## Retail Sales Index Seasonally Adjusted Volume Annual \% Change



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## Retail Sales Index

September 2003 (First Estimates) August 2003 (Final Figures)

Retail Sales Index - All Businesses
(Base year $1995=100$ )

|  | Volume Index | Value Index |
| ---: | :---: | :---: |
| September 2002 | 161.1 | 190.3 |
| September 2003 | 161.2 | 194.6 |
| \% change | $+0.1 \%$ | $+2.3 \%$ |

## Retail Sales volume increases 0.1\%

The volume of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) increased by $0.1 \%$ in September 2003 compared to September 2002. There was a monthly increase of $2.4 \%$. If Motor Trades are excluded the annual increase was $1.1 \%$ and the monthly increase was $2.6 \%$.

The value of retail sales increased by $2.3 \%$ in September 2003 compared to September 2002 and increased by $3.0 \%$ in the month. However, if Motor Trades are excluded, the annual increase was $3.6 \%$ and the monthly change was $+2.5 \%$.

On a three-month basis, which gives a more stable indication of recent underlying trends, July 2003 - September 2003 volume figures show a $1.1 \%$ increase compared with the three months ending June 2003.

August is the latest month for which final detailed sectoral figures are available. The three-month June 2003 - August 2003 volume figures show that, compared with the three months ending May 2003:

- The largest increase in the volume of sales was in the Electrical Goods ( $+8.1 \%$ ) sector.
- The largest decrease in the volume of sales was in Books Newspapers and Stationery ( $-1.3 \%$ ) sector.

All figures in this release are trading day and seasonally adjusted. The seasonal factors are based on unadjusted indices up to December 2002.

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| Period | Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined |  |  |  |  |  | excluding Motor Trades |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value of Sales |  |  | Volume of Sales |  |  |  |  |
|  | Index | \% change on previous period | Annual \% change | Index | \% change on previous period | Annual \% change | Value <br> Index | Volume Index |
| 1999 Year | 142.8 | 11.4 | 11.4 | 134.3 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 137.6 | 130.0 |
| 2000 Year | 166.1 | 16.3 | 16.3 | 150.3 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 154.8 | 141.6 |
| 2001 Year | 175.9 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 155.0 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 172.6 | 152.2 |
| 2002 Year | 182.9 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 156.2 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 182.1 | 155.5 |
| 2001 1st quarter | 170.8 | 1.5 | 5.8 | 152.4 | 1.5 | 2.8 | 165.9 | 148.8 |
| 2nd quarter | 174.6 | 2.2 | 4.6 | 154.3 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 169.6 | 150.5 |
| 3 rd quarter | 175.9 | 0.7 | 5.1 | 154.1 | -0.1 | 2.3 | 171.9 | 150.7 |
| 4 th quarter | 181.0 | 2.9 | 7.5 | 157.9 | 2.5 | 5.2 | 177.5 | 154.5 |
| 2002 1st quarter | 178.4 | -1.4 | 4.4 | 154.1 | -2.4 | 1.1 | 178.8 | 154.3 |
| 2nd quarter | 180.0 | 0.9 | 3.1 | 154.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 178.9 | 153.5 |
| 3 rd quarter | 185.6 | 3.1 | 5.5 | 158.0 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 182.3 | 155.4 |
| 4 th quarter | 186.5 | 0.5 | 3.0 | 157.4 | -0.4 | -0.3 | 183.9 | 155.3 |
| 2003 1st quarter | 188.0 | 0.8 | 5.4 | 156.5 | -0.6 | 1.6 | 187.4 | 156.3 |
| 2nd quarter | 187.0 | -0.5 | 3.9 | 156.6 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 188.4 | 157.5 |
| 3 rd quarter ${ }^{2}$ | 190.1 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 158.3 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 188.4 | 156.6 |
| 2002 August | 183.5 | 0.9 | 3.8 | 156.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 181.0 | 154.3 |
| September | 190.3 | 3.7 | 8.0 | 161.1 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 185.2 | 157.6 |
| October | 185.9 | -2.3 | 3.8 | 157.4 | -2.3 | 0.6 | 182.5 | 154.7 |
| November | 185.1 | -0.4 | 2.6 | 156.3 | -0.7 | -0.8 | 183.8 | 155.3 |
| December | 188.0 | 1.6 | 2.7 | 158.3 | 1.3 | -0.7 | 185.1 | 155.8 |
| 2003 January | 190.2 | 1.2 | 8.7 | 159.3 | 0.6 | 5.0 | 188.0 | 157.2 |
| February | 187.5 | -1.4 | 2.2 | 155.4 | -2.4 | -1.7 | 186.9 | 155.8 |
| March | 186.7 | -0.4 | 5.4 | 155.1 | -0.2 | 1.5 | 187.2 | 156.0 |
| April | 191.7 | 2.7 | 6.7 | 159.6 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 192.4 | 160.4 |
| May | 180.7 | -5.7 | 0.0 | 151.2 | -5.3 | -2.3 | 181.9 | 152.1 |
| June | 188.3 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 158.4 | 4.8 | 2.9 | 190.3 | 159.5 |
| July | 185.6 | -1.4 | 2.0 | 155.5 | -1.8 | -0.1 | 185.3 | 154.3 |
| August | 189.0 | 1.8 | 3.0 | 157.4 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 187.2 | 155.4 |
| September ${ }^{2}$ | 194.6 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 161.2 | 2.4 | 0.1 | 191.9 | 159.4 |
| 12 months ending Aug 2003 | 187.5 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 157.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 186.4 | 156.3 |
| 12 months ending Sep $2003{ }^{2}$ | 187.9 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 157.2 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 187.0 | 156.4 |
| 3 months ending Aug 2003 | 187.7 | 0.7 | 3.4 | 157.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 187.8 | 156.6 |
| 3 months ending Sep $2003{ }^{2}$ | 190.1 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 158.3 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 188.4 | 156.6 |

[^0]Table 2 Seasonally Adjusted Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses August $2003{ }^{1}$
Base Year: $1995=100$

| Retail Business - NACE REV 1 | August 2003 |  |  |  |  |  | June - August 2003 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value of Sales |  |  | Volume of Sales |  |  | Value of Sales |  |  | Volume of Sales |  |  |
|  | Index | \% change on previous month | Annual \% change | Index | \% change on previous month | $\begin{gathered} \text { Annual \% } \\ \text { change } \end{gathered}$ | Index | \% change on previous 3 months | Annual \% change | Index | \% change on previous 3 months | Annual \% change |
| Motor Trades - NACE 50 | 188.5 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 157.8 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 184.6 | -0.5 | 1.9 | 155.5 | 1.6 | 0.9 |
| Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11 | 176.1 | 1.9 | 3.5 | 133.9 | 1.9 | 0.5 | 176.2 | -0.7 | 3.4 | 134.3 | -0.9 | 0.4 |
| Department Stores - NACE 52.12 of which:- | 199.9 | 1.6 | -1.0 | 211.1 | 0.4 | -0.9 | 204.4 | -0.3 | -1.6 | 217.6 | 0.6 | -0.7 |
| Clothing and Footwear | 225.7 | 5.0 | 5.6 |  |  |  | 226.0 | 5.8 | 3.1 |  |  |  |
| Furniture, Soft Furnishing, etc. | 153.2 | -13.1 | -14.2 |  |  |  | 172.5 | -9.0 | -8.4 |  |  |  |
| Other Goods and Services | 182.0 | 0.1 | -6.4 |  |  |  | 184.3 | -7.7 | -6.7 |  |  |  |
| Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Food, Beverages and Tobacco | 122.3 | -1.3 | -0.1 | 96.1 | -1.7 | -2.8 | 125.4 | 0.0 | 1.8 | 99.1 | -0.3 | -0.7 |
| Pharmaceutical, Medical \& Cosmetic Articles | 280.3 | 2.4 | 7.1 | 223.8 | 2.6 | 4.6 | 278.3 | 0.9 | 7.2 | 222.0 | 0.8 | 4.1 |
| Textiles and Clothing | 184.0 | -4.6 | -0.5 | 264.5 | -7.3 | 1.6 | 189.9 | -0.5 | 2.6 | 277.9 | 1.8 | 7.1 |
| Footwear and Leather | 168.8 | -1.2 | 0.3 | 217.6 | -2.7 | 4.4 | 171.9 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 223.8 | 4.0 | 7.8 |
| Furniture and Lighting | 183.2 | -0.3 | 8.9 | 159.9 | -1.0 | 9.6 | 186.8 | 3.4 | 6.4 | 164.3 | 4.3 | 8.2 |
| Electrical Goods | 230.0 | -5.4 | 1.1 | 251.1 | -4.9 | 4.2 | 239.5 | 6.5 | 5.3 | 260.4 | 8.1 | 8.0 |
| Hardware, Paints and Glass | 203.9 | 6.3 | 3.6 | 169.3 | 6.0 | 1.2 | 198.2 | -1.0 | 2.2 | 165.1 | -0.7 | 0.1 |
| Books, Newspapers and Stationery | 172.2 | 7.8 | 1.6 | 123.6 | 7.4 | -3.2 | 172.4 | -0.9 | 2.6 | 124.3 | -1.3 | -2.2 |
| Other Retail Sales | 251.7 | 0.4 | 7.1 | 233.2 | -0.6 | 7.9 | 254.8 | 2.0 | 8.1 | 236.9 | 3.5 | 9.3 |
| Bars - NACE 55.4 | 164.6 | 2.7 | 4.0 | 113.6 | 2.3 | -3.1 | 161.9 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 112.4 | 1.4 | -3.7 |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades | 187.2 | 1.0 | 3.4 | 155.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 187.8 | 0.3 | 3.8 | 156.6 | 0.3 | 1.3 |
| All Businesses | 189.0 | 1.8 | 3.0 | 157.4 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 187.7 | 0.7 | 3.4 | 157.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 |

[^1]
## Background Notes

## Retail Sales Introduction of updated series with a new business classification and with base year 1995= Index 100.

An updated Retail Sales Index (RSI) was introduced in the December 1999 release. A detailed description of the new series was published in the March 2000 issue of the Statistical Bulletin. The underlying methodology remains unchanged. The index is primarily intended to measure short-term trends. For long term analysis allowance must be made for the fact that the series does not reflect changes in retail structures between updatings.

Reference The August period covers the 4 weeks from 27/07/03 to 23/08/03 and the September period Period covers the 5 weeks from 24/08/03 to 27/09/03.

New Business Commencing with October 1999 the set of monthly indices of retail sales have been compiled

## Classification

## New Base Year

 according to the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 1). The business categories are based mainly on the classification of enterprises in the 1995 Annual Services Inquiry (ASI). There are some fairly substantial discontinuities in the classification of enterprises compared with the former series.The set of new monthly retail sales indices has been compiled with reference to base year $1995=$ 100. The underlying structural weighting system is mainly based on the 1995 Annual Services Inquiry. Weights are updated from year to year using ratios of average weekly turnover by size class within business type.

## 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 Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 1). The index system is structured on the retailing enterprises covered in the 1995 Annual Services Inquiry classified by 13 retail business categories and four turnover (excluding VAT) ranges*.

The value indices are calculated by updating the aggregate 1995 retail turnover (including VAT) of these enterprises in these fifty one cells using the monthly retail sales data provided by the enterprise respondent panel from 1995 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 using patterns up to and including the preceding month. The present seasonally adjusted monthly value and volume series are based on seasonal patterns from January 1995 to December 2002. 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 our website (www.cso.ie).

References A detailed description of the Retail Sales Index is provided in the March 2000 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.

[^2] sub-divided into three retail activity categories.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to Dec 2002
    ${ }^{2}$ Provisional value and volume of sales indices based on early returns from sample retailers

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2002, individual series are independently adjusted

[^2]:    * The Department Stores business category is not classified by annual turnover but is

