Food and Grocery Retailing in France – Market Summary & Forecasts

Comprehensive overview of the market, consumer, and competitive context, with retail sales value and forecasts to 2018

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Summary

“Food and Grocery Retailing in France – Market Summary & Forecasts”, report, published by Conlumino, provides a detailed analysis of both the historic and forecast market data of food and grocery retail sales across key channels in France. In addition, it provides an overview of changing shopping trends, government policies towards business, the influence of various economic variables on the retail industry, the competitive landscape and detail of key retailers.

Key Findings

- A slowing economy, with growing unemployment, poses new challenges to retailers
- Aging population and single households will be important focus groups
- Retail expenditure to increase by EUR30 billion by 2018
- Luxury sales will continue to grow, largely driven by the tourism sector
- Demand for organic and local food is on the rise, while the drive-through format continues to expand
- E-commerce will be the only channel to register high growth rates over next five years
- Drive-through, discounts, organic, and local foods are key attractions for the food and grocery segment

Reasons to Buy

- The report provides a comprehensive overview of the French food and grocery retail market for companies already operating in and those wishing to enter the French market.
- Understand which channels will be the major winners and losers over the coming years and plan accordingly, with a comprehensive coverage covering five product categories that include: Drinks, Household products, Packaged food, Tobacco and Unpackaged food
- Benefit from a detailed analysis of vital economic and population trends and key consumer trends influencing the retail market.
- Monitor the competitive landscape with the analysis of key international and domestic players in food and grocery market.
1. Retail – Product Sectors

1.1 Food and Grocery Category Overview

1.1.1 Food and Grocery by Channel

Food and grocery is the largest category group with a share of x% of the total French retail market in 2013, or EURxx million in retail sales. The category is expected to remain the largest in sales value terms during the forecast period, with sales expected to reach EURxx million by 2018, growing at a CAGR of x%.

Figure 1: France Food and Grocery Retail Sales and Forecast (EUR mn), by Channel Group, 2008–2018

Source: Conlumino

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### Table 1: France Food and Grocery Retail Sales (EUR mn), by Channel Group, 2008–2013

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Source: Conlumino

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### Table 2: France Food and Grocery Retail Sales Forecast (EUR mn), by Channel Group, 2013–2018

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Source: Conlumino

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### Table 3: France Food and Grocery Retail Segmentation (% value), by Channel Group, 2008–2018

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Source: Conlumino

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1.2 Product Sector Analysis

1.2.1 Food and Grocery

French consumers are conscious about what they eat and there is growing awareness of the benefits of healthy eating, which is driving the food and grocery market. People are increasingly becoming interested in organic food. The increasing median age of the population means more elders, who are conscious about diet, are ready to spend more on food and grocery purchases.

Traditionally, customers in France do not tend to shop very often, which makes it necessary to buy goods in large volumes. This is responsible for the large market share of hypermarkets. Additionally, the wider variety of products offered in hypermarkets is more attractive for variety seeking French customers. However, this trend is slowly changing as the price difference between hypermarkets and convenience stores is gradually decreasing and customers are looking to make smaller purchases with frequent store visits where they have better control over their purchases.

Customers are also reluctant to drive to hypermarkets, which are typically located on the outskirts. This trend will help the growth of sales in convenience stores and supermarkets. The online channel covers only x% of the food and grocery market owing to the difficulty in delivering products in a short space of time and French consumers’ preference for fresh food. This channel is expected to grow at a CAGR of x% in the forecast period to cover x% by 2018.
Figure 3: Retail Sales Value and Growth (EUR billion, %) of Food and Grocery 2013–2018

Source: Conlumino

Figure 4: Online Share of total Food and Grocery Spend 2013 and 2018

Source: Conlumino
Summary Methodology

Overview

All data in this series of retail reports from Conlumino is rigorously sourced using a comprehensive, standardized methodology. This methodology ensures that all data is thoroughly researched and cross-checked against a number of sources and validation processes. At the core of this methodology is a triangulated market sizing approach, which ensures that results from different sources and approaches, including Conlumino’s own industry surveys, are compared and a final consensus number between these inputs is derived. In addition, standardized processes and quality controls across the entire data collection, analysis and publication process ensure compliance and cross-checking of the data occurs at each stage of the methodology.

The triangulated market sizing method

The triangulation method ensures that the results from three distinct phases of the research are brought together and cross-compared before finalized market numbers are derived:

1. **Existing internal resources**: as retail data is compiled using a rolling annual program of industry research, the first stage of producing the data is to review the existing internal information, both from the last major data release, as well as that which has been collected on an ongoing basis throughout the year. This includes inputs about market as well as individual retailer performance. These sources are then reviewed and incorporated into data collection processes and databases before the second intensive phase of desk research.

2. **Extensive desk research**: this phase of the methodology incorporates the main phase of secondary research. This research is initially conducted across a wealth of information sources, as listed below. In addition, the results of any relevant surveys from other Conlumino projects are also fed into data collection sheets. Online industry surveys can include industry opinion surveys of retailers’ — and their suppliers’ — sentiment and consumer surveys of purchasing and retail behavior. Secondary sources include, but are not limited to, the following:
   a. Industry surveys
   b. Industry and trade association research
   c. Trade portals
   d. Company filings and analyst presentations
   e. Broker and investment analyst reports
   f. International organizations
   g. Government statistics
   h. Retail media
   i. National Press, including both business and consumer titles

3. **Market modeling**: the next stage in the process is to feed the results of the above into market models, which also include drive–based forecasting tools — which analyze drivers such as disposable income, product uptake, macro-economic drivers and market momentum — in order to fill in any gaps in the data and update forecast numbers. At this stage, the market models also look to update channel distribution data sets. For example, information
found at the research and trend monitoring stage on online retail sales would directly affect the channel distribution models.

4. **Data finalization**: the final stage of the process is the true triangulation of all the previous inputs. At this stage data is created using the inputs to hand in a bottom–up fashion, starting with the inputs from each of the previous three stages of the process for each data point to be published. This is done for all the product, channel and country combinations covered in the data. At this stage, therefore, the project analysts are constantly evaluating and deciding upon the relative merits of each of the inputs from the research processes. Once a triangulated set of data has been finalized, these outputs are then thoroughly cross–checked using a series of top–down checks which review the data against a series of reference benchmarking, including known overall retail sizes, growth trends and per–capita spending rates.

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**Figure 5: The Triangulated Market Sizing Methodology**

![Diagram of the Triangulated Market Sizing Methodology]

**Source:** Conlumino

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Industry surveys in the creation of retail market data

Stage 2 of the above process includes using the outputs of Conlumino’s surveys of consumers’ packaged goods consumption and industry opinion. Every year Conlumino completes a large scale survey, with over 120,000 responses, covering CPG purchasing and consumption habits in 10 core retail markets around the globe. This major study, cross-referenced against the primary telephone research of product market sizes by country, provides outputs against which relevant retail market data, focusing on the grocery channel and core products in this channel are assessed. It should be noted that overall, this feeds research into 3 of the 25 product categories covered. In addition, any other suitable surveys conducted by Conlumino which also provide information on retail markets are mined for information to be put into the data finalization process.

Quality control and standardized processes

Crucial to the function of the above method is the adoption of strict definitions for all products and channels, and adherence to a standardized process at each and every stage in the methodology. By following this approach all data is made cross-comparable across countries to ensure that analysis adds to the understanding of market dynamics and trends.

The key elements of this approach are:

- **Strict channel definitions**: the definition of each channel is the same in every country;
- **Strict product definitions**: the definition of each product is the same in every country;
- **Standardized processes**:
  - **Data capture** – all data received as part of the research is captured in standardized files and in a standard format. Any workings that analysts carry out on inputs, for example to correct for misalignment in category coverage, are also covered in these sheets
  - **Data creation** – all modeling and forecasting approaches are standardized in order to ensure consistency
  - **Finalization and verification** – systematic methods and approaches are used to finalize data points
- **Country by country research structure**: all research is conducted country by country in order to ensure that market data reflect local market trends and contexts
- **Data checks during “bottom-up” creation**: during the data creation and finalization stage analysts refer back to initial sources and inputs in order to ensure accuracy in the data
- **Top down data audits and cross-checks**: a large series of cross-checks across all the different dimensions of the final data sets are run in order to identify any outliers or trends that do not fit with Conlumino’s market understanding, as well as to conduct specific analyses against set proofing criteria, such as abnormal growth rate changes, verifying data at both the overall and detailed level against research inputs and checking per capita spends against other analysis of consumers’ spending in a country
- **Hierarchical review processes**: finally, all of the above processes are subject to a hierarchical review process which ensures that not only the core analysts within a team look at the data, but that at each stage data is passed through several management layers in order that queries and data review and sign-off are completed before any final data can be published
Related Reports

Food & Grocery Retailing in Turkey – Market Summary & Forecasts
Food & Grocery Retailing in India – Market Summary & Forecasts
Electrical and Electronics Retailing in France – Market Summary & Forecasts
Clothing and Footwear Retailing in France – Market Summary & Forecasts
Retailing in France – Market Summary & Forecasts
Retailing in Germany – Market Summary & Forecasts
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About Conlumino

Conlumino Global Retail offers a comprehensive 360° view of the retail landscape. A team of analysts, with more than 200 years of combined experience, help you identify and understand the most current retail trends.

Last year hundreds of retail businesses across the globe used our research to make critical business decisions.

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