

The unemployment rate fell to 13.9%, and the number of people in work rose by 9,300 in the second quarter of 2016 in the Basque Country

The active population grew and the activity rate stood at 57.3%

The data from the labour market in the Basque Country from the second quarter of 2016 showed that there were 903,900 people in work, which was an increase of 9,300 compared with the previous quarter (+1%), according to Eustat data. On the other hand, the unemployment rate of the Basque Country stood at 13.9%, 0.5 percentage points lower than the first quarter of 2016.

As a result of the change in the working and unemployed population, the activity rate was 57.3% in the second quarter of 2016, 0.2 percentage points above that of the previous quarter.

As for gender, the number of people in work rose equally between men and women (+4,700). The province that saw the greatest increase was Bizkaia, with 7,700 more employed individuals, followed by Gipuzkoa with 4,100 more, whereas in Álava it dropped by 2,300.

The services sector is the one that grew the most in terms of population in work

The working population increased by 10,400 in the services sector, by 2,200 in construction and by 700 in the primary sector, whilst in industry it decreased by 4,000.

The employment rate, calculated as the percentage of people in work aged 16 to 64 over the total for these ages, was up by 0.9 percentage points compared to the previous quarter, standing at 65.7%. This figure reached 68.8% for men and 62.5% for women.

By province, the highest employment rate turned out to be that of Gipuzkoa, with 67.6% and an increase of 1.4 percentage points compared to the previous quarter; this was followed by Álava, with a rate of 65% and decrease of one percentage point; lastly, Bizkaia had the lowest rate, with 64.7% and an increase of one percentage point in the last quarter.

In 483,100 households, all active individuals were employed

In the second quarter of 2016 it was estimated that there were 872,400 households in the Basque Country, a third of which did not have any active individuals. In just over half of households, all of the active individuals were in work, 1,400 families more than the previous quarter; furthermore, households where all active individuals were unemployed stood at 50,400 (5.8% of the total), following a decrease of 3,100.

The unemployment rate fell to 13.9%, 0.5 percentage points less than the previous quarter

The unemployed population in the Basque country, that is, individuals who are available for work, actively making enquiries and seeking employment, was estimated to be 146,100 in the second quarter of the year, 4,600 down from the previous quarter. The number of unemployed men, 78,600 individuals, was down by 2,600, whilst the number of unemployed women fell by 2,000, reaching a total of 67,500 for the quarter.

The data for the second quarter of 2016 revealed an unemployment rate of 13.9%, 0.5 points less than the previous quarter. The male unemployment rate fell to 14.2% (0.5 percentage points down) and the female rate was down by the same amount, reaching 13.6%. The youth unemployment rate continued to be the highest, and stood at 31.8% (a decrease of 2.3 percentage points), affecting 14,800 active young people between the ages of 16 and 24.

By province, the greatest decrease in the number of people out of work was in Gipuzkoa (-3,800 individuals) where the unemployment rate stood at 10.7%, 1.2 percentage points down on the previous quarter. In Álava, with 22,800 individuals out of work, the number of unemployed fell by 500, with the unemployment rate remaining as it was the previous quarter (14.5%). In Bizkaia, there were 300 fewer unemployed individuals than the previous quarter and the unemployment rate stood at 15.7%.

According to EUROSTAT, the Statistical Office of the European Union, in May 2016 the overall unemployment rate of the European Union-28 stood at 8.6% and that of Spain stood at 19.8%.

Last year, the number of people in work increased and the number of people out of work decreased

The number of people in work in the Basque Country rose by 9,400 compared to the second quarter of 2015. This rise was mainly concentrated amongst women, with 7,100 more in work, whilst the number of women in work was up by 2,300.

The unemployment rate was down by 1.3 percentage points (from 15.2% to 13.9%), with 14,000 fewer individuals unemployed in the Basque Country compared to the data from the second quarter of 2015.

98.3% of average registered workers were in work, according to ILO criteria

It is estimated that there were 834,300 registered workers for the quarter on average in the Basque Country, i.e. the number of individuals residing in the Basque Country who were registered for Social Security at the time of the survey. Of those, the PRA estimates that 98.3% were employed, according to criteria from the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which totals 819,900 individuals.

Furthermore, of the 834,300 average registered workers estimated, 768,800 (92.1%) of those remained registered during the quarter on a continuous basis, or with a temporary interruption, whilst the rest of these individuals - 65,500 registered workers - were either newly registered, or they left the register in the second quarter of 2016.

Amongst those employed according to ILO criteria in the PRA, 70,900 people, 7.8%, were not registered for Social Security in companies based in the Basque Country, which may belong to public mutual societies for civil servants or companies from other Autonomous Regions or situations.

30.6% of those unemployed were not registered as unemployed in Lanbide

It is estimated that there was a quarterly average of 135,200 registered unemployed individuals in Lanbide, i.e. individuals residing in the Basque Country who were registered in Lanbide at the time of the survey in any one of the categories designated for registered unemployment. Of those, 71.7% were unemployed according to the ILO definition (96,900 unemployed individuals).

Additionally, of the 135,200 individuals registered as unemployed in the Lanbide on average, 113,200 (83.7%) were individuals who remained registered throughout the quarter, or who were temporarily off the register. The other 22,000 individuals either registered for the first time, or they left the Lanbide register in the second quarter of 2016.

Of the individuals unemployed according to the ILO definition in the PRA, 30.6% were not registered as unemployed in Lanbide (44,700 individuals), even though they may be registered under other categories.

Population in relation to Activity in the Basque Country (1). II/2016

	II/2016	I/2016	Variation over previous quarter	
	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	%
POPULATION AGED 16 AND OVER	1.832,4	1.831,0	+1,4	0,1
ACTIVE POPULATION	1.050,0	1.045,3	+4,7	+0,4
Males	553,4	551,3	+2,1	+0,4
Females	496,6	494,0	+2,6	+0,5
Araba/Álava	157,3	160,2	-2,9	-1,8
Bizkaia	555,9	548,5	+7,4	+1,3
Gipuzkoa	336,8	336,6	+0,2	+0,1
EMPLOYED POPULATION	903,9	894,6	+9,3	+1,0
Males	474,8	470,1	+4,7	+1,0
Females	429,1	424,4	+4,7	+1,1
Araba/Álava	134,6	136,9	-2,3	-1,7
Bizkaia	468,7	461,0	+7,7	+1,7
Gipuzkoa	300,7	296,6	+4,1	+1,4
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	9,9	9,2	+0,7	+7,6
Industry	185,0	189,0	-4,0	-2,1
Construction	47,8	45,6	+2,2	+4,8
Services	661,1	650,7	+10,4	+1,6
Wage earners	723,4	711,8	+11,6	+1,6
- With permanent contract	526,2	520,8	+5,4	+1,0
- With temporary contract and without contract	197,3	191,0	+6,3	+3,3
Non-wage earners	180,5	182,8	-2,3	-1,3
UNEMPLOYED POPULATION	146,1	150,7	-4,6	-3,1
Males	78,6	81,2	-2,6	-3,2
Females	67,5	69,5	-2,0	-2,9
16 - 24	14,8	15,2	-0,4	-2,6
25 - 44	78,6	82,0	-3,4	-4,1
45 and over	52,6	53,6	-1,0	-1,9
Araba/Álava	22,8	23,3	-0,5	-2,1
Bizkaia	87,2	87,5	-0,3	-0,3
Gipuzkoa	36,1	39,9	-3,8	-9,5
INACTIVE POPULATION	782,3	785,8	-3,5	-0,4
HOUSEHOLDS	872,4	872,4	+0,0	+0,0
Households with 1 or more active	597,5	596,2	+1,3	+0,2
- All employed	483,1	481,7	+1,4	+0,3
- All unemployed	50,4	53,5	-3,1	-5,8
Households without active members	274,8	276,2	-1,4	-0,5

(1) The data for the current year are provisional and the previous year have been revised with the updating of the population based on January 1 of that year

Source: Eustat. Survey on the population in relation to activity

Population in relation to Activity in the Basque Country. Main rates (1). II/2016

	II/2016	I/2016	Variation over previous quarter (p.p.*)
ACTIVITY RATE	57,3	57,1	+0,2
Males	62,7	62,6	+0,1
Females	52,3	52,0	+0,3
Araba/Álava	58,4	59,5	-1,1
Bizkaia	57,3	56,6	+0,7
Gipuzkoa	56,8	56,7	+0,1
EMPLOYMENT RATE (aged 16 to 64)	65,7	64,8	+0,9
Males	68,8	68,0	+0,8
Females	62,5	61,7	+0,8
Araba/Álava	65,0	66,0	-1,0
Bizkaia	64,7	63,7	+1,0
Gipuzkoa	67,6	66,2	+1,4
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	13,9	14,4	-0,5
Males	14,2	14,7	-0,5
Females	13,6	14,1	-0,5
16 - 24	31,8	34,1	-2,3
25 - 44	15,1	15,7	-0,6
45 and over	10,9	11,2	-0,3
Araba/Álava	14,5	14,5	+0,0
Bizkaia	15,7	16,0	-0,3
Gipuzkoa	10,7	11,9	-1,2
INACTIVITY RATE	42,7	42,9	-0,2

*p.p. = Difference in percentage points

(1) The data for the current year are provisional and the previous year have been revised with the updating of the population based on January 1 of that year

Source: Eustat. Survey on the population in relation to activity

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Databank on survey on the population in relation to activity in the Basque Country (PRA)