17.Aug. 2022

## Retail Sales: Solid Gains Continued

Bottom Line: Retail sales rose, a touch more than expected at the core level in July. While June sales were revised about two-tenths lower, May sales were revised higher by nearly half of a percent. Despite historic price inflation, real retail sales activity is still modestly positive. Retail sales, including autos, food, and gas grew at nearly 5\% annualized in the three months ended in July, Excluding those items, sales grew over $11 \%$ annualized in the prior three months, only slightly below the pace of the prior six months, suggesting only a slight deceleration in the trend. Online sales led the gains at the core level in July, while auto sales were slower than expected, dragging down the headline gains. While auto sales are critical for the economy, the trends in the core metrics, suggest net consumption can continue at a modest to moderate pace, even as auto sales correct from the boom in 2020 and 2021. Overall, this was a solid report that confirms modest to moderate consumption growth continued in the first month of the 3rd Quarter.

Retail Sales \& Food Service


Contingent Macro Advisors 2022 source: US BEA

Retail ex Auto, Parts \& Gas


## Control Group



Oct-20 Jan-21 Apr-21 Jul-21 Nov-21 Feb-22 May-22 Sep-22

Contingent Macro Advisors 2022 source: US BEA

Retail Sales ROSE by $0.0 \%$ in July, compared with the market consensus for an increase of $0.1 \%$. The June estimate was revised lower from $1.00 \%$ to $0.81 \%$. Retail sales are now 10.3\% ABOVE their year ago level; just a year ago, the year-over-year growth rate was $15.5 \%$. Spending at motor vehicle dealers fell by $1.6 \%$.

Core Retail Sales ROSE by 0.4\%, compared with the market consensus for a decrease $0.1 \%$. The June estimate was revised lower from $1.04 \%$ to $0.88 \%$. Core retail sales are now $12.3 \%$ ABOVE their year ago level; just a year ago, the year-over-year growth rate was 15.5\%.

In July, gains at nonstore retailers (+2.7\%), building materials (+1.5\%), miscellaneous retailers (+1.5\%), grocery stores (+0.2\%). were partially offset by declines in gasoline stations, primarily due to low gasoline prices ( $-1.8 \%$ ), general merchandise stores
(-0.7\%), and clothing stores (-0.6\%).

Core Retail Sales ex Gasoline ROSE by $0.72 \%$ and are now $9.3 \%$ ABOVE their year ago level; just a year ago, the year over year growth rate was a solid 13.6\%.

## US Autos \& Parts (retail sales)



Oct-20 Jan-21 Apr-21 Jul-21 Nov-21 Feb-22 May-22 Sep-22


## US Eating \& Drinking Places (retail sales)



## US Food \& Beverage Stores (retail sales)



## US General Merchandise Stores (retail sales)



## US Gas Stations (retail sales)



## US Building \& Garden Supply (retail sales)



## US Health \& Personal (retail sales)



## US Clothing Stores (retail sales)



Oct-20 Jan-21 Apr-21 Jul-21 Nov-21 Feb-22 May-22 Sep-22

Contingent Macro Advisors 2022 source: US BEA

| US Retail Sales | Jul-22 | Jun-22 | May-22 | 3 m ann \% chg | 6 m ann \% chg | YoY \% chg | 2021 | 2020 | 5 y |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Retail Sales \& Food Service (\$683B seas. adj. monthly sales) | 0.03\% | 0.81\% | 0.36\% | 4.89\% | 9.83\% | 10.28\% | 16.84\% | 3.24\% | 7.68\% |
| Retail ex Auto \& Parts (\$490B) | 0.72\% | 0.65\% | 0.76\% | 8.90\% | 10.30\% | 9.32\% | 16.59\% | 3.94\% | 8.02\% |
| Retail ex Auto, Parts \& Gas (\$472B) | 0.48\% | 0.90\% | 1.30\% | 11.23\% | 11.74\% | 12.40\% | 15.41\% | 6.37\% | 8.28\% |
| Autos \& Parts (\$125B) | -1.63\% | 0.50\% | -3.38\% | -16.76\% | -7.14\% | 2.13\% | 8.75\% | 7.07\% | 4.89\% |
| Nonstore (Online) | 2.65\% | 0.91\% | 2.68\% | 28.00\% | 15.86\% | 20.15\% | 12.76\% | 28.89\% | 20.09\% |


| Retail (\$111B) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Eating \& Drinking Places (\$86B) | 0.07\% | 0.78\% | 1.00\% | 7.64\% | 29.70\% | 11.65\% | 43.50\% | -19.28\% | 9.07\% |
| Food \& Beverage Stores (\$79B) | 0.20\% | 0.89\% | 1.09\% | 9.06\% | 6.26\% | 8.41\% | 8.87\% | 6.92\% | 5.38\% |
| Gas Stations (\$67B) | -1.77\% | 2.49\% | 4.97\% | 24.70\% | 50.80\% | 39.89\% | 42.29\% | -11.62\% | 11.44\% |
| General Merchandise Stores (\$67B) | -0.70\% | -0.36\% | 0.04\% | -4.01\% | -5.41\% | 0.49\% | 11.08\% | -0.23\% | 3.06\% |
| Building \& Garden Supply (\$43B) | 1.46\% | -0.51\% | 0.21\% | 4.70\% | 2.31\% | 10.05\% | 12.81\% | 15.27\% | 8.36\% |
| Health \& Personal (\$34B) | 0.41\% | 1.52\% | 0.07\% | 8.27\% | 4.99\% | 3.42\% | 9.51\% | 5.95\% | 4.36\% |
| Clothing Stores (\$26B) | -0.57\% | 0.88\% | -1.35\% | -4.14\% | 5.90\% | 2.32\% | 25.21\% | -13.87\% | 3.76\% |
| Miscellaneous Retail Stores (\$16B) | 1.52\% | 3.65\% | -2.20\% | 12.20\% | 26.32\% | 17.77\% | 21.04\% | 6.36\% | 10.53\% |
| Home Furnishing (\$12B) | 0.18\% | -0.36\% | -1.13\% | -5.14\% | 2.15\% | 2.10\% | 7.40\% | 4.11\% | 4.32\% |
| Sports, Hobby \& Book Stores (\$9B) | 0.13\% | 0.58\% | 0.93\% | 6.74\% | 7.83\% | 3.85\% | 16.30\% | 14.75\% | 6.05\% |
| Electronics \& Appliance Stores (\$8B) | 0.45\% | -0.14\% | -2.58\% | -8.82\% | 10.04\% | -9.87\% | 11.52\% | -14.36\% | -0.47\% |

Month-over-month \% change for most recent months, followed by annualized \% changes for periods noted. 5 - and 10-year are simple averages of annual \% changes.

## Retail Sales <br> (billions of USD per month)



Retail ex Auto \& Parts



Eating \& Drinking Places


Gas Stations


Building \& Garden Supply


Clothing Stores


Home Furnishing





Electronics \& Appliance Stores


