

# E-commerce in Europe 2020



**How the  
pandemic  
is changing  
e-commerce  
in Europe**

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## About this report

**PostNord has studied** the European e-commerce market in the E-commerce in Europe report since 2014. The report is based on interviews with a approximately 12,800 consumers in Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the UK. When the report refers to Europe, it is referring to these countries unless stated otherwise.

The interviews were conducted with representative nationwide samples of private individuals aged 15-79 years between May 22 and June 15. The number of respondents varies slightly between countries, but in most cases has been around 1,000.

The interviews were conducted by the research company Nepa. Since the survey was conducted online, the responses were recalculated based on the percentage of the population in each country that used the internet in 2019. This percentage

was calculated by Eurostat. This is of significance, since internet use varies among the different European countries.

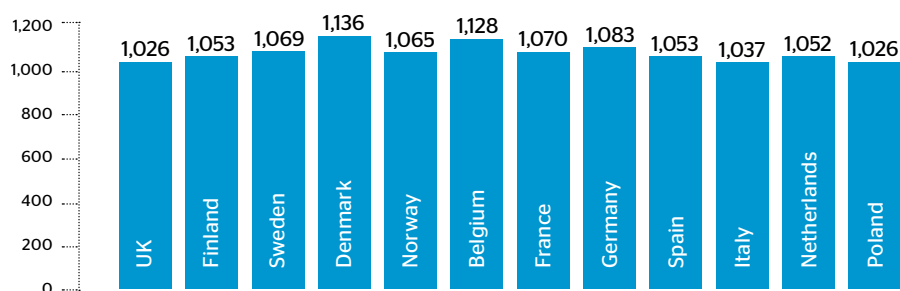
To calculate how many consumers from each market shop online, we used Eurostat's population statistics for 2019 as a basis. To calculate the average purchase in EUR we used the exchange rate from May 2020. The report describes a drop in GDP between the last quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020 for several European countries. The source of these figures is Eurostat.

The Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker is the source of the dates on which countries imposed lockdowns, unless stated otherwise.

E-commerce is defined as the purchase of physical products online. This means that services (e.g. travel, hotel and tickets), as well as downloads (e.g. music, movies and apps), are not included.

PostNord also publishes the E-barometer survey in Sweden. It is based on a different methodology, for which reason it is not fully comparable with this report.

### NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS IN EACH COUNTRY





# The crisis shows the importance of sustainable business practices



**So far, 2020 has** been in a class of its own. Essentially everyone has been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic in some way, although already vulnerable groups have been hit hardest.

The pandemic has also revealed just how vulnerable society is, and in this context I would like to mention PostNord's sustainability efforts.

We have been working to reduce our climate and environmental footprint for years. At the same time, we have also worked to increase social and economic sustainability.

**PostNord Sweden recently achieved a** gold level rating from the independent sustainability ratings provider EcoVadis, which we consider to be a sign that we are on the right track. But we want to become even better, and if we are to succeed, we must continue working with our customers and suppliers.

In our code of conduct for suppliers, we require reasonable wages and working conditions for all employees, as well as a good, safe working environment. In this way, we want to help people to achieve a better life and be more protected in a crisis.

**Finally, a few words about** why we are publishing this report. We at PostNord want to be the obvious choice for e-commerce

“In our code of conduct for suppliers, we require reasonable wages and working conditions for all employees, as well as a good, safe working environment.”

to, from and within the Nordic region, and as an e-retailer you are welcome to ask us about anything, from the markets in the Nordic countries to distribution solutions.

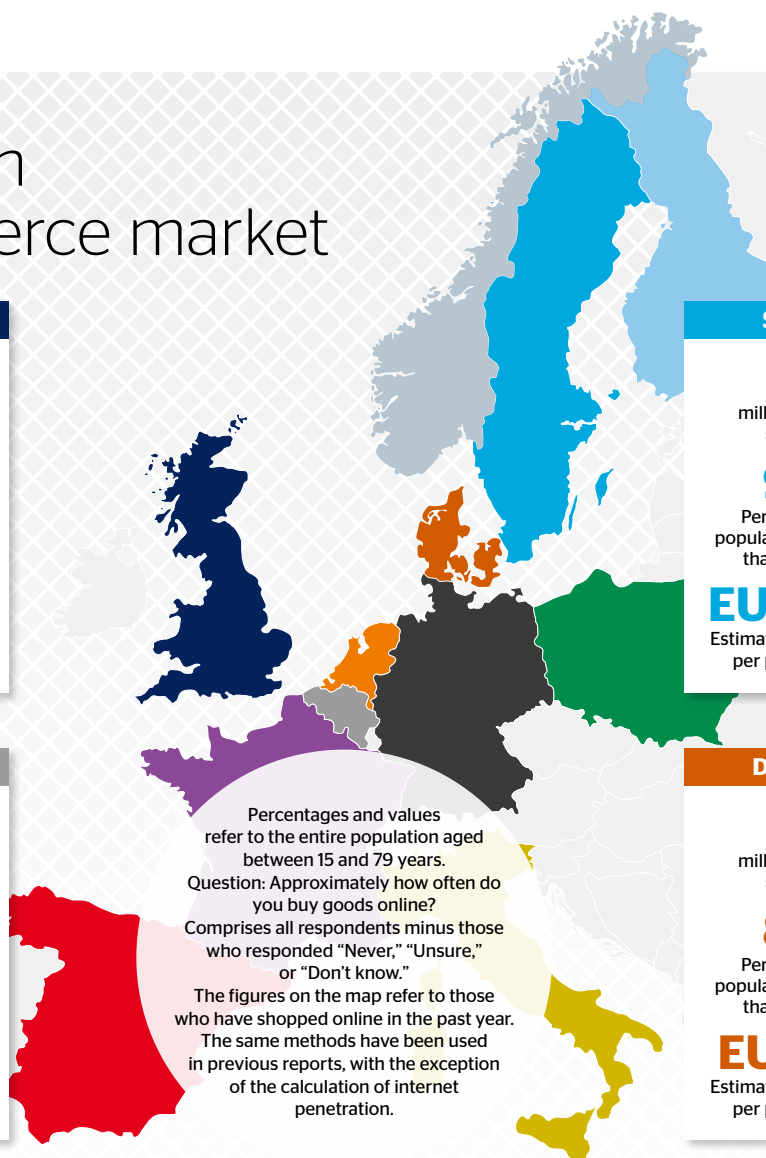
If you engage in e-commerce outside the Nordic region, you can also turn to our global logistics company Direct Link, which offers flexible distribution services to help e-retailers all over the world to become established in new markets.

I hope this report will provide many new insights into e-commerce in Europe.

**Annemarie Gardshol**

President and Group CEO of PostNord

# European e-commerce market







## Germany and the UK are Europe's strongest e-commerce markets

**European e-commerce** is becoming increasingly mature, particularly as evidenced by the nearly 15 percent increase in average sales per person and year in the countries surveyed in 2020, compared with 2019. More and more countries are now approaching the top tier, with online spending per person and year of almost EUR 1,000.

The survey also shows that the

proportion of people who shop online has increased during the year, but at a more modest pace – only a percentage point or so. This trend is likely because many European countries have a digitally mature population.

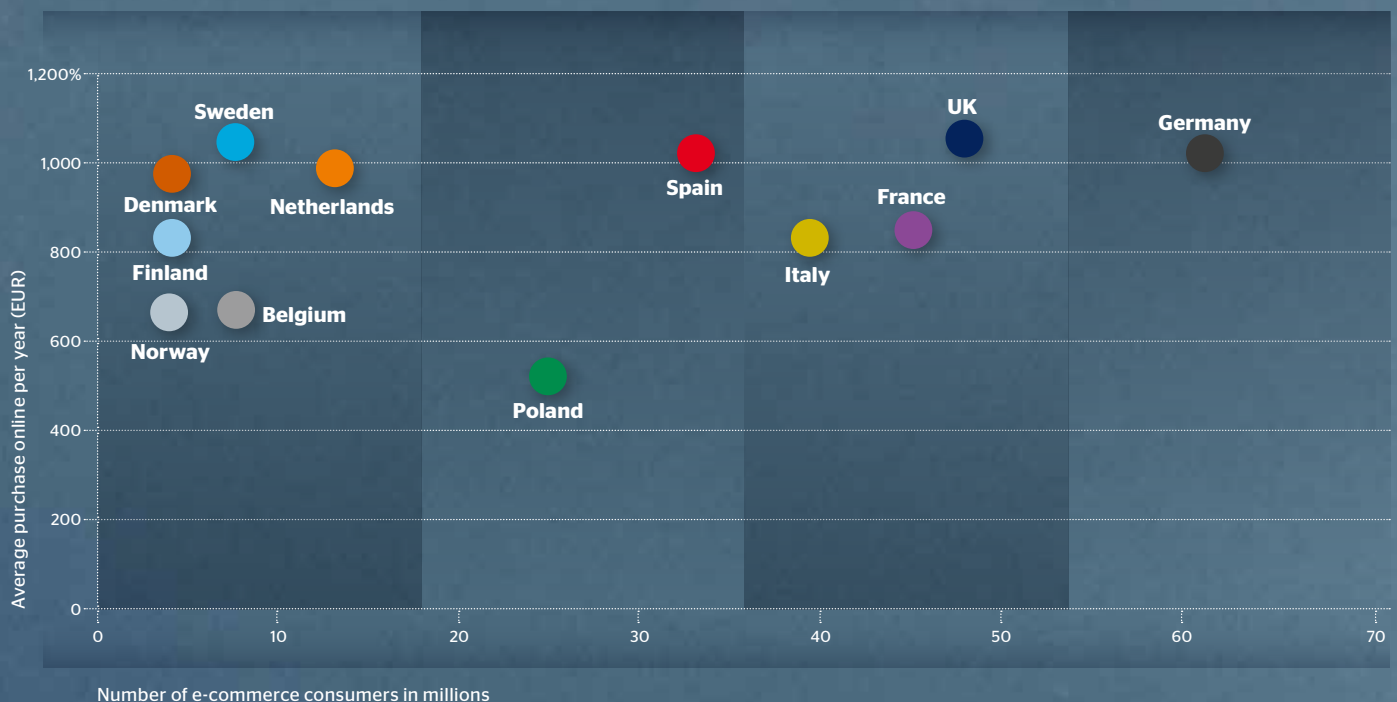
However, changes have occurred in 2020, which may become apparent in the 2021 survey. In particular, it seems that previously reluctant consumer groups,

such as older people, have started to shop online more often, with the coronavirus pandemic as a major factor.

Germany and the UK are the strongest e-commerce markets in Europe. In Germany, 61 million consumers state that they have shopped online in the past year, and the figure in the UK is 49 million. Spain, Italy and France are also significant e-commerce markets.

### Number of e-commerce consumers and average online spend per year

Basis: Have shopped online



# E-commerce trends in Europe and the world in 2019

**Globally, e-commerce sales** totaled USD 3.535 trillion in 2019. This corresponds to about 14 percent of total retail sales worldwide (USD 25.038 trillion). Europe's share of global e-commerce was estimated at USD 349 billion in 2019, which corresponds to about 10 percent.

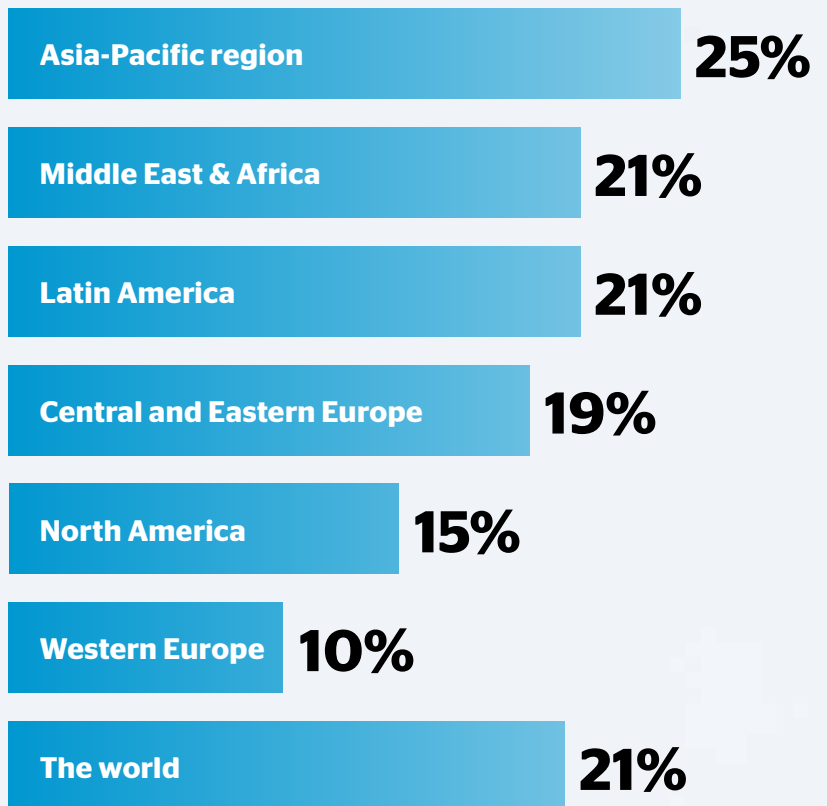
Global e-commerce is estimated to have grown by 21 percent in 2019. The Asia-Pacific region increased the most (25 percent), followed by the Middle East and Africa (21 percent). In Europe, e-commerce grew by 10.2 percent in Western Europe and 14.5 percent in Eastern Europe. This means that Europe's share of global e-commerce sales is declining. The e-commerce market in many European countries, especially in Western Europe, is relatively mature, which explains the lower growth.

Growth in 2020 will likely be significantly higher – especially in mature markets that have had the capacity to scale up their e-commerce in conjunction with increased demand during the coronavirus pandemic.

<sup>1</sup> Source: E-markets

### Growth 2019 in the different regions of the world

Source: eMarketer, 2020





Carl-Fredrik Teder.

## E-commerce breaks records, but don't forget sustainability

**Carl-Fredrik Teder, retail analyst at PostNord, and Olof Källgren, e-commerce expert at Direct Link, comment on E-commerce in Europe 2020.**



Olof Källgren.

1

### Pandemic driving e-commerce

The effect of the pandemic on European countries has varied, and the report shows a strong link between concern over the virus and the proportion of consumers who shopped online more often. However, since we only interviewed consumers for this report, we have no actual data concerning the magnitude of the increase in e-commerce in each country. However, PostNord's Swedish E-barometer survey shows that Swedish e-commerce grew by 49 percent during the second quarter of 2020 compared with the previous year. This figure even exceeds the 44 percent growth rate in the US. Given that the shutdown in Sweden was far less extensive than in many other European countries, we may expect growth in other countries to be at least as high.

2

### Amazon is facing competition

Amazon has played a key

role in developing e-commerce in several European countries. Already in the late 1990s, the company had established a presence in Germany, which today has one of the most mature e-commerce markets in Europe. The strong growth of e-commerce in Italy and Spain in recent years can also be attributed in part to Amazon entering these countries in 2010 and 2011. However, Amazon is beginning to experience competition in Europe from market participants such as Alibaba. In 2019, the first physical AliExpress store in Europe opened in Madrid. At this point, as Amazon is establishing a presence in Sweden, it will encounter a far more mature market than it is used to.

3

### Sustainability remains important

Although the coronavirus pandemic dominates this report, we must keep in mind that sustainability continues to be an important issue, especially for consumers in mature

e-commerce markets. Last year, sustainability became a hot topic of discussion in relation to Black Friday with a call for a backlash, to be named White Monday. Christmas shopping has also become a subject for discussion. E-retailers across Europe should take into account the continued importance of sustainability issues for a growing number of consumers.

4

### Popularity of cross-border online shopping varies

The popularity of making online purchases from sites abroad varies greatly from country to country. Belgian consumers make more online purchases abroad than any other European. More than half of the population makes cross-border purchases at least once a quarter. It is worth noting that many Belgians regularly shop from sites in the Netherlands, which is by far the most popular foreign country from which they make purchases. Italian and

“The report shows a strong link between concern over the virus and the proportion of consumers who shopped online more often.”

Spanish consumers also frequently make cross-border purchases, where purchases from China clearly dominate all other origins.

5

### Demands for quick delivery vary

Expectations regarding the maximum length of time it may take for an online purchase to arrive vary greatly. Consumers in Poland, the Netherlands and Germany place significantly higher demands on quick deliveries than online shoppers in most other European countries. In part, expectations in various markets may be infrastructure-related, but certain strong e-retailers, such as Amazon, have driven the trend and raised consumer expectations for quick delivery.

## 293 million consumers have shopped online in the past year

**European e-commerce** has grown during the year, especially in the spring, when entire countries shut down because of the coronavirus pandemic and pressure on e-commerce rose sharply. Given the number of respondents in the report who state that they shopped online more often during the pandemic, many countries seem to have made major strides toward digitalization.

However, the effect of the pandemic only related to a small part of the measurement period in this survey, and it is likely

that this trend will become more noticeable in next year's report. Other advances also came about during the year, and among the most notable was the continued expansion of Internet infrastructure and the higher 5G bandwidth which will further facilitate online shopping using mobile devices.

In the countries surveyed, 293 million consumers have shopped online this year, compared with 286 million last year. Furthermore, the proportion of European consumers who made cross-border online

purchases increased somewhat, reaching 220 million. This trend is likely due to the growth of cross-border e-commerce companies and the efforts made to promote the European retail market, such as the EU Digital Single Market project<sup>2</sup>.

Total e-commerce in the countries surveyed amounts to EUR 269 billion, an increase of 12 percent over last year. As in previous years, Germany remains the largest e-commerce market, followed by the UK. The third largest is France, closely followed by Spain and Italy.

<sup>2</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/shaping-digital-single-market>

# 293

million consumers in  
Europe shop online

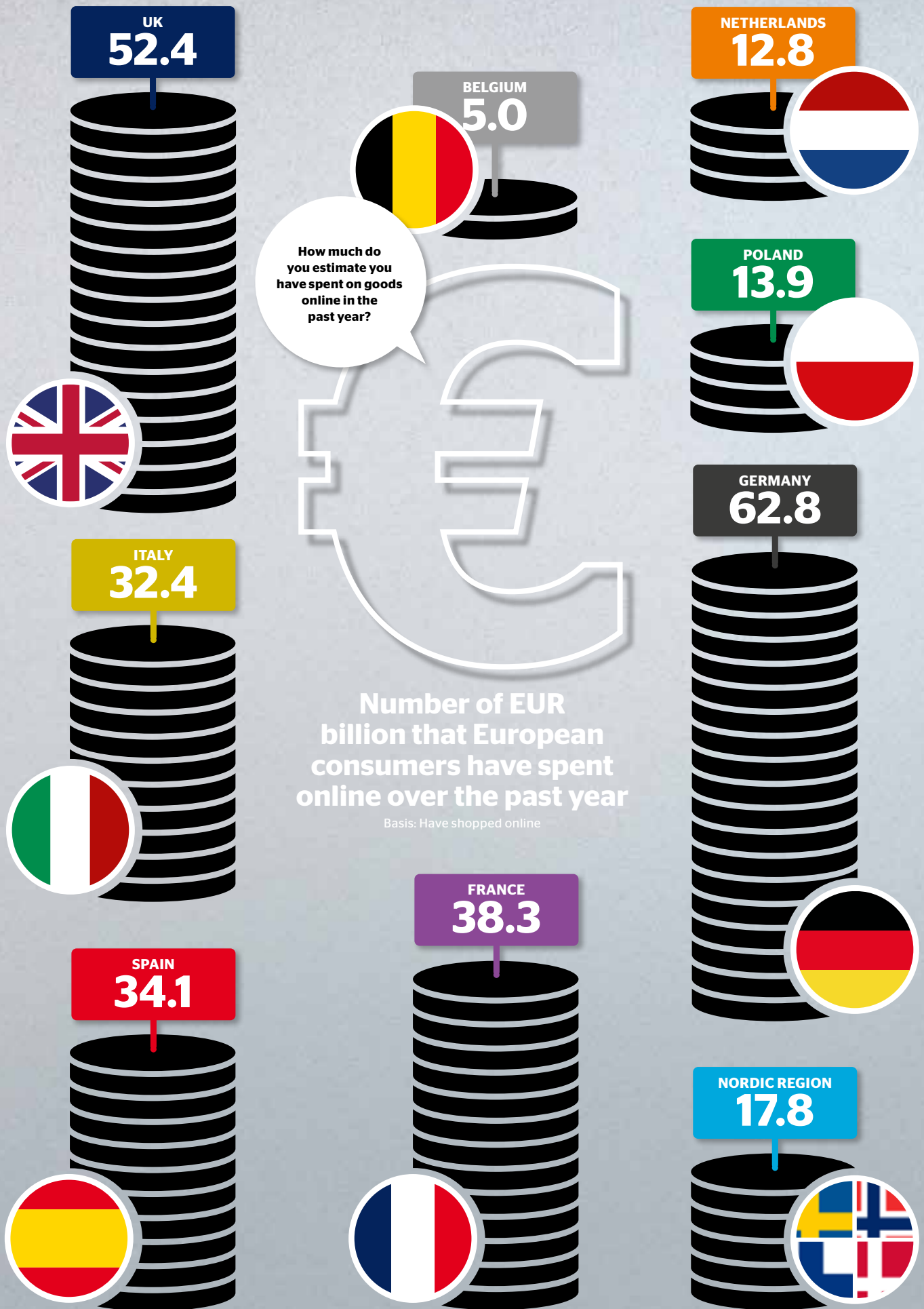
# 269

EUR billion – the total that European  
consumers estimate that  
they spent online in the past year

# 220

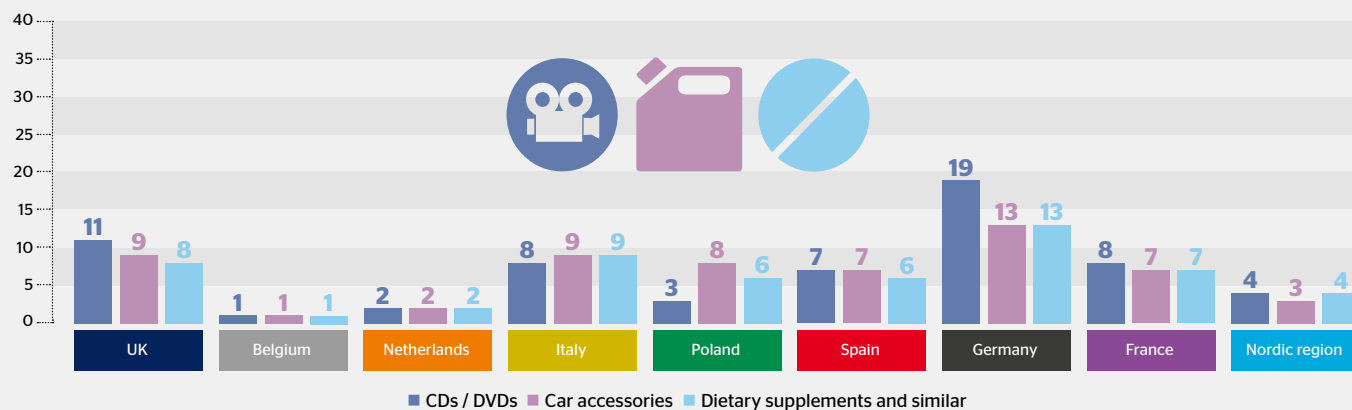
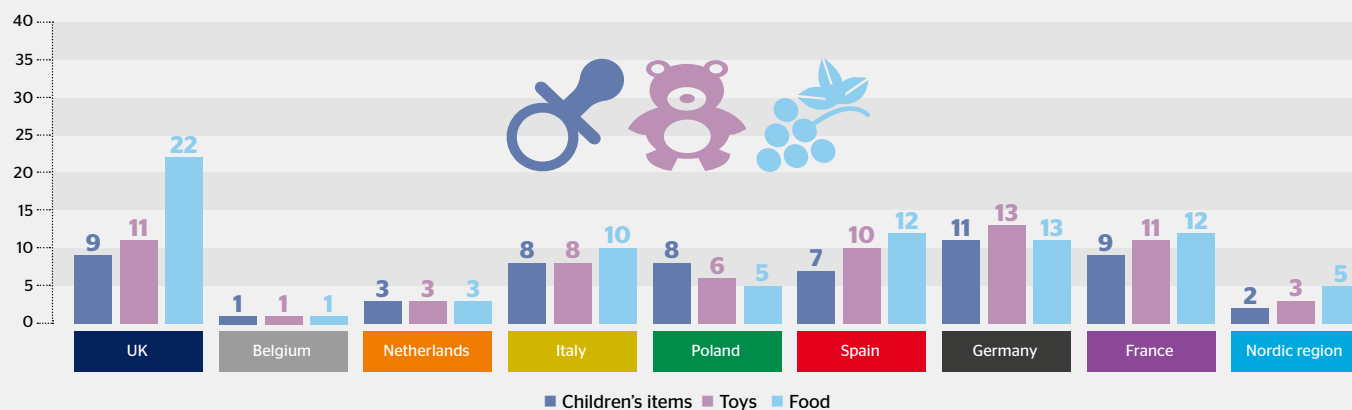
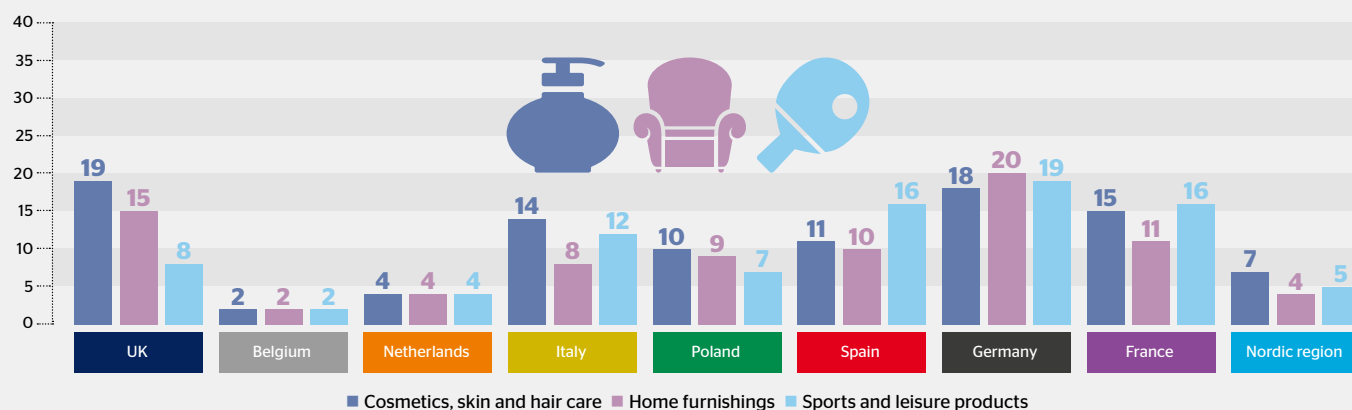
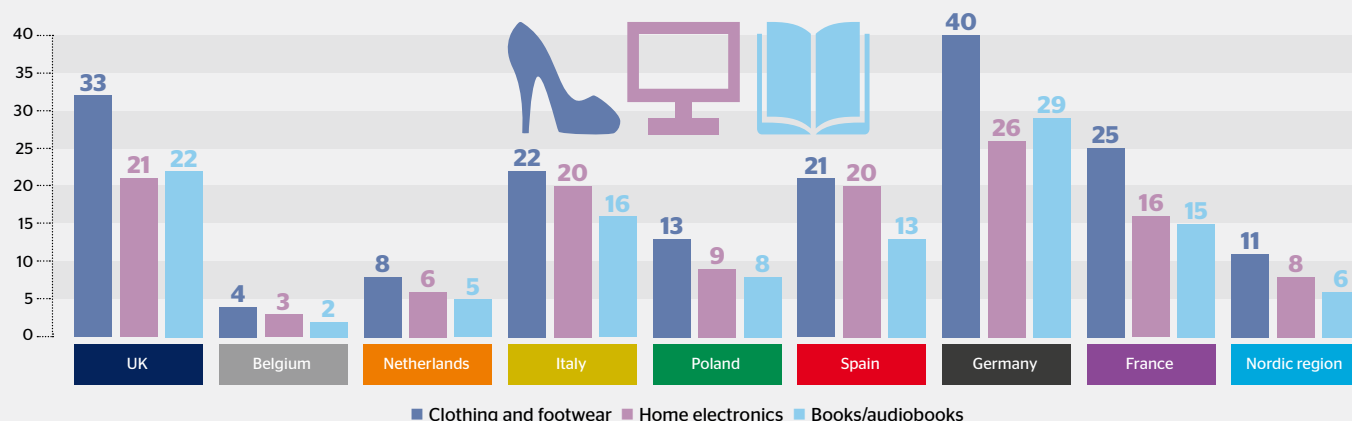
million European consumers  
make online purchases from abroad





# Top product categories among European online shoppers

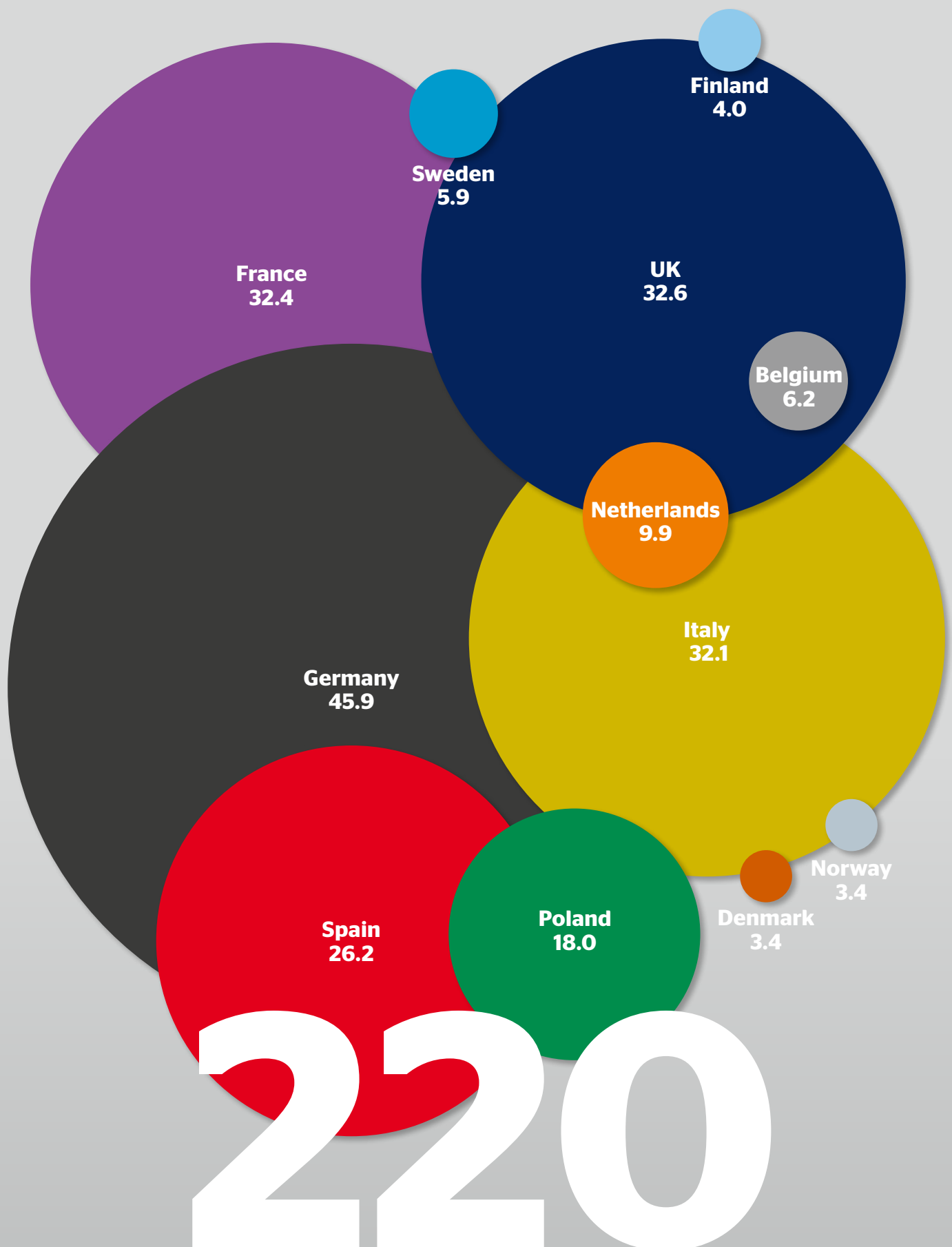
(million consumers)



Number of consumers in millions who have shopped online in each category over the past year.

Question: What types of products have you bought online in the past year? Basis: Have shopped online.

**More detailed information about the Nordics can be found in the detailed results at the end of the report.**



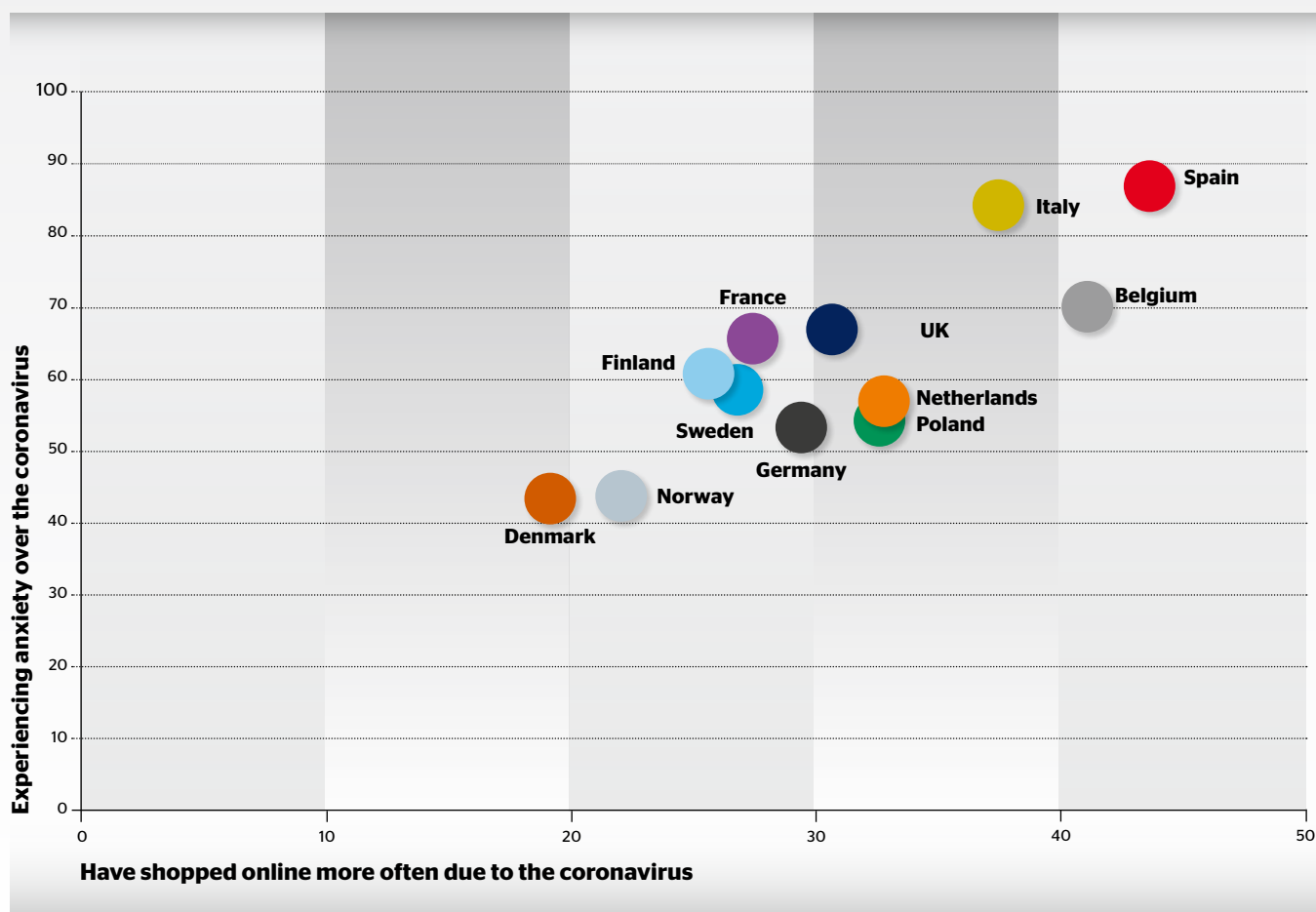
**220 million people made cross-border online purchases**

Number of consumers in millions in each country who made cross-border online purchases

Basis: Entire population, aged 15-79 years

### Strong correlation between coronavirus anxiety and e-commerce sales

Basis: Have shopped online



## COVID-19 driver of e-commerce in Europe

**In this year's survey,** e-commerce consumers answered questions about how COVID-19 had affected them personally, and whether the pandemic had caused them to change their e-commerce habits. The trend is clear. In countries where many people said they were worried about the pandemic, the proportion of respondents stating that they shopped online more than usual was also greatest. This trend coincides with the magnitude of disease outbreak, topped by hard-hit countries such as Italy, Spain and Belgium.

It is not linked to the virus outbreak itself, but rather to how consumers personally view the current situation. One example is Sweden, which did not impose a strict lockdown but

nevertheless saw a significant increase in e-commerce and was home to relatively many worried respondents. Meanwhile, Norway and Denmark – which imposed lockdowns – saw only a small increase in e-commerce, and respondents expressed a lower level of anxiety.

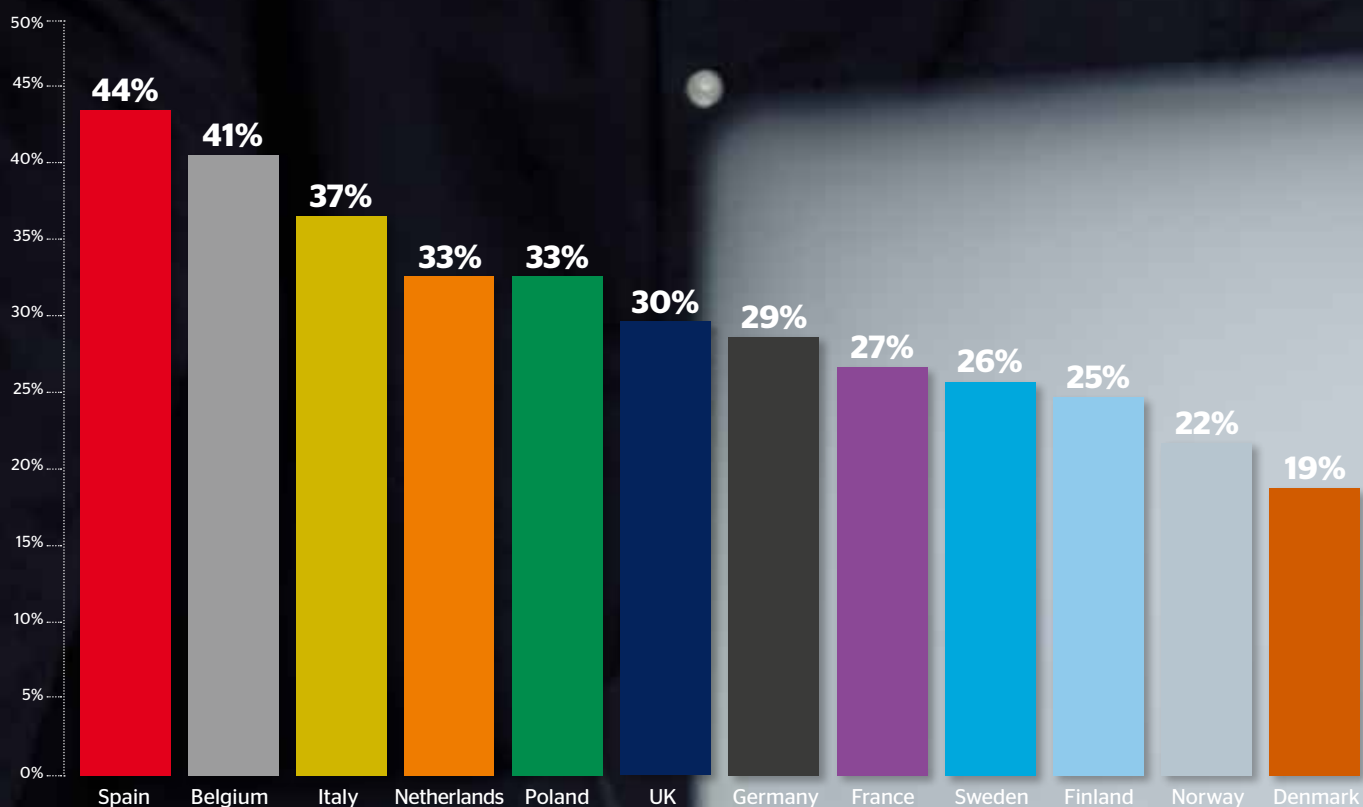
Another aspect that may affect e-commerce in the future is that several countries that were previously among the least digitalized in Europe – such as Spain and Italy – now top the list in number of people doing more online shopping due to the pandemic. It is likely that many people in these countries changed their habits in response to the social distancing measures imposed and have embraced e-commerce.

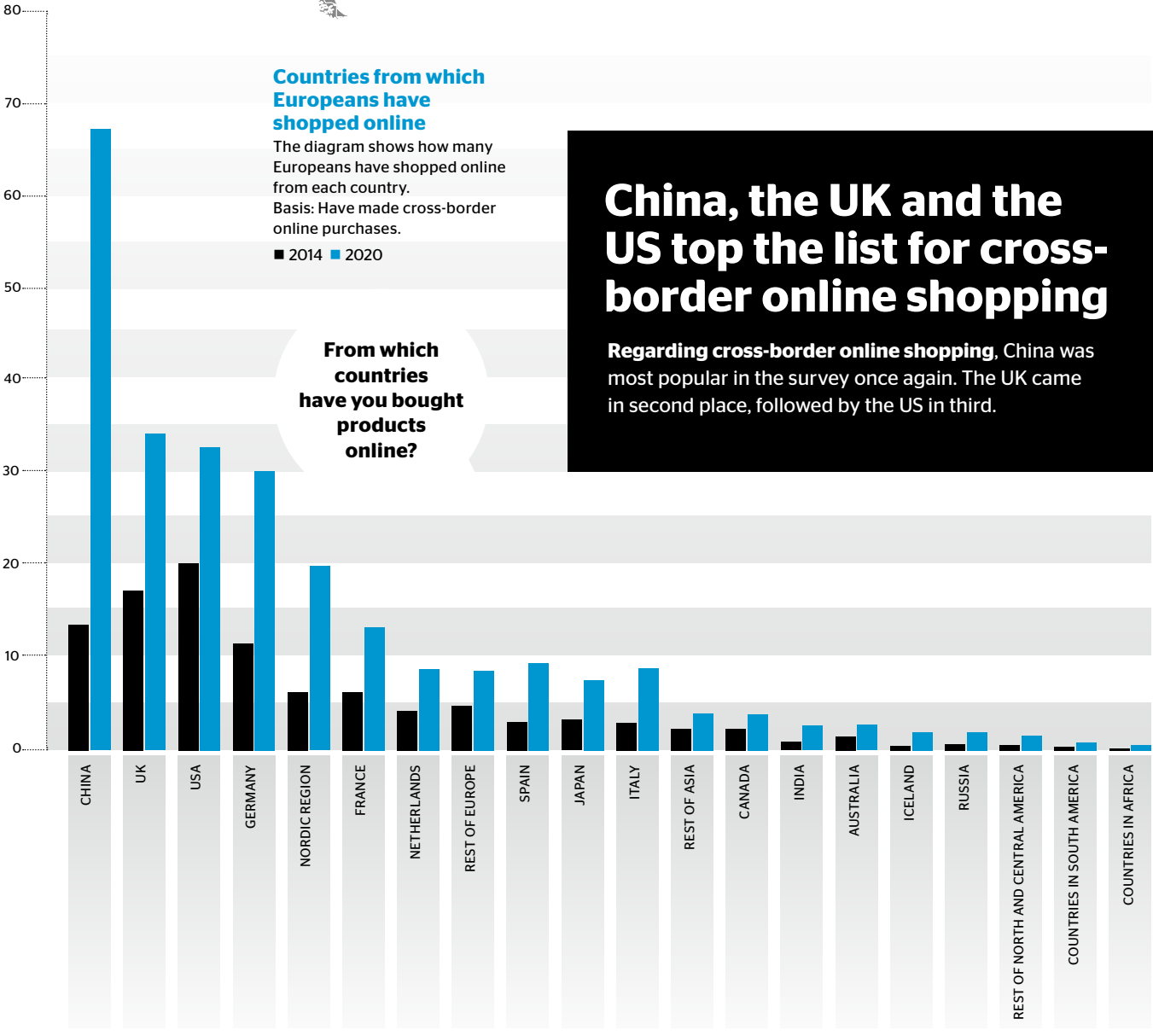
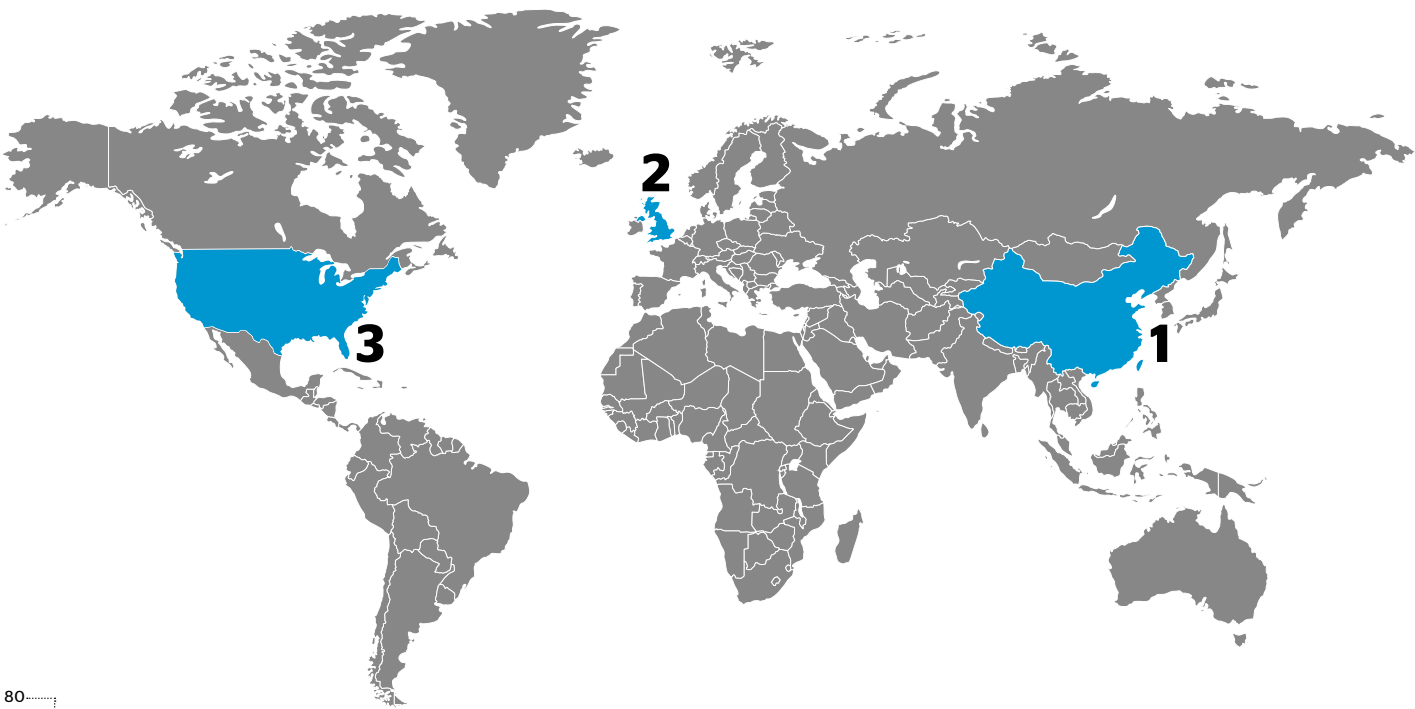


## Increased e-commerce due to coronavirus pandemic

Percentage of respondents who shopped online more often due to the coronavirus pandemic

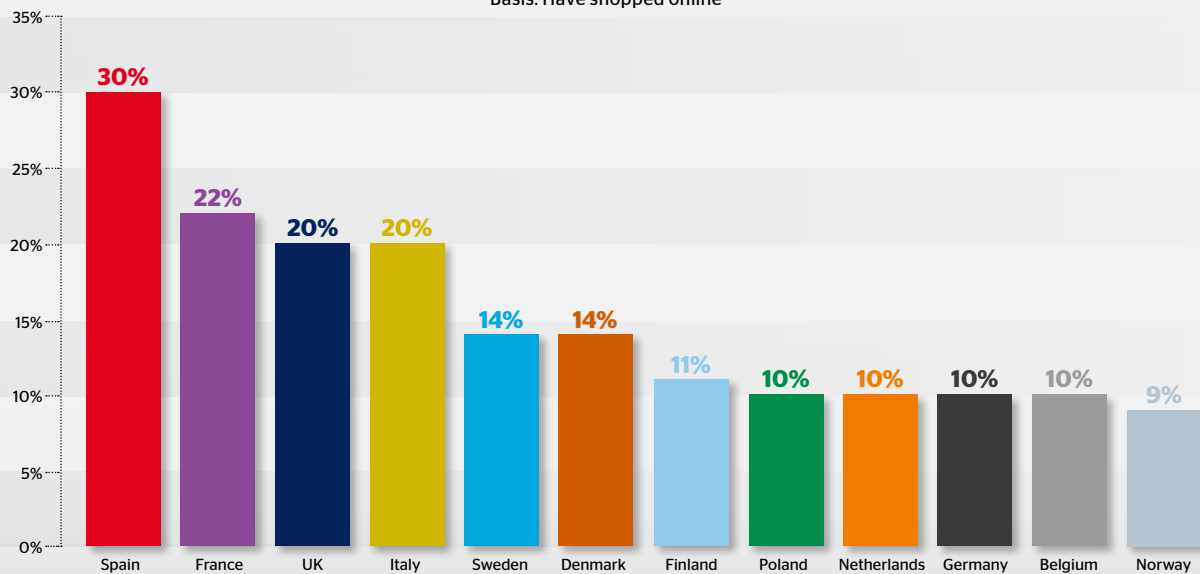
Basis: Have shopped online





Percentage of shoppers who bought groceries online during the coronavirus pandemic who did not do so previously

Basis: Have shopped online



## Coronavirus pandemic drives online grocery shopping

**The coronavirus pandemic** has affected the world in many ways, and e-commerce is no exception. As described previously, many consumers have done more online shopping since the outbreak of the virus. They also shop for different types of products.

The product categories that respondents state they bought online the most because of the pandemic include fashion, groceries and pharmacy goods. While online shopping for fashion has always been very popular, groceries and pharmacy goods are two notable newcomers. Food in particular has very high sales figures in certain countries. In Spain, as many as 30 percent say they shopped online for groceries because of the pandemic, followed by France (22 percent), the UK (20 percent), and Italy (20 percent). The common denominator for these countries is that they each were hit relatively hard by the pandemic.

Online shopping for basic goods and essential products, such as groceries and pharmacy products, has increased in the hardest hit countries, while consumers in less affected countries have shopped online for other types of goods, such as fashion.



## E-commerce has matured in Western Europe and is still growing in Eastern Europe

**Europe is a continent** with significant variation, especially between north and south, as well as east and west. In the latter case, there is a historical background. In Western Europe, large-scale expansion of the internet was already underway in the early 1990s. But in the poorer Eastern European countries, which belonged to the Soviet bloc until the early 1990s, this expansion generally took longer. As a result, there is a lower degree of digitalization, along with less e-commerce. To close the gap, the Eastern European e-commerce market has had a higher growth rate in recent years.

Western Europe is characterized by developed digital behaviors and relatively mature e-commerce markets, where values such as sustainable deliveries and origin marking have become increasingly important in recent years. Eastern Europe is growing more quickly, but started from a lower level. Countries in Eastern Europe generally have lower, but rising, rankings in the European

Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), which measures the degree of digitalization in various countries. Meanwhile, there are significant differences among the Eastern European countries. For example, the Baltic states clearly rank above the EU average with respect to digitalization. The Czech Republic is roughly on par with the average, while most other Eastern European countries occupy a lower tier.

One of the largest e-commerce markets in the area that is usually considered Eastern Europe is Poland. Another potential difference between West and East emerges here: people are more interested in shopping locally, and especially in their own language. In Poland, the Allegro marketplace has survived the pressure from foreign e-commerce giants and holds a dominant position in the market. As many as 90 percent of Polish e-commerce consumers in the survey state that they shopped at Allegro at some point during the year.

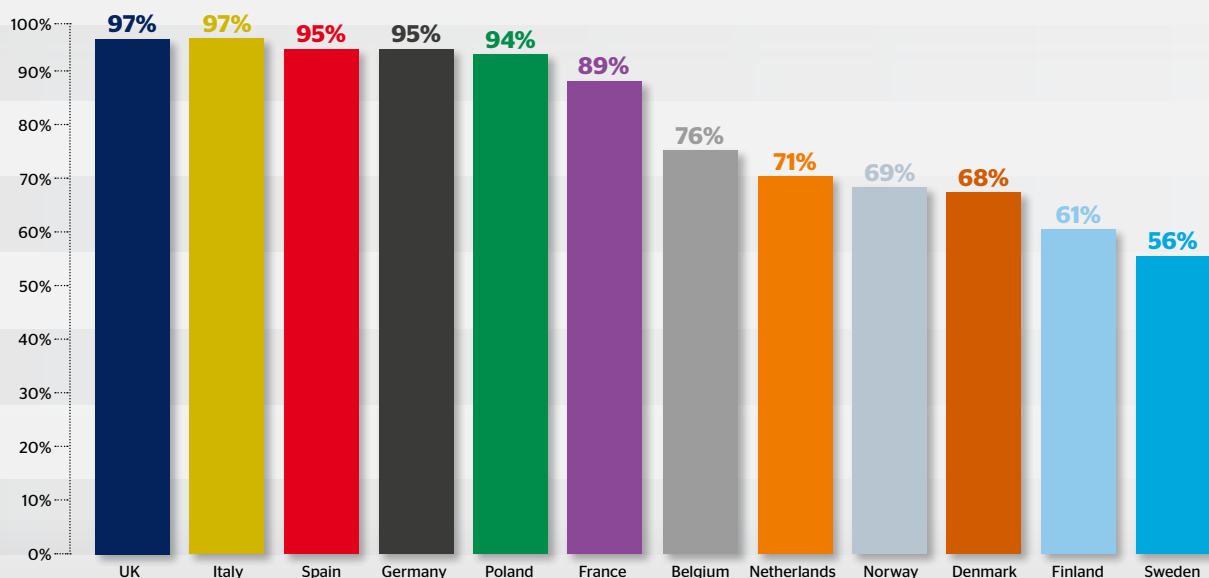
**“Western Europe is characterized by developed digital behaviors and relatively mature e-commerce markets, where values such as sustainable deliveries and origin marking have become more important in recent years.”**



**“Eastern Europe is growing more quickly, but started from a lower level. Countries in Eastern Europe generally have lower, but rising, rankings in the European Commission’s Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), which measures the degree of digitalization in various countries.”**

**Proportion that shopped online from a marketplace during the year**

Wish, Zalando, Amazon, Ebay, Etsy, Alibaba/Aliexpress, JD.com and Allegro  
Basis: Have shopped online



## Amazon and Zalando: two dominant marketplaces in Europe

**Europe has generally** lagged slightly behind the US in growth of online marketplaces. This is not so strange since the original – Amazon – is a US-based phenomenon that now dominates American e-commerce. Amazon established a presence in key European markets early on, but its success in Europe has varied. At the same time, German Zalando has grown to become a European marketplace for fashion, sports and beauty, and now has a presence in many countries.

Survey respondents specified the marketplaces where they shopped online, which reveals an interesting pattern. The surveyed countries can be divided into

three groups, based on whether shoppers prefer Amazon, Zalando, or both. There is an Amazon-dominant group (UK), a Zalando-dominant group (the Netherlands, Nordic countries and Belgium), and a marketplace-dominant group (Spain, Germany, France and Italy).

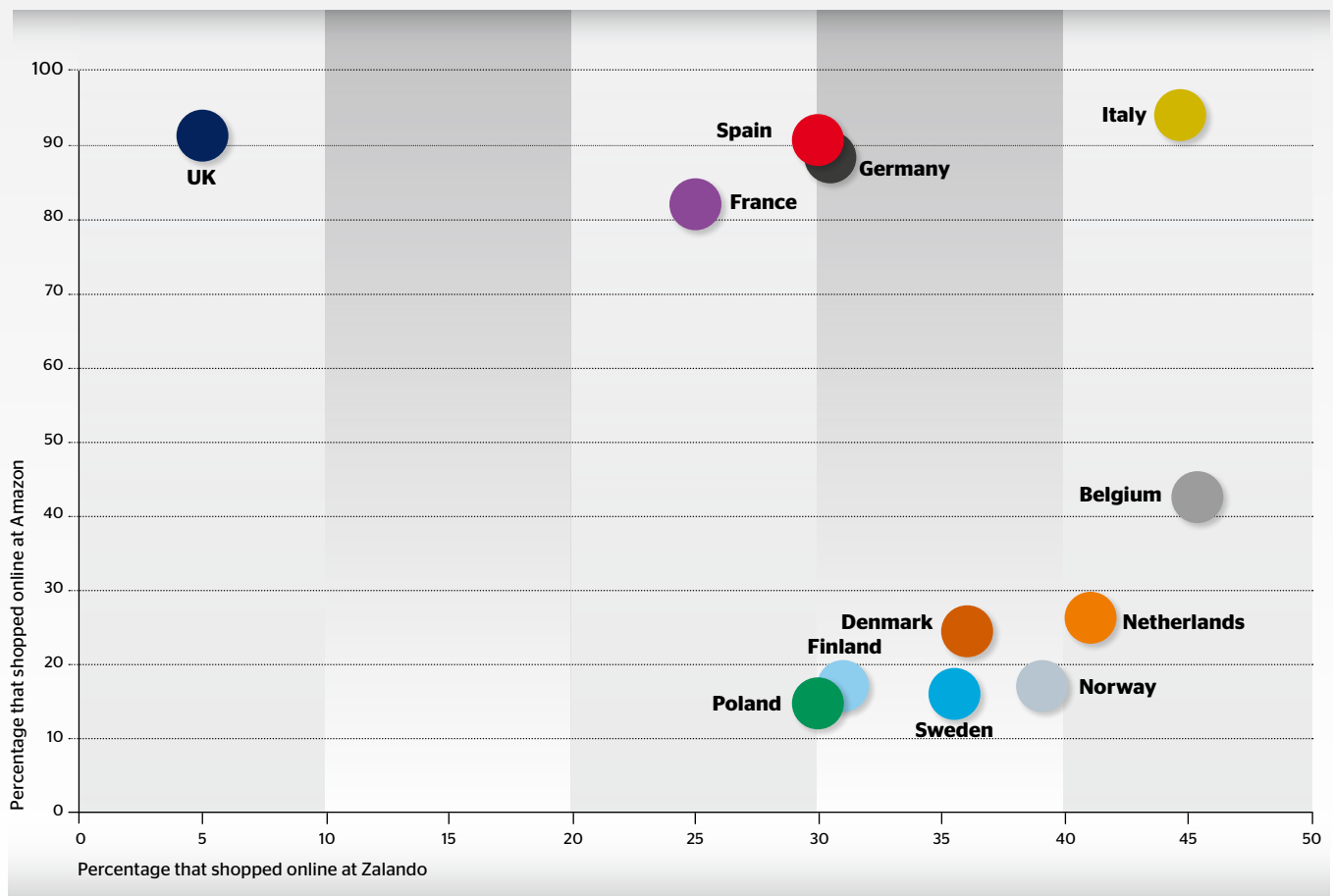
It is also clear that Zalando generally has a more equal presence in the surveyed countries than Amazon. In most countries, 30–45 percent of respondents state that they shopped online at Zalando (with the exception of the UK). For Amazon, the corresponding figure is 80–90 percent in a few (large) countries, but considerably lower in other countries.



On which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped in the past year (Amazon and/or Zalando)?

### Amazon vs. Zalando in Europe

Basis: Have shopped online





Turnover 2019 (USD billion)

36.2

Amazon in Europe

6.5

Zalando



Source: Annual report for each company

## Fashion is a challenge for Amazon

**The two marketplaces** Amazon and Zalando both have a strong position in Europe. In terms of turnover, Amazon is significantly larger than Zalando, which mainly focuses on fashion. Yet, Zalando has made an impressive inroad, considering its competition from a global platform with such strong economic muscles.

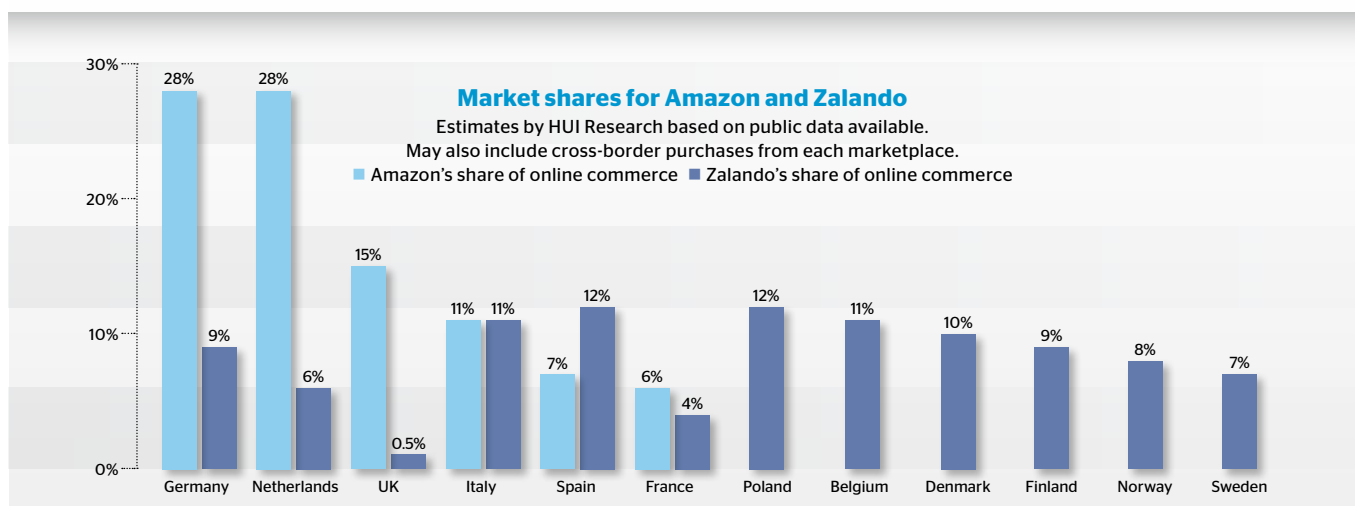
Zalando's market success is aided by the fact that fashion is Amazon's weak spot. Forbes describes<sup>3</sup> how Amazon has also been weak in fashion in the US, where it has had a hard time holding its

own against the European competition. European consumption is also not entirely comparable with US consumption. Zalando takes a different approach than Amazon by focusing on the premium market, while frequently collaborating with strong brands. For example, the Nike brand left Amazon at the beginning of the year, but continues to sell its collections on Zalando.

Here, Nike is in the company of other premium brands, and in recent years even purely luxury brands – which are usually highly restrictive concerning with

who they choose to partner.

Zalando's model may possibly have highlighted weaknesses in the strategy that has made Amazon so dominant in US e-commerce. Zalando's success factors – an inspiring website with high-quality images and design, combined with large-scale and efficient logistics – could conceivably gain a foothold in other industries where customers value inspiration, such as interior design or beauty. Should more industries move in the same direction, Amazon may face a growing challenge.



<sup>3</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/victoriapavlova/2019/02/09/the-amazon-effect-how-amazon-is-disrupting-european-e-commerce/#15b4ef55e7bc>

## Consumers accept longer delivery times during the pandemic

**Many factors affect delivery** times for goods purchased online. Some are bulky and more difficult to transport than others. Some goods are kept in stock, others are not. Some goods are subject to regulations that the carrier must observe.

Today, consumers in most European countries have high expectations regarding delivery time. A large group in all countries surveyed feels that the maximum delivery time should be about three days, with some being reluctant to wait more than two days. But compared

with previous years, demands are lower, probably since e-commerce and delivery times in many countries came under heavy pressure because of the coronavirus pandemic, a reason which many consumers can understand.

At the same time, willingness to pay for extra-fast deliveries is lukewarm throughout Europe, probably because fast and inexpensive deliveries have become standard as e-commerce has matured, and large companies with good logistics, such as Amazon and Zalando, have entered the markets.

### E-commerce consumer expectations of delivery time

Basis: Have shopped online

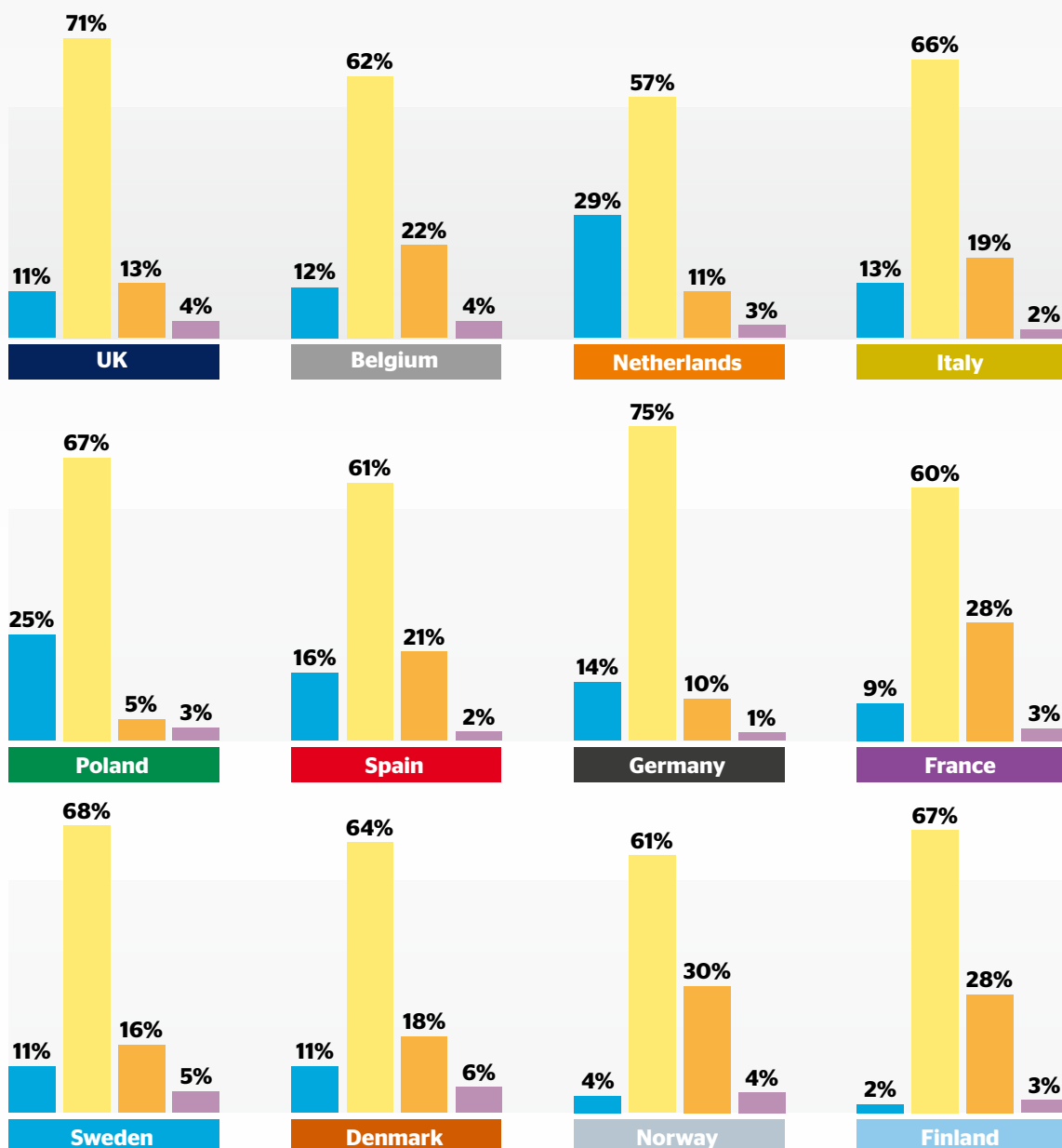
When you buy a product online, what are your expectations as to delivery time? What is the maximum number of days it may take to have your product delivered?

1-2 days

3-5 days

6+ days

Don't know







When you order a product online, how do you prefer to have it delivered?

### Preferred methods of delivery

Basis: Have shopped online

Home delivery in daytime	64%	45%	51%	70%	35%	38%	41%	25%	4%	38%	6%	7%
Delivered to my mailbox/multi-occupancy mailbox by the mail carrier	11%	23%	17%	9%	4%	12%	36%	42%	39%	0%	52%	14%
Collect the product myself from a distribution point	2%	10%	12%	4%	6%	6%	2%	19%	37%	24%	14%	33%
Home delivery in evening	11%	8%	14%	6%	7%	29%	8%	5%	4%	11%	6%	4%
Collect the product myself from a parcel machine	1%	1%	0%	3%	38%	2%	5%	2%	2%	20%	1%	35%
Delivery to workplace	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	5%	2%	1%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Pick up at the online store's physical store	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%	2%	0%	13%	2%

■ UK ■ Belgium ■ Netherlands ■ Italy ■ Poland ■ Spain ■ Germany ■ France ■ Sweden ■ Denmark ■ Norway ■ Finland

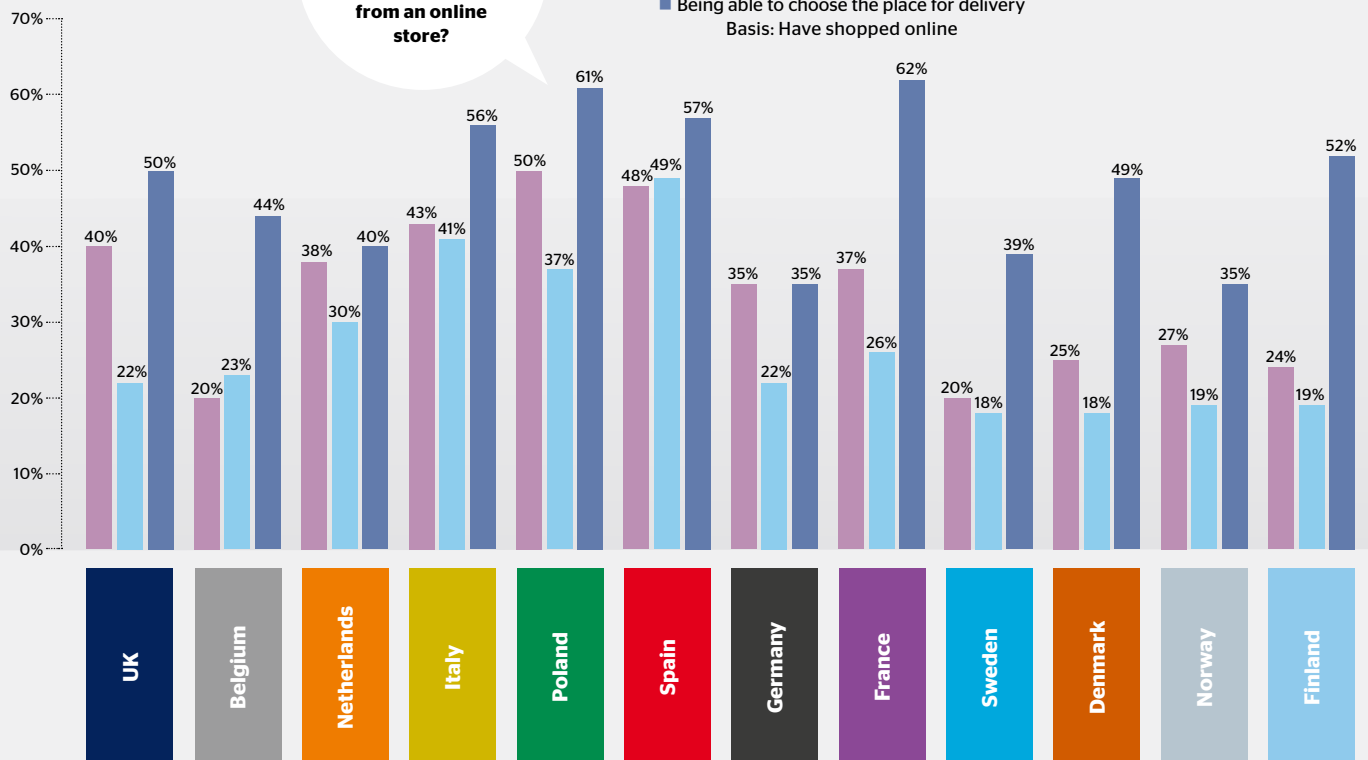
## Deliveries



How important are the following factors regarding delivery in your decision to buy goods from an online store?

### Speed and freedom of choice most important for delivery

■ Fast delivery ■ Option to choose when delivery will occur.  
■ Being able to choose the place for delivery  
Basis: Have shopped online



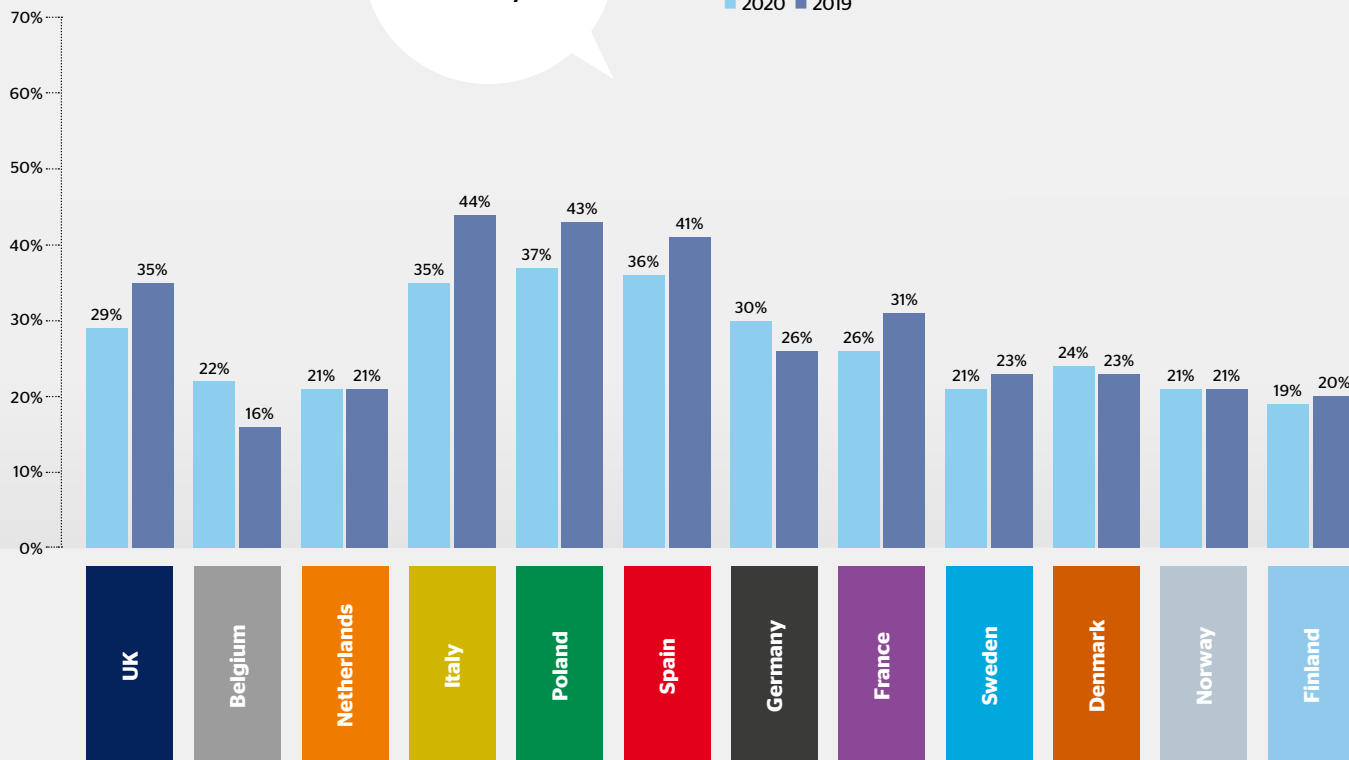
Are you  
willing to pay for  
faster delivery  
(next day)?

### Pay for faster delivery

Percentage who answered yes.

Basis: Have shopped online.

■ 2020 ■ 2019

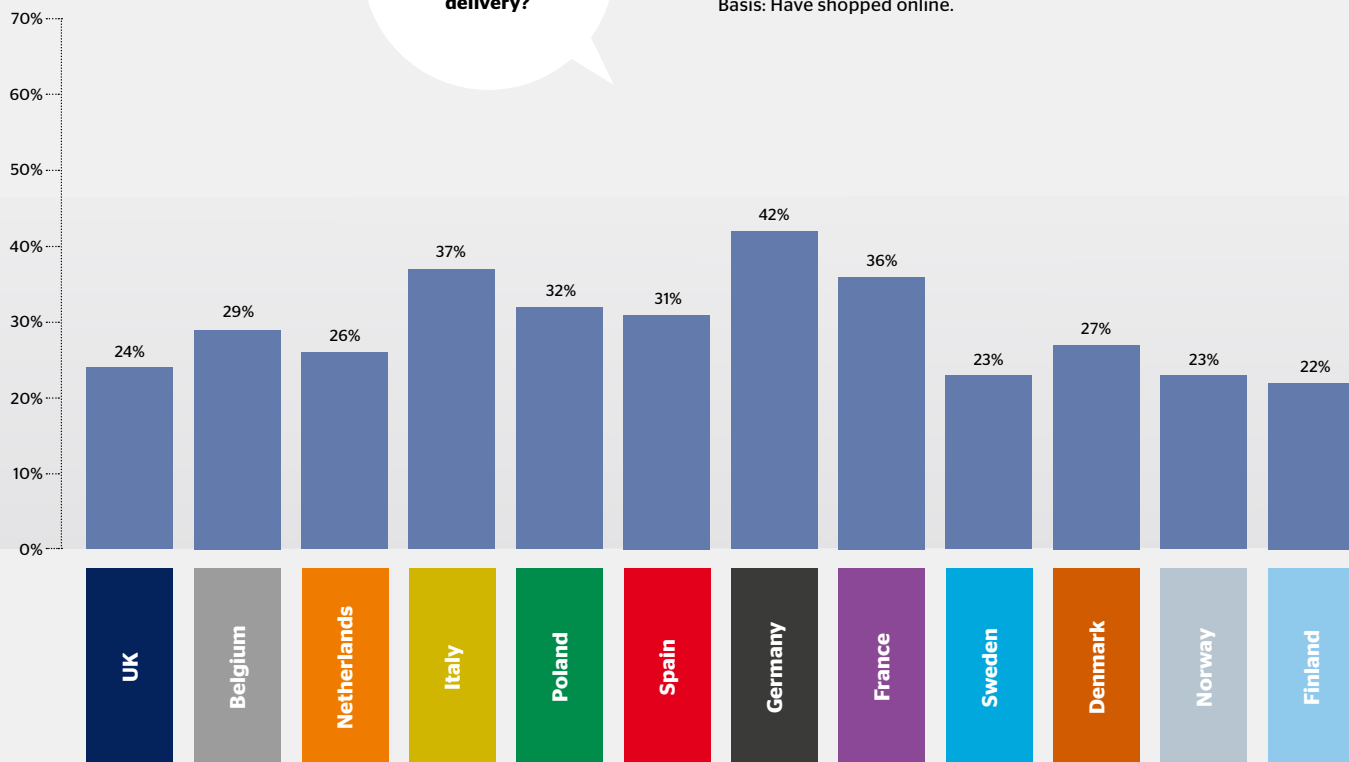


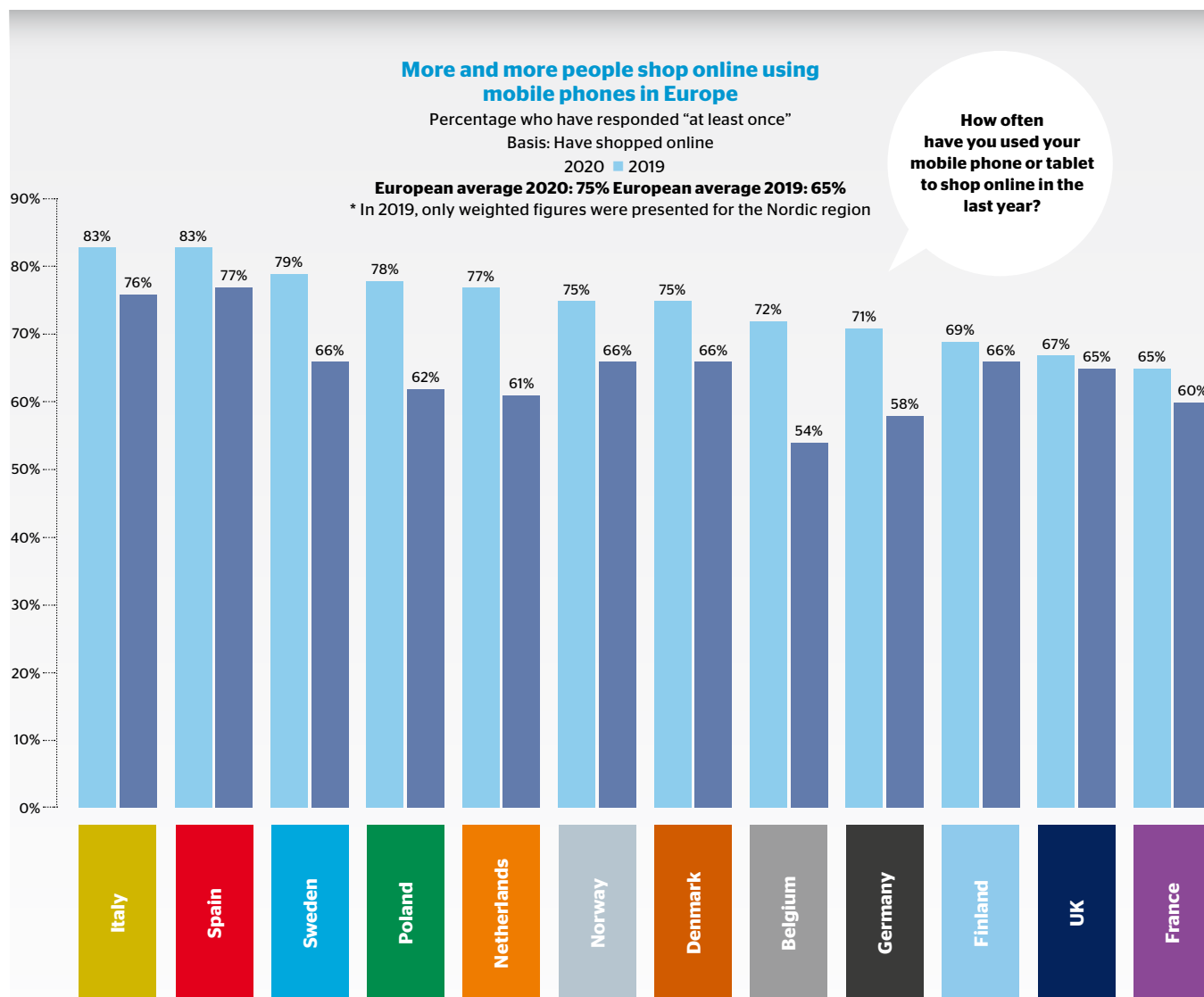
Are you  
willing to pay extra  
for more eco-friendly  
delivery?

### Pay extra for more eco-friendly delivery

Percentage who answered yes.

Basis: Have shopped online.





## Europeans have become accustomed to using their mobile phones to shop

**In just one year** mobile e-commerce has surged considerably. This year's survey shows that about three out of four e-commerce consumers have used their mobile phones to shop online. Since the survey covers the early months of the corona virus outbreak, it is conceivable that the increase may be linked in part to the general increase in e-commerce at that time. Another likely reason is that use of mobile phones to shop online is no longer confined to young consumers.

Shopping by mobile phone is common in all countries surveyed, but especially in Italy, Spain and Sweden. In Spain and Italy,

the underdeveloped digital infrastructure, where it is easier to use a mobile phone than fixed networks in some places, has likely accelerated the trend.

Another factor may be that those groups who shop online differ in the different countries. For example, in the UK, the proportion of people who use their mobile phones to shop online is relatively low, but this may be because a large part of the population shops online – including a greater number of older people with more conservative habits. In Italy, younger people and digitally savvy city residents are more likely to shop online on mobiles and tablets.





# More payment solutions improve business

As digitalization expands, so too have the number of payment options. Credit/debit cards and invoices remain popular in many countries, but there are now also digital payment solutions.

One such solution is PayPal, which is one of the top three payment solutions in all countries surveyed. PayPal's success is based on consumers using their own bank information to create a personal PayPal account, which is then linked to an existing e-mail account. By linking the service to the already widespread use of e-mail, PayPal quickly gained popularity among many consumers at an early stage.

Today PayPal is one of the world's largest financial technology companies, though it has recently begun to encounter competition. Banks and finance companies have partnered to create payment apps for mobile phones, which are becoming increasingly popular. These services go by different names in different countries (for example, Swish, Mobile Pay and Vipps), but are basically the same. At first, some of these services were mainly used to transfer money between private individuals. But in recent years, they have also become increasingly common for commercial payments.



Which of the following methods do you prefer to use when paying for a product you have bought online?

## Most popular online payment methods

Basis: Have shopped online

Debit card or credit card	51%	54%	23%	37%	24%	51%	19%	57%	28%	55%	37%	29%
Invoice	0%	3%	9%	1%	1%	1%	21%	1%	30%	4%	20%	20%
Direct payment through my bank	1%	5%	12%	1%	27%	2%	6%	2%	13%	3%	6%	22%
PayPal or similar	44%	23%	22%	54%	25%	41%	48%	34%	14%	16%	21%	23%
Cash on Delivery	1%	2%	2%	3%	12%	3%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Payment by installments	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%
Mobile app (e.g. Swish, MobilePay, Vipps)	0%	11%	21%	1%	8%	1%	2%	1%	10%	18%	11%	2%
Other/Don't know	2%	1%	10%	3%	2%	1%	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	2%

■ UK ■ Belgium ■ Netherlands ■ Italy ■ Poland ■ Spain ■ Germany ■ France ■ Sweden ■ Denmark ■ Norway ■ Finland



**“Online grocery shopping in the UK has reached a turning point”**

TIM STEINER, OCADOS  
FOUNDER AND CEO

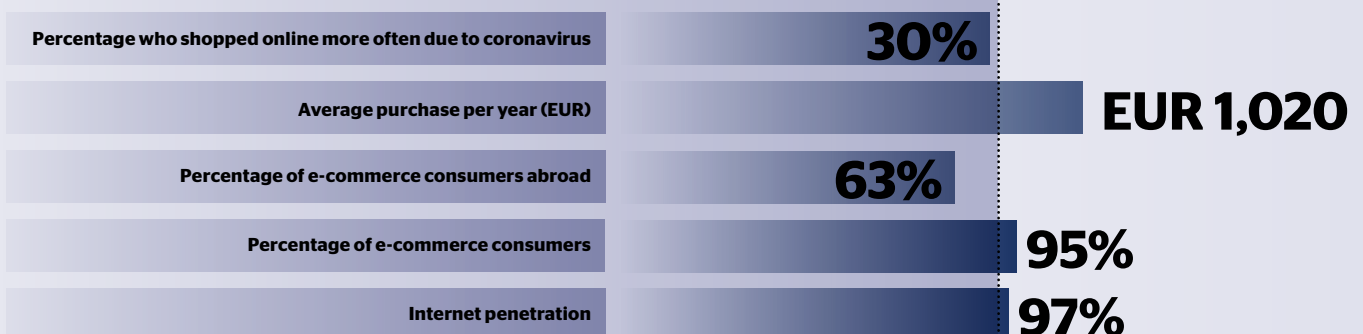
## UK: the world’s third largest e-commerce market

**The UK has long been** a pioneer in e-commerce. In terms of turnover, the country has the third largest e-commerce market in the world, topped only by China and the US. Among British survey respondents, 95 percent state that they shopped online, which is one of the highest rates in Europe. One driver of strong consumer interest in

e-commerce is the capability for same-day delivery, even within four hours, which many people find to be far more convenient than visiting physical stores. In the spring of 2020, the UK became the first country outside the US in which Amazon launched Amazon Shipping, the company’s own delivery service.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe



## Coronavirus situation in the UK

**On March 23**, the UK imposed a lockdown in response to the COVID-19 outbreak – several days after many other European countries. With the exception of grocery stores and pharmacies, all stores were closed. Despite the lateness of the lockdown, the UK has fared better economically than the EU average. The country's GDP fell by 2 percent during the first quarter of 2020 compared with the fourth quarter of 2019. One explanation is that the country's mature e-commerce enabled a rapid increase in capacity during the period, and almost one third of British consumers stated that they shop online more often as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. In concrete terms, this means that almost 20 million of the 50 million e-commerce consumers in the UK have begun to shop online more often.

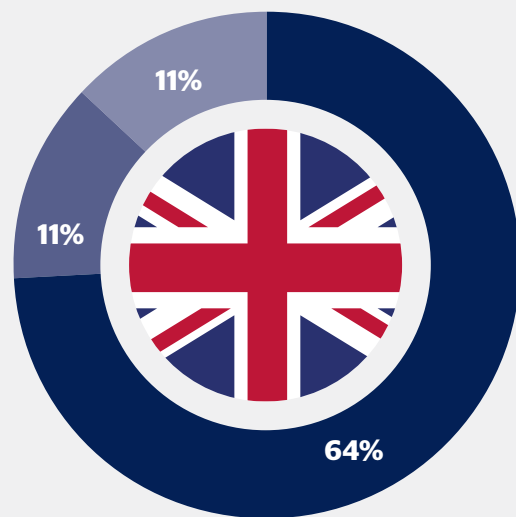
## Marketplaces

**One strong driving force** behind the UK's mature e-commerce market is the early entry of the US e-commerce behemoths into the market. Amazon began sales in the country under a local domain as early as the 1990s. Today, there are also several strong domestic market participants, which, in light of Brexit, seem to be gaining in popularity, including ASOS, Argos and Next.

## European leader in online grocery shopping

**In recent** years, the UK has emerged as Europe's brightest star in the online grocery shopping segment. Clearly, the coronavirus pandemic has pushed the trend even further. As many as 45 percent of British consumers state that they have shopped for groceries online this year, representing a sharp increase compared with 31 percent last year.

One contributing factor is likely that shopping for groceries online was already sufficiently well established so as to allow retailers to quickly scale up to meet the increased demand during lockdown.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in daytime ■ In mailbox ■ Home delivery in evening

### Top three international marketplaces

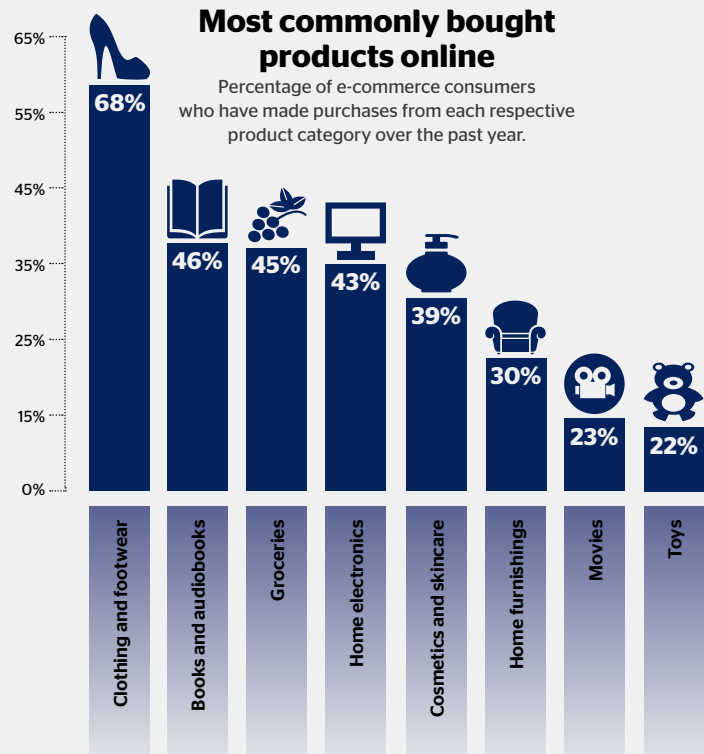
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







**“We don’t want to copy Amazon, because we wouldn’t have a chance. We stand out.”**

MICHAEL OTTO, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE OTTO GROUP<sup>1</sup>

## Germany: still good growth potential for e-commerce

**Germany has a relatively mature** and well-developed e-commerce market. As many as 92 percent of Germans in the survey state that they have shopped online.

Given Germany’s strong purchasing power, and the fact that the country has the largest population in Europe (83 million), there is still good growth potential for e-commerce.

The marketplaces seem to be gaining strength in the country, and the domestic Otto Group was among those that increased investments in e-commerce in 2019. The major competitor is Amazon, and Otto has invested in a collaboration with Google to develop voice assistant technology<sup>2</sup> for its e-commerce site that challenges Amazon’s investment in voice-activated e-commerce.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus	29%
Average purchase per year (EUR)	EUR 947
Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad	69%
Percentage of e-commerce consumers	92%
Internet penetration	95%

## Coronavirus situation in Germany

**Germany's GDP fell** by 2.2 percent between the fourth quarter of 2019 and first quarter of 2020. Economically, this indicates that so far, Germany has coped with the pandemic better than many other European countries. The government first imposed restrictions in the country on March 13, followed by a nationwide lockdown on March 23, when many shops, malls and shopping centers were closed. E-commerce benefited from these developments, which is also reflected in the statistics. As many as 29 percent of consumers state that they shop online more often as a result of the pandemic.

## Marketplaces

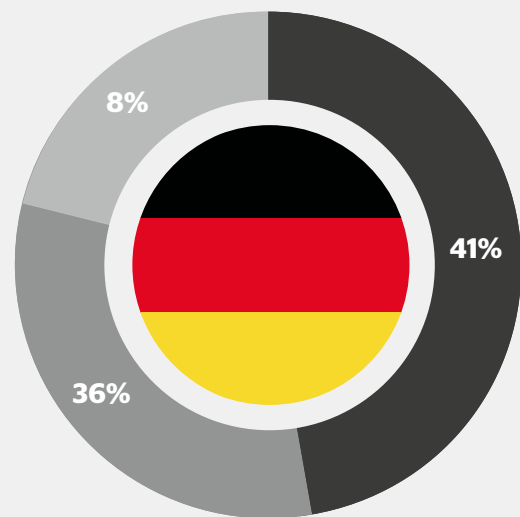
**Amazon launched** a domain in Germany early on (just like in the UK). One estimate shows that the company currently has about 28 percent of the country's total e-commerce, making Germany Amazon's largest market in Europe. Other established market participants include eBay and domestic Otto. In fashion, there are also strong domestic marketplaces, and 65 percent of German consumers have shopped online in this segment in the past year. The leader in fashion is Zalando, which accounts for eight percent of the country's online fashion retailing, and also has significant sales to other European countries.

## Potential for growth in social media

**According to DESI**, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index, German companies could increase sales by increasing their exposure on social media, as only 23 percent of German companies had a presence on social media in 2019. Because social media is becoming an increasingly powerful driving force for e-commerce, both through influencers and through direct shopping services (such as Instagram's investment in e-commerce), the channel is likely to grow in Germany in the coming years.

<sup>1</sup> To Business Insider

<sup>2</sup> Otto.de, Press room, 2019



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

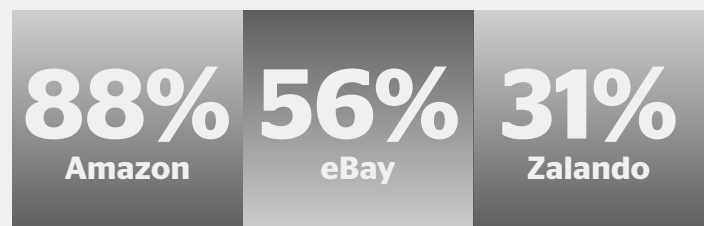
Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in daytime ■ In mailbox ■ Home delivery in evening

### Top three international marketplaces

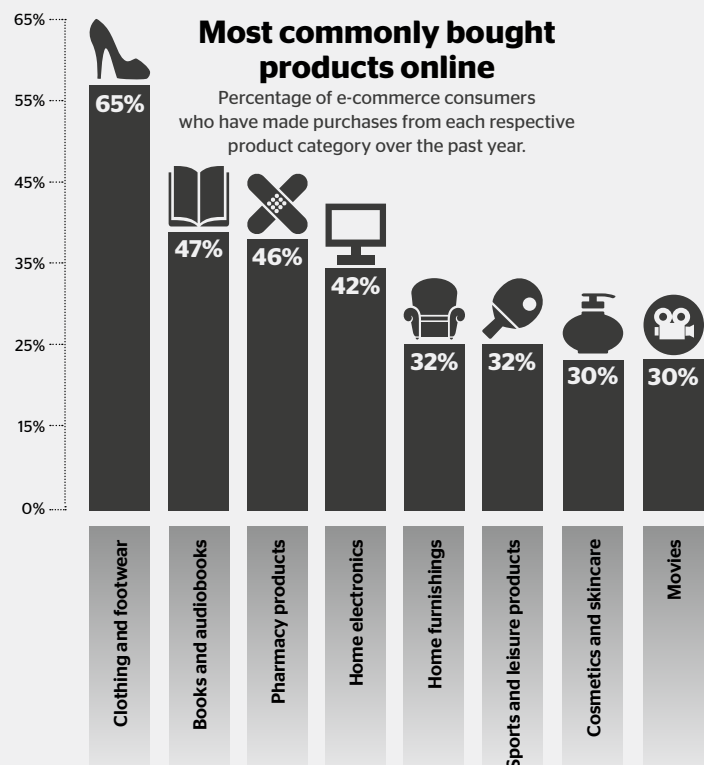
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







**“The two key markets of Germany and France continue to ‘pose a challenge’ for ASOS.”**

ASOS' CEO  
NICK BEIGHTON

## France: Europe's third largest e-commerce market

**France is the third largest** e-commerce market in Europe, and as many as 89 percent of French people in the survey state that they have shopped online. France also has a relatively large group of consumers who state that they do not shop online, primarily the elderly. But this year, the proportion in the 65–74 age group who shopped online increased, likely as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

In 2019, British fashion player ASOS stated that France is a challenging market<sup>1</sup> partly because of

strong competition from global marketplaces and domestic e-retailers.

Strong competition rules and restrictions in France pose additional complications. Amazon was among those affected by these rules and could only sell a limited range in France during the coronavirus pandemic. However, this is not unique to retailers; other online companies have also struggled with restrictions in France, such as Airbnb in tourism and Uber in transportation.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus

**27%**

Average purchase per year (EUR)

**EUR 752**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad

**64%**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers

**89%**

Internet penetration

**93%**

## Coronavirus situation in France

**France went into lockdown** on March 17, and most stores had already closed on March 14. The country's lockdown has also been one of the strictest in Europe. Periodically, people were required to carry a form stating their reason for being outside their homes. As a result of the shutdown, the country experienced what may be the worst drop in GDP in Europe, 5.8 percent lower in the first quarter of 2020 compared with the fourth quarter of 2019. Despite an overall reduction in purchasing, e-commerce seems to have benefited, as 27 percent of consumers state that they shopped online more often as a result of the pandemic.

## Marketplaces

**Marketplaces** are popular in France and account for about half of the country's e-commerce sales<sup>2</sup>. The most popular is Amazon, which launched a French domain back in 2000, followed by the domestic marketplace Cdiscount. In May 2020, the country's leading supermarket group, Carrefour, also transitioned from being an online store to become a digital marketplace<sup>3</sup>.

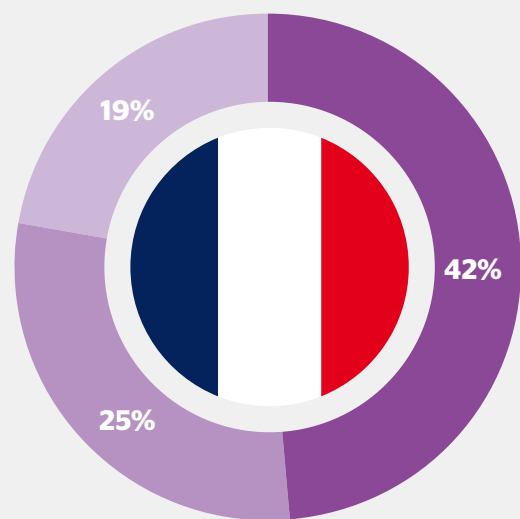
## A few strong participants dominate the market

**The French e-commerce market** is dominated by a few strong market participants that continue to expand and reach larger segments of the French population. DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index, shows that less than fifteen percent of the country's small and medium-sized retailers engaged in some form of e-commerce, while 45 percent of the larger companies did so. It is therefore conceivable that smaller e-retailers who focus on niche sales, have good e-commerce solutions and by profiling themselves well could reach a relatively underdeveloped market segment.

<sup>1</sup> March Omniconomi 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Statista, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Carrefour.com, May 2020.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ In mailbox ■ Home delivery in daytime ■ Distribution point

### Top three international marketplaces

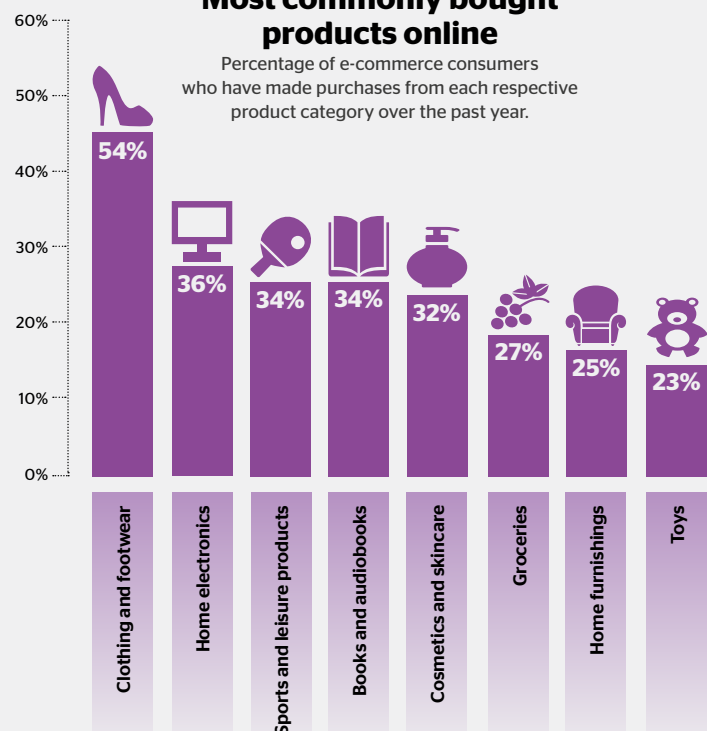
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.



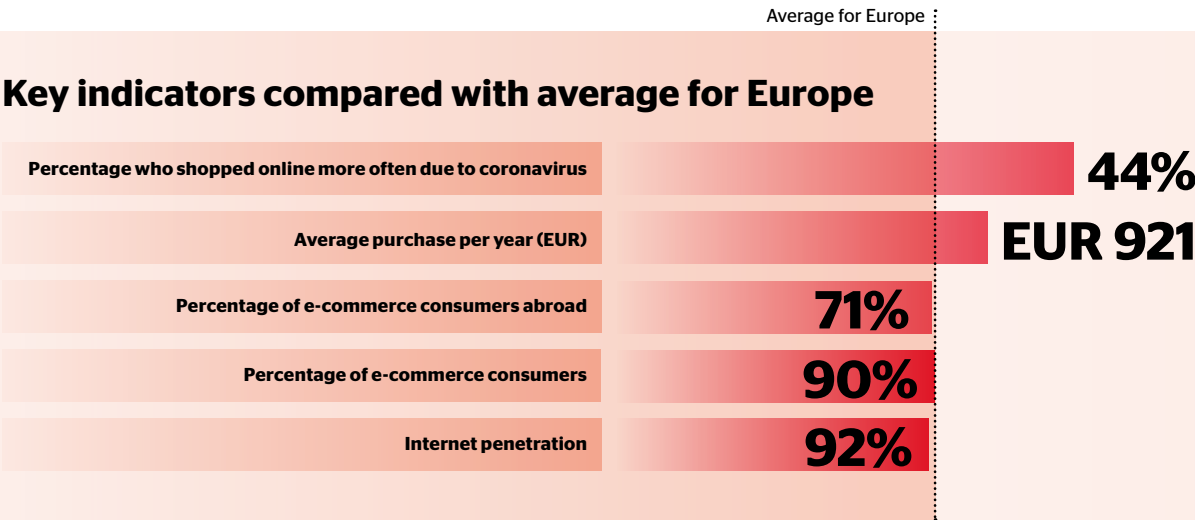


## Spain: one of the fastest growing markets in Europe

**The Spanish e-commerce market** is one of the fastest growing in Europe, and according to the survey, 90 percent of the population shops online. DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index, shows a lower percentage when e.g. the oldest age group (65+) is included. However, the percentage of consumers who shop online has increased in both surveys.

Many Spaniards also make purchases in online

stores abroad, especially Chinese stores. As many as 40 percent state that they shopped online from China in the past year, which is 11 percentage points higher than the average for Europe. Both Amazon and Asian competitor Alibaba appear to have noted the growing interest in cross-border online shopping. In 2019, Alibaba chose Spain as the test market for its first physical AliExpress store in Europe.



## Coronavirus situation in Spain

**Spain was one of the first** European countries to be hit hard by the pandemic, and the country went into lockdown as early as March 14. Since Spain is a growth market for e-commerce, the shutdown resulted in a sharp increase in e-commerce. A total of 44 percent of Spanish consumers stated in the survey that they shopped online more often during the coronavirus pandemic, which is the highest proportion among all countries surveyed. Online grocery shopping had the largest increase.

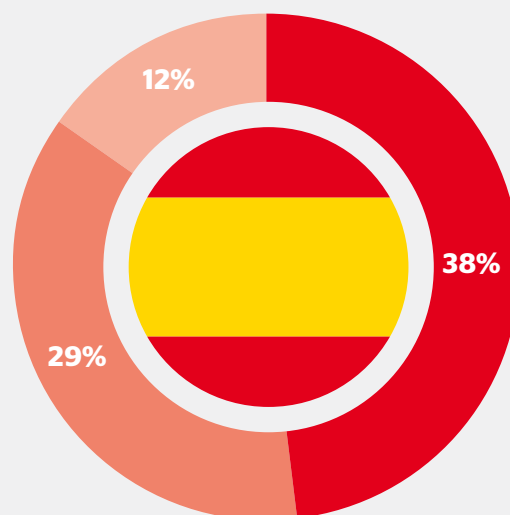
## Marketplaces

**Amazon is Spain's most visited** e-commerce platform, even though the Spanish domain was not launched until 2011. Also, in early 2020, Amazon launched its Business Prime service in the Spanish market. Alibaba's marketplace AliExpress ranks second, and Spain is the only country in the survey to rank this marketplace so high. No domestic e-retailer is included in the top three, although there are some popular domestic market participants, such as [elcorteingles.es](http://elcorteingles.es).

## Leading edge of social media

**Social media is popular** in Spain, among both consumers and businesses. According to DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index, almost one third of companies have at least two social media accounts where they market their products and services. In 2019, more than 25 million people in Spain used social media<sup>1</sup>. Domestic platform Tiente Tiente is extremely popular, as is Facebook.

<sup>1</sup> IAB Spain, 2019.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

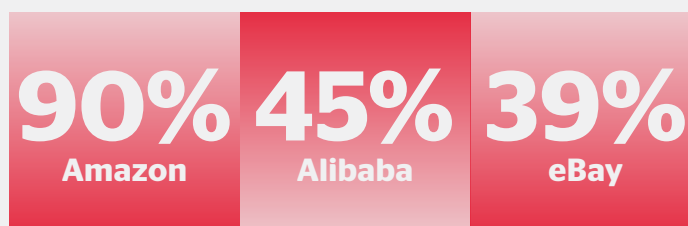
Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in daytime ■ Home delivery in evening ■ In mailbox

### Top three international marketplaces

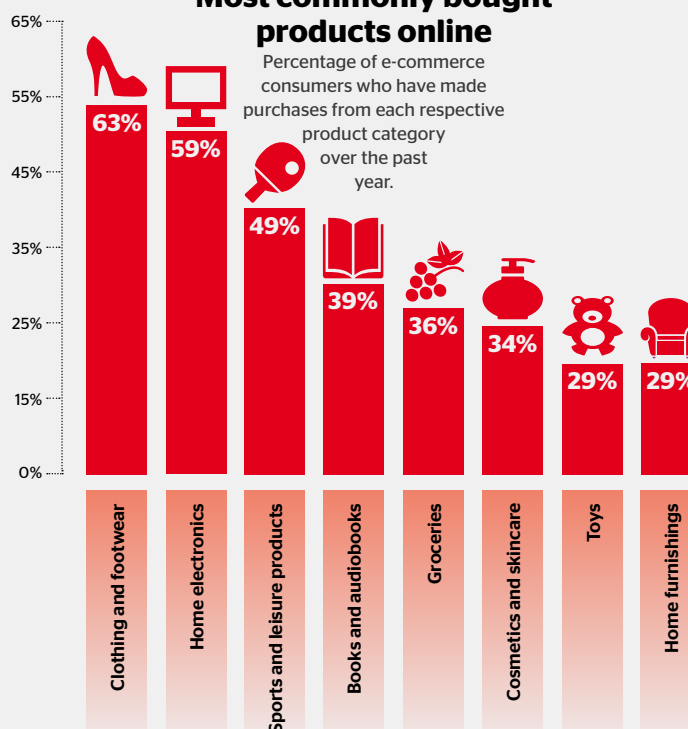
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







**GREAT  
POTENTIAL  
IN A RAPIDLY  
GROWING  
MARKET**

## Italy: the percentage of the population who shop online is still low

**Although Italy has Europe's fastest growing** e-commerce market, the share of the population that shops online is still low. In all, 82 percent of Italians have shopped online, and the figure is even lower in DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index. The main reason may be that a significant minority, representing twice the EU average, state that

they have never used the internet. However, the market is clearly growing, and many market participants are investing in the country. For example, Zalando opened a warehouse near Verona in the spring of 2020. Mobile coverage (4G) is also good, which means that internet access is available in places where IT infrastructure generally is not as well developed.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus

**37%**

Average purchase per year (EUR)

**EUR 674**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad

**67%**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers

**82%**

Internet penetration

**83%**



## Coronavirus situation in Italy

**Italy was the first country** in Europe to be hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic. The country went into lockdown on March 12 and its GDP fell by almost 5 percent between the fourth quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. A total of 37 percent of Italians in the survey state that they have made more online purchases as a result of the pandemic. The high proportion of new consumers is likely due to e-commerce not being as mature in Italy, but many who did not shop online regularly had reason to do so during the lockdown. Online grocery shopping in particular increased sharply, and the grocery chain Carrefour stated that the number of online customers in Italy doubled.

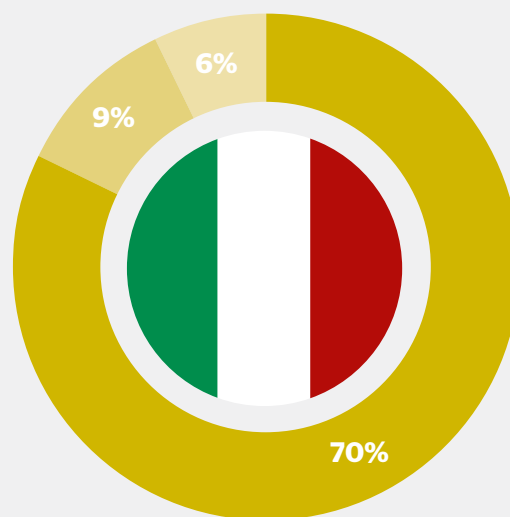
## Marketplaces

**As in several other** European countries, the US marketplaces have established a strong position in Italy. Amazon did not launch an Italian domain until 2010, but quickly achieved a market share of about 16 percent. German Zalando has also successfully established a presence and currently accounts for about eleven percent of the country's online fashion retailing. One reason for the popularity of foreign market participants in Italy is that domestic participants have lagged behind in digitalization in comparison. Many businesses, especially small and medium-sized companies, still lack a digital presence.

## Right payment solution crucial

**A majority of** Italian consumers prefer to shop online using the Italian payment solution CartaSi/Nexi, which currently accounts for about half of all online purchases<sup>1</sup>. Other popular payment methods include Paypal and cash on delivery. The survey shows that 54 percent of Italians state that they prefer to pay with CartaSi or Paypal.

<sup>1</sup> IcePay, 2020, <https://icepay.com/payment-methods/cartasi-credit-card/>



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in daytime ■ In mailbox ■ Home delivery in evening

### Top three international marketplaces

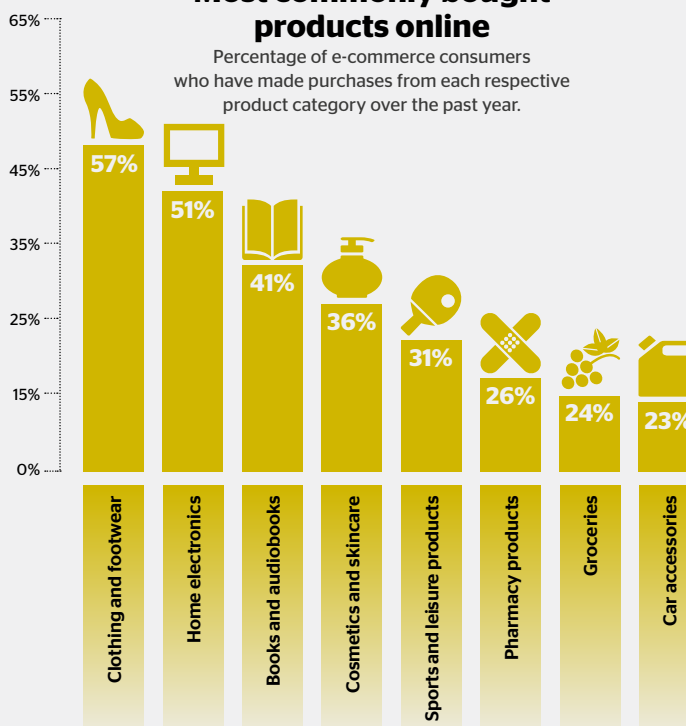
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.





CONSUMERS  
WITH STRONG  
INTEREST IN  
E-COMMERCE

## Netherlands: In 2019, 95 percent of the population shopped online

**Consumers in the Netherlands** are experienced online shoppers, with 95 percent of the population shopping online in 2019. Reasons for mature e-commerce in the Netherlands include its small geographical area that allows for efficient logistics,

a high level of consumer interest, and strong local market participants. In March 2020, Amazon officially entered the Netherlands with a wide range of products in most categories, where previously only books were sold.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus

33%

Average purchase per year (EUR)

EUR 929

Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad

72%

Percentage of e-commerce consumers

95%

Internet penetration

98%

## Coronavirus situation in the Netherlands

**The Netherlands** imposed a lockdown on March 23 which, as in so many other European countries, gave e-commerce a boost. 33 percent of survey respondents state that they shop online more often because of the pandemic, which means that more than four million Dutch consumers have increased their online spending. The country's GDP fell by 1.7 percent between the last quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020.

## Marketplaces

**Regarding marketplaces**, local companies dominate the Dutch e-commerce market. However, now that Amazon has increased its presence, preferences could possibly change.

The most visited is the classifieds site Marktplaats.nl, which can be explained by the fact that as many as 38 percent of consumers in the country sell items online, according to DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index. This represents the highest percentage of the countries surveyed, and is twice as high as the EU average (23 percent).

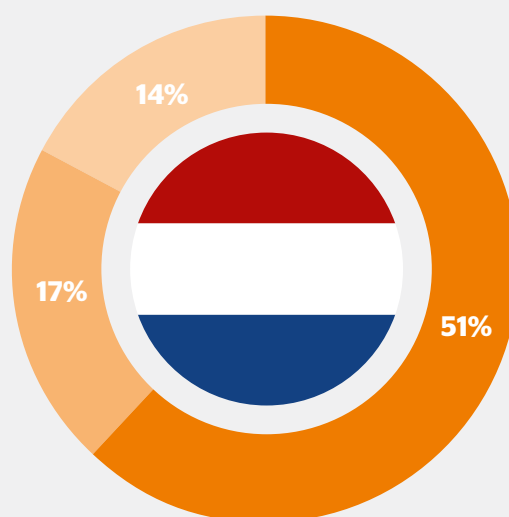
Another popular domestic market participant is Bol.com, which sells goods in a wide variety of categories.

Alibaba's Aliexpress platform is also relatively popular, and in the past year, 37 percent of Dutch consumers have made online purchases from China.

## Local payment solution through iDeal

**Dutch consumers** prefer iDeal, a local payment solution, when shopping online, which may have constituted a barrier to certain foreign companies while benefiting domestic e-commerce. However, it appears that some have begun to adapt. For example, Amazon now offers iDeal as a payment option. Over the past year, mobile payment solutions have also rapidly grown in popularity, and are now preferred by 21 percent of consumers.

### Spotlight on: Netherlands



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

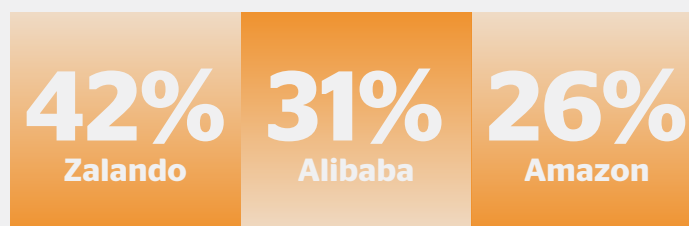
Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in the daytime ■ In mailbox ■ Home delivery in the evening

### Top three international marketplaces

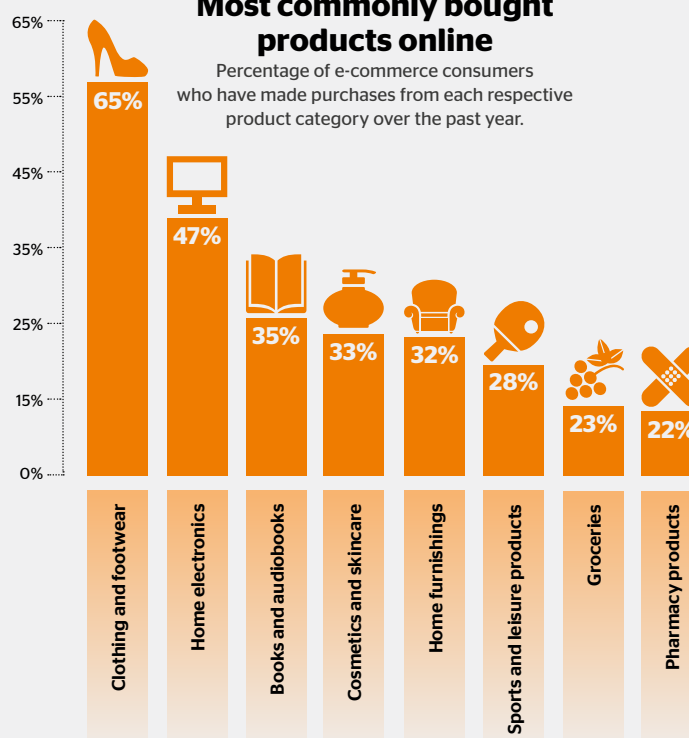
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







## Belgium: characterized by a high percentage of foreign market participants

**A high percentage of** foreign market participants can be found in Belgian e-commerce, in part because many Belgian companies were late in catching the e-commerce wave, but also because of the country's close relationship with the Netherlands (for example, the Flemish part of Belgium speaks Dutch). Another reason is that Belgium previously had strict rules regulating work at night,

which is otherwise common in warehouses and distribution centers linked to e-commerce. The situation may have benefited distribution centers outside the country's borders, given that the area of the country is relatively small, which allows for easy transportation from beyond its borders. 84 percent of Belgian consumers state that they have shopped online.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus	41%
Average purchase per year (EUR)	EUR 571
Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad	70%
Percentage of e-commerce consumers	84%
Internet penetration	93%

## Coronavirus situation in Belgium

**Belgium imposed a lockdown** on March 17, and the country's GDP fell by almost 4 percent during the first quarter of 2020 compared with the fourth quarter of 2019. Belgium is also among the countries in Europe that have been hardest hit by the pandemic. The virus outbreak has given a real boost to Belgian e-commerce, and 41 percent of consumers state that they shopped online more often as a result of the pandemic.

## Marketplaces

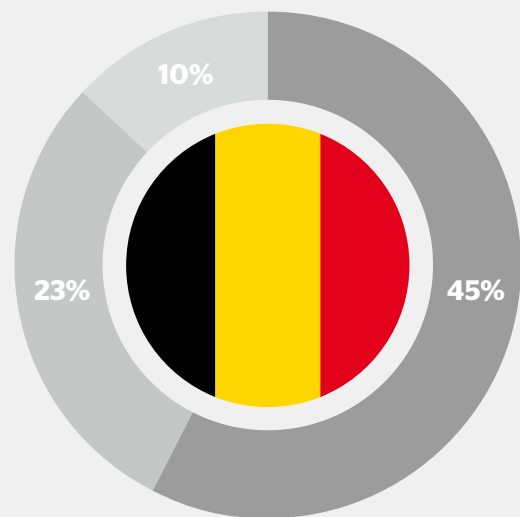
**Belgian consumers** make a great number of online purchases from foreign marketplaces. While Amazon does not actually have a presence in the country, Amazon in France is one of Belgium's most visited marketplaces, especially among Walloons, who speak French.

In the Flemish part of the country, the Dutch site Bol.com is popular instead.

Alibaba's marketplace AliExpress has also achieved some success in Belgium (just as in the Netherlands), and German Zalando occupies a strong position in fashion.

## Divided e-commerce market

**Belgium is geographically divided** between the French-speaking Walloons and the Dutch-speaking Flemings. Online stores must adapt to two languages to deal with this division and reach both parts of the population. To date, many have chosen to focus on the Dutch part, where more consumers use the internet. But the trend is toward greater equilibrium, as illustrated by the launch of a French-language version of the Dutch Bol.com in June 2020. Over the past year, 33 percent of Belgian respondents made online purchases from sites in the Netherlands, 23 percent from France, and 21 percent from China.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in daytime ■ In mailbox ■ Distribution point

### Top three international marketplaces

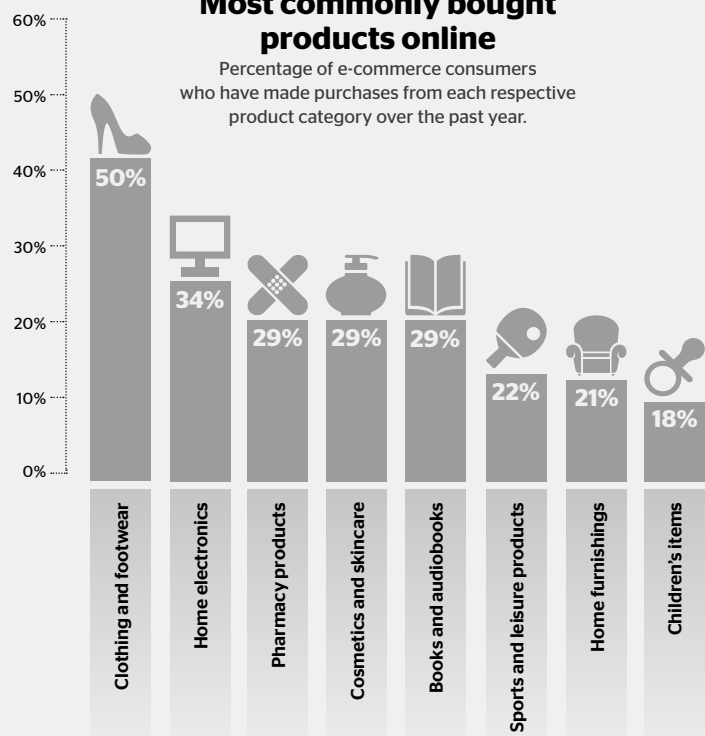
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







**THE DOMESTIC  
MARKETPLACE  
ALLEGRO  
DOMINATES POLISH  
E-COMMERCE**

## Poland: still a market with strong growth

**In Poland,** the percentage of consumers who shop online is still relatively low – only 83 percent according to this survey and 66 percent according to DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index. However, the percentage is expected to increase in the coming years, and Poland's e-commerce market is generally characterized by high growth.

Polish consumers mainly make online purchases from domestic market participants. Only 59 percent of consumers make cross-border online purchases, which is the lowest rate among the countries surveyed. This trend is partly because Polish consumers prefer Polish language sites, but also because there are strong domestic e-retailers such as Allegro that offer a wide range of products.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus

**33%**

Average purchase per year (EUR)

**EUR 456**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad

**59%**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers

**83%**

Internet penetration

**85%**

## Coronavirus situation in Poland

**Poland is one** of the countries surveyed that has coped with the coronavirus pandemic relatively well in terms of the economy, with a drop in GDP of only 0.5 percent between the last quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. The country imposed a lockdown on March 24, which was accompanied by a clear increase in e-commerce. 33 percent of Polish consumers in the survey state that they shopped online more often as a result of the virus outbreak.

## Marketplaces

**The largest marketplace** in Poland is the domestic marketplace Allegro, which has about a 40 percent share of the e-commerce market. Allegro has also become popular in other countries. With 194 million visitors a month, it is currently the tenth most visited marketplace in the world, according to Ecommerce-news.eu<sup>1</sup>.

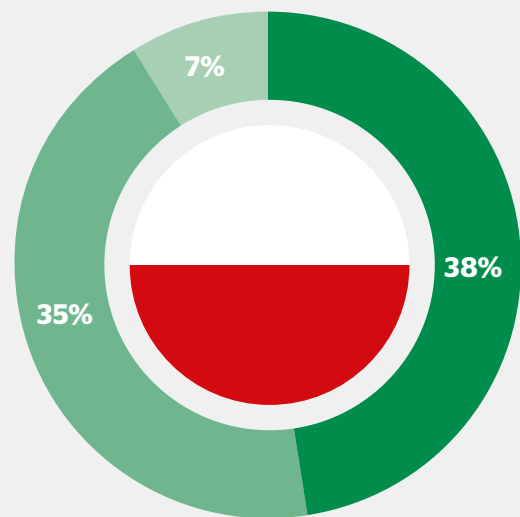
Other popular marketplaces in Poland include the domestic Olx and Alibaba's AliExpress platform. German Zalando is also taking market share in Poland, currently having about twelve percent of the online fashion market.

## Sophisticated logistics

**The Polish e-commerce market** has relatively well-developed logistics, which benefits domestic e-commerce. Several e-retailers, including Amazon and Zalando, have chosen to locate large logistics centers in Poland due to the combination of its favorable geographic location in Europe, its proximity to the German market, and its wage level, which is lower than in countries such as Germany<sup>2</sup>. And Polish consumers have high expectations regarding delivery as a result: a quarter expect to receive goods purchased online within one to two days, which is the second highest among all countries surveyed.

<sup>1</sup> Ecommerce-news.eu, 2020

<sup>2</sup> Reuters.com, 2017.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ Parcel machine ■ Home delivery in daytime ■ Home delivery in evening

### Top three international marketplaces

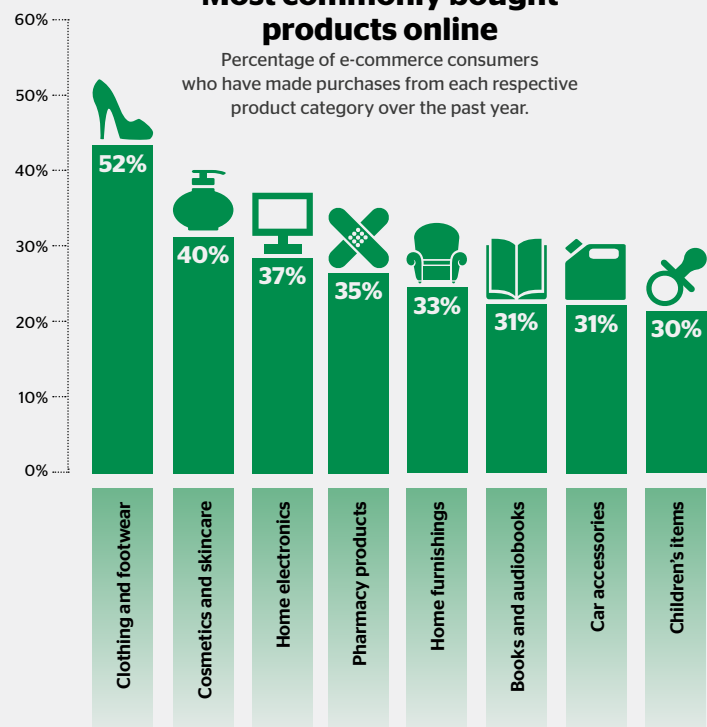
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







## Swedes: excel at using digital services in general

**Sweden has a mature e-commerce market** and in 2019, Swedish e-commerce accounted for about 11 percent of the country's total retail sales. According to the survey, an estimated 96 percent of Swedes have shopped online.

Swedes excel at using digital services in general, and many physical retailers also engage in e-commerce. In recent years, sectors such as the pharmacy sector and grocery sector have also made major strides online.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus	26%
Average purchase per year (EUR)	EUR 1,012
Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad	76%
Percentage of e-commerce consumers	96%
Internet penetration	98%

## Coronavirus situation in Sweden

**Sweden's coronavirus strategy** has received considerable global attention because the country did not impose a lockdown or shut down society to the same extent as many other countries. Nevertheless, many people have chosen not to shop in stores. The survey also shows an upturn in e-commerce, with 26 percent of respondents stating that they shopped online more often as a result of the pandemic. In Sweden, older consumers have also started shopping online, especially when it comes to pharmacy goods and groceries. As much as 19 percent of Sweden's older citizens started buying groceries online since the pandemic began<sup>1</sup>.

## Marketplaces

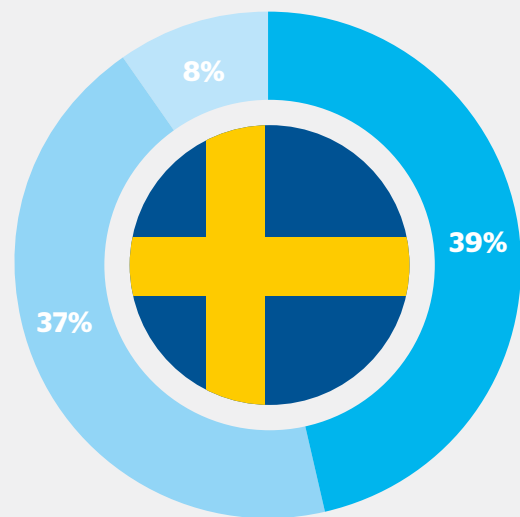
**Sweden has a strong offering** in terms of domestic e-retailers, for which reason the marketplaces did not have as great a level of penetration as in other European countries. But that may be about to change now that Amazon has announced its arrival in Sweden. The marketplace that has perhaps been most successful in Sweden is Zalando, which is the consumers' favorite online site (second only to the online pharmacy Apotea). Domestic CDON has also gained penetration among customers and is the most popular domestic marketplace.

## Swish - a popular payment method

**Transferring money using mobile apps** is becoming increasingly popular in Europe, but the fact is that Swedish consumers have used the Swish app to send money to one another for several years. In 2019, the payment service also began to reach companies. Statistics from Swish<sup>2</sup> show that the number of payments with the app in the retail sector increased by an impressive 94 percent during the year. In 2019, commercial payments using Swish totaled about SEK 50 billion, even though this figure was insignificant just a few years ago.

<sup>1</sup> E-barometer survey Q1 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Swish Statistics 2012-2019.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ In mailbox ■ Distribution point ■ Home delivery without signed confirmation

### Top three international marketplaces

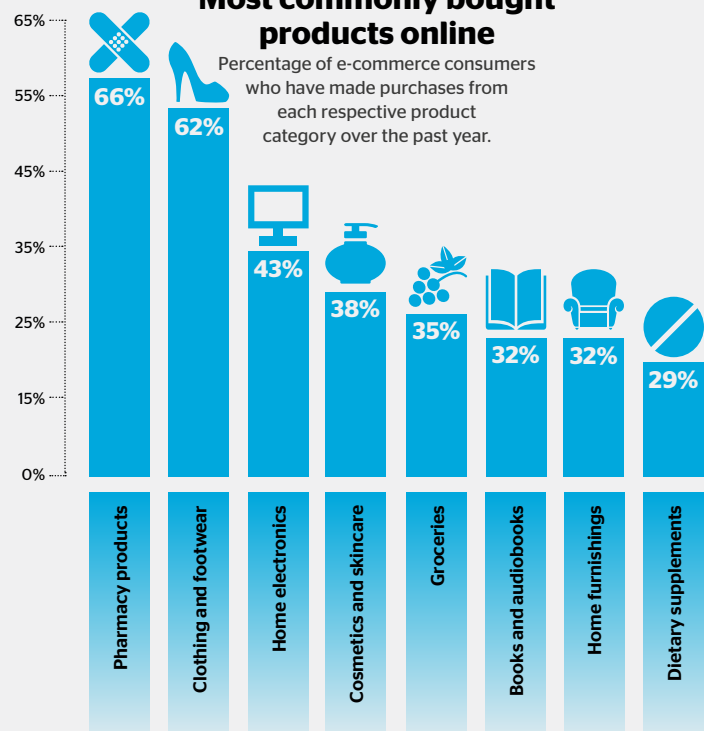
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.







**HIGH  
DEMAND FOR FAST  
DELIVERIES**

## Denmark: a well-developed e-commerce market

**Like the rest of the Nordic region,** Denmark has a well-developed e-commerce market and a population with a good grasp of digital technology. In the survey, 88 percent of Danes state that they have shopped online, a figure that is probably slightly on the low side. According to DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society

Index, Denmark is in second place, behind the UK, in terms of the percentage of the population who shopped online. Moreover, consumers are not alone in being digitally savvy in Denmark. A total of 53 percent of Danish companies state that they are highly digitalized – the highest level in the EU, where the average is 26 percent.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus

**19%**

Average purchase per year (EUR)

**EUR 850**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad

**75%**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers

**88%**

Internet penetration

**98%**



## Coronavirus situation in Denmark

**Denmark imposed a lockdown** on March 18, and at the time of this publication has averted a major outbreak of the virus. But the situation took its toll on the economy. In the first quarter of 2020, Denmark's 2% drop in GDP was the worst in the Nordic region. It is also clear that e-commerce has received a boost in Denmark, since 19 percent of respondents state that they did more shopping online as a result of the pandemic. Sound government fiscal policy also provided various types of stimuli in Denmark that have benefited using online purchases or retailing<sup>1</sup>.

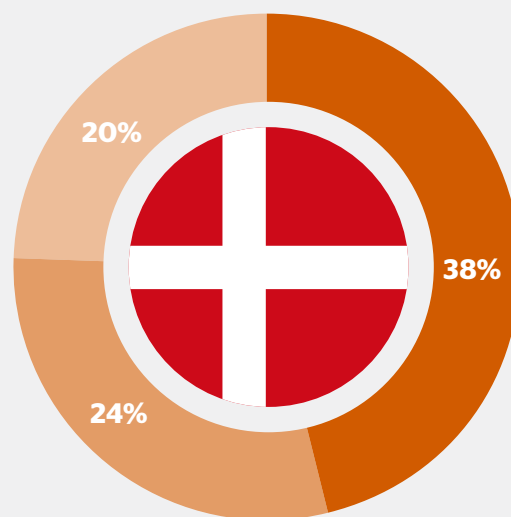
## Marketplaces

**In Denmark, 75 percent** of respondents state that they make cross-border online purchases. This trend can also be seen in the country's top three most visited marketplaces: eBay.com, Amazon.com and Amazon.de. Another German market participant is Zalando, which accounts for about ten percent of online fashion retailing in Denmark. Proximity to Germany likely makes it easier for Danish consumers to shop from German e-commerce sites – especially Amazon. But there are also significant domestic e-retailers, such as Saxo, an online bookstore, and Nemlig, an online retailer.

## High delivery demands from Danish consumers

**Danish consumers** are accustomed to receiving their e-commerce goods quickly and conveniently, likely because the country has well-developed logistics and e-commerce, as well as being small in size. The Danes therefore place higher demands on deliveries than their Nordic neighbors.

<sup>1</sup> SEB Nordic Outlook, May 2020.



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ Home delivery in daytime ■ Distribution point ■ Collect it from a parcel machine

### Top three international marketplaces

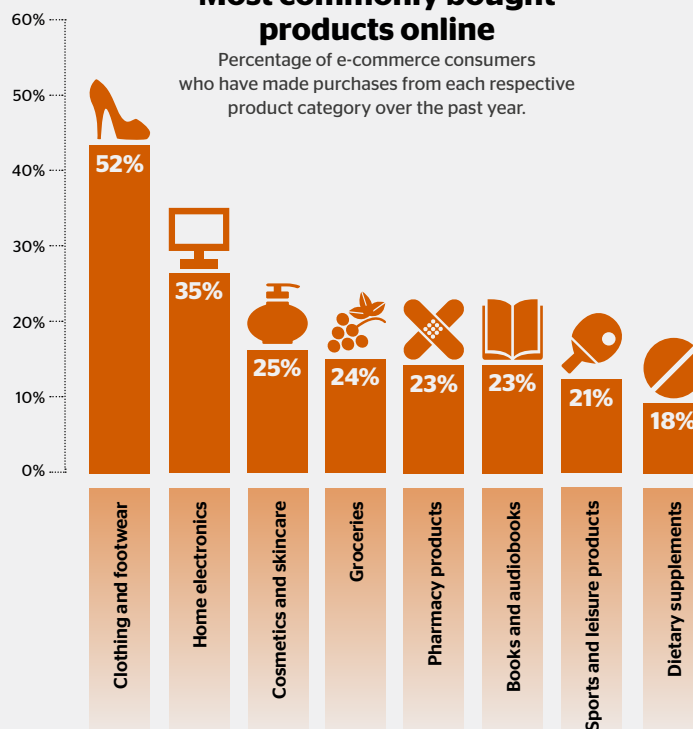
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.





NEW VAT  
MAY AFFECT  
CROSS-BORDER  
PURCHASES

## Norway: internet use among the highest in Europe

**Consumers in Norway are digitally mature,** and internet use is among the highest in Europe. It is therefore no surprise that e-commerce is well developed in Norway. In the survey, 94 percent of Norwegians stated that they had shopped online.

In 2019, the growth of e-commerce began to

have a serious impact on the Norwegian retail sector. For example, two groups went bankrupt during the year: the sports group Gresvig Retail Group, which has G-Sport and Intersport in Norway, and Cosmetic Group, which manages the cosmetics chain Vita.

Average for Europe

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus

**22%**

Average purchase per year (EUR)

**EUR 635**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad

**83%**

Percentage of e-commerce consumers

**94%**

Internet penetration

**99%**

## Coronavirus situation in Norway

**Norway embarked on a partial shutdown** because of the coronavirus pandemic on March 16, and 22 percent of Norwegian respondents state that they have shopped online more often as a result. In addition to the shutdown, the pandemic had an impact on the country's crucial oil industry, which led to an overall drop in GDP of 1.5 percent between the last quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. On the plus side, Norway has the resources to stimulate the economy, and has done just that during the year.

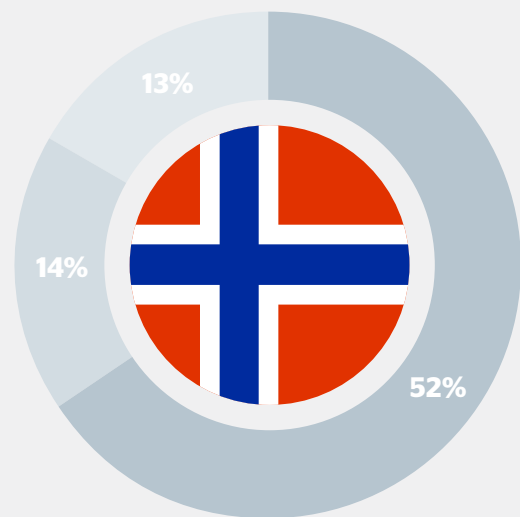
## Marketplaces

**Some of the most popular** marketplaces in Norway are Zalando, eBay, Wish, and Amazon. Norwegians also buy more from the US than do their Nordic neighbors, which may be because Norway is not a member of the EU. In addition to the foreign marketplaces, there are also popular domestic online stores such as Komplet.no, Elkjøp, which sells electronics, and the grocery chain Kolonial.no.

## High percentage of cross-border online shopping

**As many as 83 percent of Norwegians** in the survey state that they make cross-border purchases online – a percentage exceeded only by Finland among the Nordics. However, that may change because since January 1, 2020, foreign companies must pay VAT from the first NOK on shipments to Norway (previously, VAT only had to be paid on goods that exceeded NOK 350 in value). Along with the coronavirus pandemic, this factor may be one reason that Norwegians' online purchases from China declined from 36 to 30 percent in this year's survey. Meanwhile, China remains the most common country for cross-border online shopping in Norway.

## Spotlight on: Norway



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**

Basis: Have shopped online

■ In mailbox ■ Distribution point ■ Collect from physical store

### Top three international marketplaces

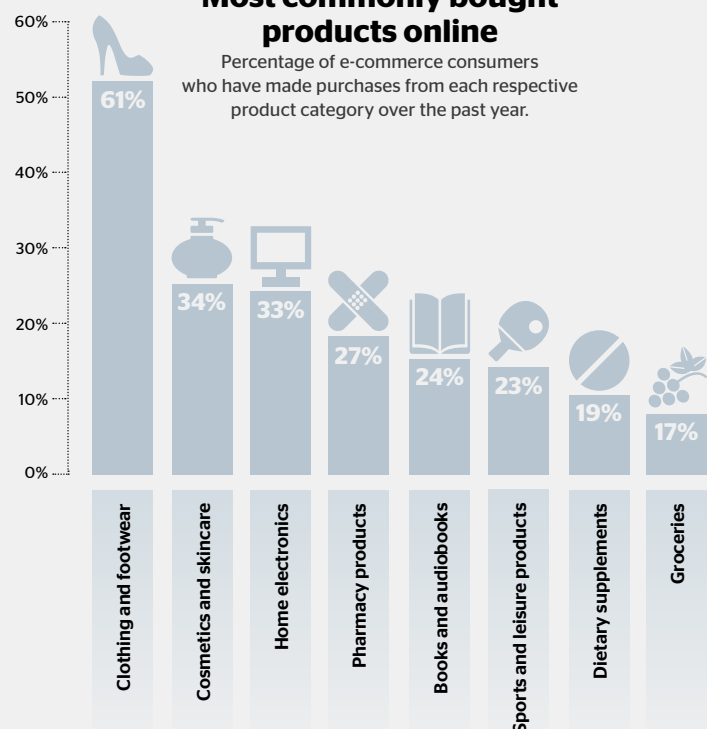
**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**

Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.





## Finland: the most mature digital economy in the EU

**Finland is number one** in 2020 in DESI, the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index<sup>1</sup>, which means that the country is considered the most mature digital economy in the EU. But in terms of e-commerce, Finns lag behind the other Nordics somewhat, mainly because older consumers have not yet fully embraced it. When Finns shop online, they often make cross-border online

purchases. One contributing factor is that many people shop online from Swedish companies, which had an early debut and took market share online; another is that Finland has relatively few strong domestic brands. In addition, the favorable exchange rate against SEK in recent years has made it less expensive to make purchases from Sweden.

### Key indicators compared with average for Europe

Average for Europe	
Percentage who shopped online more often due to coronavirus	25%
Average purchase per year (EUR)	EUR 788
Percentage of e-commerce consumers abroad	93%
Percentage of e-commerce consumers	95%
Internet penetration	97%

## Coronavirus situation in Finland

**Finland is the only country** in the survey to avoid a decline in GDP between the fourth quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. A lockdown was imposed on parts of the country on March 29, with a ban on gatherings of more than ten people<sup>2</sup>. Regarding e-commerce, 25 percent of respondents state that they shopped online more often as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Online grocery shopping has also made great strides.

## Marketplaces

**Despite Finnish consumer** enthusiasm regarding cross-border online shopping, the domestic Verkkokauppa.com is still the country's most visited marketplace. Verkkokauppa mainly sells electronics, which is one of the most popular product categories among Finnish e-commerce consumers. US eBay is also a relatively popular marketplace in Finland.

## Parcel machines popular in Finland

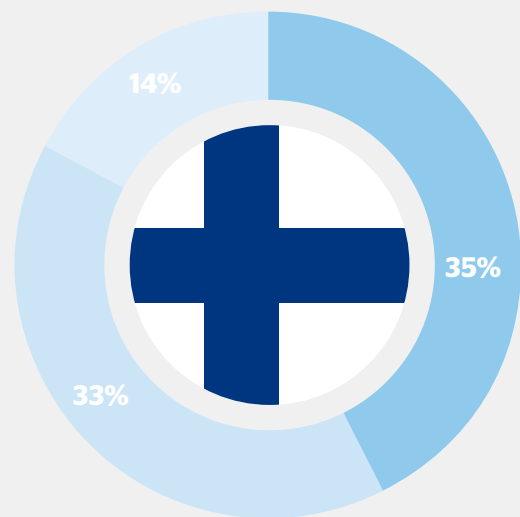
**Finland is one of the countries** in Europe where consumers enthusiastically pick up their online purchases at parcel machines and parcel lockers – 35 percent prefer this method of delivery. One reason is probably the major campaign the country has conducted to promote this solution; according to some estimates, five out of six Finns will soon have a distance of no more than one kilometer between their home and the nearest locker<sup>3</sup>. This solution is also continuing to evolve. For example, in 2020 parcel lockers with a freezer function were launched in Helsinki.

<sup>1</sup> The 2020 DESI report is based on data for 2019.

<sup>2</sup> SVT.se, June 2020. <https://www.svt.se/nyheter/lokalt/vasterbotten/sverige-och-finland-tre-skillnader-i-coronastrategin>

<sup>3</sup> E-commerce in the Nordic region, full year 2019.

## Spotlight on: Finland



### Top three preferred delivery methods

**How do you prefer to have your product delivered when you shop online?**  
Basis: Have shopped online

■ Parcel machine ■ Distribution point ■ In mailbox

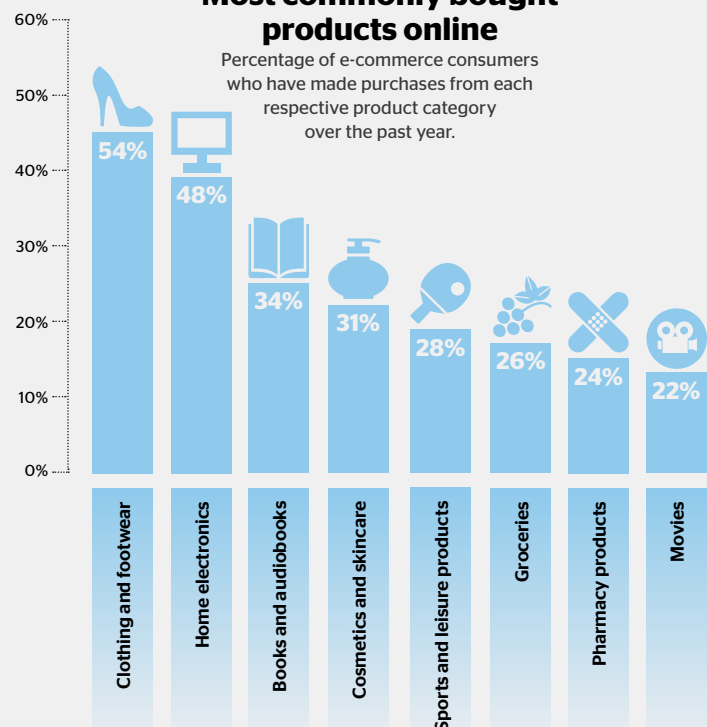
### Top three international marketplaces

**From which of the following e-commerce sites have you shopped online in the past year?**  
Basis: Have shopped online



### Most commonly bought products online

Percentage of e-commerce consumers who have made purchases from each respective product category over the past year.





# Detailed results

The survey was conducted in the second quarter of 2020 by the research company Nepa.

The number of respondents varies somewhat between the countries. In most countries about 1,000 people responded to the survey. The survey was carried out online, which means the results are relevant for people who have internet access. In order to comment on the population as a whole, calculations have therefore been made based on internet penetration and population statistics for each country.

## Results from the survey

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Shopped online in the past year	97%	88%	95%	96%	96%	95%	95%	92%	94%	83%	89%	93%
Have shopped online	98%	90%	97%	98%	98%	98%	97%	96%	98%	90%	95%	97%
Have made cross-border online purchases (Basis: Have shopped online)	67%	83%	76%	82%	71%	78%	75%	71%	79%	85%	88%	99%

## Internet penetration

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Internet penetration*	97%	93%	98%	83%	85%	92%	95%	93%	98%	98%	99%	97%

Source: Eurostat

## Population

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Total, millions	66.6	11.5	17.3	60.4	38.0	46.9	83.0	67.0	10.2	5.8	5.3	5.5
Percentage aged 15-79 years	77%	78%	80%	80%	80%	79%	80%	76%	77%	79%	78%	79%
Aged 15-79, millions	51.3	8.9	13.8	48.1	30.5	37.1	66.3	50.9	7.9	4.6	4.1	4.3

Source: Eurostat

## Entire population (15-79 years)

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Basis Shopped online in the past year	94%	82%	93%	80%	82%	87%	90%	86%	92%	81%	88%	90%
Basis Have shopped online	95%	84%	95%	82%	83%	90%	92%	89%	96%	88%	94%	95%
Basis Have made cross-border online purchases	63%	70%	72%	67%	59%	71%	69%	64%	76%	75%	83%	93%
Basis Have shopped online, millions	48.6	7.5	13.1	39.3	25.4	33.4	61.2	45.4	7.5	4.0	3.9	4.1
Basis Have made cross-border online purchases, millions	32.6	6.2	9.9	32.1	18.0	26.2	45.9	32.4	5.9	3.4	3.4	4.0

## Average spend and turnover

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Average spend in one year, local currency (Basis: Have shopped online)	979	680	979	825	2,379	1024	1025	843	10,577	7,210	7,498	833
Exchange rate June 23, 2020, EUR	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.0
Average spend in one year, EUR (Basis: have shopped online)	1,077	680	979	825	547	1024	1025	843	1,058	966	675	833
Average spend in one year, EUR (Basis: entire population aged 15-79)	1,020	571	929	674	456	921	947	752	1,012	850	635	788
Total turnover, EUR billions	52.38	5.09	12.78	3.24	13.90	34.15	62.77	38.27	7.96	3.89	2.63	3.40

# Coronavirus

**Have you made a larger or smaller percentage of your purchases online as a result of the coronavirus outbreak? (Compared with normal conditions)?**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Smaller percentage	6%	5%	4%	11%	7%	14%	5%	12%	3%	6%	7%	4%
Slightly smaller percentage	11%	11%	9%	15%	10%	10%	9%	13%	5%	10%	12%	9%
Unchanged	50%	39%	52%	35%	46%	32%	56%	46%	60%	60%	55%	59%
Slightly larger percentage	23%	29%	25%	27%	23%	27%	23%	19%	21%	16%	18%	20%
Larger percentage	7%	12%	8%	11%	10%	16%	6%	8%	6%	3%	4%	5%
Don't know	3%	3%	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%	2%	5%	4%	4%	2%

**How worried are you that the coronavirus outbreak will affect the health of you and your loved ones?**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
1 = Not at all worried	4%	4%	6%	4%	8%	2%	9%	5%	6%	10%	11%	6%
2	9%	7%	10%	6%	11%	3%	12%	11%	9%	13%	15%	10%
3 = neither agree nor disagree	21%	27%	27%	12%	27%	15%	26%	19%	28%	34%	31%	24%
4	43%	40%	44%	45%	28%	33%	37%	43%	36%	30%	31%	47%
5 = very worried	23%	23%	13%	33%	26%	48%	16%	23%	21%	13%	12%	13%

**How worried are you that the coronavirus outbreak will affect your personal finances?**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
1 = Not at all worried	11%	7%	13%	4%	6%	3%	15%	12%	12%	17%	16%	10%
2	12%	9%	15%	6%	9%	3%	11%	15%	17%	13%	14%	10%
3 = neither agree nor disagree	28%	32%	32%	17%	23%	21%	30%	25%	30%	37%	29%	36%
4	28%	33%	30%	34%	29%	27%	27%	31%	25%	22%	26%	33%
5 = very worried	21%	20%	11%	39%	32%	45%	17%	17%	17%	10%	15%	12%

**What new types of products have you purchased online since the coronavirus outbreak began (compared with normal conditions)?**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Children's items	5%	7%	6%	8%	11%	8%	6%	6%	4%	3%	4%	2%
Car accessories	7%	4%	4%	7%	10%	6%	5%	4%	4%	7%	5%	2%
Books and audiobooks	15%	10%	8%	17%	12%	12%	15%	8%	6%	7%	6%	7%
CDs	4%	5%	5%	4%	3%	4%	8%	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%
Movies	7%	6%	6%	7%	5%	7%	10%	6%	4%	7%	5%	4%
Home electronics	11%	12%	13%	18%	14%	20%	12%	7%	8%	9%	8%	9%
Home furnishings	5%	7%	9%	4%	11%	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	4%	2%
Clothing and footwear	21%	22%	26%	27%	26%	22%	26%	16%	15%	24%	21%	9%
Cosmetics, haircare and skincare	14%	11%	10%	14%	19%	12%	11%	8%	7%	9%	10%	6%
Dietary supplements	5%	5%	6%	10%	10%	6%	7%	5%	7%	7%	7%	3%
Toys	6%	6%	5%	5%	9%	8%	7%	5%	2%	4%	2%	2%
Groceries	20%	10%	10%	20%	10%	30%	10%	22%	14%	14%	9%	11%
Sporting goods	4%	7%	9%	10%	9%	17%	10%	9%	3%	7%	8%	5%
Pharmacy articles	8%	14%	8%	18%	19%	13%	20%	8%	27%	12%	13%	8%
Newspapers and magazines	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	4%	1%
Tools	5%	4%	4%	7%	10%	7%	7%	5%	3%	3%	2%	1%
Wine and alcohol-related beverages	6%	3%	4%	5%	3%	6%	6%	2%	2%	3%	1%	1%
Building materials and garden products	9%	7%	5%	10%	8%	4%	10%	4%	4%	5%	3%	2%
Other products	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%
Unsure, don't know	4%	5%	3%	1%	4%	1%	3%	2%	7%	6%	5%	12%
Have not bought new products	34%	30%	36%	25%	26%	26%	32%	38%	42%	36%	41%	45%

## DETAILED RESULTS

### Product categories

#### What types of products have you bought online in the past year?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

##### Clothing/shoes

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	68%	50%	65%	57%	52%	63%	65%	54%	62%	52%	61%	54%
Million consumers	33.2	3.7	8.4	22.2	13.1	20.9	39.6	24.5	4.7	2.1	2.4	2.2

##### Home electronics

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	43%	34%	47%	51%	37%	59%	42%	36%	43%	35%	33%	48%
Million consumers	20.8	2.5	6.2	20.0	9.3	19.6	25.6	16.2	3.2	1.4	1.3	2.0

##### Books (physical and audiobooks)

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	46%	29%	35%	41%	31%	39%	47%	34%	32%	23%	24%	34%
Million consumers	22.4	2.2	4.6	16.0	7.9	12.9	28.9	15.2	2.4	0.9	0.9	1.4

##### Cosmetics, haircare and skincare

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	39%	29%	33%	36%	40%	34%	30%	32%	38%	25%	34%	31%
Million consumers	19.1	2.2	4.4	13.9	10.2	11.4	18.2	14.5	2.8	1.0	1.3	1.3

##### Home furnishings

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	30%	21%	32%	19%	33%	29%	32%	25%	32%	16%	16%	19%
Million consumers	14.5	1.6	4.2	7.5	8.5	9.6	19.6	11.3	2.4	0.6	0.6	0.8

##### Movies

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	23%	13%	17%	20%	11%	20%	30%	18%	20%	18%	15%	22%
Million consumers	11.0	0.9	2.3	7.7	2.7	6.6	18.5	8.1	1.5	0.7	0.6	0.9

##### Sports and leisure products

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	16%	22%	28%	31%	28%	49%	32%	34%	26%	21%	23%	28%
Million consumers	7.7	1.6	3.6	12.3	7.2	16.3	19.4	15.6	1.9	0.8	0.9	1.1

##### Groceries

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	45%	14%	23%	24%	18%	36%	21%	27%	35%	24%	17%	26%
Million consumers	21.9	1.1	2.9	9.6	4.5	12.2	12.6	12.2	2.6	1.0	0.7	1.1

##### Pharmacy products

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	19%	29%	22%	26%	35%	19%	46%	15%	66%	23%	27%	24%
Million consumers	9.4	2.2	2.8	10.2	8.8	6.4	28.1	7.0	5.0	0.9	1.1	1.0

## CDs

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	19%	11%	12%	15%	10%	13%	21%	13%	8%	8%	5%	9%
Million consumers	9.2	0.8	1.5	6.0	2.5	4.5	13.0	6.1	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4

## Car accessories

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	19%	12%	15%	23%	31%	22%	21%	16%	18%	14%	14%	11%
Million consumers	9.2	0.9	1.9	9.1	7.8	7.4	12.9	7.0	1.4	0.6	0.5	0.5

## Toys

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	22%	16%	19%	21%	24%	29%	22%	23%	15%	15%	10%	11%
Million consumers	10.9	1.2	2.5	8.2	6.0	9.7	13.3	10.6	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.5

## Children's items

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	18%	18%	20%	19%	30%	21%	17%	21%	16%	12%	9%	9%
Million consumers	8.8	1.3	2.6	7.5	7.5	7.1	10.6	9.4	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.4

## Dietary supplements

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	16%	12%	17%	23%	24%	17%	21%	15%	29%	18%	19%	17%
Million consumers	7.9	0.9	2.2	8.9	6.0	5.7	12.9	6.8	2.2	0.7	0.7	0.7

## Product categories (online purchases from abroad)

## What types of products have you bought online from abroad in the past year?

(Basis: Have made cross-border online purchases)

## Clothing/shoes

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	18%	26%	26%	25%	22%	28%	22%	22%	22%	29%	33%	33%
Million consumers	5.9	1.6	2.6	7.9	4.1	7.2	10.2	7.2	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.3

## Home electronics

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	8%	15%	15%	19%	13%	28%	13%	14%	14%	17%	14%	21%
Million consumers	2.6	0.9	1.5	6.1	2.3	7.3	6.2	4.4	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.9

## Books (physical and audiobooks)

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	7%	13%	7%	8%	3%	7%	8%	6%	8%	8%	10%	12%
Million consumers	2.2	0.8	0.7	2.6	0.6	2.0	3.7	1.9	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5

## Cosmetics, haircare and skincare

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	9%	10%	8%	9%	11%	8%	7%	6%	8%	9%	15%	13%
Million consumers	2.9	0.6	0.8	2.8	1.9	2.2	3.0	2.0	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5



## Product categories (online purchases from abroad)

## Home furnishings

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	5%	10%	10%	4%	11%	7%	5%	9%	7%	7%	7%	9%
Million consumers	1.5	0.6	1.0	1.2	2.1	1.9	2.3	3.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4

## Movies

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	4%	6%	5%	4%	3%	6%	6%	4%	4%	8%	7%	10%
Million consumers	1.2	0.4	0.5	1.3	0.5	1.5	2.9	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4

## Sports and leisure products

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	3%	9%	9%	8%	10%	18%	9%	10%	8%	9%	10%	14%
Million consumers	0.9	0.6	0.9	2.7	1.8	4.6	4.2	3.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.6

## Groceries

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	4%	4%	3%	4%	1%	6%	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%	6%
Million consumers	1.3	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.3	1.5	1.6	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2

## Pharmacy products

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	2%	9%	4%	6%	4%	5%	9%	3%	7%	6%	6%	8%
Million consumers	0.7	0.6	0.4	1.8	0.8	1.2	4.0	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3

## CDs

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	4%	6%	5%	5%	3%	6%	6%	4%	4%	5%	3%	6%
Million consumers	1.3	0.4	0.5	1.6	0.5	1.5	2.6	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2

## Car accessories

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	5%	8%	9%	12%	11%	11%	6%	7%	9%	8%	10%	8%
Million consumers	1.6	0.5	0.9	3.7	1.9	3.0	2.6	2.3	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3

## Toys

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	5%	7%	8%	6%	9%	10%	5%	7%	4%	7%	6%	7%
Million consumers	1.5	0.4	0.8	2.0	1.7	2.6	2.5	2.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3

## Children's items

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	4%	7%	7%	5%	10%	6%	4%	5%	4%	3%	4%	4%
Million consumers	1.3	0.5	0.7	1.6	1.8	1.5	2.0	1.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2

## Dietary supplements and similar

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	3%	4%	3%	5%	2%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	8%	6%
Million consumers	0.9	0.3	0.3	1.7	0.4	1.1	1.9	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3

## Shopping from abroad by young consumers

(Basis: Have made cross-border online purchases)

### Number of individuals in age group 18-29 years who shop online at least once a quarter

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Percentage 2020	37%	53%	46%	54%	51%	56%	35%	43%	23%	41%	29%	72%
Percentage 2015	16%	11%	10%	14%	4%	26%	5%	9%	18%*	18%*	18%*	18%*
Change, 2015-2020 (percentage points)	21%	42%	36%	40%	47%	30%	30%	34%	5%	23%	11%	54%

\* This year, only weighted figures were presented for the Nordic region

## Which payment method is preferred?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

### Which of the following methods do you prefer to use when paying for a product you have bought online?

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Debit card or credit card	51%	54%	23%	37%	24%	51%	19%	57%	28%	55%	37%	29%
Invoice	0%	3%	9%	1%	1%	1%	21%	1%	30%	4%	20%	20%
Direct payment through my bank	1%	5%	12%	1%	27%	2%	6%	2%	13%	3%	6%	22%
PayPal or similar	44%	23%	22%	54%	25%	41%	48%	34%	14%	16%	21%	23%
Cash on Delivery	1%	2%	2%	3%	12%	3%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Payment by installments	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%
Mobile application (e.g. Swish, MobilePay, Vipps)	0%	11%	21%	1%	8%	1%	2%	1%	10%	18%	11%	2%
Other method	1%	0%	9%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	0%	1%	1%
Don't know	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%

## How do you prefer to have your product delivered?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

### When you order a product online, how do you prefer to have it delivered?

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Delivered to my mailbox/multi-occupancy mailbox by the mail carrier	11%	23%	17%	9%	4%	12%	36%	42%	39%	0%	52%	14%
Collect it myself from a distribution point.	2%	10%	12%	4%	6%	6%	2%	19%	37%	24%	14%	33%
Home delivery in daytime	64%	45%	51%	70%	35%	38%	41%	25%	4%	38%	6%	7%
Home delivery in evening	11%	8%	14%	6%	7%	29%	8%	5%	4%	11%	6%	4%
Delivery to my workplace	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	5%	2%	1%	0%	2%	0%	1%
Collect it myself from the online store's physical store	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%	1%	1%	2%	0%	13%	2%
Collect it myself from a parcel machine.	1%	1%	0%	3%	38%	2%	5%	2%	2%	20%	1%	35%
Home delivery without signed confirmation	5%	4%	2%	2%	6%	5%	4%	4%	8%	0%	4%	2%
Other	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%
Unsure, don't know	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%

## DETAILED RESULTS

### How important are the following e-commerce criteria?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

**Percentage of consumers who consider the following criteria to be very important if they are to shop online.**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Total price is clearly printed, including shipping and other fees	71%	63%	59%	74%	75%	70%	66%	71%	76%	68%	72%	77%
There are good, clear details about and photos of the product	65%	58%	60%	72%	77%	64%	60%	62%	65%	66%	71%	72%
The website is simple to navigate	47%	40%	37%	52%	49%	46%	43%	45%	47%	48%	55%	49%
Lowest price	36%	35%	35%	45%	40%	46%	33%	35%	31%	36%	37%	39%
I know the market participant/brand	24%	20%	23%	39%	26%	41%	26%	31%	24%	24%	23%	19%
I don't have to register/become a member to shop online	23%	17%	23%	24%	31%	26%	24%	24%	23%	35%	24%	24%
Fast delivery (no more than three days)	32%	29%	34%	42%	52%	45%	34%	33%	23%	28%	20%	24%
Free shipping	36%	49%	44%	62%	53%	63%	40%	52%	34%	31%	35%	37%
Clear instructions explaining how to return the product	43%	41%	45%	64%	53%	58%	47%	52%	43%	44%	44%	48%
The website is available in my native language	65%	39%	44%	59%	61%	58%	56%	58%	46%	43%	39%	39%
Delivery price	63%	55%	48%	66%	67%	69%	54%	68%	53%	51%	54%	54%
The delivery process is fast	40%	20%	38%	43%	50%	48%	35%	37%	20%	25%	27%	24%
The date and time when the product will be delivered should be clearly stated on the date when the order is placed	36%	34%	46%	50%	45%	52%	32%	42%	23%	28%	25%	30%
That I am able to decide on the delivery time myself	22%	23%	30%	41%	37%	49%	22%	26%	18%	18%	19%	19%
That I am able to personally decide where the product will be delivered	50%	44%	40%	56%	61%	57%	35%	62%	39%	49%	35%	52%
The delivery should impact the environment as little as possible	22%	19%	17%	32%	28%	30%	26%	27%	18%	19%	16%	16%

### How long a delivery time is acceptable?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

**When you buy a product online, what are your expectations as to delivery time? What is the maximum number of days it may take to have your product delivered?**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
1-2 days	11%	12%	29%	13%	25%	16%	14%	9%	11%	11%	4%	2%
3-5 days	71%	62%	57%	66%	67%	61%	75%	60%	68%	64%	61%	67%
6 days or more	13%	22%	11%	19%	5%	21%	10%	28%	16%	18%	30%	28%
Don't know	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%	2%	1%	3%	5%	6%	5%	3%

### Are you willing to pay for faster delivery (next day)?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

**Percentage who responded Yes.**

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	29%	22%	21%	35%	37%	36%	30%	26%	21%	24%	21%	19%

## Would you be willing to pay extra for a more sustainable delivery method?

(Basis: Have shopped online)

### Percentage who responded Yes.

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	24%	29%	26%	37%	32%	31%	42%	36%	23%	27%	23%	22%

## Percentage of the population that returned an online purchase in the past year

(Basis: Have shopped online)

### Percentage who responded Yes.

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
%	45%	-	-	45%	36%	49%	56%	46%	46%	44%	36%	36%

## Percentage who shopped online via mobile phone or tablet in the past year

(Basis: Have shopped online)

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
2020 %	67%	72%	77%	83%	78%	83%	71%	65%	79%	75%	75%	69%
2019 %	65%	54%	61%	76%	62%	77%	58%	60%	66%*	66%*	66%*	66%*
2018 %	65%	46%	58%	66%	53%	71%	56%	57%	63%*	63%*	63%*	63%*

\* This year, only weighted figures were presented for the Nordic region

## Percentage who purchased products online from the following market platforms

(Basis: Have shopped online)

### Percentage who responded Yes.

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Wish	11%	15%	21%	27%	13%	18%	16%	17%	20%	27%	29%	17%
Zalando	5%	46%	42%	44%	30%	30%	31%	25%	36%	37%	38%	32%
Amazon	91%	42%	26%	94%	15%	90%	88%	82%	16%	24%	17%	17%
eBay	63%	15%	11%	52%	10%	39%	56%	28%	14%	20%	26%	22%
Etsy	10%	3%	5%	3%	1%	2%	7%	4%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Alibaba/Aliexpress	6%	23%	31%	21%	29%	45%	9%	18%	5%	9%	9%	11%
JD.com	8%	2%	5%	2%	1%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	1%	2%
Allegro	1%	1%	2%	2%	90%	2%	4%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
None of the above	3%	23%	28%	2%	6%	4%	4%	10%	42%	30%	29%	38%
Don't know	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
Percentage who shopped online from any of the above market platforms	97%	76%	71%	97%	94%	95%	95%	89%	56%	68%	69%	61%

## Favorite marketplaces

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
First place	Amazon (91%)	Zalando (46%)	Zalando (42%)	Amazon (94%)	Allegro (90%)	Amazon (90%)	Amazon (88%)	Amazon (82%)	Zalando (36%)	Zalando (37%)	Zalando (38%)	Zalando (32%)
Second place	Ebay (63%)	Amazon (42%)	Alibaba/Aliexpress (31%)	Ebay (52%)	Zalando (30%)	Alibaba/Aliexpress (45%)	Ebay (56%)	Ebay (28%)	Wish (20%)	Wish (27%)	Wish (29%)	Ebay (22%)
Third place	Wish (11%)	Alibaba/Aliexpress (23%)	Amazon (26%)	Zalando (44%)	Alibaba/Aliexpress (29%)	Ebay (39%)	Zalando (31%)	Zalando (25%)	Amazon (16%)	Amazon (24%)	Ebay (26%)	Wish (17%)



## DETAILED RESULTS

### Favorite countries

(Basis: Have made cross-border online purchases)

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
First place	China (29%)	Netherl. (33%)	China (37%)	China (30%)	China (32%)	China (40%)	China (29%)	China (28%)	UK (23%)	Germany (26%)	China (30%)	Germany (31%)
Second place	USA (22%)	France (23%)	Germany (24%)	UK (24%)	Germany (14%)	UK (22%)	UK (15%)	UK (19%)	Germany (23%)	UK (26%)	USA (27%)	China (27%)
Third place	Germany (9%)	China (21%)	UK (15%)	Germany (23%)	UK (10%)	USA (18%)	USA (14%)	Germany (17%)	China (21%)	China (25%)	Sweden (23%)	Sweden, (24%)
Fourth place	France (5%)	Germany (18%)	USA (12%)	USA (14%)	USA (10%)	Germany (17%)	France (7%)	USA (12%)	USA (15%)	USA/ Sweden (19%)	UK (21%)	UK (22%)

### Reason for shopping from a specific country

(Basis: Have made cross-border online purchases)

#### Why have you shopped online from the countries you have chosen?

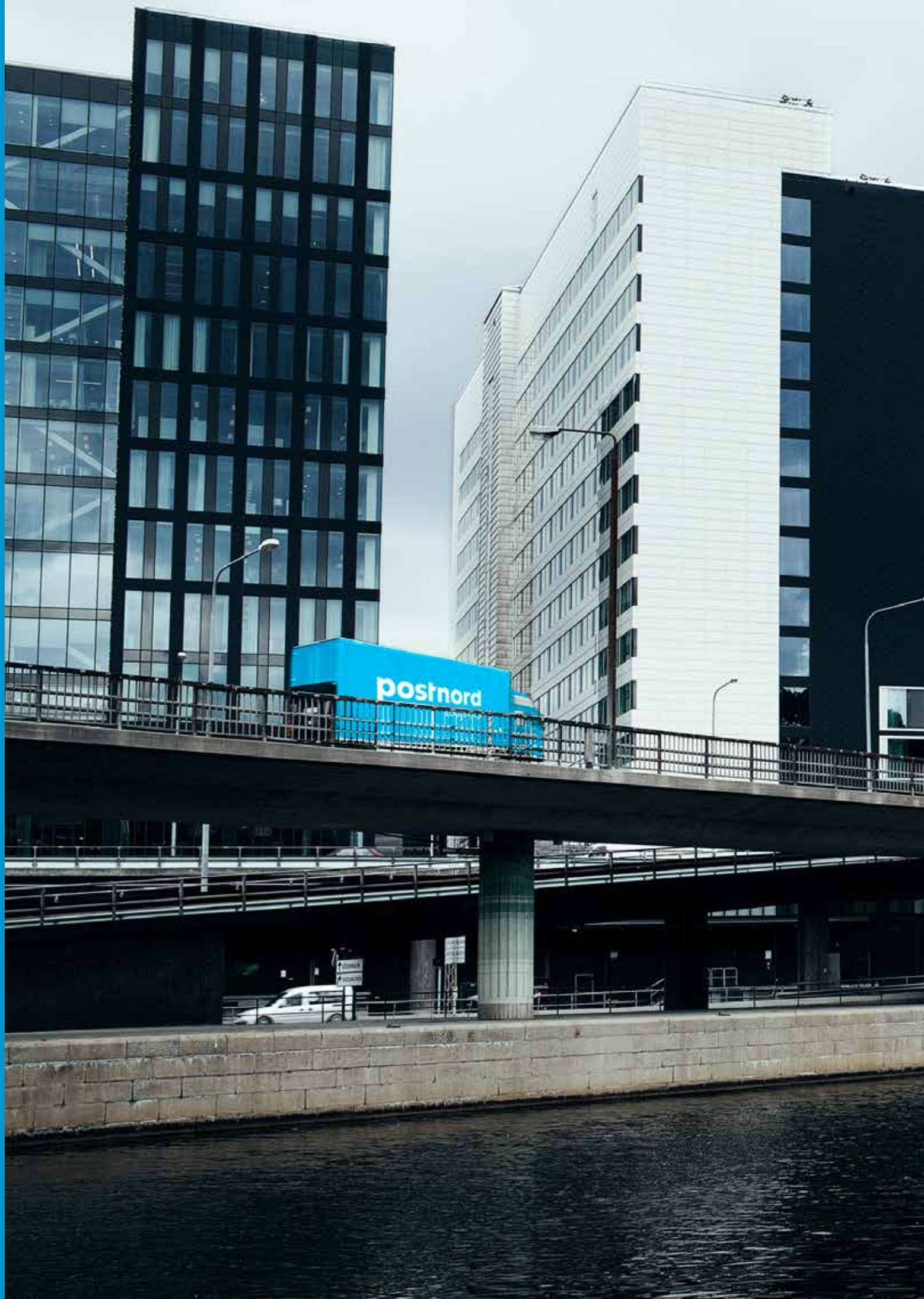
	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
I'm looking for a wide range of products	8%	21%	16%	24%	21%	21%	19%	13%	20%	18%	17%	11%
I'm looking for a specific brand	18%	18%	18%	21%	15%	19%	16%	22%	17%	21%	20%	12%
The prices are generally lower	35%	37%	45%	31%	41%	36%	30%	36%	28%	36%	34%	38%
I can find products there that I don't find elsewhere	28%	18%	13%	17%	17%	18%	24%	20%	19%	17%	16%	19%
Other	3%	2%	3%	3%	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%
Don't know	8%	5%	5%	4%	5%	3%	7%	7%	13%	7%	10%	16%



## From which countries have you made purchases online in the past year?

	UK	Belgium	Netherl.	Italy	Poland	Spain	Germany	France	Sweden	Denmark	Norway	Finland
Sweden %	1%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	2%	0%	19%	23%	24%
Million consumers	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.6	1.9	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.8	1.0
Denmark %	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%	2%	10%	0%	11%	4%
Million consumers	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.8	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.2
Norway %	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	3%	2%	4%	5%	0%	2%
Million consumers	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.3	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1
Finland %	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%	0%
Million consumers	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
Iceland %	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Million consumers	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
UK %	0%	11%	15%	24%	10%	22%	15%	19%	23%	26%	21%	22%
Million consumers	0.0	0.7	1.5	7.7	1.8	5.7	6.7	6.0	1.4	0.9	0.7	0.9
Germany %	9%	18%	24%	23%	14%	17%	0%	17%	23%	26%	14%	31%
Million consumers	3.1	1.1	2.4	7.3	2.5	4.3	0.0	5.6	1.4	0.9	0.5	1.2
Netherlands %	2%	33%	0%	2%	3%	2%	6%	3%	4%	5%	3%	4%
Million consumers	0.6	2.1	0.0	0.6	0.5	0.6	2.9	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
France %	5%	23%	4%	9%	2%	11%	7%	0%	3%	3%	3%	4%
Million consumers	1.7	1.4	0.4	3.0	0.4	2.8	3.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Spain %	4%	3%	4%	8%	2%	0%	5%	7%	2%	3%	2%	2%
Million consumers	1.2	0.2	0.4	2.5	0.3	0.0	2.2	2.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Italy %	4%	4%	3%	0%	2%	7%	6%	5%	1%	2%	2%	2%
Million consumers	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.4	1.9	2.7	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Russia %	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Million consumers	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Rest of Europe %	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%	3%	4%	3%	4%	5%
Million consumers	1.4	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.5	1.1	2.5	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
USA %	22%	7%	12%	14%	10%	18%	14%	12%	15%	19%	27%	15%
Million consumers	7.1	0.4	1.2	4.4	1.8	4.8	6.5	3.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.6
Canada %	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Million consumers	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
North & Central America %	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Million consumers	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
China %	29%	21%	37%	30%	32%	40%	29%	28%	21%	25%	30%	27%
Million consumers	9.6	1.3	3.7	9.8	5.8	10.4	13.5	9.0	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.1
India %	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Million consumers	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japan %	3%	3%	3%	4%	1%	4%	5%	4%	1%	3%	2%	3%
Million consumers	0.9	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.3	1.2	2.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Rest of Asia %	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	2%	2%	4%	2%
Million consumers	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Australia %	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
Million consumers	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
South America %	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Million consumers	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Africa %	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Million consumers	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0





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# PostNord - a partner for e-commerce

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PostNord provides distribution solutions all over the world. Outside the Nordics, PostNord has an established presence via its subsidiary, Direct Link, which offers global delivery of products via its local branches in Australia, Germany, Hong Kong, Singapore, the UK and the US. Direct Link helps e-commerce companies establish a presence in new markets, with everything from market analysis and direct marketing to fulfillment, product distribution and processing returns.

PostNord is the biggest and most obvious partner for e-commerce in the Nordic market. We offer communications and logistics solutions to, from and within the Nordic region. In 2019, we had 28,600 employees and turnover of SEK 38.3 billion. PostNord has a comprehensive offering for e-commerce, with a range of services in the areas of customer communication, product distribution and logistics.

We have a harmonized, Nordic logistics

service offering, ranging from retail supplies and third-party logistics to product distribution and returns processing. With the widest-ranging distribution network in the Nordic region, we shrink the distance between e-commerce and the end-customer. PostNord has over 8,000 distribution points, spread out evenly across Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

In Sweden and Denmark, our mail carriers also visit all households and companies every working day. PostNord offers services in the field of third-party logistics with a high level of added value combined with information technology in customer-oriented partnerships. Using fact-based customer insight, we enhance our customers' profitability by means of communication solutions and platforms that reach the right customer in the right channel at the right time.

**Find out more at [www.postnord.com](http://www.postnord.com) and [www.directlink.com](http://www.directlink.com)**

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#### PHOTO/COVER

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