

Sales in the retail sector in the Basque Country rose by 0.9% in 2023 as a whole

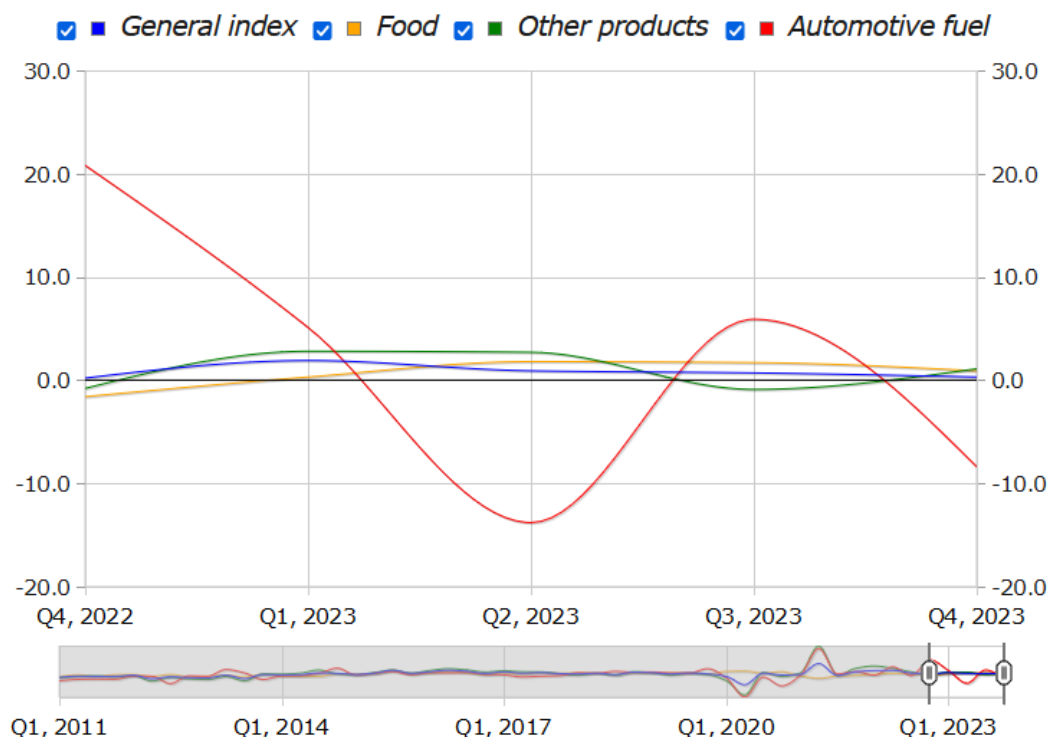
In the final quarter of 2023, sales were up 0.3% on those observed in the final quarter of 2022

Sales in the retail trade sector in the Basque Country increased by 0.3% in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the same quarter of the previous year, once corrected for calendar effects and at constant prices, according to Eustat data. Without taking service stations into consideration, the year-on-year increase in sales reached 1.0%.

Compared to the previous quarter, and once any seasonal effects had been eliminated, the retail trade sales index also rose by 0.3% in the fourth quarter of the year.

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

Constant prices



Source: Eustat. Retail trade index (ICIm)

During the final quarter of the year, sales at constant prices in *Food* and in *Other Products* increased in relation to the same quarter of 2022 by 0.9% and 1.1%, respectively. In the *Automotive Fuel* sector, however, sales were down 8.4% on those observed in the same quarter of the previous year.

Compared to the third quarter of 2023, in deseasonalised terms and at constant prices, sales in *Other products* increased by 2.0%, while in *Food* and in *Automotive Fuel* sales decreased by 1.1% and 3.3%, respectively.

Retail Trade Index in the Basque Country. Inter-annual and inter-mensual variation rates (p). 2023/IV

	Constant prices		
	t / t-4	t / t-1	At / At-4
SALES INDEX by historic territory			
Basque Country	0,3	0,3	0,9
Araba/Álava	-0,1	0,4	-1,3
Bizkaia	0,2	0,1	2,0
Gipuzkoa	0,6	0,5	0,2
SALES INDEX by sector			
Foodstuffs	0,9	-1,1	1,2
Establishments specialized in food	1,3	-0,2	-0,9
Nonspecialist establishments mainly selling food products	0,6	-1,8	2,1
Rest of products	1,1	2,0	1,4
Establishments specialising in personal equipment	2,8	0,5	3,8
Establishments specialising in household equipment	-1,5	1,7	-2,4
Establishments specialising in other consumer goods	6,0	0,9	5,8
Nonspecialist establishments mainly selling other products	-0,8	-1,2	1,7
Automotive fuel	-8,4	-3,3	-3,6
GENERAL INDEX without service station	1,0	0,5	1,3
PERSONNEL INDEX			
Basque Country	1,1	-0,2	1,3

(p)Provisional data

t / t-4 Year-on-year variation. Data corrected for calendar effects

t / t-1 Interquarterly variation. Deseasonalised data

At / A(t-4) Year-on-year variation rate in the accumulated period from the 1st quarter to the last quarter observed (At) with regards to the same accumulated period in the previous year (A(t-4))

Date February 8, 2024

Source: Eustat. Retail Trade Index (ICIm)

Within the *Food* retail trade, sales in *Specialised trade in food, beverages and tobacco* (establishments such as greengrocers, butchers and fishmongers) increased by 1.3% in relation to the fourth quarter of 2022. Sales in retail trade that is *Non-specialised with food, beverages and tobacco predominating* (primarily supermarkets and hypermarkets), increased by 0.6% 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 6.0% compared to the fourth quarter of the previous year. In the *Specialised trade in personal goods* sector (clothes, footwear, cosmetic or hygiene products), sales increased by 2.8%. In contrast, in the *Household amenities* sector (domestic appliances, furniture and telecommunications equipment) and *Non-specialised trade with other products predominating* sector (mail order or online), the volume of sales decreased in year-on-year terms by 1.5% and 0.8%, respectively.

By province, the sales index in the fourth quarter of 2023 registered a year-on-year increase of 0.6% in Gipuzkoa and 0.2% in Bizkaia. In Álava, in contrast, the index fell by 0.1% in year-on-year terms.

The number of people employed in the retail trade sector in the Basque Country as a whole in the fourth quarter of 2023 was up 1.1% on the fourth quarter of the previous year. However, in relation to the previous quarter there was a decrease of 0.2%.

Balance for 2023

Sales in the retail trade sector for 2023 as a whole increased by 0.9%, due to the 1.2% increase in sales in *Food* and the 1.4% rise in *Other products*. In the *Automotive Fuel* sector, however, cumulative sales over the course of 2023 were 3.6% lower than those seen during 2022.

By province, retail sector sales increased throughout 2023 by 2.0% in Bizkaia and 0.2% in Gipuzkoa. Finally, in Álava, sales decreased by 1.3%.

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 **95.0%** coverage of the sample.

For further information:

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