

## Exports increased by 23.9% in the first half of 2021 in the Basque Country and exceeded 12,460 million euros

*In June 2021, exports of goods from the Basque Country registered a rise of 15.6%*

During the first quarter of 2021 exports of goods from the Basque Country increased by 23.9% (2,405 million more than in the same period of the previous year) and reached 12,466 million euros, according to Eustat data. This figure is still below that of the first half of 2019, the year before the pandemic, when this figure rose to 13,054 million euros.

The accumulated total of imports rose to 9,701 million, that is, 1,867 million more than that registered in the same period of the previous tax year, up 23.8%.

During the first six months of 2021 foreign trade in the Basque Country generated a positive balance of 2,765 million euros, equivalent to a coverage rate of 128.5% (the Basque Country exports more than it imports), more than the majority of the countries in the EU-27.

### Evolution of the foreign trade of the Basque Country. Thousands of euros. January-June 2021

	EXPORTS			IMPORTS		
	January-June			January-June		
	2020	2021	Δ %	2020	2021	Δ %
<b>BASQUE COUNTRY</b>	<b>10.061.383</b>	<b>12.466.346</b>	<b>23,9</b>	<b>7.834.270</b>	<b>9.701.314</b>	<b>23,8</b>
ENERGY PRODUCTS	572.315	557.685	-2,6	1.577.068	1.856.217	17,7
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	9.489.068	11.908.660	25,5	6.257.202	7.845.097	25,4
<b>ARABA / ÁLAVA</b>	<b>2.903.545</b>	<b>3.600.926</b>	<b>24,0</b>	<b>1.695.802</b>	<b>2.248.847</b>	<b>32,6</b>
<b>BIZKAIA</b>	<b>3.892.833</b>	<b>4.976.722</b>	<b>27,8</b>	<b>4.382.373</b>	<b>5.245.847</b>	<b>19,7</b>
<b>GIPUZKOA</b>	<b>3.265.005</b>	<b>3.888.698</b>	<b>19,1</b>	<b>1.756.095</b>	<b>2.206.620</b>	<b>25,7</b>

Source: Eustat. Foreign trade statistics (ECOMEX)

### Provinces

**Exports** of goods from **Bizkaia** were the most active in the Basque country during this period, with an accumulated total of 4,977 million euros and growth of 27.8%. In **Álava** growth stood at 24.0% (3,601 million euros) and in **Gipuzkoa** it was 19.1% (3,889 million euros).

In relation to **imports**, **Bizkaia** saw an increase of 19.7% and imported goods to the value of 5,246 million euros, followed by **Álava** with 2,249 million, up 32.6%, and **Gipuzkoa** with a contribution of 2,207 million and a growth rate of 25.7%.

### Products

Considering the type of product, it was *Non-energy Products*, with a year-on-year increase of 2,420 million, which most contributed to the growth in exports. *Energy Products*, down 14.6 million, represented a slight reduction in the aforementioned growth. Imports of *Energy products* rose by 17.7% and those of *Non-energy Products* were up 25.4%.

### Destination countries

The ranking of countries to which Basque Country exports were sent, in this period, was topped by Germany, with 16.8% of the total exported, followed by France (16.0%), the United Kingdom (6.7%), the United States (6.0%) and Belgium with 5.4%. These five countries accounted for half of Basque exports.

### Activity Branches A86

Of the largest activity branches by export volume, of particular note was the increase in exports of *Iron and Steel products* (31.7%), exceeding that exported during the previous year by 318 million, reaching 1,325 million euros.

There was also considerable growth in exports related to *Production of Non-ferrous Metals* (56.1%), *Rubber Products* (25.1%) and *Machinery for general, agricultural and other specific uses* (16.2%). However, the branch with the highest volume of exports was that of products relating to *Manufacture of motor vehicles* (2,798 million and 22.4% of the total), which at the end of the first half of 2021 registered growth of 28.0% in respect of the same period of the previous year.

### Main export tariff headings in the Basque Country. Thousands of euros (p). Accumulated January - June 2021

	2020	2021	2021 %	2021/2020 (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.061.383</b>	<b>12.466.346</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>23,9</b>
Tourisms of less than 10 people	879.302	1.111.178	8,9	26,4
Parts and accessories of motor vehicles	624.124	874.358	7,0	40,1
Motor vehicles for goods transport	574.998	735.674	5,9	27,9
New rubber tyres	443.819	527.631	4,2	18,9
Refined petroleum oils	518.708	469.635	3,8	-9,5
Faucet articles, valves and similar organs for pipes	221.756	310.070	2,5	39,8
Iron or non-alloyed profiles	176.638	296.541	2,4	67,9
Vehicle parts for rail road tracks or similar	98.014	232.339	1,9	137,0
Sheets and bands, of aluminum, of a thickness exceeding 0.2 mm	143.467	179.391	1,4	25,0
Other iron and steel manufacturers	128.478	171.749	1,4	33,7
Tubes and hollow profiles, without welding, of iron or steel without welding	205.166	144.609	1,2	-29,5
Unwrought aluminium	47.467	132.940	1,1	180,1
Bars and sections, in stainless steel	97.842	127.835	1,0	30,7
Bars and profiles, of other alloyed steels and bars for perforation	84.791	127.185	1,0	50,0
Other tubes and hollow profiles of iron or steel	80.966	123.151	1,0	52,1
Wires, electrically conductive insulated cables and fiber optic cables	73.224	118.885	1,0	62,4
Goods not specifically covered by the customs tariff	56.919	117.529	0,9	106,5
Wine made with fresh grapes	90.717	111.439	0,9	22,8
Transmission shafts, bearings, gear units clutches...	87.065	109.448	0,9	25,7
Copper waste and scrap	68.903	100.242	0,8	45,5
Machines for washing, filling, closing, labeling containers and packaging devices	74.384	99.132	0,8	33,3
Padlocks, locks, bolts and keys made of base metals	86.179	98.907	0,8	14,8
Copper without refining; anodes for electrolytic refined copper	93.301	98.426	0,8	5,5
Pictures, panels and support for control or distribution of electricity	75.499	98.044	0,8	29,9
Other cast articles of iron or steel	65.710	93.661	0,8	42,5

(p)Provisional data

Source: Eustat. Foreign trade statistics (ECOMEX)

### Largest customs duty groups

A more detailed look reveals that only 2 of the top 25 customs duty groups returned negative rates: *Refined Petroleum Oils* (-9.5%) and *Seamless tubes and hollow profiles made of iron or steel* (-29.5%). In the remaining customs duty groups, the rates were positive, with the following standing out due to their significance and specific weight: *Passenger cars with fewer than 10 seats* (26.4%), *Goods Transport Vehicles* (27.9%), *New Rubber Tyres* (18.9%) and *Vehicle parts and accessories* (40.1%).

### FOREIGN TRADE IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY IN JUNE 2021

**Exports** of goods from the Basque country registered an increase of 15.6% in **June 2021**, of particular relevance was the upturn in *Electrical Equipment, Machinery & Devices* (12.4%) and, above all, in *Metals and Manufactured* (59.6%). There was also notable growth in *Mineral and Energy Products* (38.7%) and *Chemical Products* (54.4%). However, exports of *Transport Material* were down 77.3 million euros (-13.7%) in respect of June 2020. As a whole, exports stood at 2,185 million euros compared to 1,891 million in the same month of the previous year.

**Imports** saw growth of 50.2% in June 2021, with a total of 1,824 million euros. *Energy* imports increased by 178.8%, and *Non-energy* imports were up by 34.6%.

**Evolution of the foreign trade of the Basque Country. Thousands of euros. June 2021**

	EXPORTS			IMPORTS		
	June			June		
	2020	2021	Δ %	2020	2021	Δ %
<b>BASQUE COUNTRY</b>						
TOTAL MONTH	<b>1.890.628</b>	<b>2.185.091</b>	<b>15,6</b>	<b>1.214.734</b>	<b>1.824.159</b>	<b>50,2</b>
ENERGY PRODUCTS	71.321	93.210	30,7	131.476	366.531	178,8
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	1.819.307	2.091.880	15,0	1.083.258	1.457.628	34,6
ACCUMULATED YEARLY PERIOD	<b>10.061.383</b>	<b>12.466.346</b>	<b>23,9</b>	<b>7.834.270</b>	<b>9.701.314</b>	<b>23,8</b>
ENERGY PRODUCTS	572.315	557.685	-2,6	1.577.068	1.856.217	17,7
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	9.489.068	11.908.660	25,5	6.257.202	7.845.097	25,4
<b>ARABA / ÁLAVA</b>						
TOTAL MONTH	<b>624.785</b>	<b>531.081</b>	<b>-15,0</b>	<b>296.224</b>	<b>408.959</b>	<b>38,1</b>
ACCUMULATED YEARLY PERIOD	2.903.545	3.600.926	24,0	1.695.802	2.248.847	32,6
<b>BIZKAIA</b>						
TOTAL MONTH	<b>707.042</b>	<b>888.097</b>	<b>25,6</b>	<b>634.360</b>	<b>1.006.197</b>	<b>58,6</b>
ACCUMULATED YEARLY PERIOD	3.892.833	4.976.722	27,8	4.382.373	5.245.847	19,7
<b>GIPUZKOA</b>						
TOTAL MONTH	<b>558.801</b>	<b>765.913</b>	<b>37,1</b>	<b>284.150</b>	<b>409.003</b>	<b>43,9</b>
ACCUMULATED YEARLY PERIOD	3.265.005	3.888.698	19,1	1.756.095	2.206.620	25,7

Source: Eustat. Foreign trade statistics (ECOMEX)

### Provinces

**Gipuzkoa** accounted for the greatest increase (37.1%) in relation to **exports**, due to the rise in *Metals and Manufactured* (78.7%), *Electrical Equipment, Machinery & Devices* (28.8%) and *Transport Material* (39.0%). The increase in **Bizkaia** was 25.6% due to the rise in *Metals and Manufactured* (62.8%) that, with an increase of 121 million, this month accounted for 35.3% of the total exported from this province. In **Álava** the balance was negative: exports were down 15.0% following the noticeable drop in *Transport Material* (-37.1%), 145 million down on the same month of the previous year.

As regards **imports**, it was Bizkaia that accounted for the highest growth (58.6%), due to the rise in acquisitions of *Mineral and Energy Products* (175.9%) that, with an increase of 242 million, this month accounted for 37.7% of the total imported by this province. In **Gipuzkoa** the increase in the total volume of imports was 43.9% due, in part, to the rise (46.7%) in imports of *Metals and Manufactured*; the balance was also positive in **Álava**: purchases of goods rose by 38.1% following the upturn in *Electrical Equipment, Machinery & Devices* (30.0%) and in *Metals and Manufactured* (61.7%).

### Activity Branches A86

Analysing the largest **activity branches**, and in relation to exports, standing out this June were the increases in exports of *Iron & Steel Products* (80.9%), *Non-ferrous Metals* (100.8%), *Metallic Articles* (22.3%) and *Coke Plants & Oil Refining* (42.7%), as well as the decrease in exports of products relating to the *Manufacture of motor vehicles* (-17.6%). This latter activity branch (first in the ranking) fell significantly in Álava (-38.2%), down 143 million on the previous year, although it rose in Bizkaia (37.6%) and, to a greater extent, in Gipuzkoa (70.5%).

In relation to imports, it can be seen that the largest activity branch in terms of volume, *Extraction & Petroleum Industries* (14.3% of the total), saw an increase of 142.6%, as occurred in other branches including *Coke Plants & Oil Refining* (295.8%) and *Iron & Steel Products* (69.4%).

**Main exporting tariff headings in the Basque Country. Thousands of euros (p). June 2021**

	2020	2021	2021 %	2021/2020 (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.890.628</b>	<b>2.185.091</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>15,6</b>
Parts and accessories of motor vehicles	110.506	183.127	8,4	65,7
Tourisms of less than 10 people	205.765	93.536	4,3	-54,5
Motor vehicles for goods transport	159.204	93.134	4,3	-41,5
New rubber tyres	112.366	87.612	4,0	-22,0
Refined petroleum oils	50.388	73.467	3,4	45,8
Iron or non-alloyed profiles	26.673	64.617	3,0	142,3
Vehicle parts for rail road tracks or similar	15.007	64.262	2,9	328,2
Faucet articles, valves and similar organs for pipes	46.724	52.579	2,4	12,5
Unwrought aluminium	9.173	35.623	1,6	288,3
Other iron and steel manufacturers	25.381	35.363	1,6	39,3
Sheets and bands, of aluminum, of a thickness exceeding 0.2 mm	20.901	33.777	1,5	61,6
Other tubes and hollow profiles of iron or steel	12.614	26.233	1,2	108,0
Bars and profiles, of other alloyed steels and bars for perforation	15.390	25.086	1,1	63,0
Wires, electrically conductive insulated cables and fiber optic cables	9.890	23.760	1,1	140,2
Motor vehicles for the transport of ten or more persons, including the driver	1.358	23.551	1,1	1.634,0
Tubes and hollow profiles, without welding, of iron or steel without welding	29.163	23.285	1,1	-20,2
Bars and sections, in stainless steel	18.562	23.042	1,1	24,1
Transmission shafts, bearings, gear units clutches...	15.476	22.404	1,0	44,8
Bars and rods of iron or non-alloy steel, forged, twisted or of circular or rectangular cross-section	4.467	21.630	1,0	384,3
Copper without refining; anodes for electrolytic refined copper	17.052	20.848	1,0	22,3
Other cast articles of iron or steel	10.419	20.189	0,9	93,8
Construction-based sheets, rods, profiles, tubes and similars, of cast iron, iron or steel	20.451	19.660	0,9	-3,9
Padlocks, locks, bolts and keys made of base metals	12.371	18.661	0,9	50,8
Interchangeable tools for hand tools or machine tools	21.975	18.428	0,8	-16,1
Wine made with fresh grapes	14.031	18.130	0,8	29,2

(p)Provisional data

Source: Eustat. Foreign trade statistics (ECOMEX)

**Largest customs duty groups**

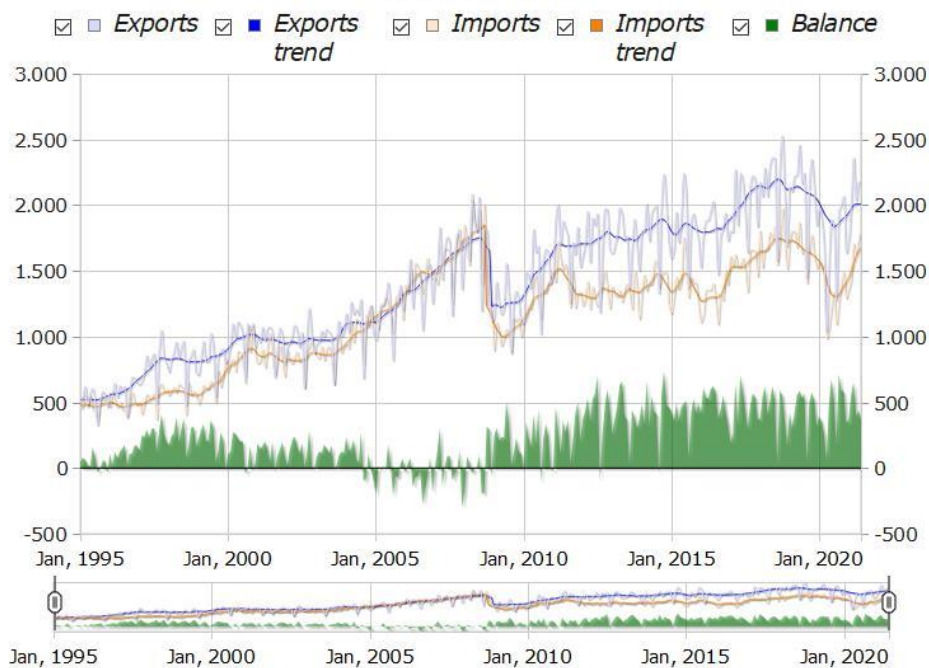
A more detailed look reveals year-on-year falls in exports of what are traditionally three of the largest customs duty groups: *Passenger cars with fewer than 10 seats* (-54.5%), *Goods Transport Vehicles* (-41.5%), and *New Rubber Tyres* (-22.0%). At the other end of the scale are *Vehicle parts and accessories* (65.7%), *Refined Petroleum Oils* (45.8%), *Iron or Non-Alloy Steel Sections* (142.3%), *Railway or Tramway Vehicle Parts* and *Vehicles for transporting more than 10 people, including the driver* with increases of 328.2 % and 1,634.0%, respectively.

**Destination customers**

In June, five countries (France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States and Belgium) were the Basque Country's biggest customers, absorbing 49.8% of total Basque exports. Three of them belong to the EU-27, an entity that accounts for 65.8% of exports.

## Evolution of the foreign trade of the Basque Country

Millions Euros



Source: Eustat. Foreign trade statistics (ECOMEX)

### For further information:

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