

San Bernardino Sales Tax Update

First Quarter Receipts for Fourth Quarter Sales (October - December 2017)

## San

## Bernardino

In Brief

San Bernardino's receipts from October through December were $6.2 \%$ above the fourth sales period in 2016.
An expanded number of entertainment offerings, the re-opening of a pair of restaurants and the expansion of another pushed restaurant receipts well above the statewide average this period. Rising fuel prices pumped up gas station receipts.
Holiday sales at discount department stores and electronics retailers overcame declines at traditional department store venues.
A temporary jump in the size of the countywide use tax pool grew the City's allocation by $12 \%$.
Measure $Z_{\text {: }}$ the City's $.25 \%$ local tax generated $\$ 2,222,690$ or $2.3 \%$ more than this time last year. Vehicle sales, new construction and rising fuel prices brought the largest gains.
Net of reporting adjustments, taxable sales for all of San Bernardino County grew $4.1 \%$ over the comparable time period while those of the entire the Southern California region were up 3.5\%.

## Sales Tax by Major Business Group



TOP 25 PRODUCERS
in Alphabetical Order
Allied Building Products

## Allstar Kia

Best Buy
Chaparral
Motorsports
Costco
Crest Chevrolet
Curacao
Dls Events
Fairview Ford
G \& M Oil
Greenbrier Rail Services
Home Depot
Hub Construction Specialities

Interline Brands
Kohls Distribution Center
Larry H Miller Nissan San Bernardino
Macys
Moss Bros Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Fiat

Ross
Sams Club w/ Fuel
Sears
Stater Bros
Target
Toyota/Subaru of San Bernardino

Walmart Supercenter

## Revenue Comparison

Three Quarters - Fiscal Year To Date

|  | $2016-17$ | $2017-18$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Pointof-Sale | $\$ 23,202,556$ | $\$ 24,021,681$ |
| County Pool | $2,847,639$ | $2,987,830$ |
| State Pool | 13,418 | 4,432 |
| - | $\$ 26,063,613$ | $\$ 27,013,942$ |
| Gross Receipts |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| $=-$ | $\$ 6,494,191$ | $\$ 6,280,964$ |

## California Overall

Factored for accounting anomalies, statewide fourth quarter receipts from local government's one cent sales tax were $4.4 \%$ higher than the holiday quarter of 2016.
Rising fuel prices and solid gains from building/construction supplies, restaurants and e-commerce were the primary contributors to the overall increase. A healthy quarter for auto sales and construction equipment were additional factors. Tax revenues from general consumer goods sold through brick and mortar stores rose a modest $1 \%$ over last year's comparable quarter while receipts from online sales increased $13.2 \%$.
Performance for the inland areas of the state were generally stronger than the coastal areas which had earlier recovered from the previous downturn.
Nexus Issue to be Revisited
In 1992, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Quill v. North Dakota that businesses lacking a physical presence or "nexus" in a state cannot be required to collect or remit that state's taxes. This does not excuse buyers from paying a corresponding use tax but the costs of enforcement, particularly on smaller purchases, is difficult and local brick and mortar retailers are placed at a competitive disadvantage.
California has been more effective at collecting use tax than most states with an aggressive program of auditing major business purchases, requiring CPA's to report unpaid use tax on client's annual returns and requiring businesses with annual gross receipts of $\$ 100,000$ or more to register for the purposes of reporting use tax.
The State has also increased the number of out-of-state sellers required to collect sales tax through broader definitions of what constitutes physical presence including a requirement that larger internet retailers collect and remit sales tax if paying a commission for customer referrals obtained via a link on a California seller's website.
Still, the estimated revenue losses are substantial particularly for agencies with voter-approved transactions tax districts. Because of Quill, retailers are
not required to collect the tax for purchases in an adjacent jurisdiction if the retailer has no physical presence in that jurisdiction. The resulting loss to local governments projected by the State Board of Equalization in 2016-17 was $\$ 756$ Million in uncollected tax revenues and losses to the state of $\$ 697$ Million:(https://www.boe.ca.gov/ legdiv/pdfle-commerce-2017F.pdf).
Congress has refused to act on numerous attempts to seek legislative relief over the last two decades. However, three justices-Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch and Anthony Kennedy have recently expressed doubts about the Quill decision with Kennedy noting in 2015, that the ruling has produced a "startling revenue shortfall" in many states as well as "unfairness to local retailers and customers."
In January 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear arguments in the case of South Dakota v. Wayfair Inc. where Wayfair is challenging the State's recently adopted requirement that retailers collect and remit, or pay, sales tax on purchases made by South Dakota residents.
Oral arguments are scheduled for April with a decision expected by the end of June 2018.

## SALES Per Capita



Revenue By Business Group San Bernardino This Quarter


San Bernardino Top 15 Business Types

| *in thousands of dollars | San Bernardino |  | County | HdL State |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Business Type | Q4 17* | Change | Change | Change |
| Automotive Supply Stores | 159.8 | 3.5\% | 3.4\% | 1.9\% |
| Boats/Motorcycles | - CONF | ENTIAL - | 0.1\% | 5.3\% |
| Building Materials | 482.9 | 34.6\% | 14.8\% | 11.6\% |
| Casual Dining | 324.7 | 9.2\% | 9.5\% | 3.5\% |
| Department Stores | 203.1 | -12.0\% | -6.7\% | -5.4\% |
| Discount Dept Stores | 1,094.0 | 3.5\% | 2.2\% | 4.1\% |
| Electronics/Appliance Stores | 291.9 | 16.6\% | 17.4\% | 5.8\% |
| Family Apparel | 211.2 | 2.3\% | 0.3\% | 2.1\% |
| Fuffillment Centers | - CONF | ENTIAL - | 151.4\% | 55.5\% |
| Grocery Stores | 227.3 | 4.6\% | -0.4\% | -1.5\% |
| Heavy Industrial | 167.3 | -5.5\% | 15.3\% | 10.1\% |
| New Motor Vehicle Dealers | 928.6 | 4.4\% | -2.0\% | 2.6\% |
| Plumbing/Electrical Supplies | 151.7 | 4.5\% | 9.6\% | 9.9\% |
| Quick-Service Restaurants | 544.1 | 4.1\% | 4.3\% | 5.0\% |
| Service Stalions | 757.6 | 10.1\% | 11.1\% | 11.4\% |
| Total All Accounts | 8,718.6 | 5.6\% | 5.1\% | 4.0\% |
| County \& State Pool Allocation | 1,155.9 | 11.3\% | 10.8\% | 0.8\% |
| Gross Receipts | 9,874.5 | 6.2\% | 5.7\% | 3.6\% |

