

MARRIAGE STATISTICS (EMAT)**First quarter 2002****MORE CIVIL THAN RELIGIOUS WEDDINGS WERE
HELD IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2002**

In the first three months of 2002 there were 11.4% fewer weddings with regard to the same quarter the previous year.

Traditionally the first quarter of the year is characterised by a low number of marriages held, above all, in January and February. The number of marriages in the A.C. of the Basque Country came to 968, which represents half the 1,936 weddings held in the fourth quarter of 2001 and 126 fewer than the same quarter of 2002 (-11.4%), according to Eustat data.

As in previous years, this quarter shows the highest number of civil weddings, higher in number than religious weddings, which appears to consolidate this fact. By Provinces, more civil weddings were held in Alava (64%), followed by Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa (58%). On the other hand, in the case of residents from outside the Autonomous Community who married here, this percentage fell to 48%.

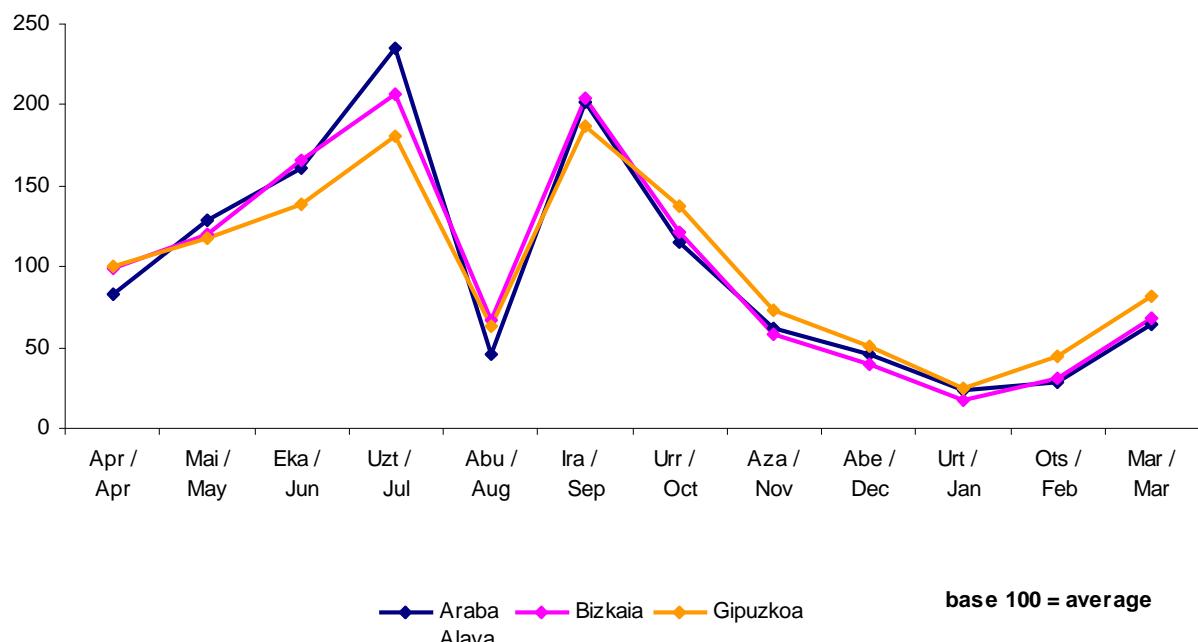
In the 968 weddings held in the first quarter of 2002, 927 men and 957 women resident in the A.C. of the Basque Country married. For 840 husbands (90.6%) this was their first marriage, while 7 widows and 80 divorcés remarried. The percentage of women who married for the first time was slightly lower than that of men: 861 single women married, as did 9 widows and 87 divorcées.

In the distribution of marriages according to the age of spouses 71% of husbands were aged over 30, while among wives this percentage came to 55.9%. these proportions are higher than those of the same quarter the year before (69.5% and 52.5%, respectively) and, at the same time are higher than in other quarters in the year 2001.

	1st quarter 2002		Previous quarter (4th quarter 2001)		Same quarter the previous year (1st quarter 2001)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
MARRIAGES	968		1.936		1.093	
Canonical	404	41,7	1.136	58,7	483	44,2
Civil	564	58,3	800	41,3	610	55,8
HUSBANDS	927		1.862		1.057	
Single	840	90,6	1.737	93,3	950	89,9
Widowers	7	0,8	16	0,9	14	1,3
Divorcés	80	8,6	109	5,9	93	8,8
WIVES	957		1.915		1.084	
Single	861	90,0	1.788	93,4	1.000	92,3
Widows	9	0,9	18	0,9	5	0,5
Divorcées	87	9,1	109	5,7	79	7,3

Source: EUSTAT

Monthly movements in marriages



For further information:

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