

# Turnover of trade

2017, March

## Sales in total trade grew by 7.9 per cent year-on-year in March

According to Statistics Finland, sales in total trade increased by 7.9 per cent in March from March 2016. Among trade industries, wholesale trade and motor vehicle trade grew most. Sales in wholesale trade increased by 10.7 per cent and in motor vehicle trade by 10.6 per cent year-on-year. Sales in retail trade increased by 2.2 per cent in March year-on-year. Among retail trade industries, daily consumer goods sales grew by 0.7 per cent, whereas sales in department stores contracted by 1.2 per cent from March 2016.

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



Source: Statistics Finland

## Sales volume of total trade increased by 4.3 per cent in March from the year before

The volume of retail trade sales grew by 2.4 per cent in March from March 2016. The sales volume in wholesale trade went up by 4.4 per cent and in motor vehicle trade by 10.5 per cent from one year ago. Thus, sales volume increased in total trade by 4.3 per cent compared with March 2016.

The volume index of sales is calculated by removing the effect of price changes from the value index series.

## **Retail trade sales grew by 1.9 per cent in the first quarter**

In the January to March period, sales increased by 1.9 per cent in retail trade and by 9.5 per cent in wholesale trade compared to January to March 2016. Sales in motor vehicle trade grew by 6.8 per cent over the same period. Sales in total trade increased by 6.6 per cent in the first quarter from January to March 2016.

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 April this year, while last year it was in March. The fact that Easter occurs in different months is in particular visible in the sales development of food during March and April.

## **Changes in the Tax Administration's self-assessed tax data have not so far had an effect on the data of turnover indices**

The effects of the changes in the Tax Administration's self-assessed tax data have been analysed in Statistics Finland's turnover indices. Based on the analyses, the changes have thus far not been found to have significant effects on enterprises' VAT reporting in terms of statistics production. More information about this in [Changes in the periodic tax return data used in turnover indices](#).

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# Appendix tables

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

	Year-on-year change by quarter, % <sup>1)</sup>				Cumulative year-on-year change, % <sup>1)</sup>	Year-on-year change in the latest month, % <sup>1)</sup>
	04-06/2016	07-09/2016	10-12/2016	01-03/2017		
Total trade (G)	2.1	1.0	3.1	6.6	6.6	7.9
Motor vehicle trade (45)	13.9	8.7	6.5	6.8	6.8	10.6
Wholesale trade (46)	-0.1	-0.9	3.8	9.5	9.5	10.7
Retail trade (47)	1.3	1.2	0.7	1.9	1.9	2.2
Daily consumer goods trade (4711, 472) <sup>2)</sup>	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.7
Department store trade (4719) <sup>3)</sup>	3.9	4.9	-0.3	-2.5	-2.5	-1.2

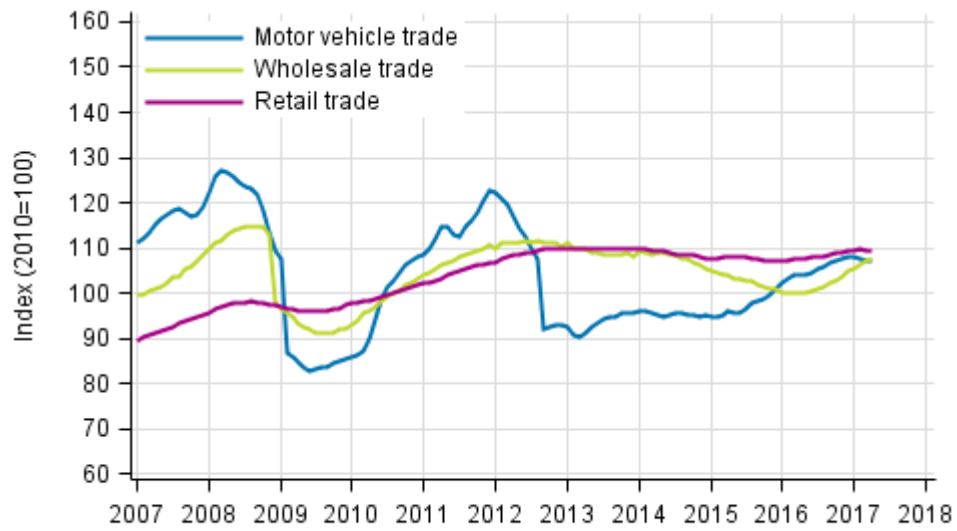
1) Year-on-year change compares the value for an examined time period to the value for the corresponding time period twelve months back.

2) According to the Structural business and financial statement statistics, the share of daily consumer goods (4711, 472) of turnover in retail trade was 49.6 per cent in 2015.

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 11.2 per cent in 2015.

# 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 industries<sup>1)</sup>

Industry / Reference period		Year-on-year change,%		Revision, percentage point
		1st release	Latest release (2017-05-12)	
G Wholesale and retail trade	10/2016	0.1	0.0	-0.1
	11/2016	6.5	7.4	0.9
	12/2016	2.1	2.2	0.1
	01/2017	7.7	10.2	2.5
	02/2017	1.7	1.7	0.0
45 Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10/2016	2.9	4.3	1.4
	11/2016	9.8	10.3	0.5
	12/2016	4.5	5.0	0.5
	01/2017	10.6	10.7	0.1
	02/2017	-1.0	-1.1	-0.1
46 Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10/2016	-0.5	-0.6	-0.1
	11/2016	7.7	8.8	1.1
	12/2016	3.4	3.4	0.0
	01/2017	10.2	14.2	4.0
	02/2017	3.0	3.6	0.6
47 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10/2016	0.0	-0.8	-0.8
	11/2016	3.3	3.8	0.5
	12/2016	-0.7	-0.5	0.2
	01/2017	2.4	3.5	1.1
	02/2017	1.0	-0.2	-1.2
Retail sale in non-specialised stores (4711, 472)	10/2016	-1.6	-2.8	-1.2
	11/2016	2.4	3.1	0.7
	12/2016	0.2	0.6	0.4
	01/2017	1.9	2.3	0.4
	02/2017	0.4	-0.2	-0.6
Department store trade (4719)	10/2016	-0.7	-0.8	-0.1
	11/2016	4.5	4.4	-0.1
	12/2016	-2.8	-3.2	-0.4
	01/2017	-4.9	-3.2	1.7
	02/2017	-0.9	-3.2	-2.3

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 <sup>1)</sup>	Average for absolute values <sup>2)</sup>
Total trade (G)	2013	-0.2	0.5
	2014	-0.1	0.7
	2015	0.6	0.7
Motor vehicle trade (45)	2013	-0.5	0.9
	2014	-0.5	1.2
	2015	0.3	0.9

Industry	Year	Average <sup>1)</sup>	Average for absolute values <sup>2)</sup>
Wholesale trade (46)	2013	-0.1	0.7
	2014	0.1	0.8
	2015	0.9	1.1
Retail trade (47)	2013	-0.5	0.8
	2014	-0.3	0.7
	2015	0.1	0.5
Daily consumer goods trade (4711, 472)	2013	0.1	0.5
	2014	-0.2	0.6
	2015	-0.2	0.4
Department store trade (4719)	2013	-0.1	0.4
	2014	-0.1	0.5
	2015	-0.3	0.4

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.

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Source: Turnover of trade, Statistics Finland