

Turnover of trade

2016, April

Motor vehicle sales continued growing in April

According to Statistics Finland, sales in total trade decreased by 0.5 per cent in April from April 2015. Motor vehicle sales grew by 12.8 per cent and retail trade sales by 1.0 per cent in April. Sales in department stores went up by 10.1 per cent while sales of daily consumer goods went down by 1.6 per cent. Development was weakest in wholesale trade: sales declined by 4.5 per cent year-on-year.

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



Source: Statistics Finland

Sales volume grew in total trade by 1.9 per cent in April from the year before

The sales volume in motor vehicle increased by 12.0 per cent from April 2015. The growth was affected by increased sales of new motor vehicles, as Statistics Finland's data indicate that the number of first registrations of motor vehicles was also 10.4 per cent higher in April than in April 2015. The sales volume in retail trade increased by 1.9 per cent. By contrast, the sales volume in wholesale trade fell by 0.8 per cent from one year ago. Thus, sales volume increased in total trade by 1.9 per cent.

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 in retail trade declined by 0.1 per cent in January to April

Retail trade sales decreased by 0.1 per cent in January to April from January to April 2015. Sales in wholesale trade fell, in turn, by 3.3 per cent, whereas in motor vehicle trade, sales grew by 8.8 per cent from the year before. Sales in total trade decreased by 0.7 per cent in January to April from January to April 2015.

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 April, 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.

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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, % 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	-0,7	-0,5
Motor vehicle trade (45)	-0,6	3,2	6,8	7,4	8,8	12,8
Wholesale trade (46)	-4,3	-5,7	-3,9	-2,9	-3,3	-4,5
Retail trade (47)	-1,7	-1,3	0,6	-0,5	-0,1	1,0
Daily consumer goods trade (4711, 472) ²⁾	-2,8	-2,4	-0,9	0,8	0,2	-1,6
Department store trade (4719) ³⁾	-4,1	-2,3	0,0	-1,2	1,6	10,1

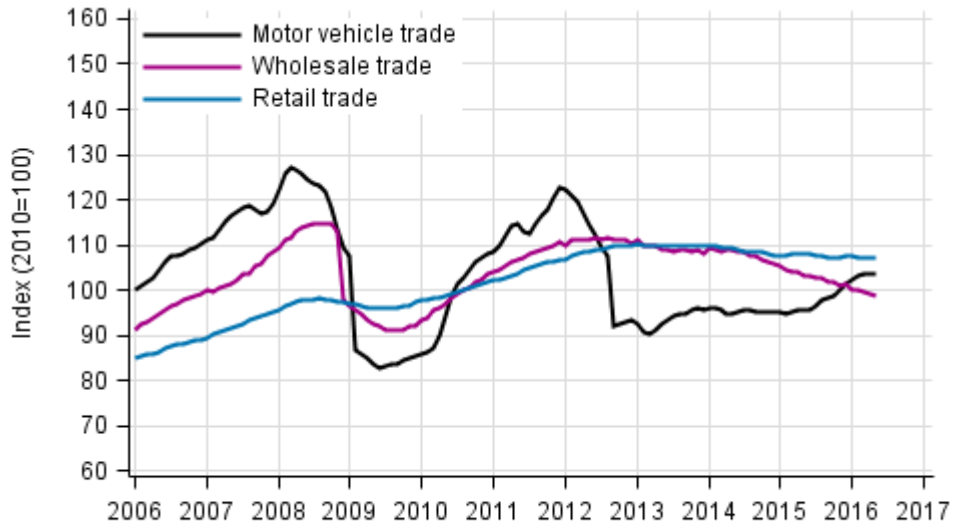
1) Year-on-year change compares the value for an examined time period to the value for the corresponding time period twelve months back.

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 (2016-06-15)	
G Wholesale and retail trade	11/2015	0,4	2,1	1,7
	12/2015	-0,2	0,5	0,7
	01/2016	-0,5	-2,0	-1,5
	02/2016	1,9	3,1	1,2
	03/2016	-3,3	-3,0	0,3
45 Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	11/2015	10,6	12,1	1,5
	12/2015	8,2	8,4	0,2
	01/2016	8,9	8,4	-0,5
	02/2016	12,4	12,7	0,3
	03/2016	2,5	2,0	-0,5
46 Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	11/2015	-2,3	0,0	2,3
	12/2015	-2,8	-2,0	0,8
	01/2016	-2,6	-4,2	-1,6
	02/2016	-1,0	1,2	2,2
	03/2016	-6,2	-5,2	1,0
47 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	11/2015	1,2	1,9	0,7
	12/2015	1,6	2,0	0,4
	01/2016	-1,2	-2,6	-1,4
	02/2016	2,1	2,5	0,4
	03/2016	-0,8	-1,0	-0,2
Retail sale in non-specialised stores (4711, 472)	11/2015	-0,1	-0,5	-0,4
	12/2015	0,2	0,3	0,1
	01/2016	-1,9	-2,5	-0,6
	02/2016	2,3	2,4	0,1
	03/2016	2,0	2,5	0,5
Department store trade (4719)	11/2015	1,8	1,5	-0,3
	12/2015	1,2	1,0	-0,2
	01/2016	0,0	-1,1	-1,1
	02/2016	2,3	1,4	-0,9
	03/2016	-3,4	-3,3	0,1

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.

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Source: Turnover of trade, Statistics Finland