

MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS STATISTICS OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (EMM) 2012

The migratory balance for the Basque Country was positive in 2012, although it fell by 34%

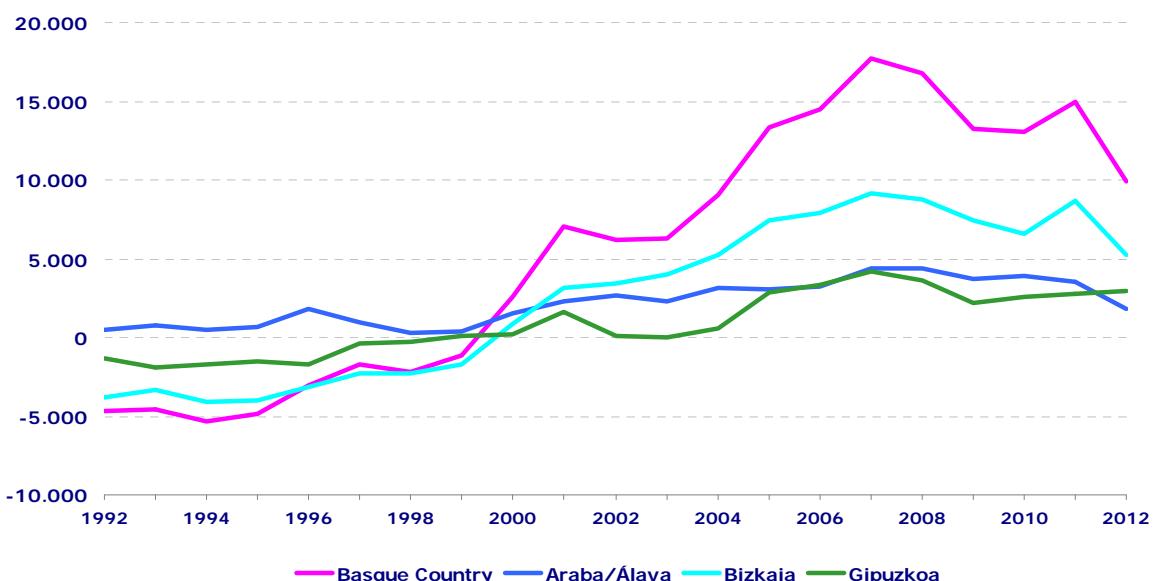
Thirteen years of positive balances and, for the first time in 24 years, the migratory balance with the other Autonomous Regions exceeds the foreign migratory balance

In 2012 the migratory balance for the Basque Country was positive once again, with 9,949 more people arriving than leaving, according to EUSTAT data. It is the thirteenth consecutive year in which a positive migratory balance was posted for the Basque Country, although it fell by 34% with respect to 2011, from 14,986 to 9,949 people.

By provinces, Bizkaia, which gained 4,867 people, had the highest migratory balance in absolute figures, although it was down 42% compared to 2011. Álava gained 1,773 people and saw its balance fall by 52% with respect to the previous year. Gipuzkoa, with 3,309 individuals, was the only province to increase its balance, by 12% with respect to the previous year. By capitals, Vitoria-Gasteiz and Bilbao had positive balances of 1,705 and 1,390 people, respectively, whilst Donostia-San Sebastián posted a slightly negative balance of 93 people.

Graph 1.- Evolution of the migratory balance by Province

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Source: EUSTAT. Migratory movements in the Basque Country (EMM)

With regard to the movements that occur between the Basque Country and the other Autonomous Regions, there was a positive balance of 5,266 people in 2012; that is there were more immigrations to the Basque Country from other Autonomous Regions than emigrations from it. It is also the first year, since Eustat started publishing these statistics, in which this balance exceeds the balance with foreign countries, which was 4,683, as the number of people of foreign origin fell by 46% with respect to 2011.

8.9% of the Basque population changed their place of residence in 2012, with the mobility on 74% of the occasions being within the Basque Country, whilst in the other cases the mobility was extra-community.

In total, 194,969 changes of normal places of residency were recorded in the Basque Country, and from this figure, 96,092 were changes of address within the same municipality. Intra-community mobility, in other words, where the origin and destination are different municipalities of the Basque Country, stood at 48,608 movements. There were also 30,109 extra-community or external immigrations, which are those that have their origin outside the Autonomous Region and where the destination is the Basque Country. Of these immigrations, 8,957 came from abroad. Finally, there were 20,160 cases of external or extra-community emigration, in other words, residential variations originating in a municipality of the Autonomous Region and with the destination outside it, 4,274 of which were to destinations abroad; the latter increased by 6% with respect to 2011.

Table 1.- Evolution of migratory movements and balances. Basque Country

Year	Emigrations		Emmigrants		Migratory balance
	Total	Variation Index (1988=100)	Total	Variation Index (1988=100)	Total
1988	18.103	100	8.014	100	-10.089
1992	13.668	76	9.006	112	-4.662
1995	16.130	89	11.316	141	-4.814
1999	17.291	96	16.103	201	-1.188
2000	17.462	96	20.022	250	2.560
2001	18.696	103	25.775	322	7.079
2002	19.730	109	25.967	324	6.237
2003	22.216	123	28.467	355	6.251
2004	21.304	118	30.328	378	9.024
2005	20.672	114	33.993	424	13.321
2006	22.689	125	37.147	464	14.458
2007	23.669	131	41.361	516	17.692
2008	22.389	124	39.190	489	16.801
2009	21.232	117	34.486	430	13.254
2010	21.206	117	34.234	427	13.028
2011	21.380	118	36.366	454	14.986
2012	20.160	111	30.109	376	9.949

Source: EUSTAT. Migratory movements in the Basque Country (EMM)

Basque geographical mobility is on a much smaller scale if compared to the other Autonomous Regions

In 2012 external or extra-community geographical mobility, which involved 23 per thousand inhabitants of the Basque Country (Álava 26.9‰, Bizkaia 23.1‰ and Gipuzkoa 21.1‰), was relatively small if compared to the other autonomous regions, where 37 per thousand inhabitants moved on average.

With the exception of the Autonomous Region of Extremadura, the other Autonomous Regions contributed more population to the Basque Country than they received from it.

The Autonomous Regions that attracted the emigrants from the Basque Country were as follows, in order: Madrid, Castilla y León, Cantabria, Catalonia, Navarra and Andalusia. Between them they received 63% of the people who left our Region for other Autonomous Regions of the State.

In 2012 immigrations of foreign nationals stood at 14,883 individuals, but this is 5,890 (-29%) less than the previous year. 7,300 of these came to the Basque Country from other Autonomous Regions, especially from Catalonia, Madrid, Comunidad Valenciana, Andalusia and Castilla y León. The other 7,583 foreign immigrants came directly from abroad (32% less than in 2011).

Emigrations of foreign nationals rose to 6,349. Almost a third of those who abandoned our Region were foreign nationals: specifically 31% of all emigrants. The destination for 63% of them was another other Autonomous Region of Spain.

The average age of the emigrants (35.1 years old) was higher than that of the immigrants (32.8 years old). If the gender variable of the population in question is taken into account, both for immigration and emigration, the percentage of men is slightly higher than that of women, with 52% men and 48% women.

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Databank on migratory movements in the Basque Country*