

## Three out of every four buildings built between 2001 and 2011 are accessible

***In the last decade there has been a breakthrough in the accessibility of buildings intended for housing***

According to the Population and Housing Censuses in 2011, prepared by Eustat, 28% of the buildings in the Basque Country are accessible, i.e. providing direct lift access, either at the main or a secondary entrance, with no steps or if there are any, a ramp that allows people with mobility limitations to overcome them without difficulty and in addition, a large enough entrance without obstacles in order to manoeuvre a wheelchair.

With regards to this statistic, in the buildings built between 2001 and 2011, the proportion rose to 75.4%, more than double the number built between the 1991 and 2001 (30.4%).

By province, Álava has the highest proportion of buildings with accessible housing, 33.5%, followed by Gipuzkoa, with 28% and Bizkaia, with 26.7%. In turn, continuing with provinces, Vitoria-Gasteiz is without doubt the capital of the three provinces with better accessibility in its buildings (41.7%), probably due to a higher volume of recent construction in the city, followed by Bilbao (29.9%), and finally Donostia/San Sebastián (27.7%).

By municipality, it is in Alto Deba where the highest proportion of buildings with accessible housing are found (46.7%). In contrast, the region of Montaña Alavesa has the lowest proportion (10.5%).

### Half of the buildings of the Basque Country were built in the last 40 years

As to the year of construction of the buildings in the Basque Country, 52.5% were built from 1971, 16.5% in the 1960s, 11% in the 1950s and 20% before 1950.

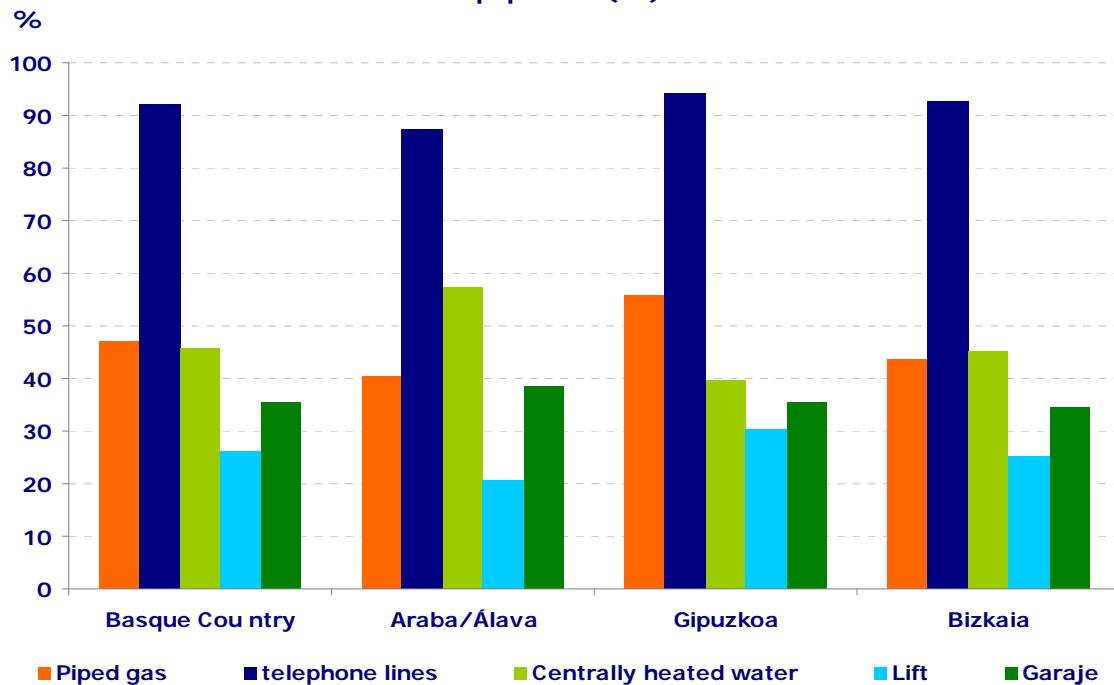
13.3% of the buildings of the Basque Country have been built in this century. This average is exceeded in Álava, with 20%, compared to just over 11% in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa. Furthermore, in Llanada Alavesa the proportion increased to 26% and exceeded the 40% in the municipalities of Alegria-Dulantzi, Irura, Ziortza-Bolibar, Etxebarri, Larraul y Ribera Baja/Erribera Beitia. However, in Montaña Alavesa and in Markina-Ondarroa, the proportion did not reach 10% as with 105 other municipalities, with minimums in Baños de Ebro/Mañueta y Mendaro (1%).

### More than 9 out of every 10 buildings have telephone lines installed in the Basque Country

In relation to the equipment available in the buildings in the Basque Country, 92.2% possess a telephone line, nearly half have gas supplied via a pipe (46.9%) and central hot water (45.9%), more than a third have a garage (35.6%) and 26% have a lift.

By province, Gipuzkoa has the highest percentage of residential buildings with piped gas (55.8%) telephone lines (94.3%) and lifts (30%) and it is in Álava where the highest proportion of buildings with central hot water (57.4%) and garages (38.5%), are found.

**Graphic 1: Residential housing in the Basque Country by territorial scope and equipment (%)**



Source: Eustat. Population and Housing Census 2011

**Less than 1% of the residential buildings of the Basque Country have an unpaved path of access to the building, or lack a path**

With regard to the quality of the public thoroughfare leading to the building, more than 99% of residential buildings in the Basque Country have paved pathway access and a further 7.2% are in pedestrian areas; 1% have access to the building via stairs or steps and 1.2% have access via a ramp.

Bizkaia is where the highest proportion of buildings with unpaved paths are found, just over 1%, in pedestrian areas 8.6%, and with access via stairs or steps, 1.5%. Gipuzkoa, perhaps due to its orography, has the largest percentage of buildings with access via a ramp, 1.8%.

**For further information:**

Eustat - Euskal Estatistika Erakundea / Instituto Vasco de Estadística

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

Press Service: [servicioprensa@eustat.es](mailto:servicioprensa@eustat.es) Tf: 945 01 75 62

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