BI Daaglik - BI Daily

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Consumer Countries/Markets

Then and now: 25 years have changed tastes for California wines

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![Pie charts showing wine varietals in 1993 and 2015.](source)

Source: David Freed presentation, 2016 Wine Industry Financial Symposium

California wines

U.S. Consumer Spending Highest for Any September Since 2008

American consumers this year avoided the September slump in spending typically seen in recent years. That has helped keep average spending for the first nine months of 2016 the highest for any year since 2008. Spending patterns of the past decade for the months of October, November and December suggest that spending will increase even further.

However, there are some reasons to believe spending might not follow the normal pattern this
year. While the relatively high level of September spending could indicate that Americans stayed in a buying mood even after the end of summer vacations and back-to-school shopping, it could also mean that the customary September-to-October rise in spending has already taken place. And although presidential elections generally do not affect consumer spending, Americans' negative views about the two major-party candidates could affect consumer confidence and spending in ways not seen in 2008 or 2012.

Economic Environment

King IV is just the next evolutionary step

The latest iteration of King guidelines - to be released on 1 November - is nothing more than the next evolutionary step for corporate governance to remain relevant, assesses where we are, and point the way forward.

King IV sets out simple parameters by which entities such as companies including SMEs, NPOs, parastatals, retirement funds and municipalities can improve their governance practices and reap better outcomes via exceeding investor and other stakeholder expectations.