



The National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia Inc

NEWSLETTER

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2017/37

From the desk of Chris Wilcox, Executive Director

- Fine Merino wool prices drive the market higher
- IMF predicts faster world economic growth
- Consumer confidence at highs and clothing retail sales encouraging
- Upcoming events



Sample Article

Retail sales of clothing in 2017 to date encouraging

Consumer confidence levels are high in many of the major wool consuming countries so we could hope that consumers are spending more on products, including on clothing. The latest data on retail sales of clothing in the key wool consuming countries is mixed but quite encouraging. The latest data on growth rates show that clothing retail sales in the full 2016 year were generally lower than in 2015 and lower than in previous years for a number of countries but clothing retail sales in China, Germany, France and the UK so far in 2017 are above the growth rates seen in 2016 as we head towards the Autumn/Winter season in the Northern Hemisphere. The growth rate in the UK is particularly strong, but this is a rebound from the dismal decline seen in 2016. While the situation in Japan is better than in 2016, retail sales of clothing in department stores is still declining. Finally, retail sales growth in the US, South Korea and Italy are all below the rate achieved in 2016 to August.

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INDUSTRY EVENTS

The **AWTA Annual General Meeting** will be held in Melbourne on Friday, 20th October 2017.

The **AWI Annual General Meeting** will be held in Sydney on Friday, 17th November 2017.

IWTO Roundtable in Cape Town, South Africa, 6th to 9th December 2017.

WOOL SALES WEEK BEGINNING 16th OCT 2017 – week 16 (roster as at 12/10/2017)

Sydney

Wed, 18th Oct; Thurs, 19th Oct 12,815 bales

Melbourne

Wed, 18th Oct; Thurs, 19th Oct 24,684 bales

Fremantle

Wed, 18th Oct; Thurs, 19th Oct 9,013 bales

Information in the Weekly Newsletter is intended to provide general information only and is not intended to constitute advice for a specific purpose.