

OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY

**2nd Quarter, 2011
(April, May, June 2011)**

State gross business income grew \$10.2 billion to \$150.2 billion in the second quarter of 2011, a 7.3 percent increase over the second quarter of 2010.

Gross income increased in most industry groups. Manufacturing was up 20.0 percent to \$36 billion, and Wholesale Trade increased 9.0 percent to \$30.7 billion. Construction was up 1.5 percent to \$8.1 billion. Business, Personal and Other Services increased 12.9 percent to \$31.9 billion. New and Used Auto Dealers were at \$3.5 billion, a 13.7 percent increase over second quarter of 2010. Gas Stations were at \$3.2 billion, a 24.5 percent increase over second quarter 2010. Grocery and Convenience Stores increased to \$3.1 billion, up 5.3 percent. Some industry groups continue to experience declines. Retail trade, as an industry, was down, decreasing 1.0 percent to \$27.2 billion.

Statewide, taxable retail sales were up 2.9 percent compared to the second quarter of 2010. However, some counties showed a decline in taxable retail sales; Cowlitz County was down 12.1 percent compared to second quarter of 2010, Yakima County was down 0.3 percent, and Snohomish County showed a 0.8 percent decrease year over year. Many counties showed increases in taxable retail sales. King County was up 4.2 percent, Spokane County was up 2.3 percent, and Kitsap County showed an increase of 0.7 percent over second quarter of 2010. Thurston County was up 2.2 percent, and Clark County was up 4.1 percent. Whatcom County increased 3.7 percent, and Benton County showed an 11.3 percent increase year over year.

The incorporated area of Seattle had a taxable retail sales increase of 5.5 percent. Tacoma was also up, at \$948 million, a 1.1 percent increase. Bellevue was up 5.0 percent to \$1.2 billion, Olympia was up 0.4 percent, Vancouver was up 6.2 percent, and Everett was up 0.1 percent. Kent was up 2.2 percent, Bellingham was up 5.3 percent, and Everett was up 1.2 percent compared to second quarter of 2010. Spokane dropped 1.5 percent to \$904 million compared to second quarter of 2010.