

## 日: CITY OF LOS ALTOS HIGHLIGHTS

Los Altos' gross receipts from April through June were 12.1\% above the second sales period in 2022. However, after adjusting for reporting modifications - including a large taxpayer payment adjusted back to prior periods - actual sales were down $4.3 \%$. Results were someone mixed across the various sales tax categories.

The City's largest group, restaurantshotels, edged up $2 \%$ as people continued to enjoy the experience of eating out at casual, quick service, and fine dining establishments. People also enjoyed dining at home, with grocery store sales boosting the food-drug results.

The City's allocation from the Santa Clara use tax pool improved $12.8 \%$, primarily driven by a large, positive allocation to the pool - offsetting declines in ecommerce and third party
auto sales countywide.
Although jewelry and specialty stores posted positive gains, general consumer goods ended $11.5 \%$ lower as consumers pulled back on spending in areas like home furnishings and apparel.

Fluctuating fuel prices and a decrease in consumption caused service station revenues to drop over $27 \%$. Business-industry realized declines in the electrical equipment sector, which affected the overall group's performance.

Net of adjustments, taxable sales for all of Santa Clara County grew 0.6\% over the comparable time period; the Bay Area was down 2.7\%.

## TOP 25 PRODUCERS

Amber India Restaurant BevMo
Bicycle Outfitter
Bluestone Lane
Bon Appetit
Management Co
Chef Chus
Draegers Super Market
Footwear Etc Los Altos
Los Altos 76
Los Altos Chevron
Los Altos Gas \& Service
Los Altos Grill
Lucky Supermarket
Main Street Chevron
Rancho 76
Rustic House
Safeway
Speedway Express

State of Mind Public House \& Pizzeria Steinway

Toyota Research Institute
Trader Joe's
True Value Hardware
Walgreens
Whole Foods Market

## STATEWIDE RESULTS

California's local one cent sales and use tax receipts for sales during the months of April through June were $2.8 \%$ lower than the same quarter one year ago after adjusting for accounting anomalies. The second quarter of the calendar year was impacted by continued wet weather and a difficult comparison with the prior year, which experienced dramatic growth.

The fuel-service stations sector contributed the most to this decline as year-over-year (YOY) falling fuel prices at the pump reduced receipts from gas stations and petroleum providers. Russia's invasion of Ukraine and other world events during this period last year, pushed the global cost of crude oil to record highs. This dynamic also carried into general consumer goods as retailers selling fuel experienced a similar drop. Recently, OPEC and Russia have maintained production cuts having upward pressure on pricing again leading to future comparative growth.

Sustained wet conditions further delayed projects, especially those from the prior quarter, hindering building-construction returns. YOY lumber price declines added to the pull back from building materials providers. Higher interest rates represent a significant headwind for the industry with potential impacts of limited commercial development activity, slowing public infrastructure projects and homeowners left unable to access equity for renovations.

Despite a significant increase in new car registrations, revenue from autostransportation fell by $1.4 \%$. The improved activity can largely be attributed to rental car agencies restocking their fleets. However, these are wholesale transactions with sales tax charged upon rental of these vehicles. Weak demand for recreational vehicles, boats and motorcycles coupled
with elevated overall financing costs remain challenges going forward.

Use taxes remitted via the countywide pools decreased $0.75 \%$, marking the third consecutive quarter of decline. While overall online sales continue to rise, pool collections dropped with the offsetting effect of more in-state fulfillment generated at large warehouses and through existing retail outlets allocated directly to local agencies.

Restaurant sales were a bright spot as the summer season began. Although menu prices have flattened after a year of sharp gains, patrons are making more restaurant trips and are favoring spending their disposable income on experiences. Better sales by office
material suppliers and enhanced investments of warehouse-farm-construction equipment contributed to improved returns for the business-industry category.

Sales tax for the remainder of 2023 appears likely to follow the recent trend of moderate declines before leveling off in early 2024. Cooling consumer confidence and greater pressure on household budgets may lead to a lackluster upcoming holiday shopping period. Furthermore, the possibility of a longer and more pronounced slowdown in economic activity exists as the Federal Reserve considers additional interest rate increases to combat high prices that are already stretching consumer wallets.

## REVENUE BY BUSINESS GROUP

Los Altos This Fiscal Year*

*ADJUSTED FOR ECONOMIC DATA

## TOP NON-CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TYPES

| Los Altos |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| Business Type | Q2 '23 | Change |  |
| Casual Dining | 147,560 | $0.9 \%$ | $\uparrow$ |
| Grocery Stores | 87,059 | $9.7 \%$ | $\uparrow$ |
| Service Stations | 83,291 | $-27.2 \%$ | $\downarrow$ |
| Fine Dining | 38,042 | $8.0 \%$ | $\uparrow$ |
| Home Furnishings | 35,119 | $-20.5 \%$ | $\downarrow$ |
| Specialty Stores | 20,338 | $19.1 \%$ | $\uparrow$ |
| Quick-Service Restaurants | 17,884 | $14.9 \%$ | $\uparrow$ |
| Electrical Equipment | 13,781 | $-60.5 \%$ | $\downarrow$ |
| Jewelry Stores | 10,737 | $16.9 \%$ | $\uparrow$ |
| Fast-Casual Restaurants | 10,454 | $-9.9 \%$ | $\downarrow$ |
| *Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity |  |  |  |

