

POPULATION IN RELATION TO ACTIVITY SURVEY (PRA) 3rd QUARTER 2010

The employed population increased by 0.9% and the unemployment rate fell slightly in the third quarter of 2010 in the Basque Country

9,000 net jobs were recovered in this quarter

The third quarter of 2010 figures labour market data for the Basque Country showed that there were 960,000 people in work, which was a net increase of 9,000 people in employment with respect to the previous quarter (+0.9%), according to Eustat data. Therefore, the unemployment rate for the Basque Country stood at 8.8%, 0.3 points down on the second quarter of 2010.

As a result of the evolution of the employed and unemployed population, the activity rate was 56.3% for the third quarter of 2010, 0.2 percentage points higher than for the previous quarter.

The increase in employment particularly effected men, with 5,100 more in employment than in the previous quarter, while the number of employed women rose by 3,900. Employment rose in two out of the three provinces: Bizkaia had 6,700 more net jobs, followed by Gipuzkoa with 3,200 more, while the population in employment fell by 900 people in Álava.

Industry and services are the sectors with the greatest recovery of net jobs

The service sector gained 5,000 net jobs, industry 2,900, agriculture 800 and construction 200 in the third quarter of 2010.

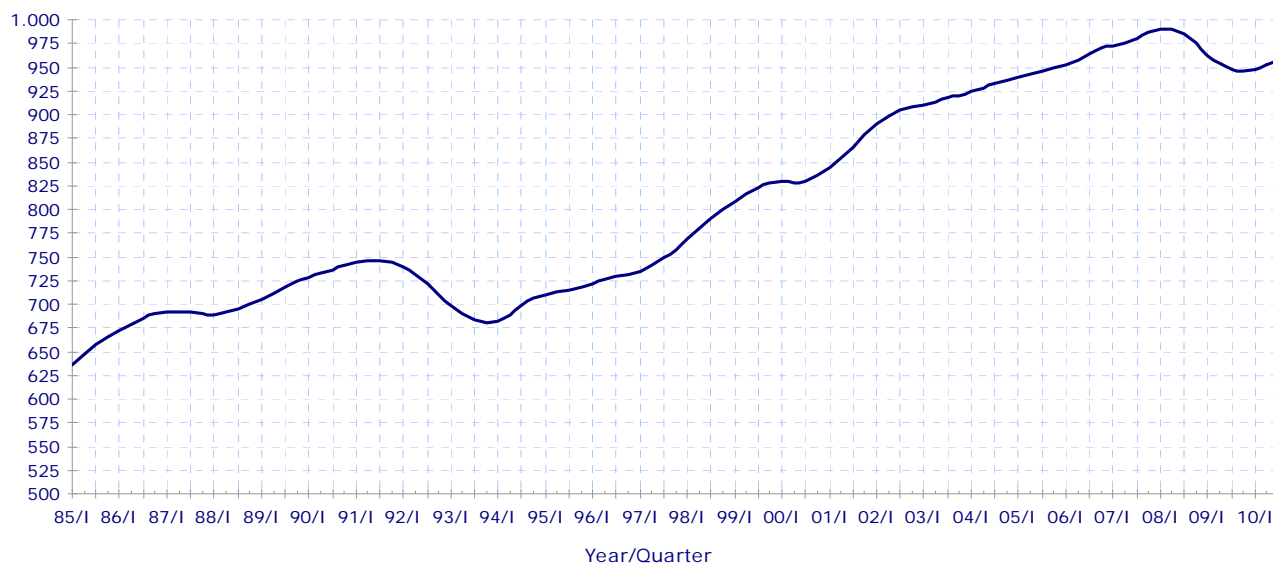
The employment rate, the percentage of employed people aged 16 to 64 out of the total number of people within that age range, stood at 65.9%, 0.6 percentage points higher than in the previous quarter. This rate came to 72.1% among men, while it stood at 59.5% for women.

By province, the highest employment rate was in Gipuzkoa with 68.4%, which was up 0.6 points on the previous quarter, followed by Álava with 66.05, down by six tenths. Finally, Bizkaia had the lowest rate (64.5%) and had risen by eight tenths of a point in the last quarter.

The number of employed workers on an indefinite contract rose by 3,300 and stood at 613,700, while the employees with temporary contracts (including those without contracts) was up by 5,700 to a total of 182,700.

In third quarter of 2010, there were estimated to be around 837,000 households in Basque Country (1,100 more than in the previous quarter), of which a third had no working member. In nearly six out of ten households, all the working-age people were employed, which was 7,300 fewer families than in the previous quarter. In addition, households whose working-age members were all unemployed came to 28,200 (3.4% of the total), 200 more than in the previous quarter.

Trend of the employed population from 1985. Basque Country (In thousands)



Source: Eustat. PRA

The unemployment rate fell slightly from 9.1% to 8.8%

The number of people out of work in the Basque Country, which is to say people who were actively seeking work and were furthermore available for work, was estimated to be 92,500 in the third quarter of the year, 2,500 less than in the previous quarter. The number of unemployed women, in total 36,900 people, was down by 3,000 and the number of unemployed men rose by 500 in the third quarter, up to a total of 55,600.

Data for the third quarter of 2010 showed that the unemployment rate stood at 8.8%, 0.3 percentage points down on the previous quarter. The female unemployment rate fell to 7.9% (0.7 percentage points up) and male unemployment remained unchanged at 9.5%. The youth unemployment rate continued to be the highest at 22.5%, with unemployment affecting 12,500 young job seekers aged between 16 to 24.

By provinces, the greatest increase in the number of unemployed was in Gipuzkoa (- 2,400 people) and the unemployment rate stood at 6.7%. In Bizkaia, unemployment fell by 1,000 to 54,800 unemployed and the unemployment rate stood at 9.8%. However, the unemployment rate rose by 900 people in Álava with respect to the previous quarter and the unemployment rate was 9.5%.

According to EUROSTAT - Statistical Office of the European Union-, the unemployment rate for the EU-27 as a whole was 9.6% in August 2010 and 20.5% for Spain.

During the last year, 7,000 people joined the ranks of the unemployed in the Basque Country

The employed population in the Basque Country recovered by a total 12,200 people (+1.3%) compared to the third quarter of 2009. This increase was mainly among women, with 7,800 more jobs, while 4,400 men found a job.

The unemployment rate in the last year fell by half a percentage point (from 8.3% to 8.8%), meaning that 7,000 more people joined the ranks of the unemployed in the Basque country compared to the figures for the third quarter of 2009. By provinces, the unemployment rate

increased by a percentage point in Bizkaia and by two tenths of a point in Gipuzkoa, while the unemployment rate fell by half a point in Álava over the last twelve months.

POPULATION IN RELATION TO ACTIVITY SURVEY (PRA)

| | 3rd quarter 2010 | | Variation on the previous quarter | | Variation on the same quarter the previous year | |
|--|------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| | Thousand | % | Thousand | p.p. * | Thousand | p.p. * |
| POPULATION AGED 16 AND OVER | 1.869,4 | | +4,1 | | +4,1 | |
| ACTIVE POPULATION/ACTIVITY RATE | 1052,5 | 56,3 | +6,5 | +0,2 | +19,1 | +0,9 |
| Males | 586,6 | 64,5 | +5,6 | +0,5 | +7,0 | +0,6 |
| Females | 465,9 | 48,5 | +0,9 | +0,0 | +12,2 | +1,2 |
| EMPLOYED POPULATION/EMPLOYMENT RATE | 960,0 | 65,9 | +9,0 | +0,6 | +12,2 | +1,0 |
| Males | 531,0 | 72,1 | +5,1 | +0,6 | +4,4 | +0,7 |
| Females | 429,0 | 59,5 | +3,9 | +0,5 | +7,8 | +1,3 |
| Álava | 144,1 | 65,4 | -0,9 | -0,6 | +0,5 | -0,3 |
| Bizkaia | 502,3 | 64,5 | +6,7 | +0,8 | +9,9 | +1,3 |
| Gipuzkoa | 313,6 | 68,4 | +3,2 | +0,6 | +1,8 | +1,0 |
| Agriculture | 8,6 | | +0,8 | | -0,1 | |
| Industry | 228,4 | | +2,9 | | +8,3 | |
| Construction | 73,5 | | +0,2 | | -4,5 | |
| Services | 649,4 | | +5,0 | | +8,4 | |
| Wage earners | 796,5 | | +9,1 | | +15,3 | |
| - With permanent contract | 613,7 | | +3,3 | | -3,2 | |
| - With temporary contract and without contract | 182,7 | | +5,7 | | +18,4 | |
| Non-wage earners | 163,5 | | -0,1 | | -3,1 | |
| UNEMPLOYED POPULATION/UNEMPLOYMENT RATE | 92,5 | 8,8 | -2,5 | -0,3 | +7,0 | +0,5 |
| Males | 55,6 | 9,5 | +0,5 | -0,0 | +2,6 | +0,3 |
| Females | 36,9 | 7,9 | -3,0 | -0,7 | +4,4 | +0,8 |
| 16 - 24 | 12,5 | 22,5 | -1,8 | -2,5 | -1,5 | -2,8 |
| 25 - 44 | 52,5 | 8,9 | -1,9 | -0,4 | +2,4 | +0,4 |
| 45 and over | 27,4 | 6,8 | +1,1 | +0,2 | +6,0 | +1,3 |
| Álava | 15,1 | 9,5 | +0,9 | +0,6 | -0,9 | -0,5 |
| Bizkaia | 54,8 | 9,8 | -1,0 | -0,3 | +6,9 | +1,0 |
| Gipuzkoa | 22,6 | 6,7 | -2,4 | -0,7 | +1,0 | +0,2 |
| INACTIVE POPULATION/INACTIVITY RATE | 816,9 | 43,7 | -2,4 | -0,2 | -15,0 | -0,9 |
| HOUSEHOLDS | 837,0 | | +1,1 | | -3,1 | |
| Households with 1 or more active | 578,6 | 69,1 | +3,7 | | +7,4 | |
| - All employed | 501,6 | 59,9 | +7,3 | | +1,6 | |
| - All unemployed | 28,2 | 3,4 | +0,2 | | +4,8 | |
| Households without active members | 258,4 | 30,9 | -2,5 | | -10,4 | |

*p.p. = Difference in percentage points

Source: EUSTAT.PRA

For further information:

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Databank on population in relation to activity survey (PRA)