








## Retail Sales Index and Food & Beverage Services Index

May 2020


### KEY INDICATORS OF RETAIL TRADE

(Declines due to Circuit Breaker measures in May)

	<b>TOTAL RETAIL SALES</b>	Year-on-Year ▼ - 52.1%	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted) ▼ - 21.5%
	<b>Excluding Motor Vehicles</b>	▼ - 45.2%	▼ - 20.1%
	<b>TOTAL SALES VALUE</b>	<b>\$1.8 Billion</b>	of which <b>Online Sales Proportion</b> <b>24.5%</b>
<b>ONLINE SALES PROPORTION</b> (out of the total sales of the respective industry)	 Supermarkets & Hypermarkets <b>9.6%</b>	 Computer & Telecommunications Equipment <b>94.3%</b>	 Furniture & Household Equipment <b>93.6%</b>

### KEY INDICATORS OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

(Year-on-Year decline due to Circuit Breaker measures in May)

	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	Year-on-Year ▼ - 50.1%	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted) ▲ + 4.1%
	<b>TOTAL SALES VALUE</b>	<b>\$430 Million</b>	of which <b>Online Sales Proportion</b> <b>44.6%</b>

## OVERVIEW – RETAIL TRADE

Retail sales fell 52.1% in May 2020 from May 2019, compared to the 40.3% year-on-year decline recorded in Apr 2020. This was the lowest recorded decline since 1986 when growth rate data was first compiled. The lower sales were due mainly to the Circuit Breaker measures<sup>1</sup> that were in place for the month of May 2020. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales fell 45.2%, lower than the 32.5% in Apr 2020. Compared to the previous month, seasonally adjusted retail sales declined 21.5% in May 2020. Excluding motor vehicles, seasonally adjusted retail sales decreased 20.1%.

The estimated total retail sales value in May 2020 was about \$1.8 billion. Of these, online retail sales made up an estimated 24.5%. Online retail sales of the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment, Furniture & Household Equipment and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets industries made up 94.3%, 93.6% and 9.6% of the total sales of their respective industry.

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

On a year-on-year basis, all retail industries registered year-on-year declines except Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Mini-marts & Convenience Stores.















Sales of the Watches & Jewellery, Department Stores and Wearing Apparel & Footwear industries fell between 89.1% and 96.9% in May 2020, as physical stores were closed for the entire month.

Conversely, Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Mini-marts & Convenience Stores, which remained open, recorded increases in sales of 56.1% and 9.1% respectively, due to higher demand for groceries.

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

Based on seasonally adjusted data, retailers of Watches & Jewellery and Department Stores experienced declines in sales of 73.2% and 65.4% respectively compared to April 2020. Similarly, sales of the Optical Goods & Books, Furniture & Household Equipment and Motor Vehicles industries fell between 41.6% and 47.3% during this period.

## Change In Retail Sales By Industry

<b>Department Stores</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-93.4%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-65.4%</b>	<b>Supermarkets &amp; Hypermarkets</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+56.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-14.9%</b>	<b>Mini-marts &amp; Convenience Stores</b> Year-on-Year  <b>+9.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-6.2%</b>
<b>Food &amp; Alcohol</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-58.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-9.3%</b>	<b>Motor Vehicles</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-85.7%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-41.6%</b>	<b>Petrol Service Stations</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-58.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-17.7%</b>
<b>Cosmetics, Toiletries &amp; Medical Goods</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-49.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-5.5%</b>	<b>Wearing Apparel &amp; Footwear</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-89.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-32.3%</b>	<b>Furniture &amp; Household Equipment</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-64.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-44.1%</b>
<b>Recreational Goods</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-74.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-28.9%</b>	<b>Watches &amp; Jewellery</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-96.9%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-73.2%</b>	<b>Computer &amp; Telecommunications Equipment</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-21.3%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-20.1%</b>
<b>Optical Goods &amp; Books</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-81.9%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-47.3%</b>	<b>Others</b> Year-on-Year  <b>-70.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup> <b>-20.8%</b>	

<sup>1</sup> The Circuit Breaker measures included closure of non-essential services, prohibition of social gatherings and allowing only delivery/take-away for food & beverage establishments.

<sup>2</sup> Seasonally adjusted

## OVERVIEW – FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

Compared to the same period last year, sales of food & beverage services fell 50.1% in May 2020, a slight improvement from the 52.7% decline in Apr 2020. The decline was due mainly to the Circuit Breaker measures, with all food & beverage establishments only allowed to operate on a takeaway or delivery basis. On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales of food & beverage services increased 4.1% in May 2020 over the previous month.

The total sales value of food & beverage services in May 2020 was estimated at \$430 million. Of these, online food & beverage sales made up an estimated 44.6%.


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

Within the food & beverage services sector, all industries recorded year-on-year declines. Turnover of Restaurants and Food Caterers declined 68.7% and 45.1% respectively in May 2020 compared to May 2019. Similarly, Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places and Fast Food Outlets recorded lower sales of 41.4% and 20.5% respectively during this period.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, turnover of Food Caterers increased 36.2%, due mainly to demand for catered meals from foreign worker dormitories. Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places and Restaurants registered marginal increases in sales of 1.2% and 0.1% respectively.

## Change In Food & Beverage Sales By Industry

Restaurants		Fast Food Outlets	
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup>	
<b>-68.7%</b>		<b>+0.1%</b>	
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup>	
<b>-45.1%</b>		<b>+36.2%</b>	
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>2</sup>	
<b>-41.4%</b>		<b>+1.2%</b>	

<sup>2</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	
	Apr 20/ Apr 19	May 20/ May 19	Apr 20/ Mar 20	May 20/ Apr 20
<b>Total</b>	<b>-40.3</b>	<b>-52.1</b>	<b>-31.3</b>	<b>-21.5</b>
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	-32.5	-45.2	-25.5	-20.1
Department Stores	-82.3	-93.4	-71.5	-65.4
Supermarkets & Hypermarkets	75.2	56.1	30.2	-14.9
Mini-marts & Convenience Stores	15.2	9.1	9.5	-6.2
Food & Alcohol	-54.3	-58.0	-24.4	-9.3
Motor Vehicles	-77.0	-85.7	-67.9	-41.6
Petrol Service Stations	-47.7	-58.2	-41.8	-17.7
Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods	-46.0	-49.0	-32.2	-5.5
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	-84.9	-89.1	-74.2	-32.3
Furniture & Household Equipment	-38.4	-64.2	-39.9	-44.1
Recreational Goods	-63.8	-74.2	-55.1	-28.9
Watches & Jewellery	-88.1	-96.9	-81.7	-73.2
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	-1.4	-21.3	-4.7	-20.1
Optical Goods & Books	-65.9	-81.9	-55.2	-47.3
Others	-59.8	-70.0	-56.1	-20.8

**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	
	Apr 20/ Apr 19	May 20/ May 19	Apr 20/ Mar 20	May 20/ Apr 20
<b>Total</b>	<b>-52.7</b>	<b>-50.1</b>	<b>-38.6</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Restaurants	-69.3	-68.7	-56.7	0.1
Fast Food Outlets	-27.5	-20.5	-24.8	0.0
Food Caterers	-59.6	-45.1	0.2	36.2
Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places	-42.7	-41.4	-33.6	1.2

## 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.

With effect from March 2020 (for data for reference month January 2020), indices in chained volume terms are released in place of the constant price indices.

The indices in chained volume terms better reflect current economic conditions as their relative price weights are updated annually.

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>3</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.

<sup>3</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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