



THE NETHERLANDS REPORT

E-SHOPPER BAROMETER 2023



1. E-commerce in the Netherlands – slightly declining in 2023

- Like the European e-commerce downward trend, e-commerce in the Netherlands is less dynamic this year:
 - As many Dutch e-shoppers in 2023 as in 2022
 - But the share of regular e-shoppers is smaller: they represent 49% of the e-shoppers vs. 54% a year ago
 - Even if they received more parcels on average in the last month, they buy less categories online than last year, namely fashion, beauty & health care, grocery products, high-tech, and DVD/CD/Video games.
- Most Dutch regular e-shoppers find online shopping convenient and time-saving.

2. Dutch regular e-shoppers remain highly price sensitive

- Despite the high inflation, they remain at the same high level of price sensitivity as in 2022:
 - 61% of regulars claim that price is the most important factor when buying and 61% are looking for real good deals.
 - Despite being less bargain hunters than European e-shoppers, more of them are more paying attention to promotional events, which may be linked to inflation.
- Price-related online purchase drivers or dissuasive effects are steadily important as well, and their willingness to pay a premium for services

that make their life easier is even increasing.

3. Usage of C2C platforms and e-shopping through social media are still very high in the Netherlands

- A growing share of Dutch regular e-shoppers claim they have increased their second-hand product purchases.
- 77% of regulars use C2C platforms and, this year, more are both buying and selling on these platforms.
- This year again, saving money is the main motivation to buy from individuals. Those who sell mention wanting to free up some space, earning money and sell products they are not using. In addition, reselling purpose at a higher price grows in importance this year.
- As observed last year, social networks continue to be widely used for shopping purposes by 7 out of 10 regular e-shoppers, and buying directly from social networks is a growing trend among regulars.





4. Same perception as 2022 of online purchase and delivery experiences, but in a positive trend over the last 2 years

- After the decrease observed in 2021, regular e-shoppers seem to be increasingly satisfied, particularly with their last delivery and the return process, both being perceived as easier than 2 years ago.
- Regulars who found their last online purchase difficult first speak about navigation issues on the website/app, then about hesitation between several products, a complex purchase process, and difficulties reaching the customer service.
- Knowing the delivery company remains very important to regulars.
 Avoiding companies they had a bad experience with has become the #1 reason to know.
- 24% of Dutch regular e-buyers returned their last purchase. Although the easiness improved compared to 2021, the return process is still perceived as difficult by most of them.
- Considering that regular e-shoppers grant more importance to the detailed description of the product compared to 2022, it is likely that they pay more attention to the product details online, wishing to be sure about the product bought to avoid returning parcels.
- In terms of delivery places, regulars increasingly wish to have several options available, and they use more diverse delivery places:
 - Home delivery remains by far the #1, ahead of parcel shops. Yet, parcel shops is more used than 2 years ago. Moreover, more regulars receive their parcel in a safe place and a parcel lockers in 2023.

5. A stable situation as well among the online heavy buyers "The Aficionados"

- This specific group of e-shoppers still buy many products categories online (more than 8) and received a high number of parcels in the last month 8.5 parcels which is higher than the European average.
- They are as price sensitive as last year and at a similar level compared to regulars. However, having price comparison tool is gaining in importance for them when buying online.
- In trend, Aficionados' perception towards their last delivery and overall purchase experience is better than last year:
 - 71% of Aficionados claim their last delivery was easy
 - 71% consider their last online purchase experience as excellent or very good
- There is still room for improvement in terms of online purchase and parcel return perceived easiness.



METHODOLOGY

Sample

18+ y.o. European e-shoppers who have ordered physical goods online since January and then, received at least one parcel, identified within a sample representative of the national population in age, gender, and SEC.

For the consolidated results at European level, a weight was applied to each country in order to reflect the right proportion of e-shoppers between the European countries.

Key targets

• Regular e-shoppers:

E-shoppers aged 18 to 70 years old, who buy at least one product category every month online.

Aficionados:

15% of the total e-shoppers with the highest number of annual online purchases.





4

METHODOLOGY

Data collection

- Online data collection (blind: interviewees do not know who requested the study)
- 24,233 interviews across 22 European countries (unweighted)
- Number of interviews per country (unweighted):

Austria:	1,005	Germany:	1,506	Portugal:	1,006
Belgium:	1,003	Hungary:	1,014	Romania:	1,015
Bulgaria:	1,014	Ireland:	1,003	Slovakia:	1,009
Croatia:	808	Italy:	1,504	Slovenia:	809
Czech		Latvia:	806	Spain:	1,502
Republic:	1,035	Lithuania:	804	Switzerland:	1,009
Estonia:	801	Netherlands:	1,007	UK:	1,502
France:	1.501	Poland:	1.570		

Fieldwork

Fieldwork conducted from May 31st to July 19th, 2023





5



LEGEND FOR EVOLUTIONS

Significant differences

between 2023 and 2022 / 2021 scores are shown as follows (at 95% confidence rate)

+XX ▲ vs 2022

when **positive**:

-xx ▼ vs 2022 -xx ▼ vs 2021

+XX 🔺 vs 2021

when **negative**:

with +/-xx the number of points difference vs. 2023.

No arrows if no significant difference.





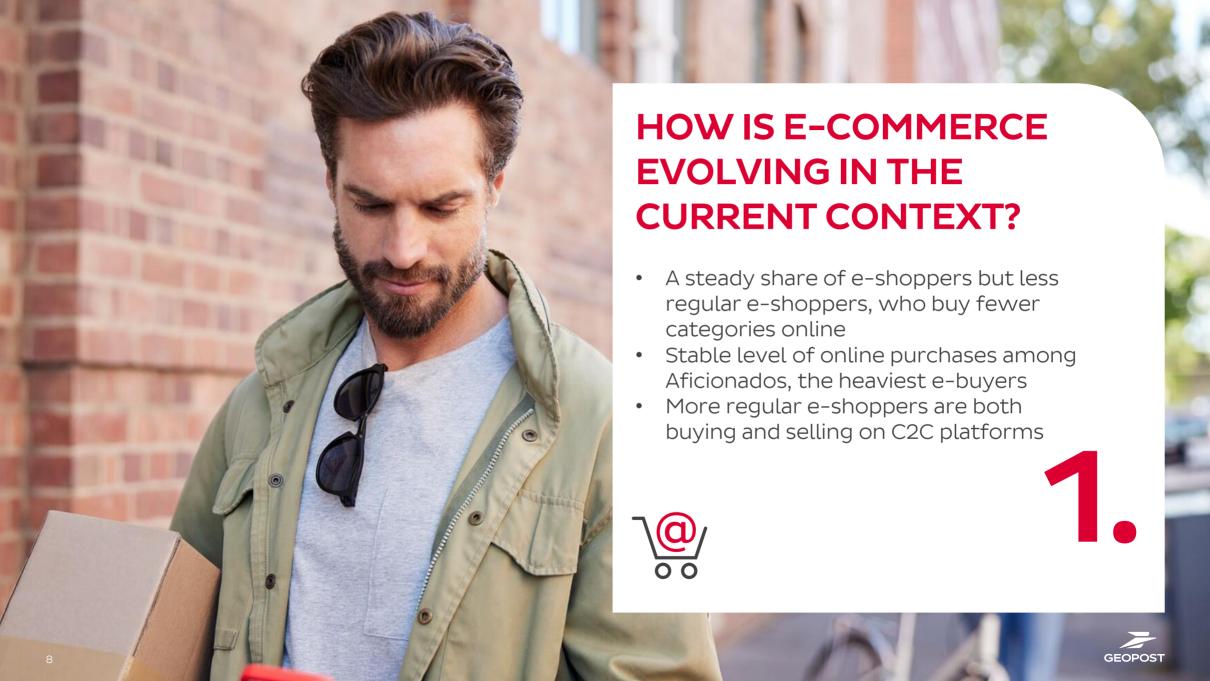


HOW IS E-COMMERCE EVOLVING IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT?

THROUGH REGULAR E-SHOPPERS

- 1. How is e-commerce evolving in the current context?
- 2. To what extent has inflation impacted e-shopping?
- 3. What are the main trends of delivery?

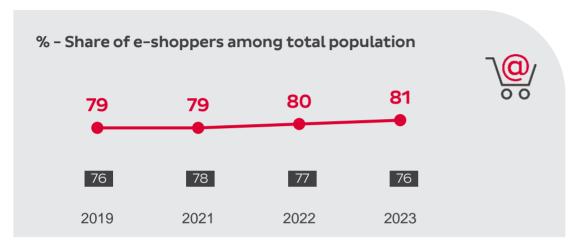


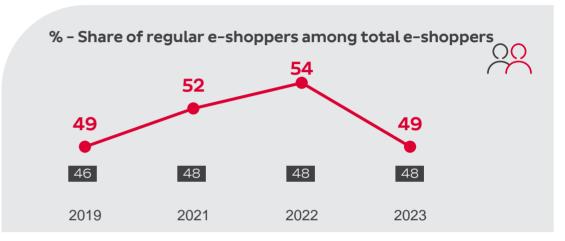




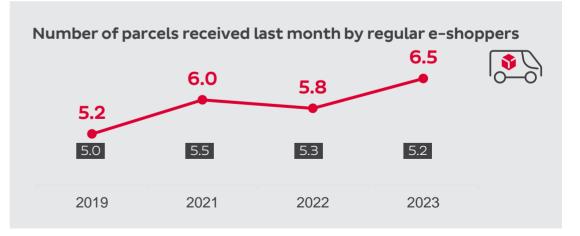
E-COMMERCE KEY TRENDS IN SCORECARD

The share of e-shoppers is stable in the Netherlands. That of regular e-shoppers, on the other hand, has eroded this year after the mild increase over the last 2 years, although the number of parcels received in the last month continue to grow.













E-COMMERCE KEY TRENDS

The share of e-shoppers is stable in the Netherlands. After the increase in the number of regular e-shoppers over the last 2 years, they are fewer in 2023, back to the pre-covid period level.

Share of e-shoppers among total population

81%



of all Dutch people are e-shoppers

2022

80%

2021

79%

Share of regular e-shoppers among total e-shoppers

49%



of all e-shoppers are regular e-shoppers

2022

54%

2021

52%





KEY FACTS ABOUT REGULAR E-SHOPPERS

Regular e-shoppers remain a key target for e-tailers, accounting for most online transactions. Despite being fewer in 2023, they received more parcels in the last month on average.

87%

86%

of all online purchases made by regular e-shoppers

90%

2022

90%

2021



15.8%

15.3%

Average share of online shopping (in total shopping – average of all categories)

6.5 +0.7 **.**

number of parcels received last month

22%

27%

made impulse purchases (last purchase)

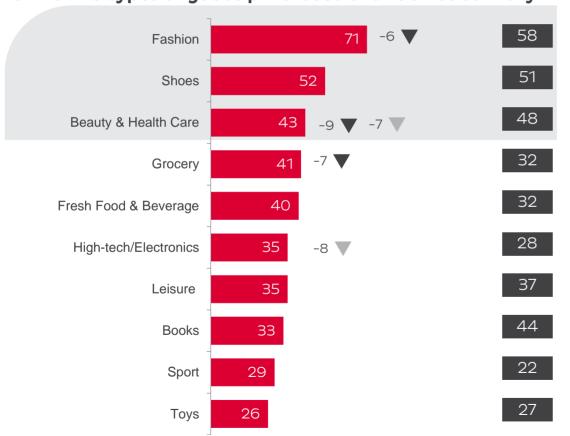


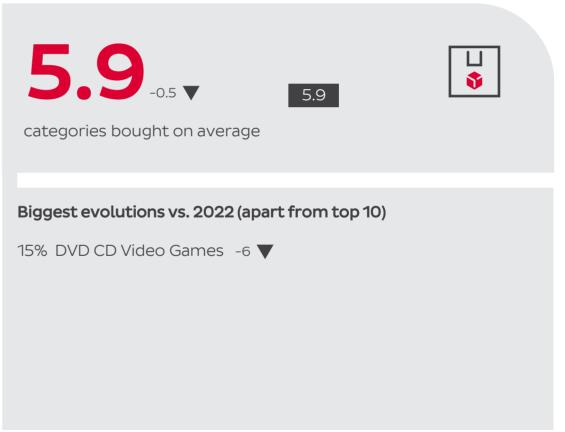


REGULAR E-SHOPPERS POPULAR CATEGORIES

Dutch regular e-shoppers buy less categories online than last year, especially driven by the categories of fashion, beauty & health care, grocery products, high-tech, and DVD/CD/Video games.

% - TOP 10 types of goods purchased online since January











REGULAR E-SHOPPERS' IMAGE OF E-SHOPPING

Even if they buy less product categories online this year, their perception of e-shopping remains stable, with more than half of them find e-shopping convenient.



"Shopping online strongly reduces the stress of buying in stores" - %T2B

58%

66%



"Shopping online is so convenient that I use it more and more, even if I must return my purchases sometimes" - %T2B

57%





"Shopping online allows me saves time" - %T2B

69% ₊₉ •



"I can shop for nearly 100% of the products/services I need online" - %T2B

54%









C2C PLATFORM USAGE & SOCIAL MEDIA SHOPPING

Almost 8 in 10 Dutch regular e-shoppers are using C2C platforms, and more are both buying and selling products this year.

As in 2022, saving money represents their top motivation to buy from individuals.

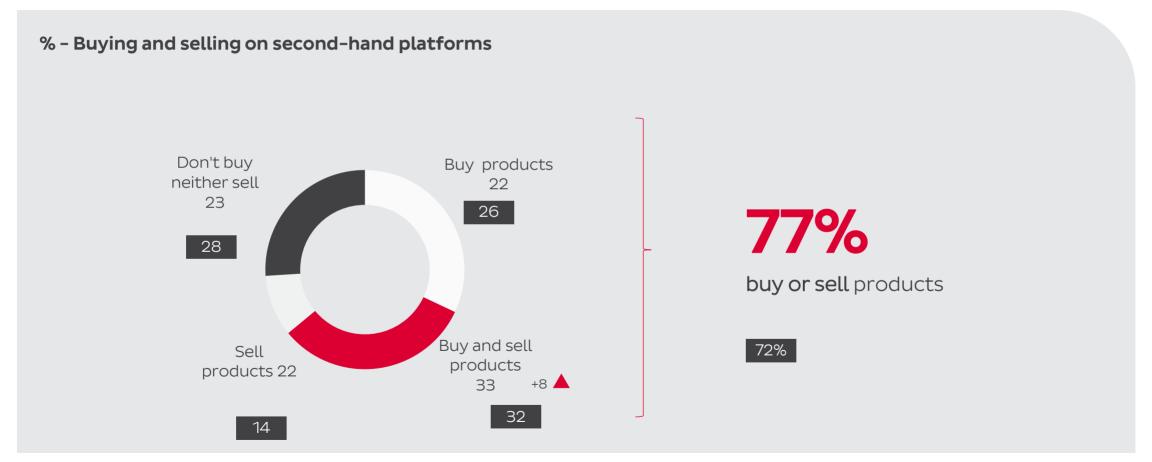
Those who sell first want to free up some space, and also earn money and sell products they are not using. Reselling at a higher price is a growing trend.





ONLINE SHOPPING BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS

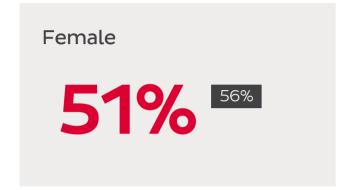
More Dutch regular e-shoppers are buying and selling products via this new e-commerce solution.



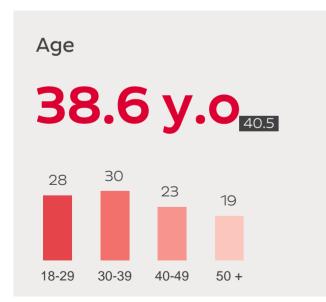


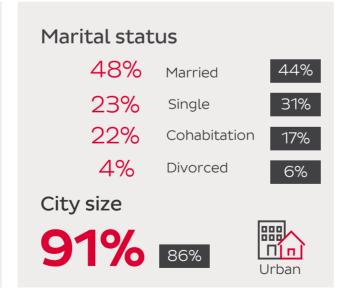
C2C USERS PROFILE

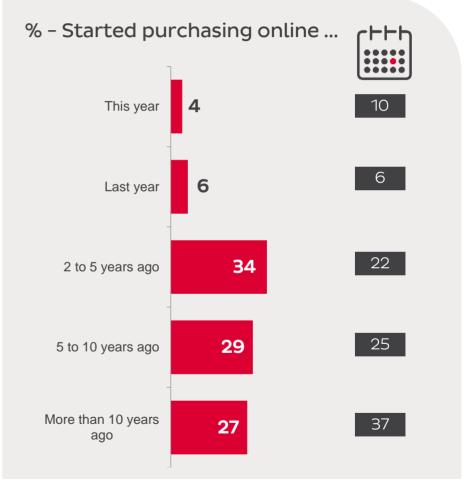










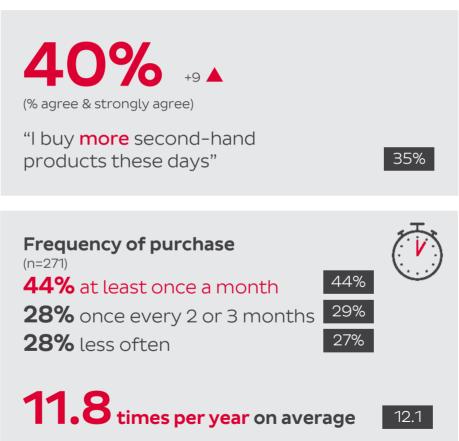




BUYING PRODUCTS ON C2C PLATFORMS

A higher share of Dutch regulars claim they buy more second-hand products these days, in line with the growing number of C2C platforms buyers in the Netherlands.







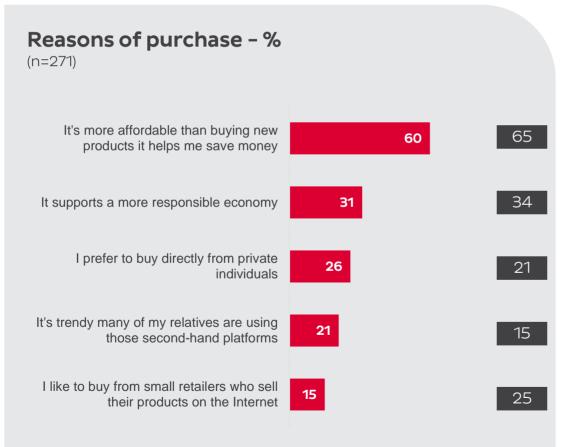


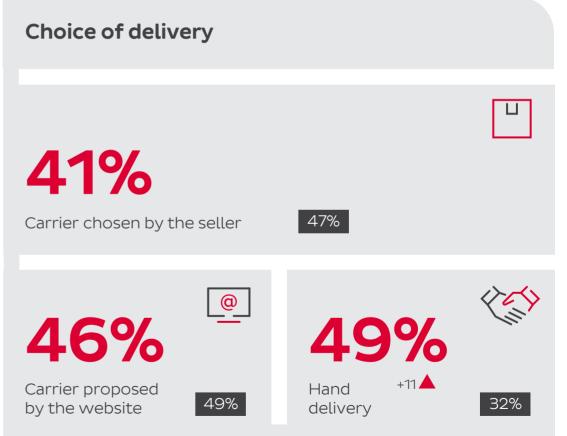




BUYING PRODUCTS ON C2C PLATFORMS

Saving money remains the #1 reason to purchase on C2C platforms, supporting a more responsible economy comes after. Hand delivery are more favored this year by Dutch regulars, and more compared to Europe.



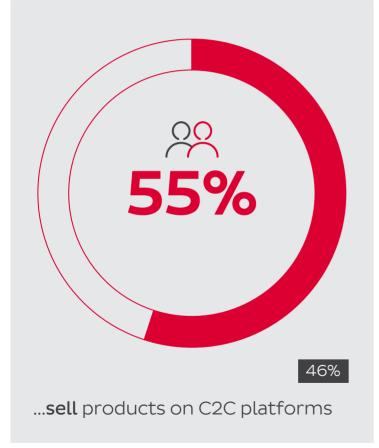


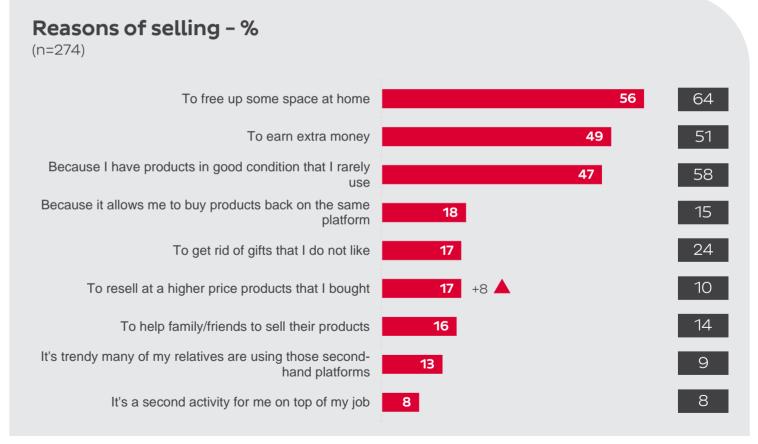




SELLING PRODUCTS ON C2C PLATFORMS

More than 1 in 2 regular e-shoppers are selling on C2C platforms, it's more than their European counterparts. They first want to free up space, but also earn money and get rid of products they rarely use. Interestingly, reselling purpose at a higher price grows in importance this year.











ONLINE PURCHASE HABITS & ATTITUDES

As most regulars are using C2C platforms, users of these platforms have similar purchase habits and attitudes, and they buy less categories online as well.

6.0 -0.6 ▼

Different types of goods bought since January on average

Top 7 Categories

1. Fashion **70%** −7 ▼

2. Shoes **52%**

53%

59%

3. Beauty & Health care 43% -11 ▼

48%

4. High-tech/Electronics 38%

30%

5. Grocery **38%** -10 ▼

33%

6. Fresh Food & Beverage 37%

32%

7. Leisure **36%**

39%

+1 vs. regular e-shoppers -1 vs. 2022

Annual number of purchases

/!\ No significance test on median

15.5% 15.7%

Average share of online shopping

(on total shopping – average of all categories)

Attitudes specificities vs. regular e-shoppers

(biggest significant gaps vs. regular e-shoppers on % agree & strongly agree)

No difference vs. regulars



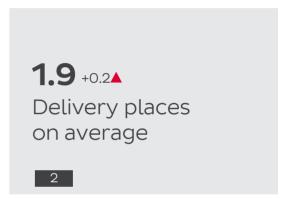




DELIVERY PLACES & PREFERENCES

Home delivery remains the #1 preference for C2C users, yet they diversify the places they use. In terms of delivery services, like to regulars, it is particularly important to them to select and know the day and 1-hour window of their delivery.







73%
...consider it important to know the delivery company



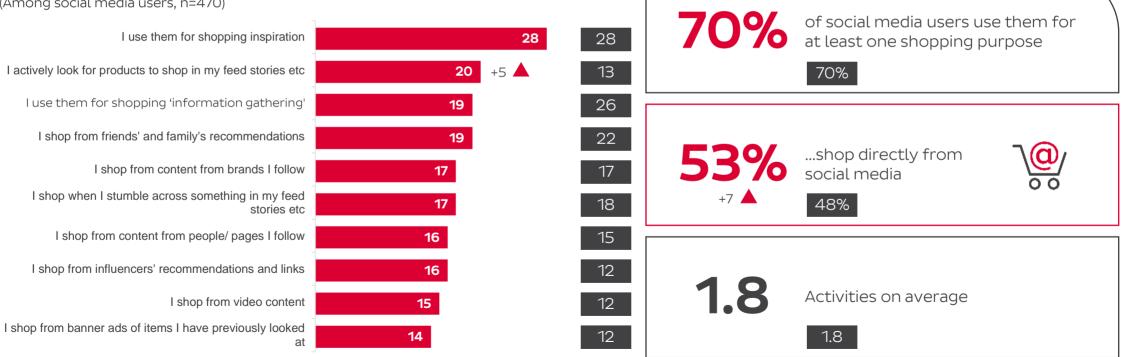


SHOPPING THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA (AMONG SOCIAL MEDIA USERS)

Shopping through social networks is a common practice among Dutch regulars, and they increasingly look for products on social networks and buy directly from these websites/apps.

Shopping activities done on social networks -%

(Among social media users, n=470)









TO WHAT EXTENT HAS INFLATION IMPACTED E-SHOPPERS?

- Despite the high inflation, regular e-shoppers' price sensitivity remains at the same high level
- Yet, a growing share of Dutch regulars are looking forward to big promotional events
- Similar findings among Aficionados



2.



ATTITUDE TOWARDS PRICE

Dutch regular e-shoppers remain highly price sensitive overall, but at a steady level. They are still less bargain hunters than their European peers, but more are paying attention to promotional events than in 2022.

55%



of regular e-shoppers consider that shopping online saves money - %T2B

61%



"Price is the most important factor in my purchasing decisions" - %T2B

61%



69%

"I am always on the lookout for a really good deal" - %T2B

48% 53%



"I look forward to big discount events, online or offline, (Black Friday, seasonal sales...)" - %T2B 33%

"I'm ready to pay a price premium for services that make my life easier" - %T2B

41%

39%

"I'm willing to pay a premium for products/services that are respectful of the environment" -%T2B





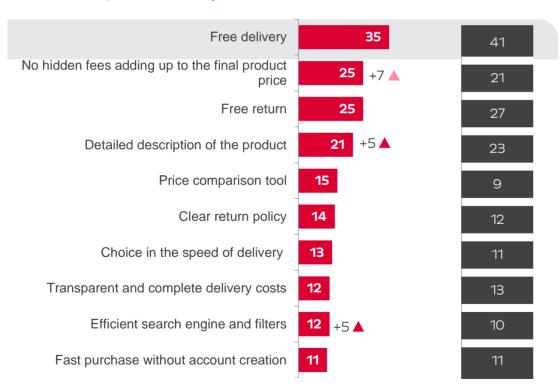
ONLINE PURCHASE DRIVERS

Among drivers of online purchase, the weight of price-related criteria remain as important as last year. Having detailed product descriptions is gaining in importance, likely indicating regulars' wish to make sure of their purchase decision and avoid returning their parcel.

Top 10 important criteria when buying online % - (out of 25 criteria)

Items ranked as 1st, 2nd or 3rd most important





Biggest evolutions vs. 2022 (apart from TOP10)

8% Ability to be told the exact 1-hour time slot of when your parcel will arrive $_{-5}$ \blacktriangledown





DISSUASIVE EFFECTS

Bad opinions on social media stays the 1st barrier that would prevent Dutch regulars from buying online. No increase for price-related barriers, but more expectations towards a smooth navigation on the website/app.

Top 10 features that prevent the most from buying online % - (out of 16 criteria)

Items ranked as 1st, 2nd or 3rd most important





Biggest evolutions vs. 2022 (apart from TOP10)

No other evolution





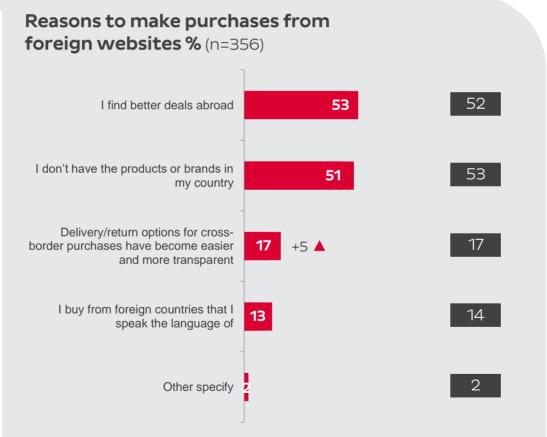


FOREIGN VS. LOCAL

Buying on foreign websites remains very common in the Netherlands, even more than in Europe. Finding better deals and products unavailable locally stay by far the top drivers, but easier delivery/return options is a growing reason.



Ra: Several answers allowed



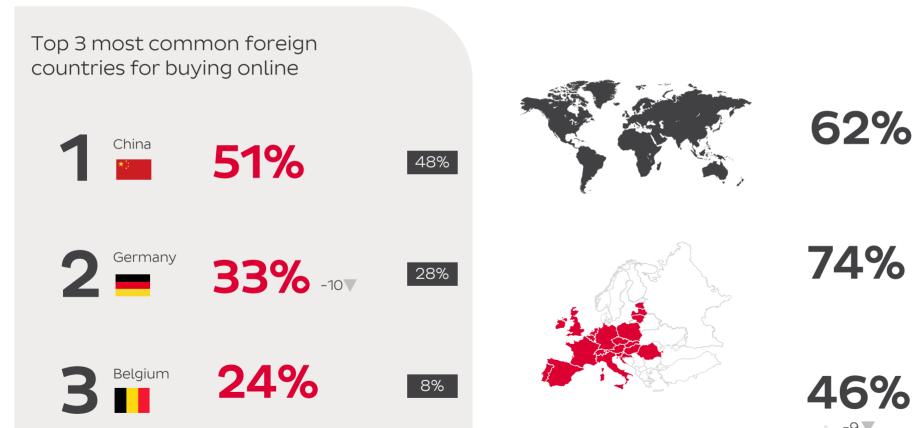


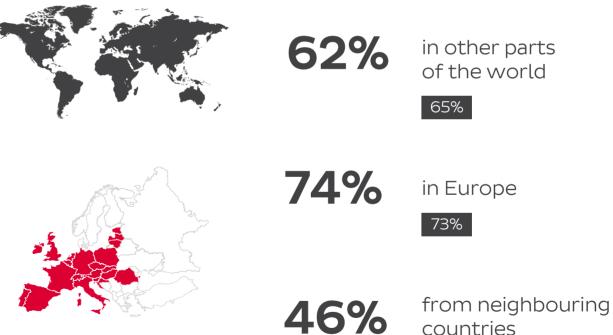




PURCHASES FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Top 3 favored countries for abroad e-shopping is steady in 2023, China at the top of the ranking, followed by Dutch neighbouring countries Germany and Belgium, yet less regulars are buying from German websites/apps over the last 2 years.







45%





ZOOM ON THE PRICE SENSITIVE E-BUYERS

Price sensitive e-buyer has been defined as a regular e-shopper which showed price sensitivity by making price the most important factor when purchasing:

 %TB "Price is the most important factor in my purchasing decisions"

N=84 (weighted)

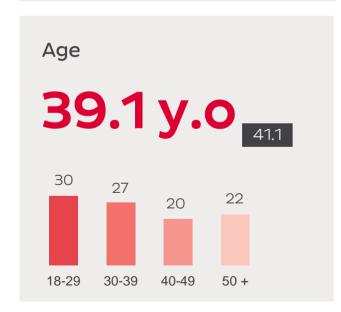


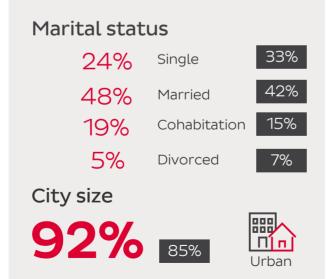


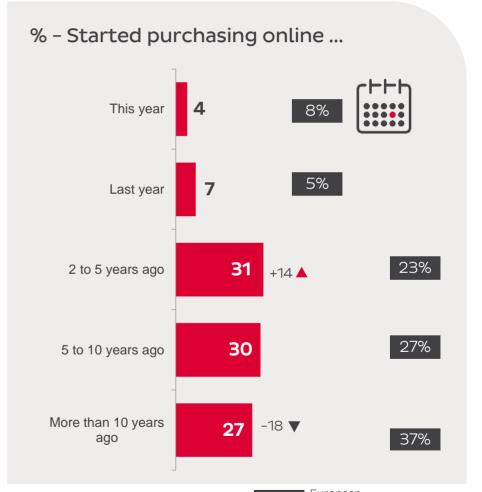
REGULAR PRICE SENSITIVE E-BUYERS PROFILE











ONLINE PURCHASE HABITS & ATTITUDES

Unsurprisingly, discounts and good deals are more important to price sensitive e-buyers, and more than last year. This target is likely to have a perception of themselves being more "digital," and interestingly, they buy more often online than the average regulars.

5.6 5.9

Different types of goods bought since January on average

Top 7 Categories 1. Fashion **59%** -17 ▼ 59% 32% 2. Grocery 45% 51% 3. Shoes 45% 4. Fresh Food & Beverage 43% 31% 50% 5. Beauty & Health Care 41% 36% 6. Leisure 38% 19% 7. Sport **31%**

+11 vs. regular e-shoppers +17 vs. 2022

31

Annual number of purchases

/!\ No significance test on median

14.1% 15.3%

Average share of online shopping

(on total shopping – average of all categories)

Attitudes specificities vs. regular e-shoppers

(biggest significant gaps vs. regular e-shoppers on % agree & strongly agree)

Positive +

85% There are products that I would never buy online (65) +13

79% I am always on the lookout for a really good deal (61)

76% I am always concerned about my safety and my security (61)

69% I can shop for nearly 100% of the products/services I need online (54)

65% I look forward to big discount events, online or offline (Black Friday, seasonal sales...) (48) +19 A

69% To me it is important to always be reachable wherever I am (51)

62% I really like the idea of technology that 'knows' me and can make recommendations and take actions based on my wants and needs (47)

57% I use a lot of collaborative / shared / community services (such as car sharing room sharing ride sharing...) (41)



Significance test vs. 2022 only



86%

68%

67%

56%

53%

40%

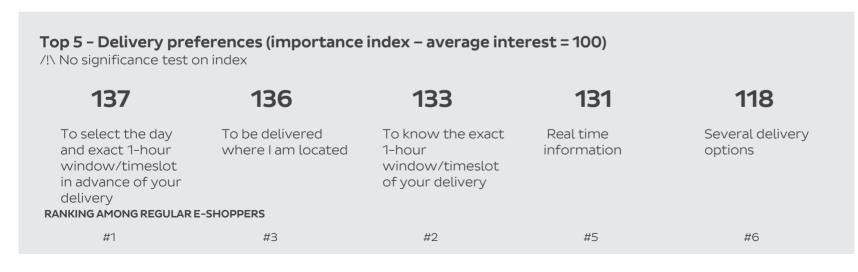


DELIVERY PLACES & PREFERENCES

Delivery at home is the first delivery place used by price-sensitive e-buyers as well, and knowing the delivery company is equally important compared to regular e-shoppers.







73%
...consider it important to know the delivery company





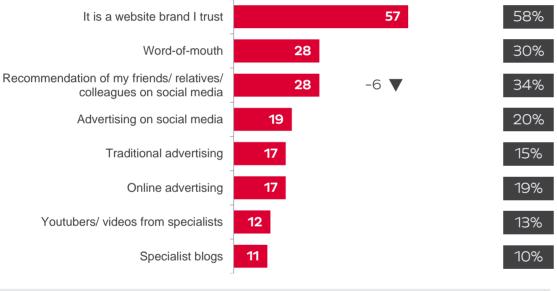


REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

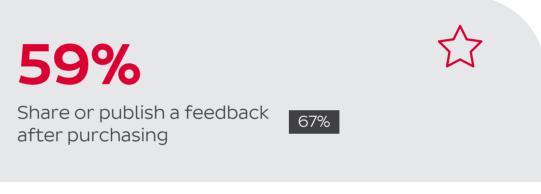
Regular e-shoppers still choose first the websites they trust, but they also consider their relatives' recommendations and word-of-mouth. Sharing/publishing a post-purchase feedback is less common for them compared to Europe.

Drivers when choosing a website/ an app-%

Average number of influencers











NET Social Media 55% and influencers



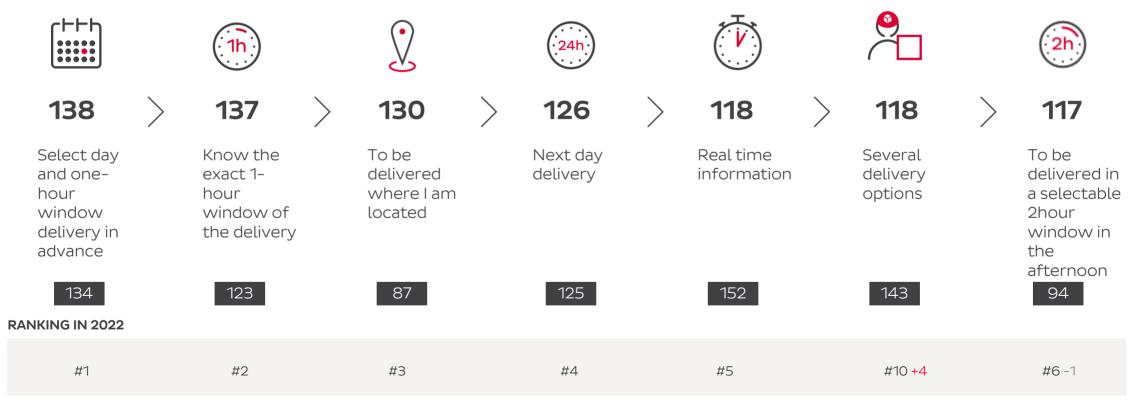




TOP DELIVERY PREFERENCES

Having several delivery options is strongly going up in Dutch regulars' delivery preferences ranking. And being delivered where they are located is much higher in the ranking in the Netherlands than in Europe.

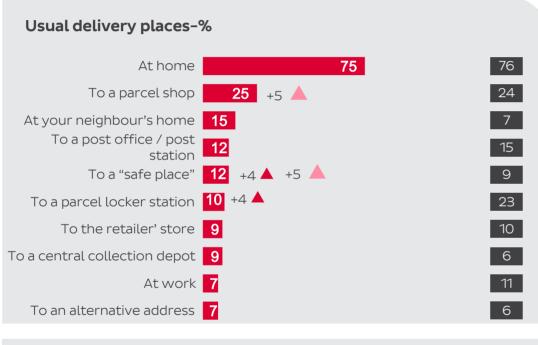
Delivery preferences (importance index – average interest = 100)





DELIVERY PREFERENCES

In line with increasing preference on having several delivery options, regular e-shoppers are using more delivery places in 2023, mainly driven by parcel shop (vs. 2021), safe place and parcel lockers. Meanwhile, their delivery experience is better perceived compared to 2021.







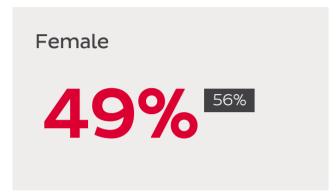




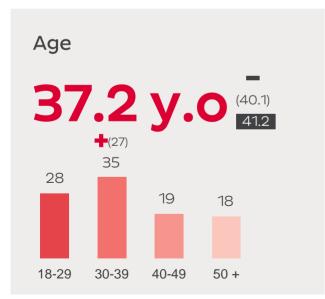


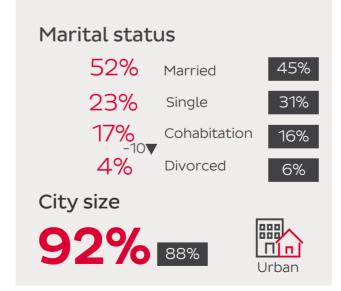


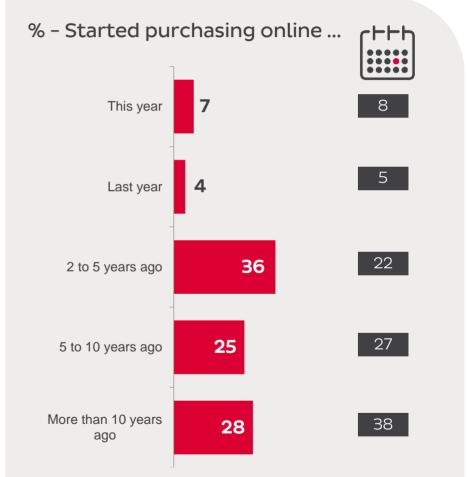
OUT OF HOME USERS PROFILE

















ONLINE PURCHASE HABITS & ATTITUDES

OOH users buy as many product categories as regulars overall. In terms of attitudes, more claim they manage to do all they want despite their busy life, and that they would rather have more time than money: OOH options are probably adapted to their busy lifestyle.

6.1

6.4

Different types of goods bought since January on average

Top 7 Categories

1. Fashion **68%**

59%

2. Shoes 48%

53%

3. Grocery **42%**

32%

4. Beauty & Health care 41% -15

51%

5. Fresh Food & Beverage 38%

32%

6. Books 37%

47%

7. Leisure **36%**

38%

+7 vs. regular e-shoppers -5 vs. 2022

Annual number of purchases

/!\ No significance test on median

15.6% 15.9%

Average share of online shopping

(on total shopping – average of all categories)

Attitudes specificities vs. regular e-shoppers

(biggest significant gaps vs. regular e-shoppers on % agree & strongly agree)

Positive +

69% It is important to indulge myself on a regular basis (57) +14 ▲

61%

64% I manage to do all that I want despite a busy life (51)

50%

62% I actively look for products and services that help me have a healthy 58% lifestyle (50)

59% I would rather have more time than more money (47) +16 A

43%

52% I'm willing to pay a premium for products and services that are respectful of the environment (41)

40%

54% The most important thing about a brand is that it gives good value for the money $(43)_{+12}$

49%

54% I feel it is important to be an active part of the wider community (42) 47%

49% I am almost always among the first to try new ways of shopping or new shopping experiences (38)

37%

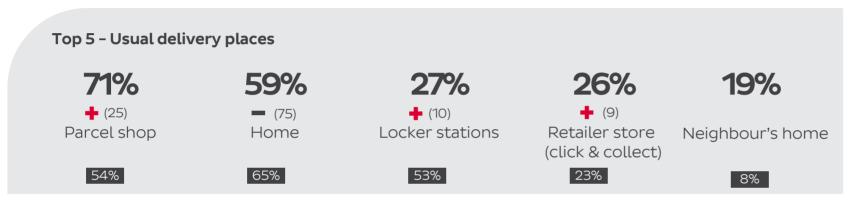




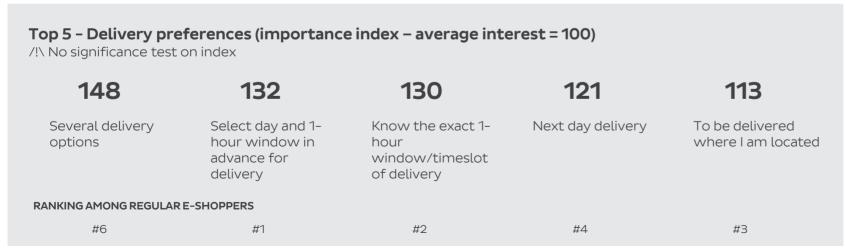


DELIVERY PLACES & PREFERENCES

They use more delivery places than regulars, and parcel shops is their top one delivery method. In terms of preferences, they first want to be offered several delivery options.







74%
...consider it important to know the delivery company

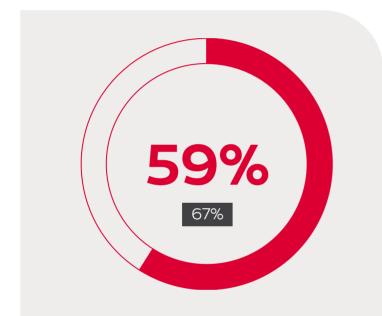




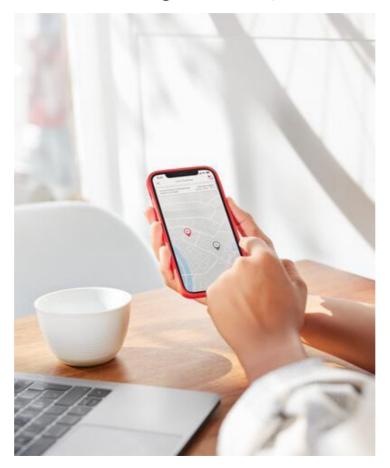


IMPORTANCE OF DELIVERY SERVICES

Being informed about the exact 1-hour delivery timeslot and being able to choose the specific day/time of delivery remain important to 6 in 10 Dutch regulars when choosing an e-tailer, it's still less compared to their European peers.



Consider that knowing the exact 1-hour window/timeslot of their delivery would make them more likely to purchase from a website /retailer/app (% agree & strongly agree)





Consider that the ability to select the day and exact 1-hour indow/timeslot in advance of their delivery would make them more likely to purchase from a website/retailer/app (% agree & strongly agree)

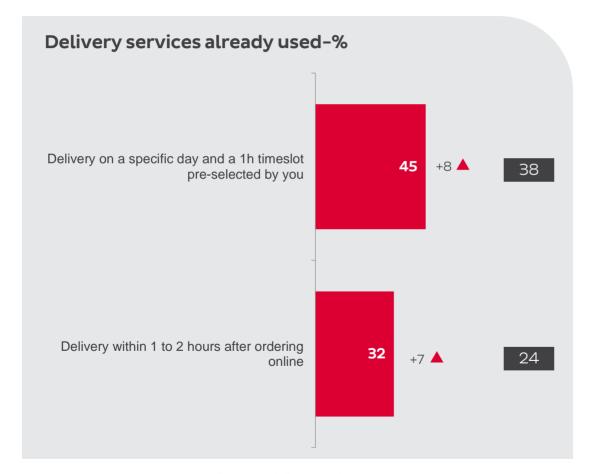


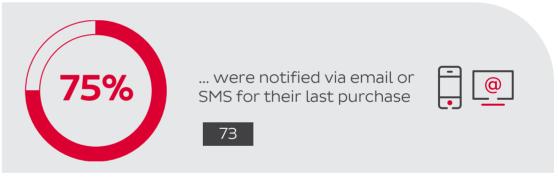




USE OF DELIVERY SERVICES

A growing share of regulars are using quick delivery – 1 or 2 hours after the order – and delivery on a pre–selected day / 1h timeslot.





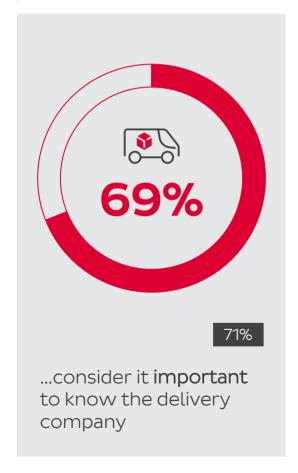






DELIVERY COMPANY

In terms of delivery, the trust in the delivery company remains to be important, especially because of bad experiences in the past for more and more Dutch regulars.









GREEN DELIVERY ALTERNATIVES

Concerning green delivery, this aspect is considered by a growing share of regulars when choosing an e-tailer. A green delivery remains first defined as a combined delivery or through low-emission vehicles, but "slow delivery" is more and more mentioned.

60%

58%

Consider that having choice of environmentally friendly delivery alternatives is important when buying online

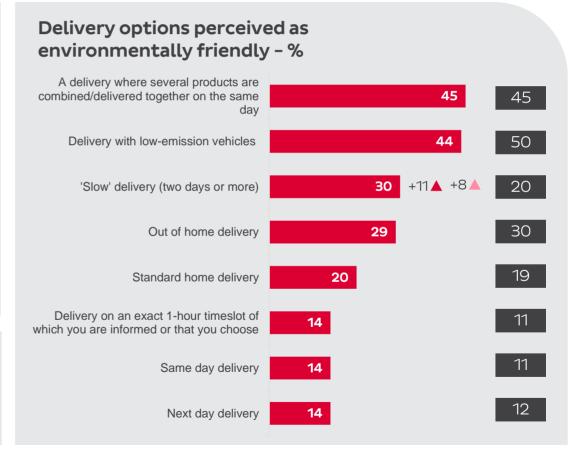
90% for transparent/complete delivery costs

84% for free delivery

74% for various options of place of delivery +6 A

57%

would be more likely to opt for a website/ retailer/ app that has environmentally- friendly delivery options - %T2B









EFFORT AND SATISFACTION VS. ONLINE PURCHASE

After the decrease observed in 2021, regular e-shoppers are more satisfied over the last 2 years, particularly with the return and the last delivery.













HIGH EFFORT INTO LAST PURCHASE ONLINE New 2023

AMONG BUYERS MAKING THE MOST EFFORT

Several factors can affect the purchase experience. Those who put a high effort into their last online purchase first speak about navigation issues, then about hesitation between several products, a too complicated purchase process and difficulties to contact customer service.

TOP 10 Reasons of high effort into the last purchase online Based on buyers making the most effort for their last online purchase (n=67 - low base) The navigation was complicated because the website/app was not well 31 16 organised / not clear I didn't know which product to choose I was hesitating between several ones 20 I needed help and couldn't reach anyone when calling/emailing the retailer 20 customer service I couldn't make my purchase without having to create an account on the 20 There were too many steps between the moment I confirmed my purchase 20 basket and the finalisation of the purchase itself The specific product I wanted was out of stock 20 I experienced technical bugs on the website/app 16 The payment process was too long 13 The choice of products offered on the website/app was too limited The payment process was too complicated



RETURNS

Concerning parcel returns, the same share of Dutch regular e-shoppers made one in 2023 than in 2022, and their perceived easiness is steady. They mainly return their parcels by dropping it off at a parcel shop, and more than what Europeans do.



