

# GLOBAL BLUE *INSIGHTS*

## The new Chinese Shopper and what to expect in 2025

# GLOBAL BLUE *INSIGHTS*

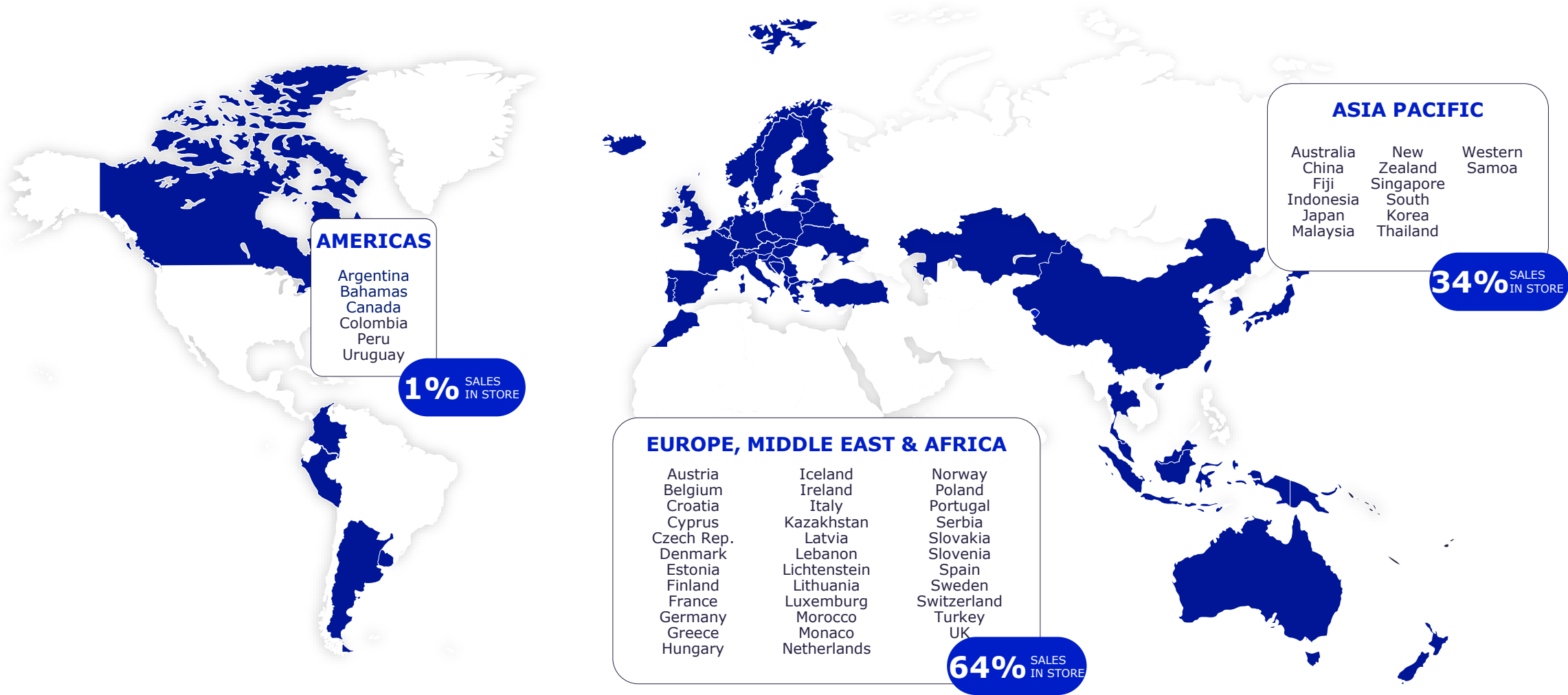
- 1 **2024 Global and Local Tax Free Shopping dynamics:  
Chinese shopper focus**
- 2 **The New Chinese Shopper:  
profile and shopping behaviours**
- 3 **Chinese traveler:  
2025 expectations**

# GLOBAL BLUE *INSIGHTS*

1

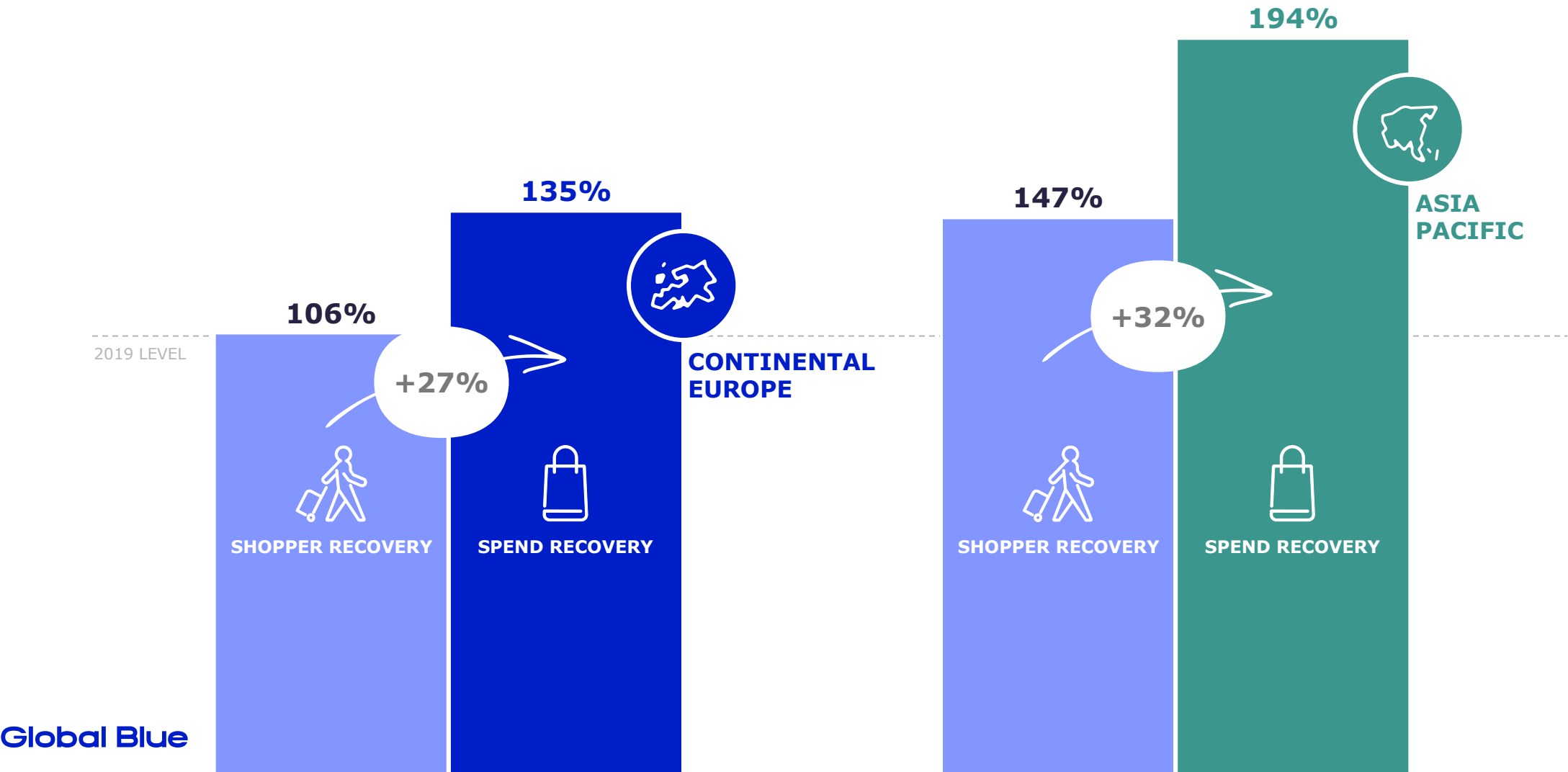
## 2024 Global and Local Tax Free Shopping dynamics: Chinese shopper focus

# Unique dataset enabling Global Blue to deeply understand international shopper behavior and preference



# Strong Global spend recovery compared to 2019, boosted by increased average spend

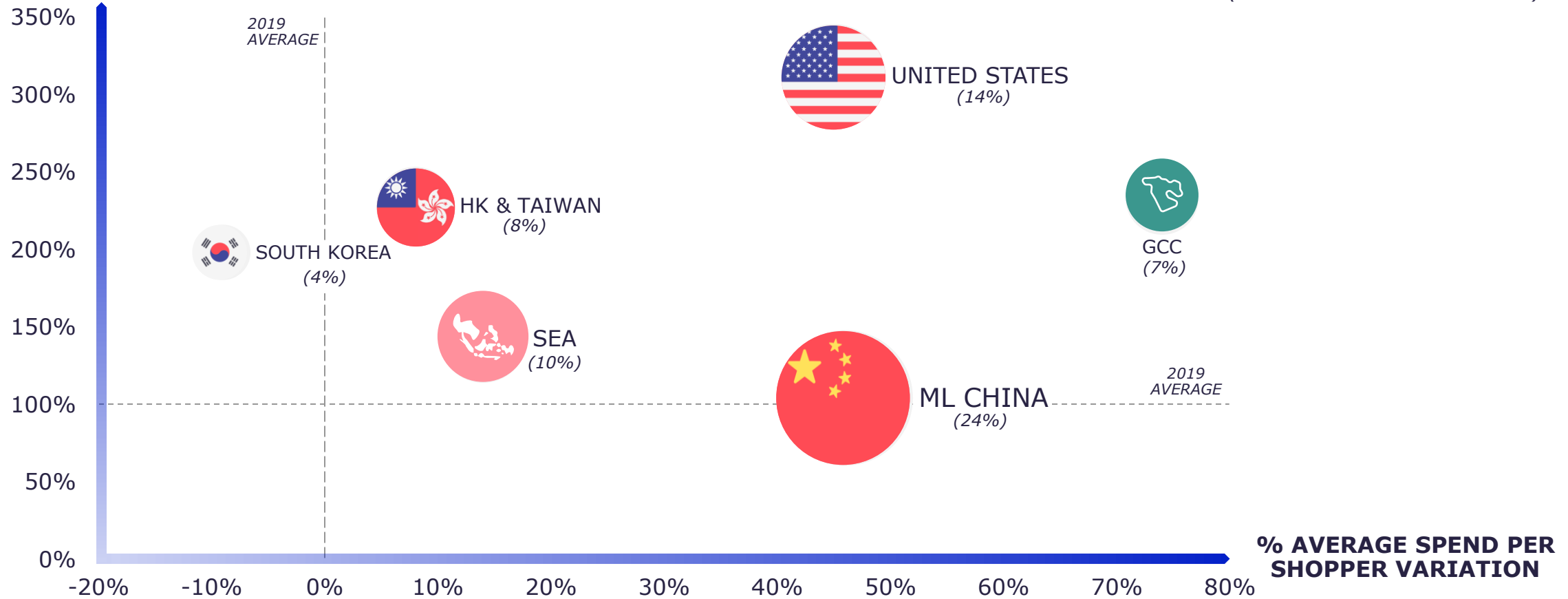
% AVERAGE SPEND PER SHOPPER VARIATION  
(2024 vs. 2019)



# A shift in nationality mix takes over, with ML China spend back to 2019 levels...

**% SPEND RECOVERY**  
(2024 vs. 2019)

(% SPEND CONTRIBUTION 2024)

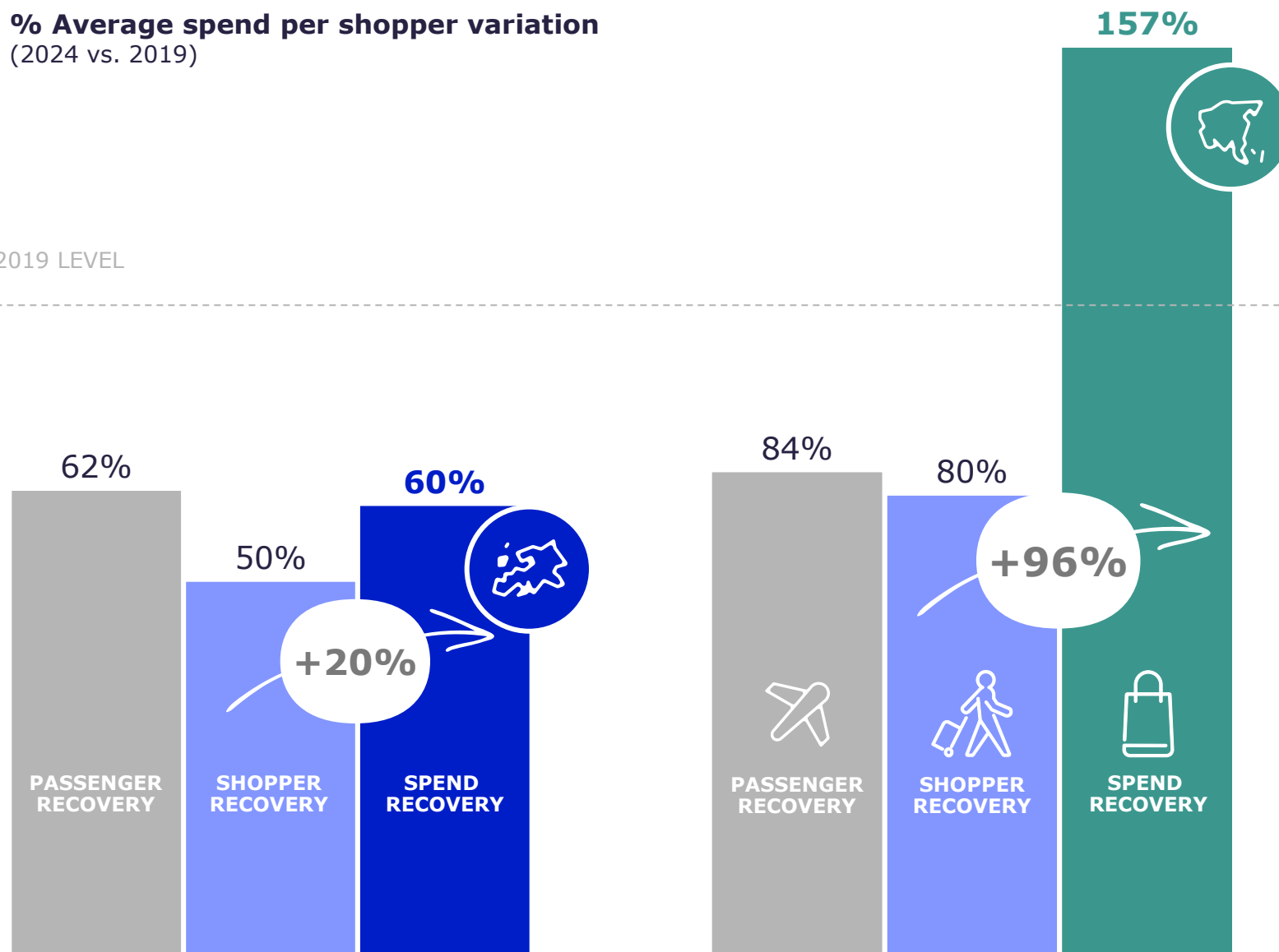


# ... APAC is benefiting from return of ML China shoppers, while Europe's recovery is still 'timid'



% Average spend per shopper variation  
(2024 vs. 2019)

2019 LEVEL



The big difference comes from average spend per shopper increase

**+20%** / **+96%**  
EUROPE / APAC



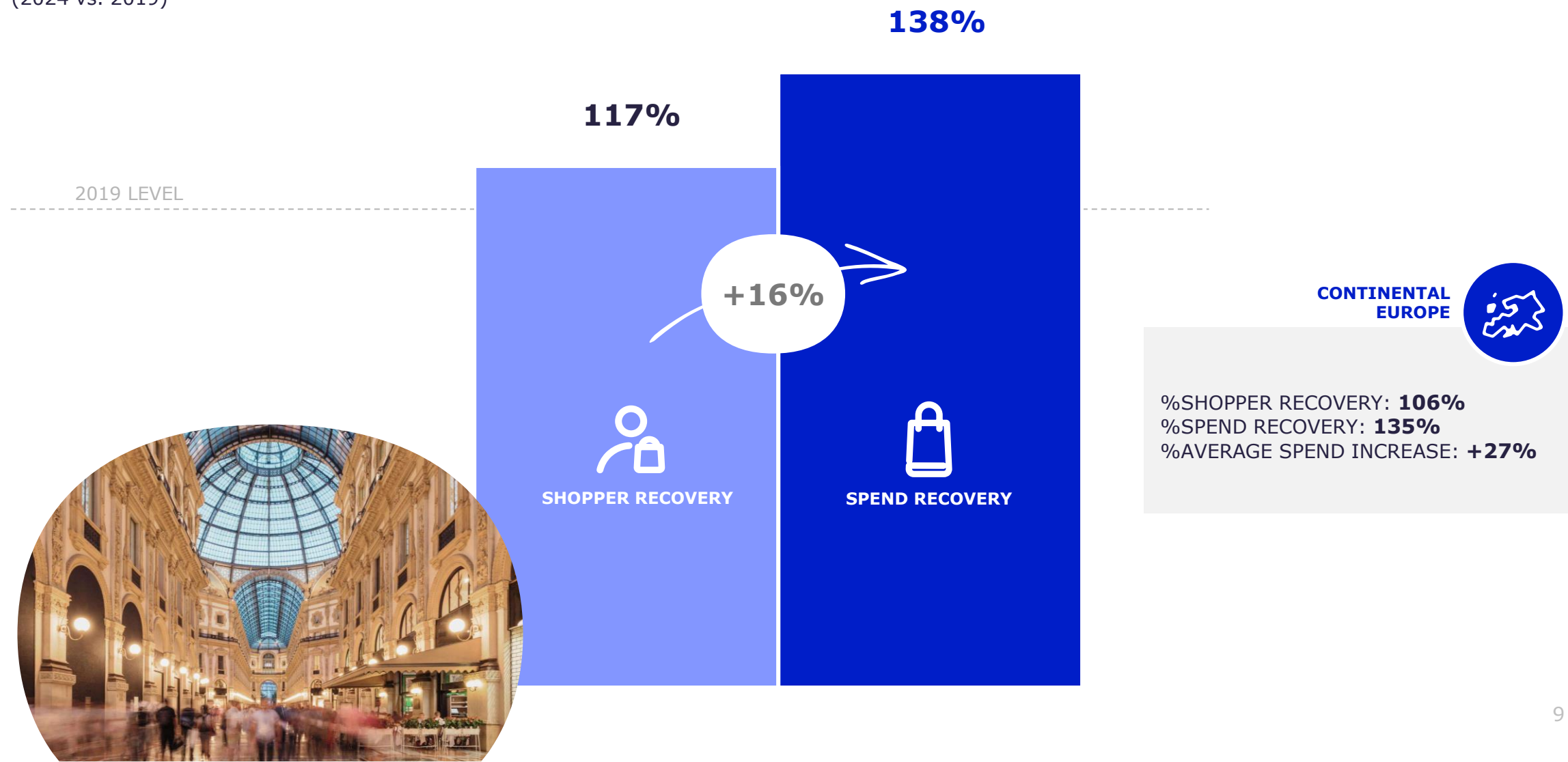
# What about Italy?

\*Excluding transactions under the new Minimum Spending Threshold (70-155 €)



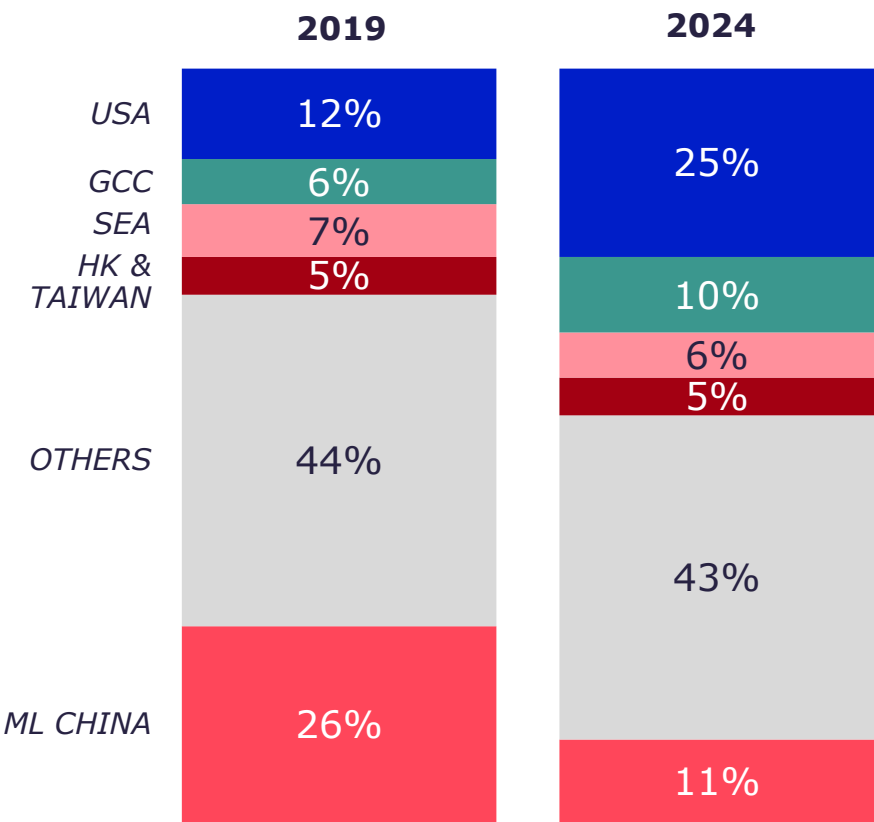
# Italy has significantly surpassed 2019 levels, both in number of Shoppers and Sales

% Average spend per shopper variation  
(2024 vs. 2019)

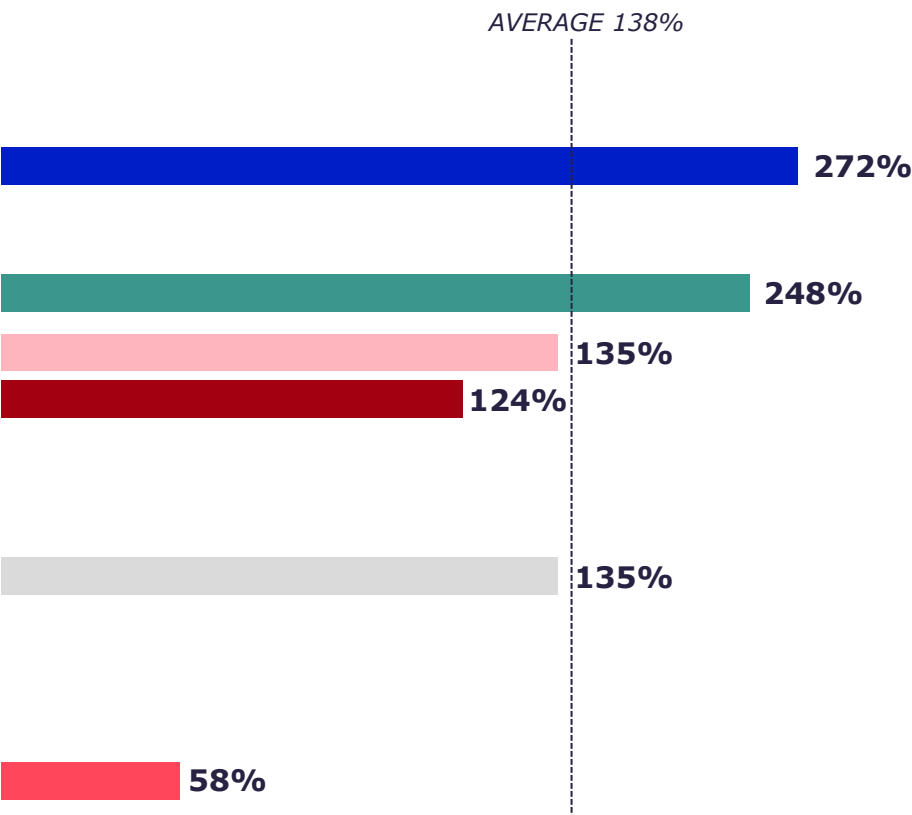


# Driven by a new mix of nationalities, US & GCC surge, awaiting ML China's full recovery...

Top nationalities  
%Spend



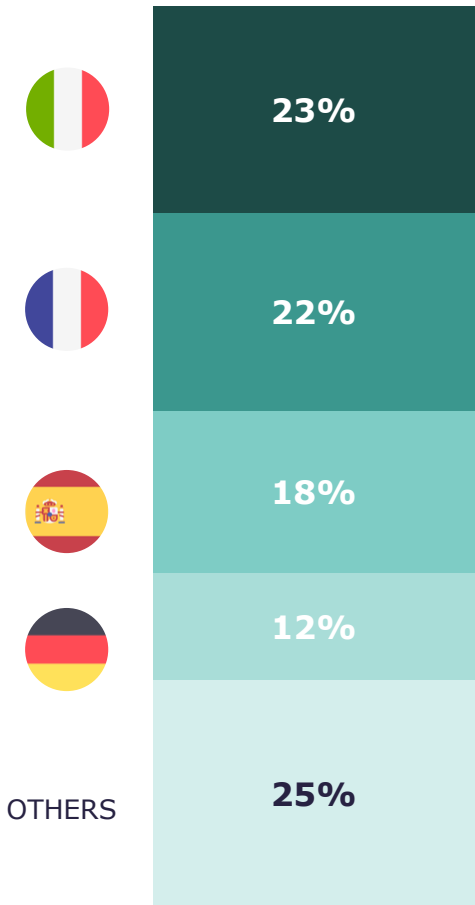
%Spend recovery  
vs. 2019



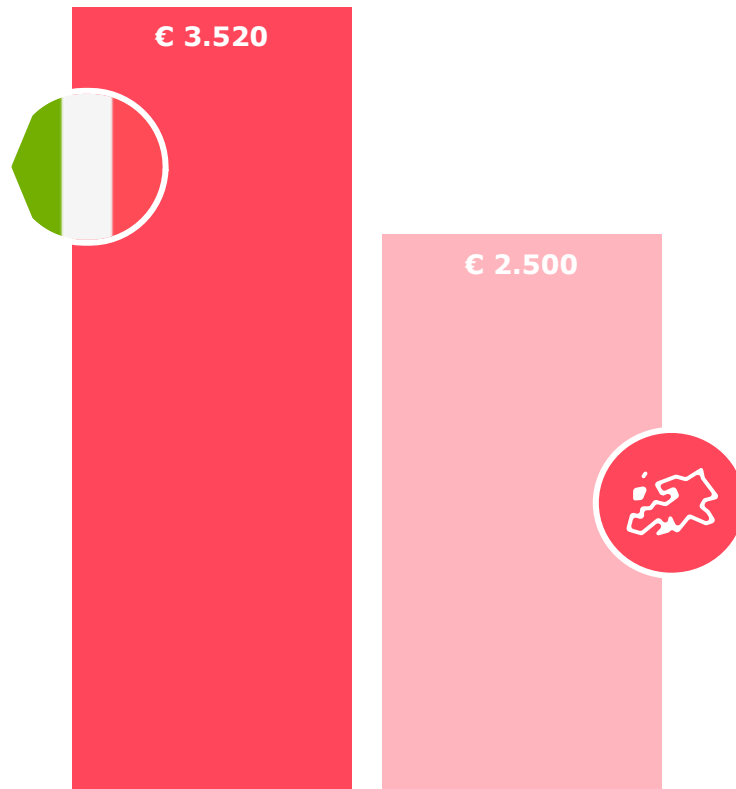
# Moving towards full recovery, three positive indicators make Italy a key destination for Chinese shoppers



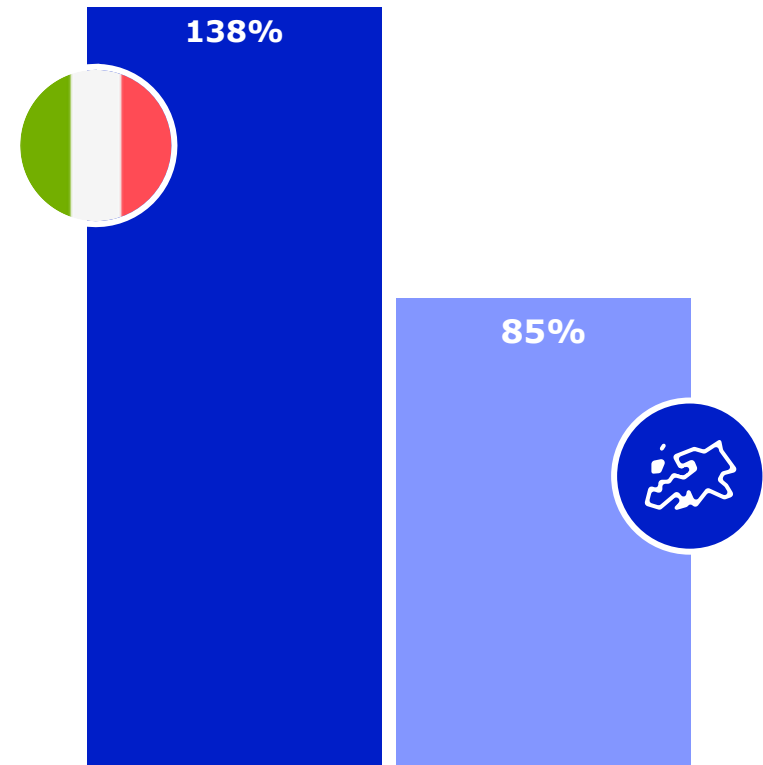
**#1** % EU SPEND CONTRIBUTION  
2024



**#2** AVERAGE SPEND PER SHOPPER  
2024



**#3** % AIR CAPACITY RECOVERY  
2024 vs 2019



Data source: ForwardKeys passengers' data  
(estimated figures) December 2024

# GLOBAL BLUE *INSIGHTS*

## 2 The new Chinese shopper: profile and shopping behaviours

# What are the main shopping behaviours of the New Chinese Shopper in Italy?



**Focused  
Consumption**



**Luxury  
Enthusiasts**



**Preference for  
Local Brands**

**Let's deep dive...**



## Focused Consumption

Fewer transactions and a smaller selection of brands vs 2019

AVERAGE SPEND  
PER SHOPPER

● 2019  
3,230€

● 2024  
3,520€

AVERAGE TRANSACTIONS  
PER SHOPPER (€)

~2.5  
TRANSACTIONS

1,200€  
Average spend per transaction

~2  
TRANSACTIONS

1,665€  
Average spend per transaction

AVERAGE BRANDS  
PER SHOPPER

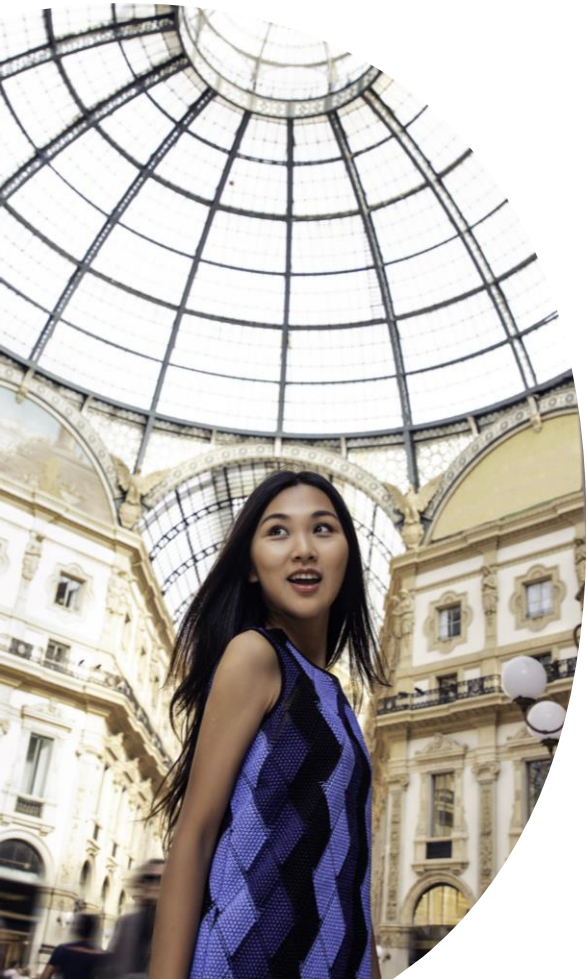
~2.2  
BRANDS

~1.9  
BRANDS



## Focused Consumption

Spending concentrated in Top 10 Brands



**10 brands**



**60%**  
of ML China  
Shoppers spending  
Italy (2024)

**Top 10 Brands** capture  
**60% of ML China spending**

All International Shoppers  
Italy (2024)

**30  
brands**

**60%  
Spending**

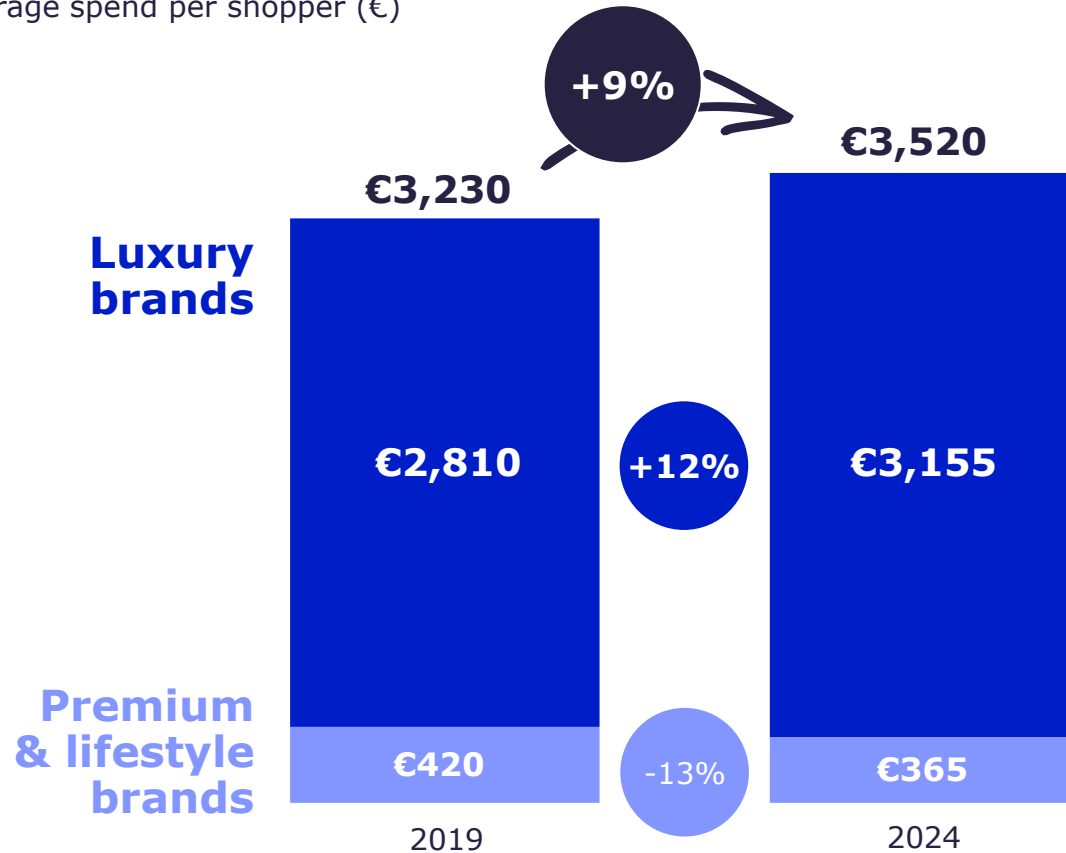


# Luxury Enthusiasts

Spending in Luxury as never seen before

## CHINESE WALLET

Average spend per shopper (€)



~90%

of Chinese spending is  
on **luxury brands**  
(+3pp vs 2019)







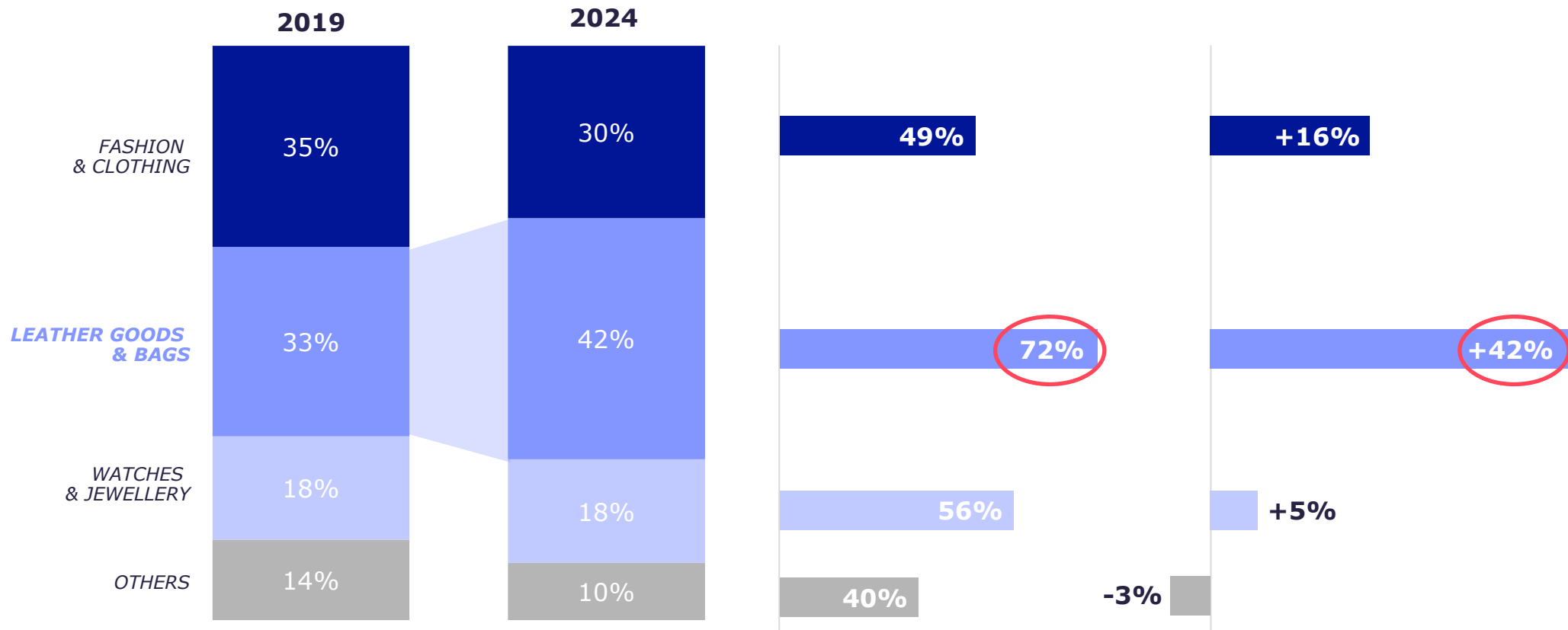
## Luxury Enthusiasts

With a strong preference for Luxury Leather Goods & Bags brands

**Top Luxury Categories**  
%Spend

**% SPEND RECOVERY**  
vs.2019

**% VARIATION AVERAGE**  
**SPEND PER SHOPPER** vs.2019





# Luxury Enthusiasts

## What is inside their shopping bag?



### BAG SHOPPERS

46% ML China Luxury shoppers



€ 6.2k

AVERAGE SPEND  
PER SHOPPER (2024)

Item category	%Shoppers	Average spend per item (€)
Bags	100%	1,800€
Clothing	21%	480€
Footwear	21%	650€
Fashion Accessories	20%	450€
Coats & Jackets	19%	1,280€
Perfumes & Cosmetics	12%	120€
Watches & Jewelry	10%	4,130€



### Non-BAG SHOPPERS

54% ML China Luxury shoppers



€ 2.4k

AVERAGE SPEND  
PER SHOPPER (2024)

Item category	%Shoppers	Average spend per item (€)
Bags	0%	- €
Clothing	30%	450€
Footwear	23%	580€
Fashion Accessories	24%	400€
Coats & Jackets	28%	1,250€
Perfumes & Cosmetics	22%	100€
Watches & Jewelry	14%	4,500€

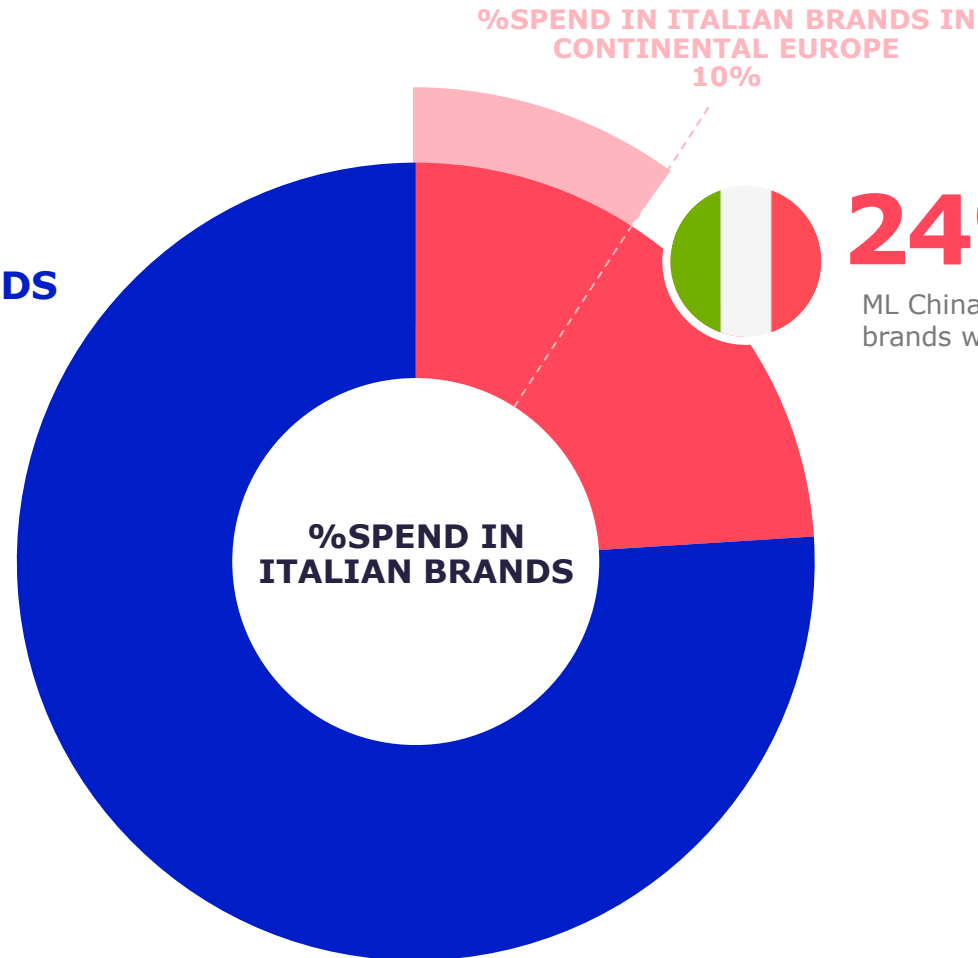


## Preference for Local Brands

When in Italy, they favor shopping at Italian Brands

**76%** **SPEND IN FOREIGN BRANDS**

ML China Shoppers % Spend in non Italian brands when shopping in Italy.



**24%** **SPEND IN ITALIAN BRANDS**

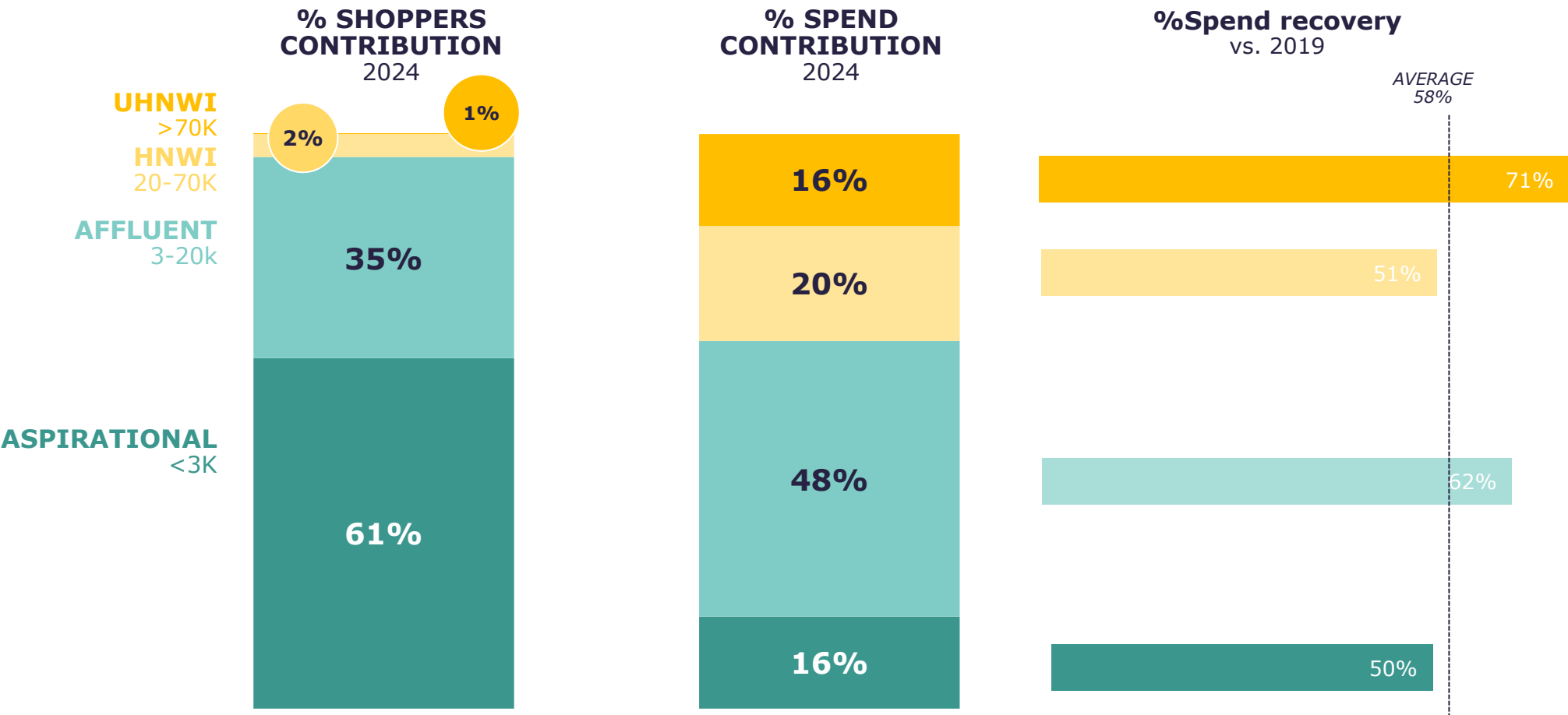
ML China Shoppers % Spend in Italian brands when shopping in Italy.



# **Who is the new Chinese International shopper in Italy?**



# ML China's Top 3% shoppers account for 35% of sales



# **The driving force** **New generations**





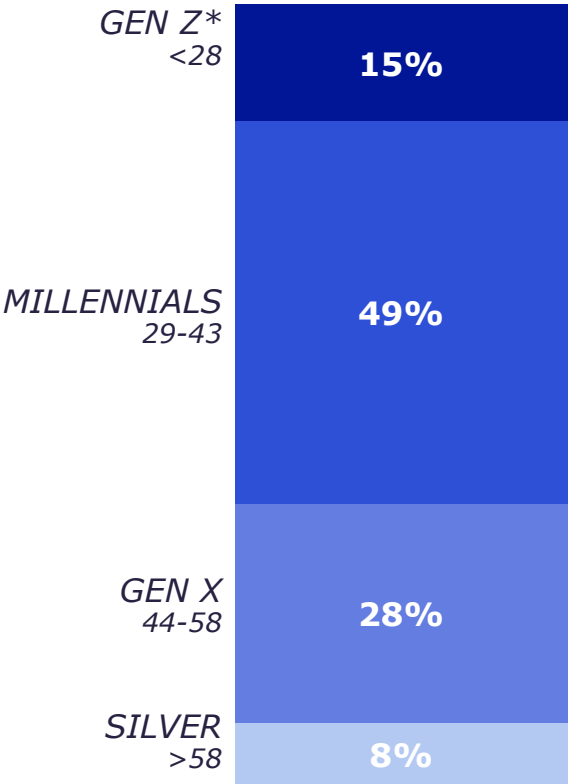
# Gen Z & Millennials represent ~65% of ML China shoppers, with a boom recovery of Gen Z

%SHOPPERS  
CONTRIBUTION  
2024

AVERAGE SPEND  
PER SHOPPER  
(€)

%SPEND RECOVERY  
vs. 2019

AVERAGE  
58%



2,560

3,640

3,490

2,940



\*Excluding International Shoppers not eligible for Tax Free in 2019 (between 18 and 22 years old)

Gen Z accelerates  
**x4** their recovery  
vs. Other age  
segments



# Identifying the Chinese Personas



# Understanding ML China shoppers' profile



**LIE**  
**The Luxury Purist**

*40% of ML China shoppers  
in Italy (2024)*

*ix. 144\**



**WEI**  
**The Mix & Match Shopper**

*25% of ML China shoppers  
in Italy (2024)*

*ix. 96\**



**YUN**  
**The Lifestyle & Premium Shopper**

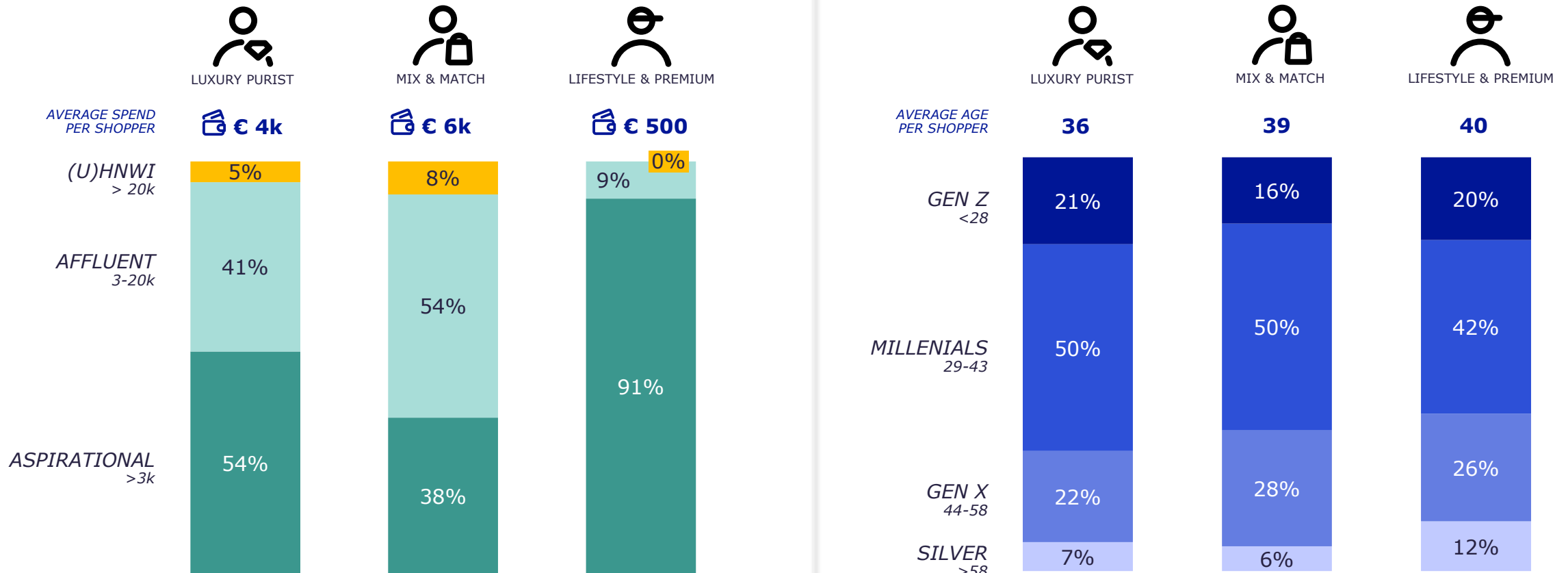
*35% of ML China shoppers  
in Italy (2024)*

*ix. 77\**



# Cluster & Age patterns across profiles

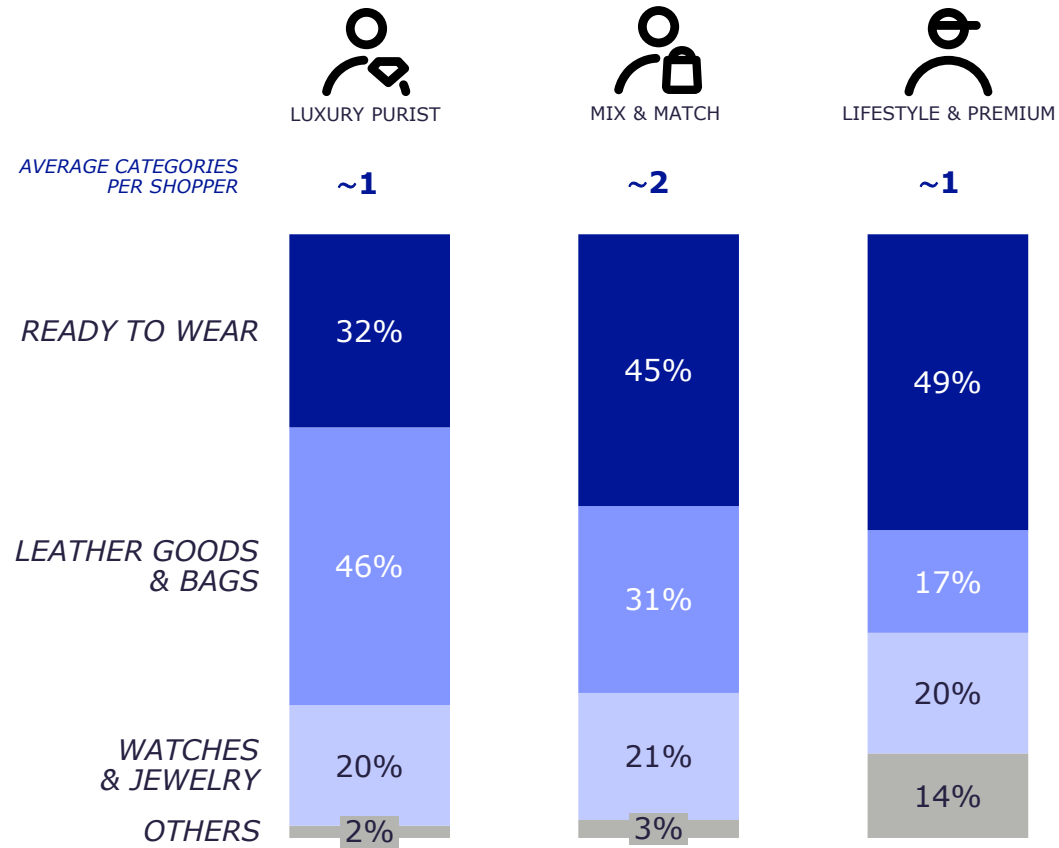
%ML China shoppers  
(2024)





# Shopping preferences & Behavior across profiles

%ML China Spend\*  
(2024)



# Key Takeaways

*New Chineses shopper in Italy*





A circular inset image on the left side of the slide shows a young man with dark hair, smiling and looking to his left. He is wearing a grey turtleneck sweater under a dark plaid jacket. He is holding a brown and white striped shopping bag. The background is blurred, suggesting an outdoor shopping area.

## *Italy* ML China Shoppers key insights

**1**

Chinese spending **recovery in Italy is 58% vs '19**, but with positive signals: **highest spend contribution** in Europe; **second highest average spend per shopper** in Europe; **138% of air capacity recovery** vs '19.

**2**

**Gen Z & Millennials represent ~65% of ML China shoppers.** Gen Z showed a spending recovery **4 times higher** than other age segments (241%).

**3**

ML China's **Top 3% shoppers (UHNI & HNI) account for 35% sales.** UHNWI shoppers have the highest spend recovery (71%).

**4**

ML China shoppers spend their shopping wallet in fewer brands and transactions vs '19: **60% spending is concentrated in 10 brands & 90% in luxury products/brands.**

# GLOBAL BLUE *INSIGHTS*

3

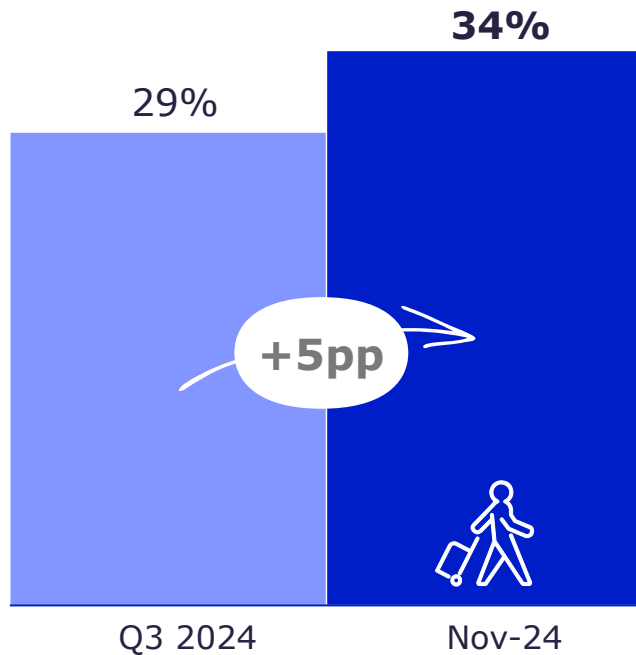
## Chinese traveler: 2025 expectations



# Rising expectations: individual Chinese Shoppers' recovery set to soar with accelerating traffic...

## MORE WILLING TO FLY INTERNATIONALLY...

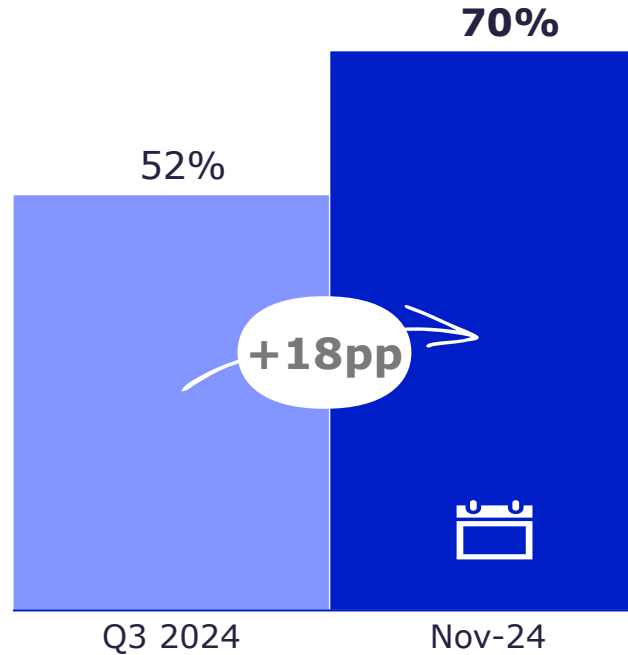
HIGH INCOME



Notes: (1) Percentage that plan to engage in international flights for leisure travel within the next three months  
Sources: Deloitte Consumer Signals

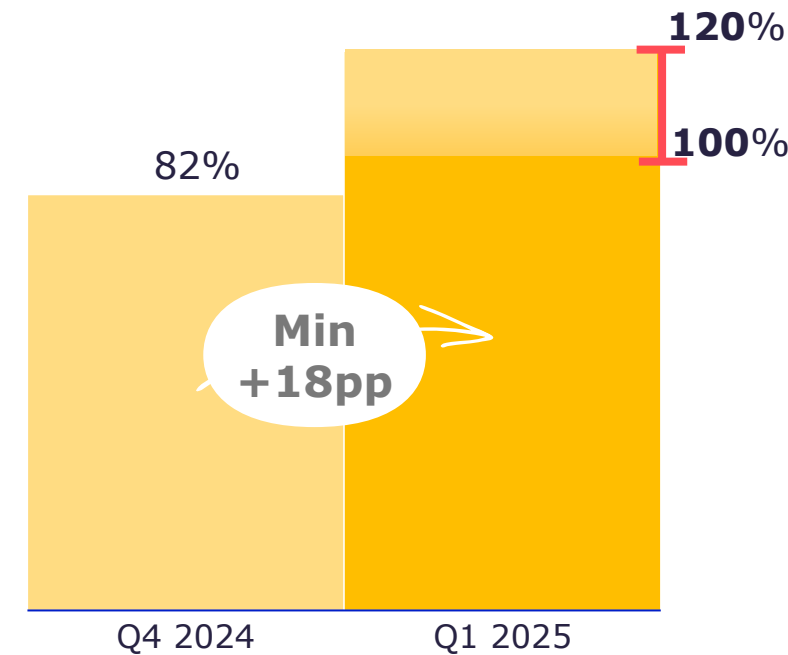
## ...AND TRAVELLING FOR MORE NIGHTS

HIGH INCOME



Notes: (2) Travel planning (net intent, expressed as a difference between respondents willing to travel more nights vs travel less nights within the next three months)  
Sources: Deloitte Consumer Signals

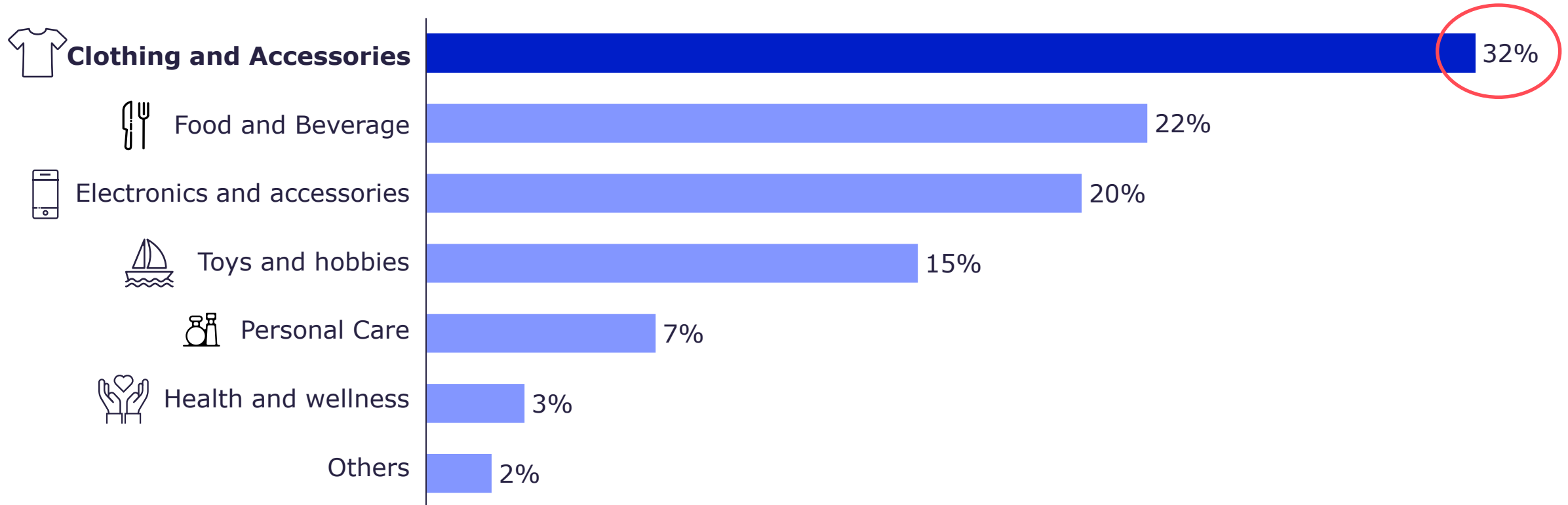
## PASSENGER RECOVERY RATE ACCELERATION



Sources: ForwardKey, European Travel Commission, Chinese Travel Agencies



## ...concentrating their expenses in clothing and accessories/food and beverage

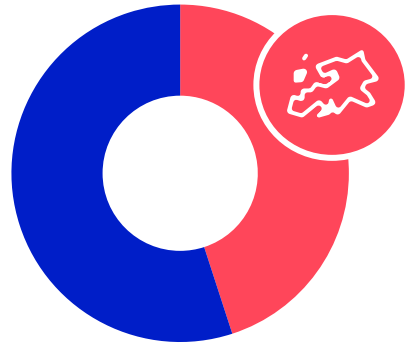




# Chinese Europe tour group recovery still behind 2019. It will improve steadily in Q2 2025



2024



~45%

Overall travel agencies'  
Europe tour group recovery

LIMITED VISA  
QUOTA FOR EACH  
TRAVEL AGENCY

APPOINTMENTS:  
ONLY VIP SLOTS  
AVAILABLE,  
HIGHER COSTS

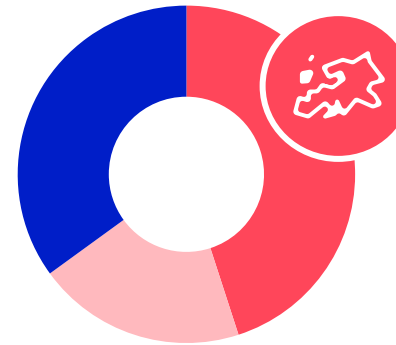
VISA CENTERS IN  
SOME BIG CITIES:  
POSSIBLE  
TRAVELLING COSTS

AIR TICKET PRICE  
STILL HIGHER  
THAN 2019

TOUR GROUP  
PACKAGE PRICE:  
20-40% HIGHER  
THAN 2019

INTEREST IN NEW  
DESTINATIONS  
WHERE IT'S EASIER  
TO ACCESS

2025



**RECOVERY INCREASE**

Especially Q2 & Summer  
holiday, yet still behind 2019

HIGHER CAPACITY:  
VISA CENTRES/  
EMBASSY/  
CONSULATES

GROUPS &  
BUSINESS TRIPS  
WILL SUPPORT THE  
RECOVERY

COST KEEPS  
RISING, PRICE  
REMAINS HIGH

MORE PACKAGE  
TOUR PRODUCTS  
WILL BE AVAILABLE  
TO THE MARKET

# **Enjoy** the journey

Contact us: [marketing.italy@globalblue.com](mailto:marketing.italy@globalblue.com)

**Global Blue**

