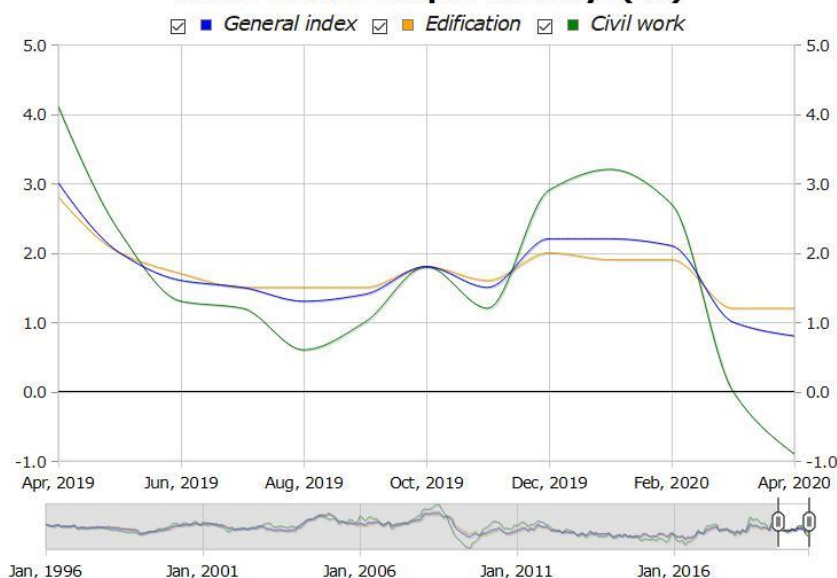


Construction costs in the Basque Country rose by 0.4% in April 2020 compared to the previous month

Compared to the previous year, April 2020 on April 2019, costs increased by 0.8%

There was a 0.4% rise in the Construction Costs Index in the Basque Country in April 2020 compared to the previous month, whilst the year-on-year rate for the same month increased by 0.8%, according to EUSTAT data.

Year-on-year variation rate of the index of construction costs in the Basque Country. (%)



Compared to the previous month, costs of raw materials rose by 0.5% whereas labour costs remained unchanged (0.0%).

In April 2020, the Building sub-sector posted a month-on-month increase of 0.6% in the cost of raw materials and the Works sub-sector a rise of 0.1%. The year-on-year trends in these two sub-sectors saw positive and negative variations: costs of raw materials in Building were up by 1.0%, whilst costs in Civil Works fell by 1.8%.

The prices of raw materials consumed by sector that recorded the biggest increases in April 2020 on April 2019 included those in the following sectors: *Non-metallic Minerals*, up 3.3%; *Electrical Material*, with an increase of 1.6%; and *Electronic Material*, which rose by 1.5%. In contrast, the sectors with reductions in prices of raw materials were: *Oil Refining*, down 37.4%, *Electricity & Gas*, which fell by 2.6% and *Metallurgy*, with a decrease of 2.3%.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS INDEX OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY. VARIATION RATE (p). April 2020

| 2016 | INDEX | VARIATION (%) | | |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| | | m/m-1 | m/m-12 | m/december |
| TOTAL | 106,5 | 0,4 | 0,8 | 1,2 |
| Building | 106,7 | 0,4 | 1,2 | 1,5 |
| Civil works | 105,6 | 0,1 | -0,9 | -0,3 |
| RAW MATERIAL | 105,9 | 0,5 | 0,5 | 1,0 |
| Building | 106,2 | 0,6 | 1,0 | 1,4 |
| Civil works | 104,8 | 0,1 | -1,8 | -0,9 |
| LABOUR | 108,2 | 0,0 | 1,8 | 1,8 |

Base 2015=100

(p) provisional

Source: Eustat. Construction costs index

NOTE ON THE EFFECT OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS ON THE APRIL CONSTRUCTION COSTS INDEX

Royal Decree 463/2020 of 14 March, declared a state of alarm in order to manage the health crisis caused by **COVID-19**.

The exceptional measures adopted brought the majority of companies in the sector to a partial or total standstill.

Due to this situation, obtaining the necessary information for compiling the Construction Costs Index required a greater degree of effort, by both the companies surveyed and the personnel dedicated to collecting and processing the information.

Eustat would like to thank all the companies that have collaborated in making this effort despite the extraordinary circumstances. As a result, the April index was calculated with 96.48% coverage of the sample used for the industrial prices and construction costs indices.

For further information:

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