

OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY

Calendar Year 2013 (January - December 2013)

State gross business income¹ grew \$38.6 billion to \$684.8 billion in the calendar year of 2013, a 6 percent increase over the calendar year of 2012.

Gross income increased in most industry groups. Wholesale Trade increased 7.1 percent to \$142.8 billion. Construction was up 12.6 percent to \$40.4 billion, and Retail Trade saw a 4.9 percent increase to \$120 billion. Finance, Insurance and Real Estate were at \$35.9 billion, a 5.8 percent increase over calendar year 2012, and Manufacturing was up 6.9 percent to \$166.3 billion. New and Used Auto Dealers were at \$16.8 billion, a 9.1 percent increase over calendar year 2012. Residential Building & Remodeling increased 21 percent to \$6.5 billion, and Nonresidential Building was up 8 percent to \$9.2 billion. Industry groups that experienced declines included: Gas Stations (incl. Convenience Stores) down 3.5 percent to 12.1 billion and the manufacturing of Beverages at \$2.3 billion, a 7.0 percent decrease.

Statewide, taxable retail sales² were up 7.4 percent compared to the calendar year of 2012. King County was up 7.1 percent, Snohomish County was up 8.0 percent, Spokane County was up 6.2 percent, and Clark County showed an increase of 9.3 percent over calendar year 2012. Pierce County was up 10.0 percent, and Jefferson County was up 10.3 percent. Adams County increased 13.6 percent, and Cowlitz County showed an 11.9 percent increase year over year. Though the majority of the counties saw an increase, there were a few counties that had a decline in taxable retail sales; Skamania County was down 14.3 percent compared to calendar year 2012, San Juan County was down 1.3 percent, and Whitman County showed a 9.5 percent decrease year over year.

The city of Seattle had a taxable retail sales³ increase of 6.4 percent to \$18.3 billion. Tacoma had a 5.8 percent increase to \$4.3 billion. Spokane was up 5.8 percent to \$4.1 billion. Auburn was up 12 percent, Centralia was up 10.1 percent, Fife was up 22.5 percent, and Mount Vernon was up 10.9 percent over calendar year of 2012. Only a few cities experienced a decrease in taxable retail sales; Camas was down 4.2 percent, Shelton dropped 5.9 percent compared to calendar year 2012.

¹ Source: Table 1-Washington Gross Business Income.

² Source: Table 3A-County Taxable Retail Sales.

³ Source: Table 4A-City Taxable Retail Sales.