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Monthly survey on retail trade 2020Sep

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In September, retail sales of industrial goods increased year-on-year

Total industrial goods and food sales: year-on-year change (%)

Notes
August and September 2020, y-o-y comparison; seasonally and working-day adjusted volume terms

Sectors are classified according to the relative weight of the products included in the total aggregate of retail

trade (see methodology) [Download: 2024_en_retail-trade-september-2020.pdf](#)

The trend in retail sales does not reflect that of total household consumption: the latter includes other items such as healthcare, education and rents.

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 September, turnover in retail trade rose by 2.7% year-on-year (adjusted for seasonal and working-day variations) after putting on 1.3% in August. While food sales were almost stable year-on-year, inching up by 0.4%, those of industrial goods remained buoyant: 4.4%, after 3.6% in August. The sectors recording the strongest growth were DIY (14.7%), sports equipment (14.6%), household appliances (13.7%) and consumer electronics (13.6%). Conversely, perfumes and personal care products, and press and stationery products lost 14.4% and 5.7% respectively.

In terms of distribution channels, sales of small retailers rose by 4.7% year-on-year, while sales of large general retailers increased more moderately, by 1.3%. Among the latter, supermarkets continued to post a healthy growth of 3.2%, while department store sales remained well below pre-crisis levels, down 21.5% year-on-year. Data observed at the end of August indicate a 12.6% year-on-year growth, after 14.8% in July.