THE BOND BUYER

California year-to-date revenues beat forecast by \$13.8 billion

Ву

Keeley Webster

Published

December 18, 2020, 1:49 p.m. EST

The California Department of Finance had some good news for lawmakers grappling with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The state is besting the revenue forecasts from the delayed August fiscal year 2020-21 budget forecast, the DOF reported.



California will have more revenue breathing room than anticipated as the state's leaders turn their attention to fiscal year 2021-22. **Bloomberg News**

November revenues came in \$2.4 billion above the budget act forecast; for fiscal year to date, they're up \$13.8 billion, according to DOF Director Keely Bosler's monthly revenue report for December.

The preliminary cash receipts for the first five months of the fiscal year were \$13.8 billion above the 2020-21 budget act forecast of \$60.7 billion, according to Bosler's report.

For the month, cash receipts were \$2.4 billion above the \$8 billion anticipated for November in the state budget.

General fund agency receipts for the entire 2019-20 fiscal year came in \$1.1 billion above what was expected in the 2020-21 budget.

Revenues grew by 0.4% in fiscal 2019-20, down significantly from the 5.7% revenue growth the state has experienced over the last ten years, according to the report.

The state's three largest sources of general fund revenues — personal income tax, sales and use tax and corporation tax — all beat expectations in the 2020-21 budget forecast for the first five months of fiscal year 2020-21.

Personal income tax cash receipts came in \$10.3 billion above forecast; sales and tax cash receipts came in \$3 billion ahead; and corporation tax receipts were \$714 ahead of the forecast for the first five months of fiscal 2021.

Keeley Webster Regional Editor For The Bond Buyer's West Coast Region.