

Deaths in the Basque Country fell by 0.9% in 2019

The average age of people who died was 80.8, three years more than ten years ago

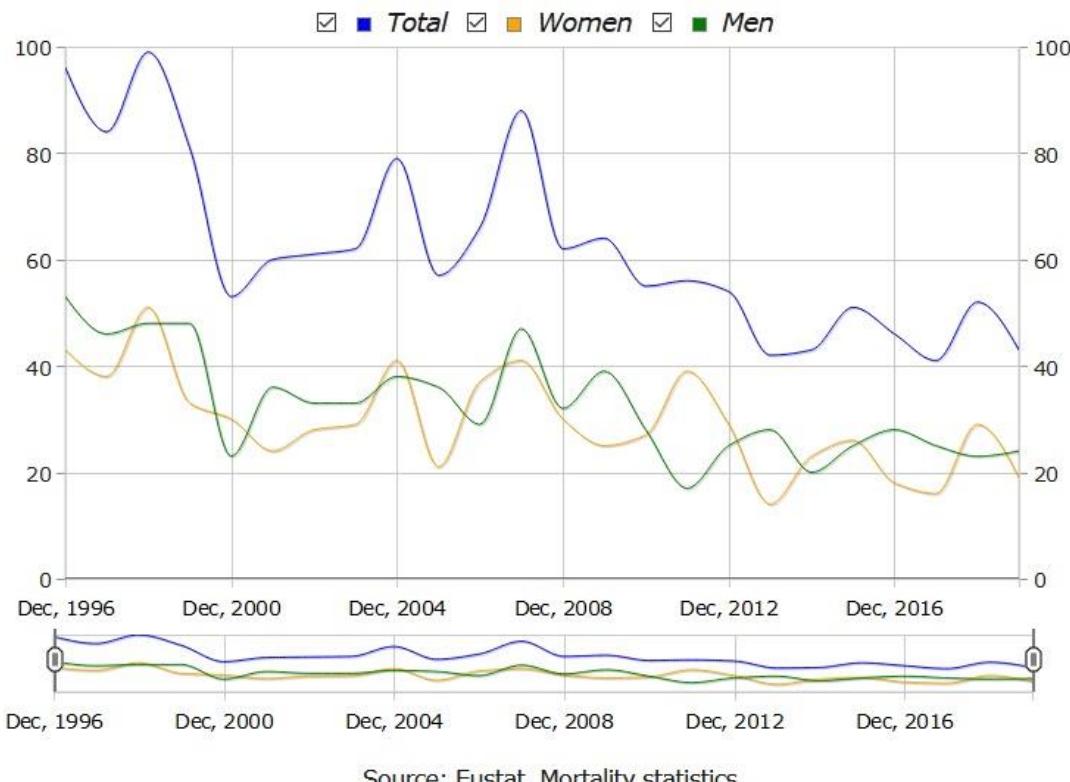
The number of deaths in the Basque Country was 21,560 in 2019, a decrease of 0.9% compared to 2018, according to Eustat data. There were 10,756 male deaths and 10,804 female deaths. Broken down by month, January was the month with the highest number of deaths (2,372), whilst June and September registered the lowest number (1,578).

The average age of people who died in 2019 was 80.8 years of age, whereas ten years before, in 2009, the figure stood at 77.7, meaning that the average age has risen by 3.1 years over the course of the last ten years.

The average age at death amongst men in 2019 was 77.4 years of age, whilst the average age amongst women stood at 84.2. In 2009, the average ages were 74.2 and 81.5, respectively. Thus, over the course of the last 10 years, the average age at death of men has increased by 3.2 years, and that of women by 2.7 years.

As regards child mortality, there were 43 deaths of children under one year of age in the Basque Country in 2019. Mortality amongst newborns, occurring within the first 28 days of life, registered 32 deaths, 10 of which were during the first 24 hours and another 9 in the first week. Within deaths amongst children below the age of 1, boys accounted for 55.8% of the total.

Deaths of children under one year old in the Basque Country by sex



In 2019, 378 people over the age of 100 died, of which 81.2% were women. The number of deaths amongst centenarians has gradually increased in recent years, until reaching its maximum in 2019 (378 people), up sixteen on the figure for 2018.

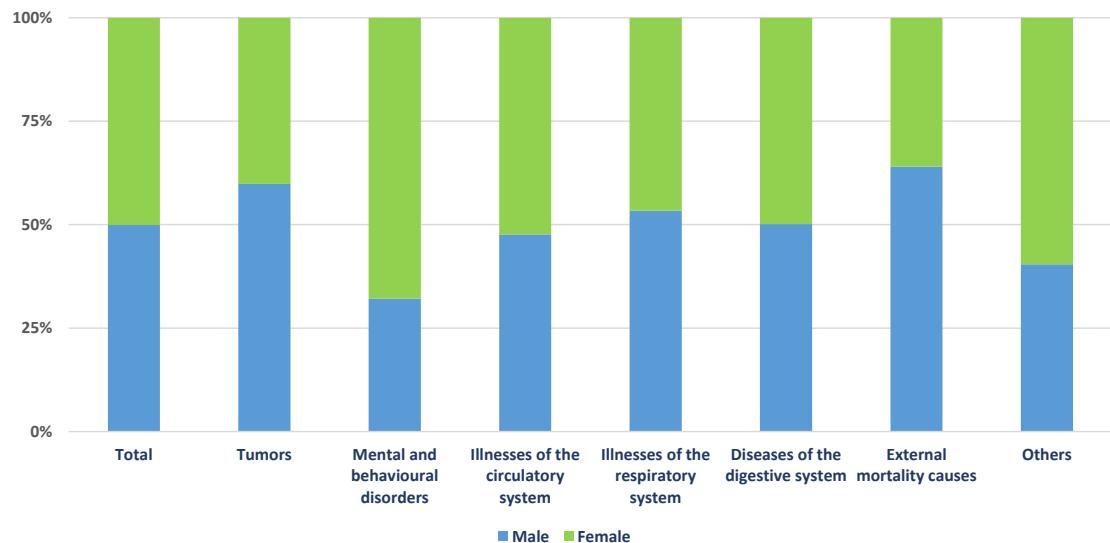
Population growth was negative in the three provinces

Population growth was negative, as there were 6,142 more deaths than births. There were negative balances in the three provinces: in Bizkaia it was 4,241 people, in Gipuzkoa it was 1,729, and in Álava 172.

Almost a third of deaths were due to tumours

29.3% of the deaths that occurred in 2019 (6,309 deaths) were the result of tumours, followed by deaths resulting from diseases of the circulatory system, which accounted for 26.1% of the total (5,620 deaths) and, in third place, some way behind, were deaths resulting from respiratory diseases, which accounted for 10% of the total (2,158 deaths), and finally mental and behavioural disorders, with 7.8% (1,676).

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, it is worth noting that there was a higher percentage of women among deaths caused by mental and behavioural disorders, in contrast to what occurred with those attributable to external causes, where there was a higher percentage of men.

Causes of death in Basque Country, by sex. 2019


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 39, the majority of deaths were attributable to external causes, including accidents and suicides; amongst those aged between 40 and 89, tumours were the highest cause of death, whilst amongst those aged 90 years or over, it was diseases of the circulatory system.

Deaths by cause and age. 2019

	Total		Under 1 year		From 1 to		From 20		From 40 to		From 70 to 89		90 or more	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total	21.560	100,0	43	100,0	39	100,0	160	100,0	3.652	100,0	11.635	100,0	6.031	100,0
Tumors	6.309	29,3	0	0,0	6	15,4	41	25,6	2.021	55,3	3.574	30,7	667	11,1
Mental and behavioural disorders	1.676	7,8	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	38	1,0	804	6,9	834	13,8
Illnesses of the circulatory system	5.620	26,1	2	4,7	3	7,7	22	13,8	659	18,0	3.014	25,9	1.920	31,8
Illnesses of the respiratory system	2.158	10,0	0	0,0	1	2,6	3	1,9	179	4,9	1.207	10,4	768	12,7
Diseases of the digestive system	956	4,4	0	0,0	2	5,1	5	3,1	158	4,3	549	4,7	242	4,0
External mortality causes	756	3,5	2	4,7	12	30,8	73	45,6	214	5,9	318	2,7	137	2,3
Others	4.085	18,9	39	90,7	15	38,5	16	10,0	383	10,5	2.169	18,6	1.463	24,3

Source: Eustat. Death statistics

For further information:

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