



UNCLAIMED PROPERTY DIVISION

FISCAL YEAR 2019

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Unclaimed Property Division

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ClaimItTN.gov

Unclaimed property is money that has been turned over to the State by businesses and organizations who cannot locate the rightful owners. Every year, millions of missing dollars are turned over, and the Unclaimed Property Division works to return unclaimed property to the rightful owner.

The Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act of 1978 provides that property that an organization or individual is holding for another person will be delivered to the State Treasurer for custody if the holder of the property has had no contact with the owner for a period of time, normally three years, and if the holder cannot locate the owner. Once property is delivered, the Treasurer utilizes various techniques to locate the owners. There is no time limit on claiming this property. In May 2017, Tennessee's 110th General Assembly passed the Tennessee Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, legislation that allows for even greater efficiency in reporting and returning unclaimed property to Tennesseans.

Unclaimed Property Remitted in 2019

Due to recent legislation that moved the annual reporting date from May 1st to November 1st, there was no required holder reporting period for fiscal year 2019. The first November 1st date will be a transitional date to include 18 months of reporting (January 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019). Going forward, it will cover the preceding fiscal year. During the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, \$31.0 million of cash property was turned over to the Treasurer. An additional \$14.7 million in proceeds from stock sales was recognized as revenue.

Entities with property to report to Tennessee's Unclaimed Property Division obtain forms, instructions, free software, and other valuable data from the division's website, ReportItTN.gov.

Sources of Unclaimed Property

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Financial Institutions	26%	28%	32%	20%	18%
Insurance Companies	22%	34%	26%	27%	48%
Retailers, Services, Telecommunications, Colleges	21%	24%	20%	31%	12%
Cities and Counties	10%	4%	4%	8%	9%
Hospitals and Health Care	9%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Securities and Brokerage Firms	5%	4%	5%	4%	2%
Corporations, Transportation, Manufacturing, Natural Resources	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%
Utilities	2%	1%	2%	3%	3%
Other States, Escheat, and Other	2%	1%	5%	1%	1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Unclaimed Property Returned to Claimants in 2019

During the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, \$65.4 million of cash property was returned by the Unclaimed Property Division to the owners or their heirs, local governments and reciprocal states. The Unclaimed Property Division returned a record-breaking 62,549 claims, up from 48,425 the year prior.

The Treasurer utilizes various methods to locate owners of unclaimed property. Initially, notification is sent to the last known address of each owner. If no response is received, additional search efforts are made through Department of Labor and Workforce Development records, telephone directories, drivers' license records, external locate research tool, and other sources.



62,549

claims returned resulting in

\$65.4 million paid to claimants

Amount Waiting to Be Claimed

as of June 30, 2019



\$976.8 million

Methods Used to Return Property

Location Method	Value of Claims	Claim Count	Average Claim Value
Website Inquiries	\$ 27,307,900	26,361	\$ 1,036
Mailings to Last Known Address	13,549,187	19,916	680
Independent Locators	6,699,489	3,380	1,982
Holder Referral or Reimbursement	5,100,624	1,842	2,769
Match with Dept. of Labor and Workforce Records	3,522,336	4,248	829
Staff or Other Outreach	2,498,512	5,738	435
Advertisement	308,830	321	962
Match Using Legislator	290,367	659	441
Total Claim Payments	\$ 59,277,244	62,465	\$ 949
Interstate Exchanges*	\$ 4,319,665	50	
Refunds to Local Governments ^o	1,821,811	34	
Total Payments	\$ 65,418,720	62,549	

*Tennessee has reciprocal agreements with other unclaimed property programs in other states to exchange property held by one state for owners with a last known address in the other state.

^oAny local government in Tennessee that turns over unclaimed property to the state may request that the property be returned to the local government for safekeeping after it has been held by the state for 18 months.

A searchable database of the owners' names is available on the division's website: ClaimItTN.gov. In addition, the owners' names are available on the national website, Missing Money, at www.missingmoney.com.

Since the program began operations in 1979, \$1.5 billion in unclaimed property has been reported to the Treasurer and \$541.6 million has been returned to owners, heirs, local governments, and reciprocal states.

	Activity				
	Fiscal Years 2015 - 2019				
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Number of Holders Reporting	3,320	8,472	7,730	7,381	7,918
Number of Properties Received	313,720	1,802,374	775,961	835,554	849,434
Cash Received (not including shares sold)	\$ 31,015,269	\$ 174,563,695	\$ 76,544,026	\$ 82,556,490	\$ 93,913,035
Number of Shares Received	503,116	127,280,659	32,680,860	10,443,187	10,546,004
Value of Shares Sold	\$ 14,647,661	\$ 33,461,663	\$ 1,931,246	\$ 19,359,930	\$ 2,042,382
Number of Claims Paid	62,549	48,425	43,491	41,827	32,587
Cash Paid	\$ 65,418,720	\$ 32,881,649	\$ 47,858,887	\$ 34,129,442	\$ 40,439,826
Shares Paid	1,903,571	1,649,330	3,517,056	310,790	222,246

Additional Reporting for T.C.A. 66-29-165

In accordance with the recent enactment of an updated and reformed Tennessee Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, the Department now provides an enhanced annual report on unclaimed property delivered to, held by, and claimed from, the Treasurer. The chart below details the total and value of all claims made for unclaimed property, both those approved and those denied, as well as how claims compare to the value of all unclaimed property delivered to, and held by, the Treasurer. For property delivered to the Treasurer, the amount and value resulting from both voluntary reporting and contract examinations are included. Contractors utilized by the Treasurer, and the amounts they were paid, are also listed.

FY19 Audit Summary					
	Cash Receipts	Securities (Shares)	Proceeds from Stock	Fees Paid	Fee Percentage
Total Receipts	\$ 45,662,930	670,180			
Voluntarily	33,765,728	395,430			
Audit	11,897,202	274,750	\$ 1,811,791		
State Auditors	0	0	0		
Audit Vendors	11,897,202	274,750	1,811,791	\$ 1,549,336	11%
Audit Services	333,109	0	0	39,973	12%
Kelmar	2,223,997	47,410	1,060,420	348,572	11%
TSG Audit	943,150	0	0	156,320	17%
Verus	8,396,946	227,340	751,371	1,004,471	11%
	Dollar Amount	Number of Claims	% to Total Receipts		
Claims Paid	\$ 65,418,720	62,549	138%		
Claims Denied	1,941,839	1,972	4%		
Property remaining available to claim*	\$ (19,755,790)				

*Passage of the Uniformed Unclaimed Property Act in 2017 moved the annual holder reporting date from May 1 to November 1. As a result, there was no required holder reporting period for fiscal year 2019.