

**Retail Trade Indices. Base 2005
May 2008. Provisional data**

Retail trade at constant prices decreases 5.3% in May, as compared with the same month in 2007

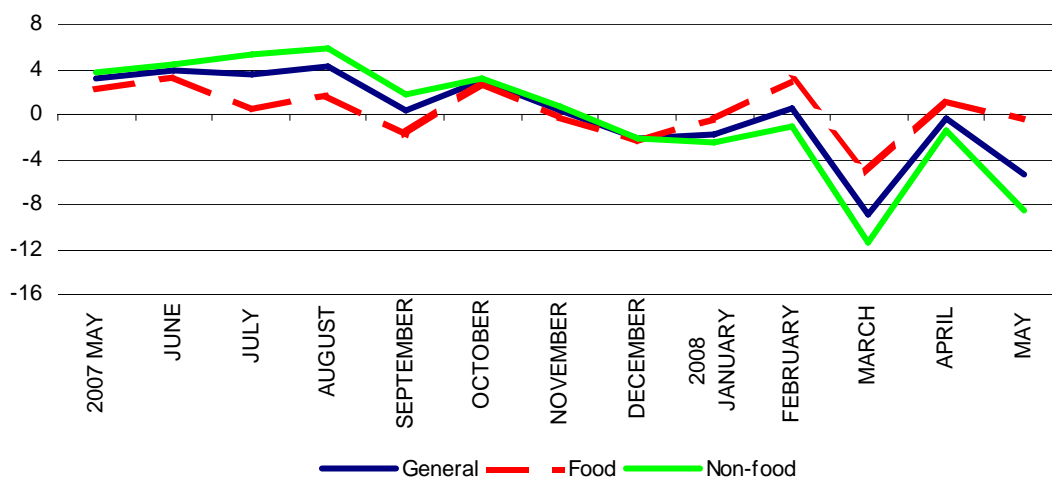
The general retail trade index in constant terms (in other words, after adjusting the prices' effect) registered an interannual decrease of 5.3% in sales in the month of May. Food products decreased 0.3% and non-food products fell 8.5%. A breakdown of the latter by type of product revealed rates of -4.9% in Personal equipment, -12.2% in Household equipment and -5.4% in Other goods.

This month was not influenced by the calendar effect, given that it had the same number of working days as May 2007.

National indices: general and by group

| | Index | % variation on previous year | | Deflated Index | % variation on previous year | |
|--|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average |
| General Index | 108.2 | -0.5 | 1.3 | 97.1 | -5.3 | -3.2 |
| 1. Food products | 114.8 | 6.1 | 6.1 | 100.9 | -0.3 | -0.4 |
| 2. Non-food products | 104.1 | -4.7 | -1.6 | 94.8 | -8.5 | -5.0 |
| 2.1 Personal equipment | 107.1 | -4.1 | -0.4 | 98.1 | -4.9 | -1.1 |
| 2.2 Household equipment | 97.8 | -9.9 | -6.9 | 90.3 | -12.2 | -9.2 |
| 2.3 Other goods | 106.3 | -1.5 | 1.2 | 96.8 | -5.4 | -2.4 |
| General Index: Adjusted for calendar effect | 109.3 | -0.5 | 0.6 | 98.1 | -5.3 | -3.9 |

Annual rates (constant prices)



The large chain stores are the only type of trade distribution whose sales increase as compared with the previous year

The breakdown of the retail sector general index, by distribution class, showed that large chain stores recorded an interannual rate of 3.5% at constant prices.

The remaining types of trade distribution registered negative interannual rates.

General indices by type of distribution

| | Index | % variation on previous year | | Deflated Index | % variation on previous year | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average |
| General Index | 108.2 | -0.5 | 1.3 | 97.1 | -5.3 | -3.2 |
| 1. Single retail stores | 103.6 | -4.2 | -1.6 | 92.9 | -8.8 | -6.0 |
| 2. Small chain stores | 103.9 | -5.4 | -1.0 | 93.2 | -10.0 | -5.4 |
| 3. Large chain stores | 126.7 | 8.7 | 8.5 | 113.7 | 3.5 | 3.6 |
| 4. Department stores | 103.1 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 92.5 | -2.4 | -2.7 |

Sales in department stores decrease 2.4% at constant prices

The general department store index, which reflects the behaviour of sales in premises larger than 2,500 m², registered an interannual decrease of 2.4% in constant terms in May. Food products increased 5.2%, while non-food products decreased 5.9%.

Department store index: general and by group

| | Index | % variation on previous year | | Deflated Index | % variation on previous year | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average |
| General Index | 103.1 | 2.5 | 1.9 | 92.5 | -2.4 | -2.7 |
| 1. Food products | 110.3 | 11.9 | 7.3 | 96.9 | 5.2 | 0.7 |
| 2. Non-food products | 99.5 | -2.0 | -0.6 | 90.6 | -5.9 | -4.1 |
| General Index: | | | | | | |
| Adjusted for calendar effect | 103.8 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 93.1 | -2.4 | -3.2 |

Generalised decrease in sales in all of the Autonomous Communities

All of the Autonomous Communities registered negative interannual rates in sales at constant prices. The smallest decreases were recorded in Comunidad Foral de Navarra (-1.2%), Extremadura (-1.4%) and Castilla-La Mancha (-1.7%).

Indices by Autonomous Community

| | Index | % variation on previous year | | Deflated Index | % variation on previous year | |
|------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average | | Same month | Year-to-Date Average |
| National total | 108.2 | -0.5 | 1.3 | 97.1 | -5.3 | -3.2 |
| Andalucía | 106.1 | -1.2 | 1.1 | 95.1 | -5.9 | -3.3 |
| Aragón | 111.4 | 1.2 | 3.7 | 99.5 | -4.0 | -1.2 |
| Asturias (Principado de) | 112.3 | 2.8 | 3.8 | 100.8 | -2.2 | -1.0 |
| Balears (Illes) | 115.3 | -1.4 | 1.5 | 104.3 | -5.9 | -2.8 |
| Canarias | 100.0 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 90.3 | -5.7 | -4.6 |
| Cantabria | 110.0 | 3.4 | 1.9 | 98.1 | -2.1 | -3.3 |
| Castilla y León | 109.9 | 2.7 | 4.7 | 97.9 | -2.8 | -0.5 |
| Castilla-La Mancha | 115.3 | 3.9 | 6.1 | 102.8 | -1.7 | 0.9 |
| Cataluña | 107.7 | -1.3 | 0.2 | 96.7 | -6.0 | -4.3 |
| Comunitat Valenciana | 107.5 | -0.7 | 0.8 | 96.4 | -5.3 | -3.5 |
| Extremadura | 113.9 | 3.8 | 4.5 | 102.3 | -1.4 | -0.3 |
| Galicia | 104.8 | -1.1 | 0.8 | 94.0 | -6.2 | -3.9 |
| Madrid (Comunidad de) | 107.5 | -2.7 | 0.5 | 97.2 | -7.2 | -3.8 |
| Murcia (Región de) | 110.4 | -1.5 | 0.6 | 98.1 | -6.2 | -4.0 |
| Navarra (Comunidad Foral de) | 115.8 | 3.7 | 3.0 | 104.4 | -1.2 | -1.5 |
| País Vasco | 112.4 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 101.2 | -2.8 | -3.0 |
| Rioja (La) | 109.4 | -2.5 | 2.9 | 97.1 | -7.1 | -1.8 |
| Ceuta | 111.7 | -0.9 | 4.6 | 100.3 | -5.2 | 0.5 |
| Melilla | 109.6 | -3.6 | 0.2 | 98.2 | -7.6 | -3.5 |

Employment in the retail sector increases 1.0% in May

In May 2008, the retail trade sector employment index (which shows the evolution for both employees and self-employed workers) registered an interannual variation rate of 1.0% for the sector as a whole. Employment presented positive interannual rates in department stores (4.1%), large chain stores (4.0%) and single retail stores (0.2%). In small chain stores, employment decreased 0.9%.

National Employment Indices

| | Index | % variation on | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Previous month | Same month previous year | Year-to-Date Average |
| General index | 103.5 | -0.1 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| 1. Single retail stores | 100.4 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| 2. Small chain stores | 103.0 | 0.1 | -0.9 | -0.6 |
| 3. Large chain stores | 114.4 | 0.1 | 4.0 | 4.6 |
| 4. Department stores | 104.5 | -1.0 | 4.1 | 4.7 |

Principado de Asturias registers the largest increase in employment as compared with the same month of the previous year

By Autonomous Community, employment recorded the greatest interannual increases in Principado de Asturias (3.3%) and Comunidad Foral de Navarra (2.9%).

The Communities that registered negative variation rates were Illes Balears (-0.7%), La Rioja (-0.3%) and Galicia (-0.1%).

Employment Indices by Autonomous Community

| | Index | % variation on | | |
|------------------------------|-------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| | | Previous month | Same month previous year | Year-to-Date Average |
| National total | 103.5 | -0.1 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| Andalucía | 101.3 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 1.1 |
| Aragón | 104.7 | -0.1 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Asturias (Principado de) | 105.8 | 0.1 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| Balears (Illes) | 103.8 | 2.3 | -0.7 | 0.1 |
| Canarias | 102.5 | -0.4 | 0.4 | 0.7 |
| Cantabria | 106.1 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Castilla y León | 104.8 | -0.4 | 1.4 | 2.5 |
| Castilla-La Mancha | 106.4 | -0.6 | 1.5 | 2.1 |
| Cataluña | 102.3 | 0.3 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| Comunitat Valenciana | 102.0 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Extremadura | 104.3 | -0.6 | 1.3 | 1.8 |
| Galicia | 104.9 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Madrid (Comunidad de) | 104.9 | -0.8 | 1.9 | 2.0 |
| Murcia (Región de) | 110.8 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 1.3 |
| Navarra (Comunidad Foral de) | 107.0 | 0.5 | 2.9 | 2.1 |
| País Vasco | 103.3 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 0.8 |
| Rioja (La) | 102.3 | -0.5 | -0.3 | 0.9 |
| Ceuta | 103.4 | -1.4 | 0.6 | 2.0 |
| Melilla | 101.8 | -0.3 | 0.1 | 0.4 |

For further information see [INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm) All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

Press office: Telephone: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - gprensa@ine.es
Information area: Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – www.ine.es/infoine

Methodological note

The evolution of the different classes of trade distribution raises the need to study the retail trade sector according to the characteristics of the company, in particular regarding the number of premises or establishments through which sales to final consumers are made.

For this purpose, the National Statistics Institute has extended its analysis, not only studying Department Stores, that is, sales made in premises larger than 2,500 m², but also differentiating between *single retail stores*, *small chain stores* and *large chain stores*. The definitions used for each are as follows:

- **Single retail stores:** those that carry out their trade activity through a single premises that is smaller than 2,500 metres square.

- **Small chain stores:** those companies with more than one premises, with the exception of those with 25 premises or more and 50 employees or more. The small chain store index measures the evolution of the turnover that these companies obtain at their premises that are smaller than 2,500 metres square.

- **Large chain stores:** those companies with 25 premises or more and 50 employees or more. The large chain store index measures the evolution of the turnover that these companies obtain at their premises that are smaller than 2,500 metres square.

The indices compiled for each of these groups follow the methodology used in the rest of the indicators compiled for retail trade, and they are published only on a national level, both at current prices and at constant prices. The base year is 2005, and data is available as of January 2006, which may be viewed on the INE website.