Informations Rapides
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Conjoncture
Main indicators

Household consumption expenditure on goods – April 2018

Household consumption expenditure on goods declined sharply in April 2018 (−1.5%)

In April 2018, household expenditure on goods declined strongly (−1.5%) in volume*. Energy consumption fell sharply, as did food purchases. On the contrary, expenses on textile-clothing were on the rise.

- **Energy: sharp decline**

In April, energy consumption fell again (−5.4% after −0.9%). Heating expenses dropped significantly due to well above seasonal norm temperatures in April, after the cold months of February and March. On the other hand, consumption of refined products was virtually stable (+0.1%): spending on diesel fuel declined while spending on gasoline increased.

- **Food products: clear decrease**

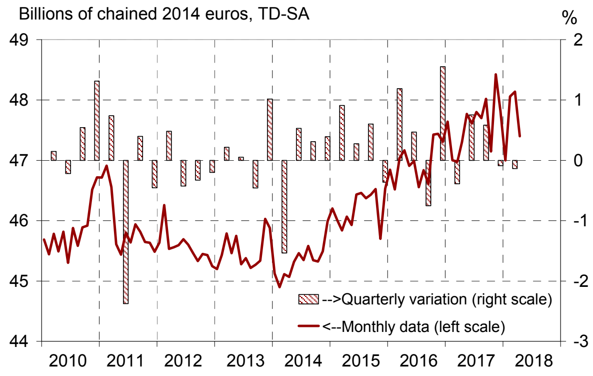
In April, food consumption decreased sharply (−1.8%), after rising for two months (+0.2% in March and +1.3% in February). Purchases were lower both in unprocessed agricultural goods (fruits, vegetables) and in agrifood products (meat, dairy products) and beverages.
On the contrary, tobacco consumption recovered very slightly in April, after the previous month drop that followed the price increase on 1st March 2018.

- **Engineered goods: moderate growth**

In April, expenditures on manufactured goods slowed down (+0.2% after +0.5% in March). The slight growth was driven by the dynamism of clothing purchases, which offset the decline in the consumption of durables.

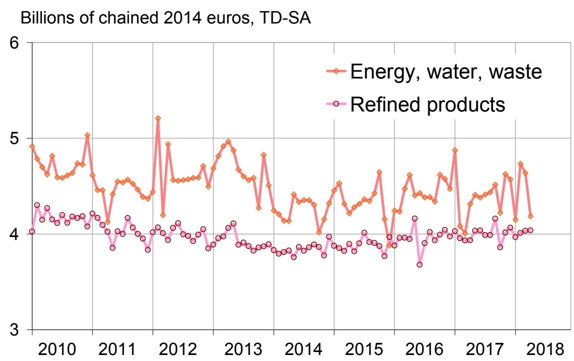
**Volumes are measured at chain-link previous year prices (2014 euro billions) and all figures are trading-day and seasonally adjusted.*

Total consumption of goods



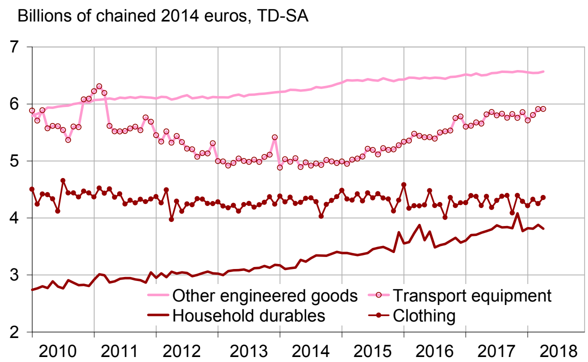
Source: INSEE

Breakdown of energy



Source: INSEE

Breakdown of engineered goods



Source: INSEE

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Durables: declining

Consumption of durables fell (−0.7%) in April, after a two-month increase. Purchases of houshold durables were down (−1.8%), in particular those of furniture and communication equipment (*smartphones*). Expenses on transport equipment were almost stable (+0.1%): the downturn in the second-hand vehicle market was offset by an upturn in new vehicle purchases.

Textile-clothing: steep rise

After a sharp drop in March, expenditure on textile-clothing rebounded steeply in April (+2.5% after −1.7%). This recovery was driven by purchases of clothing and shoes.

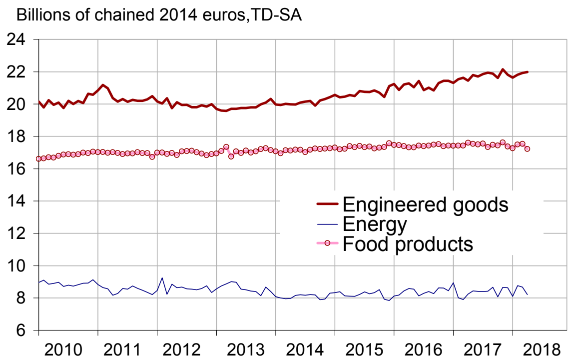
Other engineered goods: slight rebound

Purchases of "other engineered goods" increased slightly in April (+0.4%), after levelling off in March. In particular, consumption of DIY and hardware items was on the rise.

The variation in March 2018 is revised upwards

Compared to the previous estimation, the change of household expenditure on goods in March 2018 was revised upwards: +0.2% instead of +0.1%. Indeed, new information has been integrated and the seasonal adjustment coefficients have been updated.

Food products, engineered goods and energy



Source: INSEE

Household consumption expenditure on goods

Changes in %, TD-SA

	Weight (1)	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Apr. 2018	Apr. 18 / Apr. 17	Q / Q-1
Food products	38	1.3	0.2	−1.8	−2.2	0.0
- excl. Tobacco	*34*	*1.3*	*1.4*	*−2.0*	*−1.2*	*0.6*
Engineered goods	45	0.8	0.5	0.2	2.5	0.2
- Durables	22	0.7	1.7	−0.7	3.0	0.4
Including :		*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*
- Transport equipment	*12*	*1.6*	*1.8*	*0.1*	*4.5*	*1.7*
- Household durables	*7*	*−0.2*	*1.8*	*−1.8*	*1.8*	*−1.4*
- Textile-clothing	9	2.7	−1.7	2.5	3.3	0.3
- Other engineered goods	14	−0.2	0.0	0.4	1.1	−0.2
Energy	18	8.1	−0.9	−5.4	−0.4	1.0
- Energy, water, waste	10	14.1	−2.0	−9.8	−3.0	1.6
- Refined Products	8	1.1	0.6	0.1	2.6	0.3
Total	**100**	**2.3**	**0.2**	**−1.5**	**0.2**	**0.2**
- Including Manuf. goods	*84*	*1.0*	*0.4*	*−0.5*	*0.8*	*0.1*

(1) Weighting in the consumption expenditure on goods in value in 2017
(2) Last three months / previous three months

For more information

Scope and definition - Consumption expenditure on goods is compliant with the national-accounts definition (NAF Rev. 2). In 2014, 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 goods: 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 Data and Statistical Studies (SDES), 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, Logista, 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 web page of this indicator: https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques?debut=0&theme=30&conjoncture=31
- Historical data are available on the BDM: https://www.insee.fr/en/statistiques/series/102848838
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