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Retail Sales Index Seasonally adjusted


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## Retail Sales Index

## August 1999 (First estimates)

# Retail Sales Index - All Businesses 

(Base year $1990=100$ )

|  | Value Index | Volume Index |
| ---: | :---: | :---: |
| August 1998 | 160.3 | 139.9 |
| August 1999 | 177.7 | 152.9 |
| \% change | $+10.9 \%$ | $+9.3 \%$ |

## Retail Sales up 10.9\%

The value of retail sales rose by $10.9 \%$ in August 1999 compared to August 1998. The August 1999 index was 1.1\% lower than the July 1999 index.

The volume of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) increased by $9.3 \%$ in August 1999 compared to August 1998.

On a three month basis, which gives a more stable indication of recent underlying trends, the June-August 1999 volume figures show a $1.7 \%$ increase compared with the three months ending May 1999.

July is the latest month for which final detailed sectoral figures are available. The three month May-July 1999 volume figures show that, compared with the three months ending April 1999:

- The largest increases in the volume of sales were in the Electrical Goods and Drapery and Apparel sectors ( $+4.7 \%$ ).
- The largest decrease in volume was in the Public House and Off Licence sector (-3.9\%).

All figures provided in this release are seasonally adjusted based on patterns up to June 1999. Revised retrospective seasonally adjusted value and volume figures based on these latest patterns are available on request.

For more information contact Olive Loughnane at 021-535209 or Joe Madden at 021-535205.

Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined

Period

| Value of Sales |  |  | Volume of Sales |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Index | on previous period | Annual \% change | Index | on previous period | Annual \% change |

excluding Garages and Filling Stations
$\qquad$

Value Index Volume Index

| 1997 Year | 145.4 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 128.8 | 7.9 | 7.9 | 144.7 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1998 Year | 159.9 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 140.1 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 159.1 |


| 1997 Quarter 1 | 139.2 | 1.3 | 6.6 | 123.6 | 1.6 | 5.6 | 138.8 | 123.3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Quarter 2 | 142.0 | 2.0 | 6.4 | 126.0 | 1.9 | 5.7 | 141.4 | 125.4 |
| Quarter 3 | 146.2 | 3.0 | 9.4 | 129.7 | 2.9 | 9.2 | 145.5 | 129.2 |
| Quarter 4 | 152.4 | 4.2 | 10.9 | 134.2 | 3.5 | 10.4 | 148.9 | 131.2 |
| 1998 Quarter 1 | 154.0 | 1.0 | 10.6 | 135.9 | 1.3 | 10.0 | 152.1 | 134.4 |
| Quarter 2 | 158.1 | 2.7 | 11.3 | 138.5 | 1.9 | 9.9 | 157.1 | 137.1 |
| Quarter 3 | 161.9 | 2.4 | 10.7 | 141.5 | 2.2 | 9.1 | 160.0 | 139.2 |
| Quarter 4 | 164.1 | 1.4 | 7.7 | 143.1 | 1.1 | 6.6 | 164.8 | 143.1 |
| 1999 Quarter 1 | 171.8 | 4.7 | 11.6 | 150.5 | 5.2 | 10.7 | 166.6 | 145.5 |
| Quarter 2 | 174.1 | 1.3 | 10.1 | 150.8 | 0.2 | 8.9 | 169.7 | 146.6 |
| 1998 July | 163.5 | 3.7 | 12.1 | 143.5 | 4.2 | 10.7 | 159.8 | 139.6 |
| August | 160.3 | -2.0 | 9.7 | 139.9 | -2.5 | 7.8 | 159.3 | 138.4 |
| September | 161.8 | 0.9 | 10.4 | 141.2 | 0.9 | 8.8 | 160.6 | 139.4 |
| October | 161.3 | -0.3 | 8.4 | 140.9 | -0.2 | 7.1 | 161.8 | 140.3 |
| November | 165.3 | 2.5 | 8.8 | 144.7 | 2.7 | 7.9 | 167.6 | 145.9 |
| December | 165.4 | 0.1 | 6.2 | 143.5 | -0.8 | 5.3 | 165.0 | 143.2 |
| 1999 January | 168.4 | 1.8 | 11.0 | 148.1 | 3.2 | 10.4 | 164.0 | 143.4 |
| February | 170.6 | 1.3 | 9.4 | 149.2 | 0.7 | 8.4 | 166.7 | 145.1 |
| March | 175.5 | 2.9 | 13.7 | 153.4 | 2.8 | 12.8 | 168.7 | 147.5 |
| April | 171.6 | -2.2 | 9.0 | 149.1 | -2.8 | 8.0 | 167.6 | 145.2 |
| May | 173.6 | 1.2 | 8.8 | 150.1 | 0.7 | 7.4 | 169.9 | 146.7 |
| June | 176.6 | 1.7 | 12.1 | 152.6 | 1.7 | 10.8 | 171.2 | 147.6 |
| July | 179.6 | 1.7 | 9.8 | 156.0 | 2.2 | 8.7 | 173.3 | 150.3 |
| August ${ }^{2}$ | 177.7 | -1.1 | 10.9 | 152.9 | -2.0 | 9.3 | 172.7 | 148.6 |
| 12 months ending July 1999 | 169.5 | 9.7 | 9.7 | 147.6 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 167.0 | 145.0 |
| 12 months ending Aug 1999 ${ }^{2}$ | 170.8 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 148.6 | 8.7 | 8.7 | 168.1 | 145.8 |
| 3 months ending July 1999 | 176.6 | 2.2 | 10.4 | 152.9 | 1.4 | 9.1 | 171.4 | 148.2 |
| 3 months ending Aug 1999 ${ }^{2}$ | 177.9 | 2.4 | 11.0 | 153.7 | 1.7 | 9.6 | 172.3 | 148.7 |

[^0]| Retail Business | July 1999 |  |  |  |  |  | May - July 1999 (3 months) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value of Sales |  |  | Volume of Sales |  |  | Value of Sales |  |  | Volume of Sales |  |  |
|  | Index | \% change on previous month | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Annual \% } \\ \text { change } \end{array}$ | Index | \% change on previous month | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Annual \% } \\ \text { change } \end{array}$ | Index | \% change on previous 3 months | Annual \% change | Index | \% change on previous 3 months | Annual \% change |
| Grocery | 180.1 | 2.3 | 8.0 | 145.4 | 2.7 | 6.0 | 177.0 | 1.4 | 6.9 | 142.6 | 0.9 | 4.4 |
| Grocery with Public House | 133.0 | 2.4 | 8.4 | 102.6 | 2.5 | 5.6 | 130.5 | 2.4 | 5.9 | 100.6 | 1.0 | 2.7 |
| Public House and Off-Licence | 147.7 | -5.1 | 0.4 | 106.4 | -5.3 | -3.2 | 155.3 | -1.7 | 5.5 | 112.1 | -3.9 | 1.3 |
| Tobacco, Sweets and Newspapers | 148.7 | 6.7 | 10.6 | 109.4 | 6.8 | 8.4 | 141.6 | 3.1 | 8.9 | 104.2 | 2.3 | 6.7 |
| Fresh Meat | 86.6 | -6.8 | -4.6 | 88.4 | -6.8 | -4.1 | 90.8 | 1.5 | -0.4 | 92.7 | 0.3 | -0.1 |
| Other Food, Drink and Tobacco | 119.1 | -4.6 | 1.2 | 101.5 | -4.6 | -0.2 | 122.4 | 2.7 | 3.6 | 104.4 | 2.5 | 2.1 |
| Garages and Filling Stations | 196.1 | 1.7 | 13.9 | 168.7 | 0.8 | 11.1 | 191.0 | 4.4 | 15.9 | 165.2 | 2.6 | 13.6 |
| Chemist | 200.4 | -2.2 | 12.6 | 160.4 | -2.6 | 10.2 | 203.5 | 3.9 | 17.2 | 163.3 | 3.4 | 14.6 |
| Hardware | 195.6 | 2.1 | 14.2 | 177.3 | 3.1 | 13.1 | 194.1 | 3.7 | 13.0 | 174.8 | 3.4 | 11.4 |
| Electrical Goods | 199.6 | 9.7 | 14.2 | 210.3 | 10.4 | 15.6 | 187.7 | 4.6 | 11.3 | 196.7 | 4.7 | 12.6 |
| Footwear | 160.5 | -1.8 | 13.7 | 172.2 | 4.4 | 17.4 | 162.5 | -5.0 | 10.8 | 167.7 | -3.5 | 13.2 |
| Drapery and Apparel | 175.2 | 3.7 | 11.2 | 210.5 | 10.8 | 19.1 | 169.3 | 1.7 | 8.8 | 194.2 | 4.7 | 15.8 |
| Of which:- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15.4 |
| Clothing and Footwear | 226.9 | 3.7 | 17.7 | .. | .. | .. | 220.5 | 0.0 | 13.8 | .. | .. | .. |
| Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc. | 202.9 | 0.1 | 14.4 | .. | .. | .. | 196.6 | 0.5 | 3.9 | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Goods and Services | 194.2 | 0.1 | 14.2 | .. | .. | .. | 194.1 | 0.7 | 12.3 | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Non-Food | 197.1 | 0.1 | 10.7 | 177.2 | 0.2 | 9.6 | 194.5 | 4.2 | 11.3 | 174.9 | 3.6 | 10.6 |
| Total Retail Sales excluding Garages \& Filling Stations | 173.3 | 1.2 | 8.4 | 150.3 | 1.8 | 7.7 | 171.4 | 2.2 | 8.4 | 148.2 | 1.4 | 7.5 |
| All Businesses Combined | 179.6 | 1.7 | 9.8 | 156.0 | 2.2 | 8.7 | 176.6 | 2.2 | 10.4 | 152.9 | 1.4 | 9.1 |

## Background Notes

## Scope and Coverage

The Retail Sales Index covers, on a sample basis, the retail sales of retail businesses, wholesale businesses with sizeable retailing activity and the separate sales establishments of non-distribution enterprises. Excluded from the index coverage are the direct retail sales from non-distribution establishments together with the incidental retail sales of wholesale businesses. Also excluded are sales by hawkers, street stalls and other retailing activities not conducted from permanent business premises. The statistical unit used for reporting sales figures in this inquiry is the enterprise (i.e. Complete business covering all branches).

## Methodology

The business categories and the underlying structural weighting of the Retail Sales Index is based mainly on the classification of enterprises identified in the 1988 Census of Services. The index system is structured on the retailing enterprises covered in the Census classified by the 14 retail business categories and four turnover (excluding VAT) ranges*. The value indices are calculated by updating the aggregate 1987 retail turnover (including VAT) of these enterprises in these fifty-five cells using the monthly retail sales data provided by the enterprise respondent panel from 1991 onwards. The compilation of the index for a current month is based on the percentage change in average weekly sales in these cells over the corresponding monthly period of the previous year. The monthly volume indices are calculated by deflating the seasonally unadjusted value indices by specially constructed retail price indices derived from the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Seasonal The seasonally adjusted value and volume sales have been updated on the basis of seasonal Adjustment patterns up to June 1999. These updated series will be continued until January 2000 using projected seasonal factors. The adjustment for seasonality is completed by applying the X-11 Variant of the US Bureau of the Census (Method II) Seasonal Adjustment Program. The unadjusted series, from which trading day variations have been eliminated, are available on request.

References A detailed description of the Retail Sales Index is provided in the March 1994 issue of the Statistical Bulletin. Retrospective details covering three years are provided for all series on both a seasonally adjusted and an unadjusted basis in each issue of the Statistical Bulletin.

* The Department Stores business category is not classified by annual turnover, but is sub-divided into three retail activity categories.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to June 1999
    ${ }^{2}$ Provisional value and volume of sales indices based on early returns from sample retailers

