5 May 2023

Less of both non-food goods and food were sold

Retail trade – March 2023

Sales in retail trade decreased in real terms by 8.1%, year‑on‑year (y-o-y) in March; in the month-on-month (m-o-m) comparison, they decreased by 0.7%.

Sales in retail trade, except of motor vehicles1) decreased by 0.7% in real terms, month‑on‑month, in March. Sales for sale of non-food goods decreased by 1.3% and for food by 0.3%, whereas sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 0.6%.

Sales in retail trade decreased in real terms by 8.1%, year-on-year, in March. Sales for sale of non-food goods decreased by 9.7% and sales for sale of food by 8.7%, whereas sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 2.4%.

*“Sales in retail trade adjusted for price effects decreased in March, year-on-year, namely for the eleventh successive month. Compared to last year’s March, less of both non-food goods and food were sold, whereas more automotive fuel was sold. A sales decrease was recorded by all assortment types of stores and also by retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet,”* Jana Gotvaldová, Head of the Trade, Transport, and Services Statistics Unit of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), says.

Sales in retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores decreased by 18.4%, year‑on-year, in retail sale of information and communication equipment in specialised stores by 10.4%, in retail sale of cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores by 6.7%, in retail sale of clothing, footwear and leather goods in specialised stores by 3.8%, in retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores by 3.4%, and dispensing chemist and medical goods by 1.3%. Sales from sale of food decreased in specialised stores by 9.1% and in retail sale in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating by 8.6%. In other retail sale in non-specialised stores sales increased by 1.8%. In retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet2) sales decreased by 4.0%.

Sales for **sale and repair of motor vehicles3)** decreased **in real terms** by 0.9%, **m-o-m**. In the **year-on-year** comparison, sales increased by 3.9%, while sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) increased by 4.2% and sales for repair of motor vehicles by 2.8%.

*“For the whole first quarter, sales in retail trade decreased in real terms by 7.3%, year-on-year. Sales for sale of non-food goods dropped by 8.4%, sales for sale of food by 7.8%, whereas sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 0.3%. Sales for sale and repair of motor vehicles increased by 4.3%,”* Marie Boušková, Director of the Trade, Transport, Services, Tourism, and Environmental Statistics Department of the CZSO, adds.

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 February 2023 have been revised in accordance with the CZSO Data Revision Policy. Data for March 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: 26 April 2023*

*End of data processing: 2 May 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: 7 June 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)