

The average income of the population of the Basque Country increased by 2.4% in 2016 compared to the previous year

Families with the main recipient aged under 40 and over 70 had below average incomes

Regarding distribution between provinces, a difference of almost 2,000 euros was observed between the average personal income obtained in Gipuzkoa (€21,714) and that obtained in Álava (€19,889) and Bizkaia (€19,818). Gipuzkoa also stands out for improved performance in respect of the previous year, with an increase of 5.1% compared to Bizkaia (+1.2%) and Álava (+0.5%).

Average personal income by type according to province and sex (euros). 2016

	Basque Country			Araba/Álava			Bizkaia			Gipuzkoa		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total income	20.443	25.696	15.578	19.889	24.738	15.245	19.818	25.031	15.078	21.714	27.202	16.556
Income from work	12.182	15.394	9.207	12.204	15.186	9.348	11.956	15.164	9.040	12.541	15.859	9.422
Capital revenue	1.661	1.896	1.444	1.381	1.565	1.206	1.528	1.665	1.403	2.006	2.416	1.620
Income from activities	963	1.356	598	912	1.255	583	947	1.362	569	1.011	1.392	653
Transfers	5.637	7.051	4.328	5.392	6.733	4.108	5.387	6.840	4.067	6.157	7.535	4.861
Available income	17.149	21.288	13.315	16.694	20.481	13.068	16.565	20.630	12.869	18.306	22.712	14.165

Source: Eustat. Personal and Family Income Statistics

In the capitals, the aforementioned provincial differences were maintained, so the average income of people residing in San Sebastián reached €24,552, higher than the figures of €20,526 in Bilbao and €20,115 in Vitoria-Gasteiz. Despite the differences, both San Sebastián and Bilbao exceeded the average for the Basque Country, whereas Vitoria-Gasteiz was below it.

The disposable income, after taxes, of the population resident in the Basque Country in 2016 is €17,149, reproducing the provincial differences, given that, once again, Gipuzkoa (€18,306) achieved a higher disposable income than that obtained in Álava and Bizkaia (€16,694 and €16,565, respectively).

In relation to the distribution of income amongst the resident population aged 18 and over, 60.3% had an income below the Basque Country average, although it must be taken into account that this group includes people who received no type of income in 2016 (13.1%); at the opposite extreme, 11.6% of the population had an income that was double the average, that is, over €40,800.

In 2016 half of the population residing in the Basque Country aged 18 and over had incomes below €15,581, which was the median income figure.

An uneven distribution was found between men and women. Men in the Basque Country received an average income of €25,696, whereas women received an average income of €15,578. In other words, men earned €10,000 more than women.

The greatest difference between the personal income of men and women was amongst those aged between 65 and 69, where the average income of men exceeded that of women by almost €17,000.

Table 2. Evolution of average personal income of the Basque Country by type of income (euros). 2014-2016

	2014	2015	2015/2014 (%)	2016	2016/2015 (%)
Total income	19.379	19.968	3,0	20.443	2,4
Income from work	11.821	11.950	1,1	12.182	1,9
Capital revenue	1.635	1.646	0,7	1.661	0,9
Income from activities	881	952	8,1	963	1,2
Transfers	5.042	5.419	7,5	5.637	4,0
Available income	16.235	16.731	3,1	17.149	2,5

Source: Eustat. Personal and Family Income Statistics

Compared to 2015, the total income was up by 2.4% . All types of income increased although income from capital and income from activities did so moderately: 0.8% and 1.2%, respectively. The growth in income from transfers stood out, with a rate of 4%, followed by incomes from work, which were up by 1.9%. Disposable income also increased by 2.5%, one tenth higher than the total income.

Half of families in the Basque Country received an average yearly family income above €33,833 in 2016

Average family income in the Basque Country stood at €42,464 in 2016. The total family income is produced as an aggregation of the personal incomes of all adult members of the family. As in the case with personal income, Gipuzkoa was the province with the highest family income, €44,855, followed in this case by Bizkaia with €41,766 and Álava with €39,738.

Compared to 2015, average family incomes in the Basque Country increased by 3.4%. Gipuzkoa was the province that registered the highest increase, 6.2%, followed by Bizkaia, with 2.1%, and Álava, up 1.5%.

Donostia-San Sebastián, with €50,656, was the capital with the highest family income, followed by Bilbao, with €42,370 and Vitoria-Gasteiz, with €39,748.

The average income for families overall in the Basque Country corresponded to 2.1 times the average personal income.

62.8% of families received an income below the Basque Country average, or they received no income at all. In 2016, 2.4% of families fell under this category. On the other hand, 8.9% of families had an income that was double the average, that is €84,928.

As for age, families with the main recipient aged under 40 and over 70 had family incomes below the Basque Country average.

For further information:

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