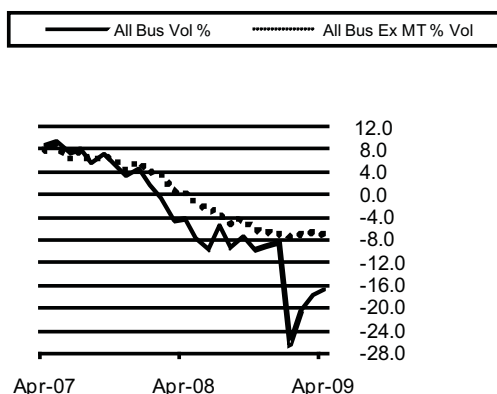




Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

18 June 2009

Retail Sales Index - Volume Annual % Change



Retail Sales Index

April 2009 (First Estimates)

March 2009 (Final Figures)

Seasonally Adjusted Retail Sales Index – All Businesses

(Base year 2005 = 100)

	Volume Index	Value Index
April 2008	110.1	113.5
April 2009	91.4	90.2
% change	-17.0%	-20.5%

Retail Sales volume decreases by 17.0 %

The volume of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) decreased by 17.0% in April 2009 compared to April 2008. There was a monthly increase of 2.3%. The large year on year retail sales decrease in April 2009 is primarily due to the large decrease in the motor trades sector. In April 2009 motor trades decreased 50.1% on the same period last year.

If Motor Trades are excluded the volume of retail sales decreased by 7.1% in April 2009 compared to April 2008 and the monthly change was +0.5%.

The value of retail sales decreased by 20.5% in April 2009 compared to April 2008 and increased by 2.0% in the month. However, if Motor Trades are excluded, the annual decrease was 11.2% and the monthly change was -1.2%.

Introduction of New Seasonal Adjustment Methodology

Commencing with April 2009 the Retail Sales Indices will now be seasonally adjusted using the X-12-ARIMA model developed by the U.S. Census of the Bureau. This improved approach uses a regression-ARIMA model, which identifies and corrects for factors that will impact on the quality of the seasonal adjustment estimation, e.g. the timing of Easter. Also, seasonal factors will now be calculated concurrently, i.e. each month the seasonal factors will be recalculated as the latest month's data becomes available. This improved methodology will add value to the series by producing more accurate, reliable and stable seasonal adjusted series.

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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Ref 103/2009

ISSN 0791-315X

Table 1 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales¹**Base Year: 2005 = 100**

Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined						
Period	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
2006 Year	108.1	8.1	8.1	107.3	7.3	7.3
2007 Year	116.0	7.3	7.3	114.7	6.9	6.9
2008 Year	110.8	-4.5	-4.5	107.7	-6.1	-6.1
2007 1st quarter	114.0	3.0	7.0	113.3	2.8	7.0
2nd quarter	116.2	1.9	8.7	115.1	1.6	8.7
3rd quarter	116.2	0.0	7.3	115.2	0.1	7.1
4th quarter	117.7	1.3	6.3	115.4	0.2	4.7
2008 1st quarter	114.9	-2.4	0.8	111.6	-3.3	-1.5
2nd quarter	110.7	-3.7	-4.7	106.6	-4.5	-7.4
3rd quarter	109.8	-0.8	-5.5	106.6	0.0	-7.5
4th quarter	106.8	-2.7	-9.3	104.9	-1.6	-9.1
2009 1st quarter	87.5	-18.0	-23.8	87.7	-16.4	-21.4
2007 November	118.0	0.0	6.0	116.0	-0.1	4.2
December	117.3	-0.6	6.5	114.3	-1.4	4.7
2008 January	117.5	0.1	3.7	114.4	0.0	1.7
February	115.9	-1.3	1.9	112.7	-1.5	-0.7
March	112.0	-3.4	-2.3	108.6	-3.6	-4.5
April	113.5	1.3	-1.8	110.1	1.4	-4.0
May	110.2	-2.9	-5.2	106.6	-3.2	-7.6
June	108.8	-1.3	-6.7	103.9	-2.6	-9.7
July	113.8	4.6	-3.0	109.5	5.4	-5.4
August	107.2	-5.7	-7.7	104.1	-4.9	-9.5
September	108.7	1.4	-5.8	106.4	2.2	-7.5
October	107.4	-1.2	-9.0	104.8	-1.4	-9.7
November	106.7	-0.7	-9.6	105.4	0.5	-9.1
December	106.4	-0.3	-9.3	104.6	-0.8	-8.5
2009 January	84.9	-20.2	-27.7	83.9	-19.8	-26.6
February	89.0	4.8	-23.2	89.4	6.5	-20.7
March	88.4	-0.6	-21.1	89.4	0.0	-17.7
April ²	90.2	2.0	-20.5	91.4	2.3	-17.0

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2009² Provisional value and volume of sales indices based on early returns from sample retailers

Table 2 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales (Excluding Motor Trades)¹**Base Year: 2005 = 100**

Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined (Excl Motor Trades)						
Period	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
2006 Year	108.1	8.1	8.1	107.6	7.6	7.6
2007 Year	115.8	7.1	7.1	115.0	6.9	6.9
2008 Year	114.9	-0.8	-0.8	111.8	-2.8	-2.8
2007 1st quarter	111.8	1.5	6.6	111.7	1.5	7.2
2nd quarter	114.6	2.5	7.0	114.2	2.2	7.6
3rd quarter	115.9	1.1	6.8	115.5	1.1	6.9
4th quarter	118.3	2.1	7.4	116.6	1.0	5.9
2008 1st quarter	118.4	0.1	5.9	114.7	-1.6	2.7
2nd quarter	117.0	-1.2	2.1	112.8	-1.7	-1.2
3rd quarter	113.8	-2.7	-1.8	110.4	-2.1	-4.4
4th quarter	110.3	-3.1	-6.8	108.8	-1.4	-6.7
2009 1st quarter	106.9	-3.1	-9.7	106.4	-2.2	-7.3
2007 November	118.4	0.4	7.5	117.3	0.6	5.6
December	118.6	0.2	7.5	116.1	-1.0	5.8
2008 January	118.8	0.2	6.2	116.1	0.0	4.1
February	118.6	-0.2	7.1	115.1	-0.8	3.8
March	117.8	-0.7	4.6	113.3	-1.6	0.8
April	117.9	0.1	3.7	114.2	0.8	0.5
May	117.2	-0.6	1.4	113.3	-0.8	-1.6
June	116.0	-1.0	1.3	111.2	-1.8	-2.4
July	115.4	-0.6	-0.5	111.5	0.3	-3.4
August	112.7	-2.3	-2.7	109.2	-2.0	-5.3
September	113.4	0.6	-2.2	110.5	1.2	-4.4
October	111.9	-1.3	-5.2	109.3	-1.2	-6.2
November	110.3	-1.4	-6.8	109.6	0.3	-6.6
December	109.1	-1.1	-8.0	107.8	-1.6	-7.1
2009 January	107.8	-1.2	-9.3	107.1	-0.7	-7.7
February	107.2	-0.6	-9.6	106.7	-0.4	-7.3
March	106.1	-1.1	-10.0	105.5	-1.1	-6.9
April ²	104.7	-1.2	-11.2	106.1	0.5	-7.1

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2009² Provisional value and volume of sales indices based on early returns from sample retailers

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses
(Preliminary Estimates) Base Year: 2005 = 100

Retail Business - NACE REV 2	April 2009					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades	47.4	-2.4	-51.9	47.4	-3.0	-50.1
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores)	126.0	5.5	-0.6	117.7	3.0	-0.6
Department Stores	90.8	-0.9	-14.6	104.4	1.3	-5.4
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	102.5	5.4	-3.5	94.9	5.1	-3.2
Fuel	95.6	-4.1	-25.7	92.5	-4.0	-17.5
Pharmaceuticals Medical & Cosmetic Articles	119.9	0.1	-1.3	117.2	-2.7	-1.1
Clothing, Footwear & Textiles	90.3	-6.1	-20.0	111.7	-0.8	-9.9
Furniture and Lighting	64.9	-10.5	-42.8	77.0	-6.4	-38.4
Hardware, Paints & Glass	92.2	-6.6	-19.7	92.0	-6.3	-17.7
Electrical Goods	83.3	-3.4	-25.9	118.9	-2.7	-15.8
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	93.0	1.7	-9.9	84.7	1.5	-10.4
Other Retail Sales	94.8	1.1	-20.0	111.4	3.3	-8.7
Bars	93.5	-6.2	-10.3	83.5	-5.2	-12.1
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	104.7	-1.2	-11.2	106.1	0.5	-7.1
All Businesses	90.2	2.0	-20.5	91.4	2.3	-17.0
Of which:- <u>Combined Groups</u>						
All Businesses excl Motor Trades & Bars	106.5	-0.6	-12.2	109.6	1.0	-6.3
Motors & Fuel	56.0	-1.6	-45.9	55.9	-2.0	-42.4
All Bus. Excl. Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars	107.7	0.4	-9.9	112.2	1.7	-4.9
Food Businesses	124.3	6.4	-0.6	115.8	4.2	-0.5
Non-Food (Excl Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars)	94.0	-2.2	-17.4	106.0	-1.9	-11.2
Household Equipment	82.9	-5.2	-26.4	96.7	-6.2	-20.8
Books, Newspapers Stationery & Other Goods	93.5	-0.4	-19.9	109.3	4.4	-8.8

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2009, individual series are independently adjusted

Table 4 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses
Base Year: 2005 = 100

Retail Business - NACE REV 2	March 2009					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades	48.6	2.4	-51.0	48.9	2.5	-48.5
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores)	119.4	-2.5	-5.6	114.2	-1.2	-3.7
Department Stores	91.7	0.0	-17.9	103.1	-0.8	-11.9
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	97.3	-3.5	-7.9	90.3	-3.4	-7.3
Fuel	99.7	0.4	-19.6	96.4	1.4	-8.0
Pharmaceuticals Medical & Cosmetic Articles	119.8	-0.6	-0.6	120.4	0.3	0.6
Clothing, Footwear & Textiles	96.2	-2.2	-14.9	112.6	-2.6	-7.2
Furniture and Lighting	72.5	-5.9	-31.5	82.3	-7.3	-28.0
Hardware, Paints & Glass	98.8	1.7	-13.7	98.2	1.5	-11.8
Electrical Goods	86.3	-2.9	-20.6	122.2	-3.7	-9.5
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	91.4	-0.8	-13.0	83.4	0.0	-13.5
Other Retail Sales	93.7	-5.5	-21.0	107.8	-2.6	-10.7
Bars	99.6	3.0	-5.1	88.1	2.8	-7.7
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	106.1	-1.1	-10.0	105.5	-1.1	-6.9
All Businesses	88.4	-0.6	-21.1	89.4	0.0	-17.7
Of which:- <u>Combined Groups</u>						
All Businesses excl Motor Trades & Bars	107.1	-1.0	-9.9	108.6	-1.6	-6.6
Motors & Fuel	56.9	2.4	-45.1	57.0	4.9	-41.2
All Bus. Excl. Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars	107.2	-2.2	-9.5	110.3	-1.9	-6.6
Food Businesses	116.8	-3.3	-5.9	111.2	-2.1	-4.4
Non-Food (Excl Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars)	96.1	-1.9	-15.7	108.0	-1.2	-9.1
Household Equipment	87.4	-1.8	-19.9	103.1	-2.0	-14.4
Books, Newspapers Stationery & Other Goods	93.8	-4.0	-18.5	104.7	-2.4	-11.7

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2009, individual series are independently adjusted

Table 5 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses**Base Year: 2005 = 100**

Retail Business - NACE REV 2	January - March 2009					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
Motor Trades	48.1	-43.2	-54.9	48.3	-41.3	-53.1
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores)	121.6	-0.9	-4.0	115.0	-0.2	-3.8
Department Stores	94.2	-7.2	-16.1	105.3	-5.5	-10.4
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	99.7	-7.8	-6.3	92.9	-3.8	-7.3
Fuel	97.9	-10.9	-21.3	95.1	-4.1	-10.5
Pharmaceuticals Medical & Cosmetic Articles	119.6	-0.9	-1.4	119.4	0.0	-1.3
Clothing, Footwear & Textiles	98.9	-4.0	-12.4	115.0	-1.7	-4.8
Furniture and Lighting	74.3	-11.2	-32.0	84.8	-7.4	-28.3
Hardware, Paints & Glass	96.5	-4.5	-17.3	95.7	-3.6	-15.8
Electrical Goods	87.9	-6.0	-21.0	124.2	-3.2	-9.7
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	92.2	-3.9	-13.6	83.7	-3.7	-15.5
Other Retail Sales	96.9	-6.9	-18.3	109.6	-4.2	-9.9
Bars	98.5	0.0	-4.7	87.2	-0.1	-8.2
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	106.9	-3.1	-9.7	106.4	-2.2	-7.3
All Businesses	87.5	-18.0	-23.8	87.7	-16.4	-21.4
Of which:- <u>Combined Groups</u>						
All Businesses excl Motor Trades & Bars	107.9	-3.1	-10.0	109.5	-2.1	-6.9
Motors & Fuel	56.0	-39.9	-49.2	55.6	-37.8	-46.3
All Bus. Excl. Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars	108.8	-2.7	-9.0	111.4	-1.3	-6.5
Food Businesses	119.6	-1.5	-4.2	112.7	-1.0	-4.2
Non-Food (Excl Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars)	97.6	-5.2	-14.9	108.7	-3.1	-9.4
Household Equipment	88.2	-6.0	-21.6	104.0	-3.5	-16.2
Books, Newspapers Stationery & Other Goods	96.1	-6.4	-17.1	106.0	-2.7	-11.1

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2009, individual series are independently adjusted

Table 6

Volume of retail trade in the euro-zone, the EU27 and Member States¹
Annual % change compared with the same month of the previous year

	Nov-08	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09 ²
Austria	-1.2	-0.5	1.7	-1.7	2.5	2.6
Belgium	-3.9	3.6	3.3	-1.9	2.7	0.3
Finland	-5.2	0.1	-0.6	-8.1	-5.4	0.5
France	0.4	-1.8	-1.4	-5.9	-2.3	c
Germany	-0.1	2.1	-2.2	-1.8	-1.2	-0.4
Greece	-2.7	-8.4	-10.9	-13.3	-18.3	c
Ireland	-6.0	-6.4	-7.6	-6.6	-6.6	-6.3
Italy	-3.5	-1.9	-1.8	-1.5	-2.7	:
Luxembourg	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	-0.8	-0.6	-3.0	-4.7	-3.1	c
Portugal	1.4	-5.4	-0.7	-5.5	-4.9	-1.9
Slovenia	7.0	7.2	3.0	-12.6	-4.2	-8.5
Slovakia	4.4	5.3	-6.0	-14.4	-11.5	-9.2
Spain	-8.2	-7.2	-5.4	-9.0	-7.8	-7.3
Cyprus	c	c	c	c	c	c
Malta	-17.3	-16.3	:	:	:	:
EA16	-2.1	-1.7	-2.4	-4.6	-3.4	-2.3
Denmark	-4.9	-7.8	-5.2	-8.9	-6.1	-5.9
Sweden	-1.6	-2.8	1.4	-1.3	-1.8	3.7
United Kingdom	0.7	0.7	2.4	-2.4	-0.8	2.4
Czech Republic	2.8	0.6	2.4	-2.1	0.0	c
Estonia	-7.5	-13.7	-13.1	-21.6	-17.0	-18.0
Latvia	-14.1	-12.6	-20.1	-26.2	-27.1	-29.6
Lithuania	-0.5	-5.0	-15.2	-18.6	-20.9	-19.5
Hungary	-1.9	-3.7	-2.8	-3.2	-3.6	c
Poland	-0.6	-0.5	6.0	7.4	3.0	1.2
Bulgaria	-1.1	-3.3	-1.9	-6.4	-8.3	-9.3
Romania	10.0	-4.2	-1.5	-8.3	-6.4	-9.9
EU27	-1.4	-1.4	-1.3	-4.0	-2.8	-1.4

: Data not available,

¹ Data NACE 47 : All Business excluding Motor Trades & Bars

² Data for Ireland is April 2009 provisional data

c Confidential

Source: Eurostat

Background Notes

Retail Sales Index	<p>Introduction of updated series with base year 2005 = 100.</p> <p>An updated Retail Sales Index (RSI) was introduced in the February 2009 release. 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 updates.</p>
Reference Period	<p>The March 2009 period covers the 5 weeks from 22/02/09 to 28/03/09 and the April 2009 period covers the 4 weeks from 29/03/09 to 25/04/09.</p>
New Base Year	<p>The set of new monthly retail sales indices has been compiled with reference to base year 2005 = 100. The underlying structural weighting system is mainly based on the 2005 Annual Services Inquiry. Weights are updated from year to year using ratios of average weekly turnover by size class within business type.</p>
Scope and Coverage	<p>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).</p>
Methodology	<p>The business categories are based mainly on the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 2). The index system is structured on the retailing enterprises covered in the 2005 Annual Services Inquiry classified by 13 retail business categories and four turnover (excluding VAT) ranges.</p> <p>The value indices are calculated by updating the aggregate 2005 retail turnover (including VAT) of these enterprises in these cells using the monthly retail sales data provided by the enterprise respondent panel from 2005 onwards.</p> <p>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). A copy of the Retail Sales Index methodology is available on our website (www.cso.ie).</p>
Seasonal Adjustment	<p><i>All Retail Sales “unadjusted” series are trading day adjusted as they are based on either a standardised four or five week reporting period (see reference period note above). Seasonal adjustment is conducted using the direct seasonal adjustment approach. Under this approach each individual series is independently adjusted, e.g. aggregate series are adjusted without reference to the component series. Each individual seasonally adjusted series is calculated based on unadjusted data spanning from January 2000 to the current period.</i></p> <p>The adjustments are completed by applying the X-12-ARIMA model, developed by the U.S. Census of the Bureau to the unadjusted data. This methodology estimates seasonal factors while also taking into consideration factors that impact on the quality of the seasonal adjustment such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar effects, e.g. the timing of Easter, • The phase shift effect, i.e. the fact the reporting period of the RSI does not coincide with the calendar month and • Outliers, temporary changes and level shifts in the series. <p>For additional information on the use of X-12-ARIMA see (Findley, D.F., B.C. Monsell, W.R. Bell, M.C. Otto, and B. Chen (1998), “New Capabilities and Methods of the X-12-Arima Seasonal Adjustment Program”, <i>Journal of Business & Economic Statistics</i>, 16, pp. 127-177.) and www.census.gov/srd/www/x12a/.</p>
References	<p>A detailed description of the Retail Sales Index is available on the CSO website www.cso.ie. Retrospective details for the current and previous series are also available on the CSO website.</p>