



# Retail Sales Index

August 2007 (First Estimates)  
July 2007 (Final Figures)

The line graph illustrates the daily death toll from COVID-19 in the United States over a two-year period. The data shows significant fluctuations, with a major peak of nearly 10 deaths occurring in late 2006. The overall trend is characterized by frequent spikes and troughs, indicating a highly volatile and severe public health crisis.

(Base year 2000 = 100)

|                    | Volume Index | Value Index |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| <b>August 2006</b> | 117.9        | 131.2       |
| <b>August 2007</b> | 123.9        | 138.9       |
| <b>% change</b>    | +5.1%        | +5.9%       |

The volume of retail sales (i.e. excluding price effects) increased by 5.1% in August 2007 compared to August 2006. There was a monthly decrease of 1.1%. If Motor Trades are excluded the annual increase was 5.1% and the monthly change was -1.2%.

The value of retail sales increased by 5.9 % in August 2007 compared to August 2006 and decreased by 1.4 % in the month. However, if Motor Trades are excluded, the annual increase was 5.9 % and the monthly change was -1.6%.

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

- The largest increase in the volume of sales was in the Book, Newspapers & Stationery (+6.2%) sector.
- The largest decrease in the volume of sales was in the Footwear & Leather (-5.6%) sector.

All figures in this release are trading day and seasonally adjusted. The seasonal factors are based on unadjusted indices up to June 2007.

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

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

|            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Ardee Road | Skehard Road |
| Dublin 6   | Cork         |
| Ireland    | Ireland      |

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)  
0870 8760256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000      Tel: +353 21 453 5000  
Fax: +353 1 498 4229      Fax: +353 21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)  
and go to  
Business Sectors: Services

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

|                   |                                                     |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Retail Statistics | Retail Sales Section, ext 5012<br>r_sales@cs.oie    |
| Queries and Sales | Information Section, ext 5021<br>information@cs.oie |

© Central Statistics Office  
The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

**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<br>on previous<br>period | Annual %<br>change | Index           | % change<br>on previous<br>period | Annual %<br>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                |
| 2006 1st quarter                               | 127.9          | 3.1                               | 8.6                | 115.6           | 2.8                               | 6.3                |
| 2nd quarter                                    | 128.8          | 0.7                               | 8.0                | 115.9           | 0.3                               | 5.8                |
| 3rd quarter                                    | 130.5          | 1.3                               | 6.2                | 117.3           | 1.2                               | 4.7                |
| 4th quarter                                    | 134.6          | 3.1                               | 8.5                | 121.0           | 3.2                               | 7.7                |
| 2007 1st quarter                               | 138.0          | 2.5                               | 7.9                | 123.7           | 2.2                               | 7.0                |
| 2nd quarter                                    | 139.8          | 1.3                               | 8.5                | 124.9           | 1.0                               | 7.8                |
| 2006 March                                     | 128.1          | 0.1                               | 7.7                | 115.6           | 0.2                               | 5.5                |
| April                                          | 129.0          | 0.7                               | 8.5                | 116.2           | 0.5                               | 6.4                |
| May                                            | 126.7          | -1.7                              | 6.4                | 114.0           | -2.0                              | 4.2                |
| June                                           | 130.3          | 2.9                               | 8.8                | 117.2           | 2.9                               | 6.6                |
| July                                           | 129.7          | -0.5                              | 7.2                | 116.6           | -0.5                              | 5.3                |
| August                                         | 131.2          | 1.1                               | 6.9                | 117.9           | 1.1                               | 5.2                |
| September                                      | 130.5          | -0.5                              | 4.8                | 117.5           | -0.3                              | 4.1                |
| October                                        | 133.8          | 2.5                               | 9.0                | 120.2           | 2.3                               | 8.6                |
| November                                       | 134.0          | 0.1                               | 7.5                | 120.7           | 0.4                               | 6.9                |
| December                                       | 135.6          | 1.2                               | 8.8                | 121.8           | 0.9                               | 7.6                |
| 2007 January                                   | 137.9          | 1.7                               | 7.9                | 123.7           | 1.6                               | 6.7                |
| February                                       | 137.2          | -0.5                              | 7.3                | 123.1           | -0.5                              | 6.6                |
| March                                          | 138.7          | 1.1                               | 8.3                | 124.1           | 0.8                               | 7.3                |
| April                                          | 139.1          | 0.3                               | 7.9                | 124.5           | 0.3                               | 7.1                |
| May                                            | 140.3          | 0.9                               | 10.7               | 125.4           | 0.7                               | 10.0               |
| June                                           | 139.9          | -0.3                              | 7.3                | 124.9           | -0.4                              | 6.5                |
| July                                           | 140.8          | 0.7                               | 8.6                | 125.3           | 0.3                               | 7.4                |
| August <sup>2</sup>                            | 138.9          | -1.4                              | 5.9                | 123.9           | -1.1                              | 5.1                |

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to June 2007<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             |
| 2006 1st quarter                                                   | 135.9          | 2.5                         | 7.3             | 123.8           | 2.3                         | 6.0             |
| 2nd quarter                                                        | 138.9          | 2.2                         | 8.6             | 125.9           | 1.7                         | 7.2             |
| 3rd quarter                                                        | 141.1          | 1.6                         | 7.6             | 127.7           | 1.4                         | 6.5             |
| 4th quarter                                                        | 144.3          | 2.3                         | 8.8             | 130.4           | 2.1                         | 7.8             |
| 2007 1st quarter                                                   | 146.6          | 1.6                         | 7.9             | 132.2           | 1.4                         | 6.8             |
| 2nd quarter                                                        | 149.7          | 2.1                         | 7.8             | 134.8           | 2.0                         | 7.1             |
| 2006 March                                                         | 135.8          | -0.4                        | 6.3             | 123.5           | -0.4                        | 4.9             |
| April                                                              | 137.7          | 1.4                         | 9.7             | 125.1           | 1.2                         | 8.5             |
| May                                                                | 138.7          | 0.8                         | 8.5             | 125.6           | 0.5                         | 7.0             |
| June                                                               | 140.1          | 1.0                         | 7.9             | 126.8           | 1.0                         | 6.4             |
| July                                                               | 140.3          | 0.2                         | 7.9             | 127.1           | 0.2                         | 6.6             |
| August                                                             | 141.7          | 1.0                         | 8.5             | 128.3           | 0.9                         | 7.5             |
| September                                                          | 141.3          | -0.2                        | 6.8             | 127.8           | -0.3                        | 5.8             |
| October                                                            | 143.6          | 1.6                         | 9.2             | 130.0           | 1.7                         | 8.3             |
| November                                                           | 144.1          | 0.3                         | 8.5             | 130.3           | 0.2                         | 7.7             |
| December                                                           | 145.0          | 0.6                         | 8.9             | 130.9           | 0.4                         | 7.5             |
| 2007 January                                                       | 145.9          | 0.6                         | 7.5             | 131.5           | 0.5                         | 6.1             |
| February                                                           | 146.8          | 0.6                         | 7.7             | 132.4           | 0.6                         | 6.8             |
| March                                                              | 147.1          | 0.2                         | 8.4             | 132.6           | 0.1                         | 7.3             |
| April                                                              | 149.0          | 1.3                         | 8.2             | 134.3           | 1.3                         | 7.4             |
| May                                                                | 152.2          | 2.1                         | 9.7             | 136.9           | 1.9                         | 9.0             |
| June                                                               | 148.2          | -2.6                        | 5.8             | 133.4           | -2.6                        | 5.1             |
| July                                                               | 152.5          | 2.9                         | 8.7             | 136.5           | 2.3                         | 7.3             |
| August <sup>2</sup>                                                | 150.0          | -1.6                        | 5.9             | 134.8           | -1.2                        | 5.1             |

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to June 2007<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                                         | August 2007    |                                     |                    |                 |                                     |                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                                                      | Value of Sales |                                     |                    | Volume of Sales |                                     |                    |
|                                                                      | Index          | % change<br>on<br>previous<br>month | Annual %<br>change | Index           | % change<br>on<br>previous<br>month | Annual %<br>change |
| Motor Trades - NACE 50                                               | 116.5          | -0.9                                | 5.8                | 103.2           | -0.7                                | 5.2                |
| Non-Specialised Stores<br>(excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11 | 164.5          | -3.4                                | 8.3                | 139.9           | -3.3                                | 5.7                |
| Department Stores - NACE 52.12                                       | 132.9          | -4.7                                | -5.0               | 141.1           | -3.5                                | -4.3               |
| of which:-                                                           |                |                                     |                    |                 |                                     |                    |
| Clothing and Footwear                                                | 144.0          | 4.3                                 | -10.2              |                 |                                     |                    |
| Furniture, Soft Furnishing, etc.                                     | 90.5           | -11.2                               | -25.3              |                 |                                     |                    |
| Other Goods and Services                                             | 142.7          | -7.4                                | 11.2               |                 |                                     |                    |
| <u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>                      |                |                                     |                    |                 |                                     |                    |
| Food, Beverages and Tobacco                                          | 128.1          | 1.0                                 | 1.9                | 104.7           | 0.9                                 | -0.6               |
| Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles                          | 172.3          | -3.0                                | 6.4                | 147.8           | -2.9                                | 7.0                |
| Textiles and Clothing                                                | 160.9          | 8.7                                 | 14.5               | 199.5           | 11.8                                | 17.6               |
| Footwear and Leather                                                 | 139.5          | 2.7                                 | 6.3                | 184.1           | 4.7                                 | 11.4               |
| Furniture and Lighting                                               | 124.3          | -1.1                                | -1.9               | 115.5           | -0.1                                | -1.7               |
| Electrical Goods                                                     | 123.4          | -5.6                                | -3.6               | 114.9           | -5.4                                | -3.4               |
| Hardware, Paints and Glass                                           | 187.8          | -4.6                                | 7.3                | 153.3           | -3.5                                | 4.6                |
| Books, Newspapers and Stationery                                     | 127.0          | -8.5                                | 3.5                | 103.7           | -8.6                                | 1.2                |
| Other Retail Sales                                                   | 142.2          | -2.0                                | 4.9                | 122.2           | -1.5                                | 4.2                |
| Bars - NACE 55.4                                                     | 114.5          | 1.1                                 | 1.0                | 89.6            | 1.1                                 | -1.5               |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades                                    | 150.0          | -1.6                                | 5.9                | 134.8           | -1.2                                | 5.1                |
| <b>All Businesses</b>                                                | 138.9          | -1.4                                | 5.9                | 123.9           | -1.1                                | 5.1                |
| Of which:-                                                           |                |                                     |                    |                 |                                     |                    |
| <u>Combined Groups</u>                                               |                |                                     |                    |                 |                                     |                    |
| Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores                            | 157.6          | 6.9                                 | 13.2               | 196.8           | 11.6                                | 16.6               |
| Household Equipment                                                  | 152.9          | -5.1                                | 2.4                | 133.0           | -4.0                                | 1.2                |
| Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods                          | 139.2          | -3.3                                | 4.6                | 117.5           | -3.2                                | 3.4                |
| Food Businesses                                                      | 161.1          | -2.9                                | 7.8                | 135.1           | -2.9                                | 5.2                |
| All Non-Food                                                         | 150.7          | -1.8                                | 5.4                | 135.2           | -1.4                                | 4.8                |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars                             | 156.2          | -1.9                                | 6.7                | 142.8           | -1.4                                | 6.1                |

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to June 2007, 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                                      | July 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                                            | 117.5          | -2.4                       | 8.6             | 103.9           | -2.5                       | 7.6             |
| Non-Specialised Stores (excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11 | 170.2          | 4.3                        | 11.3            | 144.6           | 3.6                        | 8.5             |
| Department Stores - NACE 52.12                                    | 139.4          | 1.9                        | 2.3             | 146.2           | 0.8                        | 2.1             |
| of which:-                                                        |                |                            |                 |                 |                            |                 |
| Clothing and Footwear                                             | 138.0          | 5.0                        | -5.4            |                 |                            |                 |
| Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.                                 | 101.9          | 11.3                       | -13.8           |                 |                            |                 |
| Other Goods and Services                                          | 154.0          | -0.8                       | 22.0            |                 |                            |                 |
| <u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>                   |                |                            |                 |                 |                            |                 |
| Food, Beverages and Tobacco                                       | 126.8          | 3.0                        | 3.4             | 103.8           | 3.0                        | 0.7             |
| Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles                       | 177.6          | 4.8                        | 8.1             | 152.3           | 4.9                        | 8.4             |
| Textiles and Clothing                                             | 148.0          | -3.2                       | 14.4            | 178.5           | -3.7                       | 15.1            |
| Footwear and Leather                                              | 135.7          | 3.1                        | 8.3             | 175.8           | 3.7                        | 11.4            |
| Furniture and Lighting                                            | 125.6          | -2.7                       | 7.9             | 115.7           | -4.0                       | 7.1             |
| Electrical Goods                                                  | 130.7          | -11.1                      | 7.2             | 121.4           | -11.4                      | 7.2             |
| Hardware, Paints and Glass                                        | 196.8          | 8.5                        | 9.6             | 158.9           | 8.6                        | 6.6             |
| Books, Newspapers and Stationery                                  | 138.7          | 7.6                        | 13.5            | 113.5           | 6.5                        | 10.9            |
| Other Retail Sales                                                | 145.0          | 3.2                        | 9.4             | 124.1           | 2.4                        | 8.3             |
| Bars - NACE 55.4                                                  | 113.3          | -1.3                       | -0.5            | 88.6            | -1.3                       | -3.0            |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades                                 | 152.5          | 2.9                        | 8.7             | 136.5           | 2.3                        | 7.3             |
| <b>All Businesses</b>                                             | 140.8          | 0.7                        | 8.6             | 125.3           | 0.3                        | 7.4             |
| Of which:-                                                        |                |                            |                 |                 |                            |                 |
| <u>Combined Groups</u>                                            |                |                            |                 |                 |                            |                 |
| Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores                         | 147.4          | -1.9                       | 13.7            | 176.3           | -4.7                       | 14.4            |
| Household Equipment                                               | 161.2          | -1.2                       | 8.6             | 138.6           | -1.8                       | 6.9             |
| Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other goods                       | 144.0          | 3.8                        | 10.0            | 121.4           | 3.0                        | 8.4             |
| Food Businesses                                                   | 165.9          | 4.6                        | 10.7            | 139.1           | 3.9                        | 7.8             |
| All Non-Food                                                      | 153.5          | 3.0                        | 9.3             | 137.1           | 2.2                        | 8.3             |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars                          | 159.3          | 3.5                        | 10.0            | 144.8           | 2.7                        | 8.8             |

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to June 2007, 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                                         | May - July 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                                               | 119.0           | -0.7                        | 11.1            | 105.5           | -0.8                        | 10.2            |
| Non-Specialised Stores<br>(excluding Department Stores) - NACE 52.11 | 165.7           | 4.3                         | 9.0             | 141.4           | 3.4                         | 6.6             |
| Department Stores - NACE 52.12                                       | 138.8           | -1.8                        | 2.4             | 146.5           | -1.8                        | 3.3             |
| of which:-                                                           |                 |                             |                 |                 |                             |                 |
| Clothing and Footwear                                                | 134.5           | -0.9                        | -5.9            |                 |                             |                 |
| Furniture, Soft Furnishings, etc.                                    | 96.8            | -3.4                        | -17.8           |                 |                             |                 |
| Other Goods and Services                                             | 154.6           | 1.2                         | 19.8            |                 |                             |                 |
| <u>Specialised Stores - NACE 52 (remainder)</u>                      |                 |                             |                 |                 |                             |                 |
| Food, Beverages and Tobacco                                          | 124.8           | 1.5                         | 1.7             | 102.2           | 0.6                         | -0.9            |
| Pharmaceutical, Medical & Cosmetic Articles                          | 172.4           | 0.6                         | 6.7             | 147.8           | 1.0                         | 6.9             |
| Textiles and Clothing                                                | 152.6           | -0.6                        | 11.5            | 185.0           | -0.8                        | 13.9            |
| Footwear and Leather                                                 | 136.3           | -6.1                        | 7.1             | 175.9           | -5.6                        | 10.6            |
| Furniture and Lighting                                               | 129.5           | -2.0                        | 11.6            | 120.2           | -2.0                        | 11.6            |
| Electrical Goods                                                     | 140.8           | -0.1                        | 16.1            | 130.9           | -0.2                        | 16.1            |
| Hardware, Paints and Glass                                           | 191.3           | -1.4                        | 10.1            | 154.8           | -2.4                        | 7.1             |
| Books, Newspapers and Stationery                                     | 132.7           | 6.9                         | 9.9             | 109.3           | 6.2                         | 8.2             |
| Other Retail Sales                                                   | 141.9           | 1.8                         | 6.6             | 122.1           | 1.8                         | 5.8             |
| Bars - NACE 55.4                                                     | 114.9           | 2.3                         | 2.9             | 89.8            | 1.2                         | 0.2             |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades                                    | 150.8           | 2.2                         | 7.9             | 135.4           | 1.7                         | 7.0             |
| <b>All Businesses</b>                                                | 140.3           | 1.4                         | 8.8             | 125.2           | 1.0                         | 7.9             |
| <u>Of which:-</u>                                                    |                 |                             |                 |                 |                             |                 |
| <u>Combined Groups</u>                                               |                 |                             |                 |                 |                             |                 |
| Clothing & Footwear in specialised stores                            | 150.7           | -0.7                        | 11.0            | 183.8           | -1.3                        | 13.5            |
| Household Equipment                                                  | 163.7           | 0.1                         | 117.0           | 141.5           | -0.5                        | 10.1            |
| Books, Newspapers, Stationery & Other Goods                          | 140.3           | 2.6                         | 7.3             | 118.9           | 2.2                         | 6.1             |
| Food Businesses                                                      | 161.6           | 4.1                         | 8.5             | 135.9           | 3.2                         | 5.9             |
| All Non-Food                                                         | 152.0           | 0.1                         | 8.7             | 136.4           | -0.1                        | 8.0             |
| All Businesses excl. Motor Trades & Bars                             | 156.7           | 2.0                         | 8.5             | 143.2           | 1.7                         | 7.9             |

<sup>1</sup> Based on Seasonal Patterns up to June 2007, 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**

|                         | Feb-07     | Mar-07     | Apr-07     | May-07     | Jun-07     | Jul-07 <sup>2</sup> |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| Austria                 | 3.0        | 3.1        | 1.4        | 0.1        | 1.0        | 0.3                 |
| Belgium                 | 2.6        | 0.0        | -0.8       | -2.9       | 2.6        | -4.7                |
| Finland                 | 7.1        | 9.7        | 3.5        | 4.5        | 6.6        | 6.1                 |
| France                  | 2.6        | 4.8        | 4.4        | 2.4        | 3.5        | 4.2                 |
| Germany                 | -1.6       | -0.1       | 0.6        | -3.1       | -2.6       | -1.2                |
| Greece                  | 3.9        | 3.3        | -1.6       | 3.2        | 4.5        | 2.1                 |
| <b>Ireland</b>          | <b>7.7</b> | <b>8.4</b> | <b>9.1</b> | <b>9.9</b> | <b>6.0</b> | <b>9.0</b>          |
| Italy                   | c          | 0.3        | -2.0       | -2.0       | -1.7       | -1.8                |
| Luxembourg              | 0.2        | 5.4        | 0.2        | -4.2       | 4.4        | 4.0                 |
| Netherlands             | 3.4        | 3.8        | 3.5        | -1.4       | 2.6        | c                   |
| Portugal                | 0.7        | 3.7        | -1.3       | -1.0       | 2.5        | 0.3                 |
| Slovenia                | -0.9       | 10.1       | 1.1        | 1.1        | 0.7        | -0.2                |
| Spain                   | 3.6        | 5.2        | 1.5        | 3.1        | 4.0        | 3.2                 |
| <b>Euro-zone (EU13)</b> | <b>1.2</b> | <b>2.7</b> | <b>1.6</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>1.1</b> | <b>1.3</b>          |
| Denmark                 | 0.0        | 4.0        | 0.8        | -2.2       | 0.8        | 3.1                 |
| Sweden                  | 6.8        | 9.6        | 6.5        | 5.8        | 8.6        | 9.5                 |
| United Kingdom          | 4.9        | 5.4        | 3.8        | 3.9        | 3.5        | 4.0                 |
| Czech Republic          | 9.9        | 10.2       | 8.1        | 7.7        | 7.5        | 7.3                 |
| Estonia                 | 18.4       | 22.3       | 13.5       | 15.6       | 15.1       | 10.8                |
| Cyprus                  | 6.5        | 13.1       | 2.3        | 6.4        | 11.0       | 9.9                 |
| Latvia                  | 28.8       | 27.8       | 23.3       | 24.3       | 24.4       | 24.0                |
| Lithuania               | 10.4       | 16.0       | 12.1       | 15.9       | 15.8       | 10.9                |
| Hungary                 | -0.3       | -0.2       | -2.5       | -2.8       | -3.6       | -4.1                |
| Malta                   | :          | :          | :          | :          | :          | :                   |
| Poland                  | 15.8       | 18.8       | 13.8       | 13.6       | 14.4       | 12.5                |
| Slovakia                | 4.7        | 6.2        | 6.4        | 9.9        | 7.5        | 6.0                 |
| Bulgaria                | 10.2       | 13.5       | 7.4        | 6.7        | 6.4        | 5.8                 |
| Romania                 | -3.7       | 16.3       | 13.1       | 14.0       | 15.9       | 22.4                |
| <b>EU27</b>             | <b>2.7</b> | <b>4.3</b> | <b>2.7</b> | <b>1.7</b> | <b>2.5</b> | <b>2.8</b>          |

: Data not available,

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

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

<sup>c</sup> Confidential

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 July 2007 period covers the 4 weeks from 01/07/07 to 28/07/07 and the August 2007 period covers the 4 weeks from 29/07/07 to 25/08/07.</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 June 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 (<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.