

Press Release

27 May 2020

#### Retail Trade Indices (RTI). Base 2015 April 2020. Provisional data

## The monthly variation of the Retail Trade Index at constant prices is -20.4% after seasonal and calendar adjustment

# The annual rate of the General Retail Trade Index at constant prices stands at -31.6% in the seasonal and calendar adjusted series and at -31.5% in the original series

#### COVID-19's Effects on the April Retail Trade Index (ICM)

- The declaration of the state of alarm has caused an unprecedented situation in ICM production in April. This marks the first time that a considerable percentage of companies (around 46%) have remained closed to the general public, and have only been able to carry out *online* sales.
- This has led to an increase in electronic commerce. Sales of companies whose main activity is mail order or internet retail has increased 52.9% in comparison with the same month the previous year.
- In comparison to March, where establishments remained open for half the month, sales for all stores were reduced. The greatest decrease, of 60.1%, was for establishments that sell *Personal Equipment* goods (clothing and footwear).
- In contrast, home confinement resulting food products to having the highest volume of sales. Even so, they were down 8.6%, after a monthly rise of 8.4% in March.
- In year-on-year terms, sales of non-food products also registered the greatest decreases (-31.6%). *Personal Equipment* sales decreased by 81.4% and those of *Home Equipment* did so by 59.1%.
- By distribution type, consumers have preferred *Large Chains* and *Large Stores* for their *Food* purchases. Sales for the *Rest* of goods decreased accross the board.
- Employment is likewise affected by the state of alarm. Its effect was diluted, however, by the possibility for companies to benefit from a Temporary Workforce Reduction Scheme (ERTE), in which personnel continue to be counted as part of the company. Nationally, employment decreased by 2.0% in the annual rate.

#### Monthly trend of sales in retail trade

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The monthly variation of the seasonally and calendar adjusted general Retail Trade Index (RTI) at constant prices between the months of April and March, stood at -20.4%. This rate was nine tenths lower than the previous month. "This rate is 4.9 points lower than that of the previous month..."



Relean



The general index, excluding service stations, recorded a monthly rate of -18.8%.

By products, *Food* decreased by 8.6% and *Non-food products* by 33.5%. If the latter is broken down by type of product, *Personal equipment* decreased the most (-60.1%).

#### Sales indices at constant prices: General and by type of products Seasonally and calendar adjusted. April 2020. Monthly rate. Percentage





All distribution classes showed negative monthly rates. The greatest decreases were seen in *Department Stores* (-32.9%) and *Small Chain Stores* (-32.5%).

In turn, Large Chain Stores had the lowest decrease (-10.4%).

#### Sales indices at constant prices by distribution type Seasonally and calendar adjusted. April 2020. Monthly rate. Percentage



#### Annual trend of sales in retail trade

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In April, the General Retail Trade Index, once adjusted for seasonal and calendar effects, registered a variation of -31.6% as compared with the same month of the previous year. This rate was 17.4 points lower than the one registered in March.

The original RTI series at constant prices registered an annual variation of -31.5%, this rate was 17 points below the rate of the previous month.

#### **Retail Trade General Index at constant prices**

Annual rates. Percentage

**Press** 



The seasonally and calendar adjusted index excluding service stations registered an annual variation of -28.8% in April. If these sales are broken down by type of product, *Food* decreased by 0.7%, and *Non-food products* by 53.2%.

	Original index	Seasonally and calendar adjusted index
	Annual rate (%)	Annual rate (%)
GENERAL INDEX	-31.5	-31.6
Service stations	-58.2	-58.1
General Index without service stations	-28.9	-28.8
- Food	-0.6	-0.7
- Non-food products	-53.3	-53.2
- Personal equipment	-81.5	-814
- Household equipment	-59.1	-59.1
- Other goods	-31.7	-316
Distribution class		
- Single retail stores	-33.5	-33.4
- Small chain stores	-51.1	-51.1
- Large chain stores	-6.5	-6.4
- Department stores	-48.5	-48.6

### Retail trade sector sales. Annual rates at constant prices April 2020

#### Food Distribution and Rest of goods by distribution types

Taking into account the different types of distribution, sales decreased for all establishments compared to April of the previous year. *Department Stores* (-48.5%) and *Single Retail Stores* (-33.5%) recorded the greatest decreases.

During the state of alarm, consumers have preferred to make food purchases in *Large Chain Stores* (whose sales grew by 9.1% in the annual rate) and *Department stores* (6.1%), to the detriment of *Single Retail Stores* and *Small Chain Stores*, whose sales fell by 16.9% and 8.2%, respectively.

Sales of the *rest* of goods decreased for all types of commerce in the annual rate. The greatest decreases occurred in *Department Stores* (-74.8%) and *Small Chain Stores* (-73.9%).

### Annual sales rates by distribution class Unadjusted

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		Annual rate (%)			Deflacted annual rate (%)			
	General	Food	Non-food products	General	Food	Non-food products		
General without service stations	-29,2	2,9	-55,0	-28,9	-0,6	-53,3		
Distribution class								
- Single retail stores	-33,8	-14,0	-44,7	-33,5	-16,9	-42,7		
- Small chain stores	-51,3	-4,9	-74,8	-51,1	-8,2	-73,9		
- Large chain stores	-6,8	13,0	-42,6	-6,5	9,1	-40,4		
- Department stores	-48,7	9,9	-75,7	-48,5	6,1	-74,8		

#### Results by Autonomous Community. Annual rates of sales. Original series

Sales decreased in the annual rate in all Autonomous Communities in April.

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Canarias (-39.7%), Illes Balears (-39.0%) and Andalucía (-34.0%) registered the greatest decreases. In turn, Galicia (-23.4%), Castilla - La Mancha (-26.2%) and País Vasco (-27.2%) registered the lowest decreases.

#### General indices: national and by Autonomous City and Community

April 2020. Annual sales rate. Percentage

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#### Annual variation of food sales, by Autonomous Community

Comunidad de Madrid and País Vasco showed the highest annual increases in food product sales, followed by the Autonomous Communities of northern Spain.

On the other hand, the islands and the rest of the peninsular territory showed negative rates.

Stay at home orders meant that persons were obliged to stay in their habitual residence during the week of Easter; which, like last year, took place entirely in April.

This, together with the absence of foreign visitors during the state of alarm, were the main causes for the different evolution seen between territories.



#### **Employment trend**

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In April, the employment index in the retail trade sector registered a variation of -2.0% as compared to the same month of 2019. This rate was 1.6 points below that recorded in March. Employment decreased by -1.7% in *Service stations*.

By distribution modes, employment decreased by 6.4% in *Small Chain Stores* and increased by 3.7% in *Large Chain* Stores.

### Employment indices: General and by distribution type April 2020

	Index	Rate (%)		
		Monthly	Annual	Year-to-date
				average
GENERAL INDEX	101.5	-1.1	-2.0	-0.2
Service stations	103.7	-1.2	-1.7	0.7
General Index without service stations	101.5	-1.1	-2.0	-0.3
- Single retail stores	98.0	-1.3	-3.1	-0.9
- Small chain stores	94.2	-2.2	-6.4	-3.2
- Large chain stores	115.7	0.1	3.7	3.3
- Department stores	99.1	-1.9	-3.8	-1.4

#### Results by Autonomous Community. Annual employment rate

Employment in retail trade decreased in all Autonomous Communities in the annual rate. The greatest decreases were registered in Illes Balears (-6.3%) and Canarias (-3.4%).

#### General indices: national and by Autonomous Communities and Cities

April 2020. Annual employment rate. Percentage



#### Revisions and update of data

On the press release day, INE has updated RTI data series corresponding to the last three months. In the case of calendar adjusted and seasonally and calendar adjusted series, according to INE standard, series are revised since its beginning. Results are available on INEBase.

#### Note regarding COVID-19's impact on the statistical operation of Retail Trade Indices (ICM)

The entry into force of Royal Decree 463/2020 of March 14, *which declared a "state of alert" period for management of the health crisis situation caused by COVID-19,* establishes in article 10.1 that, from that date onwards, **the opening to the public of retail stores and establishments is suspended,** with the exception of commercial retail establishments for food, beverages, basic necessities and products, pharmaceutical establishments, medical, optical and orthopedic products, hygiene products, newspapers and stationery, automotive fuel, tobacconists, technological and telecommunications equipment, pet food, and commerce via internet, telephone, and mail.

This led to an unprecedented situation in which retail establishments, in general, remained closed throughout the month of April.

As usual, the collection of ICM information begins once the reference period has ended. It thus took place during the month of May, when many establishments remained closed or were just starting to open, making contact with companies more difficult. These contacts were made by email and by phone, similar to in previous months.

Despite the state of alarm, our informants have understood the importance of providing information so that the statistical authority can elaborate indicators regarding the economic situation. Thanks to this, the response rate has been quite acceptable, standing at 78.6%. This is even higher than March's rate (72.9%). On behalf of the INE, we would like to express our gratitude to all the companies that, in spite of the extraordinary situation in which we find ourselves, have made the effort to provide us with information.

This response rate, coupled with the fact that it is reasonable to assume that behaviour has been homogeneous in terms of the opening or closing during the the month of April for the establishments that have completed the questionnaire, as compared to those for which we were unable to obtain information<sup>1</sup>, has led us to leave the index calculation non-response apportioning methods unchanged as compared to those used in previous months.

The variation coefficient for the General Sales Index has increased one tenth, from 0.8 in March to 0.9 in April, and that of the General Occupancy Index went from 0.3 in March to 0.4 in April. Similarly, at the Autonomous Community level, the variation coefficients have shown no considerable variation, remaining in a range between 1.9 and 6.4 in both February and March in the case of sales, and from 0.9 to 1.6 in employment.

These indicators demonstrate that the quality of the indices was maintained as compared to a normal month. The **INE has thus determined that the data, both nationally and by** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Taking into account the different unit activities, sizes and location

Autonomous Community, is of sufficient quality for dissemination and use by the various users of statistics.

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For employment data, it should be borne in mind that persons who are affected by Temporary Workforce Reduction Scheme (ERTE) lay-offs during the state of alarm are still counted as company employees.

In regards to the series adjusted for seasonal and calendar effects, the INE carried out a methodological modelling approach in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat)<sup>2</sup>. In the data referring to March and April of 2020, an additive *outlier* has thus been modelled in the majority of the series to estimate the effect of COVID-19 on the indices for these months.

When the data for subsequent months is available, the INE will re-analyse whether these impulses should be modified for another type of intervention<sup>3</sup>, or if interventions should perhaps even be carried out on other data in the series.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/flash-news\_en</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>This initial approach is consistent since, in the modelling of disturbances that occur in the last observation in a series, there is no difference in the adjusted seasonal and calendar series if this modelling is performed using an impulse, a step, a temporary change or a ramp. The difference between these types of interventions is reduced to assigning the effect to the cycle-trend component in some cases, or to the irregular one in others, but the adjusted series for seasonal and calendar effect includes both components and, therefore, it will not be affected by the type of initial intervention

#### Methodological note

The main objective of the Retail Trade Indices (RTI) is to ascertain the fundamental characteristics of the companies engaged in retail trade in Spain, which make it possible to measure, in the short term, the trend of activity in the sector.

Survey type: continuous monthly survey.

Base year: 2015.

**Population scope**: companies whose main activity is included within division 47 of the CNAE-2009 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles.

Geographical scope: the whole country.

**Sample size:** Approximately 12.000 companies.

Type of sampling: stratified random sampling.

**Collection method:** fill in a questionnaire by the respondent using one of the following methods: internet (IRIA system), e-mail, fax, telephone or by post.

Further information is available in the methodology:

http://www.ine.es/en/daco/daco43/notaccm15\_en.pdf

And in the standardised methodological report:

http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30103

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#### Retail Trade Indices (RTI). Base 2015 April 2020

Provisional data

### 1. Sales indices: General, by products and by distribution type Seasonally and calendar adjusted

	Index	Rate (%)			Deflated	Rate (%)		
		Monthly	Annual	Year-to-	index	Monthly	Annual	Year-to-
				date				date
				average				average
GENERAL INDEX	73.7	-21.3	-33.3	-11.0	73.3	-20.4	-316	-10.6
Service stations	39.3	-47.3	-65.5	-23.8	43.2	-413	-58.1	-23.1
General Index without service stations	77.5	-18.7	-29.1	-9.4	76.1	-18.8	-28.8	-9.2
- Food	111.9	-8.6	18	4.5	104.0	-8.6	-0.7	2.3
- Non-food products	49.2	-34.1	-54.9	-20.8	51.0	-33.5	-53.2	-19.0
- Personal equipment	20.1	-60.2	-812	-32.6	19.5	-60.1	-814	-33.3
- Household equipment	47.5	-39.2	-59.0	-219	47.1	-39.2	-59.1	-22.2
- Other goods	70.0	-20.5	-34.1	-12.1	72.6	-19.6	-316	-10.0
Distribution class								
- Single retail stores	68.5	-20.0	-33.7	-13.0	67.4	-20.0	-33.4	-12.8
- Small chain stores	52.4	-32.5	-513	-20.0	51.5	-32.5	-511	-19.8
- Large chain stores	109.1	-10.4	-6.8	2.6	107.1	-10.4	-6.4	3.0
- Department stores	55.9	-32.6	-48.8	-16.7	54.8	-32.9	-48.6	-16.2

### 2. Sales indices: General, by products and by distribution type Calendar adjusted

	Index	ndex Rate (%)		Deflated	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average	index	Annual	Year-to-date average
GENERAL INDEX	70.1	-33.2	-11.1	69.5	-31.5	-10.7
Service stations	38.5	-65.6	-24.6	41.9	-58.2	-23.6
General Index without service stations	73.5	-29.2	-9.5	72.0	-28.9	-9.2
- Food	109.7	2.9	4.9	101.2	-0.6	2.4
- Non-food products	45.6	-55.0	-20.6	47.0	-53.3	-18.6
- Personal equipment	18.0	-81.3	-31.6	16.6	-81.5	-30.6
- Household equipment	44.7	-59.0	-22.1	44.3	-59.1	-22.3
- Other goods	66.1	-34.2	-12.1	68.2	-31.7	-9.8
Distribution class						
- Single retail stores	67.2	-33.8	-13.3	65.9	-33.5	-13.1
- Small chain stores	49.7	-51.3	-20.3	48.7	-51.1	-20.1
- Large chain stores	103.0	-6.8	2.5	101.0	-6.5	2.9
- Department stores	49.7	-48.7	-16.0	48.7	-48.5	-15.7

### 3. Sales indices: General, by products and by distribution type Unadjusted

	Index	Rate (%)		Deflated	Rate (%)		
		Annual	Year-to-date average	index	Annual	Year-to-date average	
GENERAL INDEX	70.4	-33.2	-10.6	69.8	-315	-10.1	
Service stations	38.7	-65.6	-24.4	42.1	-58.2	-23.0	
General Index without service stations	73.8	-29.2	-9.0	72.3	-28.9	-8.6	
- Food	110.7	2.9	5.6	102.1	-0.6	3.2	
- Non-food products	45.7	-55.0	-20.2	47.1	-53.3	-18.1	
- Personal equipment	18.0	-813	-31.0	16.7	-815	-30.0	
- Household equipment	44.8	-59.0	-21.5	44.3	-59.1	-21.7	
- Other goods	66.1	-34.2	-11.7	68.2	-317	-9.4	
Distribution class							
- Single retail stores	67.3	-33.8	-12.9	66.0	-33.5	-12.5	
- Small chain stores	49.8	-513	-19.8	48.8	-51.1	-19.5	
- Large chain stores	103.6	-6.8	2.4	101.6	-6.5	2.7	
- Department stores	50.1	-48.7	-15.5	49.1	-48.5	-15.2	
- Food	105.9	9.9	12.0	97.7	6.1	9.4	
- Non-food products	23.9	-75.7	-27.3	24.7	-74.8	-25.4	

### 4. Sales indices: National and by Autonomous City and Community Unadjusted

	Index	Rate (%)		Deflated	Rate (%)		
		Annual	Year-to-date average	index	Annual	Year-to-date average	
NATIONAL	70.4	-33.2	-10.6	69.8	-315	-10.1	
Andalucía	68.5	-35.4	-10.7	67.9	-34.0	-10.2	
Aragón	67.9	-35.2	-12.2	68.0	-33.1	-11.3	
Asturias, Principado de	68.6	-32.6	-11.0	68.5	-30.6	-10.1	
Balears, Illes	65.7	-40.7	-14.0	65.7	-39.0	-13.3	
Canarias	64.0	-40.0	-14.2	62.5	-39.7	-14.6	
Cantabria	67.7	-314	-9.2	66.9	-29.7	-8.6	
Castilla y León	68.0	-32.4	-10.9	67.6	-30.4	-10.3	
Castilla - La Mancha	75.9	-28.5	-8.2	75.4	-26.2	-7.6	
Cataluña	66.9	-34.9	-12.1	65.6	-33.1	-11.5	
Comunitat Valenciana	70.9	-32.5	-9.5	71.1	-30.6	-8.7	
Extremadura	69.8	-29.3	-9.9	69.2	-27.9	-9.4	
Galicia	76.7	-25.4	-7.5	76.3	-23.4	-6.8	
Madrid, Comunidad de	76.9	-312	-9.5	76.3	-29.3	-8.8	
Murcia, Región de	70.6	-33.9	-11.5	70.3	-32.5	-11.1	
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	73.8	-312	-11.5	73.3	-29.1	-10.9	
País Vasco	73.0	-28.8	-8.9	71.9	-27.2	-8.5	
Rioja, La	71.4	-32.0	-10.6	70.7	-30.0	-10.0	
Ceuta	55.8	-418	- 15.4	54.9	-40.6	-14.6	
Melilla	50.4	-49.7	-17.4	49.8	-49.1	-16.9	

#### 5. Employment Indices: General and by distribution type

	Index	Rate (%)		
		Monthly	Annual	Year-to-date
				average
GENERAL INDEX	101.5	-11	-2.0	-0.2
Service stations	103.7	-12	-1.7	0.7
General Index without service stations	101.5	-11	-2.0	-0.3
- Single retail stores	98.0	-13	-3.1	-0.9
- Small chain stores	94.2	-2.2	-6.4	-3.2
- Large chain stores	115.7	0.1	3.7	3.3
- Department stores	99.1	-19	-3.8	-1.4

### 6. Employment Indices: National and by Autonomous City and Community

	Index	Rate (%)		
		Monthly	Annual	Year-to-date average
NATIONAL	101.5	-1.1	-2.0	-0.2
Andalucía	98.6	-13	-2.5	-0.4
Aragón	101.4	-1.0	-1.2	0.2
Asturias, Principado de	102.9	-13	-2.6	-1.2
Balears, Illes	103.5	-0.8	-6.3	-1.9
Canarias	104.4	-2.4	-3.4	-1.0
Cantabria	98.8	-1.0	-2.1	-0.8
Castilla y León	101.7	-0.8	-1.4	-0.1
Castilla - La Mancha	98.6	-1.3	-2.4	-0.6
Cataluña	101.5	-0.4	-0.7	0.1
Comunitat Valenciana	105.3	-0.8	-1.1	0.8
Extremadura	98.7	-1.6	-2.7	-0.5
Galicia	101.8	-0.2	-0.9	0.3
Madrid, Comunidad de	101.8	-2.0	-2.7	-0.4
Murcia, Región de	101.5	-1.2	-2.7	-0.5
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	100.6	-0.8	-2.7	-0.8
País Vasco	101.5	-0.9	-11	-0.3
Rioja, La	103.5	-0.2	-0.3	0.8
Ceuta	98.9	-1.8	-2.3	-0.4
Melilla	100.7	-1.1	-2.6	-15