

FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS (ECOMEX) 3rd QUARTER 2007

Exports from the A.C. of the Basque Country grew by 17.2% in the third quarter of 2007

Imports achieved nominal inter-annual growth of 5.9% over the same period

Exports from the A.C. of the Basque Country registered 17.2% growth in the third quarter of 2007, according to Eustat data. They totalled 4,542.6 million euros compared to 3,876.9 million last year. This growth in Basque exports corroborates the positive evolution of sales abroad over the course of the year, accumulating 14.2% growth in the first nine months of 2007.

Total imports experienced a 5.9% rise in the third quarter of 2007 and came to 4,460.8 million euros. Despite the fact that non-energy imports showed growth of 15.2% in relation to the same period of last year, the decrease of imports of energy products, coming to 9.9%, tempered total growth. The accumulated total for imports over these nine months accounted for 7.8% growth in relation to the same period of last year and 19.1% for non-energy ones.

Evolution of foreign trade for the A.C. of the Basque Country. Third Quarter 2006-2007. Thousands of euros.

	EXPORTS			IMPORTS		
	January-September			January-September		
	2006	2007	Δ %	2006	2007	Δ %
A.C. OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY						
TOTAL	3.876.948	4.542.635	17,2	4.213.978	4.460.783	5,9
MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTS	385.358	435.764	13,1	1.570.355	1.414.437	-9,9
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	3.491.589	4.106.871	17,6	2.643.623	3.046.346	15,2
ALAVA/ARABA						
TOTAL	1.049.665	1.097.174	4,5	620.846	702.138	13,1
MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTS	1.754	1.831	4,4	10.284	13.093	27,3
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	1.047.910	1.095.343	4,5	610.562	689.045	12,9
BIZKAIA						
TOTAL	1.564.717	1.778.231	13,6	2.729.219	2.817.392	3,2
MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTS	377.339	425.527	12,8	1.548.282	1.386.258	-10,5
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	1.187.378	1.352.704	13,9	1.180.937	1.431.133	21,2
GIPUZKOA						
TOTAL	1.262.566	1.667.230	32,1	863.914	941.253	9,0
MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTS	6.265	8.406	34,2	11.790	15.086	28,0
NON-ENERGY PRODUCTS	1.256.301	1.658.825	32,0	852.124	926.168	8,7

Source: Eustat

The total volume of transactions with overseas, the sum of exports and imports, rose from 8,090.9 million in the third quarter of 2006 to 9,003.4 million in the same quarter of 2007.

The trade balance of the third quarter showed a surplus, reversing the trend of the precious quarter, going from a deficit of 337.0 million in the third quarter of 2006 to a surplus of 81.9 million obtained between July and September this year. In this sense, it confirms that the coverage rate of exports in relation to imports improved its position: from 92.0% in the third quarter of 2006, it rose

to 101.8% in the same period of 2007. The coverage of non-energy exports in relation to imports of the same type gained almost three points, going from 132.1% last year to 134.8% this year.

Exports whose destination was the European Union registered inter-annual growth of 7.2%, lower than the average of the total exported (17.2%), as a result of the lower rates of the main countries that receive our exports. Those headed for France rose by 6.0% and those going to Germany by 2.5%, with slight decreases for those headed for Italy and the United Kingdom (-1.6% and -0.2% respectively). Portugal (15.2%), Belgium (31.7%) and the Netherlands (26.3%) obtained the most positive rates in exports. Outside the European Union there was notable growth for India (153.0%), Brazil (35.0%) and China (29.1%). Imports coming from the European Union grew by 7.3%: 8.2% from Germany, 2.5% those coming from France, 19.5% from Italy and 3.5% those coming from the United Kingdom.

The largest **duty tariff sections**, in the A.C. of the Basque Country were the ones that contributed the most to the positive evolution of quarterly exports: *Metal and Manufactured* increased sales abroad by 39.0%, *Electrical Material* by 13.3%, *Transport Material* by 6.4%, *Mineral Products* 13.1%, and *Plastic and Rubber* by 7.5%, to name the most important ones. In the area of imports, *Metal and Manufactured* increased by 17.7%, *Electrical Material* by 14.8%, *Transport Material* by 20.7%, *Plastic and Rubber* by 13.9%, although *Mineral Products* fell by 9.9%, a decrease which conditioned the evolution of imports.

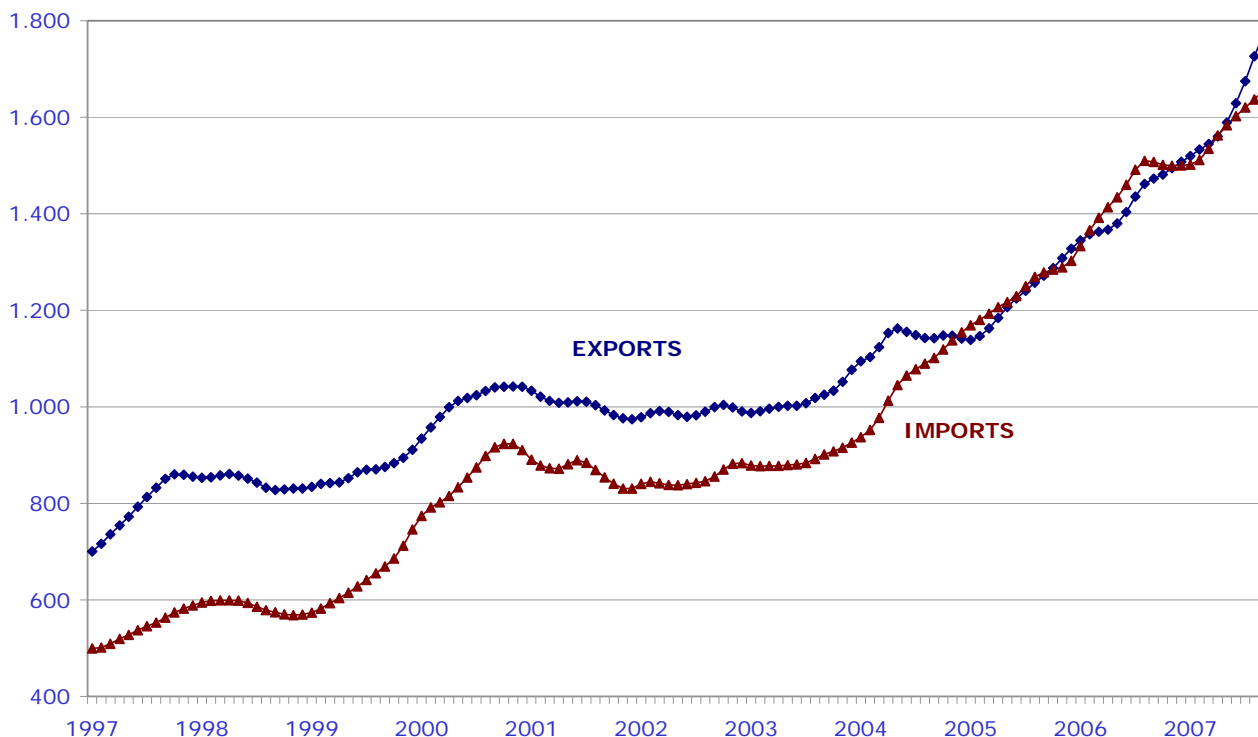
The exports from **Gipuzkoa** were the ones to show the greatest inter-annual growth rate (32.1%) in the third quarter of 2007, thanks to the performance of *Metal and Manufactured* (102.1%), *Transport Material* (28.5%) and *Electrical Material* (9.3%). Imports headed for Gipuzkoa grew by 9.0%, with important inter-annual growth of *Electrical Material* (11.8%), *Transport Material* (19.2%) and *Metal and Manufactured* (7.9%).

Bizkaia obtained 13.6% inter-annual growth of its exports, with the most active duty tariff sections being *Electrical Material* (25.6%), *Metal and Manufactured* (14.1%) and *Mineral Products* (12.8%). Imports headed for Bizkaia grew by 3.2%, due to the negative impact of energy products (-10.5%) which was not compensated by imports of *Metal and Manufactured* (25.9%) and *Electrical Material* (20.1%).

The growth of exports from **Álava** was the most modest of the three (4.5%), as a result of the fall of exports of *Transport Material* (-5.5%), which accounted for 42% of exports from this province. The most notable exports were *Food Products* which grew by 50.5% and *Metal and Manufactured* by 15.3%. Imports that came to Álava in the third quarter of 2007 achieved inter-annual growth of 13.1%, with growth of imports of *Transport Material* (20.6%), *Metal and Manufactured* (10.3%) and *Electrical Material* (9.2%).

Foreign trade of the A.C. of the Basque Country. (Trend)

million EUROS



Source: Eustat

For further information:

Euskal Estatistika-Erakundea / Instituto Vasco de Estadística

C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Tel:+34-945-01 75 00 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: eustat@eustat.es

Contact: Patxi Garrido

Tel:+34-945-01 75 13 Fax:+34-945-01 75 01

Press releases on the Internet: www.eustat.es

Data bank: www.eustat.es/bancopx/english/indice.asp