

24 April 2008

Coverage
Great Britain

Theme
The Economy



Retail sales March 2008

Main message

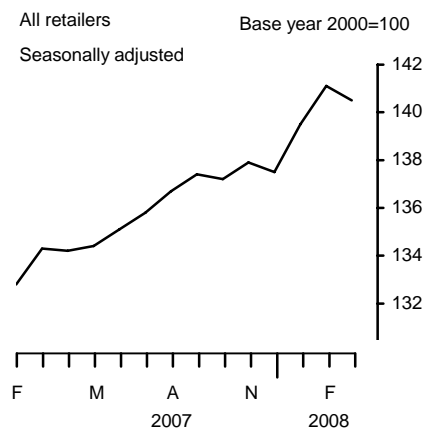
Underlying growth in retail sales remains robust, driven by the food sector

In the three months to March the seasonally adjusted index for volume of retail sales rose by 2.0 per cent over the previous three months.

The volume of sales in predominantly food stores in the latest three months rose by 1.7 per cent over the previous three months. In predominantly non-food stores sales were up 1.8 per cent.

Between February and March the volume of sales fell by 0.4 per cent, reflecting falls in all sectors except household goods stores. Note that monthly growth rates are volatile, see background note 3.

Volume of retail sales



Volume of retail sales, seasonally adjusted

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Next publication date

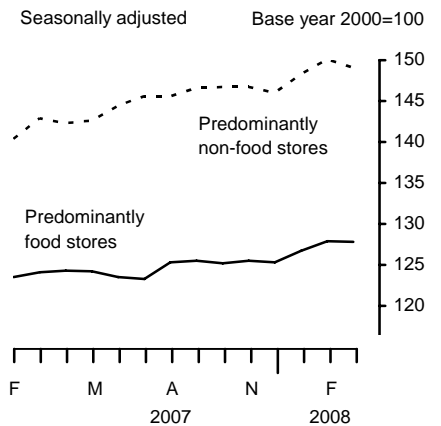
22 May 2008

		All retailing index level	Percentage change: latest 3 months on previous 3 months			
			All retailing	Predominantly food	Predominantly non-food	Non-store retailing and repair
2007	Oct	137.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.3
	Nov	137.9	1.2	1.1	1.1	3.4
	Dec	137.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	4.6
2008	Jan	139.5	0.9	0.4	0.5	7.5
	Feb	141.1	1.2	0.9	0.9	6.6
	Mar	140.5	2.0	1.7	1.8	5.5

Volume seasonally adjusted

In January to March the seasonally adjusted volume of sales was 5.6 per cent higher than a year earlier; within this predominantly food stores was 2.9 per cent higher, predominantly non-food stores 6.2 per cent higher and the non-store retailing and repair sector was 18.5 per cent higher.

Volume of retail sales



Value non-seasonally adjusted

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data, the average weekly value of retail sales in March was £5 billion, 4.4 per cent higher than March 2007.

In January to March the value of sales for all retailing was 5.3 per cent higher than in the same period a year earlier; sales by predominantly food stores were 6.6 per cent higher; sales by predominantly non-food stores were 3.6 per cent higher and sales by the non-store retailing and repair sector were 9.7 per cent higher than a year earlier.

Note that January 2008 was a 5 week reporting period. See background note 4.

Value of retail sales

Non-seasonally adjusted
Percentage change: latest three months on a year earlier



Implied price deflator

The implied price deflator for March was 1.2 per cent lower than March 2007.

Period	Year on year Percentage change		
2007	Mar	0.3	
	Apr	1.0	
	May	0.5	
	Jun	0.1	
	Jul	-1.0	
	Aug	-1.0	
	Sep	-1.4	
	Oct	-1.0	
	Nov	-1.1	
	Dec	-1.4	
	2008	Jan	-0.9
		Feb	-0.6
Mar		-1.2	

Revisions

Revisions to the indicators are mainly due to late returned data, revised returns, seasonal adjustment, the latest month's data and annual updating of the business register.

The following table summarises the effect on recent headline growth rates.

Volume seasonally adjusted retail sales index: three-monthly growth rates (per cent)				
Period		Published in this release	Published in February 2008	Revisions
2007	Dec	0.6	0.6	0.0
2008	Jan	0.9	0.7	+0.2
	Feb	1.2	1.0	+0.2
2007	Feb	1.1	1.2	-0.1

Calendar effects

The calculation of the Retail Sales Index has an adjustment to compensate for calendar effects which arise from the differences in the reporting periods.

The reporting period for March 2008 was 2 March to 5 April compared with 25 February to 31 March the previous year. The annual growth in sales volume between March 2007 and March 2008 required an adjustment of -1.0 to take account of the differences in reporting periods.

The following table shows how the increase over the year to March 2008 for the non-seasonally adjusted value of retail sales is reconciled with the equivalent seasonally adjusted volume increase.

	Year on year percentage change
Value non-seasonally adjusted	4.4
Volume non-seasonally adjusted	5.6
Volume calendar adjusted	4.6
Volume seasonally adjusted	4.6

BACKGROUND NOTES

BASIC QUALITY INFORMATION

Relevance to users

1. Data collected in the Retail Sales Inquiry relate to the retail turnover for a specified four or five week period. The estimates are compiled using average weekly sales of the specified standard period and presented in index form.
2. Five thousand retailers are selected for the inquiry every month. Each is asked to provide total retail turnover including sales from stores, via the internet, mail order, stalls and markets, door-to-door and telephone sales. Sales for businesses whose main activity is online retailing are included in the non-store retailing and repair sector. Sales via the internet for all other businesses are included in those of the sector to which the business is classified. A summary of how internet spending is captured within the RSI is included in:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=870>

A more general article entitled "Measuring Internet Spending" describes how on-line sales are covered by the RSI and other ONS surveys.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/article.asp?ID=1353>

Interpreting the data

3. Monthly data can be volatile and there are a range of issues to consider when interpreting ONS retail sales statistics. The appropriate choice of time series estimate to use is important. The non-seasonally adjusted series contain elements relating to the impact of the standard reporting period, moving seasonality and trading day activity.
4. The standard reporting periods can change over time due to the movement of the calendar. Every five or six years the standard reporting periods are brought back into line by adding an extra week. For example, January is typically a four-week standard period but January 1986, 1991, 1996, 2002 and 2008 were all five-week standard periods. The non-seasonally adjusted estimates will still contain calendar effects. If the non-seasonally adjusted estimates are used for analysis this can lead to a distortion depending on the timing of the standard reporting period in relation to the calendar, previous reporting periods and how trading activity changes over.
5. When making comparisons it is recommended that users focus on the seasonally adjusted series. The seasonally adjusted estimates have the systematic calendar related component removed. For example, January 2008 will be comparable to January 2007 for the seasonally adjusted estimates. Due to the volatility of the monthly data, it is recommended that growth rates are calculated using an average of the latest three months of the seasonally adjusted estimates.
6. When interpreting the data, consideration should be given to the relative weighted contributions of the sectors within the all retailing series. The table provides information on the weight given to each of the three main sectors of the all retailing series.

Weight (per cent)	
Predominantly food stores	43.0
Predominantly non-food stores	51.3
Non-store retailing and repair	5.7

Further information is included on page 10 of the briefing note:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=870>

7. Since September 2003 the RSI has been published with a base year of 2000. This rebasing coincided with the redevelopment of several aspects of the methodology used in the RSI's production. Full details are described in the web article "Retail Sales Index Development: Implementation" released on 30 September 2003: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/article.asp?ID=475>
8. Following the implementation of the new RSI methodology a review of the production of retail sales indices for individual industry sectors was carried out. The outcome of the review and a set of detailed industry series are available in the SDM28 Business Monitor. See this link for further details: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=1478>
9. Planned methodological changes in the next 12 months include:
 - publication of an experimental series for Internet retail sales;
 - the introduction of a chainlinked and rebased index to 2005.

Response rates

10. Estimates in the First Release are based on financial data collected through the monthly Retail Sales Inquiry. The response rates for the current month reflect the response rates at the time of publication. Late returns for previous months data are included in the results each month. Response rates for historical periods are updated to reflect the current level of response at the time of this publication.

Overall response rates (per cent)			
Period		Turnover	Forms
2008	March	86.6	60.2
	February	96.3	77.8
	January	98.0	81.2
2007	December	97.4	81.4

Revisions

11. This release conforms to the revision policy for the RSI.

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_economy/RSIRevisionpolicy.pdf

Estimates for the most recent month are provisional and subject to revision due to:

- (a) late responses to the monthly retail sales inquiry;
- (b) revisions to seasonal adjustment factors which are re-estimated every month and reviewed annually. Changes from the annual seasonal adjustment review have been implemented in the November 2007 results; and

- (c) annual proving of the business register that forms the basis of the sample for the retail sales inquiry (usually occurring in January and having most effect on results published in February).
12. Revisions and sampling variations are a consequence of the trade-off between timeliness and accuracy. All estimates, by definition, are subject to statistical error which refers to the uncertainty inherent in any process or calculation that uses sampling, estimation or modelling. Most revisions reflect either the adoption of new statistical techniques, or the incorporation of new information which allows the statistical error of previous estimates to be reduced.
 13. Revisions to data provide one indication of the reliability of key indicators. The table below shows summary information on the size and direction of the revisions which have been made to the data covering a five year period. A statistical test has been applied to the average revision to find out if it is statistically significantly different from zero. The result of the test is that the average revision is not statistically different from zero.

The table following presents a summary of the difference between the first estimates published between April 2002 and March 2007 and the estimates published 12 months later. A spreadsheet giving these estimates and the calculations behind the averages in the table is available on the National Statistics website at:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=870>

Volume seasonally adjusted	Growth in latest period (per cent)	Revisions between first publication and estimates twelve months later (percentage points)	
		Average over the last five years (mean revision)	Average over the last five years without regard to sign (average absolute revision)
Latest three months compared to previous three months	2.0	-0.12	0.23
Latest month compared to previous month	-0.4	0.00	0.27

The table uses historical data for the most recent 60 months, comparing the estimate at first publication with the estimate as published 12 months later. The numbers which underpin these averages will include normal changes due to late data and seasonal adjustment, but also significant methodological changes, the most recent of which occurred in October 2003 see web article "Retail Sales Index Development: Implementation" released on 30 September 2003:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=10729>

Further information concerning the revisions material in this release can be found on the National Statistics website, at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/article.asp?ID=793>

Deflation

14. Deflators adjust the value series to take out the effect of price changes to give the volume series. RSI price deflators are a weighted combination of the Retail Prices Indices for detailed commodities.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=868>

Seasonal adjustment

15. Some of the indices in this First Release are seasonally adjusted. Seasonally adjusted estimates are derived by estimating and removing systematic calendar related effects from the non-seasonally adjusted estimates. Seasonal adjustment is performed each month using the standard, widely used procedure, X-11-ARIMA. The annual seasonal adjustment review is performed using X-12-ARIMA. In the Retail Sales series, calendar related effects are known as seasonal (e.g. increased spending in December as a result of Christmas) and trading day influences (arising from the varying length of each month and the varying number of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesday, etc. in each month). Prior adjustments are made to returns that do not comply with the standard trading period. The seasonally adjusted estimates also have corrections for bank holidays, Easter effects which are caused when Easter falls late in March or early in April, and the day of the week Christmas occurs. Other prior corrections are applied as necessary. Corrections are estimated and applied where there is a statistically significant effect.

PUBLICATION POLICY

16. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the press office. Also available is a list of the names of those given pre-publication access to the contents of this release.
17. A complete set of series in this Release are available to download free of charge at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/timeseries>. Alternatively, for low-cost tailored data call Online Services on 020 7533 5675 or email tailored@statistics.gov.uk
18. **National Statistics** are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

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1 VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES AT 2000 PRICES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Base year 2000=100

	Predominantly non-food stores							
	All retailing	Predominantly food stores	Total	Non-specialised stores	Textile, clothing and footwear stores	Household goods stores	Other stores	Non-store retailing and repair
Average weekly sales in 2000 (£ millions)	3 984	1 712	2 045	361	536	533	615	226
Index numbers of sales per week								
	EAPS	EAPT	EAPV	EAPU	EAPX	EAPY	EAPW	EAPZ
2000	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2001	106.1	104.2	108.3	106.3	111.9	109.5	105.5	99.9
2002	112.5	108.7	116.4	110.6	123.8	117.7	112.3	106.8
2003	116.4	112.0	121.3	113.5	129.8	122.3	117.6	105.3
2004	123.6	116.6	130.1	118.6	139.7	131.4	127.3	117.1
2005	125.8	119.8	131.6	119.1	143.9	130.7	129.1 [†]	118.3
2006	129.8	122.9	136.2	124.2	150.7	137.3	129.7	123.7
2007	135.4	124.5	144.0	130.5	157.1	148.0 [†]	137.1	141.2 [†]
2005 Q2	125.2	119.2	130.8	117.5	144.4 [†]	129.3	127.9 [†]	119.7
Q3	125.8 [†]	119.6	131.9	117.6	143.8	130.2	131.5	116.8
Q4	127.3	121.2	133.5	120.4 [†]	145.8	132.5	131.4	116.6 [†]
2006 Q1	126.9	121.4 [†]	132.7 [†]	122.5	145.6	132.6	127.4	117.0
Q2	129.4	122.5	136.2	124.6	150.1	138.2	129.0	120.5
Q3	130.3	123.4	136.4	124.3	151.0	137.5	129.7	126.9
Q4	132.4	124.1	139.7	125.4	156.1	140.7	132.7	130.4
2007 Q1	132.9	123.8	140.3	126.4	155.3	143.8 [†]	132.4	133.4
Q2	134.6	123.9	143.2	130.2	157.2	144.8	137.2	138.3
Q3	136.7	124.8	146.0	133.8	157.9	150.9	138.6	143.2
Q4	137.5	125.3	146.4	131.5	157.9	152.4	140.1	149.8
2008 Q1	140.3	127.4	149.1	130.6	160.4	152.3	147.4	158.1
2005 Apr	125.1	119.1	130.3	118.4 [†]	143.0	128.8	127.5 [†]	123.5
May	124.5	119.0	129.8 [†]	116.1	142.9 [†]	129.2	127.0	117.1 [†]
Jun	125.8 [†]	119.5	131.9	117.9	146.7	129.8	128.9	118.9
Jul	125.3	119.6 [†]	131.0	115.8	143.5	128.9	130.7	117.1
Aug	125.4	119.0	131.7	117.7	143.5	129.7	131.5	117.5
Sep	126.4	120.0	132.9	119.0	144.2	131.8 [†]	132.0	115.9
Oct	126.7	120.8	132.7	118.7	143.1	132.2	132.3	116.6
Nov	127.9	121.6	134.5	121.3	150.5	131.7	130.6	116.6
Dec	127.2	121.1	133.4	121.0	144.2	133.3	131.4	116.7
2006 Jan	126.8	120.9	132.8	121.6	144.1	133.0	129.3	116.3
Feb	126.5	121.3	132.1	119.6	145.4	132.1	128.0	114.9
Mar	127.4	121.9	133.0	125.6	147.0	132.6	125.4	119.2
Apr	128.5	121.9	135.1	125.5	147.7	137.4	127.8	119.0
May	129.4	121.5	137.0	126.6	151.6	138.1	129.3	120.9
Jun	130.1	123.8	136.4	122.4	150.7	138.9	129.9	121.4
Jul	130.3	124.6	136.1	124.7	153.2	134.1	129.6	121.5
Aug	130.8	122.3	137.8	125.4	151.9	141.3	129.8	131.6
Sep	129.8	123.4	135.5	123.1	148.6	137.2	129.8	127.5
Oct	131.7	123.7	138.6	125.4	154.8	138.5	132.4	128.8
Nov	132.0	123.6	139.3	124.1	156.9	140.2	132.3	129.7
Dec	133.4	124.7	140.7	126.5	156.6	143.0	133.4	132.2
2007 Jan	131.1	123.9	137.1	126.7	148.6	142.2	128.8	131.7
Feb	132.8	123.5	140.4	125.0	155.9	144.4	132.4	134.2
Mar	134.3	124.1	142.9	127.5	160.2	144.6	135.4	134.3
Apr	134.2	124.3	142.3	127.0	161.2	141.1	135.8	136.8
May	134.4	124.2	142.6	129.1	155.0	145.0	137.7	138.3
Jun	135.1	123.5	144.4	133.6	155.9	147.6	138.1	139.6
Jul	135.8	123.3	145.6	134.4	155.2	152.9	137.3	142.8
Aug	136.7	125.3	145.6	132.7	157.7	150.0	138.9	142.8
Sep	137.4	125.5	146.6	134.1	160.3	149.9	139.3	143.9
Oct	137.2	125.2	146.7	135.0	158.3	150.9	139.8	143.3
Nov	137.9	125.5	146.7	133.7	157.2	150.1	142.3	152.5
Dec	137.5	125.3	146.0	127.0	158.2	155.3	138.5	152.8
2008 Jan	139.5	126.7	148.3	129.6	158.8	155.0	144.4	156.9
Feb	141.1	127.9	150.1	133.0	162.8	148.2	150.8	159.0
Mar	140.5	127.8	149.1	129.6	160.0	152.8	147.6	158.6

[†] indicates that data are new or have been revised. The period marked is the earliest in the table to have been revised.

The monthly periods consist of 4 weeks except for March, June, September and December which are 5 weeks. January 2008 is also a 5 week period.

The quarterly indices are the weighted averages of the monthly indices for the months within the quarter, the weights being the number of weeks in each monthly period.

1 VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES AT 2000 PRICES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

continued

		Predominantly non-food stores							
		All retailing	Predominantly food stores	Total	Non-specialised stores	Textile, clothing and footwear stores	Household goods stores	Other stores	Non-store retailing and repair
Percentage change latest 3 months on previous 3 months									
		IEFM	IEFA	IEFD	IEEX [†]	IEFP [†]	IEFS	IEFG [†]	IEFJ
2005	Apr	-0.1 [†]	0.1	-0.3	0.6 [†]	1.0 [†]	-2.6	0.1 [†]	0.5
	May	- [†]	-	0.1	-0.5	1.3	-2.0 [†]	1.2	-1.9
	Jun	0.2	0.1	0.4	-2.8	1.9	-1.1	2.0	-0.2 [†]
	Jul	0.4	0.6	0.5 [†]	-3.0	1.6	-0.2	2.1	-2.6
	Aug	0.7	0.5	1.0	-1.6	1.5	0.3	2.6	-0.9
	Sep	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.1	-0.4	0.7	2.8	-2.5
	Oct	0.7	0.4	1.1	1.5	-0.6	1.5	2.4	-1.0
	Nov	1.1	1.1 [†]	1.3	2.0	0.7	1.8	1.1	-1.3
	Dec	1.2	1.4 [†]	1.2	2.4	1.4	1.7	-	-0.1
2006	Jan	0.9	1.1	0.8	2.4	1.7	1.1	-1.1	-
	Feb	-0.1	0.3	-0.4	1.0	-0.9	0.7	-1.5	-0.3
	Mar	-0.2	0.2	-0.6	1.8	-0.1	0.1	-3.1	0.3
	Apr	0.2	0.4	-0.1	2.0	0.4	0.9	-2.7	1.1
	May	1.2	0.5	1.5	4.3	2.8	2.2	-1.8	3.1
	Jun	1.9	0.9	2.6	1.7	3.1	4.2	1.3	3.0
	Jul	2.0	1.4	2.3	0.5	3.5	2.5	2.1	2.9
	Aug	1.6	1.5	1.4	-1.5	2.2	1.8	1.9	4.1
	Sep	0.7	0.7	0.2	-0.3	0.6	-0.5	0.5	5.3
	Oct	0.5	-0.2	0.5	0.1	-0.2	1.2	0.8	6.5
	Nov	0.5	-0.1	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.3	1.3	3.2
	Dec	1.6	0.5	2.4	0.9	3.4	2.3	2.3	2.7
2007	Jan	1.2	0.8	1.5	1.0	1.8	2.2	0.8	1.6
	Feb	1.1	0.4	1.4	1.6	0.6	3.3	0.2	3.2
	Mar	0.3	-0.2	0.5	0.8	-0.5	2.2	-0.2	2.4
	Apr	1.2	-0.1	2.0	0.6	3.2	1.1	2.2	2.9
	May	1.4	0.1	2.2	1.4	3.2	0.3	3.5	2.8
	Jun	1.3	0.1	2.0	3.0	1.2	0.7	3.6	3.7
	Jul	1.0	-0.3	1.6	4.7	-2.4	3.5	2.3	3.8
	Aug	1.1	-0.1	1.8	4.5	-1.7	4.4	1.4	3.8
	Sep	1.5	0.7	1.9	2.7	0.5	4.2	1.0	3.5
	Oct	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.1	2.2	1.2	1.2	2.3
	Nov	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.5	1.6	0.2	1.7	3.4
	Dec	0.6	0.4	0.3	-1.6	-	1.0	1.1	4.6
2008	Jan	0.9	0.4	0.5	-3.0	-0.5	2.3	1.7	7.5
	Feb	1.2	0.9	0.9	-3.4	0.6	1.9	2.7	6.6
	Mar	2.0	1.7	1.8	-0.7	1.5	-0.1	5.2	5.5
Percentage change latest 3 months on same 3 months a year ago									
		IEFN	IEFB [†]	IEFE [†]	IEEY [†]	IEFO [†]	IEFT	IEFH	IEFK
2005	Apr	2.4	3.0 [†]	1.5 [†]	2.7 [†]	3.4 [†]	0.4	-0.1	6.2
	May	1.7	2.6	0.9	0.9	2.5	-0.2 [†]	0.3	3.2
	Jun	1.5	2.5	0.6	-1.1	3.2	-0.7	0.1 [†]	2.4
	Jul	1.3	2.5	0.5	-1.7	3.7	-1.6	0.4	0.3
	Aug	1.2	2.1	0.6	-1.7	3.5	-2.2	1.7	0.7
	Sep	0.9	1.9	0.4	-1.9	2.5	-2.7	2.3	-1.8
	Oct	0.9	1.8	0.6	-1.4	1.4	-1.7	3.1	-2.3
	Nov	1.3	2.4	1.1	-0.1	2.8	-1.8	2.7	-3.6
	Dec	2.1 [†]	2.8	2.0	1.0	3.2	-0.5	3.7	-2.7
2006	Jan	1.9	2.2	2.2	1.4	3.7	-0.3	3.5	-3.1
	Feb	1.7	1.9	2.1	0.9	2.6	0.8	3.4	-4.4 [†]
	Mar	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.3	2.7	1.4	1.5	-2.5
	Apr	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.3	0.5	-2.6
	May	3.0	2.5	3.5	5.7	4.2	5.1	0.3	0.5
	Jun	3.4	2.8	4.1	6.1	3.9	6.9	0.9	0.6
	Jul	3.8	3.3	4.2	6.6	5.0	6.1	0.5	3.0
	Aug	3.9	3.5	3.9	5.8	4.9	6.7	-0.4	5.6
	Sep	3.6	3.2	3.4	5.7	5.0	5.6	-1.3	8.7
	Oct	3.6	2.7	3.6	5.1	5.5	5.8	-1.0	10.8
	Nov	3.2	2.3	3.3	3.8	4.9	5.3	-0.2	10.5
	Dec	4.1	2.4	4.6	4.2	7.1	6.2	1.0	11.8
2007	Jan	3.9	2.4	4.2	3.7	5.5	6.9	0.9	12.6
	Feb	4.5	2.5	5.0	4.4	6.5	7.8	1.5	14.3
	Mar	4.7	2.0	5.8	3.2	6.7	8.5	4.0	14.1
	Apr	5.0	1.8	6.4	2.3	8.5	7.1	6.0	14.6
	May	4.6	2.0	5.7	1.5	6.9	5.8	7.0	13.9
	Jun	4.0	1.2	5.2	4.4	4.8	4.8	6.4	14.8
	Jul	4.0	0.2	5.7	6.5	2.4	8.2	6.3	15.6
	Aug	4.2	0.3	6.2	7.7	2.9	8.5	6.4	13.6
	Sep	4.9	1.1	7.0	7.6	4.6	9.7	6.8	12.9
	Oct	4.9	1.8	6.7	7.5	4.9	8.2	6.7	11.0
	Nov	4.9	1.5	6.6	8.2	3.7	8.5	6.8	13.9
	Dec	3.9	1.0	4.9	4.9	1.2	8.2	5.5	14.9
2008	Jan	4.6	1.4	5.6	3.2	2.6	8.3	7.6	17.5
	Feb	5.1	2.0	6.1	2.8	3.8	7.0	9.5	17.7
	Mar	5.6	2.9	6.2	3.3	3.3	5.9	11.3	18.5

[†] indicates that data are new or have been revised. The period marked is the earliest in the table to have been revised.

2 VALUE OF RETAIL SALES AT CURRENT PRICES NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Base year 2000=100

	Predominantly non-food stores							
	All retailing	Predominantly food stores	Total	Non-specialised stores	Textile, clothing and footwear stores	Household goods stores	Other stores	Non-store retailing and repair
Average weekly sales in 2000 (£ millions)	3 984	1 712	2 045	361	536	533	615	226
Index numbers of sales per week								
	EAFY	EAFS	EAFY	EAGE	EAFU	EAFV	EAFW	EAFX
2000	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2001	105.9	106.0	106.8	105.0	108.4	107.6	105.7	97.0
2002	110.6	110.4	111.8	107.4	114.9	113.1	110.5	100.5
2003	113.7	114.8	114.8	109.2	118.9	113.4	115.6	96.2
2004	118.8	119.6	119.9	111.2	124.7	117.2	123.0	102.7
2005	119.9	123.6	119.1	110.8	126.5	112.9	123.0	99.1
2006	123.3	128.3	121.6	114.0	131.8	114.2	123.5	100.6
2007	127.8	132.7	125.9	117.9	136.3	118.0	128.2	108.7
2005 Q2	115.2	122.7	111.1	94.9	120.1	106.2	116.9	96.5
Q3	114.9	121.0	112.3	98.1	121.0	105.7	118.7	91.5
Q4	139.1	133.1	147.0	153.0	158.4	127.8	150.1	113.0
2006 Q1	110.4	119.7	105.0	95.4	107.0	107.9	106.4	89.4
Q2	118.8	127.2	114.6	100.3	125.0	109.6	118.3	93.7
Q3	119.0	127.0	114.7	102.6	126.6	108.3	117.1	96.9
Q4	144.9	139.4	151.9	157.6	168.6	130.9	152.2	122.6
2007 Q1	115.6 [†]	124.8	109.8	98.1	113.8	114.1	109.7	98.8
Q2	124.0	131.9	119.7	104.1	131.3	113.5	124.1	102.1
Q3	123.3	130.4	119.8	108.5	131.8	112.8	121.9	101.2
Q4	148.4	143.6	154.2	161.0	168.5	131.7	157.4 [†]	132.6 [†]
2008 Q1	121.8	133.0	113.8	100.1	115.9	114.6	119.4	108.5
2005 Apr	114.2	121.4	109.5	93.6	115.9	109.3	113.5	101.3
May	114.8	122.5	110.6	93.4	120.1	106.8	115.8	93.8
Jun	116.5	123.9	112.6	97.1	123.5	103.3	120.3	94.9
Jul	117.1	123.3	114.7	100.0	126.3	105.8	121.1	92.4
Aug	113.8	120.5	111.0	98.0	116.9	104.3	119.3	88.6
Sep	113.9	119.6	111.4	96.7	120.0	106.9	116.4	93.2
Oct	119.4	121.9	118.8	107.9	128.0	113.5	121.6	106.1
Nov	132.6	129.0	136.8	143.6	147.5	121.3	137.0	121.4
Dec	160.1	145.4	177.6	196.6	191.5	144.4	183.2	111.7
2006 Jan	108.2	114.6	105.6	96.9	107.1	114.4	101.7	84.1
Feb	109.7	121.0	102.5	91.1	102.5	105.0	107.0	89.1
Mar	112.8	122.7	106.6	97.7	110.5	105.0	109.7	93.9
Apr	117.9	125.9	114.0	101.0	121.1	114.4	115.2	92.0
May	118.2	125.6	114.6	100.3	127.0	108.4	117.7	93.6
Jun	120.1	129.5	115.0	99.8	126.4	106.6	121.2	95.1
Jul	121.1	130.0	116.8	105.4	133.3	105.5	119.0	92.7
Aug	118.5	125.8	114.6	103.5	123.3	109.7	117.8	97.6
Sep	117.8	125.6	113.2	99.7	123.9	109.4	115.1	99.7
Oct	124.1	127.4	122.6	113.1	138.3	114.7	121.2	112.5
Nov	137.0	133.9	140.2	145.2	153.5	125.2	138.6	131.8
Dec	167.8	153.4	184.8	203.1	205.0	148.5	187.9	123.3
2007 Jan	111.5	118.5 [†]	107.7	99.4	109.7	119.8	100.3	92.2
Feb	114.7	125.6	107.1	94.1	109.9	110.7	109.2	100.9
Mar	119.7	129.0	113.8	100.2	120.1	112.2	117.5	102.5
Apr	123.8	132.1	119.3	100.5	133.5	116.3	120.5	101.2
May	123.4	131.6	118.7	101.9	129.7	113.2	123.8	102.5
Jun	124.6	132.0	120.8	108.7	130.9	111.6	127.1	102.5
Jul	124.7	130.6	122.2	111.9	135.0	114.9	123.4	102.4 [†]
Aug	122.6	130.7	118.6	107.7	127.4	112.0	123.0 [†]	98.0
Sep	122.7	130.1	118.7	106.4	132.7	111.8	119.7	102.8
Oct	127.9 [†]	131.6	126.2	120.3 [†]	139.2 [†]	117.9 [†]	125.4	116.8
Nov	141.6	139.0	143.3	153.2	151.3	126.3	145.3	146.0
Dec	170.2	156.8	185.4 [†]	199.9	205.6	147.0	192.6	134.6
2008 Jan	117.8	127.4	111.1	99.9	113.2	119.7	108.4	105.2
Feb	122.8	134.9	113.8	98.6	113.8	109.2	126.5	113.1
Mar	124.9	137.0	116.6	101.5	120.2	113.8	124.9	108.0

[†] indicates that data are new or have been revised. The period marked is the earliest in the table to have been revised.

The monthly periods consist of 4 weeks except March, June, September and December which are 5 weeks. January 2008 is also a 5 week period.

The quarterly indices are the weighted averages of the monthly indices for the months within the quarter, the weights being the number of weeks in each monthly period.

2 VALUE OF RETAIL SALES AT CURRENT PRICES NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

continued

		Predominantly non-food stores							
		All retailing	Predominantly food stores	Total	Non- specialised stores	Textile, clothing and footwear stores	Household goods stores	Other stores	Non-store retailing and repair
Percentage change latest 3 months on same 3 months a year ago									
		IEAG	IDXN	IDZU	IDXJ	IEAK	IEAO	IDZY	IEAC
2005	Apr	1.1	3.3	-0.9	1.1	1.5	-3.0	-2.0	1.7
	May	0.6	3.0	-1.4	-0.6	0.7	-3.5	-1.7	-1.0
	Jun	0.2	3.0	-2.2	-3.2	1.0	-5.1	-2.1	-1.2
	Jul	0.5	3.5	-1.6	-3.1	1.8	-4.9	-1.3	-4.5
	Aug	0.6	3.2	-1.2	-2.9	1.8	-5.4	0.3	-4.2
	Sep	0.1	2.9	-1.6	-3.3	0.7	-6.3	0.9	-7.1
	Oct	-0.1	2.6	-1.5	-2.7	-0.5	-5.8	1.8	-7.5
	Nov	0.2	3.1	-1.4	-1.8	0.7	-6.3	1.2	-8.3
	Dec	1.9	4.0	0.9	1.4	2.1	-3.0	2.5	-5.4
2006	Jan	1.7	3.3	1.1	1.5	2.8	-2.4	2.3	-5.6
	Feb	1.7	3.0	1.4	1.7	2.3	-1.1	2.6	-6.7
	Mar	-0.1	1.7	-1.1	-1.6	0.6	-3.5	-0.1	-6.1
	Apr	1.1	2.8	0.4	1.1	1.9	-1.2	-	-6.5
	May	1.8	2.7	1.5	3.8	3.3	0.3	-0.2	-3.4
	Jun	3.1	3.7	3.2	5.7	4.0	3.2	1.2	-3.0
	Jul	3.2	4.2	2.5	5.0	4.4	1.6	0.2	0.1
	Aug	3.5	4.8	2.4	4.4	4.3	2.8	-0.6	3.2
	Sep	3.6	5.0	2.2	4.6	4.6	2.4	-1.3	5.8
	Oct	3.8	4.7	2.6	4.4	5.4	2.8	-0.9	7.6
	Nov	3.5	4.5	2.4	2.8	4.9	2.2	-0.1	7.2
	Dec	4.2	4.7	3.4	3.0	6.4	2.5	1.4	8.5
2007	Jan	3.9	4.4 [†]	3.1	2.5	5.1	3.5	1.3	9.6
	Feb	4.3	4.4 [†]	3.6	3.1	6.0	4.1	1.5	11.0
	Mar	4.7	4.2	4.6	2.8	6.3	5.7	3.0	10.5
	Apr	5.3	4.7	5.4	1.8	8.8	4.8	4.8	10.6
	May	5.2	5.0	5.1	1.3	7.0	4.4	5.7	9.5
	Jun	4.3	3.7	4.5	3.8	5.1	3.6	4.9	9.0
	Jul	3.7	2.4	4.4	5.8	2.4	5.9	4.6	9.1
	Aug	3.4	2.1	4.4	6.6	2.7	5.1	4.4	6.2
	Sep	3.6 [†]	2.7	4.4 [†]	5.7	4.1	4.2	4.0 [†]	4.5 [†]
	Oct	3.6 [†]	3.6	3.8 [†]	5.8	3.9	2.4 [†]	4.0	2.6
	Nov	3.6	3.6	3.4	6.1	2.2	1.9	4.1	6.1
	Dec	2.5	3.0	1.5	2.2	-0.1	0.6	3.4	8.2
2008	Jan	1.7	3.3	-0.3	-1.6 [†]	-1.7 [†]	-0.9	2.2	9.5
	Feb	2.8	4.4	0.9	-1.7 [†]	-	-1.2	5.0	10.4
	Mar	5.3	6.6	3.6	2.1	1.9	0.4	8.9	9.7
Percentage change latest month on same month a year ago									
		EAIH	EAI A	EAI B	EAI N	EAI C	EAI D	EAI F	EAI G
2005	Apr	-0.4	2.4	-3.5	-3.9	-0.7	-6.6	-2.9	5.6
	May	-0.3	2.7	-2.6	-4.6	-0.3	-4.3	-2.2	-4.2
	Jun	1.0	3.8	-0.9	-1.6	3.3	-4.4	-1.5	-4.2
	Jul	0.7	4.0	-1.6	-3.5	2.1	-6.2	-0.1	-5.4
	Aug	0.1	1.8	-1.2	-3.7	-0.3	-5.8	3.1	-2.8
	Sep	-0.4	2.9	-2.0	-2.8	0.4	-6.7	0.1	-11.3
	Oct	0.2	2.9	-1.3	-1.5	-1.9	-4.9	2.5	-6.9
	Nov	0.7	3.5	-0.7	-1.2	3.4	-7.3	1.3	-6.5
	Dec	3.7	5.2	3.1	4.3	3.6	1.5	3.2	-3.1
2006	Jan	-0.6	0.1	-0.5	-1.2	0.4	-2.8	1.5	-8.4
	Feb	0.7	2.8	-0.2	-1.7	1.4	-3.4	2.2	-10.3
	Mar	-0.2	2.1	-2.3	-1.8	0.1	-4.2	-2.9	-0.8
	Apr	3.3	3.7	4.1	7.8	4.5	4.7	1.5	-9.3
	May	3.0	2.5	3.6	7.4	5.7	1.6	1.6	-0.2
	Jun	3.1	4.5	2.1	2.7	2.4	3.3	0.8	0.2
	Jul	3.4	5.5	1.8	5.4	5.5	-0.3	-1.7	0.3
	Aug	4.1	4.4	3.3	5.6	5.5	5.2	-1.2	10.2
	Sep	3.4	5.0	1.6	3.1	3.2	2.4	-1.1	6.9
	Oct	3.9	4.5	3.2	4.8	8.0	1.0	-0.3	6.1
	Nov	3.3	3.8	2.4	1.1	4.0	3.3	1.1	8.5
	Dec	4.8	5.4	4.0	3.3	7.1	2.8	2.6	10.4
2007	Jan	3.0	3.4 [†]	2.0	2.5	2.4	4.7	-1.4	9.7
	Feb	4.6	3.8	4.5	3.3	7.2	5.5	2.0	13.2
	Mar	6.1	5.1	6.8	2.5	8.7	6.9	7.2	9.1
	Apr	5.0	4.9	4.6	-0.5	10.2	1.7	4.6	10.0
	May	4.4 [†]	4.8	3.6	1.6	2.1	4.4	5.2	9.5
	Jun	3.7 [†]	2.0	5.0	9.0	3.5	4.6	4.9	7.8
	Jul	2.9	0.5	4.6	6.1	1.3	8.9	3.7 [†]	10.4
	Aug	3.5	3.9	3.5	4.1 [†]	3.3	2.1	4.4 [†]	0.4
	Sep	4.2	3.6	4.9 [†]	6.8 [†]	7.1	2.2	4.0	3.2
	Oct	3.1	3.3	2.9 [†]	6.3	0.7	2.8 [†]	3.5	3.8 [†]
	Nov	3.4	3.8	2.2	5.5	-1.4	4.8	4.8	10.8
	Dec	1.5	2.2	0.3	-1.5	0.3	-1.0	2.5	9.2
2008	Jan	5.7	7.5	3.2	0.5	3.3 [†]	-0.1	8.1	14.1
	Feb	7.0	7.3	6.2	4.8	3.6	-1.4	15.8	12.1
	Mar	4.4	6.2	2.5	1.3	-	1.4	6.3	5.4

† indicates that data are new or have been revised. The period marked is the earliest in the table to have been revised.

R1 VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES AT 2000 PRICES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Base year 2000=100

	Predominantly non-food stores							
	All retailing	Predominantly food stores	Total	Non-specialised stores	Textile, clothing and footwear stores	Household goods stores	Other stores	Non-store retailing and repair
Revisions to index numbers								
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2004	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2005	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
2006	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2007	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-0.1
2005 Q1	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	-	-0.1	-0.1
Q2	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-0.1	-
Q3	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
Q4	0.1	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.2	-0.1
2006 Q1	-	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	-	-0.2	-
Q2	-0.1	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-0.2	-
Q3	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	0.1	-
Q4	-	0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-	0.2	-0.1
2007 Q1	-	-0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.1	-0.3	0.1
Q2	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-	-0.3	-
Q3	-	-	-	-	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-
Q4	-	-	-	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.4	-0.4
2005 Mar	0.1	-	0.1	0.4	0.5	-0.1	-0.1	-
Apr	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-0.2	-
May	-	-	-0.1	-	-0.1	-	-0.1	0.1
Jun	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-	-0.1	-
Jul	-	-0.1	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-
Aug	-	0.1	-	-0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1
Sep	0.1	-	0.1	-	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-
Oct	-	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.3	0.1
Nov	-	-	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-	0.2	-0.1
Dec	-	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.1	-0.1
2006 Jan	0.1	-	-	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1
Feb	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-	-	-	-0.4	-0.3
Mar	0.1	-	0.3	0.6	1.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.1
Apr	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-0.2	-
May	-0.1	-	-0.1	-	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-
Jun	-0.1	-	-	-0.2	-0.1	-	-0.1	-
Jul	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	-0.1
Aug	0.1	0.1	-	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sep	-	-	0.1	-0.1	-	-	0.2	-
Oct	0.1	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.3	-
Nov	-	0.1	-	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Dec	-	-	-	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.1
2007 Jan	-0.1	-0.2	-	0.3	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.3
Feb	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-	-0.1	0.1	-0.5	-0.3
Mar	0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.9	1.4	-0.3	-0.2	0.3
Apr	-0.1	-	-0.1	0.1	-	-	-0.3	0.1
May	-0.1	-	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-	-0.2	0.1
Jun	-0.1	-	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-	-0.1	-
Jul	-0.1	-0.1	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1
Sep	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-0.1
Oct	-	0.1	-	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.4
Nov	-	0.1	-	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.3
Dec	-	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-	0.6	-0.5
2008 Jan	0.5	0.2	1.1	0.4	-0.5	0.6	3.3	-1.6
Feb	0.8	-0.6	2.2	0.2	-0.5	0.2	7.5	-2.1

R1 VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES AT 2000 PRICES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

continued

	Predominantly non-food stores							
	All retailing	Predominantly food stores	Total	Non- specialised stores	Textile, clothing and footwear stores	Household goods stores	Other stores	Non-store retailing and repair
Revisions to headline growth rates								
Percentage change latest 3 months on previous 3 months								
2005 Mar	-	-	-	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Apr	-	-	-	0.2	0.2	-	-0.1	-
May	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-
Jun	-0.1	-	-	-0.1	-0.2	-	-	0.1
Jul	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	-	-
Aug	-	-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	-	-
Sep	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.2	-
Oct	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-	0.2	-
Nov	-	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.2	-
Dec	-	0.1	-	-	-0.1	-	0.1	-
2006 Jan	-	-	-	0.1	-0.1	-	-	-
Feb	-0.1	-	-0.1	0.1	-	-	-0.2	-0.1
Mar	0.1	-	0.1	0.3	0.3	-	-0.3	-
Apr	-	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-
May	-	-	-	0.2	0.3	-0.1	-	0.1
Jun	-0.1	-	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-	-	-
Jul	-	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.1	-
Aug	-	-	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Sep	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-	0.2	-
Oct	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	0.3	-
Nov	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	0.3	-0.1
Dec	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-	0.1	-0.1
2007 Jan	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-0.1
Feb	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.1	-	-	-0.3	-
Mar	-	-0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	-	-0.4	0.2
Apr	-	-	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.1	-0.4	0.1
May	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.2	-	0.3
Jun	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.1	0.1	-
Aug	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.1	0.2	-0.2
Sep	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1
Oct	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	0.2	-0.1
Nov	-	-	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.2	-0.2
Dec	-	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-	0.3	-0.3
2008 Jan	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	-0.2	0.1	1.0	-0.5
Feb	0.2	-0.1	0.7	0.2	-0.2	0.1	2.4	-0.7
Percentage change latest 3 months on same 3 months a year ago								
2005 Mar	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-0.1	-
Apr	-	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-	-
Jun	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-0.1	-
Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-
Aug	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-
Oct	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	0.1	-
Dec	0.1	0.1	-	-0.1	-	-	0.1	-
2006 Jan	-	0.1	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.1
Mar	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	-0.1	0.1
Apr	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	-0.1	-
May	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-	-
Jun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-
Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-
Oct	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	0.1	-
Nov	-	-	0.1	-	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-
Dec	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
2007 Jan	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-	0.1	-
Feb	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1
Apr	-	-0.1	-	0.1	0.1	-	-0.1	0.1
May	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.1
Jun	-0.1	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-
Sep	-0.1	-	-0.1	-	-	-	-0.1	-
Oct	-0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-0.1
Nov	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Dec	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-0.2
2008 Jan	0.2	0.1	0.3	-	-0.1	0.1	1.0	-0.6
Feb	0.4	-	0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.2	2.8	-0.9