7 April 2016

Longer February contributed to y-o-y sales increase

Retail trade – February 2016

In February 2016, sales in retail trade after seasonal adjustment decreased at constant prices by 0.5%, month-on-month (m-o-m). Sales adjusted for calendar effects increased by 4.0%, year‑on-year (y-o-y), non-adjusted by 8.5%, mainly owing to a higher number of working and calendar days.

Seasonally adjusted sales in retail trade except of motor vehicles and motorcycles (CZ‑NACE 47) decreased in February at constant prices by 0.5%, month-on-month. Sales adjusted for calendar effects increased by 4.0%, year-on-year; non-adjusted sales increased by 8.5% (in February 2016 there was one working and calendar day more than in February 2015). Non-adjusted sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 9.6%, year‑on‑year, for sale of automotive fuel by 8.0%, and for food by 7.3%.

The highest growth was recorded by retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet (growth by 19.7%). Consumers were more interested also in purchases of clothing and footwear in specialised stores (by 12.7%), other household equipment in specialised stores (by 12.0%), dispensing chemist, medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores (by 7.0%), and cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores (by 5.6%). Growth of sale continued as for food both in specialised and non-specialised stores (by 7.8% and 7.2%, respectively). On the contrary, decrease was recorded in retail sale of information and communication equipment in specialised stores (by 0.8%).

The price deflator (CZ-NACE 47) related to the corresponding period of the previous year (VAT excluded) was 97.6%. It was influenced mainly by lower prices of automotive fuel, food, and information and communication equipment. On the contrary, prices increased in stores with clothing and footwear, cultural and recreation goods, and dispensing chemist, medical and orthopaedic goods.

**Seasonally adjusted** sales **for sale and repair of motor vehicles (CZ-NACE 45)** decreased **at constant prices** by 0.6%, **m-o-m**. Sales **adjusted for calendar effects** increased by 9.1%, **y-o-y**. **Non-adjusted** sales increased by 14.6%, **y-o-y**, sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) increased by 15.3% and for repair of motor vehicles by 11.5%.

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

Notes:

*Data for January 2016 have been revised in compliance with the CZSO revision policy. Data for February 2016 are preliminary. Final data for all months of 2016 will be available in June 2017 at the latest.*

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*Method of data acquisition: direct survey of the CZSO (SP1-12)*

*End of data collection: 30 March 2016*

*End of data processing: 4 April 2016*

*Related outputs: Fixed-base and y-o-y indices since 2000 and 2001 are available in 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: 6 May 2016*

Annexes:

Table 1 Retail trade, sale and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles

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

Graph 1 Sales in retail trade, excl. automotive fuel (fixed-base indices)

Graph 2 Sales in retail trade (CZ-NACE 47) – international comparison