



Town of Montague
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER/COLLECTOR
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treasurer@montague-ma.gov

April 30, 2020

To: Steve Ellis, Town Administrator
Town of Montague Selectboard

From: Eileen Seymour
Treasurer/Tax Collector

RE: Tax Collection Rates

Dear Steve & Selectboard,

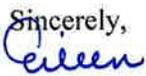
I have attached a chart showing the collection rates for real estate taxes, personal property and excise taxes, and sewer user fees over the last three fiscal years to give you a perspective as to where we are in comparison to prior years amid this pandemic that has affected so many lives as well as people's livelihoods.

I feel we are in a decent position due to the fact that our taxes were due on April 1st originally and the State allowance for extending due dates came after the actual due date. The due date extension that the Selectboard adopted has had some impact on the collection rates; however, I don't see a large discrepancy at this point.

You will notice that the personal property collection rate for this year is down significantly, however, some of that is due to a large utility valuation dispute.

As I have mentioned before, I do have concerns about collecting the 1st half of FY2021 and going forward as this economic shutdown really hits people as time goes on.

I hope this is helpful to you by seeing these numbers and please let me know if you have any questions!

Sincerely,

Eileen

Collection Rates

Real Estate			
Collection rate through April 29th of each year	FY2020 94%*	FY2019 96%	FY2018 96%
Personal Property			
Collection rate through April 29th of each year	FY2020 89%*	FY2019 94%	FY2018 99%
Excise Tax			
Collection rate through April 29th of each year	FY2020 82%*	FY2019 84%	FY2018 86%
Sewer User Fees			
Collection rate through April 29th of each year	FY2020 85%*	FY2019 71%	FY2018 Data not available due to conversion

*Due date extension impacting these collection rates.

Personal property is affected not only by the due date extension, but also a large taxpayer dispute with valuation (so 2nd 1/2 tax has not been paid).