

On Retail Turnover in April 2025

The increase in retail trade in April signals a gradual recovery in consumption

After the decline in February and March 2025, retail turnover showed moderate growth again in April. Despite the increase in household purchasing power, consumer sentiment regarding larger purchases remains cautious. Over the year (April compared to April), the total turnover of retail trade enterprises at constant prices increased by 1.1% (according to unadjusted data). Growth in the volume of retail trade was also observed on a monthly basis. In April, compared to March, it increased by 0.5% (according to seasonally adjusted data), with faster growth in food retail turnover.

Over the year, retail turnover increased sharply for non-food goods, while it declined for food goods and fuel.

In April, compared to April of the previous year, turnover in the retail sale of non-food goods increased by 4.4%. It increased in all main non-food goods groups, except for the retail sale of books, newspapers, stationery, audio and video recordings, where turnover decreased by 5.6%, and in the retail sale of cosmetics and toiletries (a decrease of 4.9%). In April, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, retail turnover increased most rapidly in the retail sale of watches, jewellery and other new goods not elsewhere classified (by 18.4%) and in the retail sale of sporting goods and games (by 14.6%). It also increased rapidly in the retail sale of household electrical appliances in specialised stores (by 8.2%), in the retail sale of information and communication technology equipment (by 6.7%), in the retail sale of metal goods, tools, building materials and plumbing supplies (by 6%), and in the retail sale of textiles, carpets, rugs, wall and floor coverings, wallpaper, furniture, lighting equipment and other household articles (by 4.5%). More moderate growth was observed in the retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods (by 1.6%), clothing, footwear and leather goods (by 1.2%), and flowers, plants, seeds, fertilisers, pet animals and pet food (by 0.8%).

Turnover in the retail sale of **food goods** decreased moderately year-on-year – by 0.5%, which was largely determined by the low base in April of the previous year, when turnover in food goods declined by 4%. However, food prices continue to rise, thereby affecting food retail turnover.

By type of sales outlet, the decline in turnover in April, compared to the corresponding period of the previous year, continued in retail sale via stalls and markets (by 8.5%), and turnover in other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets also continued to decline - by 11.2%. For the second month in a row, turnover increased in retail sale via mail order or the internet (by 8.9%).

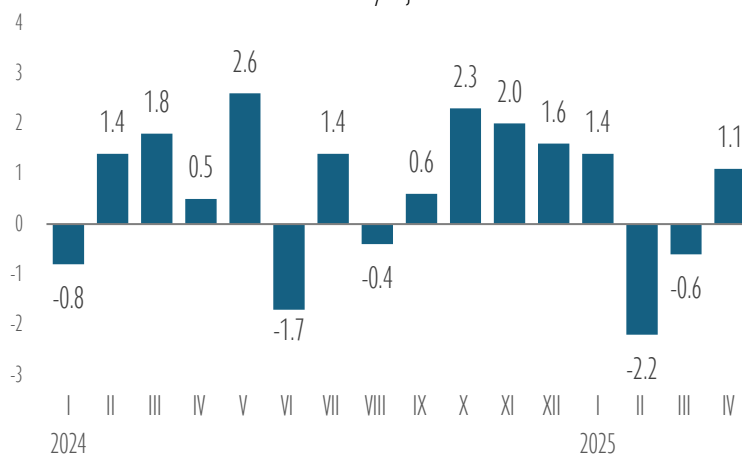
Turnover in the retail sale of **fuel** at filling stations decreased sharply in April – by 4.9% compared to April 2024, despite lower fuel prices compared to April of the previous year. This was largely influenced by the high base in April 2024, when fuel turnover increased sharply.

Overall, in January–April of this year, retail turnover had practically not changed. Compared to January–April 2024, it was 0.1% lower. This was largely determined by a 2.9% decline in turnover in the retail sale of food goods and a 2.4% increase in turnover in the retail sale of non-food goods. Turnover in the retail sale of fuel decreased by 1.3%.

In the coming months, a similar trend is likely to continue – buyer activity will be moderately supported by rising wages, influenced by recent tax changes, as well as by lower interest rates. However, the high level of food prices will continue to weigh significantly on household budgets, which will limit the scope for a faster increase in consumption. Therefore, overall growth in retail turnover is likely to remain gradual and uneven. An additional positive effect may come from a

TURNOVER OF RETAIL TRADE ENTERPRISES,

Changes in % compared to the corresponding month of the previous year, at constant prices,
non-seasonally adjusted data



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reduction in the prices of essential food goods, as envisaged by the recently concluded memorandum – this could potentially free up more funds for other everyday spending, thereby supporting consumption also outside the food segment.