information, click here to find the property statistics section on our website.

\textsuperscript{11} The totals from 2013-14 onwards also include receipts from the Annual Tax on Enveloped Dwellings (ATED), which was introduced on 1 April 2013. Excludes SDLT devolved to Scotland from April 2015 onwards.

\textsuperscript{12} * Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Hydrocarbon oil duty receipts

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Receipts as a proportion of GDP grew throughout the 1990s but have steadily declined since then, though they have broadly continued slowly rising in cash terms.

**Figure 11** Receipts from Hydrocarbon oils, 1980-2018

Monthly receipts are relatively flat throughout the year as shown below; the troughs in receipts at the beginning of each calendar year are likely to be a result of bad weather conditions. Receipts for April and 2018 are 0.5 per cent lower than in the same period last year.

**Figure 12** Receipts from Hydrocarbon oils

For more information on road fuel receipts, [click here to find the business taxes section of our website.](#)

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13 * Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Tobacco Duty receipts

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Though nominal receipts have mostly increased over the period, as a proportion of GDP, receipts have been in continuous decline, in line with reduced consumption. The dip in 1999-00 was due to activity in the illicit and cross border tobacco sectors. Receipts have been falling in recent years, with duty rate increases likely to be offset by the continuing long term decline in smoking and downtrading to cheaper cigarettes and other tobacco products.

Figure 13  Tobacco Duty receipts, 1980-2018

In the graph below, the peaks are due to forestalling whereby a manufacturer will bulk release products for consumption prior to anticipated duty increases at Budget, often followed by a trough in the month or two afterwards. There can also be similar patterns of high clearances one month followed by low clearances the next month when manufacturers increase prices. Cigarettes are subject to anti-forestalling restrictions in advance of a Budget, as explained in HMRC Notice 85C. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 31.6 per cent higher than in the same period last year which we believe is due to trader behaviour ahead of price increases.

Figure 14  Tobacco Duty receipts

For more information on Tobacco receipts, click here to find the business taxes section of our website.

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Alcohol Duty receipts

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Receipts continue to increase each year, although in 2014-15 the increase was smaller than in previous years. However, receipts as a percentage of GDP have declined steadily since the 1980s, though they have remained stable in recent years, mainly due to duty rate increases, until 2013 when the beer duty escalator ended and 2014 when the escalators on wine, cider and spirits duty ended.

Figure 15 Alcohol Duty receipts, 1980-2018

The chart below highlights peaks in December receipts, as alcohol is being released for consumption during November in preparation for the Christmas period. There can also be forestalling around the time of a duty rate increase (traders will bulk release products for consumption prior to anticipating duty increases at Budget). Receipts for individual alcohol duties can fluctuate significantly around March/April due to trader behaviour in response to changes in duty rates announced at the Budget. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 17.4 per cent higher than in the same period last year. This surplus is influenced by a lower receipts in the same period last year as a result of the forestalling described above.

Figure 16 Alcohol Duty receipts

For more information on Alcohol receipts, click here to go find the business taxes section of our website.

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Environmental tax receipts

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1996-97. Environmental tax receipts covers Landfill Tax (from 1996-97), Climate Change Levy (from 2001-02), Aggregates Levy (from 2002-03) and Carbon Price Floor (from 2013-14). Carbon Price Floor was introduced in April 2013 but payments were not received until July 2013. Receipts in 2013-14 and 2014-15 have risen mainly due to the Climate Change Levy and the Carbon Price Floor. In 2017-18 receipts decreased slightly; a contributing factor being the gradual decline in receipts from Landfill Tax as a result of operators moving away from landfill to other methods of dealing with waste.

The chart of monthly receipts (below) shows the peak months (Apr, Jul, Oct, Jan) are when the majority of traders make their quarterly instalment payments. Receipts for April and May 2018 are just 0.5 per cent lower than in the same period last year although the pattern by month has changed slightly, mainly due a change in accounting system.

For more information on Environmental receipts, click here to find the business taxes section of our website.

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16 From April 2015 onwards the figures exclude Landfill Tax which was devolved to Scotland.
17 * Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Air Passenger Duty Receipts

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since the introduction of Air Passenger Duty in 1994-95. The sharp rises in receipts in 1998-99, 2007-08 and from 2010-11 onwards, and the decrease in 2015-16 have all been related to policy changes including rate, exemption and banding changes. Receipts as a proportion of GDP have generally followed nominal receipts.

The chart below shows monthly receipts throughout the year. Receipts tend to rise in summer months and fall during winter, other than an upturn in January receipts, reflecting increased travel during December. The receipts in February 2018 are significantly lower than in previous years reflecting a change to the payment patterns, affecting direct debit payments in months with less than 30 days. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 20.5 per cent higher than in the same period last year due to a processing issue in May 2017 moving receipts into June 2017.

For more information on APD receipts, [click here](#) to find the business taxes section of our website.

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18 * Figures remain as provisional until they are aligned to the HMRC Annual Report and Trust Statement, which is published following the end of each financial year.
Inheritance Tax Receipts

The graph below shows annual revenue and revenue as a percentage of GDP since 1980-81. Receipts rose steadily until 2007-08 due to increases in the value of tax-liable assets in this period, particularly in the value of residential property. Receipts then fell sharply due to both the introduction of the Transferable Nil Rate Band for deaths occurring from October 2007 and a fall in the value of residential property in the second half of 2008 and in most of 2009. Since 2009-10, receipts have increased both in terms of annual revenue and as a proportion of GDP. Receipts increased substantially in 2015-16 as a result of rising asset values and a higher number of deaths in the final months of 2014-15 compared to the same period in previous years.

The chart below shows monthly receipts throughout the year. Receipts for April and May 2018 are 16.2 per cent lower than in the same period last year. April and May last year were unusually high due to a number of contributing factors including an increase in the number and value of payments.

For more information on IHT receipts, click here to find the personal taxes section of our website.

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Telephone: 0845 601 3034
Overseas: +44 (1633) 653 599
Minicom: 01633 812399
Email: info@statistics.gov.uk
Fax: 01633 652747
Letters: Customer Contact Centre, Room 1.015, Cardiff Road, Newport, NP10 8XG