8 July 2020

Purchases of goods over the Internet and of other household equipment increased

Retail trade – May 2020

In May, sales adjusted for calendar effects increased in real terms (at constant prices) by 2.0%, year‑on‑year (y-o-y). Non-adjusted sales decreased by 0.7%, y-o-y. Seasonally adjusted sales in retail trade increased by 11.6%, month-on-month (m-o-m).

Seasonally adjusted sales in retail trade, except of motor vehicles1) increased in real terms (at constant prices) by 11.6%, m-o-m, in May. Sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 20.5%, sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 17.7%, and sales for sale of food increased by 2.0%.

Sales in retail trade adjusted for calendar effects increased by 2.0%, y-o-y. Sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 6.1%, sales for sale of food increased by 0.4%, while sales for sale of automotive fuel decreased by 9.4%. There were two working days less in May 2020 compared to May 2019.

Non-adjusted sales in retail trade decreased by 0.7%, y-o-y. Sales for sale of food decreased by 1.5% and sales for sale of automotive fuel dropped by 11.8%, y-o-y, while sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 2.6%.

Customers continued to be interested the most in purchases of goods over the Internet2) (the sales grew by 33.6%). As for specialised stores with non-food goods, customers purchased more especially the assortment of other household equipment (growth by 15.2%). On the other hand, sales decreased in retail sale in specialised stores with information and communication equipment (drop by 1.0%), in stores with cultural and recreation goods (drop by 1.9%), in stores with dispensing chemist, medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles (drop by 9.0%), and in stores with clothing, footwear and leather goods (drop by 21.0%). Sales in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating increased by 0.2%, while in retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores the sales decreased by 29.2%.

The price deflator in retail trade, except for motor vehicles and motorcycles related to the corresponding period of the previous year (VAT excluded) was 100.0%. It was influenced mainly by higher prices of food, clothing, footwear and leather goods, other household equipment, dispensing chemist, medical and orthopaedic goods, cosmetic and toilet articles. On the other hand, prices decreased in cultural and recreation goods, information and communication equipment, and automotive fuel.

**Seasonally adjusted** sales for **sale and repair of motor vehicles3)** increased **in real terms (at constant prices)** by 17.5%, **m-o-m**, and sales **adjusted for calendar effects** decreased by 32.6%, **y-o-y**. **Non-adjusted** sales decreased by 36.8%, **y-o-y**; sales for repair of motor vehicles decreased by 30.3%, y‑o‑y, and sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) decreased by 38.3%, y‑o-y.

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

We note that with regards to extraordinary measures in retail trade related to the Covid-19 disease, previously released data may undergo a significant revision. The eventuality of a revision is owing to the fact that part of the data, which is typically modelled based on VAT tax returns for the previous periods, had to be estimated.

We express our great thanks to all enterprises, which have provided the CZSO with data in this difficult situation and thus enabled the CZSO to process the results.

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 April 2020 have been revised. Data for May 2020 are preliminary. Final data for all months of 2020 will be published in March 2021.*

*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; 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: 29 June 2020*

*End of data processing: 2 July 2020*

*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: 5 August 2020*

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