

56/2021 - 6 May 2021

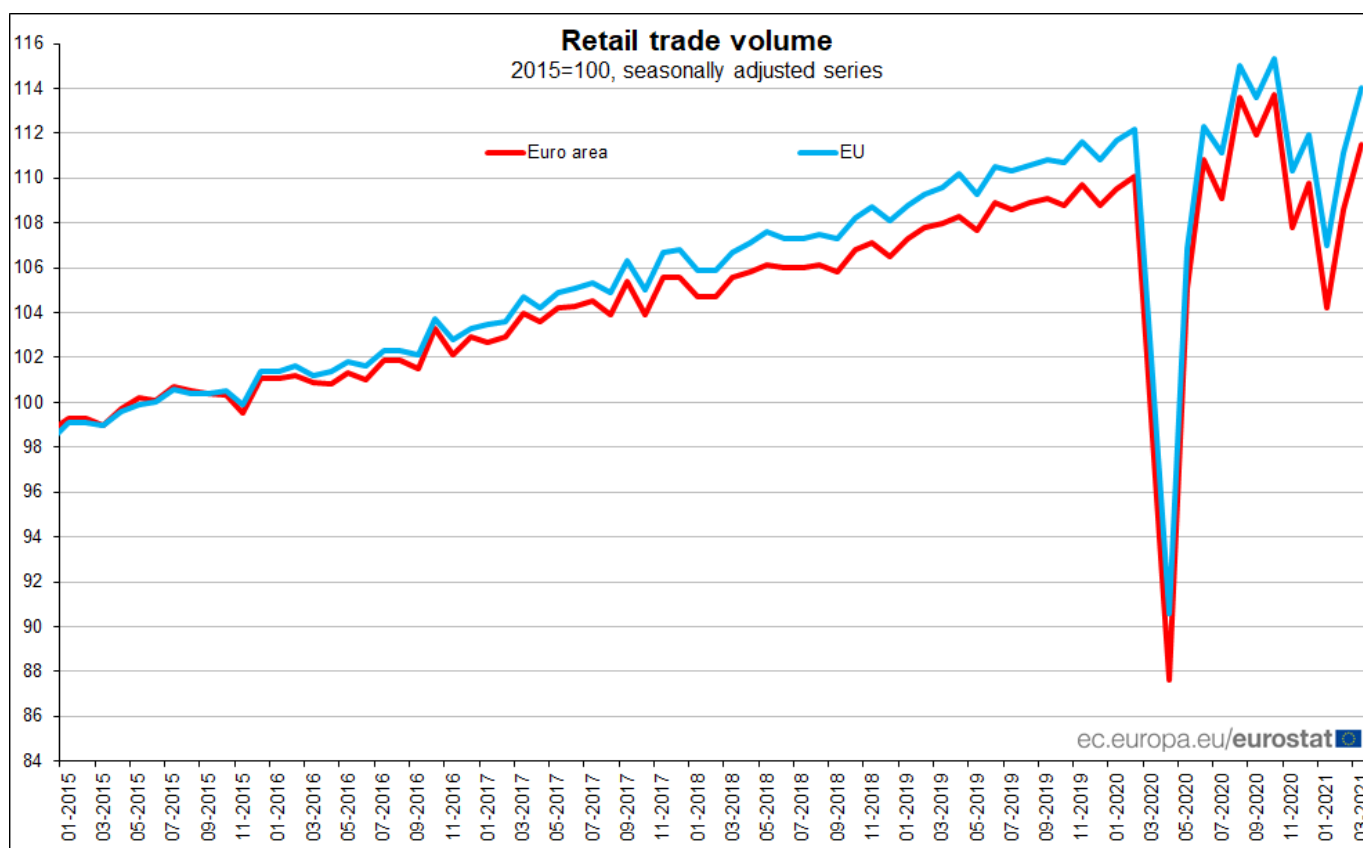
March 2021 compared with February 2021

Volume of retail trade up by 2.7% in euro area and by 2.6% in the EU

Up by 12.0% and 11.6% compared with March 2020

In March 2021, the seasonally adjusted volume of retail trade rose by 2.7% in the **euro area** and by 2.6% in the **EU**, compared with February 2021, according to estimates from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In February 2021, the retail trade volume increased by 4.2% in the **euro area** and by 3.8% in the **EU**.

In March 2021 compared with March 2020, the calendar adjusted volume of retail trade increased by 12.0% in the **euro area** and by 11.6% in the **EU**.



Monthly comparison by retail sector and by Member State

In the **euro area** in March 2021, compared with February 2021, the volume of retail trade increased by 4.6% for non-food products and by 1.0% for food, drinks and tobacco, while it decreased by 2.9% for automotive fuels.

In the **EU** the volume of retail trade increased by 4.2% for non-food products and by 0.8% for food, drinks and tobacco, while it decreased by 2.3% for automotive fuels.

Among Member States for which data are available, the highest monthly increases in total retail trade were registered in **Denmark** (+22.5%), the **Netherlands** (+8.4%), **Germany** and **Lithuania** (both +7.7%). The largest decreases were observed in **Croatia** (-4.0%), **Poland** (-2.2%) and **Austria** (-1.9%).

Annual comparison by retail sector and by Member State

In the **euro area** in March 2021, compared with March 2020, the volume of retail trade increased by 25.0% for non-food products (within this category mail orders and internet increased by 37.2%), and by 17.1% for automotive fuels, while it decreased by 1.1% for food, drinks and tobacco.

In the **EU**, the volume of retail trade increased by 23.6% for non-food products (mail orders and internet increased by 37.4%) and by 14.1% for automotive fuels, while it decreased by 1.2% for food, drinks and tobacco.

Among Member States for which data are available, the highest annual increases in total retail trade volume were registered in **Slovenia** (+24.0%), **Denmark** (+22.6%) and **France** (+21.3%). Decreases were observed in **Hungary** (-2.1%), **Portugal** (-1.1%) and **Malta** (-0.1%).

Geographical information

The **euro area** (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union** (EU27) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

Methods and definitions

The **index of the volume of retail trade** measures the evolution of the turnover in retail trade, adjusted for price changes (deflated), i.e. the evolution of the total amount of goods sold, based on data adjusted for calendar and seasonal effects.

Seasonal adjustment is a statistical method for removing the effects of recurring seasonal influences, which have been observed in the past from an economic time series, thus showing non-seasonal trends more clearly. **Calendar adjustment** is a statistical method for removing the variation caused by the changing number of particular weekdays or holidays in different months or other time periods (quarters, years). The annual comparisons are based on data adjusted for calendar effects only.

Seasonally adjusted euro area and EU series are calculated by aggregating the seasonally adjusted national data.

Missing observations from Member States for recent months are estimated for the calculation of the euro area and the EU aggregates.

Revisions and timetable

Data of previous months have been revised compared to those issued in the News Release [43/2021](#) of 12 April 2021. The monthly percentage change for February 2021 has been revised from +3.0% to +4.2% in the euro area and from +2.9% to +3.8% in the EU. The annual percentage change has been revised from -2.9% to -1.5% in the euro area and from -2.2% to -1.0% in the EU.

For more information

Eurostat [database section](#) on short-term business statistics

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on the index of retail trade

The [weights of the Member States](#) in the EU and euro area aggregates

(See file NEWS_RELEASE_WEIGHTINGS_2015)

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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Volume of retail trade
% change compared with the previous month*

	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Euro area						
Total retail trade	1.6	-5.2	1.9	-5.1	4.2	2.7
Food, drinks, tobacco	2.2	-2.1	2.1	1.0	-0.5	1.0
Non-food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	1.7	-7.0	1.4	-9.8	8.3	4.6
Mail orders and internet	8.0	4.5	-1.1	6.0	2.7	1.4
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-3.6	-10.6	4.1	-0.9	4.6	-2.9
EU						
Total retail trade	1.5	-4.3	1.5	-4.4	3.8	2.6
Food, drinks, tobacco	2.0	-1.8	1.9	0.8	-0.4	0.8
Non-food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	1.8	-5.8	0.5	-8.1	7.5	4.2
Mail orders and internet	7.3	5.1	-1.2	5.6	2.4	1.9
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-3.1	-8.2	3.2	-0.1	3.1	-2.3

Source dataset: [sts_trtu_m](#)

Total retail trade	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Euro area	1.6	-5.2	1.9	-5.1	4.2	2.7
EU	1.5	-4.3	1.5	-4.4	3.8	2.6
Belgium	1.5	-9.0	8.1	0.1	2.9	0.1
Bulgaria	1.4	1.3	1.3	3.4	-0.1	0.8
Czechia	-1.4	-5.6	7.3	-6.5	2.8	c
Denmark	9.0	-3.1	-8.0	-6.2	4.3	22.5
Germany	3.2	1.6	-8.0	-6.2	2.7	7.7
Estonia	1.1	0.9	-0.5	1.7	0.1	-1.4
Ireland	0.7	-10.7	10.0	-15.1	8.1	1.0
Greece	4.3	-6.4	-9.3	13.8	-0.9	c
Spain	0.8	-1.0	2.0	-7.6	3.6	3.6
France	2.4	-15.6	20.9	-4.5	1.6	-1.0
Croatia	4.4	2.9	-1.9	3.4	4.4	-4.0
Italy	-0.7	-8.2	1.3	c	c	c
Cyprus	2.3	1.2	0.6	-11.3	15.9	c
Latvia	0.9	-1.8	-5.8	-5.1	4.5	6.9
Lithuania	1.5	-1.1	-5.1	-5.1	5.9	7.7
Luxembourg	-1.2	-0.3	-1.5	0.9	2.1	0.6
Hungary	0.2	0.4	-0.9	0.5	-1.2	0.8
Malta	2.0	1.5	2.3	-1.6	-1.6	2.6
Netherlands	-1.0	3.3	-10.1	-5.2	5.4	8.4
Austria	-0.8	-9.8	6.9	-15.7	27.9	-1.9
Poland	-0.3	0.8	0.8	-0.2	2.7	-2.2
Portugal	1.7	-3.3	0.3	-5.4	-1.4	2.2
Romania	1.5	0.5	0.2	-3.1	1.5	2.3
Slovenia	-1.0	-5.7	1.3	1.8	18.7	3.4
Slovakia	-0.7	-1.0	0.4	-16.5	4.9	5.4
Finland	0.4	1.7	-3.1	1.6	1.3	-0.2
Sweden	0.2	1.3	-4.0	4.3	1.7	2.9
Norway	1.2	2.9	-5.7	-0.1	-0.3	0.0
Switzerland	2.8	-1.8	1.8	-6.0	-5.3	22.1

* Calendar and seasonally adjusted

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Source dataset: [sts_trtu_m](#)

Volume of retail trade
% change compared with the same month of the previous year*

	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Euro area						
Total retail trade	4.6	-1.4	1.3	-4.8	-1.5	12.0
Food, drinks, tobacco	5.0	2.4	5.6	6.1	2.6	-1.1
Non-food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	6.0	-2.0	0.1	-10.8	-3.6	25.0
Mail orders and internet	31.7	36.2	31.7	39.0	41.5	37.2
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-8.8	-18.2	-14.6	-17.1	-12.0	17.1
EU						
Total retail trade	4.3	-0.9	1.2	-4.2	-1.0	11.6
Food, drinks, tobacco	4.4	2.2	5.0	5.4	2.5	-1.2
Non-food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	6.1	-0.7	0.3	-9.2	-2.5	23.6
Mail orders and internet	32.6	38.0	32.3	40.5	41.9	37.4
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-9.0	-16.0	-13.3	-14.9	-11.1	14.1

Source dataset: [sts_trtu_m](#)

Total retail trade	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Euro area	4.6	-1.4	1.3	-4.8	-1.5	12.0
EU	4.3	-0.9	1.2	-4.2	-1.0	11.6
Belgium	6.9	-3.9	4.4	5.6	11.0	13.8
Bulgaria	-5.1	-5.8	-10.7	-4.4	-0.5	17.3
Czechia	-0.8	-4.5	-0.8	-6.4	-2.9	c
Denmark	12.5	9.3	0.4	-5.9	-1.2	22.6
Germany	9.0	9.5	1.9	-5.1	-2.9	5.5
Estonia	6.5	6.2	6.0	8.0	3.7	3.4
Ireland	14.5	1.2	10.9	-6.1	1.5	2.4
Greece	4.7	-7.4	-11.5	-1.6	-1.8	c
Spain	-2.0	-4.9	-0.1	-9.0	-6.2	13.7
France	5.3	-11.5	8.0	2.0	3.9	21.3
Croatia	-0.3	1.5	-1.6	0.9	5.1	10.5
Italy	-0.3	-8.5	-5.9	c	c	c
Cyprus	0.1	0.4	1.6	-10.2	4.9	c
Latvia	6.5	1.5	-4.8	-9.4	-8.4	3.2
Lithuania	8.5	6.4	-0.3	-4.1	0.0	18.9
Luxembourg	0.6	0.9	-1.6	1.3	0.7	20.0
Hungary	-2.0	-0.7	-3.9	-1.9	-5.9	-2.1
Malta	-7.9	-4.0	2.2	-3.0	-9.6	-0.1
Netherlands	3.0	7.1	-5.9	-9.2	-5.7	4.6
Austria	3.6	-7.3	-0.1	-16.2	4.9	19.1
Poland	3.3	1.7	4.5	1.3	4.0	8.1
Portugal	0.8	-3.9	-2.1	-9.9	-15.1	-1.1
Romania	4.8	4.1	2.7	1.6	3.8	8.4
Slovenia	-10.7	-15.3	-13.2	-13.1	4.2	24.0
Slovakia	2.8	-0.4	-0.6	-16.8	-14.7	0.4
Finland	4.7	7.8	2.9	4.4	4.7	5.8
Sweden	1.7	3.9	-1.9	2.6	4.2	8.7
Norway	10.6	13.8	8.0	8.2	6.1	6.7
Switzerland	5.5	2.8	5.7	-1.1	-6.6	22.7

* Calendar adjusted

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Source dataset: [sts_trtu_m](#)

Volume of retail trade, calendar and seasonally adjusted indices
(base year 2015)

	03/20	04/20	05/20	06/20	07/20	08/20	09/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	01/21	02/21	03/21
Euro area	99.3	87.6	105.1	110.8	109.1	113.6	111.9	113.7	107.8	109.8	104.2	108.6	111.5
EU	102.0	90.6	106.9	112.3	111.1	115.0	113.6	115.3	110.3	111.9	107.0	111.1	114.0
Belgium	97.3	90.7	103.3	106.2	102.4	113.7	106.7	108.3	98.6	106.6	106.7	109.8	109.9
Bulgaria	101.2	101.0	102.0	103.8	104.6	106.9	109.1	110.6	112.0	113.5	117.4	117.3	118.2
Czechia	110.8	108.3	120.8	122.9	125.7	125.8	124.8	123.0	116.1	124.6	116.5	119.8	c
Denmark	102.4	101.4	110.6	112.0	110.5	109.2	108.0	117.7	114.0	104.9	98.4	102.6	125.7
Germany	111.6	104.7	118.2	116.3	116.5	118.9	117.4	121.2	123.1	113.3	106.3	109.2	117.6
Estonia	113.7	105.7	112.2	115.1	116.7	116.5	117.8	119.1	120.2	119.6	121.6	121.7	120.0
Ireland	122.6	95.8	108.7	131.3	132.7	134.0	136.8	137.8	123.1	135.4	115.0	124.3	125.5
Greece	102.1	76.6	100.3	100.9	100.6	102.7	101.4	105.8	99.0	89.8	102.2	101.3	c
Spain	93.2	75.3	88.3	103.3	104.5	105.2	105.1	105.9	104.8	106.9	98.8	102.4	106.1
France	95.9	78.3	107.8	117.2	113.3	121.1	116.9	119.7	101.0	122.1	116.6	118.5	117.3
Croatia	107.8	86.2	107.6	109.0	108.8	106.9	108.7	113.5	116.8	114.6	118.5	123.7	118.8
Italy	79.1	69.1	86.4	98.0	90.7	100.2	100.0	99.3	91.2	92.4	c	c	c
Cyprus	122.5	85.1	115.8	118.5	120.3	120.9	121.0	123.8	125.3	126.0	111.8	129.6	c
Latvia	112.9	105.2	112.9	116.8	116.0	117.4	118.0	119.1	116.9	110.1	104.5	109.2	116.7
Lithuania	116.2	108.0	124.7	132.8	133.4	134.2	134.0	136.0	134.5	127.7	121.2	128.4	138.3
Luxembourg	27.8	21.3	30.0	33.6	34.8	33.8	33.3	32.9	32.8	32.3	32.6	33.3	33.5
Hungary	128.9	111.9	119.5	123.4	125.6	126.4	126.8	127.1	127.6	126.5	127.1	125.6	126.6
Malta	117.2	88.3	97.0	104.3	106.7	110.1	110.7	112.9	114.6	117.2	115.3	113.5	116.4
Netherlands	109.6	104.3	114.4	116.6	115.9	117.7	114.9	113.7	117.5	105.6	100.1	105.5	114.4
Austria	92.1	86.8	109.1	106.6	109.1	108.2	108.5	107.6	97.1	103.8	87.5	111.9	109.8
Poland	123.4	111.2	123.0	128.2	131.6	132.2	131.9	131.5	132.5	133.5	133.2	136.8	133.8
Portugal	109.2	90.4	103.9	110.1	114.7	113.5	116.0	118.0	114.1	114.4	108.2	106.7	109.1
Romania	145.6	113.7	133.3	141.4	147.4	145.4	149.7	151.9	152.6	152.9	148.1	150.3	153.7
Slovenia	105.3	95.9	110.4	113.3	114.3	111.8	110.5	109.4	103.2	104.5	106.4	126.3	130.6
Slovakia	105.0	94.8	99.9	106.7	110.5	113.1	115.2	114.4	113.3	113.8	95.0	99.7	105.1
Finland	110.2	110.2	114.2	115.4	113.5	115.0	114.7	115.2	117.2	113.6	115.4	116.9	116.7
Sweden	107.4	105.3	107.2	109.0	109.0	108.9	109.7	109.9	111.3	106.8	111.4	113.3	116.6
Norway	102.5	107.3	110.4	116.6	117.4	111.7	112.1	113.5	116.8	110.1	110.0	109.7	109.7
Switzerland	96.0	83.2	109.4	107.3	107.0	106.5	105.4	108.3	106.4	108.3	101.8	96.4	117.7

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Source dataset: [sts_trtu_m](#)

Volume of retail trade, calendar adjusted indices
(base year 2015)

	03/18	03/19	03/20	04/20	05/20	06/20	07/20	08/20	09/20	10/20	11/20	12/20	01/21	02/21	03/21
Euro area	103.6	105.9	97.6	85.7	104.0	110.7	108.7	116.2	108.7	115.1	109.8	131.1	99.1	96.4	109.3
EU	104.7	107.6	100.2	88.7	106.2	112.7	111.4	117.7	110.7	116.8	112.4	132.8	100.6	98.2	111.8
Belgium	101.2	100.5	97.9	89.7	104.7	110.3	104.0	105.6	100.8	109.4	96.1	125.6	105.8	99.7	111.4
Bulgaria	109.4	114.5	97.3	92.6	96.2	101.8	109.4	117.7	117.8	120.2	119.5	126.1	102.9	102.9	114.1
Czechia	112.6	120.4	111.8	106.5	122.1	122.9	120.8	120.5	121.7	124.1	128.1	149.9	105.6	105.5	c
Denmark	100.0	102.2	98.4	101.0	114.4	114.6	109.6	110.1	103.7	115.0	120.8	127.6	90.1	88.3	120.6
Germany	107.7	112.4	113.2	105.6	117.5	115.6	117.2	114.9	113.5	122.7	130.1	130.8	98.5	98.3	119.4
Estonia	103.7	109.4	112.7	95.1	117.2	121.5	122.2	121.4	116.1	121.1	119.4	133.7	112.9	106.8	116.5
Ireland	100.8	108.3	112.0	89.9	103.5	126.2	126.7	130.4	135.0	134.5	134.6	187.2	106.8	116.9	114.7
Greece	94.9	99.6	97.2	74.9	91.1	101.3	104.9	111.0	102.9	107.0	94.8	101.3	96.6	96.7	c
Spain	102.4	103.8	89.8	71.3	86.9	104.6	113.7	104.3	102.5	105.5	102.7	124.7	99.4	90.1	102.1
France	106.5	108.1	93.5	77.0	106.8	117.0	97.1	139.8	111.6	120.5	101.2	151.3	112.4	104.0	113.4
Croatia	99.4	107.5	102.1	83.1	104.0	117.0	131.2	127.4	112.5	112.9	108.7	121.4	97.7	100.2	112.8
Italy	96.0	95.7	74.6	62.9	83.0	94.7	97.9	100.1	99.5	103.3	91.6	114.8	c	c	c
Cyprus	109.0	111.7	112.1	82.5	114.6	123.1	130.3	123.4	120.2	122.6	124.5	153.9	99.4	113.2	c
Latvia	105.1	109.2	108.6	101.3	115.4	120.3	124.7	127.0	118.0	119.9	113.2	123.7	94.0	94.8	112.1
Lithuania	113.3	119.2	113.1	104.5	127.6	134.4	141.0	143.4	133.1	138.4	132.1	144.5	111.0	112.2	134.5
Luxembourg	31.4	32.2	27.5	20.6	28.5	34.3	37.5	31.4	32.3	34.3	33.6	37.9	31.6	29.6	33.0
Hungary	113.9	121.3	125.8	110.0	120.6	126.2	130.1	130.5	123.7	130.2	132.1	146.4	110.9	108.7	123.2
Malta	104.4	109.6	107.3	87.0	98.5	113.3	111.2	108.8	103.9	113.4	116.4	139.7	106.7	100.5	107.2
Netherlands	104.2	107.3	107.5	103.5	118.2	120.1	119.3	113.9	111.5	115.3	120.8	120.7	95.2	91.7	112.4
Austria	104.4	103.7	92.8	86.8	107.2	105.2	111.4	106.1	105.5	110.5	98.0	122.9	81.5	100.0	110.5
Poland	117.9	125.2	124.7	111.9	125.1	131.5	136.1	135.4	131.6	134.3	127.7	152.6	117.8	119.4	134.8
Portugal	106.4	111.0	105.7	85.3	102.0	108.6	122.8	122.8	115.1	117.1	114.1	139.6	100.1	92.0	104.5
Romania	120.5	132.0	136.4	110.6	131.4	142.6	155.2	155.8	154.6	157.3	161.0	170.1	133.0	132.1	147.8
Slovenia	112.6	120.6	103.1	94.3	108.6	116.8	121.0	115.1	113.5	113.5	101.5	114.1	98.5	109.1	127.8
Slovakia	111.8	109.6	105.7	94.8	100.7	111.5	111.6	112.4	115.1	117.1	114.1	126.1	85.3	87.3	106.1
Finland	101.5	103.8	104.4	104.9	119.3	122.5	121.2	119.4	112.2	114.6	116.7	135.6	101.5	98.4	110.5
Sweden	102.2	103.5	104.3	103.6	110.1	115.7	112.8	110.6	106.6	110.4	114.7	123.5	99.5	96.2	113.4
Norway	96.0	96.0	96.9	100.3	117.4	124.0	119.4	115.8	107.8	111.3	122.6	133.5	100.1	92.3	103.4
Switzerland	101.3	101.1	95.8	81.1	110.8	107.2	107.4	100.2	99.2	109.0	112.8	133.0	96.3	85.2	117.5

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Source dataset: [sts_trtu_m](#)