

## **Retail Key Facts**

Key facts on the UK retail sector, compiled by the British Retail Consortium.

- 11% of all VAT-registered businesses in the UK are retailers, with the total number currently at 180,875.
- UK retail sales were £265 billion in 2007, larger than the combined economies of Denmark and Portugal.
- Retail sales account for one-fifth of the UK economy.
- The retail sector generates almost 8% of the Gross Domestic Product of the UK.
- More than a third of consumer spending goes through shops.
- Sales over the internet account for less than 4% of total retail sales, despite strong growth in recent years.
- In 2006 there were 320,733 retail outlets in the UK
- The retail industry employed over 3.0 million people as at the end of March 2008.
- This equates to 11% of the total UK workforce.
- Over the last five years, employment in retailing has grown by 85,087.
- The BRC-Nielsen Shop Price Index shows the price of shop goods are 3.8% higher than a year ago. This is less than the 5.1% increase in the ONS CPI All-Goods Index.

For more information, visit [www.brc.org.uk](http://www.brc.org.uk)