

Missouri Budget Project E-News

September 14, 2012

Issues

1. **Missouri Tax Credits Take Up Increasing Portion of State Revenue**
2. **State General Revenue Inching Up in FY 2013**
3. **A Special Invitation – Join Us for one of these Upcoming Forums**
4. **U.S. Census Release: Poverty Continues to Climb, One in Seven Missourians is Poor**

1. **Missouri Tax Credits Take Up Increasing Portion of State Revenue**

The reconvened Tax Credit Review Commission met this week in Jefferson City. The commission heard from the State Budget Director, Linda Luebbering about the impact of Tax Credit redemptions on Missouri's budget and ability to fund services. Some highlights of the information:

- Missouri Tax Credit redemptions reached historic highs in fiscal year 2012, costing \$629.3 million. The amount was a 15 percent increase over the previous year, but the amount is more than double what the state spent on tax credits in fiscal year 2000.
- As a portion of the general revenue budget, tax credits now comprise 8.6 percent of the total general revenue budget.
- In the last year, Missouri spent more on tax credits than it did on corrections or on the mental health budget.

[View Director Luebbering's presentation and read more about the Commission here.](#)

2. **State General Revenue Inching Up in FY 2013**

Missouri general revenue collections for fiscal year 2013 grew by 2.8 percent in August. However, corporate income and individual income tax have had slight declines compared to the previous year. Missouri revenue remains well below the level achieved prior to the recession. [Read more here](#)

3. **A Special Invitation – Join Us for one of these Upcoming Forums**

Please join us for a community forum, **“Investing in Missouri's Future: The Impact of Budget Reductions on Education and Health”**. The Missouri Budget Project will be releasing through the forums a new analysis of the toll that state budget reductions are having on services, particularly K-12 Education, Higher Education, Health and Mental Health services. The forums will include presentations from local school, college and health leaders.

The events are planned for:
Monday, September 17, 2012

Registration beginning at 7:30 AM, Program from 8:00 - 9:30 AM
Kauffman Foundation Conference Center
4801 Rockhill Road
Kansas City, MO 64110

Friday, September 21, 2012

Registration beginning at 7:30 AM, Program from 8:00 - 9:30 AM
United Way of Greater St. Louis, Gateway Room
910 North 11th Street
St. Louis, MO 63101

Wednesday October 24, 2012

Registration beginning at 3:30 p.m., Program from 4:00 – 5:30

Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce,
202 S. John Q. Hammons Parkway
Springfield, MO 65806

The events are free, but space is limited, so please register early. Parking is available in public garages near the United Way, but does require a small fee.

[To Register for the Kansas City Forum Click Here](#)

[To Register for the St. Louis Forum Click Here](#)

[To Register for the Springfield Forum Click Here](#)

4. U.S. Census Release: Poverty Continues to Climb

The United States Census Bureau released the data on 2011 poverty levels from its Current Population Survey on Wednesday, September 12. The survey results show that **one in every seven Missourians was living in poverty in 2010-2011, 900,000 people during that two year period:**

- In 2010-2011, 15.2 percent of Missourians lived in poverty
- This represents a steep increase since 2006-2007 when 12.1 percent of Missourians lived in poverty
- Poverty grew from 9.4 percent in 2000-2001 to 15.2 percent in 2010-2011, an increase of more than 5 percentage points over the decade
- The median income in the state dropped from \$55,708 in 2000-2001 to \$46,518 in 2010-2011 (in 2011 dollars)