

The number of births rose by 5.8% in the second quarter of 2008

54% of the 5,423 births in the second quarter of 2008 were first children

The number of births in the A.C. of the Basque Country in the second quarter of 2008 stood at 5,423, according to Eustat data, up 5.8% on the figure for the same period of the previous year. By provinces, 811 children were born in Alava, 2764 in Bizkaia and 1848 in Gipuzkoa.

The number of children born out of marriage accounted for 29.2% of the total, which was up 3.5 points with respect to the second quarter of 2007. Álava, with 32.7%, was the only province where the values were higher than those for the A.C. of the Basque Country as a whole. The percentages were slightly lower in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, 28.9% and 28.2%, respectively.

As refers to birth sequence, over half of the children (2930) were first children in the second quarter of 2008; 2,084 children (38.4%) were born into families where there was already another child and the percentage of third or later children stood at 7.5%. Gipuzkoa (47%) was the only province where the proportion of second or later children was greater than the average for the A.C. of the Basque Country (46%). On the other hand, the percentages for Álava and Gipuzkoa were lower, 45.4% in both cases.

The mothers were over 30 in three out of every four births

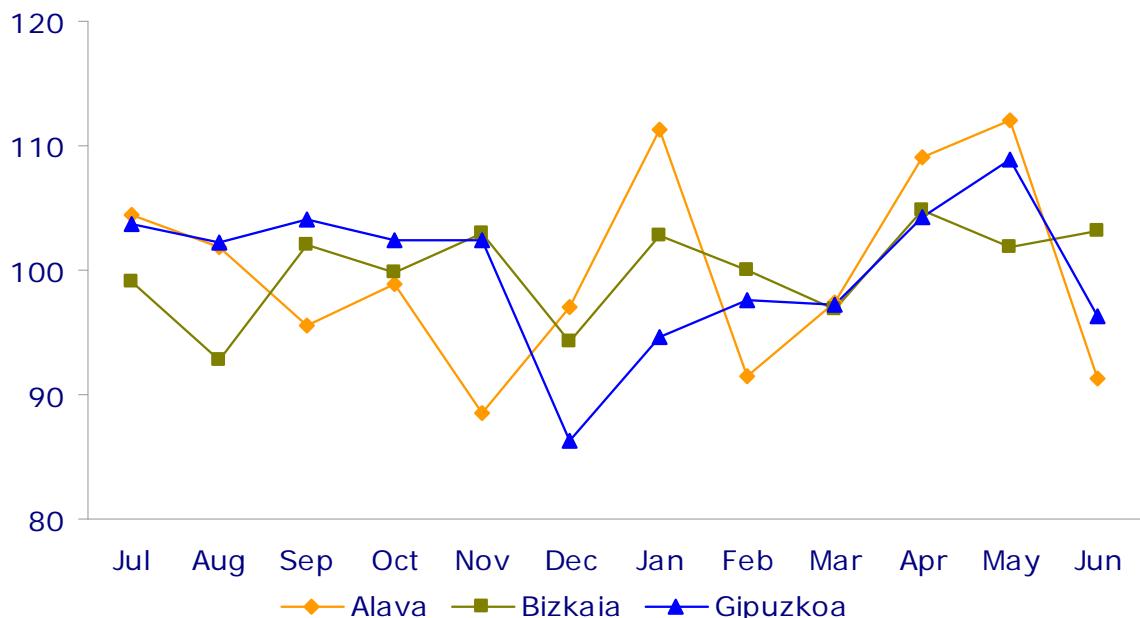
As refers to the distribution of births according the age of the mother, there continued to be a clear preponderance of the 30-34 year-old age group, in which almost half of the births took place. This group is followed by the next oldest group, aged between 35-39, which accounted for 26.1% and was ahead of the 25-29 age group, with 17.5% of births. At either end of the scale, the group of mothers under 25 accounted for 6.5% of births, whereas mothers over 40 lagged slightly behind, with 4.8% of the total of births.

Single mothers give birth when younger than the rest of women with children as a whole, as 16.6% of unmarried mothers were under 25 and 23.2% between 25 and 29 years old.

Table 1. Children born alive in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country. Comparative Table

	2nd quarter 2008		Previous quarter (1st quarter 2008)		Same quarter the previous year (2nd quarter 2007)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
	5.423	100,0	5.126	100,0	5.126	100,0
A.C. of Euskadi						
Alava	811	15,0	772	15,1	757	14,8
Bizkaia	2.764	51,0	2.646	51,6	2.571	50,2
Gipuzkoa	1.848	34,1	1.708	33,3	1.798	35,1
According to age of mother						
< 24 years	352	6,5	358	7,0	310	6,0
25 - 29 years	951	17,5	865	16,9	902	17,6
30 - 34 years	2.362	43,6	2.225	43,4	2.357	46,0
35 - 39 years	1.495	27,6	1.395	27,2	1.330	25,9
>= 40	263	4,8	283	5,5	227	4,4
According to the marital status of the mother						
Married	3.838	70,8	3.579	69,8	3.809	74,3
Not married	1.585	29,2	1.547	30,2	1.317	25,7
Order of birth						
First	2.930	54,0	2.860	55,8	2.900	56,6
Second	2.084	38,4	1.861	36,3	1.834	35,8
Third or posterior	409	7,5	405	7,9	392	7,6

Source: EUSTAT

Graph 1. Monthly birth movement


Base 100 = Average

Source: EUSTAT

For further information:

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