

# **ICSC's Industry Update**

March 2021



### **Coronavirus Consumer Survey**







Believe the economy is better than it was a month improve in the next ago



Believe the economy will 12 months



their state

Agree businesses should be open in

#### A majority would support another lockdown, but look forward to returning to stores in a safe way



Would support another lockdown if there was a significant rise in COVID-19 cases in their state



Are currently engaged in a normal level of outof-home activity



Fully expect businesses to maintain health & safety precautions after people are vaccinated



Would increase spending on retail goods or @ restaurants if and when they receive stimulus payments

#### What consumers are doing



Shopped/browsed inside a physical store for nonessential goods



Dined indoors @ a restaurant, bar or other eating place



Shopped inside a mall

#### Even after being fully vaccinated, many want to continue with safety habits adopted during the pandemic



Wear a mask in public places



Social distance or stay at least 6 feet away from people



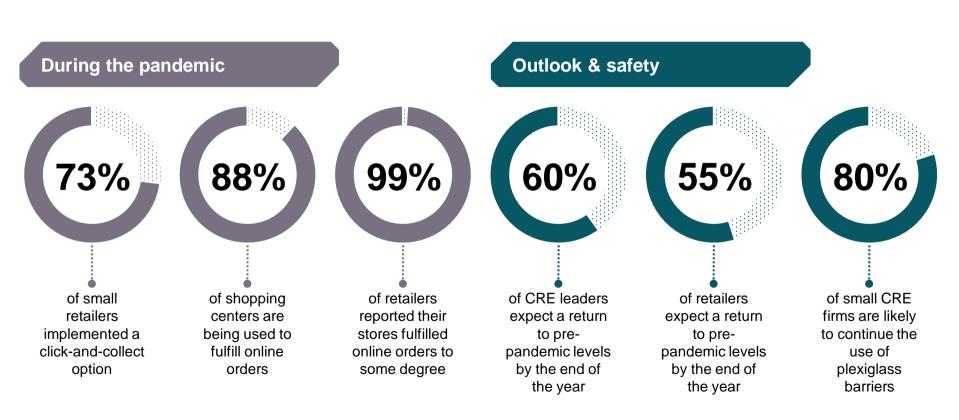
Avoid crowded places or large gatherings



Only get together indoors with people living in the same home

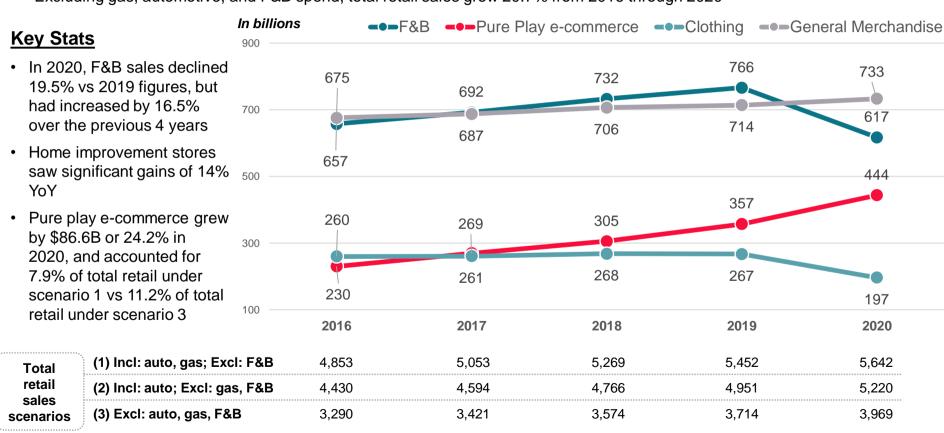
# **Industry Leader Survey**

A survey of CRE companies and retailers provided insight around operations during the pandemic and outlook for the future



#### **Sales Composition**

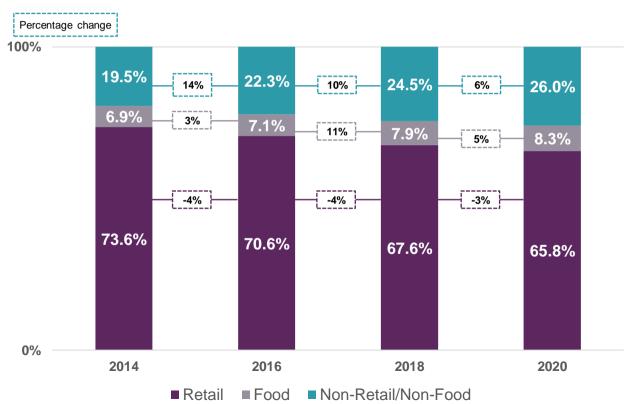
Excluding gas, automotive, and F&B spend, total retail sales grew 20.7% from 2016 through 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ICSC Research

### **Shopping Center GLA Distribution**

Over the last 7 years, the share of GLA in shopping centers devoted to retail shifted significantly towards food and non-retail/non-food business, decreasing retail's share of GLA in shopping centers by 10.6%



#### **Key Stats**

- Despite announced openings and closings, the distribution of GLA may lag based on when businesses shut their physical doors
- Fueled by consumer demand for services, such as health care, the Non-Food/Non-Retail share of GLA in shopping centers increased by 33.3% from 2014 through 2020
- Over the same period, Food grew by 20.2%, however considering the current climate, there may be a significant shift in GLA share distribution in coming years as food establishments have been one of the hardest hit

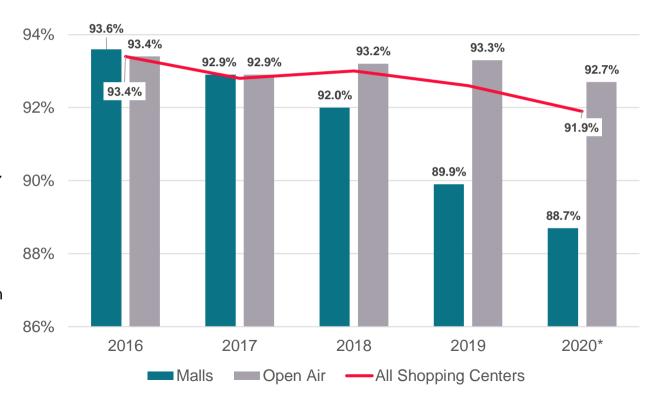
Source: CoStar Realty Information (www.costar.com), ICSC Research

#### **Occupancy**

Despite announced closings, occupancy rates across all shopping centers held to between 93.4% and 91.9% over the last 5 years.

#### **Economic Factor**

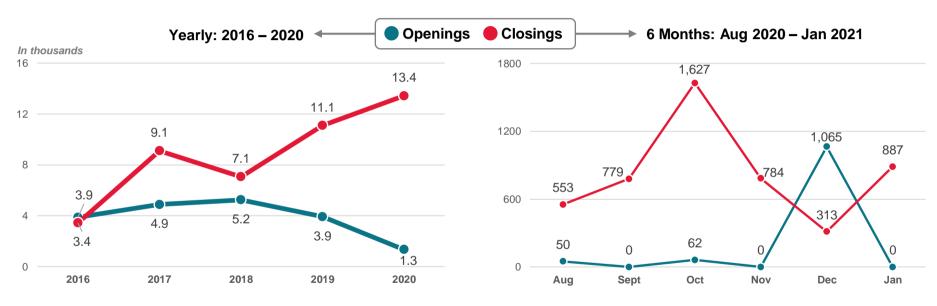
- Over the last 5 years, mall occupancy has declined 4.9 percentage points
- In 2020, malls experienced a 1.2 percentage point decline
- Likely as a result of the recession in 2008, mall occupancy fell by 1.7 percentage points by the end of 2009 and rose to pre-recession levels in 2013
- For context, in the same 2008 through 2009 period, occupancy in open-air centers dipped by 2.9 percentage points and across all shopping centers by 2.8 percentage points



\*2020 data is through Q3 Source: NCREIF, ICSC Research

## **Announced Openings & Closings**

In 2016, announced openings and closings were nearly equal, but the pandemic and widespread economic turmoil mixed with accelerating change in consumer shopping behaviors created a 2020 of record closings.



- · In 2020, closings outpaced store openings tenfold
- Over the 5 years, average # of closings were more than double the average number of openings each year
- From 2008 through 2009, a total of 11.7k stores closed; 1.7k fewer than were closed in 2020 alone

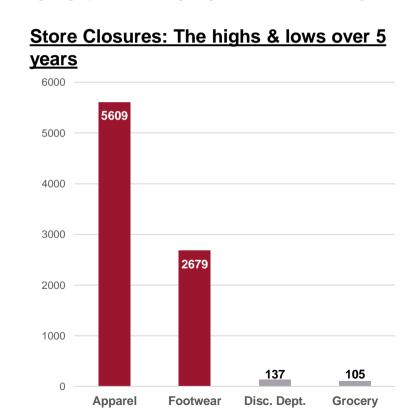
- Over the 6 month period, total closings was over four times that of openings
- During the period, a total of 1,177 openings were announced, contrasted by 4,943 announced closings
- Despite the sharp increase in announced closings in October, aggregate Q4 2020 closings represented only 20% of total closings in 2020

Source: PNC RE Market Research, ICSC Research

### **Bankruptcies & Resulting Closures**

Not all bankruptcies filed result in store closures as many are filed as a means to restructure debt. However, others do announce and begin the process of store closure quickly as part of realigning operations or going out of business altogether.





Source: PNC RE Market Research, ICSC Research



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