

RETAIL TRADE INDEX OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (ICIm) 1st quarter 2011

Retail trade sales shrank by 1.8% in the Basque Country in the first quarter of 2011

Sales, not including service stations, were down by 2.9%

The retail trade sector of the Basque Country saw its nominal sales drop by 1.8% in the first quarter of 2011 compared to the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data.

Sales in the sector, not including service stations, were down by 2.9% with respect to the same quarter of the previous year.

With respect to the previous quarter, the sales index was up a nominal 0.4%, once any seasonal effects had been eliminated.

Table 1. Year-on-year nominal growth rates. Basque Country. Data corrected for calendar effects.

Year	Quarter	Basque Country	Araba/Álava	Bizkaia	Gipuzkoa
2009	II	-6,3	-10,3	-5,3	-5,9
	III	-4,3	-8,8	-5,3	-0,8
	IV	-2,5	-3,6	-2,3	-2,2
2010	I	5,2	3,5	4,8	6,6
	II	1,6	1,9	0,3	3,4
	III	-1,5	-1,2	-1,4	-1,8
	IV	-0,2	1,0	-1,0	0,5
2011	I	-1,8	-1,5	-2,5	-0,7

Source: EUSTAT. Retail Trade Index of the Basque Country

By sectors, specialist retail trade nominal sales fell by 1.3% in the first quarter of 2011, while non-specialist ones were down by 2.5% with regard to the same period of 2010.

Within specialist retail trade, the performance of the Other Consumer Goods sector was particularly noteworthy as it posted nominal growth of 2.3%. The other sectors posted downturns in their sales. Sales of Food products fell by 2.6%, the Personal Equipment sector saw its sales fall by 3.0% and those for the Household Equipment sector were down by 0.8%. In the non-specialised retail trade sector, sales of establishments selling mainly food fell by 1.8% and those of establishments selling mainly other products were down by 6.3%.

By Provinces, the greatest downturn in retail sector nominal sales, in the first quarter of 2011, was in Bizkaia, with a 2.5% year-on-year decrease. Álava decreased its nominal sales by 1.5% and Gipuzkoa by 0.7%.

In constant prices, retail trade sales fell by 4.8% in the first quarter

Retail trade sales, without including service stations, posted a real downturn of 4.2% with respect to the previous year.

In the first quarter of 2011, retail trade real sales decreased by 0.6% in the Basque Country, compared to the fourth quarter of 2010, once any seasonal effects have been eliminated.

The real drop was 4.7% in the case of non-specialised and 4.8% for specialised retail trade with respect to the same quarter of 2010.

Year-on-year performances within specialised retail trade were negative in all its sectors: Household Equipment fell by 2.3%, Personal Equipment posted a real decrease of 2.4%, sales of Food Products were down by 3.8% and Other Consumers Goods decreased by 6.5%, all in real terms.

As far as non-specialised retail trade was concerned, year-on-year sales of food products fell by 3.9%, while those coming under Other Products were down by 10.3%, in constant euros.

The three provinces posted decreases in sales in real terms: Gipuzkoa fell by 3.8%, Bizkaia by 5.1% and Álava by 6.0%.

The number of people employed in the retail trade sector in the Basque Country overall in the first quarter of 2011 was down by 0.3% on the fourth quarter of 2010.

For further information:

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