



Office of Research and Analysis
Colorado Department of Revenue
 (303) 866-5777
 ora@spike.dor.state.co.us

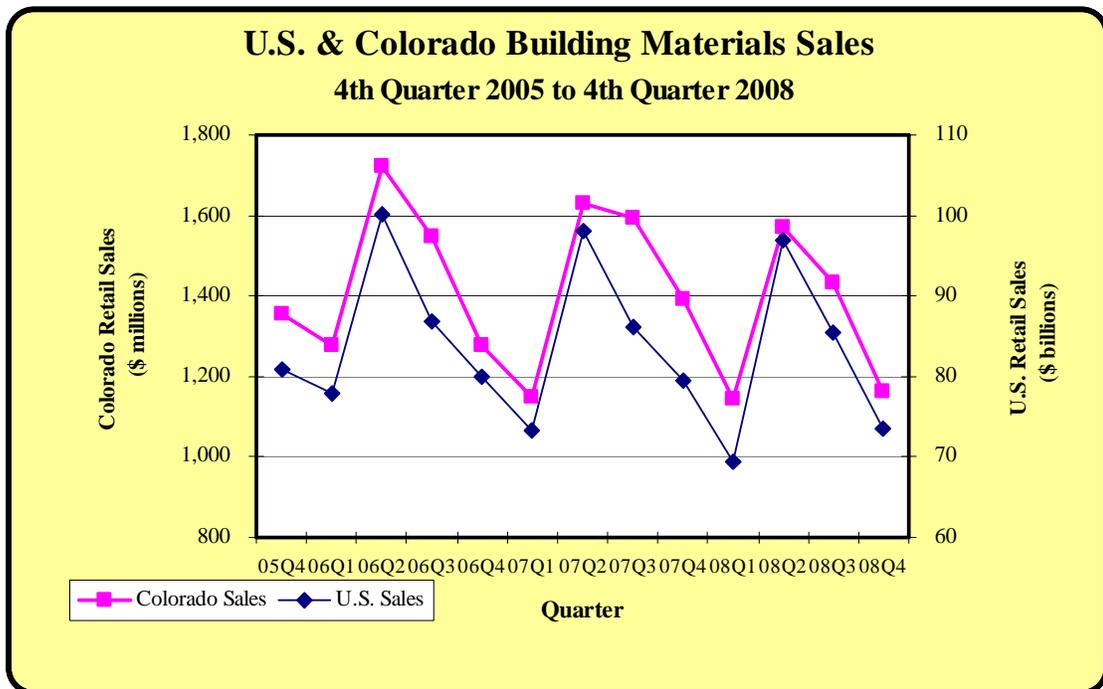
Colorado Building Material Sales
Selected Counties

Fourth Quarter 2008

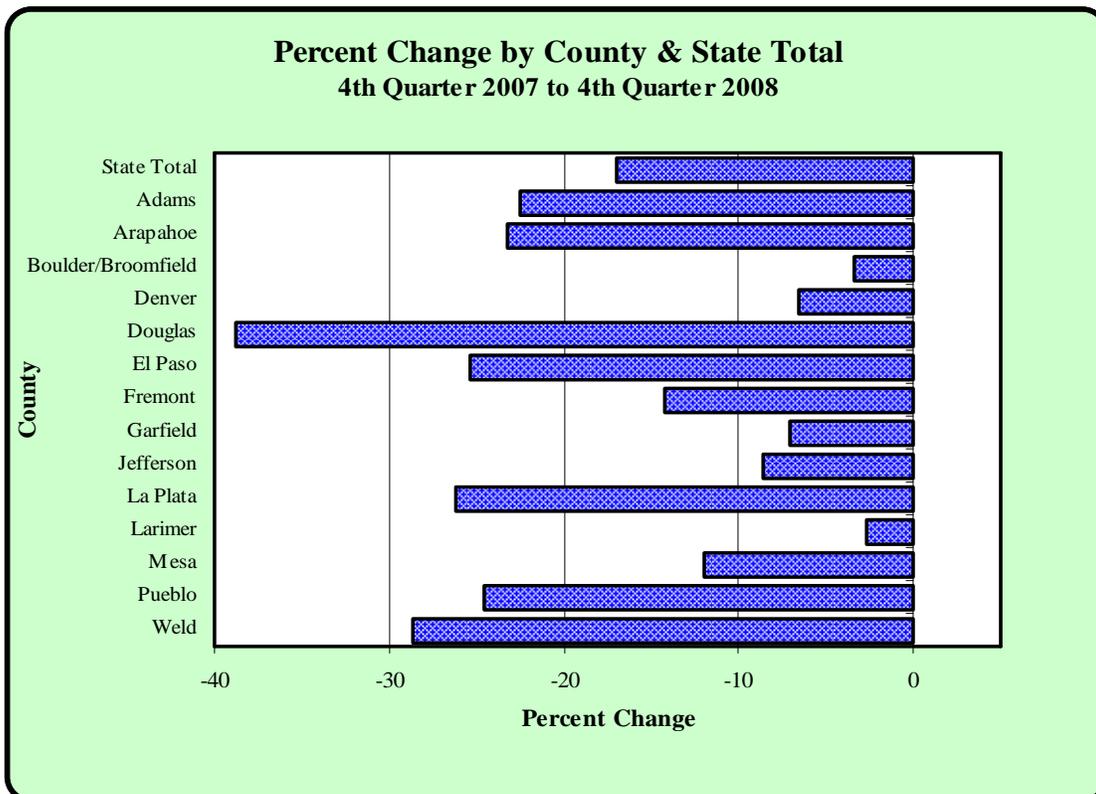
This issue presents data on Colorado building materials sales for the fourth quarter 2008. This report shows retail sales for each of the seven Denver metro area counties and for the counties of El Paso, Fremont, Garfield, La Plata, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo, and Weld. Broomfield County's sales are combined 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 fourth quarter of 2008 compared to the fourth quarter of 2007.

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 7.6 percent to \$73.5 billion in the fourth quarter 2008 over the fourth quarter 2007. Colorado's retail sales of \$1,162.1 million in fourth quarter 2008 were 16.4 percent below the same quarter from a year ago. The reader should also note the source of the national figures has been changed to unadjusted Census Bureau retail sales.

Sales in the counties comprising this report decreased 16.8 percent over last year. Nine of the 14 counties studied showed double digit decreases over last year. Douglas County's sales dropped 38.8 percent.



County	Retail Sales 2008Q4 \$000s	Retail Sales 2007Q4 \$000s	Percent Change
Adams	\$94,279	\$121,681	-22.5%
Arapahoe	106,524	138,717	-23.2
Boulder/Broomfield	81,515	84,387	-3.4
Denver	177,400	189,847	-6.6
Douglas	50,311	82,222	-38.8
El Paso	98,673	132,304	-25.4
Fremont	7,680	8,950	-14.2
Garfield	24,215	26,046	-7.0
Jefferson	90,787	99,309	-8.6
La Plata	15,706	21,268	-26.2
Larimer	76,215	78,277	-2.6
Mesa	42,469	48,271	-12.0
Pueblo	26,780	35,486	-24.5
Weld	27,387	38,390	-28.7
Selected Counties Total	\$919,942	\$1,105,157	-16.8%
State Total	\$1,085,560	\$1,307,577	-17.0%



This report is available electronically as a .pdf file on the Department of Revenue's website at http://www.revenue.state.co.us/stats_dir/wrap.asp?incl=retailsalesreport. 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.