

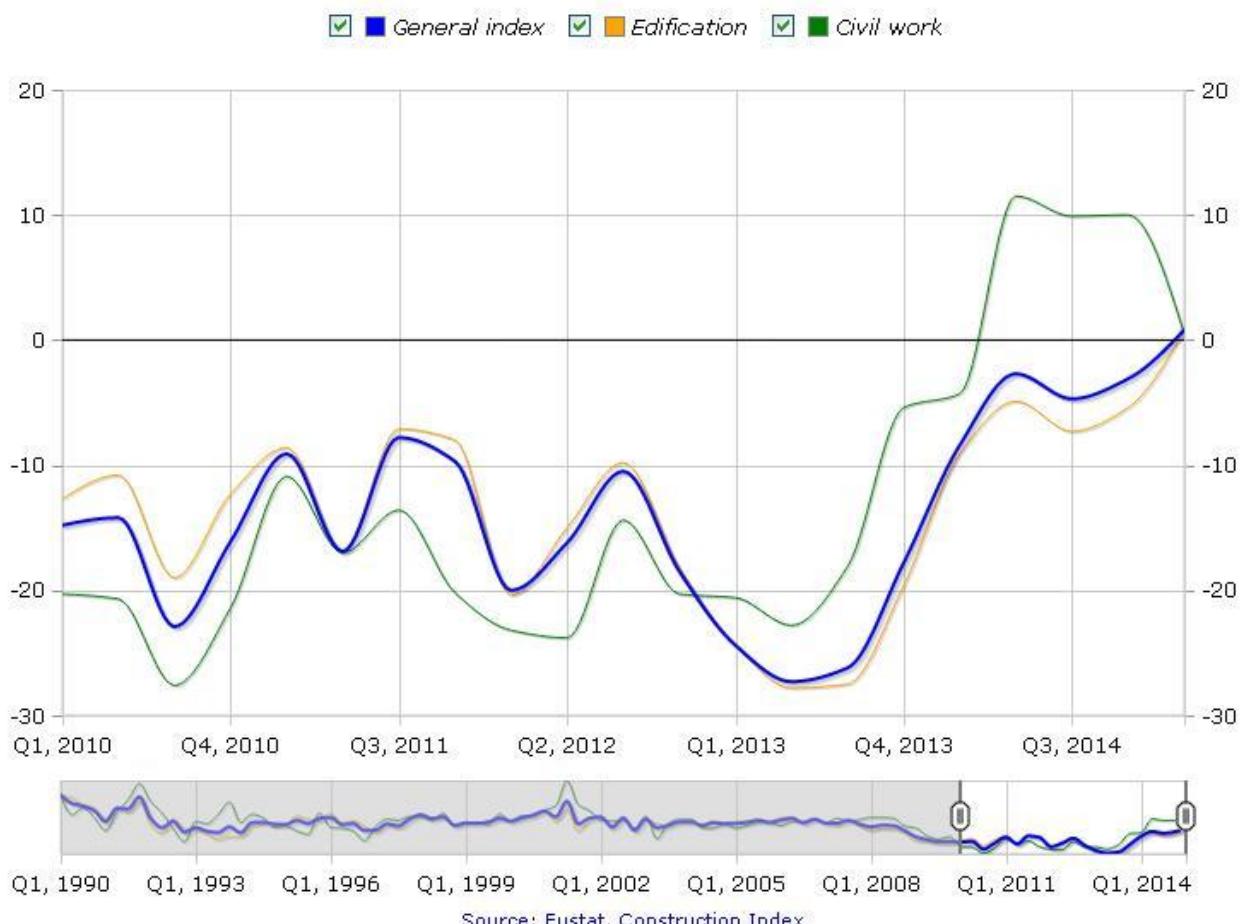
The Construction sector in the Basque Country rose by 0.8% in the first quarter of 2015

The first positive variation since the third quarter of 2008

Construction activity in the Basque Country registered a year-on-year nominal upturn of 0.8% in the first quarter of 2015, in homogeneous terms of the working calendar, according to data prepared by EUSTAT. It is the first positive variation seen in the sector after 25 consecutive quarters of decreases.

Once corrected for seasonal factors, the Construction sector grew by 0.5% in this first quarter of 2015 compared to the fourth quarter of 2014.

Year-on-year variation rate of the construction index in the Basque Country. (%)
 Corrected for calendar effects



The rise in the Construction sector in this quarter was due to both the positive performance of the Building subsector, which registered a year-on-year upturn of 0.8%, and the Civil Works subsector, which posted a rise of 0.5%.

In quarter-on-quarter terms, if the activity of the sector in the first quarter of 2015 is compared to the previous quarter, the Civil Works subsector posted a downturn of 7.5%, whereas the Building subsector rose by 2.1%.

Employment in the Construction sector saw a decrease of 0.4% in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the fourth quarter of 2014.

Table 1: Construction index, Basque Country. Variation Rates (%). I/2015

	Corrected		Deseasonalised	
	1st Q15/1st Q14	At/At-1 (1)	1st Q15/4th Q14	4th Q14/3rd Q14
Production Index	0,8	0,8	0,5	0,3
Building	0,8	0,8	2,1	0,0
Public works	0,5	0,5	-7,5	1,9
Indices of employed personnel	-	-	-0,4	0,8

(1) Year on year variation rate of the accumulated period from the first quarter to the last quarter of year t compared to the same period of the year t-1

Source: Eustat. Construction Index

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Further press releases on Construction index of the Basque Country (ICC)
 Database on Construction index of the Basque Country (ICC)