

The number of deaths exceeded 24,000 in 2020, up 12.4% on the previous year

The official figures on deaths due to COVID-19 reached 3,052 in 2020, 12.6% of the total

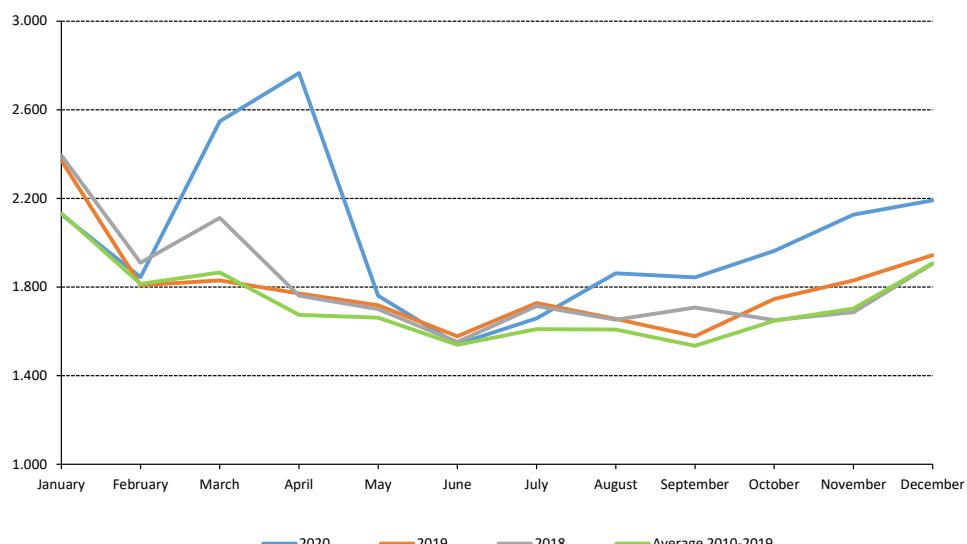
Total provisional data for 2020 places the number of deaths at 24,237, of which 3,052, or 12.6% of the total, were due to COVID-19, according to official data prepared by Eustat. Of total deaths, 12,186 were women and 12,051 were men. Compared to 2019, there was a 12.4% increase in the number of deaths in the Basque Country as a whole. By province, the increase in deaths was 19.3% in Álava, 12.7% in Gipuzkoa and 10.7% in Bizkaia.

Amongst the deaths that occurred last year, 39 corresponded to children under one year of age. This was lower than in 2019, when 43 children under one year of age died. On the other hand, 332 people died at the age of 100 or over, 26 more than in 2019.

With provisional data from 2020, population growth in the Basque Country was negative for another year running, although to a lesser extent than in 2019, with deaths exceeding births by 9,516 individuals. By province, for this reason the population decreased by 5,933 inhabitants in Bizkaia, 2,716 in Gipuzkoa and 867 in Álava.

In 2020 overall, there were 3,052 deaths where COVID-19 was the main cause, 12.6% of the total. These deaths were classified into 2 groups: deaths due to COVID-19 confirmed by a specific analysis, of which there were 2,738, or deaths probably due to COVID-19, which were cases not confirmed by analysis but where COVID-19 was the main cause of death on the medical report, of which there were 314.

Deaths of residents in the Basque Country per month



Source: Eustat. Death Statistics

Deaths by COVID-19 according to province and municipality (>40,000 inhabitants) of residence. 2020 (1)

	Total Deaths	Total COVID-19	COVID-19 confirmed	COVID-19 likely
Basque country	24.237	3.052	2.738	314
Provinces of residence				
Araba/Álava	3.264	584	528	56
Bizkaia	13.237	1.602	1.421	181
Gipuzkoa	7.736	866	789	77
Municipality of residence (>40,000 inhabitants)				
Barakaldo	1.271	158	132	26
Basauri	552	98	86	12
Bilbao	4.508	619	563	56
Donostia / San Sebastián	2.174	249	231	18
Errenteria	436	46	41	5
Getxo	791	90	75	15
Irun	642	47	41	6
Portugalete	584	43	38	5
Santurtzi	549	54	47	7
Vitoria-Gasteiz	2.438	489	451	38

(1) Provisional data

Source: Eustat. Death Statistics

74.5% of these deaths occurred in Basque hospitals, followed by residential care homes (21.3%).

There were 972 deaths due to COVID-19 in the fourth quarter of 2020, 31.8% of the total for the year

In the fourth quarter of 2020 the number of deaths in the Basque Country stood at 6,281, 13.8% up on the same period of the previous year. In the first quarter there were 761 more deaths compared to the same quarter of the previous year and 1,024 more than the average for the previous 10 years.

By province, Gipuzkoa had the highest, with a 23.2% rise in deaths compared to the same quarter of the previous year. In Álava the increase was 11.3% and in Bizkaia it was 8.9%. By sex, 3,197 men and 3,084 women died, which was an increase of 16.1% for men and 11.5% for women. Amongst the deaths that occurred in this fourth quarter, 11 corresponded to children under 1 year of age and 83 to centenarians.

The main causes of death were tumours and circulatory system diseases, which caused the deaths of 1,577 and 1,487 individuals, respectively, which means that together they accounted for 48.8% of deaths. As a third cause of death was COVID-19, with 972 cases (15.5%).

Deaths caused by respiratory diseases fell by 42% compared to the same quarter of the previous year. There were 271 deaths as a result of digestive diseases, 5.9% up on the same period of the previous year.

The causes of the deaths still varied according to gender: among men, tumours were the leading cause of death (30.3%) and diseases of the circulatory system were the second (21.1%); among women, the opposite occurred: diseases of the circulatory system (26.3%) were the main cause of death, whereas tumours (19.7%) were the second.

In the fourth quarter, there were 972 deaths with COVID-19 as the main cause, 15.5% of the total. Of these, 941 were confirmed to be due to COVID-19 and in 31 cases COVID-19 was the probable cause. There were a further 66 deaths in which COVID-19 was among the certified causes of death, but without being the main cause.

Deaths by COVID-19 according to province and municipality (>40,000 inhabitants) of residence. IV/2020 (1)

	Total Deaths	Total COVID-19	COVID-19 confirmed	COVID-19 likely
Basque country	6.281	972	941	31
Provinces of residence				
Araba/Álava	796	126	119	7
Bizkaia	3.300	416	405	11
Gipuzkoa	2.185	430	417	13
Municipality of residence (>40,000 inhabitants)				
Barakaldo	322	35	34	1
Basauri	129	9	9	0
Bilbao	1.095	166	162	4
Donostia / San Sebastián	663	145	143	2
Errenerria	133	24	24	0
Getxo	203	25	23	2
Irun	182	28	27	1
Portugalete	159	15	14	1
Santurtzi	147	16	15	1
Vitoria-Gasteiz	581	108	102	6

(1) Provisional data

Source: Eustat. Death Statistics

By province, the highest figure of deaths due to COVID-19 corresponded to Gipuzkoa, with 430, followed by Bizkaia with 416 and Álava with 126. As regards the capitals, Bilbao stands out with 166 deaths caused by COVID-19, followed by San Sebastián with 145 and Vitoria-Gasteiz with 108. Barakaldo, Irun and Getxo also stood out, with more than 25 deaths in each municipality.

The number of deaths of men (518) exceeded that of women (454), while in terms of age, it is worth noting that 97.1% of the deaths caused by COVID-19 occurred among those over 60 years of age and 72.2% among people aged over 80.

The number of deaths due to COVID-19 (972 cases) was more than double the number of deaths due to the same cause in the third quarter (365 cases).

The majority of these deaths occurred in Basque hospitals (83.1%), followed by residential care homes (9.9%).

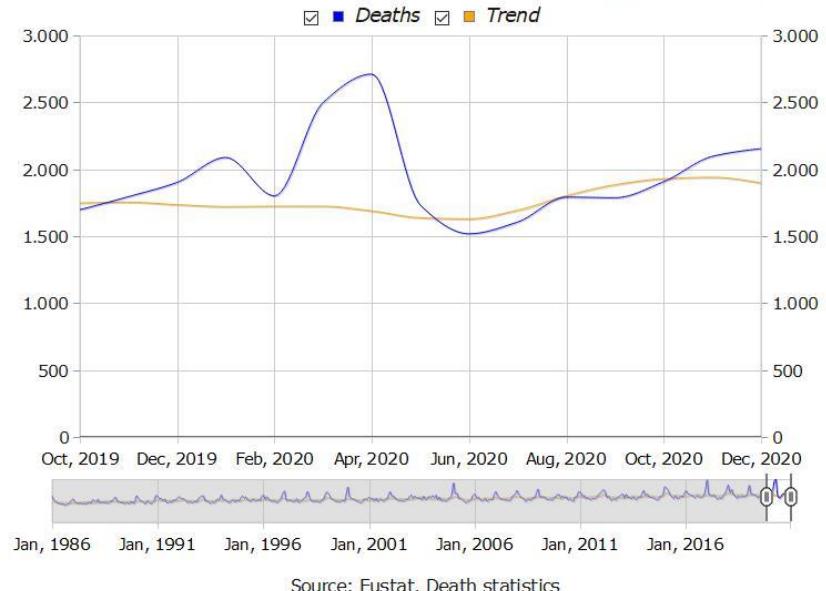
Deaths by territory of residence, sex, age fulfilled and cause of death (1)

	Current quarter		Previous quarter		Same quarter of the previous year	
	IV/2020		III/2020		IV/2019	
	N.	%	N.	%	N.	%
DEATHS	6.281	100,0	5.365	100,0	5.520	100,0
Araba/Álava	796	12,7	696	13,0	715	13,0
Bizkaia	3.300	52,5	2.903	54,1	3.031	54,9
Gipuzkoa	2.185	34,8	1.766	32,9	1.774	32,1
Males	3.197	50,9	2.696	50,3	2.754	49,9
<1 year	7	0,1	4	0,1	3	0,1
1-19 year	7	0,1	6	0,1	1	0,0
20-39 year	25	0,4	36	0,7	27	0,5
40-59 year	260	4,1	241	4,5	253	4,6
60-79 year	1.195	19,0	1.016	18,9	1.017	18,4
80-99 year	1.691	26,9	1.375	25,6	1.437	26,0
≥ 100 year	12	0,2	18	0,3	16	0,3
Females	3.084	49,1	2.669	49,7	2.766	50,1
<1 year	4	0,1	4	0,1	4	0,1
1-19 year	2	0,0	3	0,1	5	0,1
20-39 year	13	0,2	8	0,1	7	0,1
40-59 year	145	2,3	139	2,6	119	2,2
60-79 year	581	9,3	520	9,7	527	9,5
80-99 year	2.268	36,1	1.932	36,0	2.038	36,9
≥ 100 year	71	1,1	63	1,2	66	1,2
CAUSE OF DEATH						
TOTAL	6.281	100	5.365	100	5.520	100
Tumours	1.577	25,1	1.519	28,3	1.633	29,6
Circulatory system	1.487	23,7	1.308	24,4	1.496	27,1
Respiratory system	278	4,4	292	5,4	479	8,7
Nervous system	344	5,5	363	6,8	339	6,1
Digestive system	271	4,3	240	4,5	256	4,6
Other causes	2.324	37,0	1.643	30,7	1.317	23,9
Covid-19 confirmado	941	15,0	330	6,2	0	0,0
Covid-19 probable	31	0,5	26	0,5	0	0,0
Other causes	1.352	21,5	1.287	24,0	1.317	23,9
MALES	3.197	100	2.696	100	2.754	100
Tumours	970	30,3	906	33,6	964	35,0
Circulatory system	675	21,1	647	24,0	688	25,0
Respiratory system	158	4,9	177	6,6	271	9,8
Nervous system	136	4,3	161	6,0	155	5,6
Digestive system	135	4,2	122	4,5	126	4,6
Other causes	1.123	35,1	683	25,3	550	20,0
Covid-19 confirmado	502	15,7	168	6,2	0	0,0
Covid-19 probable	16	0,5	15	0,6	0	0,0
Other causes	605	18,9	500	18,5	550	20,0
FEMALES	3.084	100	2.669	100	2.766	100
Tumours	607	19,7	613	23,0	669	24,2
Circulatory system	812	26,3	661	24,8	808	29,2
Respiratory system	120	3,9	115	4,3	208	7,5
Nervous system	208	6,7	202	7,6	184	6,7
Digestive system	136	4,4	118	4,4	130	4,7
Other causes	1.201	38,9	960	36,0	767	27,7
Covid-19 confirmado	439	14,2	162	6,1	0	0,0
Covid-19 probable	15	0,5	11	0,4	0	0,0
Other causes	747	24,2	787	29,5	767	27,7

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

Source: Eustat. Marriage statistics

Deaths of residents in the Basque Country. Monthly data



Source: Eustat. Death statistics

For further information:

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