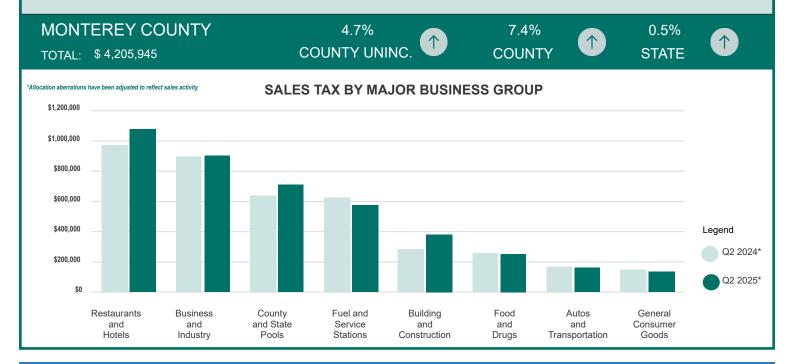
# MONTEREY CO. UNINC.

## SALES TAX UPDATE

**2Q 2025 (APRIL - JUNE)** 





Measure AA TOTAL: \$7,000,692



#### **MONTEREY CO. UNINC. HIGHLIGHTS**

unincorporated area's receipts from April through June were 8.3% above the second sales period in 2024. Excluding reporting issues, including late payments, receipts for this period were up 4.7%.

The growth this period came mainly from two business groups. For example, construction contractors saw more demand for their goods and services. Meanwhile, dining venues co-located at hotels, along with those on the premises at recreation and special event facilities saw 10% and 22% gains respectively.

The county's payout from the use tax pool rose along with the growth in the

size of the pool itself. The pool's receipts increased from sales of materials needed for local construction projects and the increasing volume of general consumer goods purchased online.

The inaugural quarter for the new Measure AA district tax saw \$7 million collected, however this includes a \$499,000 payment made in error. This amount will be reversed at a future date.

Net of aberrations, taxable sales for all of Monterey County grew 7.4% over the comparable period while those of the Central Coast region were up 2.5%.



### **TOP 25 PRODUCERS**

Assured Aggregates

Avfuel

B2b Industrial

**Packaging** 

**C&N Tractors** 

Carmel Valley Ranch

Chevron

Core & Main

Don Chapin

Dune Company of

Salinas

Gonzales Shell

**Gulfeagle Supply** 

Helena Agri-Enterprises

Kristich Monterev

Concrete Pipe

Monterey Peninsula Country Club

Nepenthe

Pacifc Ag Rentals

Pebble Beach Resorts

Prundale Valero/ferm's

Service

**RDO** Equipment

Royal Oaks Valero

Safeway

Shell

Sturdy Oil Company

Wilbur Ellis

HdL® Companies



#### **STATEWIDE RESULTS**

California's one-cent local sales and use tax receipts rose 0.6% in Q2 compared to the same period last year, after adjusting for accounting anomalies. While only modest growth, it is the second consecutive quarter experiencing positive results following an extended timeline of declines. This period is traditionally met with improved weather with the beginning of summer activity.

Steady gains in both business-industry and countywide use tax pools were driven by strong online sales, reflecting shopper's willingness and ability to spend. Whether pulled from inventory within California or shipped from outside the state, demand for goods by value-conscious shoppers prevailed. Other notable upticks came from purchases of office and electrical equipment.

Increased tax receipts from restaurants also demonstrated diners continued desire to eat out. Even amongst higher menu prices and tip fatigue, casual dining establishments generated the largest lift. While this is a good sign for the coming summer season, underlying data shows that disposal personal income – a key driver of restaurant sales – is growing at a slower pace than prior years, possibly signaling softer tax growth on the horizon.

The two sectors primed to take advantage of upcoming interest rate changes, autostransportation and building-construction, only experienced lackluster returns this period. New auto sales declined, offsetting gains in used vehicles and leasing, while building material sales remained unchanged from a year ago. However, aging vehicles and deferred home improvements remain a potential catalyst driving demand in the near term.

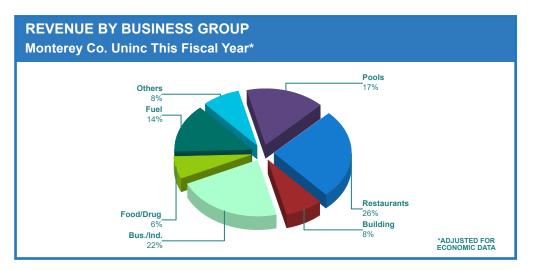
Balancing the positive results, revenue

from fuel and service stations declined for the ninth time in ten quarters, primarily due to West Texas Intermediate (WTI) low crude oil prices. As the global economy and development remains tempered, so has the demand for oil, leaving prices relatively low. While this dampens sales taxes, lower fuel costs during peak travel months may boost spending in other segments.

Traditional retailers saw a 1% decline, with specialty, sporting goods, and department stores under performing compared to year ago totals. Inflation and tariffs continue to pressure consumer spending and retailer margins, prompting reevaluation of physical store investments by regional and national

companies alike.

The September reduction in the federal funds rate, noting the possibility of more in early 2026, leaves optimism regarding future financing and accessing equity opportunities for some consumers. However, national tariff/trade talks remain a vital piece of the inflation/higher prices story with the potential of diminishing spending power. So sluggish calendar year 2025 continues with only modest expansion expected braced against the ever-changing larger economic trends.



#### TOP NON-CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TYPES **Unincorporated County HdL State** County Q2 '25\* **Business Type** Change Change Change Hotels/Motels 641.5 9.7% 10.2% 5.3% Service Stations 436.6 -8.5% -4.2% -9.4% Contractors 271.1 50.3% 50.1% -0.9% Garden/Agricultural Supplies 267.4 3.9% 6.7% -8.3% 7.7% 1.4% Casual Dining 212.3 2.5% Warehse/Farm/Const. Equip. 192.6 2.3% 6.9% ( -11.0% Leisure/Entertainment 139.2 21.5% 11.5% ( 4.1% Petroleum Prod/Equipment -6.4% -4.8% 🕕 -4.9% 130.8 **Grocery Stores** 0.7% 128.5 0.6% -0.2% 🕕 -3.0% 🕡 **Building Materials** 102.2 -0.9% -0.9% 🔱 \*Allocation aberrations have been adjusted to reflect sales activity \*In thousands of dollars