

BIRTH STATISTICS (ENAC)**First quarter 2002**

OVER HALF THE BABIES BORN IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2002 WERE FIRST BORN

1.16% increase in births with regard to the same quarter the previous year.

Data for the first quarter of 2002 on Birth Statistics prepared by the EUSTAT show the figure of births in the A.C. of the Basque Country to be 4,254, which represents 2.9% fewer than the previous quarter. By provinces, 564 babies were born in Álava, 2,222 in Bizkaia and 1,468 in Gipuzkoa.

According to the order of birth, over half, 2,414 were first born in the first quarter of 2002; 1,607 babies (37.8%) came to families that already had another child and not quite 5.5% were third or subsequent born. Bizkaia (42.6%) was the only Province where the number of second or subsequent born was below the average for the A.C. of the Basque Country, coming to 43.3%.

Age of mothers stabilises

In the distribution of births according to the mother's age, there is still a clear preponderance in the group of mothers aged 30-34 years, which account for almost half the births. This group is followed by the immediately higher 35-39 years group with 25.3%, ahead of the 25-29 years group who account for 20.5%. Between the extreme age groups, the under 25 year-olds represent 5.7%, while the over 40 year-olds only account for 3.3% of births. Nevertheless, the distribution is very close to that of the first quarter of 2001.

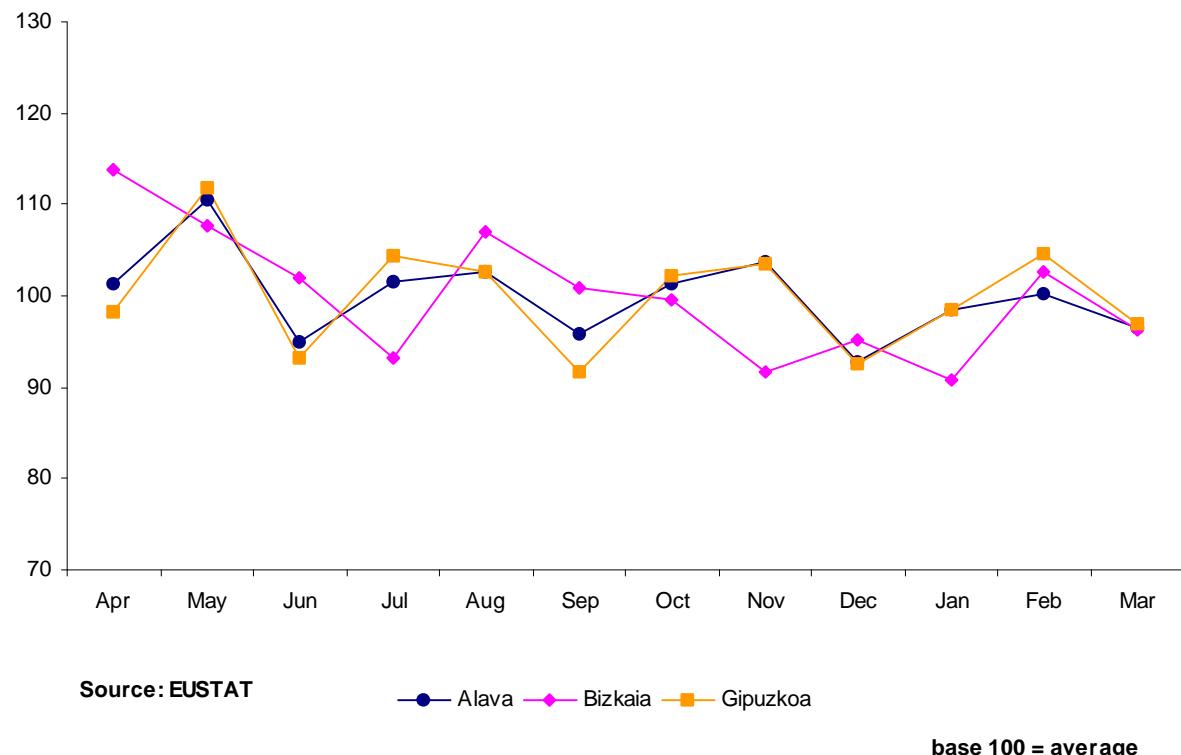
Births outside marriage represented 17.9% of the total, having increased almost three percent with regard to the first quarter of 2001. Alava was the only province with higher values than the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country (20.2%). The maternity age for this group is the youngest among all the women who gave birth, as 20% of unmarried mothers were aged between 15 and 24.

Live born in the A.C. of Euskadi. Comparative table.

	1st quarter 2002		Previous quarter (4th quarter 2001)		Same quarter previous year (1st quarter 2001)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
	4.254	100,0	4.383	100,0	4.205	100,0
A.C. of Euskadi	564	13,3	572	13,1	595	14,1
Alava	2.222	52,2	2.261	51,6	2.142	50,9
Bizkaia	1.468	34,5	1.550	35,4	1.468	34,9
According to age of mother	4.254	100,0	4.383	100,0	4.205	100,0
< 25 years	243	5,7	237	5,4	218	5,2
25 - 29 years	871	20,5	898	20,5	856	20,4
30 - 34 years	1.923	45,2	2.005	45,7	1.958	46,6
35 - 39 years	1.075	25,3	1.095	25,0	1.040	24,7
>= 40	142	3,3	148	3,4	133	3,2
Order of birth	4.254	100,0	4.383	100,0	4.205	100,0
First	2.414	56,7	2.579	58,8	2.407	57,2
Second	1.607	37,8	1.543	35,2	1.554	37,0
Third or posterior	233	5,5	261	6,0	244	5,8

Source: EUSTAT

Graph 1: Monthly movement in births.



For further information:



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