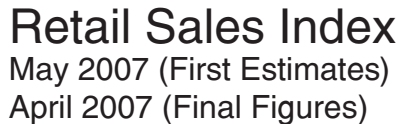




**Retail Sales Index -  
Seasonally Adjusted Volume  
Annual % Change**



	Volume Index	Value Index
May 2006	115.0	127.8
May 2007	126.3	141.3
% change	+9.9%	+10.6%

The volume of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) increased by 9.9% in May 2007 compared to May 2006. There was a monthly increase of 1.4%. If Motor Trades are excluded the annual increase was 9.1% and the monthly change was +2.2%.

April 2007 is the latest month for which final detailed figures are available. The three-month February 2007 – April 2007 volume figures show that, compared with the three months ending January 2007:

- All figures in this release are trading day and seasonally adjusted. The seasonal factors are based on unadjusted indices up to December 2006.

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**Table 1 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales <sup>1</sup>****Base Year: 2000 = 100**

Period	Total Retail Sales for all Businesses Combined					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
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	121.2	6.2	6.2	110.8	4.8	4.8
2006 Year	130.7	7.8	7.8	117.7	6.2	6.2
2005 1st quarter	118.0	1.4	6.5	108.9	1.7	5.5
2nd quarter	119.3	1.1	5.1	109.6	0.6	4.0
3rd quarter	122.7	2.8	6.8	111.8	2.0	5.1
4th quarter	123.7	0.8	6.3	112.0	0.2	4.6
2006 1st quarter	128.4	3.8	8.8	116.1	3.7	6.6
2nd quarter	128.9	0.4	8.0	116.0	-0.1	5.8
3rd quarter	130.1	0.9	6.0	117.0	0.9	4.7
4th quarter	134.0	3.0	8.3	120.4	2.9	7.5
2007 1st quarter	138.7	3.5	8.0	124.4	3.3	7.1
2005 December	124.3	0.0	6.4	112.8	0.2	4.9
2006 January	129.3	4.1	10.6	117.5	4.2	8.7
February	127.7	-1.3	8.3	115.3	-1.9	6.0
March	128.3	0.5	7.9	115.7	0.4	5.7
April	129.0	0.6	8.6	116.2	0.4	6.5
May	127.8	-1.0	6.7	115.0	-1.1	4.5
June	129.8	1.6	8.7	116.7	1.5	6.5
July	129.6	-0.2	7.1	116.5	-0.2	5.2
August	130.8	0.9	6.7	117.5	0.9	5.0
September	129.9	-0.7	4.6	117.1	-0.3	4.0
October	133.3	2.7	8.9	119.6	2.2	8.4
November	133.4	0.1	7.3	120.2	0.5	6.7
December	135.1	1.2	8.7	121.3	0.9	7.5
2007 January	140.2	3.8	8.4	126.0	3.9	7.2
February	136.9	-2.3	7.2	122.9	-2.5	6.6
March	138.9	1.5	8.3	124.3	1.1	7.4
April	139.2	0.2	7.9	124.5	0.2	7.1
May <sup>2</sup>	141.3	1.5	10.6	126.3	1.4	9.9

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2006<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
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	130.5	5.5	5.5	119.6	4.9	4.9
2006 Year	141.1	8.1	8.1	127.9	6.9	6.9
2005 1st quarter	126.3	0.7	4.6	116.4	1.0	4.2
2nd quarter	127.9	1.3	4.9	117.6	1.0	4.4
3rd quarter	131.2	2.6	6.5	120.0	2.0	5.6
4th quarter	132.6	1.1	5.7	121.0	0.8	4.9
2006 1st quarter	135.5	2.2	7.3	123.4	2.0	6.0
2nd quarter	139.2	2.7	8.8	126.2	2.3	7.3
3rd quarter	141.1	1.4	7.5	127.8	1.3	6.5
4th quarter	144.3	2.3	8.9	130.5	2.1	7.8
2007 1st quarter	146.2	1.3	7.9	131.6	0.9	6.7
2005 December	133.3	0.3	6.0	121.7	0.6	5.4
2006 January	135.3	1.5	9.0	123.5	1.4	7.9
February	136.4	0.8	7.0	124.2	0.6	5.7
March	135.0	-1.0	6.1	122.7	-1.2	4.8
April	137.9	2.2	9.8	125.3	2.2	8.6
May	139.1	0.8	8.7	126.1	0.6	7.2
June	140.3	0.9	8.0	127.1	0.8	6.5
July	140.5	0.2	7.8	127.3	0.1	6.5
August	141.6	0.8	8.4	128.3	0.8	7.4
September	141.3	-0.2	6.8	127.8	-0.3	5.8
October	143.6	1.7	9.1	130.1	1.8	8.3
November	144.1	0.3	8.5	130.3	0.2	7.6
December	145.1	0.7	8.9	130.9	0.4	7.5
2007 January	145.5	0.2	7.5	131.0	0.1	6.1
February	147.0	1.1	7.8	132.6	1.2	6.8
March	146.0	-0.7	8.2	131.4	-0.9	7.1
April	149.3	2.2	8.3	134.6	2.4	7.4
May <sup>2</sup>	152.7	2.3	9.8	137.6	2.2	9.1

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2006<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	May 2007					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	117.0	-1.1	12.1	104.0	-1.0	11.4
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	166.6	4.4	10.9	142.3	4.0	9.0
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	141.2	-5.0	4.1	150.1	-3.6	5.6
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	137.2	-0.9	-3.4			
Furniture, Soft Furnishing, etc.	99.2	-7.6	-17.9			
Other Goods and Services	156.2	1.8	17.3			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	128.1	3.8	3.5	105.1	3.5	1.0
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	162.5	-6.7	3.6	139.8	-6.5	3.9
Textiles and Clothing	159.0	-3.5	14.9	193.0	-3.1	18.0
Footwear and Leather	144.5	-9.2	16.0	186.1	-9.7	20.2
Furniture and Lighting	134.1	-2.3	7.5	124.7	-2.2	7.7
Electrical Goods	140.7	2.3	15.0	131.1	2.3	15.0
Hardware, Paints and Glass	202.8	-4.7	18.4	164.6	-5.0	14.9
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	131.5	5.5	6.3	108.7	5.3	4.8
Other Retail Sales	137.6	2.2	4.6	119.6	2.6	4.2
Bars - NACE 55.4	118.0	7.7	6.6	92.0	7.3	3.5
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	152.7	2.3	9.8	137.6	2.2	9.1
<b>All Businesses</b>	141.3	1.5	10.6	126.3	1.4	9.9
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	156.8	-4.4	15.1	192.2	-4.1	18.3
Household Equipment	167.6	-3.7	15.6	145.6	-3.7	13.9
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	137.2	2.9	5.0	116.8	3.2	4.2
Food Businesses	163.3	4.5	10.3	137.2	3.5	8.2
All Non-Food	153.7	-1.8	10.1	137.6	-2.0	9.4
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	158.7	1.7	10.2	145.4	1.6	9.8

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2006, 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	April 2007					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	118.4	-3.7	7.1	105.0	-3.8	6.3
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	159.5	0.9	8.7	136.8	0.4	6.7
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	148.6	3.8	2.1	155.8	2.2	3.7
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	138.4	0.2	-6.4			
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	107.4	18.9	-14.7			
Other Goods and Services	153.5	-4.3	13.8			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	123.5	5.7	0.9	101.6	5.0	-1.8
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	174.2	3.3	9.8	149.6	4.3	10.3
Textiles and Clothing	164.9	8.0	21.6	199.2	9.1	25.5
Footwear and Leather	159.2	12.9	28.1	206.1	14.0	32.8
Furniture and Lighting	137.2	0.1	6.8	127.6	0.4	6.5
Electrical Goods	137.5	-4.8	12.1	128.1	-4.5	12.0
Hardware, Paints and Glass	212.9	15.1	22.0	173.2	15.2	18.5
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	124.7	3.0	3.2	103.2	3.0	1.1
Other Retail Sales	134.6	-4.4	1.2	116.6	-4.0	0.4
Bars - NACE 55.4	109.6	0.3	-1.3	85.7	-0.2	-4.4
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	149.3	2.2	8.3	134.6	2.4	7.4
<b>All Businesses</b>	139.2	0.2	7.9	124.5	0.2	7.1
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	163.9	7.6	22.4	200.3	10.0	26.5
Household Equipment	174.1	6.9	16.6	151.2	7.0	14.7
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	133.3	-3.1	1.6	113.2	-3.1	0.2
Food Businesses	156.2	1.6	8.1	132.6	1.2	5.9
All Non-Food	156.6	3.4	11.1	140.5	3.5	10.4
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	156.0	1.9	9.5	143.0	2.2	8.9

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2006, 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	February - April 2007					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous period	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	120.5	2.2	7.3	107.0	1.7	6.8
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	158.1	0.4	8.9	136.1	-0.3	7.2
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	143.7	7.5	5.2	152.3	8.9	6.5
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	137.4	7.1	-5.2			
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	100.0	-3.7	-15.5			
Other Goods and Services	156.4	5.7	19.3			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	121.2	-3.6	-0.6	100.2	-4.2	-3.1
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	171.9	2.0	6.8	146.6	2.2	6.4
Textiles and Clothing	154.8	6.0	14.8	186.5	6.1	17.7
Footwear and Leather	147.4	11.8	19.0	189.8	14.4	23.3
Furniture and Lighting	134.7	8.0	10.5	124.9	8.3	9.9
Electrical Goods	141.5	4.7	14.9	131.5	4.8	14.4
Hardware, Paints and Glass	194.3	8.2	18.3	158.3	7.4	14.5
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	122.5	-3.4	1.4	101.5	-3.6	-0.6
Other Retail Sales	138.6	-1.1	5.3	119.9	-0.7	4.4
Bars - NACE 55.4	111.3	-0.9	0.8	87.8	-2.0	-1.5
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	147.3	1.7	8.1	132.8	1.6	7.1
<b>All Businesses</b>	138.4	1.7	7.9	123.9	1.2	7.1
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	154.2	6.8	15.3	186.7	6.9	18.4
Household Equipment	165.7	8.4	16.0	143.9	8.0	13.8
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	136.0	-0.8	4.7	115.7	-1.3	3.4
Food Businesses	154.4	-0.1	8.1	131.4	-0.5	6.1
All Non-Food	152.9	4.7	10.2	137.1	3.9	9.3
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	153.6	2.5	9.1	140.7	2.4	8.2

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2006, individual series are independently adjusted

**Table 6**

**Volume of retail trade in the euro-zone, the EU27 and Member States<sup>1</sup>**  
**Annual % change compared with the same month of the previous year**

	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07 <sup>2</sup>
Belgium	1.8	-3.4	4.4	2.6	0.0	-0.8
Germany	2.0	6.3	-2.8	-1.5	0.0	0.5
Greece	6.8	10.6	6.0	3.9	3.3	-1.4
Spain	4.0	4.7	4.1	3.6	5.2	1.5
France	1.9	1.5	3.2	2.6	4.7	4.3
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>10.1</b>
Italy	c	c	c	c	c	c
Luxembourg	0.9	6.6	1.9	-0.8	8.5	5.4
Netherlands	3.3	3.6	0.0	3.4	3.9	3.5
Austria	0.6	3.3	2.2	3.0	3.1	1.4
Portugal	1.0	2.3	0.8	0.7	3.7	-1.4
Finland	5.3	6.0	4.2	7.5	10.1	2.1
Slovenia	2.3	-2.5	0.3	-0.9	10.2	1.1
<b>Euro-zone (EU13)</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Denmark	2.3	4.3	-1.6	0.0	4.0	0.8
Sweden	7.5	10.9	6.1	6.8	9.6	6.5
United Kingdom	3.1	4.7	3.5	5.0	5.6	3.9
Czech Republic	6.8	8.3	5.2	9.9	10.1	7.7
Estonia	19.3	18.5	20.8	18.5	22.5	13.3
Cyprus	4.9	6.2	2.0	6.5	13.1	2.3
Latvia	21.9	27.2	28.2	28.8	27.8	23.3
Lithuania	6.1	7.7	12.3	10.5	16.7	12.8
Hungary	2.2	3.3	1.2	0.0	-0.5	-2.5
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	9.0	13.2	14.0	15.8	18.8	10.4
Slovakia	9.7	8.1	1.0	4.7	6.2	6.4
Bulgaria	15.8	15.4	11.7	10.2	13.5	7.4
Romania	20.7	26.3	-1.1	-3.7	16.3	14.2
<b>EU27</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>

: Data not available,

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

<sup>2</sup> Data for Ireland is Preliminary April 2007 data

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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 April period covers the 4 weeks from 01/04/07 to 28/04/07 and the May period covers the 4 weeks from 29/04/07 to 26/05/07.</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 2006. 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.