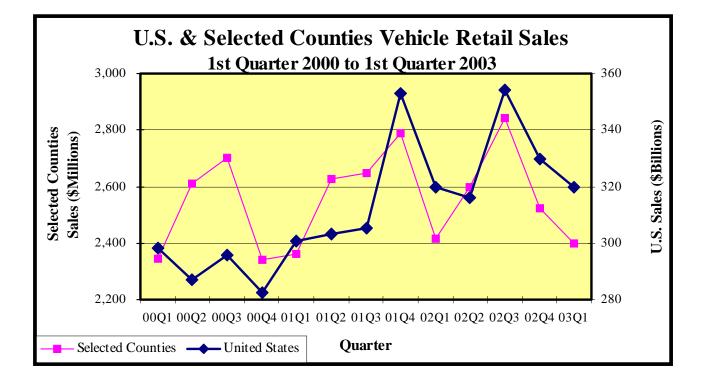
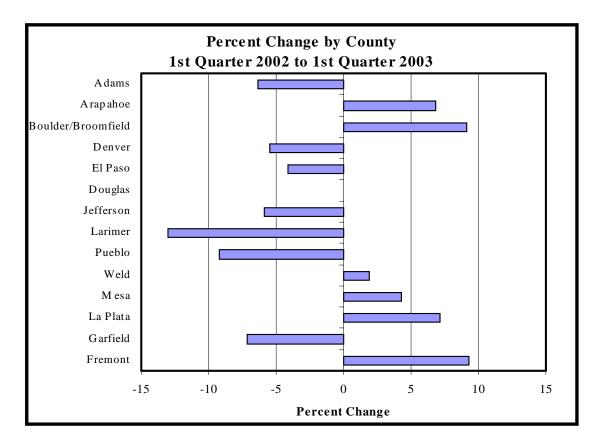


This issue presents data on first quarter 2003 motor vehicle retail sales for each of the seven Denver metro counties and the counties of El Paso, Larimer, Pueblo, Weld, Fremont, Garfield, La Plata, and Mesa. Broomfield County's sales are combined with those in Boulder County. In addition, the graph below compares sales of new and used cars and trucks for the United States as a whole to total sales of the counties listed above for the same period.

Sales of motor vehicles in the counties reviewed decreased 4.9 percent to \$2.40 billion in first quarter 2003 over fourth quarter 2002. The data also show that sales of motor vehicles in the counties reviewed decreased 0.6 percent in first quarter 2003 over first quarter 2002. Nationally, sales of motor vehicles decreased a scant 0.04 percent over last year to about \$319.7 billion. The smallest county reviewed, Fremont County, posted the largest increase at 9.2 percent. Larimer County posted the largest decrease at -13.0 percent.



| | RETAIL | RETAIL | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------|
| | SALES 2003Q1 | SALES 2002Q1 | PERCENTAGE |
| COUNTY | \$000s | \$000s | CHANGE |
| Adams | \$196,171 | \$209,451 | -6.3% |
| Arapahoe | 713,295 | 667,930 | 6.8 |
| Boulder/Broomfield | 204,099 | 186,998 | 9.1 |
| Denver | 209,045 | 221,239 | -5.5 |
| Douglas | 75,996 | 75,992 | 0.0 |
| El Paso | 284,641 | 296,829 | -4.1 |
| Fremont | 9,783 | 8,955 | 9.2 |
| Garfield | 36,598 | 39,409 | -7.1 |
| Jefferson | 275,725 | 292,827 | -5.8 |
| La Plata | 21,734 | 20,288 | 7.1 |
| Larimer | 129,441 | 148,850 | -13.0 |
| Mesa | 72,811 | 69,834 | 4.3 |
| Pueblo | 62,417 | 68,761 | -9.2 |
| Weld | 109,209 | 107,145 | 1.9 |
| TOTAL | \$2,400,964 | \$2,414,508 | -0.6% |



This report is available electronically as a Word document. If you would like to receive the report in electronic format, please contact the Office of Tax Analysis at 303-866-3089 or send an e-mail to ota@spike.dor.state.co.us.