



Rebasing of the Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services Indices (2025 as Base Year)

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Introduction



The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) has rebased the Retail Sales Index (RSI) and Food & Beverage Services Index (FSI) to reference year 2025.

The RSI and FSI are rebased at periodic intervals to reflect changes in the structure of Retail Trade and Food & Beverage (F&B) services industries. During the rebasing exercise, the methodology, coverage and weights were reviewed and updated.

This article provides an overview of the rebasing exercise, highlighting changes in industry groupings and weighting patterns, along with a comparison of trends in the 2025-based and 2017-based series.

What do the RSI and FSI Measure?

The RSI and FSI measure the performance of the Retail Trade and F&B services industries in Singapore respectively, based on the monthly sales of businesses in these industries. Retail Trade establishments sell merchandise directly to consumers, while F&B [1] services establishments sell prepared food and drinks for consumption on-premises or takeaway.

Both indices are presented at current prices and in chained volume terms.

Indices at Current Prices

Measure changes in sales values arising from changes in both price and quantity.

Indices in Chained Volume Terms

Measure changes in the volume of economic activity by removing the price effect.

Data Sources

The data used for the compilation of the RSI and FSI are primarily obtained from the Monthly Retail Sales Survey (RSS) and Monthly Food & Beverage Services Survey (FSS) conducted by DOS.

The RSS and FSS use a stratified random sampling design. The sampling frame is obtained from the Statistical Business Register maintained by DOS, which contains basic information of enterprises registered in Singapore. The sampling frame was first stratified by industry group. Each industry group was then further stratified by the size of operating revenue into three strata (large, medium, and small).

All enterprises in the large size stratum were selected with certainty, whereas the enterprises in the medium and small size strata were selected by random sampling. Within each industry group, the Lavallée-Hidiroglou (1988) algorithm was used to determine the size stratum boundaries and the optimal sample size for a required level of precision.

- The Lavallée-Hidiroglou (1988) algorithm was applied to improve the sampling efficiency for the Annual Industry Survey. Read the article on ['Improving Sampling Efficiency for the Annual Survey of Services'](#) for details on the improvement.

[1] Individual stalls in hawker centres, food courts, coffee shops, or canteens are not covered.

The RSS and FSS surveyed about 460 Retail Trade enterprises and 270 F&B services enterprises, supplemented with aggregated value of merchandise sales and food orders from third party online marketplaces and food delivery platforms. Administrative records from the Land Transport Authority are also utilised in the estimation of the retail sales of motor vehicles, motorcycles, and scooters.

Updated Industry Groupings

The RSI and FSI are presented at the aggregated and industry levels in accordance with the [Singapore Standard Industrial Classification \(SSIC\)](#), the national standard for classifying economic activities by economic units.

Firms' SSIC codes are sourced primarily from administrative data from the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority and other Unique Entity Number issuance agencies, supplemented by additional information received from statistical survey returns from DOS and Research & Statistics Units in government ministries and statutory boards.

As part of the rebasing exercise, Retail Trade and F&B industry groupings were refined to incorporate key user feedback and aligned with updates from SSIC 2025. The main changes for each index are highlighted below.



Retail Sales Index

The 'Motor Vehicle' (SSIC 47311) group was updated to 'Motor Vehicles, Parts & Accessories' where related SSICs in retail sale of motor vehicles, parts and accessories were consolidated.



Food & Beverage Services Index

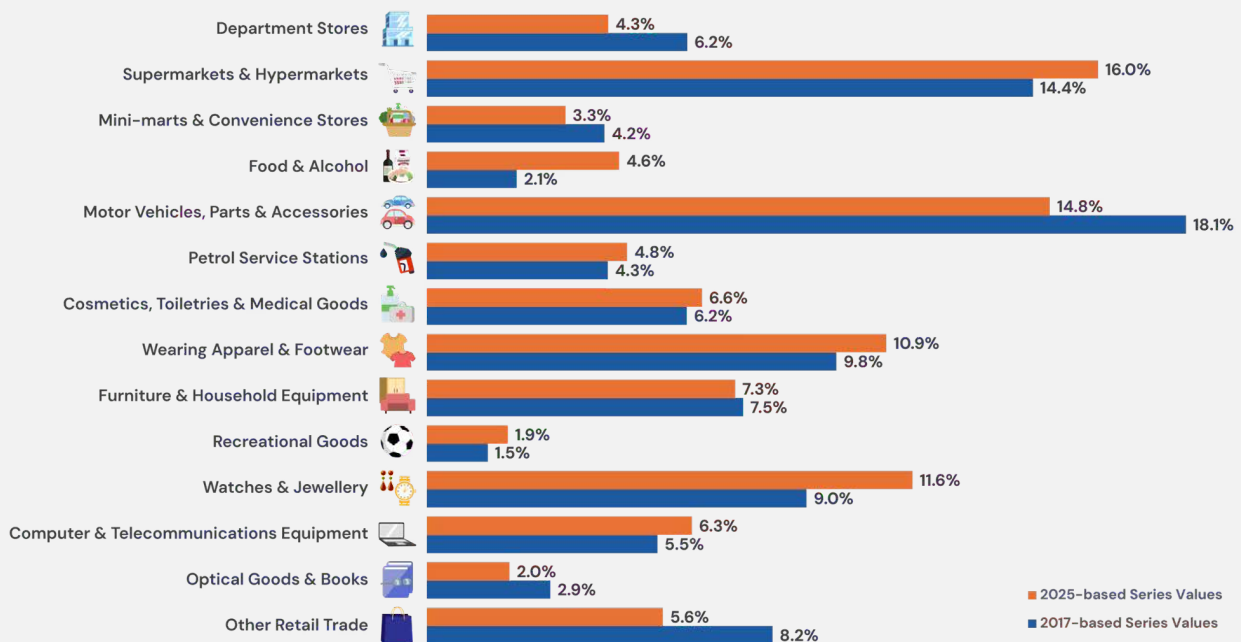
The 'Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places' industry group was split into 'Cafes' (SSIC 56112) and 'Food Courts & Other Eating Places' (SSIC 56122, 56123 and 56130).

Comparison of Weighting Patterns in 2017-Based and 2025-Based Series

The weight for each industry reflects its relative importance in the overall Retail Trade or F&B services sector. The weights are computed based on the retail or F&B sales of the respective industries obtained from the Annual Industry Survey for reference year 2024.

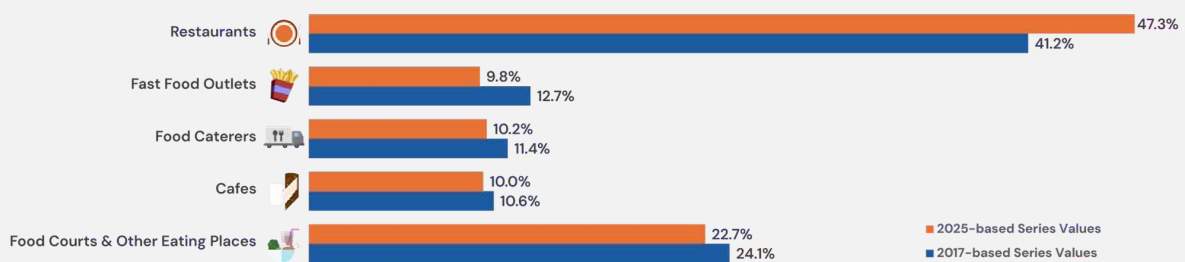
Comparing the 2017-based and 2025-based RSI weights, the 'Motor Vehicles, Parts & Accessories' category recorded the largest drop from 18.1% to 14.8% (Chart 1). While the weighting patterns of most categories remained stable, some notable shifts include 'Other Retail Trade' (down 2.6 percentage points), 'Watches & Jewellery' (up 2.6 percentage points), and 'Food & Alcohol' (up 2.5 percentage points).

Chart 1: Weighting Pattern of RSI in 2017-Based and 2025-Based Series



In the 2025-based FSI, weights for the 'Restaurants' category rose substantially from 41.2% to 47.3%, while all other categories saw declines in their relative shares (Chart 2).

Chart 2: Weighting Pattern of FSI in 2017-Based and 2025-Based Series



Comparison of Trends in 2017-Based and 2025-Based Series

Charts 3 and 4 compare the overall RSI and FSI at current prices of the 2017-based and 2025-based series from January to December 2025. Both series generally exhibit a similar trend.

Chart 3: RSI at Current Prices (2025=100)

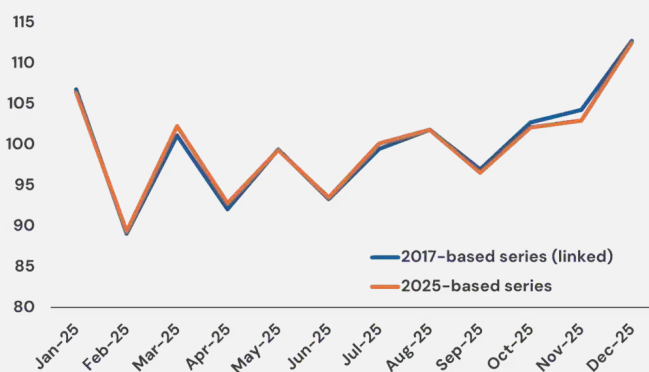
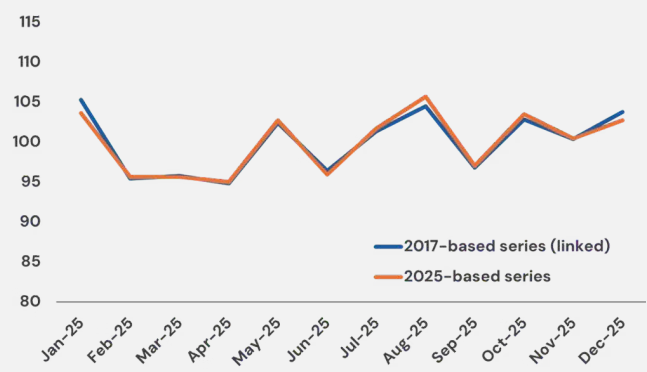


Chart 4: FSI at Current Prices (2025=100)



Conclusion

The RSI and FSI are periodically rebased to reflect structural changes in the Retail Trade and F&B services industries. This ensures the continued relevance of the indices for government agencies and businesses in policy formulation, market analysis, and strategic planning. The rebased indices were released with effect from the January 2026 Monthly Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services Indices report that was released on 5 March 2026. For more information on the rebasing, refer to the Information Paper ['Rebasing of the Retail Sales and Food & Beverage Services Indices \(2025 = 100\)'](#).

i This latest series will continue to be released via a press release on the 5th of every month, or on the following working day if the 5th falls on a weekend or a public holiday. The monthly press release, information paper, and index series are available on the [SingStat Website](#) and in the [SingStat Table Builder](#).