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Taxable Retail Sales Increase 4.2% in Fourth Quarter 2011

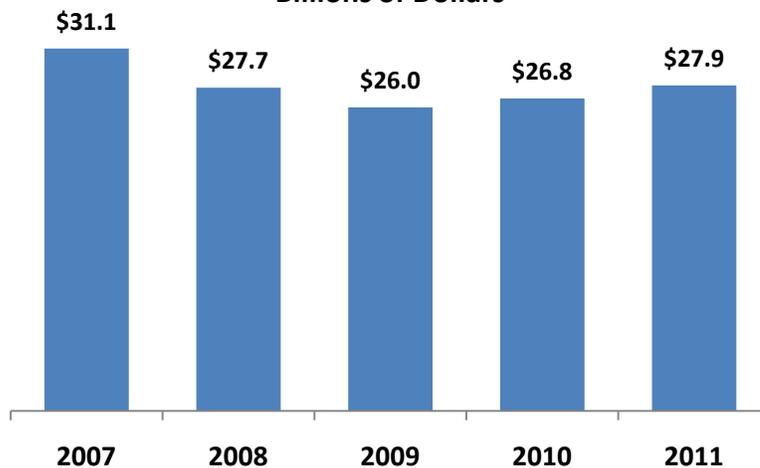
OLYMPIA – April 4, 2012 – Taxable retail sales increased 4.2 percent to \$27.9 billion during the fourth quarter of 2011 compared to year-earlier results, the Washington State Department of Revenue reported today.

Retail trade, a subset of all sales that counts only retail store sales and excludes other sectors such as construction and services, was up 3.6 percent to \$13.3 billion.

Among major industry groups, construction rose 5.8 percent to \$4.3 billion; accommodations and food services rose 5.7 percent to \$2.9 billion; motor vehicles and parts rose 6.5 percent to \$2.6 billion; general merchandise stores was up 0.1 percent to \$3.1 billion, and miscellaneous retailers was up 6.9 percent to \$1.6 billion.

Taxable Retail Sales

Fourth Quarters
Billions of Dollars



Results for the most populous counties:

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
King	\$10.9 billion	5.3%	\$4.7 billion	3.5%
Pierce	\$2.8 billion	(-1.4%)	\$1.5 billion	1.8%
Snohomish	\$2.7 billion	2.2%	\$1.5 billion	4.5%
Spokane	\$1.9 billion	4.1%	\$954 million	3.0%
Clark	\$1.1 billion	5.6%	\$538 million	2.6%

Results for cities with the most sales:

	Taxable retail sales	% change	Retail trade	% change
Seattle	\$4.3 billion	9.6%	\$1.5 billion	4.5%
Bellevue	\$1.4 billion	5.0%	\$695 million	3.4%
Tacoma	\$1.0 billion	(-3.2%)	\$542 million	1.9%
Spokane	\$978 million	0.0%	\$495 million	0.5%
Vancouver	\$652 million	6.1%	\$305 million	4.7%

Results for all counties and selected cities are available at

<http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/StatisticsAndReports/2011/qbr411/Default.aspx>.

Breakdowns of all sales versus retail trade by county and all cities, and a statewide breakdown of sales by all industries are available at <http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/newsroom/2012/trs-q42011.aspx>.

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