Table 3: Movement of the volume of total retail sales, May 2004 - July 2005

Original Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series		
				Compared with the	
		Year-on-year	3 months ending	3 months ending	
Year/Month		rate of change (%)	Month/Year	Month/Year	Rate of change (%) ^{@#}
2004	May	+15.7	May 2004	Feb 2004	+2.0
	Jun	+11.4	Jun 2004	Mar 2004	+1.9
	Jul	+8.3	Jul 2004	Apr 2004	+1.6
	Aug	+4.0	Aug 2004	May 2004	+0.7
	Sep	+7.8	Sep 2004	Jun 2004	+0.4
	Oct	+7.2	Oct 2004	Jul 2004	+0.9
	Nov	+6.9	Nov 2004	Aug 2004	+2.2
	Dec	+7.8	Dec 2004	Sep 2004	+2.7
2005	Jan	+3.1	Jan 2005	Oct 2004	+1.2
	Feb	+16.0	Feb 2005	Nov 2004	+3.6
	Mar	+5.2	Mar 2005	Dec 2004	+2.7
	Apr	+7.8	Apr 2005	Jan 2005	+5.7
	May	+6.4	May 2005	Feb 2005	+0.1
	Jun	+5.2	Jun 2005	Mar 2005	+0.6
	Jul	+5.6*	Jul 2005	Apr 2005	-1.9*

^{*} Provisional figures.

[@] The rate is calculated by comparing the monthly average index for the 3-month period ending the month in question with that for the preceding 3-month period, e.g. the rate for the 3 months ending Dec. 2004 is the percentage change of the average monthly index for Oct., Nov. and Dec. 2004 over the average monthly index for Jul., Aug. and Sep. 2004.

[#] Seasonally adjusted series may be revised as more data become available. For retail sales index, the seasonally adjusted series for the preceding three years are revised each year when the figures for January become available.