

## Births in the Basque Country fell by 5.5% in the second quarter of 2015

### ***Babies born to unmarried mothers accounted for 41%***

The number of births in the Basque Country in the second quarter of 2015 stood at 4,674, a figure 5.5% lower than that recorded in the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data. The decline occurred in two of the three provinces, Álava and Bizkaia, with 6.7% and 9.2%, respectively, whereas in Gipuzkoa births rose by 0.9%. Specifically, in Álava 771 girls and boys were born, 2,298 were born in Bizkaia and 1,605 in Gipuzkoa.

During April, May and June 2015 births outside marriage accounted for 40.8% of the total, a greater percentage than the 38.5% recorded in the same quarter of 2014. Gipuzkoa, with 38.6%, was the only province with values lower than those of the Basque Country as a whole; in Bizkaia and Álava the percentages were higher, 42.3% and 41%, respectively.

According to the order of birth in the second quarter of 2015 more than half, 2,440, were first children; 1,791 girls and boys (38.3%) arrived in families that already had another son or daughter, and the percentage of third or subsequent children stood at 9.5%.

### ***In almost 2 out of 10 births the mothers were under 30 years of age***

Regarding the distribution of births according to age, the group of mothers between the ages of 30-34 continued to be in the majority, producing 38% of births. They were immediately followed by the 35-39 age group, with 35.6%. With percentages significantly lower than the previous groups was the 25 to 29 age group (13.8%) and the extreme age groups: the under-25s, accounting for 4.6%, and the over-40s, with 7.8% of births.

The age of maternity for single mothers was lower than that for women who had children as a whole, with 8.6% of single mothers being under the age of 25 and 15.6% between the ages of 25 and 29.

### ***18.2% of mothers were foreign nationals***

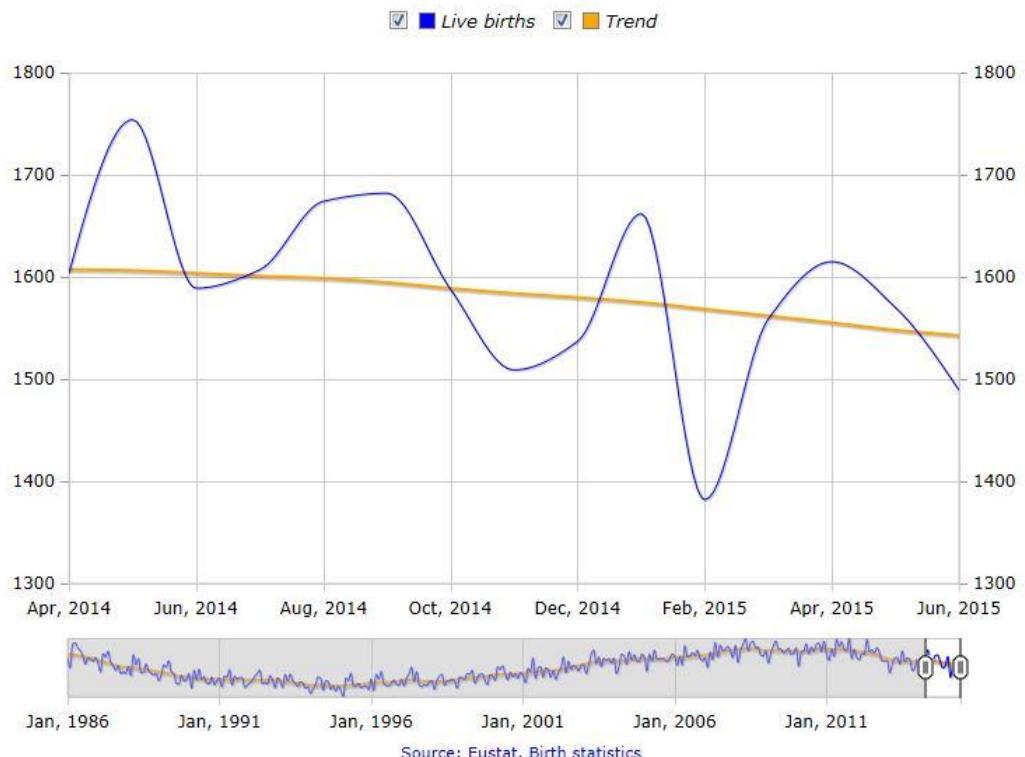
In 18.2% of births in the Basque Country during the spring months of 2015, the mother was a foreign national. This average was significantly higher in Álava where it stood at 25.2%, against the 15.8% in Bizkaia and the 18.3% in Gipuzkoa.

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

	2nd quarter 2015		Previous quarter (1st quarter 2015)		Same quarter the previous year (2nd quarter 2014)	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>4.674</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.947</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Araba / Álava	771	16,5	761	16,5	826	16,7
Bizkaia	2.298	49,2	2.255	49,0	2.530	51,1
Gipuzkoa	1.605	34,3	1.587	34,5	1.591	32,2
<b>According to age of mother</b>	<b>4.674</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.947</b>	<b>100,0</b>
≤ 24 years	217	4,6	253	5,5	287	5,8
25 - 29 years	647	13,8	601	13,1	692	14,0
30 - 34 years	1.778	38,0	1.754	38,1	1.936	39,1
35 - 39 years	1.666	35,6	1.601	34,8	1.660	33,6
≥ 40	366	7,8	394	8,6	372	7,5
<b>According to the marital status of the mother</b>	<b>4.674</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.947</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Married	2.767	59,2	2.710	58,9	3.042	61,5
Not married	1.907	40,8	1.893	41,1	1.905	38,5
<b>Nationality of the mother</b>	<b>4.674</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.947</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Spanish	3.822	81,8	3.701	80,4	4.084	82,6
Foreign	852	18,2	902	19,6	863	17,4
<b>Order of birth</b>	<b>4.674</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.947</b>	<b>100,0</b>
First	2.440	52,2	2.372	51,5	2.535	51,2
Second	1.791	38,3	1.788	38,8	1.948	39,4
Third or posterior	443	9,5	443	9,6	464	9,4

Source: Eustat. Birth statistics

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



Source: Eustat. Birth statistics

**For further information:**

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Further press releases on birth statistics of the Basque Country

Database on birth statistics of the Basque Country