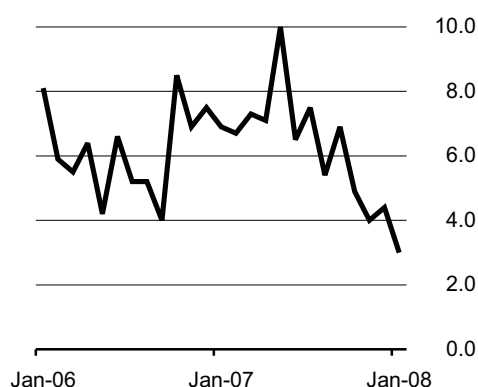




**Retail Sales Index -
Volume
Annual % Change**



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January 2008 (First Estimates)
December 2007 (Final Figures)

(Base year 2000 = 100)

	Volume Index	Value Index
January 2007	124.4	138.1
January 2008	128.2	145.3
% change	+3.0%	+5.2%

For more information contact Patrick Foley on 021 453 5012 or Alan Finlay on 021 453 5211.

Table 1 Seasonally Adjusted Indices of Total Retail Sales¹**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
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
2007 Year	140.6	7.6	7.6	125.2	6.4	6.4
2006 1st quarter	127.9	3.0	8.6	115.7	2.8	6.3
2nd quarter	128.6	0.5	8.0	115.7	0.0	5.8
3rd quarter	130.5	1.5	6.1	117.2	1.3	4.6
4th quarter	134.6	3.1	8.4	121.1	3.3	7.6
2007 1st quarter	138.0	2.5	7.9	123.8	2.2	7.0
2nd quarter	139.5	1.1	8.5	124.6	0.6	7.7
3rd quarter	140.4	0.6	7.6	124.9	0.2	6.6
4th quarter	143.2	2.0	6.4	126.5	1.2	4.4
2006 August	131.8	1.7	7.0	118.2	1.5	5.2
September	130.3	-1.1	4.8	117.0	-1.0	4.0
October	133.9	2.8	8.9	120.3	2.8	8.5
November	134.2	0.2	7.4	121.1	0.7	6.9
December	135.5	0.9	8.7	121.7	0.5	7.5
2007 January	138.1	1.9	8.0	124.4	2.2	6.9
February	137.2	-0.6	7.3	123.1	-1.1	6.7
March	138.5	1.0	8.3	124.0	0.8	7.3
April	138.9	0.3	7.9	124.3	0.2	7.1
May	139.9	0.7	10.7	125.0	0.6	10.0
June	139.6	-0.2	7.3	124.5	-0.4	6.5
July	140.7	0.8	8.6	125.2	0.5	7.5
August	139.8	-0.6	6.1	124.5	-0.5	5.4
September	140.7	0.6	8.0	125.1	0.5	6.9
October	142.6	1.3	6.5	126.2	0.9	4.9
November	142.8	0.2	6.4	126.0	-0.2	4.0
December	144.1	1.0	6.4	127.1	0.9	4.4
2008 January ²	145.3	0.8	5.2	128.2	0.9	3.0

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2007² 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: 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
2007 Year	151.6	7.4	7.4	136.1	6.4	6.4
2006 1st quarter	135.8	2.4	7.3	123.7	2.1	6.0
2nd quarter	138.9	2.3	8.7	126.0	1.9	7.3
3rd quarter	141.2	1.7	7.6	127.7	1.3	6.4
4th quarter	144.2	2.1	8.7	130.4	2.1	7.7
2007 1st quarter	146.6	1.7	8.0	132.2	1.4	6.9
2nd quarter	149.7	2.1	7.8	134.8	2.0	7.0
3rd quarter	151.6	1.3	7.4	136.0	0.9	6.5
4th quarter	154.1	1.6	6.8	137.7	1.2	5.6
2006 August	142.0	1.5	8.6	128.5	1.3	7.5
September	141.5	-0.4	6.8	127.7	-0.6	5.7
October	143.5	1.4	9.0	129.9	1.7	8.2
November	144.0	0.3	8.4	130.3	0.3	7.6
December	145.0	0.7	8.8	130.8	0.3	7.4
2007 January	145.9	0.7	7.6	131.7	0.7	6.2
February	146.8	0.6	7.8	132.4	0.5	6.8
March	147.0	0.1	8.4	132.4	0.1	7.4
April	148.9	1.3	8.3	134.2	1.3	7.4
May	152.2	2.2	9.8	137.0	2.1	9.0
June	148.4	-2.5	5.8	133.6	-2.5	5.2
July	152.0	2.5	8.6	136.2	1.9	7.3
August	150.7	-0.9	6.1	135.3	-0.6	5.3
September	152.1	0.9	7.5	136.4	0.8	6.8
October	153.4	0.8	6.9	137.4	0.7	5.8
November	154.2	0.5	7.1	137.5	0.1	5.5
December	154.5	0.2	6.6	138.1	0.5	5.6
2008 January ²	155.0	0.3	6.2	138.0	-0.1	4.8

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2007² 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: 2000 = 100

Retail Business - NACE REV 1	January 2008					
	Value of Sales			Volume of Sales		
	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change	Index	% change on previous month	Annual % change
Motor Trades - NACE 50	127.8	4.6	3.7	110.1	3.6	0.7
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	172.5	-0.2	9.8	141.6	-1.1	4.6
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	147.7	-0.8	10.8	155.0	-2.0	10.5
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	143.9	3.0	10.4			
Furniture, Soft Furnishing, etc.	86.0	-10.2	-14.1			
Other Goods and Services	173.0	0.5	18.4			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	133.7	1.9	5.9	106.2	1.7	1.4
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	177.2	-0.7	4.5	150.9	-1.1	4.4
Textiles and Clothing	151.2	-2.2	3.5	189.0	-2.1	7.4
Footwear and Leather	140.4	5.6	2.8	187.1	4.7	9.2
Furniture and Lighting	127.1	2.9	-2.3	118.8	3.3	-1.1
Electrical Goods	144.3	-0.7	0.9	134.5	-0.8	1.5
Hardware, Paints and Glass	196.3	3.4	3.8	159.7	8.2	1.9
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	130.2	3.5	2.4	105.2	3.4	-0.3
Other Retail Sales	149.7	3.5	7.2	126.2	3.3	4.0
Bars - NACE 55.4	110.4	-6.0	-1.9	85.1	-6.5	-5.0
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	155.0	0.3	6.2	138.0	-0.1	4.8
All Businesses	145.3	0.8	5.2	128.2	0.9	3.0
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	149.7	-1.3	3.5	188.0	-2.2	7.6
Household Equipment	162.9	1.9	1.9	140.8	2.1	1.2
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	146.3	3.7	6.3	121.5	3.7	3.3
Food Businesses	168.4	0.1	9.5	136.7	-1.1	4.5
All Non-Food	155.4	0.9	4.6	137.5	0.7	2.5
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	162.0	1.1	7.1	146.8	0.6	5.9

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2007, individual series are independently adjusted

Table 4 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses
Base Year: 2000 = 100

Retail Business - NACE REV 1	December 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	122.2	3.0	4.7	106.3	2.7	1.8
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	172.8	0.8	8.3	143.1	-0.2	3.6
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	148.9	4.2	10.1	158.2	5.2	11.2
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	139.7	1.9	8.9			
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	95.8	-3.8	-7.6			
Other Goods and Services	172.1	4.7	13.4			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	131.3	5.2	8.1	104.4	3.6	3.9
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	178.6	2.1	6.0	152.6	2.2	6.4
Textiles and Clothing	154.5	-1.5	6.6	193.0	-0.1	12.2
Footwear and Leather	133.0	0.5	0.3	178.7	2.1	6.8
Furniture and Lighting	123.5	-2.2	-0.9	115.0	-1.9	-0.1
Electrical Goods	145.3	5.5	9.3	135.6	5.5	9.9
Hardware, Paints and Glass	189.8	-3.1	7.7	147.6	-5.4	4.7
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	125.9	-1.5	-1.1	101.8	-1.8	-3.7
Other Retail Sales	144.6	-0.5	3.9	122.2	-0.7	1.5
Bars - NACE 55.4	117.5	2.7	4.6	91.0	2.4	1.4
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	154.5	0.2	6.6	138.1	0.5	5.6
All Businesses	144.1	1.0	6.4	127.1	0.9	4.4
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	151.7	-1.3	5.9	192.2	0.5	11.8
Household Equipment	159.8	-1.8	6.9	137.9	-1.7	6.0
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	141.1	-0.8	3.2	117.2	-1.3	0.6
Food Businesses	168.2	0.4	8.2	138.3	0.2	3.8
All Non-Food	154.0	0.2	5.7	136.5	0.1	3.9
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	160.3	0.0	6.8	146.0	0.3	6.2

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2007, individual series are independently adjusted

Table 5 Seasonally Adjusted¹ Value and Volume Indices of Retail Sales for 13 Retail Businesses
Base Year: 2000 = 100

Retail Business - NACE REV 1	October - December 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	120.6	2.1	4.5	105.3	0.9	1.9
Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11	171.1	2.5	9.1	142.9	0.8	4.8
Department Stores - NACE 52.12	144.0	4.7	7.0	152.3	4.8	7.5
of which:-						
Clothing and Footwear	138.3	0.8	4.7			
Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.	97.2	0.4	-9.2			
Other Goods and Services	164.4	8.4	12.8			
<u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>						
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	127.9	0.7	3.4	102.8	-0.8	-0.3
Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles	175.5	0.0	4.7	150.0	-0.2	4.9
Textiles and Clothing	155.9	1.6	6.9	193.2	2.8	10.8
Footwear and Leather	133.6	-3.3	0.2	177.5	-2.0	5.6
Furniture and Lighting	124.9	-1.0	2.0	116.2	-0.7	2.5
Electrical Goods	139.3	4.3	4.9	129.9	4.3	5.2
Hardware, Paints and Glass	191.4	-0.4	7.3	151.5	-2.4	4.4
Books, Newspapers and Stationery	127.0	-3.3	0.6	103.1	-3.8	-1.9
Other Retail Sales	146.2	0.8	6.0	124.2	-0.2	3.6
Bars - NACE 55.4	116.6	1.5	4.1	90.5	0.8	1.1
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades	154.1	1.6	6.8	137.7	1.2	5.6
All Businesses	143.2	2.0	6.4	126.5	1.2	4.4
Of which:-						
<u>Combined Groups</u>						
Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores	153.0	1.1	6.1	191.5	2.2	10.2
Household Equipment	160.1	0.4	6.0	138.3	0.4	4.8
Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods	142.8	0.2	5.2	119.2	-0.8	2.7
Food Businesses	167.0	2.3	8.7	137.7	0.9	4.5
All Non-Food	153.8	0.7	5.7	136.5	-0.1	3.8
All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars	160.0	1.3	7.2	145.6	1.0	6.2

¹ Based on Seasonal Patterns up to December 2007, 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

	Jul-07	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Dec-07 ²
Austria	0.3	0.6	1.4	1.8	0.9	-1.2
Belgium	-4.7	1.3	1.2	-1.0	-6.0	-6.4
Finland	5.5	8.0	5.1	5.3	5.5	3.3
France	3.8	2.2	3.3	3.5	0.8	2.9
Germany	-0.7	-2.0	0.0	-2.6	-3.0	-7.0
Greece	2.2	3.8	0.4	1.3	1.9	0.1
Ireland	8.8	6.3	7.3	6.2	6.2	6.2
Italy	-1.9	-0.9	-2.4	-0.7	-2.8	-3.2
Luxembourg	7.9	13.4	14.5	10.3	-0.1	-0.8
Netherlands	3.7	0.4	4.6	2.3	1.7	3.6
Portugal	0.5	1.6	-0.6	1.0	0.5	-1.2
Slovenia	3.3	4.7	9.4	8.0	4.4	2.2
Spain	3.3	4.2	2.0	1.4	0.5	-2.2
Euro-zone (EU13)	1.4	1.1	1.5	0.8	-0.8	-1.8
Denmark	3.1	0.8	4.1	-0.8	-0.8	-0.6
Sweden	9.4	5.3	7.9	5.1	3.7	2.8
United Kingdom	3.7	4.3	5.5	4.0	4.2	2.5
Czech Republic	6.9	6.7	8.1	6.1	3.2	4.2
Estonia	11.4	12.4	9.5	5.8	3.5	0.7
Cyprus	10.3	8.5	8.1	8.4	10.9	14.9
Latvia	24.0	19.1	17.4	9.1	11.0	1.4
Lithuania	11.0	13.2	13.1	11.5	9.5	7.5
Hungary	-4.1	-3.4	-4.8	-4.1	-4.2	-4.0
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	12.1	14.5	12.0	14.1	13.6	7.7
Slovakia	6.0	5.2	1.9	4.8	5.0	7.9
Bulgaria	5.8	3.6	2.1	2.3	2.7	12.1
Romania	23.5	31.0	35.6	15.2	19.0	18.7
EU27	2.8	2.7	3.2	2.1	1.2	-0.1

: Data not available,

¹ Data NACE 52 : All Business excluding Motor Trades & Bars

² Data for Ireland is Final December 2007 data

Source: Eurostat

Background Notes

Retail Sales Index	Introduction of updated series with base year 2000 = 100. 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.
Reference Period	The December 2007 period covers the 5 weeks from 25/11/07 to 29/12/07 and the January 2008 period covers the 4 weeks from 30/12/07 to 26/01/08.
New Base Year	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.
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 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) ranges¹. 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. 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).
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 1999 to December 2007. 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 (www.cso.ie).
References	A detailed description of the Retail Sales Index is available on the cso website www.cso.ie. 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.

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