

Expenditure on social protection in the Basque country increased by 4.0% in 2018

In 2018, the functions of Old Age and Sickness/Health care represented 44.4% and 26.4% of total expenditure respectively

Expenditure on social protection in the Basque Country, in accordance with the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (SEEPROS) methodology, reached 18,557 million euros in 2018, up 4.0% on the previous year, according to EUSTAT data. This growth was also one and a half points higher than that of 2017 (2.5%). In absolute terms, the increase was 722 million euros, compared to the 438 million euros in 2017.

The Social Protection Account calculates the expenditure and income of the social protection systems carried out in the Basque Country by any public or private body. It also details to which functions said expenditure was allocated and who carried it out.

Main Social Protection in the Basque Country figures and indicators. 2010-2018 (a)

	2010	2016	2017	2018 (a)	2017/2016 (%)	2018(a)/2017 (%)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL PROTECTION						
In millions euros	16.092	17.397	17.835	18.557	2,5	4,0
In % of GDP p.m.	24,2	24,4	24,2	24,2	-0,2*	0,0*
In euros per inhabitant	7.410	8.003	8.188	8.496	2,3	3,8
In PPP per inhabitant	7.509	8.636	8.741	:	1,2	:
EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL BENEFITS BY FUNCTION (million euros)						
TOTAL	15.775	17.132	17.578	18.296	2,6	4,1
Illness/Healthcare	4.443	4.446	4.627	4.839	4,1	4,6
Invalidity	1.052	1.213	1.239	1.276	2,2	2,9
Old age	6.004	7.406	7.685	8.124	3,8	5,7
Survivors	1.473	1.684	1.703	1.764	1,2	3,6
Family/Children	596	602	619	621	2,8	0,3
Unemployment	1.681	1.081	999	954	-7,5	-4,5
Housing	118	150	147	160	-2,0	8,7
Social exclusion	408	551	558	558	1,3	0,0
INDICATORS (in euros)						
Expenditure on social benefits per inhabitant	7.264	7.881	8.070	8.376	2,4	3,8
Expenditure on social benefits per inhabitant in PPP	7.361	8.504	8.615	:	1,3	:
Expenditure on the "Illness/Healthcare" per inhabitant	2.046	2.045	2.124	2.215	3,9	4,3
Expenditure on the "Old age" per person aged 65 or over	14.304	15.810	16.163	16.818	2,2	4,1
Expenditure on the "Unemployment" per registered jobless person	12.693	7.403	7.492	7.729	1,2	3,2
GDP ESA2010. Base 2015. (thousands of euros)	66.569,4	71.239,0	73.697,4	76.808,7	3,5	4,2
Population (01-07)	2.171.536	2.173.853	2.178.134	2.184.233	0,2	0,3

(:) data not available

(*) Difference in percentage points

Source: Eustat. Social protection account

In relation to GDP, expenditure on social protection in 2018 represented 24.2%, maintaining the 2017 percentage. In per capita values, expenditure stood at 8,496 euros, up 3.8% on 2017.

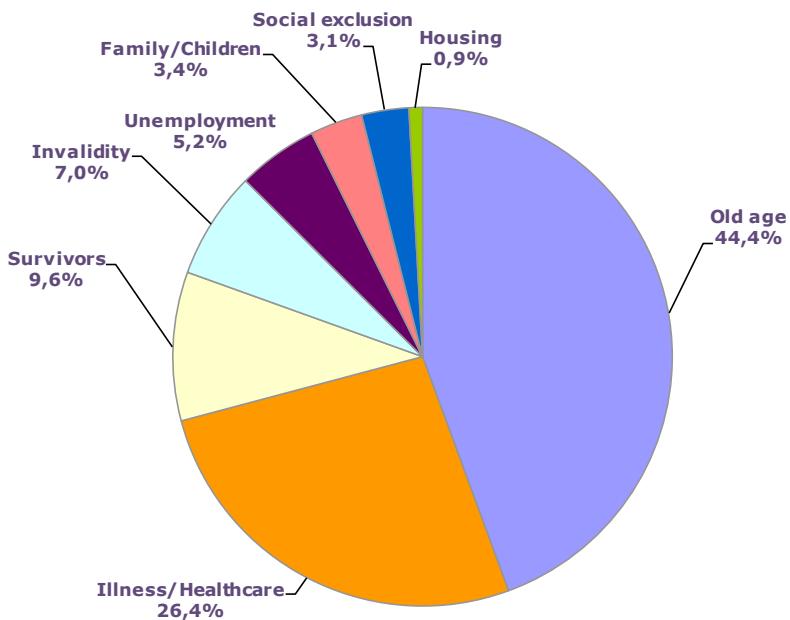
The value of social provisions was 18,296 million euros, once administrative expenses derived from the management and administration of protection systems were discounted from the total expenditure. There was a 4.1% increase on the total reached in 2017.

The functions with the highest expenditure were "Old Age" and "Sickness/Health care", which were also among those that experienced the highest growth

In the distribution of **expenditure by functions**, the functions with the highest expenditure were "Old Age" (including expenditure on residential services, home care, and economic provisions relating to dependence) and "Sickness/Health care", which together accounted for 70.8% of expenditure on provisions. These were also the functions with the highest growth in 2018; "Old Age" increased by 5.7%, standing at 8,124 million euros and "Sickness/Health care" was up 4.6%, reaching 4,839 million euros. The "Housing" function registered the highest relative growth of (8.7%), although with a very small proportion of total expenditure, the least of all the functions, (0.9%).

On the other hand, the function that decreased the most was "Unemployment", which went from accounting for 5.7% of expenditure on provisions in 2017, to 5.2% in 2018, that is, expenditure on Unemployment reduced by 4.5%, standing at 954 million euros. This downward trend has been occurring since 2014, and was reflected, as in previous years, in the decrease in unemployment benefits and the drop in the unemployment rate.

Distribution of expenditure on social benefits by functions. 2018 (a)



Source: Eustat. Social protection account

The remaining functions presented positive growth: the “Survivors” function increased to 1,764 million euros, up 3.6%; the “Disability” function rose by 2.9%, reaching 1,276 million euros; the “Family/Children” function (relating to childbirth and bringing up children, and caring for other family members) increased by 0.3% in 2018 and represented expenditure of 621 million euros; and expenditure on “Social exclusion” remained stable (0.0%), standing at 558 million euros.

Expenditure per group of institutional units and year (million €). 2014-2017

	2014	2015	2016	2017	Annual variation rate (%)		
					2015/14	2016/15	2017/16
Social Security System and State Administration	10.272	10.284	10.480	10.815	0,1	1,9	3,2
Basque Administration	5.375	5.512	5.676	5.773	2,5	3,0	1,7
Private Institutions	1.250	1.261	1.242	1.248	0,9	-1,6	0,5
Total expenditure on social protection	16.897	17.058	17.397	17.835	1,0	2,0	2,5

Source: Eustat. Social protection account

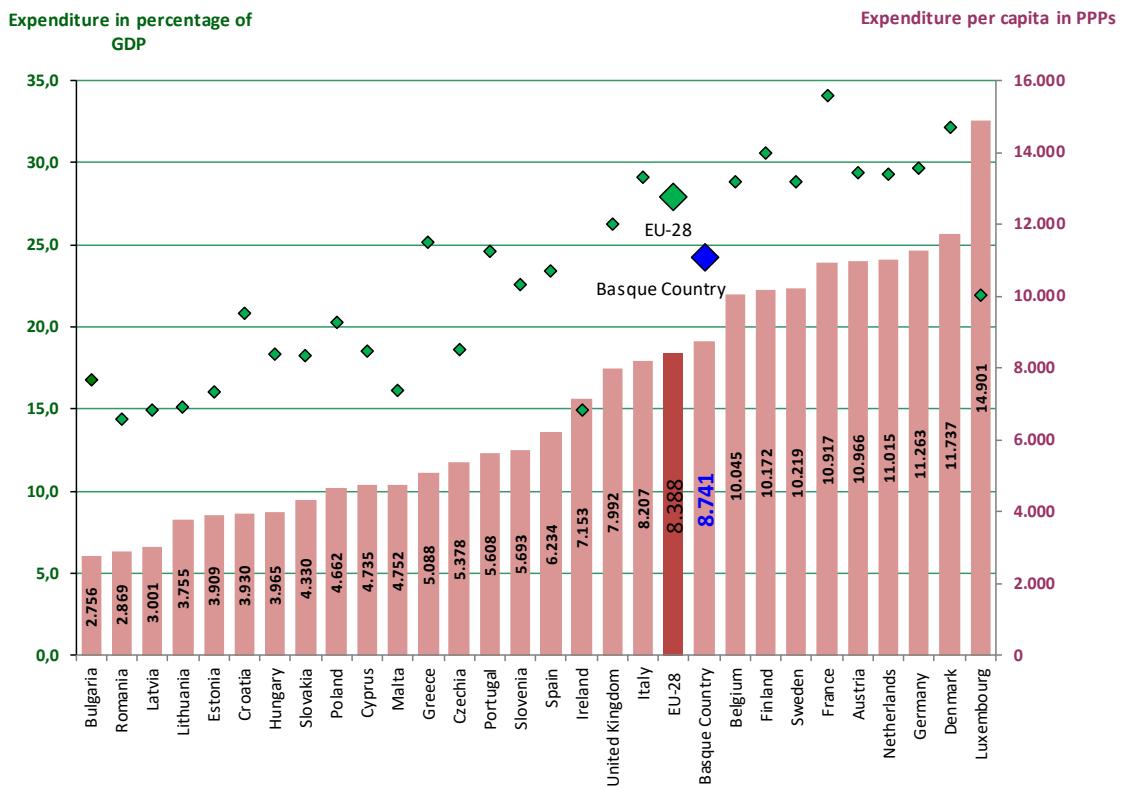
With regard to the **institutional units** that spent money on social protection in 2017, the most recent year for which there is available definitive data, spending by the **Social Security System and State Administrations** accounted for 60.6% of the total; up 3.2% on 2016, which is an increase of 335 million euros.

Expenditure by the **Basque Administrations** accounted for 32.4%, reaching 5,773 million euros in 2017, 1.7% more than in 2016. The greatest amount corresponded to expenditure by the public health system, which reached 3,613 million euros in 2017. The remaining expenditure corresponded to Private Institutions, standing at 1,248 million euros, 7% of the total.

The international comparison with Europe (the most recent data published by Eurostat corresponding to 2017) provides some indicators, such as **expenditure on social protection per inhabitant**, measured in terms of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP); in the Basque Country it stood at 8,741, above the EU-28 average (8,388) and countries such as Spain (6,234), Ireland (7,153) and the United Kingdom (7,992). At the very top of the table are Luxembourg (14,901) and Denmark (11,737).

Another of the indicators is **social protection expenditure as a percentage of GDP**, which in the Basque Country stood at 24.2% in 2017, below the EU-28 average (27.9%) and above Spain (23.4%) and also above Luxembourg (21.9%), which in expenditure per capita was at the very top of the table.

Expenditure on Social Protection per capita in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) and in % GDP 2017



Source: Eustat. Social protection account and Eurostat (01/15/2020)

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