



SINGAPORE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

PRESS RELEASE

**Retail Sales Index
Catering Trade Index
February 2010**

Highlights

Retail Sales

- Retail sales (seasonally adjusted) decreased by 5.5% in February 2010 compared to January 2010. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales fell slightly by 0.5%.
- Retail sales in February 2010 increased by 4.8% compared to February 2009. Excluding motor vehicles, the sales rose by 20.1% over a year ago.

Catering Trade

- Catering trade (seasonally adjusted) increased by 0.6% in February 2010 compared to January 2010.
- Compared to a year ago, catering trade rose by 10.4% in February 2010.

Retail Sales by Sector

Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)

After seasonal adjustment, sales of motor vehicles and telecommunications apparatus & computers declined by 15.4% and 9.2% respectively in February 2010 over January 2010. Similarly, provision & sundry shops, supermarkets and retail sales of food & beverages and watches & jewellery recorded lower sales of between 2.8% and 8.0%.

On the other hand, sales of wearing apparel & footwear, medical goods & toiletries, optical goods & books and recreational goods increased by between 2.6% and 5.2% in February 2010 over the previous month.

Year-on-Year Change

Most retail segments reported higher sales over a year ago. Compared to February 2009, retail sales of food & beverages and wearing apparel & footwear, department stores and supermarkets increased by between 25.7% and 72.2%. Similarly, medical goods & toiletries, watches & jewellery, petrol service stations, provision & sundry shops and furniture & household equipment reported year-on-year growths of between 10.1% and 20.5%.

Conversely, sales of motor vehicles and optical goods & books declined by 29.0% and 5.8% respectively over the same period last year.

Catering Trade by Sector

Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)

After seasonal adjustment, turnover of fast food outlets, food caterers and other eating places (such as cafes and canteens) increased by between 2.1% and 8.7% in February 2010 over the previous month.

On the other hand, receipts of restaurants decreased by 6.5% in February 2010 over January 2010.

Year-on-Year Change

Restaurants, fast food outlets and food caterers reported growths of 12.0% to 18.0% in their revenue in February 2010 over February 2009.

Conversely, turnover at other eating places decreased by 0.9% over a year ago.

**Table 1 Month-on-Month Change of Retail Sales Index (2005=100)
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jan 10/ Dec 09	Feb 10/ Jan 10	Jan 10/ Dec 09	Feb 10/ Jan 10
Total	10,000	5.5	-5.5	5.3	-5.5
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	6,551	4.2	-0.5	4.0	-0.7
Department Stores	1,322	9.1	-0.8	9.3	-0.5
Supermarkets	411	6.5	-4.4	6.3	-4.4
Provision & Sundry Shops	536	0.7	-8.0	-2.0	-4.4
Food & Beverages	200	5.0	-4.1	4.9	-4.1
Motor Vehicles	3,449	14.5	-15.4	14.0	-13.8
Petrol Service Stations	456	10.0	0.1	5.3	-1.6
Medical Goods & Toiletries	332	2.1	4.3	2.4	5.8
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	574	1.8	5.2	2.8	6.1
Furniture & Household Equipment	755	4.1	0.4	3.5	1.0
Recreational Goods	190	0.2	2.6	0.6	2.5
Watches & Jewellery	607	5.7	-2.8	5.5	1.1
Telecommunications Apparatus & Computers	366	-4.9	-9.2	-5.1	-9.2
Optical Goods & Books	344	4.9	3.0	5.6	2.3
Others	458	-4.1	8.8	-4.3	9.4

**Table 2 Month-on-Month Change of Catering Trade Index (2005=100)
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jan 10/ Dec 09	Feb 10/ Jan 10	Jan 10/ Dec 09	Feb 10/ Jan 10
Total	1,000	1.1	0.6	1.3	1.1
Restaurants	360	5.1	-6.5	6.6	-7.6
Fast Food Outlets	136	-1.8	2.1	-1.4	2.4
Food Caterers	148	-0.9	8.7	-0.9	8.7
Other Eating Places	356	-4.4	5.9	-6.2	6.5

Table 3 Year-on-Year Change of Retail Sales Index (2005=100)

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jan 10/ Jan 09	Feb 10/ Feb 09	Jan 10/ Jan 09	Feb 10/ Feb 09
Total	10,000	2.1	4.8	2.6	4.7
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	6,551	1.1	20.1	-0.3	18.4
Department Stores	1,322	-5.4	33.0	-5.3	33.0
Supermarkets	411	-11.9	25.7	-11.3	24.0
Provision & Sundry Shops	536	-10.5	10.9	-10.6	11.0
Food & Beverages	200	-34.2	72.2	-33.4	69.4
Motor Vehicles	3,449	5.4	-29.0	10.7	-23.5
Petrol Service Stations	456	16.1	16.1	-1.9	2.3
Medical Goods & Toiletries	332	2.7	20.5	0.8	20.1
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	574	-6.9	40.0	-7.2	41.5
Furniture & Household Equipment	755	17.8	10.1	18.7	11.1
Recreational Goods	190	2.6	7.5	3.8	8.4
Watches & Jewellery	607	26.2	16.3	9.1	10.6
Telecommunications Apparatus & Computers	366	20.1	0.5	25.6	3.1
Optical Goods & Books	344	13.6	-5.8	13.6	-6.1
Others	458	2.6	5.1	1.4	4.1

Table 4 Year-on-Year Change of Catering Trade Index (2005=100)

Activity	Weights	% Change at Current Prices		% Change at Constant Prices	
		Jan 10/ Jan 09	Feb 10/ Feb 09	Jan 10/ Jan 09	Feb 10/ Feb 09
Total	1,000	-5.1	10.4	-5.8	9.4
Restaurants	360	-6.8	18.0	-6.9	17.4
Fast Food Outlets	136	1.6	17.0	1.1	16.6
Food Caterers	148	-7.3	12.0	-7.9	11.2
Other Eating Places	356	-5.0	-0.9	-6.6	-3.2

Explanatory Notes

Introduction

The Retail Sales Index (RSI) and Catering Trade Index (CTI) measure the short-term performance of retail and catering trade industries based on the sales records of retail and catering establishments. Data for the compilation of the indices are primarily obtained from the results of the monthly surveys of retail and catering establishments respectively. Retail establishments refer to those selling merchandise directly to the consumers. Catering establishments are those selling prepared food and drinks for in-premises consumption or on a take-away basis. Hawkers and stallholders selling cooked food and prepared drinks are not considered as catering establishments.

The difference between the index of the current month and that of the preceding month in percentage term indicates the monthly change. To measure the annual change, the index of the current month is compared with that of the same month in the preceding year.

The RSI and CTI are presented at both current prices and constant prices. Changes in the indices at current prices measure the changes of sales values due to 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.

Seasonal Adjustment

Seasonal effects are observed in both the RSI and CTI as there are usually intra-year periodic variations that occur during fixed period of time. 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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For enquiries on **Retail Sales Index and Catering Trade Index**, please contact
Ms Adeline Chia; Tel: 68358912; Email: Adeline_Chia@singstat.gov.sg

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