

Retail Sales Dashboard



May 2026

A monthly overview of UK retail sales performance, including key metrics on core sub-sectors and e-commerce.

Headline Figures

+6.8%

Sales value (amount spent) growth
May 2026 vs. May 2025
*Seasonally adjusted, excluding fuel
Including fuel +7.2%

+4.6%

Sales volume (items purchased) growth
May 2026 vs. May 2025
*Seasonally adjusted, excluding fuel
Including fuel +3.2%

+4.7%

Sales value (amount spent) growth
Most recent 3 months YoY growth

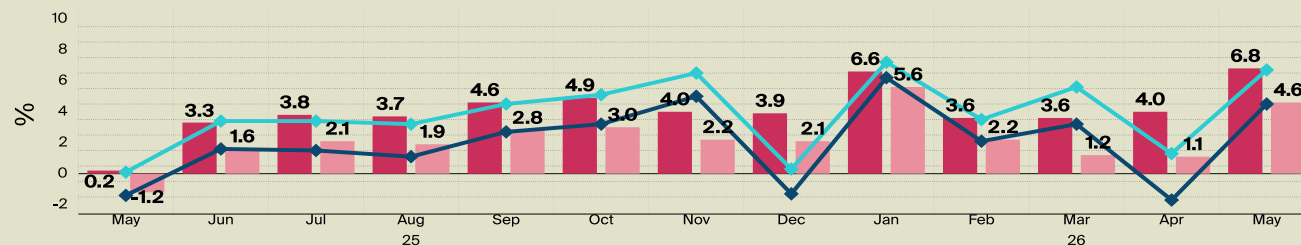
+2.2%

Sales volume (items purchased) growth
Most recent 3 months YoY growth

Monthly Performance – All Retail

(ONS) Year-on-year

■ Volumes (SA) ■ Values (SA) ◆ Values (NSA) ◆ Volumes (NSA)

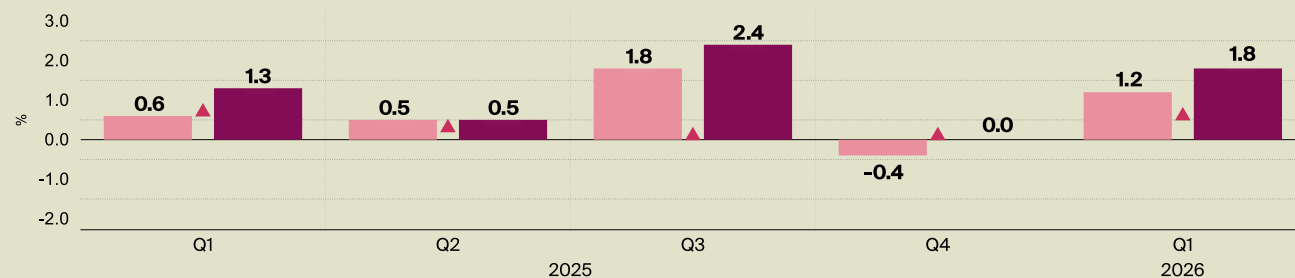


%	March	April	May
Non-Seasonally Adjusted			
Volumes	3.2	(1.7)	4.5
Values	5.6	1.3	6.7
Seasonally Adjusted			
Volumes	1.2	1.1	4.6
Values	3.6	4.0	6.8

Quarterly Performance vs. GDP

(ONS) Quarter-on-quarter

▲ GDP ■ Value ■ Volume



%	2025				2026
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Volumes	0.6	0.5	1.8	(0.4)	1.2
Values	1.3	0.5	2.4	0.0	1.8
GDP Growth	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.6

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Key Messages

- May marked a bumper month for retail sales, flattered slightly by a weak year-on-year comp (May 2025 vals: +0.2%, vols. -1.3%).
- Retail sales values (exc fuel) were up +6.8% YoY, with volumes ahead by +4.6%. Both grocery (vals. +4.1%, vols. +1.3%) and non-food (+7.4%, +6.2%) were firmly in growth territory.
- Shop price inflation actually declined from 2.9% to 2.2% in May, defying economist expectations. Monthly retail sales volume ('real') growth YTD is running at ca. +3%.
- Online sales grew +3.3% MoM (+12.2%) YoY. Online penetration increased +70bps to 28.8%, reversing the decline reported the previous month.

Contact us

COMMERCIAL INSIGHT



Stephen Springham
Partner, Head of Retail Insight
+44 20 7861 1236
stephen.springham@knightfrank.com



Lydia Goodchild
Trainee Surveyor, Commercial Insight
+44 20 7861 1134
lydia.goodchild@knightfrank.com

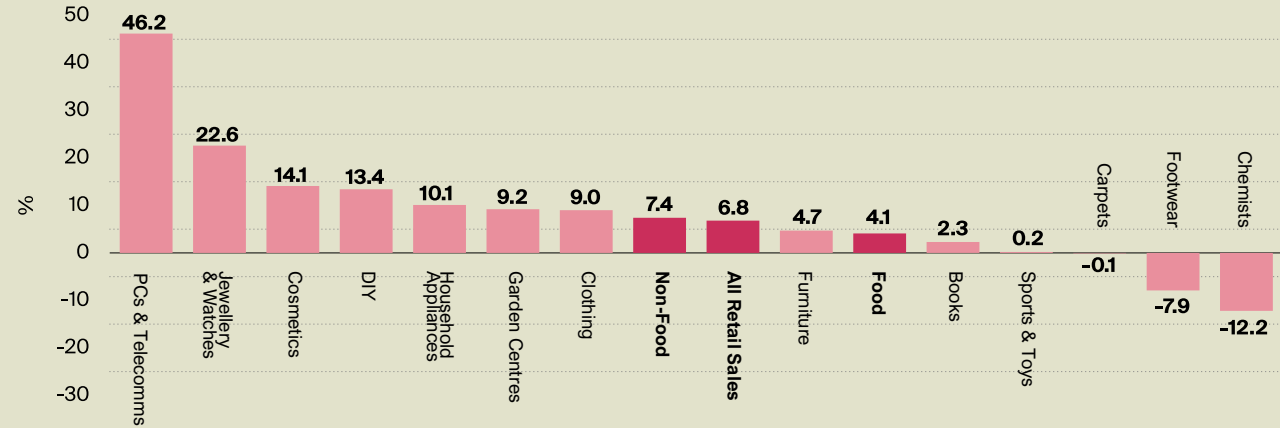
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Monthly Performance by Sub-Sector

(ONS) Year-on-year seasonally adjusted sales values



E-commerce Share of Retail Spend

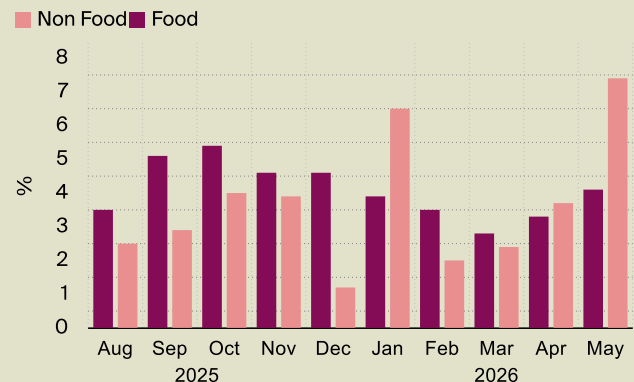
(ONS) % penetration



%	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
E-commerce Share	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.3	27.7	28.1	28.8	28.1	28.8

Food vs. Non-Food Monthly Performance

(ONS) Year-on-year seasonally adjusted sales values



%	March	April	May
Non-Food	2.4	3.7	7.4
Food	2.8	3.3	4.1