7 February 2024

Sales in retail trade decreased by 4.1% in the year 2023

Retail trade – December 2023

Sales in retail trade increased in real terms by 1.6%, year‑on‑year (y-o-y) in December; in the month-on-month (m-o-m) comparison, they increased by 0.2%. Sales for sale and repair of motor vehicles increased by 5.0%, y-o-y; in the m-o-m comparison they decreased by 0.2%.

**For the whole year 2023, sales in retail trade decreased by 4.1%; sales for sale and repair of motor vehicles increased by 4.2%.**

Sales in retail trade, except of motor vehicles1) increased in real terms by 0.2%, month‑on‑month, in December. Sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 0.9% and sales for sale of non-food goods by 0.5%, whereas sales for sale of food decreased by 0.4%.

Sales in retail trade increased in real terms by 1.6%, year-on-year, in December; sales for sale of non-food goods increased by 2.5% and sales for sale of automotive fuel by 2.3%, whereas sales for sale of food decreased by 0.2%.

*“Sales in retail trade adjusted for price effects recorded a year-on-year growth in December. Sale of non-food goods and automotive fuel contributed to the increase. As for non-food goods, the highest year-on-year growth of sales was attained by retail sale of cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores. Sales for sale of food were constantly decreasing already for the twentieth successive month; however, the decrease rate slackened in December,”* Jana Gotvaldová, Head of the Trade, Transport, and Services Statistics Unit of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), says.

Sales in retail sale of cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores increased by 15.5%, year‑on-year; sales in retail sale of information and communication equipment in specialised stores by 11.2%, and sales in dispensing chemist, retail sale of medical and orthopaedic goods in specialised stores increased by 5.6%. On the other hand, sales decreased in retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores by 5.0%, in retail sale of clothing, footwear and leather goods in specialised stores by 3.7%, and in retail sale of cultural and recreation goods in specialised stores by 0.6%. Sales in retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores increased by 1.2%, whereas in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating they decreased by 0.3%. In other retail sale in non‑specialised stores sales increased by 15.0%. In retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet2) sales increased by 5.5%.

Sales **for sale and repair of motor vehicles3)** decreased in real terms by 0.2%, m-o-m. In the year-on-year comparison, sales increased by 5.0%. Sales for repair of motor vehicles increased by 5.5% and sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) by 4.9%.

For the whole year 2023, sales in retail trade decreased in real terms by 4.1%, year-on-year; sales for sale of food dropped by 5.3% and for non-food goods by 5.2%, whereas sales for sale of automotive fuel increased by 4.9%. Sales for sale and repair of motor vehicles increased by 4.2%; sales for sale of motor vehicles (including spare parts) increased by 4.7% and sales for repair of motor vehicles by 2.3%.

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 November 2023 have been revised in accordance with the CZSO Data revision policy. Data for December 2023 are preliminary; final data for all months of 2023 will be published in March 2024.*

*Starting from the news release with results for January 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/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: 29 January 2024*

*End of data processing: 1 February 2024*

*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: 12 March 2024*

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)