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Service providers with 12.7% turnover growth in fourth quarter

Retail turnover in Q4 2022 increased in nominal terms, but slipping into negative territory when adjusted for inflation

Vienna, 2022-03-06 – According to Statistics Austria, Austrian service enterprises increased their turnover by 12.7% in nominal terms in the fourth quarter of 2022. Trade turned over 9.0% more than in the same period in 2021 in nominal terms. Adjusted for inflation (real), however, this corresponds to a minus of 2.3%.

The significant increase in turnover of Austrian **service** providers in the **fourth quarter of 2022** is mainly due to accommodation and food service activities sector with a rise of 40.8% and the transportation and storage sector with an increase in turnover of 13.0% compared with the same quarter of the previous year (see Table 1).

Trade turned over more than in the fourth quarter of 2021 (+9.0% in nominal terms). In real terms, however, the decline was 2.3%. Retail trade was up by 8.9%, which corresponds to a price-adjusted (real) decline in sales of 1.6% (see Table 2). While retail trade with non-food was positive at +9.9% in nominal terms and +1.2% in real terms, retail trade with food grew in nominal terms by 7.0% year-on-year, corresponding to a decrease of 4.3% in sales.

Employment (no conclusion on full-time equivalents possible) developed positively in the fourth quarter of 2022: In the service sector, employment was with 4.6% significantly higher than in the fourth quarter 2021, while in trade the increase was lower at +1,2%.

January to December 2022: Service enterprises generate 19.2% increase in turnover

From **January to December 2022**, Austrian **service enterprises** recorded a 19.2% increase in turnover compared to the same period last year. This result is mainly due to the 60.2% increase in turnover in the accommodation and food service sector, which was particularly affected by the pandemic-related restrictions in the previous year (see Table 3).

January to December 2022: Trade with 11.5% increase in turnover

Trade showed a nominal increase in turnover of 11.5%; adjusted for inflation (in real terms), this results in a minus of 1.1%. In 2022, wholesalers recorded the largest turnover growth in the trade sector – mainly due to the sharp rise in prices – with an increase of 16.9% in turnover and 1.0% in sales. The retail trade also reported growth of 8.1% in turnover; adjusted for inflation, this represents a decrease of 0.8%. In line with the drop in the number of new registrations, the trade of motor vehicles reported a 1.4% decline in turnover and a 10.8% drop in sales (see Table 4).

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

Table 1: Services Q4 2022, unadjusted

Selected sectors	Change turnover compared to the period last year	
	In nominal terms	
Services	12.7	
Transportation and storage	13.0	
Accommodation and food service activities	40.8	
Information and communication	4.9	
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2.7	
Administrative and support service activities	12.7	

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics services.

Table 2: Trade Q4 2022, unadjusted

Selected sectors	Change turnover compared to the period last year	
	In nominal terms	In real terms
Trade	9.0	-2.3
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	5.6	-5.6
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	9.9	-1.9
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	8.9	-1.6

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics trade.

Table 3: Services January to December 2022, unadjusted

Selected sectors	Change turnover compared to the period last year	
	In nominal terms	
Services	19.2	
Transportation and storage	21.3	
Accommodation and food service activities	60.2	
Information and communication	5.2	
Professional, scientific and technical activities	5.2	
Administrative and support service activities	16.3	

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics services.

Table 4: Trade January to December 2022, unadjusted

Selected sectors	Change turnover compared to the period last year	
	In nominal terms	In real terms
Trade	11.5	-1.1
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	-1.4	-10.8
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16.9	1.0
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	8.1	-0.8

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics trade.

Information on methodology: The short-term statistics for services were rebased to the base year 2015 as of the first quarter of 2018, while the base year 2015=100 was used for trade as of January 2018. The new time series and methodological notes are available on our website. For the calculation of the turnover indicators and their rates of change, the advance sales tax returns are used for the majority of companies. The employment indicators (which measure employment ratios, not full-time equivalents) are calculated based on employed persons from the Central Association of Austrian Social Insurance Authorities and self-

employed persons from the statistical business register of Statistics Austria. More information on the methodology can be found on our [website](#).

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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