

November 2018

Supermarkets - UK

“The supermarket sector is growing once more, but this growth has not been enough to stem the tide of spending moving away from large-format stores. This decade has seen unprecedented change in both how grocery shoppers behave and how the sector is structured. Consolidation, on both the retail and supply ...

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - Quarterly Update - UK

“Financial well-being and confidence was lower in each of the three months to October than we reported throughout the summer months. This matches the stagnant economic performance in August and September. Overall though, most consumers are still getting by, and remain relatively optimistic about their financial future.”

– Rich ...

October 2018

Clothing Retailing - UK

“The UK clothing market is going through a dramatic period of change. Online is not only capturing a greater share of consumer spending, but it is also highly influential in what consumers are choosing to buy – no matter where they are making the final purchase. Whilst the online-only retailers ...

September 2018

Food and Non-food Discounters - UK

“Overall the discount sector remains one of UK retail’s key growth areas. However, it is increasingly becoming a tale of two sides. The food discounters continue to put on exceptional growth, helped by store openings and the success of newer ranges such as premium. On the non-food side growth continues ...

Jewellery & Watches Retailing - UK

“The UK jewellery and watches market has continued to see strong value growth, but this is largely due to continued demand for luxury and high ticket items. The mid-market brands and retailers are suffering from many of the same issues as other fashion and high street retailers, such as growing ...

August 2018

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - Quarterly Update - UK

“Consumers continue to worry about the impact Brexit will have on the UK economy. But people are still focussing much more on their own financial situations, which are currently in a pretty healthy state. The base rate rise will make it harder for some, but the general outlook is positive ...

Pet Food & Pet Care Retailing - UK

“The pet food and pet care industry is growing well, underpinned by stable pet ownership and an increasing desire to treat pets with premium food, products and services as pets become a more integral part of the family. With the rise of services there is an opportunity for both specialist ...

July 2018

Footwear Retailing - UK

"The footwear market is continuing to grow, but this growth is predicted to slow down over the next few years as the implementation of Brexit will undoubtedly create more uncertainty. Once again we see that men's footwear is driving growth in the sector as the popularity of trainers is yet ...

Online Retailing - UK

"The growth in online retailing, at present, continues unabated. It is still a relatively young channel, accounting for a sixth of all retail sales in the UK, with much room to grow particularly in some categories, notable grocery. Awareness of its growth and the impact this is having on the ...

Furniture Retailing - UK

"Consumer spending on furniture continues to grow, but it's a fragmented and challenging sector to operate in. Physical stores remain a vital part of the purchase journey but growth in digital capabilities has fundamentally changed the way they're used and the in-store experience needs to be adapted to reflect this ...

June 2018

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - Quarterly Update - UK

"The increase in confidence that we discussed in Consumers and the Economic Outlook – UK – March 2018 clearly wasn't a one-off. Our confidence data has been running for almost a decade now, and people's assessments, both of their current financial situation and how they expect their finances to shape ...

May 2018

DIY Retailing - UK

"Pressure is mounting on the DIY sector, with spending becoming increasingly fragmented and shifting from specialists to non-specialists. The pressure comes from external sources, including the shift away from home ownership, slowing activity in the housing market and increasing competition, but also internal ones such as the disruptions caused by ...

April 2018

Convenience Stores - UK

Department Stores - UK

Retail: Overview - UK

“Growth in the convenience sector accelerated for the third consecutive year, in part driven by inflation. However, it was the structural changes, both through acquisitions and failures, which made it a defining year for the sector. The increased power of the multiples in the market is likely to be both ...

“The UK department store sector remains challenging, with a number of the leading players struggling to carve out their niche in a crowded retail market. Innovation has been centred on creating a compelling in-store environment and whilst this is important, research suggests that department store retailers should be doing more ...

March 2018

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - Quarterly Update - UK

“People are still wary about the potential impact of Brexit – particularly when it comes to the cost of living. But people seem able to separate these macro-economic concerns from their own personal financial situation. Unemployment remains at record lows, and while average wages are still increasingly more slowly than ...

Online Grocery Retailing - UK

“The smallest and quickest-growing aspect of the grocery market, online grocery is a sector that has seen a vast number of innovations in the past year as it strives to evolve to cater not just for big-basket supermarket-style shops but also for smaller top-up-based shops.”

Health Food Retailing - UK

“The health food specialists have capitalised on the health and wellbeing trend but it hasn’t been easy as supermarkets and online players have increasingly muscled in on the market. The most important factor for specialists is trust, both as a way to combat the threat of the competition but also ...

February 2018

Electrical Goods Retailing - UK

“Spending on electricals held up well in 2017 despite increased pressure on consumers’ finances. However, it was again the non-specialists that were the driver, particularly those with a strong presence online as spending increasingly moves to online channels. Demand is equally being driven by high levels of promotional activity, which ...

Optical Goods Retailing - UK

“Consumer spending on optical goods and services in the UK has continued to rise. However, growth in the market continued to be hindered by low inflation in core categories as a number of the leading players rely on competitive pricing strategies to attract customers. As a result, the independents are ...

Christmas Shopping Habits - UK

“It was a remarkably good Christmas given that all the economic indicators suggested that consumers should be becoming more cautious and because the comparison was with a retail boom in the final quarter of 2016. In the event, people were prepared to borrow to cover the fact that real incomes ...

January 2018

Beauty and Personal Care Retailing - UK

“The UK beauty and personal care market remains challenging, as weak growth in personal care continues to hinder growth in the wider market. Meanwhile, the beauty segment is driving the market, boosted by make-up and skincare trends. Many of the health and beauty specialists have reacted to these trends and ...