

**Retail Trade Indices. Base 2005
March 2007. Provisional data**

Retail trade at constant prices grows 5.7% in March, as compared to the same month in 2006.

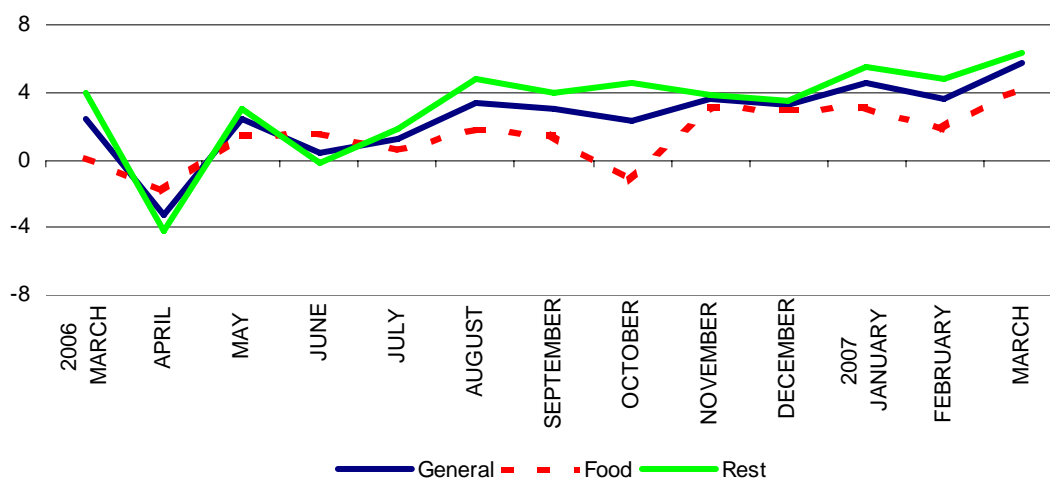
The general retail trade index in constant terms (in other words, after eliminating the price effect) registered a 5.7% interannual increase in the month of March. Foodstuff increased 4.5%, whilst non-food produce grew 6.4%. A breakdown of the latter by type of product shows annual growth amounting to 7.2% for Personal Goods, 4.4% in Furniture and household equipment and 5.5% in Other goods.

After adjusting the calendar effect (that is, the difference between the number of working days in a month throughout the different years) the retail price index at constant prices registers a 5.5% increase.

National Indices: general and groups

	Index	% of variation Same month previous year	Index deflated	% of variation Same month previous year
General Index 1983	108.7	7.4	104.8	5.7
1. Food	110.8	8.0	104.2	4.5
2. Rest	107.4	7.0	105.2	6.4
2.1 Personal Goods	102.9	8.3	105.2	7.2
2.2 Household equipment	112.0	7.1	107.4	4.4
2.3 Other goods	107.2	6.1	105.1	5.5
General Index: Calendar Effect Corrected	107.7	7.2	103.9	5.5

Annual rates (constant prices)



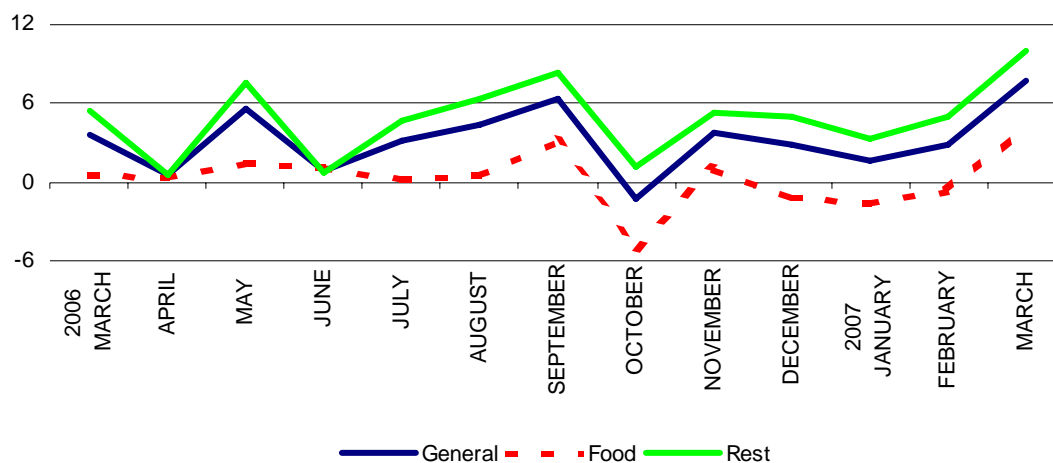
Sales in department stores presented a 7.7% increase of the interannual rate in constant terms.

The general index for department stores, which analyses the evolution of sales in premises that spread out over more than 2,500 square metres, showed a 7.7% interannual increase at constant prices in March 2007. Foodstuff increased 4.0%, whilst non-food produce grew 10.0%.

Indices for department stores: general and groups

	Index	% of variation Same month previous year	Index deflated	% of variation Same month previous year
General Index 1983	102.8	9.5	99.2	7.7
1. Food	106.3	7.4	100.0	4.0
2. Rest	101.1	10.6	99.1	10.0
General Index: Calendar Effect Corrected	102.3	9.3	98.6	7.6

Annual rates for Department Stores (constant prices)



Castilla-La Mancha, Cantabria and Región de Murcia are the autonomous communities where greater interannual increase in sales rates have been registered

By Autonomous Communities, the highest increase in constant terms of the retail trade index in the month of March corresponded to Castilla-La Mancha (9.7%), Cantabria (9.5%), and Región de Murcia (8.9%) and Comunidad de Madrid (8.1%)

The lowest interannual increases are registered in Andalucía (3.5%), Comunitat Valenciana (4.0%) and Castilla y León (4.4%).

Indices for Autonomous Communities

	Index	% of variation	Index deflated	% of variation
		Same month previous year		Same month previous year
National total	108.7	7.4	104.8	5.7
Andalucía	108.6	5.3	104.6	3.5
Aragón	109.6	6.7	105.5	5.0
Asturias (Principado de)	107.8	7.2	104.6	5.9
Balears (Illes)	92.8	8.1	89.8	6.7
Canarias	109.7	7.3	106.5	6.3
Cantabria	105.6	11.0	101.7	9.5
Castilla y León	105.4	6.3	101.2	4.4
Castilla - La Mancha	112.3	11.2	108.3	9.7
Cataluña	109.4	6.5	105.4	4.8
Comunitat Valenciana	106.4	5.7	102.7	4.0
Extremadura	110.6	9.1	107.1	7.4
Galicia	106.2	7.3	102.6	5.9
Madrid (Comunidad de)	112.3	9.7	108.4	8.1
Murcia (Región de)	111.8	11.7	107.1	8.9
Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	109.2	6.2	105.9	4.9
País Vasco	110.8	8.6	107.0	7.0
Rioja (La)	107.9	6.6	104.1	4.9
Ceuta	108.8	6.5	104.6	4.7
Melilla	112.4	5.7	106.8	2.8

Employment in the retail sector increased 1.8% in March 2007, as compared to the same month in the previous year.

The employment index (showing the evolution of employment, both for employees and self-employed workers) yielded a 1.8% interannual growth for the whole of the retail sector, during March 2007. In department stores overall employment has increased by 0.9%.

National Occupation Indices

	Index	% variation on	
		Previous month	Same month previous year
General Index 1983	102.0	0.3	1.8
Department stores	100.3	-0.4	0.9

Región de Murcia yielded the greatest occupation rate increases with regards to the same month from the previous year

On an Autonomous Community basis, the greatest interannual employment increases have been accounted for in Región de Murcia (6.0%), Castilla y León (2.8%), Galicia (2.3%) and País Vasco (2.3%).

The communities with lower increase rates are Andalucía (0.8%), Principado de Asturias (1.0%) and Illes Balears (1.0%).

Occupation Indices for Autonomous Communities

	Index	% variation on	
		Previous month	Same month previous year
National total	102.0	0.3	1.8
Andalucía	100.2	0.6	0.8
Aragón	103.3	0.2	1.9
Asturias (Principado de)	102.0	0.3	1.0
Balears (Illes)	98.3	1.5	1.0
Canarias	101.8	-0.3	2.1
Cantabria	104.6	0.6	1.9
Castilla y León	102.7	0.5	2.8
Castilla - La Mancha	104.0	0.1	1.7
Cataluña	100.7	0.8	1.3
Comunitat Valenciana	101.6	0.6	1.6
Extremadura	102.7	-0.9	1.9
Galicia	104.4	-0.4	2.3
Madrid (Comunidad de)	103.4	-0.3	2.1
Murcia (Región de)	108.9	0.1	6.0
Navarra (Comunidad Foral de)	104.4	0.3	1.9
País Vasco	102.4	-0.4	2.3
Rioja (La)	101.4	0.3	1.3
Ceuta	102.6	1.0	-0.1
Melilla	101.5	-1.3	0.8

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