


**News Release**

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Office of Public Affairs

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## Second Quarter 2021 Surge in Taxable Sales

### \$216.8 Billion Boosts State and Local Communities

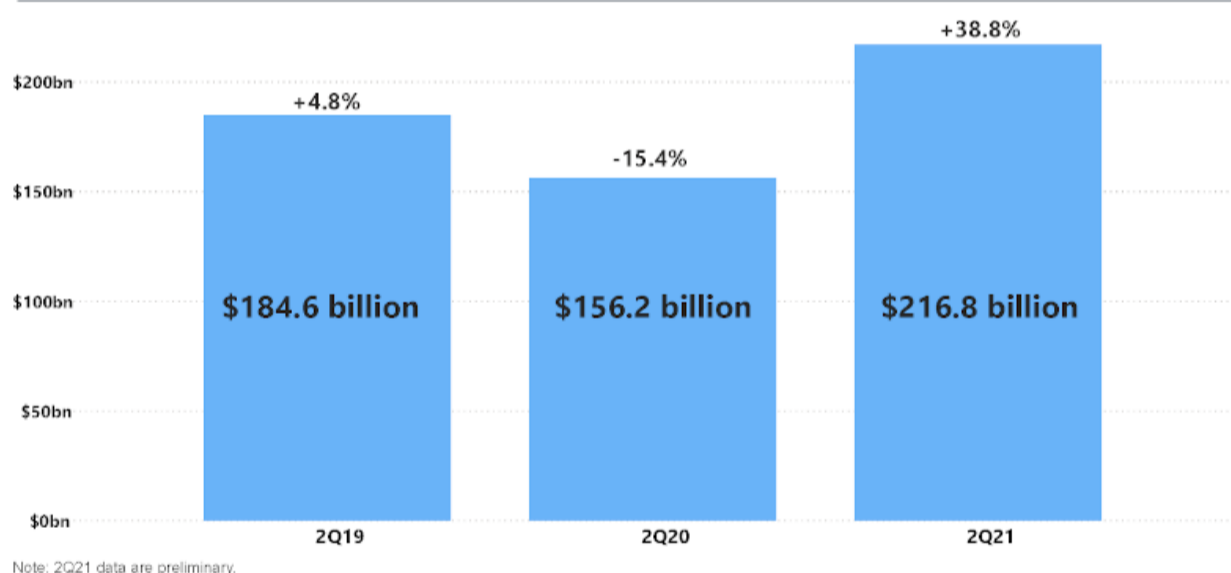
**Sacramento** – California businesses reported a record high of \$216.8 billion in taxable sales during the second quarter of 2021 (2Q21), increasing 38.8% over the same period last year and 17.4% from the pre-pandemic second quarter of 2019 (2Q19), reports the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA).

“This is positive news for California's economy and a sign that business owners found creative ways to adapt during a difficult year,” said California Department of Tax and Fee Administration Director Nick Maduros. “An increase in taxable sales results in additional tax dollars going back to our communities to provide essential services such as transportation, public safety, and health services programs.”

Taxable sales in the second quarter of 2020, during the depths of the pandemic, were \$156.2 billion. In 2019, second quarter taxable sales were \$184.6 billion.

#### Statewide Taxable Sales, Year-Over-Year Change

2Q21 taxable sales increased 38.8% over 2Q20


[Download Statewide Taxable Sales bar chart](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/images/Image1B2021Q2BarChart.png)

Increases in taxable sales varied by industry during the second-quarter months of April, May, and June. Clothing stores saw the most significant increase in taxable sales when compared to 2Q20 at 144.5%; food services and drinking places, which includes restaurants, bars, and food trucks, saw an 81.1% increase in taxable sales; and gasoline stations reported a 77.8% increase. When compared to pre-pandemic levels of 2Q19, furniture and home furnishing stores saw the highest increase at 27.9%; building material, garden equipment, and supply stores saw a 26.8% increase from pre-pandemic levels. Despite the increases, some industries, such as food services and drinking places and gasoline stations, still have not rebounded to pre-pandemic levels.

#### Taxable Sales

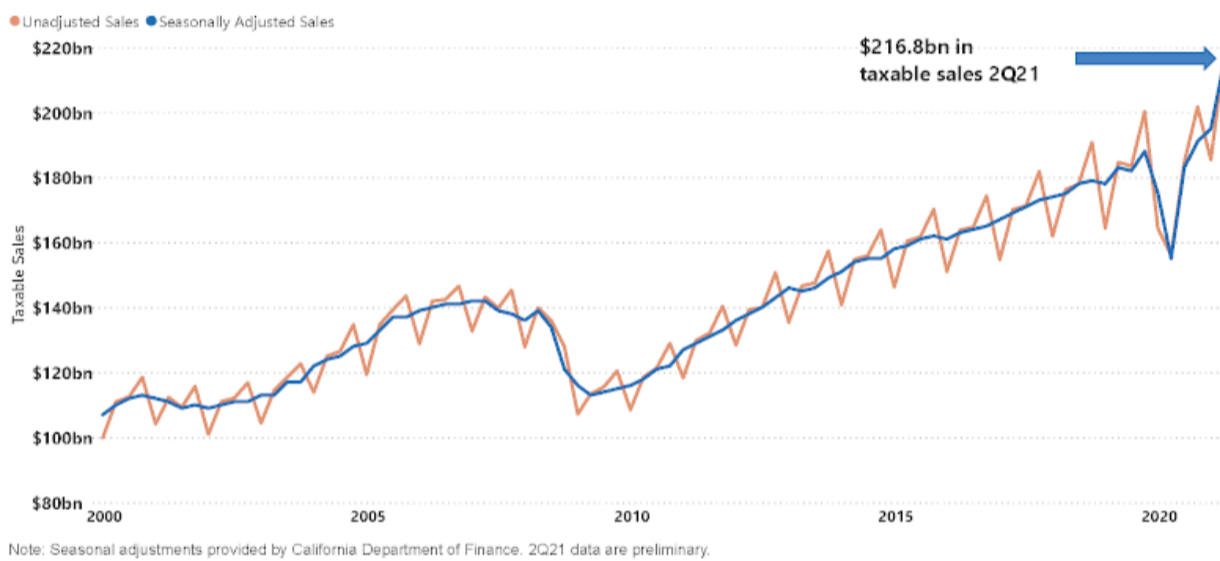
Select Industry Highlights	Taxable Sales 2Q19	Taxable Sales 2Q20	Taxable Sales 2Q21	Percent change 2Q20 to 2Q21	Percent change 2Q19 to 2Q21
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	\$10,421,242,275	\$4,822,146,701	\$11,788,471,155	144.5%	13.1%
Food services and drinking places	\$22,777,219,578	\$12,348,097,303	\$22,356,561,674	81.1%	-1.8%
Gasoline stations	\$14,598,083,722	\$7,882,536,415	\$14,017,378,109	77.8%	-4.0%
Furniture and home furnishing stores	\$3,194,352,631	\$2,668,985,145	\$4,086,034,963	53.1%	27.9%

Select Industry Highlights	Taxable Sales 2Q19	Taxable Sales 2Q20	Taxable Sales 2Q21	Percent change 2Q20 to 2Q21	Percent change 2Q19 to 2Q21
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	\$22,635,691,224	\$19,644,600,910	\$28,139,793,796	43.2%	24.3%
Sporting goods, hobby, musical instruments, and bookstores	\$2,499,677,809	\$2,066,810,169	\$2,811,095,101	36.0%	12.5%
Electronics and appliance stores	\$4,249,692,297	\$3,695,857,833	\$4,759,159,339	28.8%	12.0%
Health and personal care stores	\$3,827,998,938	\$3,524,764,595	\$4,406,443,822	25.0%	15.1%
Building material, garden equipment, and supply stores	\$10,927,127,002	\$12,312,127,035	\$13,860,590,465	12.6%	26.8%
Food and beverage stores	\$7,456,768,521	\$7,740,217,184	\$8,210,417,778	6.1%	10.1%

Taxable sales reflect sales of items subject to sales or use tax reported by businesses on returns filed with CDTFA. The sales noted in the table above have not been adjusted for inflation. The last decrease in taxable sales occurred during the Great Recession of 2008, and economic activity took four years to reach pre-recession numbers. Recovery from the pandemic has been much quicker, with taxable sales recovering in less than one year.

### Statewide Taxable Sales

2Q21 saw the highest total taxable sales in California history: \$216.8 billion.



[Download Statewide Taxable Sales line chart \(www.cdtfa.ca.gov/images/Image2B2021Q2LineChart.png\)](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/images/Image2B2021Q2LineChart.png)

Additional information on taxable sales by cities, counties, and industries is available in CDTFA's [Open Data Portal \(www.cdtfa.ca.gov/dataportal/index.htm\)](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/dataportal/index.htm). The [data visualization tool \(www.cdtfa.ca.gov/dataportal/visual.htm\)](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/dataportal/visual.htm) allows users to search for specific datasets; export data into multiple formats; customize charts in pie, line, and bar formats; or use a map to pinpoint a city or county.

The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) administers California's sales and use, fuel, tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis taxes, as well as a variety of other taxes and fees that fund specific state programs. CDTFA-administered programs account for more than \$73 billion annually, which in turn supports local essential services such as transportation, public safety and health, libraries, schools, social services, and natural resource management programs through the distribution of tax dollars going directly to local communities.

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#### Yolanda Richardson

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(<https://www.govops.ca.gov/departments/executive-staff/richardson/>)

#### Nicolas Maduros

Director, CDTFA

### QUICK LINKS

About CDTFA ([www.cdtfa.ca.gov/about.htm](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/about.htm))

External Tax Resources ([www.cdtfa.ca.gov/external-tax-resources.htm](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/external-tax-resources.htm))

Job Opportunities

(<https://www.calcareers.ca.gov/CalHRPublic/Search/JobSearchResults.aspx#depid=151>)

Information for Local Jurisdictions and Districts

([www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/local-and-district-taxes.htm](http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/local-and-district-taxes.htm))

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- Save Our Water (<https://saveourwater.com>)

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