

# ATCM-Springboard High Street Index

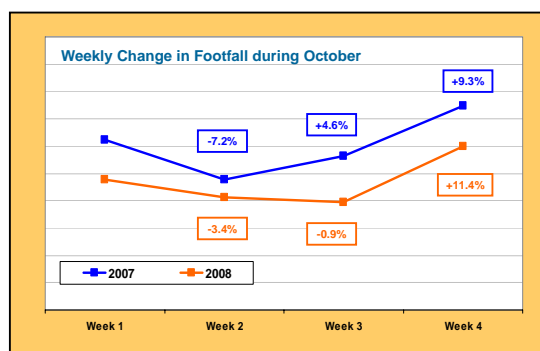
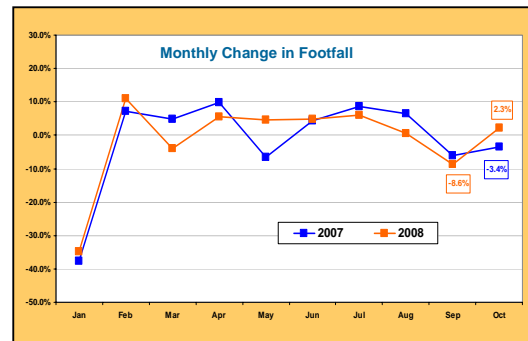
## October 2008 Commentary



Footfall in the UK's high streets in October declined by 6.6% from October 2007. In the context of the current economic fragility, this degree of decline is not unexpected and only slightly greater than the 5% annual decline in footfall recorded in October 2007. However, this latest result does confirm an increasing degree of annual decline in footfall in town centres over this year, with the three month moving average (from August to October) falling to -8.6% compared with -7.2% from July to September and -3.2% between June and August.

The current weakness of our retail environment is further demonstrated by the sales figures for October, released by the British Retail Consortium: not only did like for like sales fall by 2.2% annually in October but total sales also fell for the first time in over three years.

The October half term school holiday, however, seemed to provide some positive news for our town centres: footfall increased by 2.3% between September and October compared with declines of 8.6% between August and September and 3.4% between September and October last year.



Moreover, the increase in footfall that is always expected in a half term week (the last week of the month in October) was more significant this year than last, with an increase of 11.4% between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of the month compared with an increase of 9.3% in the same week in 2007.

### All Towns and Cities

#### Annual Change:

Oct 07 to Oct 08	-6.6%
Sep 07 to Sep 08	-10.6%
Aug 07 to Aug 08	-8.5%

#### Month on month change:

Sep to Oct 08	2.3%
Sep to Oct 07	-3.4%
Aug to Sep 08	-8.6%
Aug to Sep 07	-6.1%
Jul to Aug 08	0.5%
Jul to Aug 07	6.4%

### Regional Cities

#### Annual Change:

Oct 07 to Oct 08	-7.1%
Sep 07 to Sep 08	-12.6%
Aug 07 to Aug 08	-6.5%

#### Month on month change:

Sep to Oct 08	4.3%
Sep to Oct 07	-2.9%
Aug to Sep 08	-7.7%
Aug to Sep 07	-0.6%
Jul to Aug 08	1.8%
Jul to Aug 07	2.9%