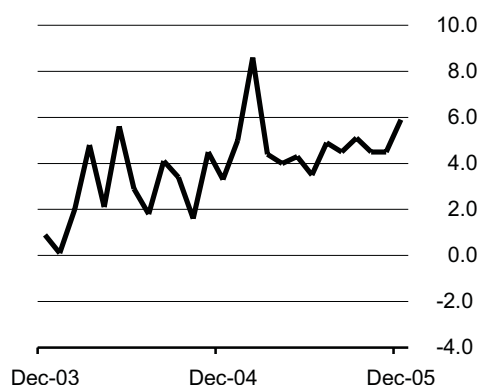




**Retail Sales Index -  
Seasonally Adjusted Volume  
Annual % Change**



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Queries and Sales	Information Section, ext 5032 information@cs.o.ie

December 2005 (First Estimates - *corrected*)  
November 2005 (Final Figures)

(Base year 2000 = 100)

	Volume Index	Value Index
December 2004	106.5	115.8
December 2005	111.8	123.2
% change	+5.0%	+6.4%

The volume of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) increased by 5.0% in December 2005 compared to December 2004. There was no change in volume between November and December. If Motor Trades are excluded the annual increase was 5.5% and the monthly change was +0.2%.

The value of retail sales increased by 6.4% in December 2005 compared to December 2004 and decreased by 0.2% in the month. However, if Motor Trades are excluded, the annual increase was 6.0% and the monthly change was -0.1%.

November 2005 is the latest month for which final detailed figures are available. The three-month September 2005 – November 2005 volume figures show that, compared with the three months ending August 2005:

- The largest increase in the volume of sales was in the Furniture & Lighting (+4.7 %) sector.
- The largest decrease in the volume of sales was in the Electrical Goods (-2.2%) sector.

All figures in this release are trading day and seasonally adjusted. The seasonal factors are based on unadjusted indices up to December 2004.

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**Table 1 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales <sup>1</sup>****Base Year: 2000 = 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
2001 Year	103.3	3.3	3.3	101.5	1.5	1.5
2002 Year	105.9	2.5	2.5	101.7	0.2	0.2
2003 Year	109.3	3.2	3.2	102.6	0.9	0.9
2004 Year	114.1	4.4	4.4	105.7	3.0	3.0
2005 Year <sup>2</sup>	121.2	6.2	6.2	110.8	4.8	4.8
2004 1st quarter	112.1	1.6	3.4	104.9	1.8	2.3
2nd quarter	113.1	0.9	4.7	104.9	0.0	3.3
3rd quarter	114.3	1.1	4.7	105.6	0.7	3.1
4th quarter	115.5	1.0	4.7	106.2	0.6	3.1
2005 1st quarter	119.9	3.8	6.9	111.1	4.6	5.9
2nd quarter	118.9	-0.8	5.1	109.0	-1.9	3.9
3rd quarter	121.9	2.5	6.7	110.8	1.6	4.9
4th quarter <sup>2</sup>	122.8	0.7	6.3	111.2	0.3	4.7
2004 July	112.6	-1.1	3.3	104.3	-1.1	1.8
August	115.4	2.5	5.6	106.8	2.4	4.1
September	114.8	-0.5	4.9	105.8	-1.0	3.4
October	114.1	-0.6	3.2	105.0	-0.7	1.6
November	116.5	2.1	6.3	107.0	1.9	4.5
December	115.8	-0.6	4.6	106.5	-0.5	3.3
2005 January	117.7	1.6	6.0	109.7	3.0	5.0
February	121.9	3.6	9.6	112.6	2.6	8.6
March	119.9	-1.6	5.4	111.0	-1.4	4.4
April	119.4	-0.5	5.3	109.5	-1.4	4.0
May	118.3	-0.9	5.7	108.4	-0.9	4.3
June	119.0	0.6	4.5	109.1	0.6	3.5
July	119.9	0.8	6.4	109.4	0.3	4.9
August	122.4	2.1	6.0	111.6	2.0	4.5
September	123.2	0.7	7.3	111.2	-0.4	5.1
October	121.6	-1.3	6.5	109.7	-1.3	4.5
November	123.5	1.6	6.0	111.8	1.9	4.5
December <sup>2</sup>	123.2	-0.2	6.4	111.8	0.0	5.0

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2004<sup>2</sup> 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)<sup>1</sup>****Base Year: 2000 = 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
2001 Year	110.1	10.1	10.1	107.1	7.1	7.1
2002 Year	114.8	4.3	4.3	108.9	1.7	1.7
2003 Year	119.2	3.8	3.8	110.6	1.6	1.6
2004 Year	123.7	3.8	3.8	114.0	3.1	3.1
2005 Year <sup>2</sup>	130.5	5.5	5.5	119.6	4.9	4.9
2004 1st quarter	120.9	0.9	3.2	112.0	1.3	2.5
2nd quarter	122.1	1.0	3.4	112.9	0.8	2.8
3rd quarter	123.1	0.8	4.0	113.4	0.4	3.4
4th quarter	125.1	1.6	4.4	114.8	1.2	3.8
2005 1st quarter	126.6	1.2	4.7	116.8	1.7	4.3
2nd quarter	128.3	1.3	5.0	118.0	1.0	4.5
3rd quarter	131.1	2.2	6.5	119.8	1.6	5.6
4th quarter <sup>2</sup>	132.4	1.0	5.8	120.6	0.7	5.1
2004 July	121.4	-1.5	3.1	112.3	-1.3	2.4
August	123.7	1.9	5.2	113.8	1.4	4.6
September	124.1	0.3	3.9	114.0	0.2	3.2
October	124.2	0.1	3.5	114.1	0.1	2.8
November	125.9	1.3	5.6	115.5	1.3	4.9
December	125.1	-0.6	4.1	114.8	-0.6	3.6
2005 January	124.5	-0.5	3.2	114.7	-0.1	2.7
February	128.1	2.9	6.6	118.2	3.1	6.3
March	127.2	-0.8	4.5	117.4	-0.7	4.1
April	125.5	-1.3	3.0	115.4	-1.7	2.4
May	127.7	1.7	5.6	117.6	1.9	5.0
June	130.9	2.6	6.2	120.3	2.3	5.8
July	130.0	-0.7	7.0	119.3	-0.9	6.2
August	130.7	0.5	5.6	119.4	0.1	4.9
September	132.3	1.3	6.6	120.6	1.0	5.7
October	131.5	-0.6	5.8	119.8	-0.6	5.0
November	132.8	1.0	5.5	120.9	0.9	4.6
December <sup>2</sup>	132.7	-0.1	6.0	121.1	0.2	5.5

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2004<sup>2</sup> Provisional value and volume of sales indices based on early returns from sample retailers

**Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup> Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses**  
**(Preliminary Estimates) Base Year: 2000 = 100**

Retail Business - NACE REV 1	December 2005					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	106.5	0.1	8.2	96.2	0.4	6.0
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	144.7	2.1	7.7	128.1	2.3	8.1
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	131.4	4.0	7.6	137.3	4.6	9.0
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	146.5	2.3	12.3			
Furniture, Soft Furnishing, etc.	102.7	-2.6	0.1			
Other Goods and Services	125.1	11.4	3.8			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	114.9	-6.0	-0.9	98.6	-6.0	-0.8
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	152.0	1.6	8.4	130.6	1.9	7.5
Textiles and Clothing	121.4	-12.0	1.2	144.0	-10.5	3.0
Footwear and Leather	122.6	-1.3	4.0	150.6	-0.8	7.8
Furniture and Lighting	131.0	10.1	15.7	121.5	9.8	16.1
Electrical Goods	116.3	3.8	-4.7	108.8	3.9	-5.1
Hardware, Paints and Glass	161.7	4.2	14.4	137.0	4.4	12.5
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	123.3	0.4	7.0	105.8	0.9	6.2
Other Retail Sales	126.9	0.3	6.7	111.8	1.1	4.8
Bars - NACE 55.4	108.8	0.0	3.1	87.6	-1.1	2.1
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	132.7	-0.1	6.0	121.1	0.2	5.5
<b>All Businesses</b>	123.2	-0.2	6.4	111.8	0.0	5.0
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	121.5	-10.9	1.5	143.2	-10.2	3.4
Household Equipment	137.2	3.7	6.8	122.0	4.0	5.8
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	126.2	0.2	6.7	109.8	0.0	5.1
Food Businesses	141.3	1.1	6.9	123.5	1.0	7.2
All Non-Food	131.1	-1.5	5.9	120.1	-0.3	4.5
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	136.0	-0.1	6.4	126.2	0.2	5.8

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2004, individual series are independently adjusted

**Table 4 Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup> Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses**  
**Base Year: 2000 = 100**

Retail Business - NACE REV 1	November 2005					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	106.4	6.0	7.9	95.8	6.6	5.6
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	141.7	0.7	7.7	125.2	0.8	7.9
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	126.3	1.2	-1.0	131.2	0.7	0.0
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	143.2	1.6	6.2			
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	105.4	4.3	-6.6			
Other Goods and Services	112.4	0.4	-9.6			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	122.3	0.8	1.8	104.9	0.6	1.9
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	149.6	5.4	8.5	128.2	5.2	6.7
Textiles and Clothing	137.9	7.9	12.6	160.9	6.8	13.9
Footwear and Leather	124.3	0.9	9.1	151.8	0.3	12.7
Furniture and Lighting	119.0	4.1	6.1	110.7	4.3	5.9
Electrical Goods	112.1	-2.1	-4.1	104.7	-2.1	-4.8
Hardware, Paints and Glass	155.1	-2.8	5.6	131.3	-2.8	3.4
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	122.8	2.8	1.9	104.9	1.8	0.9
Other Retail Sales	126.6	-0.5	2.2	110.5	-0.1	0.1
Bars - NACE 55.4	108.8	-2.6	1.6	88.6	-2.2	0.8
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	132.8	1.0	5.5	120.9	0.9	4.6
<b>All Businesses</b>	123.5	1.6	6.0	111.8	1.9	4.5
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	136.4	7.2	12.2	159.6	6.0	13.8
Household Equipment	132.3	-3.0	2.3	117.3	-3.0	0.9
Books Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	126.0	0.0	2.1	109.8	0.8	0.5
Food Businesses	139.8	0.6	7.2	122.2	0.7	7.3
All Non-Food	133.0	1.5	4.7	120.4	1.6	3.1
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	136.1	1.1	6.0	125.9	1.0	5.1

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2004, individual series are independently adjusted

**Table 5 Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup> Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses**  
**Base Year: 2000 = 100**

Retail Business - NACE REV 1	September - November 2005					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	104.0	4.6	8.3	93.3	3.1	5.3
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	140.5	1.8	8.0	124.0	1.1	7.9
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	127.0	-1.0	2.5	132.2	-1.1	3.8
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	144.7	-1.6	9.2			
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	104.5	-3.3	-4.0			
Other Goods and Services	112.6	2.5	-5.2			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	121.0	1.7	1.8	103.9	1.8	1.9
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	151.4	-1.0	8.8	130.0	-1.3	7.1
Textiles and Clothing	131.8	0.5	7.3	154.1	-0.1	9.5
Footwear and Leather	123.4	-0.8	7.8	150.8	-0.5	12.0
Furniture and Lighting	112.0	4.9	-1.8	104.0	4.7	-2.1
Electrical Goods	115.1	-1.5	-4.0	107.5	-2.2	-4.5
Hardware, Paints and Glass	160.0	0.8	10.9	135.6	0.4	8.5
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	119.8	0.4	0.8	102.6	0.9	0.0
Other Retail Sales	126.4	2.5	4.2	110.1	1.2	1.5
Bars - NACE 55.4	110.6	-0.9	4.0	89.8	-0.9	3.2
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	132.2	1.2	6.0	120.4	0.6	5.2
<b>All Businesses</b>	122.8	2.1	6.7	110.9	0.8	4.7
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	130.6	0.3	7.4	153.5	-0.3	9.8
Household Equipment	135.6	0.1	4.2	120.3	-0.4	2.8
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	125.3	2.5	3.5	108.7	1.8	1.5
Food Businesses	138.7	1.8	7.4	121.1	1.3	7.5
All Non-Food	132.7	0.8	5.1	120.1	-0.7	3.1
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	135.6	1.3	6.3	125.4	0.5	5.5

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2004, individual series are independently adjusted

**Table 6**

**Volume of retail trade in the euro-zone, the EU25 and Member States<sup>1</sup>**  
**Annual % change compared with the same month of the previous year**

	Jun-05	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05 <sup>2</sup>
Belgium	2.7	1.2	3.4	1.8	0.1	-0.6
Germany	0.8	0.9	1.9	0.2	0.4	-0.2
Greece	4.0	4.1	3.8	2.1	2.4	1.6
Spain	1.5	0.6	2.7	1.6	-0.2	0.5
France	-1.5	-1.8	1.6	0.9	-1.0	0.2
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Italy	-1.5	-2.6	1.1	0.1	0.4	0.4
Luxembourg	2.1	3.8	2.1	5.0	1.8	-2.9
Netherlands	1.3	1.2	1.6	2.6	3.5	4.0
Austria	0.2	0.1	6.5	0.9	1.2	1.5
Portugal	7.3	-1.0	1.3	1.3	-0.7	1.3
Finland	5.7	4.6	6.3	6.1	6.1	5.2
<b>Euro-zone</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Denmark	10.4	8.5	7.5	10.0	7.4	5.8
Sweden	9.4	8.8	6.7	6.3	7.3	9.0
United Kingdom	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.6	1.3	1.7
Czech Republic	2.3	2.4	5.1	4.7	4.1	4.6
Estonia	14.0	15.6	13.7	15.2	15.1	14.2
Cyprus	5.6	-0.3	3.8	4.9	7.1	c
Latvia	19.8	21.1	22.6	21.4	21.6	20.6
Lithuania	14.3	14.8	14.1	17.5	16.3	17.5
Hungary	6.7	5.6	5.0	7.3	6.6	7.3
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	4.2	1.2	6.0	1.2	7.7	9.9
Slovenia	7.2	7.6	13.6	4.3	5.1	9.0
Slovakia	8.1	8.1	11.6	12.9	12.4	10.2
<b>EU25</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>

: Data not available, c Confidential data

<sup>1</sup> Data NACE 52 : All Business excluding Motor Trades & Bars

<sup>2</sup> Data for Ireland is Preliminary November 2005 data

Source: Eurostat

## Background Notes

<b>Retail Sales Index</b>	<p><b>Introduction of updated series with base year 2000 = 100.</b></p> <p>An updated Retail Sales Index (RSI) was introduced in the November 2003 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 updatings.</p>
<b>Reference Period</b>	<p>The November period covers the 4 weeks from 30/10/05 to 26/11/05 and the December period covers the 5 weeks from 27/11/05 to 31/12/05.</p>
<b>New Base Year</b>	<p>The set of new monthly retail sales indices has been compiled with reference to base year 2000 = 100. The underlying structural weighting system is mainly based on the 2000 Annual Services Inquiry. Weights are updated from year to year using ratios of average weekly turnover by size class within business type.</p>
<b>Scope and Coverage</b>	<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>
<b>Methodology</b>	<p>The business categories are 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 2000 Annual Services Inquiry classified by 13 retail business categories and four turnover (excluding VAT) ranges<sup>1</sup>.</p> <p>The value indices are calculated by updating the aggregate 2000 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 2000 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 (<a href="http://www.cso.ie">www.cso.ie</a>).</p>
<b>Seasonal Adjustment</b>	<p>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 1999 to December 2004. The duration is just sufficient for seasonal adjustment; the process will improve as the series is extended. The adjustments are completed by applying the X-11 Variant of the US Bureau of the Census Method 11 Seasonal Adjustment program based on individually selected multiplicative models. The unadjusted series, from which trading day variations have been eliminated, are available on our website (<a href="http://www.cso.ie">www.cso.ie</a>).</p>
<b>References</b>	<p>A detailed description of the Retail Sales Index is available on the cso website <a href="http://www.cso.ie">www.cso.ie</a>. 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.</p>

<sup>1</sup> The Department Stores business category is not classified by annual turnover but is sub-divided into three retail activity categories.