

## **HISTORY OF ARKANSAS TURNBACK FUND**

### **Highway Revenues**

Partial state funding for the county road system has been around for many years. The funding mechanism for “county highway turnback” is much different now than when it started. However, the current funding mechanism has been in place since 1953 (Act 188 of 1953). This Act established the 70-15-15 split of all tax revenues levied on motor fuels. County government has guarded this division of revenues closely. Getting 15% of the highway revenues has allowed for growth in county road funding as the state’s economy has grown. In recent years this source of revenue became stagnant due to increased fuel economy and is now declining because of high prices and lower fuel consumption.

Previous state funding for county roads included 7.7% of a 6.5 cent gas tax in accordance with Act 11 of 1934, funds from a ¼ cent gas tax passed in the late 30’s for farm-to-market road districts, and a small amount of funding from Act 5 of 1949. That Act authorized the issuance of State Highway Construction Bonds not to exceed \$7,000,000 per year for the years 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952 and provided that counties of Arkansas, in aggregate, could receive \$375,000.00 for meeting current annual debt of maturing bonds of farm-to-market road improvement districts.

#### **History of Annual Distribution of Highway Revenue Turnback**

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Distribution</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Distribution</u></b>
62/63	\$ 7,773,945	85/86	\$35,498,785
63/64	\$ 8,046,275	86/87	\$41,919,476
64/65	\$ 8,304,705	87/88	\$43,134,202
65/66	\$ 8,590,034	88/89	\$44,122,435
66/67	\$10,964,306	89/90	\$41,020,842
67/68	\$11,589,168	90/91	\$40,950,612
68/69	\$12,246,249	91/92	\$59,096,588
69/70	\$12,654,177	92/93	\$54,135,052
70/71	\$13,506,017	93/94	\$57,407,383
71/72	\$15,398,492	94/95	\$59,810,027
72/73	\$16,764,907	95/96	\$61,347,507
73/74	\$18,376,410	96/97	\$63,281,338
74/75	\$19,001,125	97/98	\$65,606,571
75/76	\$19,121,623	98/99	\$66,634,250
76/77	\$20,368,161	99/00	\$72,809,172
77/78	\$21,105,549	00/01	\$73,964,406
78/79	\$22,379,642	01/02	\$75,048,054
79/80	\$23,055,874	02/03	\$78,861,760
80/81	\$29,327,872	03/04	\$79,128,249
81/82	\$28,614,864	04/05	\$79,990,422
82/83	\$27,143,743	05/06	\$80,447,550
83/84	\$27,407,597	06/07	\$82,218,080
84/85	\$28,329,089	07/08	\$82,107,739
		08/09	\$79,766,625