

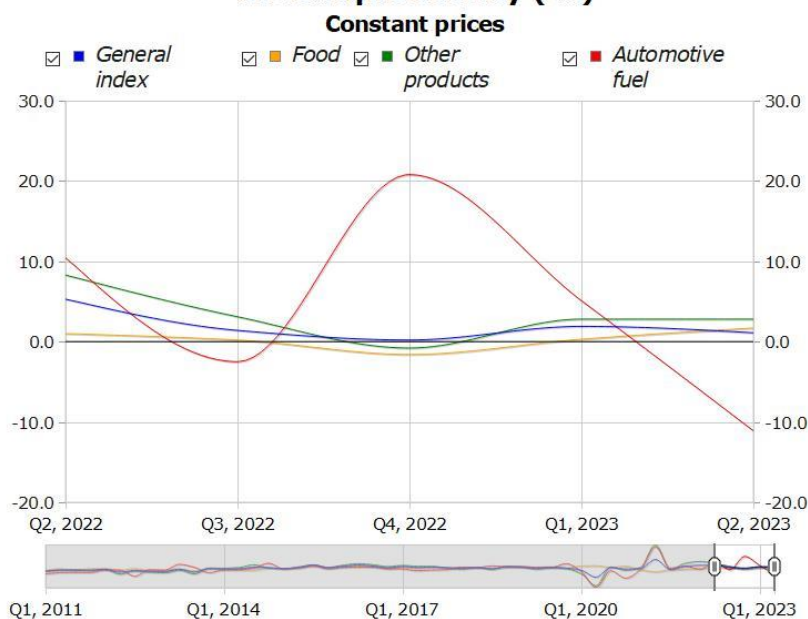
## Retail sector sales in the Basque Country were up 1.1% in the second quarter of 2023

*In the cumulative total for the year, retail trade sales increased by 1.5%*

The retail sector in the Basque Country grew sales by 1.1% in the second quarter of 2023 compared to the same quarter of the previous year, after calendar adjustment and at constant prices, according to data prepared by Eustat. Without taking service stations into consideration, the year-on-year increase in sales stood at 2.3%.

In respect of the previous quarter, once seasonal effects had been eliminated, the sales index increased by 0.5% during the second quarter of 2023.

### Year-on-year variation rate of the retail trade index of the Basque Country (%)



Source: Eustat. Retail trade index (ICIm)

Sales at constant prices in *Food products* increased by 1.7% compared to the second quarter of 2022. In the *Other Products* sector, the year-on-year increase in sales stood at 2.8%. As regards the *Automotive Fuel* sector, sales were 11.1% down on those observed in the same quarter of the previous year.

Compared to the first quarter of 2023, in deseasonalised terms and at constant prices, sales in *Food Products* and *Other Products* rose by 0.9% and 0.5%, respectively. However, sales of *Automotive Fuel* decreased by 3.9% in year-on-year terms.

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Within the *Food Products* retail trade, sales in *Specialised trade in food, beverages and tobacco* (establishments such as greengrocers, butchers and fishmongers) decreased by 1.7% in relation to the second quarter of 2022. By contrast, retail trade that is *Non-specialised with food, beverages and tobacco predominating* (primarily supermarkets and hypermarkets), increased its sales by 3.3% in year-on-year terms.

Within the retail trade of *Other Products*, sales in the *Specialised trade in other consumer goods* sector (including, for example, sporting goods, games and toys) rose by 4.1% compared to the second quarter of the previous year. In the *Non-specialised trade with other products predominating* sector, (mail order or online), the increase in sales stood at 3.7%. Finally, sales in the sectors *Specialised trade in personal goods* (clothes, footwear, cosmetic or hygiene products) and *Specialised trade in household goods* (including domestic appliances, furniture and telecommunications equipment) rose in relation to the same quarter of the previous year by 2.5% and 2.3%, respectively.

By province, the sales index in the second quarter of 2023 registered a year-on-year increase of 3.4% in Gipuzkoa and 0.8% in Bizkaia. However, in Álava there was a decrease of 2.7%.

In relation to the previous quarter, the evolution in sales was positive in Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia, with quarter-on-quarter growth of 1.1% and 0.2%, respectively. However, sales in Álava remained stable in respect of the first quarter of 2023.

The number of people employed in the retail trade sector for the Basque Country as a whole in the second quarter of 2023 rose by 2.0% in relation to the second quarter of the previous year. In respect of the first quarter of 2023, the increase stood at 0.8%.

### ***Balance for the first two quarters of 2023***

Retail sector sales during the first two quarters of 2023 were up 1.5% in relation to the same cumulative period of the previous year, with positive contributions, in both the *Food Products* sector (1.0%) and that of *Other products* (2.8%). In contrast, in the *Automotive Fuel* subsector, sales for the year to date were down 3.9%.

By province, the cumulative increase in sales for the year to date was 2.8% in Bizkaia and 1.4% in Gipuzkoa, whereas in Álava sales were down 2.9%.

### **NOTE**

Eustat would like to thank all the establishments that have collaborated with gathering information. As a result, the index for this quarter was calculated with **92.3%** coverage of the sample.

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#### ***For further information:***

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