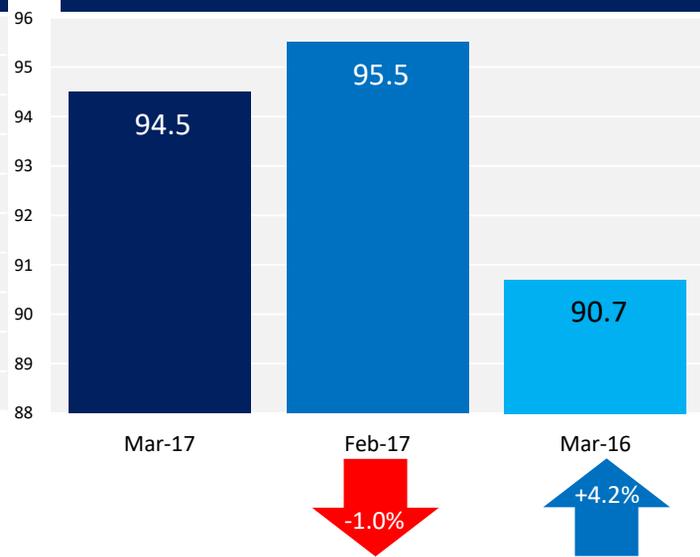


APRIL 2017

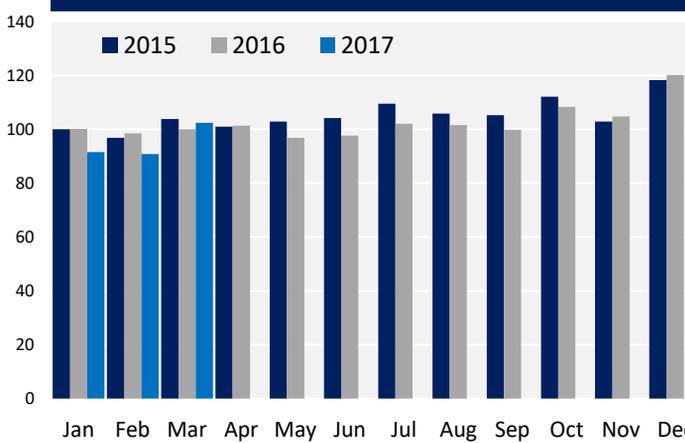
MARKETS FOOTFALL INDEX (MARCH)



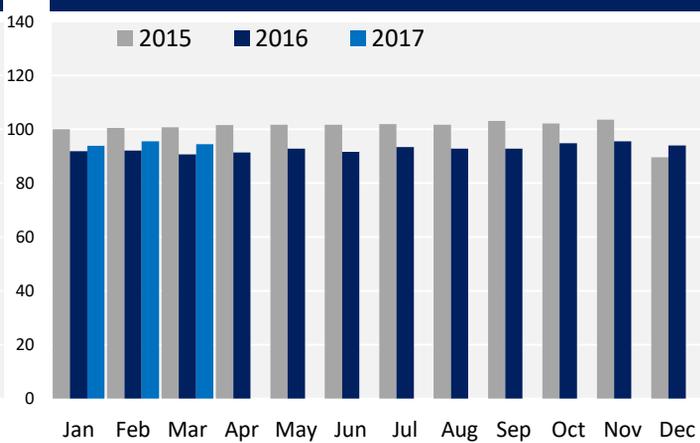
RETAIL SALES VALUE INDEX (MARCH)



MARKETS ANNUAL FOOTFALL TREND



ANNUAL RETAIL SALES TREND



1 st to 7 th Mar 2017		8 th to 16 th Mar 2017		17 th to 23 rd Mar 2017		24 th to 31 st Mar 2017	
mild and changeable windy		Warm with some pleasant sunshine		Wet & windy		Warm & sunny, turning wetter	

The warmest March since 1957 brought visitors into town centres and markets. Springboard report footfall up YoY across all three of their measurement lines : High Streets up 1.7%, shopping centres by 0.2%, and Retail Parks shrugging off a hefty increase in fuel costs to record an increase of 1.4%. Retail markets shared in the buoyancy, with footfall up by a cheering 2.4% YoY, for the first YoY increase of 2017, according to data analysed by PFM Intelligence.

That said, the increased footfall is not mirrored by higher retail sales, with the ONS reporting figures for March down by 1% YoY, for the first quarterly decline since 2013. BBC News reports that consumer confidence is being restrained by rising prices, with store prices up by 3.3% in March, and fuel up by a whacking 16.4%