

More births in the fourth quarter of 2005 than in the same period the year before

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4,919 babies were born in the fourth quarter of 2005 in the A.C. of the Basque Country, 0.7% more than the same period the year before, according to Eustat data. 1,593 were born in October, 1,632 in November and 1,694 in December. By provinces, 647 children were born in Álava, 2,594 in Bizkaia and 1,678 in Gipuzkoa.

The provisional data for Birth Statistics in 2005 place the number of births at 19,584, which represents a 0.7% increase with regard to 2004.

Over the last quarter of 2005 and according to the order of birth, over half (57.8%), 2,845 children, were first born; 1,758 (35.7%) were born to families that already had another child, third born and subsequent births in order came to a total of 316 (6.4%).

Three in every four births corresponded to mothers aged over 30

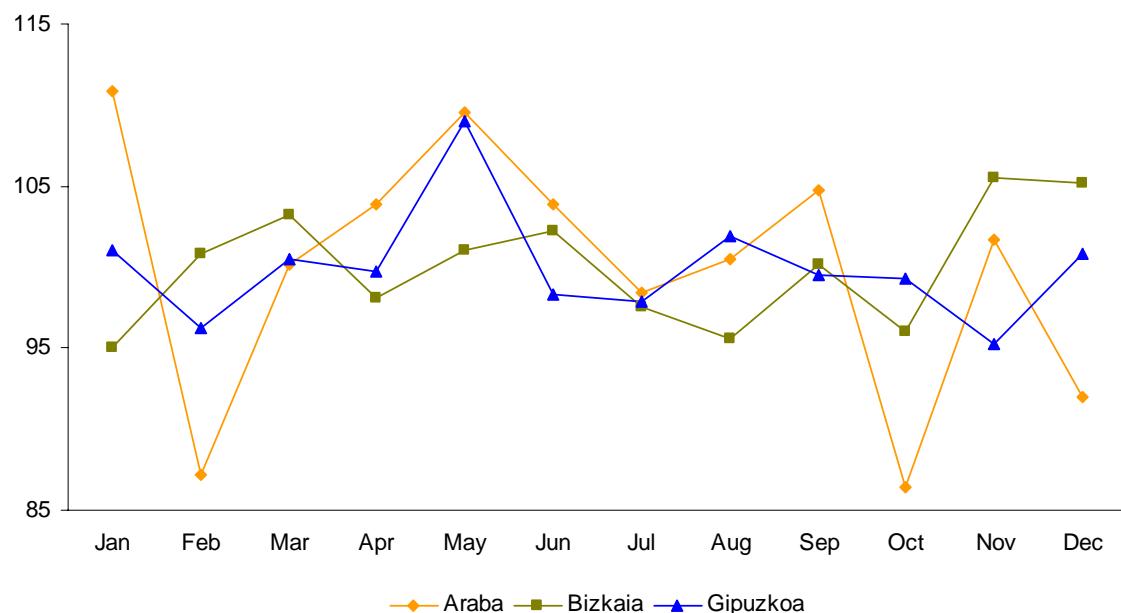
In the distribution of births according to age, there was still a clear preponderance in the group of mothers aged 30-34, which represent 45.2% of all births. This group is followed by the immediately higher age group of 35-39 year-olds with 26.9%, surpassing the group of 25-29 year olds who represented 17.6%, while the group of 20-24 year olds only represented 5.8%.

Maternity among the over 40 year-olds (4.5%) was higher than among young women aged under 20 (1.2%).

Births outside matrimony represented 25.6% of the total, 2.5 percentage points above the index registered in the same period in 2004. By provinces, Alava saw the highest percentage (29.1%), followed by Bizkaia with 25.1% and Gipuzkoa with 24.9%.

Table 1. Live born in the A. C. of Euskadi. Comparative table

	4rd quarter 2005		Previous quarter (3rd quarter 2005)		Same quarter previous year (4rd quarter 2004)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
A.C. of Euskadi	4.919	100,0	4.883	100,0	4.887	100,0
Araba	647	13,2	702	14,4	689	14,1
Bizkaia	2.594	52,7	2.481	50,8	2.517	51,5
Gipuzkoa	1.678	34,1	1.700	34,8	1.681	34,4
According to age of mother	4.919	100,0	4.883	100,0	4.887	100,0
< 24 years	287	5,8	251	5,1	288	5,9
25 - 29 years	866	17,6	864	17,7	889	18,2
30 - 34 years	2.222	45,2	2.220	45,5	2.176	44,5
35 - 39 years	1.322	26,9	1.336	27,4	1.321	27,0
>= 40	222	4,5	212	4,3	213	4,4
Order of birth	4.919	100,0	4.883	100,0	4.887	100,0
First	2.845	57,8	2.865	58,7	2.841	58,1
Second	1.758	35,7	1.727	35,4	1.736	35,5
Third or posterior	316	6,4	291	6,0	310	6,3

Graph 1: Monthly movement of births


Source: EUSTAT

base100 = average

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