

OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY

**4th Quarter, 2005
(October, November, December 2005)**

State gross business income increased \$10.7 billion, or 8.2 percent, in the fourth quarter of 2005 compared to the fourth quarter of 2004.

Some of the largest gains were realized in the Petroleum Refining industry, Other Professional Services, and Banks and Credit Unions. The Petroleum Refining industry grew by \$1.1 billion, Other Professional Services realized gains of \$1.6 billion, and Banks and Credit Unions increased \$2.7 billion.

Although the Truck Transportation industry appears to have realized large losses, \$1.0 billion, the losses are actually due to data corrections made during 2005 that distort the comparison between the 2004 and 2005 data.

A few other industries realized strong growth during the fourth quarter of 2005 including Special Trade Contractors, which grew \$0.9 billion and Miscellaneous Retailers, which was up \$0.7 billion.

Overall, Retail Trade grew by \$2.3 billion, Manufacturing was up by \$1.8 billion, Wholesale Trade declined by \$0.5 billion, the Business, Personal and Other Services sector grew by \$3.2 billion, and the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate sector increased by \$3.2 billion.