# "building excellence in materials supply"



**Monthly report for August 2019** 

# Building the Industry & Building Brands from Knowledge











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Quarterly reports contain additional analysis, macroeconomic factors and expert comments. Click the images below to read or download the Q2 report.



### Introduction



This Builders Merchant Building Index (BMBI) report contains data from GfK's ground-breaking Builders Merchants Panel, which analyses data from over 80% of generalist builders' merchants' sales throughout Great Britain. GfK's Builders Merchant Point of Sale Tracking Data sets a gold standard in reliable market trends. Unlike data from sources based on relatively small samples or estimates, or sales from suppliers to the supply chain, this up-to-date data is based on actual sales from merchants to builders and other trades. It's therefore a very good proxy for housing RMI.

BMBI trend data is indexed on the 12 month period July 2014 to June 2015. The monthly series tracks what is happening in the market month by month and includes an in-depth review every quarter. This trend series gives the industry access to far more accurate and comprehensive insights than that available to other construction sectors. BMBI data is highlighted by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy in its monthly construction update, alongside the ONS, CPA, Experian, IHS Markit and the Bank of England.

MRA Marketing produces the Builders Merchant Building Index, a brand of the BMF, to communicate to the wider market as the voice of the industry as well as the voice of individual Expert Brands: The Crystal Group, Keylite Roof Windows, Timbmet, Alumasc Water Management Solutions, Hanson Cement, IKO PLC, Keystone Lintels, Knauf Insulation, Encon Insulation, Ibstock, Talasey Group, Heatrae Sadia, Dulux Trade and Lakes, who provide valuable commentary on market trends and influences.

### **Further recognition for BMBI**

One of the aims of BMBI is to reach across and beyond construction. It's now syndicated to a growing number of trade magazines in different sectors on a regular basis. Outside the industry, economists, banks, consultancies, investment bodies and the big accountants regularly refer to it and BMBI is referenced alongside the Office for National Statistics (ONS) data in the Government Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) monthly construction update. In addition, the Sunday Times sought BMBI Experts in February for a contribution to a review on preparations for Brexit. This August, BBC News contacted one of the BMBI Experts and MRA on the same subject.

#### More data available

This BMBI report provides valuable top-level indices but there's considerably more data available. GfK insights go much deeper and include sales value data. GfK can quantify market values and drill down into contributing categories, tracing product group performance, to focus on aspects that are critical to you.

GfK can also produce robust like-for-like market comparability tailored to the requirements of an individual business. As more merchants join to submit their monthly sales-out data the quality of this information can only become more extensive and rigorous. Merchants or suppliers who are interested in acquiring data or getting involved should contact Emile van der Ryst at <a href="mailto:emile.van-der-ryst@gfk.com">emile.van-der-ryst@gfk.com</a>.

### Overview

### Merchants' sales fall as Brexit deadline nears

After a strong start to the year, growing uncertainty around Brexit led to a marked slowdown in merchants' sales in Q2. As the deadline looms closer it's clear that the uncertainty continues to impact negatively on merchants' sales.

#### Year-on-Year

Total Builders Merchants' sales in August 2019 were down 5.6% compared with the same period in 2018. On a like-for-like basis, with one less trading day, average sales a day were only 1.1% down. The best performing sector in August was Kitchens & Bathrooms, which increased by 3.0% year-on-year, on an adjusted basis.

Other sectors which recorded positive growth on an equal number of trading days included Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+2.3%), Workwear & Safetywear (+1.8%) and Ironmongery (+1.5%). Average sales a day fell back in Timber & Joinery (-5.2%), Tools (-7.1%) and Heavy Building Materials (-0.8%).

#### Month-on-Month

Total August 2019 sales were down by 11.4% compared with the previous month. However, when adjusted for the two-day trading difference, sales were down 2.9%. Landscaping (-9.5%), Timber & Joinery (-2.1%) and Heavy Building Materials (-3%) were significantly down. All product categories saw sales decrease in August compared to July.

### Other periods

Sales in the rolling 12 months September 2018 to August 2019 were up 1.6% on the same period last year. Year-to-date sales also remained positive at 1.2% compared to August 2018.

#### Index

August's BMBI index was 117.7, with Landscaping the highest category at 136.7.

Total Builders
Merchants sales in
August 2019 were
down 5.6%
compared with the
same period in 2018.
On a like-for-like
basis, the decline was
1.1%.

# The Expert Panel Speaking for their markets - 1



The Builders Merchant Building Index (BMBI) includes a growing panel of industry Experts. In each quarterly report they comment on the market, with a particular focus on the story behind the trends. Experts are leading brands, or brands aspiring to become leaders, who are the voice of their markets.

The Q2 2019 report, which includes commentary from our experts is available here

### **Meet the Builders Merchant Building Index Experts:**



**Kevin Morgan**Group Commercial Director
The Crystal Group

**Expert for PVC-U Windows & Doors** 

John Coe Expert for Civils, Metal Rainwater & Commercial Director Drainage
Alumasc Water Management Systems



Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report



Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report

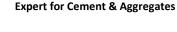


John Duffin
Managing Director
Keylite Roof Windows

**Expert for Roof Windows** 



Andrew Simpson
National Commercial Director
Hanson Cement





Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report



Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report



Nigel Cox Managing Director Timbmet

**Expert for Timber & Panel Products** 



Paul Owen
Commercial Director Distribution
IKO PLC

**Expert for Roofing Products** 



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### The Expert Panel Speaking for their markets - 2





**Derrick McFarland** Managing Director **Keystone Lintels** 

**Expert for Steel Lintels** 

Simon Taylor Director of Sales – Builders Merchants Ibstock

**Expert for Bricks** 

Keystone

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**Neil Hargreaves** Managing Director **Knauf Insulation** 

**Expert for Mineral Wool Insulation** 



Jeff House **Expert for Water Heating** Head of External Affairs Baxi Heating UK (incorporating Heatrae Sadia)



Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report



Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report



Mike Beard Merchant Development Director Encon Insulation



**Expert for Insulation Products -**Distribution

Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report

**Expert for Paint** 



Malcolm Gough **Group Sales & Marketing** Director **Talasey Group** 



**Expert for Natural Stone** Landscaping Products, **Vitrified Paving & Artificial Grass** 

Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report



Paul Roughan Trade Merchants Sales Director Dulux Trade



Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report

@theBMBI



Mike Tattam Sales & Marketing Director Lakes



**Expert for Shower Enclosures and** Showering

Read latest Comment: Q2 2019 Report

# Monthly: Index and Categories August 2018\* – August 2019

Builders Merchant Building Index

(Indexed on monthly average, July 2014 - June 2015)

		2018						2019							
MONTHLY SALES VALUE INDEX	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug		
Total Builders Merchants	100	124.7	118.4	131.8	122.5	77.4	107.8	108.7	121.9	122.0	129.3	117.2	132.8	117.7	
Timber & Joinery Products	100	129.3	124.7	137.2	126.8	79.9	114.7	112.2	123.3	122.3	127.9	118.3	130.9	117.0	
Heavy Building Materials	100	123.9	117.8	132.4	121.8	75.6	106.6	108.1	121.2	121.1	129.2	116.2	132.5	117.3	
Decorating	100	117.5	112.3	124.8	116.3	78.9	104.7	103.4	114.8	109.7	115.1	108.1	124.2	113.2	
Tools	100	109.7	108.0	123.2	117.8	73.0	100.3	99.8	108.8	99.5	104.5	96.7	106.7	97.3	
Workwear & Safetywear	100	98.3	107.5	123.5	129.5	79.9	111.5	96.8	101.5	95.5	100.1	99.3	108.8	95.5	
Ironmongery	100	124.4	117.9	133.6	129.3	84.5	120.8	115.5	125.2	122.5	127.6	117.7	133.1	120.6	
Landscaping	100	142.4	122.8	126.0	106.1	64.0	87.1	98.2	131.6	154.5	171.1	146.6	165.4	136.7	
Plumbing, Heating & Electrical	100	114.5	120.4	141.1	146.5	96.9	130.8	125.7	131.2	117.6	120.2	109.7	123.8	111.8	
Renewables & Water Saving	100	64.8	67.8	76.4	68.5	45.8	69.3	65.7	78.5	64.5	61.4	73.1	76.1	78.0	
Kitchens & Bathrooms	100	118.4	113.0	122.5	128.2	81.2	109.5	115.3	122.8	115.2	116.5	112.7	129.2	116.4	
Miscellaneous	100	113.9	106.6	126.3	119.1	85.1	122.7	111.6	115.1	113.6	122.5	113.7	135.8	118.5	
Services	100	120.1	106.9	125.1	114.2	79.9	94.5	99.7	110.0	113.6	121.8	106.4	125.6	116.0	

<sup>\*</sup>Click the web link below to see the complete series of indices from July 2015.

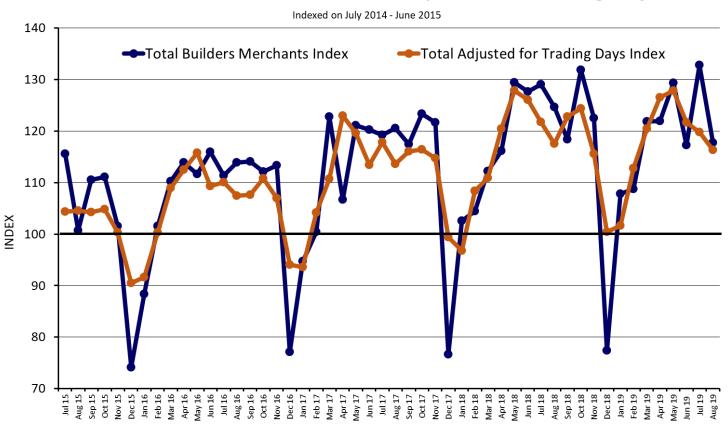
**NB:** The April 2019 index for services has been updated following a data submission revision.



### Monthly: Index Adjusted and unadjusted for trading days



### Total Builders Merchants Index v Total Adjusted for Trading Days Index



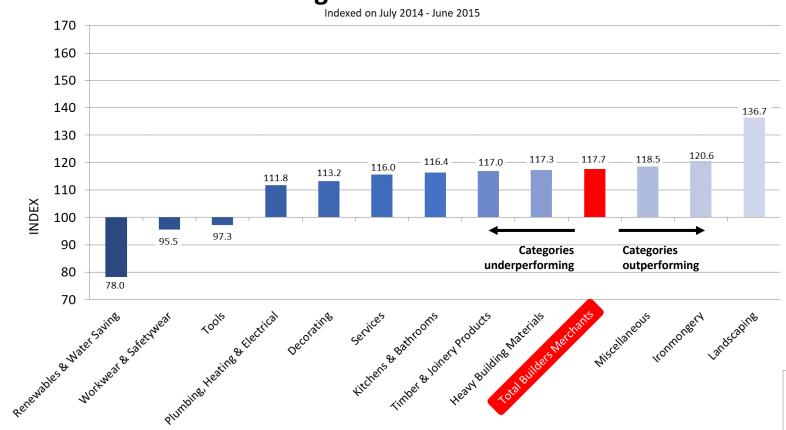
For number of trading days, see Slide 34



# Monthly: Index and Categories August 2019 index



### August 2019 Index

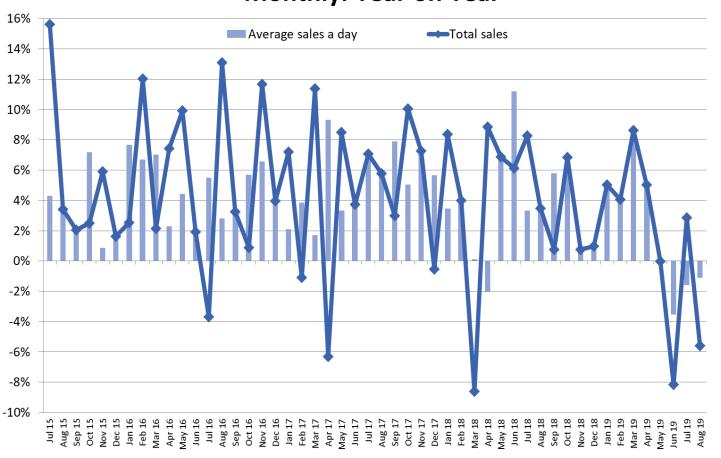




### **Monthly:** Sales Indices Adjusted and unadjusted for trading days



### Monthly: Year on Year



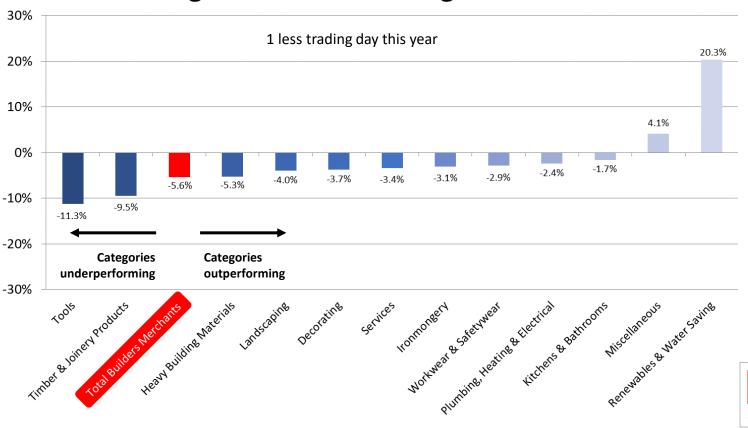
Source: GfK's **Builders Merchants** Total Category Report July 2015 to August 2019

For number of trading days, see Slide 34

# Monthly: This Year v Last Year August 2019 sales indices



### August 2019 index v August 2018 index

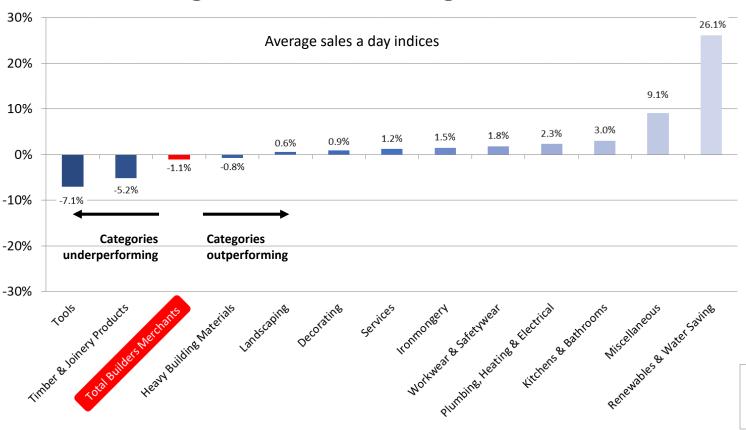




# Monthly: This Year v Last Year August 2019 average sales a day indices



### August 2019 index v August 2018 index





# Monthly: This Month v Last Month

August 2019 sales indices



### August 2019 index v July 2019 index



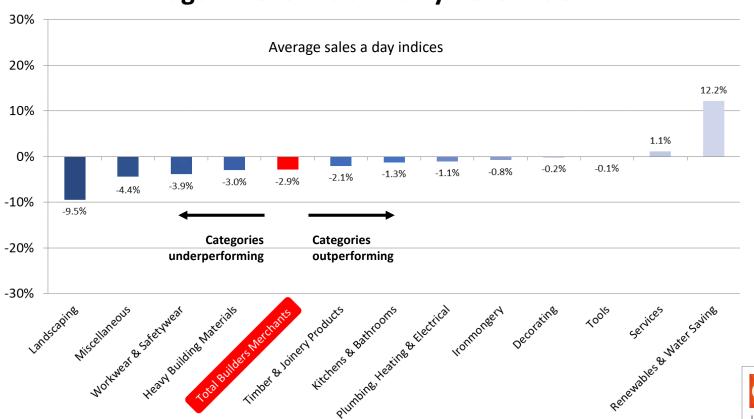


# Monthly: This Month v Last Month

August 2019 average sales a day indices



### August 2019 index v July 2019 index





# Quarterly: Index and Categories Quarter 2 2018\* to Quarter 2 2019

Builders Merchant Building Index

(Indexed on July 2014 to June 2015)

QUARTERLY SALES VALUE INDEX	Index	Q2 2018	Q3 2018	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	Q2 2019
Total Builders Merchants	100	124.4	124.0	110.6	112.7	122.9
Timber & Joinery Products	100	122.9	128.3	114.7	116.7	122.8
Heavy Building Materials	100	124.2	123.5	109.9	112.0	122.2
Decorating	100	112.8	116.2	106.5	107.5	111.0
Tools	100	109.6	110.1	104.7	103.0	100.2
Workwear & Safetywear	100	97.3	100.6	110.9	103.2	98.3
Ironmongery	100	122.3	123.7	115.8	120.5	122.6
Landscaping	100	155.5	140.6	98.7	105.6	157.4
Plumbing, Heating & Electrical	100	120.1	117.2	128.1	129.2	115.8
Renewables & Water Saving	100	73.2	68.7	63.6	71.2	66.3
Kitchens & Bathrooms	100	116.3	117.6	110.6	115.9	114.8
Miscellaneous	100	115.7	112.4	110.1	116.5	116.6
Services	100	117.3	116.1	106.4	98.8	113.9

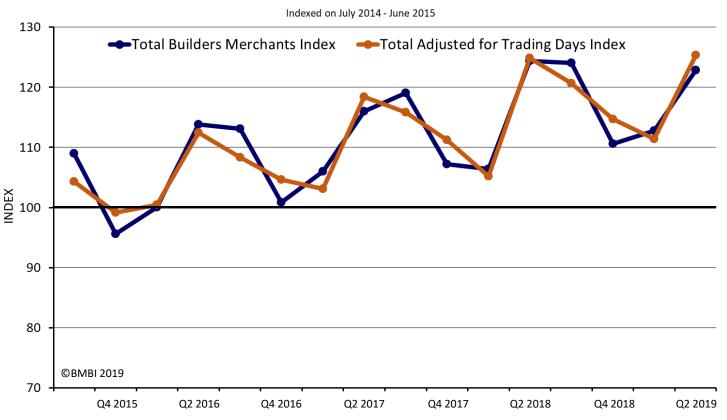
<sup>\*</sup>Click the web link below to see the complete series of quarterly indices from Q2, 2015.



### Quarterly: Index Adjusted and unadjusted for trading days



### **Total Builders Merchants Index v Total Adjusted for Trading Days Index**

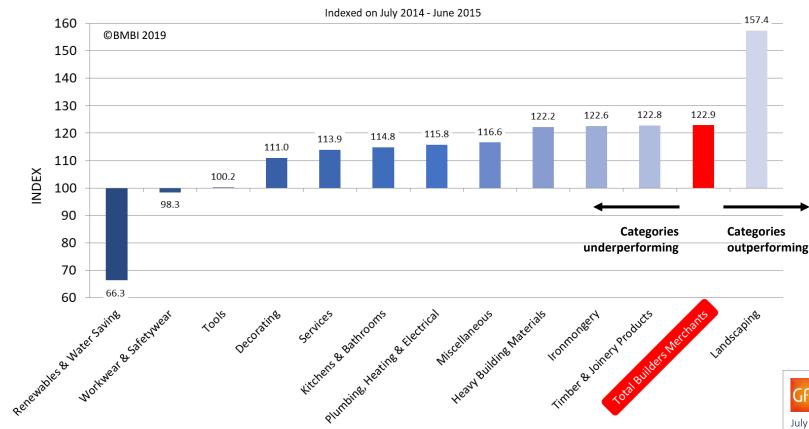




# Quarterly: Index and Categories Q2 2019 index



### **Quarter 2 2019**





# Quarterly: Index and Categories

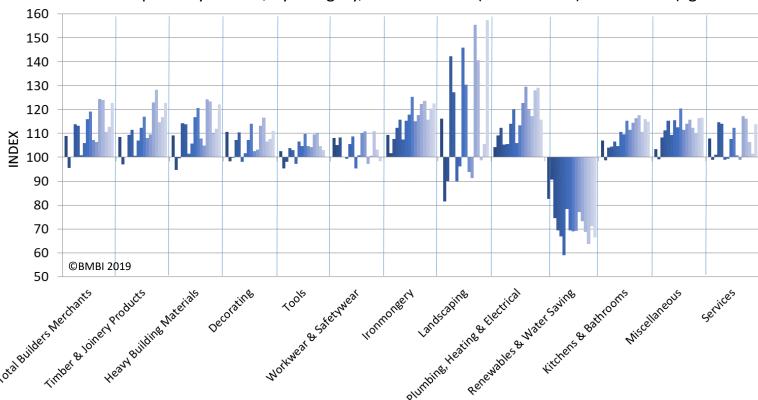
**Quarterly indices** 



### **Quarterly Indices**

Indexed on July 2014 to June 2015

Chart shows quarterly indices, by category, from Q3 2015 (darkest blue) to Q2 2019 (lightest blue)



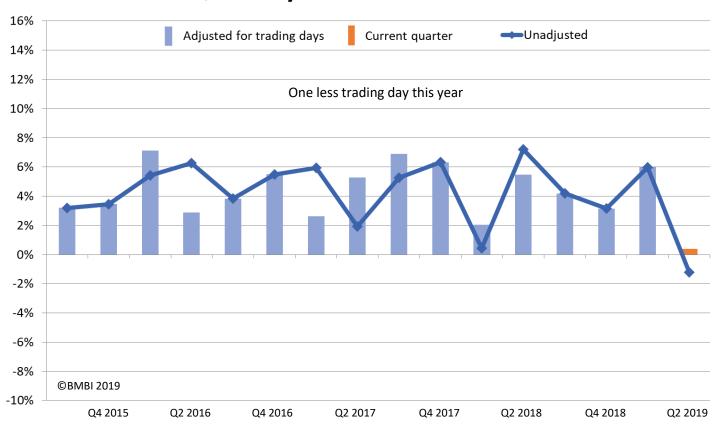
@theBMBI



### **Quarterly**: Sales Indices Adjusted and unadjusted for trading days



### **Quarterly Indices: Year on Year**





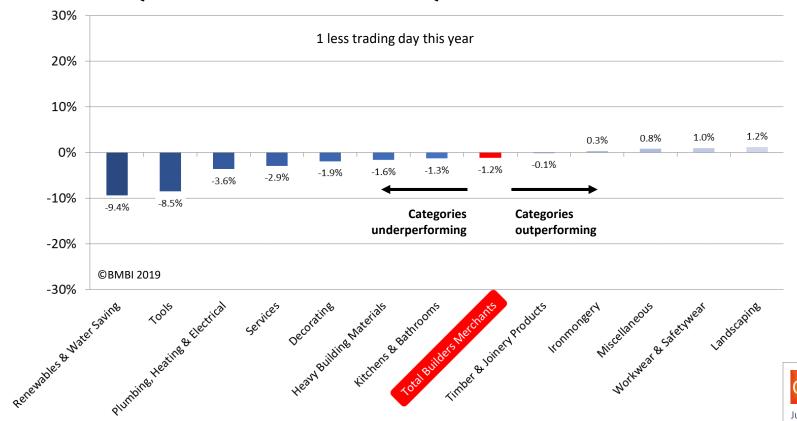


# Quarterly: This Year v Last Year

Q2 2019 sales indices



### Quarter 2 2019 index v Quarter 2 2018 index

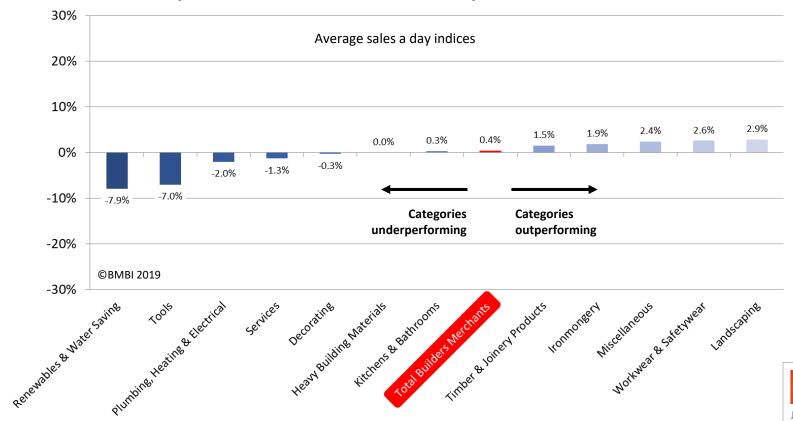




# Quarterly: This Year v Last Year Q2 2019 average sales a day indices



### Quarter 2 2019 index v Quarter 2 2018

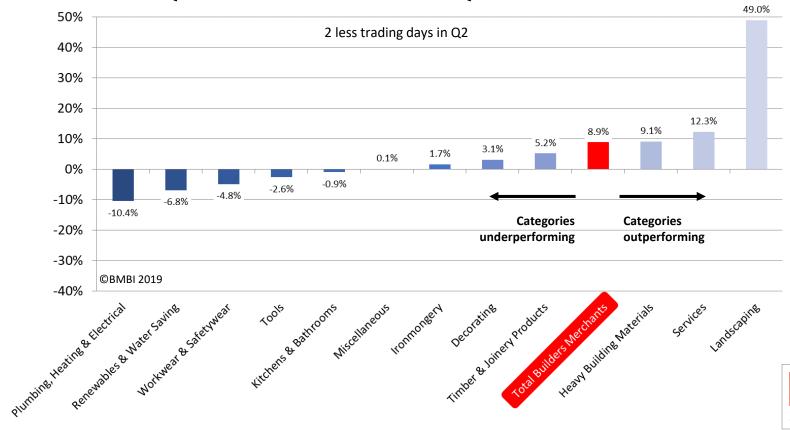




# **Quarterly**: Quarter on Quarter **Q2 2019 sales indices**



### Quarter 2 2019 index v Quarter 1 2019

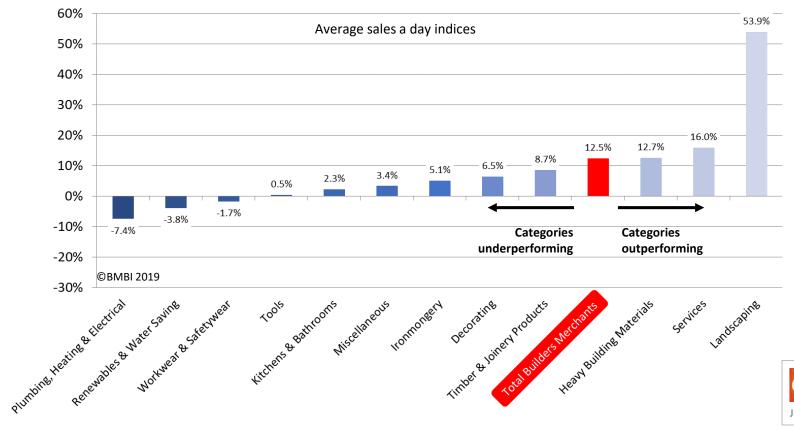




# **Quarterly**: Quarter on Quarter **Average sales a day indices**



### Quarter 2 2019 Index v Quarter 1 2019





### Last 12 Months: Year on Year

### Rolling 12 months sales indices



### 12 months Sep 18 to Aug 19 v 12 months Sep 17 to Aug 18



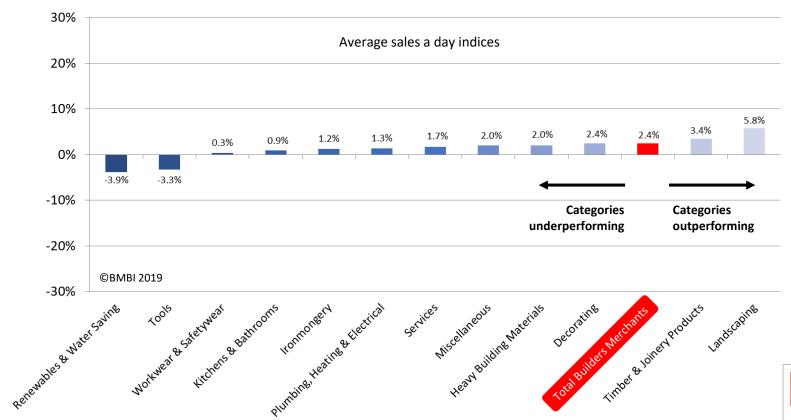


# Last 12 Months: Year on Year

Rolling 12 months average sales a day indices



### 12 months Sep 18 to Aug 19 v 12 months Sep 17 to Aug 18



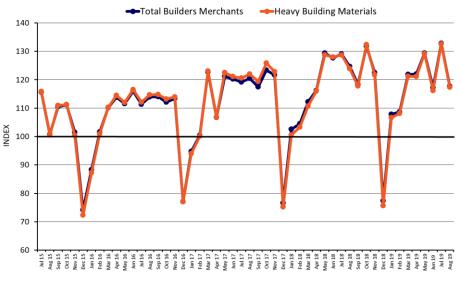




### **Timber & Joinery Products**

### 

### **Heavy Building Materials**

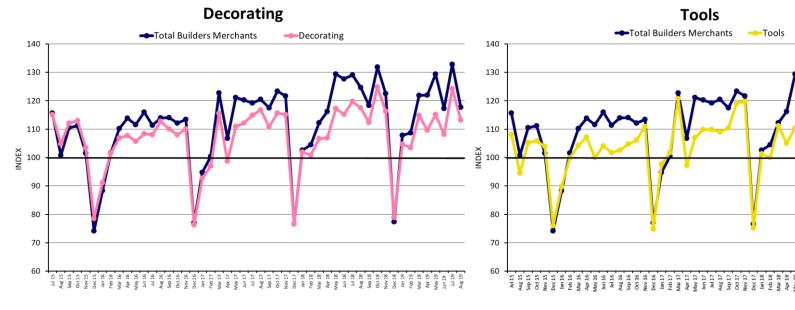


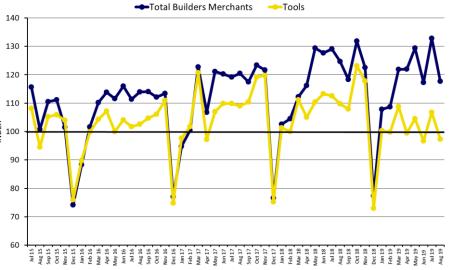
Indexed on July 2014 – June 2015

Indexed on July 2014 – June 2015







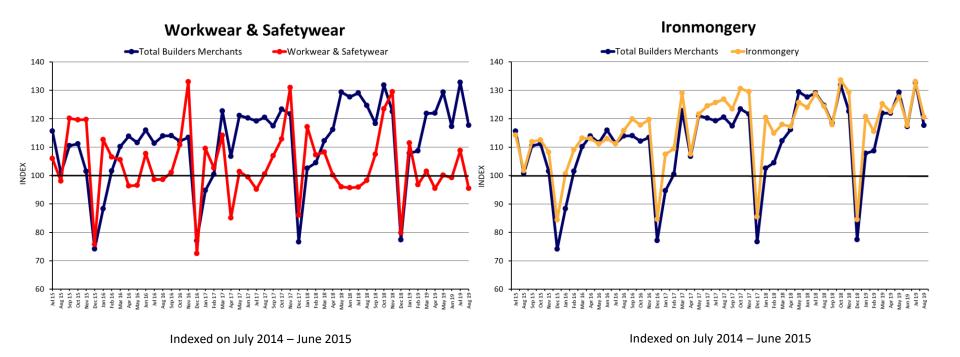


Indexed on July 2014 – June 2015



Indexed on July 2014 - June 2015





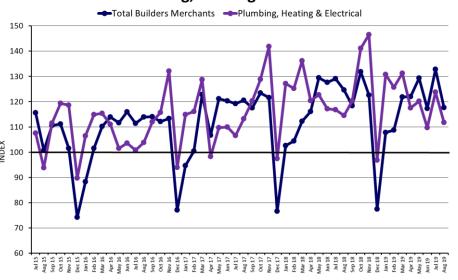




### Landscaping

# Total Builders Merchants — Landscaping 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 100 90 80 70 60 50 151 String St

### Plumbing, Heating & Electrical



Indexed on July 2014 – June 2015

Indexed on July 2014 - June 2015

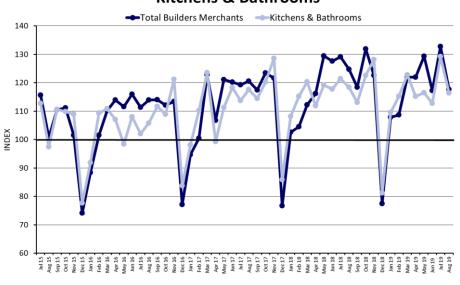




### Renewables & Water Saving

### 

### Kitchens & Bathrooms

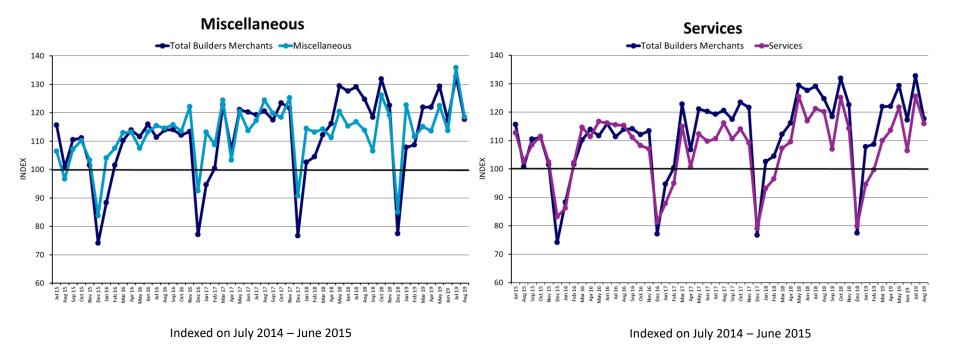


Indexed on July 2014 – June 2015

Indexed on July 2014 – June 2015









# **Trading Days**



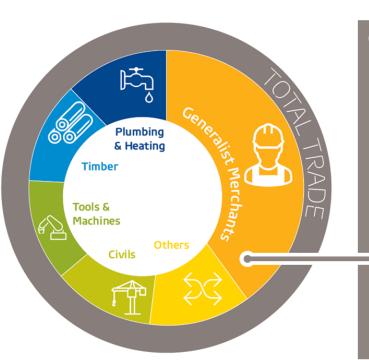
Month	ly								Quarterly				Half Year		Full Year			
Index:	20.8											Index:	62.4			Index:	125	Index: 250
2015												2015						
						Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec				Q4			
						22	20	22	22	21	17				60			
2016												2016				2016		2016
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	250
20	21	21	21	20	22	21	22	22	21	22	17	62	63	65	60	125	125	250
2017												2017				2017		2017
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	249
21	20	23	18	21	22	21	22	21	22	22	16	64	61	64	60	125	124	249
2018												2018				2018		2018
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	249
22	20	21	20	21	21	22	22	20	22	22	16	63	62	64	60	125	124	249
2019												2019				2019		2019
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug					Q1	Q2			H1	H2	124
22	20	21	20	21	20	23	21					63	61			124		124



### GfK's Panel Generalist Builders Merchant Panel (GBM's)

# GFK

### The Multiple Generalist Builders Merchants Channel



### **Generalist Builders Merchants**

Builder Merchants handle an extended range of building materials and components (e.g. doors, windows, interior furnishing materials, insulation materials, tiles, cement, mortar, adhesives, sealants, nails, hardware products, pipes, ironware, paint) and generate their turnover with professional end users.

Multiple merchants are those defined as having more than 3 outlets or a turnover of greater than £3m p.a.

### **Examples include:**





















© GfK

### GfK Insights Methodology









Define sample requirements applying statistical methods

# GfK Insights Methodology







GfK collect live sales-out data from our panel of merchant partners.

We add value to that data through the application of each sold product's unique technical features. We compare like-for-like products and categories from like-for-like merchants and aggregate this within our reports.

Our international methodology is based on robust scientific principles and delivers continuous, reliable information that can be applied to your business requirements.

# GfK's Product Categories

# Reports cover category headline values & in-depth, brand-level insights

### Headline values available

#### **Timber & Joinery Products**

Timber Sheet Materials Cladding Flooring & Flooring Accessories Mouldings Stairs & Stairparts Window & Frames

#### **Heavy Building Materials**

Doors/Door Frames

Bricks Blocks & Damp Proofing Drainage/Civils/Guttering Lintels Cement/Aggregate/Cement Accs Concrete Mix/Products Plasters Plasterboards and Accessories Roofing Products Insulation

Cement Mixers/Mixing Buckets Products **Builders Metalwork** 

Other Heavy Building Equipment/Material

#### Decorating

Paint/Woodcare Paint Brushes Rollers & Pads Adhesives/Sealants/Fillers Tiles And Tiling Accessories **Decoration Preparation & Decorating Sundries** Wall Coverings

#### Tools

Hand Tools Power Tools Power Tool Accessories Ladders & Access Equipment

#### Workwear And Safetywear

Clothing Safety Equipment

#### Ironmongery

Fixings And Fastenings Security Other Ironmongery

#### Landscaping

Garden Walling/Paving Driveways/Block Paving/Kerbs **Decorative Aggregates** Fencing And Gates Decking Other Gardening Equipment

#### Plumbing Heating & Electrical

Plumbing Equipment **Boilers Tanks & Accessories** Heating Equipment/Water Heaters/Temperature Control/Air Treatment Radiators And Accessories Electrical Equipment Lighting And Light Bulbs

#### Renewables And Water Management

Water Saving Renewables & Ventilation

#### Kitchens & Bathrooms

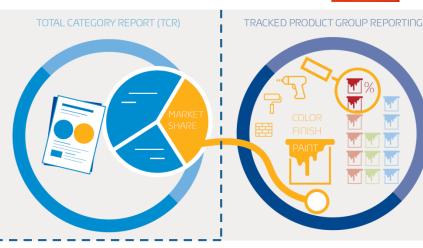
Bathroom (Including Showering) Fitted Kitchens Major Appliances

#### Miscellaneous

Cleaning/Domestic/Personal Automotive Glass Other Furniture & Shelving Other Misc

#### Services

Toolhire / Hire Services Other Services



### In-depth product group reporting

Monthly sales values, volumes, pricing analysis & distribution facts available by brand and key product features.

For insights on your product group please contact Pete Church at GfK (pete.church@gfk.com).

### **Available categories:**

#### Heavyside

Bricks Insulation

#### Lightside

Emulsion Paints (incl. Masonry & Base)

Trim Paints

Primers/Undercoats

Woodcare

Adhesives

Sealants

Fillers/PU Foam

Tile Fixing (Adhesives/Grout)

# BMF Forecast Report Q2 2019 edition



### **Builders Merchants Industry Forecast Report**

The BMF have released the Q2 edition of their Builders Merchants Industry Forecast.

While Builders Merchants Building Index (BMBI) data, which is provided by GfK and is based on actual sales category performance, has enabled users to see which products and regions are currently growing, the forecast report takes this one stage further to meet the industry's need for accurate forecasting.

The BMF forecast model incorporates several lead indicators to signal future events that will impact our markets.

Using BMBI data coupled with advanced modelling techniques the BMF have developed a channel specific forecasting model to show what is likely to happen in the next 12 months, making it possible for merchants and suppliers to forecast their customers' requirements more accurately.

The report is updated on a quarterly basis, with the Q2 edition available now. The forecast report can be downloaded by BMF members free of charge - once logged in - here.

Non-members can purchase the report by contacting Nyssa Patel on 024 7685 4994 or email nyssa.patel@bmf.org.uk



Builders Merchants Industry Forecast 2019 - 2021

Nyssa Patel Industry Analyst/Economist Quarter 2 edition – £195

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