





# Asia Pacific Consumer Retail Barometer

| Index Scores            | Mar-20 | Apr-20<br>(p) | May-20<br>(p) | Jun-20<br>(p) | Jul-20<br>(p) |
|-------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Asia Pacific<br>Average | 1.45   | 1.27          | 1.77          | 2.07          | 2.14          |

This graphic illustrates the aggregate score of the 4 metrics detailed below.

(p) – preliminary data

| Mostly          | Mostly Negative, | Mostly Positive, | Mostly Positive |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Negative, Lower | Higher than      | Lower than       | Higher than     |
| than Previous   | Previous         | Previous         | Previous        |
| 1               | 1 - 2            | 2 - 3            | 3 - 4           |

# Key Takeaways

**Regional Snapshot:** Consumer confidence, retail business sentiment and credit card expenditure improved in July while retail sales growth dipped further.

**Consumer confidence:** Continued to edge upwards in mainland China, the only AP market in positive territory. Most other markets showed slight gains while still remaining negative, as confidence in Australia fell further.

**Retail business sentiment:** Chinese Taipei posted further gains, the only market in optimistic territory. South Korea, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand and Australia were less pessimistic while still remaining negative. India continued to deteriorate.

**Retail sales:** Chinese Taipei, Australia and South Korea saw positive growth, while Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia decelerated more slowly month-on-month. Mainland China and Japan fell deeper into negative territory.

**Credit card expenditure:** Rebounded in Chinese Taipei and Malaysia as both turned positive after having contracted for four consecutive months. Expenditure in Thailand, Indonesia and Australia dipped further.

This report is based on the latest available data as of July 2020.

### Asia Pacific Consumer Retail Barometer

September 2020



| Index Scores                               | Mar-20 | Apr-20 (p)                      | May-20 (p)                     | Jun-20 (p | ) Jul-20 (p)                                |
|--|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Asia Pacific<br>Average                    | 1.45   | 1.27                            | 1.77                           | 2.07      | 2.14  |
| Mainland China                             | 2.25   | 2.00                            | 2.00                           | 2.00      | 2.00  |
| Japan                                      | 1.50   | 1.00                            | 1.50                           | 2.25      | 2.00 ▼                                      |
| South Korea                                | 1.00   | 1.50                            | 2.50                           | 3.00      | 2.75 ▼                                      |
| Chinese Taipei                             | 1.25   | 1.25                            | 1.75                           | 2.75      | 3.50  |
| Hong Kong SAR                              | 1.50   | 1.50                            | 1.50                           | 1.50      | 1.75  |
| Singapore                                  | 1.75   | 1.25                            | 1.50                           | 1.75      | 2.00  |
| Malaysia                                   | 1.00   | 1.25                            | 1.75                           | 1.75      | 2.50  |
| Thailand                                   | 1.00   | 1.00                            | 2.00                           | 2.00      | 1.75 ▼                                      |
| Indonesia                                  | 1.50   | 1.00                            | 1.00                           | 1.75      | 1.50 ▼                                      |
| India                                      | 1.50   | 1.25                            | 1.50                           | 1.50      | 1.75  |
| Australia                                  | 1.75   | 1.00                            | 2.50                           | 2.50      | 2.00 ▼                                      |
| Mostly<br>Negative, Lower<br>than Previous | High   | Negative,<br>ner than<br>evious | Mostly Po<br>Lower t<br>Previo | han       | Mostly Positive,<br>Higher than<br>Previous |
| 1  | 1      | 2                               | 2 - :                          | 3         | 3 - 4                                       |

(p) – Preliminary data. Where indicator availability lags behind the current month, the most recently available data is used.

#### **Consumer Confidence**

September 2020



| Index Scores            | Mar-20 | Apr-20 (p) | May-20 (p) | Jun-20 (p) | Jul-20 (p | )        |
|-------------------------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Asia Pacific<br>Average | 1.73   | 1.36       | 1.82       | 1.91       | 2.09      | <b>A</b> |
| Mainland China          | 4      | 3          | 3          | 3          | 4         | <b>A</b> |
| Japan                   | 1      | 1          | 2          | 2          | 2         |          |
| South Korea             | 1      | 1          | 2          | 2          | 2         |          |
| Chinese Taipei          | 1      | 1          | 1          | 2          | 2         |          |
| Hong Kong SAR           | 1      | 2          | 2          | 2          | NA        |          |
| Singapore               | 3      | 1          | 1          | 1          | 2         | <b>A</b> |
| Malaysia                | 1      | 2          | 2          | 2          | NA        |          |
| Thailand                | 1      | 1          | 2          | 2          | 2         |          |
| Indonesia               | 3      | 1          | 1          | 2          | 2         |          |
| India                   | 2      | 1          | 2          | 1          | 2         | <b>A</b> |
| Australia               | 1      | 1          | 2          | 2          | 1         | •        |
| Negative                | Neg    | ative      | Positive   | 9          | Positive  |          |

| Negative         | Negative          | Positive         | Positive          |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Lower than Prev. | Higher than Prev. | Lower than Prev. | Higher than Prev. |
| 1                | 2                 | 3                | 4                 |

#### **Retail Business Sentiment**

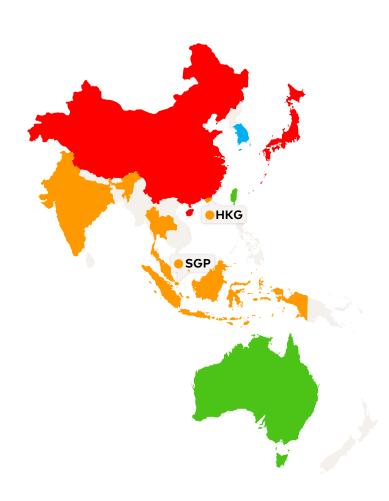
September 2020



| Index Scores                 | Mar-20 | Apr-20 (p)         | May-20 (p)             | Jun-20 (p | ) Jul-20 (p)                  |
|------------------------------|--------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Asia Pacific<br>Average      | 1.27   | 1.18               | 1.45                   | 1.64      | 1.82                          |
| Mainland China               | 1      | NA                 | NA                     | NA        | NA                            |
| Japan                        | 1      | 1                  | 1                      | 1         | NA                            |
| South Korea                  | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 2         | 2                             |
| Chinese Taipei               | 2      | 2                  | 2                      | 4         | 4                             |
| Hong Kong SAR                | 2      | 1                  | 1                      | 1         | 2                             |
| Singapore                    | 1      | 2                  | 2                      | 2         | NA                            |
| Malaysia                     | 1      | 1                  | 1                      | 1         | 2                             |
| Thailand                     | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 2         | 2                             |
| Indonesia                    | 1      | 1                  | 1                      | 1         | NA                            |
| India                        | 2      | 1                  | 1                      | 1         | 1                             |
| Australia                    | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 2         | 2                             |
| Negative<br>Lower than Prev. | _      | ative<br>han Prev. | Positive<br>Lower than |           | Positive<br>ligher than Prev. |
| 1                            | ,      | 2                  | 3                      |           | 4                             |

#### **Retail Sales**

September 2020



| Index Scores                 | Mar-20 | Apr-20 (p)         | May-20 (p)             | Jun-20 (p) | Jul-20 (p)                  |
|------------------------------|--------|--------------------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Asia Pacific<br>Average      | 1.45   | 1.36               | 2.09                   | 2.55       | 2.27                        |
| Mainland China               | 2      | 2                  | 2                      | 2          | 1 ▼                         |
| Japan                        | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 2          | 1 ▼                         |
| South Korea                  | 1      | 2                  | 4                      | 4          | 3 ▼                         |
| Chinese Taipei               | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 4          | 4                           |
| Hong Kong SAR                | 2      | 2                  | 2                      | 2          | 2                           |
| Singapore                    | 1      | 1                  | 1                      | 2          | 2                           |
| Malaysia                     | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 2          | 2                           |
| Thailand                     | 1      | 1                  | 2                      | 2          | NA                          |
| Indonesia                    | 1      | 1                  | 1                      | 2          | 2                           |
| India                        | 1      | 2                  | 1                      | 2          | 2                           |
| Australia                    | 4      | 1                  | 4                      | 4          | 4                           |
| Negative<br>Lower than Prev. |        | ative<br>han Prev. | Positive<br>Lower than |            | Positive<br>gher than Prev. |
| 4                            |        | ^                  | _                      |            |                             |

| Negative         | Negative          | Positive         | Positive          |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Lower than Prev. | Higher than Prev. | Lower than Prev. | Higher than Prev. |
| 1                | 2                 | 3                | 4                 |

# **Credit Card Expenditure**September 2020



| Index Scores                 | Mar-20 | Apr-20 (p)         | May-20 (p) | Jun-20 (p) | Jul-20 (p) |   |
|------------------------------|--------|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| Asia Pacific<br>Average      | 1.36   | 1.18               | 1.73       | 2.18       | 2.36       | • |
| Mainland China               | 2      | NA                 | NA         | NA         | NA         |   |
| Japan                        | 3      | 1                  | 1          | 4          | NA         |   |
| South Korea                  | 1      | 2                  | 2          | 4          | NA         |   |
| Chinese Taipei               | 1      | 1                  | 2          | 1          | 4          | • |
| Hong Kong SAR                | 1      | 1                  | 1          | 1          | NA         |   |
| Singapore                    | 2      | 1                  | 2          | 2          | NA         |   |
| Malaysia                     | 1      | 1                  | 2          | 2          | 4          | • |
| Thailand                     | 1      | 1                  | 2          | 2          | 1          | • |
| Indonesia                    | 1      | 1                  | 1          | 2          | 1          |   |
| India                        | 1      | 1                  | 2          | 2          | 2          |   |
| Australia                    | 1      | 1                  | 2          | 2          | 1          | • |
| Negative<br>Lower than Prev. | _      | ative<br>han Prev. | Positive   |            | Positive   |   |

| Negative         | Negative          | Positive         | Positive          |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Lower than Prev. | Higher than Prev. | Lower than Prev. | Higher than Prev. |
| 1                | 2                 | 3                | 4                 |

## Methodology

The Mastercard Asia Pacific Consumer Retail Barometer provides a snapshot of consumer retail trends around the region. It captures economic behavior and consumer sentiment through four indicators:

- Consumer confidence
- Retail business sentiment
- Retail sales year-on-year change (adjusted for inflation)
- Credit card year-on-year expenditure change (adjusted for inflation)

Each data point is converted to an ordinal score from 1 to 4 that reflects its value (positive/negative sentiment for the first two indicators and positive/negative growth for the last two indicators) and the change (higher or lower than the previous period). Aggregation to the Asia Pacific regional level is by simple averaging.

The default frequency is monthly. Where indicator availability lags the current month, we use the most recent data available. In cases where the data is only available on a quarterly basis, we use the same quarterly value for each of the three months that make up that quarter. Scores are retroactively updated as more current data is released.

The indicators are sourced from various national statistics organizations. Two proxies are used to replace indicators that are not available – private consumption forecasts by the Monetary Authority of Singapore in place of consumer confidence for Singapore and average growth of the Bombay Stock Exchange FMCG & Consumer Durable indexes as the proxy for retail sales growth for India.

Cumulatively, the barometer tracks the monthly outlook for consumer retail optimism in the region.

