



## Retail Sales Index

May 2021

### KEY INDICATORS OF RETAIL TRADE



**TOTAL RETAIL SALES**  
**Excluding Motor Vehicles**

Year-on-Year

▲ + 79.7%

▲ + 61.6%

Month-on-Month  
(Seasonally adjusted)

▼ - 6.8%

▼ - 5.2%



**TOTAL RETAIL SALES**  
**Excluding Motor Vehicles**

Sales Value

\$3.3 Billion

\$2.8 Billion

Online Sales Proportion

13.7%

16.1%

### ONLINE SALES PROPORTION

(out of the total sales of the respective industry)



Supermarkets & Hypermarkets

12.1%



Computer & Telecommunications Equipment

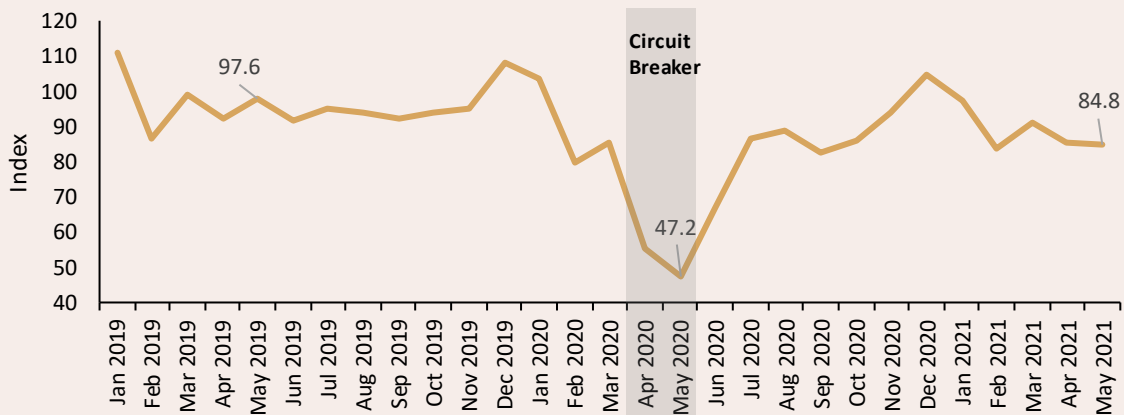
54.4%



Furniture & Household Equipment

30.7%



### Retail Sales Index (at Current Prices), Jan 2019 - May 2021



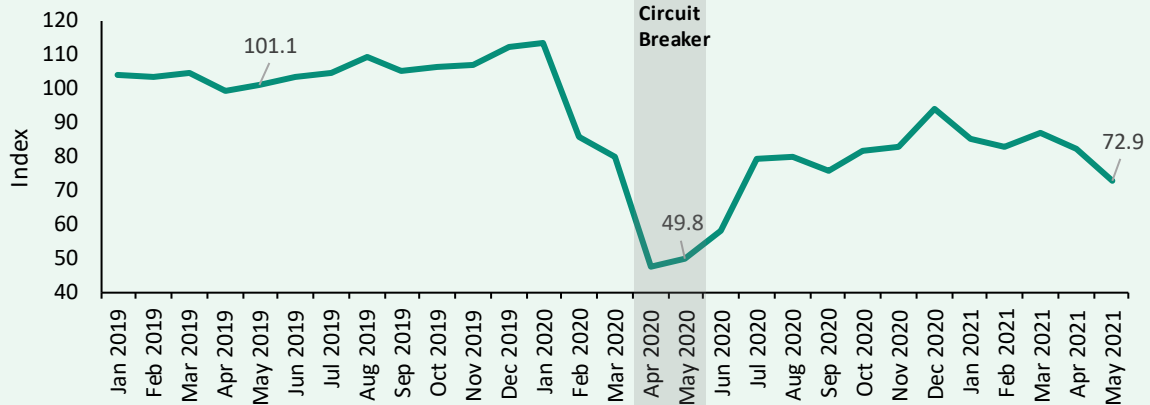
## Food & Beverage Services Index

May 2021

### KEY INDICATORS OF FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	Year-on-Year	Month-on-Month (Seasonally adjusted)
		▲ + 46.4%	▼ - 14.1%
	<b>TOTAL FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE SALES</b>	Sales Value	Online Sales Proportion
		\$617 Million	38.8%

**Food & Beverage Services Index (at Current Prices),  
Jan 2019 - May 2021**



## OVERVIEW – RETAIL TRADE

Retail sales increased 79.7% in May 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 54.0% increase recorded in April 2021. The large year-on-year growth in May 2021 was attributed to the low base in May 2020 when the Circuit Breaker measures were put in place to contain the COVID-19 outbreak, and physical stores were closed for the whole month. Retail sales, however, continued to be below pre-COVID levels. Excluding motor vehicles, retail sales rose 61.6% in May 2021, compared to the 39.2% growth in April 2021. On a seasonally adjusted basis, retail sales fell 6.8% in May 2021 over the previous month. Excluding motor vehicles, seasonally adjusted retail sales declined 5.2% compared to April 2021.

The estimated total retail sales value in May 2021 was about \$3.3 billion. Of this, online retail sales made up an estimated 13.7%, compared to the 11.2% recorded in April 2021. Excluding motor vehicles, the total retail sales value was about \$2.8 billion, where online retail sales made up 16.1%. Online retail sales of the Computer & Telecommunications Equipment, Furniture & Household Equipment and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets industries made up 54.4%, 30.7% and 12.1% of the total sales of their respective industry.

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

All retail industries, except for Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Mini-marts & Convenience Stores, recorded significant year-on-year increases, due to the low base in May 2020 when most physical stores were closed for the whole month.















On the other hand, sales of Supermarkets & Hypermarkets and Mini-marts & Convenience Stores fell 12.1% and 9.2% respectively in May 2021 compared to May 2020, due to higher demand for groceries last year as more people stayed at home during the Circuit Breaker period.

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

Most retail industries recorded declines in sales in May 2021 on a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, with the implementation of Phase 2 (Heightened Alert) measures from 16 May 2021. Sales of discretionary industries such as Department Stores, Wearing Apparel & Footwear and Watches & Jewellery fell between 21.1% and 27.9%.

In contrast, retailers of Computers & Telecommunications Equipment and Supermarkets & Hypermarkets reported higher sales of 18.9% and 12.3% respectively during this period, due mainly to higher demand for computers and groceries.

## Change In Retail Sales By Industry

<b>Department Stores</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+513.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-27.9%</b>	<b>Supermarkets &amp; Hypermarkets</b>  Year-on-Year <b>-12.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+12.3%</b>	<b>Mini-marts &amp; Convenience Stores</b>  Year-on-Year <b>-9.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+4.6%</b>
<b>Food &amp; Alcohol</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+44.3%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+3.6%</b>	<b>Motor Vehicles</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+421.2%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-15.6%</b>	<b>Petrol Service Stations</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+114.3%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-9.3%</b>
<b>Cosmetics, Toiletries &amp; Medical Goods</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+34.7%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-4.2%</b>	<b>Wearing Apparel &amp; Footwear</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+447.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-26.3%</b>	<b>Furniture &amp; Household Equipment</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+161.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-5.1%</b>
<b>Recreational Goods</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+219.7%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-11.5%</b>	<b>Watches &amp; Jewellery</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+2090.0%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-21.1%</b>	<b>Computer &amp; Telecommunications Equipment</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+68.9%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>+18.9%</b>
<b>Optical Goods &amp; Books</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+296.5%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-10.3%</b>	<b>Others</b>  Year-on-Year <b>+140.1%</b> Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup> <b>-12.1%</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted

## OVERVIEW – FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES

Sales of food & beverage services increased 46.4% in May 2021 on a year-on-year basis, compared to the 73.8% increase in April 2021. The strong growth in food & beverage sales was attributed to the low base in May 2020 during the Circuit Breaker period, when dining-in at food & beverage establishments was not allowed for the whole month. Food & beverage sales, however, continued to be below pre-COVID levels. On a seasonally adjusted basis, sales of food & beverage services declined 14.1% in May 2021 over the previous month, due to Phase 2 (Heightened Alert) measures in place from 16 May 2021 when dine-in was not allowed.

The total sales value of food & beverage services in May 2021 was estimated at \$617 million. Of this, online food & beverage sales made up an estimated 38.8%, higher than the 24.6% recorded in April 2021, as more people ordered food online when dine-in was not allowed during the Phase 2 (Heightened Alert) period.

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

All food & beverage services industries, with the exception of Food Caterers, recorded significant year-on-year growths in sales in May 2021, attributed to the low base last year when food & beverage establishments operated on a takeaway or delivery basis for the whole month.

On the other hand, sales of Food Caterers declined 52.3% in May 2021 compared to May 2020 when there was higher demand for catered meals from foreign worker dormitories.

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

On a seasonally adjusted month-on-month basis, turnover of Restaurants, Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places and Fast Food Outlets declined between 1.5% and 26.4% in May 2021, as dine-in was not allowed from 16 May 2021. Similarly, sales of Food Caterers declined 3.6% during this period.

## Change In Food & Beverage Sales By Industry

Restaurants		Fast Food Outlets	
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	
<b>+89.5%</b>		<b>-26.4%</b>	
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	
<b>-52.3%</b>		<b>-3.6%</b>	
Year-on-Year		Month-on-Month <sup>1</sup>	
<b>+54.4%</b>		<b>-8.3%</b>	

<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	
	Apr 21/ Apr 20	May 21/ May 20	Apr 21/ Mar 21	May 21/ Apr 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-6.8</b>
Total (excl Motor Vehicles)	39.2	61.6	-0.9	-5.2
Department Stores	269.8	513.0	1.8	-27.9
Supermarkets & Hypermarkets	-30.3	-12.1	2.0	12.3
Mini-marts & Convenience Stores	-16.7	-9.2	-2.9	4.6
Food & Alcohol	33.7	44.3	4.1	3.6
Motor Vehicles	261.3	421.2	-4.4	-15.6
Petrol Service Stations	104.0	114.3	0.1	-9.3
Cosmetics, Toiletries & Medical Goods	31.9	34.7	3.8	-4.2
Wearing Apparel & Footwear	442.8	447.1	4.1	-26.3
Furniture & Household Equipment	64.5	161.0	-3.7	-5.1
Recreational Goods	174.9	219.7	-1.4	-11.5
Watches & Jewellery	647.2	2090.0	-4.7	-21.1
Computer & Telecommunications Equipment	17.6	68.9	-7.7	18.9
Optical Goods & Books	102.9	296.5	-9.6	-10.3
Others	103.1	140.1	-1.5	-12.1

**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 21/ Apr 20	May 21/ May 20	Apr 21/ Mar 21	May 21/ Apr 21
<b>Total</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-14.1</b>
Restaurants	173.1	89.5	0.6	-26.4
Fast Food Outlets	34.8	37.2	-4.1	-1.5
Food Caterers	-31.7	-52.3	-2.8	-3.6
Cafes, Food Courts & Other Eating Places	60.4	54.4	-1.6	-8.3

## 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.

<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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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)