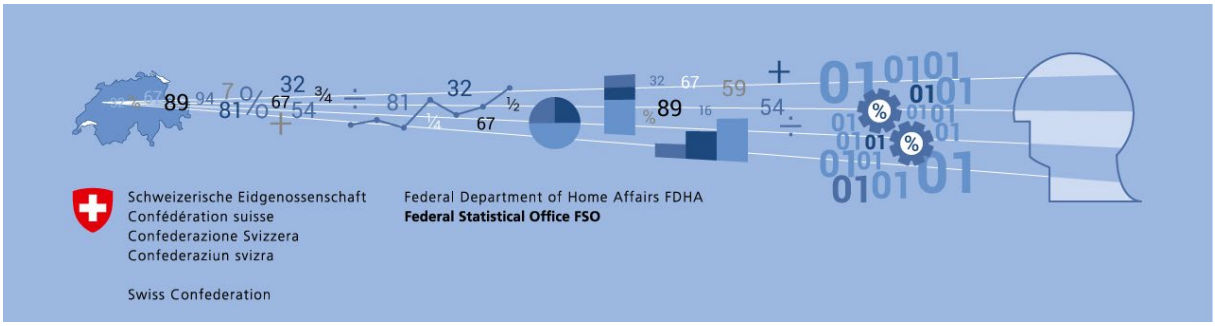


Press release

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06 Industry and Services

Retail trade turnover in September 2024

Swiss retail trade turnover rose by 1.0% in September 2024

Turnover adjusted for sales days and holidays rose in the retail sector by 1.0% in nominal terms in September 2024 compared with the previous year. Seasonally adjusted, nominal turnover fell by 0.5% compared with the previous month. These are provisional findings from the Federal Statistical Office (FSO).

Real turnover adjusted for sales days and holidays rose in the retail sector by 2.2% in September 2024 compared with the previous year. Real growth takes inflation into consideration. Compared with the previous month, real, seasonally adjusted retail trade turnover registered a decline of 0.5%.

Retail sector excluding service stations

Adjusted for sales days and holidays, the retail sector excluding service stations showed a 1.6% increase in nominal turnover in September 2024 compared with September 2023 (in real terms +2.8%). Retail sales of food, drinks and tobacco registered an increase in nominal turnover of 0.1% (in real terms –0.4%), whereas the non-food sector registered a nominal plus of 3.5% (in real terms +6.0%).

Excluding service stations, the retail sector showed a seasonally adjusted decline in nominal turnover of 0.2% compared with the previous month (in real terms –0.3%). Retail sales of food, drinks and tobacco registered a nominal minus of 1.5% (in real terms –1.8%). The non-food sector showed a plus of 0.7% (in real terms +1.0%).

Important announcement

This is the last publication of this press release. The results of the Retail Trade Turnover Statistics (DHU) will continue to be published on the Tertiary sector | Federal Statistical Office (admin.ch) web page and in our NewsMail (DE, FR, IT) (subscribe to the FSO NewsMail: www.news-stat.admin.ch).

The quarterly Production, Orders and Turnover Statistics of the secondary sector (PAU), the monthly Turnover Statistics in the Services Sector (DLU), the monthly Retail Trade Turnover Statistics (DHU) and parts of the quarterly Job Statistics (JOBSTAT) will be summarised in a quarterly 'economic situation' press release. The monthly and quarterly PAU, DLU and DHU updates will continue to be published and data users will still have access to the same data.

Methodological notice

Unadjusted, adjusted for calendar effects and seasonally adjusted time series are available and can be consulted on the statistics website: www.dhu.bfs.admin.ch
A breakdown by commodity groups and by business size is also available: only unadjusted figures are calculated for this breakdown.
The results are presented in index form (2015=100) in both nominal and real terms. The real values are obtained by adjusting the nominal values for price changes using the Swiss Consumer Price Index (CPI).
Data are seasonally adjusted in order to exclude seasonal fluctuations from the time series. This is done using the X12-ARIMA method. On each occasion the whole time series is re-calculated.
Furthermore all time series are adjusted for calendar effects (not every month has the same number of sales days and holidays). The method used for calendar adjustment is to estimate the calendar effect by means of a regression model.
For each series, the model calculates an average weight for each individual day of the week and applies these weights to each month. The resulting monthly factors are used to adjust turnover accordingly. The adjustment made in December may be somewhat distorted, as the adjustment factor is applied to turnover for the month of December as a whole, despite the fact that the Christmas turnover is not dependent on the number of weekdays. In December 2016 (and in 2011 and 2005) this effect was particularly noticeable, as Christmas Day and Boxing Day fell on a Saturday and Sunday, meaning that the month had more weekdays of high turnover than usual.

Information concerning the survey

The retail trade turnover statistics are based on a random sample of approximately 3000 businesses. It is a monthly survey, with small-sized companies being asked to provide monthly turnover figures on a quarterly basis.

The statistics are based on the General Classification of Economic Activities (NOGA) from the year 2008, which meets international standards and classifies businesses into different economic activities based on their economic activities.

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Access to results
This press release has been established on the basis of the European Statistics Code of Practice, which ensures the independence, integrity and accountability of national and community statistical offices. Privileged access is supervised and under embargo.

The Swiss National Bank (exercise of its monetary policy) and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (production of quarterly GDP estimate) received the data forming the basis of this press release five working days before publication for the purpose of the tasks mentioned. The press agencies received this press release with an embargo of 15 minutes.