## RETAIL SALES



Retail Sales \& Consumer Confidence
INDEX 100=1966


| in \$Billions | Previous YTD YoY Change |  |  |  |  |  |  | Current Month Total |  | Annual Change |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Mar | Pct | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| Retail \& Food Services | 3.1\% | 3.1\% | 3.2\% | 3.2\% | 2.0\% | 3.4\% | 3.3\% | \$ 1,998.2 | 100\% | 0.6\% | 19.3\% | 9.2\% |
| Excluding Auto-Related | 3.0\% | 2.9\% | 3.0\% | 3.0\% | 2.1\% | 3.5\% | 3.6\% | 1,611.5 | - | 0.5\% | 18.3\% | 10.6\% |
| Motor Vehicles \& Parts | 3.8\% | 3.8\% | 4.0\% | 4.2\% | 1.3\% | 3.1\% | 2.1\% | \$ 386.8 | 19\% | 1.1\% | 23.6\% | 3.3\% |
| Furniture \& Fixtures | -4.4\% | -5.2\% | -5.5\% | -5.4\% | -7.5\% | -9.2\% | -8.4\% | 30.8 | 2\% | -5.4\% | 26.4\% | 1.0\% |
| Electronics \& Appliances | -2.1\% | -1.7\% | -0.2\% | 0.6\% | -5.5\% | 3.3\% | 1.3\% | 21.8 | 1\% | -14.6\% | 25.2\% | -6.3\% |
| Building Materials | -2.8\% | -2.8\% | -2.8\% | -3.0\% | -6.4\% | -4.2\% | -5.1\% | 106.0 | 5\% | 14.0\% | 13.5\% | 6.6\% |
| Food \& Beverage | 3.2\% | 2.8\% | 2.7\% | 2.5\% | 2.5\% | 2.0\% | 3.0\% | 242.3 | 12\% | 11.5\% | 4.2\% | 7.6\% |
| Health \& Personal Care | 7.9\% | 8.2\% | 8.6\% | 8.5\% | 6.7\% | 5.7\% | 3.6\% | 106.8 | 5\% | 1.7\% | 9.5\% | 3.9\% |
| Gasoline Stations | -12.3\% | -11.8\% | -11.7\% | -11.5\% | -7.5\% | -4.3\% | -3.0\% | 147.9 | 7\% | -15.9\% | 36.6\% | 29.9\% |
| Clothing \& Assessories | 1.4\% | 1.3\% | 1.0\% | 0.6\% | 1.4\% | 2.4\% | 3.4\% | 67.5 | 3\% | -26.4\% | 48.4\% | 6.2\% |
| Sporting, Hobby \& Books | 0.6\% | 0.3\% | 0.3\% | 0.4\% | -1.8\% | -1.0\% | -1.5\% | 22.0 | 1\% | 5.7\% | 28.6\% | 2.8\% |
| General Merchandise | 3.2\% | 2.9\% | 2.6\% | 2.6\% | 0.8\% | 2.4\% | 4.9\% | 206.9 | 10\% | 2.7\% | 12.1\% | 3.2\% |
| Miscellaneous Retailers | 2.1\% | 2.3\% | 2.7\% | 3.2\% | -2.5\% | 4.1\% | 4.6\% | 43.4 | 2\% | -1.2\% | 27.3\% | 14.4\% |
| Nonstore Retailers | 7.9\% | 8.1\% | 8.3\% | 8.0\% | 8.2\% | 10.0\% | 8.7\% | 345.2 | 17\% | 22.1\% | 13.6\% | 11.4\% |
| Food Services \& Drinking | 11.8\% | 11.5\% | 11.5\% | 11.3\% | 5.9\% | 6.3\% | 6.6\% | 270.6 | 14\% | -19.5\% | 32.1\% | 16.7\% |

(April 2024) ...... The Commerce Department reports US retail sales increased on a year-over-year basis by $3.3 \%$ in March. Excluding auto sales, retail sales increased at a $3.6 \%$ pace. A $-3.0 \%$ decrease in gasoline sales was offset by a $8.7 \%$ increase in nonstore retail, a $6.6 \%$ increase in food services and $4.9 \%$ increase in general merchandise. Four of the 13 cost segments experienced year-over-year declines - representing $15 \%$ of the total cost segments.

The relative stablility in retail sales is corollary to consumer confidence - namely if wage growth nears the pace of inflation and less volatility in interest rates and equity markets.

Strategically... The prevailing level of retail sales together with the prevailing outlook of the consumer, bears well for future spending behavior and its impact on economic growth. This also relates to e-commerce trades which has also experiences strengths in the pace of spending growth.

