

Retail sales index – March 2020

22.04.2020

↓9.0%

An increase compared with the corresponding month of the previous year

In March 2020 retail sales¹ at constant prices were by 9.0% lower than the year before (against a growth of 1.8% in March 2019). Compared with February 2020 retail sales decreased by 3.3%.

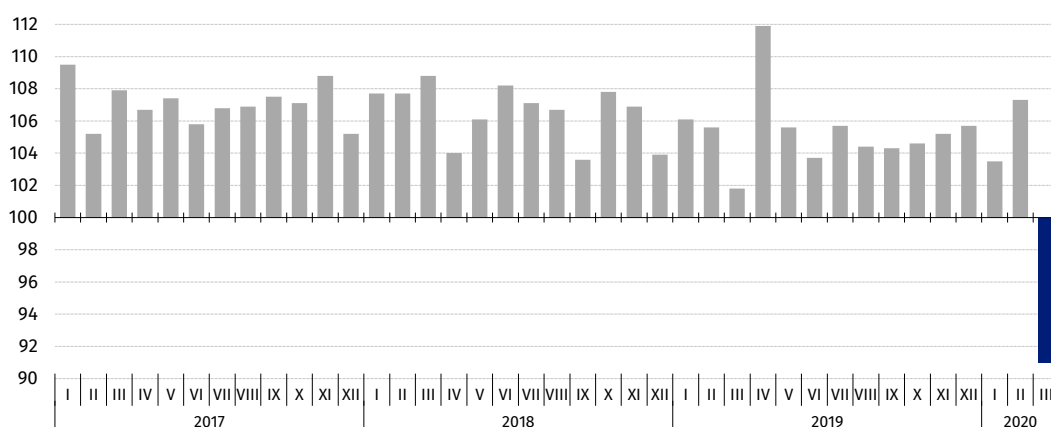
In the period of January-March² 2020 retail sales y/y were by 0.7% higher (against a growth of 4.1% in 2019).

Retail sales of goods by type of enterprise activity

Introduction in March this year the state of epidemic threat, followed by the state of epidemic and the related significant reduction in retail trade in some commercial facilities substantially affected the volume of purchases and realized retail sales. In March 2020 compared to the corresponding period of 2019 retail sales (at constant prices) decreased in the majority of groups. Among the groups with a significant share in total retail sales a considerable decrease in sales was reported by enterprises trading in motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts (by 30.9%) and sellers of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels (by 12.5%). Within groups with a lower share in total retail sales the largest drop was noted in the group “textiles, clothing, footwear” (by 49.6%). An increase in sales showed however entities trading in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, orthopaedic equipment (by 8.8%) and units selling food, beverages and tobacco products (by 2.5%). Due to the limited trade in selected goods in traditional stores, an increase in retail sales via Internet was recorded, the share of such sales (in current prices) increased from 5.6% in February this year to 8.1% in March this year. A high share of sales via Internet was demonstrated by enterprises classified into the group “textiles, clothing, footwear” (this share increased to 35.6% in March this year, while in February this year it was 17.4%, as well as entities from the group “newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores” (increase in the share from 17.0% in February this year to 26.2% in March this year) and “furniture, radio, TV and household appliances “ (increase from 9.6%, respectively in February this year to 24.5% in March this year).

In March 2020 a decrease in retail sales per annum was recorded in the majority of groups, which was influenced by restriction introduced in trade due to the announced state of epidemic threat, followed by the state of epidemic

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



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.

² Corrections made by reporting entities were included in cumulative data.

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

Specification	III 2020		I-III 2020
	II 2020=100	III 2019=100	I-III 2019=100
TOTAL	96.7	91.0	100.7
of which:			
Motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts	76.1	69.1	89.2
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels	93.7	87.5	99.1
Food, beverages and tobacco products	110.2	102.5	102.0
Other retail sale in non-specialized stores	.	.	.
Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, orthopaedic equipment	100.9	108.8	108.1
Textiles, clothing, footwear	53.6	50.4	86.1
Furniture, radio, TV and household appliances	91.6	83.3	102.0
Newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores	91.5	78.6	92.3
Others	102.7	91.0	99.1

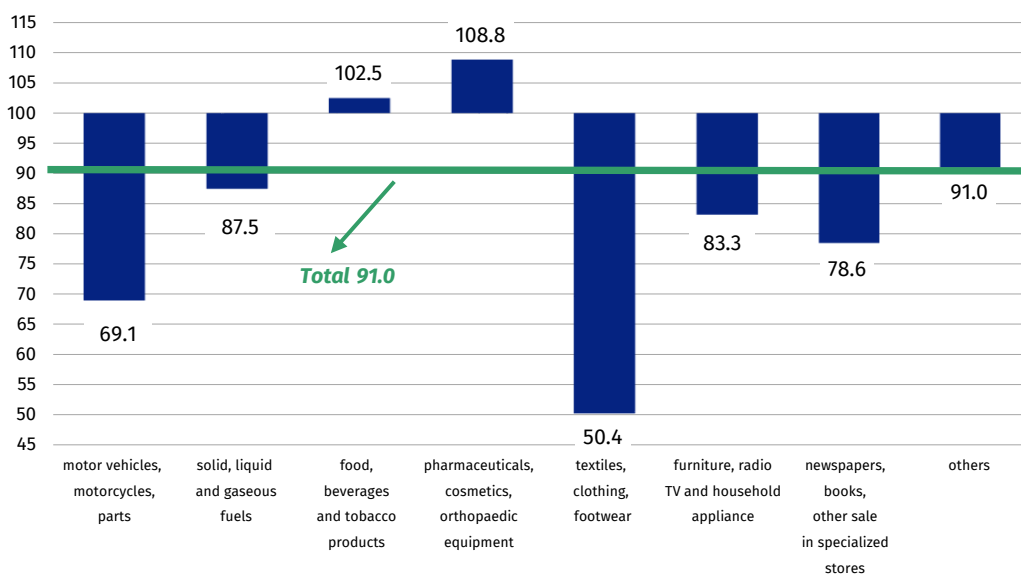
(.) No information or statistical confidentiality required

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

Specification	III 2020		I-III 2020	
	II 2020=100	III 2019=100	I-III 2019=100	Structure in %
TOTAL	96.7	92.9	102.9	100.0
of which:				
Motor vehicles, motorcycles, parts	76.0	67.3	87.2	8.6
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels	90.5	85.6	99.8	14.9
Food, beverages and tobacco products	111.0	109.9	109.0	26.9
Other retail sale in non-specialized stores
Pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, orthopaedic equipment	101.2	111.6	110.5	7.7
Textiles, clothing, footwear	54.9	49.5	84.9	5.0
Furniture, radio, TV and household appliances	91.9	83.5	102.1	8.5
Newspapers, books, other sale in specialized stores	91.5	79.2	93.1	4.5
Others	103.4	93.5	101.7	9.4

(.) No information or statistical confidentiality required

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

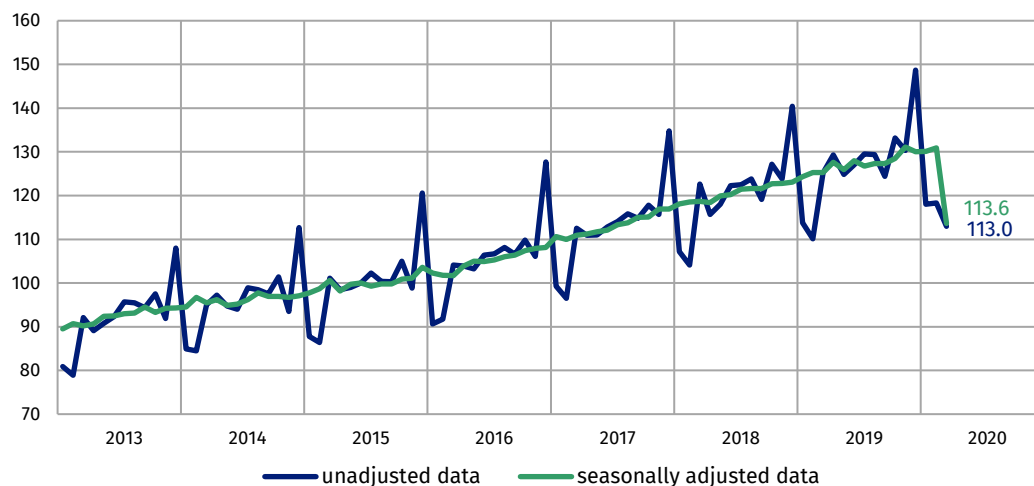


Retail sales seasonally adjusted

After eliminating the seasonal factors, retail sales at constant prices in March 2020 were by 13.2% lower in comparison to February 2020.

In March 2020, there was a decrease of 13.2% in retail sales seasonally adjusted in comparison with February 2020

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



Prepared by:
Trade and Services Department
Director Ewa Adach-Stankiewicz
Office: tel. (+48 22) 608 31 24

Dissemination:
The Spokesperson for the President
of Statistics Poland
Karolina Banaszek
Mobile: (+48) 695 255 011

Press Office
Office: tel. (+48 22) 608 34 91, 608 38 04
e-mail: obslugaprasowa@stat.gov.pl



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