

Tourism spending accounted for 6.4% of GDP in the Basque Country in 2019

In 2019, tourism spending was up in all three Basque provinces, reaching 8% of GDP in Gipuzkoa

In 2019, tourism spending in the Basque Country increased by 3.9% on the previous financial year. For the first time, it exceeded 5,000 million euros and accounted for 6.4% of GDP, according to Eustat data.

Tourism spending is comprised of two groups: *Inbound tourism*, which includes tourism spending in the Basque Country of visitors from abroad and the rest of Spain, and *Other tourism components*, which are obtained by adding tourism spending of Basque residents in the Basque Country itself (including expenditure at origin, before travelling), expenditure of the Public Administrations on programmes related to tourism and Gross Capital Formation of the branches of activity characteristic of tourism.

In 2019, *Inbound tourism* contributed 59.8% of tourism spending and, in the period 2010-2019, its contribution increased by 7.8 percentage points. The reason for this is that, over this period, it has grown by 60.8%, compared to 17.2% in the other group, *Other tourism components*.

Contribution of tourism to the Basque economy by year. Absolute value (Thousands euros) and percentage on GDP p.m. Current Prices. 2010-2019(a)

	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019(a)
Total Tourist Spending	3.632.144	4.355.670	4.632.752	4.766.068	4.887.607	5.080.066
Incoming tourism	1.887.771	2.484.045	2.732.718	2.820.536	2.932.810	3.036.341
Other components of tourism	1.744.373	1.871.625	1.900.034	1.945.532	1.954.797	2.043.725
Total Tourist Spending (%)	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Incoming tourism	52,0	57,0	59,0	59,2	60,0	59,8
Other components of tourism	48,0	43,0	41,0	40,8	40,0	40,2
Porcentaje sobre el PIB p.m.	5,4	6,3	6,5	6,4	6,3	6,4
Total Tourist Spending	2,8	3,6	3,8	3,8	3,8	3,8
Incoming tourism	2,6	2,7	2,7	2,6	2,5	2,6
Other components of tourism						

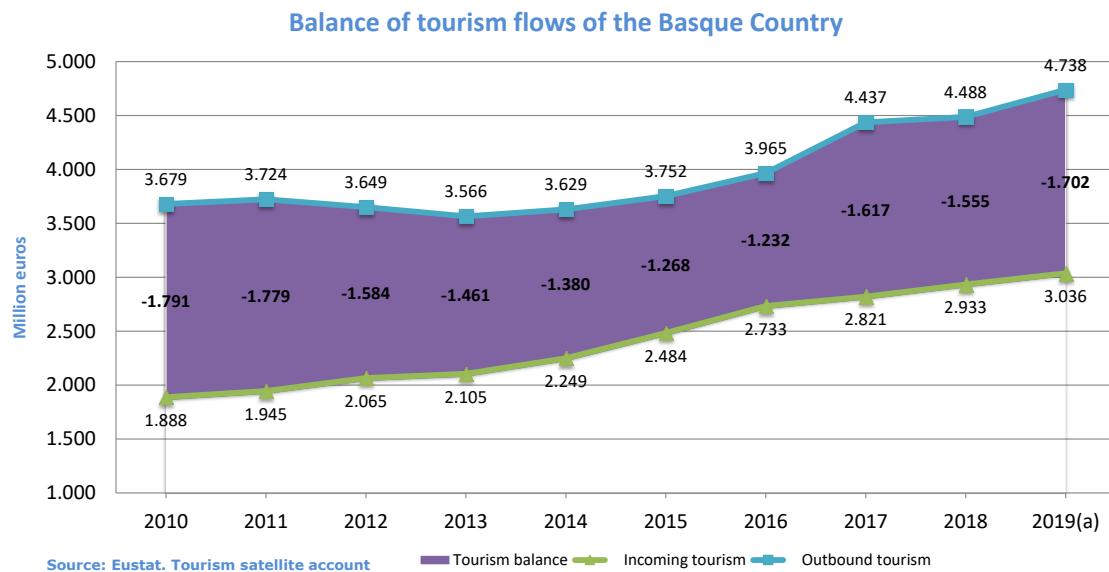
Source: Eustat. Tourism satellite account

Base 2015

(a) Advance

The information gathered in the Tourism Satellite Account allows a tourism balance to be calculated for the Basque Country, which is defined as the difference between *Inbound tourism* and *Outbound tourism*, where the latter is spending by residents of the Basque Country on their tourist trips outside the Basque Country.

The tourism balance of the Basque Country is negative and stood at 1,702 million euros in 2019, a similar figure to 2010 and 2011. In the period 2010-2019, it was at its lowest in 2016 with 1,232 million euros.



Tourism spending continued to increase in all three Basque Country provinces

In 2019, tourism spending increased in all three provinces, but at different rates. Gipuzkoa performed best, with a 5.6% increase in spending, compared to 3.0% in Bizkaia and 2.1% in Álava. In line with this performance, Gipuzkoa's share of tourism spending in the Basque Country increased by 0.7 percentage points to 42.2%, close to that of Bizkaia, at 44.5%, with Álava contributing 13.3%.

As regards the economy of each province, tourism had a higher share in Gipuzkoa, where it accounted for 8.0% of GDP, and a lower share in Bizkaia, with 5.6%, and Álava, with 5.4%.

Contribution of tourism to the Basque economy by province and year. Absolute value (Thousands euros) and percentage on the GDP p.m. Current prices. 2010-2019(a)

	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019(a)
TOURIST SPENDING						
Basque Country	3.632.144	4.355.670	4.632.752	4.766.068	4.887.607	5.080.066
Araba/Álava	508.500	612.728	642.301	655.759	662.360	676.211
Bizkaia	1.579.983	1.928.156	2.050.133	2.140.156	2.196.957	2.261.866
Gipuzkoa	1.543.661	1.814.786	1.940.318	1.970.153	2.028.290	2.141.989
PERCENTAGE STRUCTURE						
Basque Country	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Araba/Álava	14,0	14,1	13,9	13,8	13,6	13,3
Bizkaia	43,5	44,3	44,2	44,9	44,9	44,5
Gipuzkoa	42,5	41,6	41,9	41,3	41,5	42,2
PERCENTAGE ON GDP p.m.						
Basque Country	5,4	6,3	6,5	6,4	6,3	6,4
Araba/Álava	4,8	5,5	5,5	5,5	5,4	5,4
Bizkaia	4,6	5,6	5,7	5,7	5,7	5,6
Gipuzkoa	7,0	8,0	8,2	8,1	7,9	8,0

Source: Eustat. Tourism satellite account

Base 2015

(a) Avance

Note: The data in the Tourism Satellite Account have been revised and updated. The new series since 2010 is available in the Eustat Databank.

For further information:

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