

## Turnover in retail trade at the end of April 2020

19 May 2020

### Turnover in retail trade kept dropping in April

#### Warnings

As Covid-19 induced extraordinary conditions for retailers, key figures are not published in their usual form this month. In order to capture the full impact of the lockdown, figures are compared to April 2019 (“year-on-year”).

The magnitude of the turnover drop in April cannot be extrapolated to overall consumption since retail trade is only a fraction of total households’ consumption expenditures. They also include less crisis-dependent items, such as health, education, rents.

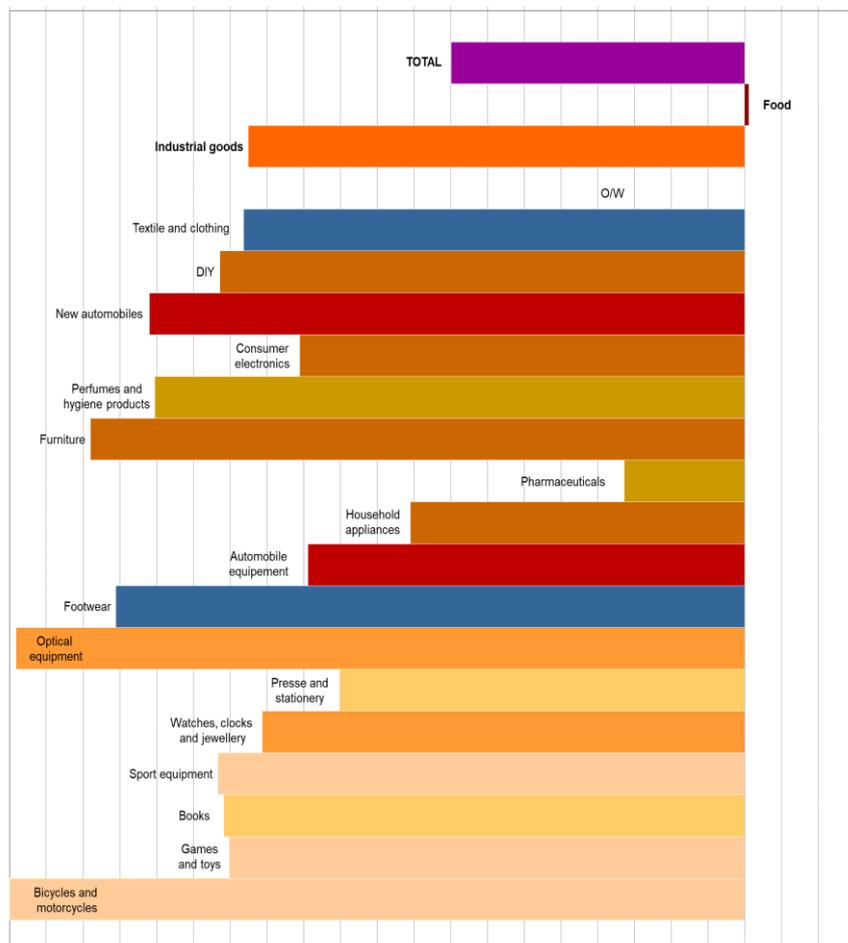
In **April**, with a lockdown lasting the whole month, turnover in retail trade was down by 40 % year-on-year (adjusted for seasonal and working-day variations). In **March**, the decrease was of 22.4%. The decline was due to an **important 67.5 % fall in sales of industrial products. Food sales posted a moderate growth of 0.6 %.**

In terms of distribution channel, small retailer sales faced a sizeable downturn of 55 %, whereas sales at large general retailers decreased less, by 2 %. Supermarkets posted a growth of 12 %, while hypermarkets sales fell by 7 % and department stores faced a huge drop of 71 %. E-commerce experienced a sustained growth of 18 % at the end of March.

#### Total industrial goods and food sales: M/M-12 change

April 2020 compared to April 2019; seasonally and working-day adjusted volume terms

-100% -95% -90% -85% -80% -75% -70% -65% -60% -55% -50% -45% -40% -35% -30% -25% -20% -15% -10% -5% 0% 5% 10% 15%



	Weight
Food products	43%
Industrial goods o/w	57%
Textiles and clothing	10%
DIY	7%
New automobiles	6%
Consumer electronics	5%
Perfumes and hygiene products	4%
Furniture	4%
Pharmaceuticals	3%
Household appliances	3%
Automobile equipment	3%
Footwear	2%
Optical equipment	2%
Press and stationery	2%
Watches, clocks and jewellery	2%
Sports equipment	1%
Books	1%
Games and toys	1%
Bicycles and motorcycles	1%

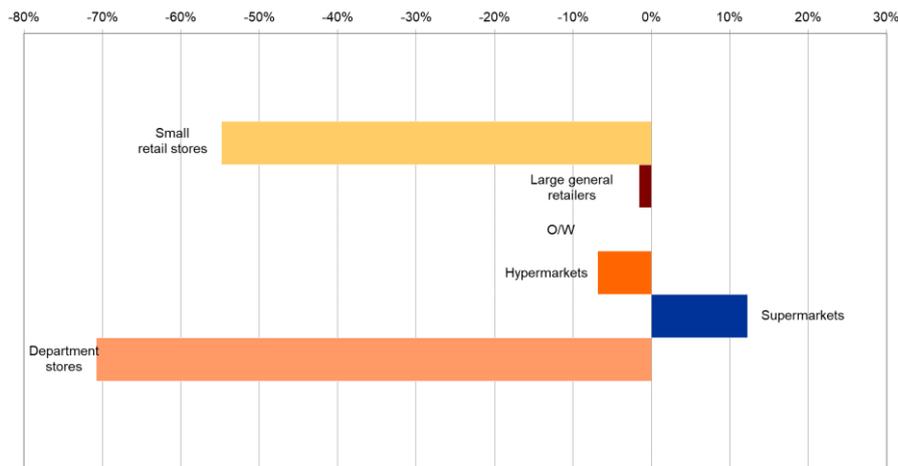
#### Notes :

- Sectors are classified according to the relative weight of the products included in the total aggregate of retail trade (see methodology)
- 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.

Period under review : April 2020

**Retail trade by certain outlet category: M/M-12 change**

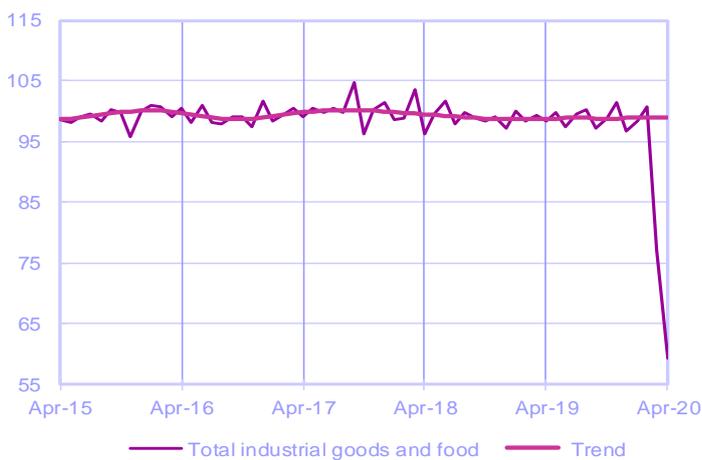
April 2020 compared to april 2019; seasonally and working-day adjusted volume terms



Large general retailers	Weight
Hypermarkets	50%
Supermarkets	33%
Distance sales	11%
Department stores	6%

**Total industrial goods and food**

index in seasonally-adjusted volume terms (100 = 2010)



**Distance sales**

Source: Fevad and Banque de France

index in seasonally-adjusted volume terms (100 = 2010)



Provisional data as of the 7th working day following the month under review.

**Notes:**

- The Fevad and the Banque de France work together to publish the e-commerce figures for France (excluding food). This month the series stops at March 2020 figure. April's figure will be published as soon as it is available.
- 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.
- Sectors are classified according to the relative weight of the distribution methods included in the aggregates for small retail stores and large general retailers (see methodology)
- However, the "large general retailer" aggregate is not a sub-aggregate of the "total industrial and food product" index. Rather, it is an independent index that covers the overall turnover of hypermarkets, supermarkets, department stores and distance selling. It does not include national chains.

For further details, see [sectoral level information](#), [methodology](#), [publications calendar](#) and [contacts](#)

Find the series on the website of the Bank of France in [Webstat Banque de France](#) database.

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