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Taxable Retail Sales Decline 0.1 Percent during Calendar Year 2010

OLYMPIA – May 4, 2011 – Taxable retail sales declined 0.1 percent to \$100.8 billion in 2010, the Washington State Department of Revenue reported today.

Retail trade, a component of all taxable retail sales that includes retailers but excludes other industries, increased 3.1 percent over 2009 to \$46.3 billion.

The results are a big improvement over 2009, when all taxable sales dropped 11.2 percent and retail trade was down 7.2 percent.

The 2010 figures were weighed down by a 12 percent drop in the construction sector over 2009 figures, but new and used auto sales were up 2.8 percent in 2010, accommodations and food services rose 3.5 percent, apparel and accessories increased 4.2 percent, and sales of building materials, garden equipment and supplies grew 1.2 percent.

Results for the most populous counties:

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
King	\$38.8 billion	-1.3%	\$16.0 billion	3.3%
Pierce	\$10.6 billion	1.4%	\$5.3 billion	3.7%
Snohomish	\$9.7 billion	0.9%	\$5.0 billion	3.3%
Spokane	\$6.8 billion	-1.4%	\$3.4 billion	0.3%
Clark	\$4.0 billion	3.3%	\$1.9 billion	3.6%

Results for cities with the most sales:

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
Seattle	\$14.8 billion	-2.5%	\$5.0 billion	4.4%
Bellevue	\$4.7 billion	- 3.8%	\$2.3 billion	4.7%
Tacoma	\$3.8 billion	0.9%	\$1.9 billion	5.1%
Spokane	\$3.7 billion	-1.4%	\$1.8 billion	-0.1%
Everett	\$2.3 billion	2.6%	\$1.1 billion	1.2%

Taxable retail sales and retail trade by county and city, and a breakdown of sales statewide by industry are available at <http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/newsroom/2011/trs-2010.aspx>.

The Department's *Quarterly Business Review*, which include breakdowns of sales by industry sector by county and selected cities, is available at <http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/StatisticsAndReports/2010/qbrcal10/Default.aspx>.

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