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# Inflation eaten up retail turnover in 2022

**In nominal terms, turnover increased by 8.1 % in 2022; adjusted for prices, this results in a decline in sales of 0.8 %**

Vienna, 2023-02-06 – According to preliminary results by Statistics Austria, the Austrian retail sector (excluding the motor vehicle trade, including service stations) posted a nominal increase in turnover of 8.1 % in 2022 compared with 2021. Considering price developments, sales volumes were slightly down by 0.4 % year-on-year.

The sharp rise in prices led to a decline in sales volumes in the retail sector: In 2022, retail turnover (excluding motor vehicle retailing; including service stations) was up 8.1 % year-on-year in nominal terms, but down 0.8 % in real terms (adjusted for prices).

The food, beverages and tobacco retail sector generated a year-on-year increase in turnover of 5.2 % in 2022; this represents a decline of 3.2 % in real terms. Non-food retail recorded an 8.1 % increase in turnover from January to December 2022 compared with 2021, resulting in an 1.3 % increase in sales volumes.

**Table 1: Retail trade, year 2022, preliminary and unadjusted results**

Selected sectors	Change turnover compared to the period last year	
	In nominal terms	In real terms
Retail trade (excluding automotive retail; incl. service stations)	8.1	-0.8
Retail trade (excluding motor vehicle dealerships and service stations)	6.8	-0.7
Food	5.2	-3.2
Non-Food	8.1	1.3
Thereof:		
Pharmacies, cosmetics	3.8	1.0
Clothing, shoes	21.4	17.8
Furniture, do-it-yourself, electrical goods	3.7	-4.5
Other retail (for example, books, sporting goods)	12.2	1.0
Mail order and internet retail	-3.2	-7.8

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short term statistics trade.

## December 2022: Turnover up 10.0 % in nominal terms, down 0.4 % in price-adjusted terms

In December 2022, Austrian retail trade (excluding motor vehicle retailing; incl. service stations) turned over 10.0 % more in nominal terms than in December of the previous year; in real terms (adjusted for prices), there was a slight decline in sales volume of 0.4 % compared with December 2021.

The retail trade in food, beverages and tobacco products generated a year-on-year increase in turnover of 6.8 % in December 2022; in terms of sales volume, this represents a decline of 5.3 %. Non-food trade posted significant year-on-year gains in both nominal (+12.1 %) and real (price-adjusted, +3.3 %) terms. It should be noted that the first half of December 2021 was still characterized by measures (lockdown) to contain the Corona pandemic.

**Table 2: Retail trade, December 2022, preliminary and unadjusted results**

Selected sectors	Change turnover compared to the period last year	
	In nominal terms	In real terms
Retail trade (excluding automotive retail; incl. service stations)	10.0	-0.4
Retail trade (excluding motor vehicle dealerships and service stations)	9.7	-0.5
Food	6.8	-5.3
Non-Food	12.1	3.3

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short term statistics trade.

The preliminary calculations of retail sales for December 2022 were made based on 51.5 % of turnover volume. For detailed results and further information please refer to [website](#).

**Information on methodology, definitions:** The short-term statistics for retail trade were changed to the base year annual average 2015=100 as of the January 2018 reporting month. The new time series and methodological notes are available on our website. Statistics Austria's preliminary analyses are based on previously collected company sales and on advance sales tax returns. Together with Eurostat, Statistics Austria publishes the first business cycle data for the retail trade sector around 30 days after the end of the respective reporting month. The first results shown are revised before the publication of the final results (t+60 days).

**If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:**

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