



Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

Weekly Updates

4 June -10 June 2020

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the latest in Asia

Asia at a glance

[E-commerce: GrabMart now available in eight Southeast Asian countries](#)

Grab has extended the reach of its online grocery shopping and delivery service GrabMart from two to eight countries in the Southeast Asian region over the past three months; working in partnerships with over 3,000 supermarkets and convenience stores across Southeast Asia, GrabMart is now available to consumers in 50 cities across Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Myanmar and Cambodia

[Apparel: Asia-Pacific apparel markets well placed to survive COVID-19 impact](#)

Asia-Pacific apparel markets are expected to be in a better position to counter the COVID-19 impact compared to their American and European counterparts, driven by the growth in domestic demand, according to GlobalData; developing markets in the Asia-Pacific region including China, India and South Korea are expected to move up their position in the Top 10 global apparel markets by 2023, with China likely to overtake the U.S. as the largest apparel market by 2023

[Apparel: Southeast Asian fashion retailer FJ Benjamin scales up online presence](#)

Southeast Asian fashion retailer FJ Benjamin is scaling up its online store network in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic; since the outbreak, the company has sealed deals with Guess, Casio, Pretty Ballerina and Anti-Social Social Club to sell online and been working to develop online stores for more global brands including U.S. Polo Association, Rebecca Minkoff, Moby, Lancel, Axel Arigato, Barbara Sturm and others

Japan

[Retail in general: Japan's department store sales continue to drop](#)

Japan's department store sales dropped 60% yoy in May as retail stores remain closed or operate under reduced hours across the country amid the COVID-19 pandemic;

sales of Matsuzakaya and Daimaru department stores plunged 73.2% yoy in May, while sales of Takashimaya and Seibu & Sogo were down by 62.9% yoy and 61.5% yoy respectively

[Apparel: Uniqlo to launch online store in the Philippines](#)

Uniqlo will launch its online store on its local Uniqlo website and mobile app in the Philippines in 2H20; the new online store will extend the reach of the brand by bringing UNIQLO and its LifeWear apparel to the country, while providing a new and convenient shopping experience to local customers

Taiwan

[Supermarkets: Carrefour to acquire Wellcome, Jasons Market Place in Taiwan](#)

French hypermarket chain Carrefour has recently announced that it will acquire Wellcome Taiwan Co. Ltd. from Hong Kong-based Dairy Farm International Holdings Ltd; the deal, estimated worth 97 million euros (US\$108.6 million), will give Carrefour ownership over the 199 Wellcome supermarkets and 25 Jasons Market Place stores in Taiwan, along with other assets Wellcome has on the island

Singapore

[Retail in general: Singapore's retail sales plunge 40.5% yoy in April](#)

Singapore's retail sales, including motor vehicle sales, plunged 40.5% yoy in April due to the nationwide lockdown to contain the COVID-19 pandemic; online retail sales accounted for an estimated 17.8% of the total retail sales in April, with online retail sales of the computer & telecommunications equipment, furniture & household equipment industries and supermarkets & hypermarkets making up 70.6%, 50.4% and 7.7% of the total sales of their respective industry

[E-commerce: Singapore's e-commerce sales surge due to COVID-19](#)

Singapore's e-commerce sales has surged since the outbreak of COVID-19, as shopping malls are being avoided and consumers are turning to online platforms for their day-to-day purchases, according to GlobalData; the e-commerce market in Singapore, which grew at a CAGR of 15.4% between 2015 and 2019 to reach S\$8.3 billion (US\$6.2billion) in 2019, is expected to reach S\$9.5 billion (US\$9.5billion) in 2020

[E-commerce: Foodpanda Singapore to deliver Guardian products](#)

Foodpanda Singapore will start to deliver health and beauty products from Guardian stores; Guardian will be the first major health-and-beauty retailer to be listed on Foodpanda's Shops, offering over 280 products and on-demand delivery service

Thailand

[Apparel and footwear: Nike opens giant flagship store in Bangkok](#)

Nike has recently launched a giant flagship store in Bangkok's Siam Center; covering over 9,000 sqft, the new store showcases Nike's product innovation across multiple categories and offers the brand's first "Nike By You" in-store customization service in Thailand

India

[E-commerce: Amazon reportedly in talks to acquire stake in Indian telco Bharti Airtel](#)

Amazon is reportedly in early-stage talks to acquire a roughly 5% stake in Indian mobile operator Bharti Airtel for at least US\$2 billion; Bharti is currently India's third-largest telecom company with over 300 million subscribers

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