

## Births in the Basque Country fell by 9.7% in the second quarter of 2018

### ***Babies born to unmarried mothers accounted for 43.1%***

The number of births in the Basque Country in the second quarter of 2018 stood at 3,919, a figure 9.7% lower than that recorded in the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data. There was a decrease in all three provinces, but to different degrees: there was a sharper drop in Álava (-15.4%) and Bizkaia (-10.8%) than in Gipuzkoa (-4.8%). In figures, 631 girls and boys were born in Álava, 1,970 in Bizkaia and 1,318 in Gipuzkoa.

During April, May and June 2018 births outside marriage accounted for 43.1% of the total, a lower percentage than the 44.5% recorded in the same quarter of 2017. Bizkaia, with 46.4%, was the only province with values higher than the Basque Country average; in Álava and in Gipuzkoa the percentages were lower, 40.7% and 39.3%, respectively.

According to the order of birth in the second quarter of 2018, almost half, 1,884, were first children; 1,558 girls and boys (39.8%) arrived in families that already had another son or daughter, and the percentage of third or subsequent children stood at 12.2%.

### ***In 1 out of every 10 births the mothers were aged 40 or over***

As regards the distribution of births according the age of the mother, the majority group was mothers between the ages of 30-34 (35.4%), almost on a par with the following 35-39 age group (35.3%), thus producing between them 70.7% of births. With percentages significantly lower than the previous groups was the 25-29 age group (13.0%) and the under-25s, with 6.1%, whereas the group of mothers aged 40 or over stood at 10.2%, 1.4 percentage points more than in the same quarter of the previous year.

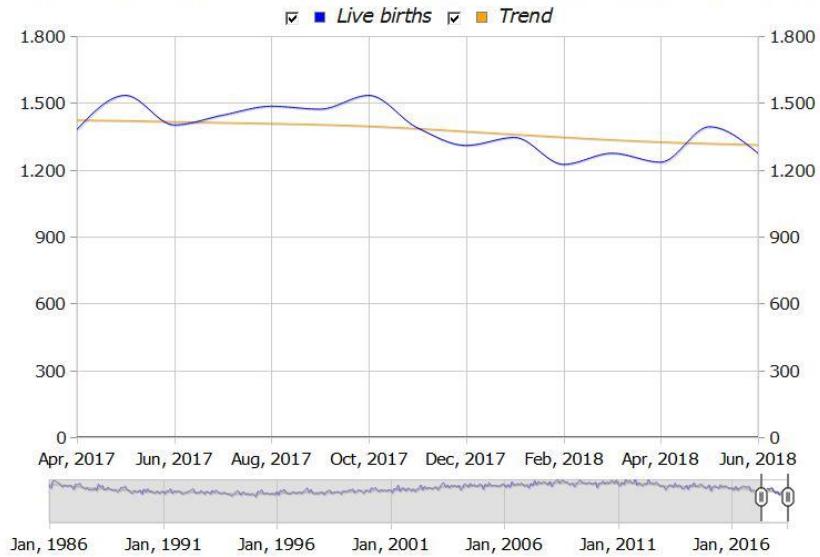
The age of maternity for single mothers was lower than that for mothers as a whole, with 9.8% of single mothers being under the age of 25 and 15.7% between the ages of 25 and 29.

### ***25.1% of mothers were foreign nationals***

In 25.1% of births in the Basque Country during the spring months of 2018, the mother was a foreign national, whereas in the same period of 2017 this percentage was 20.9%. By province, in Álava this figure reached 32.3%, in Bizkaia 22.4% and in Gipuzkoa 25.5%.

## Live births in the Basque Country. Comparative table

	II/2018		Previous quarter (I/2018)		Same quarter the previous year (II/2017)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>3.919</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.870</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.338</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Araba / Álava	631	16,1	678	17,5	746	17,2
Bizkaia	1.970	50,3	1.900	49,1	2.208	50,9
Gipuzkoa	1.318	33,6	1.292	33,4	1.384	31,9
<b>Age of mother</b>	<b>3.919</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.870</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.338</b>	<b>100,0</b>
≤ 24 years	240	6,1	220	5,7	230	5,3
25 - 29 years	510	13,0	515	13,3	603	13,9
30 - 34 years	1.386	35,4	1.366	35,3	1.587	36,6
35 - 39 years	1.384	35,3	1.374	35,5	1.537	35,4
≥ 40	399	10,2	395	10,2	381	8,8
<b>The marital status of the mother</b>	<b>3.919</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.870</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.338</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Married	2.229	56,9	2.157	55,7	2.403	55,4
Not married	1.690	43,1	1.713	44,3	1.935	44,6
<b>Nationality of the mother</b>	<b>3.919</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.870</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.338</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Spanish	2.937	74,9	2.948	76,2	3.431	79,1
Foreign	982	25,1	922	23,8	907	20,9
<b>Order of birth</b>	<b>3.919</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.870</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.338</b>	<b>100,0</b>
First	1.884	48,1	1.906	49,3	2.157	49,7
Second	1.558	39,8	1.504	38,9	1.751	40,4
Third or posterior	477	12,2	460	11,9	430	9,9

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


Source: EUSTAT Birth statistics

## For further information:

Eustat - Euskal Estatistika Erakundea / Basque Statistics Institute  
 C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz  
 Press Service: [servicioprensa@eustat.es](mailto:servicioprensa@eustat.es) Tel: 945 01 75 62