

On Retail Trade Turnover in June 2021

In June 2021, retail sales continued to increase

In June 2021, the growth rate of retail trade turnover was similar to the previous month. It was 5.5% higher, compared to the corresponding month last year (unadjusted data at constant prices).

In the first half of 2021, retail sales increased by 2%. Retail trade of non-food products and food products increased by 1% and 0.7%, respectively.

In June 2021, retail trade turnover in **non-food products** increased by 10.5% annually,

contributing the largest share to total trade. This was largely due to the easing of restrictions on retail sales. From June 2, 2021, restrictions on large shopping centres were lifted and on-site sales could be resumed in all stores. The lifting of restrictions also concerned the organization of street trade, i.e. organization of trade fairs while maintaining all the conditions of the concept of secure trade. In June 2021, the largest growth was observed in retail trade of flowers, plants, seeds, fertilizers, pet animals and their feed (by 26%), and retail trade of watches, jewellery, and other goods (by 17%). Retail sale of information and communication technology equipment in specialized stores (by 15%) and retail sale of clothing, footwear, and leather goods (by 13%), as well as retail sale of household equipment in specialized stores (by 13%) also increased. The sharpest decline was observed in the retail sale of cultural goods and leisure goods in specialized stores (by 9%), which can largely be attributed to the restrictions imposed on organizing larger cultural events.

Retail trade at stalls and markets, outside stores, stalls and markets, as well as shopping by mail order or on the Internet (by 16%) grew equally rapidly. Other retail trade outside stores, stalls and markets also increased (by 14%). The decline was observed only in the second-hand retail trade category, which could be explained by the large shopping boom in April and May 2021, when after the re-opening of second-hand goods stores, residents hurried to make their deferred purchases.

In June 2021, retail trade in **food products** decreased slightly and was 1.6% lower than in June 2020.

In June 2021, retail **fuel turnover** at petrol stations increased by 8.1%, compared to June 2020.

The retail situation will be greatly affected by the further development of the Covid-19 pandemic and the related constraints. At present, the lifting of a number of trade restrictions has a positive effect on the development of retail.

Turnover of retail trade enterprises,
Changes (as per cent) against the corresponding month last year, at
constant prices, seasonally unadjusted data

