



ROAD NETWORK

# Canillo's opposition calls for a study of parish mobility

Objective Comú is doubtful about the proposal of removable pedestrian crossings

Bonell indicates that half of the critical traffic days per year occur during August

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The opposition group of the Municipality of Canillo, Objectiu Comú, is asking for a study of parish mobility on the road network due to the episodes of traffic jams that have been occurring throughout August. At this point, the representative of the party, Albert Torres, pointed out that «a report from experts outside the Principality to clarify the causes and be able to carry out careful action afterwards is what the parish really needs» to avoid these repeated situations. In fact, he indicated that the party has been requesting this intervention from the corporation's service commissions for some time; however, «the majority does not show any interest in taking this initiative forward».

Following the same critical direction with the corporation, Torres stated that «the consul always passes the ball to the Government and claims that this is the exclusive competence of the Department of Mobility». In the same way, he added that «with everything that is spent by the municipality, commissioning a study from professionals does not have to be a big expense».

Regarding the proposals of the consul of Canillo, Francesc Camp, on the installation of removable pedestrian crossings in order to decongest the long lines of cars of the parish, Objective Comú believes that it is «a series of experiments that can solve part of the conflict, but do not affect the underlying problem». Although he hopes that this proposal will help to ease the road pressure during the days of great influx, Torres asserted that «this summer the number of visitors has increased, and everything adds up, including the new tourist attractions».

On the other hand, the director of the Department of Mobility, Jau-



► An image of the Mobility pilot test in Canillo.



**JAUME BONELL**

MOBILITY DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

«We are in a situation of saturation in the network that is not very different from the winter season»

**ALBERT TORRES**

OBJECTIU COMÚ MINISTER

«This summer the influx of visitors has increased, and everything adds up, including the new tourist attractions»

me Bonell, emphasized that, of the 50 days of critical mobility that occur in the Principality annually, half of these are during the month of August, with figures ranging around the 450,000 vehicles entering the country. «There are days when we register an entry of 17,000 cars through both borders; this is a very significant number considering the dimensions of Andorra and its roads», emphasized Bonell. Currently, Mobility describes the situation as «saturation on the road network which does not differ much from the dates of the winter season». In fact, Bonell assured that «even by widening the roads we would not be able to absorb a level

of influx of around 800 vehicles per hour, since at most half could be assimilated».

Finally, the director of Mobility emphasized that, in the event that the queues of vehicles in the Canillo area could be eliminated, these would lead to other areas close to Escaldes-Engordany. Regarding the solution to the overcrowding, Bonell indicated that it would be necessary to find a formula to break up the holidays and, thus, manage to prevent «everyone deciding to come all at once». The French model «manages the clusters in a more dosed way, while in Spain, everyone takes their holidays in August and this results in these bottlenecks». ≡

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INDICATORS

# Sales in supermarkets grew by 6.2% in the last year

The increase in food products reached 8.7% last June compared to the same month in 2021

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The period of post-pandemic economic revival that we are experiencing results in the improvement of several indicators. If this Monday the Department of Statistics announced one of the lowest unemployment figures in recent years, yesterday it revealed the sales index for large commercial areas. In this way, this index has increased by +6.2% in June 2022 compared to the same month of the previous year. If this index is broken down into food and other products, the food category index grows +8.7% compared to the same period in 2021. As for the rest category index of products increases +3.8% compared to the same temporary reference.

In relation to the surrounding economies, the annual variation of the general index measured in June 2022 is below the figures for Spain

**65% of the workers in this type of establishment are women and only 35% are men**



► Food products have particularly increased sales.

and France. Thus, while in Andorra the increase is 6.2%, in Spain it has increased by 11.8% and in France by 10.2%, where food is also at the forefront of increases in sales.

Regarding the intramonthly variations, the general index corresponding to June 2022 has experienced a growth of +4.3% compared to May, bearing in mind that this is the original data and that they do not discount seasonal factors or the calendar effects.

Regarding the index of sales of the large surfaces at constant prices (that is, once the effect of prices has been removed), in June 2022 it has increased by +0.5% compared to June of the year previous. Regarding the index of the food category, it decreases by -0.2%, while the index relative to the category of other products grows by +0.1% compared to the same period of the previous year. Therefore, according to Statistics, «the magnitude of the indices compared to the measurement at current prices decreases due to the effect of prices».

On the other hand, the employment index for large commercial areas is drawn up based on the total

number of staff employed monthly in this type of establishment, and distinguishes between gender and type of working day. In this sense, in June 2022, the employment index of the large retail trade surfaces grew by +2.8% compared to the same month of the previous year, and increased by +0.9% compared to the one recorded in May 2022.

Regarding the volume of women and men employed in large commercial areas in June 2022, 65.1% correspond to the female gender and the remaining 34.9% to the male gender, a distribution that shows great stability over the last twelve months. If we compare the data with the same period of the previous year, we can see that the proportion of women employed in this type of establishment increases by +3.1% in June 2022. On the other hand, the proportion of men employed in large stores decreased by -5.3% this same month.

The working day of staff employed in large commercial areas in June 2022 is distributed between 94.9%, who have a full-time working day, and the remaining 5.1% of those employed enjoy a working day

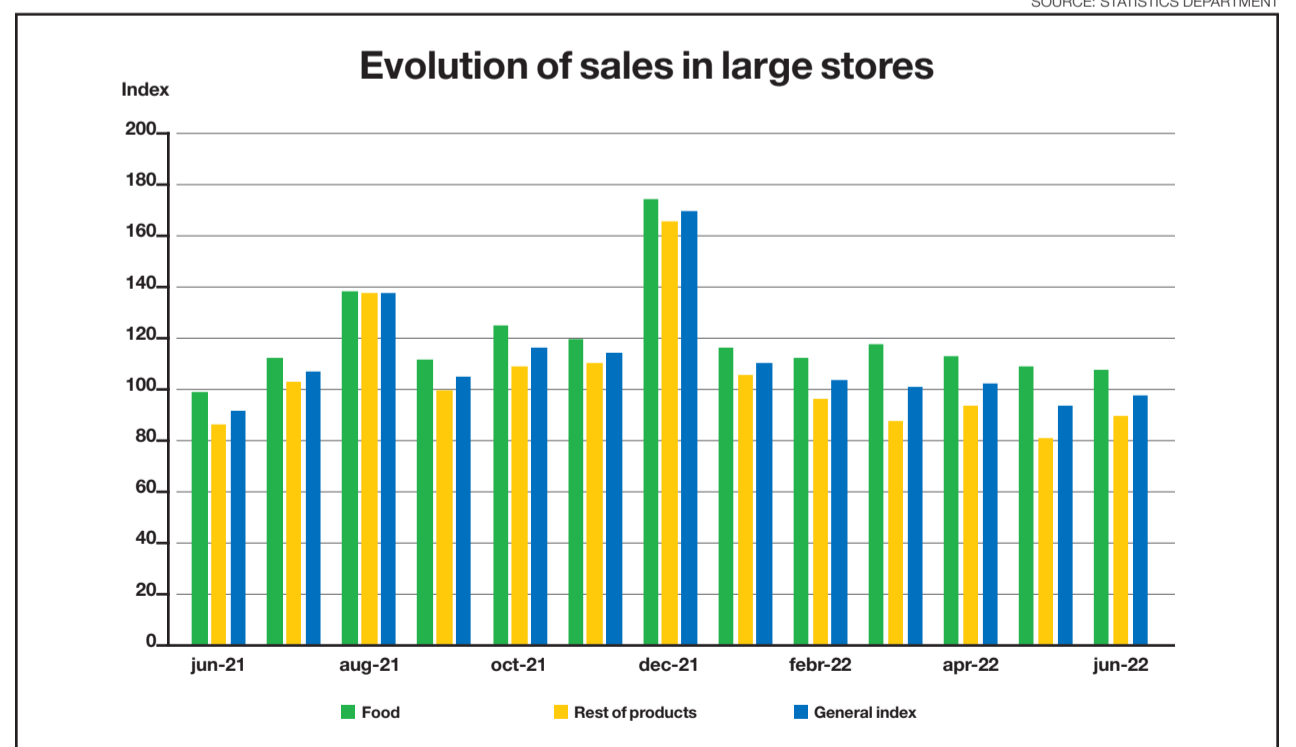
part time. The last year, part-time work decreased by 20.1% and full-time work increased by 1.4%.

The Department of Statistics considers individual or collective commercial establishments that have a

sales area equal to or greater than 2,500 square meters. In terms of food products, they include fruits and vegetables; meat, poultry, and game; charcuterie and sausages; fish and seafood; bread and pastry pro-

ducts; alcoholic drinks; tobacco products; dairy products; eggs; fruit and vegetable preserves. In the rest of the products, it includes fashion, home equipment, health, leisure and other goods, such as jewelry. ≡

SOURCE: STATISTICS DEPARTMENT



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