

**BIRTH STATISTICS OF THE BASQUE COUNTRY (ENAC) 4TH QUARTER 2013**

## Births fell by 6,5% in the fourth quarter of 2013

### ***Nearly 20% of mothers were foreign nationals***

In the fourth quarter of 2013 the number of births in the Basque Country stood at 4,587, 6.5% down on the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data.

18.3% of women who gave birth in the Basque Country in the autumn of 2013 were foreigners. This percentage was only higher in Álava, where it stood at 25.5%, whereas in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa the number of non-Spanish mothers stood at 16.4% and 17.7%, respectively.

All provinces saw a decrease in the number of registered births: Gipuzkoa, with 1,506 boys and girls, experienced the steepest decline (-7.4%); Bizkaia and Álava, with 2,323 and 758 births, respectively, posted downturns of 7% and 3.3% compared to the same quarter of last year.

### ***80% of mothers were over 30 years of age***

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 38.2% of the births took place. This group was followed by the group immediately above it (mothers aged 35-39), which accounted for 34.8% of births, doubling that of the 25-29 age group, with 13.9% of births. The number of mothers above the age of 40 (7.5%) exceeded those under 25 (5.6%).

The age of maternity also varied according to nationality. In fact, the average age of foreign mothers was 29.8, compared to 33.9 for mothers with Spanish nationality.

### ***The number of births of unmarried mothers came close to 40%***

Births outside marriage in the fourth quarter of 2013 accounted for 38.8% of the total, up nearly two percentage points on the number registered for the same period in 2012.

According to the order of birth, over half (55.2%) of births, or 2,531, were first-borns; 1,672 (36.5%) were born into families that already had a child, and the number of third children and later stood at 384 (8.4%).

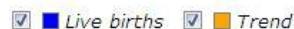
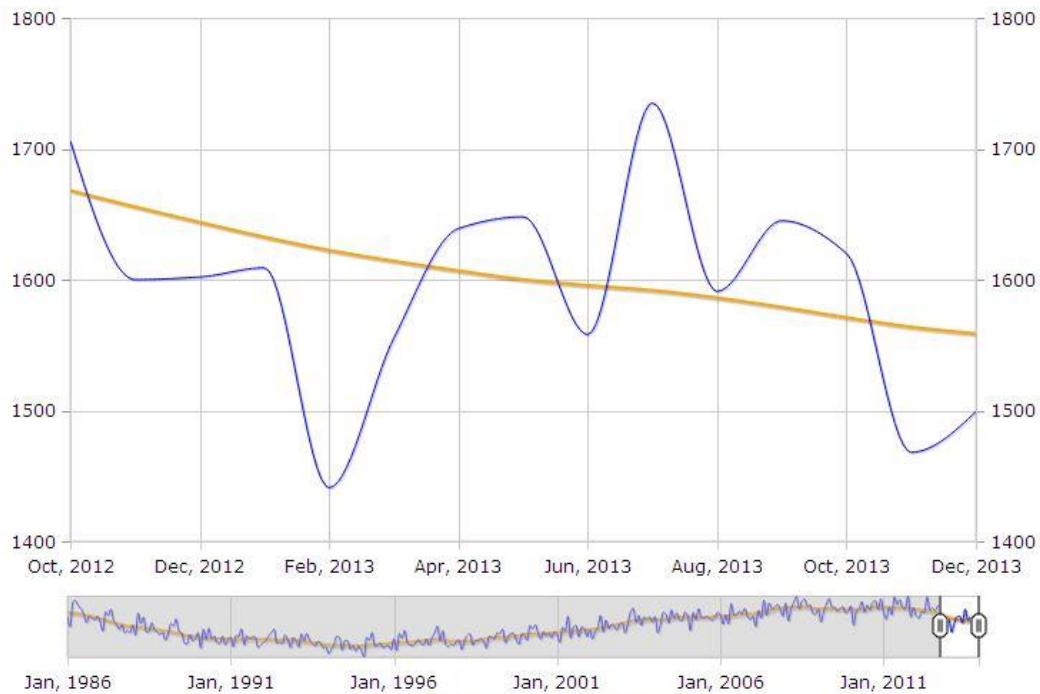
Of the total number of births in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013, 1,620 took place in October, 1,468 in November and 1,499 in December.

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

	4th quarter 2013		Previous quarter		Same quarter the previous year	
	(3rd quarter 2013)		(4th quarter 2013)			
	No	%	No	%	No	%
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>4.587</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.971</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.908</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Araba / Álava	758	16,5	779	15,7	784	16,0
Bizkaia	2.323	50,6	2.578	51,9	2.498	50,9
Gipuzkoa	1.506	32,8	1.614	32,5	1.626	33,1
<b>According to age of mother</b>	<b>4.587</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.971</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.908</b>	<b>100,0</b>
≤ 24 years	257	5,6	265	5,3	280	5,7
25 - 29 years	638	13,9	657	13,2	677	13,8
30 - 34 years	1.752	38,2	1.914	38,5	1.891	38,5
35 - 39 years	1.595	34,8	1.735	34,9	1.702	34,7
≥ 40	345	7,5	400	8,0	358	7,3
<b>According to the marital status of the mother</b>	<b>4.587</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.971</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.908</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Married	2.805	61,2	3.084	62,0	3.097	63,1
Not married	1.782	38,8	1.887	38,0	1.811	36,9
<b>Nationality of the mother</b>	<b>4.587</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.971</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.908</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Spanish	3.746	81,7	4.109	82,7	4.055	82,6
Foreign	841	18,3	862	17,3	853	17,4
<b>Order of birth</b>	<b>4.587</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.971</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.908</b>	<b>100,0</b>
First	2.531	55,2	2.720	54,7	2.751	56,1
Second	1.672	36,5	1.816	36,5	1.746	35,6
Third or posterior	384	8,4	435	8,8	411	8,4

Source: Eustat. Birth Statistics of the Basque Country

Live births to mothers residing in the Basque Country and registered in the Basque Country. Monthly data

Source: Eustat. Birth statistics of the Basque Country

**For further information:**

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 Database on **BIRTH STATISTICS of the Basque Country**