

In one out of every three births, mothers are over 35 years old

In the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country 4,932 children were born in the fourth quarter of 2006, thus placing the annual total at nearly 20,000, 1.4% more than in the previous year.

4,932 births were recorded in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country during the fourth quarter of 2006, which means an increase of 0.3% with respect to the same period in the previous year, according to data from Eustat, the Basque Statistics Office. 1,739 of those births took place in October, 1,617 in November and 1,576 in December. By territories, in Alava 695 children were born, 2,500 were born in Bizkaia and 1,737 were born in Gipuzkoa.

The balance for 2006 places the number of births at 19,863, which means an overall increase of 1.4% with respect to 2005.

In the last quarter of 2006, in terms of sequence, over half (57.8%), that is 2,853 children, were first children; 1,742 children (35.3%) came to families in which there already was a previously-born child; third children and later children amounted to 337 (6.8%).

As refers to the distribution of births reference to the age of the mother, there continues to be a clear preponderance of the 30-34 year-old age group, in which 44.5% of the births take place. This group is followed by the next oldest group aged between 35-39 years with 28%. The 25-29 year-old group takes the third place with 16.5%, whereas the 20-24 year-old group accounts for only 5.6% of births.

Maternity in ages over 40 (5.4%) is above that of young women below 20 (1.1%).

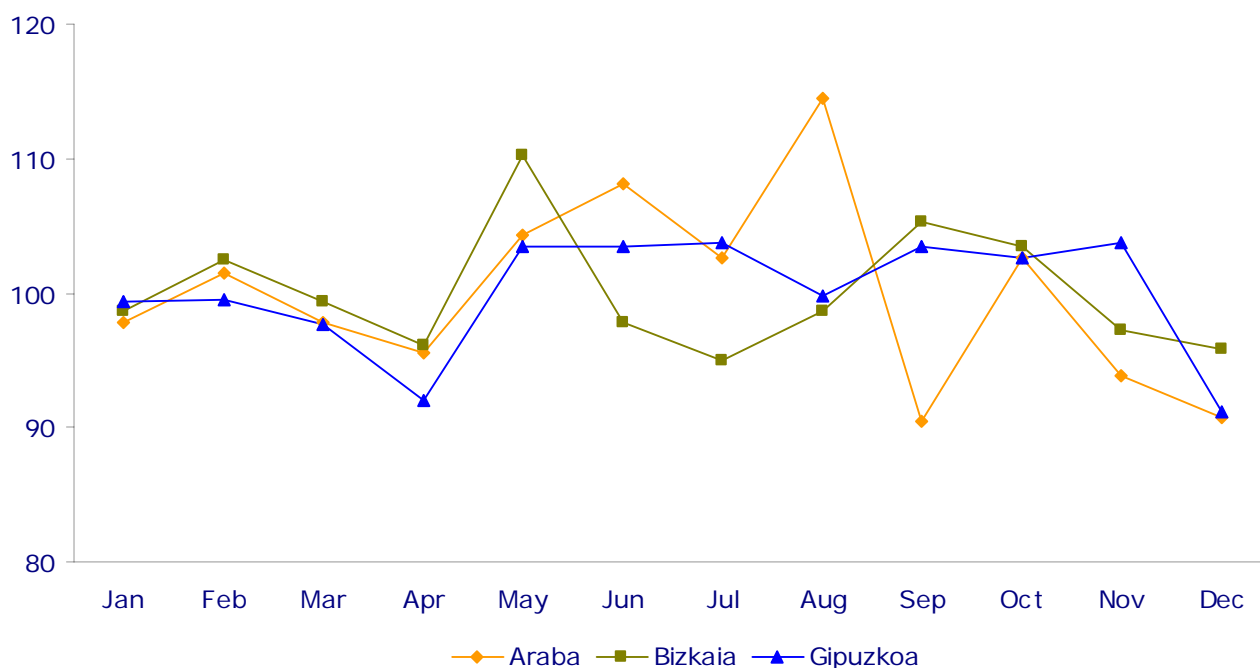
The number of single mothers increases

Births out of wedlock account for 26.9% of the total, 1.4% above the index registered over the same period in 2005. By territories, Alava was where the highest percentage was registered, with (29.6%), followed by Gipuzkoa with 26.5% and Bizkaia with 26.4%.

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

	4nd quarter 2006		Previous quarter (3rd quarter 2006)		Same quarter the previous year (4nd quarter 2005)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
A.C. of Euskadi	4.932	100,0	5.056	100,0	4.919	100,0
Alava	695	14,1	745	14,7	647	13,2
Bizkaia	2.500	50,7	2.518	49,8	2.594	52,7
Gipuzkoa	1.737	35,2	1.793	35,5	1.678	34,1
According to age of mother						
< 25 years	276	5,6	299	5,9	287	5,8
25 - 29 years	816	16,5	892	17,6	866	17,6
30 - 34 years	2.196	44,5	2.320	45,9	2.222	45,2
35 - 39 years	1.380	28,0	1.325	26,2	1.322	26,9
>= 40	264	5,4	220	4,4	222	4,5
According to the marital status of the mother						
Married	3.604	73,1	3.794	75,0	3.661	74,4
Not married	1.328	26,9	1.262	25,0	1.258	25,6
Order of birth						
First	2.853	57,8	2.961	58,6	2.845	57,8
Second	1.742	35,3	1.769	35,0	1.758	35,7
Third or posterior	337	6,8	326	6,4	316	6,4

Graph 1: Monthly movement of births



Source: EUSTAT

base 100 = average

For more information:

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