

## The downward trend in births continued with a drop of 5.9% in the third quarter of 2020

### ***Births outside marriage accounted for 47% of the total***

In the third quarter of 2020 the number of births in the Basque Country stood at 3,874, which was a drop of 5.9% compared to the same quarter of the previous year, according to Eustat data. The province that experienced the biggest decrease was Álava, where 638 boys and girls were born, down 8.9% on the same quarter of the previous year. In Bizkaia, with 1,891 births, there was a decrease of 6.2% and finally, in Gipuzkoa, with 1,345 births, there was a drop of 4.1%.

Births outside marriage accounted for 47% of the total, higher than the 45.1% registered in the same quarter of 2019.

According to the order of birth, 1,963 boys and girls (50.7%) were first children, in the summer months of 2020; 1,402 (36.2%) arrived in families that already had another son or daughter and 13.1% were third or subsequent children.

### ***8 out of every 10 mothers were over the age of 30***

Regarding the distribution of births according to the age of the mother, the 30-34 age group continued to be in the majority, producing 34.8% of births. They were immediately followed by the 35-39 age group, with 33.8%. The 25-29 age group accounted for 13.4% of births, and the under-25s for 6.6%. It is worth noting that mothers aged 40 or over accounted for 11.4% of births.

The average age of mothers stood at 33.4, which was similar to the same quarter of the previous year. However, for married mothers it stood at 33.8; for single mothers it was 32.8, and for divorcees it was 37.

### ***There was a slight increase in the percentage of mothers with foreign nationality***

Of the women who became mothers in the Basque Country in July, August and September 2020, 27.6% were foreign nationals, a slightly higher percentage than the 27.4% recorded for the same period of the previous year and the 27.5% for the preceding quarter. This percentage was higher in Álava, where it stood at 35.3%; in Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa the proportion of mothers with foreign nationality stood at 25.6% and 26.8%, respectively.

The age of maternity also varied according to nationality. In fact, the average age of foreign mothers was 31.2, compared to 34.3 for mothers with Spanish nationality.

## Live births to province, age of the mother, marital status of the mother, nationality of the mother and order of birth (1).

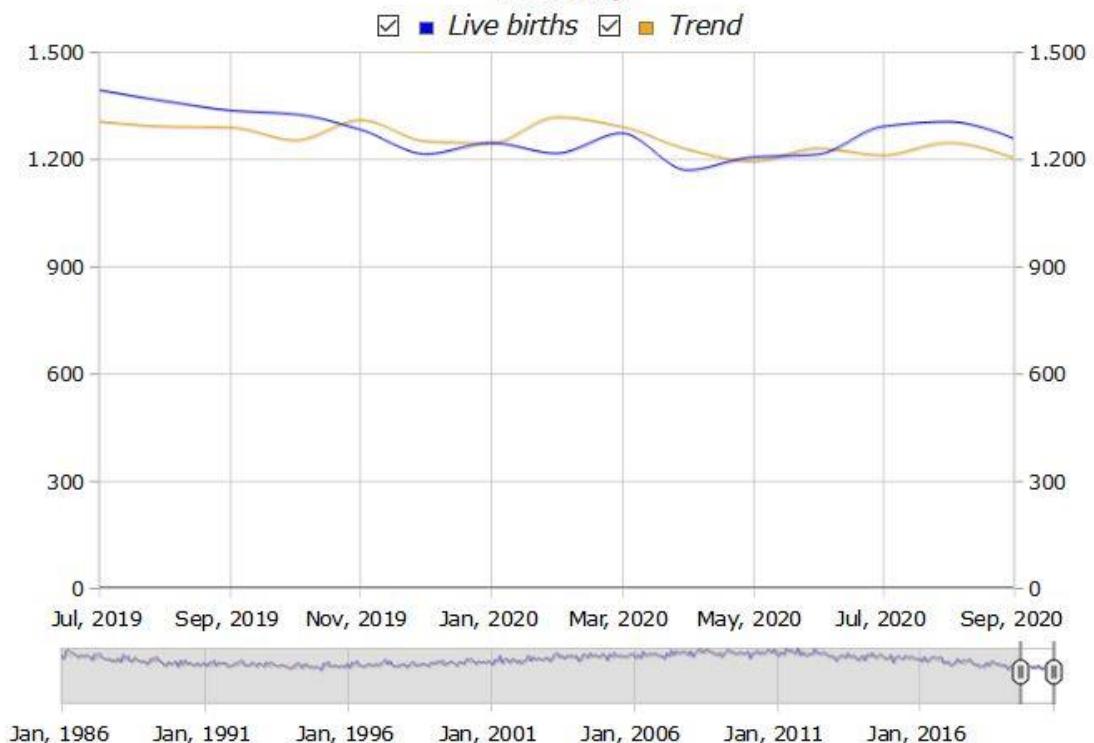
	Trimestre actual		Previous quarter		Same quarter the previous year	
	III/2020 Nº	III/2020 %	II/2020 Nº	II/2020 %	III/2019 Nº	III/2019 %
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>3.874</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.117</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Araba / Álava	638	16,5	609	16,9	700	17,0
Bizkaia	1.891	48,8	1.758	48,8	2.015	48,9
Gipuzkoa	1.345	34,7	1.236	34,3	1.402	34,1
<b>Age of mother</b>	<b>3.874</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.117</b>	<b>100,0</b>
≤ 24 years	254	6,6	245	6,8	312	7,6
25 - 29 years	520	13,4	503	14,0	543	13,2
30 - 34 years	1.347	34,8	1.290	35,8	1.517	36,8
35 - 39 years	1.310	33,8	1.204	33,4	1.346	32,7
≥ 40	443	11,4	361	10,0	399	9,7
<b>The marital status of the mother</b>	<b>3.874</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.117</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Married	2.054	53,0	1.919	53,3	2.260	54,9
Not married	1.820	47,0	1.684	46,7	1.857	45,1
<b>Nationality of the mother</b>	<b>3.874</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.117</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Spanish	2.803	72,4	2.612	72,5	2.991	72,6
Foreign	1.071	27,6	991	27,5	1.126	27,4
<b>Order of birth</b>	<b>3.874</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3.603</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4.117</b>	<b>100,0</b>
First	1.963	50,7	1.737	48,2	2.054	49,9
Second	1.402	36,2	1.403	38,9	1.516	36,8
Third or posterior	509	13,1	463	12,9	547	13,3

(1) For the current quarter and the previous data are provisional

Source: Eustat. Birth statistics

## Live births to mothers residing in the Basque Country and registered in the Basque Country

Monthly



Source: EUSTAT Birth statistics

**For further information:**

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