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Monthly survey on retail trade 2023May

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Manufactured goods sales picked up slightly in May

Note: the trend in retail sales does not reflect that of total household consumption: the latter includes other sectors, such as health care, education and rents.

Notes on month change (%). Seasonally and working-day adjusted volumes
I) Sectors are classified according to the relative weight of the products included in the total aggregate of retail trade (weights are given on the right scale)

[COM_DET_2271_en_retail-trade-may-2023.pdf](#)
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The aggregated and by sub-sector series are seasonally adjusted on an individual basis: the seasonally adjusted series do not represent the sum of the seasonally adjusted components.
In May, sales of manufactured goods edged up by 0.4% (after -2.1% in April), with contrasting trends across sub-sectors: new car sales surged by 10.0% (after -2.9%), pharmaceuticals rose by 4.6% (after -0.3%) and consumer electronics by 4.5% (after -5.6%), while perfumes and toilet preparations fell by 12.1% (after increasing by 0.2%), watches and jewellery by 4.0% (after -0.3%), and household appliances were down sharply.

Food sales continued to decline, by 3.0% compared with April.

In terms of distribution channels, sales of department shops, hypermarkets and supermarkets all rose by around 2% compared with April. Only sales of small retailers were down slightly (-0.4% compared with April).

Three-month-on-three-month, overall turnover in retail trade was stable (+0.0%), with an increase in manufactured goods sales (0.3%) and a fall in food sales (-0.8%).