4 April 2014

Four-month growth of retail sales

Retail trade – February 2014

In February 2014 sales in retail trade including the automotive segment after seasonal adjustment increased by 0.3% at constant prices, month-on-month. Working days adjusted sales increased by 8.1%, year-on-year, the same as non-adjusted. The sales growth, which started in November 2013, continued also in February.

Seasonally adjusted sales in retail trade including sale and repair of motor vehicles increased in February 2014 by 0.3% at constant prices, month-on-month; working days adjusted sales increased by 8.1%, year-on-year, the same as non-adjusted sales. The y‑o‑y growth of sales was contributed to (at the same number of working days in February 2014 and 2013) more by the automotive segment rather than the retail trade alone (see Table 2). Higher growth index was influenced in both the CZ-NACE activities, among others, also by lower comparison base in February 2013.

**Seasonally adjusted** sales for **sale and repair of motor vehicles (CZ-NACE 45)** increased by 0.4% **at constant prices, m-o-m;** **year-on-year**, **both** **working days adjusted and non‑adjusted sales** increased by 19.7%. Year-on-year, non-adjusted sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) increased by 20.3% and for repairs by 17.1%.

In **retail trade including sale of automotive fuel (CZ-NACE 47) seasonally adjusted** sales increased **at constant prices** by 0.2%, **m-o-m**, and **working days adjusted sales** increased by 3.2%, **y-o-y,** the same as **non-adjusted**. Sales for non-food goods increased by 4.0%, for automotive fuel by 3.0%, and for food by 2.4%, y-o-y.

Sales growth was recorded by all main assortment groups of goods except for dispensing chemist and medical and orthopaedic goods, in which the decrease from preceding months continued (-4.4%). Increase of sales was reported mainly by retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet (+18.9%), retail sale of information and communication equipment in specialised stores (+9.1%), retail sale of clothing and footwear in specialised stores (+5.7%), retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores (+4.4%), and retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores (+1.2%). Sales increased also in retail sale in non‑specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating and in retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (+2.5% and +1.1%, respectively).

The price deflator (CZ-NACE 47) related to the corresponding period of the previous year (VAT excluded) was 100.9%. Prices increased mainly for food, clothing and footwear, cultural and recreation goods; on the contrary, most distinctive price falls were for information and communication equipment.

International comparison of retail sales development in the EU Member States is available at: (<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home>).

Notes:

*Data for January 2014 have been revised according to the CZSO revision policy. Data for February 2014 are preliminary; final data for all months of 2014 will be available in June 2015 at the latest.*

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

*End of data collection: 27 March 2014*

*End of data processing: 1 April 2014*

*Related outputs: Fixed-base and y-o-y indices since 2000 and 2001 are available in time series (*[*http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/sales\_indices\_monthly retail\_trade\_hotels\_and\_restaurants\_time\_series*](http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/sales_indices_monthly_retail_trade_hotels_and_restaurants_time_series)*).*

*Next News Release will be published on: 7 May 2014*

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