

New Year retail spending continues strong pre-Christmas growth pattern

End-of-year sales draw in shoppers to boost overall spend by 7% on last year, while New Year’s Eve spending at liquor merchants increases

AUCKLAND, 5 January 2022 – End-of-year sales and New Year’s Eve celebrations continued to motivate Kiwi shoppers to spend up at core retailers in the final week of 2021 and the first days of 2022, lifting spending for the period above levels seen in the past two years.

Spending through core retail merchants (excluding hospitality) in Worldline NZ’s payments network reached \$696m over the seven-day period ending Tuesday, 4 January, following the traditional New Year’s sales. This is up 7% on the same seven days recorded 12 months earlier and up 13% on the pre-Covid levels of 2019/20.

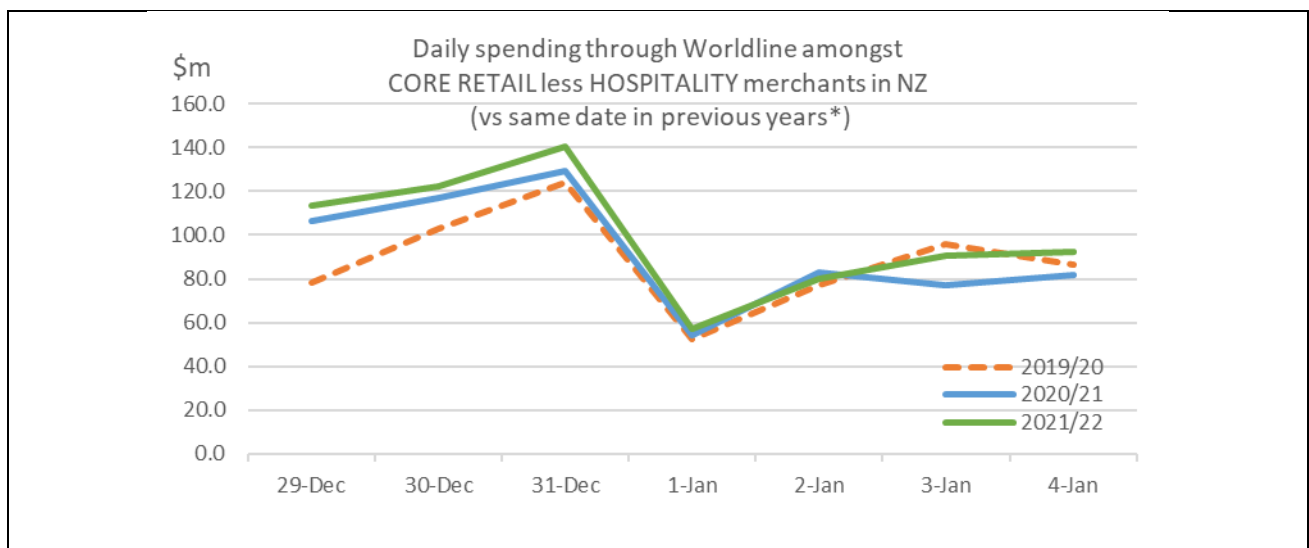


Figure 1: All Cards daily NZ underlying* spending through Worldline for NZ core retail merchants excluding hospitality in 7 days ending 4 January (* Underlying excludes large clients moving to or from Worldline)

Spending on New Year’s Eve (31 December) specifically in 2021 through this core retail merchant group was \$140m nationally, up 9% on New Year’s Eve in 2020.

This New Year’s Eve spend included \$16m processed through Liquor retailing merchants (excluding liquor spending through supermarkets), which was up 13% on 2020.

Overall, spending at Liquor merchants on New Year’s Eve 2021 was higher than 2020 across all Worldline NZ-defined regions, except Gisborne and West Coast.

As was reported by Worldline NZ the day after Boxing Day, spending at core retail merchants nationwide in the critical pre-Christmas period of 2021 was up 6.9% on 2020 – a new record for this merchant group within Worldline NZ’s payments network.

The final week of spending for 2021 provided a strong end to a year that was notable for lockdowns and travel restrictions across borders around New Zealand’s largest city of Auckland.

Across the nation, annual spending growth was highest in Taranaki (+17%) and lowest in Gisborne (-3%). Noticeably spending in Gisborne over these seven days, which included the New Year’s Eve long weekend, was also below that of 2019/20 (-3%). Elsewhere, spending was above 2019/20 levels, although it should be noted that Northland figures have not been separated from Auckland in this data. (Auckland and Northland began operating at different settings on the Traffic Light system under the new COVID-19 Protection Framework as of 30 December 2021.)

WORLDLINE All Cards underlying* spending for CORE RETAIL less HOSPITALITY merchants for 7 days ending 4 January 2022			
Region	Value transactions \$millions	Underlying* Annual % change on 2020/21	Underlying* Annual % change on 2019/20
Auckland/Northland	242.9	7%	14%
Waikato	63.1	1%	12%
BOP	57.6	11%	15%
Gisborne	7.8	-4%	-3%
Taranaki	16.7	17%	26%
Hawke's Bay	25.0	9%	14%
Wanganui	8.9	13%	24%
Palmerston North	20.7	12%	24%
Wairarapa	9.8	12%	19%
Wellington	61.6	7%	14%
Nelson	16.1	4%	2%
Marlborough	10.2	4%	5%
West Coast	5.9	11%	14%
Canterbury	70.4	11%	13%
South Canterbury	10.6	9%	9%
Otago	43.6	6%	8%
Southland	15.3	9%	8%
New Zealand	696.5	7%	13%

Figure 2: All Cards NZ annual underlying* spending growth through Worldline in 7 days ending 4 January for regional core retail excluding hospitality merchants (* Underlying excludes large clients moving to or from Worldline)

*** ends ***

Note to editors:

These figures reflect general market trends and should not be taken as a proxy for Worldline’s market share or company earnings. The figures primarily reflect transactions undertaken within stores but also include some ecommerce transactions. The figures exclude transactions through Worldline undertaken by merchants outside the Core Retail sector (as defined by Statistics NZ).

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ABOUT WORLDLINE IN NEW ZEALAND

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ABOUT WORLDLINE

Worldline [Euronext: WLN] is the European leader in the payments and transactional services industry and #4 player worldwide. With its global reach and its commitment to innovation, Worldline is the technology partner of choice for merchants, banks and third-party acquirers as well as public transport operators, government agencies and industrial companies in all sectors. Powered by over 20,000 employees in more than 50 countries, Worldline provides its clients with sustainable, trusted and secure solutions across the payment value chain, fostering their business growth wherever they are. Services offered by Worldline in the areas of Merchant Services; Terminals, Solutions & Services; Financial Services and Mobility & e-Transactional Services include domestic and cross-border commercial acquiring, both in-store and online, highly-secure payment transaction processing, a broad portfolio of payment terminals as well as e-ticketing and digital services in the industrial environment. In 2020 Worldline generated a proforma revenue of 4.8 billion euros. worldline.com

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