

The average expenditure per household in the Basque Country in 2012 was similar to that of 2006

Spending on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels increased the most between 2006 and 2012, by 25.9%

Average household expenditure was 33,118 euros in 2012, 2.2% less than the previous year and almost the same as in 2006, according to Eustat data. If we focus on the **structure of expenditure**, the three main expenditure groups in the consumption structure of Basque households in 2012 were *Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels*, accounting for an average total household expenditure of 34.8%, followed by *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, at 13.7% and expenditure on *Hotels, cafés and restaurants* at 10.0%. Following these were *Transport* (10.0%), *Other goods and services* (7.3%) and *Leisure, entertainment and culture* (6.0%).

Regarding the evolution of expenditure, there was a notable increase in average household spending on *Housing, water, electricity and other fuels*, the largest category, which registered a rise of 25.9% in 2012 with respect to 2006, although it did fall by 1.5% with respect to 2011. In second place in terms of category size, expenditure on *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, registered a fall of 2.9% with respect to 2006 and of 4.2% with respect to the previous year. Expenditure on *Transport*, a significant part of the expenditure structure of Basque households (10%), also fell sharply with respect to 2006 (-24.3%), although it rose slightly in relation to 2011 (0.5%). Spending on *Clothes & Footwear* and on *Leisure, entertainment and culture* dropped below 2006 levels, with falls of 22.5% and 16.9% respectively. However, they showed different trends with respect to 2011, as the former continued to fall (-8.3%) while spending on culture rose by 3%.

Table 1. Average expenditure per household by expenditure group *) in the Basque Country 2006-2012 (€). Provisional data

	2006	2011	2012	2012/2006 Δ %	2012/2011 Δ
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	33.120	33.846	33.118	0,0	-2,2
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	4.665	4.730	4.530	-2,9	-4,2
02 Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotic drugs	491	584	597	21,7	2,2
03 Garments and footwear	2.097	1.772	1.624	-22,5	-8,3
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	9.158	11.702	11.530	25,9	-1,5
05 Furniture, household amenities and periodical expenditure on fittings and furnishings for the dwelling	1.761	1.703	1.500	-14,8	-11,9
06 Health	963	1.102	942	-2,2	-14,5
07 Transports	4.356	3.282	3.298	-24,3	0,5
08 Communications	805	954	933	15,8	-2,3
09 Leisure, entertainment and culture	2.372	1.915	1.972	-16,9	3,0
10 Education	414	433	458	10,7	5,9
11 Hotels, cafés and restaurants	3.523	3.275	3.312	-6,0	1,1
12 Other goods and services	2.514	2.393	2.421	-3,7	1,1

* COICOP to 2 digits

Source: EUSTAT. Family Expenditure Statistics

Average expenditure per person reached 13,648 euros, with a drop in current expenditure of 0.9% with respect to the previous year, which contrasts with the growth of 8.7% that occurred between 2006 and 2011.

In absolute terms, **total expenditure** on consumption in 2012 fell by 1.1% with respect to 2011, with different trends in the various expenditure groups. Thus, the two most significant groups in order of expenditure, *Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels* and *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* were down by 0.4% and 3.2% respectively. However, the level of total expenditure on *Hotels, cafés and restaurants* was up by 2.2%. The most significant decrease in percentage terms was produced in *Healthcare* with an expenditure situated at 838 million euros (13.6% down on the previous year).

Table 2. Total expenditure in the Basque Country by expenditure group (*) 2011-2012 (Thousands €). Provisional data

	2011	2012	2012/2006 Δ %	2012 %
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	29.773.860	29.444.140	-1,1	100,0
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	4.160.666	4.027.321	-3,2	13,7
02 Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotic drugs	514.091	531.174	3,3	1,8
03 Garments and footwear	1.559.170	1.444.280	-7,4	4,9
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	10.294.236	10.251.078	-0,4	34,8
05 Furniture, household amenities and periodical expenditure on fittings and furnishings for the dwelling	1.498.350	1.333.505	-11,0	4,5
06 Health	969.209	837.637	-13,6	2,8
07 Transports	2.886.686	2.932.346	1,6	10,0
08 Communications	839.563	829.309	-1,2	2,8
09 Leisure, entertainment and culture	1.684.556	1.752.883	4,1	6,0
10 Education	380.524	407.286	7,0	1,4
11 Hotels, cafés and restaurants	2.881.320	2.944.980	2,2	10,0
12 Other goods and services	2.105.490	2.152.341	2,2	7,3

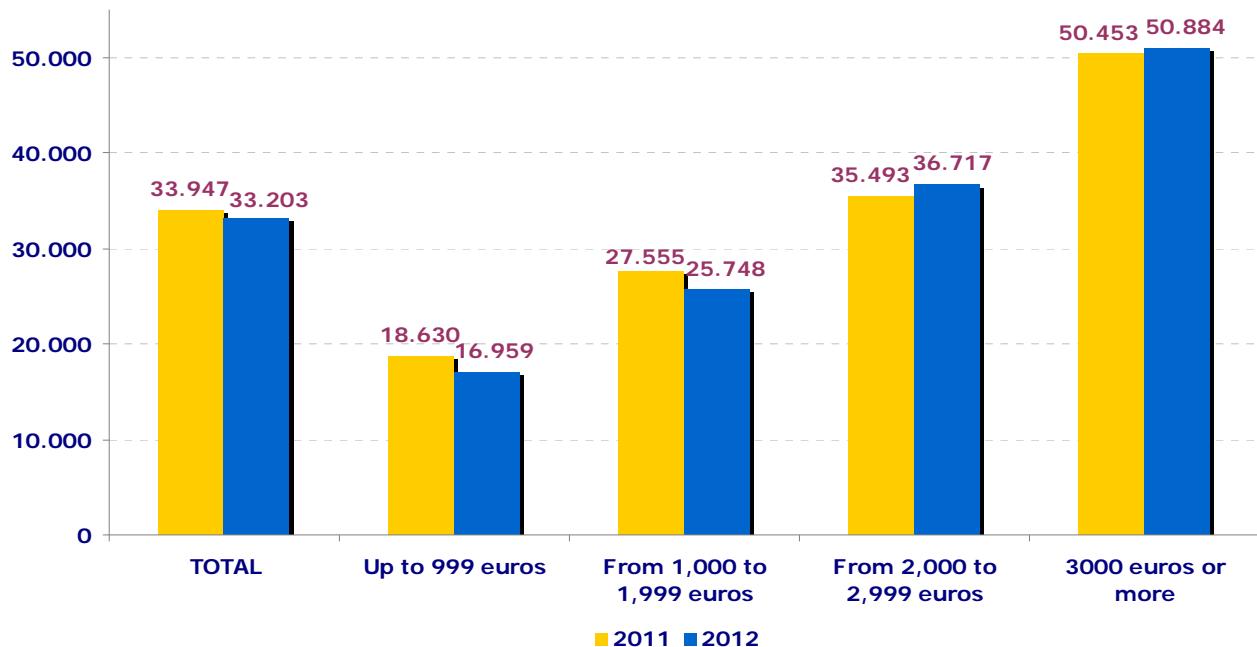
* COICOP to 2 digits

Source: EUSTAT. Family Expenditure Statistics

If we look at the average household expenditure **according to the level of net monthly household income**, significant differences can be seen between households with the lowest and the highest incomes. In 2012, in households with a monthly income below 1,000 euros there was an average annual expenditure per household of 16,959 euros, whilst households with a monthly income of 3,000 euros or more generated an annual expenditure of 50,884 euros.

Households with the lowest monthly income (up to 999 euros), as well those with incomes between 1,000 and 1,999 euros, both saw a drop in the level of average expenditure per household with respect to 2011, of 9.0% and 6.6% respectively. On the other hand, households with the highest level of income increased their level of expenditure: by 3.4% in households with an income between 2,000 and 2,999 euros and by 0.9% in those of 3,000 euros or more.

Graph 1.- Average spending per household (*) in the Basque Country according to the level of net monthly income 2011-2012 (€). Provisional data



(*) Households with income

Source: EUSTAT. Family Expenditure Statistics

Finally, if we observe expenditure **according to the geographical location of the family**, the largest average household expenditure was produced in municipalities of fewer than 10,000 inhabitants, with an expenditure of 35,122 euros per household, 6.1% above the average for the Autonomous Region. The lowest average expenditure per household (€32,704) was produced in households situated in municipalities of between 10,000 and 100,000 inhabitants.

Note: The survey on family expenditure is carried out in collaboration with the Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE). The data of previous years were recalculated according to new population estimates calculated by the INE.

For further information:

Eustat - Euskal Estatistika Erakundea / Instituto Vasco de Estadística

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

Press Service: servicioprensa@eustat.es Tlf: 945 01 75 62

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