

January 2012 - Commentary

The value of Retail Sales (exc Automotive Fuels) fell back in November but remained ahead of last year 3.3% when seasonally adjusted (SA)

The value of Automotive Fuels again rose by over 15% : if this is included the above percentages increase to 4.6% and 4.5% respectively.

In value terms:

Growth in Predominantly food stores remained in excess of 4% at 4.1%- with overall volumes being slightly down by 0.6% = inflation 4.7%

Growth in Non-store retailing remained well into double digits at 19.1% - well ahead of the average for the previous three months.

Total volume of Retail Sales were just slightly ahead of last year at 0.5% (+0.7% including Fuel).

Food volumes returned to negative territory at -0.6%, where they have been in 20 of the last 23 months.

The non-food sector was also down at -0.7% growth in volume as against a moderate growth in value of the same percentage +0.7%

Volume and value growth in Non-store retailing were much the same at 18.9 and 19.1% respectively.

