

## There was a 5% rise in the number of visits and a one of 4% in overnight stays in April 2004

***Visitors from other parts of the state increased by 5% and those from overseas by 4%.***

137,557 visitors were registered in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in April 2004, 6,500 more than the same month last year, meaning a 5% increase, according to Eustat data. The number of visitors increased in the provinces of Alava (15%) and Bizkaia (11%) but fell in Gipuzkoa (-4%), in relation to the figures for April 2003.

The number of visitors from the state grew by 5%, while those coming from overseas increased by 4%. Both visitors from the state and abroad increased in number in the provinces of Alava (16% y 10% respectively) and Bizkaia (9% and 14%), while in Gipuzkoa, there was a 3% fall in visitors from the state and a 5% one in overseas visitors.

Among visitors from the state, there was an increase in those coming mainly from the Autonomous Communities of Madrid, Catalonia, Galicia, Valencia, Cantabria and Navarre. There was a fall in those coming from Extremadura, Canaries, Balearic Isles and Castile and León, among others. As for overseas visitors, there was an increase in those coming from France, Belgium, Austria and the rest of Europe, although there was a fall in those coming from Italy and Portugal, among others.

Overnight stays registered in April 2004 came to 257,433, meaning a 4% increase in relation to last April, which is to say 11,000 more overnight stays. Inter-annual evolution of overnight stays was positive in the provinces of Alava (8%) and Bizkaia (14%), although not so in Gipuzkoa, which decreased 5%.

The average length of stay fell slightly in April for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole, with respect to the same period of last year (-1%). This index increased in Bizkaia (3%) although it decreased in Alava (-6%) and in Gipuzkoa (-2%), in inter-annual terms.

The degree of occupancy by places suffered a slight fall of 1%, going from 43.96% in April last year to 43.66% this April. This index showed improvement in Alava (9%) and Bizkaia (2%), but in the province of Gipuzkoa it fell six points, in all cases compared to the same month last year.

## Agrotourism: There was a fall in the number of visitors (-11%) but overnight stays increased (6%)

7,275 visitors were registered in the agrotourism establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country in April, 11% less than the same month last year, falling 14% in Bizkaia, 13% in Gipuzkoa and 1% in Alava. The decrease in visitors from the state was 13% in the A.C. of the Basque Country: Alava (-2%), Bizkaia (-16%) and Gipuzkoa (-16%). Visitors from abroad increased in number by 20% in the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole.

There were 22,013 overnight stays in the agrotourisms of the A.C. of the Basque Country in April, meaning a 6% increase as regards the same month of last year, with a highly positive inter-annual growth rate in Alava (17%), being somewhat more moderate in Bizkaia (6%) and Gipuzkoa (2%).

The average stay per visitor went from 2.54 days a year ago to 3.03 this April, a positive evolution that was shared by all three provinces of the Community.

The degree of occupancy by places registered a slight fall of 2%, as a result of the decrease experienced in all three provinces: Alava (-1%) Bizkaia (-3%), and Gipuzkoa (-2%).

## Data regarding Holy Week 2004

In the period between the Monday of Holy Week and Easter Saturday (from 5 to 16 April in 2004), there was a 1% increase in visitors and one of 5% in overnight stays in relation to the equivalent period of last year (14 to 25 April in 2003) in the hotel establishments of the A.C. of the Basque Country.

The average stay in Holy Week increased by 4% (going from 1.88 days last year to 1.96 in 2004) and the degree of occupancy by places increased 2%, coming to 46.82% in 2004.

In the Agrotourism establishments over the same period, there was a 7% decrease in the number of visitors, although overnight stays increased 17%, due to the 25% increase in the average length of stay, going from 2.76 days in 2003 to 3.46 days in 2004.

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**Table 1: Monthly results**

	A.C. OF EUSKADI			ARABA/ALAVA			BIZKAIA			GIPUZKOA										
	04/2004	%	04/2003	%	Δ%	04/2004	%	04/2003	%	Δ%	04/2004	%	04/2003	%	Δ%	04/2004	%	04/2003	%	Δ%
<b>HOTEL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	<b>257.433</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>246.434</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>41.259</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>38.244</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>110.098</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>96.716</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>106.076</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>111.474</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-5</b>
National	184.705	72	179.270	73	3	34.604	84	31.309	82	11	71.852	65	64.350	67	12	78.249	74	83.611	75	-6
Foreigners	72.728	28	67.164	27	8	6.655	16	6.935	18	-4	38.246	35	32.366	33	18	27.827	26	27.863	25	0
Capital	165.411	64	154.951	63	7	30.748	75	27.590	72	11	77.038	70	66.923	69	15	57.625	54	60.438	54	-5
Coast	32.554	13	31.892	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	11.869	11	9.577	10	24	20.685	20	22.315	20	-7
Inland	59.468	23	59.591	24	0	10.511	25	10.654	28	-1	21.191	19	20.216	21	5	27.766	26	28.721	26	-3
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	<b>137.557</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>131.106</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>24.714</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21.487</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>56.170</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50.801</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>56.673</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>58.818</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-4</b>
National	99.419	72	94.606	72	5	19.979	81	17.169	80	16	39.042	70	35.731	70	9	40.398	71	41.706	71	-3
Foreigners	38.138	28	36.500	28	4	4.735	19	4.318	20	10	17.128	30	15.070	30	14	16.275	29	17.112	29	-5
Capital	88.417	64	82.624	63	7	17.844	72	14.361	67	24	39.138	70	35.030	69	12	31.435	55	33.233	57	-5
Coast	15.831	12	15.463	12	2	-	-	-	-	-	6.049	11	5.310	10	14	9.782	17	10.153	17	-4
Inland	33.309	24	33.019	25	1	6.870	28	7.126	33	-4	10.983	20	10.461	21	5	15.456	27	15.432	26	0
AVERAGE STAY	<b>1,87</b>		<b>1,88</b>		<b>-1</b>	<b>1,67</b>		<b>1,78</b>		<b>-6</b>	<b>1,96</b>		<b>1,90</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1,87</b>		<b>1,90</b>		<b>-2</b>
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	<b>43,66</b>		<b>43,96</b>		<b>-1</b>	<b>42,84</b>		<b>39,43</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>43,44</b>		<b>42,76</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>44,23</b>		<b>46,94</b>		<b>-6</b>
Capital	46,97		45,84		2	46,46		41,78		11	47,76		45,10		6	46,23		48,89		-5
Coast	44,86		50,26		-11	-		-	-	-	38,41		40,46		-5	49,64		56,10		-12
Inland	36,07		37,44		-4	34,90		34,41		1	34,59		37,35		-7	37,78		38,78		-3
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	<b>52,23</b>		<b>51,32</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>50,71</b>		<b>46,99</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>54,21</b>		<b>52,01</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>50,63</b>		<b>52,57</b>		<b>-4</b>
Capital	56,49		53,61		5	57,00		51,46		11	59,40		54,66		9	51,99		53,55		-3
Coast	50,20		55,42		-9	-		-	-	-	45,57		49,92		-9	53,08		58,30		-9
Inland	43,24		44,26		-2	35,42		35,66		-1	43,01		44,96		-4	46,71		47,42		-1
<b>AGRO-TOURISM</b>																				
OVERNIGHT STAYS	<b>22.013</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20.849</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3.739</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3.195</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7.031</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.615</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11.243</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11.039</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2</b>
National	20.024	91	19.311	93	4	3.564	95	3.173	99	12	6.137	87	5.927	90	4	10.323	92	10.211	92	1
Foreigners	1.989	9	1.538	7	29	175	5	22	1	695	894	13	688	10	30	920	8	828	8	11
ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS	<b>7.275</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>8.206</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-11</b>	<b>1.458</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.475</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>2.094</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.430</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>3.723</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>4.301</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-13</b>
National	6.675	92	7.707	94	-13	1.418	97	1.453	99	-2	1.871	89	2.220	91	-16	3.386	91	4.034	94	-16
Foreigners	600	8	499	6	20	40	3	22	1	82	223	11	210	9	6	337	9	267	6	26
AVERAGE STAY	<b>3,03</b>		<b>2,54</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>2,56</b>		<b>2,17</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>3,36</b>		<b>2,72</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>3,02</b>		<b>2,57</b>		<b>18</b>
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY PLACES	<b>29,76</b>		<b>30,47</b>		<b>-2</b>	<b>24,63</b>		<b>24,88</b>		<b>-1</b>	<b>29,89</b>		<b>30,71</b>		<b>-3</b>	<b>31,87</b>		<b>32,42</b>		<b>-2</b>
OCCUPANCY LEVEL BY ROOMS	<b>32,06</b>		<b>31,84</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>25,36</b>		<b>24,59</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>32,11</b>		<b>32,64</b>		<b>-2</b>	<b>34,88</b>		<b>34,09</b>		<b>2</b>

**Source: EUSTAT**