## RETAIL SALES DROP BY 2.4 PER CENT

Consumers spent an estimated $\$ 93.1$ million on retail sales during the month of June 2010. This represented a decrease of 2.4 per cent or approximately $\$ 2.3$ million less than the sales levels recorded in the same month of last year. Retail sales have consistently declined for fifteen consecutive months, a trend which began in April 2009.

Residents returning to the Island from business and vacation trips declared overseas purchases of

goods valued at $\$ 5.7$ million during May 2010. This was 14 per cent higher than the $\$ 5$ million declared during June of last year. Combined local and overseas spending totalled $\$ 98.8$ million during the month.

After adjusting for the annual retail sales rate of inflation, measured at 2.1 per cent in June 2010, the volume of retail sales contracted by 4.4 per cent.

There were 25 shopping days in June 2010, the same as in June 2009.


The RSI is
currently based on
a matched sample
of reporting retail stores. The sales
data are collected
from these stores
through a monthly mail survey. The
Department of
Statistics wishes to acknowledge the continuous support of the business community in supplying the
required sales data.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

| Period | Total Retail Sales Index* | Annual \% Change in Retail Sales |  | Total <br> Retail <br> Sales Estimate <br> (\$M) | Overseas Purchases Declared by Returning Residents |  | Combined Retail Sales (Local + Overseas) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Volume |  | Value (\$M) | \% Change | Value <br> (\$M) | \% <br> Change |
| 2009 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jun ${ }^{\text {R }}$ | 106.5 | -4.5 | -6.8 | 95.4 | 5.0 | -2.5 | 100.4 | -4.4 |
| Jul | 111.9 | -4.8 | -6.8 | 100.2 | 5.0 | -2.5 | 105.2 | -4.7 |
| Aug | 104.5 | -2.9 | -5.6 | 93.5 | 8.1 | -3.6 | 101.6 | -2.9 |
| Sep | 97.1 | -5.1 | -6.9 | 86.9 | 6.2 | +12.3 | 93.1 | -4.1 |
| Oct | 102.4 | -3.1 | -5.0 | 91.7 | 5.1 | -2.5 | 96.8 | -3.1 |
| Nov | 97.0 | -6.3 | -8.4 | 86.8 | 7.7 | -8.6 | 94.5 | -6.4 |
| Dec | 122.9 | -2.4 | -4.7 | 110.0 | 7.9 | +6.6 | 117.9 | -1.8 |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan | 87.2 | -5.4 | -8.4 | 78.0 | 5.0 | -9.1 | 83.0 | -5.7 |
| Feb | 84.3 | -1.6 | -3.5 | 75.5 | 3.8 | -7.3 | 79.3 | -1.9 |
| Mar | 99.9 | -0.8 | -3.0 | 89.4 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 94.0 | -0.5 |
| Apr | 95.7 | -7.8 | -10.3 | 85.7 | 6.1 | -11.6 | 91.8 | -8.0 |
| May | 99.9 | -3.8 | -5.5 | 89.4 | 6.4 | -12.3 | 95.8 | -4.4 |
| Jun | 104.0 | -2.4 | -4.4 | 93.1 | 5.7 | +14.0 | 98.8 | -1.5 |

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

## Building Materials

The economic slowdown continued to plague retailers of building materials and supplies as sales within this sector plummeted by 28.5 per cent compared to those of last year. This marked the eleventh straight month of declines in sales.


## Motor Vehicle Stores

Retail sales of motor vehicles sales declined by 8.3 per cent during June 2010 when compared to the same month of last year.


## All Other Store Types

During June 2010, sales within the all other store types sector fell by 1.4 per cent. The largest sales decline within the sector was reported by boat and marine supplies retailers with a decrease of 11.8 per cent. Sales of furniture and appliances fell by 7 per cent, while pharmaceutical retailers experienced a marginal
sales decrease of 0.2 per cent. Conversely, tourist related retailers reported a 15.8 per cent climb in sales.

## Food and Liquor Stores

Gross receipts for food stores increased by 2.1 per cent in June 2010 due mostly to a 2.7 per cent rise in food prices. Liquor stores underwent a similar climb, also reporting a sales increase of 2.1 per cent over June 2009. Liquor prices during the month were approximately 2.5 per cent higher than the same month last year.

## Apparel Stores

Retailers of apparel reported an increase in sales for the second month in a row. Sales revenue grew by 2.1 per cent for the month of June compared to the same month of last year.

## Service Stations

Service stations reported a sales increase of 2.5 per cent for June 2010 when compared to the same month of last year. Fuel prices for the month were approximately 0.2 per cent lower than June 2009.

## Resident Purchases Overseas

Resident purchases overseas increased by 14 per cent per cent in June 2010 compared to the previous year. Overseas purchases totalled $\$ 5.7$ million.


| Average Monthly Sales (I)$2006=100$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | Total Retail Stores |  | Food Stores (2) |  | Liquor Stores (3) |  | Motor Vehicle Stores |  | Service <br> Stations |  | Building Material Stores |  | Apparel Stores |  | All Other Store Types |  |
| 2005 | 96.2 | +8.2 | 94.2 | +10.0 | 96.6 | +8.2 | 101.6 | +22.0 | 89.5 | +14.6 | 93.5 | +12.6 | 109.9 | -7.8 | 93.0 | +6.5 |
| 2006 | 100.0 | +4.0 | 100.0 | +6.1 | 100.0 | +3.6 | 100.0 | -1.5 | 100.0 | +11.7 | 100.0 | +7.0 | 100.0 | -9.0 | 100.0 | +7.6 |
| 2007 | 104.3 | +4.2 | 106.5 | +6.5 | 104.4 | +4.4 | 95.1 | -5.1 | 106.0 | +6.0 | 96.4 | -3.6 | 109.3 | +9.3 | 106.2 | +6.1 |
| 2008 | 106.0 | +1.6 | 114.9 | +7.8 | 105.2 | +0.8 | 90.7 | -4.6 | 116.9 | +10.3 | 93.0 | -3.5 | 104.3 | -4.6 | 106.8 | +0.6 |
| *2009 | 102.0 | $-3.8$ | 120.2 | +4.7 | 103.9 | -1.3 | 80.8 | -10.9 | 104.3 | -10.8 | 86.2 | -7.4 | 90.2 | -13.6 | 101.1 | -5.4 |
| 2008 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Apr | 106.3 | +9.1 | 111.5 | +8.2 | 93.7 | -3.9 | 99.3 | +17.3 | 120.4 | +10.5 | 107.7 | +7.6 | 100.0 | +7.8 | 103.1 | +8.9 |
| May | 106.3 | -2.4 | 117.1 | +9.4 | 116.3 | +5.8 | 85.1 | -27.0 | 125.5 | +9.2 | 100.8 | +6.8 | 116.4 | +1.1 | 108.5 | -0.3 |
| Jun | 111.5 | +1.4 | 114.4 | +3.4 | 112.4 | -4.3 | 92.3 | +9.8 | 127.1 | +12.7 | 99.1 | -3.2 | 131.3 | +2.1 | 109.6 | -4.4 |
| Jul | 117.5 | +3.7 | 128.4 | +13.9 | 151.0 | +6.7 | 104.8 | -1.6 | 140.7 | +15.4 | 90.6 | -14.4 | 100.4 | -8.2 | 120.4 | +2.6 |
| Aug | 107.6 | +3.2 | 119.3 | +12.0 | 110.5 | -1.8 | 85.7 | -7.1 | 130.9 | +22.3 | 93.7 | -3.0 | 102.7 | -3.4 | 105.7 | -1.7 |
| Sep | 102.3 | +0.2 | 110.0 | +2.2 | 98.6 | -0.3 | 94.3 | +7.8 | 121.3 | +10.6 | 94.9 | +10.0 | 94.4 | -10.0 | 99.1 | -6.1 |
| Oct | 105.7 | -0.5 | 121.6 | +9.8 | 84.9 | +1.0 | 94.0 | -12.5 | 121.7 | +8.9 | 92.7 | -11.9 | 89.4 | -9.0 | 103.0 | -1.9 |
| Nov | 103.5 | +0.4 | 113.8 | +11.4 | 101.9 | +1.6 | 76.0 | -12.7 | 106.2 | +3.7 | 94.8 | -4.3 | 98.8 | -12.0 | 108.2 | -1.0 |
| Dec | 125.9 | +0.2 | 129.8 | +8.6 | 136.2 | -4.3 | 85.5 | +22.2 | 100.4 | -2.6 | 69.2 | -0.5 | 181.1 | -15.6 | 142.6 | -1.1 |
| 2009 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan | 92.2 | -1.6 | 113.0 | +7.4 | 80.7 | +6.5 | 82.1 | -4.1 | 92.4 | -8.0 | 70.6 | -24.3 | 59.4 | -21.7 | 95.4 | +4.4 |
| Feb | 85.7 | -5.8 | 105.2 | +5.8 | 79.3 | -4.3 | 71.9 | -19.4 | 88.9 | -8.3 | 75.2 | -11.1 | 55.2 | -21.3 | 85.5 | -7.2 |
| Mar | 100.7 | 0.0 | 113.6 | +5.2 | 83.9 | -15.1 | 88.6 | -8.4 | 100.2 | -10.2 | 105.1 | +10.6 | 72.7 | -20.5 | 94.8 | -3.2 |
| Apr | 103.1 | -2.9 | 120.1 | +7.7 | 99.6 | +6.3 | 99.8 | +0.5 | 98.1 | -18.6 | 102.6 | -4.7 | 84.0 | -16.0 | 94.8 | -8.1 |
| May | 103.8 | -2.4 | 121.0 | +3.3 | 99.5 | -14.4 | 100.3 | +17.9 | 100.8 | -19.6 | 102.6 | +1.8 | 83.8 | -28.0 | 95.3 | -12.1 |
| Jun ${ }^{\text {R }}$ | 106.5 | -4.5 | 121.5 | +6.2 | 110.7 | -1.5 | 77.0 | -16.6 | 115.8 | -8.9 | 90.6 | -8.5 | 105.0 | -20.0 | 106.5 | -2.8 |
| Jul | 111.9 | -4.8 | 136.4 | +6.2 | 145.4 | -3.7 | 98.3 | -6.2 | 117.2 | -16.7 | 91.9 | +1.5 | 82.5 | -17.8 | 106.0 | -11.9 |
| Aug | 104.5 | -2.9 | 123.6 | +3.7 | 115.3 | +4.4 | 84.7 | -1.2 | 116.4 | -11.1 | 92.7 | -1.1 | 82.5 | -19.7 | 101.6 | -3.9 |
| Sep | 97.1 | -5.1 | 116.2 | +5.7 | 98.9 | +0.3 | 71.5 | -24.2 | 108.2 | -10.8 | 90.9 | -4.2 | 85.4 | -9.6 | 90.7 | -8.5 |
| Oct | 102.4 | -3.1 | 124.7 | +2.6 | 86.8 | +2.3 | 82.3 | -12.4 | 112.6 | -7.5 | 81.8 | -11.8 | 87.1 | -2.6 | 99.6 | -3.3 |
| Nov | 97.0 | -6.3 | 113.5 | -0.3 | 93.7 | -8.0 | 66.9 | -12.0 | 106.0 | -0.2 | 82.4 | -13.1 | 91.3 | -7.6 | 97.1 | -10.3 |
| Dec | 122.9 | -2.4 | 133.9 | +3.2 | 139.4 | +2.3 | 67.9 | -20.6 | 107.2 | +6.8 | 57.9 | -16.4 | 179.9 | -0.6 | 136.6 | -4.2 |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan | 87.2 | -5.4 | 112.0 | -0.9 | 76.2 | -5.7 | 70.8 | -13.7 | 102.1 | +10.5 | 63.6 | -9.8 | 59.9 | +0.7 | 83.7 | -12.3 |
| Feb | 84.3 | -1.6 | 107.5 | +2.2 | 77.8 | -1.9 | 81.0 | +12.7 | 97.7 | +9.9 | 61.4 | -18.4 | 51.6 | -6.5 | 78.9 | -7.7 |
| Mar | 99.9 | -0.8 | 120.0 | +5.7 | 88.1 | +5.0 | 88.8 | +0.2 | 114.4 | +14.2 | 75.2 | -28.5 | 75.4 | +3.6 | 90.8 | -4.3 |
| Apr | 95.7 | -7.8 | 115.7 | -4.4 | 95.4 | -4.1 | 63.3 | -37.0 | 115.8 | +14.8 | 73.9 | -28.0 | 78.3 | -6.6 | 97.3 | +2.1 |
| May | 99.9 | -3.8 | 121.5 | +0.4 | 98.5 | -1.0 | 87.1 | -13.2 | 106.0 | +5.1 | 80.6 | -21.4 | 84.3 | +0.6 | 90.8 | -4.7 |
| Jun | 104.0 | -2.4 | 124.0 | +2.1 | 113.0 | +2.1 | 70.6 | -8.3 | 118.7 | +2.5 | 64.8 | -28.5 | 107.2 | +2.1 | 105.0 | -1.4 |

(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

* The yearly series reflect annual changes


## EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Retail Sales Index (RSI) was first developed in 1982. It is a key economic indicator used to assess the current performance of sales activity in the 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 2006 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 generally reflects 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

## Retail Trade

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.

## Retail Establishment

A retail establishment is one that operates at a fixed place of business and is engaged in sales activities to attract the general public to buy merchandise.

## 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.

## Gross Sales

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

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 2006.

## Overseas Purchases

Overseas purchases reflect the value of goods declared by residents through HM Customs while travelling on vacation or business trips.

## Published by the Government of Bermuda

August 2010
The Cabinet Office
Department of Statistics
Cedar Park Centre, 48 Cedar Avenue, Hamilton HM 11
P.O. Box HM 3015

Hamilton HM MX, Bermuda
Tel: (441) 297-7761, Fax: (441) 295-8390
E-mail: statistics@gov.bm
Website: www.statistics.gov.bm

