

The number of births remained stable in the second quarter of 2006

Of the 4,986 births in the second quarter of 2006 over half were first born

Data for the second quarter of 2006 on Birth Statistics, carried out by EUSTAT, give a figure of 4,986 births in the A.C. of the Basque Country, practically the same as in the same period the year before. By provinces, 736 babies were born in Álava, 2,536 in Bizkaia and 1,714 in Gipuzkoa

According to the order of birth, over half, 2,769 were second born in the second quarter of 2006; 1,869 births (37.5%) corresponded to families that already had another child and 7% was the percentage as third or later born. Bizkaia (42.2 %) was the only province where the proportion of second or later born was lower than the average for the A.C. of the Basque Country, which stands at 44.5%. By contrast Álava and Gipuzkoa had higher percentages, with 45.7% and 47.3% respectively.

In three out of every four births the mother was over 30 years of age

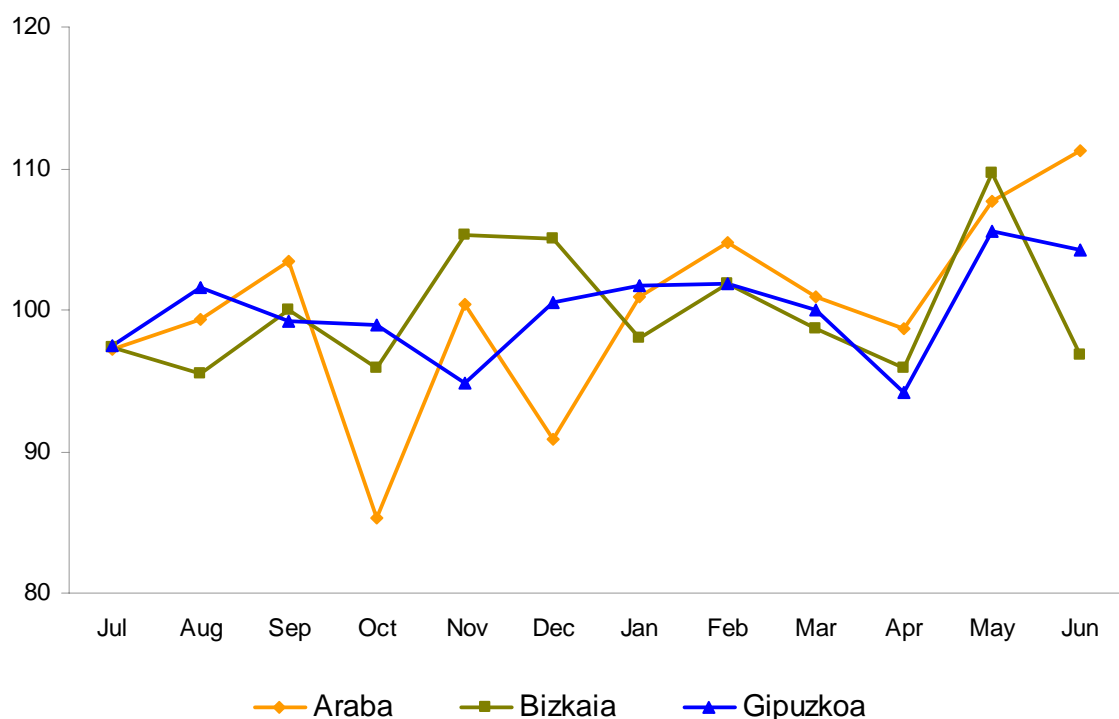
In the distribution of births according to the age of the mother, a clear preponderance of the 30-34 years age group continued, to which almost half the births corresponded. This group is followed by the immediately higher 35-39 years age group with 26%, surpassing the 25-29 years group which contributed with 17.8%. Between the extreme age groups, the lower group of under 25 year olds represented 5.8%, while the over 40 year olds accounted for only 3.9% of all births.

Children born outside marriage represented 22.3% of the total, an increase of almost half a point with regard to the second quarter of 2005. Bizkaia, with 23.3%, was the only province with higher values than the whole of the A.C. of the Basque Country. In Álava and Gipuzkoa the percentages were slightly lower, 20.4% and 21.6% respectively. The maternity age for this group is lower than that of the total women who gave birth, as 16.9% of unmarried mothers were aged between 14 and 24.

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

	2nd quarter 2006		Previous quarter (1st quarter 2006)		Same quarter the previous year (2nd quarter 2005)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
A.C. of Euskadi	4.986	100,0	4.867	100,0	4.974	100,0
Alava	736	14,8	702	14,4	726	14,6
Bizkaia	2.536	50,9	2.473	50,8	2.522	50,7
Gipuzkoa	1.714	34,4	1.692	34,8	1.726	34,7
According to age of mother						
< 25 years	287	5,8	292	6,0	280	5,6
25 - 29 years	887	17,8	892	18,3	907	18,2
30 - 34 years	2.323	46,6	2.172	44,6	2.292	46,1
35 - 39 years	1.294	26,0	1.299	26,7	1.306	26,3
>= 40	195	3,9	212	4,4	189	3,8
According to the marital status of the mother						
Married	3.876	77,7	3.673	75,5	3.886	78,1
Not married	1.110	22,3	1.194	24,5	1.088	21,9
Order of birth						
First	2.769	55,5	2.805	57,6	2.818	56,7
Second	1.869	37,5	1.742	35,8	1.861	37,4
Third or posterior	348	7,0	320	6,6	295	5,9

Graph 1: Monthly movement of births



Source: EUSTAT

base 100 = average

For further information:

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