

In the 2021/22 academic year, the total amount of grants and financial aid for studying increased by 23% in the Basque Country

The number of students in Vocational Training exceeded 40,000, but Early Childhood and Primary Education continued to see a decline in pupil numbers

In the 2021/22 academic year, 407,941 people enrolled in formal non-university education in the Basque Country, 1% less than in the previous academic year, according to Eustat data.

Early Childhood and Primary Education levels each saw student numbers fall by more than 2,200 pupils. In the case of Early Childhood Education, this is the ninth consecutive year of decline, which translates into a cumulative decrease of over 20,000 enrolments since the 2012/13 academic year. In contrast, the number of students in Intermediate and Advanced Level Vocational Training saw six years of growth and stood above 40,000 for the first time since records began.

The drop in enrolments at Official Language Schools marked the overall negative trend in Specialised Education. However, both Visual Arts and Design and Sports Education increased their student population by more than 10% compared to the previous academic year.

Students enrolled in non-university education in the Basque Country by study level, according to province. 2021/22

	Total	Araba/Álava	Bizkaia	Gipuzkoa	Variation with respect to the previous course (%)
TOTAL	407.941	66.988	203.913	137.040	-1,0
General teaching	379.625	62.157	187.462	130.006	-0,9
Infant education	76.387	12.586	37.903	25.898	-2,8
Primary education	125.889	20.864	63.151	41.874	-1,7
Obligatory secondary education	87.091	13.591	43.290	30.210	-0,1
Basic vocational training	4.746	665	2.858	1.223	-1,5
Baccalaureate	32.640	5.061	16.407	11.172	0,4
Professional Training middle grade	16.289	2.593	7.411	6.285	3,4
Intermediate vocational training courses	33	15	7	11	.
Professional Training higher grade	23.749	3.295	10.728	9.726	3,0
Higher degree FP specialization courses	110	16	25	69	.
Special education	1.623	298	849	476	4,4
Adult education	11.068	3.173	4.833	3.062	-4,1
Special teaching	28.316	4.831	16.451	7.034	-2,3
Language studies	23.742	3.799	13.736	6.207	-3,1
Artistic studies - music	2.497	497	1.243	757	-4,0
Artistic studies - dance	138	108	30	.	0,7
Plastic arts and design teachings	728	427	241	60	13,9
Sports studies	1.151	.	1.141	10	10,2
Arts Education in dramatic art	60	.	60	.	13,2

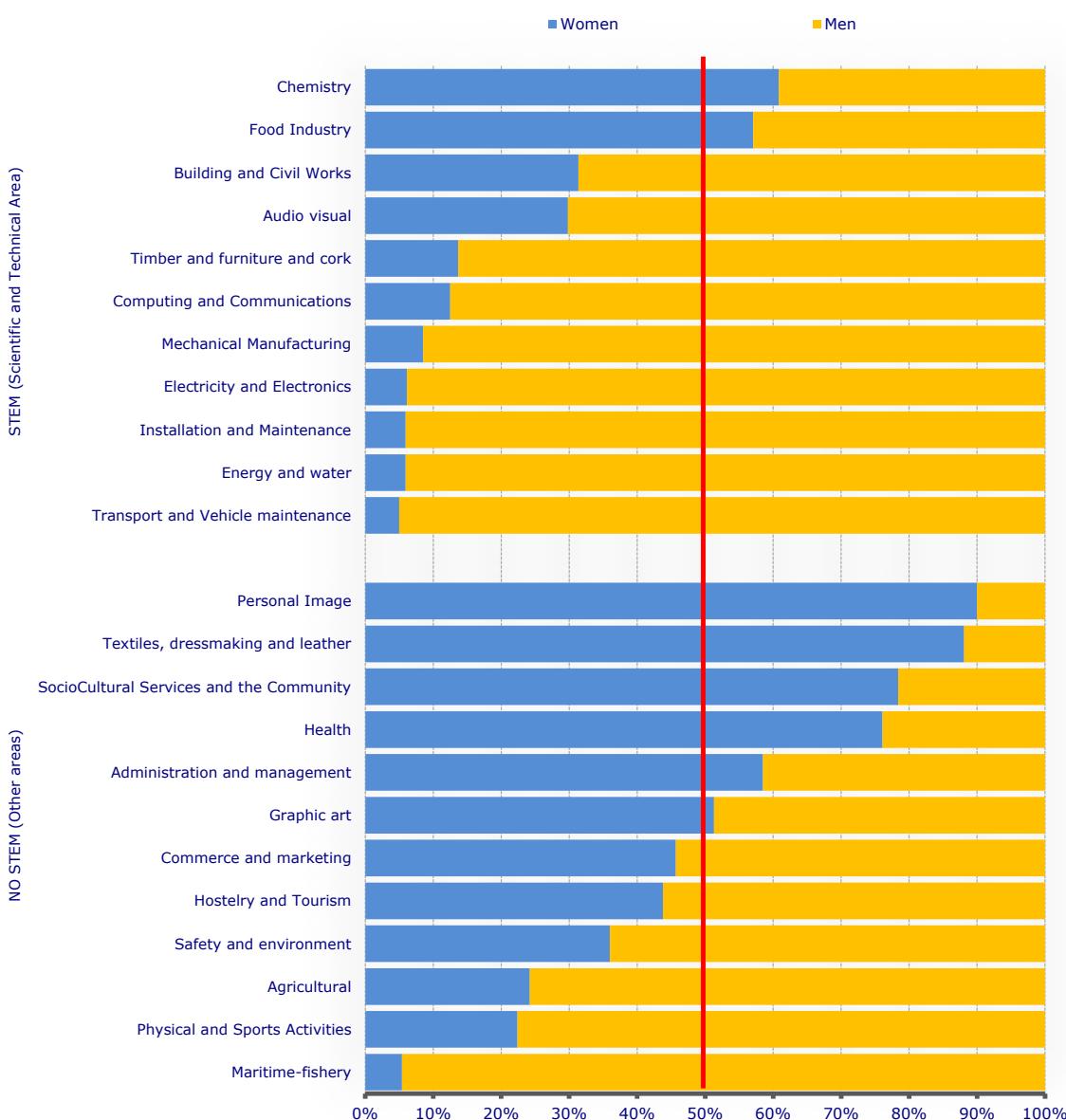
Date March 17, 2023

Source: Eustat. School activity statistics

Low proportion of women in Vocational Training courses in the field of science and technology

Only a third of students enrolled in Intermediate or Advanced Level Vocational Training were women. However, the gender gap was even wider in training courses belonging to occupational families linked to STEM professions, i.e. in the science and technology field (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Just over half of enrolments in Vocational Training were in studies of this type, but the proportion of women barely exceeded 11%. In contrast, six out of every ten students in courses not linked to STEM professions, including those related to care and personal image, were women.

Students enrolled in intermediate and higher vocational training in the Basque Country by families and sex (%). Academic year 2021/22



Source: Eustat. School Activity Statistics

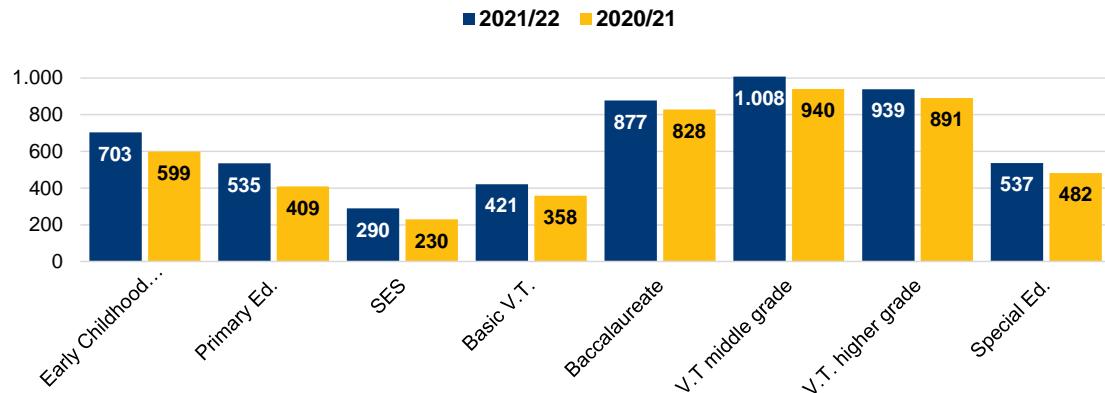
In Upper Secondary Education, the science pathway continued to be the most popular, as it was chosen by 54% of students. It was also at gender parity. At the other end of the scale was the arts pathway, with only 1,384 students enrolled, 4% of the total, of which more than 75% were women.

The average amount received by each student awarded grants and financial aid for studying increased

In the 2021/22 academic year, the Public Administration allocated 63.7 million euros to grants and financial aid for non-university level studies, 12 million more than in the previous academic year, an increase of 23%.

115,441 people benefited from these grants and financial aid, a very similar figure to that for the 2020/21 academic year. Likewise, there were no notable changes in the distribution by level of the amount awarded or the distribution of students receiving grants compared to the previous academic year. Therefore, the increase in the total budget resulted in a rise in the amount received by each grant recipient. Overall, the average amount stood at 552 euros per student, although there were differences between levels. Compulsory Secondary Education was the level with the lowest average amount per capita (290 euros), while the amount received by grant recipients in Intermediate Level Vocational Training was, on average, more than 1,000 euros.

Average amount received by each student benefiting from scholarships and study grants in the Basque Country by level (euros)



Source: Eustat. School Activity Statistics

Slight recovery in use of the school meals service

45% of students enrolled in General Education used the school canteen, 3 percentage points up on the 2020/21 academic year, but below pre-pandemic levels, when half of students used this service.

In this regard, the same provincial differences were observed as in previous academic years. 55% of students in Bizkaia had lunch at their place of study, while the proportion stood at 37% and 32% in Gipuzkoa and Álava, respectively.

Nearly 51,700 people travelled to their education centres by school transport. This resource was most frequently used at privately owned centres, 17% compared to 10% at public centres.

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