



Retail Sales Index and Food & Beverage Services Index

MARCH 2019



	% Change in Retail Sales	Year-on-Year	Month-on-Month ¹
 Department Stores ²		↓ 4.6	↓ 4.3
 Supermarkets & Hypermarkets		↑ 0.9	↓ 4.1
 Mini-marts & Convenience Stores		↓ 2.1	↓ 2.0
 Food Retailers ³		↓ 5.7	↓ 7.1
 Motor Vehicles		↑ 0.9	↑ 6.1
 Petrol Service Stations		↓ 1.1	↑ 3.2
 Medical Goods & Toiletries		↑ 2.8	↑ 3.8
 Wearing Apparel & Footwear		↑ 0.2	↓ 3.6
 Furniture & Household Equipment		↓ 4.1	↑ 6.7
 Recreational Goods		↓ 2.8	↑ 6.3
 Watches & Jewellery		↓ 4.6	↑ 2.1
 Computer & Telecommunications Equipment		↓ 4.9	↑ 7.9
 Optical Goods & Books		↓ 6.4	↑ 5.2

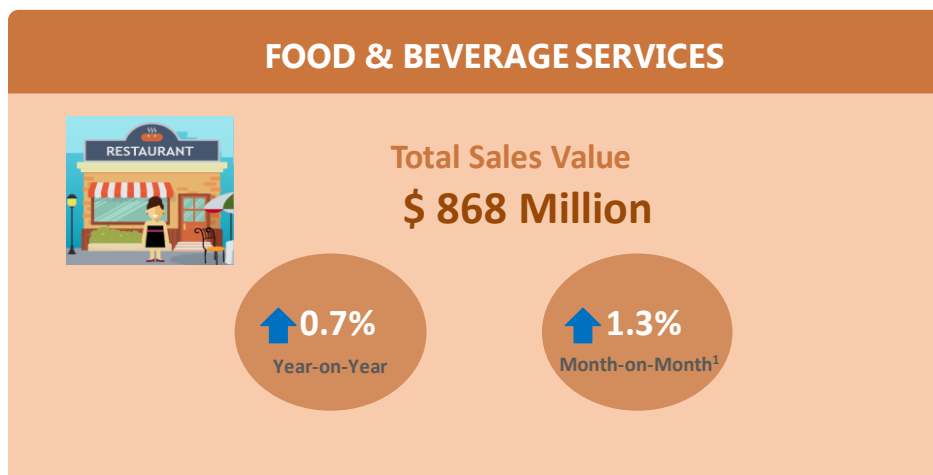
¹ Seasonally adjusted





² Data exclude department stores cum supermarkets (e.g. hypermarkets), which is grouped under Supermarkets & Hypermarkets

³ Retail stores which sell food & beverages that are generally not meant for immediate consumption on their premises

Retail Sales Index and Food & Beverage Services Index

MARCH 2019



% Change in Sales of F&B Services		Year-on-Year	Month-on-Month ¹
	Restaurants	↓ 3.6	↓ 1.5
	Fast Food Outlets	↑ 6.1	↓ 0.1
	Food Caterers	↑ 1.9	↑ 8.3
	Other Eating Places (e.g. Cafes)	↑ 2.9	↑ 2.9

¹ Seasonally adjusted

OVERVIEW

Retail Sales

- Retail sales decreased 1.0% in March 2019 compared to March 2018. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales decreased 1.5%.
- Compared to the previous month, retail sales (seasonally adjusted) increased 1.0% in March 2019. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales remained at a similar level compared to February 2019.
- The estimated total retail sales value in March 2019 was about \$3.8 billion. Of which, online retail sales made up an estimated 5.3%.

Sales of Food & Beverage Services

- Compared to the same period last year, sales of food & beverage services increased 0.7% in March 2019.
- On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales of food & beverage services increased 1.3% in March 2019 over the previous month.
- The total sales value of food & beverage services in March 2019 was estimated at \$868 million, compared to \$863 million in March 2018.

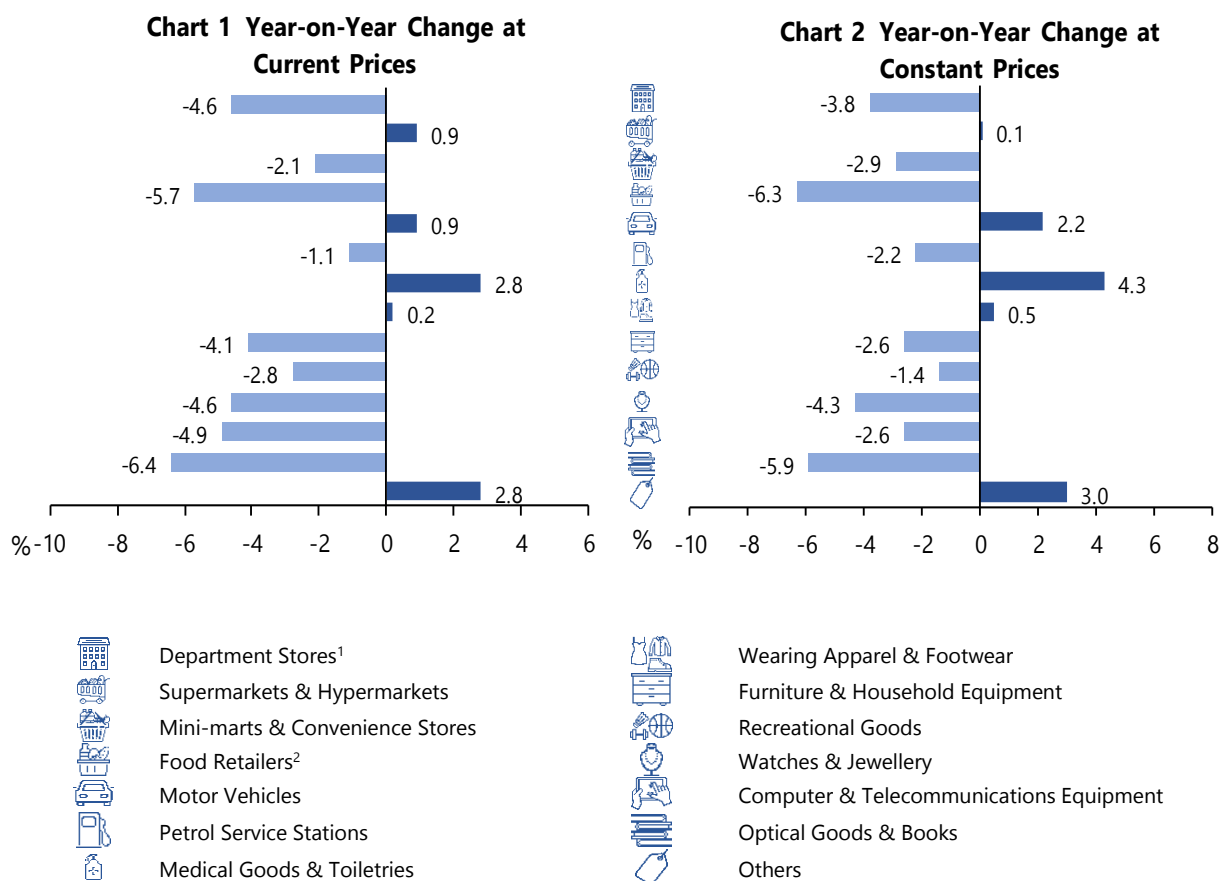
Note: The year-on-year growth rate may differ from that derived using values which are rounded.

RETAIL SALES BY INDUSTRY

Year-on-Year Change

Most retail industries recorded lower sales in March 2019 on a year-on-year basis (Chart 1). Sales of the Optical Goods & Books and Computer & Telecommunications Equipment industries decreased 6.4% and 4.9% respectively, due partly to lower sales of optical goods and computers. Similarly, Food Retailers, Watches & Jewellery Retailers and Department Stores registered declines in sales of between 4.6% and 5.7%.

On the other hand, sales of the Medical Goods & Toiletries industry rose 2.8%, due partly to higher demand of cosmetics and toiletries. Likewise, the Motor Vehicles industry and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets registered sales growths of 0.9%.



¹ Data exclude department stores cum supermarkets (e.g. hypermarkets), which is grouped under Supermarkets & Hypermarkets

² Retail stores which sell food & beverages that are generally not meant for immediate consumption on their premises

RETAIL SALES BY INDUSTRY

Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)

Based on seasonally adjusted data, the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment industry registered a sales growth of 7.9% compared to February 2019 (Chart 3), due mainly to major phone launches in March 2019. Similarly, the Furniture & Household Equipment and Recreational Goods industries grew by 6.7% and 6.3% respectively, due partly to higher demand for household equipment and sporting goods.

In contrast, sales of Food Retailers, Department Stores and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets declined between 4.1% and 7.1%.

Chart 3 Month-on-Month Change at Current Prices (Seasonally Adjusted)

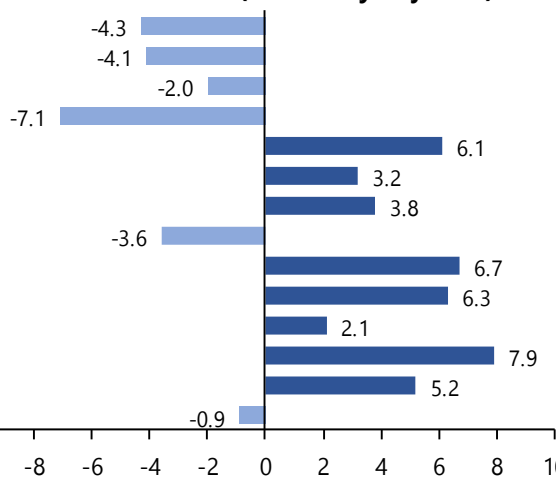
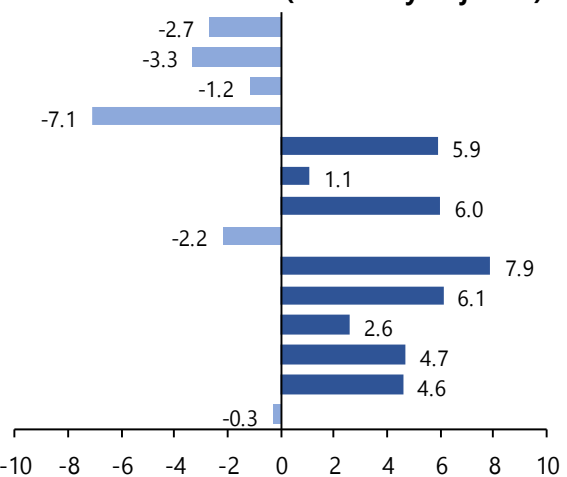


Chart 4 Month-on-Month Change at Constant Prices (Seasonally Adjusted)



- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|---|
| | Department Stores ¹ | | Wearing Apparel & Footwear |
| | Supermarkets & Hypermarkets | | Furniture & Household Equipment |
| | Mini-marts & Convenience Stores | | Recreational Goods |
| | Food Retailers ² | | Watches & Jewellery |
| | Motor Vehicles | | Computer & Telecommunications Equipment |
| | Petrol Service Stations | | Optical Goods & Books |
| | Medical Goods & Toiletries | | Others |

¹ Data exclude department stores cum supermarkets (e.g. hypermarkets), which is grouped under Supermarkets & Hypermarkets

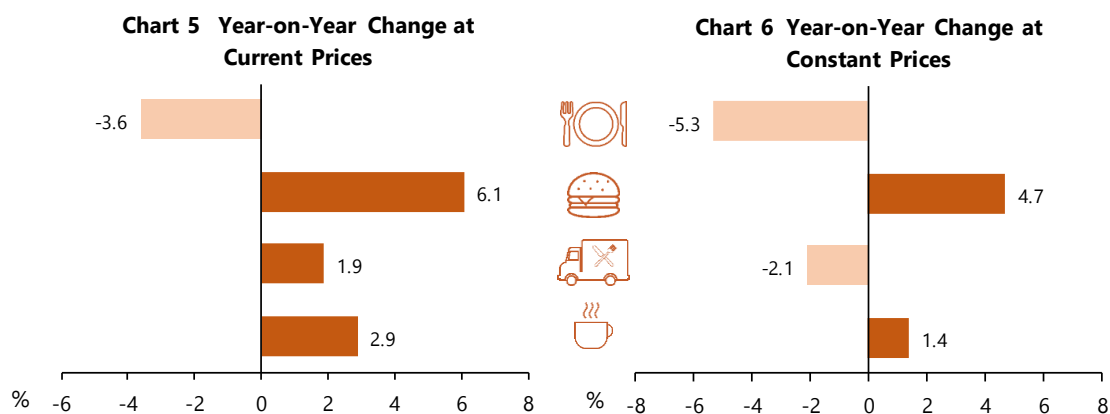
² Retail stores which sell food & beverages that are generally not meant for immediate consumption on their premises



SALES OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES BY INDUSTRY



Year-on-Year Change

Fast Food Outlets, Other Eating Places (such as cafes) and Food Caterers registered growths in turnover of between 1.9% and 6.1% in March 2019 compared to March 2018 (Chart 5).

In contrast, sales of Restaurants declined 3.6% during this period.



 Restaurants
 Fast Food Outlets

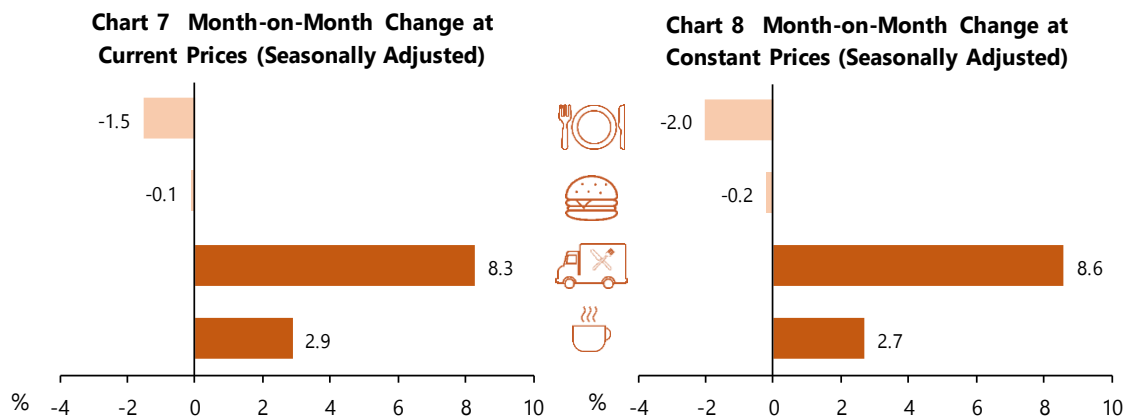
 Food Caterers
 Other Eating Places

SALES OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES BY INDUSTRY

Month-on-Month Change (Seasonally Adjusted)

Seasonally adjusted data for Food Caterers and Other Eating Places recorded increases in sales of 8.3% and 2.9% respectively over the previous month (Chart 7).

On the other hand, turnover of Restaurants and Fast Food Outlets fell 1.5% and a marginal 0.1% respectively.



Restaurants



Food Caterers



Fast Food Outlets



Other Eating Places

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 Constant Prices		at Current Prices		at Constant Prices		
	Feb 19/ Feb 18	Mar 19/ Mar 18	Feb 19/ Feb 18	Mar 19/ Mar 18	Feb 19/ Jan 19	Mar 19/ Feb 19	Feb 19/ Jan 19	Mar 19/ Feb 19	Mar 19/ Feb 19
Total	-9.9	-1.0	-9.9	-0.5	-1.4	1.0	-1.4	1.5	
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	-10.6	-1.5	-10.8	-1.1	1.7	0.0	1.8	0.7	
Department Stores ¹	-11.8	-4.6	-12.0	-3.8	5.4	-4.3	6.7	-2.7	
Supermarkets & Hypermarkets	-13.2	0.9	-14.3	0.1	3.8	-4.1	2.7	-3.3	
Mini-marts & Convenience Stores	-5.2	-2.1	-7.6	-2.9	3.0	-2.0	2.6	-1.2	
Food Retailers ²	-24.6	-5.7	-25.3	-6.3	9.7	-7.1	9.1	-7.1	
Motor Vehicles	-5.0	0.9	-3.7	2.2	-15.3	6.1	-15.4	5.9	
Petrol Service Stations	-7.7	-1.1	-6.6	-2.2	-0.7	3.2	-1.4	1.1	
Medical Goods & Toiletries	-10.4	2.8	-9.9	4.3	-1.0	3.8	-1.5	6.0	
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	-14.3	0.2	-14.9	0.5	9.6	-3.6	10.7	-2.2	
Furniture & Household Equipment	-14.8	-4.1	-14.8	-2.6	-9.9	6.7	-10.4	7.9	
Recreational Goods	-4.6	-2.8	-2.3	-1.4	-1.7	6.3	-1.3	6.1	
Watches & Jewellery	-9.2	-4.6	-10.0	-4.3	5.7	2.1	6.1	2.6	
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	-4.3	-4.9	-0.2	-2.6	-7.2	7.9	-5.8	4.7	
Optical Goods & Books	-6.9	-6.4	-6.6	-5.9	-9.2	5.2	-7.9	4.6	
Others	-1.4	2.8	-1.6	3.0	2.9	-0.9	4.2	-0.3	

¹ Data exclude department stores cum supermarkets (e.g. hypermarkets), which is grouped under Supermarkets & Hypermarkets

² Retail stores which sell food & beverages that are generally not meant for immediate consumption on their premises

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 Constant Prices		at Current Prices		at Constant Prices		
	Feb 19/ Feb 18	Mar 19/ Mar 18	Feb 19/ Feb 18	Mar 19/ Mar 18	Feb 19/ Jan 19	Mar 19/ Feb 19	Feb 19/ Jan 19	Mar 19/ Feb 19	Mar 19/ Feb 19
Total	-2.2	0.7	-3.9	-1.2	-0.6	1.3	-0.6	1.0	
Restaurants	-5.3	-3.6	-6.7	-5.3	-0.7	-1.5	-0.4	-2.0	
Fast Food Outlets	5.6	6.1	4.4	4.7	2.6	-0.1	1.9	-0.2	
Food Caterers	-7.4	1.9	-11.1	-2.1	2.3	8.3	1.7	8.6	
Other Eating Places	1.4	2.9	-0.1	1.4	-2.5	2.9	-2.5	2.7	

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 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. The base year of these two indices is 2017.

Data Collection

Data for the compilation of the RSI and FSI are primarily obtained 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 in-premises consumption 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 base 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 industry respectively.

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.

Online Retail Sales Proportion

The RSI covers retail sales of:

- (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 proportion of online retail sales¹ out of total retail sales is also estimated for the overall retail trade sector.

¹Online retail sales refers to the sales of goods where the order is received and the price and terms of sale are agreed on 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.

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
10 May 2019

More data are available at SingStat website at <https://www.singstat.gov.sg/publications/industry/monthly-retail-sales-and-food-beverage-service-indices>

or through the QR code below.



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