








## Retail Sales Index and Food & Beverage Services Index

October 2021

### KEY INDICATORS OF RETAIL TRADE

		Year-on-Year	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted)
	<b>TOTAL RETAIL SALES</b>	▲ + 7.5%	▲ + 0.7%
	<b>Excluding Motor Vehicles</b>	▲ + 11.4%	▲ + 2.3%
	<b>TOTAL RETAIL SALES</b>	<b>Sales Value</b> \$3.6 Billion	<b>Online Sales Proportion</b> 15.2%
	<b>Excluding Motor Vehicles</b>	\$3.1 Billion	17.6%
<b>ONLINE SALES PROPORTION</b> (out of the total sales of the respective industry)	 Supermarkets & Hypermarkets 15.2%	 Computer & Telecommunications Equipment 51.6%	 Furniture & Household Equipment 30.0%

### KEY INDICATORS OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

		Year-on-Year	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted)
	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	▼ - 4.5%	▼ - 5.0%
	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	<b>Sales Value</b> \$659 Million	<b>Online Sales Proportion</b> 38.4%

## OVERVIEW – RETAIL TRADE

Retail sales increased 7.5% in October 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 6.8% increase in September 2021. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales rose 11.4%, compared to the 8.5% growth in September 2021. The year-on-year increase in October 2021 was partly attributed to the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment industry which recorded higher mobile phone sales due to new product launches. On a seasonally adjusted basis, retail sales increased 0.7% in October 2021 over the previous month. Excluding motor vehicles, seasonally adjusted retail sales increased 2.3% compared to September 2021. Retail sales value in October 2021 remained below pre-COVID levels.

The estimated total retail sales value in October 2021 was \$3.6 billion. Of this, online retail sales made up an estimated 15.2%, compared to the 15.1% recorded in September 2021. Excluding motor vehicles, the total retail sales value was about \$3.1 billion, where online retail sales made up 17.6%. Online retail sales of the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment, Furniture & Household Equipment and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets industries made up 51.6%, 30.0% and 15.2% of the total sales of their respective industry.

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

Within the retail sector, most industries recorded year-on-year growths in sales in October 2021. Sales of Computer & Telecommunications Equipment increased 72.9%, due mainly to higher mobile phone sales from new product launches. The Watches & Jewellery and Petrol Service Stations industries registered growths in sales of 26.9% and 16.3% respectively, due mainly to greater demand for watches and higher petrol prices.













In contrast, sales of Optical Goods & Books and Motor Vehicles fell 17.4% and 13.1% respectively during this period.

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

On a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, most industries recorded growths in sales in October 2021. Retailers of Computer & Telecommunications Equipment, Watches & Jewellery, Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Recreational Goods saw growths in sales of between 3.5% and 4.1% in October 2021.

On the contrary, sales of Motor Vehicles and Optical Goods & Books fell 8.8% and 4.2% respectively during this period.

## Change In Retail Sales By Industry

<b>Department Stores</b>			<b>Supermarkets &amp; Hypermarkets</b>			<b>Mini-marts &amp; Convenience Stores</b>		
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>
-1.3%		-0.9%	+10.4%		+3.9%	-5.6%		+1.0%
<b>Food &amp; Alcohol</b>			<b>Motor Vehicles</b>			<b>Petrol Service Stations</b>		
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>
+7.6%		-2.4%	-13.1%		-8.8%	+16.3%		+0.9%
<b>Cosmetics, Toiletries &amp; Medical Goods</b>			<b>Wearing Apparel &amp; Footwear</b>			<b>Furniture &amp; Household Equipment</b>		
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>
+9.1%		+1.9%	+5.5%		+0.4%	+8.2%		+2.6%
<b>Recreational Goods</b>			<b>Watches &amp; Jewellery</b>			<b>Computer &amp; Telecommunications Equipment</b>		
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>
-4.1%		+3.5%	+26.9%		+4.0%	+72.9%		+4.1%
<b>Optical Goods &amp; Books</b>			<b>Others</b>					
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>			
-17.4%		-4.2%	-8.0%		+1.9%			

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted

## OVERVIEW – FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

Sales of food & beverage services decreased 4.5% in October 2021 on a year-on-year basis, a reversal from the 4.5% increase in September 2021. The decline in October was due to the tightened restrictions<sup>2</sup> this year, when dining at food & beverage establishments was allowed for up to 2 fully vaccinated persons. On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales of food & beverage services fell 5.0% in October 2021 over the previous month. Food & beverage sales value in October 2021 remained below pre-COVID levels.

The total sales value of food & beverage services in October 2021 was estimated at \$659 million. Of this, online food & beverage sales made up an estimated 38.4%, higher than the 34.1% recorded in September 2021.

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

Within the food & beverage services sector, sales of Restaurants fell 24.0% in October 2021 on a year-on-year basis, due to the tightened dine-in restrictions<sup>2</sup> in October 2021 compared to October 2020.

Conversely, turnover of Food Caterers increased 39.0%, due to the low base last year when demand for catering was low. Sales of Fast Food Outlets and Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places increased 10.1% and 5.0% respectively, due to higher demand for food deliveries.

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

On a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, sales of Restaurants declined 18.1% in October 2021, with stricter dine-in restrictions<sup>2</sup> in October 2021 compared to September 2021.

In contrast, turnover of Food Caterers increased 9.8%. Sales of Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places and Fast Food Outlets also increased 2.2% and 1.9% respectively during this period.

## Change In Food & Beverage Sales By Industry



<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted

<sup>2</sup> In October 2021, dining-in was allowed at food & beverage establishments for groups of up to 2 fully vaccinated persons. In September 2021, dining-in was allowed for groups of up to 5 fully vaccinated persons from 1 to 26 September and groups of up to 2 fully vaccinated persons from 27 September. In October 2020, dining-in for groups of up to 5 was allowed for the whole month.

**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	
	Sep 21/ Sep 20	Oct 21/ Oct 20	Sep 21/ Aug 21	Oct 21/ Sep 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	8.5	11.4	5.2	2.3
Department Stores	0.0	-1.3	2.8	-0.9
Supermarkets & Hypermarkets	4.5	10.4	0.1	3.9
Mini-marts & Convenience Stores	-6.1	-5.6	-0.1	1.0
Food & Alcohol	3.8	7.6	5.6	-2.4
Motor Vehicles	-2.0	-13.1	11.8	-8.8
Petrol Service Stations	22.3	16.3	-1.8	0.9
Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods	7.3	9.1	13.6	1.9
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	6.8	5.5	12.6	0.4
Furniture & Household Equipment	5.3	8.2	5.9	2.6
Recreational Goods	-4.7	-4.1	1.1	3.5
Watches & Jewellery	12.9	26.9	5.2	4.0
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	65.3	72.9	22.5	4.1
Optical Goods & Books	-10.6	-17.4	4.9	-4.2
Others	-3.0	-8.0	0.1	1.9

**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	
	Sep 21/ Sep 20	Oct 21/ Oct 20	Sep 21/ Aug 21	Oct 21/ Sep 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>-5.0</b>
Restaurants	-4.9	-24.0	27.9	-18.1
Fast Food Outlets	10.6	10.1	3.4	1.9
Food Caterers	36.4	39.0	1.9	9.8
Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places	8.5	5.0	5.7	2.2

## 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.

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.



Singapore Department of Statistics  
3 December 2021

For enquiries, please contact:

Ms Kristina Chua **T** (+65) 6835 8947 **E** [Kristina\\_Chua@singstat.gov.sg](mailto:Kristina_Chua@singstat.gov.sg)  
Ms Michelle Yeo **T** (+65) 6332 6125 **E** [Michelle\\_Yeo@singstat.gov.sg](mailto:Michelle_Yeo@singstat.gov.sg)