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# Turnover growth for service enterprises in Q3 2023

## Trade decreased compared to the same quarter 2022

Vienna, 2023-12-06 – In the third quarter of 2023, the turnover of Austrian service enterprises increased by 1.8% in nominal terms compared to the same quarter of the previous year, as Statistics Austria reports. Turnover of trade enterprises increased by 3.8% in nominal terms, in real terms it decreased by 4.8% compared to the third quarter of 2022.

Austrian **service enterprises** generated a 1.8% increase in turnover in the **third quarter of 2023**. The highest increase in turnover was recorded in the accommodation and food service sector with a plus of 7.3% compared to the third quarter last year. The sectors administrative and support service activities (+7.2%) as well as information and communication (+3.4%) increased their turnover as well. Only the sector transportation and storage decreased by 4.7% compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

**Trade turnover** decreased year-on-year in the third quarter 2023 (–3.8% in nominal terms and –4.8% in real terms). This decline of turnover in the trade sector is strongly driven by a decrease in wholesale trade of 9.5% in nominal terms (–7.3% in real terms). Retail trade still increased its turnover by 1.9%, which corresponds to a price-adjusted (real) decline in sales of 3.6%. Retail trade with food also increased strongly by 8.3% in nominal terms, which means a decrease of 0.4% in real terms. Non-food retail trade decreased by 2.0% in nominal terms (–6.8% in real terms). In contrast, the motor vehicle trade posted a year-on-year increase of 8.9% in nominal terms and 2.6% in real terms.

**Employment** (no conclusion on full-time equivalents possible) in the third quarter of 2023 only changed marginally compared to the previous year. In the service sector, employment was 0.5% higher than in the same quarter one year before. In trade, employment increased by 0.1% compared to the same period of the previous year.

### January to September 2023: Service enterprises generate 6.3% increase in turnover

From **January to September 2023**, Austrian **service enterprises** recorded an 6.3% increase in turnover compared to the same period last year. This is mainly due to the 16.0% increase of turnover in the accommodation and food service sector. **Trade** showed a nominal decrease of 0.2% in turnover, with a price-adjusted (real) decrease of 3.8%. Retail trade reported a growth of 3.7% in turnover in nominal terms (–3.5% in real terms), trade of motor vehicles a plus of 12.9% in nominal terms (+4.3% in real terms) and wholesale trade a decrease of 5.0% in nominal terms (–5.9% in real terms).

**Employment figures** (no conclusion on full-time equivalents possible) from January to September 2023 increased for service companies by 1.8%, while in the trade sector they remained unchanged.

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

**Table 1: Services third quarter 2023, unadjusted**

Selected sectors	Turnover change compared to the period last year in %	
	In nominal terms	
Services	1.8	
Transportation and Storage	-4.7	
Accommodation and food service activities	7.3	
Information and Communication	3.4	
Professional, scientific and technical activities	2.2	
Administrative and support service activities	7.2	

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics services.

**Table 2: Trade third quarter 2023, unadjusted**

Selected sectors	Turnover change compared to the period last year in %	
	In nominal terms	In real terms
Trade	-3.8	-4.8
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	8.9	2.6
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	-9.5	-7.3
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1.9	-3.6

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics trade.

**Table 3: Services January to September 2023, unadjusted**

Selected sectors	Turnover change compared to the period last year in %	
	In nominal terms	
Services	6.3	
Transportation and Storage	1.1	
Accommodation and food service activities	16.0	
Information and Communication	5.0	
Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.8	
Administrative and support service activities	11.0	

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics services.

**Table 4: Trade January to September 2023, unadjusted**

Selected sectors	Turnover change compared to the period last year in %	
	In nominal terms	In real terms
Trade	-0.2	-3.8
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	12.9	4.3
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	-5.0	-5.9
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	3.7	-3.5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, short-term statistics trade.

**Information on methodology, definitions:** 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 related methodology can also be found on our [website](#).

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

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