

23 weddings between single sex couples were held in the third quarter of 2005

3,359 weddings were held in July, August and September 2005

Over the first three months since the law 13/2005, of 1 July came into effect, by which the Civil Code concerning the right to get married is modified, 23 weddings between persons of the same sex were held in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 4 of which took place in Alava, 14 in Bizkaia and 5 in Gipuzkoa, according to Eustat data. All but one were weddings between males.

In July, August and September 2005 there were 3,359 weddings in the A.C. of the Basque Country, which represents a 2% decrease with regard to the same quarter the previous year. 1,754 weddings were held in Bizkaia, with a 1% decrease; 1,043 weddings in Gipuzkoa, 4% fewer and only in Araba with 438, was there an increase, 5% with regard to the same period the year before. In the case of residents from outside the A.C. of the Basque Country, the number of weddings came to 138.

July was the month with most weddings (557), compared to 1,354 in September. In addition, August continued to be the summer month with fewest weddings (448).

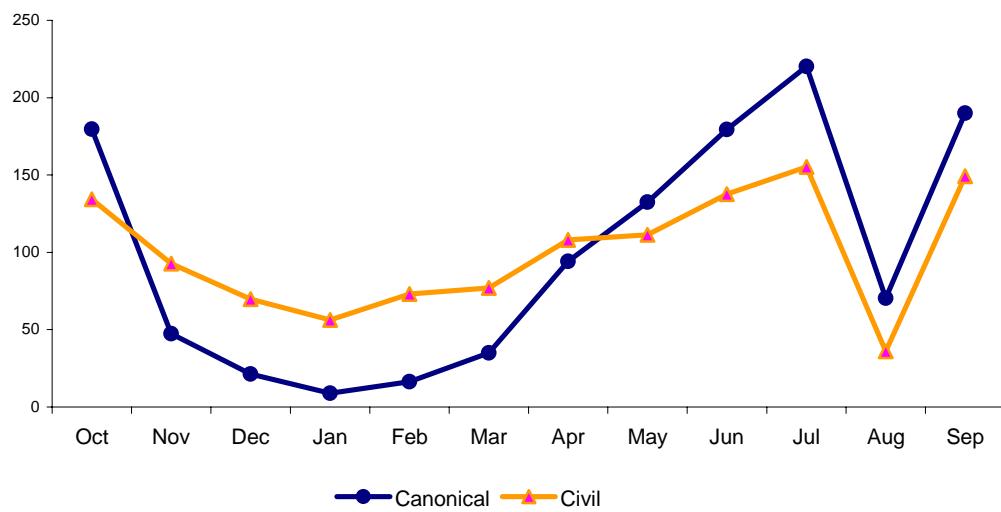
There was a significant increase in the number of church weddings held in this quarter. Compared with the winter months, when over half the weddings were civil, in this period 63.4% of ceremonies were religious, although they decreased by 3% with regard to the same period the year before. In Gipuzkoa religious weddings represented 61% of the total, 63% in Bizkaia and in Alava the figure reached 65%.

The 3,359 weddings held in the third quarter of 2005 involved 3,235 males and 3,324 females resident in the A.C. of the Basque Country. For 3,049 grooms (94.3%) this was their first wedding, while 13 widowers and 173 divorcees remarried. The percentage of first marriages for females was similar to that of males: there were 3,155 (94.9%) single brides, 6 widows and 163 divorcées.

With regard to the distribution of marriages according to the age of spouses, 49% of brides were aged over 30, while among grooms this percentage came to 69%.

	3rd quarter 2005		Previous quarter (2nd quarter 2005)		Same quarter the previous year (3rd quarter 2004)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
MARRIAGES	3.359	100,0	3.061	100,0	3.424	100,0
Canonical	2.129	63,4	1.782	58,2	2.261	66,0
Civil	1.230	36,6	1.279	41,8	1.163	34,0
HUSBANDS	3.235	100,0	2.959	100,0	3.291	100,0
Single	3.049	94,3	2.768	93,5	3.110	94,5
Widowers	13	0,4	24	0,8	17	0,5
Divorcés	173	5,3	167	5,6	164	5,0
WIVES	3.324	100,0	3.023	100,0	3.373	100,0
Single	3.155	94,9	2.849	94,2	3.189	94,5
Widows	6	0,2	9	0,3	18	0,5
Divorcées	163	4,9	165	5,5	166	4,9

Graph 1: Monthly movement in marriages



Source: EUSTAT

base 100 = average

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