

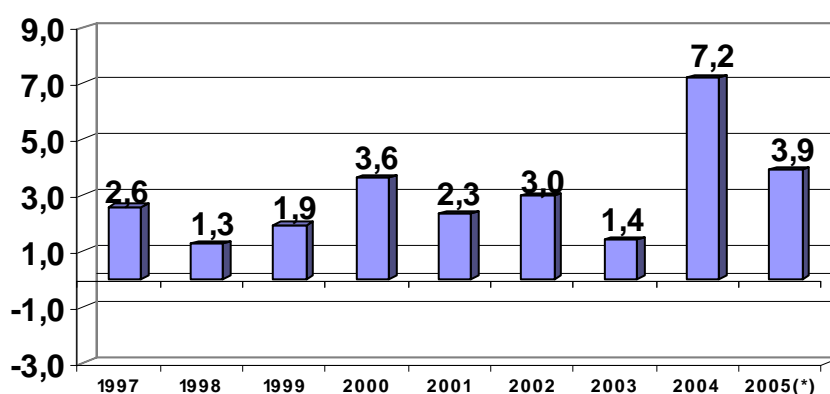
CONSTRUCTION COSTS INDEX (ICCE) OCTOBER 2005

Construction costs in the A.C. of the Basque Country rose by 0.7% in October 2005

In the last twelve months (October 2005 in relation to October 2004), construction costs have undergone a 3.9% increase

The Construction Costs Index in the A.C. of the Basque Country rose by 0.7% in October 2005 with regard to the previous month, putting the inter-annual rate for this month at 3.9%, according to EUSTAT data.

Inter-annual variation rates, 1997-2005



(*) The increase shown is the inter-annual one for October

Source: EUSTAT

Labour costs in October 2005 were unchanged (0.0%), while costs of raw materials registered a 1.0% increase.

The evolution of raw material costs in the sub-sectors of Building and Civil Works differed slightly: the index for Building increased by 1.1% with regard to the previous month, whereas in Civil Works there was a 0.6% rise. The overall result was 1.0% due to the greater weight of the Building sub-sector compared to that of Civil Works. Inter-annual evolution for both of these sub-sectors showed similar variations: raw material costs for Building rose by 3.6% and those of Civil Works grew by 3.8%.

The highest price rises for October occurred in the cases of raw materials consumed by *Asphalt Products* (7.2%), *Iron and steel* (5.0%), *Metal piping* (3.3%) and *Glass* (0.8%), among others. Conversely, there was a reduction in the prices of raw materials

used in *Cleaning and hygiene material* (-3.1%), *Oil by-products* (-2.0%), *Electric energy* (-0.9%) and *Metal structures and boilermaking* (-0.1%).

Among the highest rates of inflation for prices of raw materials used by the sector over the twelve-month period as a whole were: *Asphalt Products* (31.9%), *Oil by-products* (19.4%), *Manual tools* (6.3%), *Worked stone* (6.2%) and *Baked Earth* (5.9%). On the other hand, reductions in inter-annual prices were registered for raw materials of *Cleaning and hygiene material* (-1.6%) and *Metal structures and boilermaking* (-1.1%).

| CONSTRUCTION COSTS INDEX A.C. OF EUSKADI / DATA SUMMARY | | | | OCTOBER 2005 |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| CONCEPTS | INDEX Base 2000= 100 | % INCREMENTO | | |
| | | On de previous month | On the same month of the previous year | On the previous December |
| TOTAL COST | 120,1 | 0,7 | 3,9 | 4,2 |
| BUILDING | 119,9 | 0,7 | 3,9 | 4,1 |
| CIVIL WORKS | 120,6 | 0,4 | 4,1 | 4,6 |
| MATERIAL COSTS | 117,5 | 1,0 | 3,6 | 4,0 |
| BUILDING | 117,5 | 1,1 | 3,6 | 3,9 |
| CIVIL WORKS | 117,7 | 0,6 | 3,8 | 4,6 |
| LABOUR COSTS | 126,1 | 0,0 | 4,6 | 4,6 |

Source: EUSTAT

For further information:

Euskal Estatistika-Erakundea / Instituto Vasco de Estadística

C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Tel: +34-945-01 75 00 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: eustat@eustat.es

Contact: Gerardo Pérez Aja

Tel:+34-945-01 75 06 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01

Press releases on the Internet: www.eustat.es

Data bank: www.eustat.es/bancopx/spanish/indice.asp