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This report aims to clarify what is happening to our retail locations in the face of competition from online retailing. It is not enough to say that online retailing grew by 13% in 2014 to 11.3% of all retail sales and it is therefore gaining share of retail sales because over half of all online sales are through the websites of store-based retailers.

This report looks at the following areas:

- · Consumers in good shape
- · The changing face of retailing
- Forecasts by location

Retailing is changing and not just because of the growth of online. The trend of people moving back into the inner cities (Mintel's trend Rebirth of Cities) is leading to profound changes in the way we shop. There is a move back to local shopping and a move away from shopping at superstores and on retail parks. Online is complementary to in-store retailing and it is becoming increasingly artificial to make any distinction between them, at least as far as store-based retailers are concerned.

We are optimistic for the outlook for retail sales growth over the next couple of years, but where that money is being spent is changing and that is presenting great challenges for retailers.

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This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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