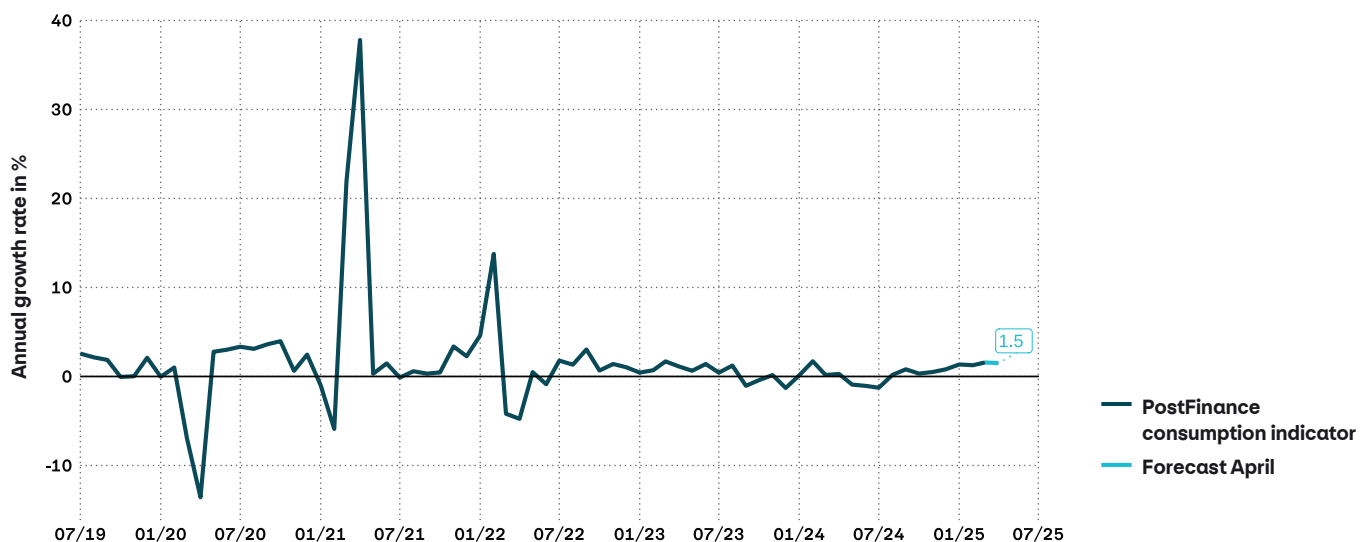


Despite bleak mood: Swiss are still enthusiastic consumers

The Swiss public is still willing to spend money. This is especially apparent in areas offering pleasure and relaxation such as travel, restaurants and leisure activities. According to the PostFinance consumption indicator, consumer spending in April was 1.5 percent higher than in the same month of last year. It is striking that this stability is visible in an increasingly pessimistic environment. According to the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), consumer sentiment has recently deteriorated significantly once again as many households expect an economic slowdown. However, so far, this is only borne out to a very limited degree in actual consumer behaviour.

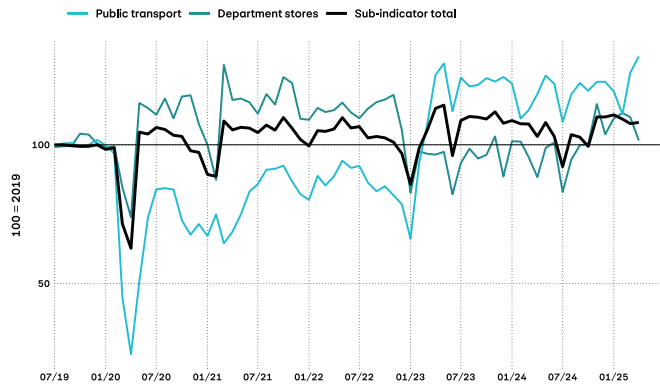
PostFinance consumption indicator



With 2.4 million customers, PostFinance is one of the largest financial institutions in Switzerland. Every month, we analyse our customers' anonymized payment transactions. This enables us to ascertain in almost real time how people in Switzerland spend their money each month. At the same time, the aggregated figures provide meaningful and up-to-date information about economic developments in Switzerland. The PostFinance consumption indicator shows year-on-year consumer spending adjusted for sales and holiday effects. In addition to the main indicator, we have developed seasonally adjusted consumption indicators, that include spending on specific goods and services ("everyday & household", "beauty & wellness", "recreation & leisure" and "travel"). The main indicator is published in annual growth rates, the sub-indicators are presented as indices.

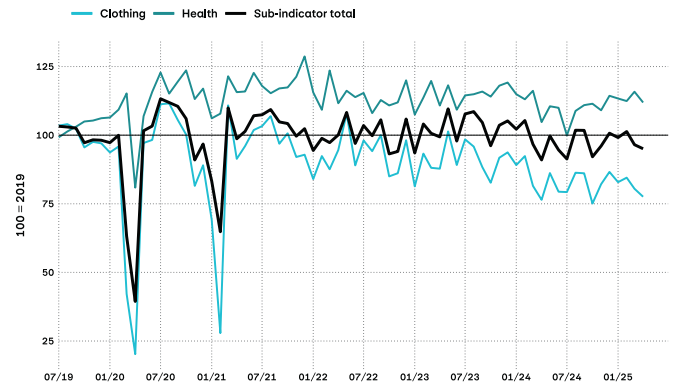


“Everyday & household” sub-indicator



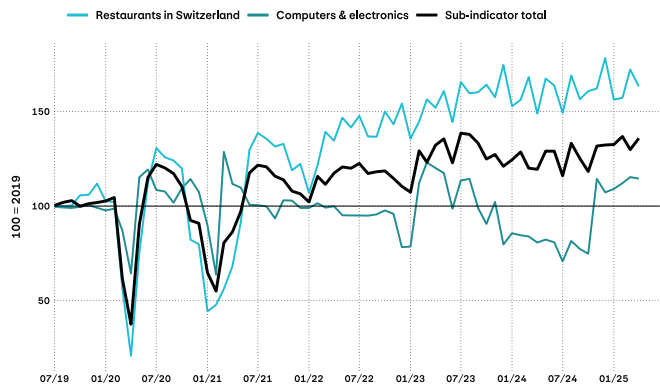
Everyday spending by the Swiss public remained stable overall in April. Whereas expenditure on public transport increased significantly, spending in department stores fell slightly.

“Beauty & wellness” sub-indicator



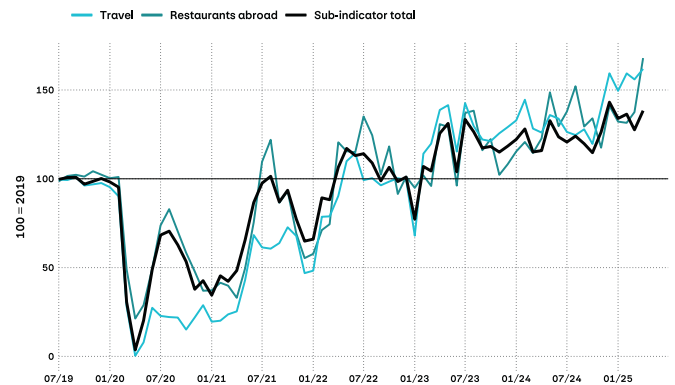
Spending in the beauty & wellness segment decreased slightly in April once again. This is primarily due to a decline in purchases of clothes. Health treatments, too, were used slightly less frequently.

“Recreation & leisure” sub-indicator



Leisure spending remained at a high level in April, too. This is mainly due to the popularity of restaurant visits. Additionally, spending on computers and electronic items has stabilized in recent months.

“Travel” sub-indicator



The Swiss public's enthusiasm for travel remains undimmed, with spending on restaurants abroad increasing substantially again in April. At the same time, spending on travel arrangements reached its highest since the PostFinance consumption indicator was launched in October 2022.



Beat Wittmann
Head of Investment Office

PostFinance Ltd
Investment Office
Mingerstrasse 20
3030 Bern
Switzerland

postfinance.ch/market-view