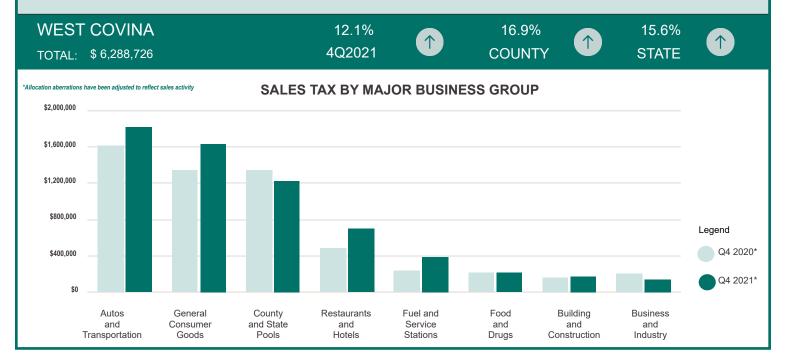
# **CITY OF WEST COVINA**

## SALES TAX UPDATE

**4Q 2021 (OCTOBER - DECEMBER)** 







### **CITY OF WEST COVINA HIGHLIGHTS**

Receipts from West Covina's October through December sales were 18.6% higher than the same quarter last year. Actual sales activity increased 12.1% accounting aberrations after were factored out.

New vehicle revenues remained strong with the majority of dealerships reporting gains, driving the overall autos-transportation group up 13%.

General consumer goods continued the rebound from the pandemic impacts of a year ago with strong returns from family apparel and other sectors boosting group returns 21%.

With dining areas reopening and continued pent up demand to eat out, receipts increased 44% overall for all restaurant categories. Record prices at the pumps plus continued increase consumption buoved fuel-service station results 64%.

The gains were partially offset by a smaller allocation from the countywide use tax pool.

Net of aberrations, taxable sales for all of Los Angeles County grew 16.9% over the comparable time period; the Southern California region was up 17.4%.



### **TOP 25 PRODUCERS**

76

Ashley Furniture Homestore

Audi West Covina

Azusa Arco

**Best Buy** 

Burlington

Crestview Cadillac

**Daimler Trust** 

**Envision Chrysler** Dodge Jeep Ram Of

West Covina

**Envision Toyota Of** West Covina

Home Depot

JC Penney

Macys

Marshalls

Mercedes Benz Of West

Covina

Norm Reeves Honda

Performance Ford Plug In Auto

Reynolds Buick

Ross

**Target** 

**Tow Industries** 

**Triples Chevron** 

Walmart Supercenter

West Covina Nissan

HdL® Companies



### **STATEWIDE RESULTS**

California's local one cent sales and use tax receipts for sales during the months of October through December were 15% higher than the same quarter one year ago after adjusting for accounting anomalies. A holiday shopping quarter, the most consequential sales period of the year, and the strong result was a boon to local agencies across the State. Consumers spent freely as the economy continued its rebound from the pandemic and as robust labor demand reduced unemployment and drove up wages.

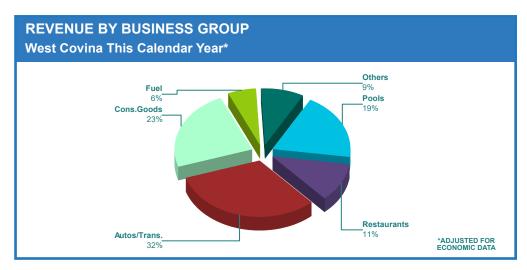
Brick and mortar retailers did exceptionally well as many shoppers returned to physical stores rather than shopping online as the COVID crisis waned. This was especially true for traditional department stores that have long been among the weakest categories in retail. Discount department stores, particularly those selling gas, family and women's apparel and jewelry merchants also experienced strong sales. Many retailers are now generating revenue that is nearly as much, or even higher, than pre-pandemic levels.

Sales by new and used car dealers were also much higher than a year ago. The inventory shortage has resulted in higher prices that have more than offset the decline in unit volume in terms of revenue generation for most dealerships. Restaurants and hotels were only moderately lower than last quarter, with both periods being the highest in the State's history. Increased menu prices coupled with robust demand to dine out are largely responsible for these gains. These are impressive results for a sector that does not yet include the positive impact that will occur later this year as international travel steadily increases at major airports. Conference business, an important revenue component for many hotels, is also still in the early stages of recovery.

Building material suppliers and contractors were steady as growing residential and commercial property values boosted demand, particularly in the Southern California, Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley regions. Although anticipated interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve could dampen the short-term outlook for this sector, industry experts believe limited selling activity will inspire increased upgrades and improvements by existing owners. With demand remaining tight and calls for more affordable housing throughout the state, the long-term outlook remains positive.

The fourth quarter, the final sales period of calendar year 2021, exhibited a 20% rebound

in tax receipts compared to calendar year 2020. General consumer goods, restaurants, fuel and auto-transportation industries were the largest contributors to this improvement. However, the future growth rate for statewide sales tax revenue is expected to slow markedly. Retail activity has now moved past the easy year-over-year comparison quarters in 2021 versus the depths of the pandemic bottom the year before. Additional headwinds going into 2022 include surging inflation, a dramatic jump in the global price of crude oil due to Russia's war in Ukraine and corresponding monetary tightening by the Federal Reserve. This is expected to result in weakening consumer sentiment and continued, but decelerating, sales tax growth into 2023.



#### TOP NON-CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TYPES **West Covina** County **HdL State** Change Q4 '21\* Change **Business Type** Change New Motor Vehicle Dealers 1,481.2 14.5% 22.6% 15.5% 1 53.8% Service Stations 386.6 64.3% 60.5% Quick-Service Restaurants 322.7 12.1% 18.4% 13.9% Casual Dining 299.4 84.8% 80.5% 66.5% Family Apparel 256.7 39.8% 32.0% 27.3% Auto Lease 188.0 -6.7% 🔱 -4.8% 🕕 **-4.7% 1** 11.6% 3.3% Electronics/Appliance Stores 180.6 8.5% 18.8% Specialty Stores 179.9 19.9% 18.4% **Grocery Stores** 121.0 -1.4% 0.1% 0.7% Home Furnishings 119.5 2.9% 11.0% 6.3% 1 \*In thousands of dollars \*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity