How can I use Excel to calculate the average of a set of numbers only if they are greater than zero?

Authored by

stats writer

June 27, 2024

Excel is a powerful tool for performing calculations and analysis on data. One useful function of Excel is the ability to calculate the average of a set of numbers. However, in some cases, we may only want to calculate the average for numbers that are greater than zero. Fortunately, Excel has a function called AVERAGEIF that allows us to specify a condition for the numbers we want to include in the calculation. By using this function, we can easily calculate the average of a set of numbers only if they are greater than zero. This feature can be useful in situations where we want to exclude any negative or zero values from the average calculation. With Excel's AVERAGEIF function, we can efficiently and accurately calculate the desired average without the need for manual filtering or sorting of data.

Excel: Calculate Average if Greater Than Zero

You can use the following formula to calculate the average in Excel only for values that are greater than zero:

=AVERAGEIF(B2:B14, ">0", B2:B14)

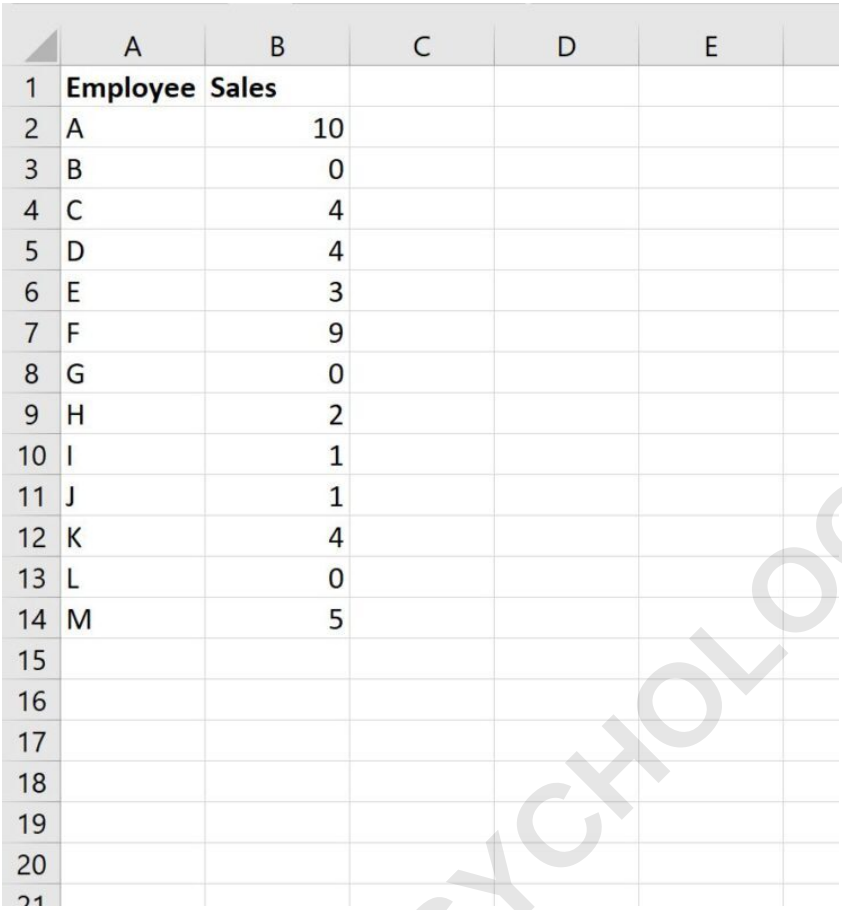
This particular formula calculates the average value in the range B2:B14 only for the cells that have a value greater than zero.

The following example shows how to use this formula in practice.

Example: Calculate Average if Greater than Zero in Excel

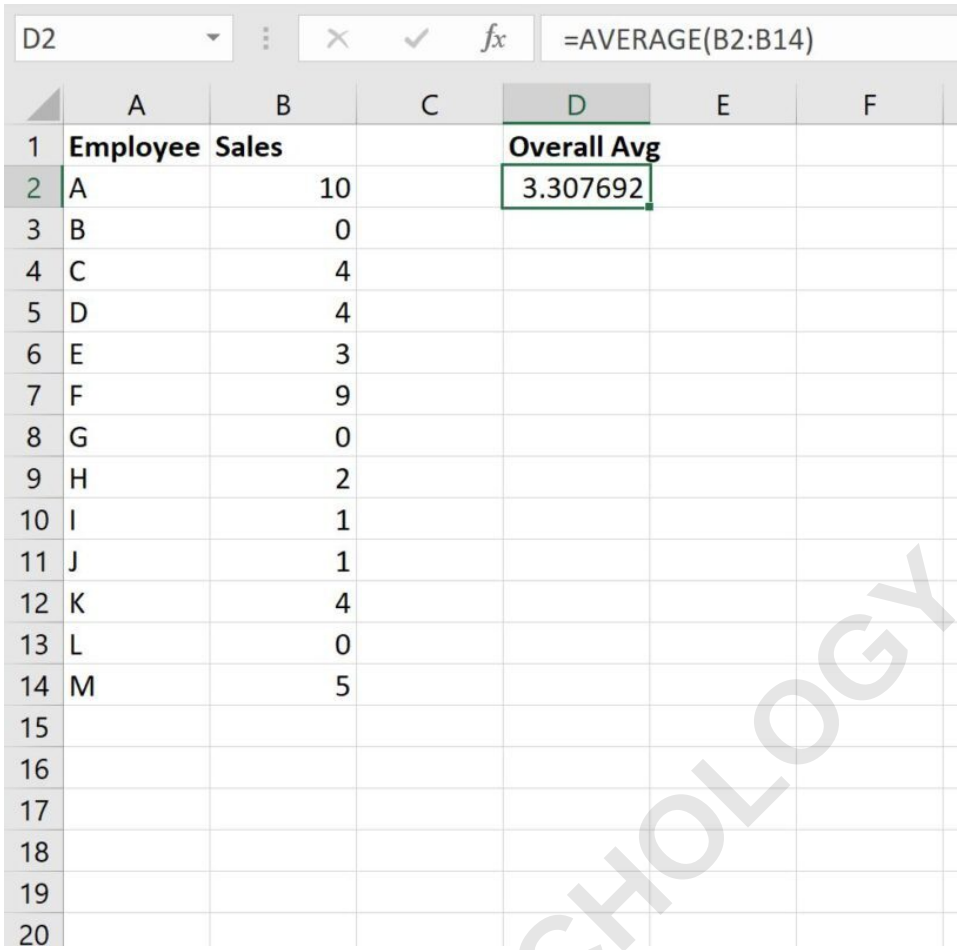
Suppose we have the following dataset in Excel that shows the total sales made by various employees at a

company:



	A	B	C	D	E
1	**Employee**	**Sales**			
2	A	10			
3	B	0			
4	C	4			
5	D	4			
6	E	3			
7	F	9			
8	G	0			
9	H	2			
10	I	1			
11	J	1			
12	K	4			
13	L	0			
14	M	5			
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

If we simply used the AVERAGE() formula, we would find the average sales for all of the employees:



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Employee	Sales		Overall Avg		
2	A	10		3.307692		
3	B	0				
4	C	4				
5	D	4				
6	E	3				
7	F	9				
8	G	0				
9	H	2				
10	I	1				
11	J	1				
12	K	4				
13	L	0				
14	M	5				
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						

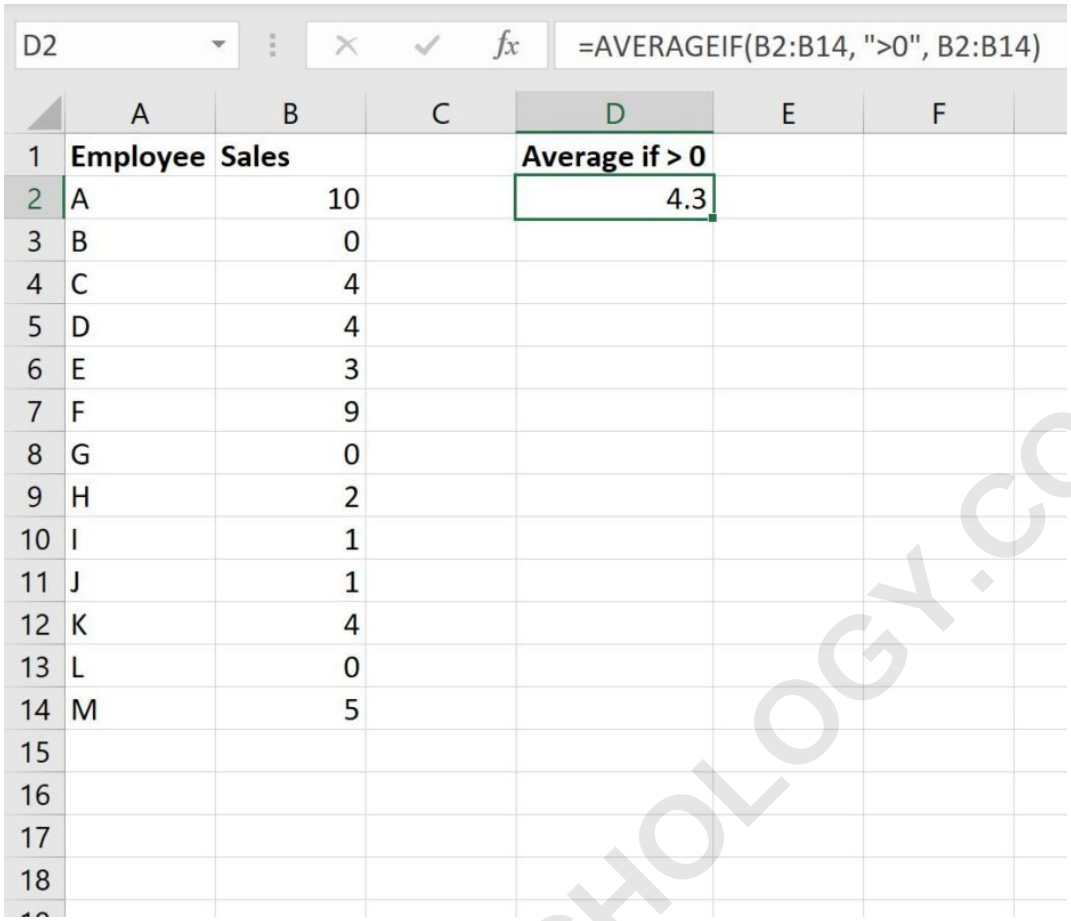
The average sales per employee is 3.307.

However, suppose we wanted to only calculate the average for employees who had greater than zero sales.

We could type the following formula into cell D2:

=AVERAGEIF(B2:B14, ">0", B2:B14)

The following screenshot shows how to use this formula in practice:



D2 =AVERAGEIF(B2:B14, ">0", B2:B14)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Employee	Sales		Average if > 0		
2	A	10		4.3		
3	B	0				
4	C	4				
5	D	4				
6	E	3				
7	F	9				
8	G	0				
9	H	2				
10	I	1				
11	J	1				
12	K	4				
13	L	0				
14	M	5				
15						
16						
17						
18						

The average sales for employees who had greater than zero sales was 4.3.

This formula calculated the average by only using the values that were greater than zero.

Average of Values Greater than Zero: (10+4+4+3+9+2+1+1+4+5) / 10 = 4.3.

This matches the value calculated by our formula.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common operations in Excel: