



The Battered Businesses Behind Housing

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It's not surprising, but I thought you might like to get a look at a really interesting chart compiled by Sageworks, Inc, which does financial analysis of privately-held companies.

It shows rankings of the **worst-performing sectors** this year and last, based on the extent of revenue declines in each period.

Eight out of 10 are real estate-related.

While we all worry so much about the auto industry, I find it astounding that we don't pay all that much attention to the battered industries behind the battered housing market.

It seems as if government is focused mainly on all the troubled borrowers, with not much attention paid to the businesses behind housing.

Just food for thought:

WORST-PERFORMING INDUSTRIES IN 2008	
INDUSTRY	SALES % CHANGE
Land Development Companies	-14%
Logging Companies	-13%
Real Estate Agencies	-12%
Veneer, Plywood, and Engineered Wood Product Manufacturers	-12%
Sawmills and Wood Preservation Companies	-11%
Automobile Dealers	-10%
Motor Vehicle Body and Trailer Manufacturers	-10%
Lumber & Construction Materials Wholesalers	-7%
Credit Intermediation Mortgage Brokers & Financial Transaction Processors	-7%
Home Furnishings Stores	-6%

WORST-PERFORMING INDUSTRIES IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	
INDUSTRY	SALES % CHANGE
Land Development Companies	-15%
Logging Companies	-14%
Sawmills and Wood Preservation Companies	-14%
Real Estate Agencies	-12%
Veneer, Plywood, and Engineered Wood Product Manufacturers	-12%
Automobile Dealers	-11%
Nonmetallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying	-9%
Other Wood Product Manufacturers	-8%
Lumber & Construction Materials Wholesalers	-7%
Cement and Concrete Product Manufacturers	-7%

Source: Sageworks, Inc

