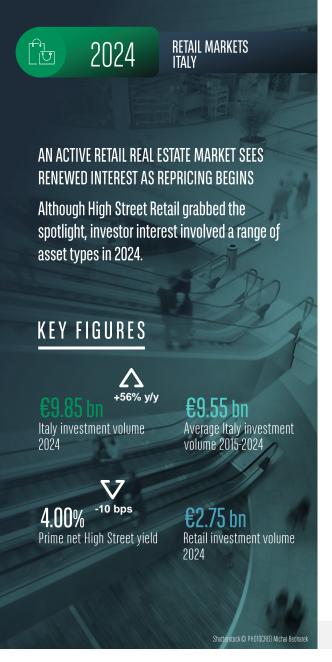




Real Estate for a changing world





The market begins to see the benefits of the focus shifting towards creating a unique customer shopping experience. Quality assets and locations demonstrate a higher degree of resistance to socio-economic change.

In 2024 evolution of the Retail market, underway for a number of years, accompanied benefits from renewed real estate interest. Repricing commenced as inflation was brought under control, the ECB implemented rate cuts, and consumer confidence endured.

The very significant growth in investor activity resulted in improved volumes for all CRE including the Retail sector, which dominated the Italian investment volume in 2024 thanks to the closure of the largest single asset real estate deal recorded, in the HS Retail sector.

Prime Retail yields compressed in Q4 in the High Street sector after stability in the first part of 2024, although disparities exist in asset location and type and between prime and secondary.

Rental growth in prime locations within key cities is sustained by a healthy High Street occupier sector and strong tourist flows in these locations, including in the Luxury segment which remained largely unaffected by recent the economic challenges. Here, the tight supply of suitable opportunities has limited activity.

Although Mass Market retail did face a more challenging environment in recent quarters, essential retail - involving the sale of products that consumers consider indispensable - continued to play an important role. The customer shopping experience remains a key focus in today's consumption patterns.

#### **Key Indicators**

1.0%

Real GDP Growth
(Forecast for 2024)

62.4%
Employment Rate (Nov 24)

1.3%
Annual Inflation Rate
Y-o-Y (Dec 24)

Value -0.4% | Volume -0.6%

RETAIL SALES GROWTH
Index 2021 = 100
Y-0-Y (Oct 24)

(ISTAT)





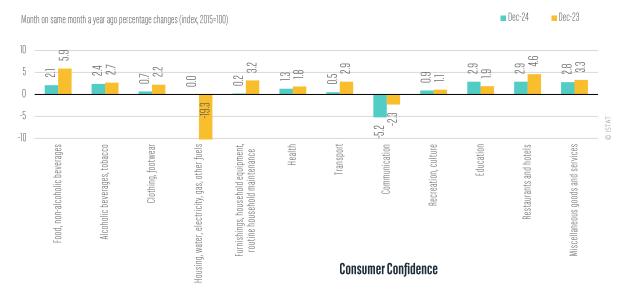
#### **Consumer Prices**

In December 2024 the Italian consumer price index for the whole nation (NIC) increased by +0.1% on a monthly basis and by +1.3% on an annual basis.

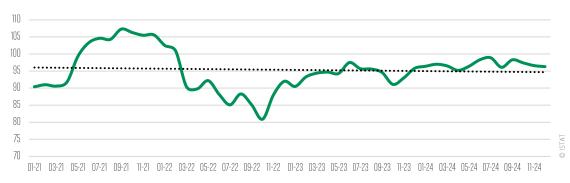
Core inflation - excluding energy and unprocessed food slowed in 2024 and remained stable at around the ECB target.

Growth stabilization underlies contrasting trends: the prices of unprocessed food and of services related to recreation slowed down although the prices of energy products increased.

#### Consumer Prices indices by sector



#### Consumer Confidence (index, 2021 = 100)



At the end of the 2024, the consumer confidence index in Italy softened to stand at 96.3, with further deterioration in the economic and future climate indexes. The retail trade confidence climate remained basically unchanged.

Manufacturing and construction confidence worsened, the latter recording two month of decline. The market service climate improved thanks to growing optimism and upgraded expectations.



Real Estate for a changing world

RETAIL MARKETS | ITALY 3





#### A moderate acceleration is expected for the Italian economy

Reflecting current economic uncertainty, Italian GDP has been revised downwards compared to initial annual forecasts and is expected to have expanded by +0.5% in 2024, slightly below Eurozone levels, with current expectations that this increase by +0.8% in 2025 (Banca d'Italia forecast).

In December 2024 the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices recorded lower growth in Italy than in the Eurozone and in other countries. The annual average rate dropped significantly to 1.0% compared to 5.7% in 2023.

The 10Y Italian Government Bond yield stood at 3.6% at the end of 2024, after contracting from the peaks seen at end-2023.

The associated widespread decompression throughout 2023 was followed by underlying yield stability in 2024. Yield levels are significantly differentiated by asset type and location and some further decompression may be seen for secondary product and as market evidence becomes available

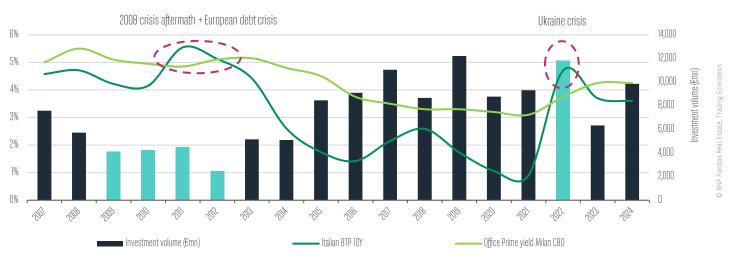
Italian exports in the third quarter of 2024 registered a slight +0.6% increase on a quarterly basis as international trade in goods remains weak Exports have followed a negative trend since the beginning of the year (-0.5% vs 2023) mainly due to a reduction in export values that was more significant than the increase in average unit values.

This export decline did not involve all industrial sectors however: indeed, the export of food and beverages, as well as the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors, increased over the same period.

In Q3 2024 household purchasing power continued to grow (+0.4%), albeit at a slower pace than the previous quarter. This growth was driven by an increase in disposable income, which outpaced the rise in the consumption deflator, leading consumption expenditure to rise significantly alongside a decline of the household saving rate.

On an annual basis, employment increased by 328,000 (+1.4%) to 62.4%, while unemployment, especially in the youth segment, fell and the inactivity rate raised.

## 10Y government bond > prime yield CBD, halting prime yield decompression





Real Estate for a changing world

RETAIL MARKETS | ITALY 4





#### **Retail Spending**

After the promising performance achieved in the first part of the year, in November 2024 the retail trade index fell by -0.4% in terms of value and volume contracted by -0.6% compared to the previous month.

However, on a yearly basis the value of retail trade rose by +1.1%, although volumes dropped slightly by -0.2%.

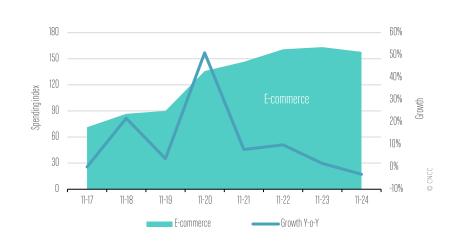
Large-scale distribution grew by +3.8% but small-scale distribution decreased by -0.9%. Non-store retail sales fell by -3.9% and online sales by -3.3% Y-o-Y.

Mixed results were recorded in non-food sales trends depending on the specific category.



#### **Online Retail Spending**







RETAIL MARKETS ITALY

# RETAIL INVESTMENTS GROW BY 298% IN 2024

Retail is the first asset class in terms of both absolute year-end volumes and annual percentage growth, with success across a range of locations and sectors.

Although High Street Retail grabbed the spotlight, investor interest involved a range of asset types in 2024.

Prime Retail yields fell in Q4 2024 by 10 bps both in Milan and Rome, whereas Shopping Centre remained stable Y-o-Y.

# KEY RETAIL DEALS



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# RETAIL INVESTMENTS

# **Retail investments**



Investment	in	Dotail	Doal	Cetato	202
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 TYPE
 VOLUME (M€)

 Street Retail
 1,300

 Supermarket
 350

 Shopping Centre
 225

AVG. 2015-2024 **€1.72** bn

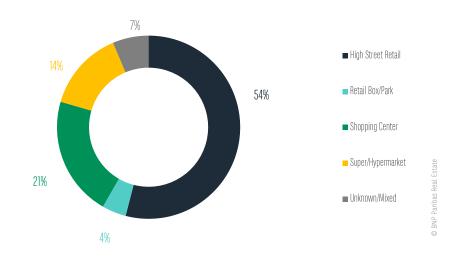
2024 2024 **€2.75** bn



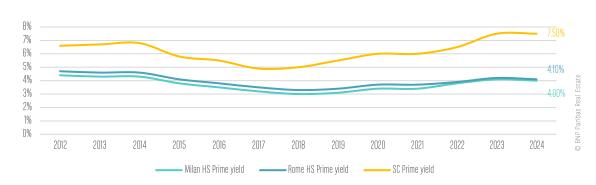




# 2024 Retail Investments by Product



## Retail prime yields



## Prime yields 2024

Milan High Street

4.00%

Rome High Street

4.10%

**Shopping Centres** 

7.50%



RETAIL MARKETS

**LUXURY** stock is limited by the size and number of luxury retail streets in both Rome and Milan and in those key shopping cities which boast the highest local purchasing power and the strongest tourist flows.

However, the Luxury sector has been particularly resilient to the effects of periods of economic challenges.



## **ROME High Street Prime Rents and Footfall**



Average rent for a small size shop excluding key money. Please note that rents could greatly vary for every single asset according to the position on the street, the sidewalk, cadastral use of the premises, size of the shop, layout features, number of levels and number of shop windows.

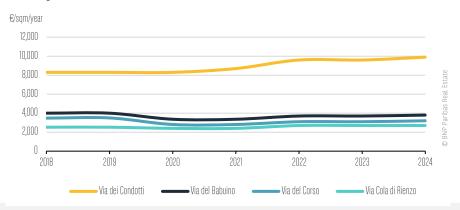
# ROME Focus

Rome's retail market benefits particularly from its role as the capital city as well as the strong tourist flows.

Centrally located stock often tends to house Luxury brands but can give rise to ESG-related issues. Demand for sustainable assets is thus especially strong.

Footfall levels for Mass-Market retail streets, which tend to be located in the areas surrounding the historic centre, are improving, as are rental levels.

## **ROME High Street Prime Rents**



#### ROME Key High Street Occupier Transaction in H2 2024

STREET	LOCATION	AREA (sqm)	BRAND
Piazza San Silvestro, 6	Rome	800	Starbucks
Via Fratina, 136	Rome	400	Max&Co
Via del Babuino, 59	Rome	235	Zadig&Voltaire



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**RETAIL MARKETS** 

Italy's best **HIGH STREET** locations continue to evolve to offer new shopping experiences as footfall levels remain strong. The appeal of Milan and Rome as a shopping destinations benefit from strong and growing tourist flows.

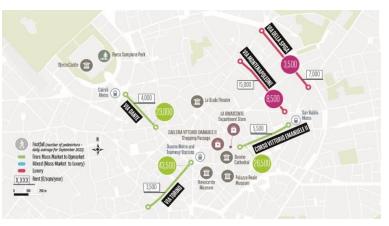
High street rents continued to grow across H2 2024, although discrepancy by quality of location and asset remain significant.

Interest in owner acquisition is also emerging.

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## MILAN High Street Prime Rents and Footfall



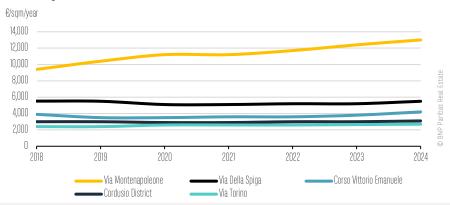
Average rent for a small size shop excluding key money. Please note that rents could greatly vary for every single asset according to the

#### **MILAN Focus**

MILAN is a major global shopping capital and tourist destination and a first port of call for many brands entering Italy, New openings, with international retailers still expressing interest in entering Milan, continue to transform the city.

Existing supply can be restricted, especially for the highest quality stores with good visibility. These supply factors exert ongoing upward pressure on prime rents in key shopping streets.

#### **MILAN High Street Prime Rents**



#### MILAN Key High Street Occupier Transaction in H2 2024

STREET	LOCATION	AREA (sqm)	BRAND
Via Dante, 16	Milan	554	North Sails
Corso Matteotti, 12	Milan	548	Spontini
Piazza San Babila, 6	Milan	542	Gruppo Damiani





RETAIL MARKETS

SHOPPING CENTRE visitor levels have seen continuous monthly increases compared to previous year footfall as the out-of-town sector continues to evolve.

The higher fixed costs involved specifically in **FOOD RETAIL** have also been negatively impacted this segment the food sector.

However, **NECESSITY RETAIL** played an important role in the recent period of economic difficulties, across categories.

# SHOPPING CENTRE PIPELINE





43,000

35,500

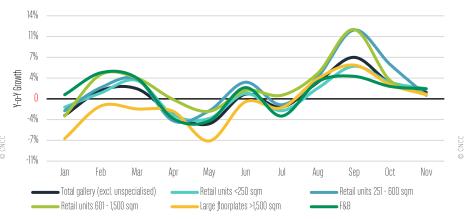
35,000

25,500

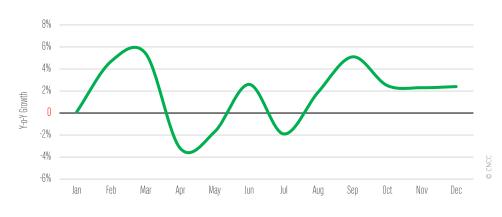
# **Shopping Centres Turnover by Product Type**



# Shopping Centres Turnover by Unit Size and Type



## **Consumer Visits**



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COMPLETION

Fall 2025

2025

Q1 2025

2025



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