

Births in the Basque Country fell by 7.4% in the fourth quarter of 2024

Throughout 2024 there was a 4.1% drop in the number of births

In the fourth quarter of 2024 the number of births in the Basque Country stood at 3,232, 7.4% down on the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data. It should be noted that the sharpest fall was in Gipuzkoa with 1,071 births, representing 13.1% fewer than the previous year; in Álava, the number of births was 540, 9.2% fewer, and Bizkaia recorded 1,621 births, 2.5% fewer than the previous year.

29.5% of women who gave birth in the Basque Country in the fourth quarter of 2024 were of foreign nationality, which is higher than the 26.4% recorded for the same period of 2023. Álava saw a higher percentage which reached 39.3%, followed by Gipuzkoa and Bizkaia with percentages of 30.3% and 25.7%, respectively.

77.9% of mothers were over 30 years of age

In regards to the distribution of births according to age, 32.9% of mothers were aged between 30-34, 32.7% of mothers were in the 35-39 age group and the 25-29 age group accounted for 14.5%. The number of mothers over the age of 40 (12.4%) exceeded those under 25 (7.5%).

The age of maternity also varied according to nationality. In fact, the average age of mothers was 33.4 years old; the average age for mothers of foreign nationality was 30.7 years old, compared to 34.5 for mothers with Spanish nationality.

Unmarried mothers accounted for 50.3% of births

Births outside marriage in the fourth quarter of 2024 accounted for 50.3% of the total, down 1.1 percentage points on the number registered for the same period in 2023.

According to the order of birth, over half (50.7%) of births, or 1,640, were first-borns; 1,144 (35.4%) were born into families that already had a child, and the number of third and subsequent children stood at 448 (13.9%).

Balance for 2024

For 2024 as a whole, the provisional live birth rate reached 12,904, which is equivalent to a decrease of 549 (-4.1%) compared to data from 2023. This decrease occurred in all three provinces: there was a 5.5% decrease in Álava (121 fewer births); a 4.2% decrease in Bizkaia (283 fewer births); and a 3.2% decrease in Gipuzkoa (145 fewer births).

Live births in the Basque Country by historical territory of residence, sex, age, marital status and nationality of the mother, order and month of birth (1). 2024/IV

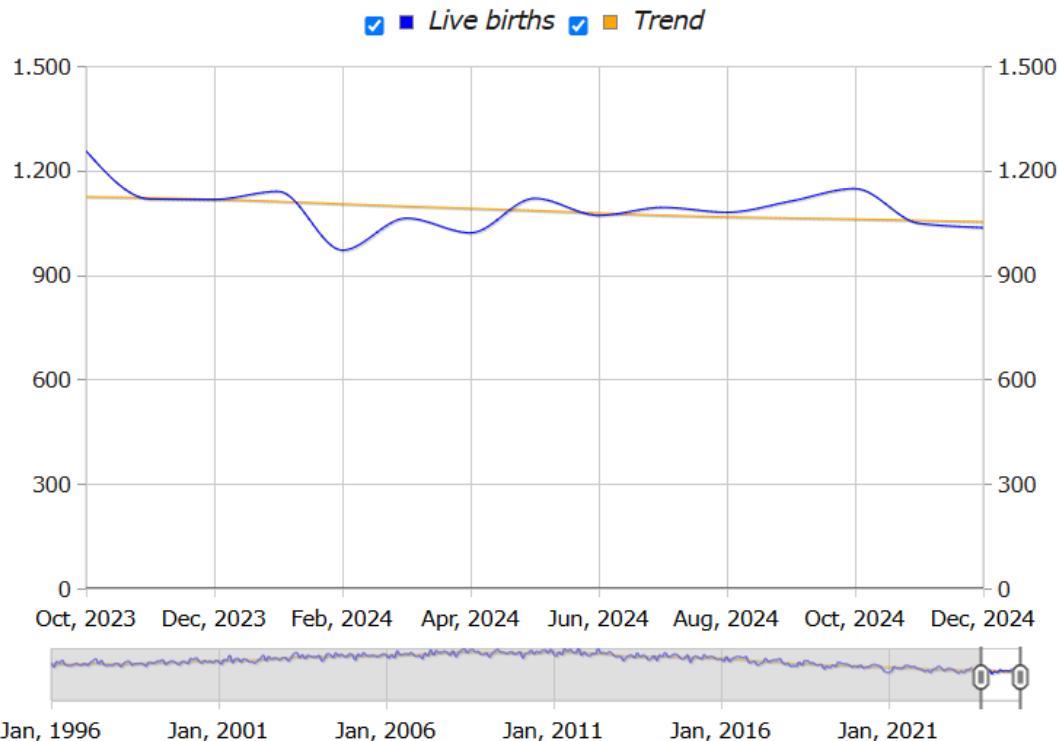
	This quarter (2024/IV)		Previous quarter (III/2024)			Same quarter as the previous year (2023/IV)		
	NO.	%	NO.	%	Increase	NO.	%	Increase
Basque Country	3.232	100,0	3.286	100,0	-1,6	3.491	100,0	-7,4
Araba / Álava	540	16,7	530	16,1	1,9	595	17,0	-9,2
Bizkaia	1.621	50,2	1.687	51,3	-3,9	1.663	47,6	-2,5
Gipuzkoa	1.071	33,1	1.069	32,5	0,2	1.233	35,3	-13,1
Sex								
Boys	1.630	50,4	1.689	51,4	-3,5	1.824	52,2	-10,6
Girls	1.602	49,6	1.597	48,6	0,3	1.667	47,8	-3,9
AGE OF THE MOTHER								
= 24 years	243	7,5	230	7,0	5,7	253	7,2	-4,0
25 - 29 years	470	14,5	444	13,5	5,9	511	14,6	-8,0
30 - 34 years	1.063	32,9	1.162	35,4	-8,5	1.165	33,4	-8,8
35 - 39 years	1.056	32,7	1.099	33,4	-3,9	1.166	33,4	-9,4
= 40 years	400	12,4	351	10,7	14,0	396	11,3	1,0
Marital status of the mother								
Married	1.606	49,7	1.579	48,1	1,7	1.698	48,6	-5,4
Not married	1.626	50,3	1.707	51,9	-4,7	1.793	51,4	-9,3
Nationality of the mother								
Spanish	2.280	70,5	2.445	74,4	-6,7	2.570	73,6	-11,3
Foreign	952	29,5	841	25,6	13,2	921	26,4	3,4
The country where the mother was born								
Spain	2.018	62,4	2.135	65,0	-5,5	2.318	66,4	-12,9
Other	1.214	37,6	1.151	35,0	5,5	1.173	33,6	3,5
Order of birth								
First	1.640	50,7	1.699	51,7	-3,5	1.793	51,4	-8,5
Second	1.144	35,4	1.177	35,8	-2,8	1.235	35,4	-7,4
Third or more	448	13,9	410	12,5	9,3	463	13,3	-3,2
Month of birth								
October	1.148	35,5			1.256	36,0	-8,6	
November	1.048	32,4			1.118	32,0	-6,3	
December	1.036	32,1			1.117	32,0	-7,3	

(1)The data for the current quarter is provisional. The variations are over the current quarter

Date May 5, 2025

Source: Eustat Birth statistics

Live births to mothers residing in the Basque Country Monthly



Source: EUSTAT Birth statistics

For further information:

Eustat - Euskal Estatistika Erakundea/Basque Statistics Institute
C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz
Press Service: servicioprensa@eustat.es Tel.: 945 01 75 62