

Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



"Overall the discount sector remains one of UK retail's key growth areas. However, it is increasingly becoming a tale of two sides."

- Nick Carroll, Senior Retail Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- Tesco enters the discount market with Jack's
- Necessary consolidation in the non-food discount sector
- Premium value: the rising importance of premium at the food discounters

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 to slow, with Poundworld the latest high-profile failure in 2018. That is not to say there are not great opportunities in non-food discounting, B&M and Home Bargains are showing this, but too many in the sector have hung on to strategies that whilst successful during the recession, do not speak to the current demands of UK shoppers.

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW

**VISIT:** store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533

> Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250

China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com

**DID YOU KNOW?** 

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



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

## **Table of Contents**

#### Overview

What you need to know

Areas covered in this Report

What is a discounter?

# **Executive Summary**

#### The market

## Overall the discount sector is growing strongly...

Figure 1: All discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), 2013-23

#### ... but the food discounters are leading the way

Figure 2: Historical and forecast growth rates in the food and non-food discount sectors, 2015-23

#### Inflation is easing

Figure 3: CPIH, monthly percentage change over 12 months, July 2016-July 2018

#### Companies and brands

## Aldi and Lidl account for half of the discount sector, whilst B&M and Home Bargains are the biggest non-food players

Figure 4: Leading discounters' estimated share of all discount sales, 2017

# Combined, the food discounters now account for over 10% of the grocery market

Figure 5: Grocery market share: The Big Four vs The Food Discounters, 2010-17

# Aldi excelling in the experience stakes

Figure 6: Key metrics for selected brands, July 2018

# The consumer

# Nine in 10 shopped with discounters in the past three months

Figure 7: Discounters shopped with in the last three months, June 2018

# Younger consumers more likely to shop with discounters

Figure 8: Food discounters: Usage of Aldi and Lidl on a total and most often basis, by household income, June 2018

# Over a quarter of discount shoppers shop online, but there is demand for more to launch in the space

Figure 9: Discounters shopped with online in the past three months, June 2018

# Chilled and fresh drivers for food discounters

Figure 10: Frequency of food purchasing at food discounters, June 2018

# Household cleaning, and health and beauty key categories in non-food discounting

Figure 11: Non-food products purchased at discounters in the last three months, by frequency of purchase, June 2018

# Wider ranges and an easier checkout two priories for improvements

Figure 12: Improvements needed at discounters, by rank, June 2018

# Most feel there is less stigma to shopping with discounters, and their use is impacting price perception elsewhere

Figure 13: Attitudes towards price, premium, and online at discounters, June 2018

What we think

# **Issues and Insights**



VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

EMAIL: reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Tesco enters the discount market with Jack's

The facts

The implications

Necessary consolidation in the non-food discount sector

The facts

The implications

Premium value: the rising importance of premium at the food discounters

The facts

The implications

# The Market - What You Need to Know

Inflation is easing and in turn so has pressure of consumer finances

Consumer confidence recovers in 2018

Overall the discount sector is growing strongly...

... but the food discounters are leading the way

# **Market Drivers**

#### Inflation drops back in 2018

Figure 14: CPIH, monthly percentage change over 12 months, July 2016-July 2018

# Real earnings eroded by inflation in 2017

Figure 15: Real average weekly earnings (seasonally adjusted), single month % change year-on-year, February 2014-June 2018

# Spending on food and drink grows faster than total spending

Figure 16: Consumer spending, 2013-17

# Consumer confidence recovers in 2018

Figure 17: Consumer confidence tracker, January 2016-August 2018

# Consumers turn to the discounters to save money on food bills

Figure 18: Preferred ways to save money on food bills, February 2018

# Discounters benefit from increasingly fluid shopping habits

Figure 19: How they shop for groceries, 2015-17

# **Market Size and Forecast**

# Discount sector grew strongly in 2017 but slowdown expected in 2018

Figure 20: All discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), 2013-23

Figure 21: Discount sector size as a percentage of all retail sales (ex-fuel, ex-VAT), 2013-18

Figure 22: All discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), detailed forecast at current and constant prices, 2013-23

# The food discounters' segment

Figure 23: Food discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), 2013-23

Figure 24: Food discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), detailed forecast at current and constant prices, 2013-23

# The non-food discount sector

Figure 25: Non-food discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), 2013-23

Figure 26: Non-food discounters' sector size (ex-VAT), detailed forecast at current and constant prices, 2013-23

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### Forecast methodology

#### The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Nine in 10 shopped with discounters in the past three months

Younger consumers more likely to shop with discounters

Over a quarter of discount shoppers shop online, but there is demand for more to launch in the space

Chilled and fresh drivers for food discounters

Household cleaning, and health and beauty key categories in non-food discounting

Wider ranges and an easier checkout two priorities for improvements

Most feel there is less stigma to shopping with discounters, and their use is impacting price perception elsewhere

#### **Where They Shop**

# Aldi and Poundland the most visited discounters

Figure 27: Discounters shopped with in the last three months, June 2018

# Food discounters see most frequent visitation

Figure 28: Frequency of discounters visitation in the last three months, June 2018

Figure 29: Frequency of discounters visitation in the last three months, shoppers only rebase, June 2018

#### Repertoire of stores visited

Figure 30: Repertoire of discounters visited in the last three months, June 2018

# **Retailer Demographic Comparison**

# Discounter use is (broadly) universal

# Food discounters: favoured by younger shoppers

Figure 31: Food discounters usage in the past three months, by age, June 2018

Figure 32: Food discounters: Age profile of those who shopped with Aldi/Lidl most often, June 2018

# Food discounters: breaking away from a natural audience

Figure 33: Food discounters: usage of Aldi and Lidl on a total and most often basis, by household income, June 2018

# Food discounters: room for expansion for Heron Foods

Figure 34: Food discounters: usage of food discounters, by region, June 2018

# Non-food discounters: Poundland striking a cord with 16-24s

Figure 35: Non-food discounters usage in the past three months, by age, June 2018

# Non-food discounters have not broadened the appeal in the same way as the food discounters

Figure 36: Non-food discounters usage in the past three months, by household income, June 2018

# Lack of capital coverage for the big-box players

Figure 37: Non-food discounters usage in the past three months, by household income, June 2018

# **Discounters and Online**

# Wilko most used online

Figure 38: Discounters shopped with online in the past three months, June 2018

Figure 39: Discounters shopped with online in the past three months, by discount retailers used most often, June 2018

# Demand is there for an online discount offer

Figure 40: Attitudes towards discounters and online, June 2018

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 41: Agreements to attitudes towards discounters and online, by age, June 2018

## Frequency of Food & Drink Purchasing at Discounters

#### Chilled and fresh drivers for footfall for food discounters

Figure 42: Frequency of food purchasing at food discounters, June 2018

#### Lower frequency of fresh purchasing amongst ABs, but alcohol is a driver for this group

Figure 43: Frequency of food purchasing at food discounters, by socio-economic group, June 2018

Figure 44: Frequency of food purchasing at food discounters, by socio-economic group, June 2018

# Lidl's bakery a driver, but Aldi scores greater frequency on fresh

Figure 45: Frequency of food purchasing at food discounters, by socio-economic group, June 2018

#### **Frequency of Non-food Purchasing at Discounters**

# Household and beauty products most popular purchases at non-food discounters

Figure 46: Non-food products purchased at discounters in the last three months, June 2018

#### Household cleaning products a key driver for patronage

Figure 47: Non-food products purchased at discounters in the last three months, by frequency of purchase, June 2018

#### Younger consumers generally more likely to buy non-foods from discounters

Figure 48: Non-food products purchased at discounters in the last three months, by age, June 2018

## What Can Be Improved at Discounters?

# A wider range the top improvement called for by discount shoppers

Figure 49: Improvements needed at discounters, by rank, June 2018

Figure 50: Improvements needed at discounters, any rank by age, June 2018

# Lidl shoppers want checkout improvements, B&M shoppers want online

Figure 51: Select improvements needed at discounters, any rank by discount retailer shopped at most often, June 2018

Figure 52: Select improvements needed at discounters, any rank by discount retailer shopped at most often, June 2018

# **Attitudes Towards Price and Premium at Discounters**

# Any stigma about shopping at discounters has fallen away

Figure 53: Attitudes towards price and shopping at discounters, June 2018

Figure 54: Agreement to attitudes towards price and shopping at discounters, by financial situation, June 2018

# European heritage allows food discounters to provide something outside the norm

Figure 55: Attitudes towards food discounters, June 2018

Figure 56: Attitudes towards food discounters' premium ranges, by current financial situation, June 2018

# Leading Retailers - What You Need to Know

Aldi and Lidl continue to lead the market

Combined, the food discounters now account for over 10% of the grocery market

Aldi excelling in the experience stakes

A quarter of space of Poundland is now given over to fashion

# **Leading Players – Key Metrics**

Revenue



**VISIT:** store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 57: Leading discounters' sales, 2013/14-2017/18

## Operating profits and margins

Figure 58: Leading discounters' operating profits, 2013/14-2017/18
Figure 59: Leading discounters' operating margins, 2013/14-2017/18

# Stores and sales-per-outlet

Figure 60: Leading discounters' outlet numbers, 2013/14-2017/18 Figure 61: Leading discounters' sales per outlet, 2013/14-2017/18

#### **Market Shares**

#### Food discounters account for over half the market

Figure 62: Leading discounters' estimated share of all discount sales, 2017 Figure 63: Leading 10 discounters' share of all discount sales, 2013-17

# Food discounters: Aldi and Lidl still applying pressure on the big four

Figure 64: Estimated share of all grocery retail sales (ex-VAT, ex-fuel) by the leading players, 2017

Figure 65: Grocery market share: The Big Four vs The Food Discounters, 2010-17

# Non-food discounters: context within the mixed-goods sector

Figure 66: Non-food discounters' share of all mixed goods retail sales, 2008-17

## Savers: a small but significant player in the health and beauty market

Figure 67: Savers: Market share of the specialist health and beauty sector (ex-VAT), 2011-17

# **Space Allocation Summary**

# Food discounters - Summary

Figure 68: Food discounters: Summary shelf frontage space allocation estimates, September 2018

# Food discounters - Detailed space allocation

Figure 69: Food discounters: Detailed shelf frontage space allocation estimates, September 2018

# Non-food discounters - Summary

Figure 70: Non-food discounters: Summary shelf frontage space allocation estimates, September 2018

# Non-food discounters - Detailed space allocation

Figure 71: Non-food discounters: Detailed shelf frontage space allocation estimates, September 2018

# **Retail Product Mix**

Figure 72: Leading discounters estimated sales mix, 2017

Figure 73: Leading discounters: estimated sales by product, 2017

Figure 74: Leading discounters, estimated sales per square metre, 2017

# **Innovation and Launch Activity**

# Lidl showcases bakery innovation

Poundland capitalising on growth in skincare market with own-brand launch

Car-sharing service for shoppers

Lidl launches AI wine chatbot

Tesco discount store rumours

New 'softer' Netto store concept

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 75: Netto new 3.0 concept store, Copenhagen

Lidl seduces Parisians with luxury pop-up store

Cheap food and drink online

## **Advertising and Marketing Activity**

#### Total advertising spend down 14.4% year-on-year in 2017

Figure 76: Total recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure by the UK's leading discounters, 2013-17

# Food discounters are the biggest advertising spenders

Figure 77: UK leading discounters: recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure, 2013-17

# Advertising expenditure peaks around key seasonal events

Figure 78: Total recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure by UK leading discounters, by month, 2017

# 80% of advertising expenditure channelled through TV and press

Figure 79: Total recorded above-the-line, online display and direct mail total advertising expenditure by the UK's leading discounters, by media type, 2013-17

What we've seen in 2018

Nielsen Ad Intel coverage

# **Brand Research**

#### Brand map

Figure 80: Attitudes towards and usage of selected brands, July 2018

# Key brand metrics

Figure 81: Key metrics for selected brands, July 2018

# Brand attitudes: Food discounters lead on trust and innovation

Figure 82: Attitudes, by brand, July 2018

# Brand personality: Poundland lacks excitement

Figure 83: Brand personality - macro image, July 2018

# Aldi offers innovation, aspiration, and reliability

Figure 84: Brand personality - micro image, July 2018

# Brand analysis

# Aldi stands apart with the strongest brand

Figure 85: User profile of Aldi, July 2018

# Home Bargains the best performing brand of the non-food discounters

Figure 86: User profile of Home Bargains, July 2018

# B&M stands out despite lower recommendation levels

Figure 87: User profile of B&M, July 2018

# Lidl loses ground to Aldi

Figure 88: User profile of Lidl, July 2018

# Poundland is most used but least recommended

Figure 89: User profile of Poundland, July 2018

# **Aldi Stores Ltd**

What we think



VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 90: Aldi, London, February 2018

## Background

# Company performance

Figure 91: Aldi Stores Ltd (UK & Ireland): Group financial performance, 2013-17

Figure 92: Aldi Stores Ltd (UK & Ireland): Outlet data, 2013-17

#### Retail offering

# Lidl (UK)

## What we think

## Background

# Company performance

Figure 93: Lidl (UK): Group financial performance, 2013/14-2017/18

Figure 94: Lidl (UK): Outlet data, 2013/14-2017/18

# Retail offering

## **B&M European Value Retail**

#### What we think

## Background

## Company performance

Figure 95: B&M European Value Retail: Group financial performance, 2012/13-2017/18

Figure 96: B&M Retail Ltd: Outlet data, 2012/13-2017/18

# Retail offering

# **Home Bargains (TJ Morris Ltd)**

# What we think

# Background

# Company performance

Figure 97: TJ Morris Ltd: Group financial performance, 2012/13-2017/18

Figure 98: TJ Morris Ltd: Outlet data, 2012/13-2017/18

# Retail offering

# Poundland Ltd (UK)

# What we think

# Background

# Company performance

Figure 99: Poundland Ltd: Group financial performance, 2013/14-2017/18

Figure 100: Poundland Ltd: Outlet data, 2013/14-2017/18

# Retail offering

# Wilko Retail Ltd

# What we think

# Background

Company performance

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 101: Wilko: Group financial performance, 2013/14-2017/18

Figure 102: Wilko: Outlet data, 2013/14-2017/18

Retail offering

**Appendix - Data Sources, Abbreviations, and Supporting Information** 

Data sources

VAT

Financial definitions

Abbreviations

Consumer research methodology

**Appendix - Market Size and Forecast** 

Forecast methodology

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com