Sales Tax Update

First Quarter Receipts for Fourth Quarter Sales (October - December 2019)

## Mendocino

County

## In Brief

The unincorporated area's receipts from October through December were $9.0 \%$ above the fourth sales period in 2018. Excluding reporting aberrations, actual sales were up 6.8\%.

Due to the full implementation of Wayfair/Marketplace Facilitators regulations under AB 147, the County's share of the countywide use tax collections improved 46\%; bigger distributions accounted for $84 \%$ of the overall quarterly sales tax increase.
Service stations benefitted from steady fuel price ascents. Au-tos-transportation recorded more transactions; this group outperformed state trends.
Public safety power shutoffis occurred during this reporting cycle; their impacts varied across segments. Garden/agricultural supplies, grocers and contractors reported positive gains. Activity slowed at casual dining, building material companies and wineries.
Net of aberrations, taxable sales for all of Mendocino County grew $8.9 \%$ over the comparable time period; the Far North region was up 4.6\%.

## Sales Tax by Major Business Group


*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity

## Top 25 Producers <br> In Alphabetical Order

## Acme Rigging Co

California Shingle \& Shake Co
Defatte Equipment
Granite Construction
Graviers Chevron
Gualala
Supermarket
Harvest At Mendosa
In N Out Burger
Jet Equipment Corporation
Keiths Family Food Center
M \& M Feed \& Supply
Mendo Mill \& Lumber Company

Motosports of Ukiah
Navarro Vineyards
Nor Cal Gasoline
Norcal Recycled Rock \& Aggregate
Pace Supply
Raley's
Red Coast Fuels Chevron
Redwood Market
Shell
Thurston Auto Plaza Chevrolet Toyota
Thurston Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram
Thurston Honda
USA Gas

Revenue Comparison
Two Quarters - Fiscal Year To Date (Q3 to Q4)

2018-19
2019-20

| Point-of-Sale | $\$ 3,258,266$ | $\$ 3,217,842$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| County Pool | 457,369 | 540,159 |
| State Pool | 1,635 | 1,420 |
| Gross Receipts | $\$ \mathbf{3 , 7 1 7 , 2 6 9}$ | $\$ \mathbf{3 , 7 5 9 , 4 2 2}$ |


| Measure A | $\$ 1,178,396$ | $\$ 1,186,720$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Measure B | $\$ 4,637,978$ | $\$ 4,717,795$ |

## California Overall

Statewide sales and use tax receipts from 2019's fourth quarter were $4.2 \%$ higher than last year's holiday quarter after factoring for accounting anomalies.

The increase came from the acceleration in online shopping which generated huge gains in the countywide use tax pools for merchandise shipped from out-of-state and from California based fulfillment warehouses in those cases where the warehouse is also point-ofsale. This segment was further boosted by the first full quarter of California's implementation of the Wayfair vs South Dakota ruling that requires out-of-state retailers to collect and remit sales tax on merchandise sold to California customers. The ruling has led to an increase in sales tax receipts of roughly $\$ 2.95$ per capita while also producing double digit gains for in-state online fulfillment centers.

In contrast, soft sales and closeouts resulted in a decline in almost every category of brick-and-mortar spending during the holiday season while new cannabis retailers helped boost what would have been a soft quarter for the food-drug group. Most other sales categories including new cars and business-industrial purchases were also down. Restaurant group gains were modest compared to previous quarters.
Overall, the rise in county pool receipts offset what would have been otherwise, a flat or depressed quarter for most jurisdictions.

## Covid-19

The coronavirus impact will first be seen in next quarter's data reflecting January through March sales. Based on recovery rates being reported in some Asian countries, the virus's disruption of supply chains will be deepest in the first and second quarter and largely resolved by mid-summer. However, recovery from social distancing and home confinements could take longer
with the deepest tax declines expected in the restaurant/hospitality, travel/transportation and brick-and-mortar retail segments. Layoffs and furloughs are also expected to reduce purchases of new cars and other high cost durable goods. The losses from the state's high-tech innovation industries may be more modest while the food-drug and online retail groups could exhibit increases.

Assuming that the virus is largest contained by the end of September, HdL's economic scenario projects that tax declines will bottom out in the first quarter of 2021 but with only moderate gains for several quarters after. Data from previous downturns suggests that the return to previous spending is not immediate and often evolves. Businesses emerge with ways to operate with fewer employees and more moderate capital investment. Consumers take time to fully get back to previous levels of leisure travel, dining and spending and may permanently transfer to newly discovered services, activities and/or online retail options.

Sales Per Capita*


Revenue By Business Group Mendocino Co. Uninc This Quarter*


## Mendocino County Top 15 Business Types**

| */n thousands of dollars | Unincorporated County |  | County | HdL State |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Business Type | Q4 '19* | Change | Change | Change |
| Auto Repair Shops | 29.0 | -5.2\% | -3.2\% | -1.0\% |
| Boats/Motorcycles | - CON | ENTIAL - | 50.2\% | 0.3\% |
| Building Materials | 48.5 | -10.1\% | 6.7\% | 1.4\% |
| Cannabis Related | 37.6 | 1.0\% | 16.5\% | 27.9\% |
| Casual Dining | 61.2 | -12.5\% | -4.0\% | 3.8\% |
| Contractors | 68.6 | 3.3\% | 1.5\% | -4.4\% |
| Garden/Agricultural Supplies | 38.4 | 12.3\% | 13.9\% | -0.3\% |
| Grocery Stores | 103.5 | 7.5\% | 6.5\% | 1.3\% |
| Heavy Industrial | 26.5 | -8.1\% | -8.2\% | -3.2\% |
| Light Industrial/Printers | 31.6 | 27.7\% | 14.5\% | -7.2\% |
| New Motor Vehicle Dealers | - CON | ENTIAL - | 18.8\% | -3.4\% |
| Plumbing/Electrical Supplies | 34.7 | -3.8\% | 7.8\% | -0.6\% |
| Quick-Service Restaurants | 29.4 | -2.0\% | -0.3\% | 1.9\% |
| Service Stations | 308.9 | 6.4\% | -1.6\% | 0.2\% |
| Wineries | 62.7 | -8.7\% | -7.9\% | -1.2\% |
| Total All Accounts | 1,427.8 | 1.2\% | 3.2\% | 0.2\% |
| County \& State Pool Allocation | 296.0 | 45.9\% | 49.0\% | 26.7\% |
| Gross Receipts | 1,723.8 | 6.8\% | 8.9\% | 4.2\% |

