

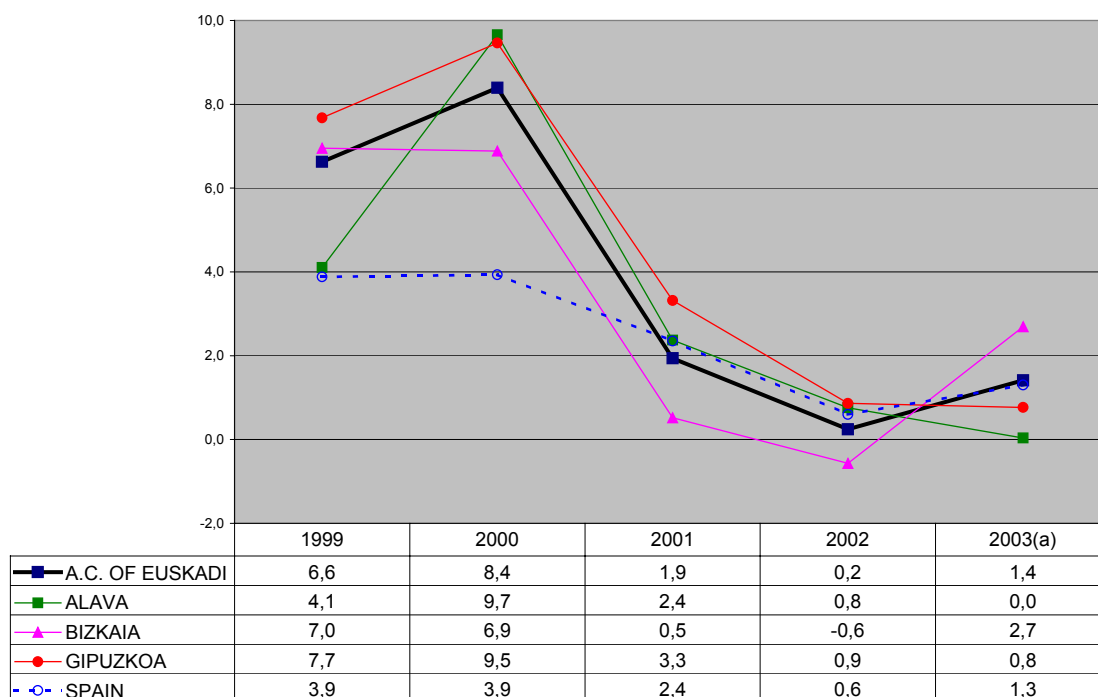
Industry in the A.C. of the Basque Country registered real growth of 1.4% in 2003

The number of employed industrial personnel increased by 0.4% in 2003, more than 247,000 jobs

According to Eustat data industrial activity in the A.C. of Euskadi registered real growth in added value of 1.4% in 2003, improving on the figure for the previous year (+0.2%). This performance was not equal in the three provinces, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa returning real growth rates of 2.7% and 0.8% respectively with Alava maintaining the level of last year.

2003 saw the net creation of almost 1,000 jobs in industry, 0.4% more than last year. The number of jobs in industry reached 247,000 following eight years of positive growth, bringing industrial employment up to the level it stood at in 1984.

Changes in industrial gross added value at base prices 1999-2003. Real growth rates.



(a): Advance

Source: Eustat

Growth has been fairly irregular in the different sectors, with the following sectors returning above average growth: Chemical Industry (13.8%), Textile and tailoring (8.3%), Electric material (6.7%), Non-metallic industry (6.6%), Petroleum refinery (6.3%), Transport material (6.1%) and Timber Industry (5.0%).

On the other hand, of the studied sectors five returned negative real growth rates: Footwear and leather industry (-8.1%), Paper, editing and graphic arts (-5.7%), Metallurgy and metallic articles (-2.1%), Metallic and non-metallic minerals (-1.3%) and Rubber and plastic (-1.2%).

**Changes in industrial gross added value at base prices.
Constant prices. Thousands of Euros.**

A.C. OF EUSKADI	2002	2003(a)	Δ%
3. Extraction of petroleum and gas	0	0	-
4. Metal and non metal minerals	137.901	136.094	-1,3
5. Food industry	646.370	650.377	0,6
6. Textile and clothing	90.277	97.761	8,3
7. Leather and footwear industry	12.289	11.291	-8,1
8. Timber industry	228.541	240.062	5,0
9. Paper, publishing and graphic arts	708.066	667.490	-5,7
10. Petroleum refining	141.073	150.015	6,3
11. Chemical industry	485.794	552.731	13,8
12. Rubber and plastic	880.046	869.615	-1,2
13. Non metal industry	467.524	498.571	6,6
14. Metallurgy and metal articles	3.963.872	3.878.927	-2,1
15. Machinery	1.534.920	1.556.418	1,4
16. Electric material	805.565	859.460	6,7
17. Transport material	1.129.347	1.198.088	6,1
18. Other manufactured goods	431.496	446.651	3,5
19. Electrical, gas and water energy	897.028	924.032	3,0
Total industry	12.560.108	12.737.583	1,4

HISTORIC TERRITORIES	2002	2003(a)	Δ%
ALAVA	2.588.271	2.589.255	0,0
BIZKAIA	5.199.152	5.339.129	2,7
GIPUZKOA	4.772.685	4.809.199	0,8

(a): Advance

Source: Eustat

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