

Table 1 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales ¹**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
2007 Year	116.0	7.3	7.3	114.2	7.1	7.1
2008 Year	110.8	-4.5	-4.5	107.4	-6.0	-6.0
2009 Year	90.9	-18.0	-18.0	92.6	-13.8	-13.8
2010 Year	89.1	-2.0	-2.0	93.9	1.4	1.4
2011 Year	88.5	-0.7	-0.7	93.1	-0.9	-0.9
2011 1st quarter	88.0	-0.9	0.8	92.4	-1.3	1.1
2nd quarter	88.5	0.6	-1.3	93.4	1.1	-1.4
3rd quarter	87.3	-1.4	-2.6	91.8	-1.7	-3.0
4th quarter	88.9	1.8	0.1	93.4	1.7	-0.2
2012 1st quarter	87.3	-1.8	-0.8	91.2	-2.4	-1.3
2010 November	88.7	-1.1	-2.0	93.8	-1.5	-0.3
2010 December	87.7	-1.1	-4.2	92.3	-1.7	-3.9
2011 January	87.5	-0.1	4.5	92.2	0.0	5.6
February	88.6	1.2	-0.2	92.9	0.8	0.0
March	88.0	-0.7	-1.1	92.1	-0.8	-1.4
April	88.3	0.4	-3.2	92.4	0.3	-3.7
May	88.3	-0.1	-1.2	92.5	0.1	-1.7
June	88.8	0.6	0.2	94.9	2.6	0.7
July	87.8	-1.1	-0.9	92.0	-3.1	-1.5
August	87.3	-0.6	-3.2	92.1	0.1	-3.3
September	86.9	-0.5	-3.4	91.5	-0.6	-3.8
October	87.5	0.7	-3.0	92.0	0.5	-3.5
November	88.2	0.8	-0.5	92.7	0.8	-1.1
December	90.6	2.6	3.3	95.0	2.5	3.1
2012 January	87.0	-4.0	-0.6	91.1	-4.1	-1.2
February	87.2	0.2	-1.7	91.2	0.1	-1.8
March	87.7	0.6	-0.3	91.3	0.1	-0.9
April ²	86.7	-1.1	-1.8	89.9	-1.5	-2.7

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2012² 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**

Period	Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined (Excl Motor Trades)					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
2007 Year	115.8	7.1	7.1	114.4	7.2	7.2
2008 Year	114.9	-0.8	-0.8	111.5	-2.5	-2.5
2009 Year	102.1	-11.1	-11.1	104.1	-6.6	-6.6
2010 Year	97.8	-4.2	-4.2	103.0	-1.1	-1.1
2011 Year	96.0	-1.8	-1.8	100.3	-2.6	-2.6
2011 1st quarter	96.7	0.7	-2.0	100.6	-0.4	-2.8
2nd quarter	95.4	-1.3	-3.0	99.8	-0.8	-3.9
3rd quarter	94.8	-0.6	-2.4	99.0	-0.8	-3.2
4th quarter	95.6	0.8	-0.4	100.0	1.0	-1.0
2012 1st quarter	95.4	-0.2	-1.3	98.5	-1.5	-2.1
2010 November	96.0	-1.3	-1.8	101.2	-0.8	-0.3
2010 December	94.9	-1.1	-2.9	100.2	-1.0	-2.4
2011 January	97.5	2.8	-0.8	101.8	1.8	-0.5
February	96.4	-1.1	-2.2	100.2	-1.6	-3.4
March	96.3	-0.2	-3.0	100.0	-0.2	-4.1
April	96.5	0.3	-2.5	100.5	0.5	-3.8
May	95.0	-1.6	-3.5	99.1	-1.4	-4.8
June	94.8	-0.2	-3.1	99.7	0.6	-3.5
July	95.4	0.6	-1.4	99.5	-0.1	-2.5
August	94.6	-0.8	-2.8	98.9	-0.7	-3.7
September	94.6	0.0	-2.4	98.7	-0.2	-3.4
October	94.7	0.1	-2.6	98.5	-0.2	-3.5
November	96.1	1.6	0.0	100.3	1.8	-0.9
December	95.8	-0.3	0.9	100.9	0.6	0.8
2012 January	95.6	-0.3	-2.0	98.8	-2.1	-3.0
February	94.8	-0.8	-1.7	98.1	-0.8	-2.1
March	95.8	1.0	-0.5	98.5	0.4	-1.6
April ²	94.3	-1.6	-2.3	96.7	-1.8	-3.8

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2012² 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 2012					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades	61.4	-2.6	2.9	66.9	-2.6	3.7
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores)	116.8	-1.3	-0.6	114.4	-1.1	-1.9
Department Stores	78.4	-3.4	-10.1	102.0	-3.6	-10.0
Food beverages & Tobacco	85.5	-0.5	-1.8	83.6	-0.7	-3.1
Fuel	111.9	1.9	6.7	76.0	0.5	-3.0
Pharmaceuticals Medical & Cosmetic Articles	101.2	0.0	-1.7	109.9	-0.2	-0.9
Clothing, Footwear & Textiles	79.4	-3.0	-9.9	109.7	-2.9	-9.6
Furniture and Lighting	53.4	-0.1	-4.8	73.0	-0.1	-0.7
Hardware, Paints & Glass	68.8	-6.1	-17.3	71.3	-6.2	-17.8
Electrical Goods	70.1	0.0	-4.3	126.4	0.4	1.9
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	67.9	-0.8	-7.7	61.9	0.0	-7.7
Other Retail Sales	76.1	1.5	-0.3	88.9	1.7	0.1
Bars	71.5	-1.7	-7.8	65.0	-1.5	-8.6
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	94.3	-1.6	-2.3	96.7	-1.8	-3.8
All Businesses	86.7	-1.1	-1.8	89.9	-1.5	-2.7
Of which:- <u>Combined Groups</u>						
All Businesses excl Motor Trades & Bars	96.9	-1.4	-2.3	100.9	-1.8	-3.5
Motors & Fuel	72.4	-0.2	2.1	69.5	-0.9	0.2
All Bus. Excl. Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars	95.7	-1.6	-3.3	103.5	-2.2	-3.2
Food Businesses	114.6	-0.8	-0.9	112.3	-0.8	-2.1
Non-Food (Excl Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars)	77.3	-1.7	-7.6	96.0	-1.5	-6.0
Household Equipment	65.2	-2.4	-13.2	92.3	-2.7	-7.9
Books, Newspapers Stationery & Other Goods	73.7	-0.6	-0.7	83.4	1.7	-1.8

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2012, 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 2012					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades	63.0	3.2	0.9	68.7	3.3	1.8
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores)	118.3	1.4	2.1	115.8	1.1	1.2
Department Stores	81.1	-0.8	-6.1	105.7	-0.3	-5.9
Food beverages & Tobacco	85.9	-0.4	-3.1	84.2	-0.8	-3.6
Fuel	109.8	1.1	2.8	75.7	0.1	-4.1
Pharmaceuticals Medical & Cosmetic Articles	101.2	-1.5	-2.0	110.2	-2.0	-1.2
Clothing, Footwear & Textiles	81.9	-1.0	-4.2	113.0	-0.5	-3.4
Furniture and Lighting	53.5	2.1	-6.9	73.1	2.4	-3.9
Hardware, Paints & Glass	73.2	0.5	-8.4	75.9	0.1	-9.0
Electrical Goods	70.1	-4.2	-4.0	125.9	-3.2	3.0
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	68.5	0.3	-5.8	62.0	0.5	-5.9
Other Retail Sales	75.0	-3.7	-8.5	87.5	-5.1	-8.9
Bars	72.8	3.1	-3.7	66.0	3.5	-4.6
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	95.8	1.0	-0.5	98.5	0.4	-1.6
All Businesses	87.7	0.6	-0.3	91.3	0.1	-0.9
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
All Businesses excl Motor Trades & Bars	98.2	0.3	-0.7	102.8	0.1	-1.2
Motors & Fuel	72.6	2.0	0.8	70.2	2.0	-0.4
All Bus. Excl. Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars	97.2	0.7	-1.1	105.8	0.6	-0.8
Food Businesses	115.6	1.5	1.8	113.2	1.2	1.1
Non-Food (Excl Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars)	78.6	-1.7	-5.9	97.5	-1.6	-4.4
Household Equipment	66.8	-2.5	-7.8	94.8	-2.9	-3.7
Books, Newspapers Stationery & Other Goods	74.1	-1.5	-7.6	82.0	-3.7	-9.0

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2012, individual series are independently adjusted

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

Retail Business - NACE REV 2	February-April 2012					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
Motor Trades	61.9	-10.5	0.2	67.4	-11.2	0.7
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores)	117.3	0.0	0.8	115.0	-0.4	0.0
Department Stores	80.5	-3.9	-6.8	104.7	-2.8	-6.9
Food beverages & Tobacco	85.9	0.4	-2.4	84.2	0.1	-2.9
Fuel	110.1	1.8	3.4	75.8	-1.8	-4.5
Pharmaceuticals Medical & Cosmetic Articles	101.7	0.2	-1.2	110.8	-0.6	-0.2
Clothing, Footwear & Textiles	81.4	-2.2	-5.5	112.2	-1.3	-5.2
Furniture and Lighting	53.1	0.2	-7.2	72.5	1.4	-3.7
Hardware, Paints & Glass	71.8	-3.9	-10.6	74.5	-4.5	-11.0
Electrical Goods	71.1	-6.0	-2.9	127.3	-5.1	4.0
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	68.3	-2.4	-6.9	61.8	-3.3	-6.9
Other Retail Sales	76.2	-1.2	-5.7	89.4	-0.9	-6.1
Bars	71.7	-3.6	-6.9	65.0	-4.8	-7.8
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	95.0	-0.8	-1.5	97.8	-2.3	-2.4
All Businesses	87.2	-1.8	-1.2	90.8	-2.5	-1.7
Of which:- <u>Combined Groups</u>						
All Businesses excl Motor Trades & Bars	97.7	-0.8	-1.3	102.2	-1.7	-1.9
Motors & Fuel	72.1	-5.3	0.3	69.6	-4.5	-1.1
All Bus. Excl. Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars	96.6	-0.6	-1.7	104.9	-1.4	-1.6
Food Businesses	114.7	0.1	0.5	112.5	0.0	-0.3
Non-Food (Excl Motor Trades, Fuel & Bars)	78.6	-2.4	-5.9	97.5	-2.2	-4.3
Household Equipment	66.9	-6.6	-8.4	94.9	-6.4	-3.6
Books, Newspapers Stationery & Other Goods	74.3	-1.8	-5.5	83.4	-2.8	-6.6

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to April 2012, 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**

	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12 ²
Austria	-1.6	-0.9	-1.9	-0.3	-0.2	3.3
Belgium	-0.4	-3.1	1.1	2.8	4.7	2.9
Finland	1.5	1.1	1.3	3.8	6.2	5.3
France	2.8	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.2	2.7
Germany	1.3	1.3	1.3	-1.2	-2.3	0.3
Greece	-10.8	-8.9	-12.6	-10.6	-13.0	c
Ireland	-2.9	-0.6	1.1	-2.4	-1.4	-1.2
Italy	-1.4	-3.4	-5.5	-0.3	-2.2	c
Luxembourg	6.1	6.2	17.1	7.5	2.3	7.2
Netherlands	-2.3	-2.7	-2.1	-0.5	-4.4	c
Portugal	-9.8	-9.2	-8.7	-7.1	-8.8	-5.0
Slovenia	1.5	1.3	1.1	4.3	-0.7	-0.5
Slovakia	-2.9	-2.7	-3.2	1.5	2.0	0.1
Spain	-7.0	-7.0	-5.6	-5.7	-6.4	-3.9
Cyprus	-1.2	-2.2	-6.4	-1.9	c	c
Malta	7.9	-2.8	0.0	-5.9	1.4	-2.7
EA17	-0.7	-1.4	-1.7	-1.1	-2.1	-0.2
Denmark	-4.4	-2.6	-1.6	-3.3	-0.4	0.6
Sweden	-1.0	0.1	0.8	1.3	2.7	3.1
United Kingdom	1.7	1.5	6.1	2.8	1.9	4.9
Czech Republic	-1.2	-0.4	2.0	0.1	-2.6	c
Estonia	4.7	5.7	7.5	14.8	15.3	9.3
Latvia	5.4	7.5	7.0	15.1	10.0	10.0
Lithuania	9.8	12.3	12.1	11.7	4.5	3.8
Hungary	0.5	1.1	1.6	0.7	-1.3	c
Poland	-0.4	0.3	-1.4	2.4	-2.7	1.5
Bulgaria	-5.2	-5.4	-2.5	-2.6	-6.4	-1.8
Romania	2.1	2.9	8.1	8.9	2.0	2.8
EU27	-0.3	-0.6	0.1	0.0	-1.1	1.0
Norway	2.2	0.5	1.2	2.8	3.6	7.2
Switzerland	0.1	1.8	1.7	4.7	0.8	:

: Data not available,

¹ Data NACE 47 : All Business excluding Motor Trades & Bars² Data for Ireland is March 2012 Final data

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Source: Eurostat

Monthly % change data available on Eurostat website:

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/euroindicators/peeis/>

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 2012 period covers the 5 weeks from 26/02/12 to 31/03/12 and the April 2012 period covers the 4 weeks from 01/04/12 to 28/04/12.</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 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>