

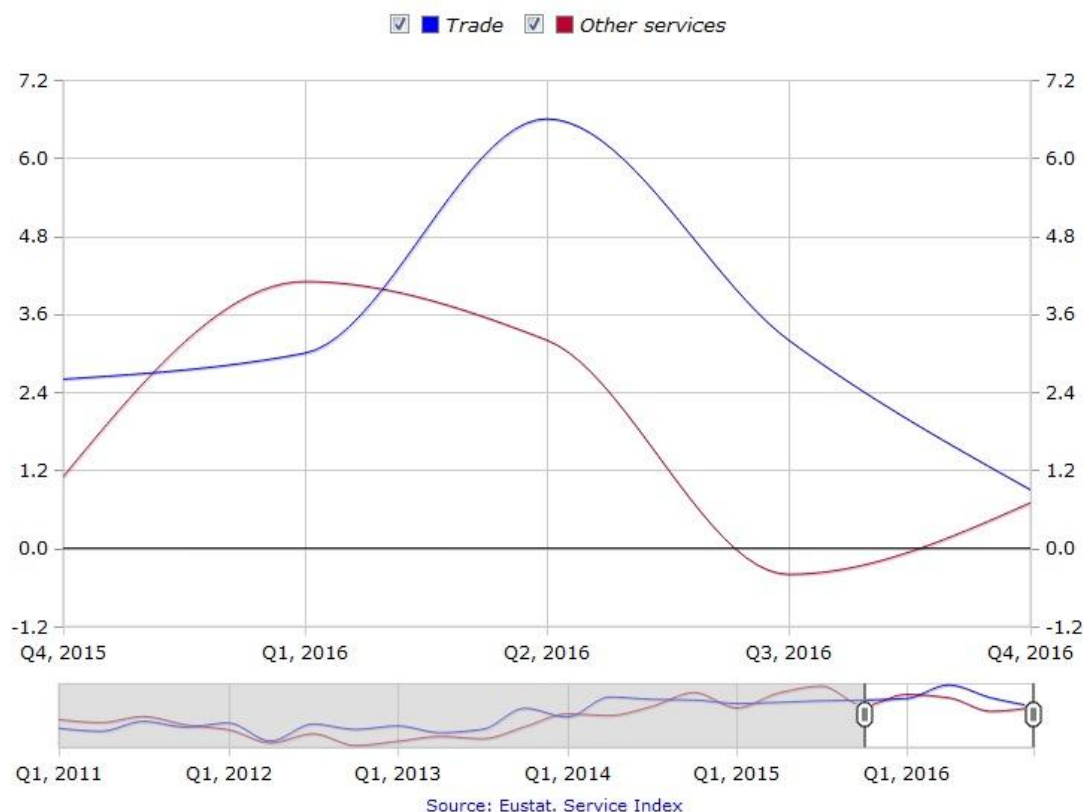
Market Services close out 2016 with a profit

Sales in Trade rose by 3.3% in 2016, with sales in Other Market Services rising by 1.8% in real terms

The Trade sector, which comprises Wholesale Trade, Retail Trade and the Sale & Repair of Vehicles, saw sales increase by 0.9% in the fourth quarter of 2016 in constant terms, whereas the sectors that come under Other Services saw a decrease in sales of 0.7%, and this is all in relation to the same quarter of the previous year.

The Trade sector fell by 0.5% compared with the previous quarter, whilst Other Services saw a decrease of 0.1%, at constant prices and once any seasonal effects had been eliminated.

Year-on-year variation rate of trade index and the other service index in the Basque Country. (%)
Corrected for calendar effects. Constant prices



The year-on-year trends within Trade were positive for the Sale & Repair of Motor Vehicles, which were up by 6.7%, as well as for Wholesale Trade sales, which rose by 1.2%, whilst Retail Trade sales fell by 0.1%.

In the Other Services sector, the sales index for Administrative Activities & Auxiliary Services rose by 4.5% and the Hotel Management & Catering sector was up by 3.1% in constant terms. Information & Communications grew by 1.6% and Scientific & Technical Professional Activities increased by 0.7%. On the other hand, the Transport & Storage sector registered a fall of 2.7%.

By province, Álava saw sales in Trade fall by 0.2% and Other Services rose by 0.8%; Bizkaia saw both sales in Trade and Other Services increase by 1.1%; and, lastly, Gipuzkoa experienced an increase of 1.0% in Trade and sales in Other Services rose by 0.1%. This is all in relation to the fourth quarter of 2015 once the price effect had been discounted.

The index of employed people in the Basque Country rose on a year-on-year basis for both indexes, with a 0.6% rise in the Trade sector and a 1.6% increase in the index for Other Services.

Table 1. Service Index of the Basque Country. Year-on-year and quarter-on-quarter growth rates (p).

| | CONSTANT PRICES | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| | q / q-4 | q / q-1 |
| Trade | 0,9 | -0,5 |
| Sale and repair of motor vehicles | 6,7 | 3,5 |
| Wholesale trade | 1,2 | -0,1 |
| Retail trade | -0,1 | -1,0 |
| Other services | 0,7 | -0,1 |
| Transportation and storage | -2,7 | -0,2 |
| Acommodation and food service activities | 3,1 | 0,2 |
| Information and communication | 1,6 | 0,5 |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities | 0,7 | -1,4 |
| Administrative activities and support services | 4,5 | 1,7 |
| Araba/Álava | | |
| Trade | -0,2 | -1,2 |
| Other services | 0,8 | -0,8 |
| Bizkaia | | |
| Trade | 1,1 | 0,3 |
| Other services | 1,1 | 0,5 |
| Gipuzkoa | | |
| Trade | 1,0 | -1,2 |
| Other services | 0,1 | -0,8 |
| EMPLOYMENT INDEX | | |
| Basque Country | | |
| Trade | 0,6 | 0,3 |
| Other services | 1,6 | 0,4 |

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

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

Source: Eustat. Service Index

ANNUAL BALANCE 2016

There was an accumulated increase of 3.3% in Trade sector sales and a rise of 1.8% in Other Services in real terms for the year overall.

The Market Services sector performed positively in all three provinces. Trade sector sales rose by 2.9% in Álava, with Other Services registering an increase of 2.0%; in

Bizkaia, Trade grew by 3.2% meanwhile, the Other Services sector saw an increase of 2.1%; and, lastly, in Gipuzkoa, the Trade sector sales index went up by 3.8% with Other Services also rising by 1.2%, all at constant prices.

The number of employed people in the Trade sector was up by 0.8% in 2016, compared to average of the previous year. The index also rose by 2.1% in the Other Services sector.

**Table 1. Service Index of the Basque Country.
Year-on-year growth rates**

| | CONSTANT PRICES | | |
|---|-----------------|------|-----|
| | 2016 | 2015 | Δ% |
| INCOME INDEX by historic territory | | | |
| Basque Country | | | |
| Trade | 93,4 | 90,4 | 3,3 |
| Other services | 88,3 | 86,7 | 1,8 |
| Araba/Álava | | | |
| Trade | 97,1 | 94,4 | 2,9 |
| Other services | 84,7 | 83,0 | 2,0 |
| Bizkaia | | | |
| Trade | 90,6 | 87,8 | 3,2 |
| Other services | 86,0 | 84,2 | 2,1 |
| Gipuzkoa | | | |
| Trade | 96,4 | 92,9 | 3,8 |
| Other services | 94,5 | 93,4 | 1,2 |
| EMPLOYMENT INDEX | | | |
| Basque Country | | | |
| Trade | 91,7 | 90,9 | 0,8 |
| Other services | 89,5 | 87,6 | 2,1 |

Source: Eustat. Service Index

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Press releases on the Internet on the services index of the Basque Country

Databank on the services index of the Basque Country