

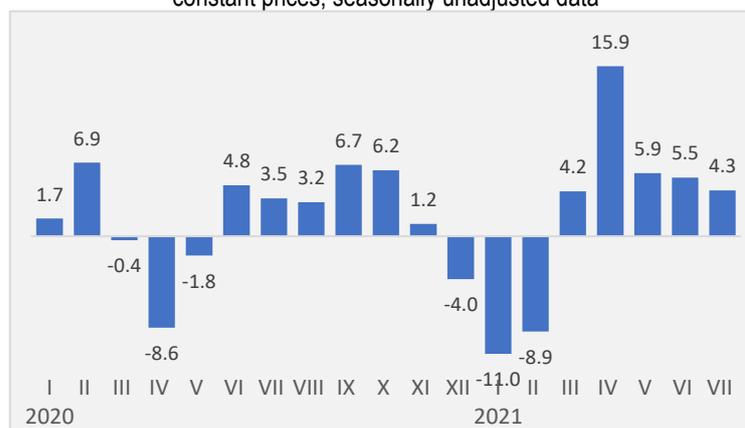
On Retail Trade Turnover in July 2021

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In July 2021, the growth rate of retail trade turnover decreased slightly, compared to the previous two months. However, it was 4.3% higher, compared to the corresponding month last year (unadjusted data at constant prices).

In January-July 2021, retail trade turnover increased by 2.5%. Retail trade of non-food products increased by 1.7%. Also, retail trade of food products rose by 0.4%, whereas retail trade of fuel increased by 8.9%.

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



In July 2021, annual **non-food** retail trade turnover grew by 5.4%, accounting for the largest share of total trade. In July, the largest growth was observed in retail sale of flowers, plants, seeds, fertilizers, pet animals and pet food (by 27%), and retail sale of electrical household appliances in specialized stores (by 18%). Retail sale of household equipment in specialized stores also increased (by 9%). Retail sale of clothing, footwear and leather goods rose by 8%. However, the sharpest decline was observed in retail sale of sporting goods and games (by 18%) and retail sale of cultural and recreational goods in specialized stores (by 14%). This can largely be attributed to the restrictions imposed on the organization of sporting and cultural events. At present, public events can be attended by people who have been vaccinated against Covid-19, who have contracted it or who have had a pre-event Covid-19 test, with a negative result.

Retail trade at stalls and markets and retail trade outside shops, stalls and markets grew almost equally expeditious (by 21% and 23%, respectively). Residents used shopping by mail or Internet increasingly more (28% increase). The decline was observed only in other retail trade outside stores, stalls and markets (by 9%) and in the second-hand retail trade category (by 8%), which can primarily be attributed to the large shopping boom in April and May, when after the opening of second-hand stores, citizens rushed to make the deferred purchases.

In July 2021, a slight decrease (by 1%) in **food** retail trade turnover, similar to the previous two months, was observed.

In July 2021, compared to the corresponding month last year, retail **fuel** turnover at service stations increased by 12.2%.

In July, business confidence indicators in retail trade increased and 1/3 of retailers indicated that their economic activity was significantly limited by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic (compared to 55% in January). Although business sentiment has improved, the future situation in the retail sector will largely depend on the further development of the Covid-19 pandemic and the imposition of related restrictions.