March 09, 2021

## COVID-19 AUTO MARKET UPDATE

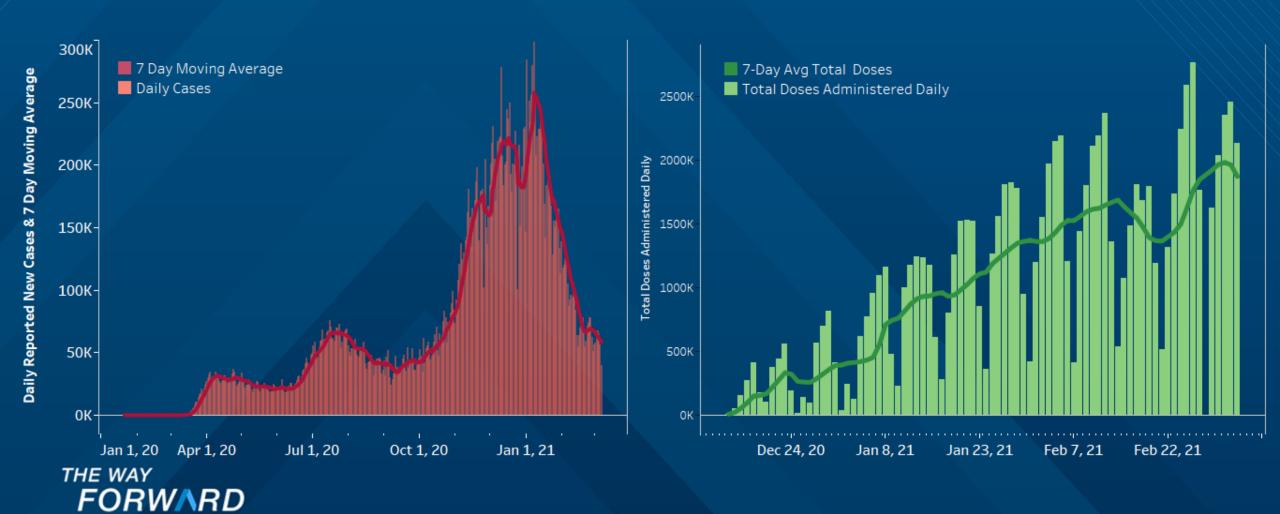


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Jonathan Smoke

Chief Economist, Cox Automotive

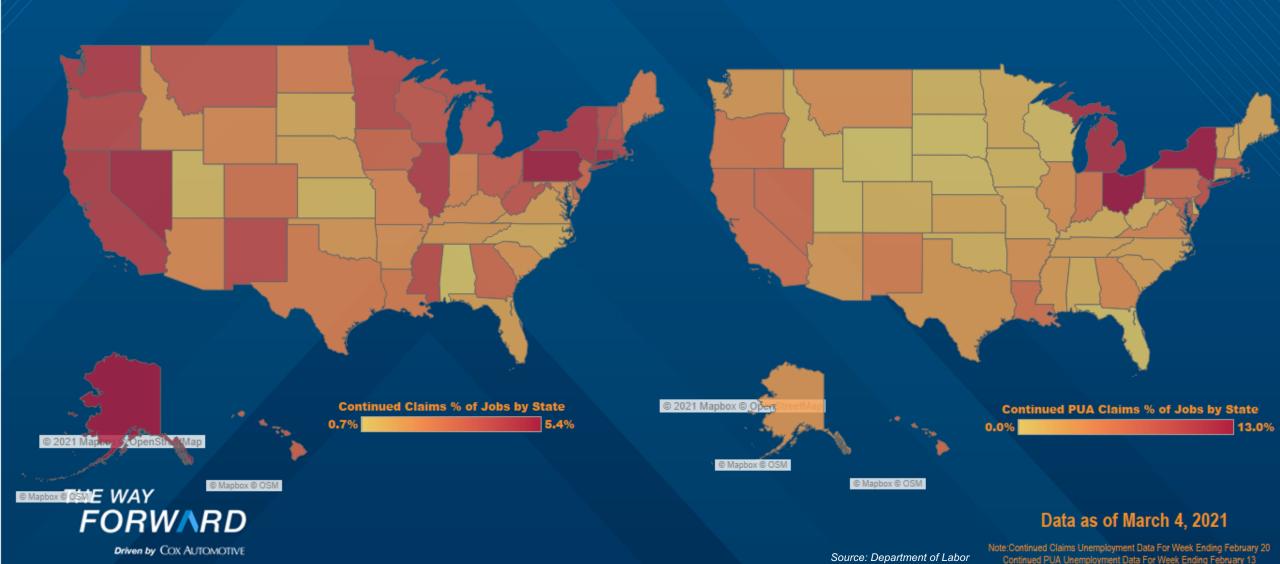
## COVID-19 DAILY CASE AND VACCINATION TRENDS



Source: Cox Automotive

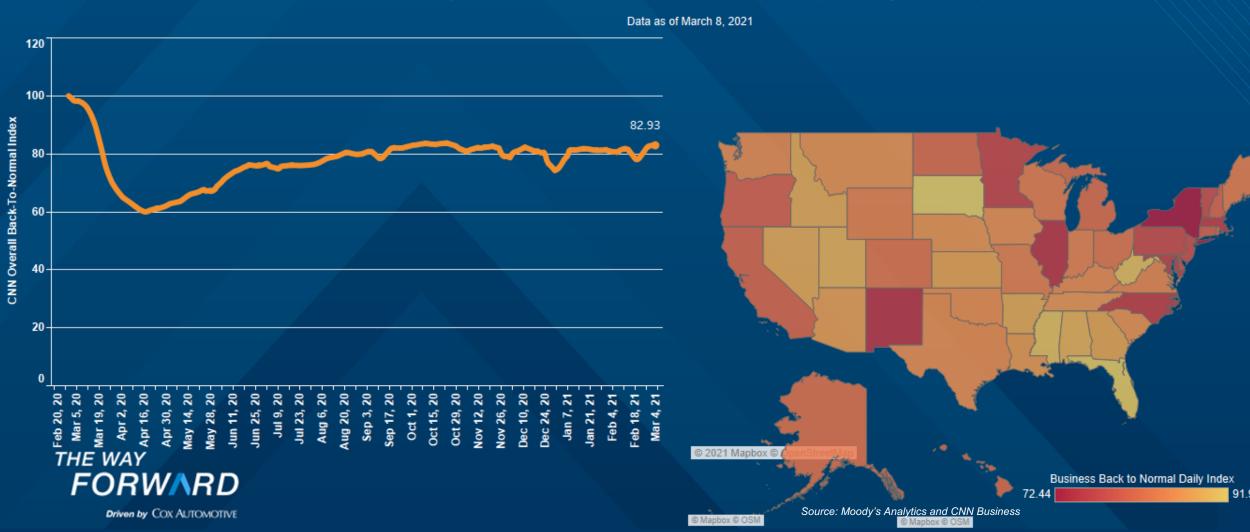
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## CONTINUING CLAIMS AT 4.3 MILLION NATIONALLY



## BUSINESS RECOVERY ESTIMATES UP LAST WEEK

Moody's-CNN Business Back-To-Normal Index (February 29 = 100)



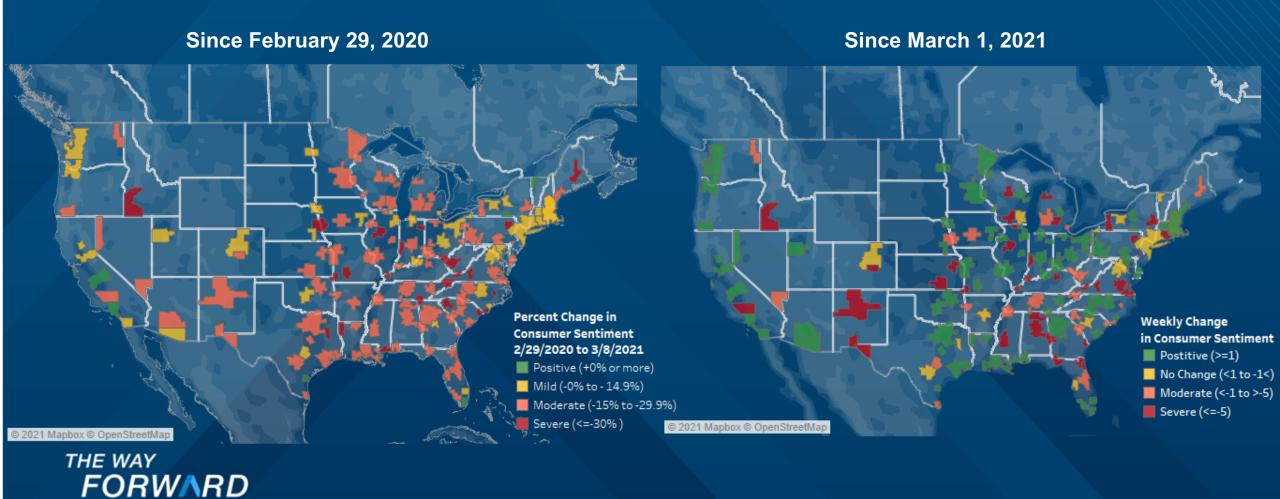
## CONSUMER SENTIMENT IMPROVED LAST WEEK

Morning Consult's Index of Consumer Sentiment on Monday was down 16.3% since February 29, 2020

ICS Value (7-Day Average)



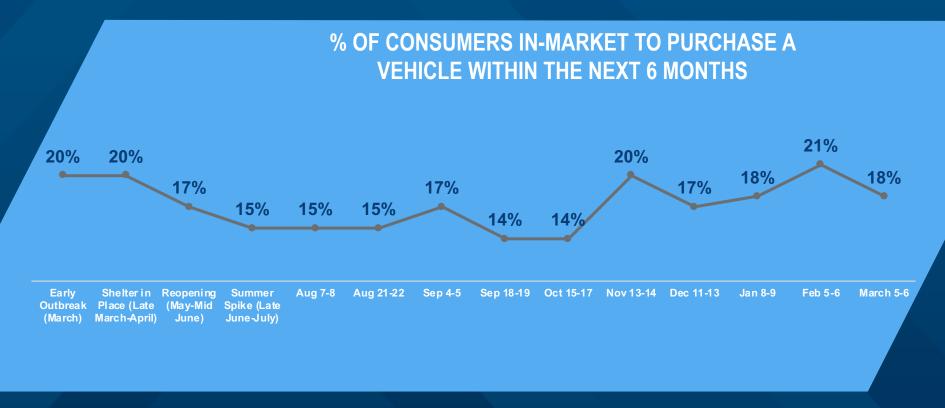
## CONSUMER SENTIMENT IMPROVES ACROSS MARKETS



Source: Morning Consult

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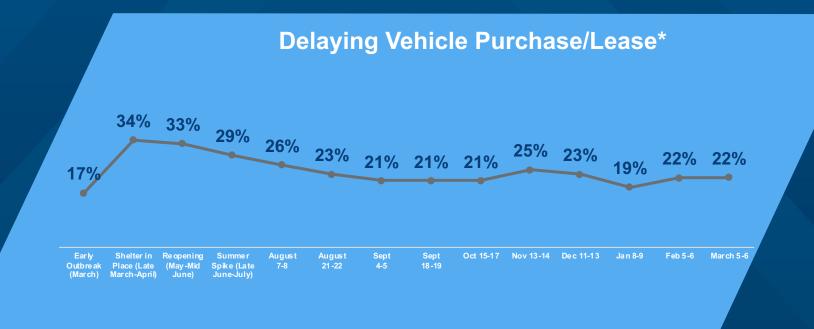
## THE NUMBER OF IN-MARKET SHOPPERS DECREASED IN MARCH



Q4. Now as of today, when do you think you will be in the market to purchase or lease a vehicle?



## PURCHASE DELAY STAYED CONSISTENT IN MARCH



## Top reasons for delaying purchase (top 2)\*

Concerned about cost/financial situation

Not driving as many miles as usual/don't need a vehicle now

Concern about having contact with staff/other people

Waiting to see if I can get a better deal or special incentive

Waiting to see if federal government will provide another stimulus check

26%

23%

23%

20%

20%

21%

The vehicle I want isn't currently available 17%

\*Among 6-month auto intenders

Q10. Have you done, or do you think you will do any of the following because of the coronavirus? \*Note: Added "have done" in Wave 4 Q17a3. You said you may delay purchasing/leasing a vehicle due to coronavirus. What are the main reasons? Please select up to 2 of the main reasons. (Question added April 17)



### SERVICE DELAY DECREASED IN MARCH

% OF CONSUMERS DELAYING VEHICLE SERVICE/REPAIR

25%

15%

June 12-13

March 5-6

#### **Types of Service Being Delayed**

Oil change/fluid check/air filter	55%
Tires (rotation, replacement, repair)	43%
General check-up/tune-up	36%
Scheduled maintenance/interval service	27%
State Inspection/Emissions testing	20%
Battery	16%

Q18b. What type(s) of vehicle service/maintenance have you delayed or plan to delay? Please select all that apply

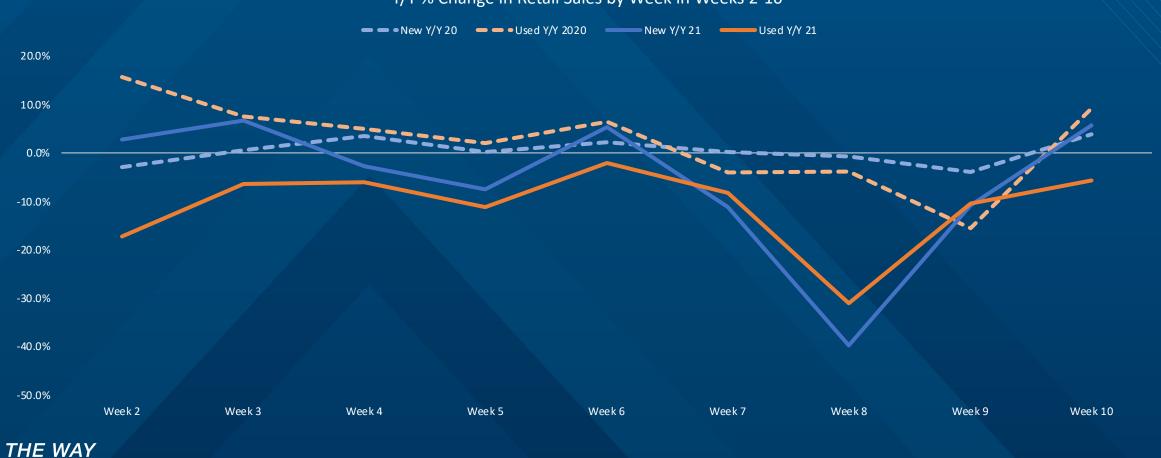


## RETAIL SALES ESTIMATES

FORW^RD

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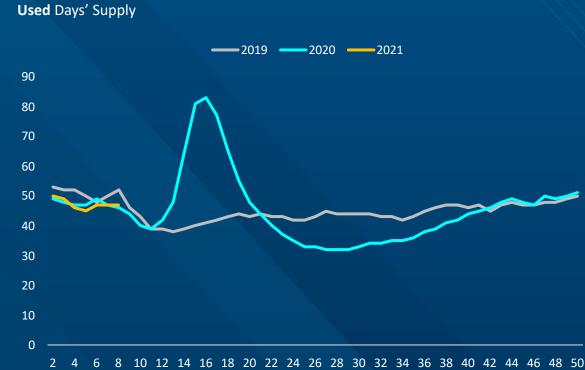
Source: Cox Automotive

## ZERO PERCENT FINANCING UP TO START MARCH



## RETAIL INVENTORY REMAINS TIGHT

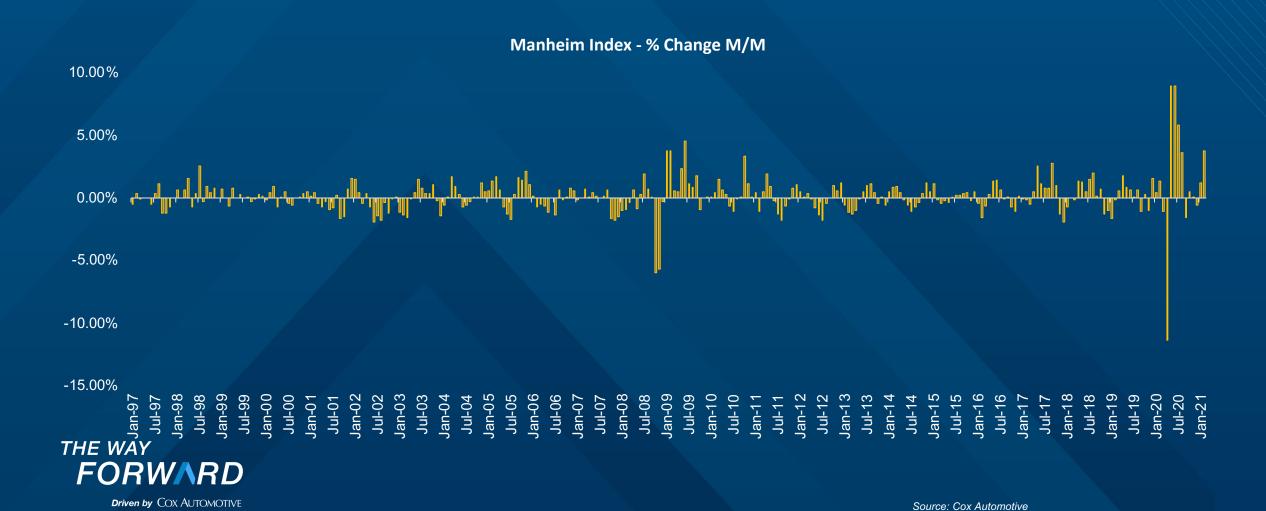






Source: Cox Automotive

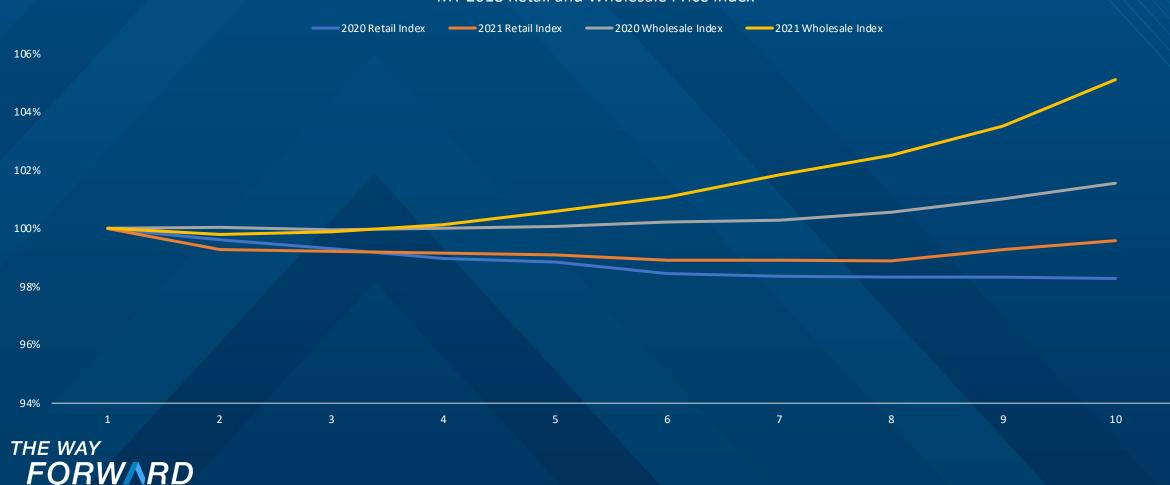
## WHOLESALE PRICES SURGING EARLY IN 2021



## USED PRICES CONTINUE MOVING HIGHER

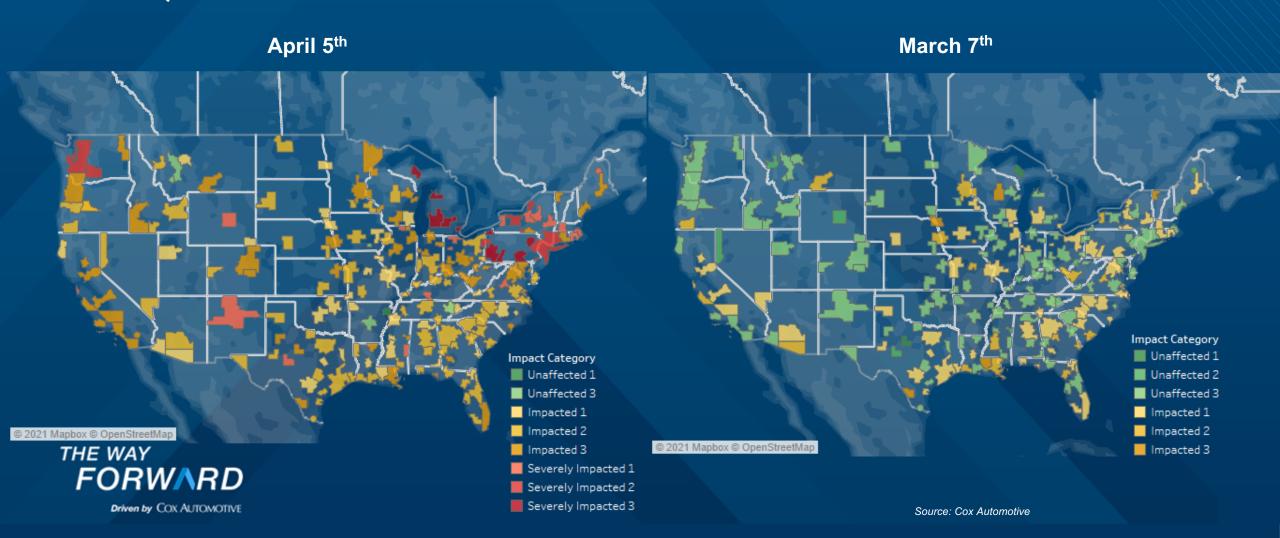
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Source: Cox Automotive

# SALES IMPACT VARIES BY DMA AS EVIDENCED BY UNIQUE CREDIT APPS



## COX AUTOMOTIVE LEADING INDICATORS

- Leads in March through Saturday on Autotrader were up 10% y/y and on Kelley Blue Book were up 25%; Autotrader gained momentum while KBB lost some momentum
- Vehicle form submissions on **Dealer.com** remain up y/y, and new gained momentum over the weekend while used lost a little momentum
- Dealertrack unique credit applications on same-store basis were down 11% y/y last week, which was a big improvement from the prior week
- **Xtime** saw an 8% decline y/y last week in consumers having their cars serviced, which was unchanged from the prior week



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