# CITY OF BRAWLEY SALES TAX UPDATE <br> 4 Q 2021 (OCTOBER - DECEMBER) 



BRAWLEY
10.3\%

TOTAL: \$895,973
4Q2021
11.2\%

COUNTY
©
15.6\% STATE


## (: CI CITY OF BRAWLEY HIGHLIGHTS

Brawley's receipts from October through December were 10.6\% above the fourth sales period in 2020. Excluding reporting aberrations, actual sales were up $10.3 \%$.

This percentage gain signifies the continued rebound from the pandemic impacts of a year ago, especially during the normal 'holiday shopping period'. Solid returns from multiple retailers were largely responsible for the general consumer growth.

A rise in gas prices, caused by more commuters and the higher cost of crude oil globally, boosted receipts from service stations and diesel providers, a trend not likely to change for some time.

With enhanced optional dining areas and continued pent up demand to eat out, receipts from casual and quick service restaurants were only surpassed
by amounts reported during the summer in the City's history.

However, one-time receipts in the prior year that did happen again resulted in the drop from business-industry suppliers. When combined with a softening of online purchases from out-of-state vendors compared to the shutdown periods a year ago and a return of spending in other communities providing them a greater portion of the pool overall, the City received a smaller allocation from the county pool this quarter.

Net of aberrations, taxable sales for all of Imperial County grew $11.2 \%$ over the comparable time period; the Southern California region was up 17.4\%.

Arco AM PM AutoZone
Brawley Ace Hardware
Brawley Fuel \& Food
Brawley Petro
Carl's Jr
Circle K Shell
Dollar Tree
Fillco
HD Supply Waterworks
Jack in the Box
Johnnys Burritos
Jordan Implement
La Brucherie Irrigation Supply
Lidco Imperial Valley
McDonalds
McNeece Bros Oil
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Pacific Ag Rentals

Pilot Travel Center
Rite Aid
USA Gasoline
Virginia Transformer
Vons
Walmart Supercenter

## 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.

## REVENUE BY BUSINESS GROUP

Brawley This Calendar Year*

*ADJUSTED FOR ECONOMIC DATA

## TOP NON-CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TYPES

Brawley
Business Type
Service Stations
Quick-Service Restaurants
Warehse/Farm/Const. Equip.
Automotive Supply Stores
Casual Dining
Convenience Stores/Liquor
Electronics/Appliance Stores
Heavy Industrial
Food Stores Non-Grocery
Auto Repair Shops

*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity

