



LOCAL RETAIL SALES

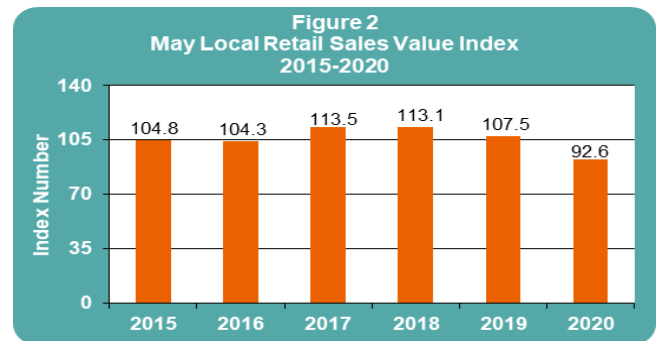
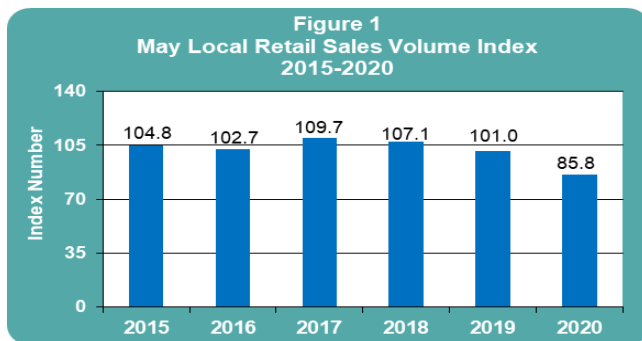
Sales Volume Decreased 15.0 Per Cent

After adjusting for the retail sales rate of inflation, measured at 1.3 per cent in May, the overall volume of retail sales decreased 15.0 per cent when compared to May 2019. In value terms, retail sales fell 13.9 per cent to an estimated \$86.4 million.

Two of the seven retail sectors recorded higher

sales volumes with Liquor Stores recording the largest volume increase of 19.6 per cent.

Excluding Sundays, there were 25 shopping days, one less than May 2019. However, retail sales activity in May 2020 was affected by Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions such as curfew hours and primarily curb side pickup for some retail establishments with the exception of permitted businesses such as food stores, pharmacies and service stations.



SUMMARY STATISTICS

Period	Local Retail Sales						Selected Overseas Declarations (See Note)					
	Index		Annual % Change		Sales Estimate (\$M)		Value (\$M)					Annual % Change
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Via Courier (a)	By Residents Via Airport (b)	By Households Via Sea (c)	Via Bermuda Post Office (d)	Total (a+b+c+d)	
2019												
May	101.0 ^R	107.5 ^R	-5.7 ^R	-5.0 ^R	94.3 ^R	100.4 ^R	12.5	5.2	1.5	0.6	19.8	+10.1
Jun	99.3	106.0	-6.0	-5.3	92.7	98.9	11.1	4.5	0.8	0.5	16.9	-3.8
Jul	106.8	114.8	+1.3	+2.5	99.7	107.2	14.5	4.3	2.2	0.4	21.4	+26.3
Aug	91.3	97.5	-7.6	-7.0	85.2	90.9	10.4	6.6	1.6	0.3	18.9	0.0
Sep	89.8	95.9	-4.4	-3.8	83.9	89.5	8.8	4.5	2.2	0.3	15.8	-0.6
Oct	91.7	98.0	-3.6	-3.2	85.6	91.5	11.4	5.1	1.5	0.5	18.5	-1.1
Nov	92.8	99.3	-3.2	-2.1	86.7	92.7	12.9	5.8	1.9	0.5	21.1	+9.3
Dec	104.4	111.7	-4.2	-3.3	97.5	104.2	13.8	7.7	2.1	0.7	24.3	+19.1
2020												
Jan	84.2	90.4	-3.1	-2.4	78.7	84.4	10.7	4.8	1.8	0.5	17.8	+14.1
Feb	81.9	87.9	+1.4	+2.2	76.5	82.0	11.3	3.4	1.3	0.4	16.4	+3.1
Mar	96.4	103.4	+3.5	+4.3	90.0	96.5	13.5	1.9	1.4	0.2	17.0	+3.0
Apr	64.1	68.9	-30.6	-30.1	59.8	64.3	11.2	0.0*	0.9	0.0*	12.1	-34.9
May	85.8	92.6	-15.0	-13.9	80.1	86.4	12.7	0.0*	1.3	0.1	14.1	-28.8

The Retail Sales Index (RSI) is based on a matched sample of reporting local retail stores. The sales data are collected from these stores via a monthly mail survey.

NOTE: Data on selected overseas declarations have been expanded as of December 2018 to show categories that represent a combination of goods purchased directly from overseas, online shopping, gifts, etc. In August 2019, the total selected overseas declarations and annual percentage change were added.

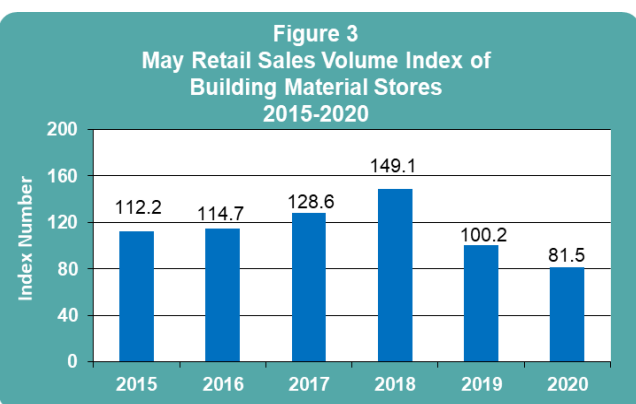
*See page 2 - Analysis of Selected Overseas Declarations

Food and Liquor Stores

The sales volume of Food Stores and Liquor Stores increased 4.8 per cent and 19.6 per cent, respectively. In value terms, the sales value for Food Stores was 9.7 per cent higher while Liquor Stores rose 23.4 per cent. Retailers partly attributed the increase in consumer spending at food stores and liquor stores to the limited operating hours and service options of restaurants and bars during May 2020.

Building Material Stores

In comparison to May 2019, the volume of sales for Building Material Stores contracted 18.7 per cent due mostly to a slow down in construction activity. In value terms, sales revenue for Build-



ing Material Stores was 18.8 per cent lower.

All Other Store Types

During May 2020, the volume of sales for All Other Stores Types declined 26.2 per cent. In value terms, sales for this sector fell 25.4 per cent. The sales value of furniture, appliances and electronics slipped 9.5 per cent while the sales value for pharmacies was 17.7 per cent lower. The value of sales for marine and boat suppliers decreased 51.5 per cent. Gross receipts of miscellaneous goods dropped 72.0 per cent reflecting fewer sales of jewellery and sales in tourist-related stores.

Service Stations

After adjusting for inflation, the volume of sales for Service Stations weakened 29.2 per cent. The value of sales for Service Stations declined 32.7 per cent which also reflected a 5.0 per cent decrease in the price of fuel during May 2020.

Motor Vehicle Stores

The Motor Vehicle Stores sales volume was 30.7 per cent lower as a result of fewer vehicles being sold. The value of sales receipts decreased 30.1 per cent year-over-year.

Apparel Stores

The sales volume for Apparel Stores dropped 76.5 per cent. In value terms, sales revenue for Apparel Stores decreased 76.1 per cent when compared to May 2019.

SELECTED OVERSEAS DECLARATIONS (VALUE)*

Year-over-year, imports via courier increased \$0.2 million to \$12.7 million due to more imports of clothing. Imports by households via sea declined \$0.2 million to \$1.3 million as a result of fewer imports of beverages and spirits. Imports via the Bermuda Post Office fell \$0.5 million to \$0.1 million. Five commercial flights arrived in Bermuda during May 2020 resulting in only \$33,000 in declarations by returning residents.

RETAIL SALES INDEX — MAY 2020

Table 1 Local Retail Sales Index and Per Cent Changes
Average Monthly Sales **Volume**^{1,4,5}

2015=100

Period	Total Retail Stores		Food Stores ²		Liquor Stores ³		Motor Vehicle Stores		Service Stations		Building Material Stores		Apparel Stores		All Other Store Types	
	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%
2019																
May	101.0 ^R	-5.7 ^R	102.1	-0.4	96.4	-4.1	87.2 ^R	-0.3 ^R	102.9 ^R	-3.2 ^R	100.2 ^R	32.8 ^R	82.1	-18.0	107.7 ^R	-6.5 ^R
Jun	99.3	-6.0	100.7	-2.8	97.0	-13.5	76.4	-7.8	111.5	+0.5	96.3	-12.3	95.3	-16.8	98.8	-7.8
Jul	106.8	+1.3	107.3	+2.8	110.4	0.0	100.1	+4.2	123.4	+4.1	87.4	-25.6	76.5	-8.6	112.7	+4.8
Aug	91.3	-7.6	94.1	-7.8	91.6	-11.7	65.3	-20.5	105.9	-1.5	100.4	-15.0	72.3	-11.4	92.0	-3.9
Sep	89.8	-4.4	97.1	-2.3	86.4	-2.7	61.2	-26.9	99.9	+3.2	113.9	-19.2	64.5	-16.6	85.7	+1.5
Oct	91.7	-3.6	98.6	+0.9	81.0	-5.2	78.3	-21.4	96.4	+1.0	102.2	-14.3	60.6	-14.0	91.5	-2.8
Nov	92.8	-3.2	95.6	+0.6	81.3	-3.4	69.6	-18.6	90.2	-4.4	104.6	-10.7	86.0	-16.1	95.3	-0.3
Dec	104.4	-4.2	101.3	-1.4	102.4	-6.2	72.1	-14.1	89.0	-2.7	82.5	-7.6	127.3	-16.4	118.2	-2.0
2020																
Jan	84.2	-3.1	92.1	-2.0	64.4	+0.3	85.7	-4.6	82.9	-2.1	93.1	-14.9	47.3	-12.9	82.0	-2.5
Feb	81.9	+1.4	91.1	+5.6	66.3	-3.1	75.1	+4.9	81.7	+1.2	93.9	-14.2	39.8	-16.2	80.9	-0.4
Mar	96.4	+3.5	123.5	+24.2	93.5	+14.3	48.5	-36.7	79.8	-11.7	164.0	+15.3	24.0	-62.6	84.9	-5.4
Apr	64.1	-30.6	110.2	+17.5	108.9	+39.1	0.8	-99.0	36.8	-59.2	17.8	-82.3	2.1	-97.1	39.6	-59.9
May	85.8	-15.0	107.0	+4.8	115.3	+19.6	60.4	-30.7	72.9	-29.2	81.5	-18.7	19.3	-76.5	79.5	-26.2

Table 2 Local Retail Sales Index and Per Cent Changes
Average Monthly Sales **Value**^{1,4,5}

2015=100

Period	Total Retail Stores		Food Stores ²		Liquor Stores ³		Motor Vehicle Stores		Service Stations		Building Material Stores		Apparel Stores		All Other Store Types	
	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%	Index	%
2019																
May	107.5 ^R	-5.0 ^R	111.9	+1.9	115.6	+0.8	86.6 ^R	-1.1 ^R	116.1 ^R	-5.2 ^R	102.5 ^R	-32.2 ^R	86.3	-15.6	112.4 ^R	-6.6 ^R
Jun	106.0	-5.3	110.8	+0.1	117.9	-9.0	76.0	-8.5	122.7	-3.9	97.6	-12.3	100.2	-14.4	103.5	-7.8
Jul	114.8	+2.5	118.5	+6.1	132.7	+4.1	99.4	+3.9	142.8	+4.4	88.6	-25.6	80.7	-8.5	118.5	+5.1
Aug	97.5	-7.0	103.8	-4.5	110.4	-7.7	64.9	-20.7	115.7	-6.0	102.5	-14.4	76.3	-11.3	96.2	-4.4
Sep	95.9	-3.8	107.3	+0.8	105.8	+3.0	60.8	-27.0	109.8	-0.7	116.3	-18.6	68.0	-16.5	89.6	+1.1
Oct	98.0	-3.2	108.8	+3.2	98.7	+0.1	77.8	-21.0	107.0	-3.1	104.3	-13.7	64.2	-13.5	96.0	-2.2
Nov	99.3	-2.1	106.3	+4.0	98.1	+0.9	69.2	-18.2	98.4	-5.0	106.7	-10.1	91.1	-15.6	100.4	+0.3
Dec	111.7	-3.3	112.6	+1.4	123.8	-1.9	71.6	-13.7	96.7	-3.7	84.3	-6.9	134.9	-15.8	124.6	-1.4
2020																
Jan	90.4	-2.4	103.8	+0.1	77.4	+3.9	85.1	-4.5	90.6	-2.5	95.0	-14.3	50.2	-12.1	86.7	-1.5
Feb	87.9	+2.2	102.6	+8.3	80.2	+0.9	75.2	+5.9	87.5	-1.2	95.8	-15.1	42.2	-15.6	85.6	+0.4
Mar	103.4	+4.3	139.0	+27.8	113.0	+18.0	48.6	-36.1	85.5	-16.0	167.4	+14.0	25.4	-62.4	90.0	-4.1
Apr	68.9	-30.1	125.1	+22.2	135.1	+46.5	0.8	-99.0	39.4	-62.2	18.2	-82.5	2.3	-97.0	41.7	-59.6
May	92.6	-13.9	122.8	+9.7	142.7	+23.4	60.5	-30.1	78.1	-32.7	83.2	-18.8	20.6	-76.1	83.9	-25.4

¹ Index numbers are subject to revisions

² Includes household supplies but excludes alcoholic beverages

³ Does not include sales to bars, clubs, hotels and restaurants

⁴ Adjustments are not made for a 4/4/5 calendar month

⁵ The yearly series reflect annual changes.

^R Represents revised

TECHNICAL NOTE

Readers should note that the calculation of the retail sales volume uses price indices from the Consumer Price index (CPI) to deflate the sales values collected by retailers. While the COVID-19 pandemic did not directly affect the collection of data for the Retail Sales survey, it did impact some of the price data used to produce the CPI due to issues with collection. Specifically, two of the nine sectors in the May 2020 CPI had missing prices which were imputed: Rent and Transport & Foreign Travel.

Please refer to the technical note in the May 2020 CPI publication at <https://www.gov.bm/bermuda-business-statistics> for further details on price imputation.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The RSI was first developed in 1982. It is a key economic indicator used to assess the current performance of sales activity in the local retail sector of the economy.

The RSI is a self-weighting index. This means that stores reporting a large value of sales have a greater impact on the movement of the index than stores reporting a low level of sales activity.

The RSI serves to:

- 1) measure monthly and annual movements of retail sales
- 2) provide an estimated gross turnover of sales in the local retail sector
- 3) act as a barometer of change in the level of demand for both the domestic and tourist markets

The index is structured into seven broad sectors:

- Food Stores
- Liquor Stores
- Motor Vehicle Dealers

- Service Stations
- Building Materials
- Apparel Stores
- All Other Store Types

Total retail stores across the seven sectors represent roughly 70% of all retail activity on the Island. The base period 2015 recorded a gross turnover in retail sales of \$1.1 billion.

Retail outlets that participate in the retail sales survey and trade in similar types of goods are grouped into these seven sectors. It is important to note that sector classifications are not interchangeable with commodity classifications. This is because most retail outlets sell several kinds of commodities. The sector classification reflects generally the individual commodity or the commodity group, which is the primary source of the establishment's receipts, or some mixture of commodities, which characterizes the establishment's business.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Base Period

This is the time period used as a reference point for measuring the shift in the value of retail sales. The base period for the Bermuda RSI is 2015.

Estimated Gross Turnover

Estimated gross turnover is the total value of retail sales generated in the retail sector. It is calculated by applying the all-items index number for the current month to the average monthly sales figure determined in the base year.

Gross Sales

Gross sales (volume and value) are sales for which no deductions have been made for the return of merchandise, allowances and discounts.

Retail Establishment

Retail trade is the sector of the economy that includes establishments that are engaged in the sale of merchandise for personal or household consumption and in the rendering of services that are incidental to the sale of the merchandise.

Selected Overseas Declarations

Overseas declarations reflect the value of goods declared, whether for personal or business use, by returning residents via the airport, imports via couriers, imports via the Bermuda Post Office and the value of non-commercial imports by households via sea.

Value Sales

The dollar value of a quantity of goods and services sold for cash or credit. Sales include the amounts received from customers for: immediate and layaway purchases; rentals; installations; maintenance; repairs and alterations.

Volume Sales

The dollar value of a quantity of goods and services sold at current retail market prices adjusted to eliminate the effect of price change.

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