Holiday shoppers stick with online-only retailers, but the venue is changing

Article



For holiday shopping, **56**% of US consumers prefer online-only retailers, and **49**% favor mass merchants, according to Deloitte. Off-price retailers rank No. 3 on this list, nearly tied with the remaining four retail formats.

Top 7 Preferred Retail Formats for Holiday Shopping According to US Consumers, Sep 2022 % of respondents 1. Online-only retailers 2. Mass merchants 49% 3. Off-price 26% 25% 4. Department stores 5. Warehouse clubs 25% 6. Grocery 24% 7. Local independent stores 24% Note: n=4.594 Source: Deloitte, "2022 Deloitte Holiday Retail Survey," Oct 19, 2022 278858 eMarketer | InsiderIntelligence.com

Beyond the chart: Preference for off-price stores and warehouse clubs has risen slightly since 2020. Supply chain problems and inflation have likely contributed to this trend, pushing consumers to focus on value over brand loyalty.

For the first time, more than **one-third** of US consumers plan to use social media for holiday shopping, per the same study. That figure is much higher for younger generations: **60**% among Gen Zers and **56**% among millennials, up about **10 percentage points** each from last year. While many will use social media to visit retailers' pages, more consumers than ever plan to look at influencer reviews for holiday shopping inspiration.

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Methodology: Data is from an October 2022 "2022 Deloitte Holiday Retail Survey." During September 6-14, 2022, 4,986 US internet users were surveyed online. The survey has a margin of error of +/-1-2 percentage points for the entire sample.

