

# In 2024 expenditure on education in the Basque Country increased by 6.4%, and stood at 5,240 million euros

***Expenditure on education per inhabitant was 2,373 euros, 6.1% more than in 2023***

In 2024, total expenditure on education in the Basque Country reached 5,240 million euros, an increase of 6.4% compared to that of 2023, according to Eustat data. Of the total expenditure, 5,004 million corresponded to current expenditure and 236 million to gross capital formation.

In relative terms, the expenditure per inhabitant was 2,373 euros, which was an increase of 6.1%; and as a percentage of GDP it reached 5.4%, 0.1 percentage points more than the previous year.

The Education Account details current and capital expenditure on all educational activities (regulated and non-regulated) that have been carried out in educational institutions and in any type of centre or business, and have been funded by public or private sources.

## Main data and indicators of social education in the Basque Country. 2021-2024

	2021	2022	2023	2024 (a)	Rate of change (%) 2023/2022	Rate of change (%) 2024 (a)/2023
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION (thousands of euros)	4.451.000	4.636.581	4.924.323	5.240.468	6,2	6,4
TOTAL CURRENT EXPENDITURE	4.265.015	4.437.903	4.699.198	5.003.826	5,9	6,5
GROSS CAPITAL FORMATION	185.985	198.678	225.125	236.642	13,3	5,1
Expenditure on education per inhabitant (euros)	2.033	2.116	2.236	2.373	5,7	6,1
Expenditure on education as % of GDP	5,7	5,4	5,3	5,4	-0,1	0,1

(a)Advanced data

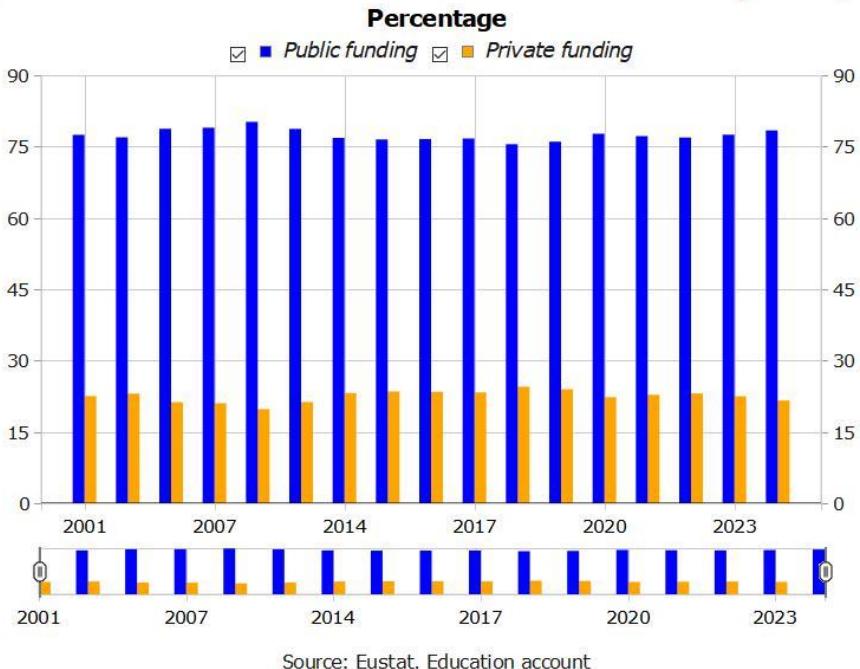
Date May 28, 2025

Source: Eustat. Education Account

The growth rate of the past two years remained at around 6%. Specifically, 2023 saw an increase of 5.9% in current expenditure and a sharp rise of 13.3% in gross capital formation. In 2024, the highest growth occurred in current expenditure, 6.5% more than the previous year, exceeding 5,000 million of expenditure. However, investment experienced more modest growth, of 5.1%, and stood at 236 million euros.

Regarding the **funding** structure, the trend seen in previous years continued and public funding grew faster than private funding. Public funding increased from 76.0% in 2019, to 78.4% in 2024, the highest percentage of the last 10 years.

### Total expenditure on education source of direct financing. Basque Country



The majority of public funding continued to be spent on education services (85.1%) and capital expenditure (63.9%), whereas private funding was higher in expenditure on other activities and goods (55.7%), which included transport, school meals, books and school materials.

### Direct financing sources in the Basque Country (%). 2024

	Public	Private
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>21.6</b>
CURRENT EXPENDITURE	79.1	20.9
Educational Services	85.1	14.9
Other activities and assets	44.3	55.7
GROSS CAPITAL FORMATION	63.9	36.1

Date May 28, 2025

Source: Eustat. Education Account

Regarding the detailed structure of expenditure, a breakdown by **function** shows that it has remained relatively stable in recent years: current expenditure accounted for 95% of expenditure and gross capital formation was slightly higher than 4% of expenditure.

Educational and Training Services accounted for around 81.4% of the total expenditure, exceeding 4,000 million in the last two years. Additional Activities (transport, school meals, student accommodation etc...) represented 6.6% of expenditure, the largest item being expenditure on School meals, 226 million in 2024. However, expenditure on Educational Research and Innovation, with 174 million, stood at 3.3%. It was followed by expenditure on books, school material and other goods purchased by households, which reached 163 million euros in 2024, 3.1% of total expenditure. Finally, expenditure related to the General Administration of the Education System remained at 1.0% of the total, 53 million in 2024.

## Total expenditure on education in the Basque Country by functions . 2021-2024

	2021		2022		2023		2024 (a)	
	thousand euros	%						
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION</b>	<b>4.451.000</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.636.581</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.924.323</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.240.468</b>	<b>100,0</b>
CURRENT EXPENDITURE	4.265.015	95,8	4.437.903	95,7	4.699.198	95,4	5.003.826	95,5
Education and Training Services	3.620.679	81,3	3.769.711	81,3	4.008.397	81,4	4.267.032	81,4
Transport	45.210	1,0	49.672	1,1	54.460	1,1	56.893	1,1
Catering	202.222	4,5	199.850	4,3	206.463	4,2	226.065	4,3
Other complementary activities	44.985	1,0	61.352	1,3	62.819	1,3	63.697	1,2
Books, School supplies and other goods purchased by households	155.113	3,5	155.216	3,3	159.016	3,2	163.257	3,1
General Administration of the Education System	44.887	1,0	47.323	1,0	50.198	1,0	52.969	1,0
Educational Research and Innovation	151.919	3,4	154.779	3,3	157.845	3,2	173.913	3,3
<b>GROSS CAPITAL FORMATION</b>	<b>185.985</b>	<b>4,2</b>	<b>198.678</b>	<b>4,3</b>	<b>225.125</b>	<b>4,6</b>	<b>236.642</b>	<b>4,5</b>

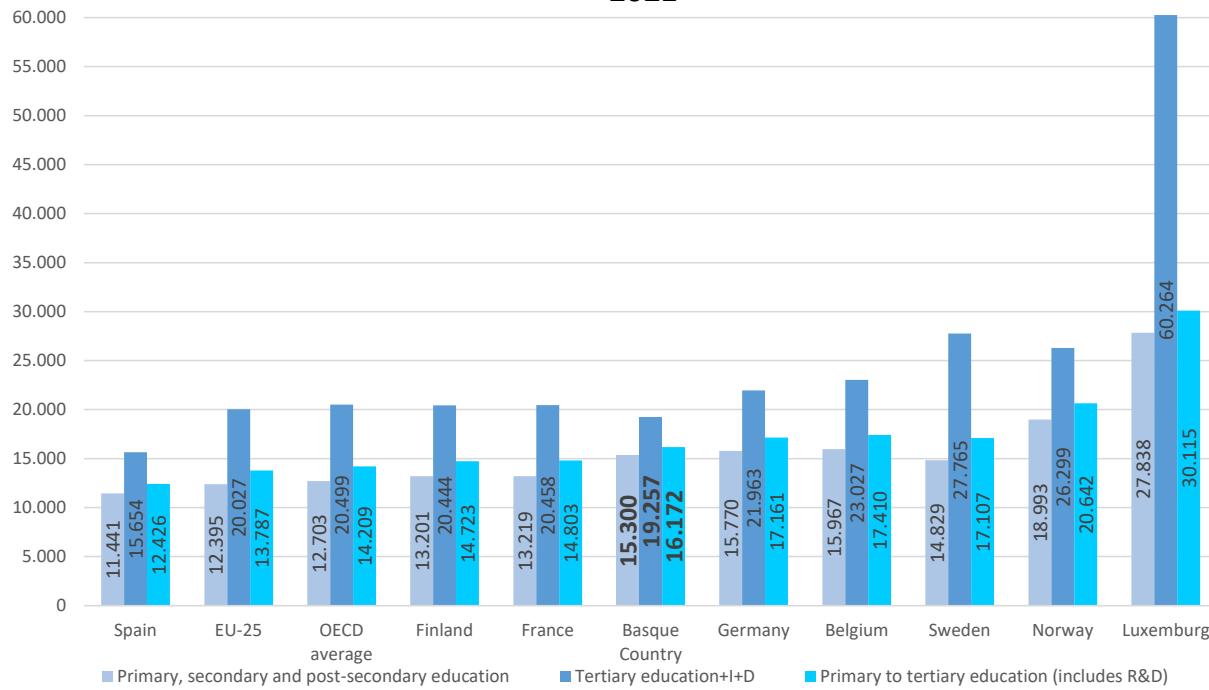
(a)Advanced data

Date May 28, 2025

Source: Eustat. Education Account

As regards **international comparison**, the most recent data published by the OECD corresponds to 2021. For that year, total expenditure per pupil in educational institutions measured in Purchasing Power Parity (\$) (PPP) in the Basque Country for all **educational stages from primary through to tertiary** was 16,172, placing it above the average of the EU-25 (13,787), above the average of OECD (14,209), and above countries such as Spain (12,426), France (14,803) and Finland (14,723); but placing it below countries such as Germany (17,161), Sweden (17,107) and Luxembourg (30,115), which are at the very top of the table.

By educational stages, the Basque Country registered expenditure of \$15,300 PPP per student for primary, secondary and post-secondary Education, which was higher than the averages of the OECD (12,703) and the EU-25 (12,395). However, expenditure per student in tertiary Education was equal to \$19,257 PPP, in this case below the averages of the OECD (20,499) and the EU-25 (20,027).

Annual expenditure per pupil in educational institutions in (\$) PPA.  
 2021


Source: Eustat. Education account and OECD. Education at a Glance. 2024

## For further information:

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