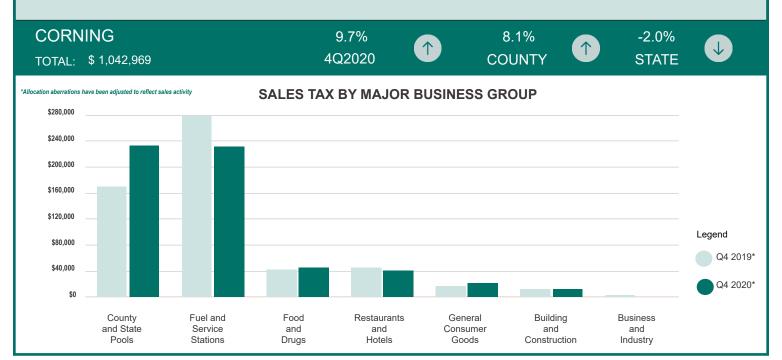
## CITY OF CORNING SALES TAX UPDATE 4Q 2020 (OCTOBER - DECEMBER)





Measure A TOTAL: \$297,321



## CITY OF CORNING HIGHLIGHTS

Corning's receipts from October through December were 7.1% above the fourth sales period in 2019. Excluding all reporting adjustments, receipts for this period were up 9.7%.

Absent the City's allocation from the use tax pool, which is swelling with new tax receipts triggered by the surge in online sales spawned by the pandemic, the results reflect a 3.9% increase in receipts.

This is still a very respectable outcome and one that is far better than expected at the start of the pandemic. Consumer optimism continues to surprise economists as spending on big ticket items subsided only at the start of the pandemic but came roaring back once the stay at home orders were lifted.

Measure A's gains this period were from significant increases in the number of new and used cars along with RV's that were bought and registered in the City.

Net of adjustments, taxable sales for all of Tehama County grew 8.1% over the comparable time period while those of the Far North region were up 6.5%.



Liquor Cabinet 1

**Loves Travel Stop** 

**McDonalds** 

## **TOP 25 PRODUCERS**

A Wireless Mcoys Hardware & Farm Supply AutoZone Napa Auto Parts **Burger King** O'Reilly Auto Parts Chevron Rite Aid Corning Chevron Safeway Corning Ford Mercury Sav More Chrysler Solano St Liquor & Corning Shell Grocery Corning Valero Speedco California Dollar General TA & Petro Travel **Dollar Tree** Centers Jack in the Box Taco Bell Les Schwab Tire Center

HdL® Companies



## **STATEWIDE RESULTS**

The local one cent sales and use tax from sales occurring October through December, the holiday shopping season, was 1.9% lower than the same quarter one year ago after adjusting for accounting anomalies and back payments from previous periods. Lower receipts were primarily concentrated in the Bay Area and coastal southern regions while much of inland California, including the San Joaquin Valley, Inland Empire, and northern regions, exhibited solid gains.

As expected, the larger place of sale categories which have been negatively impacted throughout the pandemic continue to be brick and mortar general consumer goods retailers like family apparel, department, and electronics/ appliance stores. With limited to zero allowed indoor dining (depending on a County's Covid-19 tier assignment), restaurants and hotels suffered the largest losses especially in communities that strongly rely on tourism. Although the workforce has slowly begun to return to physical office environments, fuel and service stations revenues lagged the prior year performance.

It does not appear that Governor Newsom's second 'shelter at home' directive, initiated by the increase in Covid-19 cases had an impact on overall results. While some merchants chose to utilize the Governor's executive order allowing for a 90-day deferral of sales tax remittance, it was substantially less than the similar opportunity companies utilized during the 1st and 2nd quarters of 2020. The outstanding payments for most California cities will be remitted before the end of the 2020-21 fiscal year.

On the bright side, as consumer confidence stabilized post the national

presidential election, customers were motivated to comfortably spend on high-end luxury automobiles, boatsmotorcycles, RVs, and sporting goods/ equipment.

The building-construction sector, with 1) increased price of goods – like lumber, 2) continued home improvement projects, and 3) advantageous fall/winter weather conditions saw strong gains that remained consistent throughout the calendar year.

Exponential growth from countywide use tax pools further helped offset the declines. Greater online shopping signifying a permanent shift of consumer

habits to this more convenient experience was inevitable.

On the horizon, mass deployment of the Covid-19 vaccine will help a greater number of businesses, restaurants and theme parks to reach reopen status. Recent approval of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 will further support greater consumer spending, albeit in targeted segments. Pent up demand for summer outdoor experiences and travel is likely and thereby household spending is temporarily reverted away from taxable goods when compared to recent activity.

