"building excellence in materials supply"



Monthly report for July 2023

(Published 22 September 2023)

Highlights



Total Merchants sales in August 2022 to July 2023 were flat (+0.0%) compared to August 2021 to July 2022, with volume down -12.2% and prices up +13.9%. Full comment on pages 7-8.



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Introduction:

Builders Merchant Building Index



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.

The monthly series tracks what is happening in the market month by month and includes an in-depth review every quarter. BMBI Index data is calculated on the 12 month base period July 2014 to June 2015.

Executive Summary

Short of time and just want to read the headlines? Download an Executive Summary that provides a snapshot of value sales and trends from Britain's Builders' Merchants for July 2023 here.

BMBI Expert Panel

MRA Research 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.

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 & Trade** monthly construction update. **Download the latest update** <a href="https://example.com/hereit/



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 emile.van-der-ryst@gfk.com**.

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 2023 report, which includes commentary from our experts is available here

Meet the Builders Merchant Building Index Experts here and on the next page:

Expert for Drylining Systems:





Gordon Parnell Sales Director British Gypsum

Read latest comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Bricks & Roof Tiles:



Wienerberger

Kevin Tolson Commercial Director Wienerberger UK

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Natural Stone & Porcelain Paving:



PAVESTONE

Krystal Williams Managing Director Pavestone UK Ltd

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Fasteners and Fixings:





Ian Doherty Chief Executive Owlett-Jaton

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Roof Windows:



Roof Windows Jim Blanthorne Managing Director

Keylite Roof Windows

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Wood-Based Panels:





Simon Woods, European Sales Marketing & Logistics Director West Fraser (formerly known as Norbord)

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

The Expert Panel

Speaking for their markets - 2



Expert for Windows & Doors:



deceuninck

Rob McGlennon Managing Director Deceuninck UK

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Steel Lintels:



MKeystone

Derrick McFarland Managing Director Keystone Lintels

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Adhesives & Sealants:



Bostik

Mathew Whitehouse Marketing Director Bostik UK

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Mineral Wool Insulation:



KNAUFINSULATION

Neil Hargreaves Managing Director Knauf Insulation

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Cement & Aggregates:



Hanson HEIDELBERGCEMENTGroup

Andrew Simpson
Packed Products Director
Hanson Cement

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Paint:



Dulux TRADE

Paul Edworthy Commercial Lead Dulux Trade

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Expert for Website & Product Data Management Solutions:



eci.

(LBMH) division

Chris Fisher
Vice President of the EMEA lumber,
building material and hardware

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

The new Expert for Plumbing & Drainage is...



Brett Martin

Charles BurnsDivisional Director
Brett Martin

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

The new Expert for Heating & Cooling is...





Building Products

Matt Williams Managing Director Polypipe

Read latest Comment: Q2 2023 Report

Overview - 1



May to July value sales +8.5% up on previous 3 months. Volume +11.4%, prices -2.6%.

Total sales in May 2023 to July 2023 were +8.5% higher than in February 2023 to April 2023, with volume up +11.4% and prices down -2.6%. With two more trading days this period, like-for-like sales were +5.0% higher. Ten of the twelve categories sold more. Only Landscaping (+28.7%) and Heavy Building Materials (+9.5%) performed better than Merchants overall. Workwear & Safetywear (-5.0%) and Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (-6.2%) sold less.

July 2023 v July 2022

Total Builders Merchants value sales were down -0.4% in July 2023 compared with the same month last year. Volume sales were -7.9% lower with prices up +8.1%. There was no difference in trading days. Nine of the twelve categories sold more than in July 2022, led by Renewables & Water Saving (+51.2%). Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+14.0%), Decorating (+13.6%), Tools (+11.1%) and Kitchens & Bathrooms (+10.1%) also increased with double digit growth. Landscaping (-7.2%) and Timber & Joinery Products (-12.1%) were weakest.

July 2023 v June 2023

Total Merchants sales were -5.5% lower in July 2023 than in June 2023. Volume sales were down -7.5% with price up +2.2%. With one less trading day this month, like-for-like sales (which take trading day differences into account) were -1.0% lower. Only three of the twelve categories sold more, led by Renewables & Water Saving (+15.5%). Landscaping (-15.6%) was weakest.

July Index:

July's overall BMBI index was 150.9. There was no difference in trading days. All categories exceeded 100, with seasonal category Landscaping (181.3) well out in front, followed by Kitchens & Bathrooms (157.6), Heavy Building Materials (150.9), Timber & Joinery Products (150.4) and Ironmongery (148.3). Tools (110.9) increased least.

Last three months, year on year

Total sales in May 2023 to July 2023 were -1.4% lower than in May 2022 to July 2022, with volume down -9.6% and prices up +9.1%. With one more trading day this year, like-for-like sales were down -2.9%. Nine of the twelve categories sold more. Renewables & Water Saving (+43.4%), Decorating (+14.0%) and Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+11.9%) did best. Landscaping (-7.1%) and Timber & Joinery Products (-13.6%) were weakest.

Overview continues on the next page...

Total Merchants sales were -5.5% lower in July 2023 than in June 2023. Volume sales were down -7.5% with price up +2.2%.

With one less trading day this month, likefor-like sales (which take trading day differences into account) were -1.0% lower.

Overview - 2



... continued from the previous page:

Year-to-date

Total value sales in the year to date, January 2023 to July 2023 were -2.8% down on the previous period, January 2022 to July 2022. Volume sales were -13.9% lower with prices up +12.9%. With one more trading day this period, like-for-like sales were -3.5% lower. Nine of the twelve categories sold more. Renewables & Water Saving (+44.4%) grew the most, followed by Decorating (+13.2%) and Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+11.4%). Landscaping (-13.8%) and Timber & Joinery Products (-15.3%) sold less.

MAT

Total Merchants sales in August 2022 to July 2023 were flat (+0.0%) compared to August 2021 to July 2022, with volume down -12.2% and prices up +13.9%. There was no difference in trading days. Nine of the twelve categories sold more. Renewables & Water Saving (+45.4%) did best but Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+13.8%), Decorating (+13.5%), Workwear & Safetywear (+12.9%) and Kitchens & Bathrooms (+10.8%) all made double-digit growth. Landscaping (-9.9%) and Timber& Joinery Products (-13.3%) were weakest.

The year to date,
January to July 2023
sales, was -2.8%
down on the
previous period,
January to July
2022.

Volume sales were
-13.9% down with
prices up +12.9%.
With one more
trading day this
period, like-for-like
sales were -3.5%
lower.

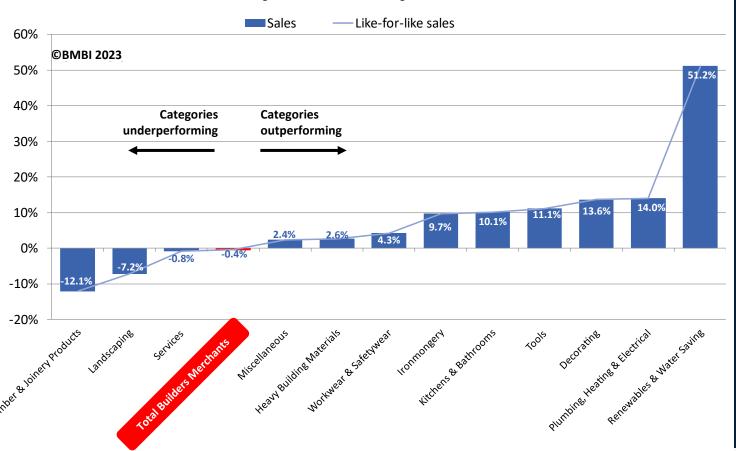
Monthly: This year v last year

July 2023 sales

There was no difference in trading days (21). Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.



July 2023 v July 2022



Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

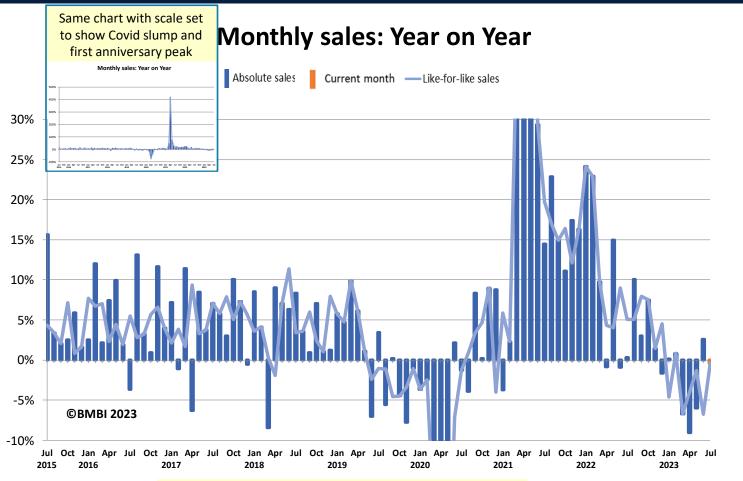
Nine of the twelve categories sold more than in July 2022, led by Renewables & Water Saving (+51.2%).

Monthly: Year on Year

Sales and Like-for-like sales

There was no difference in trading days (21). Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.





Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

Total Builders
Merchants value
sales were down
-0.4% in July 2023
compared with the
same month last
year.

Volume sales were -7.9% lower with prices up +8.1%.

Note: Year-on-year sales slumped to -73.6% in April 2020. Year-on-year sales peaked at 419.2% in April 2021.

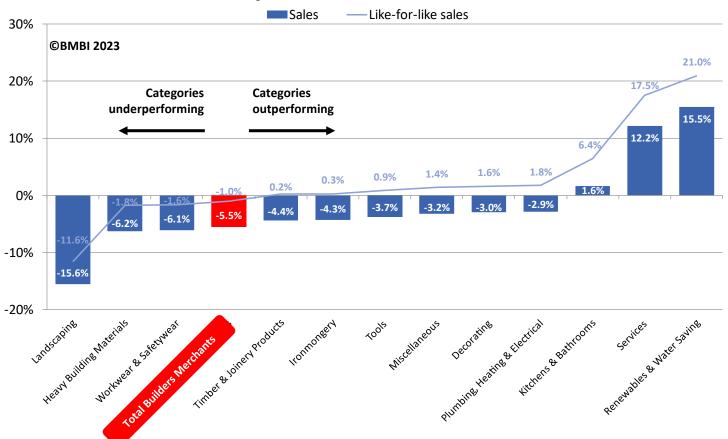
Monthly: This month v last month

July 2023 sales

21 trading days this month v 22 trading days last month. Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.



July 2023 v June 2023



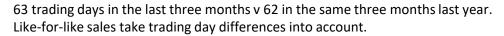


Total Merchants sales were -5.5% lower in July than in June 2023.

With one less trading day this month, likefor-like sales were -1.0% lower.

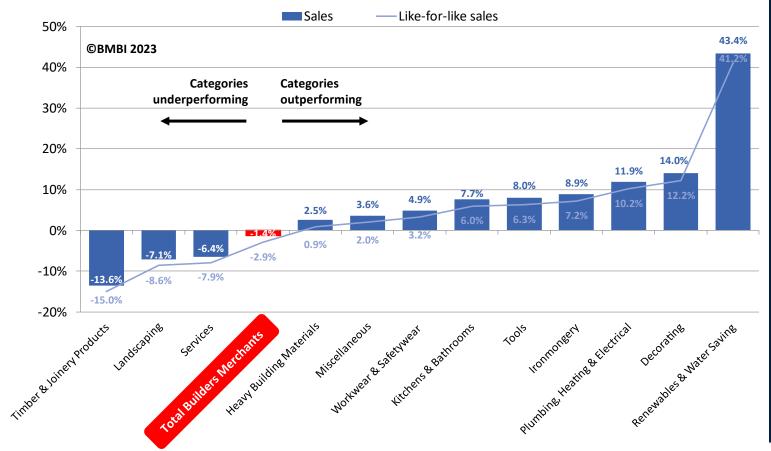
Latest 3 months: v last year

May 2023 to July 2023 sales





3 months May 23 to Jul 23 v 3 months May 22 to Jul 22



Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

Total sales in May 2023 to July 2023 were -1.4% lower than in May to July 2022, with volume down -9.6% and prices up +9.1%.

Nine of the twelve categories sold more. Renewables & Water Saving (+43.4%), Decorating (+14.0%) and Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+11.9%) did best.

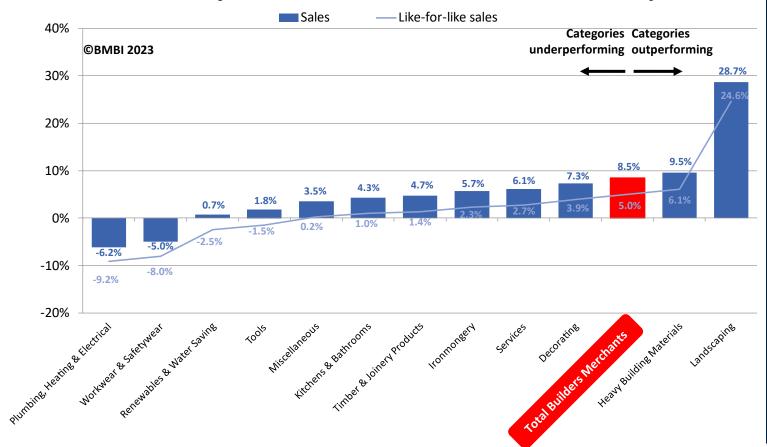
Latest 3 months: v previous 3 months

May 2023 to July 2023 sales

63 trading days in the latest three months v 61 in the previous three months. Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.



3 months May 23 to Jul 23 v 3 months Feb 23 to Apr 23



Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

Total sales in May to July 2023 were +8.5% higher than in February to April 2023, with volume up +11.4% and prices down -2.6%.

With two more trading days this period, like-for-like sales were +5.0% higher.

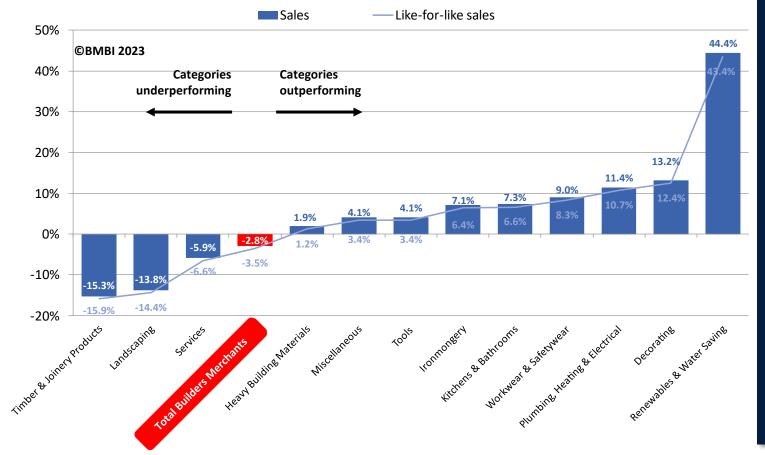
Year to date: v 2022

Last 7 months sales and like-for-like sales

145 trading days this year v 144 trading days last year. Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.



Year to date: Jan 23 to Jul 23 v Jan 22 v Jul 22





Nine of the twelve categories sold more. Renewables & Water Saving (+44.4%) grew the most, followed by Decorating (+13.2%) and Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+11.4%).

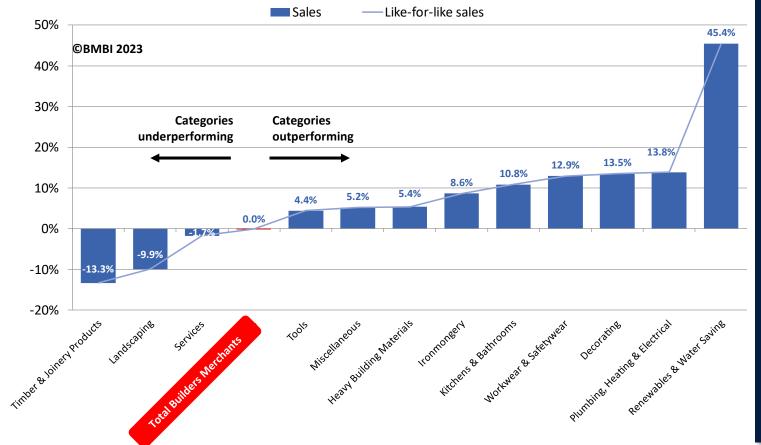
Last 12 Months: Year on Year

Sales and like-for-like sales

There was no difference in trading days (247). Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.



12 months Aug 22 to Jul 23 v 12 months Aug 21 to Jul 22



Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

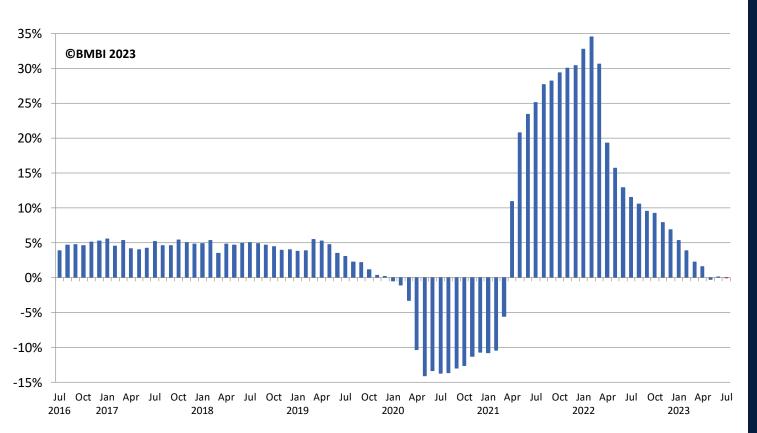
Renewables & Water Saving (+45.4%) did best but Plumbing, Heating & Electrical (+13.8%), Decorating (+13.5%), Workwear & Safetywear (+12.9%) and Kitchens & Bathrooms (+10.8%) all made double-digit growth.

12 months: Year on Year

Moving Annual Total (MAT) sales



MAT: Total Builders Merchants August 2016 to July 2023



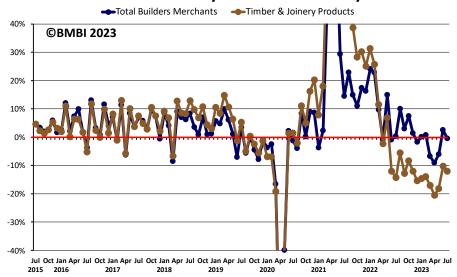
Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

Total Merchants sales in August 2022 to July 2023 were flat (+0.0%) compared to August 2021 to July 2022.

July 2023

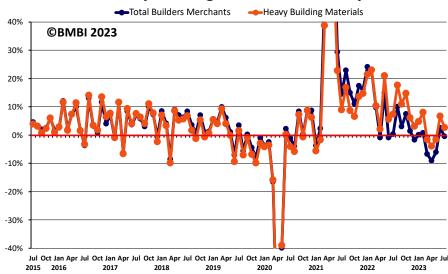


Timber & Joinery Products - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Timber & Joinery Products	-79.0%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Timber & Joinery Products	+555.8%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%

Heavy Building Materials - Monthly



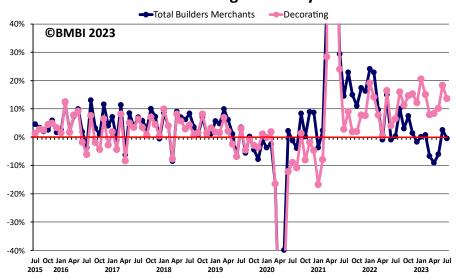
Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Heavy Building Materials	-74.7%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Heavy Building Materials	+350.6%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%



July 2023

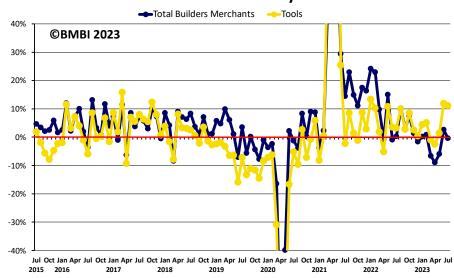


Decorating - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Decorating	-81.6%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Decorating	+472.1%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%

Tools - Monthly



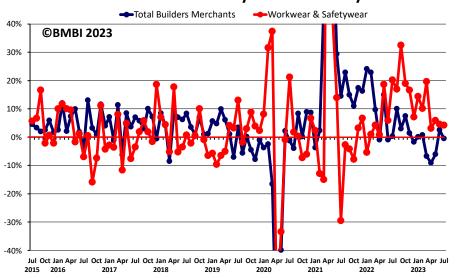
Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Tools	-90.0%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Tools	+1188.1%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%



July 2023

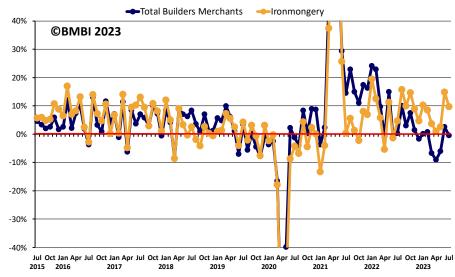


Workwear & Safetywear - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Workwear & Safetywear	-60.2%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Workwear & Safetywear	+175.8%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%

Ironmongery - Monthly



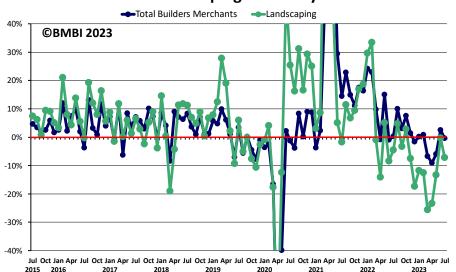
Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Ironmongery	-77.8%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Ironmongery	+403.2%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%



July 2023

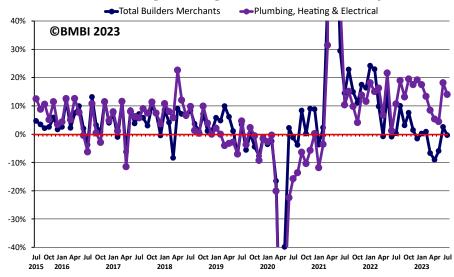


Landscaping - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart) April 2020 trough: Landscaping -74.4% Total Builders Merchants -76.5% April 2021 peak: Landscaping +538.4% Total Builders Merchants +419.2%

Plumbing Heating & Electrical - Monthly



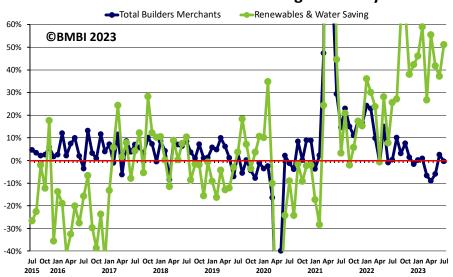
Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Plumbing Heating & Electrical	-77.9%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Plumbing Heating & Electrical	+369.9%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%



July 2023

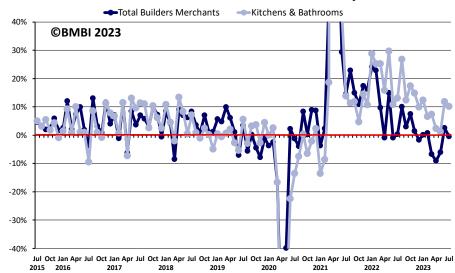


Renewables & Water Saving - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Renewables & Water Saving	-77.4%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Renewables & Water Saving	+518.1%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%

Kitchens & Bathrooms - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Kitchens & Bathrooms	-86.8%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Kitchens & Bathrooms	+706.3%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%

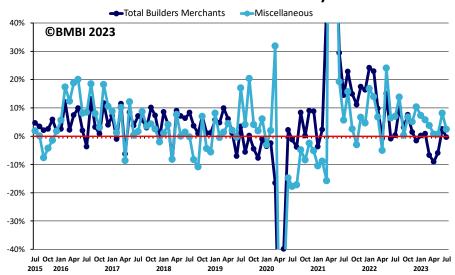




July 2023

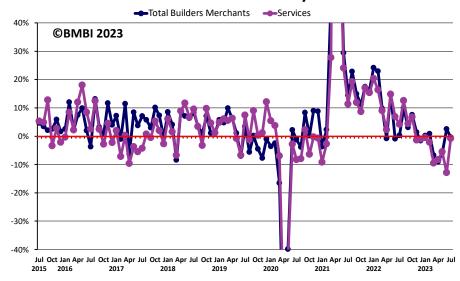


Miscellaneous - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart) April 2020 trough: Miscellaneous -67.7% Total Builders Merchants -76.5% April 2021 peak: Miscellaneous +243.5% Total Builders Merchants +419.2%

Services - Monthly



Covid19 peaks and troughs (off the chart)		
April 2020 trough:	Services	-62.9%
	Total Builders Merchants	-76.5%
April 2021 peak:	Services	+204.2%
	Total Builders Merchants	+419.2%



Monthly: Index and Categories

May 2022* - July 2023

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



		2022									2023					
MONTHLY SALES VALUE INDEX	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul			
Total Builders Merchants	100	151.5	153.1	152.4	151.0	147.1	95.5	125.2	135.5	155.6	135.8	152.6	159.6	150.9		
Timber & Joinery Products	100	171.0	172.2	168.5	165.9	160.4	100.7	134.9	139.4	162.4	136.9	151.4	157.3	150.4		
Heavy Building Materials	100	147.0	149.4	151.3	150.1	144.0	92.4	122.2	135.5	153.8	134.9	152.8	160.9	150.9		
Decorating	100	122.1	126.2	127.8	130.6	137.4	92.0	123.7	126.3	142.3	123.9	137.2	144.1	139.8		
Tools	100	100.3	102.7	102.9	108.2	111.3	73.2	99.7	106.7	121.0	101.5	108.8	115.2	110.9		
Workwear & Safetywear	100	111.5	112.0	141.0	137.3	152.6	100.5	132.3	123.7	147.6	108.2	120.4	123.8	116.3		
Ironmongery	100	135.3	139.2	141.9	142.6	144.7	98.3	135.7	135.9	156.8	131.1	144.6	154.9	148.3		
Landscaping	100	195.5	183.5	166.1	152.6	132.7	76.5	102.4	130.7	163.8	169.2	200.8	214.7	181.3		
Plumbing, Heating & Electrical	100	125.9	130.5	143.3	156.6	168.4	127.6	154.4	156.8	172.8	133.8	143.3	147.8	143.6		
Renewables & Water Saving	100	90.4	89.9	115.3	118.1	113.8	82.6	123.5	127.5	133.7	120.8	131.4	117.6	135.8		
Kitchens & Bathrooms	100	143.1	150.1	147.5	146.7	161.4	106.4	136.6	143.3	162.2	134.6	146.4	155.1	157.6		
Miscellaneous	100	130.6	132.4	128.6	125.0	133.3	99.4	134.5	125.9	142.3	117.6	134.9	134.5	130.1		
Services	100	138.4	146.6	139.4	136.3	133.2	101.6	112.0	117.6	132.6	120.7	134.0	122.3	137.3		

^{*}Click the web link below to see the complete series of indices from July 2015.



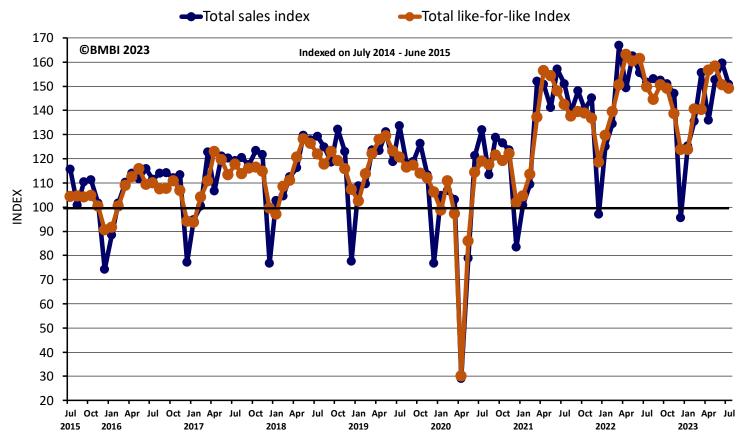
Monthly: Index

Sales and like-for-like sales

There was no difference in the Index base period (21). Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.



Total Builders Merchants sales v like-for-like sales index



Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

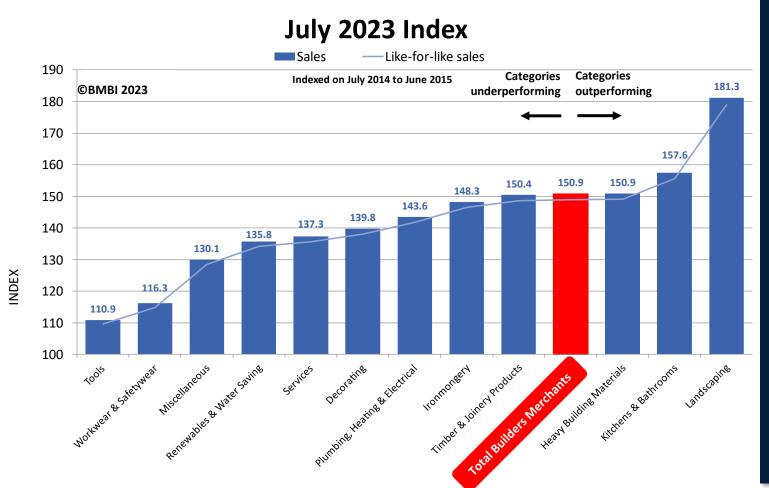
July's overall BMBI index was 150.9.

Monthly: Index and Categories

July 2023 index

There was no difference in the Index base period (21). Like-for-like sales take trading day differences into account.





Source: GfK's
Builders Merchants
Total Category Report
July 2015 to July 2023

All categories
exceeded 100, with
seasonal category
Landscaping (181.3)
well out in front,
followed by Kitchens
& Bathrooms (157.6),
Heavy Building
Materials (150.9),
Timber & Joinery
Products (150.4) and
Ironmongery
(148.3).

Trading Days



Monthly											Quarte	rly			Half Year		Full Year	
Index: 20.8											Index:	62.3						
2021												2021				2021		2021
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	249
20	20	23	20	19	22	22	21	22	21	22	17	63	61	65	60	124	125	243
2022												2022				2022		2022
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	246
20	20	23	19	21	20	21	22	21	21	22	16	63	60	64	59	123	123	240
2023												2023				2023		2023
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	H1	H2	
21	20	23	18	20	22	21						64	60			124		



GfK's Definition of **Builders Merchant Panel**





Generalist Builders Merchants definition:

- 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. Only multiple merchants are considered; they are defined as having more than 3 outlets or a turnover of greater than £3m p.a.
- This excludes branches that generate all their sales from specialized areas such as Civils, Tiles and Tools, Estimated coverage of this channel sits at 82%.

Examples include:

























GfK Insights Methodology









GfK Insights Methodology







Define sample requirements applying statistical methods

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

GFK

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 Emile van der Ryst at GfK

emile.van-der-ryst@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)



"building excellence in materials supply"



BMF (Builders Merchant Federation) Forecast Report & BMF Sales Indicators

BMF Forecast Report

Spring 2023 edition



Builders Merchants Industry Forecast Report

The latest forecast report of the BMF's Builders Merchants Industry Forecast, covering Spring 2023 onwards, is available now.

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 has 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 Spring 2023 edition now available. The forecast report can be downloaded by BMF members free of charge - once logged in - here.

Non-members can purchase the report by contacting Thomas Lowe on 024 7685 4994 or email: thomas.lowe@bmf.org.uk



Building the Industry & Building Brands from Knowledge







Best Product Launch



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Best use of research & insight



Contact us

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