

Births in the Basque Country fell by 5.5% in the second quarter of 2015

Babies born to unmarried mothers accounted for 41%

The number of births in the Basque Country in the second quarter of 2015 stood at 4,674, a figure 5.5% lower than that recorded in the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data. The decline occurred in two of the three provinces, Álava and Bizkaia, with 6.7% and 9.2%, respectively, whereas in Gipuzkoa births rose by 0.9%. Specifically, in Álava 771 girls and boys were born, 2,298 were born in Bizkaia and 1,605 in Gipuzkoa.

During April, May and June 2015 births outside marriage accounted for 40.8% of the total, a greater percentage than the 38.5% recorded in the same quarter of 2014. Gipuzkoa, with 38.6%, was the only province with values lower than those of the Basque Country as a whole; in Bizkaia and Álava the percentages were higher, 42.3% and 41%, respectively.

According to the order of birth in the second quarter of 2015 more than half, 2,440, were first children; 1,791 girls and boys (38.3%) arrived in families that already had another son or daughter, and the percentage of third or subsequent children stood at 9.5%.

In almost 2 out of 10 births the mothers were under 30 years of age

Regarding the distribution of births according to age, the group of mothers between the ages of 30-34 continued to be in the majority, producing 38% of births. They were immediately followed by the 35-39 age group, with 35.6%. With percentages significantly lower than the previous groups was the 25 to 29 age group (13.8%) and the extreme age groups: the under-25s, accounting for 4.6%, and the over-40s, with 7.8% of births.

The age of maternity for single mothers was lower than that for women who had children as a whole, with 8.6% of single mothers being under the age of 25 and 15.6% between the ages of 25 and 29.

18.2% of mothers were foreign nationals

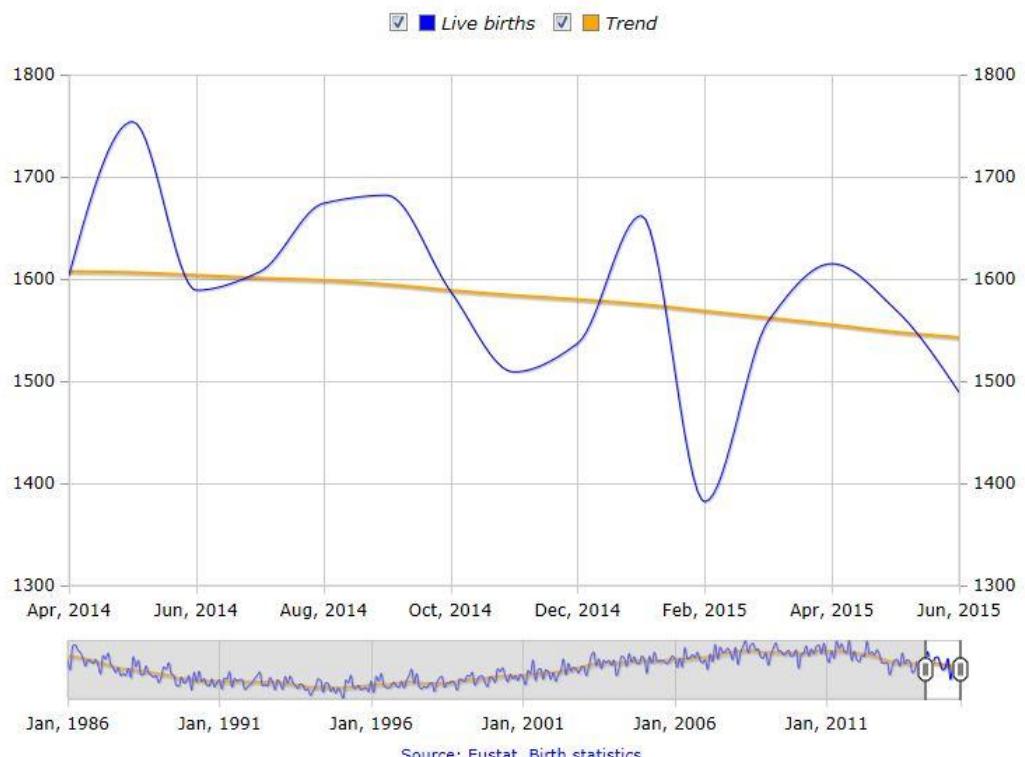
In 18.2% of births in the Basque Country during the spring months of 2015, the mother was a foreign national. This average was significantly higher in Álava where it stood at 25.2%, against the 15.8% in Bizkaia and the 18.3% in Gipuzkoa.

Table 1. Live births in the Basque Country. Comparative table

	2nd quarter 2015		Previous quarter (1st quarter 2015)		Same quarter the previous year (2nd quarter 2014)	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Basque Country	4.674	100,0	4.603	100,0	4.947	100,0
Araba / Álava	771	16,5	761	16,5	826	16,7
Bizkaia	2.298	49,2	2.255	49,0	2.530	51,1
Gipuzkoa	1.605	34,3	1.587	34,5	1.591	32,2
According to age of mother	4.674	100,0	4.603	100,0	4.947	100,0
≤ 24 years	217	4,6	253	5,5	287	5,8
25 - 29 years	647	13,8	601	13,1	692	14,0
30 - 34 years	1.778	38,0	1.754	38,1	1.936	39,1
35 - 39 years	1.666	35,6	1.601	34,8	1.660	33,6
≥ 40	366	7,8	394	8,6	372	7,5
According to the marital status of the mother	4.674	100,0	4.603	100,0	4.947	100,0
Married	2.767	59,2	2.710	58,9	3.042	61,5
Not married	1.907	40,8	1.893	41,1	1.905	38,5
Nationality of the mother	4.674	100,0	4.603	100,0	4.947	100,0
Spanish	3.822	81,8	3.701	80,4	4.084	82,6
Foreign	852	18,2	902	19,6	863	17,4
Order of birth	4.674	100,0	4.603	100,0	4.947	100,0
First	2.440	52,2	2.372	51,5	2.535	51,2
Second	1.791	38,3	1.788	38,8	1.948	39,4
Third or posterior	443	9,5	443	9,6	464	9,4

Source: Eustat. Birth statistics

Live births to mothers residing in the Basque Country and registered in the Basque Country. Monthly data



Source: Eustat. Birth statistics

For further information:

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Further press releases on birth statistics of the Basque Country

Database on birth statistics of the Basque Country