

Thursday, May 14

Friends,

This week, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed the [Combating Organized Retail Crime Act](#). NRF sent a [key vote letter](#) to House members last week and issued a [statement](#) commending the House's bipartisan support of the bill.

NRF has been at the forefront advocating for passage of this legislation on behalf of retailers since it was first introduced in Congress. We are grateful to the lawmakers who voted for CORCA, which will enhance federal coordination and deliver much-needed resources to disrupt criminal networks. We encourage the Senate to move quickly to pass the bill and advance it to the president for signature.

Retail sales rose for the seventh consecutive month in April even as gas prices rose and inflation remained stubborn, according to the latest [CNBC/NRF Retail Monitor](#). Total retail sales, excluding automobile dealers and gasoline stations, were up 0.34% seasonally adjusted month over month and up 5.73% unadjusted year over year in April.

We recently released the monthly [Global Port Tracker](#). Due to rising inflation and global economic uncertainty, import volume at major U.S. container ports is expected to remain below last year's levels into early fall despite a skewed year-over-year bump in May and June. The spike over the next two months is due to a sharp fall-off in imports after the administration announced new tariffs in April 2025.

The report confirms that global economic uncertainty driven by the conflict in Iran puts downward pressure on imports and upward pressure on prices, as retailers work hard to keep everyday goods affordable for American families.

For a full overview of NRF's latest initiatives, please see [our weekly update](#).

Thanks,



Matthew Shay
President & CEO
National Retail Federation