

The first quarter of 2007 saw 4.4% more deaths than in the same period of the previous year

The main cause of death was circulatory system disease, followed by tumours

5,141 people died in the A.C. of the Basque Country in the first quarter of 2007, 4.4% more than in the same period of the previous year, according to EUSTAT data. By province, 675 people died in Álava, an increase of 13.6%, 2,753 in Bizkaia (+0.7%) and 1,713 in Gipuzkoa (+7.3%).

Traditionally, the first quarter of the year sees the greatest number of deaths, with respiratory system diseases those that usually register the greatest increases in the number of deaths. This year an increase of 9.7% as regards the same quarter of 2006 was registered and one of 41.5% in relation to the previous quarter.

1,556 people died as a result of circulatory system diseases, making this the main cause, accounting for almost a third of all deaths.

The second most common cause of death was tumours, which resulted in 1,406 deaths (27.3%) and in the third place came respiratory diseases, which, in the winter months, were the cause of 597 deaths.

The reason for death was different depending on the sex of the deceased, with deaths from tumours outnumbering circulatory system diseases among men, whereas for women the main cause was cardiovascular disease and secondly tumours. Respiratory system diseases remained the third most common cause of death for both sexes.

Of the deaths that took place in the first quarter of 2007, 19 corresponded to children aged under one year old, 8 boys and 11 girls.

Natural population growth in the first quarter of 2007 was negative, with a population loss of 283 people. By provinces, negative balances were recorded in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, which saw their populations diminish by 291 and 24 inhabitants respectively. In the case of Álava, on the other hand, the number of births outnumbered that of deaths (+32).

Table 1. Deaths in the A.C. of Euskadi by sex, according to cause of death. Quarterly comparison.

	Previous quarter (4th quarter 2006)				Same quarter of the previous year (1st quarter 2006)	
	1st quarter 2007					
	N.	%	N.	%	N.	%
DEATHS	5.141	100,0	4.584	100,0	4.924	100,0
Men	2.577	50,1	2.432	53,1	2.577	52,3
Women	2.564	49,9	2.152	46,9	2.347	47,7
CAUSE OF DEATH						
TOTAL	5.141		4.584		4.924	
Tumours	1.406	27,3	1.416	30,9	1.369	27,8
Circulatory system	1.556	30,3	1.390	30,3	1.555	31,6
Respiratory system	597	11,6	422	9,2	544	11,0
Digestive system	255	5,0	241	5,3	244	5,0
Accidents	164	3,2	158	3,4	152	3,1
Other diseases	1.163	22,6	957	20,9	1.060	21,5
MEN	2.577		2.432		2.577	
Tumours	877	34,0	886	36,4	896	34,8
Circulatory system	700	27,2	653	26,9	740	28,7
Respiratory system	313	12,1	249	10,2	308	12,0
Digestive system	149	5,8	132	5,4	146	5,7
Accidents	107	4,2	114	4,7	109	4,2
Other diseases	431	16,7	398	16,4	378	14,7
WOMEN	2.564		2.152		2.347	
Tumours	529	20,6	530	24,6	473	20,2
Circulatory system	856	33,4	737	34,2	815	34,7
Respiratory system	284	11,1	173	8,0	236	10,1
Digestive system	106	4,1	109	5,1	98	4,2
Accidents	57	2,2	44	2,0	43	1,8
Other diseases	732	28,5	559	26,0	682	29,1

Source: EUSTAT

For further information:

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