

In the second quarter of 2021 births in the Basque Country fell by 2.9%, moderating the downward trend

Babies born to unmarried mothers accounted for 47.9%

In the second quarter of 2021 the number of births in the Basque Country stood at 3,523, 2.9% down on the same period of the previous year, according to Eustat data. This reduction in births is significantly lower than that occurring in the first quarter of this year, when it reached 12.5%. Births fell in all three provinces, although the drop was more pronounced in Álava (-5.6%) than in Gipuzkoa (-2.7%) and in Bizkaia (-2%). In absolute figures, 1,737 girls and boys were born in Bizkaia, 1,209 in Gipuzkoa, and 577 in Álava.

During April, May and June 2021 births outside marriage accounted for 47.9% of the total, a greater percentage than the 46.9% recorded in the same quarter of 2020. Bizkaia, with 50%, was the only province with values higher than the Basque Country average; in Álava and in Gipuzkoa the percentages were lower, 47.5% and 44.9%, respectively.

According to the order of birth, in the second quarter of 2021 almost half, 1,709, were first children; 1,349 girls and boys (38.3%) arrived in families that already had another son or daughter, and the percentage of third or subsequent children stood at 13.2%.

The percentage of mothers over 40 exceeded 10%

Regarding the distribution of births according to age, the group of mothers between the ages of 30-39 continued to be in the majority, producing 70.6% of births. With percentages significantly lower than the previous group, was the 25-29 age group (12.3%) and the under-25s (6.2%), while the group of mothers over 40 reached 10.9%.

The age of maternity for single mothers (45.50% of mothers) was lower than that for mothers as a whole, with 9.9% of single mothers being under the age of 25 and 14.9% between the ages of 25 and 29. The percentage of single mothers over 40 was 10.7%

There were fewer mothers with foreign nationality

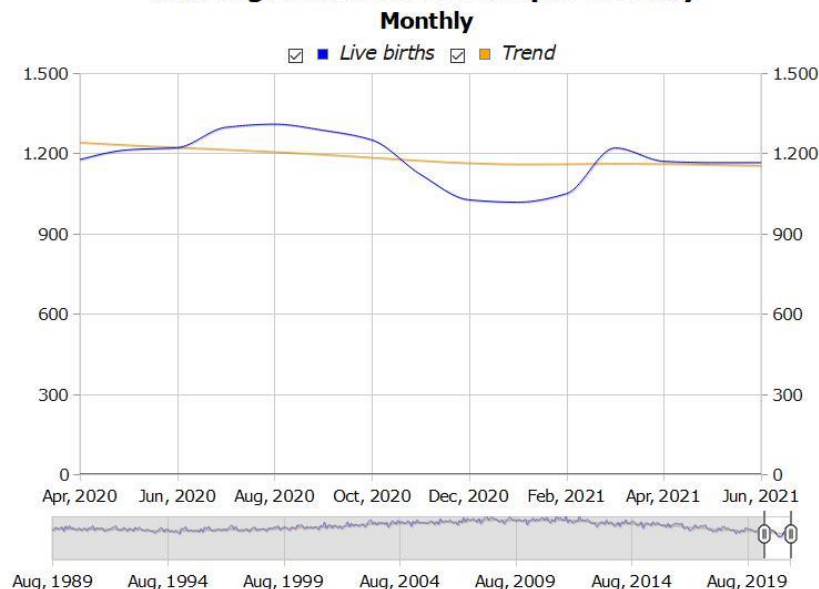
In 26% of births in the Basque Country during the spring months of 2021, the mother was a foreign national. In the same period of 2020 this percentage was 27.6%. By province, in Álava this figure reached 36.4%, in Gipuzkoa 24.2% and in Bizkaia 23.8%.

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

	Current quarter (II/2021)		Previous quarter (I/2021)		Same quarter the previous year (II/2020)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
Basque Country	3.523	100,0	3.307	100,0	3.627	100,0
Araba / Álava	577	16,4	553	16,7	611	16,8
Bizkaia	1.737	49,3	1.612	48,7	1.773	48,9
Gipuzkoa	1.209	34,3	1.142	34,5	1.243	34,3
Age of mother	3.523	100,0	3.307	100,0	3.627	100,0
≤ 24 years	218	6,2	192	5,8	250	6,9
25 - 29 years	433	12,3	439	13,3	507	14,0
30 - 34 years	1.245	35,3	1.204	36,4	1.295	35,7
35 - 39 years	1.242	35,3	1.148	34,7	1.214	33,5
≥ 40	385	10,9	324	9,8	361	10,0
The marital status of the mother	3.523	100,0	3.307	100,0	3.627	100,0
Married	1.837	52,1	1.690	51,1	1.927	53,1
Not married	1.686	47,9	1.617	48,9	1.700	46,9
Nationality of the mother	3.523	100,0	3.307	100,0	3.627	100,0
Spanish	2.606	74,0	2.458	74,3	2.625	72,4
Foreign	917	26,0	849	25,7	1.002	27,6
Order of birth	3.523	100,0	3.307	100,0	3.627	100,0
First	1.709	48,5	1.604	48,5	1.749	48,2
Second	1.349	38,3	1.293	39,1	1.410	38,9
Third or posterior	465	13,2	410	12,4	468	12,9

(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**


Source: EUSTAT Birth statistics

For further information:

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