



2010
ARAPAHOE COUNTY
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT
STUDY



WILDROSE
APPRAISAL, INCORPORATED
Audit Division



September 15, 2010

Mr. Mike Mauer
Director of Research
Colorado Legislative Council
Room 029, State Capitol Building
Denver, Colorado 80203

RE: Final Report for the 2010 Colorado Property Assessment Study

Dear Mr. Mauer:

Wildrose Appraisal Inc.-Audit Division is pleased to submit the Final Reports for the 2010 Colorado Property Assessment Study.

These reports are the result of two analyses: A procedural audit and a statistical audit.

The procedural audit examines all classes of property. It specifically looks at how the assessor develops economic areas, confirms and qualifies sales, develops time adjustments and performs periodic physical property inspections. The audit reviews the procedures for determining subdivision absorption and subdivision discounting. Valuation methodology is examined for residential properties and commercial properties. Procedures are reviewed for producing mines, oil and gas leaseholds and lands producing, producing coal mines, producing earth and stone products, severed mineral interests, and non-producing patented mining claims.

Statistical audits are performed on vacant land, residential properties, commercial/industrial properties and agricultural land. A statistical analysis is performed for personal property compliance on the eleven largest counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo and Weld. The remaining counties receive a personal property procedural study.

Wildrose Appraisal Inc. – Audit Division appreciates the opportunity to be of service to the State of Colorado. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harry J. Fuller". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Harry J. Fuller
Project Manager
Wildrose Appraisal Inc. – Audit Division

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Regional/Historical Sketch of Arapahoe County.....	4
Ratio Analysis.....	6
<i>Random Deed Analysis</i>	8
Time Trending Verification	9
Sold/Unsold Analysis	10
Agricultural Land Study	12
<i>Agricultural Land</i>	12
<i>Agricultural Outbuildings</i>	14
Sales Verification.....	15
Economic Area Review and Evaluation	16
Natural Resources	17
<i>Earth and Stone Products</i>	17
<i>Producing Oil and Gas Procedures</i>	17
Vacant Land.....	18
Possessory Interest Properties	19
Personal Property Audit	20
Wildrose Auditor Staff.....	22
Appendices.....	23

INTRODUCTION



Colorado

The State Board of Equalization (SBOE) reviews assessments for conformance to the Constitution. The SBOE will order revaluations for counties whose valuations do not reflect the proper valuation period level of value.

The statutory basis for the audit is found in C.R.S. 39-1-104 (16)(a)(b) and (c).

The legislative council sets forth two criteria that are the focus of the audit group:

To determine whether each county assessor is applying correctly the constitutional and statutory provisions, compliance requirements of the State Board of Equalization, and the manuals published by the State Property Tax Administrator to arrive at the actual value of each class of property.

To determine if each assessor is applying correctly the provisions of law to the actual values when arriving at valuations for assessment of all locally valued properties subject to the property tax.

The property assessment audit conducts a two-part analysis: A procedural analysis and a statistical analysis.

The procedural analysis includes all classes of property and specifically looks at how the assessor develops economic areas, confirms and qualifies sales, and develops time adjustments. The audit also examines the procedures for adequately discovering, classifying and valuing agricultural outbuildings, discovering subdivision build-out and subdivision discounting procedures. Valuation methodology for vacant land, improved residential properties and commercial properties is examined. Procedures for producing mines, oil and gas leaseholds and lands producing, producing coal mines, producing earth and stone products, severed mineral interests and non-producing patented mining claims are also reviewed.

Statistical analysis is performed on vacant land, residential properties, commercial industrial properties, agricultural land, and personal property. The statistical study results are compared with State Board of Equalization compliance requirements and the manuals published by the State Property Tax Administrator.

Wildrose Audit has completed the Property Assessment Study for 2010 and is pleased to report its findings for Arapahoe County in the following report.

REGIONAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH OF ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Regional Information

Arapahoe County is located in the Front Range region of Colorado. The Colorado Front Range is a colloquial geographic term for the populated areas of the State that are just east of the foothills of the Front Range. It includes

Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Pueblo, and Weld counties.



Historical Information

Arapahoe County has a population of approximately 565,360 people with 607.7 people per square mile, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2009 estimated population data.

Arapahoe County is the third most populous of the 64 Colorado counties. The county seat is Littleton and the most populous city is Aurora. Arapahoe County is part of the Denver-Aurora Metropolitan Statistical Area and the Denver-Aurora-Boulder Combined Statistical Area. Arapahoe County calls itself "Colorado's First County" since its origins predate the Pike's Peak Gold Rush.

On August 25, 1855, the Kansas Territorial Legislature created a huge Arapahoe County to govern the entire western portion of the Territory of Kansas. The county was named for the Arapaho Nation of Native Americans that lived in the region.

In July 1858, gold was discovered along the South Platte River in Arapahoe County (in present day Englewood). This discovery precipitated the Pike's Peak Gold Rush. Many residents of the mining region felt disconnected from the remote territorial governments of Kansas and Nebraska, so they voted to form their own Territory of Jefferson on October 24, 1859. The following month, the Jefferson Territorial Legislature organized 12 counties for the new territory, including a new Arapahoe County. Denver City served as the county seat of Arapahoe County.

The Jefferson Territory never received federal sanction, but on February 28, 1861, U.S. President James Buchanan signed an act organizing the Territory of Colorado. On November 1, 1861, the Colorado General Assembly organized the 17 original counties of Colorado including a new Arapahoe County. Arapahoe County originally stretched from the line of present-day Sheridan Boulevard 160 miles east to the Kansas state border, and from the line of present-day County Line Road 30 miles north to the Parallel 40° North (168th Avenue). Denver City served as the county seat of Arapahoe County until 1902.

In 1901, the Colorado General Assembly voted to split Arapahoe County into three parts: a new consolidated City and County of Denver, a new Adams County, and the remainder of the Arapahoe County to be renamed South Arapahoe County. A ruling by the Colorado Supreme Court, subsequent legislation, and a referendum delayed the reorganization until November 15, 1902. Governor James Bradley Orman designated Littleton as the temporary county seat of South Arapahoe County. On April 11, 1903, the Colorado General Assembly changed the name of South Arapahoe County back to Arapahoe County. On November 8, 1904, Arapahoe County voters chose Littleton over Englewood by a vote of 1310 to 829 to be the permanent county seat. (*Wikipedia.org*)

RATIO ANALYSIS

Methodology

All significant classes of properties were analyzed. Sales were collected for each property class over the appropriate sale period, which was typically defined as the 18-month period between January 2007 and June 2008. Counties with less than 30 sales typically extended the sale period back up to 5 years prior to June 30, 2008 in 6-month increments. If there were still fewer than 30 sales, supplemental appraisals were performed and treated as proxy sales. Residential sales for all counties using this method totaled at least 30 per county. For commercial sales, the total number analyzed was allowed, in some cases, to fall below 30. There were no sale quantity issues for counties requiring vacant land analysis or condominium analysis. Although it was required that we examine the median and coefficient of dispersion for all counties, we also calculated the weighted mean and price-related differential for each class of property. Counties were not passed or failed by these

latter measures, but were counseled if there were anomalies noted during our analysis. Qualified sales were based on the qualification code used by each county, which were typically coded as either “Q” or “C.” The ratio analysis included all sales. The data was trimmed for counties with obvious outliers using IAAO standards for data analysis. In every case, we examined the loss in data from trimming to ensure that only true outliers were excluded. Any county with a significant portion of sales excluded by this trimming method was examined further. No county was allowed to pass the audit if more than 5% of the sales were “lost” because of trimming. For the largest 11 counties, the residential ratio statistics were broken down by economic area as well.

Conclusions

For this final analysis report, the minimum acceptable statistical standards allowed by the State Board of Equalization are:

ALLOWABLE STANDARDS RATIO GRID		
Property Class	Unweighted Median Ratio	Coefficient of Dispersion
Commercial/Industrial	Between .95-1.05	Less than 20.99
Condominium	Between .95-1.05	Less than 15.99
Single Family	Between .95-1.05	Less than 15.99
Vacant Land	Between .95-1.05	Less than 20.99

The results for Arapahoe County are:

Arapahoe County Ratio Grid					
Property Class	Number of Qualified Sales	Unweighted Median Ratio	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Time Trend Analysis
Commercial/Industrial	304	0.996	0.998	7	Compliant
Condominium	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Single Family	15,551	1.000	1.008	5.1	Compliant
Vacant Land	135	0.978	1.014	10.9	Compliant

Ratio Statistics for currtot /tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion
1	.987	1.002	.027
2	1.010	1.019	.094
3	.998	1.020	.066
4	1.001	1.005	.051
5	.999	1.010	.072
6	.998	1.013	.095
7	1.001	1.014	.076
8	1.001	1.012	.078
10	1.000	1.008	.036
11	1.000	1.004	.035
12	1.000	1.004	.044
13	1.001	1.003	.040
14	1.000	1.012	.048
15	.999	1.010	.072
16	1.000	1.006	.044
17	1.001	1.006	.040
18	1.000	1.006	.050
19	1.010	1.010	.075
20	1.000	1.001	.029
Overall	1.000	1.008	.051

After applying the above described methodologies, it is concluded from the sales ratios that Arapahoe County is in compliance

with SBOE, DPT, and Colorado State Statute valuation guidelines.

Recommendations

None

Random Deed Analysis

An additional analysis was performed as part of the Ratio Analysis. Ten randomly selected deeds with documentary fees were obtained from the Clerk and Recorder. These deeds were for sales that occurred from January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. These sales were then checked for inclusion on the Assessor's qualified or unqualified database.

Conclusions

After comparing the list of randomly selected deeds with the Assessor's database, Arapahoe County has accurately transferred sales data from the recorded deeds to the qualified or unqualified database.

Recommendations

None



TIME TRENDING VERIFICATION

Methodology

While we recommend that counties use the inverted ratio regression analysis method to account for market (time) trending, some counties have used other IAAO-approved methods, such as the weighted monthly median approach. We are not auditing the methods used, but rather the results of the methods used. Given this range of methodologies used to account for market trending, we concluded that the best validation method was to examine the sale ratios for each class across the appropriate sale period. To be specific, if a county has considered and adjusted correctly for market trending, then the sale ratios should remain stable (i.e. flat) across the sale period. If a residual market trend is detected, then the county may or may not have addressed market trending adequately, and a further examination

is warranted. This validation methodology also considers the number of sales and the length of the sale period. Counties with few sales across the sale period were carefully examined to determine if the statistical results were valid.

Conclusions

After verification and analysis, it has been determined that Arapahoe County has complied with the statutory requirements to analyze the effects of time on value in their county. Arapahoe County has also satisfactorily applied the results of their time trending analysis to arrive at the time adjusted sales price (TASP).

Recommendations

None

SOLD / UNSOLD ANALYSIS

Methodology

Arapahoe County was tested for the equal treatment of sold and unsold properties to ensure that “sales chasing” has not occurred. The auditors employed a multi-step process to determine if sold and unsold properties were valued in a consistent manner.

All qualified residential and commercial class properties were examined using the unit value method, where the actual value per square foot was compared between sold and unsold properties. A class was considered qualified if it met the criteria for the ratio analysis. The median value per square foot for both groups was compared from an appraisal and statistical perspective. If no significant difference was indicated, then we concluded that no further testing was warranted and that the county was in compliance in terms of sold/unsold consistency.

If either residential or commercial differences were significant using the unit value method, or if data limitations made the comparison invalid, then the next step was to perform a ratio analysis comparing the 2009 and 2010 actual values for each qualified class of property. All qualified vacant land classes were tested using this method. The sale property ratios were arrayed using a range of 0.8 to 1.5, which theoretically excluded changes between years that were due to other unrelated changes in the property. These ratios were also stratified at the appropriate level of analysis. Once the percent change was determined for each appropriate class and sub-class, the next step was to select the unsold sample. This sample

was at least 1% of the total population of unsold properties and excluded any sale properties. The unsold sample was filtered based on the attributes of the sold dataset to closely correlate both groups. The ratio analysis was then performed on the unsold properties and stratified. The median and mean ratio distribution was then compared between the sold and unsold group. A non-parametric test such as the Mann-Whitney test for differences between independent samples was undertaken to determine whether any observed differential was significant. If this test determined that the unsold properties were treated in a manner similar to the sold properties, it was concluded that no further testing was warranted and that the county was in compliance.

If a class or sub-class of property was determined to be significantly different by this method, the final step was to perform a multi-variate mass appraisal model that developed ratio statistics from the sold properties that were then applied to the unsold sample. This test compared the measures of central tendency and confidence intervals for the sold properties with the unsold property sample. If this comparison was also determined to be significantly different, then the conclusion was that the county had treated the unsold properties in a different manner than sold properties.

These tests were supported by both tabular and chart presentations, along with saved sold and unsold sample files.

Sold/Unsold Results	
Property Class	Results
Commercial/Industrial	Compliant
Condominium	N/A
Single Family	Compliant
Vacant Land	Compliant

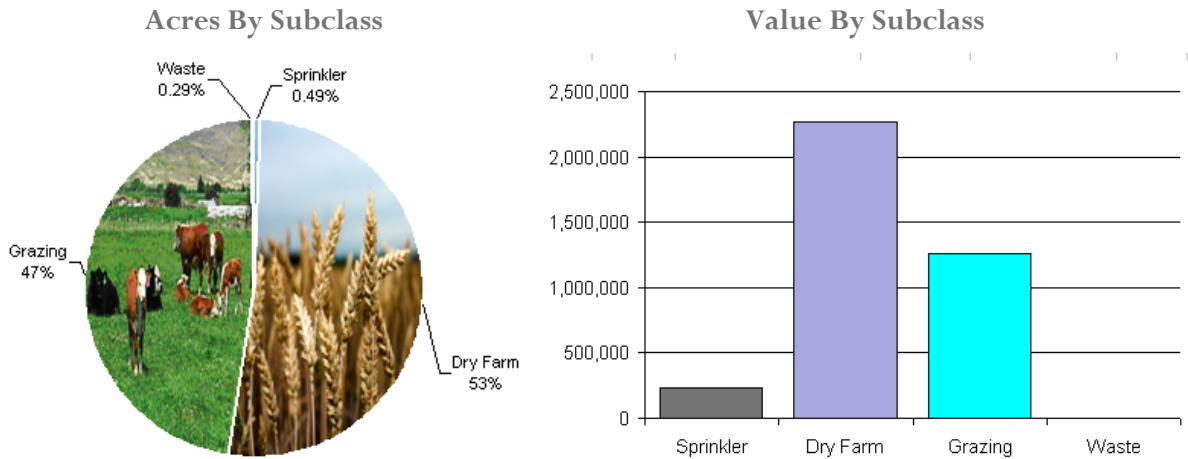
Conclusions

After applying the above described methodologies, it is concluded that Arapahoe County is reasonably treating its sold and unsold properties in the same manner.

Recommendations

None

AGRICULTURAL LAND STUDY



Agricultural Land

County records were reviewed to determine major land categories such as irrigated farm, dry farm, meadow hay, grazing and other lands. In addition, county records were reviewed in order to determine if: Aerial photographs are available and are being used; soil conservation guidelines have been used to classify lands based on productivity; crop rotations have been documented; typical commodities and yields have been determined; orchard lands have been properly classified and valued; expenses reflect a ten year average and are typical landlord expenses; grazing lands have been properly classified and valued; the number of acres in each class and subclass have been determined; the capitalization rate was properly applied. Also, documentation was required for the valuation methods used and any locally developed yields, carrying capacities, and expenses. Records were also checked to ensure that the commodity prices and expenses, furnished by the Property Tax Administrator (PTA), were applied properly.

(See Assessor Reference Library Volume 3 Chapter 5.)

Conclusions

An analysis of the agricultural land data indicates an acceptable appraisal of this property type. Directives, commodity prices and expenses provided by the PTA were properly applied. County yields compared favorably to those published by Colorado Agricultural Statistics. Expenses used by the county were allowable expenses and were in an acceptable range. Grazing lands carrying capacities were in an acceptable range. The data analyzed resulted in the following ratios:

Arapahoe County Agricultural Land Ratio Grid						
Abstract Code	Land Class	Number Of Acres	County Value Per Acre	County Assessed Total Value	WRA Total Value	Ratio
4107	Sprinkler	1,881	124.03	233,286	228,648	1.02
4127	Dry Farm	200,549	11.30	2,266,444	2,402,425	0.94
4147	Grazing	181,400	6.94	1,258,997	1,258,997	1.00
4167	Waste	1,113	1.62	1,798	1,798	1.00
Total/Avg		384,943	9.77	3,760,525	3,891,867	0.97

Recommendations

None

Agricultural Outbuildings

Methodology

Data was collected and reviewed to determine if the guidelines found in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3, pages 5.74 through 5.77 were being followed.

Conclusions

Arapahoe County has substantially complied with the procedures provided by the Division of Property Taxation for the valuation of agricultural outbuildings.

Recommendations

None

SALES VERIFICATION

According to Colorado Revised Statutes:

A representative body of sales is required when considering the market approach to appraisal.

(8) In any case in which sales prices of comparable properties within any class or subclass are utilized when considering the market approach to appraisal in the determination of actual value of any taxable property, the following limitations and conditions shall apply:

(a)(I) Use of the market approach shall require a representative body of sales, including sales by a lender or government, sufficient to set a pattern, and appraisals shall reflect due consideration of the degree of comparability of sales, including the extent of similarities and dissimilarities among properties that are compared for assessment purposes. In order to obtain a reasonable sample and to reduce sudden price changes or fluctuations, all sales shall be included in the sample that reasonably reflect a true or typical sales price during the period specified in section 39-1-104 (10.2). Sales of personal property exempt pursuant to the provisions of sections 39-3-102, 39-3-103, and 39-3-119 to 39-3-122 shall not be included in any such sample.

(b) Each such sale included in the sample shall be coded to indicate a typical, negotiated sale, as screened and verified by the assessor. (39-1-103, C.R.S.)

The assessor is required to use sales of real property only in the valuation process.

(8)(f) Such true and typical sales shall include only those sales which have been determined on an individual basis to reflect the selling price of the real property only or which have been adjusted on an individual basis to reflect the selling price of the real property only. (39-1-103, C.R.S.)

Part of the Property Assessment Study is the sales verification analysis. WRA has used the above-cited statutes as a guide in our study of the county's procedures and practices for verifying sales.

WRA reviewed the sales verification procedures in 2010 for Arapahoe County. This study was conducted by checking selected sales from the master sales list for the Jan 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008 valuation period. Specifically WRA selected 45 sales listed as unqualified.

All but three of the sales selected in the sample gave reasons that were clear and supportable. Three sales had insufficient documentation.

Conclusions

Arapahoe County appears to be doing a good job of verifying their sales. There are no recommendations.

Recommendations

None

ECONOMIC AREA REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Methodology

Arapahoe County has submitted a written narrative describing the economic areas that make up the county's market areas. Arapahoe County has also submitted a map illustrating these areas. Each of these narratives have been read and analyzed for logic and appraisal sensibility. The maps were also compared to the narrative for consistency between the written description and the map.

Conclusions

After review and analysis, it has been determined that Arapahoe County has

adequately identified homogeneous economic areas comprised of smaller neighborhoods. Each economic area defined is equally subject to a set of economic forces that impact the value of the properties within that geographic area and this has been adequately addressed. Each economic area defined adequately delineates an area that will give "similar values for similar properties in similar areas."

Recommendations

None

NATURAL RESOURCES

Earth and Stone Products

Methodology

Under the guidelines of the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL), Volume 3, Natural Resource Valuation Procedures, the income approach was applied to determine value for production of earth and stone products. The number of tons was multiplied by an economic royalty rate determined by the Division of Property Taxation to determine income. The income was multiplied by a recommended Hoskold factor to determine the actual value. The Hoskold factor is determined by the life of the reserves or the lease. Value is based on two variables: life and tonnage. The operator determines these since there is no other means to obtain production data through any state or private agency.

Conclusions

The County has applied the correct formulas and state guidelines to earth and stone production.

Recommendations

None

Producing Oil and Gas Procedures

Methodology

Assessors Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3, Chapter 6: Valuation of Natural Resources

STATUTORY REFERENCES

Section § 39-1-103, C.R.S., specifies that producing oil or gas leaseholds and lands are valued according to article 7 of title 39, C.R.S.

Actual value determined - when.

(2) The valuation for assessment of leaseholds and lands producing oil or gas shall be determined as provided in article 7 of this title.

§ 39-1-103, C.R.S.

Article 7 covers the listing, valuation, and assessment of producing oil and gas leaseholds and lands.

Valuation:

Valuation for assessment.

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, on the basis of the information contained in such statement, the assessor shall value such oil and gas leaseholds and lands for assessment, as real property, at an amount equal to eighty-seven and one-half percent of:

(a) The selling price of the oil or gas sold there from during the preceding calendar year, after excluding the selling price of all oil or gas delivered to the United States government or any agency thereof, the state of Colorado or any agency thereof, or any political subdivision of the state as royalty during the preceding calendar year;

(b) The selling price of oil or gas sold in the same field area for oil or gas transported from the premises which is not sold during the preceding calendar year, after excluding the selling price of all oil or gas delivered to the United States government or any agency thereof, the state of Colorado or any agency thereof, or any political subdivision of the state as royalty during the preceding calendar year.

§ 39-7-102, C.R.S.

Conclusions

The county applied approved appraisal procedures in the valuation of oil and gas.

Recommendations

None

VACANT LAND

Subdivision Discounting

Subdivisions were reviewed in 2010 in Arapahoe County. The review showed that subdivisions were discounted pursuant to the Colorado Revised Statutes in Article 39-1-103 (14) and by applying the recommended methodology in ARL Vol 3, Chap 4. Subdivision Discounting in the intervening year was accomplished by reducing the absorption period by one year.

Conclusions

Arapahoe County has implemented proper procedures to adequately estimate absorption periods, discount rates, and lot values for qualifying subdivisions.

Recommendations

None

POSSESSORY INTEREST PROPERTIES

Possessory Interest

Possessory interest property discovery and valuation is described in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3 section 7 in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 39-1-103 (17)(a) (II) C.R.S. Possessory Interest is defined by the Property Tax Administrator's Publication ARL Volume 3, Chapter 7: A private property interest in government-owned property or the right to the occupancy and use of any benefit in government-owned property that has been granted under lease, permit, license, concession, contract, or other agreement.

Arapahoe County has been reviewed for their procedures and adherence to guidelines when assessing and valuing agricultural and

commercial possessory interest properties. The county has also been queried as to their confidence that the possessory interest properties have been discovered and placed on the tax rolls.

Conclusions

Arapahoe County has implemented a discovery process to place possessory interest properties on the roll. They have also correctly and consistently applied the correct procedures and valuation methods in the valuation of possessory interest properties.

Recommendations

None

PERSONAL PROPERTY AUDIT

Arapahoe County was studied for its procedural compliance with the personal property assessment outlined in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 5, and in the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) requirements for the assessment of personal property. The SBOE requires that counties use ARL Volume 5, including current discovery, classification, documentation procedures, current economic lives table, cost factor tables, depreciation table, and level of value adjustment factor table.

The personal property audit standards narrative must be in place and current. A listing of businesses that have been audited by the assessor within the twelve-month period reflected in the plan is given to the auditor. The audited businesses must be in conformity with those described in the plan.

Aggregate ratio will be determined solely from the personal property accounts that have been physically inspected. The minimum assessment sample is one percent or ten schedules, whichever is greater, and the maximum assessment audit sample is 100 schedules.

For the counties having over 100,000 population, WRA selected a sample of all personal property schedules to determine whether the assessor is correctly applying the provisions of law and manuals of the Property Tax Administrator in arriving at the assessment levels of such property. This sample was selected from the personal property schedules audited by the assessor. In no event was the sample selected by the contractor less than 30 schedules. The counties to be included in this study are Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo, and Weld. All other counties received a procedural study.

Arapahoe County is compliant with the guidelines set forth in ARL Volume 5 regarding discovery procedures, using the following methods to discover personal property accounts in the county:

- Public Record Documents
- Visiting ALL business in the county

The county uses the Division of Property Taxation (DPT) recommended classification and documentation procedures. The DPT's recommended cost factor tables, depreciation tables and level of value adjustment factor tables are also used.

Arapahoe County submitted their personal property written audit plan and was current for the 2010 valuation period. The number and listing of businesses audited was also submitted and was in conformance with the written audit plan. The following audit triggers were used by the county to select accounts to be audited:

- Accounts with obvious discrepancies
- New businesses filing for the first time
- Incomplete or inconsistent declarations
- Accounts with omitted property
- Businesses with no deletions or additions for 2 or more years
- Non-filing Accounts - Best Information Available

Arapahoe County's median ratio is 1.00. This is in compliance with the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) compliance requirements which range from .90 to 1.10 with no COD requirements.



Conclusions

Arapahoe County has employed adequate discovery, classification, documentation, valuation, and auditing procedures for their

personal property assessment and is in statistical compliance with SBOE requirements.

Recommendations

None

WILDROSE AUDITOR STAFF

Harry J. Fuller, *Audit Project Manager*

Suzanne Howard, *Audit Administrative Manager*

Steve Kane, *Audit Statistician / Field Analyst*

Carl W. Ross, *Agricultural / Natural Resource Analyst*

J. Andrew Rodriguez, *Field Analyst*

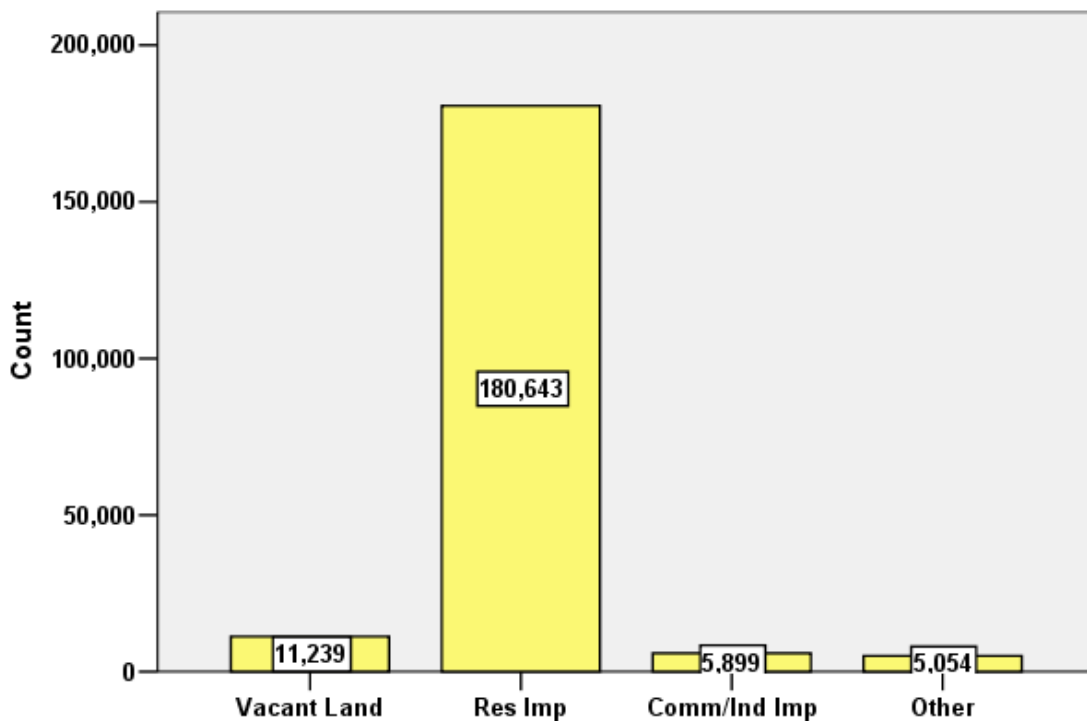
APPENDICES

STATISTICAL RESULTS FOR ARAPAHOE COUNTY 2010

I. OVERVIEW

Arapahoe County is an urban county that is part of the Denver metropolitan area. The county has a total of 202,835 real property parcels, according to data submitted by the county assessor’s office in 2010. The following provides a breakdown of property classes for this county:

Real Property Class Distribution



The vacant land class of properties was dominated by residential land. Residential and PUD lots (coded 100 and 400) accounted for 81% of all vacant land parcels.

For residential improved properties, single family properties accounted for 83% of all residential properties. The next significant subclass of properties was condominiums (coded 1230), which accounted for 15% of all properties.

Commercial and industrial properties represented a much smaller proportion of property classes in comparison. Commercial/industrial sales accounted for 3% of all such properties in this county.

II. DATA FILES

The following sales analyses were based on the requirements of the 2010 Colorado Property Assessment Study. Information was provided by the Arapahoe Assessor’s Office in April 2010. The data included all 5 property record files as specified by the Auditor.

The sale file totaled 38,700 sales. These sales had a sale period that ranged from January 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. A total of 16,211 were qualified by the assessor.

III. RESIDENTIAL SALES RESULTS

The following steps were taken to analyze the residential sales:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Selected qualified sales | 16,175 |
| 2. Select improved sales | 16,078 |
| 3. Select non-duplicate sales | 16,022 |
| 4. Select residential sales only | 15,577 |
| 5. Exclude mobile homes | 26 |

The sales ratio analysis was analyzed as follows:

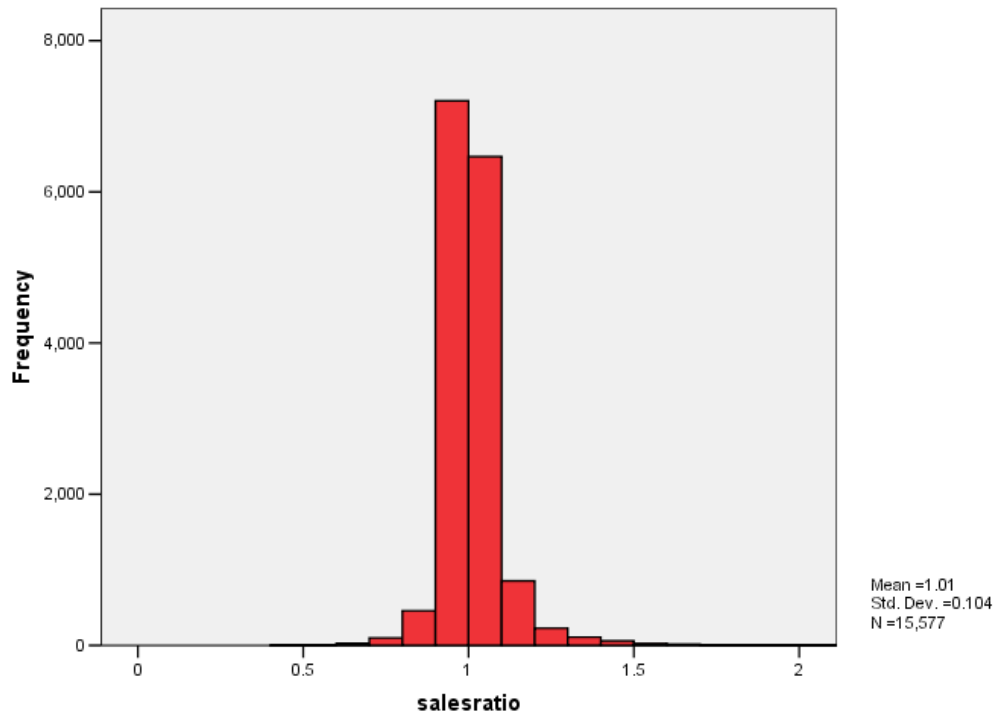
Case Processing Summary

	Count	Percent
econarea 1.00	33	.2%
2.00	65	.4%
3.00	435	2.8%
4.00	580	3.7%
5.00	607	3.9%
6.00	246	1.6%
7.00	844	5.4%
8.00	1774	11.4%
10.00	1579	10.2%
11.00	2776	17.9%
12.00	342	2.2%
13.00	429	2.8%
14.00	517	3.3%
15.00	110	.7%
16.00	135	.9%
17.00	287	1.8%
18.00	3980	25.6%
19.00	74	.5%
20.00	738	4.7%
Overall	15551	100.0%
Excluded	26	
Total	15577	

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion
1	.987	1.002	.027
2	1.010	1.019	.094
3	.998	1.020	.066
4	1.001	1.005	.051
5	.999	1.010	.072
6	.998	1.013	.095
7	1.001	1.014	.076
8	1.001	1.012	.078
10	1.000	1.008	.036
11	1.000	1.004	.035
12	1.000	1.004	.044
13	1.001	1.003	.040
14	1.000	1.012	.048
15	.999	1.010	.072
16	1.000	1.006	.044
17	1.001	1.006	.040
18	1.000	1.006	.050
19	1.010	1.010	.075
20	1.000	1.001	.029
Overall	1.000	1.008	.051

The above ratio statistics, stratified by economic area, were in compliance with the standards set forth by the Colorado State Board of Equalization (SBOE) for the overall residential sales. The following graphs describe further the sales ratio distribution for all of these properties:



The above histogram indicates that the distribution of the sale ratios was within state mandated limits. No individual sales were trimmed; although all residential properties coded 1235 (mobile homes) were excluded.

Residential Market Trend Analysis

We next analyzed the residential dataset using the 18-month sale period, with the following results:

Coefficients^a

econarea	Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
			B	Std. Error	Beta		
.	1	(Constant)	1.031	.051		20.286	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.005	-.057	-.278	.783
1.00	1	(Constant)	.994	.013		78.824	.000
		SalePeriod	.000	.001	-.037	-.204	.840
2.00	1	(Constant)	1.111	.037		29.831	.000
		SalePeriod	-.007	.004	-.202	-1.639	.106
3.00	1	(Constant)	1.036	.010		104.528	.000
		SalePeriod	-.002	.001	-.108	-2.262	.024
4.00	1	(Constant)	1.022	.008		123.476	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.001	-.044	-1.051	.294
5.00	1	(Constant)	1.023	.009		110.165	.000
		SalePeriod	-.002	.001	-.069	-1.689	.092
6.00	1	(Constant)	1.029	.016		64.743	.000
		SalePeriod	-.002	.002	-.098	-1.539	.125
7.00	1	(Constant)	1.052	.009		111.914	.000
		SalePeriod	-.003	.001	-.093	-2.711	.007
8.00	1	(Constant)	1.022	.006		182.015	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.001	-.055	-2.298	.022
10.00	1	(Constant)	1.016	.003		346.182	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.000	-.069	-2.758	.006
11.00	1	(Constant)	1.012	.005		218.244	.000
		SalePeriod	.000	.000	-.016	-.868	.386
12.00	1	(Constant)	1.011	.010		100.076	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.001	-.049	-.910	.363
13.00	1	(Constant)	1.008	.007		148.445	.000
		SalePeriod	.001	.001	.065	1.338	.182
14.00	1	(Constant)	1.045	.013		80.839	.000
		SalePeriod	-.003	.001	-.091	-2.079	.038
15.00	1	(Constant)	1.023	.022		45.851	.000
		SalePeriod	.000	.002	-.008	-.082	.935
16.00	1	(Constant)	1.034	.024		42.524	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.002	-.048	-.555	.580
17.00	1	(Constant)	1.022	.008		133.590	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.001	-.083	-1.411	.159
18.00	1	(Constant)	1.021	.002		413.492	.000
		SalePeriod	-.001	.000	-.088	-5.543	.000
19.00	1	(Constant)	1.056	.026		40.426	.000
		SalePeriod	-.004	.003	-.157	-1.352	.180
20.00	1	(Constant)	.989	.003		324.765	.000
		SalePeriod	.002	.000	.223	6.218	.000

a. Dependent Variable: salesratio

The above analysis indicated that no significant residential market trend was present in the sale data within each economic area. Where there was a statistically significant trend, the actual trend was

insignificant. We concluded that the assessor has adequately dealt with market trending for residential properties.

Sold/Unsold Analysis

In terms of the valuation consistency between sold and unsold residential properties, we compared the median actual value per square foot for 2010 between each group. We stratified the residential properties by economic area and found overall consistency. The following results present the overall results, as well as by subclass, for sold and unsold properties:

Group	No. Props	Median	Mean
Unsold	165,068	\$127	\$137
Sold	15,575	\$131	\$142

Type	Group	No. Props	Median	Mean
1212.00	Unsold	136,595	\$134	\$145
	Sold	12,725	\$135	\$147
1215.00	Unsold	866	\$109	\$115
	Sold	52	\$114	\$124
1220.00	Unsold	257	\$93	\$106
	Sold	20	\$108	\$120
1225.00	Unsold	1,515	\$86	\$87
	Sold	37	\$84	\$89
1230.00	Unsold	23,926	\$97	\$100
	Sold	2,741	\$108	\$122

IV. COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SALE RESULTS

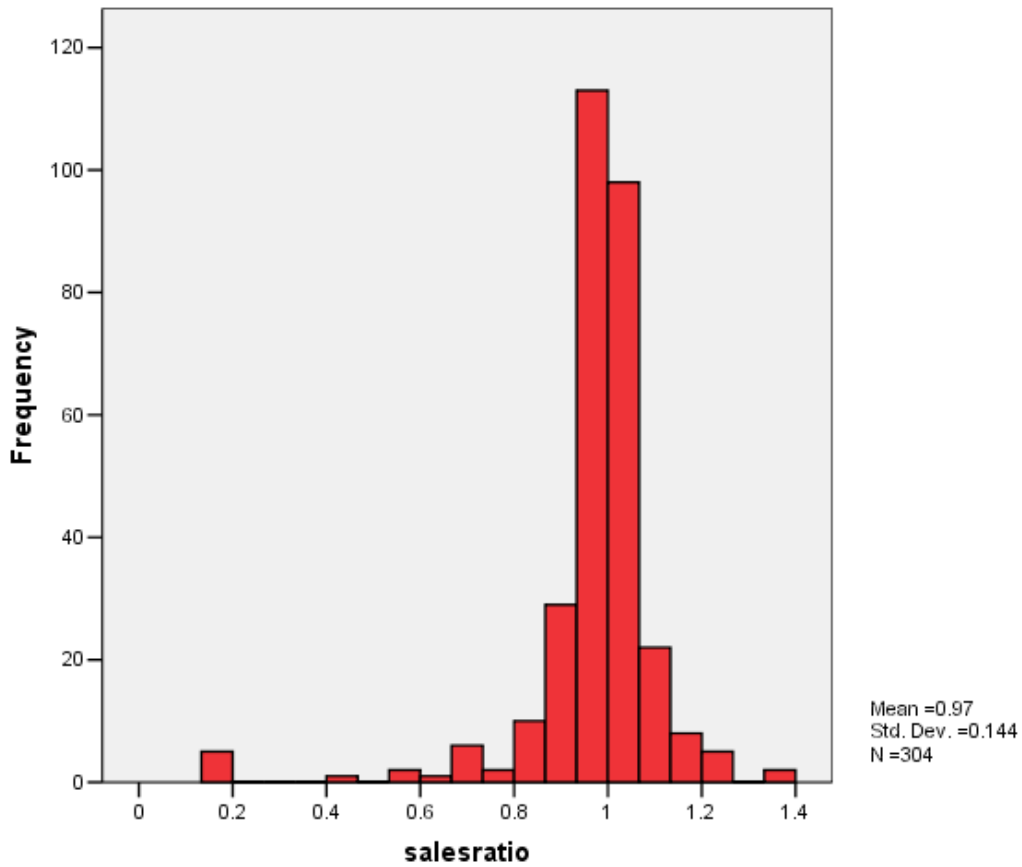
The following steps were taken to analyze the commercial sales:

1. Selected qualified sales	16,175
2. Select improved sales	16,078
3. Select non-duplicate sales	16,022
4. Select commercial sales only	304

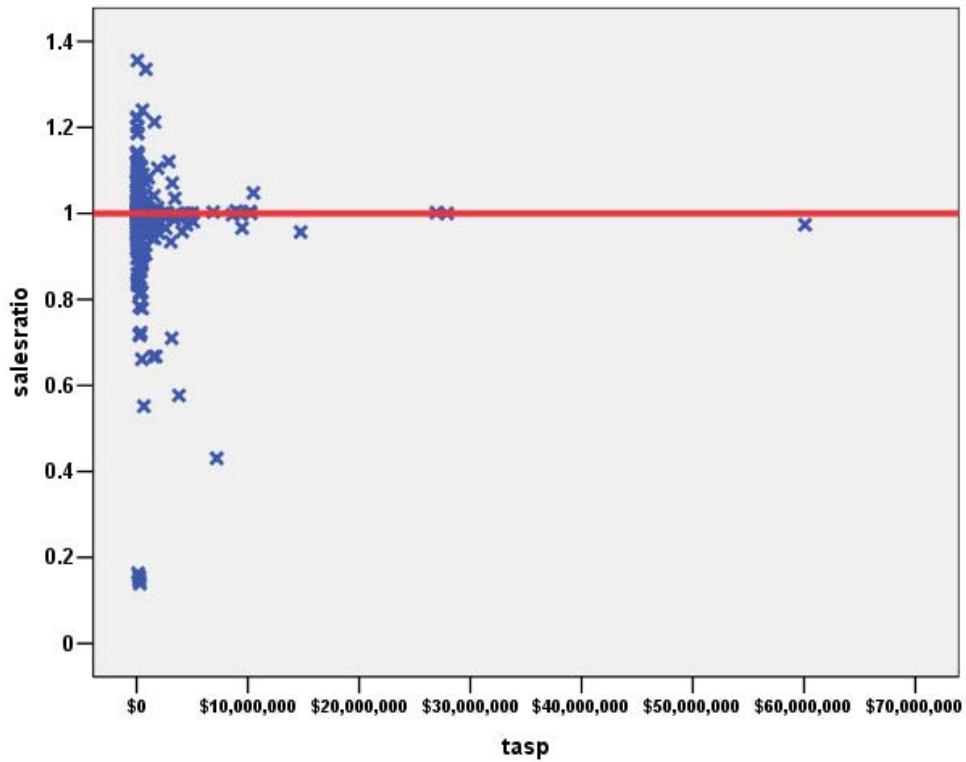
The sales ratio analysis was analyzed as follows:

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp	
Median	.996
Price Related Differential	0.998
Coefficient of Dispersion	.070

The above ratio statistics were in compliance overall with the standards set forth by the Colorado State Board of Equalization (SBOE) for the overall commercial sales. The following histogram describes further the sales ratio distribution for these properties:



Commercial Sale Price by Sales Ratio



The above histogram indicates that the distribution of the sale ratios was within state mandated limits. No sales were trimmed.

Commercial Market Trend Analysis

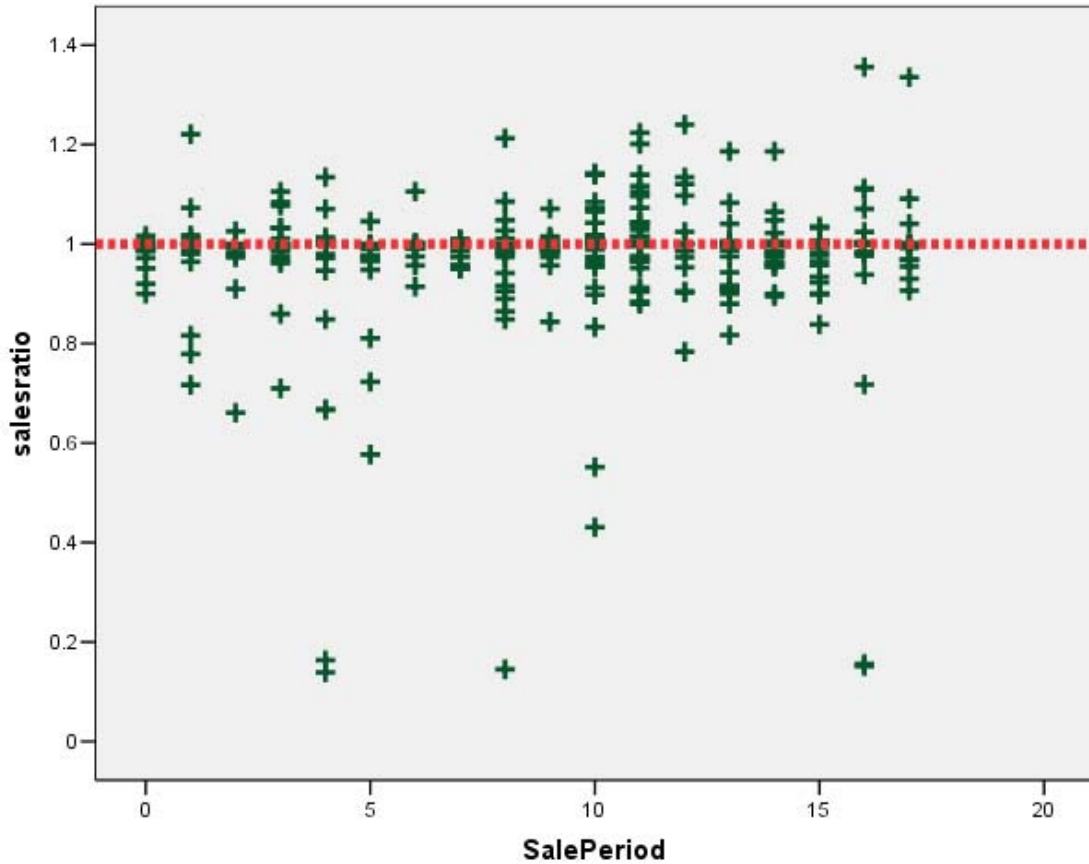
We next analyzed the commercial dataset using the 18-month sale period, with the following results:

Coefficients^a

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	.953	.017		55.773	.000
SalePeriod	.002	.002	.066	1.158	.248

a. Dependent Variable: salesratio

Commercial Market Trend Analysis



The above analysis indicated that no significant commercial market trend was present in the commercial sale data. We concluded that the assessor has adequately dealt with market trending for commercial properties.

Sold/Unsold Analysis

In terms of the valuation consistency between sold and unsold commercial properties, we compared the median actual value per square foot for 2010 between each group. We stratified the commercial properties by modeling area and found overall consistency. The following results present the comparison results by modeling area with at least 5 sales for sold and unsold properties:

Report

ValSF

MasterModel	sold	N	Median	Mean
	0	326	\$54.57	\$131.16
	1	6	\$12.02	\$17.97
	Total	332	\$53.30	\$129.12
CON16	0	31	\$150.00	\$148.07
	1	5	\$150.00	\$150.06
	Total	36	\$150.00	\$148.35
CON20	0	80	\$169.97	\$168.36
	1	23	\$153.90	\$156.81
	Total	103	\$169.86	\$165.78
CON21	0	34	\$174.90	\$174.99
	1	11	\$175.15	\$175.09
	Total	45	\$174.96	\$175.01
CON24	0	6	\$188.71	\$181.43
	1	5	\$190.14	\$190.10
	Total	11	\$190.14	\$185.37
CON31	0	48	\$134.72	\$171.82
	1	8	\$224.96	\$224.96
	Total	56	\$170.28	\$179.41
CON32	0	110	\$230.03	\$230.02
	1	5	\$229.91	\$229.30
	Total	115	\$230.02	\$229.99
CONSS	0	56	\$55.00	\$55.00
	1	7	\$55.00	\$55.00
	Total	63	\$55.00	\$55.00
COSE1	0	17	\$78.04	\$78.03
	1	9	\$78.00	\$77.45
	Total	26	\$78.03	\$77.83
COSS1	0	21	\$90.97	\$90.97
	1	10	\$90.95	\$89.72
	Total	31	\$90.97	\$90.57
COSS2	0	56	\$84.99	\$84.90
	1	25	\$84.98	\$84.09
	Total	81	\$84.98	\$84.65
COSS3	0	1	\$79.98	\$79.98
	1	6	\$79.99	\$80.00
	Total	7	\$79.98	\$80.00
COSW2	0	8	\$93.04	\$93.01
	1	7	\$93.04	\$93.04
	Total	15	\$93.04	\$93.02
SCSDA	0	1	\$369.86	\$369.86
	Total	1	\$369.86	\$369.86
Total	0	795	\$102.30	\$142.98
	1	127	\$93.03	\$122.05
	Total	922	\$95.48	\$140.10

V. VACANT LAND SALE RESULTS

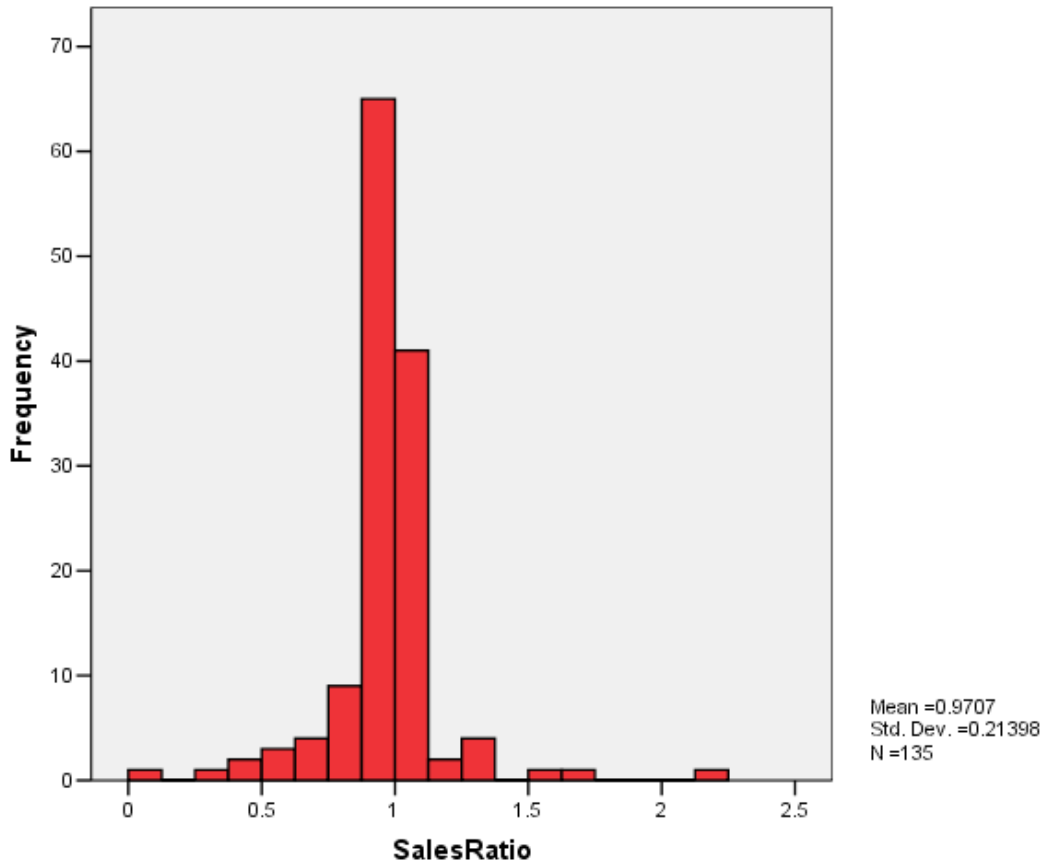
The following steps were taken to analyze the vacant land sales:

- 1. Selected qualified sales 16,175
- 2. Select vacant land sales 135

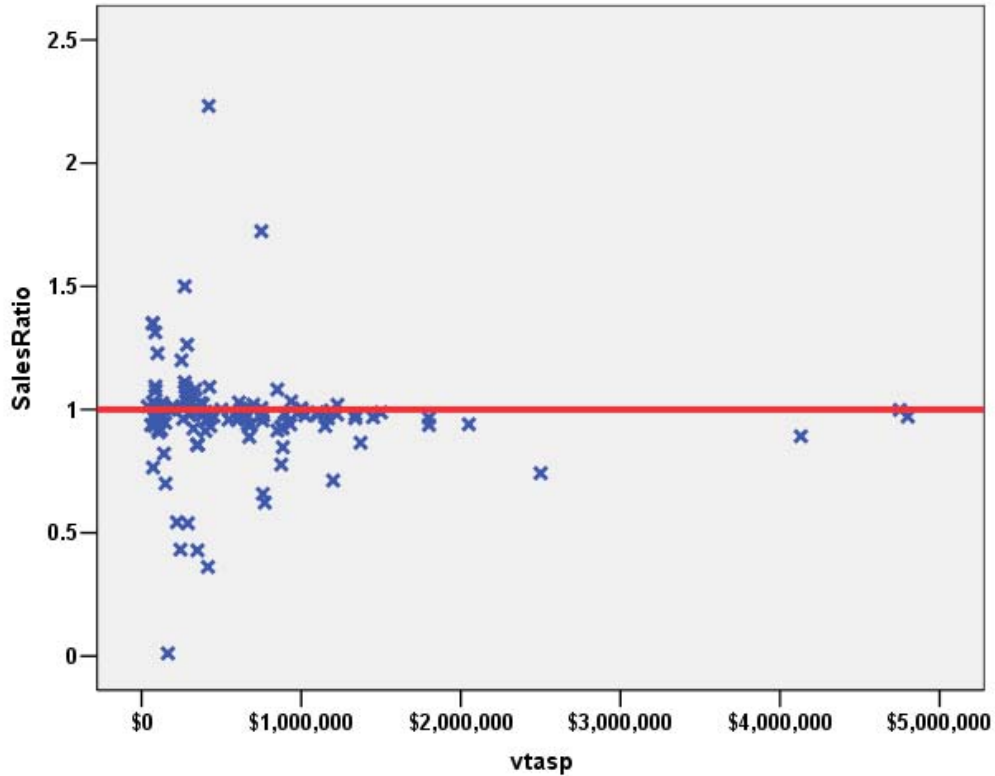
The sales ratio analysis was analyzed as follows:

Ratio Statistics for currInd / Vtasp	
Median	.978
Price Related Differential	1.014
Coefficient of Dispersion	.109

The above ratio statistics were in compliance overall with the standards set forth by the Colorado State Board of Equalization (SBOE) for the overall vacant land sales. The following graphs describe further the sales ratio distribution for all of these properties:



Vacant Land Sale Price by Sales Ratio



The above histogram indicates that the distribution of the vacant land sale ratios was within state mandated limits, while the above scatter plot indicated that there was no price related differential issues. No sales were trimmed.

Vacant Land Market Trend Analysis

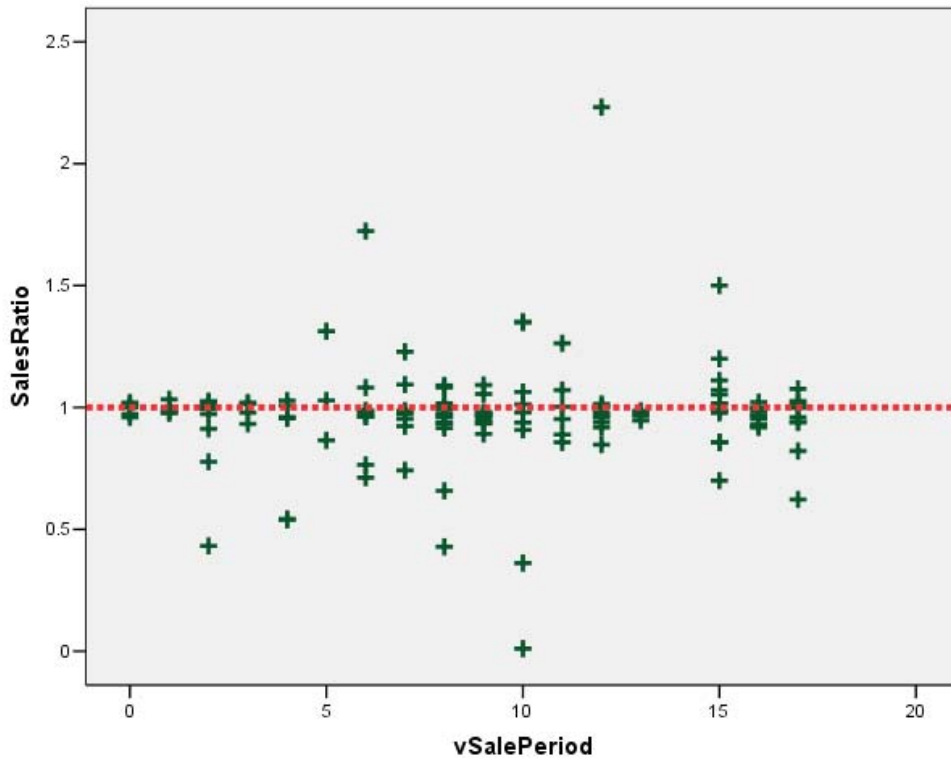
We next analyzed the vacant land dataset using the 18-month sale period, with the following results:

Coefficients^a

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	.952	.038		25.137	.000
	vSalePeriod	.002	.004	.050	.576	.565

a. Dependent Variable: SalesRatio

Vacant Land Sales Market Trend Analysis



The above analysis indicated that no significant market trending was present in the vacant land sale data. We concluded that the assessor has adequately dealt with market trending for vacant land properties.

Sold/Unsold Analysis

In terms of the valuation consistency between sold and unsold vacant land properties, we compared the median change in value for 2008 and 2010 between each group. We stratified the vacant land properties by subdivision and found overall consistency. The following results present the comparison results by subdivision for sold and unsold properties for subdivision with at least 6 sales:

Subdivno	Group	No. Props	Median	Mean
22235	Unsold	39	1.67	1.66
	Sold	16	1.67	1.74
61888	Unsold	18	1.00	1.00
	Sold	9	1.10	1.12
65470	Unsold	8	1.00	1.00
	Sold	4	1.01	1.04

Overall, we concluded that the county assessor valued sold and unsold vacant properties consistently.

VI. AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS ANALYSIS

Based on the parameters of the 2010 Colorado Property Assessment Audit, this county was excluded from the Agricultural Improvement portion of the statistical compliance audit.

VII. Conclusions

Based on this statistical analysis, there were no significant compliance issues concluded for Arapahoe County as of the date of this report.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT

Residential

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Mean		1.012
95% Confidence Interval for Mean	Lower Bound	1.010
	Upper Bound	1.013
Median		1.000
95% Confidence Interval for Median	Lower Bound	1.000
	Upper Bound	1.000
	Actual Coverage	95.1%
Weighted Mean		1.004
95% Confidence Interval for Weighted Mean	Lower Bound	1.002
	Upper Bound	1.006
Price Related Differential		1.008
Coefficient of Dispersion		.051
Coefficient of Variation	Mean Centered	10.2%

The confidence interval for the median is constructed without any distribution assumptions. The actual coverage level may be greater than the specified level. Other confidence intervals are constructed by assuming a Normal distribution for the ratios.

Commercial/Industrial

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Mean		.970
95% Confidence Interval for Mean	Lower Bound	.954
	Upper Bound	.986
Median		.996
95% Confidence Interval for Median	Lower Bound	.989
	Upper Bound	1.000
	Actual Coverage	95.5%
Weighted Mean		.972
95% Confidence Interval for Weighted Mean	Lower Bound	.950
	Upper Bound	.993
Price Related Differential		.998
Coefficient of Dispersion		.070
Coefficient of Variation	Mean Centered	14.9%

The confidence interval for the median is constructed without any distribution assumptions. The actual coverage level may be greater than the specified level. Other confidence intervals are constructed by assuming a Normal distribution for the ratios.

Vacant Land

Ratio Statistics for currInd / vtasp

Mean		.971
95% Confidence Interval for Mean	Lower Bound	.934
	Upper Bound	1.007
Median		.978
95% Confidence Interval for Median	Lower Bound	.966
	Upper Bound	.990
	Actual Coverage	96.2%
Weighted Mean		.957
95% Confidence Interval for Weighted Mean	Lower Bound	.927
	Upper Bound	.987
Price Related Differential		1.014
Coefficient of Dispersion		.109
Coefficient of Variation	Mean Centered	22.0%

The confidence interval for the median is constructed without any distribution assumptions. The actual coverage level may be greater than the specified level. Other confidence intervals are constructed by assuming a Normal distribution for the ratios.

Residential Median Ratio Stratification

Sale Price

Case Processing Summary

		Count	Percent
SPRec	LT \$25K	37	.2%
	\$25K to \$50K	322	2.1%
	\$50K to \$100K	1320	8.5%
	\$100K to \$150K	2654	17.0%
	\$150K to \$200K	3103	19.9%
	\$200K to \$300K	4162	26.7%
	\$300K to \$500K	2666	17.1%
	\$500K to \$750K	794	5.1%
	\$750K to \$1,000K	228	1.5%
	Over \$1,000K	291	1.9%
Overall		15577	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		15577	

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Coefficient of Variation
				Median Centered
LT \$25K	1.093	1.024	.209	44.0%
\$25K to \$50K	1.028	1.000	.122	18.1%
\$50K to \$100K	1.015	1.003	.113	23.5%
\$100K to \$150K	1.006	1.001	.066	10.2%
\$150K to \$200K	.999	1.000	.046	7.1%
\$200K to \$300K	.998	1.000	.035	5.6%
\$300K to \$500K	1.000	1.000	.031	5.2%
\$500K to \$750K	1.000	1.000	.034	6.6%
\$750K to \$1,000K	1.000	1.000	.031	6.6%
Over \$1,000K	.998	1.007	.038	8.3%
Overall	1.000	1.008	.051	10.4%

Subclass

Case Processing Summary

	Count	Percent
PredUse 1112	12727	81.7%
1115	52	.3%
1120	20	.1%
1125	37	.2%
1130	2741	17.6%
Overall	15577	100.0%
Excluded	0	
Total	15577	

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Coefficient of Variation
				Median Centered
1112	1.000	1.006	.047	9.7%
1115	1.000	1.057	.138	36.1%
1120	1.024	1.023	.074	9.3%
1125	.993	.950	.121	19.0%
1130	.999	1.011	.069	12.3%
Overall	1.000	1.008	.051	10.4%

Improved Area

Case Processing Summary

	Count	Percent
ImpSFRec 0	2	.0%
LE 500 sf	22	.1%
500 to 1,000 sf	2405	15.4%
1,000 to 1,500 sf	5037	32.3%
1,500 to 2,000 sf	3291	21.1%
2,000 to 3,000 sf	3379	21.7%
3,000 sf or Higher	1441	9.3%
Overall	15577	100.0%
Excluded	0	
Total	15577	

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Coefficient of Variation
				Median Centered
0	.769	.995	.047	6.7%
LE 500 sf	.961	1.036	.120	24.3%
500 to 1,000 sf	1.000	1.012	.077	13.5%
1,000 to 1,500 sf	.999	1.009	.058	10.4%
1,500 to 2,000 sf	1.000	1.005	.042	6.8%
2,000 to 3,000 sf	1.000	1.005	.037	11.6%
3,000 sf or Higher	1.002	1.009	.036	7.7%
Overall	1.000	1.008	.051	10.4%



Commercial Median Ratio Stratification

Sale Price

Case Processing Summary

		Count	Percent
SPRec	LT \$25K	3	1.0%
	\$25K to \$50K	11	3.6%
	\$50K to \$100K	62	20.4%
	\$100K to \$150K	14	4.6%
	\$150K to \$200K	15	4.9%
	\$200K to \$300K	32	10.5%
	\$300K to \$500K	52	17.1%
	\$500K to \$750K	26	8.6%
	\$750K to \$1,000K	17	5.6%
	Over \$1,000K	72	23.7%
Overall		304	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		304	

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Coefficient of Variation
				Median Centered
LT \$25K	1.026	1.015	.039	6.0%
\$25K to \$50K	1.010	1.000	.078	11.2%
\$50K to \$100K	1.003	1.002	.068	9.5%
\$100K to \$150K	.996	1.002	.096	23.9%
\$150K to \$200K	.982	1.000	.021	3.0%
\$200K to \$300K	.977	.997	.133	27.6%
\$300K to \$500K	.973	.998	.085	15.5%
\$500K to \$750K	.997	1.003	.053	11.0%
\$750K to \$1,000K	1.000	1.001	.039	9.0%
Over \$1,000K	1.000	1.000	.047	11.4%
Overall	.996	.998	.070	14.7%

Subclass

Case Processing Summary

		Count	Percent
PredUse	2112	9	3.0%
	2120	36	11.8%
	2125	1	.3%
	2130	28	9.2%
	2135	147	48.4%
	2140	4	1.3%
	2145	78	25.7%
	3115	1	.3%
Overall		304	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		304	

Ratio Statistics for currtot / tasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Coefficient of Variation
				Median Centered
2112	.984	1.209	.110	22.2%
2120	1.000	.994	.018	5.2%
2125	.552	1.000	.000	.
2130	1.000	1.030	.069	13.3%
2135	.998	1.002	.083	17.9%
2140	1.000	1.017	.054	12.3%
2145	.974	1.004	.059	8.6%
3115	.998	1.000	.000	.
Overall	.996	.998	.070	14.7%

Vacant Land Median Ratio Stratification

Subclass

Case Processing Summary

	Count	Percent
vPredUse 100	20	14.8%
200	9	6.7%
300	5	3.7%
400	18	13.3%
530	1	.7%
550	3	2.2%
1112	53	39.3%
1115	1	.7%
1125	2	1.5%
2112	5	3.7%
2115	1	.7%
2130	13	9.6%
2135	3	2.2%
2140	1	.7%
Overall	135	100.0%
Excluded	0	
Total	135	

Ratio Statistics for currInd / vtasp

Group	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Coefficient of Variation
				Median Centered
100	.971	1.008	.068	14.4%
200	.988	1.042	.064	10.2%
300	.992	.990	.025	4.1%
400	.986	1.014	.033	4.7%
530	1.013	1.000	.000	.
550	1.014	.766	.352	70.1%
1112	.972	1.035	.134	20.8%
1115	1.029	1.000	.000	.
1125	.757	.891	.178	25.1%
2112	.979	1.142	.267	64.1%
2115	.923	1.000	.000	.
2130	.977	1.015	.105	23.6%
2135	.933	.962	.151	29.9%
2140	.978	1.000	.000	.
Overall	.978	1.014	.109	21.9%