

BIRTH STATISTICS OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (ENAC) 4th QUARTER 2009

## Births fell in the Basque Country in the four quarter of 2009

***The provisional annual total stood at 20,716, 2.3% down on the previous year***

In the fourth quarter of 2009, 5,108 babies were born in the Basque Country, 0.6% down on the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data. 1,761 of the births were in October, 1,675 in November and 1,672 in December.

There were 792 births registered in Álava, which was up 2.6% and meant that this was the only province that registered an increase. On the other hand, both Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, with 2,607 and 1,709 births respectively, registered decreases with respect to the same quarter of the previous year.

According to the birth order, over half the births (2,927 births and 57.3%) were first children, 1,764 babies (35%) were born to families that already had another child and there were 393 babies who were the third or more children (7.7%).

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 43.7% of the births took place. This group is followed by the next oldest group, aged between 35-39, which accounted for 29.6% and was ahead of the 25-29 age group, with 15.7% of births, while only 5.1% of the births were to mothers aged 20-24.

The number of mothers aged 40 and over (4.8%) was greater than women under 20 (1.2%).

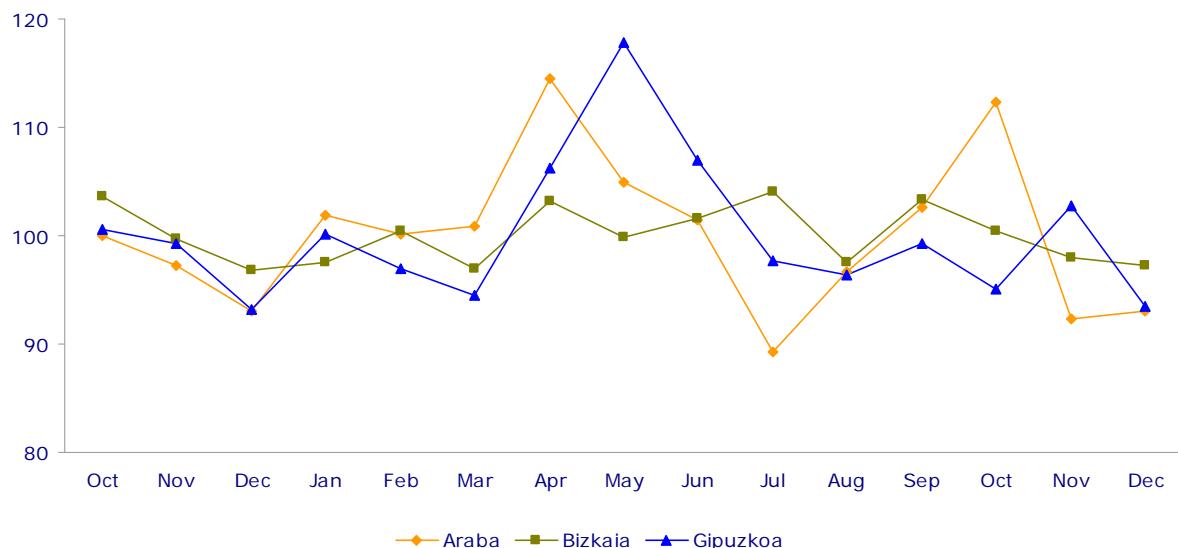
### ***One out of every three months is not married***

Births outside marriage in the fourth quarter of 2009 accounted for 32.1% of the total, a very similar percentage for the same period of 2008. By provinces, the highest percentage was in Álava (34%), followed by Bizkaia (32.6%) and Gipuzkoa with 30.6%.

**Table 1. Live births to mothers residing in the Basque Country. Comparative table**

	4th quarter 2009		Previous quarter 3rd quarter 2009)		Same quarter the previous year (4th quarter 2008)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>5.108</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.179</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.139</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Alava	792	15,5	767	14,8	772	15,0
Bizkaia	2.607	51,0	2.690	51,9	2.647	51,5
Gipuzkoa	1.709	33,5	1.722	33,2	1.720	33,5
<b>According to age of mother</b>	<b>5.108</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.179</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.139</b>	<b>100,0</b>
< = 24 years	321	6,3	355	6,9	360	7,0
25 - 29 years	800	15,7	826	15,9	829	16,1
30 - 34 years	2.230	43,7	2.262	43,7	2.105	41,0
35 - 39 years	1.511	29,6	1.495	28,9	1.565	30,5
> = 40	246	4,8	241	4,7	280	5,4
<b>According to the marital status of the mother</b>	<b>5.108</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.179</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.139</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Married	3.466	67,9	3.490	67,4	3.486	67,8
Not married	1.642	32,1	1.689	32,6	1.653	32,2
<b>Order of birth</b>	<b>5.108</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.179</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>5.139</b>	<b>100,0</b>
First	2.927	57,3	2.979	57,5	2.969	57,8
Second	1.788	35,0	1.794	34,6	1.770	34,4
Third or posterior	393	7,7	406	7,8	400	7,8

Source: EUSTAT. Birth Statistics of the Basque Country

**Graph 1: Monthly Birth Trends (base 100= average)**


Source: EUSTAT. Birth Statistics of the Basque Country

**For further information:**

Basque Statistics Office

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

 Tf: +34-945-01 75 00 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01 E-mail: [eustat@eustat.es](mailto:eustat@eustat.es)

Contact: Martín González Hernández

Tf: +34-945-01 75 49 Fax: +34-945-01 75 01

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