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Second quarter taxable sales rise 6.8 percent

OLYMPIA – Nov. 10, 2014 – The state’s taxable retail sales reached nearly \$31 billion in the second quarter of 2014 (April 1 - June 30), recording a 6.8 percent increase over the same period in 2013. Retail trade, a subset of total taxable retail sales, rose 5.4 percent to \$13.9 billion.

These figures are detailed in the Washington State Department of Revenue’s quarterly report of taxable retail sales. The report compares the second quarters of 2014 to 2013, which equalizes any seasonal effects of consumer purchasing habits.

Taxable sales were up in many sectors:

- New and used auto sales – 6.9 percent
- Building materials, gardening supplies and equipment – 7.5 percent
- Construction of new buildings – 9.3 percent
- E-commerce and mail order sales –20.8 percent

Second quarter 2014 results for the most populous counties:

	Taxable retail sales	Percent change	Retail trade	Percent change
King	\$12.2 billion	7.9	\$4.8 billion	6.1
Pierce	\$3.2 billion	5.8	\$1.6 billion	5.0
Snohomish	\$2.9 billion	5.9	\$1.6 billion	7.5
Spokane	\$2 billion	6.6	\$999 million	3.8
Clark	\$1.3 billion	9.2	\$590 million	7.4

Second quarter 2014 results for cities with the most sales

	Taxable retail sales	Percent change	Retail trade	Percent change
Seattle	\$4.9 billion	8.7	\$1.5 billion	6.6
Bellevue	\$1.4 billion	12.4	\$654 million	3.1

Tacoma	\$1.1 billion	.68	\$529 million	2.3
Spokane	\$1.1 billion	6.6	\$495 million	3.2
Vancouver	\$741 million	8.5	\$340 million	11.4

For more detailed reports on taxable retail sales and retail trade for the second quarter, visit Revenue's Local Retail Sales 2014 page here:

http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/StatisticsAndReports/stats_lrs2014.aspx.

About Revenue

The Department of Revenue is Washington state's primary tax administration agency, nationally recognized for innovation and service quality. Revenue collected more than \$19.6 billion in tax revenues in Fiscal Year 2014. These funds go to support public schools, social services, health care, corrections, public safety and natural resources conservation.

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