



Retail sales volume increased by some 5 percent in May

According to the second estimate of data published last week in the flash report of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), the volume of retail sales was up by 4.9 percent in May 2014 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year. In the initial five months of 2014 – in light of unadjusted data – retail sales soared by 6.6 percent. This figure is the third best within the EU. The first estimate of KSH at the beginning of July prognosticated an increase of 5.1 percent for the month of May, while Eurostat data published on 3 July signalled growth of 5 percent.

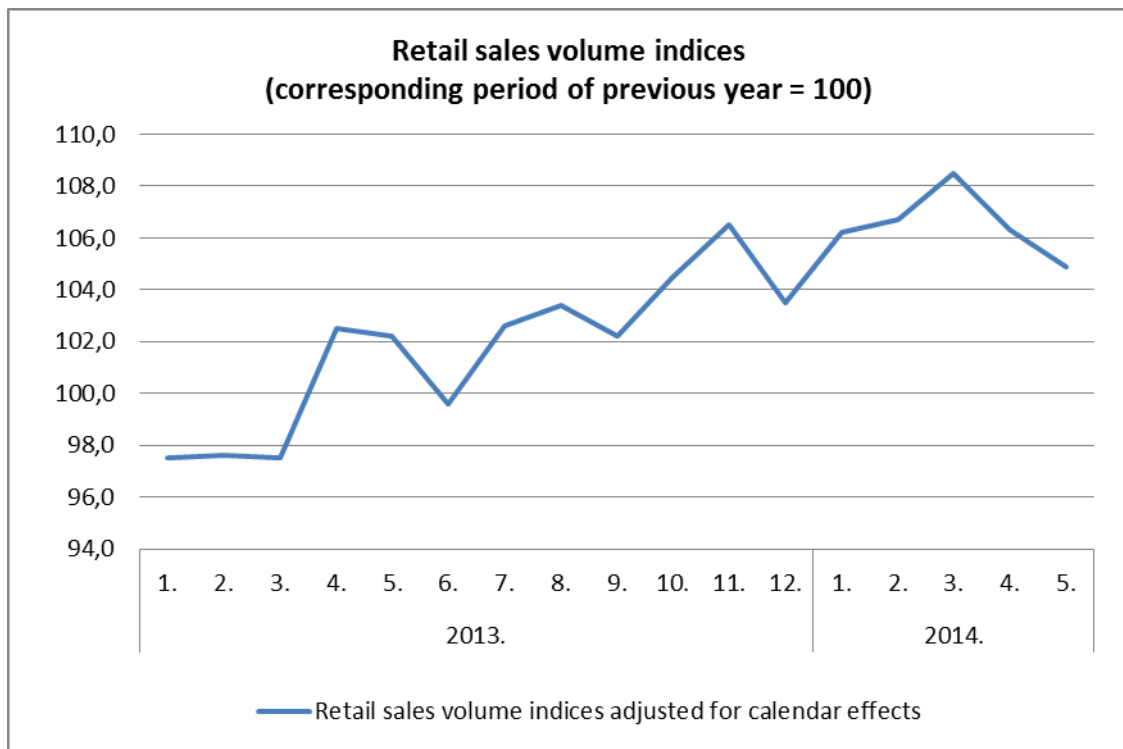
The volume of retail sales totalled HUF 730bn in May this year, up by HUF 40bn year-on-year. The volume of sales jumped by 8.1 percent at stores of food, beverages and tobacco products. In May, the share of this sector's sales volume within the Hungarian retail sector constituted 46.8 percent.

The sales volume of the non-food sector, constituting 34.6 percent of total, was up by 2.6 percent compared to May 2013. The sales volume at filling stations was 1.5 percent higher compared to April 2013. The share of this sector's sales volume within the total was 18.6 percent in May.

Taking into account the steady upward trend in place since July 2013, the sector's expansion is expected to continue.

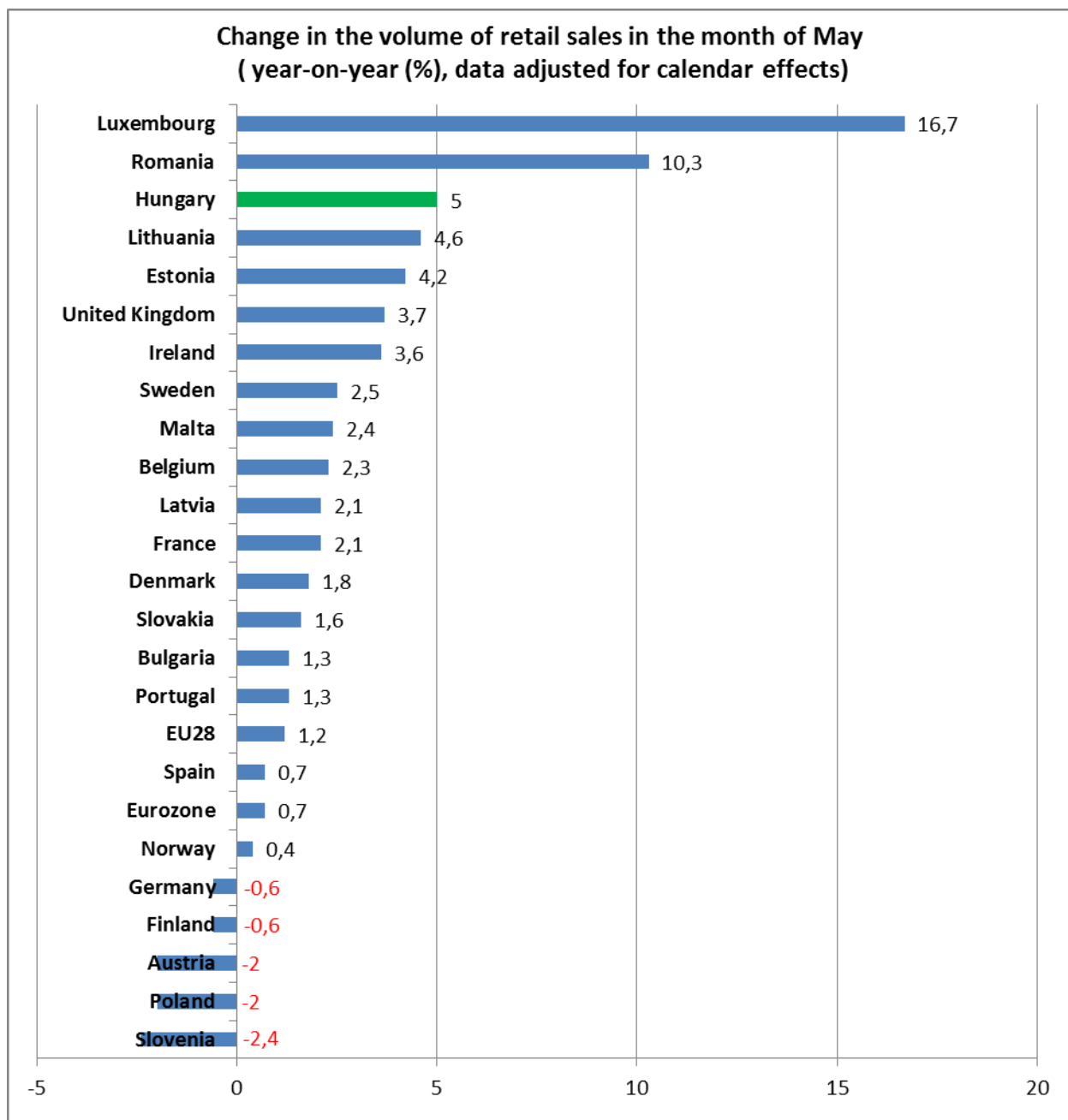


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Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), Ministry for National Economy (NGM)

On the basis of the latest statistics from EU member states it can be concluded that in light of data adjusted for calendar effects the increase of Hungary's retail sales volume was one of the most dynamic among the member states. According to the latest estimate, the consumption growth of only Romania and Luxembourg was larger than Hungary's. Albeit more slowly, average retail sales also increased within the EU (by 1.2 percent).



Source: Eurostat prognosis of 3 July 2014

For detailed data see www.ksh.hu.