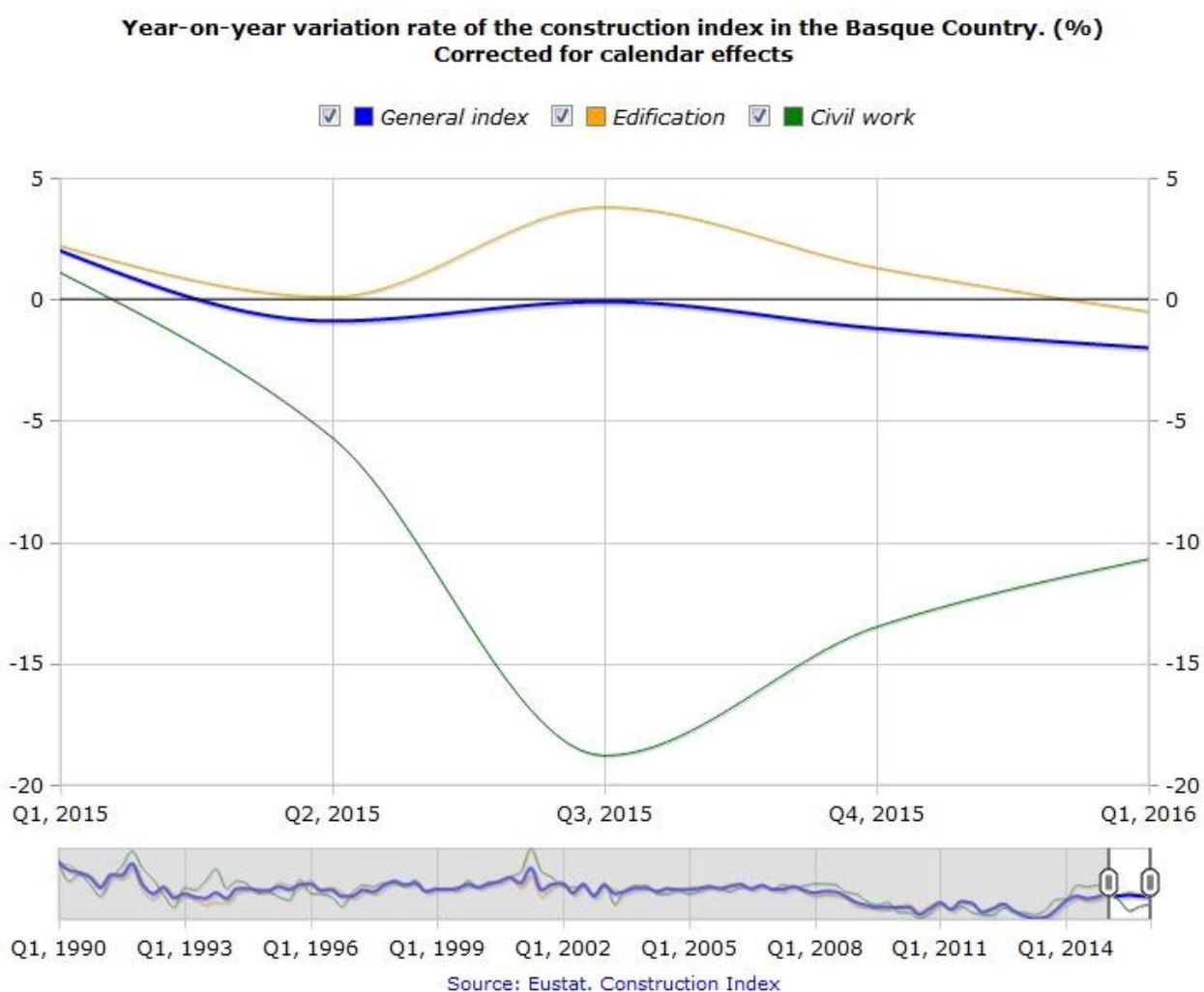


## The Construction sector in the Basque Country fell by 2.0% in the first quarter of 2016

***Building contracted by 0.5%, whilst Civil Works registered a decrease of 10.7%***

Construction activity in the Basque Country registered a year-on-year nominal downturn of 2.0% in the first quarter of 2016, in homogeneous terms of the working calendar, according to data prepared by EUSTAT.

Once corrected for seasonal factors, the Construction sector fell by 0.3% in this first quarter of 2016 compared to the fourth quarter of 2015.



The downturn in the Construction sector this quarter was due, in particular, to the negative performance of the Civil Works sub-sector, which posted a year-on-year decrease of 10.7%, whereas the Building sub-sector, though it also decreased, did so much more moderately (-0.5%).

In quarter-on-quarter terms, if the activity of the sector in the first quarter of 2016 is compared to the previous quarter, the Civil Works subsector posted a downturn of 3.8%, whereas the Building subsector rose by 0.2%.

Employment in the Construction sector saw a decrease of 0.6% in the first quarter of 2016 compared to the fourth quarter of 2015.

**Table 1: Construction Index, Basque Country. Variation Rates (%). I/2016**

	Corrected		Deseasonalised	
	I/2016 / I/2015	At/At-1 (1)	I/2016 / IV/2015	IV/2015 / III/2015
<b>Production Index</b>	-2,0	-2,0	-0,3	-0,1
Building	-0,5	-0,5	0,2	-0,9
Public works	-10,7	-10,7	-3,8	4,8
<b>Indices of employed personnel</b>	-	-	-0,6	-0,5

(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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**For further information:**

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

Database on Construction index of the Basque Country (ICC)