



Business Tax Analysis & Ordinance Review

Presented By HdL[®] Companies

March 4, 2025



FIVE KEY COMPONENTS OF A BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT

- 1. The taxable activity.
- 2. The measure of the taxable activity.
- 3. The rate.
- 4. The classification.
- 5. The results.





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KEY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Business tax rates can be increased up to 5% every other year without needing an equity commission.
- 2. Implementing a 9-year schedule of tax increases could substantially increase revenue.
- 3. Current tax revenues are in the middle of the comparison set.
- The City has the option to reduce the number of business categories, subject to Florida Statutes 205.0535 § (4).
- 5. Simplify administration by consolidating classifications.







CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

SECTION 1 – CURRENT STRUCTURE ANALYSIS AND COMPARISONS

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WHAT DOES THE CITY'S CURRENT TAX STRUCTURE & BUSINESS ECONOMY LOOK LIKE?

- Approximately \$3.09 million per fiscal year
- Approximately 21,000 businesses
- Most businesses are taxed on flat fee rates
- Business tax receipt structure generates revenue from 447 categories out of 636



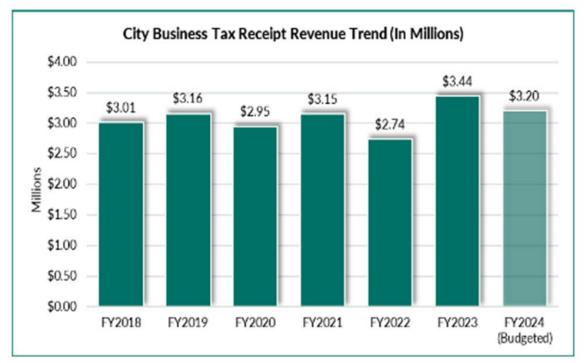


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Business Tax Receipt: An Overview

Chart 1 : Revenue Trend



The reported revenues include penalties

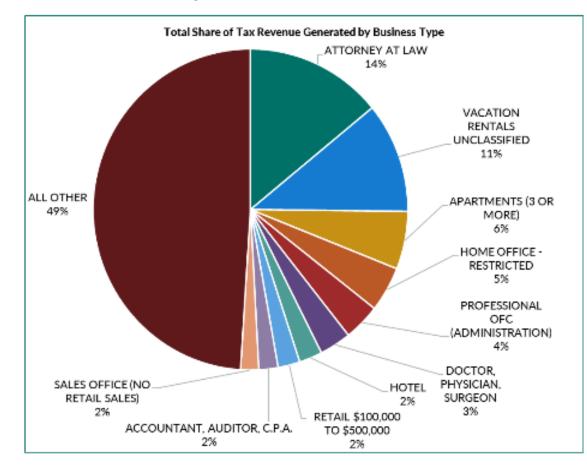




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Chart 2: Composition of Rates and Current Structure







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Jurisdictions Comparison Summary Table

Table 1 : Comparison Data

| Jurisdiction Name | Estimated Population | Estimated Businesses | Tax Schedule General | Revenue in FY 23* | Year Adopted |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Orlando | 316,081 | 36,568 | Multiple Tax Types | \$10,378,552 | 2010 |
| City of Miami | 455,924 | 61,612 | Multiple Tax Types | \$8,555,000** | 2009 |
| Jacksonville | 985,843 | 64,893 | Multiple Tax Types | \$6,779,000 | 1995 |
| W est Palm Beach | 120,932 | 15,539 | Flat Rate Categories | \$4,206,715 | 2006 |
| Fort Lauderdale | 183,146 | 20,919 | Multiple Tax Types | \$3,440,000 | 1953 |
| Hollywood | 152,650 | 17,225 | Tiered Flat Rate | \$2,422,526 | 2007 |
| Sunrise | 96,309 | 9,937 | Flat Rate/ Gross Receipts/Employee | \$2,135,459* | 2007 |
| Pompano Beach | 112,302 | 15,121 | Tiered Flat Rate | \$2,557,924 | 1958 |
| Aventura | 38,930 | 6,758 | Tiered Flat Rate/Gross Receipts | \$1,011,000 | 2008 |
| Coral Springs | 133,369 | 13,815 | Tiered Flat Rate | \$991,983* | 1972 |
| Cooper City | 34,106 | 3,084 | Tiered Flat Rate | \$355,730 | 2007 |



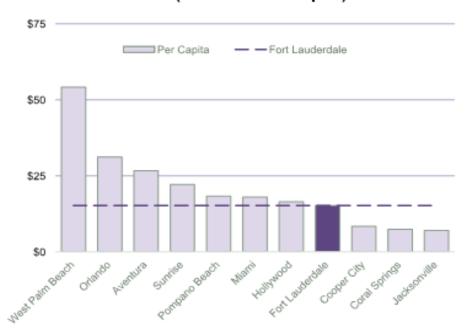
*These cities do not have a publicly published figure for FY23, so the figure presented is for FY22 **The City of Miami does not have a published actual figure for FY23, so the figure presented is the budgeted amount for FY23 found in their most recent budget.

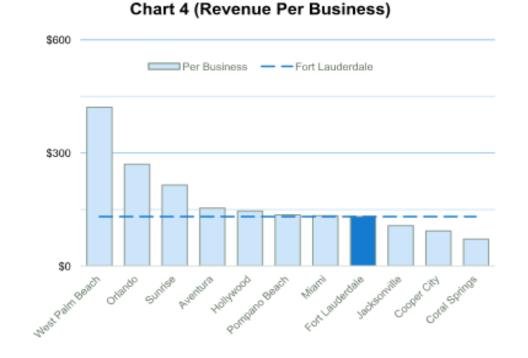


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Jurisdictions Comparison: Per Capita and Revenue

Chart 3 (Revenue Per Capita)









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Table 2: Comparison Based on Different Tax Structures

| Sample Business | Gross Receipts/Employees/Units | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Outside Subcontractor | \$5,000/1/0 | | |
| Small Craft Business | \$20,000/1/0 | | |
| Lawn & Gardening Services | \$50,000/2/0 | | |
| General Contractor - Remodeling | \$85,000/3/0 | | |
| Commercial Landlord | \$150,000/1/5 | | |
| Engineering Firm | \$500,000/5/0 | | |
| Restaurant Chain | \$625,000/20/0 | | |
| Dentist Office | \$2,000,000/10/0 | | |
| Residential Apartments | \$3,000,000/10/100 | | |
| Warehousing/ Distribution | \$5,000,000/15/0 | | |
| Supermarket | \$25,000,000/300/0 | | |
| | | | |

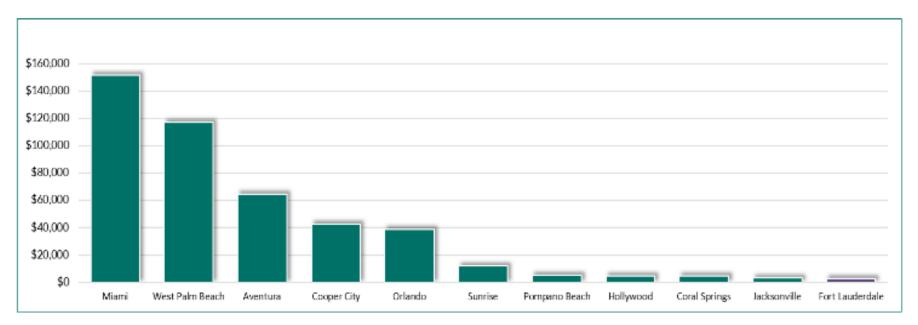




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Chart 5: Revenue Comparison Based on Sample Businesses



- We applied the business tax rates for each jurisdiction to the sample businesses.
- · The chart above displays the total tax revenues for the sample businesses.





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Chart 6 : Comparison Based on Sample Businesses

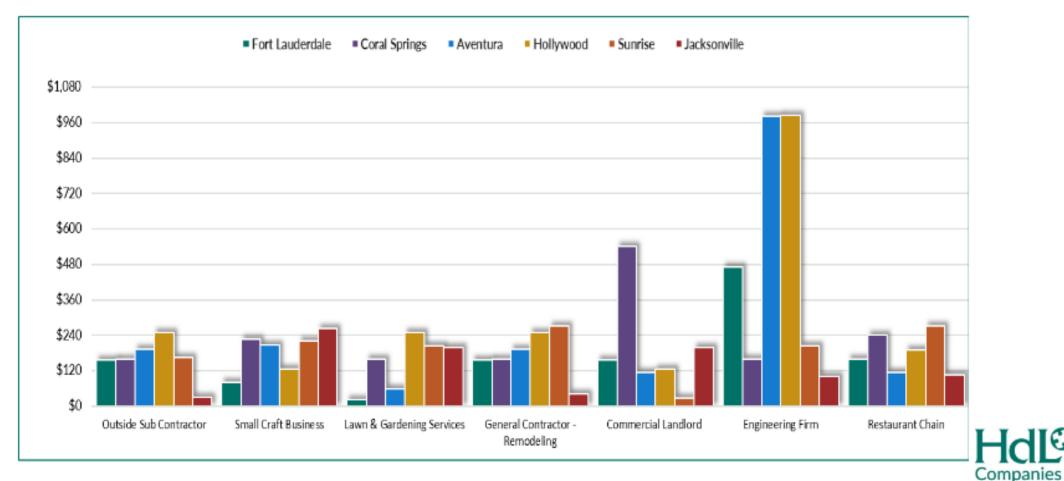
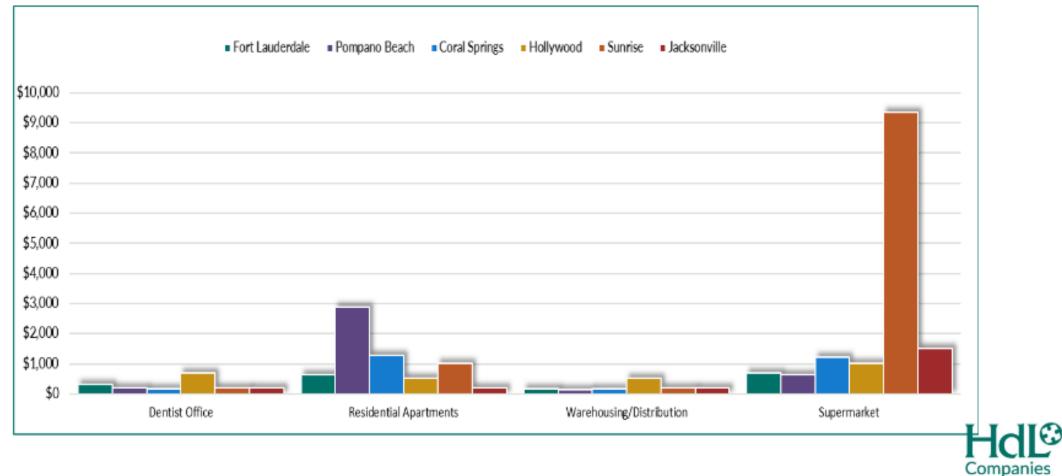






Chart 7 : Comparison Based on Sample Businesses







CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

SECTION 2 – CATEGORY & TAX ANALYSIS

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Tax Analysis and Structure

Table 3: Current Tax Summary

| Total Tax Revenue | \$3,037,473.25 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Average Tax Amount per Business | \$146.19 |
| Median Tax Amount Assessed | \$157.50 |
| Most Common Tax Amount Assessed | \$157.50 |
| Business Tax Per Capita | \$16.58 |





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Impacts of Raising Local Business Tax Rates (9-Year Schedule)

| 1.5% Tax Increase Summary | Year 1 | Year 3 | Year 5 | Year 7 | Year 9 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Tax Revenue | \$3,083,035 | \$3,129,281 | \$3,176,220 | \$3,223,863 | \$3,272,221 |
| Average Tax Amount per Business | \$148.39 | \$150.51 | \$153.08 | \$155.37 | \$157.70 |
| Median Tax Amount Assessed | \$159.86 | \$162.26 | \$164.69 | \$167.16 | \$169.67 |
| Most Common Tax Amount Assessed | \$159.86 | \$162.26 | \$164.69 | \$167.16 | \$169.67 |
| Business Tax Per Capita | \$16.83 | \$17.08 | \$17.34 | \$17.60 | \$17.86 |

Table 4: Model 1 – 1.5% Increase over 9 Years

Table 5: Model 2 – 3% Increase over 9 Years

| 3% Tax Increase Summary | Year 1 | Year 3 | Year 5 | Year 7 | Year 9 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Tax Revenue | \$3,128,597 | \$3,222,455 | \$3,319,129 | \$3,418,703 | \$3,521,264 |
| Average Tax Amount per Business | \$150.78 | \$155.31 | \$159.96 | \$164.76 | \$169.71 |
| Median Tax Amount Assessed | \$162.23 | \$164.66 | \$167.13 | \$169.64 | \$172.19 |
| Most Common Tax Amount Assessed | \$162.23 | \$164.66 | \$167.13 | \$169.64 | \$172.19 |
| Business Tax Per Capita | \$17.08 | \$17.34 | \$17.60 | \$17.86 | \$18.13 |

Total Tax Revenue is the business tax base excluding any penalties or past period payments.



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Impacts of Raising Local Business Tax Rates (9-Year Schedule)

| 5% Tax Increase Summary | Year 1 | Year 3 | Year 5 | Year 7 | Year 9 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Tax Revenue | \$3,189,347 | \$3,348,814 | \$3,516,255 | \$3,692,068 | \$3,876,671 |
| Average Tax Amount per Business | \$153.71 | \$161.39 | \$169.46 | \$177.94 | \$186.83 |
| Median Tax Amount Assessed | \$165.38 | \$167.86 | \$170.38 | \$172.93 | \$175.53 |
| Most Common Tax Amount Assessed | \$165.38 | \$167.86 | \$170.38 | \$172.93 | \$175.53 |
| Business Tax Per Capita | \$17.41 | \$17.68 | \$17.94 | \$18.21 | \$18.48 |

Table 6: Model 3 – 5% Increase over 9 Years

Table 7: Model 4 - Blended Increase over 9 Years

| Blended Tax Increase Summary | Year 1 (5%) | Year 3 (3%) | Year 5 (3%) | Year 7 (1.5%) | Year 9 (1.5%) |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| Total Tax Revenue | \$3,189,347 | \$3,237,187 | \$3,334,303 | \$3,384,317 | \$3,435,082 |
| Average Tax Amount per Business | \$153.71 | \$158.32 | \$163.07 | \$165.52 | \$168.00 |
| Median Tax Amount Assessed | \$165.38 | \$167.86 | \$172.89 | \$175.48 | \$178.12 |
| Most Common Tax Amount Assessed | \$165.38 | \$167.86 | \$172.89 | \$175.48 | \$178.12 |
| Business Tax Per Capita | \$17.41 | \$17.68 | \$18.21 | \$18.48 | \$18.76 |

Total Tax Revenue is the business tax base excluding any penalties or past period payments.



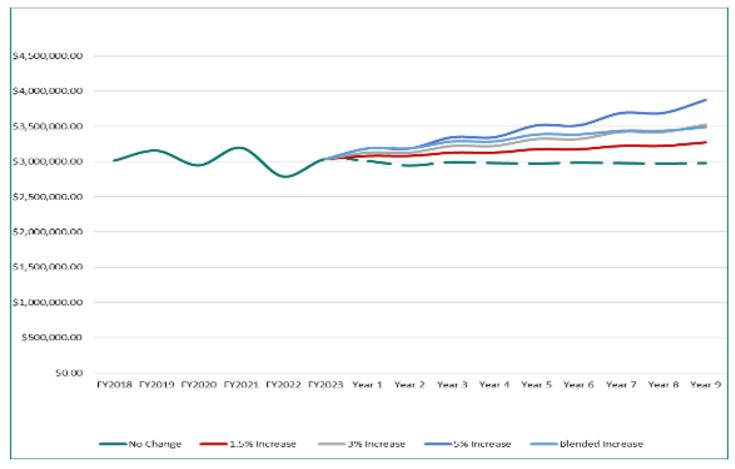


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Impacts of Raising Business Tax Rates

Chart 8: Business Tax Increase over 10 Year Schedule



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Total Tax Revenue for FY2023 is the business tax base excluding any penalties or past period payments.



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Business Classification Consolidation

Table 8: New Category Definitions

| Category Name | Categories Included | Category Definition | Fee |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--|----------|
| PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SUPERGROUP | 27 | See Appendix B for Full Definition | \$157.50 |
| STATE CONTRACTOR | 14 | Any current Contractor classification paying \$157.50 | \$157.50 |
| COUNTY CONTRACTOR | 43 | Any current Contractor classification paying \$83.00 | \$83.00 |
| EXEMPT | 8 | All Current Exempt Categories | \$0.00 |
| ICE CREAM STORE | 2 | Consolidation of 4114.01 and 4114.02 - Ice Cream Store: Eat in or Take out and Take Out Only | \$73.50 |
| MEDICAL SUPERGROUP | 4 | Consolidation of 4135.01; 4135.02; 4135.03; 4136.00; 4112.00 - Medical: Scanning Centers, Laboratory Services, Medical Billing, Hospitals and Sanitariums, and Mental Health Counselors | \$157.50 |
| RENTAL | 5 | Consolidation of 4012.01-4012.05 - Rental: Apartments, Hotels, Bed and Breakfast dwellings, Time Share Facility, and Motels. | \$6.30 |
| RETAIL OR SALES SUPERGROUP | 17 | See Appendix B for Full Definition | \$157.50 |
| SERVICES SUPERGROUP | 99 | See Appendix B for Full Definition | \$157.50 |







Table 9: New Structure's Statistics

| | Current Structure | Proposed Structure |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Unchanged Categories | | 236 |
| New Consolidated Categories | | 9 |
| Total Number of Categories | 636 | 245 |
| Number of Categories Being Used | 456 | 245 |
| Number of Categories Not Being Used | 180 | |
| Number of Categories Removed | | 391 |





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