

Retail Trade Indices. Base 2005
February 2010. *Provisional data*

Main Results

- The **General Retail Trade Index** registers an **interannual variation of -1.1%** in February, at constant prices. After adjusting for the calendar effect, the annual rate stands at -1.4%.
- The **average** rate of retail sales stands at **-2.9%** in the first two months of the year.
- **Large chain stores and department stores present positive annual rates.** *Large chain stores* present the greatest increase, with a rate of **3.7%**.
- **Employment** in the retail sector **decreases 2.3%** as compared with February 2009.
- Retail sales at constant prices present positive interannual rates in five **Autonomous Communities**. Employment also registers an increase in three Communities.

Evolution of trade, in general and by type of product

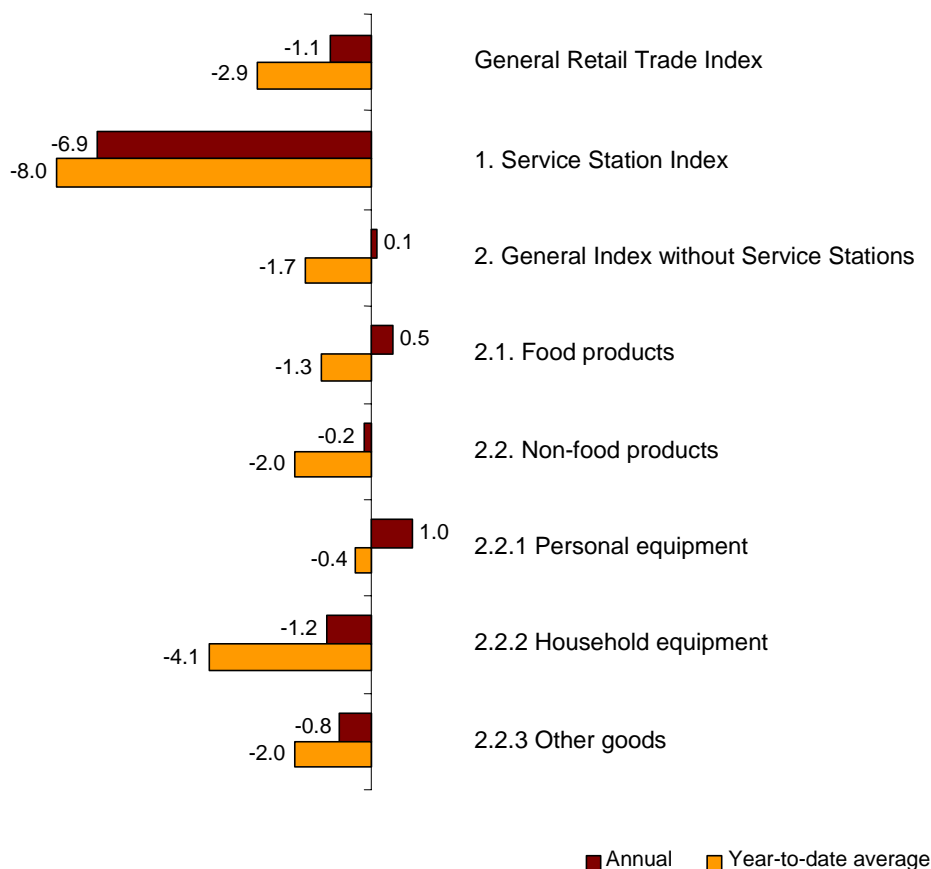
Sales in retail trade at constant prices (that is, after eliminating the prices' effect) registered an interannual rate of **-1.1%** in February 2010, indicating an increase of more than three points as compared with January.

Sales, excluding service stations, presented an annual rate, in constant terms, of **0.1%**. The breakdown of these sales by type of product showed an increase of 0.5% in food products and a drop of -0.2% in non-food products. Among the latter, the Personal Equipment is the only that registered a positive rate, at 1.0%.

In turn, sales in service stations, after adjusting the prices' effect, decreased 6.9% in February, as compared with the same month of 2009.

The average rate of General Retail Trade Index for the first two months decreased **-2.9%** as compared with the same period of the previous year.

Annual rates of deflated indices General index and by type of product



Evolution of trade, by distribution class

Large chain stores (3.7%) and *department stores* (1.6%) were the distribution class that presented positive interannual variation rates in the month of February.

In turn, other distributions class decreased in sales, *Small chain stores* decreased -4.8% and *Single retail stores*, -1.6%.

National Indices by distribution class

	Deflated index	% variation	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
General Retail Trade Index	81.4	-1.1	-2.9
1. Service Station Index	87.7	-6.9	-8.0
2. General Index without Service Stations	81.5	0.1	-1.7
2.1. Single retail stores	77.6	-1.6	-3.3
2.2. Small chain stores	74.6	-4.8	-5.2
2.3. Large chain stores	99.9	3.7	1.3
2.4. Department stores	77.2	1.6	-0.8

Department stores. Variation rates

The general department store index, which reflects the behaviour of sales in premises larger than 2,500 m², registered an interannual increase of **1.6%** in constant terms in February. This increase was caused by an increase in sales of the non-food products (5.3%).

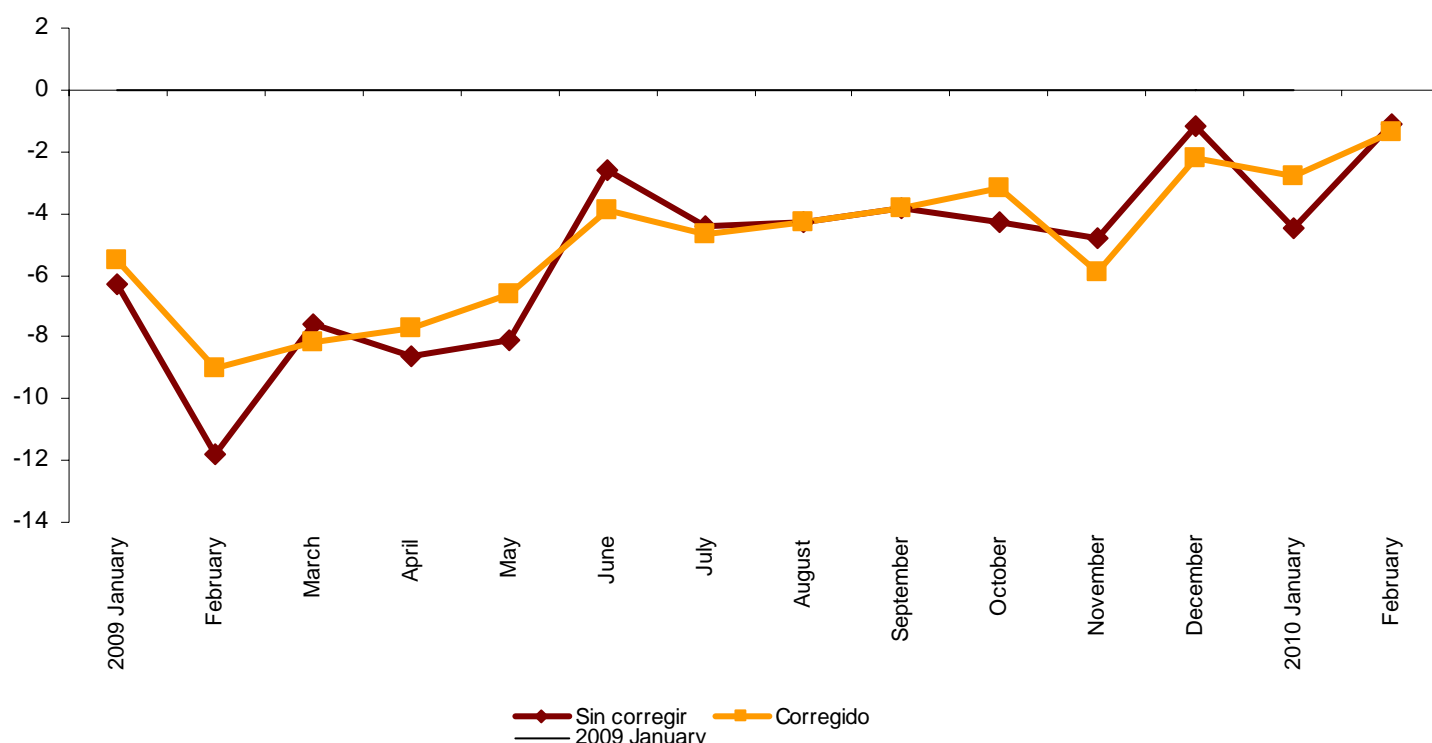
Department Store Indices

Department Store Index	Deflated index	% variation	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
Department Store Index	77.2	1.6	-0.8
1. Food products	74.5	-4.7	-6.5
2. Non-food products	80.3	5.3	1.8

Evolution of trade, adjusted for the calendar effect

After eliminating the calendar effect, that is, the difference between the number of working days in a given month in different years, the General Retail Trade Index at constant prices registered a variation of **-1.4%** in February, over the same month the previous year. This rate increases more than one point as compared with that registered in January 2010.

Deflated General Retail Trade Index Annual Variation Rate



Evolution of employment, by distribution class

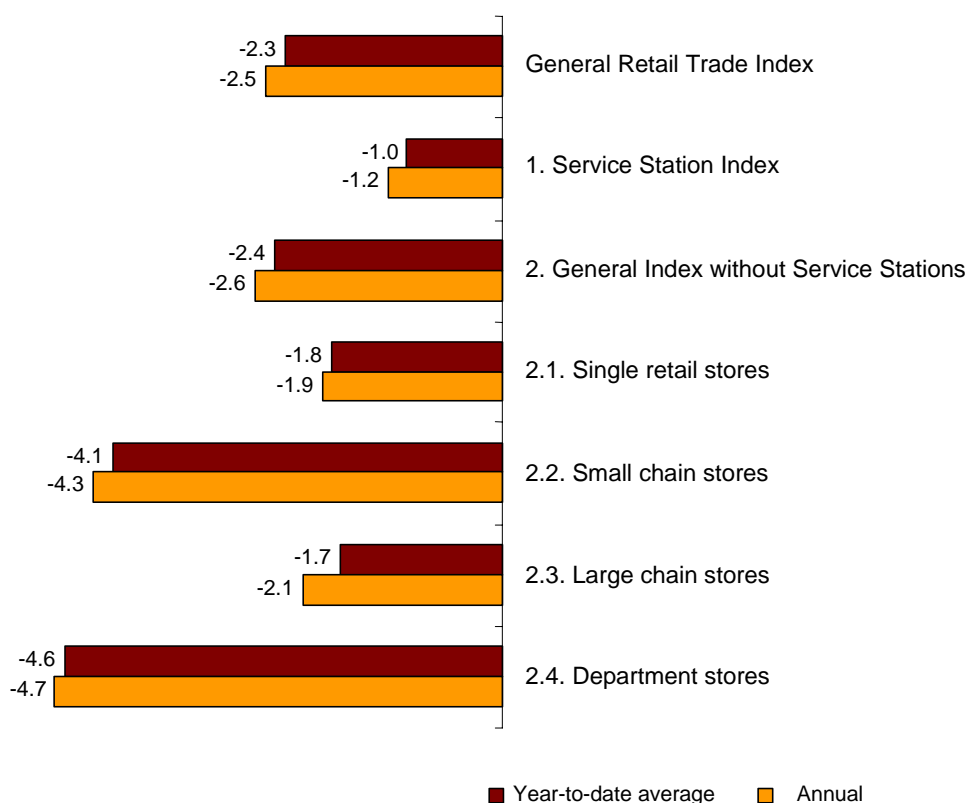
The Retail Trade Employment Index, which shows the evolution of both paid and unpaid employment, registered an annual rate of **-2.3%** in February. This implied an increase of four tenths over the rate from January.

Employment decreased in all of the distribution classes. *Department stores*, with an annual rate of **-4.6%**, presented the greatest drop.

In Service stations, employment was 1.0% lower than for February 2009.

In the retail sector group the average rate of employment decreased **-2.5%** in the first two months of the year as compared with the same month period the previous year.

Employment rate by distribution class

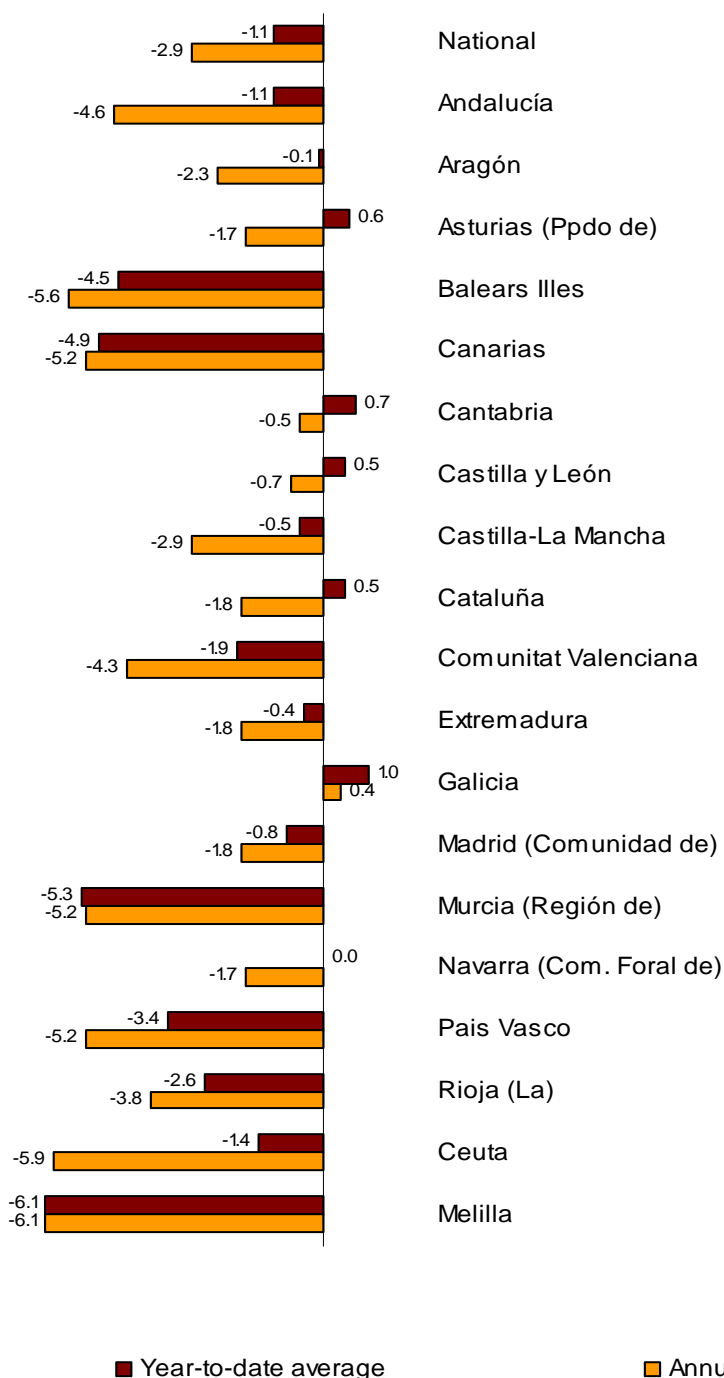


Autonomous Communities. Variation rates in sales

In February 2010, there was an increase in sales in the Autonomous Communities Galicia (1.0%), Cantabria (0.7%), Principado de Asturias (0.6%) and Castilla y León and Cataluña (both with a rate of 0.5%).

Región de Murcia (-5.3%), Canarias (-4.9%) and Illes Balears (-4.5%) are the Communities that registered the greatest decrease in sales.

Retail Trade by Autonomous Communities Rates at constant prices



Autonomous Communities. Employment variation rates

Employment in retail trade in February presents positive rates in the Communities Castilla y León (0.6%), Principado de Asturias (0.5%) and Extremadura (0.3%).

Región de Murcia (-4.5%) and Illes Balears and Comunidad de Madrid (both with -3.9%) registered the greatest decrease in employment.

Employment of Retail Trade Rates by Autonomous Communities

