



# CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

## INDEX OF RETAIL SALES 1ST QUARTER 2019

The All Sections Index of Retail Sales decreased by 20.0% from 329.7 in the 4th quarter 2018 to 263.9 in the 1st quarter 2019.

This decrease was directly attributable to decreased sales across all Sections:

- Textiles and Wearing Apparel : -49.6%
- Household Appliances, Furniture and other Furnishings: -45.2%
- Dry Goods Stores: -28.4%
- Supermarkets and Groceries: -22.1%
- Other: -11.9%
- Construction Materials and Hardware: -3.9%
- Petrol Filling Stations: -1.9%
- Motor Vehicles and Parts: -1.0%

When the All Sections Index of the Retail Sales is deflated by the All Items Index of Retail Prices, the volume of sales by retail establishments decreased by 20.2% between 4th quarter 2018 and 1st quarter 2019 as compared with a 21.1% decrease over the same period a year earlier.

When a year on year analysis is undertaken, the All Sections Index increased by 0.8% from 261.9 in 1st quarter 2018. The Sections that contributed to this increase were:

- Household Appliances, Furniture and other Furnishings: 22.9%
- Petrol Filling Stations: 13.9%
- Construction Materials and Hardware: 11.8%
- Dry Goods Stores: 2.5%
- Motor Vehicles and Parts: 2.3%

Offsetting these increases were decreased sales in Supermarkets and Groceries 9.9%; Textiles and Wearing Apparel 2.2%; and Other 1.1 %.

### Special points of interest:

- \* The Index of Retail Sales is a measure of consumer confidence
- \* The All Sections Index for 1st quarter 2019 is 263.9 a decrease of 20.0% over the index for the previous quarter.
- \* The volume of retail sales in the 1st quarter 2019 decreased by 20.2%.

This is a publication of the Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Planning and Development.

For further information, please contact the officer in charge, Index of Retail Sales at 624-7311  
cso.statistics@gmail.com

Central Statistical Office  
47 Frederick Street  
Port of Spain.

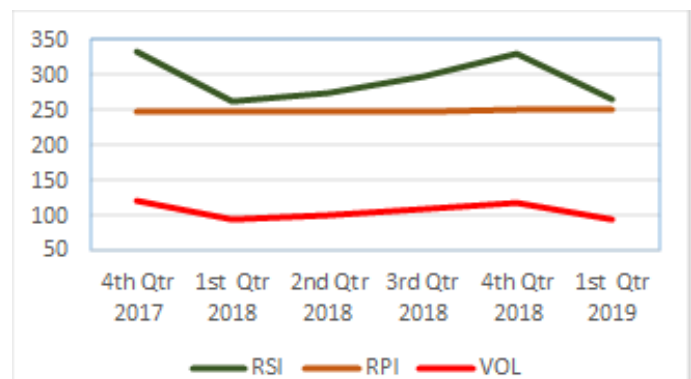
### What is the Index of Retail Sales?

The Index of Retail Sales is a quarterly measure of the value of goods sold by retailers based on a sampling of retail stores of different types and sizes.

It is an important indicator of movements in retail trade and is computed using the total receipts of a sample of retail establishments. It is therefore, essentially a value index.

The series may be used, within limitations, to estimate the quarterly consumer expenditure and, when deflated by the Retail Price Index, can be a useful tool to monitor the volume of retail sales.

Comparison of the movement in the Index of Retail Sales, the Retail Price Index and the Volume Index



## INDEX OF RETAIL SALES

(Base Period: Average of 4 quarters 2000 = 100)

1st Quarter 2019

Industry	Weight	2017 Qtr 4	2018 Qtr 1	2018 Qtr 2	2018 Qtr 3 <sup>r</sup>	2018 Qtr 4 <sup>r</sup>	2019 Qtr 1	Annual Average 2017	Annual Average 2018
<b>Dry Goods Stores</b>	76	1209.2	858.0	907.5	942.2	1229.2	879.7	964.4	984.2
<b>Supermarkets &amp;</b>	279	374.9	303.2	316.7	345.3	350.6	273.3	326.5	329.0
<b>Construction Materials &amp; Hardware</b>	130	124.4	110.1	122.7	117.8	128.0	123.0	118.8	119.6
<b>Household Appliances, Furniture &amp; other Furnishings</b>	79	333.4	150.4	196.3	197.0	336.9	184.7	204.5	220.1
<b>Textiles &amp; Wearing Apparel</b>	43	97.8	48.4	59.6	65.3	94.0	47.3	69.5	66.8
<b>Motor Vehicles &amp; Parts</b>	173	269.7	253.3	247.3	280.2	261.9	259.2	262.9	260.7
<b>Petrol Filling Stations</b>	99	255.4	251.6	250.1	245.9	292.3	286.6	228.1	260.0
<b>Other of which:</b>	121	137.8	124.9	129.6	195.4	140.1	123.5	166.8	147.5
<b>Pharmaceuticals &amp; Cosmetics</b>	61	100.5	88.2	83.9	83.9	89.3	89.0	114.3	86.3
<b>Books &amp; Stationary</b>	24	140.7	118.9	133.7	467.8	144.0	103.1	225.1	216.1
<b>Jewellery</b>	6	82.3	55.3	63.2	52.4	80.5	62.0	64.5	62.9
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	30	222.4	218.0	232.5	233.1	252.3	222.1	247.2	234.0
<b>ALL SECTION INDEX</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>331.8</b>	<b>261.9</b>	<b>274.6</b>	<b>298.1</b>	<b>329.7</b>	<b>263.9</b>	<b>287.2</b>	<b>291.1</b>

SOURCE: CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

r-revised

Differences in totals may be due to rounding