

Informations *Rapides*



27 avril 2012 - n° 111 **CONJONCTURE**

Main Indicators

■ Households consumption expenditure in goods – March 2012

Despite March sharp decrease (-2.9%), households' consumption in goods slightly increased over the first quarter (+0.2%)

In March, households' expenditure in goods decreased by 2.9% in volume*, after having increased by 2.9% in February. Over the first quarter, they increased by 0.2% (after +0.3% in Q4 2011). The decrease of expenditure in March was mainly explained by the decline of expenditure in energy products and, to a lesser extent, by that in food products.

[* Volumes are chained and all figures are trading days and seasonally adjusted.]

• Engineered goods : slightly increasing in March (+0.3%)

Durables: increasing in March

Households' expenditure in durables increased in March (+1.5%, after -0.9% in February). Over the quarter, they decreased by 3.3%, after +2.7% in Q4 2011. Despite March recovery (+2.3% after -0.5% in February), expenditure in car purchases decreased over the first quarter (-5.6%, after +4.4%). Purchases in household durables slightly increased in March too (+0.2% after -0.6% in February) but declined over the quarter (-0.9% after +0.3%).

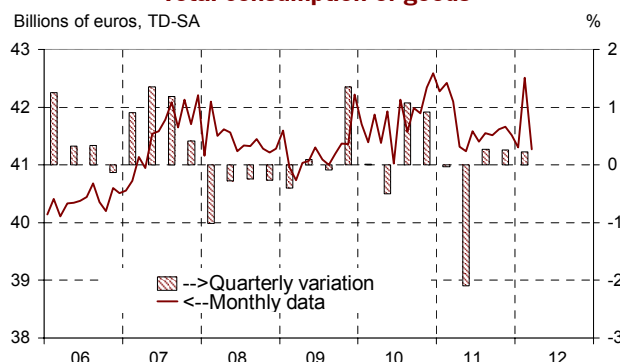
Textile-leather: decreasing

Consumption of textile and leather decreased in March (-2.5%) after a dynamic February. It decreased by 0.8% over the first quarter (after +1.5%).

Other engineered goods: slight increase

Consumption expenditure in other engineered goods slightly increased in March (+0.2% after +0.3% in February), and over the first quarter (+0.2%, after +0.6% in Q4 2011).

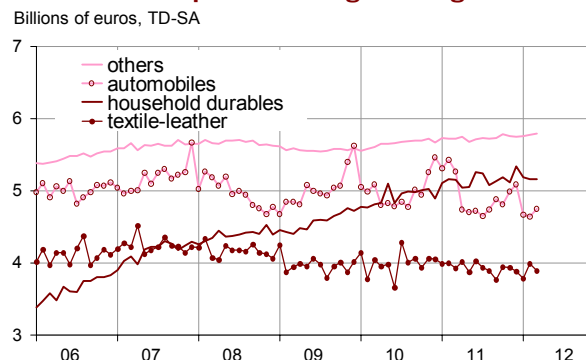
Total consumption of goods



Food and engineered goods



Decomposition of engineered goods



- **Food products: decreasing in March after two months of increase**

In March, consumption of food products decreased (-2.3%, after two consecutive months of increase). It rose by 1.0% over the first quarter, after -0.1% in Q4 2011.

- **Energy: return to “normal” after the cold spell**

After a sharp increase in February due to heating purchases during the cold spell, households' consumption in energy products fell in March (-11.3%). Over the first quarter, it increased by 4.0% (after -3.2% in Q4 2011).

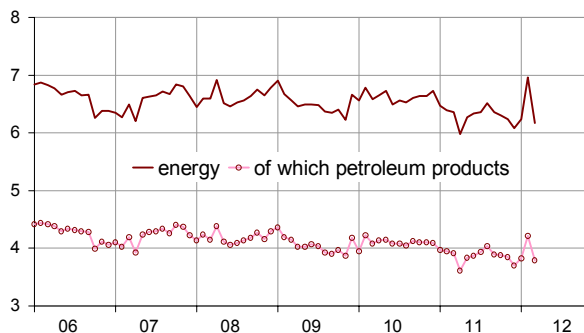
The evolution of household consumption in goods in February is scaled up by 0.1 point.

The increase of household consumption in goods is now estimated at -2.9% in February, instead of -3.0% estimated the previous month.

This revision is notably due to the integration of new information, in particular concerning computer and electronic products, as well as the revision of seasonality.

Energy

Billions of euros, TD-SA



Households consumption expenditures in manufactured goods

In chained billion euros

	Janv. 2012	Févr. 2012	Mars 2012	Mars 12/ Mars 11	Q1 12/ Q4 11
Food products	14.726	14.923	14.578		
Change (%)	1.5	1.3	-2.3	-1.0	1.0
Engineered goods	20.392	20.542	20.607		
change (%)	-3.2	0.7	0.3	-2.3	-1.8
Of which:					
Automobiles	4.667	4.643	4.747		
Change (%)	-8.3	-0.5	2.3	-9.9	-5.6
Household durables	5.185	5.157	5.165		
Change (%)	-2.9	-0.6	0.2	0.3	-0.9
Textile-leather	3.784	3.994	3.894		
Change (%)	-2.5	5.6	-2.5	-1.0	-0.8
Other engineered goods	5.760	5.780	5.793		
Change (%)	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.2
Energy	6.2	7.0	6.2		
Change (%)	2.5	11.6	-11.3	-3.0	4.0
Including petroleum products	3.8	4.2	3.8		
Change (%)	3.4	10.1	-10.0	-3.1	3.6
Total	41.299	42.504	41.265		
Change (%)	-0.5	2.9	-2.9	-2.0	0.2
Manufactured goods	35.858	36.386	35.998		
Change (%)	-1.0	1.5	-1.1	-1.9	-0.5

For more information:

SCOPE AND DEFINITION - Consumption expenditure in goods are compliant with the national-accounts definition (NAF Rev. 2). In 2010, they accounted for half of total households' consumption expenditure. They are divided into three main items:

- FOOD: products of agriculture, forestry and fishing (AZ), food, drinks and tobacco (C1)
- ENERGY: mining products, as well as water, gas, electricity and air conditioning, sanitation and waste management (DE), and refined and coked products (C2).
- ENGINEERED: computers, electronic, electrical and optical goods (C3), transport equipment (C4), textiles and clothing, products made of leather, wood, paper, metals, plastic, rubber, chemicals, minerals, furniture, hardware, drugs (C5). Within this heading are distinguished "durable" goods which include transport equipment, household durables (furniture, household appliances ...) and other durable goods (jewelry, watches, GPS, glasses, medical devices ...).
- The manufactured goods correspond with all the products C1, C2, C3, C4, C5.

SOURCES: This indicator is the compilation of a variety of statistical sources issued by the Bank of France, the French Federation of Automobile Manufacturers (CCFA), the Department of Observation and Statistics (SOEs) of the Ministry of Equipment, the French Institute of Fashion (IFM), the National Health-Insurance Administration (CNAM), the National Federation of Rubber and Plastics Industries (SNCP), the Board of Oil (CPDP), GDF-Suez, RTE, GFK, SEITA, the International Union Committee of Automobile and Motorcycle (CSIAM), ... Figures are seasonally and trading-days adjusted (TD-SA).

Additional data (historical data, methodology, associated web pages ...) are available on the HTML page of this indicator:

<http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/info-rapide.asp?id=19>

Historical data are available on the BDM : [G1309T](#)

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