

LARGE STORES AND FOOD CHAINS TRADE INDEX. MARCH 2022

Sales at large stores and food chains in the Basque Country fell by 4.7% in March 2022

In the cumulative total for the first quarter, the decrease stood at 1.1%

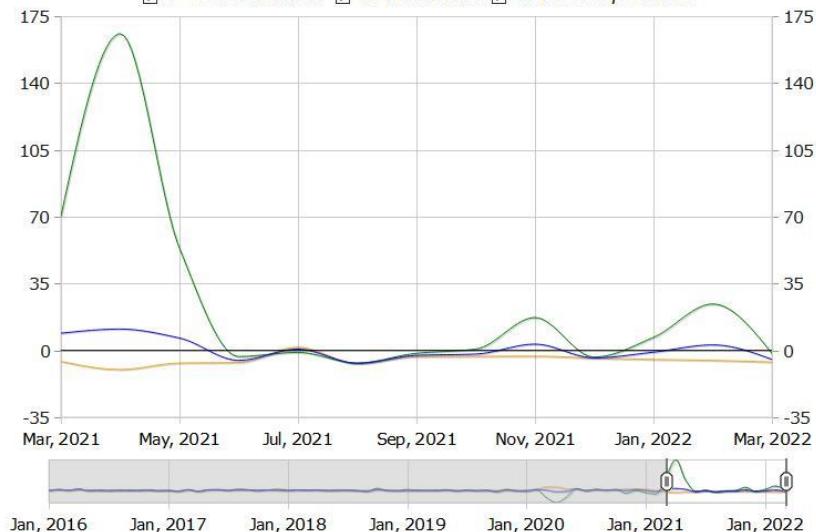
Sales at large stores and food chains in the Basque Country registered a downturn of 4.7% in March 2022 in relation to the same month of 2021, at constant prices and in homogenous terms of the working calendar, according to Eustat data.

In contrast, the evolution of sales at constant prices was positive in relation to February 2022, with an increase of 0.3% in deseasonalised terms.

Year-on-year growth rate of the index of trade by large stores and food chains in the Basque Country. (%)

Corrected for calendar effects. Constant prices

General index Foodstuffs Rest of products



Source: Eustat. Large Stores and Food Chains Trade Index-IGSC

The same trend occurred with the year-on-year performance of sales in the two sectors, although with different intensity. Sales of food products were down 6.1% in March 2021, whereas sales of other products fell to a lesser degree, by 1.6%.

In relation to February 2022, the evolution also differed by sectors, with a 1.0% increase in food sales and a 1.1% decrease in sales of other products.

Large Stores and Food Chains Trade Index of the Basque Country by province and month. Inter-annual and inter-mensual variation rates (p). March 2022

	Constant prices		
	m / m-12	m / m-1	A (m) / A (m-12)
SALES INDEX by historic territory			
Basque Country	-4.7	0.3	-1.1
Araba/Álava	-8.8	-0.6	-5.8
Bizkaia	-4.0	-0.4	0.6
Gipuzkoa	-4.2	1.9	-2.0
SALES INDEX by sector			
Foodstuffs	-6.1	1.0	-5.3
Rest of products	-1.6	-1.1	8.5
PERSONNEL INDEX			
Basque Country	2.7	-0.5	4.1

(p)Provisional data

m / m-12 Year-on-year variation. Data corrected for calendar effects

m / m-1 Month-on-month variation. Deseasonalised data

A(m)/A(m-12) Interannual variation rate of the accumulated period from January to the current month over the same accumulated period of the previous year

Date April 27, 2022

Source: Eustat. Large Stores and Food Chains Trade Index- (IGSC)

Analysing the evolution of prices by province, there was a year-on-year drop in all three, being the sharpest in Álava (- 8.8%), followed by Gipuzkoa (- 4.2%) and Bizkaia (- 4.0%), all in relation to March 2021, at constant prices and in homogeneous terms of the working calendar. In contrast, in respect of February 2022, Gipuzkoa underwent a positive month-on-month variation of 1.9%, whereas sales in Bizkaia and Álava were down by 0.4% and 0.6%, respectively, in deseasonalised terms.

In the cumulative total for the first quarter of 2022, the Sales index in large stores and food chains was down 1.1%, due to the 5.3% drop in sales of food products, and despite the cumulative increase of 8.5% in sales of other products.

By province, the cumulative variation for the year to date was positive in the case of Bizkaia, with sales 0.6% higher than in the same cumulative period of the previous year. However, in Álava and Gipuzkoa sales in the first quarter of the year were down 5.8% and 2.0%, respectively.

The number of people employed in large stores and food chains in the Basque Country rose by 2.7% in March 2022 in relation to the same month of the previous year. As regards the previous month, February 2022, employment fell by 0.5%.

NOTE

Year-on-year variations are calculated using the series corrected for calendar effects and the month-on-month variations are calculated using the deseasonalised series.

Included as persons employed considered in this and other short-term indices, are those covered by an ERTE (Temporary Labour Force Adjustment Plan), following the definition of persons employed indicated by the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) in its manual [Methodology of Short Term Business Statistics](#).

Eustat would like to thank all the establishments that have collaborated in preparing the Large Stores and Food Chains Trade Index. As a result, the index for March 2022 was calculated with **100.0% coverage**.

For further information:

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