

## **Births were down 3.8% in the third quarter of 2018 in the Basque Country**

### ***Births outside marriage accounted for 44.5% of the total***

In the third quarter of 2018 the number of births in the Basque Country stood at 4,261, which was a drop of 3.8% compared to the same quarter of the previous year, according to Eustat data. The province that experienced the biggest decrease was Álava, where 709 boys and girls were born, down 7.8% on the same quarter of the previous year. In Bizkaia, with 2,112 births, there was a decrease of 4.3% and finally, in Gipuzkoa, with 1,440 births, there was a drop of 0.9%.

Births outside of marriage accounted for 44.5% of the total, which was higher than the 42% for the same period of the previous year.

According to the order of birth, 2,192 boys and girls (51.4%) were first children, in the summer months of 2018; 1,558 (36.6%) arrived in families that already had another son or daughter and 12.0% were third or subsequent children.

### ***8 out of every 10 mothers were over the age of 30***

Regarding the distribution of births according to the age of the mother, the 30-34 year-old age group continued to be in the majority, producing 36.7% of births. They were immediately followed by the 35-39 age group, with 33.0%. The 25-29 age group accounted for 13.3% of births, and the under-25s stood at 6.4%. It is worth noting that those aged 40 or over accounted for 10.5% of births.

The average age of mothers stood at 33.4, which was similar to the same quarter of the previous year: for married mothers it stood at 33.7; for single mothers it was 32.8, and for divorcees it was 36.7 in this quarter.

### ***Foreign mothers represented a quarter of the total***

Of the women who became mothers in the Basque Country in July, August and September 2018, 25.8% were foreign nationals, a percentage which is higher than the 22.9% recorded for the same period of the previous year. This percentage was only higher in Álava, where it stood at 32.9%, 10 points more than in the Basque Country as a whole. In Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia, the proportion of mothers with foreign nationality stood at 24.5% and 24.3% respectively.

The age at which women became mothers varied according to their nationality. In fact, the average age of foreign mothers was 30.8, compared to 34.3 for mothers with Spanish nationality.

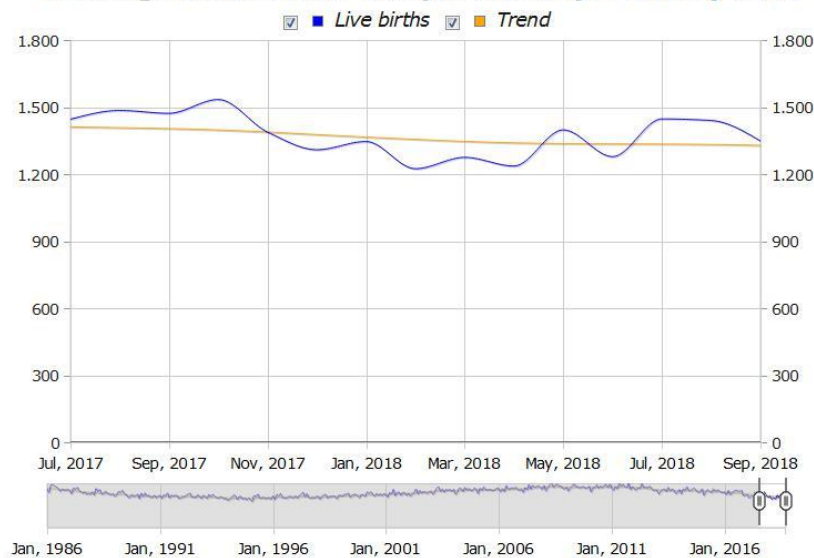
### Live births by province, age of the mother, marital status of the mother, nationality of the mother and order of birth (1).

	III/2018		Previous quarter (II/2018)		Same quarter the previous year (III/2017)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>4.261</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.931</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.429</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Araba / Álava	709	16,6	633	16,1	769	17,4
Bizkaia	2.112	49,6	1.970	50,1	2.207	49,8
Gipuzkoa	1.440	33,8	1.328	33,8	1.453	32,8
<b>Age of mother</b>	<b>4.261</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.931</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.429</b>	<b>100,0</b>
≤ 24 years	273	6,4	242	6,2	238	5,4
25 - 29 years	568	13,3	513	13,1	623	14,1
30 - 34 years	1.564	36,7	1.388	35,3	1.679	37,9
35 - 39 years	1.408	33,0	1.389	35,3	1.453	32,8
≥ 40	448	10,5	399	10,2	436	9,8
<b>The marital status of the mother</b>	<b>4.261</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.931</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.429</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Married	2.365	55,5	2.235	56,9	2.568	58,0
Not married	1.896	44,5	1.696	43,1	1.861	42,0
<b>Nationality of the mother</b>	<b>4.261</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.931</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.429</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Spanish	3.161	74,2	2.945	74,9	3.413	77,1
Foreign	1.100	25,8	986	25,1	1.016	22,9
<b>Order of birth</b>	<b>4.261</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.931</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.429</b>	<b>100,0</b>
First	2.192	51,4	1.892	48,1	2.230	50,3
Second	1.558	36,6	1.561	39,7	1.696	38,3
Third or posterior	511	12,0	478	12,2	503	11,4

(1) For the current quarter and the previous data are provisional

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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