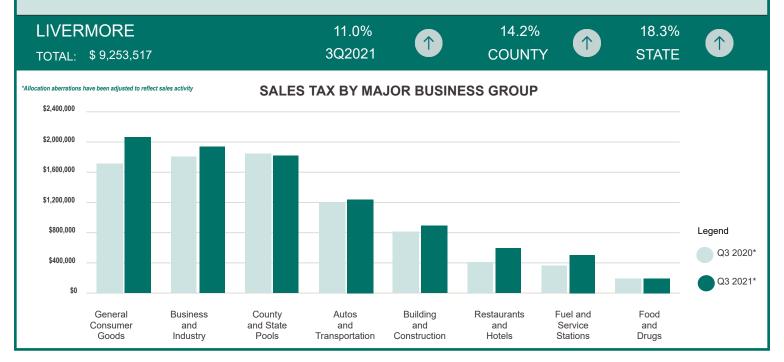
# **CITY OF LIVERMORE**

## SALES TAX UPDATE

**3Q 2021 (JULY - SEPTEMBER)** 







### **CITY OF LIVERMORE HIGHLIGHTS**

Livermore's receipts from July through September were 10.7% above the third sales period in 2020. After reporting modifications, actual sales were up 11.0%. Overall place of sale collections soared 14.5% compared to the lows of a year ago during the height of the pandemic shut-downs. Most major sales tax categories experienced significant increases.

Once again, general consumer goods boomed, reflecting a return to in-store shopping and consumer spending as people felt safer out in public. Sales in family apparel and shoes helped drive these positive results. The business-industry category had mixed results, but sales in the heavy industrial sector pushed the group into positive territory. Similar to statewide trends, activity in the autos-transportation group remained strong. Home and construction projects

boosted building-construction revenues with high returns in all categories.

Casual dining roared back as people once again enjoyed dining out – which may have contributed to reduced grocery store shopping. Similarly, service station revenues spiked as the combination of higher gas prices and increased travel propelled receipts back to pre-pandemic levels.

The City's share of the countywide use tax pool allocations dipped 1.1%; however, the pools remain a solid source of revenue, boosted by taxes on online purchases as people continue to embrace the convenience of e-commerce.

Net of adjustments, taxable sales for all of Alameda County grew 14.2% over the comparable time period; the Bay Area was up 15.1%.



#### **TOP 25 PRODUCERS**

AMS Net

Audi Livermore

Computacenter Fusionstorm

Costco

Gillig

Gucci Outlet

Happy Daze RV

Home Depot

**JA Momaney Services** 

**Jifco** 

Land Rover Jaguar

Livermore

Livermore Ford/Lincoln/

Alfa/Maserati

Livermore Honda

Livermore Subaru

Livermore Toyota

Lowes

Mobile Modular Management Porsche Livermore
Safeway
Safeway Fuel
Target
Toyota Material
Handling
US Foodservice
Walmart

Waxie Sanitary Supply

HdL® Companies



#### **STATEWIDE RESULTS**

Local one cent sales and use tax receipts for sales occurring July through September were 18% higher than the same quarter one year ago after adjusting for accounting anomalies and back payments from previous quarters. These aberrations had been much greater than normal in the last two years as the Governor's Executive Orders allowed businesses to defer some sales tax payments as a supportive measure during the pandemic. This program has now expired, and merchant remittances are more consistent, making cash receipts more reflective of underlying economic activity.

The prior year comparison quarter was the start of the pandemic recovery, and the strong growth enjoyed since continued with the recent results.

Surprisingly, one of the stronger sectors has been restaurants and hotels. Originally forecasted to take an extended amount of time to recover, statewide sales tax generated during the summer months exceeded amounts from pre-pandemic 2019. Even with the availability of indoor and outdoor dining, pent up demand resulted in long wait times to enjoy local culinary experiences. When combined with increasing restaurant tabs as the cost of food and staff wages surge, sales tax remittances are expected to continue growing. Additionally, while the industry awaits the return of foreign tourism in metropolitan areas, strong domestic travel has helped varied regions around the state especially Southern California and the Central Coast.

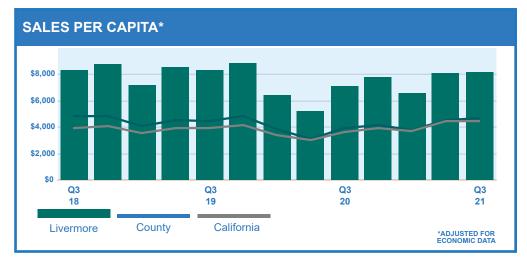
Receipts from general consumer goods marked a steady recovery, led by apparel retailers, jewelry, electronic/appliance and specialty outlets. Discount department stores, especially those selling gas, helped exemplify the strength of brick-and-mortar

merchants. Gains from the countywide use tax pools however, slowed to 2% compared to the high-water mark last year, which had been boosted by new tax collecting requirements imposed under AB 147 for online retailers. All things considered, when combined with positive economic trends, these are a welcome sign leading up to the holiday shopping period.

Although car dealers had expressed concerns about inventory shortages due to supply chain disruptions and computer chip shortages earlier in the year, the sale of new and used vehicles posted solid gains regardless. Higher property values and good weather contributed to strong building

materials and contractor returns. As commuting workers and travelers returned to the road with increased gas prices, fuel and service stations also experienced a dramatic recovery.

Overall growth is expected to continue through the end of the 2021 calendar year. Possible headwinds into 2022 include: pent up demand for travel and experiences shifting spending away from taxable goods; higher prices for fuel, merchandise and services displacing more of consumer's disposable income; and expected interest rate hikes resulting in more costly financing for automobiles, homes, and consumer loans.



#### TOP NON-CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TYPES **HdL State** Livermore County **Business Type** Change Q3 '21\* Change Change 32.5% Family Apparel 722.7 34.6% 39.0% New Motor Vehicle Dealers -7.6% 15.7% 18.9% 678.8 Service Stations 503.0 41.4% 50.3% 53.6% 5.4% **Building Materials** 409.3 8.5% 3.7% Heavy Industrial 393.8 14.9% 26.0% 10.7% Casual Dining 334.9 64.2% 66.6% 68.3% Contractors 324.3 12.2% 11.1% 9.4% Shoe Stores 196.4 36.1% 26.8% 51.6% Quick-Service Restaurants 186.6 10.5% 15.7% 13.5% -3.9% Light Industrial/Printers 160.7 30.3% 12.0% \*In thousands of dollars \*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity