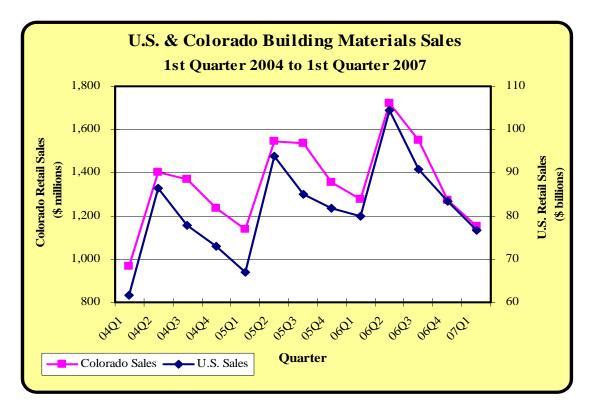


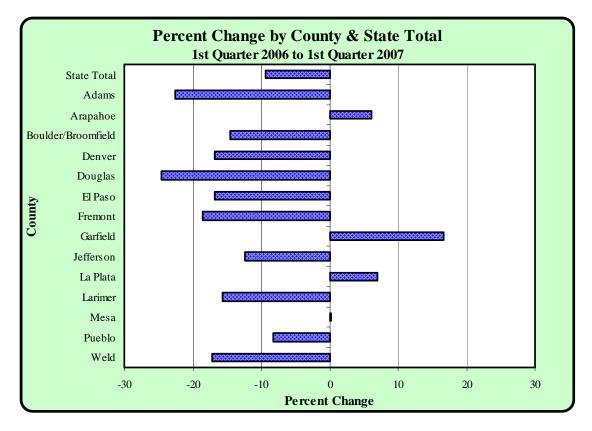
This issue presents data on Colorado building materials sales for the first quarter 2007. This report shows retail sales for each of the seven Denver metro area counties and for the counties of El Paso, Fremont, Garfield, La Plata, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo, and Weld. Broomfield County's sales are combined with those in Boulder County. The types of retailers included in the chart on the next page are home centers, paint and wallcovering stores, hardware stores, and specialized building material dealers. The period shown in this report is the first quarter of 2007 compared to the first quarter of 2006.

The graph below shows national versus Colorado retail sales. It is important to note that both the national and Colorado data in this graph include sales by outdoor equipment stores and nurseries as well as the categories listed in the above paragraph. Nationally, sales of building materials decreased 4.1 percent to \$76.7 billion in the first quarter 2007 over the first quarter 2006. Colorado's retail sales of \$1,150.3 million in first quarter 2007 were 9.8 percent below the same quarter from a year ago. The reader should note the source of the national figures has been changed to unadjusted Census Bureau retail sales.

Sales in the counties comprising this report decreased 13.4 percent over last year. The largest gain in the first quarter 2007 over the same quarter last year occurred in Garfield County (+16.6 percent). Both Douglas (-24.6 percent) and Adams County (-22.6 percent) saw large decreases compared to last year.



County	Retail Sales 2007Q1 \$000s	Retail Sales 2006Q1 \$000s	Percent Change
Adams	\$104,703	\$135,290	-22.6%
Arapahoe	116,421	109,769	6.1
Boulder/Broomfield	60,795	71,129	-14.5
Denver	156,480	188,059	-16.8
Douglas	67,542	89,554	-24.6
El Paso	111,717	134,218	-16.8
Fremont	7,943	9,757	-18.6
Garfield	20,741	17,786	16.6
Jefferson	82,117	93,775	-12.4
La Plata	17,071	15,959	7.0
Larimer	67,138	79,549	-15.6
Mesa	42,195	42,099	0.2
Pueblo	27,629	30,118	-8.3
Weld	40,136	48,438	-17.1
Selected Counties Total	\$922,627	\$1,065,501	-13.4%
State Total	\$1,120,955	\$1,236,930	-9.4%



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.