8 June 2021

Sales in retail trade increased thanks to higher sale of non-food goods

Retail trade – April 2021

In April, sales adjusted for calendar effects increased by 7.4% in real terms (at constant prices), year‑on‑year (y-o-y). Non-adjusted sales increased by 7.5%, y-o-y. Seasonally adjusted sales in retail trade increased by 0.7%, month-on-month (m-o-m).

Seasonally adjusted sales in retail trade, except of motor vehicles1) increased in real terms (at constant prices) by 0.7%, m-o-m, in April. Sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 2.8% and sales for sale of automotive fuel by 1.7%, whereas sales for sale of food decreased by 2.4%.

Sales in retail trade adjusted for calendar effects (at the same number of working days in April 2021 and April 2020) increased by 7.4%2), y-o-y. Sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 14.0% and sales for sale of automotive fuel by 13.1%, whereas sales for sale of food decreased by 1.8%2).

Non-adjusted sales in retail trade increased by 7.5%2), y-o-y. Sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 14.0% and sales for sale of automotive fuel by 13.1%, whereas sales for sale of food decreased by 1.3%2).

April retail sale was influenced both in this year and in the last year by restrictions or complete closures of stores with some assortments of non-food goods in order to prevent the spread of coronavirus. The following contributed to the year-on-year growth of sales for sale of non-food goods: a low comparison basis of April 2020 as well as gradually launched sale over the Internet by many brick and mortar stores. Significantly higher sales were reported by retail sale of clothing, footwear and leather goods in specialised stores (by 80.0%), by which the deepest fall of sales was reported a year ago. The following also reported growth of sales: retail sale of information and communication equipment in specialised stores (by 30.6%), retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores (by 20.7%), retail sale of cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores (by 18.8%), dispensing chemist, medical and orthopaedic goods in specialised stores (by 11.2%), and retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores (by 1.4%). In retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores, sales increased by 7.8%, whereas in retail sale in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating sales decreased by 1.7%. Online shops3)  reported growth of sales by 14.2%, y-o-y.

The price deflator in retail trade, except for motor vehicles and motorcycles related to the corresponding period of the previous year (VAT excluded) was 101.9%. It was mainly influenced by higher prices of automotive fuel, cultural and recreation goods, other household equipment, dispensing chemist, medical and orthopaedic goods, clothing, footwear and leather goods, and food. Conversely, prices of cosmetic and toilet articles and of information and communication equipment decreased.

**Seasonally adjusted** sales for **sale and repair of motor vehicles4)** increased **in real terms (at constant prices)** by 2.0%, **m-o-m**, and sales **adjusted for calendar effects** increased by 67.1%, **y-o-y**. **Non-adjusted** sales increased by 67.1%, **y-o-y**; sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) increased by 73.9%, y‑o-y, and sales for repair of motor vehicles increased by 46.1%, y‑o‑y.

International comparison of retail sales development in Member States of the EU is available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/short-term-business-statistics/publications>.

Notes:

*All data in the text of the News Release are at constant prices.*

*Enterprises are classified to the economic activity according to their principal (prevailing) activity, which is such an activity, from which the enterprise gets the highest value added.*

*Data for March 2021 have been revised in accordance with the CZSO revision policy. Data for April 2021 are preliminary. Final data for all months of 2021 will be published in March 2022.*

We point out that since the way estimates for non-surveyed part of the sample are made has changed, previously released data may be revised more.

*1) CZ-NACE 47 – retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles*

*2)* The difference between the development of adjusted and non-adjusted sales for sale of food was caused mainly by a different number of the above average and average selling days (as for the volume of sale).

*3) CZ-NACE 4791 – retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet*

*4) CZ-NACE 45 – wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles*

*In the end of June 2021, the CZSO will publish time series of sales indices for wholesale trade (CZ-NACE 46) and for the whole trade (CZ-NACE G).*

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*Method of data acquisition: direct survey of the CZSO (“*SP 1–12”*)*

*End of data collection: 28 May 2021*

*End of data processing: 2 June 2021*

*Related outputs: Base indices and y-o-y indices since 2000 and 2001, respectively, are available in time series (*[*https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/sales\_indices\_monthly\_retail\_trade\_hotels\_and\_restaurants\_time\_series*](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/sales_indices_monthly_retail_trade_hotels_and_restaurants_time_series)*).*

*Next News Release will be published on: 8 July 2021*

Annexes:

Table 1 Retail trade and sale and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (year-on-year indices, non‑adjusted data)

Table 2 Sales in main assortment types of stores (year-on-year changes, decomposition of increase – year-on-year)

Table 3 Retail trade and sale and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (year-on-year indices, adjusted for calendar effects)

Chart: Sales in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles – base indices, constant prices

Chart: Sales in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles – international comparison, seasonally adjusted, constant prices