

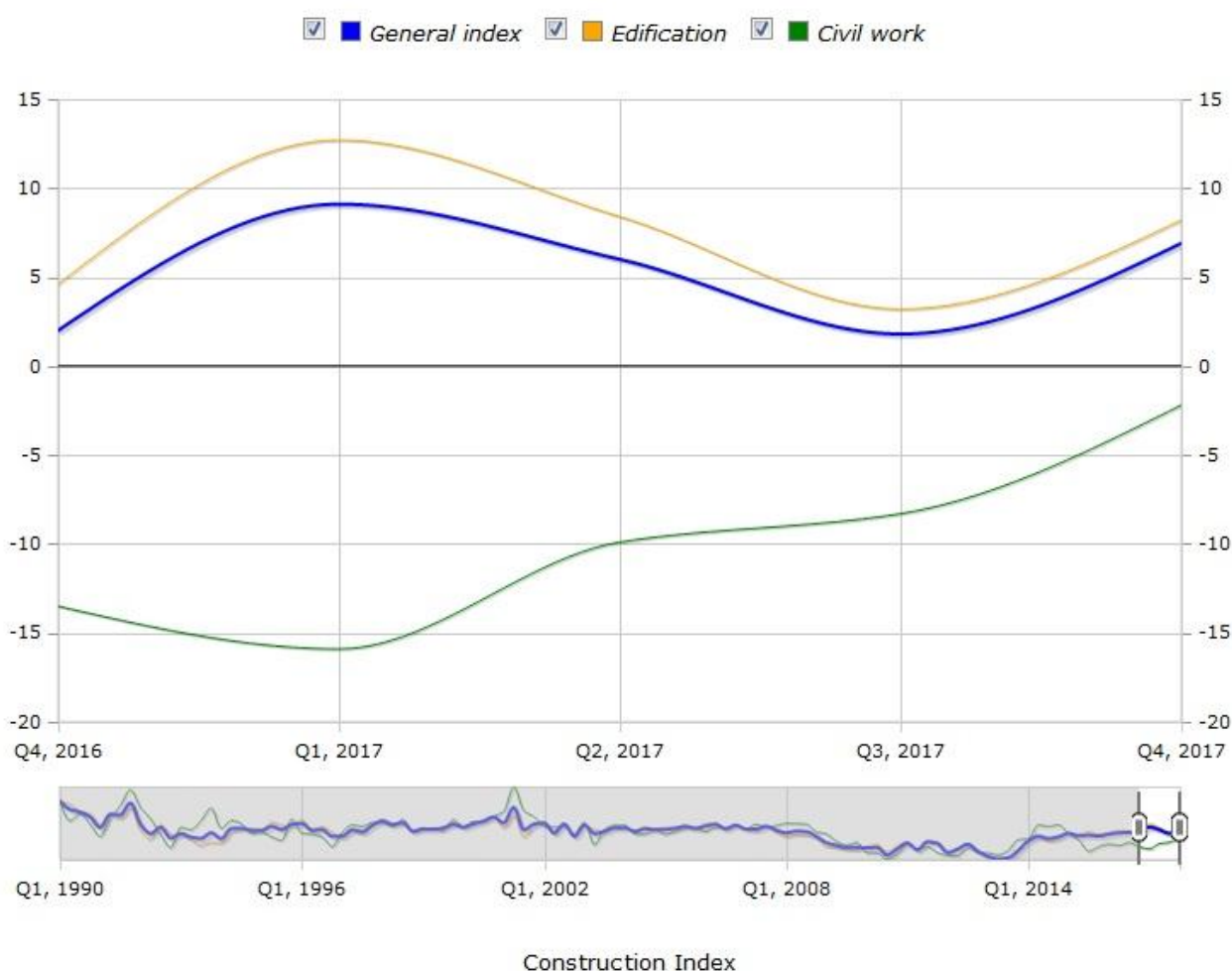
## Building drove the Construction sector in the Basque Country to 6.9% growth in the fourth quarter of 2017

*In 2017 as a whole Building improved on the positive rates obtained the previous year, with growth of 8.0%, compared to the drop in Civil Works (-8.8%)*

Construction activity in the Basque Country registered a year-on-year nominal upturn of 6.9% in the fourth quarter of 2017, in homogeneous terms of the working calendar, according to EUSTAT data.

Once corrected for seasonal effects, the Construction sector was up by 3.1% in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared to the third quarter of the same year.

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



The increase in Construction sector in this quarter activity was due to the positive performance of the Building sub-sector, which experienced a year-on-year upturn of 8.2%, since the Civil Works sub-sector contracted by 2.2%.

In quarter-on-quarter terms, if the activity of the sector in the fourth quarter of 2017 is compared to the previous quarter, the Building subsector had a negative evolution of 3.2%, whereas the Civil Works subsector posted an increase of 2.9%.

Employment in the Construction sector experienced an increase of 0.2% in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared to the third quarter of 2017.

**Table 1: Construction IIndex, Basque Country. Variation Rates (%). IV/2017**

	Corrected		Deseasonalised	
	IV 17/IV 16	At/At-1 (1)	IV 17/III 17	III 17/II 17
<b>Production IIndex</b>	6,9	5,9	3,1	-0,7
Building	8,2	8,0	3,2	-0,4
Public works	-2,2	-8,8	2,9	-2,5
<b>Indices of employed personnel</b>	-	-	0,2	1,5

(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 IIndex**

### **Annual balance**

In 2017 overall, the Construction Index posted a rise of 5.9% on the previous year, but with very different results in its two sub-sectors: Building rose by 8.0%, with larger increases than those in 2016, whereas Civil Works saw negative rates, with a drop of 8.8% compared to 2016.

#### **For further information:**

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