

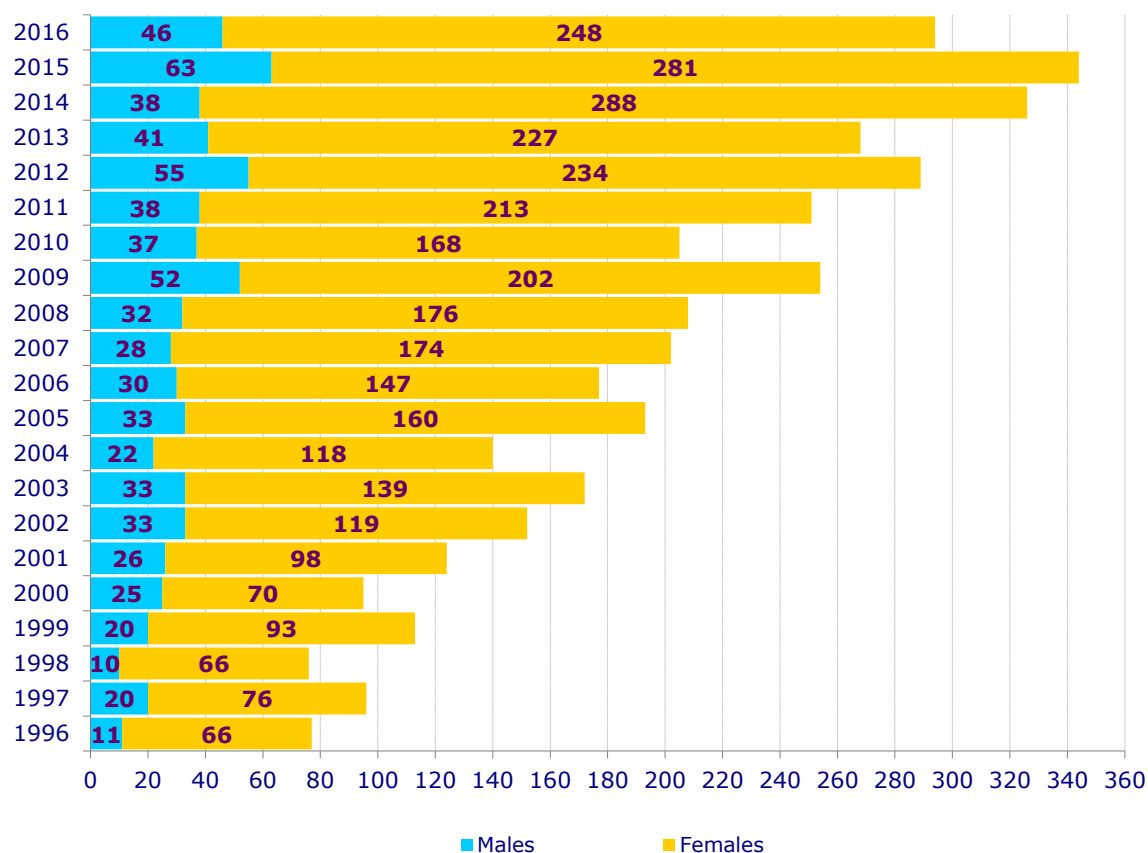
Women accounted for 85% of the total number of deaths of centenarians in the Basque Country in 2016

Deaths fell by 1.3% compared to 2015

The number of deaths in the Basque Country was 21,222 in 2016, a decrease of 1.3% compared to 2015, according to Eustat data. There were 10,783 male deaths and 10,439 female deaths. Broken down by month, December registered the highest number of deaths (2,059), whilst June registered the lowest number (1,589).

In 2016, 294 people over the age of 100 died, of which 84.4% were women. The number of deaths amongst centenarians has gradually increased in recent years, until reaching its historic high in 2015 (344 people).

Graph 1: Deaths amongst centenarians by sex 1996-2016



Source: Eustat. Mortality statistics

The average age of women who died was 83.4, whilst the average age of men was 76.8

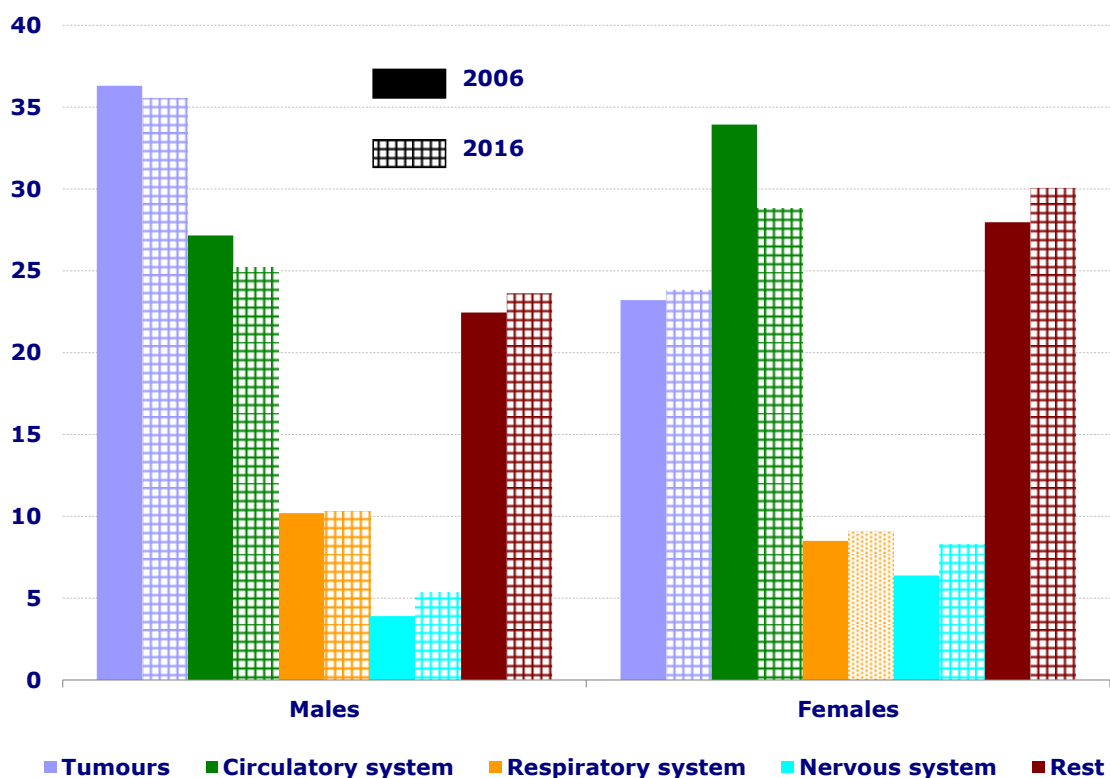
The average age of people who died in 2016 was 80 years of age, whereas ten years before, in 2006, the figure stood at 76.6, meaning that the average age has risen by 3.4 years over the course of the last ten years.

The average age at death amongst men in 2016 was 76.8 years of age, whilst the average age amongst women stood at 83.4. In 2006, the average ages were 72.9 and 80.9, respectively. Thus, over the course of the last 10 years, the average age at death of men has increased by 3.9 years, and that of women by 2.5 years.

Population growth was negative, as there were 2,982 fewer births than deaths. By territory, negative balances were registered in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, where the population fell by 2,608 and 761, respectively. By contrast, in Álava, the number of deaths was lower than the number of births, thereby producing a positive balance by 387 people.

As regards child mortality, there were 46 deaths of children under one year of age in the Basque Country. Mortality amongst newborns, occurring within the first 28 days of life, registered 26 deaths, 10 of which were during the first 24 hours and another 12 in the first week. Within deaths amongst children below the age of 1, girls accounted for 39.1% of the total.

Graph 2: Deaths by cause and sex (%). 2006 and 2016



Source: Eustat. Mortality statistics

56.8% of deaths were the result of tumours and diseases of the circulatory system

29.8% of the deaths that occurred in 2016 (6,320 deaths) were the result of tumours, followed by deaths resulting from diseases of the circulatory system, which accounted for 27% of the total (5,727 deaths) and, in third place, some way behind, were deaths resulting from respiratory diseases, which accounted for 9.7% of the total (2,055 deaths) and, lastly, those of the nervous system with 6.8% (1,436). The prevalence of these four groups of illnesses that were responsible for the highest number of deaths has varied over the course of the last decade: whilst deaths resulting from tumours have increased by 13.3%, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases have risen by 2% and 18.2%, respectively, and diseases of the nervous system by 52.9%, most notably Alzheimer's which accounted for 770 deaths.

The cause of death continued to vary according to sex: amongst men, tumours caused more deaths than diseases of the circulatory system, whilst amongst women, the main cause of death was cardiovascular disease, followed by tumours.

Furthermore, the cause of death varied in accordance with age. Amongst those aged under one, the most frequent causes of death were illnesses originating in the perinatal period and congenital malformations; amongst those aged from 1 to 40, the majority of deaths were attributable to external causes, including accidents and suicides; amongst those aged between 40 and 80, tumours were the highest cause of death, whilst amongst those aged 80 years or over, it was diseases of the circulatory system.

Table 1: Deaths by sex, according to the cause. 2016

	Males		Females	
	N.	%	N.	%
Total causes	10.783		10.439	
Infectious and parasitic diseases	171	1,6	164	1,6
Tumours	3.833	35,5	2.487	23,8
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	261	2,4	314	3,0
Mental and behavioural disorders	474	4,4	937	9,0
Nervous system diseases	574	5,3	862	8,3
Circulatory system diseases	2.720	25,2	3.007	28,8
Respiratory system diseases	1.109	10,3	946	9,1
Digestive system diseases	473	4,4	460	4,4
Genitourinary system diseases	245	2,3	288	2,8
Symptoms, abnormal clinical signs and laboratory findings	241	2,2	380	3,6
External causes of death	503	4,7	281	2,7
Others	179	1,7	313	3,0

Source: Eustat. Mortality statistics

For further information:

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