



PRESS RELEASE

Retail Sales Index Food & Beverage Services Index August 2011

Highlights

Retail Sales

- Retail sales (seasonally adjusted) decreased 7.2% in August 2011 compared to July 2011. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales declined 3.9%.
- Retail sales in August 2011 went up 3.3% compared to August 2010. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales increased 7.4%.

Sales of Food & Beverage Services

- Sales of food & beverage services (seasonally adjusted) decreased 2.4% in August 2011 over the previous month.
- Compared to a year ago, sales of food & beverage services went up 7.2% in August 2011.

Retail Sales by Sector

Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)

After seasonal adjustment, retailers of motor vehicles and telecommunications apparatus & computers registered declines in sales of 17.4% and 14.6% respectively in August 2011 compared to the previous month (Table 1). Retail sales of watches & jewellery, wearing apparel & footwear, petrol service stations, optical goods & books, recreational goods and medical goods & toiletries also decreased between 3.1% and 9.8% over July 2011.

On the other hand, retail sales of food & beverages increased 3.3% in August 2011 compared to the previous month.

Year-on-Year Change

Compared to August 2010, retailers of watches & jewellery and petrol service stations recorded increases in sales of 21.3% and 15.3% respectively in August 2011 (Table 3). Similarly, retail sales of wearing apparel & footwear, medical goods & toiletries, provision & sundry shops, department stores, furniture & household equipment, food & beverages, recreational goods and supermarkets increased between 1.8% and 8.8%.

Conversely, retailers of motor vehicles reported a 9.7% decline in sales in August 2011 over August 2010. Retail sales of telecommunication apparatus & computers and optical goods & books decreased 4.7% and 3.4% respectively.

Sales of Food & Beverage Services by Sector

Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)

After seasonal adjustment, receipts of fast food outlets, restaurants and other eating places (such as cafes and canteens) declined between 2.2% and 3.5% in August 2011 compared to the previous month (Table 2). Receipts of food caterers registered a 0.7% decrease over the same period.

Year-on-Year Change

All major segments reported higher turnover in August 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 (Table 4). Turnover of other eating places, fast food outlets and restaurants went up between 6.2% and 8.8%, while receipts of food caterers increased 4.6% in August 2011 over August 2010.

**Table 1 Month-on-Month Change of Retail Sales Index (2010=100)
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jul 11/ Jun 11	Aug 11/ Jul 11	Jul 11/ Jun 11	Aug 11/ Jul 11
		Total	10,000	1.9	-7.2
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	7,535	1.1	-3.9	0.9	-4.6
Department Stores	1,525	2.1	0.7	2.4	0.2
Supermarkets	453	2.1	0.1	2.2	-0.1
Provision & Sundry Shops	475	0.2	-0.8	-0.2	-1.5
Food & Beverages	201	-4.6	3.3	-4.4	3.0
Motor Vehicles	2,465	4.8	-17.4	3.8	-17.2
Petrol Service Stations	508	7.0	-6.7	3.3	-3.7
Medical Goods & Toiletries	415	7.5	-3.1	7.4	-3.2
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	746	2.6	-7.0	4.2	-7.8
Furniture & Household Equipment	817	0.3	0.0	1.2	0.8
Recreational Goods	184	1.9	-4.5	1.7	-4.4
Watches & Jewellery	770	-4.1	-9.8	-6.3	-14.7
Telecommunications Apparatus & Computers	556	-1.4	-14.6	-1.0	-15.9
Optical Goods & Books	367	0.9	-5.1	1.0	-5.4
Others	518	0.5	-1.1	0.2	-2.1

**Table 2 Month-on-Month Change of Food & Beverage Services Index (2010=100)
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jul 11/ Jun 11	Aug 11/ Jul 11	Jul 11/ Jun 11	Aug 11/ Jul 11
		Total	1,000	1.1	-2.4
Restaurants	391	2.6	-2.8	2.1	-3.2
Fast Food Outlets	126	-0.5	-3.5	-0.7	-3.7
Food Caterers	114	0.6	-0.7	1.4	-0.9
Other Eating Places	369	0.4	-2.2	0.0	-2.2

Table 3 Year-on-Year Change of Retail Sales Index (2010=100)

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jul 11/ Jul 10	Aug 11/ Aug 10	Jul 11/ Jul 10	Aug 11/ Aug 10
		Total	10,000	10.7	3.3
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	7,535	10.7	7.4	8.2	4.5
Department Stores	1,525	8.9	6.6	7.8	5.7
Supermarkets	453	3.5	1.8	0.8	-0.8
Provision & Sundry Shops	475	8.5	7.4	5.9	4.2
Food & Beverages	201	1.8	3.5	-1.2	0.5
Motor Vehicles	2,465	10.7	-9.7	8.9	-11.5
Petrol Service Stations	508	18.7	15.3	5.2	4.3
Medical Goods & Toiletries	415	8.3	8.8	5.6	6.2
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	746	8.9	8.8	9.5	9.3
Furniture & Household Equipment	817	3.9	5.1	4.4	6.7
Recreational Goods	184	5.5	2.5	7.9	4.9
Watches & Jewellery	770	28.5	21.3	17.0	4.7
Telecommunications Apparatus & Computers	556	28.4	-4.7	34.7	-1.8
Optical Goods & Books	367	-3.3	-3.4	-4.3	-4.6
Others	518	5.5	12.0	3.6	9.9

Table 4 Year-on-Year Change of Food & Beverage Services Index (2010=100)

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jul 11/ Jul 10	Aug 11/ Aug 10	Jul 11/ Jul 10	Aug 11/ Aug 10
		Total	1,000	9.9	7.2
Restaurants	391	8.8	6.2	5.9	3.2
Fast Food Outlets	126	11.9	8.2	9.5	5.8
Food Caterers	114	11.6	4.6	10.0	3.1
Other Eating Places	369	9.8	8.8	6.7	5.6

Explanatory Notes

Introduction

The Retail Sales Index (RSI) and Food & Beverage Services Index (FSI) measure the short-term performance of retail and food & beverage (F&B) services industries based on the sales records of retail and F&B services establishments.

The RSI and FSI are presented at both current prices and constant prices. The indices at current prices measure the changes of sales values which can result from changes in both price and quantity. By removing the price effect, the indices at constant prices measure the changes in the volume of economic activity.

To reflect changes in the structure of retail trade and F&B services industries, the coverage and weighting patterns of the RSI and FSI series are revised at regular intervals. These two indices have been re-based from reference year 2005 to 2010, the fifth re-basing exercise of the series. The new RSI and FSI series (2010=100) have been released with effect from Jan 2011 report.

Data Collection

Data for the compilation of the indices are primarily obtained from the results of the monthly surveys of retail and F&B services establishments respectively. Retail establishments refer to those selling merchandise directly to the consumers. F&B services establishments are those selling prepared food and drinks for in-premises consumption or on a take-away basis.

Index Compilation

To derive the RSI/FSI at detailed industry level, the monthly sales for that industry is divided by the average monthly sales for the same industry in the base year. The overall RSI/FSI is then computed by combining the sales indices of the detailed industries, using the weights to measure each industry's relative importance in the overall retail/F&B services industry.

To derive the indices at constant prices, the sales indices at current prices at detailed industry level are first deflated by appropriate price indices. These component indices at constant prices are then weighted and aggregated to derive the overall indices at constant prices.

Seasonal Adjustment

Seasonal effects are observed in both the RSI and FSI as there are usually intra-year periodic variations that repeat during the fixed period of time every year. To better reflect the underlying trend of the monthly sales, both indices are seasonally adjusted to remove the seasonal effects.

Singapore Department of Statistics

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More data are available at SingStat website at <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/pubn/business.html#mrs>

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