

Press release: 12.429-020/21

Austrian retail trade 2020: food retail turnover increased, non-food retail decreased partly significantly

Vienna, 2020-02-04 – In **2020**, the turnover of Austrian retail trade enterprises (motor vehicle trade excluded; service stations included) increased nominally by 0.1%, as Statistics Austria reports on the basis of preliminary results. Taking inflation into account, sales volumes declined in 2020 by 0.3% compared to 2019.

"The Corona pandemic and containment measures affected the retail very differently in 2020. While grocery retailers were able to increase the turnover in 2020 by 8.9%, retailers apart from basic supplies suffered a 3.6% decrease compared to the previous year. Temporary store closings hit clothing and footwear retailers particularly hard: Turnover fell sharply by 23.7%", says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Taking inflation into account, non-food retail sales were in 2020 3.9% lower than in 2019. On the other hand, retail trade of food, beverages and tobacco, recorded in addition to an 8.9% turnover increase a significant growth in sales volumes (+7.0%).

The year 2020 had 303 shopping days (one more than the previous year) but depending on the industry, the number of actual shopping days was reduced by up to 73 due to temporary store closings to contain the corona pandemic.

In **December 2020**, the turnover in retail trade (motor vehicle trade excluded; service stations included) increased by 0.9% in nominal terms compared to December 2019. In real terms, the turnover of Austrian retail trade enterprises increased by 0.8%. December 2020 had 25 shopping days (one more than December 2019) but the number of actual shopping days was severely limited, depending on the industry.

Results were calculated by Statistics Austria, Short Term Statistics Services. The preliminary sales indicators for the reporting month were prepared on the basis of approximately 45% of Austria's retail volume.

For more detailed information please refer to the [German version](#).