

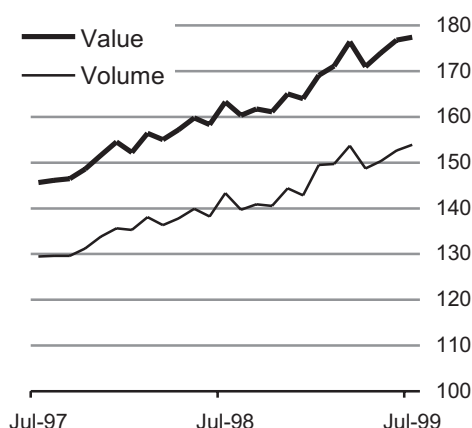


Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh



24 September 1999

Retail Sales Index Seasonally adjusted



Retail Sales Index July 1999 (First estimates)

Retail Sales Index – All Businesses

(Base year 1990 = 100)

	Value Index	Volume Index
July 1998	163.3	143.3
July 1999	177.4	153.9
% change	+8.6%	+7.4%

Retail Sales up 8.6%

The *value* of retail sales rose by 8.6% in July 1999 compared to July 1998. The July 1999 index was 0.1% higher than the June 1999 index.

The *volume* of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) increased by 7.4% in July 1999 compared to July 1998.

On a three month basis, which gives a more stable indication of recent underlying trends, the May-July 1999 volume figures show a 1.0% increase compared with the three months ending April 1999.

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

- ◆ The largest increase in the volume of sales was in the *Chemist* (+6.3%) sector.
- ◆ The largest decrease in volume was in the *Footwear* (-8.9%) sector.

All figures provided in this release are seasonally adjusted based on patterns up to December 1998.

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

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

Tel: +353-1 497 7144
Fax: +353-1 497 2360

Tel: +353-21 535000
Fax: +353-21 535555

LoCall: 1890 313 414

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: <http://www.cso.ie>

Director General: Donal Murphy

Enquiries:

Retail Statistics	Retail Sales Section, ext 5209 r_sales@cso.ie
Queries and Sales	Information Section, ext 5032 information@cso.ie
Diskette Service	Databank, ext 5301/5302 databank@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office

The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

Ref 200/1999

ISSN 0791-315X

Table 1 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales ¹

Base: year 1990=100

Period	Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined						Total Retail Sales excluding Garages and Filling Stations	
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales			Value Index	Volume Index
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change		
1996 Year	134.0	8.3	8.3	119.4	6.2	6.2	134.6	119.6
1997 Year	145.4	8.5	8.5	128.8	7.9	7.9	144.7	128.1
1998 Year	159.9	10.0	10.0	140.1	8.8	8.8	159.6	139.3
1996 Quarter 1	130.7	3.2	8.6	117.3	2.5	6.4	131.0	117.0
Quarter 2	133.4	2.1	9.6	119.2	1.6	7.7	133.0	118.6
Quarter 3	133.6	0.1	7.0	118.8	-0.3	4.9	133.6	118.5
Quarter 4	137.0	2.5	8.1	121.2	2.0	5.9	137.4	121.5
1997 Quarter 1	139.6	1.9	6.8	124.0	2.3	5.7	139.5	123.7
Quarter 2	142.2	1.9	6.6	126.1	1.7	5.8	141.4	125.5
Quarter 3	146.1	2.7	9.4	129.6	2.8	9.1	145.2	129.1
Quarter 4	151.8	3.9	10.8	133.7	3.2	10.3	148.6	131.0
1998 Quarter 1	154.6	1.8	10.7	136.5	2.1	10.1	152.8	134.8
Quarter 2	158.4	2.5	11.4	138.6	1.5	9.9	157.1	137.1
Quarter 3	161.8	2.1	10.7	141.3	1.9	9.0	159.7	139.0
Quarter 4	163.4	1.0	7.6	142.6	0.9	6.7	164.6	143.0
1999 Quarter 1	172.5	5.6	11.6	151.2	6.0	10.8	167.5	146.0
Quarter 2	174.3	1.0	10.0	150.8	-0.3	8.8	169.6	146.5
1998 June	158.3	-0.9	9.6	138.2	-1.2	8.1	156.9	136.5
July	163.3	3.2	12.2	143.3	3.7	10.7	159.7	139.5
August	160.3	-1.8	9.7	139.7	-2.5	7.8	159.1	138.2
September	161.7	0.9	10.4	140.9	0.9	8.7	160.3	139.3
October	161.1	-0.4	8.4	140.5	-0.3	7.1	161.2	140.1
November	165.0	2.4	8.8	144.4	2.8	7.9	167.5	145.8
December	164.0	-0.6	6.1	142.8	-1.1	5.3	165.1	143.0
1999 January	169.1	3.1	11.1	149.5	4.7	10.5	163.6	143.4
February	171.1	1.2	9.4	149.7	0.1	8.4	166.5	145.1
March	176.4	3.1	13.8	153.7	2.7	12.8	171.4	148.8
April	171.0	-3.1	8.8	148.7	-3.3	7.9	166.9	144.8
May	174.0	1.8	8.9	150.3	1.1	7.4	170.2	146.9
June	177.3	1.9	12.0	153.0	1.8	10.7	171.3	147.6
July ²	177.4	0.1	8.6	153.9	0.6	7.4	173.5	150.5
12 months ending June 1999	168.2	9.9	9.9	146.7	8.7	8.7	165.9	144.1
12 months ending July 1999 ²	169.3	9.6	9.6	147.5	8.5	8.5	167.0	145.0
3 months ending June 1999	174.3	1.0	10.0	150.8	-0.3	8.8	169.6	146.5
3 months ending July 1999 ²	176.3	1.8	10.0	152.4	1.0	8.6	171.6	148.3

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 1998² Provisional value and volume of sales indices based on early returns from sample retailers

Table 2 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 14 Retail Businesses, June 1999

Base: year 1990=100

Retail Business	June 1999						April - June 1999 (3 months)					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales			Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous 3 months	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous 3 months	Annual % change
Grocery	176.6	0.7	6.9	141.8	0.4	4.3	174.3	-0.5	5.3	140.3	-1.2	2.4
Grocery with Public House	129.5	1.1	4.9	99.9	1.1	1.7	129.5	2.5	4.9	100.2	1.2	1.7
Public House and Off-Licence	155.3	-5.2	6.4	112.1	-5.6	2.3	159.6	2.4	8.5	115.9	0.2	4.2
Tobacco, Sweets and Newspapers	139.3	1.2	8.9	102.1	0.5	6.8	137.6	1.4	6.7	101.5	0.6	4.5
Fresh Meat	94.2	2.5	0.5	96.9	2.9	0.8	90.8	1.2	-1.0	93.4	0.1	-0.1
Other Food, Drink and Tobacco	128.1	4.7	4.3	108.9	4.3	2.8	121.8	0.8	2.8	103.9	0.4	1.2
Garages and Filling Stations	196.5	7.3	20.7	169.9	7.1	18.6	186.6	1.5	16.1	162.0	-0.4	14.5
Chemist	204.9	0.1	19.0	164.4	-0.4	16.4	204.1	6.9	20.8	164.1	6.3	18.2
Hardware	184.8	-7.6	15.5	167.1	-6.9	13.8	190.8	1.4	12.6	171.9	0.6	10.6
Electrical Goods	184.4	0.1	4.2	192.9	0.6	5.3	181.4	3.3	8.8	189.5	3.0	10.0
Footwear	158.9	-2.0	19.0	159.1	-2.3	20.9	161.9	-6.3	10.7	163.0	-8.9	12.1
Drapery and Apparel	172.1	5.2	11.9	192.5	5.4	18.5	166.2	1.0	8.2	185.6	0.2	14.4
Department Stores Of which:-	209.5	0.1	10.4	215.1	0.0	13.7	210.2	1.2	11.0	215.8	-0.2	14.2
Clothing and Footwear	217.7	-0.1	12.8	..	..	..	219.8	-0.5	12.7	..	..	..
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	207.7	14.4	0.9	..	..	..	194.1	-0.6	3.5	..	..	..
Other Goods and Services	193.6	-0.4	10.8	..	..	..	194.8	1.6	11.1	..	..	..
Other Non-Food	200.9	7.0	13.1	180.7	6.9	12.6	193.5	6.1	10.8	174.4	5.3	10.5
Total Retail Sales excluding Garages & Filling Stations	171.3	0.6	9.2	147.6	0.5	8.1	169.6	1.3	8.0	146.5	0.3	6.9
All Businesses Combined	177.3	1.9	12.0	153.0	1.8	10.7	174.3	1.0	10.0	150.8	-0.3	8.8

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 1998, individual series are independently adjusted

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 Adjustment

The seasonally adjusted series are updated twice yearly, in the January and July index compilations, using patterns up to and including the preceding month. The present seasonally adjusted monthly value and volume series are based on seasonal patterns up to December 1998. The adjustment is completed by applying the X-11 Variant of the US Bureau of the Census Method 11 Seasonal Adjustment program based on a multiplicative model. 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.