









## Retail Sales Index and Food & Beverage Services Index

January 2021

### KEY INDICATORS OF RETAIL TRADE

	<b>TOTAL RETAIL SALES</b>	Year-on-Year ▼ - 6.1%	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted) ▼ - 1.8%
	<b>Excluding Motor Vehicles</b>	▼ - 8.4%	▼ - 2.4%
	<b>TOTAL RETAIL SALES</b>	Sales Value \$3.8 Billion	Online Sales Proportion 10.3%
	<b>Excluding Motor Vehicles</b>	\$3.2 Billion	12.1%
<b>ONLINE SALES PROPORTION</b> (out of the total sales of the respective industry)	 Supermarkets & Hypermarkets 11.6%	 Computer & Telecommunications Equipment 40.8%	 Furniture & Household Equipment 23.2%

### KEY INDICATORS OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	Year-on-Year ▼ - 24.7%	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted) ▼ - 6.5%
	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	Sales Value \$720 Million	Online Sales Proportion 22.1%

## OVERVIEW – RETAIL TRADE

Retail sales fell 6.1% in January 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 3.3% year-on-year decline recorded in December 2020. The larger decline in January 2021 was due partly to higher sales in January 2020 when the Chinese New Year was celebrated. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales decreased 8.4% in January 2021, compared to the 4.2% decline in December 2020. On a seasonally adjusted basis, retail sales fell 1.8% in January 2021 over the previous month. Excluding motor vehicles, seasonally adjusted retail sales decreased 2.4% compared to December 2020.

The estimated total retail sales value in January 2021 was about \$3.8 billion. Of this, online retail sales made up an estimated 10.3%, lower than the 10.9% recorded in December 2020. Excluding motor vehicles, the total retail sales value was about \$3.2 billion, where online retail sales made up 12.1%. Online retail sales of the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment, Furniture & Household Equipment and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets industries made up 40.8%, 23.2% and 11.6% of the total sales of their respective industry.

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

On a year-on-year basis, most retail industries continued to register declines in sales in January 2021. Sales of the Department Stores, Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods and Wearing Apparel & Footwear industries fell between 28.5% and 36.1%, as they continue to remain affected by low visitor arrivals.















On the contrary, the Furniture & Household Equipment and Computer & Telecommunications Equipment experienced growths in sales of 25.9% and 24.8% respectively, due mainly to higher demand for household appliances and launch of new mobile phones. Sales of the Motor Vehicles, Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Recreational Goods and industries also grew by between 7.3% and 10.3% in January 2021 over the same period last year.

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

Most retail industries recorded declines in sales in January 2021 on a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis. Sales of the Optical Goods & Books industry fell 10.3% compared to the previous month, due mainly to lower demand for books. Similarly, the Furniture & Household Equipment and Department Stores industries registered declines in sales of 6.3% and 4.9% respectively.

Conversely, retailers of Food & Alcohol, Motor Vehicles and Petrol Service Stations experienced growths in sales of between 0.7% and 5.1% during this period.

## Change In Retail Sales By Industry

<b>Department Stores</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-36.1%</b> <b>-4.9%</b>		<b>Supermarkets &amp; Hypermarkets</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+7.8%</b> <b>-3.2%</b>		<b>Mini-marts &amp; Convenience Stores</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-3.8%</b> <b>-2.8%</b>	
<b>Food &amp; Alcohol</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-43.6%</b> <b>+5.1%</b>		<b>Motor Vehicles</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+10.3%</b> <b>+2.2%</b>		<b>Petrol Service Stations</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-7.3%</b> <b>+0.7%</b>	
<b>Cosmetics, Toiletries &amp; Medical Goods</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-31.8%</b> <b>-1.2%</b>		<b>Wearing Apparel &amp; Footwear</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-28.5%</b> <b>-0.6%</b>		<b>Furniture &amp; Household Equipment</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+25.9%</b> <b>-6.3%</b>	
<b>Recreational Goods</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+7.3%</b> <b>-4.7%</b>		<b>Watches &amp; Jewellery</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-8.1%</b> <b>-0.1%</b>		<b>Computer &amp; Telecommunications Equipment</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+24.8%</b> <b>-1.5%</b>	
<b>Optical Goods &amp; Books</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-6.1%</b> <b>-10.3%</b>		<b>Others</b> Year-on-Year  Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-9.8%</b> <b>-0.4%</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted

## OVERVIEW – FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

Sales of food & beverage services fell 24.7% in January 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 16.3% decline in December 2020. The larger contraction in January 2021 was due partly to higher sales in January 2020 when the Chinese New Year was celebrated. On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales of food & beverage services fell 6.5% in January 2021 over the previous month.

The total sales value of food & beverage services in January 2021 was estimated at \$720 million. Of these, online food & beverage sales made up an estimated 22.1%, higher than the 21.3% recorded in December 2020.

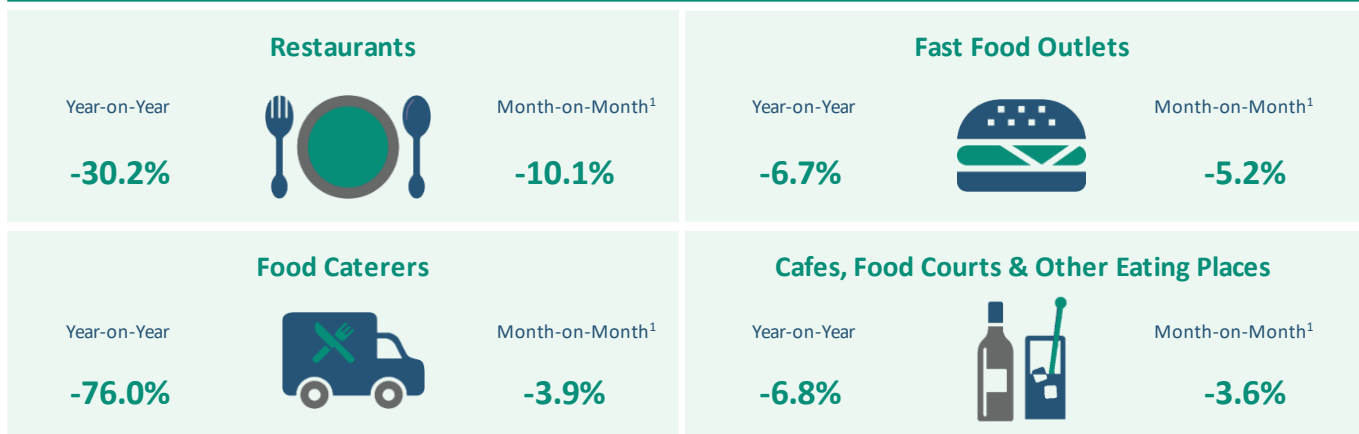
### Year-on-Year Change (at Current Prices)

Within the food & beverage services sector, year-on-year declines were recorded across all industries. Turnover of Food Caterers declined 76.0% in January 2021, as demand for event catering remained low. Similarly, sales of Restaurants, Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places and Fast Food Outlets fell 30.2%, 6.8% and 6.7% respectively during this period.

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

On a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, all food & beverage services industries registered declines in sales of between 3.6% and 10.1% in January 2021.

## Change In Food & Beverage Sales By Industry



<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	
	Dec 20/ Dec 19	Jan 21/ Jan 20	Dec 20/ Nov 20	Jan 21/ Dec 20
<b>Total</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>-6.1</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-1.8</b>
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	-4.2	-8.4	-1.1	-2.4
Department Stores	-28.8	-36.1	-7.2	-4.9
Supermarkets & Hypermarkets	25.4	7.8	3.6	-3.2
Mini-marts & Convenience Stores	4.9	-3.8	3.6	-2.8
Food & Alcohol	-32.4	-43.6	6.5	5.1
Motor Vehicles	3.3	10.3	-1.0	2.2
Petrol Service Stations	-5.0	-7.3	5.4	0.7
Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods	-33.3	-31.8	-6.7	-1.2
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	-22.9	-28.5	-0.8	-0.6
Furniture & Household Equipment	21.2	25.9	-4.2	-6.3
Recreational Goods	11.2	7.3	-1.2	-4.7
Watches & Jewellery	-10.1	-8.1	-2.8	-0.1
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	25.4	24.8	-8.5	-1.5
Optical Goods & Books	-8.8	-6.1	-1.6	-10.3
Others	-12.2	-9.8	-0.4	-0.4

**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	
	Dec 20/ Dec 19	Jan 21/ Jan 20	Dec 20/ Nov 20	Jan 21/ Dec 20
<b>Total</b>	<b>-16.3</b>	<b>-24.7</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
Restaurants	-17.2	-30.2	8.4	-10.1
Fast Food Outlets	2.6	-6.7	7.2	-5.2
Food Caterers	-73.6	-76.0	6.0	-3.9
Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places	-4.3	-6.8	4.3	-3.6

## 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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