

Turnover of trade

2016, March

Total trade sales fell by 3.3 per cent in March year-on-year

According to Statistics Finland, retail trade sales fell by 0.8 per cent in March from March 2015. Sales in department stores contracted by 3.4 per cent, whereas daily consumer goods sales went up by 2.0 per cent. Among the main sectors of trade, sales contracted most in wholesale trade, in total by 6.2 per cent from one year ago. In turn, motor vehicle sales grew by 2.5 per cent. Sales decreased in total trade by 3.3 per cent from March 2015.

Annual change in turnover in trade industries, % (TOL 2008)



Source: Statistics Finland

Sales volume of retail trade increased by 0.9 per cent in March from the year before

The volume of retail trade sales grew by 0.9 per cent in March from March 2015. Sales volume in motor vehicle trade grew by 2.3 per cent during the same period. In turn, the sales volume in wholesale trade decreased by 3.0 per cent from the previous year. The volume of total sales contracted by 0.9 per cent in March from March 2015.

The volume index of sales is calculated by removing the effect of price changes from the value index series. Due to fallen prices, the sales volume developed more favourably than turnover in all sectors of trade apart from motor vehicle trade.

Sales grew by 7.6 per cent in motor vehicle trade in the first quarter

Sales in retail trade and wholesale trade went down in January to March compared with January to March 2015. Retail trade sales fell by 0.3 per cent and wholesale trade sales by 3.2 per cent. In turn, the sales volume in motor vehicle trade increased by 7.6 per cent from one year back. Total trade sales went down by 0.8 per cent over the corresponding period.

The reported annual changes in trade sales and sales volumes are not seasonally or trading day adjusted, which means that the effects of public holidays are not considered. In March, the development of sales was partly due to Easter being in March this year, while last year it was in April. The fact that Easter occurs in different months is in particular visible in the sales development of food during March and April. In addition, the development of retail trade in March to April was affected by large sales campaigns being arranged in different months than last year. The opening hours of retail shops were deregulated starting from 1 January 2016 after which some retail shops have extended their opening hours.

Contents

Tables

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Year-on-year change in turnover in trade industries, % (TOL 2008).....	4
--	---

Figures

Appendix figures

Appendix figure 1. Turnover of motor vehicles, wholesale and retail trade, trend series (TOL 2008).....	5
---	---

Revisions in these statistics.....	6
------------------------------------	---

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Year-on-year change in turnover in trade industries, % (TOL 2008)

	Year-on-year change by quarter, % ¹⁾				Cumulative year-on-year change, % ¹⁾	Year-on-year change in the latest month, % ¹⁾
	04-06/2015	07-09/2015	10-12/2015	01-03/2016		
Total trade (G)	-3,0	-3,3	-1,2	-0,8	-0,8	-3,3
Motor vehicle trade (45)	-0,6	3,1	6,9	7,6	7,6	2,5
Wholesale trade (46)	-4,3	-5,8	-3,9	-3,2	-3,2	-6,2
Retail trade (47)	-1,7	-1,3	0,6	-0,3	-0,3	-0,8
Daily consumer goods trade (4711, 472) ²⁾	-2,7	-2,4	-0,9	0,7	0,7	2,0
Department store trade (4719) ³⁾	-4,1	-2,3	0,1	-0,8	-0,8	-3,4

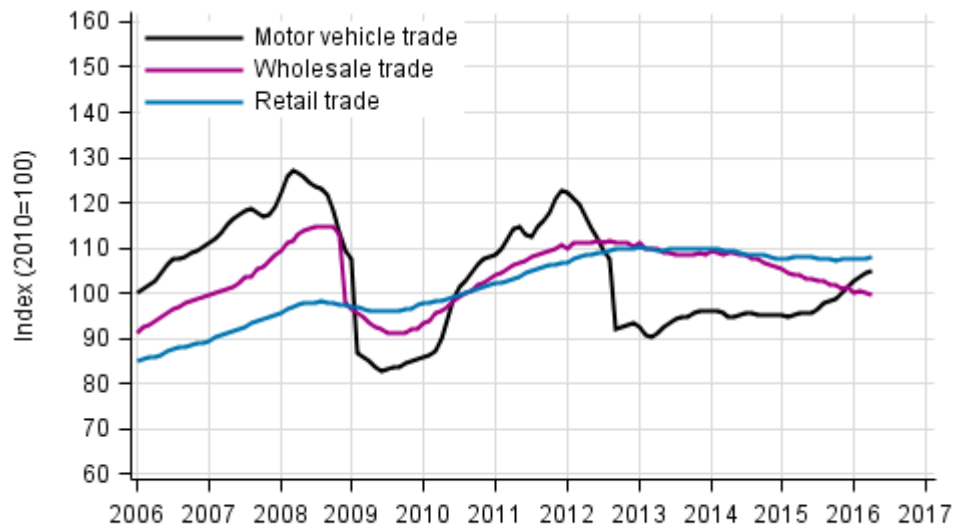
1) Year-on-year change compares the value for an examined time period to the value for the corresponding time period twelve months back.

2) According to the Structural business and financial statement statistics, the share of daily consumer goods (4711, 472) of turnover in retail trade was 48.9 per cent in 2014.

3) According to the Structural business and financial statement statistics, the share of retail sale in department stores (4719) of turnover in retail trade was 11.4 per cent in 2014.

Appendix figures

Appendix figure 1. Turnover of motor vehicles, wholesale and retail trade, trend series (TOL 2008)



Source: Statistics Finland

Revisions in these statistics

The data of the statistics have become revised according to the table below. For more information about data revisions, see Section 3 of the quality description (only in Finnish).

Revision of annual changes in turnover in main industries¹⁾

Industry / Reference period		Year-on-year change,%		Revision, percentage point
		1st release	Latest release (2016-05-13)	
G Wholesale and retail trade	10/2015	-6,5	-5,7	0,8
	11/2015	0,4	2,1	1,7
	12/2015	-0,2	0,4	0,6
	01/2016	-0,5	-1,9	-1,4
	02/2016	1,9	3,3	1,4
45 Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10/2015	0,7	0,9	0,2
	11/2015	10,6	12,3	1,7
	12/2015	8,2	8,7	0,5
	01/2016	8,9	8,5	-0,4
	02/2016	12,4	12,9	0,5
46 Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10/2015	-10,3	-9,0	1,3
	11/2015	-2,3	0,0	2,3
	12/2015	-2,8	-2,2	0,6
	01/2016	-2,6	-4,1	-1,5
	02/2016	-1,0	1,3	2,3
47 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10/2015	-2,6	-2,4	0,2
	11/2015	1,2	2,0	0,8
	12/2015	1,6	2,0	0,4
	01/2016	-1,2	-2,5	-1,3
	02/2016	2,1	2,6	0,5
Retail sale in non-specialised stores (4711, 472)	10/2015	-2,4	-2,6	-0,2
	11/2015	-0,1	-0,5	-0,4
	12/2015	0,2	0,3	0,1
	01/2016	-1,9	-2,4	-0,5
	02/2016	2,3	2,5	0,2
Department store trade (4719)	10/2015	-2,8	-3,0	-0,2
	11/2015	1,8	2,0	0,2
	12/2015	1,2	1,0	-0,2
	01/2016	0,0	-0,5	-0,5
	02/2016	2,3	2,0	-0,3

1) The 1st release refers to the time when data for the reference period were released for the first time. The revision describes the difference of annual change percentages between the first and latest release.

Revision of long-term annual changes in turnover in main industries

Industry	Year	Average ¹⁾	Average for absolute values ²⁾
Total trade (G)	2012	-0,7	0,9
	2013	-0,2	0,5
	2014	-0,1	0,7
Motor vehicle trade (45)	2012	0,6	2,3
	2013	-0,5	0,9
	2014	-0,5	1,2

Industry	Year	Average ¹⁾	Average for absolute values ²⁾
Wholesale trade (46)	2012	-0,8	1,1
	2013	-0,1	0,7
	2014	0,1	0,8
Retail trade (47)	2012	-0,7	0,9
	2013	-0,5	0,8
	2014	-0,3	0,7
Daily consumer goods trade (4711, 472)	2012	-0,5	0,7
	2013	0,1	0,5
	2014	-0,2	0,6
Department store trade (4719)	2012	0,1	0,4
	2013	-0,1	0,4
	2014	-0,1	0,5

1) Average for data revised between the first and seventh release in the statistical reference year.

2) Average for absolute values of differences between the first and seventh release.

Inquiries

Seija Karttunen 029 551 2741
Director in charge:
Mari Ylä-Jarkko

palvelut.suhdanne@stat.fi
www.stat.fi
Source: Turnover of trade, Statistics Finland