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## **Taxable Retail Sales Increase 2.9 Percent during Second Quarter 2011**

**OLYMPIA** – Oct. 7, 2011 – Taxable retail sales increased 2.9 percent to \$25.6 billion during the second quarter of 2011 compared to year-earlier results, the Washington State Department of Revenue reported today.

Retail trade, a component of all taxable retail sales that counts only retail store sales and excludes other sectors such as construction and services, grew 3.7 percent to \$11.7 billion.

Among major industries, construction continued its decline, dropping 5.5 percent to \$3.7 billion; accommodations and food services rose 5.8 percent to \$3 billion; and motor vehicles and parts rose 6.9 percent to \$2.5 billion. Taxable sales by general merchandise stores edged up 0.4 percent to \$2.3 billion.

### **Results for the most populous counties:**

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
King	\$9.9 billion	4.2%	\$4.0 billion	4.2%
Pierce	\$2.6 billion	(-0.3%)	\$1.4 billion	4.9%
Snohomish	\$2.4 billion	(-0.8)%	\$1.3 billion	3.3%
Spokane	\$1.7 billion	2.3%	\$851 million	1.2%
Clark	\$1 billion	4.1%	\$479 million	3.7%

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**Results for cities with the most sales:**

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
Seattle	\$3.9 billion	5.5%	\$1.3 billion	5.1%
Bellevue	\$1.2 billion	5.0%	\$559 million	2.4%
Tacoma	\$948 million	1.1%	\$486 million	5.5%
Spokane	\$904 million	(-1.5%)	\$435 million	(-2.9%)
Vancouver	\$588 million	6.2%	\$262 million	3.3%

Results for all counties and selected cities are available at

<http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/StatisticsAndReports/2011/qbr211/Default.aspx>.

Additional comparisons of taxable retail sales and retail trade by county and all cities, and a breakdown of the change in sales statewide by industry are available at

<http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/newsroom/2011/trs-q22011.aspx>.

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