



# ATCM-Springboard High Street Index

## May 2007 Commentary

Cool and rainy weather impacted on activity in the UK's high streets in May, with footfall declining by 7% from April. This decline is in stark contrast to the previous month when a combination of unseasonably warm weather and the Easter weekend meant that footfall increased by 10% from March to April 2007.

The poor performance of high streets in May is compounded by a significant year on year decline in May of 13% (May 2006 compared with May 2007) compared with a year on year decline of just 2% in May 2006 (May 2005 compared with May 2006). Indeed, the downward trend in high street footfall in 2007 is establishing itself as a long term trend with a year on year decline in every month of 2007 so far.

Compared to 2006, high streets did not fare well over either of the May bank holiday weekends. Over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend there was a year on year decline of 16% on Saturday, 37% on Sunday and 15% on Monday. Over the Whitsun Bank Holiday weekend, the picture was similar with a year on year decline of 22% on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May, and 14% on both Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May. The weather undoubtedly played a part in the disappointing performance of high streets over the bank holiday weekends as footfall increased by 4% for the week beginning 30 April but fell by 21% the following week when the weather deteriorated.

All cities:	
Year to end May 07	-12.7%
Year to end April 07	-11.2%
Year to end March 07	-7.0%
Year to end February 07	-8.4%
Year to end January 07	-12.0%

Regional Cities:	
Year to end May 07	-5.2%
Year to end April 07	-6.7%
Year to end March 07	-4.2%
Year to end February 07	-4.1%
Year to end January 07	-6.7%

Month on month change:	
Apr to May 07	-6.6%
Apr to May 06	-5.0%
Mar to Apr 07	9.9%
Mar to Apr 06	15.1%
Feb to Mar 07	4.4%
Feb to Mar 06	2.8%
Jan to Feb 07	6.9%
Jan to Feb 06	2.8%
Dec to Jan 07	-38.1%
Dec to Jan 06	-32.5%

Month on month change:	
Apr to May 07	-3.0%
Apr to May 06	-4.5%
Mar to Apr 07	8.7%
Mar to Apr 06	11.7%
Feb to Mar 07	0.2%
Feb to Mar 06	0.2%
Jan to Feb 07	8.0%
Jan to Feb 06	5.0%
Dec to Jan 07	-37.5%
Dec to Jan 06	-23.4%