

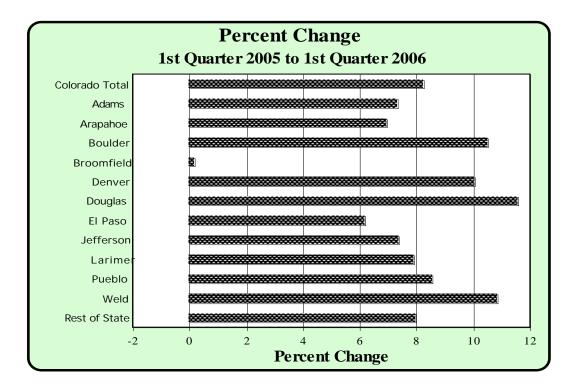
This issue presents data on Colorado restaurant sales for the first quarter 2006. Sales are presented for each of the seven Denver metro area counties; El Paso, Larimer, Pueblo, and Weld counties; and sales by restaurants in the rest of the State. For comparison, restaurant sales for the United States as a whole are also shown for the same time period. Data in this report represent sales by businesses whose primary activity is food preparation for on-premise consumption.

The data show that Colorado restaurant industry sales in the first quarter 2006 increased 8.2 percent, to about \$1.72 billion, over first quarter last year. Sales for the entire United States increased 8.7 percent, to \$123.7 billion, over the same period. As shown on the next page, Douglas County experienced the largest increase at 11.6 percent. Three other counties also posted double-digit increases.



The graph below shows restaurant sales in the state compared to those in the U.S.

County	Retail Sales 2006Q1 \$000s	Retail Sales 2005Q1 \$000s	Percentage Change
Adams	\$102,425	\$95,419	7.3%
Arapahoe	183,600	171,662	7.0
Boulder	104,883	94,897	10.5
Broomfield	25,386	25,342	0.2
Denver	310,837	282,484	10.0
Douglas	84,106	75,380	11.6
El Paso	169,081	159,251	6.2
Jefferson	172,949	161,104	7.4
Larimer	93,412	86,556	7.9
Pueblo	43,739	40,298	8.5
Weld	46,177	41,652	10.9
Rest of State	386,245	357,720	8.0
Total	\$1,722,840	\$1,591,764	8.2%



This report is available electronically as a .pdf file on the Department of Revenue's website at <u>http://www.revenue.state.co.us/stats_dir/wrap.asp?incl=retailsalesreport</u>. It is also available as a Word document. If you would like to receive the report in Word, please contact the Office of Research and Analysis at 303-866-5777 or send an e-mail to ora@spike.dor.state.co.us.