

Informations *Rapides*

Main indicators

■ Household consumption expenditure on goods – March 2015

Despite a downturn in March (-0.6%), household consumption of goods grew sharply over the first quarter of 2015 (+1.6%)

In March 2015, household consumption expenditure on goods stepped back: -0.6% in volume*, after increasing for four months in a row. This decline was mainly attributable to the downturn in energy consumption (-3.2% in March). However, over the first quarter, household expenditure on goods increased markedly (+1.6%), mainly as a result of a substantial rebound in consumption of energy and the acceleration in expenditure on durable goods. This result represents the highest rise since the fourth quarter of 2009.

- **Engineered goods : declining slightly in March, increasing markedly over the quarter**

Durables: speeding up over the quarter

Household expenditure on durable goods went up in March (+1.0%), after holding steady in February. Expenditure on household durables dropped back slightly (-0.2%), after two consecutive months of growth. Conversely, car purchases bounced back (+1.9% after -0.7% in February).

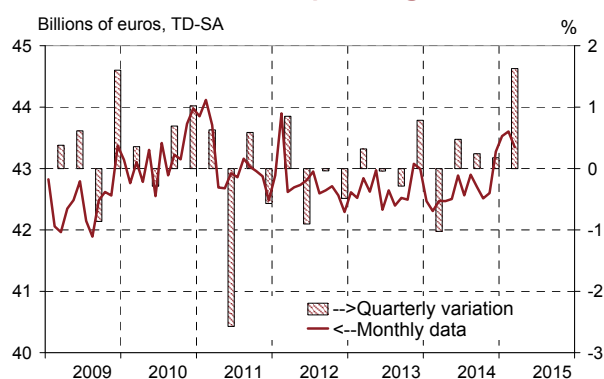
Over the first quarter 2015, expenditure on durable goods sped up significantly (+1.8% after +0.5%), primarily because of car purchases (+2.5% after -0.3%). Expenditure on household durables, for its part, kept rising at almost the same pace as over the previous quarter (+1.3% after +1.5%).

Textile-leather: weakening in March, growing over the quarter

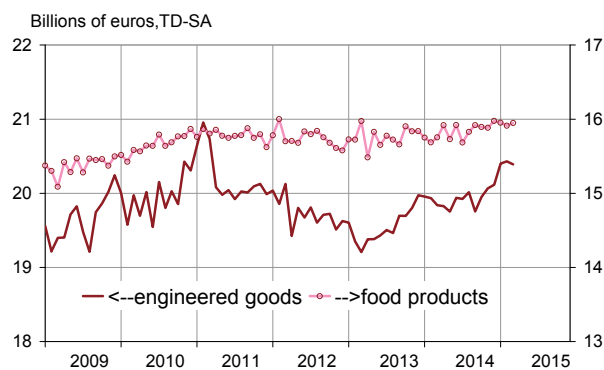
Consumption of textile, clothing and leather decreased in March (-3.3% after -0.2%). In contrast, purchases accelerated over the first quarter (+2.8% after +1.5%).

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

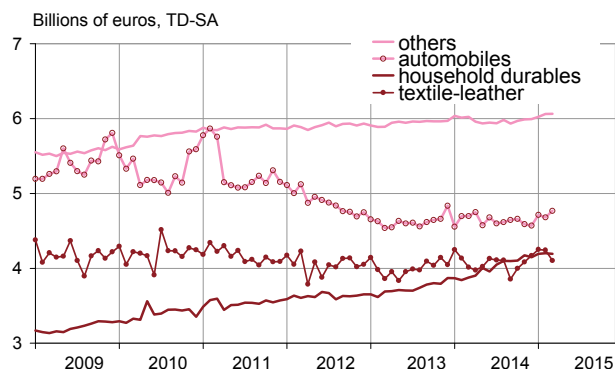
Total consumption of goods



Food and engineered goods



Breakdown of engineered goods



Other engineered goods: accelerating over the quarter

Consumption expenditure on other engineered goods was practically stable in March (+0.1%, after +0.6%). It sped up over the first quarter (+1.1% after +0.6%).

- **Food products: recovering slightly in March, virtually flat over the quarter**

In March, consumption of food products picked up slightly (+0.2% after -0.3%), especially due to tobacco consumption. Over the first quarter, it was almost stable (+0.1% after +0.7% over the previous quarter).

- **Energy: downturn in March, significant rebound over the quarter**

In March, household consumption of energy products eased back (-3.2%), after three consecutive months of increase. Oil, electricity and gas consumption dipped substantially.

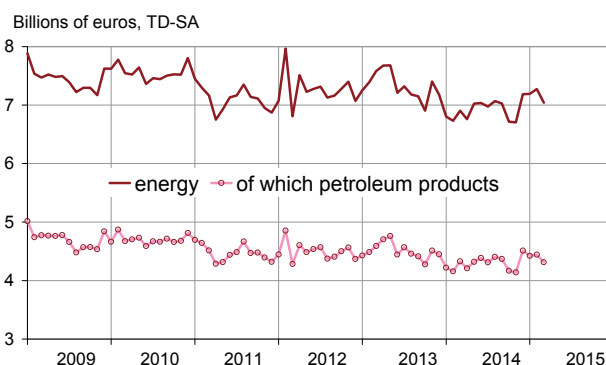
Over the first quarter, however, consumption of energy products bounced back sharply (+4.4% after -2.2%).

The variation in March is scaled up by 0.1 point

Household consumption of goods is scaled up by 0.1 point in February, now estimated at +0.2% instead of +0.1% within the previous publication. Conversely, the estimation in January is scaled down by 0.1 point (+0.6%, instead of +0.7% as previously estimated).

These revisions are mainly due to the integration of new information, as well as the updating of the seasonal adjustment coefficients, particularly regarding energy.

Energy



Household consumption expenditure on goods

In chained billion euros

	Jan. 2015	Feb. 2015	March 2015	March2015/ March2014	Q1 15/ Q4 14
Food products	15.953	15.911	15.949		
Change (%)	-0.1	-0.3	0.2	1.2	0.1
Engineered goods	20.402	20.431	20.391		
Change (%)	1.4	0.1	-0.2	2.8	1.8
Durables	10.126	10.124	10.229		
Change (%)	1.7	0.0	1.0	4.3	1.8
- of which automobiles	4.714	4.681	4.768		
Change (%)	3.1	-0.7	1.9	1.5	2.5
- of which household durables	4.195	4.202	4.193		
Change (%)	1.1	0.2	-0.2	8.1	1.3
Textile-leather	4.251	4.244	4.103		
Change (%)	2.0	-0.2	-3.3	2.2	2.8
Other engineered goods	6.022	6.061	6.065		
Change (%)	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.7	1.1
Energy	7.192	7.273	7.042		
Change (%)	0.1	1.1	-3.2	2.0	4.4
- including petroleum products	4.423	4.443	4.313		
Change (%)	-2.0	0.5	-2.9	-0.4	2.8
Total	43.529	43.603	43.348		
Change (%)	0.6	0.2	-0.6	2.1	1.6
Manufactured goods	37.256	37.265	37.184		
Change (%)	0.2	0.0	-0.2	1.8	1.0

For more information:

SCOPE AND DEFINITION - Consumption expenditure on goods is 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, etc.) and other durable goods (jewelry, watches, GPS, glasses, medical devices, etc.).
- 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), GFK, Altadis, the International Union Committee of Automobile and Motorcycle (CSIAM), etc. Figures are seasonally and trading-days adjusted (TD-SA).

Additional data (historical data, methodology, associated web pages, etc.) 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: [G1555](#)

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