Retail sales index – May 2020

In May 2020 retail sales[[1]](#footnote-1) at constant prices were   
by 7.7% lower than the year before (against a growth   
of 5.6% in May 2019). Compared with April 2020 retail sales increased by 14.9%.   
In the period of January-May[[2]](#footnote-2) 2020 retail sales y/y were by 6.2% lower (against a growth of 6.5% in 2019).

 7.7%

A decrease compared with

the corresponding month

of the previous year

# Retail sales of goods by type of enterprise activity

In May 2020 a decrease in retail sales per annum was recorded in the majority of presented groups, with the largest in the group “motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts” – 34.0%

In May 2020 compared to the corresponding period of 2019 retail sales (at constant prices) decreased in most of presented groups. A drop in sales was recorded in all groups with a significant share in total retail sales: “motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts” (by 34.0%); “solid, liquid and gaseous fuels” (by 17.9%); “others” (by 14.5%); “food, beverages and tobacco products” (by 7.6%). Within groups with a smaller share in total retail sales the largest decrease was noted in the group “pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, orthopaedic equipment“ (by 14.1%). An increase in sales was reported however by entities trading in furniture, radio, TV and household appliances (by 14.4%) and units classified into the group “newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores” (by 0.8%).

In May this year compared with the previous month, a drop in retail sales value via Internet was recorded (by 12.7%). The share of such sales (in current prices) decreased from 11.9% in April this year to 9.1% in May this year. A decline in the share of sales via Internet was reported i.a. by enterprises classified into the group “textiles, clothing, footwear“ (from 61.3% a month before to 26.8%) as well as by entities from groups “newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores” (from 39.9% to 25.2% respectively) and “furniture, radio, TV and household appliances “ (from 28.6% to 15.6%).

Chart 1. Retail sales of goods (constant prices) – corresponding period of previous year=100

# **Table 1. Index numbers of retail sales (constant prices)**

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| --- |
| Specification |
| V 2020 | | I-V 2020 |
| IV 2020=100 | V 2019=100 | I-V 2019=100 |
| **TOTAL** | **114.9** | **92.3** | **93.8** |
| of which: |  |  |  |
| Motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts | 146.8 | 66.0 | 75.7 |
| Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels | 124.2 | 82.1 | 88.7 |
| Food, beverages and tobacco products | 99.5 | 92.4 | 96.2 |
| Other retail sale in non-specialized stores | . | . | . |
| Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, orthopaedic equipment | 99.7 | 85.9 | 97.7 |
| Textiles, clothing, footwear | 231.4 | 91.8 | 77.1 |
| Furniture, radio, TV and household appliances | 133.2 | 114.4 | 99.2 |
| Newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores | 138.7 | 100.8 | 90.4 |
| Others | 114.1 | 85.5 | 91.1 |

(.) Data not available, classified data (statistical confidentiality) or providing data impossible or purposeless

**Table 2. Index numbers of retail sales (current prices)**

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| Specification |
| V 2020 | | I-V 2020 |
| IV 2020=100 | V 2019=100 | I-V 2019=100 |
| **TOTAL** | **114.5** | **91.4** | **94.8** |
| of which: |  |  |  |
| Motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts | 146.8 | 65.3 | 74.4 |
| Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels | 120.1 | 67.8 | 83.4 |
| Food, beverages and tobacco products | 99.7 | 97.7 | 102.7 |
| Other retail sale in non-specialized stores | . | . | . |
| Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, orthopaedic equipment | 100.3 | 88.6 | 100.3 |
| Textiles, clothing, footwear | 229.6 | 88.3 | 75.3 |
| Furniture, radio, TV and household appliances | 133.3 | 114.6 | 99.3 |
| Newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores | 139.0 | 100.8 | 90.8 |
| Others | 114.2 | 87.1 | 93.2 |

(.) Data not available, classified data (statistical confidentiality) or providing data impossible or purposeless

Chart 2. Retail sales of goods in May 2020 by type of enterprise activity (constant prices) – corresponding period of previous year=100

Retail sales seasonally adjusted

In May 2020, there was an increase of 17.4% in retail sales seasonally adjusted in comparison with April 2020

After eliminating the seasonal factors, retail sales at constant prices in May 2020 were by 17.4% higher in comparison to April 2020.

Chart 3. Retail sales – seasonally adjusted data and unadjusted (constant prices) – monthly average 2015=100

In case of quoting Statistics Poland data, please provide information: “Source of data: Statistics Poland”, and in case of publishing calculations made on data published by Statistics Poland, please include the following disclaimer: “Own study based on figures from Statistics Poland”.

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**Related studies**

[Internal market in 2018](https://stat.gov.pl/en/topics/prices-trade/trade/internal-market-in-2018,7,17.html" \o "Internal marketin 2018)

**Subject available in databases**

[Knowledge Databases – Trade and Services](http://swaid.stat.gov.pl/EN/SitePagesDBW/HandelUslugi.aspx)

[Macroeconomic Data Bank](https://bdm.stat.gov.pl/)

**Important concepts available in the dictionary**

[Retail sales of goods](http://stat.gov.pl/en/metainformations/glossary/terms-used-in-official-statistics/473,term.html)

1. Data concerns trade and non-trade enterprises employing more than 9 persons. Groups of enterprises were created on the basis of the Polish Classification of Activities (PKD 2007) and a given enterprise is included to a specific category by predominating kind of activity and according to its present organizational status in mentioned period. The recorded changes of rise or fall of the volume of retail sales in particular groups of enterprises activity may result from a change in the predominating kind of activity and organisational changes (e.g. a merger of enterprises). This does not have impact on the dynamics of the total retail sales. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Corrections made by reporting entities were included in cumulative data. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)