

Expenditure on R&D in the Basque Country in 2020 reached the maximum in the series with 1,490 million euros, despite the pandemic

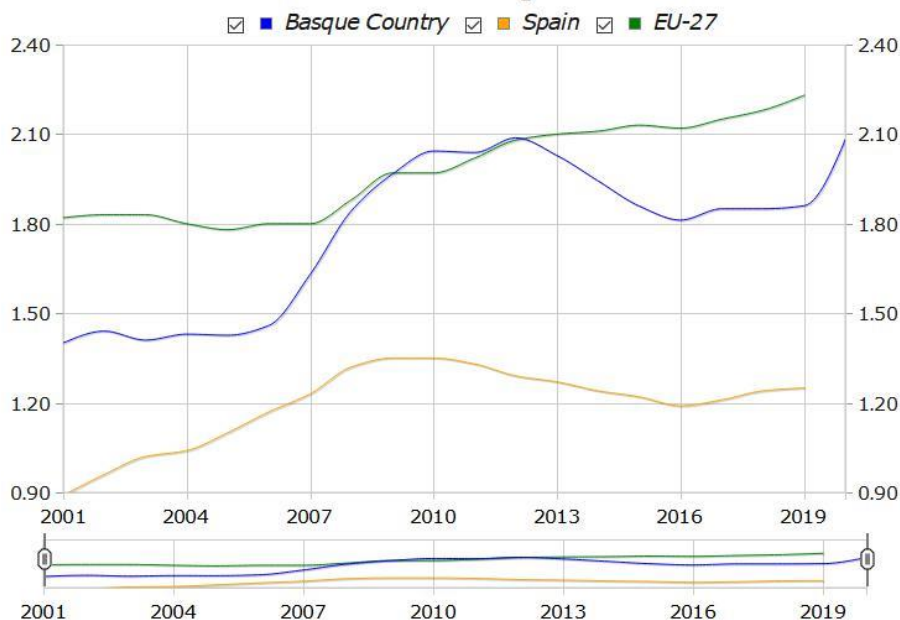
In relation to GDP, it exceeded 2% (2.08%) due to the negative impact of the COVID-19 crisis on GDP, which did not have a knock-on effect on R&D expenditure

Expenditure on internal R&D (Research and Technological Development) in 2020 reached a total of 1,490 million euros in the Basque Country, a record figure in R&D expenditure according to Eustat data.

This figure accounted for expenditure of 8.6 million euros more than in the previous year, an increase of 0.6%, and all despite the fact that 2020 was a year marked by the crisis caused by COVID-19.

Internal R&D provided employment for 19,511 people in Full-Time Equivalent Jobs in 2020, following a decrease of 0.5% in respect of the previous year. In contrast, research staff, 13,629 people in Full-Time Equivalent Jobs, increased by 0.8%.

Evolution of the expenditure on internat R&D in relation to GDP
Percentage



Source: Eurostat and Eustat. Statistics on scientific research and technological development activities-R&D

In relation to GDP, expenditure on internal R&D in the Basque Country reached 2.08% in 2020. This significant increase in respect of the data from the previous year, 1.86%, is primarily due to the fact that the pandemic had a greater impact on GDP than on R&D expenditure. In order to compare this data with the last available data from the European Union 27 (EU-27), we have to use the data corresponding to 2019, where in the EU-27 it accounted for 2.23% of its GDP and in Spain 1.25%.

On a provincial level, 47.3% of total expenditure on internal R&D in the Basque Country in 2020 was carried out in Bizkaia, 42.6% in Gipuzkoa and 10.1% in Álava. It should be pointed out that this expenditure represented 2.63% of GDP in Gipuzkoa, 1.95% in the case of Bizkaia and 1.35% in that of Álava.

76.7% of expenditure on internal R&D in the Basque Country was implemented by the business sector

In terms of **the sector that carried out internal R&D expenditure**, the majority, 76.7% (1,143.0 million euros) was implemented by businesses, whereas 17.4% (258.7 million) corresponded to Higher Education and the remaining 5.9% (88.3 million) was carried out by various bodies dependent on the Administration.

This sectorial distribution of implementation of R+D expenditure, with the exception this year in Administration, has remained relatively stable in recent years. Compared to the previous year, two of the three sectors, Businesses and Higher Education, increased their expenditure on internal R+D by 1.2% and 1.9%, respectively, while in Public Administration it fell by 9.9%.

Gasto en I+D interna por sector de ejecución según el origen de los fondos en la C.A. de Euskadi (miles de euros). 2020

	Total	Administraciones públicas	Enseñanza Superior	Empresas	Instituciones privadas sin fines de lucro	Procedentes del extranjero
Total	1.490.038	509.663	33.910	812.860	7.663	125.941
Empresas e IPSFL (*)	1.143.037	247.774	300	787.257	1786	105.921
Administración Pública	88.261	78.079	166	4.922	2.458	2.635
Enseñanza Superior	258.740	183.810	33.444	20.682	3.419	17.385

(*) I.P.S.F.L.=Instituciones privadas sin fines de lucro.

Fuente: Eustat. Estadística sobre actividades de investigación científica y desarrollo tecnológico-I+D

In terms of **funding internal R&D expenditure**, companies spent 813 million euros on research, 1.8% more than in 2019, accounting for 54.6% of total funding, remaining the primary source of funding. Public funding contributed 510 million and represented 34.2% of total expenditure on internal R&D, having also increased by 1.8%.

The remaining funding sources were the Higher Education sector, 33.9 million; Private Non-Profit Institutions, 7.7 million; and overseas, 125.9 million. In all three cases these contributions meant reductions in respect of the previous year of 25.7%, 2.0% and 1.9%, respectively.

As regards the origin of public funding, the contribution from the autonomous administration predominated (411.7 million), up 0.9% on the previous year and representing 80.8% of total funding by the public administration in 2020. For its part, the central administration (74.7 million) increased its funding by 8.1% this year and its share stood at 14.7% of total funding. Finally, the provincial and local administrations (23.3 million) share was 4.6%, although they reduced their contribution, down 1.9%, in relation to the previous year.

There were 19,511 **people in full-time employment** who, by implementation sectors, corresponded to: 13,801 people to the Business Sector (70.7% of the total), 4,546 to Higher Education (23.3%) and 1,164 to Public Administration (6.0%). The number of research staff, 13,629 people, increased by 0.8%, compared to the 0.5% decrease in total personnel.

36.5% of R&D personnel were women in 2020

36.5% of R&D personnel in full-time employment were women, a percentage practically identical to that of the previous year; specifically it was 0.1 percentage down on total personnel. However, from a more long-term perspective, its weight increased by 3.1 percentage points in relation to 2010 and 4.8 points on 2005.

Considering the sector implementing R&D, it can be observed that there are higher numbers of women in the Business and Higher Education sectors: 4,245 and 2,237 women, respectively, compared to 648 women in the Public Administration sector. However, in relative terms in the Public Administration women represented 55.7% of its total personnel, compared to 49.2% in Higher Education and 30.8% in the Business sector.

Evolución del gasto y del personal (EDP) en la C.A. de Euskadi. 2010-2020

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Gastos en I+D											
Total (millones de euros)	1.360	1.366	1.373	1.317	1.290	1.273	1.291	1.363	1.423	1.481	1.490
Incremento anual (%)	6,2	0,4	0,5	-4,1	-2,1	-1,3	1,4	5,6	4,4	4,1	0,6
Sobre P.I.B.(%)	2,04	2,04	2,09	2,03	1,94	1,86	1,81	1,85	1,85	1,86	2,08(p)
Personal (E.D.P.)*											
Total	17.532	17.879	18.682	18.280	18.535	18.217	17.898	18.577	19.274	19.619	19.511
Incremento anual (%)	5,0	2,0	4,5	-2,2	1,4	-1,7	-1,8	3,8	3,8	1,8	-0,5
Sobre puestos de trabajo equivalentes (‰)	18,8	19,3	20,9	21,1	21,3	20,3	19,5	19,8	20,1	20,1	21,7
Personal investigador (E.D.P.)*											
Total	11.071	11.283	11.772	11.959	12.030	12.089	11.916	12.608	13.165	13.520	13.629
Incremento anual	6,6	1,9	4,3	1,6	0,6	0,5	-1,4	5,8	4,4	2,7	0,8
Sobre puestos de trabajo equivalentes (‰)	11,9	12,2	13,2	13,8	13,8	13,4	13,0	13,4	13,7	13,9	15,0

*E.D.P.= Equivalencia a dedicación plena

Fuente: Eustat. Estadística sobre actividades de investigación científica y desarrollo tecnológico-I+D

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For further information:

Eustat - Euskal Estatistika Erakundea / Basque Statistics Institute

C/ Donostia-San Sebastián, 1 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Press service: servicioprensa@eustat.es Tel.: 945 01 75 62