

**CONJUNCTURAL SERVICES INDEX OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (ICS) 2ND QUARTER 2012**

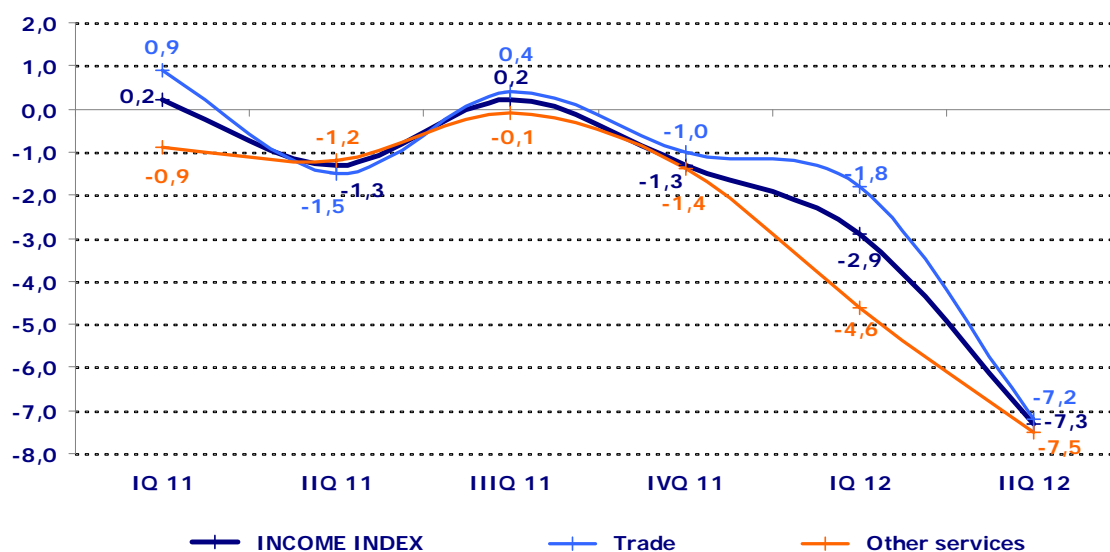
## The sales index of the services sector of the Basque Country dropped by 7.3% in the second quarter of 2012

**The trade sales index dropped 7.2% and the sales index for other services was down 7.5%**

The sales index for the services sector of the Basque Country registered a 7.3% nominal drop in sales in the second quarter of 2012 compared to the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data.

Compared to the previous quarter, the sales index was down a nominal 4.6%, once any seasonal effects had been eliminated.

**Graph 1. Quarterly services index of the Basque Country. Year-on-year growth rates. Data corrected for calendar effects**



Source: EUSTAT. Quarterly services index (ICS)

By sectors, the trade sales index was down 7.2% in nominal terms in the second quarter of 2012, whilst for other services, which form part of the index, it was down 7.5% with regards to the same period of 2011.

Within trade the Sale & repair of motor vehicles sector stood out for negative reasons, registering a nominal downturn of 8.8%. Wholesale Trade evidenced a downturn of 7.7% and Retail trade dropped by 6.1%.

There were declines of varying magnitudes in the sectors that make up other services. In the Administrative Activities & Auxiliary Services sector the fall was 12.4%, in Information & Communications there was a drop of 10.9%, in Professional, Scientific &

Technical Activities there was a negative result of 8.4%, in Transport & Storage the fall experienced 6.2% and Hotel Management & Catering was down 3.6%.

By province, the biggest drop of the sales index occurred in Bizkaia, where it was down 8.4%; in Álava it was down 7.9% and in Gipuzkoa it fell by 5.1%.

**In real terms, domestic trade sales fell by 8.9% in the second quarter once the price effect had been eliminated**

In Trade, the sales index fell by 8.8% and in other services the reduction was 9.0%, with regards to the same quarter of 2011 and at constant prices.

The year-on-year evolutions within Trade were negative for all sectors: the Sale & repair of motor vehicles was down by 11.4%, the Wholesale trade index fell by 9.3% and the Retail trade index fell by 7.6%.

**Table 1. Quarterly services index of the Basque Country. Year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter growth rates. 2nd quarter. 2012(p)**

	CURRENT PRICES		CONSTANT PRICES	
	q / q-4	q / q-1	q / q-4	q / q-1
<b>INCOME INDEX by historic territory</b>				
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>-7,3</b>	<b>-4,6</b>	<b>-8,9</b>	<b>-3,4</b>
Araba/Álava	-7,9	-6,2	-9,9	-6,1
Bizkaia	-8,4	-5,6	-9,7	-3,2
Gipuzkoa	-5,1	-2,2	-7,0	-2,3
<b>INCOME INDEX by sector</b>				
<b>Trade</b>	<b>-7,2</b>	<b>-3,9</b>	<b>-8,8</b>	<b>-5,5</b>
Sale and repair of motor vehicles	-8,8	0,3	-11,4	-0,7
Wholesale trade	-7,7	-4,9	-9,3	-4,8
Retail trade	-6,1	-3,7	-7,6	-3,7
<b>Other services</b>	<b>-7,5</b>	<b>-3,1</b>	<b>-9,0</b>	<b>-2,7</b>
Transportation and storage	-6,2	-1,2	-8,9	-2,4
Acommodation and food service activities	-3,6	-1,2	-4,6	-2,3
Information and communication	-10,9	-3,8	-10,2	-4,1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	-8,4	-3,9	-9,7	-4,8
Administrative activities and support services	-12,4	-5,2	-15,2	-6,2
<b>EMPLOYMENT INDEX</b>				
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>-4,9</b>	<b>-1,3</b>		

q / q-4 Year-on-year growth. Data corrected for calendar effects.

q / q-1 Quarter-on-quarter growth. Seasonally adjusted data.

Source: EUSTAT. Quarterly services index of the Basque Country (QSI)

In the other services section, in constant euros, the sales index of the Administrative activities & auxiliary services sector dropped by 15.2%, the Information & Communications sector was down by 10.2%; for the Professional, scientific & technical activities sector the fall was 9.7%; the Transport & Storage sector sales index was down by 8.9%, and Hotel Management & Catering posted a fall of 4.6%.

The number of people employed in the retail trade sector in the Basque Country overall in the second quarter of 2012 was down by 1.3% on the first quarter of 2012.

**For further information:**

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