

January 2022

December UK Retail Briefing - UK

"2021 was one where the pandemic continued to loom large, although in certain areas the landscape of post-pandemic retail became a little clearer. Online purchasing remained heightened and it is clear that COVID-19 will indeed mark a step-change in engagement in the channel. Mintel's COVID-19 Tracker has on average recorded ...

December 2021

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - UK

"Rising inflation and concerns about stock shortages have shaken consumers' sense of financial wellbeing and confidence for the coming year. It is important to place the falls seen on these measures in October in context, however: the vast majority of consumers remain fairly upbeat.

November UK Retail Briefing - UK

"The retail sector moves into the final two months of the year in a far better position in 2021 than in 2020. However, while the pandemic led-restrictions which disrupted trade in 2020 have eased, inflationary pressures and uncertain consumer confidence make peak 2021 no less challenging. While these factors will ...

November 2021

October UK Retail Briefing - UK

As consumers cut back on their spending on fashion, watches and jewellery during 2020 because of the pandemic, they are now looking to splash out on unique items. Close to a quarter had a bespoke piece of jewellery/watch made, +9 percentage points since the last Report in 2020. There ...

October 2021

September UK Retail Briefing - UK

Covid-19 has made people reprioritise, with people giving aspects such as the environment and their local community higher priority than they did before the pandemic hit (see Impact of COVID-19 on Consumer Behaviour). This has, in turn, highlighted the need for retailers to adopt ethical policies. Shoppers now expect retailers ...

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September 2021

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - UK

“The end of social distancing and the associated boost to retail, leisure and entertainment spend brought about an immediate rebound in economic activity, and GDP grew by 4.8% in Q2 2021. Consumers have also responded positively, with Mintel’s current financial wellbeing and financial confidence trackers reaching new record-highs in ...

August UK Retail Briefing - UK

Similar to wider retail, COVID-19 has had a profound impact on the furniture market since its outbreak in March 2020. However, in contrast to many of these other markets, this has not been characterised by a sharp decline. Although spending dropped in 2020, following huge turmoil in the middle of ...

August 2021

July UK Retail Briefing - UK

"Department stores have been rocked significantly by COVID-19, which has exacerbated many of the

issues already facing the sector, such as increased online shopping and declining footfall. The closure

of essential stores during the national lockdowns has hit the category hard, with many not having

sufficiently invested in online prior ...

June 2021

June UK Retail Briefing - UK

"The last year has seen new consumers undertake gardening as an activity amid national lockdowns and unprecedented time spent at home. Nearly a third (32%) of those with access to a garden or outdoor space said that they had picked up gardening as a hobby since the pandemic. What is ...

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - UK

“Despite the continuing upheaval caused by COVID-19, financial wellbeing and financial confidence both hit new index highs in April 2021, while planned financial activity for the next three months approached pre-pandemic levels in May, driven by increased interest in leisure and hospitality.

While there are growing signs of polarisation and ...

UK Retail Briefing - UK

"There is no doubt that the online channel has benefitted from the conditions of the pandemic. Online sales near doubled (+46.9%) to £110.9 billion in 2020, accounting for a record 27.5% of all retail sales. 44% of consumers have shopped more via retailer websites since the pandemic ...

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May 2021

UK Retail Briefing - UK

"In March, all retail sales grew 9.3%. March marks the one-year anniversary of the first lockdown in the UK and is the first time the retail sector has faced COVID-19 impacted comparative figures. In March 2020 retail sales saw a 2.8% decline as shoppers stockpiled ahead of an ...

April 2021

UK Retail Briefing - UK

“Amazon Fresh and it’s Just Walk Out Shopping lives up to its promise, feeling truly like no other shopping experience. However, what is most surprising is that Fresh is not just a technological show, but a top-tier modern convenience store that can go toe-to-toe with rivals on the basics of ...

March 2021

Consumers and the Economic Outlook - UK

“GDP grew by 1.0% in the final quarter of the year as the economy bounced back more strongly than in expected in December, following the dip in November caused by the second lockdown of England and other lockdowns and restrictions in various parts of the country. Despite this slight ...

UK Retail Briefing - UK

This year’s Valentine's Day will be one to remember - as couples find alternatives to the traditional dining at restaurants to celebrate the occasion during lockdown. There’s likely to be an increased focus on in-home celebrations, which will have the potential to boost seasonal food and drink, and alcoholic drink ...

January 2021

UK Retail Briefing - UK

Overall, in one of the most difficult festive periods due to the COVID-19 pandemic, demand held up well – indeed the 3.2% growth in November and December beat even our best case scenario. This was down to both a determined consumer base, to enjoy the festive period, and the ...

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