

# PostFinance consumption indicator

## March 2024

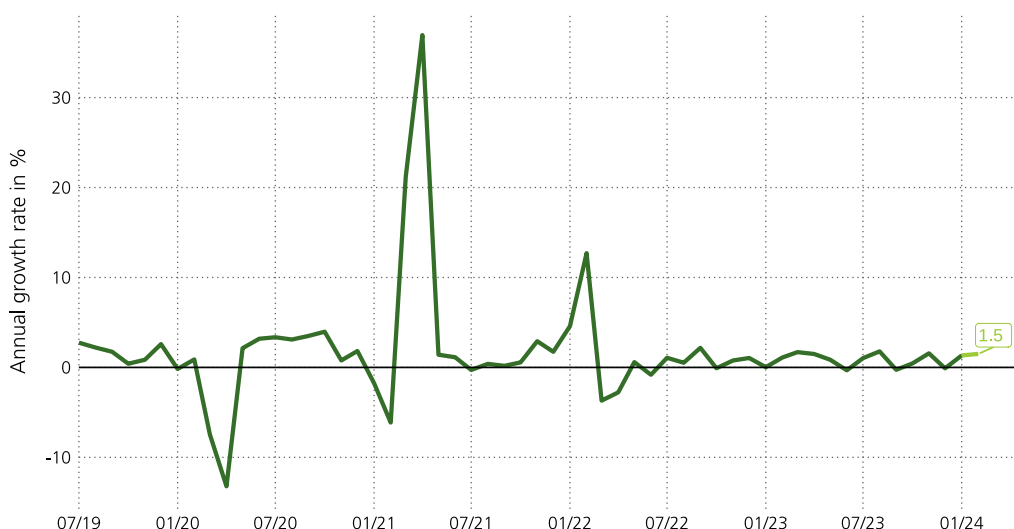
**PostFinance** 

## Stable private consumption

Swiss private consumption stabilized at a solid level at the beginning of the year, after a relatively weak year in 2023. As in January, consumer spending among Swiss residents continued to show an encouraging trend in February. In nominal terms, consumer spending was around 1.5 percent higher last month than in the same month a year ago. This results in a positive year-on-year comparison, even after adjusting for inflation. Swiss people currently spend an above-average amount on leisure activities, and especially on travel.

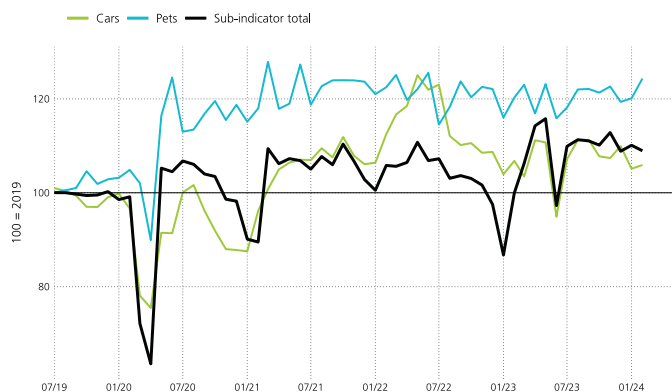
### PostFinance consumption indicator

— PostFinance consumption indicator — Forecast February



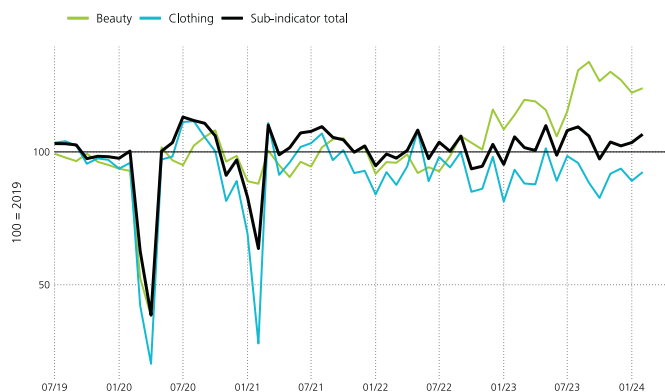
With 2.5 million customers, PostFinance is one of the largest financial institutions in Switzerland. Every month, we analyse our customers' anonymized payment transactions. This enables us to ascertain in almost real time how people in Switzerland spend their money each month. At the same time, the aggregated 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



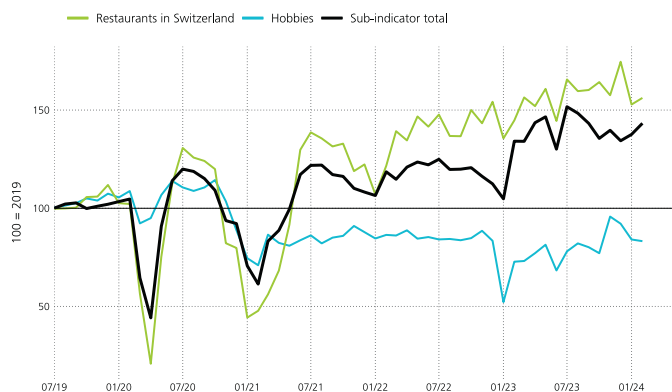
Spending on everyday consumer goods has been surprisingly stable for around six months. The two subcategories of cars and pets also showed only a slight change compared to the previous month.

## "Beauty & wellness" sub-indicator



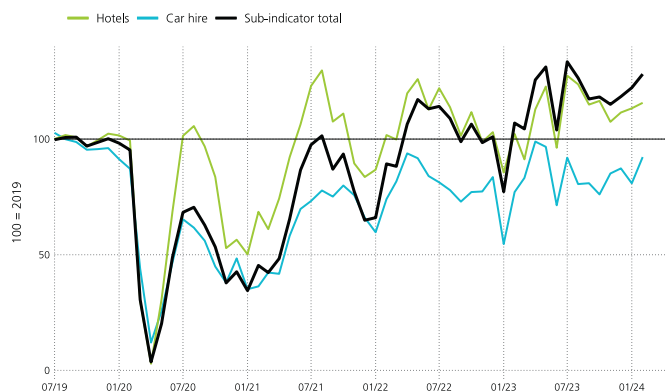
Expenditure in the beauty and wellness sector increased slightly in February. An increase can be seen in particular in the purchase of clothing and in the consumption of general beauty treatments and products.

## "Recreation & leisure" sub-indicator



Willingness to spend money on leisure activities remains high. Visits to Swiss restaurants in particular remain popular. By contrast, spending on personal hobbies dropped slightly in February.

## "Travel" sub-indicator



Swiss residents are still travelling a great deal. Expenditure on travel increased again in February. This is reflected in both hotel sales and car rentals.



**Beat Wittmann**  
Head of Investment Office

**PostFinance Ltd**  
Investment Office  
Mingerstrasse 20  
3030 Bern  
Switzerland

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