

## Retail Sales Index

April 2021

### KEY INDICATORS OF RETAIL TRADE



**TOTAL  
RETAIL SALES**  
  
**Excluding  
Motor Vehicles**

Year-on-Year

▲ + 54.0%

▲ + 39.2%

Month-on-Month  
(Seasonally adjusted)

▼ - 1.3%

▼ - 0.8%



**TOTAL  
RETAIL SALES**  
  
**Excluding  
Motor Vehicles**

Sales Value

**\$3.3 Billion**

**\$2.8 Billion**

Online Sales Proportion

**11.2%**

**13.3%**

### ONLINE SALES PROPORTION

(out of the total sales  
of the respective  
industry)



Supermarkets &  
Hypermarkets

**12.5%**



Computer &  
Telecommunications  
Equipment

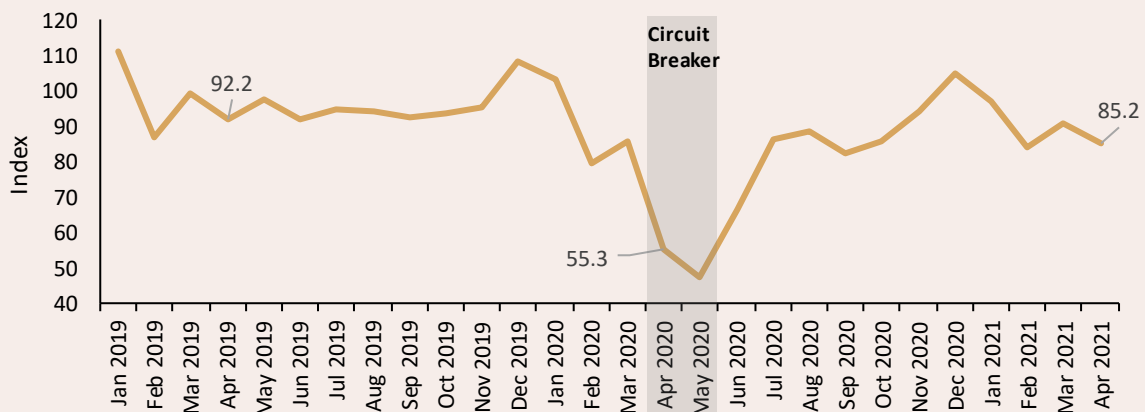
**47.5%**



Furniture &  
Household Equipment

**24.4%**

### Retail Sales Index (at Current Prices), Jan 2019 - Apr 2021



## Food & Beverage Services Index

April 2021

### KEY INDICATORS OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES



**TOTAL  
FOOD &  
BEVERAGE SALES**

Year-on-Year

▲ + 73.4%

Month-on-Month  
(Seasonally adjusted)

▼ - 1.3%



**TOTAL  
FOOD &  
BEVERAGE SALES**

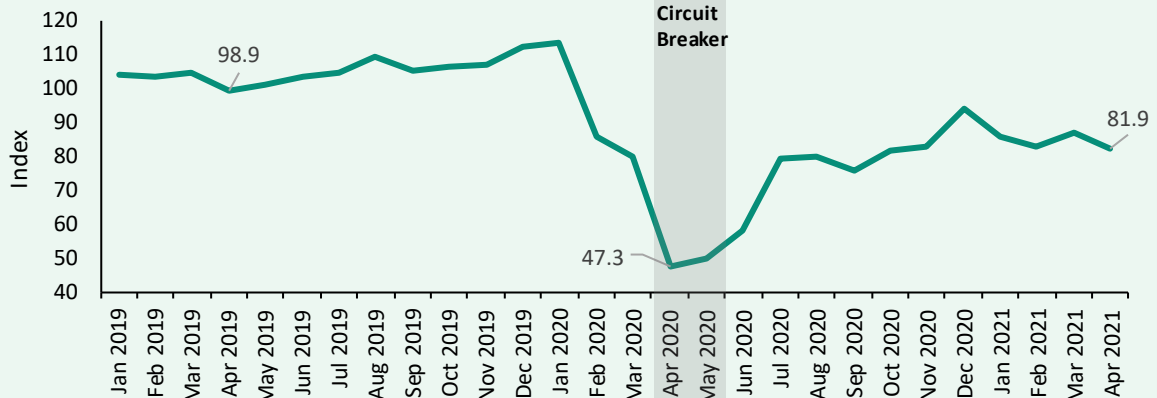
Sales Value

\$693 Million

Online Sales Proportion

24.4%

**Food & Beverage Services Index (at Current Prices),  
Jan 2019 - Apr 2021**



## OVERVIEW – RETAIL TRADE

Retail sales increased 54.0% in April 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 6.3% increase recorded in March 2021. The strong year-on-year growth rate in April 2021 was attributed to the low base in April 2020 when the Circuit Breaker measures were implemented due to COVID-19, and physical stores were closed for most of the month. Retail sales, however, continued to be below pre-COVID levels. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales increased 39.2% in April 2021, compared to the 4.5% growth in March 2021. On a seasonally adjusted basis, retail sales fell 1.3% in April 2021 over the previous month. Excluding motor vehicles, seasonally adjusted retail sales declined 0.8% compared to March 2021.

The estimated total retail sales value in April 2021 was about \$3.3 billion. Of this, online retail sales made up an estimated 11.2%, compared to the 11.8% recorded in March 2021. Excluding motor vehicles, the total retail sales value was about \$2.8 billion, where online retail sales made up 13.3%. Online retail sales of the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment, Furniture & Household Equipment and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets industries made up 47.5%, 24.4% and 12.5% of the total sales of their respective industry.

### Year-on-Year Change (at Current Prices)

All retail industries, except for Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Mini-marts & Convenience Stores, recorded significant year-on-year increases, due to the low base in April 2020 when physical stores were closed for most of the month.















On the other hand, sales of Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Mini-marts & Convenience Stores fell 30.2% and 16.8% respectively in April 2021 compared to April 2020, due to higher sales of groceries last year as more people stayed at home during the Circuit Breaker period.

### Month-on-Month Change (at Current Prices, Seasonally Adjusted)

Most retail industries recorded declines in sales in April 2021 on a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis. Sales of Optical Goods & Books and Computer & Telecommunications Equipment declined 9.7% and 7.8% respectively, due mainly to lower demand for books and mobile phones. Retailers of Watches & Jewellery, Motor Vehicles and Furniture & Household Equipment also saw declines in sales of between 3.9% and 4.7%.

In contrast, sales of Department Stores, Wearing Apparel & Footwear and Footwear and Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods increased between 3.3% and 4.6% during this period.

## Change In Retail Sales By Industry

<b>Department Stores</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+279.9%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+4.6%</b>	<b>Supermarkets &amp; Hypermarkets</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-30.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+2.3%</b>	<b>Mini-marts &amp; Convenience Stores</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-16.8%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-3.4%</b>
<b>Food &amp; Alcohol</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+33.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+4.5%</b>	<b>Motor Vehicles</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+261.3%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-4.4%</b>	<b>Petrol Service Stations</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+103.8%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>0.0%</b>
<b>Cosmetics, Toiletries &amp; Medical Goods</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+31.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+3.3%</b>	<b>Wearing Apparel &amp; Footwear</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+442.6%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+4.1%</b>	<b>Furniture &amp; Household Equipment</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+63.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-3.9%</b>
<b>Recreational Goods</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+174.6%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-1.5%</b>	<b>Watches &amp; Jewellery</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+646.8%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-4.7%</b>	<b>Computer &amp; Telecommunications Equipment</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+17.3%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-7.8%</b>
<b>Optical Goods &amp; Books</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+101.4%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-9.7%</b>	<b>Others</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+103.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-1.5%</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted

## OVERVIEW – FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

Sales of food & beverage services increased 73.4% in April 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 8.4% increase in March 2021. The significant growth in food & beverage sales was attributed to the low base in April 2020 during the Circuit Breaker period, when dining-in at food & beverage establishments was not allowed. Food & beverage sales, however, continued to be below pre-COVID levels. On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales of food & beverage services declined 1.3% in April 2021 over the previous month.

The total sales value of food & beverage services in April 2021 was estimated at \$693 million. Of these, online food & beverage sales made up an estimated 24.4%, compared to the 23.9% recorded in March 2021.

### Year-on-Year Change (at Current Prices)

All food & beverage services industries, with the exception of Food Caterers, recorded significant year-on-year growths in sales in April 2021, attributed to the low base last year when food & beverage establishments operated on a takeaway or delivery basis for most of the month.





On the other hand, sales of Food Caterers declined 31.7% in April 2021 compared to April 2020 when there was higher demand for catered meals from foreign worker dormitories.

### Month-on-Month Change (at Current Prices, Seasonally Adjusted)

On a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, turnover of Fast Food Outlets, Food Caterers and Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places declined between 1.7% and 4.1% in April 2021.

Conversely, sales of Restaurants grew by 0.6% during this period.

## Change In Food & Beverage Sales By Industry

Restaurants			Fast Food Outlets		
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>
<b>+172.9%</b>		<b>+0.6%</b>	<b>+34.8%</b>		<b>-4.1%</b>
Food Caterers			Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places		
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>
<b>-31.7%</b>		<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>+59.6%</b>		<b>-1.7%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted

**Table 1 Percentage Change of Retail Sales Index (2017=100)**

Industry	Year-on-Year Change		Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)	
	at Current Prices		at Current Prices	
	Mar 21/ Mar 20	Apr 21/ Apr 20	Mar 21/ Feb 21	Apr 21/ Mar 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	4.5	39.2	2.2	-0.8
Department Stores	-1.0	279.9	8.7	4.6
Supermarkets & Hypermarkets	-13.9	-30.2	0.1	2.3
Mini-marts & Convenience Stores	-6.0	-16.8	3.2	-3.4
Food & Alcohol	-7.5	33.0	2.7	4.5
Motor Vehicles	15.6	261.3	7.8	-4.4
Petrol Service Stations	18.5	103.8	4.8	0.0
Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods	-12.3	31.2	0.8	3.3
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	33.5	442.6	4.5	4.1
Furniture & Household Equipment	1.8	63.0	-6.3	-3.9
Recreational Goods	27.6	174.6	2.1	-1.5
Watches & Jewellery	60.2	646.8	6.4	-4.7
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	20.3	17.3	4.6	-7.8
Optical Goods & Books	4.4	101.4	5.9	-9.7
Others	-7.2	103.1	1.0	-1.5

**Table 2 Percentage Change of Food & Beverage Services Index (2017=100)**

Industry	Year-on-Year Change		Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)	
	at Current Prices		at Current Prices	
	Mar 21/ Mar 20	Apr 21/ Apr 20	Mar 21/ Feb 21	Apr 21/ Mar 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Restaurants	17.7	172.9	9.0	0.6
Fast Food Outlets	5.3	34.8	1.1	-4.1
Food Caterers	-25.0	-31.7	8.3	-2.9
Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places	6.7	59.6	1.1	-1.7

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Introduction

The Retail Sales Index (RSI) and Food & Beverage Services Index (FSI) measure the short-term performance of the retail trade and food & beverage (F&B) services industries based on the sales records of retail trade and F&B services establishments respectively. Sales figure refers to the value of retail goods or food & beverages sold to consumers during the month, excluding taxes on products such as Goods and Services Tax (GST), Additional Registration Fee (ARF) and Certificates of Entitlement (COE).

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

### Data Collection

Data used to compile the RSI and FSI are obtained primarily from the monthly surveys of retail trade and F&B services establishments. Retail trade establishments sell merchandise directly to the consumers, while F&B services establishments sell prepared food and drinks for consumption on premises or on a take-away basis.

### Index Compilation

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

To derive the indices in chained volume terms, the sales indices at current prices at detailed industry level are first deflated by the appropriate price indices. These component indices are then weighted using previous years' weights to derive the overall indices in chained volume terms. The reference year of the indices is 2017.

### Online Retail and Food & Beverage Sales Proportions

The retail trade statistics covers:

- (a) (multi-channel) retailers in Singapore that sell via both physical stores and online/e-commerce sites;
- (b) retailers in Singapore that sell via physical stores only; and
- (c) retailers in Singapore that sell mainly via online/e-commerce sites.

The food & beverage services statistics covers all sales transactions of F&B establishments regardless of mode (including those transacted via food delivery platforms).

The proportion of online retail and F&B sales<sup>2</sup> out of the respective industry's total retail and F&B sales is estimated for the overall retail trade sector, selected retail industries and the overall food & beverage services sector.

### 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.

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<sup>2</sup> Online retail and F&B sales refers to the sales of goods where the order is received and the price and terms of sale are agreed upon via online means, e.g. through company's website, third-party websites, mobile applications, extranet or Electronic Data Interchange. Payment and delivery may or may not be made online.



More data are available on the SingStat Website at  
[www.singstat.gov.sg/find-data/search-by-theme/industry/services/latest-data](http://www.singstat.gov.sg/find-data/search-by-theme/industry/services/latest-data)

or through the QR code below.



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