

STATE OF LOUISIANA
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE



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Gift Tax Statistics

House Bill 198 (re-engrossed with Senate committee amendments) proposes to phase-out the gift tax over a six-year period, beginning in fiscal year 2005 - 2006. During consideration of the bill, the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs posed a number of questions about the tax itself. The attached statistics attempt to answer those questions and provide a general picture of the tax.

This tax is not on the Department of Revenue's integrated tax system. Thus, the Department had to manually sample from over 2,200 annual gift tax returns to extract the information that is the basis of the following page of statistics. Samples from tax years 2002 and 2003 were taken. Gift tax returns for 2003 were also manually cross-referenced against donor individual income tax returns for that year. The resulting data was compiled into the statistics on the accompanying page by the Legislative Fiscal Office.

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Gift Tax Statistics

Parish	2002	2003	Two-Year	Gift Size	2003	Income Size	2002
	% of Returns	% of Returns	% of Returns		% of Returns		% of Gifts
Acadia	1.19%		0.67%	less than		less than	
Ascension	1.19%		0.67%	\$10,000	15.4%	\$10,000	4.4%
Bossier	1.19%	0.77%	1.01%	\$10,000 -		\$10,000 -	
Caddo	7.74%	13.08%	10.07%	\$20,000	10.8%	\$20,000	3.0%
Calcasieu	5.95%	1.54%	4.03%	\$20,000 -		\$20,000 -	
Concordia	0.60%		0.34%	\$30,000	15.4%	\$30,000	0.4%
East Carroll	0.60%		0.34%	\$30,000 -		\$30,000 -	
East Feliciana		3.08%	1.34%	\$40,000	9.2%	\$40,000	4.5%
EBR	7.74%	4.62%	6.38%	\$40,000 -		\$40,000 -	
Evangeline	0.60%		0.34%	\$50,000	5.4%	\$50,000	1.3%
Iberia	1.19%	1.54%	1.34%	\$50,000 -		\$50,000 -	
Iberville	1.19%		0.67%	\$60,000	10.0%	\$60,000	0.9%
Jefferson	13.10%	3.08%	8.72%	\$60,000 -		\$60,000 -	
Lafayette	12.50%	22.31%	16.78%	\$70,000	6.2%	\$70,000	5.1%
Lafourche	1.19%	3.85%	2.35%	\$70,000 -		\$70,000 -	
Lincoln	0.60%		0.34%	\$80,000	3.1%	\$80,000	0.9%
Livingston		0.77%	0.34%	\$80,000 -		\$80,000 -	
Orleans	13.69%	7.69%	11.07%	\$100,000	2.3%	\$90,000	0.6%
Ouachita	2.38%	0.77%	1.68%	\$100,000 -		\$90,000 -	
Out of State	2.38%	0.77%	1.68%	\$150,000	4.6%	\$100,000	2.6%
Plaquemines		1.54%	0.67%	\$150,000 -		\$100,000 -	
Rapides	7.14%	3.85%	5.70%	\$200,000	3.8%	\$150,000	7.2%
Richland	1.19%		0.67%	\$200,000 -		\$150,000 -	
St. Charles		3.08%	1.34%	\$250,000	3.1%	\$200,000	2.0%
St. Landry		5.38%	2.35%	\$250,000 -		\$200,000 -	
St. Martin	1.79%	2.31%	2.01%	\$300,000	3.1%	\$250,000	1.3%
St. Mary		3.08%	1.34%	\$300,000 -		\$250,000 -	
St. Tammany	4.76%	6.92%	5.70%	\$500,000	4.6%	\$300,000	1.7%
Tangipahoa	2.98%	3.08%	3.02%	over		\$300,000 -	
Terrebonne	2.38%		1.34%	\$500,000	2.3%	\$500,000	6.2%
Union	0.60%		0.34%			\$500,000 -	
Vermilion	1.19%	4.62%	2.68%			\$1,000,000	7.4%
W. Feliciana	1.19%	0.77%	1.01%			over	
Washington	0.60%		0.34%			\$1,000,000	49.2%
Webster	1.19%	1.54%	1.34%				
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%				

Approximately 2,200 gift tax returns are filed annually.

Collections in FY02 were \$4.3 million and in FY03 were \$5.5 million.

Average gift tax per return in FY02 was approximately \$1,955 and in FY03 was \$2,496.

Almost 2/3 of returns (64.4%) are from 7 parishes, each with more than 5% of returns.

In many cases, spouses make identical and separate gifts but file one joint income tax return.

Based on 2002 returns:

		Gift	Donor Income	
with large gift included	Average	\$206,750	\$829,666	
{ \$12 million gift }	Median	\$59,913	\$139,670	{ 1/2 below and 1/2 above these amounts }
without large gift included	Average	\$135,952	\$826,389	
{ \$12 million gift }	Median	\$59,832	\$139,206	{ 1/2 below and 1/2 above these amounts }

Gift amounts ranged from \$2,000 to \$12.1 million.

Donor federal adjusted gross income ranged from \$0 to \$25.2 million.

Donors with less than \$100,000 of income (95% of income tax filers) filed 40% of gift tax returns (making 25% of total gifts).

Donors with more than \$100,000 of income (5% of income tax filers) filed 60% of gift tax returns (making 75% of total gifts).

Based on a sample of 2002 and 2003 gift tax returns (cross-referenced to income tax returns) by the Dept. of Revenue.

Summary compiled by the Legislative Fiscal Office.