

Expenditure on R&D in the Basque Country stood at 1,647 million euros in 2021, up 10.5%, reaching the highest figure in its historical series

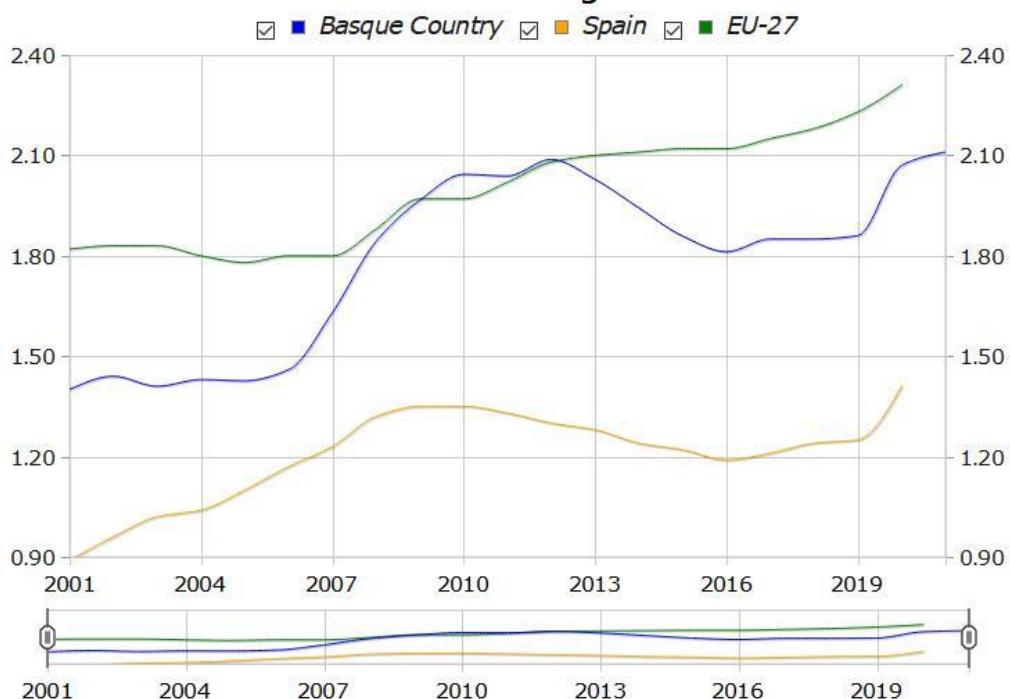
Expenditure on R&D activities as a share of GDP rose from 2.07% in 2020 to 2.11% in 2021

Expenditure on internal R&D (Research and Technological Development) in 2021 reached a total of 1,647 million euros in the Basque Country, a record figure in R&D expenditure according to Eustat data. This figure accounted for expenditure of 157 million euros more than in the previous year, an increase of 10.5%. Expenditure on R&D activities as a share of GDP stood at 2.11% in 2021, a higher figure than that achieved in 2020, which was 2.07%.

Internal R&D provided employment for 20,804 people in Full-Time Equivalent Jobs in 2021, following a rise of 6.6% in respect of the previous year. Likewise, the number of research staff, 14,367 people in Full-Time Equivalent Jobs, also increased by 5.4%.

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

Percentage



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

At provincial level, in 2021, 46.9% of total expenditure on internal R&D in the Basque Country was carried out in Bizkaia, 42.7% in Gipuzkoa and 10.5% in Álava. In relation to the GDP of each province, it should be pointed out that this expenditure represented 2.69% of GDP in Gipuzkoa, 1.95% in Bizkaia and 1.40% in Álava.

77.4% 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, 77.4% (1,275.2 million euros) was implemented by Businesses, whereas 16.2% (267.1 million) corresponded to Higher Education and the remaining 6.4% (104.7 million) was carried out by various Bodies dependent on the Administration. In relation to 2020, Businesses increased their R&D expenditure by 11.6%, Bodies dependent on the Administration by 18.6% and Higher Education by 3.2%.

The sectorial distribution of implementation of R&D expenditure has remained relatively stable in recent years. Compared to the previous year, two of the three sectors, Businesses and Public Administration, posted an increase in their share of total expenditure on internal R&D of 0.7 and 0.4 percentage points, respectively, while that of Higher Education fell by 1.1 percentage points.

Expenditure on R+D by sector according to origin of funds (thousand euro). 2021

	Total	Administration	Higher education teaching	Enterprises	PIWLE	Foreign
Total	1.646.957	541.283	34.194	933.104	7.460	130.916
Companies and IPSLF	1.275.153	260.696	6.074	901.918	1.448	105.017
Public Administration	104.689	89.621	159	9.410	1.899	3.600
Higher Education Sector	267.115	190.966	27.961	21.777	4.113	22.299

p.s.f.l (Private Institutions without Lucrative Ends)

Date November 18, 2022

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

In terms of **funding internal R&D expenditure**, Businesses spent 933 million euros on research, 14.8% more than in 2020, which accounted for 56.7% of total funding, raising their share of total funding by 2.1 percentage points more with regard to the previous year and maintaining their position as the primary source of funding. Public funding contributed 541 million, following an increase of 6.2% compared to the previous year, and represented 32.9% of total expenditure on internal R&D, which, despite the sharp rise, decreased its share by 1.3 percentage points.

The remaining funding sources were the Higher Education sector, 34.2 million; Private Non-Profit Institutions, 7.5 million; and Overseas, 130.9 million. These contributions led to variations in respect of the previous year's figures of 0.8%, -2.6% and 4.0%, respectively.

As regards the origin of public funding, the contribution from the Autonomous Administration predominated (433.4 million), up 5.3% on the previous year, representing 80.1% of total funding by the public administration in 2021. For its part, the Central Administration (87.3 million) increased its funding by 16.9% in 2021, bringing its share to 16.1% of total funding by the Public Administrations. Finally, the provincial and local administrations' share (20.6 million) stood at 3.8%, although they reduced their contribution in relation to the previous year, down 11.6%.

There were 20,804 **people in full-time employment** who corresponded to the following implementation sectors: 14,887 people were employed in the Business Sector (71.6% of the total), 4,622 in Higher Education (22.2%) and 1,295 in Public Administration (6.2%). As regards their

professional category, research staff accounted for 14,367 people, up 5.4%; the number of technical staff rose to 4,972 people, having increased by 9.6%; and, lastly, there were 1,466 people employed as auxiliary staff, 8.9% more than the year before.

36.2% of R&D personnel were women in 2021

In 2021, 36.2% of all R&D personnel in full-time employment were women. This represents an increase of 5.7% in relation to the number of women working in R&D in 2020, bringing the total to 7,534 women. Although it is true that their weight in the total number of personnel fell by three tenths of a point, from a more long-term perspective, their weight increased by 3.1 percentage points in relation to 2010 and as much as 4.8 points compared to 2005.

Considering the sector implementing R&D, it can be observed that there were higher numbers of women in the Business and Higher Education sectors: 4,531 and 2,260 women, respectively, compared to 743 women in the Public Administration sector. However, in relative terms, in the Public Administration women represented 57.3% of all staff, compared to 48.9% in Higher Education and 30.4% in the Business sector.

Evolution of R+D and personnel expenditure (FTE) in the Basque Country. 2010-2021

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Expenditure on R&D												
Total (million euro)	1.360,3	1.366,2	1.372,9	1.316,8	1.289,8	1.273,2	1.290,9	1.363,2	1.423,4	1.481,4	1.490,0	1.646,9
Annual increase (%)	6,2	0,4	0,5	-4,1	-2,1	-1,3	1,4	5,6	4,4	4,1	0,6	10,5
In relation to GDP (%)	2,04	2,04	2,09	2,03	1,94	1,86	1,81	1,85	1,85	1,86	2,07	2,11(p)
Personnel (F.T.E.)												
Total	17.532	17.879	18.682	18.280	18.535	18.217	17.898	18.577	19.274	19.619	19.511	20.804
Annual increase	5,0	2,0	4,5	-2,2	1,4	-1,7	-1,8	3,8	3,8	1,8	-0,5	6,6
On equivalent jobs (%)	18,8	19,3	20,9	21,1	21,3	20,3	19,5	19,8	20,1	20,1	21,3	21,5
Research personnel (FTE)												
Total	11.071	11.283	11.772	11.959	12.030	12.089	11.916	12.608	13.165	13.520	13.629	14.367
Annual increase	6,6	1,9	4,3	1,6	0,6	0,5	-1,4	5,8	4,4	2,7	0,8	5,4
On equivalent jobs (%)	11,9	12,2	13,2	13,8	13,8	13,4	13,0	13,4	13,7	13,9	14,9	14,8

F.T.E.= full time equivalent

Date November 18, 2022

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

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