5 April 2023

Year-on-year decline in sales in retail trade continued

Retail trade – February 2023

Sales in retail trade decreased in real terms by 6.4%, year‑on‑year (y-o-y) in February; in the month-on-month (m-o-m) comparison, they decreased by 0.4%.

Sales in retail trade, except of motor vehicles1) decreased by 0.4% in real terms, month‑on‑month, in February. Sales for sale of food decreased by 1.8%, whereas sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 0.2% and sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 1.5%.

Sales in retail trade decreased in real terms by 6.4%, year-on-year, in February. Sales for sale of food decreased by 7.6% and sales for sale of non-food goods by 7.1%, whereas sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 0.3%.

*“Sales in retail trade adjusted for price effects decreased by 6.4%, year-on-year, in February. The sales decrease continued already since last May. Compared to the previous year, less goods were sold in food stores as well as in non-food ones. Compared to the previous month, as for food, the decrease rate deepened, whereas as for non-food goods it slackened. Sale of automotive fuel reported a y-o-y increase of sales for the third successive month,”* Jana Gotvaldová, Head of the Trade, Transport, and Services Statistics Unit of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), says.

*“A decrease of sales continued in retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores and retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores, namely for the tenth successive month. In other assortment types of specialised stores with non-food goods sales increased. Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet already decreased for the fourteenth successive month,”* Marie Boušková, Director of the Trade, Transport, Services, Tourism, and Environmental Statistics Department of the CZSO, adds.

Sales in retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores decreased by 14.7%, year on-year, and in retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores by 1.9%. On the other hand, sales in retail sale of clothing, footwear and leather goods in specialised stores increased by 4.8%, in retail sale of information and communication equipment in specialised stores by 3.8%, dispensing chemist and medical goods by 1.3%, and sales in retail sale of cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores by 1.0%. Sales for sale of food already decreased for the tenth successive month, namely by 7.6% in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating and by 7.2% in retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores. In other retail sale in non-specialised stores sales increased by 3.6%. In retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet2) sales decreased by 7.7%.

Sales for **sale and repair of motor vehicles3)** increased **in real terms** by 0.8%, **m-o-m**. In the **year-on-year** comparison, sales increased by 4.1%, while sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) increased by 4.2% and sales for repair of motor vehicles by 4.1%.

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. The year-on-year development is published after having been adjusted for the influence of the number of working days (calendar effects). Month on‑month rates have also been seasonally adjusted.*

*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 January 2023 have been revised in accordance with the CZSO Data Revision Policy. Data for February 2023 are preliminary; final data for all months of 2023 will be published in March 2024.*

Methodology: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/methodology_monthly_sales_indices_in_trade_hotels_and_restaurants>

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

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

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

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

*End of data collection: 28 March 2023*

*End of data processing: 31 March 2023*

*Related outputs: time series in the Public database: (*<https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf?page=statistiky#katalog=31029>*).*

*Next News Release will be published on: 5 May 2023*

Annexes:

Table 1 Retail trade and sale and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (year-on-year indices, constant prices, adjusted for calendar effects)

Chart 1: Sales in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles (base indices, constant prices)

Chart 2: Sales in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles (year-on-year indices, constant prices)

Chart 3: Sales in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles – international comparison (base indices, seasonally adjusted, constant prices)

Chart 4: Sales in retail trade – contribution of the selected CZ-NACE divisions to year-on-year change (adjusted for calendar effects)