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Monthly survey on retail trade 2020Jun

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In June, a marked but unequal recovery in turnover in retail trade

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

Note: In June 2020, year-on-year comparison; seasonally and working-day adjusted volume terms. The aggregated retail sale is a share of total household consumption; the latter includes other items such as healthcare, education and rents, which have been less affected by the crisis. COM_DET_2221_en_retail-trade-june-2020.pdf (PDF, 94 Ko)

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 June, the first month after lockdown, turnover in retail trade rose sharply to return to a neighbourhood of its pre-crisis level, with nonetheless marked differences across sectors. It increased by 5.5% y-o-y, adjusted for seasonal and working-day variations, compared with a fall of 9% in May. This growth was driven by industrial goods sales: up 10% y-o-y, after plummeting by 16% in May. The low level of car sales in June 2019 accentuates this year-on-year increase. Several sectors keep catching up, building on post-lockdown's momentum: sales of bicycles and motorcycles experienced an exceptional rise of 56% y-o-y; the other most buoyant sectors were DIY (+30%), consumer electronics (+29%), and new cars (+29%). Unlike the other sectors, textiles and clothing (-14%), perfumes/personal care products (-10.5%) and footwear (-6.5 %) lost ground. Food sales were almost stable, inching down just 0.2%.

In terms of distribution channels, sales of small retailers made significant gains, rising by 12% after dropping by 17% in May. Sales of large general retailers increased more moderately by 1.5%. The main growth was seen in hypermarket sales, up 2.1%, whereas department store sales remained far below their pre-crisis level (-35.7%). The data observed in late May suggest a sharp rise in distance selling of 53.5%.