8 February 2024

Sales in services decreased by 3.0% in 2023

Services – the fourth quarter of 2023

**In the Q4 2023, sales adjusted for calendar effects decreased in real terms by 3.0%, year‑on-year (y-o-y); it was the same for the whole year 2023. In the quarter-on-quarter (q-o-q) comparison, sales adjusted for seasonal effects increased in real terms by 0.1%.**

*“Compared to the year 2022, annual sales in services decreased by 3.0%. The highest contribution to the decrease was reported by the CZ-NACE section of transportation and storage with a year-on-year decrease in sales by 9.6%,”* Tomáš Harák, Head of the Services, Trade, and Environmental Statistics Data Support Unit of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), says.

**Quarter-on-quarter, seasonally adjusted** sales **in services1)** **increased in real terms by 0.1%**, in the Q4. The highest increase of sales was reported by the CZ-NACE section of professional, scientific and technical activities and by the section of accommodation and food service activities; on the other hand, sales decreased in transportation and storage.

**In the year-on-year comparison,** sales **adjusted for calendar effects decreased by 3.0% in the Q4 2023.** The biggest decrease was recorded by transportation and storage.

Development in individual industries of services (CZ-NACE sections) was as follows:

* Sales **in** **transportation and storage** decreased by 9.5%. The following contributed the most to the decrease: warehousing and support activities for transportation, in which sales decreased by 12.6% and land transport and transport via pipelines, in which sales were by 9.1% lower. A decrease of sales was also recorded by water transport (by 1.4%), postal and courier activities (by 0.3%), and air transport (by 0.2%).
* Sales **in** **accommodation and food service activities** increased by 1.6%. Growth of sales was higher in accommodation (by 3.7%) than in food and beverage service activities (by 0.9%).
* Sales **in** **information and communication** decreased by 2.6%. The biggest year-on-year drop of sales was recorded by music and motion picture activities (by 23.0%). Lower sales were also recorded by publishing activities (by 10.9%), information service activities (by 4.8%), and computer programming, consultancy and related activities (by 2.4%), which include, for example, computer programming activities, computer facilities management activities, and computer consultancy activities. On the other hand, sales increased in telecommunications (by 1.0%) and programming and broadcasting activities (by 10.4%).
* Sales **in** **real estate activities** decreased by 2.0%, y-o-y.
* **In** **professional, scientific and technical activities2)**sales increased by 3.5%. The highest sales increase was reported by architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis (by 8.6%). Sales in activities of head offices; management consultancy activities increased by 3.1%, in legal and accounting activities by 3.0%, in advertising and market research there was an increase by 2.7%. On the other hand, other professional, scientific and technical activities, which include, for example, business brokerage activities, translation and photographic activities, or activities of quantity surveyors, decreased by 5.7%, year-on-year.
* **In** **administrative and support service activities**,sales decreased by 2.8%. The biggest decrease was recorded by employment activities (by 16.3%). By 8.5% sales decreased in services to buildings and landscape activities; in security and investigation activities, sales dropped by 4.5%, in office administrative, office support and other business support activities by 4.4%, and in rental and leasing activities by 1.8%. In travel agency, tour operator and other reservation service and related activities, sales increased by 16.9%, year-on-year.

Notes:

All data in the text of the news release are presented at constant prices. The year-on-year development is published after having been adjusted for an influence of the number of working days. Quarter-on-quarter 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 an enterprise gets the highest value added.

Data for the Q4 2023 are preliminary; final data for individual quarters of 2023 will be released in March 2024.

Starting from the news release with results for the Q1 2024, there will be a new base period for short-term statistics. Besides the change of the base period at fixed-base indices (that will be newly compared to the average of the year 2021 instead of the average of 2015), also the weighting scheme of the year 2021 will be used.

Methodology: <https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/2-slu_m2013>

We point out that since the way estimates for the non-surveyed part of the sample are made has changed, previously released data may be revised more.

1) For the purposes of the news release, services include the following CZ-NACE sections: Transportation and storage (H), Accommodation and food service activities (I), Information and communication (J), Real estate activities (L), Professional, scientific and technical activities – excluding Scientific research and development and Veterinary activities (M excluding 72 and 75), and Administrative and support service activities (N).  
2) For the purposes of the news release, section M – Professional, scientific and technical activities does not include CZ-NACE 72 – Scientific research and development and CZ-NACE 75 – Veterinary activities.

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#### *Method of data acquisition: direct survey of the CZSO (*SP 1-12*)*

#### *End of data collection: 29 January 2024*

#### *End of data processing: 1 February 2024*

*Related outputs: time series in the Public database:*

[*Statistics VDB*](https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf?page=statistiky#katalog=31030)

Next news release will be published on: 10 May 2024

Annexes:

Table 1 Sales in services (year-on-year indices, adjusted for calendar effects, constant prices)

Chart 1 Sales in services (base indices, constant prices)

Chart 2 Sales in services (year-on-year indices, constant prices)

Chart 3 Sales in services – international comparison (base indices, seasonally adjusted, current prices)

Chart 4 Sales in services – contributions of selected industries (CZ-NACE sections) to the year-on-year change (adjusted for calendar effects, constant prices)