

BIRTH STATISTICS OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (ENAC) 2nd QUARTER 2011

Births increased by 0.5% in the 2nd Quarter of 2011

Bizkaia is the only province where births experienced an increase

The number of births in the Basque Country stood at 5290 million in the third quarter of 2011, 0.5% up on the previous year, according to Eustat data. The increase can be attributed to Bizkaia, the only province where births rose, with 2716 newborns accounting for a 5.1% increase. In Álava, with 838 girls and boys, there was a decrease was 4.3%, whereas in Gipuzkoa, with 1736 births, the number dropped by 3.6% with respect to the 2nd quarter of 2010.

Births outside of marriage accounted for 32.6% of the total, a percentage similar to the 32.5% registered in the 2nd quarter of 2010. Gipuzkoa, with 30.1%, was the only province where the numbers were lower than those for the Basque Country as a whole. Álava and Bizkaia recorded higher percentages: 35.1% and 33.5%, respectively.

By order of birth, more than half (2829) were first-born children in the 2nd quarter of 2011; 2025 boys and girls (38.3%) were born into families that already had a child, and the percentage of births with two or more children was 8.2%. Bizkaia, at 44.1%, was the only province where the ratio of two or more children was lower than the Basque Country average (46.5%). Gipuzkoa exceeds the average by 48.7% and Álava recorded the highest percentage at 49.6%.

In 21% of births, the mothers were under 30 years of age

Within the distribution of births by the age of the mother, there continued to be a clear preponderance of the 30-34 year-old age group, in which 42.2% of the births took place. This group was followed by the group immediately above it (mothers aged 35-39), which accounted for 31.5% of births and was ahead of the 25-29 age group, with 15.3% of births. In the groups at the two extremes, the under 25 year-old age group accounted for 5.5%, whilst those over 40 accounted for 5.4%.

The age of single mothers was lower than the age of the group of women who had children as a whole, with 12% of single mothers being under 25 and 19% between 25 and 29 years of age.

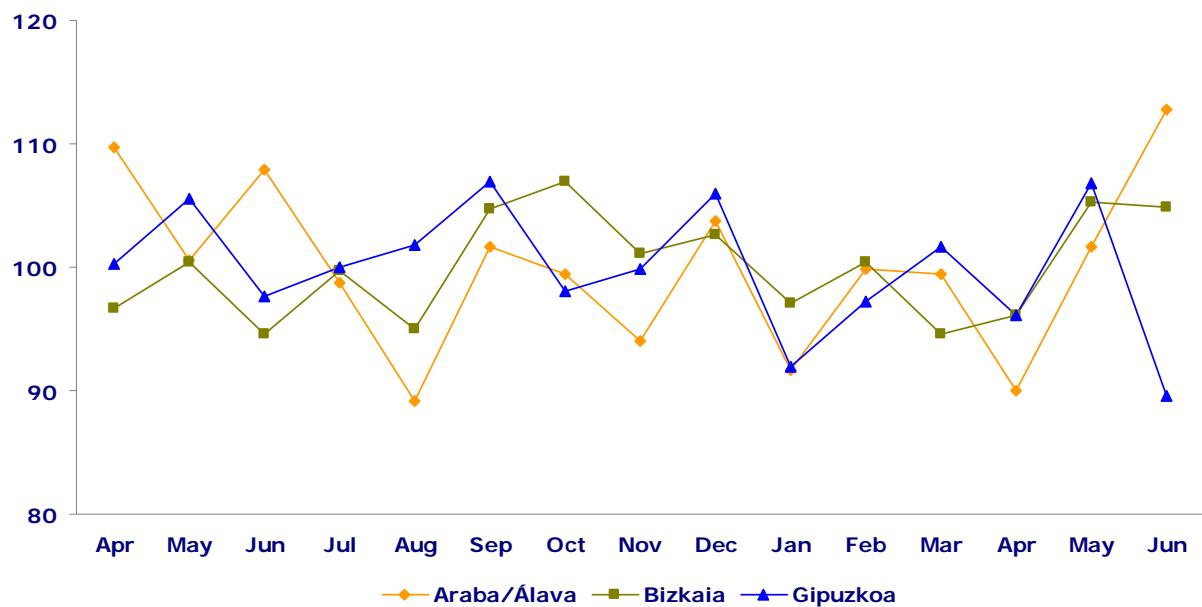
16% of the mothers are foreign citizens

16.1% percent of all the births in the Basque Country in the spring of 2011 were to mothers who were foreign citizens. The average was far exceeded in Álava, which recorded 22.8% compared to 15.4% in Bizkaia and 13.9% in Gipuzkoa.

Table 1. Live births to mothers residing in the Basque Country. Comparative table

	2nd quarter 2011		Previous quarter (1st quarter 2011)		Same quarter the previous year (2nd quarter 2010)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
Basque Country	5.290	100,0	5.054	100,0	5.262	100,0
Araba / Álava	838	15,8	792	15,7	876	16,6
Bizkaia	2.716	51,3	2.557	50,6	2.585	49,1
Gipuzkoa	1.736	32,8	1.705	33,7	1.801	34,2
According to age of mother	5.290	100,0	5.054	100,0	5.262	100,0
≤ 24 years	293	5,5	301	6,0	328	6,2
25 - 29 years	810	15,3	695	13,8	833	15,8
30 - 34 years	2.233	42,2	2.106	41,7	2.219	42,2
35 - 39 years	1.668	31,5	1.653	32,7	1.609	30,6
≥ 40	286	5,4	299	5,9	273	5,2
According to the marital status of the mother	5.290	100,0	5.054	100,0	5.262	100,0
Married	3.563	67,4	3.360	66,5	3.554	67,5
Not married	1.727	32,6	1.694	33,5	1.708	32,5
Order of birth	5.290	100,0	5.054	100,0	5.262	100,0
First	2.829	53,5	2.703	53,5	2.881	54,8
Second	2.025	38,3	1.930	38,2	1.951	37,1
Third or posterior	436	8,2	421	8,3	430	8,2

Source: EUSTAT. Birth Statistics of the Basque Country

Graph 1: Monthly Birth Trends (base 100= average)


Source: EUSTAT. Birth Statistics of the Basque Country

For further information:

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 Database on **BIRTH STATISTICS** of the Basque Country