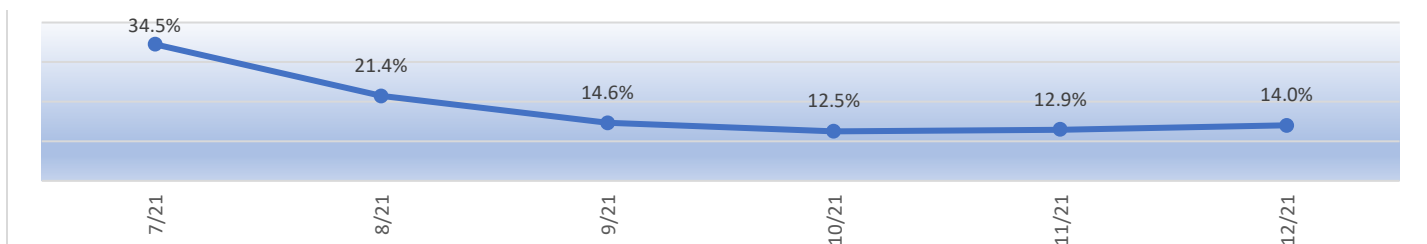


### SAME STORE SALES (Source: Compass RCR)

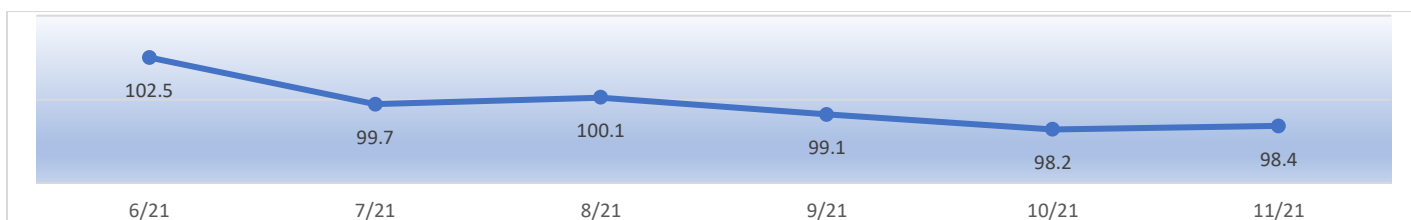


**COMMENTS:** Based on consensus, overall SSS improved slightly; driven primarily by the QSR Sector exceeding SSS expectations and SSS that met expectations in the Fast Casual Sector. However, SSS at Casual and Fine Dining Sectors fell below expectations. Overall, traffic improved; but again, driven by the QSR Sector.

### RESTAURANT PERFORMANCE INDEX (Source: National Restaurant Association)

		4/21	5/21	6/21	7/21	8/21	9/21	10/21	11/21
	<b>RESTAURANT PERFORMANCE INDEX</b>	106.3	105.5	105.6	105.2	104.2	102.9	104.5	104.8
<b>CURRENT SITUATIONS</b>									
\$	SSS Increase/Decrease	97%/3%	95%/5%	84%/16%	85%/15%	73%/11%/16%	76%/24%	85%/11%	86%/7%
	Capital Spending	74%	68%	72%	73%	63%	59%	62%	75%
<b>EXPECTATIONS:</b>									
\$	Sales Outlook Improvement	77%	75%	75%	71%	53%	47%	50%	59%
	Economy Outlook Improvement	64%	74%	68%	32%	36%	16%	30%	37%

### SMALL BUSINESS OPTIMISM INDEX (Source: NFIB and Compass RCR)



The most recent NFIB Survey reports a slight increase in operator optimism driven by expectation of higher sales from the holidays. The NFIB Uncertainty Index decreased by 4 points as a majority of owners are expecting poor conditions for business through the Spring of 2022. Owners have grown pessimistic about future economic conditions.

### CONSUMER SENTIMENT (University of Michigan-Sentiment)

The Sentiment Index rose in December primarily driven by the lower 1/3 income bracket had gains in their income. Current economic conditions remained basically unchanged. A recent poll by NPD Group found that 64% of Americans feel comfortable dining in restaurants. 85% preferred to socialize at a restaurant rather than dine at home.

	7/21	8/21	9/21	10/21	11/21	12/21
Consumer Sentiment	81.2	70.3	72.8	71.7	67.4	70.6
Current Economy	84.5	78.5	80.1	77.7	73.6	74.2
Consumer Expectations	78.4	65.1	68.1	67.9	63.5	68.3

### HEADLINE NEWS

- Omicron variant presenting new (old) challenges. Supposed to be a milder form.
- Inflation took a bite out of middle and lower-income consumers – 6.8%
- Consumers are changing their dining habits; do not plan on returning to pre-pandemic habits.
- Restaurant operators and suppliers meet to tackle supply issues
- Economy registered its smallest monthly employment gain in nearly a year