

**GEITONIES – Generating Interethnic Tolerance and  
Neighbourhood Integration in European Urban Spaces**

**BILBAO – City Report**

**(September 2008)**

September 2008

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## Part A. LITERATURE REVIEW: IMMIGRATION IN METROPOLITAN BILBAO

The Basque Country (henceforth BC) has been for a long time a region of intense migratory movements (Ruiz Olabuenaga & Blanco 1995, Blanco 2002, Ibarrola 2008a). Up to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, however, mobility was mostly outward and male, with a remarkable number of Basque individuals moving to other places around the globe—especially, to America—in search of their fortune (Pérez de Arenaza & Lasagabaster 1991, Kurlansky 1999, Totoricagüena 2004). There is no shortage of historical accounts attesting to the Basque presence in faraway territories, be it as conquistadors—under the Spanish banner—, fishermen, missionaries or sheep herders. This outward migration reached a peak in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when due to the Carlist Wars (1833-39 and 1873-76), overpopulation, and the local laws of inheritance—which favored primogeniture—, many young men, especially from rural areas, decided to seek their future somewhere else (Caro Baroja 1971). Although a significant number of “*bilbainos*” (Bilbao natives) decided to make it big in other parts of the world, the city was not as deeply struck by the poverty, and the political and economic instability of those times. Thanks to its age-old ship-building industry and commerce, and the steel mills that transformed it into a thriving industrial town before the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century (González Portilla 1981), it became soon clear that Bilbao was to be one of the largest urban centers on the Northern coast of Spain. Beginning in 1910, the migratory balance changed dramatically and the BC became a receiving region, although nearly all the migrants at the time came from other parts of the country (Ruiz Olabuenaga & Blanco 1995). From 1920 to 1950, the increase in immigration was only gradual and fairly manageable, but in the following two decades it skyrocketed to reach figures of over 400,000 people in twenty years—which over a total population of about 1,500,000 gives us an idea of the magnitude of the phenomenon. This migratory “boom” (Llera 1986) found its roots in the flourishing economy of the northern cities and the attempts of the Franco regime to “hispanize” those parts of the nation which claimed to have a different identity (Conversi 1996). By the early 1970s, nearly 35 percent of the population in the region had been born in other areas of the peninsula and not even 0.6 percent abroad. But then again, the decline in immigration into the BC from 1970 to the mid-1980s was even more abrupt than the increase in the previous two decades (Blanco 1990). Coinciding with the first economic crises of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and the Spanish transition into a democratic parliamentary system, the migratory balance became negative once more until it hit the lowest point in 1986, when the BC was losing population at a fast pace of nearly 1 percent each year. Fortunately, this trend changed in the late 1980s and by year 2000 the arrival of foreign migrants had managed to compensate for the loss in population that the declining birth rate and an increasingly aging native population were causing (Eustat 2003).

Two important factors make this succinct overview of migratory movements from and into the BC indispensable in order to understand the current situation in the metropolis under analysis here: on the one hand, the fluctuations observed in the region as a whole have affected primarily its major urban centers—Bilbao and San Sebastián—, since they often compounded a village-to-town migration and one from underdeveloped provinces to wealthier areas; on the other hand, as Blanco (1990: 25) and others have noted, the massive arrival of immigrants throughout the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century “are bound to have a significant influence on many aspects on the social, cultural and economic life of the region.” In a seminal analysis of the immigrant phenomenon in the BC, de Miguel (1974) points out a number of singularities and derivations that should be kept in mind when one sets out to consider its further developments these last three decades. It is particularly important to underline that by the time foreign migration became a salient issue in the region, the socio-cultural make-up of the population was already highly heterogeneous with almost as many people identifying themselves as Spanish as

those who considered themselves solely Basque (Gurrutxaga 1985). According to some local politicians and analysts, the fact that the BC has had a long history of emigration and immigration has made this society especially welcoming and open to the newcomers (Ibarrola & Blave 2002). Nevertheless, as this review will make evident, facts show that there is still a long way to go in terms of granting the foreign-born the same rights and equal opportunities to those enjoyed by the autochthonous population (Lanbide 2004, Eustat 2006).

The metropolitan area of Bilbao encompasses the thirty-one municipalities located on both sides of the lower Nervión river and it stretches over approximately 37.5 km<sup>2</sup> of land. In 1980, the population in the area was nearing 1,000,000 people, but with the slump in the birth rate and the profound industrial “*reconversión*” undergone by the city since the mid-1980s, today the exact figure would be closer to 900,000 (Eustat 2003). The city proper has a population of approximately 370,000 people, and only eight out of the other thirty municipalities surpass the mark of 25,000 inhabitants. Some of these larger municipalities—Getxo and Barakaldo, for instance—have already carried out surveys to study the composition and situation of the migrant contingents in their towns in recent years. Historically, the bigger Bilbao metropolitan area has been divided into two distinct sections, with the river setting a clear boundary between the two of them (visit [www.quiabizkaia.com](http://www.quiabizkaia.com)). On the left bank of the Nervión, down to its mouth in Santurtzi, most of the heavy industry built their factories and the docks showed hectic activity. This was also the part of the city where most working-class and immigrant families settled up to the 1980s (Leonardo 1989). The right bank, on the other hand, has been these last 150 years a leisure and residential area where the affluent built their villas overlooking the Abra Bay or some upper-middle-class families went to spend their summers. Interestingly, if one looks at the evolution of the foreign population on both sides of the river these last ten years, it will be observed that the increase has been much faster in Getxo (right bank) than it has been in Santurtzi or Barakaldo (left bank). In any case, the foreign immigrant contingent in the city of Bilbao itself was, in 2005, slightly superior to the addition of the foreign-born population in the remaining thirty-one municipalities, and it represented well above a 20 percent of the total foreign presence in the BC (Ikuspegi 2005). Although the city has been losing autochthonous population these last ten years at a rate of approximately 5,200 every year, the arrival of over 20,000, mostly young, foreigners has somehow counterpoised this negative trend. As the Counselor of Housing and Social Affairs of the Basque Government, Javier Madrazo, recently affirmed, “the incorporation of foreign workers into the Basque labor market has been a necessary complement to the demands of the productive sectors and has never meant a real threat to the employment of the native population” (Arriola et al. 2008).

Like many other areas of Spain, however, the BC—and more specifically Bilbao—has only become a place receiving a significant number of foreign immigrants in the last ten years. Up to 1998, the percentage of foreign migrants in the region had never reached 1 percent of the total population. Nevertheless, their numbers have grown exponentially this last decade—especially from 2000—to outgrow the mark of 5 percent in 2006 (Eustat 2006). As a result of the belated appearance of the phenomenon in the area—at least, in comparison with other European metropolises—, two key consequences can be immediately inferred. To start with, because of the new features of international migrations since the early 1990s (Castles & Miller 2003), and the socio-cultural and economic specificities of the receiving society (Blanco & Enzunza 2005), it is not easy to find an immediate use in this context to the scholarly work so far done on the topic (see Baldwin-Edwards & Arango 1999). Likewise, as Agirre et al. (2006: 340) have noted, migratory processes have only become a research topic in our region these last twenty years and, therefore, “there is still a great deal to be investigated, due sometimes to the lack of information because of the insufficient data, and other times to

the fact that research priorities have gone in other directions.” What seems unquestionable, in any case, is that, given the dimensions and the importance that the phenomenon has attained in recent years, it should be “taken into serious consideration not only from an academic perspective, but also from a social and political one” (Blanco 2002: 29).

The decision to choose the bigger Bilbao metropolitan area as the object of inquiry seems well-justified for at least three important reasons. Firstly, as pointed out above, this urban area has been receiving almost one fourth of the total immigrant population into the Basque region and has become the city on the Northern coast of Spain with the largest foreign presence. Furthermore, the composition of this foreign contingent has quickly changed—nationality, age, and genderwise—over time, so the proportions today have little to do with those of only eight or, even, five years ago (Luxán 2007). Secondly, the city itself as a socio-economic and human space has also undergone a series of profound transformations in the last three decades (Leoné 2004, Leonardo 2006, visit [www.bm30.es](http://www.bm30.es)) that have had an impact, no doubt, on the conditions of arrival and settlement of newcomers. Probably the most conspicuous transformation concerns its vertiginous reinvention as a city of services—banking, education, corporate business, and tourism—, after its long history as one of the important commercial and industrial centers in the north of Spain—many would argue that it is still struggling to retain this status. This rapid transfiguration has had a critical influence, for instance, on the type of neighborhoods that foreigners have been able to settle in upon arrival. Thus, if we compared them to those occupied by earlier migrant waves from other regions of Spain, we would observe some very remarkable differences (Eustat 2005). Last but not least, like many other large metropolitan areas in Europe, Bilbao’s eight districts—each housing 50,000 people approx.—and the thirty-one municipalities around them reveal great diversity in terms of the class and socio-cultural background of its native citizens, and the amount and composition of the foreign contingent (Agirre et al. 2006: 360). This diversity is even noticeable within the city itself where each of its thirty-nine neighborhoods usually presents very distinct identity profiles. In this regard, it is not surprising that while some parts of the city—San Francisco or the Old Town—have been more deeply affected by the background and composition of its population (Díaz 1997, 1999), others like Begoña or Larraskitu have barely witnessed any substantial changes in them. This complicated puzzle offers an invaluable opportunity to analyze the processes and outcomes of the integration of immigrants that have been arriving in the area these last two decades (Ibarra 2001, Setién & Vicente 2005).

Some experts have argued that the lack of in-depth analyses of the migratory processes in Spain until very recently and the slow implementation of policies and programs to deal with the phenomenon has been due to its unexpected and accelerated character (Izquierdo 1996, Ruiz Olabuénaga et al. 1999). This has also partly been the case in the BC and the metropolitan area of Bilbao, although in the case of the latter the neglect was further complicated by the rapid socio-economic transformation of the city as a result of the crisis in many of its key industries in the 1980s (Esteban 2000). As a matter of fact, the first noticeable wave of foreign migrants into the city broadly coincided in time with the Strategic Plan of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area in the early 1990s which pursued an economic and cultural revitalization of the territory by means of substantial investments in new infrastructures and equipment. Several institutions and organization have played a key role in the planning and development of a more diversified economy in the area, with the Diputación Foral de Bizkaia (visit [www.bizkaia.net](http://www.bizkaia.net)) and the City Council taking the lead on most occasions. In hindsight, after almost twenty years since the launching of the Strategic Plan, it could be persuasively argued that most of the objectives of the project have been achieved, since unemployment has been radically reduced, activity significantly diversified, and

the standard of living has grown by leaps and bounds (Eurostat 2005). Regarding the situation of the underprivileged classes and some of the non-nationals, it is also important to underline that from the late 1980s several plans of Social Assistance have been implemented to try to fight poverty. The preservation of this kind of assistance has been a priority for all local Administrations and has been critical to many families during this period of transition. One should not forget either the central role played by NGOs and immigrant associations in the process of settlement and integration of the newcomers in the host society (Álvarez 2007).

Despite the positive evolution of the economy in the BC, and more precisely in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, it would be a serious analytical blunder to assume that the incorporation of non-nationals into the labor market has been a bed of roses (Lanbide 2004, Irastorza & Peña 2005, 2007). As several experts have pointed out, it may be true that the quick aging of the autochthonous population—in the 1990s alone the average age of the population increased by four years—and the fall in the birth rate may have contributed to the availability of positions, particularly in three-D jobs, that unskilled immigrants were willing to fill (Arriola et al. 2008). Likewise, the gradual feminization of the migratory flow into the BC responds both to a worldwide trend (see Castles & Miller 2003), but also to specific conditions in the local economy, in which the late incorporation of women into the labor market and the growing rate of retirees has also created new needs in domestic service and caring for elderly. Several recent studies by Emakunde ([www.emakunde.es](http://www.emakunde.es)) and specialists (Setién & López 2002, Vicente & Setién 2005) have considered the different motivations, conditions, obstacles, and training opportunities open to migrant women at the beginning of the new millennium. Although it is a fact that during these last ten years a significant number of women—especially Latin American—have been able to find fairly decent employment and, in some cases, also been able to bring over some of their closer kin, it is not less obvious that many of them have been working under abusive conditions or pushed into degrading professions (Emakunde 2007). Male workers, on the other hand, have enjoyed a higher participation in the Basque labor market than in other regions of Spain for two main reasons. For one thing, “the lower percentage of job-seekers might explain their higher participation in the labour market of the BAC with respect to the whole State” (Irastorza & Peña 2005: 238). Moreover, the higher level of education of the local population have made the low-skilled employment in sectors like construction and hostelry “unfit” for many natives and, thus, an increasing number of foreign laborers are finding jobs in these activities. One major problem faced by both female and male immigrant workers is the high level of underground economy—close to 25 percent in the BC—, which inevitably derives into lower wages, higher levels of precariousness, and poorer working conditions (Martínez-Veiga 1999, Ibarrola 2008b).

Apart from the difficulties that many immigrants face in finding employment according to their training and skills—as most experts have noted, they are mostly confined in the worst-paid and most-hazardous jobs—, there are at least three other huge obstacles that they need to overcome soon after they arrive in the Bilbao area. It is no coincidence, of course, that a significant proportion of the latest research carried out in the region has centered on aspects like the housing problem (SOS Racismo 2008), the difficulties of the educational system to integrate migrant children adequately—especially, in what concerns language skills—(Santibáñez & Maiztegui 2006, 2007; Vicente 2006, 2008), and the perceptions and attitudes shown by the native population toward immigrants (Setién 2002, Blanco & Enzunza 2005, Narvaiza et al. 2007). For some scholars, in order to understand the enormous vulnerability that immigrants show in these different domains, it is essential to consider the legal and socio-political handicaps that a majority of them inevitably suffer from (Ruiz Vieytez 2001, 2003; Gray 2005). As some surveys of their opinions have revealed, they very rarely can be said to compete on an equal footing with the native population in what concerns access to

housing, choosing an education for their children or gaining visibility in the public sphere. It is true that, in some instances, it is the objective conditions in the area—which also affect the local population—that are causing problems of segregation and delinquency. This would be the case of the exorbitant prices in the housing market due to the scarcity of land—the city is located at the bottom of a valley—and a chronic unbalance in the demand-offer equation. The reduced mobility of the native inhabitants and the absence of a tradition of renting one's property, even when it is vacant, does nothing but complicate things for those who are newly-arrived (SOS Racismo 2008). It should be said, on the other hand, that any foreigner registered in a municipality is encouraged to apply for assistance to guarantee their access decent housing.

As pointed out above, while earlier waves of immigrants into the bigger Bilbao area settled mostly in the neighborhoods on the periphery of the city or the working-class municipalities on the left bank of the river, today's migrants feel often compelled to choose other locations, such as the inner-city quarters or some post-industrial districts (Ikuspegi 2005). Their limited choice of accessible housing has also radically restricted the number of public schools in which they have been able to enroll their children. One of the major problems that the Basque education system faces nowadays is that as a result of their segregation to particular neighborhoods and the three language models existing in the region, most migrant children end up in public schools (over 75 percent) with scarce resources to attend to their specific needs (Santibáñez & Maiztegui 2006, Vicente 2008). While it is true that everybody's right to a proper education is one of the priorities of the two Plans of Immigrations (2003-05, 2007-10) issued by the Basque Government so far and that several teacher-training courses related to multiculturalism have already been implemented (Santibáñez & Maiztegui 2007), it is still unclear that the longed-for outcomes are being achieved. One difficult problem to solve is how to change the attitude of some immigrant communities to the use of *euskera* (the Basque language), which to many of them ranks—somehow predictably—quite low among their priorities (CEAR 2008). It is interesting to observe, in this regard, that the surveys on the perceptions and attitudes so far carried out among the native population reveal that while most Basques are in favor of a multicultural society, they also believe that immigration is not going to alter substantially the evolution of their identity (Blanco & Enzunza 2005). Discrepancies or tensions of this kind are abundant when one sets side by side the opinions expressed by the receiving population and the concerns of recent migrants into the area (Ibarrola 2008c).

To sum up, as specialist in multiculturalism and minority issues Will Kymlicka recently claimed in a Conference held in Bilbao this Spring, the BC offers a perfect laboratory to study how identity processes and minority rights need to be negotiated in particularly complex contexts. In this regard, it is not casual that some of the latest migration-related research done in the region has focused on the situation and integration processes of particular migrant communities (Etxeberria et al. 2007, Fuentes y Vicente 2007, Aierdi et al. 2008). As these analyses demonstrate, due to the above-described diversity in the receiving environments—varying a great deal from neighborhood to neighborhood and from one municipality to the next—and to the different conditions and expectations of the different migrant groups, there is still much ground to cover in order to understand more fully the socio-cultural dynamics taking place in our society.

## Part B. THE CITY IN CONTEXT

### 1. Nationality Law

Recognition and acquisition of nationality in Spain basically follows the *ius sanguinis* model. This option may be an answer to a given conception of the own nation, on the one hand, and to the strong tradition of emigration of the Spanish society along history, on the other. Therefore, as a basic principle, Spanish nationality is automatically given to persons born from an Spaniard father or mother. On the contrary, the people born within Spanish territory are considered in principle as foreigners.

In the case of Spain, the regulations concerning nationality are included in the Civil Code. This is a classical compilation of Private Law originated in the period of the legal codification; in this case, at the end of the XIXth century. Therefore, there is no specific or separate regulation on nationality, and this is not linked to that of aliens or foreigners. The Civil Code continues to be the basic law in this matter, although during the last years different amendments have been introduced by the central Parliament . These modifications have had as their principal aim to facilitate the access to the Spanish nationality to the descendants of Spanish citizens who emigrated as workers in the previous decades or the descendants of those who sought for refuge in other countries as a consequence of the Spanish Civil war (1936-1939)<sup>1</sup>.

According to the Civil Code there are four different ways of acquiring Spanish citizenship: by birth (nationality by origin), by option, by attribution and via residence. As a general principle, the *ius sanguinis* principle rules, but when the birth in Spanish territory from foreign parents provoke that the stateless condition of the child , the Civil Code recognises to the people born in these conditions the nationality of origin. This fact is being relevant in respect to the immigration policy, since the legal system of some of the most frequent foreign nationalities in Spain do not recognise the citizenship to the children born away, as it is the case of Ecuador and other countries. Thus, in such situations, the parents becomes close relatives of a Spaniard, and this facilitates very much the possibilities of getting working or residence permits according to the aliens' regulations.

To acquire Spanish nationality via residence, a general period of 10 years of legal and permanent residence is established, together with "good civic behaviour" and a "sufficient degree of integration within Spanish society". These two last requirements, however, are interpreted in a rather broad sense. For people enjoying the legal condition of refugee, the time of residence needed is reduced to 5 years. And the period is only of 2 years for the citizens of Iberoamerican countries, Andorra, Philippines, Equatorial Guinea, Portugal and for the Sefarad Jewish. This shows the importance give the Spanish Law to the historical , cultural and linguistic links with some foreign communities. It is to some extent bizarre that the list of privileged nationalities includes Portugal, Brazil or Philippines, but not other former Spanish colonies geographically close, such as Morocco and Western Sahara. The inclusion of the Sefarad Jewish is also rather unique and it reflects a *ius sanguinis* conception, even if in practical terms its applicability happens to be very limited.

Apart from the very generic sentence "sufficient degree of integration within the Spanish society", and of the required oath of loyalty to the Constitution, in the access to Spanish nationality there is no specific cultural requirement such as language examinations, citizenship testes, etc. Besides this, in legal terms, acquiring Spanish nationality does not

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<sup>1</sup> Law 18/1990, of 18 December; Law 37/2002, of 8 October; Law 40/2006, of 14 December.

automatically imply to lose the previous one, but the former is lost once the latter is exclusively used for three years. However, this is not the case when the newly acquired nationality is one of the Iberoamerican countries, Andorra, Portugal, Equatorial Guinea or Philippines. The Spanish legal system recognises the possibility of enjoying double nationality with all these countries, thus emphasising the cultural and historical links with their respective peoples.

## 2. Immigration Policy

It can be said that Spain has not developed an immigration policy till very recently. In fact, when democracy returned to Spain in 1978, Spanish society keeps its traditional emigration role, being very low the number of foreign residents within the Spanish territory. At the same time, a significant part of those foreigners residing in Spain at that moment could not be considered as immigrants, since they had chosen Spain as a destination country for enjoying their retirement. Others were highly qualified professional linked to international (mostly European ) business. This is why most of foreigners living in Spain in that period were Europeans.

This panorama slowly changes in the second half of the 80s and, more clearly, in the 90s. Till 1985 Spain had no specific legislation to deal with residing foreigners. However, the Constitution of 1978 had foreseen both a principle of limited equality of rights between nationals and foreigners (article 13) and a principle of unity in managing immigration. Thus, according to the Constitution (art. 149), all matters relating to immigration, asylum, nationality, passports, borders and foreigners are under the responsibility of the central institutions of the State. Since then, the executive powers have been assumed by the Ministries of Interior (Home Office), Foreign Affairs, Work and Social Matters. The growing importance of immigration can be seen in the fact that the rank of the responsible bodies in the matter has moved upwards. A first important step was made in 1999, when a new Secretariat of State (Government Delegation) for Immigration and Foreigners was created<sup>2</sup>. This Secretariat was firstly located under the Minister of the Interior, representing a predominant police vision of the phenomenon. With the return of the Socialist Party to the government in 2004, the responsibility on immigration was transferred again to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Work. Moreover, by the first time, the Ministry itself included the word "immigration" within its official denomination. The Ministries of Interior and External Affairs also keep important roles in the matter. Finally, since 1995 there is an Inter-ministerial Commission for Foreigners and Immigration issues, as a co-ordination body of the different ministries involved<sup>3</sup>.

What can be seen as Spanish Law of Immigration was launched in the mid-1980s. The first generation of laws on immigration included mainly the first Aliens Act ("*Ley de Extranjería*") in 1985<sup>4</sup>, with its corresponding development regulation adopted in 1986<sup>5</sup>. In parallel, the first Asylum Act had been approved in 1984<sup>6</sup> and its development regulation in 1985. It is also important to quote here two important judgments of the Constitutional Court: 107/1984, relating to the fundamental rights of foreigners in Spain, and 115/1987, which resolved the appeal of unconstitutionality levelled by the

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<sup>2</sup> Royal Decree 683/2000, of 12 May. The Royal Decree 807/2000, of 19 May would create the General Direction on Immigration and Alienship, as a dependent body of the Government Delegation.

<sup>3</sup> This body is regulated according to Royal Decree 19467/2000, of 1 December

<sup>4</sup> Organic Law 7/1985, of 7 July.

<sup>5</sup> Royal Decree 1119/1986, of 26 May

<sup>6</sup> Law 5/1984, of 26 March



Ombudsman against some articles of the Aliens Act. This first set of regulations in the matter marked the basic governing principles that, in substance, would remain in force from then on. These first acts and regulations had a significant emphasis on the control of migratory flows, and the regulation of the requirements created by the presence of foreigners in the territory of the State. Integration issues were almost absent of the legislation in this first period.

A significant shift occurred in the first half of the 90s. In 1991, a non-binding resolution of the Low Chamber of the Parliament drafted the basic new guidelines for a policy on immigration and on integration of immigrants in Spain. From this moment, the Asylum Act was modified substantially in 1994<sup>7</sup> and its development regulation in 1995<sup>8</sup>, as well as the development regulation of the Aliens Act, in 1996<sup>9</sup>. The modification of the latter showed a greater interest in the regulation of aspects relating to integration of immigrants into society, without losing the basically controlling character of the regulation. At the same time, the Socialist government developed some parallel initiatives, as the first Plan for the Social Integration of Immigrants (1994) and the creation of a Permanent Observatory of immigration and of a Forum on the Social Integration of Immigrants, as a participatory consultative body of the central government on immigration issues.

A turning point can be observed around the end of the last century, when a process for a significant amendment of the 1985 Alien Act was launched. Thus, in January 2000 a first reform of the aforementioned act was passed by the parliament, with the participation of an important sector of social movements<sup>10</sup>. The new act clearly showed a more integratory vocation than previous regulations. However, the refusal to the new act by the right-wing Popular Party, and the overwhelming majority got by this formation in the 2000 general elections, led to a restrictive amendment of the young act<sup>11</sup>. By this moment, the perception of immigration by Spanish society had shifted, due to the significant increase in the number of newcomers, mainly from Latin-American countries. Thus, in 2000, the legal statue on irregularity became harsher; the regime of sanctions was also harshened, and the power given to the Executive to develop the content of the Act was increased enormously. From this base, the Government proceeded to approve in 2001 a new and extensive reform of the Development Regulation<sup>12</sup>.

Some regional parliament appealed to the constitutional court against the amendment developed by the conservative government. In 2007, the high court would state that in fact the act violated some of the basic rights of immigrant, in particular those restricted to people in a irregular administrative situation. The process of legislative production did not stop then, since in 2003 the Aliens Act was again reformed<sup>13</sup>. The return of the Socialist party to the government in Madrid led also to a new developing regulation in 2004<sup>14</sup>.

European citizens of those member states of the European Union and some close relatives of Spaniards benefit from a privileged legal regime. The first time this special status was regulated was just after the first Aliens Act had been approved. Thus, in

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<sup>7</sup> Law 9/1994, of 19 May

<sup>8</sup> Royal Decree 205/1995, of 10 February

<sup>9</sup> Royal Decree 155/1996, of 2 February

<sup>10</sup> Organic Law 4/2000, of 11 January

<sup>11</sup> Organic Law 8/2000, of 22 December

<sup>12</sup> Royal Decree 864/2001, of 20 July

<sup>13</sup> Organic Law 11/2003, of 29 September and Organic Law 14/2003, of 20 November

<sup>14</sup> Royal Decree 2393/2004, of 30 December

1986, the first decree on the status of European nationals was passed by the government<sup>15</sup>. This piece was derogated in 1992<sup>16</sup>, after the formal creation of the European Union. Again, new amendments were adopted in 1995<sup>17</sup>, 1997<sup>18</sup> and 2003<sup>19</sup>, till the present regulation adopted in 2007<sup>20</sup>, to include not only the aforementioned citizens, but also nationals of Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

During the last years some new regulations and amendments have also been introduced for specific target groups. Thus, new decrees have been issued for asylum seekers and refugees<sup>21</sup>, stateless people<sup>22</sup> and displaced people<sup>23</sup>.

The whole immigration policy contained in all these regulations can be summarised around two basic principles. On the one hand, the principle of authorization establishes that no foreigner can remain on Spanish territory without corresponding administrative or legal authorization. From the breach of this basic principle is directly derived the existence of the legal category of irregularity. As for the principle of viability, this implies that authorization is given to those foreigners who can demonstrate the economic and social viability of their project of life in Spain. This viability is essentially accredited by a stable income, which could come from an employment contract, viable self-employment or from the availability of sufficient economic resources for maintenance. As we also said before, the Constitution proclaims also a limited principle of equality of rights. Thus, foreigners accede to most of the civil, cultural and social rights on an equality basis, at least in theory.

One of the main characteristics of the development of the immigration policy in Spain during the last 30 years has been that of the so called regularisation processes. The number of foreigners in an irregular situation has always been important. The cyclical variations in its number has to do with the "extraordinary" processes of foreigners' regularization. In effect, since the approval of the first Aliens Act in 1985, at least 6 "extraordinary" processes of regularization of foreigners have taken place (1985, 1991, 1996, 2000, 2001 and 2005), implying the resolution of more than one million cases. Besides these processes, there have been other normative mechanisms with the same purpose of regularizing foreigners in an illegal situation: using the annual quotas of work licences for foreigners already present in the territory of the State (from 1993 to 1999), assignment of extraordinary permissions to those who enter the State by way of certain borders (fundamentally Ceuta and Melilla) and other, alternative mechanisms of documentation, still in force like the permanent one based on the concept of labour or social "rooting" ("*arraigo*").

Although all these procedures have been qualified in principle as extraordinary, they have had a significant importance both in symbolic and in numerical perspective in the development of the immigration policy in Spain. Thus, the framework can be considered, at least, as instable (Ruiz Vieytez, 2003). Possibly, the new panorama of crisis will lead us to new changes in the regulation of immigration.

### 3. Integration Policy

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<sup>15</sup> Royal Decree 1099/1986, of 26 May

<sup>16</sup> Royal Decree 766/1992, of 26 June

<sup>17</sup> Royal Decree 737/1995, of 5 May

<sup>18</sup> Royal Decree 1710/1997, of 14 November

<sup>19</sup> Royal Decree 178/2003, of 14 February

<sup>20</sup> Royal Decree 240/2007, of 16 February

<sup>21</sup> Royal Decree 864/2001, of 20 July and Royal Decree 2393/2004, of 30 December

<sup>22</sup> Royal Decree 865/2001, of 20 July

<sup>23</sup> Royal Decree 1353/2003, of 24 October

As it has already been mentioned, the first steps in the integration policy field were developed after the non-binding resolution adopted by the Congress of deputies on the policies of immigration and integration of immigrants on 9 April 1991. The first result of a policy of integration was the adoption by the central government on 2 December 1994 of the first Plan for Social Integration of Immigrants.

In fact, the Autonomous Community of Catalonia was the first one in developing its own plan on integration of immigrants. According to the distribution of powers made by the Spanish constitution of 1978, Autonomous Communities can get powers on the fields of education, housing, social affairs and health assistance. Therefore, with the progressive arrival of immigrants, the autonomous communities faced the issue of socially integrating newcomers, although the substantive powers on immigrations flows have always been in the hands of the state. This situation has created numerous problems of lack of coordination between central and regional (or even local) authorities. Moreover, the political and cultural (linguistic) differences between the regions have also provoked different styles or models of integrating immigrants (Ruiz Vieitez, 2008b).

In parallel to institutional initiatives, associative movements developed during the 90s with the aim of promoting the social integration of immigrants in Spain. Today there is a complex panorama of organizations working totally or partly in this area, like trade unions, assistance organisations, organisations of promotion of human rights or immigrants associations. Many of them collaborate with different public administrations in developing or implementing social policies. In some autonomous communities, the collaboration of the NGOs with the regional administration is very active in developing the regional plan of integration (Andalusia), whereas in other, their presence is more the result of a liberal privatised management of the integration policy (Madrid). Other communities, like Catalonia or the Basque country give more space to the principle of normalization and the role to be directly developed by public institutions and services.

The central government, after drafting the first plan in 1994, did not present a second document till 2001 (when the Popular Party was in office; the so call "GRECO" Plan<sup>24</sup>). After the last shift in the central government, occurred in 2004, new steps have been done. Thus, in 2005, by the first time a specific Fund for Social and educational Integration of immigrant was incorporated into the annual budget. Two years later, this fund was included within the framework of the Strategic Plan on Citizenship and Integration<sup>25</sup>, which is for the moment the main attempt developed by central institutions to create a model of integration for Spain. Although there is a substrate of assimilationism, in rhetorical terms the principle of interculturality is assumed as the best model of integrating new and old citizens.

As for the autonomous communities, most of them have developed their own plans for integration of immigrants. The complex linguistic situation of Spain, with several regions having a principal or minority languages different from Spanish creates new difficult scenarios for both immigrants and regional institutions. Normally, in bilingual communities, immigrant students get education through both Spanish and regional languages.

As we said before, Catalonia was the first autonomous regions in drafting an inter-department Plan (1993-2000), which was followed by a second document for the period 2001-2004, and a new Plan of Citizenship and immigration 2005-2008. As soon as 1994 the Catalan government had created an interdepartamental commission on

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24 Global program of Regulation and Coordination of Foreigners in Spain, whose application covers the period 2000–2004.

25 Adopted by the Council of Ministers on 16 February 2007

immigration. At the local level, Catalonia has also developed different initiatives through the provincial governments and municipalities, among them Barcelona, with its own Plan on Interculturality.

The Catalan way of integration is inspired in a civic conception of being Catalan, open to cultural diversity but through a common sense of culture, whose main feature is, no doubt, the Catalan language. The Catalan model of *fer país* (build the country) is referred as a part of the process of national-building and the linguistic element is rather important in the process of integration in Catalonia (Davis, 2008; Gil Araujo, 2004). The whole educational system is conducted exclusively through Catalan language, and the assimilationist intention in linguistic matters contrast with the more open approach in respect to other identity elements of newcomers.

In the present, a draft Bill on reception of foreigners is being prepared by the Catalan parliament, and a new National (Catalan) Agreement on Immigration has been launched by the regional government. It is also important to point out that the new Act on Autonomy (2006) includes by the first time an article giving some powers on immigration to the Catalan authorities. Thus it assigns exclusive power on reception to Catalonia and also the issuing of the working permits in collaboration with the central government of the State. In any case, there is a will in Catalonia of developing a distinct and autonomous policy of both immigration and integration.

In the Autonomous Community of Madrid, the first Plan covered the period 2001-2003. A second regional plan was adopted for the period 2005-2008. The municipality of Madrid has also been active on the issue of integration adopting its own Plan on Social Neighbourhood and Interculturality 2004-2007. The model of management of the Madrid authorities seem to be much more liberal and is based on the collaboration of the social movements. This network of actors points out a model of privatisation the delivering of many services, against the principle of normalisation. The CASI (*Centros de Atención Social a Inmigrantes*) network in Madrid is the best illustration of this process (Gil Araújo 2004), since in fact these centres are owned and managed by NGOs. In terms of integration, it is also important to remark the Centres for the Participation and Integration of Immigrants (CEPIs or "*Casas Nacionales*"), based on immigrants' country of origin. It also follows the same trend to privatise the integration process, through a pseudo-multiculturalist scheme (Davis, 2008).

Andalusia has also been another important region in dealing with immigration and integration processes. The first Plan on immigration in this region was adopted in 2001, and it was followed in 2006 by a second Plan. These documents show an ambitious attitude of the regional government to provide all kind of services to newcomers. At the same time, many of the services provided rest on agreements between the regional government and social actors.

During the first years of the decade, most of the Autonomous Communities have adopted Plans on Immigration or Integration issues. This is the case of Balears (2001), Navarra (2001), Murcia (2002 and 2005), Canary Islands (2002), Basque Country (2003 and 2007), Valencia (2004), La Rioja (2004), Cantabria (2005), Castilla-León (2005) and Castilla-La Mancha (2006). A majority of autonomous communities have made first reception a top priority and thus assigned integration management to the corresponding Social Services Department. The plans normally ensure the newcomers with social and cultural rights as it is provided at the state legislation. In cultural and identity matters, interculturality is formally the guiding principle, despite the assimilationist substrate of most of the policies in the subject. In any case, cultural or identity issues seem to be considered not a priority in respect to work and socio-economic welfare.

It is also relevant to note that there is a social, institutional and media trend to link immigration with social exclusion, delinquency or pre-democratic moral values (in the particular case of some religious communities). The economic crisis recently confirmed may help in strengthening the vision of immigrants as a threat in the access to the work market. For the moment no serious attempt of combating these discourses has been developed by the public administrations.

#### 4. Local Policy

After the approval of the Constitution in 1978, Spain became a rather decentralised country in political terms. Today, the Basque Country is the region enjoying the highest level of autonomy within the Spanish constitutional framework. However, the State has exclusive powers on immigration issues and the competences of the Autonomous Community correspond to specific issues such as health assistance, housing, social care or education.

The low number of newcomers to the Basque Autonomous Community provokes that the reaction of the Basque authorities to the new phenomenon took place late in comparison with Catalonia. However, after the regional elections of 2001, the new coalition government decide to create a Direction on Immigration to face the new realities from an autonomous perspective<sup>26</sup>. The symbolic importance of the decision was even reinforced by the fact that the person appointed for the position within the government was a foreigner himself (in particular from Africa), being the first foreigner person in Spain in a high political charge.

The new Direction worked towards the adoption of an autonomous policy of immigration and integration. The first field (immigration) was, nevertheless, in the hands of the state authorities and the efforts were concentrated around the integration issue. A major step was the adoption by the Basque Government of the First Basque Plan on Immigration 2003-2005. The Plan was based on the principles of equality, public responsibility and social participation. The core value is that of inclusive citizenship, meaning that all residents in the Basque Autonomous Community (henceforth BAC) are to be considered Basque citizens, regardless of their legal status. The practical consequence of this progressive approach was the full access of all foreign residents to complete public social services, including social incomes and housing, even for those in an irregular administrative situation.

The Basque Government thus launched a differentiated policy, partially contesting the approach of the conservative central government during those critical years. Within the Plan on Immigration, a good set of measures were adopted. Among them, the Basque government tried to involve the municipalities in creating a network of local experts with technical knowledge to manage the integration and reception issues in the different towns and villages. It also created a fund for calls on initiatives to promote integration and intercultural relations. A participatory body, called Forum on Integration and Participation of Immigrant Citizens was also established in 2002, as well as a regional Observatory on immigration in 2003.

Other novelties include the creation of the *Heldu* ("to arrive") programme, a legal service open to help immigrants in relation with the local network of social services. Another public service called *Biltzen* ("joining", "gathering") programme, was created as a coordination centre on mediation initiatives and intercultural education, open to all

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<sup>26</sup> Decree 40/2002, of 12 February

kind of communities and companies to facilitate interethnic relations and mutual comprehension.

This progressive approach to immigration and the whole network of bodies and services have also been incorporated to the Second Basque Plan on Immigration, which keeps the main principal and ideological parts of the first Plan.

Of a particular interest and relevance is the issue of linguistic integration of immigrant children. Since the Basque Country is a bilingual community, two official languages are used at the educational system. Being the Basque language a minority language even within the Basque area, the citizens are free to choose what language of instruction they want for their children. The normal trend among native citizens is to send their children to Basque-speaking education models in order to ensure that they will be able to use fluently both official languages. However, there is a clear trend among the immigrants (mainly from Latin-America) to lead their children to Spanish-speaking models. This fact is creating in some cases a situation of isolation of immigrant children. The Basque Programme for Integration of Immigrant Students, issued in 2003 from the 1st Basque Plan for Immigration, tried to modify these tendencies promoting among immigrant parents the need of linguistic integration through the educational system for their children. The results are, however, so far limited (Ruiz Vieitez, 2008a).

At the local level, different municipalities have developed, with the help of the Basque Government, their specific plans on immigration, integration or citizenship. In the particular case of Bilbao, since the last municipal elections the issue of integration of immigrants is included into the Department of Equality, Cooperation and Citizenship. The role of the municipality is being active in promoting the associations of immigrants, facilitating the access of immigrant to municipal services (providing full service in an increasing number of languages) and developing studies and surveys on the real conditions of the immigrants and social perceptions on the matter. Some services are directly provided by the Municipality, mainly through the network of social services.

## Part C. POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE CITY

### 1. The territorial basis of the administrative structure of the city

The Bilbao Metropolitan Area is defined from the territorial point of view, by a concentration of urban space within the margins of the Lower Nervión river, as can be seen in picture 1. Bilbao is constituted of 31 municipalities where the river has always been the dividing force between the two opposite sides, creating two socially distinct worlds: the right side has an inherent residential feel to it, while the left side has a definite industrial feel, having accommodated the main businesses, the working-class and housing. As many other places, these are two worlds that live side by side, but never mix.

Picture 1. Municipalities making the Bilbao Metropolitan Area



The Bilbao Metropolitan Area has an extension of 3.716 hectares and a population of approximately 1 million, who are dispersed as is illustrated in the Table 1. The Bilbao Metropolitan Area is composed of a central municipality, Bilbao, which has 400.000 inhabitants; three major municipalities of 50.000 inhabitants: Barakaldo, Getxo and Portugalete; and five municipalities making up between 25.000 and 50.000 inhabitants: Basauri, Santurtzi, Sestao, Galdakao and Leioa. The remaining 25.000 inhabitants populate the other 23 municipalities.

The Bilbao Metropolitan Area's urban growth has been shaken in the last 80 years, due to a deep crisis in the labour industry, thus sounding the alarm and causing warning signs for the government. Many businesses closed down, industries were deserted, and many hubs of poverty started to appear...these were some of the signs that forced and changed the course of the metropolitan economy that has led to a strong restructuring process, and a necessity to find new methods to attract foreign investment.

**Table 1. Demographic evolution of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area 1981-2001**

MUNICIPALITY	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	Annual Birth Rate 2001-1991
Bilbao	393.759	381.506	369.839	361.128	349.972	-0,55
Arrigorriaga	9.011	9.469	9.913	10.348	11.140	1,17
Basauri	52.554	51.931	50.224	46.760	45.085	-1,08
Etxebarri	6.548	6.431	6.458	6.248	7.043	0,87
Galdakao	26.785	27.232	28.569	29.600	29.544	0,34
Zaratamo	1.768	1.609	1.634	1.594	1.651	0,1
Barakaldo	118.615	114.094	1.5.088	99.679	94.478	-1,06
Portugalete	58.071	57.794	55.823	53.561	51.066	-0,89
Santurtzi	53.919	52.502	50.466	49.224	47.173	-0,67
Sestao	40.374	38.148	35.948	33.470	31.773	-1,23
Barrika	774	767	877	1.143	1.230	3,35
Gorliz	2.986	2.665	2.917	3.847	4.486	4,24
Plentzia	2.844	2.770	2.542	3.071	3.643	3,56
Sopelana	6.271	7.051	8.135	9.538	10.709	2,73
Urduliz	2.643	2.507	2.580	2.764	3.142	1,96
Derio	5.133	5.062	4.871	4.673	4.846	-0,05
Erandio	25.184	25.134	25.055	23.230	22.422	-1,11
Larrabetzu	1.629	1.547	1.472	1.486	1.551	0,52
Lezama	1.827	1.901	2.020	2.046	2.113	0,45
Loiu	1.797	1.685	1.694	1.680	2.199	2,59
Sondika	3.901	3.606	3.345	3.512	3.978	1,73
Zamudio	3.341	3.228	3.179	3.157	3.012	-0,54
Berango	4.136	3.931	4.102	4.596	5.040	2,05
Getxo	67.793	77.856	79.954	81.446	82.285	0,29
Leioa	22.382	24.107	24.815	27.089	28.381	1,34
Abanto y Zierbena	9.461	9.346	9.472	8.527	9.036	-0,47
Alonsotegui			3.075	2.863	2.662	-1,44
Muskiz	6.054	6.224	6.358	6.343	6.558	0,31
Ortuella	9.100	9.200	8.976	8.594	8.684	-0,33
Trapagaran	13.677	13.406	13.239	12.921	12.621	-0,48
Zierbena				1.185	1.215	
Bilbao Metropolitan Area	952.337	942.709	922.640	905.323	888.738	-0,37

Source: Basque Institute of Statistics, EUSTAT

The continuous commitment to sustain a diversified economy on the one hand, in an industry that urgently needed a modernization of the production apparatus; and to acquire equipment and infrastructure on the other, gave birth to the Strategic Plan for the Bilbao Metropolitan Area in the early 1990's, which was instrumental in the metropolitan transformation of the city, and has resulted in a commitment to regard cultural infrastructure as a strategic instrument for economical and social recovery, of which the Guggenheim Museum is a great example.

The transformation of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area is understood within the socio-political space which sustains it. Even though the metropolitan area concept and its inception go back to the 1950's, and more specifically regarding the creation of the Administrative Corporation of Greater Bilbao, currently the executive competencies in planning issues lie with the Provincial Council of Bizkaia which holds the required competencies and the economic resources for project development, as is illustrated in Table 2.



**Table 2. Distribution of responsibilities for Territorial Planning**

TERRITORY	INSTITUTION	TYPE OF PLAN	Planning characteristic
Autonomous Community of Basque Country	Basque Government	*Regulation for Land and Town Planning *Sectorial Planning: Housing, Education, Health...	Directors
Historical Territory (Province)	Provincial Council	*Regulation for Land and Town Planning *Sectorial Planning: Housing, Education, Health...	Executive
MUNICIPALITY	City Hall	*General Regulation for Urbanization *Partial Planning	Executive

From the administrative point of view, the composition of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area is as is illustrated in Table 3.

**Table 3. Administrative Political Division of the B.M.A.**

METROPOLITAN AREA	Territorial area that forms a socio-economic entity, which is formed by 31 municipalities. There are 1 million residents The competition for planning of the metropolitan issue has settled in the provincial council at the executive level.
REGION	Territorial divisions of the region based on geographic location of the municipalities. Entities that joit services: social services, employment, cleaning services...
MUNICIPALITY	The city hall is the highest municipal institution and is responsible for municipal planning. The Bilbao metropolitan area municipalities are medium size
DISTRICTS	Administrative units have a census character Bilbao the capital is divided in 8 districts, made up of 50.000 residents each.
NEIGHBOURHOODS	Historical residential areas that induce a social homogeneity and a collective identity
CENSUS SECTION	Administrative division at a lower level. For example, Bilbao, the capital is composed of 8 districts, 39 neighbourhoods and 290 census sections. There is desagregated information at this level of the local population.

## 2. The Statistical Information related to immigration issues

In Spain, there are many available sources in order to study immigration in a specific location. The most general information would be from the Population and Residence Census and the Municipal Registry, who are under the umbrella of the National Statistics Institute (NSI).

**Table 1. Population and Residence Census Data**

The Population Census is taken every decade and the most recent data is from 2001. It is a good source of information, however it becomes quickly outdated when dealing with issues such as immigration in the flows of settlement are in constant flux and increase, especially since 2000. It is possible to also to retrieve information based on nationality and place of birth, from which more critical research on migrants can be done, such as a subgroup of the total population, personal characteristics, family and living conditions and how life, in general, is managed. Territorial units can also be studied, at the national, autonomous, provincial, municipal and sectional census, which are the smallest territorial units. The variables are divided into subgroups of the total population, such as immigrants and foreigners.

Unit	Section	Variable	
PEOPLE	Demography	Gender	
		Date of Birth	
		Place of Birth	
		Nationality	
		Marital Status	
		Mother Tongue	
	Structure of Habitat	Relation with person 1	
	Migration		Place of residence for past 10 years
			Place of residence for past year
			Year of arrival and place of origin
	Education		Level of studies
			Field of studies
			Current studies
Mobility		Place of work/study	
		Number of daily travels	
		Mode of transportation to place of work/study	
		Time of transportation to place of work/study	
Economic Activity		Economic Activity	
		Occupation	
		Establishment activity	
		Professional Position	
		Time spent working	
Living Quarters	Place of Residence	Mode of acquiring place of residence	
		Years in current place of residence	
		Availability of a second place of residence	
	Vehicle	Availability of motor vehicle	
RESIDENCE AND SETTLEMENT	Residence	Type of place	
		Type of area	
		Type of compound	
		Level of residence	
		Nº of bedrooms	
		Surface of residence	
		Problems in place of residence and its surroundings	
		Plumbing facilities in place of residence	Refrigerator
		Heating system	
		Fuel for heating system	
	Building		Type of building
Nº of floors, flats, apartments...			
Year of erection			
Level of ownership			
Installations and services		State of building	
		Running water	
		Hot water	
		Evacuation of residues	
		Telephone plug	

Superintendent  
Garage and nº of spaces  
Gas for pipes  
Accessibility

Source: NSI

**Tabl2 2. Municipal Registry. Variables upon which statistics are based**

It is an administrative registry for neighbouring municipalities. Its data refers to residing in these municipalities. The respective City Halls that produce, maintain revise and guard the registry, which is updated the 1 of January every year. It is regarded as a continuous registry, even though the data is updated yearly. The National Statistics Institute receives all of the information put out by the Municipal Registries every month, and has to verify in order to eliminate any errors or duplication of data, and to establish the population of each municipality. Each person residing in Spain is obliged to register with the Municipal Registry where they reside, and those living in various municipalities ought to register with the municipality where they live most during the year. The variables are divided into subgroups of the total population, such as immigrants and foreigners, and analysis by territory are the same as those found in the census: national, autonomous, provincial, municipal and by censual sections. With regard to the immigrants, the Municipal Registry is a kind of registry where people are registred both if they are legal or not. Immigrants without legal documents can register themselves where they live as well.

Gender  
Nationality  
Place of birth  
Date of birth  
Place of residence  
Age  
Relation between place of Birth and place of residence

Source: NSI

There are others kind of datas, that comes from de Secretary of Immigration and Emigration, that enclose just datas about immigrants with resident permit and some informations about illegal immigration. This kind of datas are in a Annual Immigration Statistics, in the Statistical Bulletin of Immigration and in the Statistical Report about immigrants with valid residence authorization.

**Table 3. Annual Immigration Statistics. Variables used for statistics at the territorial level.**

The Annual Immigration Statistics is a instrument to well known the situation about immigrants with valid residence authorization because this kind of document has a temporary validity. The Annual Immigration Statistics is also good to know topics like intercultural education in the school, births and deaths of the immigrants. At the same time this document shows informations about accreditation of academic degrees, visas and nationalities. It's published every year.

Unit	Variables	Autonomous community	Province
Immigrants with Valid Residence Permit	Continent	X	X
	Nationality	X	X
	Residence Status	X	X
	Gender	X	X
	Age Group	X	X
	Average Age	X	X
	Type of Residence Authorization	X	X
Non-Nationals with Study Permits	Continent	X	X
	Nationality	X	X
	Gender	X	X
	Age Group	X	X
Immigrants with Pre-University Education	Type of Centre	X	X
	Continent	X	X
	Education	X	X

	Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary Education	X	X
Immigrants with University Education	Gender	X	
	Average Age	X	
	Continent	X	
	Nationality	X	
	University Level	X	
	Field of study	X	
Application and determination for ratifying, validating and recognizing Foreign Degrees and Studies in Spain (National)	Continent		
	Nationality		
	Gender		
	Cycle		
	Qualification		
Application for asylum, visas and Spanish citizenship	Continent	X	X
	Nationality	X	X
Born in Spain with immigrant mother/father	Continent of mother and father	X	X
	Average age of mother and father	X	X
	Gender of infant	X	X
	Order in chain of siblings	X	X
Marriage celebrated in Spain with at least one non-Spanish national	Continent of the female and male	X	X
	Nationality of female and male	X	X
	Celebration method	X	X
	Gender of contracting parties	X	X
	Age group	X	X
	Average of age	X	X
Death of immigrants in Spain	Continent	X	X
	Nationality	X	X
	Gender	X	X
	Age group	X	X
	Average age	X	X

Source: Author, from Immigration and Emigration Department Data

**Statistical Bolletin of Immigration.** Is a quarterly Bolletin that analyzes and updates datas about specific topics better deal in the Annual Immigration Statistics.

**Quarterly Statistical Report about immigrants with residence authorization** valid from the 31<sup>st</sup> of... Is a quarterly Bollettin that updates the datas of the Annual Immigration Statistics.

**Data on irregular/undocumented immigration based on place of origin.** Annual information.

The remaining sources are circumscribed to immigrant workers, in order to give information on work permits, registering with social security for immigrant workers and contracted workers. These are the statistics that are provided by the Ministry of Employment and Social Issues as well as Social Security.

**Table 4. Content of Annual Statistics on Labour and Social Issues**

Unit	Section	Variable
PERMISOS DE	Received Permits	Level of Resolution (AC and P)
TRABAJO	Recognized Work Permits	Labour Dependency (AC and P)
		Sector of Activity (AC and P)
		Gender (AC and P)
	Work Permit until December 31	Gender (AC and P)
		Labour Dependency (AC and P)
		Sector of activity (AC and P)

Immigrant Workers	Social Security	Nationality (AC) Gender (AC and P) Type (AC and P)
	Registered Contracted Workers	Nationality (AC) Sector of Activity (AC and P) Occupation (AC and P)
	Registered Contracted workers in the Public Employment Service	Gender (National) Age (National) Level of Education (National) Country of Birth (National)
	Registered contracted immigrant workers at Temporary Employment Agencies	Gender (National) Occupation (AC and P) Type of Contract (National)
	Pending documentation for immigrant workers	Nationality (AC) Gender (AC and P) Age (AC and P) Sector of activity (AC and P)

AC = Autonomous Community

P= Province

Source: MESI (Ministry of Employment and Social Issues)

**Table 6. Content of the Labour Statistics Monthly Bulletin**

Provides data on labour and other themes related to social security for foreign workers. Some information is provided at the national level, however other information is available such as at the Autonomous Community and provincial level.

Unit	Section	Variable
IMMIGRANTS	Granted Work Permits	Labour Dependency (National)
		Level of Permit (National)
		Age (National)
		Gender (National)
		Sector of activity (National)
		Branch of activity (National)
		Occupation (National)
		Nationality (National)
		Personal Bank Account (AC and P)
		Foreign Workers paying Social Security

AC = Autonomous Community

P= Province

Source: MTAS

**Table 7. Social Security. Immigrant Affiliations, monthly statistics at the territorial level**

Provide monthly data about immigrant.

Variables	Autonomous Community	Province
Sectors	X	X
Country of Origin	X	X

Source: Social Security

After a examination of the statistical datas of the public organisme, we can understand that to study the immigrants in the cities or in the municipalities we need to have a look

at the Municipal Registry (or at the Census if the approximate years don't coincide) or at the investigations just about immigrants people. There are many studies done using data of the Municipal Registry about the latest five years in the Bizkaia's province:

Studies about immigrants in the different municipalities: Mungialdea, Busturialdea, Barakaldo, Getxo y Bilbao<sup>27</sup>. In these moments the Basauri's municipality is being studied. There are three studies about the Bilbao Metropolis: Bilbao, Barakaldo y Getxo. These municipalities are the most populated, adding 531.120 inhabitants, the 59,2% of the total of 896.494 persons in the Bilbao Metropolis. Compared to the immigrants, they are 21.721 in the three municipalities: the 74,7% of the 29.082 immigrants living in the Bilbao Metropolis from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2005.

Specific investigation. "Investigation about Perceptions, values and attitudes of Basque population compared with immigrations". It was finished in the 2004 by Ikuspegi, the Basque Observatory of Immigration<sup>28</sup>, and it is a study that allows a analysis about the Autonomous Basque Community but it also allows a provincial analysis about Bilbao, San Sebastián y Vitoria.

The Basque Observatory of Immigration –Ikuspegi-, is a new organism constituted in the 2004, using the available statistical data; it analyzes different topics about immigration in the Autonomous Basque Community. Through a monthly Bulletin it informs of different topics: the immigration in the three Basque cities, by sex, age... The Annual Report of 2004<sup>29</sup> (the first one) analyzes immigrants by education, work and residence authorization.

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<sup>27</sup> Investigation by Cristina Blanco.

<sup>28</sup> Ikuspegi, Basque Observatory of Immigration (2005) *Percepciones, valores y actitudes de la población vasca hacia la inmigración extranjera*. Comunidad Autónoma del País Vasco. Diciembre 2004.

<sup>29</sup> Ikuspegi, Basque Observatory of Immigration (2005) *Inmigración extranjera en la Comunidad Autónoma del País Vasco. Anuario 2004*.

## Part D. SOCIO-TERRITORIAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY

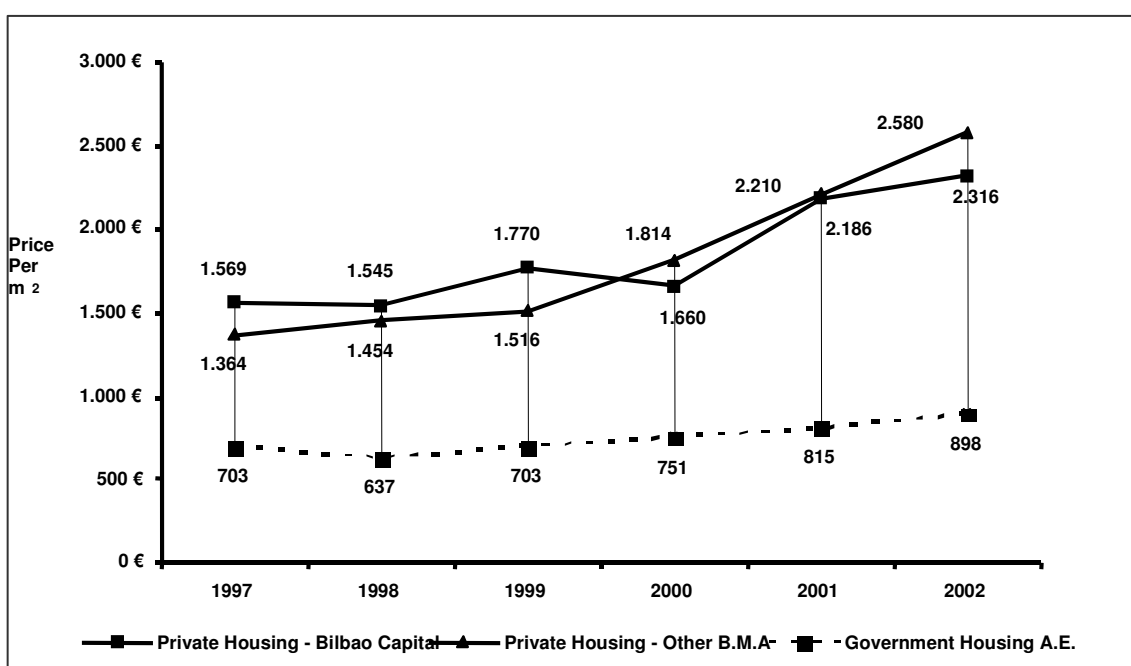
### 1. Social characterisation of spatial units

#### 1.1. Housing

The real estate market in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area has approximately 400.000 housing units of which 85% are permanently occupied and 15% are vacant or used as temporary living quarters. Private property housing represents approximately 90% of the real estate market, while available housing for rent fills the remaining 10%.

One of the structural characteristics of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area is its scarce availability of vacant liveable space for future growth. This is due to the fact that the consolidated urban area barely has any space to build further residential units, since the allocated space is quite uneven and hilly, and even though urban developments have been constructed in the depth of the valley along the river, the real issue is that this area is quite saturated. The lack of available space explains in part the intrinsic problems in the area that mainly affect less-advantaged classes, which are directly linked to the inflation in the real estate sector.

**Graph 1. Fluctuation in the Price of Housing in the B.M.A, per m<sup>2</sup>**



The given estimate from the Basque government in relation to the housing problem illustrates that there is a deep imbalance between supply and demand for available housing. Generally speaking, there is an unsatisfied demand for housing which is affecting 12% of the population that, for multiple reasons, cannot access the housing market.

Practically 100% of housing units have basic materials and equipments available to make a liveable home: hot water, heating... . Furthermore, domestic consumption of new technologies has increased in recent years. The standard size of housing is 75 square metres and the general available equipment is the following:

**Table 4. Level of Housing Equipment in the B.M.A**

Equipment	1989	1994	1999
Hot water	98,1	99,2	99,4
Fridge-Freezer	89,8	93,84	95,4
Washing Machine	83,3	62,1	84,9
Dish Washer	97,0	98,1	99,2
Vacuum Cleaner	15,0	17,4	23,9
Music Sound System	67,2	75,6	81,3
Camera	25,9	46,7	67,9
Video Camera	61,7	69,5	74,3
Colour TV	4,8	10,2	17,2
Video	91,4	98,5	99,4
Personal Computer	32,5	58,8	70,5
Fridge-Freezer	11,3	26,1	30,9

## 1.2. Education

All levels of education (including university education), which are illustrated in Table 5, are subsidized by the government. Education is mandatory until the age of 16, at which point students can opt for a bachelor and afterwards a university education or to get a practical education. 60% of university education is publicly funded, while the remaining 40% are split between church universities and private universities. In the Basque Country, there are three educational models: "Model A": all in Spanish; "Model B": Bilingual: Spanish and Euskera; and "Model D": all in Euskera.

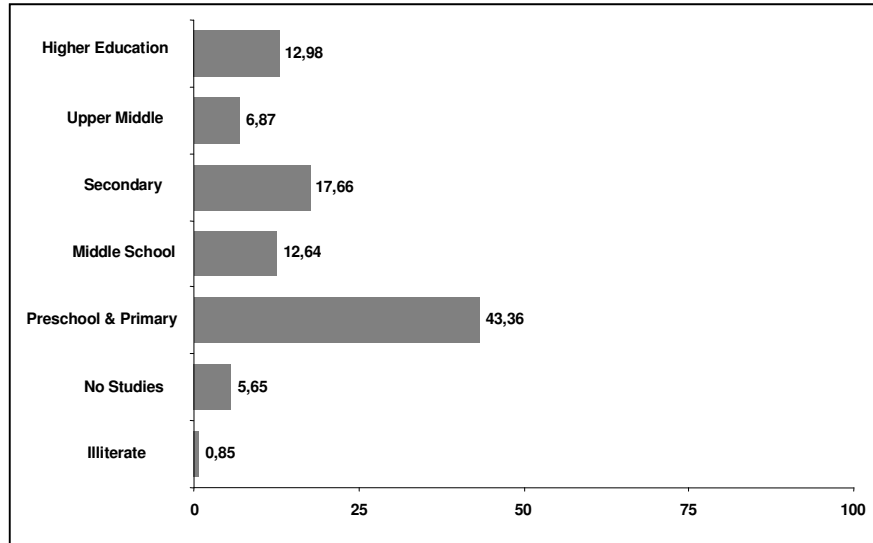
**Table 5. Education System in the Basque Country**

LEVEL	EDAD	CHARACTERISTIC
kindergarden	0-6 years	voluntary
primary	6-12 years	mandatory and free
mandatory secondary	12-16 years	mandatory and free
non-mandatory secondary-prebachelor	17-18 years	voluntary and subsidized
non-mandatory secondary-training professional middle grade	17-18 years	voluntary and subsidized
non-mandatory secondary – training profesional superior grade	> 18 years	voluntary and subsidized
universitary diploma	3 years	voluntary and subsidized
universitary - degree	4-5 years	voluntary and subsidized
doctoral-postdoctoral studies		voluntary and subsidized

As is illustrated in Graph 2., 19% of the Bilbao population is university educated (Higher and Middle Education), and the illiterate population or those who have not acquired a primary school education represent 6%.



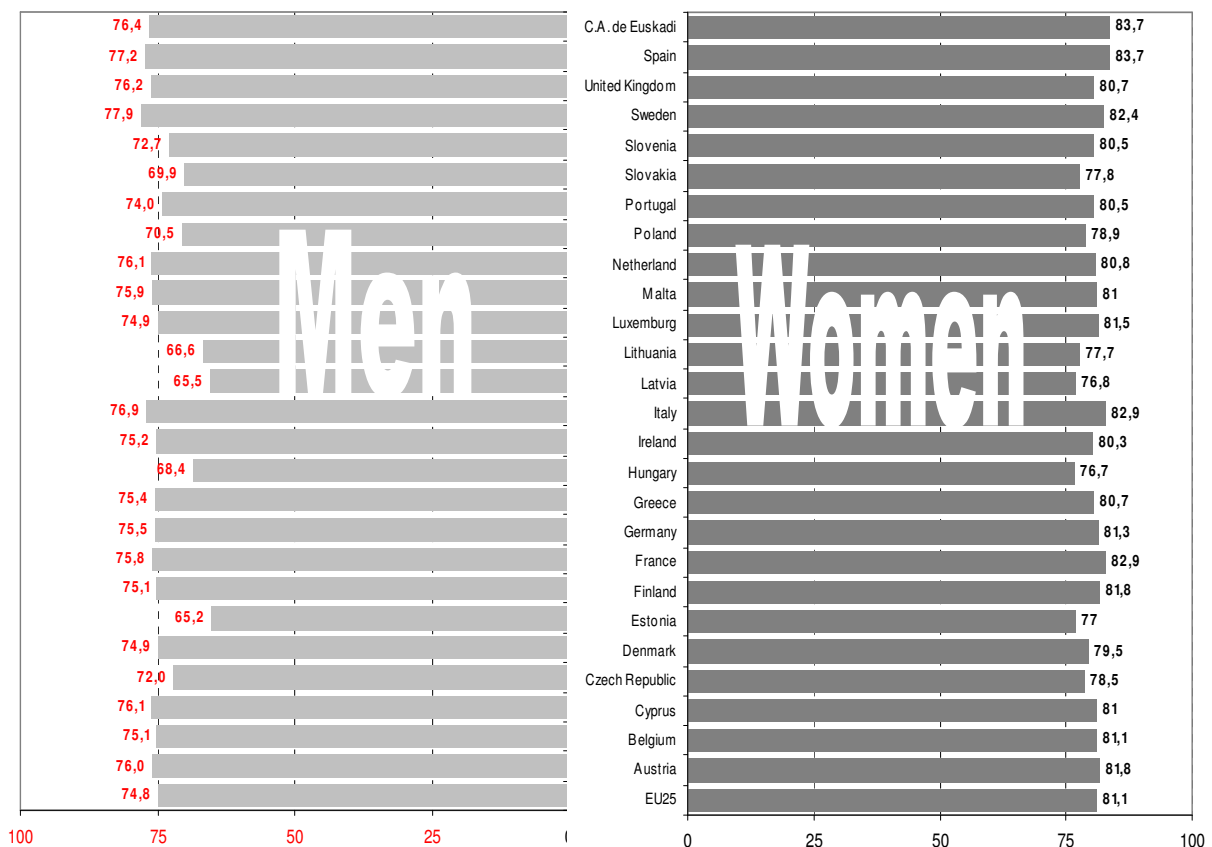
**Graph 2. Level of Studies by Population in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, 2001 (%)**



### 1.3. Health

As is illustrated by Graph 3., life expectancy in the Basque Country is at 76,4 years for men and 83,7 for women, some of the highest statistics in all of Europe. The improvement of sanitary systems and the daily habits from recent years have added on an approximate 20 years to life expectancy in the Basque Country, as can be seen in the increase from 71 years approximately in 1980 to 76,4 years in 2003 for men. Similarly, women's life expectancy has also risen by the same proportion, from 78,5 years in 1980 to 83,7 years in 2003.

**Graph 3. Life Expectancy in the Basque Country, 2003**



Even though there has been a considerable increase with respect to Public Health, the Basque Country's GDP is still lower in comparison with other important countries such as Switzerland, Germany, France or Norway. Public Health expenditure per resident is 1.342 €, which is above average but far less than more developed countries. However, 76% of the total expenditure is destined to public health, which illustrates the important role public health plays in the Public Health system.

**Table 6. Financial Standard and Expenses per Resident**

COUNTRIES	% of Expenditure on GDP	% of Public Expenditure on GDP	% of Public Expenditure on Total Expenditure	Expenditure per Resident in PPC (\$)	GDP per resident in PPC (\$)
Austria	8,2	5,9	72,1	2.014	24.643
Basque Country	6,1	4,6	76,0	1.342	22.073
Belgium	8,8	6,3	71,3	2.181	24.837
Canada	9,3	6,6	70,6	2.463	26.440
Denmark	8,4	6,9	82,2	2.275	27.069
Finland	6,8	5,2	75,7	1.547	22.702
France	9,4	7,3	78,1	2.125	22.691
Germany *	10,3	7,8	75,8	2.361	22.953
Greece *	8,4	4,7	56,3	1.198	14.327
Holland	8,7	6	68,5	2.259	25.887
Iceland	8,7	7,4	84,8	2.287	26.350
Ireland *	6,8	5,2	76,8	1.534	22.710
Italy **	8,2	5,5	67,3	1.905	23.262
Japan *	7,4	5,8	78,5	1.795	24.102
Luxembourg	6,1	5,7	92,9	2.543	41.656
Norway	9,3	7	75,8	2.612	28.140
Portugal *	7,7	5,1	66,9	1.203	15.696
Sweden *	7,9	6,6	83,8	1.732	21.855
Switzerland *	10,4	7,6	73,2	2.853	27.336
Spain*	7,0	5,4	76,4	1.194	17.027
United Kingdom	6,9	5,8	83,3	1.569	22.689
United States of America	12,9	5,7	44,5	4.358	33.874

\* Data from 1998

\*\* Data relative to the Public Expenditure on Health in 1998

Source: EUSTAT, Health Statistics, 1999

#### 1.4. Labour Market

The recuperation of the 1980's crisis has significantly modified the relative indicators of the labour market. Since then, the decrease in the unemployment rate and the positive evolution of the employment rate have both been impressive.

**Table 7. Fluctuation of the Rate of Employment and Unemployment in the Metropolitan Bilbao Area**

REGION	Employment rate (%)				Unemployment Rate (%)			
	1986	1991	1996	2001	1986	1991	1996	2001
Bilbao	74,1	78,4	73,2	85,2	25,9	15,5	14,5	9,5
Ibaizabal	75,2	80,6	74,5	87,9	24,8	16,1	16,0	9,3
Margen izquierda	71,7	76,0	68,9	84,0	28,3	18,6	21,1	11,6
Sopela-Plentzia	76,5	80,9	79,0	88,5	23,5	15,4	11,1	6,8
Txorierrri	74,0	79,2	72,8	86,9	26,0	15,6	13,8	7,1
Uribe-Kosta	81,3	83,4	78,2	87,2	18,7	12,3%	11,8	8,0
Zona minera	69,8	75,8	70,9	85,5	30,2	18,1	18,7	9,3
Bilbao Metropolitan Area	74,2	78,6	72,9	85,6	25,8	16,1	16,1	9,6
Basque Country	62,9	65,2	61,8	70,9	22,9	19,2	23,3	11,8

Source: EUSTAT

In 1986, one in every four persons at a viable working age was unemployed (25,8%), which has decreased to 9,6% by 2001. By 2006, the unemployment rate had decreased even more, reaching 5,6%. Furthermore, the rate of employment that is represented by the active working population, has increased from 74,2% to 85,6%. Similarly, Table 8 illustrates that the economy of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area has a structure that is quite diversified where trade, business and state-related activities and services are all market leaders.

**Table 8. Active Working Population by Sector in the B.M.A**

EMPLOYMENT SECTOR	2004
Oil Industry	0,01
Manufacturing Industry	4,93
Energy Production and Distribution: electricity, gas and water	0,04
Construction	9,60
Business; Auto repairs shop	21,81
Hospitality and Tourism	6,94
Transportation, storage and communications	6,97
Trading Rooms	2,11
Real Estate; service-based business	15,14
Public administration, defence and mandatory social security	0,30
Education	1,91
Health industry and veterinaries, social services	3,98
Other social activities and community based services	5,00
<b>Bilbao Metropolitan Area</b>	<b>78,74</b>
Bizkaia	100,00

EUSTAT: Job Market

## 1.5. Productivity and Standard of Life

**Table 9. Evolution of GDP per capita (Index)**

COUNTRIES	1995	2000	2004
EU25	100	100	100
Luxemburg	177,6	216,9	222,0
Ireland	99,7	127,2	140,6
Netherlands	119,5	120,7	124,9
Denmark	125,3	127,3	122,7
Austria	128,4	126,9	122,0
United Kingdom	109,8	113,5	118,7
Belgium	119,5	116,0	118,3
Sweden	117,6	118,9	116,0
Finland	106,1	114,0	114,4
France	115,8	114,7	110,3
Germany	121,8	112,9	109,3
Italy	114,7	110,4	104,9
Spain	87,0	93,1	98,1
Greece	71,7	71,9	81,7
Cyprus	85,6	85,5	81,2
Slovenia	44,3	73,5	78,6
Portugal	75,4	81,2	76,5
Malta	-	76,8	70,6
Czech Republic	69,6	64,3	70,4
Hungary	49,3	53,1	61,1
Slovakia	44,3	47,5	52,1
Estonia	35,3	43,2	50,7
Lithuania	33,9	38,2	47,8
Poland	40,5	45,9	46,7
Latvia	29,7	35,2	43,1
<b>Basque Country</b>	<b>104,5</b>	<b>113,9</b>	<b>122,9</b>

Source: EUROSTAT

The GDP illustrates a value of produced goods and is indicative of a country's wealth. Table 9 reflects the evolution of the Basque Country in relation to other European countries. Based on the data from Table 9., we can conclude the following: In 1995, the Basque Country occupied the 12<sup>th</sup> post, in 2004 it occupied the 5<sup>th</sup> position, right after the Netherlands. After Ireland and Luxemburg, Bilbao experienced the most growth between 1995-2004. The Basque Country is 24,8 points above Spain's average, and 22,9 points above Europe's average.

## **1.6. Social Protection**

In the Autonomous Region of the Basque Country, public policies against poverty were introduced in the 1989 Fight against Poverty Bill, whose fundamental objective was to slow down the consequences of severe poverty that the economic crisis of the 1970's and 1980's had brought upon the Basque region.

Once the application period of the Integral plan for the Fight against Poverty had been finalized in 1992, it was proven that it was virtually impossible to try to eliminate poverty through temporary economic aid measures, since poverty had been converted into an endemic reality. Thus, the solution measures taken were somewhat superficial, since they ignored the structural forces of poverty. However, the measures to fight poverty became structural by including them in the regular public administration's budget.

### **- Basic Rent**

The model for minimum rent guaranteed by the Basque Government includes two types of economic assistance and an insertion agreement. The most important economic assistance plan is called the Basic Rent, as its legislative modification in 2000, is before the IMI (Joint Minimal Insertion), and is presently at 81% of the Interprofessional Minimum Salary (IMS), a monthly stipend of 435,17 € in 2004 (per unit of shared housing per sole recipient).

The objective of this program is to cover basic utility bills for shared housing and thus has the following prerequisites: to be older than 23 years old; not currently receiving an income that exceeds 81% of the SMI (per recipient); saving when there is income from work whose case percentage increases and registered as an independent economic unit for shared living (independent living) for one year (demonstrated through a registration list and a corresponding lease or sublease contract).

### **- Emergency Social Aid (ESA)**

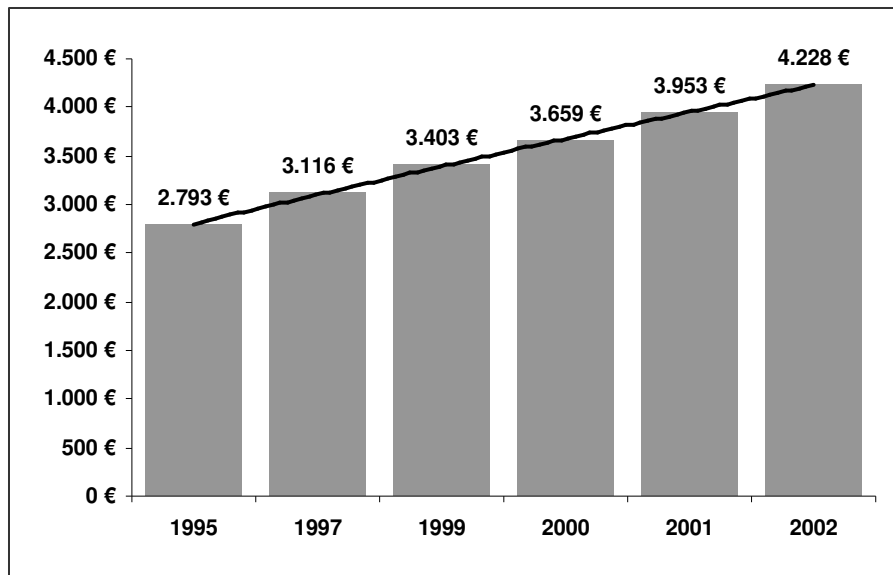
The other economic assistance model is the Emergency Social Aid (ESA), which is meant to cover specific utility bills, and whether they are ordinary or extraordinary, it is meant to prevent, alleviate and avoid social marginalization. The allotted maximum annual stipend for different types of utility bills and recipients for 2004 are:

- 3.245, 47 Euros per rent bill or interest derivatives and credit redemption;
- 1.081, 82 Euros for other necessary utility bills for maintenance and entertainment;
- 1.803, 04 Euros for furniture and electrical appliances;
- 1.803, 04 Euros for maintenance bills, repairs and/or basic installations;
- 1.803, 04 Euros for primary bills and,
- 3.245, 47 Euros for arrears on bills.

The conditions in order to be a recipient of ESA are the following: to be older than 18 years old; not to have been a recipient of the Basic Rent more than 1.5 times (this limit

increases with entering the workforce) and to be registered in the Autonomous Region of Basque Country for more than 6 months. The ESA is not a given right, the amount may actually decrease as it depends on the budget. While the latter has been taking place, it has become even more problematic with the rising rent price, therefore the ESA is being used to pay rent (instead of what it is normally intended for, which is emergency cases).

Graph 4. Utility Bill per Resident with Social Protection



## The components of socio-territorial structure

On the basis of a multivariate factor analysis of twenty one indicators, of the demographic, socio-professional and socio-economic conditions of the resident population, as well as education and training and activity sector of employment, three factors have been selected. With an eigenvalue equal or superior to one, which together represent 74,15% of the total variance (Table 1).

These factors are as follows:

- **Factor 1. A Social Class factor (a socio-economic factor).** This factor explains 48.3 percent of the total variance. It is defined by indicators of levels of education (primary school, illiteracy rate for the population 10 years and older and no finish primary school & Universitarian, Mid-Superior studies and High School finished), the socio-professional structure of the population (High standing groups, Liberal Professionals, skilled labour force & nonskilled labour force) and the economic sector of labour (Building vs. Services). This factor measures social stratification and divides the urban space into parishes with high and low socio-economic status.
- **Factor 2. Age factor (demographic factor).** This factor describes the age structure of the population and explains 13.17 percent of total variance. The young population present a residential pattern diverse from the elderly population. These differences are closely related with the prices of the

apartments and with the period of construction of buildings. But Bilbao is a city with no new spaces to build, and there are very few really new neighborhoods and most of the areas are old areas.

- **Factor 3. Industry factor.** This factor describes an old way of life in the Metropolitan area, representing the traditional economic development, now substituted by a renewal type of development. The traditional way of this kind of development was based in industrial business, with a labor force skilled in training knowledge's. In the 1980s this type of development changed and was substituted by a service economy, namely services for business, cultural services...

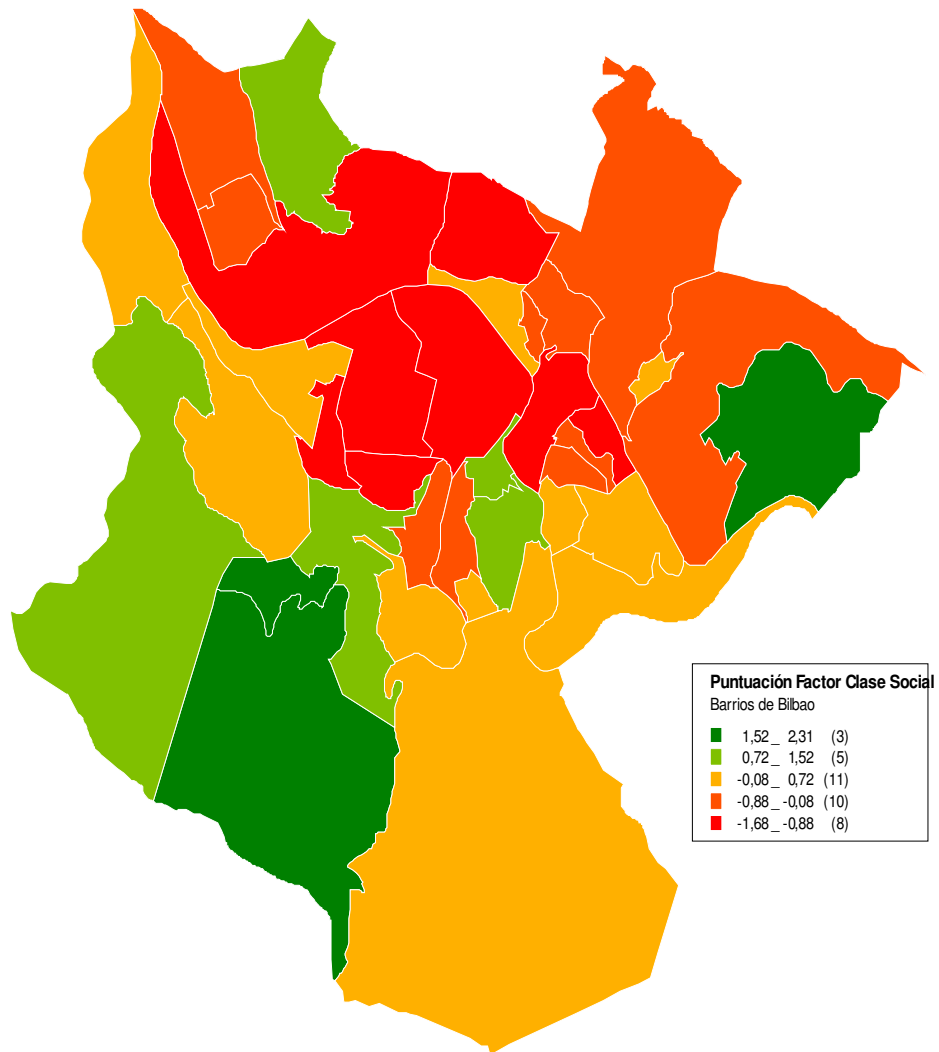
**Tabla 1. Factor analysis – varimax rotated factor loadings**

Variable	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3
> 65 years	-0.014	<b>0.846</b>	-0.193
50-65 years	-0.221	0.447	<b>0.599</b>
25-50 years	0.114	<b>-0.668</b>	-0.303
<25 years	0.102	<b>-0.884</b>	0.031
IAG 2001-2007*	0.076	0.421	0.058
Immigrant/total Bilbao 2007	-0.333	0.394	-0.407
High Standing Groups	<b>-0.911</b>	0.106	-0.301
Liberal Professionals	<b>-0.799</b>	-0.066	0.347
Crafts & Farmers	0.031	0.091	-0.387
Skilled Labor Force	<b>0.943</b>	-0.058	0.270
Nonskilled Labor Force	<b>0.958</b>	-0.079	-0.099
Illiterate	<b>0.832</b>	-0.166	-0.298
No finished Primary School	<b>0.820</b>	0.024	-0.186
Primary School	<b>0.955</b>	0.035	0.112
Training Courses	0.018	-0.225	<b>0.821</b>
High School Finished	<b>-0.869</b>	-0.303	0.088
Mid-Superior Studies	<b>-0.969</b>	0.045	-0.038
Universitarian	<b>-0.912</b>	0.112	-0.266
Industry & Energy Employed	0.487	0.066	<b>0.768</b>
Construction	<b>0.921</b>	-0.225	-0.069
Services	<b>-0.897</b>	0.132	-0.278
Percentage of total variance	48.3	13.17	12.68

\*Immigration Annual Growth Index from 2001 to 2007

The mapping of the scores of these factors shows the relevance of each in the socio-spatial differentiation of the urban structure of Bilbao (Figure 1). The score values of the factor one (social class or socio-economic structure) permits the identification of two main groups of parishes. The first group, with negative values, represent the high standing neighborhoods of high class. The areas of the center and the neighborhoods with expensive apartments (Abando, Indautxu, Ciudad Jardin, San Pedro, Begoña...) are representative of this group. The areas are inhabited by middle and high class families with high qualified profession. The second group is different, with high positive scores. There are neighborhoods with populations with low levels of schooling and traditional structures of production, the construction mainly. These populations inhabit surrounding areas, like Otxarkoaga, Uretamenti, Altamira or Iturrigorri-Peñascal.

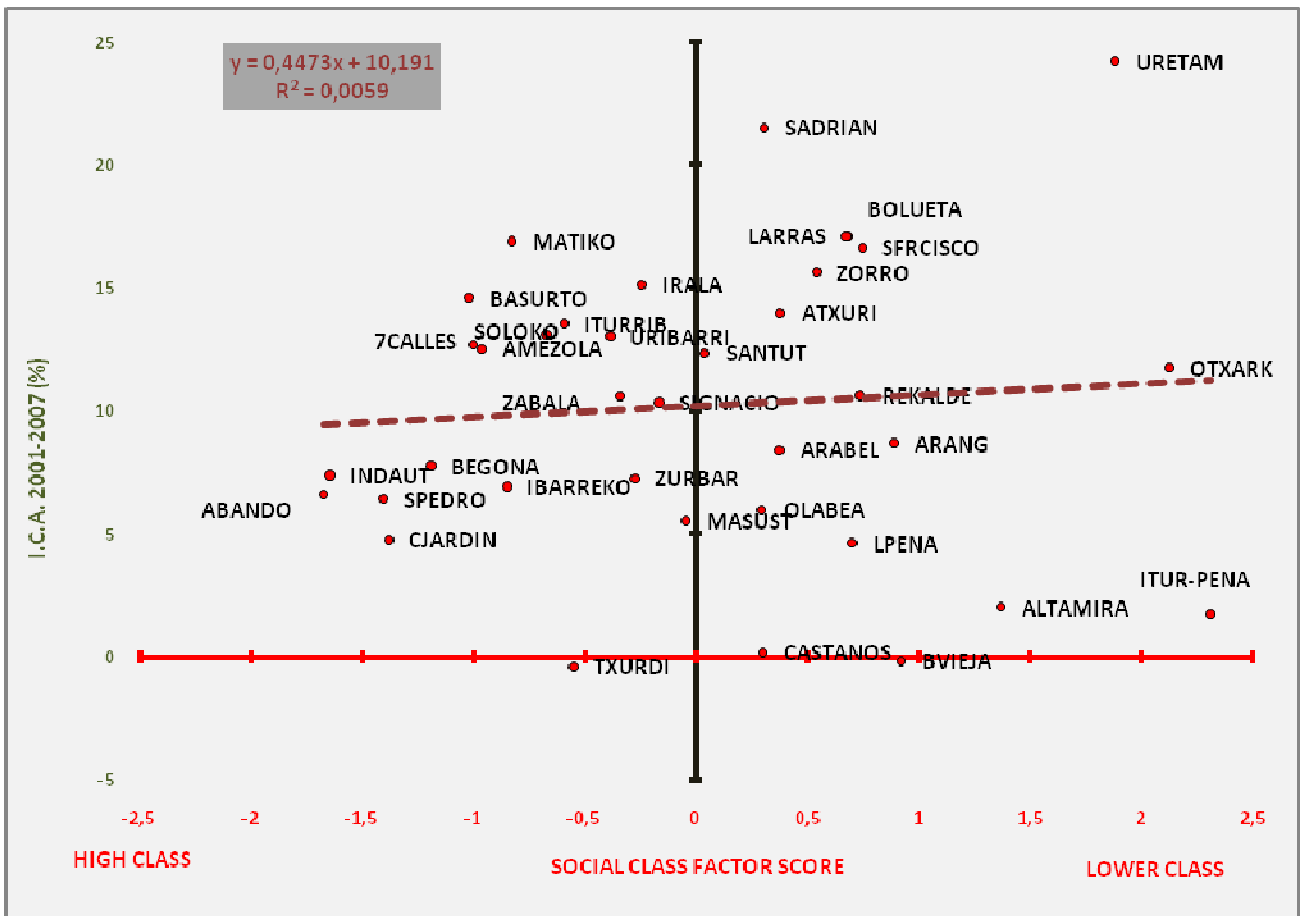
**Figure 1. Scores in Factor 1 – Social Class (Socio-economic structure)**



The comparison of factor scores of neighborhoods with the Immigration Annual Growth Index (2001-2007), representing the Factor Score of Neighborhoods in the horizontal axis and representing the Annual Growth Index of Immigrant Population from 2001 to 2007, on the vertical axis.

Figure 2 shows that there is no correlation between both variables ( $R^2=0.0059$ ), the Linear Correlation Line is horizontal.

**Figure 2. FACTOR 1. Social Class. Comparing the Factor Score of Neighborhoods with 2001-2007 Immigration Annual Growth Index (%)**



Factor 2 classifies the neighborhoods according to the age of living people in the area. With the negative values appear the Youngest Neighborhoods, like Txurdinaga or Masustegui. In the other side, there are old people living in old areas like Olabeaga (Figure 6). Crossing the factor scores with the Immigration Annual Growth Index from 2001 to 2007, we have represented in the horizontal axis the Factor Score of Neighborhoods, according to factor 2: Age, and in the vertical axis we have represented the Annual Growth Index of Immigrant Population 2001-2007 (Figure 7). There is no correlation between both variables ( $R^2 = 0,1769$ ). The Linear Correlation Line is just 45°. There is a weak correlation between demographic structure of the neighborhood and the annual Growth Index of immigrant population in the neighborhood between years 2001 to 2007.



Figure 6. Scores in Factor 2. Age (Demographic structure)

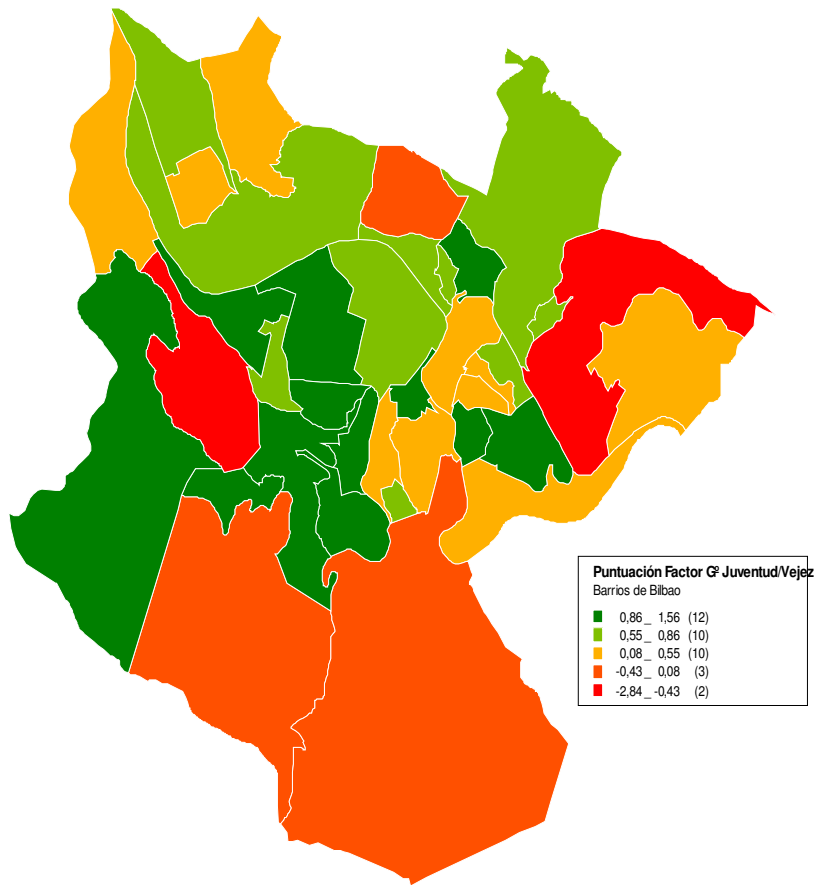
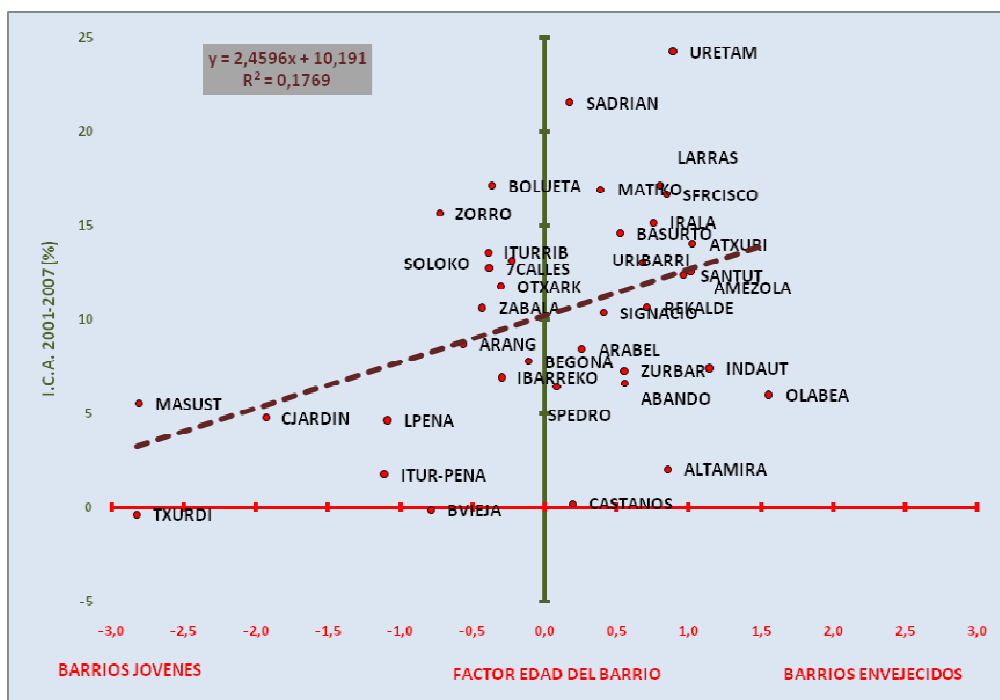
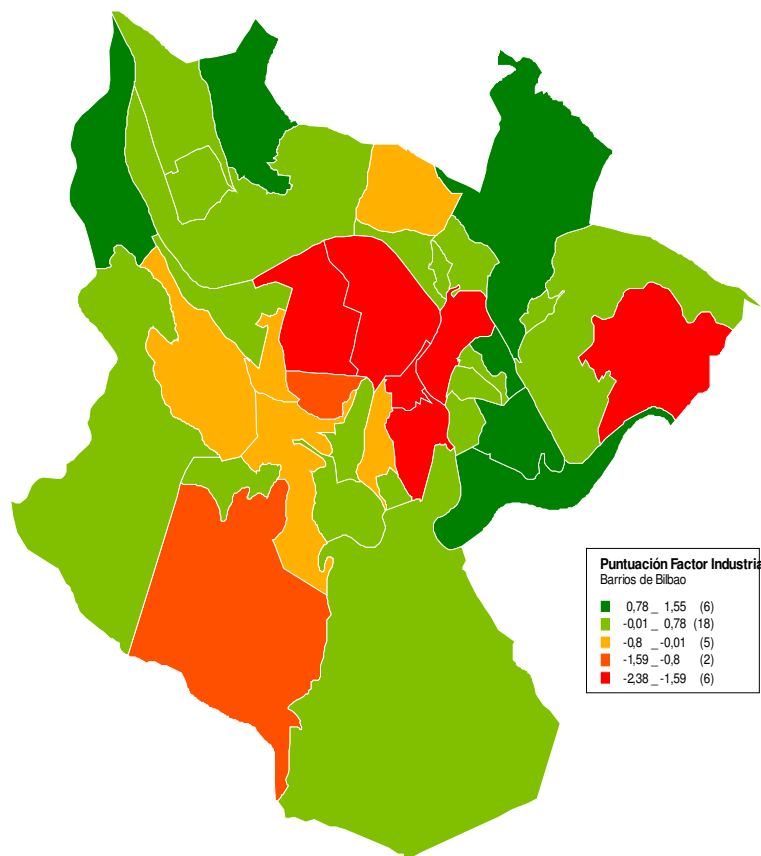


Figure 7. FACTOR 2. Age. Comparing the Factor Score of Neighborhoods with 2001-2007 Immigration Annual Growth Index (%)



The factor 3, Industry, classifies the neighborhood according to the presence of working class on them. With the positive values appear the neighborhoods representatives of populations employed in the industry and with training courses education. This is a population near the age of retirement (50-65 years) representing a way of life who was very common in the Metropolitan Area of Bilbao by now in a process of disappearance. When the Metropolitan Area was an industrial area, most of the labor force was employed in the industry and with training skills. That decreasing population live in ancient neighborhood (Figure 8). This factor has not correlation with the growth of immigrants in the last years ( $R^2=0,05$ ). Anyway, this factor may be considered like a residual, given that the explanation capacity is very low.

**Figure 8. Scores in Factor 3. Industry**



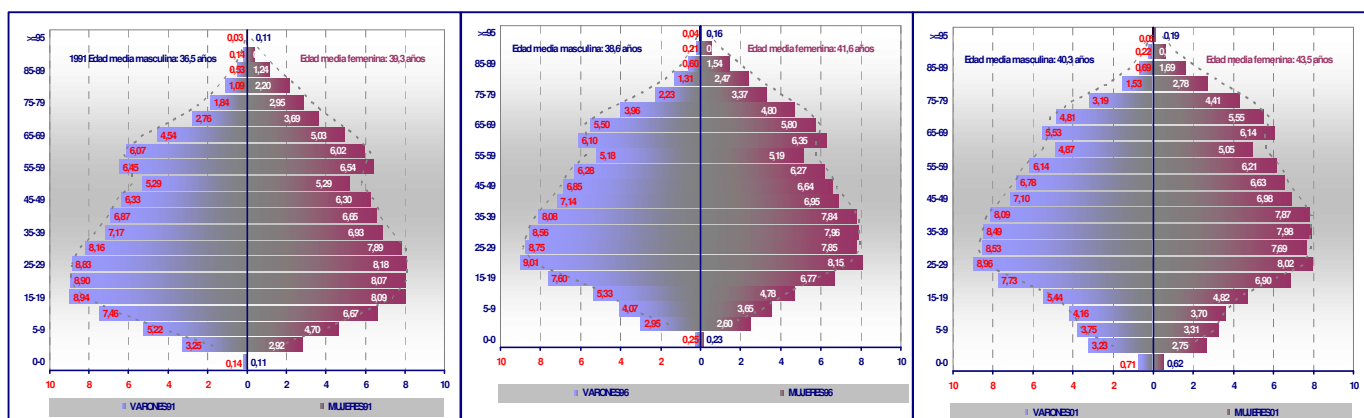
## Part E. ETHNIC GEOGRAPHY OF THE CITY

### 1. The recent history of population settlement and migration to the city

#### - Demography

The evolution of the population pyramids illustrate the aging population. In 1991, the average age of the population was at 37, 9 years, increasing ten years later to 41,9 years in 2001.

Graph 5. Population Pyramid for the B.M.A., 1991-1996-2001



The unexpected drop in birth rates has meant a continuous decrease of the youth groups in relation to the whole population. The group that represents those who are younger than 19 years old had decreased from 23,7% in 1991 to 16,2% in 2001. This indicates a significant decrease in youth younger than 19 years of age. The aging population in general has affected the working population, the Labour Index illustrates the relation between retired workers, and those who are still active in the labour force shows that in the final years many more people are in fact retiring instead of staying in the labour force. The Women in a Fertile Age Group (15-44 years old)´s presence in the labour force has decreased. Simultaneously, the population older than 65 years old has increased, and has gone from 13,3 % to 18,9%, showing a 5 point increase.

Table 10. Demographic indicators for the B.M.A.

B.M.A - Index	1991			2001		
	General	Male	Female	General	Male	Female
AVERAGE AGE	37,9	36,5	39,3	41,9	40,3	43,5
Youth Index (0-19 years old)	23,7	25,0	22,5	16,2	17,3	15,2
Senior Index (> 64 years old)	13,3	10,9	15,6	18,9	16,0	21,5
Replacement Index (Active outgoing (60-64 years old) for 100 new active (15-19 years old)	71,1	67,9	74,4	96,9	89,5	104,8
WOMEN AT THE AGE OF FERTILITY (15-44 years old out of total women)	47,0	N/A	N/A	43,3	N/A	N/A
ACTIVE YOUTH (15-39 years old out of total population)	40,5	N/A	N/A	37,2	N/A	N/A

ACTIVE SENIORS (40-64 years old out of total population)	30,9	N/A	N/A	32,9	N/A	N/A
Mother-child Index (child/< 5 years old for 100 fertile women)	13,6	N/A	N/A	16,3	N/A	N/A

Source: Authors

Table 11 is based on the operational territory of the metropolitan area.

**Table 11. Evolution of the Population in the B.M.A., based on the size of the municipality**

Size of Municipality	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	Basque Country 1981-1991	Basque Country 2001-1991
< 10.000	63.942	62.479	65.572	67.329	72.089	0,25	0,95
10.000-25.000	54.143	55.060	56.342	56.037	56.892	0,40	0,10
25.000-50.000	196.014	193.920	190.022	186.143	181.956	-0,31	-0,43
50.000-100.000	244.479	249.744	240.865	234.686	227.829	-0,15	-0,56
More than 100.000	393.759	381.506	369.839	361.128	349.972	-0,63	-0,55
Bilbao Metropolitan Area	952.337	942.709	922.640	905.323	888.738	-0,32	-0,37

Source: Authors

The traditional labour receiving municipalities, and who are industrially-based, have lost their appeal to more semi-rural/semi-urban municipalities, which are smaller in size and are attracting the more affluent socio-economic classes. The composition of residents in this area has created a phenomenon of differentiation, in that the big municipalities lose inhabitants to smaller towns which offer less human congestion.

### A panoramic view of immigration in Metropolitan Bilbao

Based on the most recent available data (1 January 2007), there are 39.743 immigrants residing in the Bilbao Metropolis, representing 4,4% of the total population. This figure represents 40,3% of the registered immigrants in the Basque Country and of those registered, 79 (3%) live in the province of Bizkaia. The population of the Basque Country and its three Basque provinces are illustrated in Table 1., from which we can affirm that the major urban concentration of immigrants<sup>30</sup> is in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, bringing together 42% of the total population as well as 79% of residents in the province of Bizkaia, where Bilbao is the capital. Given this concentration, the data analysis in this metropolitan area shows that 4 out of every 10 people are registered immigrants in the Basque Country

**Table 1. Total population and immigrant population residing in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country, by territory. 1.1.2007**

	Population	Immigrant	% Immigrant
Álava	305.459	19.392	6,3
Guipúzcoa	694.944	29.040	4,2
Bizkaia	1.141.457	50.092	4,4

<sup>30</sup> For this text, the term immigrant will define those who are non-Spanish nationals, in other words, those who do not have Spanish citizenship, which includes those coming from other EU Member States.

Total Basque Country	2.141.860	98.524	4,6
Metropolitan Bilbao	897.511	39.743	4,4
% Metropolitan Bilbao with respect to the Basque Country	42%	40,3%	
% Metropolitan Bilbao with respect to the province of Bizkaia	78,6%	79,3%	

Source: NSI and the Municipal Registry

The plethora of available data permits us to have a clear view of the immigrant population residing in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area. The information is divided into sub-themes such as territorial distribution by municipalities and neighbourhoods, as well as analysis by gender, age and continent of origin.

### 1.1. Territorial distribution of immigrant population

The thirty one municipalities around the capital of Bilbao are different in size as well as in the composition of their immigrant populations. There are 900.000 inhabitants in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, of which 4,4% are immigrants, making up 39.743 people. The territorial composition is illustrated in Table 2.. The majority of immigrants reside in the Bilbao and Getxo municipalities, totalling 6,2% and 5,2% respectively<sup>31</sup>. These percentages are above the average of immigrants residing in the whole metropolitan area, representing 4,4% of the total population.

**Table 2. Local and immigrant populations residing in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, based on municipality of residence. 1.1.2007**

Municipality	Total Population	Local	Immigrant	% Immigrant
Abanto y Zierbena	9.609	9.480	129	1,3
Alonsotegi	2.804	2.737	67	1,3
Arrigorriaga	12.341	11.945	396	3,2
Baracaldo	96.412	93.196	3.216	3,3
Barrika	1.405	1.356	49	3,5
Basauri	43.250	42.199	1.051	2,4
Berango	6.280	6.007	273	4,4
Bilbao	353.168	331.278	21.890	6,2
Derio	5.191	5.022	169	3,3
Erandio	23.960	22.675	1.285	5,4
Etxebarri	8.152	7.988	164	2,0
Galdakao	29.183	28.587	596	2,0
Getxo	81.746	77.492	4.254	5,2
Gorliz	5.176	4.945	231	4,5
Larrabetzu	1.742	1.719	23	1,3
Leioa	29.217	27.868	1.349	4,6
Lezama	2.411	2.311	100	4,2
Loiu	2.180	2.021	159	7,3
Muskiz	6.943	6.819	124	1,8
Ortuella	8.577	8.492	85	1,0
Plentzia	4.081	3.975	106	2,6

<sup>31</sup> Immigrants who live in the Loiu municipality represent 7,3% of the population, making up 150 people. As one of the major centres of Bizkaia, Loiu has a high concentration of non-accompanied minor immigrants who are under the protection of public institutions.

Portugalete	48.386	47.504	882	1,8
Santurtzi	47.094	45.946	1.148	2,4
Sestao	29.718	28.775	943	3,2
Sondika	4.432	4.283	149	3,4
Sopelana	12.123	11.682	441	3,6
Trapagaran	12.451	12.282	169	1,4
Urduliz	3.267	3.183	84	2,6
Zamudio	3.226	3.067	159	4,9
Zaratamo	1.687	1.656	31	1,8
Zierbana	1.299	1.278	21	1,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>897.511</b>	<b>857.768</b>	<b>39.743</b>	<b>4,4</b>

Source: NSI

The composition of neighbourhoods, noting especially those in Bilbao and Getxo, illustrates the uneven settlement of immigrants (Table 3). In Bilbao, where there is the highest concentrations of immigrants, there are two main neighbourhoods where the latter tend to settle. One of the areas that have a high concentration of immigrants is the Ibaiondo neighbourhood, which includes San Francisco (27,8%), Bilbao la Vieja (12,6%) and the Casco Viejo (10,5%), making up various neighbourhoods in the old part of the city.

The other neighbourhood is Rekalde, where 7,5% of the immigrant population resides, where we also find the Ametzola neighbourhood (9%) and the Uretamendi neighbourhood (8,2%). Deusto is the third neighbourhood where many immigrants live (5,8%), especially in Arangoiti, making up 10,8% of its population. These geographic spaces have the highest percentage of immigrants living within them, with immigrants representing 6,2% of the total population, as is illustrated in Table 3.

**Table 3. Local and immigrant populations residing in Bilbao and Getxo, by neighbourhood. 1.1.2007**

Bilbao neighbourhoods	Total population	Local	Immigrant	% Immigrant	Immigrants Annual Growth Index 2001-2007
<b>Deusto neighbourhood</b>	<b>51.894</b>	<b>48.870</b>	<b>3.024</b>	<b>5,8</b>	<b>7,8</b>
San Ignacio	14.015	13.249	766	5,5	10,4
Ibarrekolanda	11.154	10.674	480	4,3	6,9
San Pedro de Deusto	18.746	17.706	1.040	5,5	6,4
Arangoiti	3.208	2.862	346	10,8	8,7
La Ribera	1.829	1.750	79	4,3	
Diseminado Deusto	2.942	2.629	313	10,6	
<b>Uríbarri neighbourhood</b>	<b>38.783</b>	<b>36.640</b>	<b>2.143</b>	<b>5,5</b>	<b>9,9</b>
Ciudad Jardín	741	709	32	4,3	4,8
Uríbarri	13.591	12.619	972	7,2	13,0
Zurbaran	9.641	9.227	414	4,3	7,3
Arabella	1.681	1.604	77	4,6	8,4
Matiko	4.975	4.639	336	6,8	16,9
Castaños	6.700	6.433	267	4,0	0,2
Diseminado Uríbarri	1.454	1.409	45	3,1	
<b>Otxarkoaga-Txurdinaga neighbourhood</b>	<b>28.808</b>	<b>28.129</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>2,4</b>	<b>5,3</b>
Otxarkoaga	11.428	11.075	353	3,1	11,7
Txurdinaga	16.158	15.870	288	1,8	-0,4
Diseminado Otxarkoaga-Txurdinaga	1.222	1.184	38	3,1	
<b>Begoña neighbourhood</b>	<b>43.322</b>	<b>41.309</b>	<b>2.013</b>	<b>4,6</b>	<b>12,6</b>
Begoña	5.440	5.252	188	3,5	7,8
Santutxu	31.726	30.252	1.474	4,6	12,4

Bolueta	6.156	5.805	351	5,7	17,1
<b>Ibaiondo neighbourhood</b>	<b>57.916</b>	<b>52.016</b>	<b>5.900</b>	<b>10,2</b>	<b>12,9</b>
Casco Viejo	6.568	5.879	689	10,5	12,7
Iturrubide	4.551	4.210	341	7,5	13,5
Solokoetxe	7.696	7.111	585	7,6	13,1
Atxuri	4.938	4.581	357	7,2	14,0
San Francisco	7.690	5.554	2.136	27,8	16,6
Bilbao la Vieja	2.305	2.015	290	12,6	-0,2
Zabala	6.218	5.622	596	9,6	10,6
San Adrián	10.119	9.734	385	3,8	21,5
La Peña	5.601	5.219	382	6,8	4,6
Diseminado Ibaiondo	2.230	2.091	139	6,2	
<b>Abando neighbourhood</b>	<b>51.458</b>	<b>48.743</b>	<b>2.715</b>	<b>5,3</b>	<b>7,0</b>
Indautxu	28.111	26.760	1.351	4,8	6,6
Abando	23.347	21.983	1.364	5,8	7,4
<b>Rekalde neighbourhood</b>	<b>47.394</b>	<b>43.837</b>	<b>3.557</b>	<b>7,5</b>	<b>13,2</b>
Ametzola	12.656	11.521	1.135	9,0	12,5
Iralabari	11.748	10.832	916	7,8	15,1
Errekaldeberri	15.449	14.411	1.038	6,7	10,6
Larrasquitu	2.684	2.541	143	5,3	17,1
Iturrigorri-Peñascal	1.375	1.335	40	2,9	1,8
Uretamendi	2.694	2.473	221	8,2	24,2
Diseminado Errekalde	788	724	64	8,1	
<b>Basurto-Zorroza neighbourhood</b>	<b>33.593</b>	<b>31.734</b>	<b>1.859</b>	<b>5,5</b>	<b>12,4</b>
Zorroza	11.956	11.358	598	5,0	15,6
Altamira	1.287	1.217	70	5,4	2,0
Olabeaga	1.084	1.005	79	7,3	6,0
Masustegui	4.201	3.948	253	6,0	5,5
Basurto	14.304	13.486	818	5,7	14,6
Diseminado Basurto-Zorroza	761	720	41	5,4	
<b>Total Bilbao population</b>	<b>353.168</b>	<b>331.278</b>	<b>21.890</b>	<b>6,2</b>	
<b>Total neighbourhoods in Getxo</b>	<b>81.746</b>	<b>77.492</b>	<b>4.254</b>	<b>5,2</b>	
Algorta	36.389	34.293	2.096	5,8	
Andra Mari	10.825	10.437	388	3,6	
Las Arenas	27.868	26.475	1.393	5,0	
Neguri	6.664	6.287	377	5,7	

Source: Independent analysis of NSI data

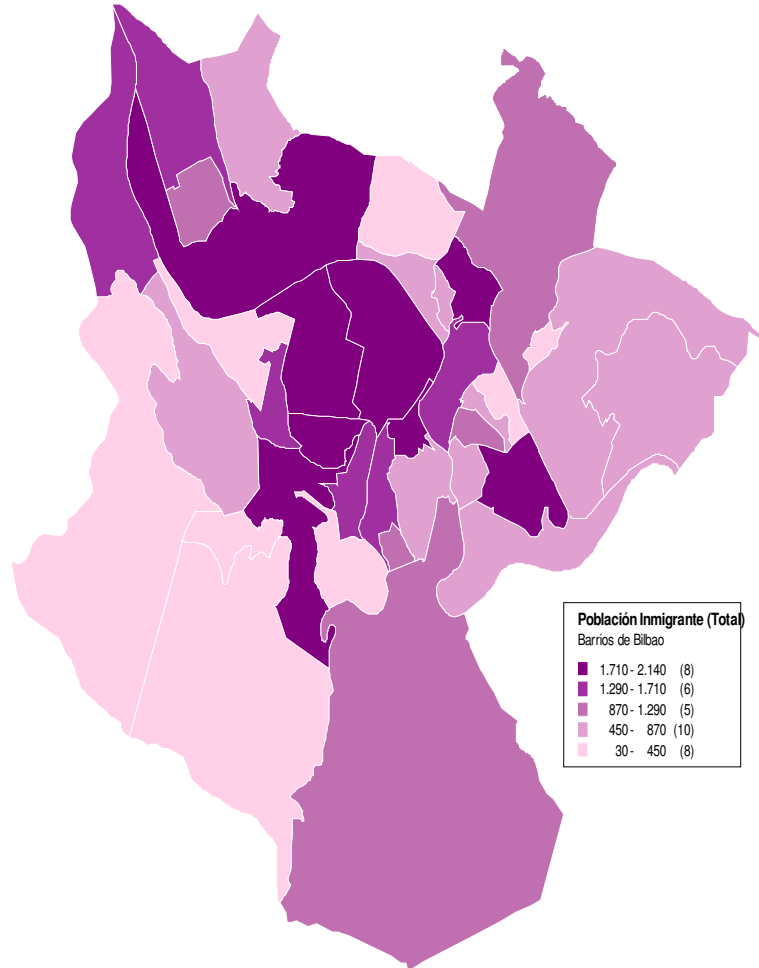
In the Census of 2001 de number of born foreign people represented 10.840 (just in the Capital), in 2007 (6 years later) 21.890. It represents an Growth of 195% (or 10,8% Annual Growth Index)

The Immigrant people is not highly concentrated, is spread in different neighborhoods, except in "San Francisco" where the immigrant people represents about 10% of total immigrant population. But the process is in the beginning yet.

- Dissimilarity Index = 18,76
- Segregation Index = 19,97

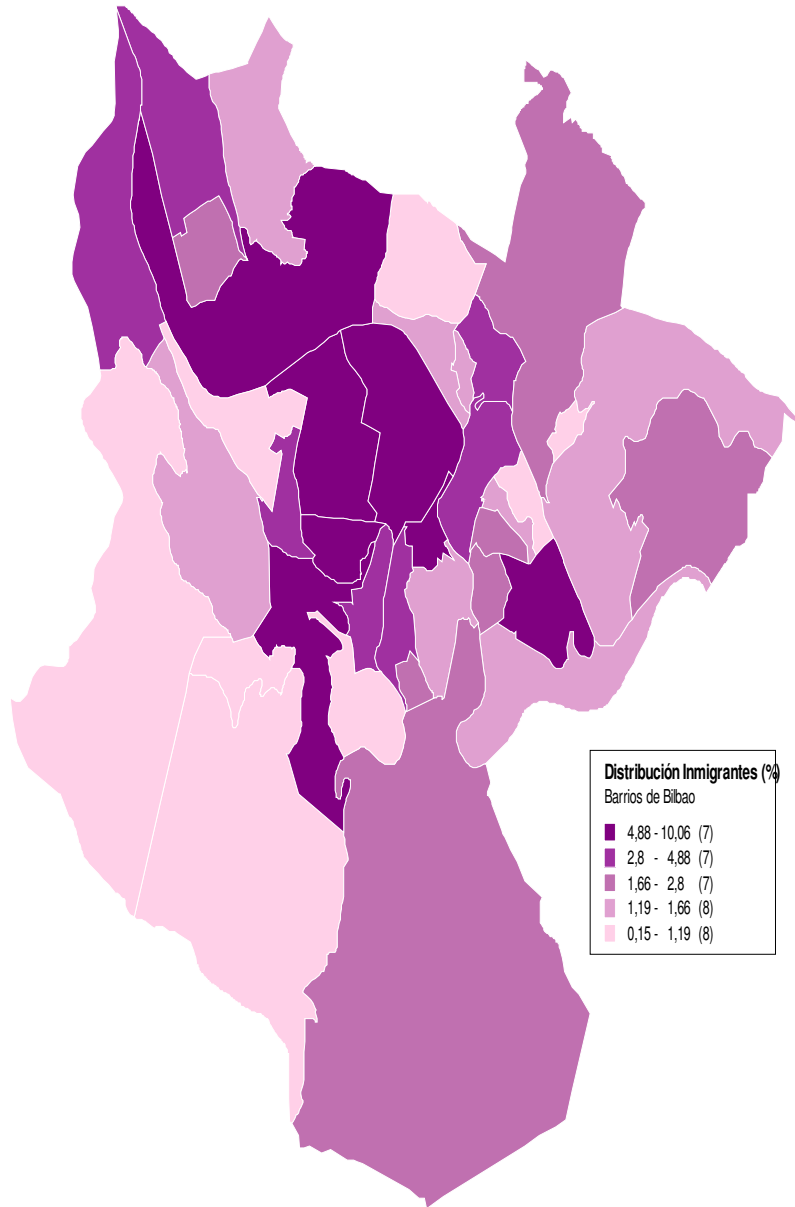
Both index, of Dissimilarity and Segregation are not high.

**Graph X. BILBAO MAP OF IMMIGRANT DISTRIBUTION (1)**  
**Absolute Figures by Neighborhoods**





**BILBAO MAP OF IMMIGRANT DISTRIBUTION (2)**  
**% s/Total (2007)**



## Gender

The scattering of the immigrant population by gender in the greater Bilbao corresponds with the settlement by gender, in that the toll of women is higher, representing 52,4% of the total immigrant population, as is illustrated in Table 4.

**Table 4. Immigrant population residing in the Metropolitan Bilbao Area, based on municipality of residence by gender. 1.1. 2007**

Municipality	Total Immigrant population	Men	Women	% Women
Abanto y Zierbena	129	54	75	58,1
Alonsotegi	67	33	34	50,7
Arrigorriaga	396	198	198	50,0
Barakaldo	3.216	1.557	1.659	51,6
Barrika	49	26	23	46,9
Basauri	1.051	533	518	49,3
Berango	273	101	172	63,0
Bilbao	21.890	10.750	11.140	50,9
Derio	169	108	61	36,1
Erandio	1.285	615	670	52,1
Etxebarri	164	81	83	50,6
Galdakao	596	275	321	53,9
Getxo	4.254	1.686	2.568	60,4
Gorliz	231	99	132	57,1
Larrabetzu	23	10	13	56,5
Leioa	1.349	612	737	54,6
Lezama	100	46	54	54,0
Loiu	159	109	50	31,4
Muskiz	124	45	79	63,7
Ortuella	85	26	59	69,4
Plentzia	106	44	62	58,5
Portugalete	882	413	469	53,2
Santurtzi	1.148	561	587	51,1
Sestao	943	455	488	51,7
Sondika	149	70	79	53,0
Sopelana	441	201	240	54,4
Trapagaran	169	74	95	56,2
Urduliz	84	35	49	58,3
Zamudio	159	83	76	47,8
Zaratamo	31	16	15	48,4
Zierbana	21	8	13	61,9
Total	39.743	18.924	20.819	52,4

Source: Independent analysis of NSI data

Many of the municipalities in the Metropolitan Bilbao Area have a high percentage of immigrant women in relation to immigrant men. In eight of these municipalities, the percentage of women exceeds 58%, going up to as high as 70% in Ortuella. Generally speaking, it is possible to state that the percentage of immigrant women is higher in municipalities where there is a demand for domestic work and care for the elderly.

Although information about the legal situation of immigrants is not available in Metropolitan Bilbao, we can deduce that at the Bizkaia provincial level in early 2007, there were 32.183 immigrants residing in this territory with a residence permit, of which

15.591 are women (48,5%) and the remaining 16. 592 are men (51,5%). Therefore, it is safe to state that, if the immigrant population of Bizkaia is at 50.092 on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2007, and that, in this city there are 32.184 immigrants residing there, the remaining 17.809 are residing in Bizkaia without a residence permit, in other words, undocumented settlement. The undocumented settlement situation greatly affects the majority of immigrant women, in that the percentage of immigrant women and men residing in Bizkaia – be it legally or illegally – it is at 51,3% for women and 48,7% for men. This percentage varies as men are more favoured when receiving residence permits compared to women in the province of Bizkaia, where percentages for obtaining legal residence permits are at 48,5% for women and 51,1% for men, which is illustrated in Table 5..

**Table 5. Immigrant population and residence permit holders in Bizkaia, by gender. 1.1.2007**

	Immigrant population		Immigrant population with legal residence permits	
Women	25.687	51,3	15.591	48,5
Men	24.405	48,7	16.592	51,5
Total	50.092	100	32.183	100

Source: Independent analysis based on NSI data and the 2006 Immigration Statistics Report

The dispersal of the immigrant population based on age (Table 6.) is very dependent on the working age. As such, 83% of all immigrants in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area are between 16 and 64 years of age. Immigrant minors constitute 15,6% of the underage population. The senior immigrant population older than 65 years, is quite small as it represents 1,7% of the total population older than 65 years old. The statistics for immigrant population by age group is quite distinct by that of the local population, which shows that the latter is older and more senior, while the former is young.

**Table 6. Immigrant population residing in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, by age group. 1.1.2007**

Age Group	Total	Percentage
Younger than 16 years	6.206	15,6
16 to 64 years	32.848	82,7
65 and older	689	1,7
Total	39.743	100

Source: Independent analysis of NSI data

## 1.2. Immigrant groups based on country of origin

Six out of every 10 settlers in the Metropolitan Bilbao originate from America (Table 7.), of which the great majority come from South America<sup>32</sup>. Europeans constitute 20% of total immigrants, and of the latter 60% come from European Union Member States (Table 8). People coming from the Maghreb area, Subsaharan Africa and Asian countries make up minority communities, each one representing approximately 7% of all immigrants.

<sup>32</sup> See Table 9.

In Metropolitan Bilbao, there are different concentrations of immigrant groups in the different municipalities. For example, most of the immigrants living in Erandio are American, but mainly Latin-American, while about half of the immigrants living in Bilbao come from Europe (even though they do not represent more than 17% of immigrants living in Bilbao). As for those coming from the Maghreb area, more than half live in Bilbao, and they represent half of the immigrants living in Loiu, noting that the majority of non-accompanied minors come from Morocco. While 75% of Sub-Saharan Africans live in Bilbao, they are also a very representative group in Sestao and Arrigorriaga, while Asian immigrants have a prominent presence in Getxo, Leioa, Portugalete y Santurtzi.

Tables 9 and 10 show the continent of origin of Bilbao's immigrant population, in the Basque country as well as in the province of Bizkaia. The data shows that of the immigrant groups residing in the Basque country, 49% of all Americans reside in the Metropolis of Bilbao, and about half of the Asian immigrants of all Basque Country are in Bilbao; and while a third of Basque Country's African population live in Bilbao, 28,6% of Europeans living in the Basque Country, live in Bilbao. In the Basque Country, approximately all of the Asian population and 86% of those coming from America live in the metropolitan area, as well as a little bit more than three quarters of the African population, while two thirds of immigrants coming from European countries who live in Bizkaia, reside in Metropolitan Bilbao.

**Table 7. Immigrant population residing in the Metropolitan Bilbao Area, by municipality of residence and continent of origin. 1.1.2007**

Municipality	Total immigrants	Europe	Maghreb Area (Africa)	Rest of Africa	America	Asia
Abanto y Zierbena	129	50	8	4	66	1
Alonsotegi	67	24	1	12	29	1
Arrigorriaga	396	152	25	50	155	14
Baracaldo	3.216	682	291	204	1.802	237
Barrika	49	25	0	0	21	3
Basauri	1.051	375	77	72	452	75
Berango	273	117	2	3	146	5
Bilbao	21.890	3.666	1.285	2.395	13.304	1.240
Derio	169	56	23	9	73	8
Erandio	1.285	158	32	31	1.043	21
Etxebarri	164	27	46	8	83	0
Galdakao	596	228	34	24	287	23
Getxo	4.254	1.030	80	27	2.818	299
Gorliz	231	73	10	6	141	1
Larrabetzu	23	10	1	0	12	0
Leioa	1.349	231	83	18	935	82
Lezama	100	25	1	11	60	3
Loiu	159	23	77	9	45	5
Muskiz	124	20	12	5	83	4
Ortuella	85	28	5	3	49	0
Plentzia	106	61	0	3	40	2
Portugalete	882	240	63	46	459	74
Santurtzi	1.148	371	85	82	526	84
Sestao	943	142	95	121	555	30
Sondika	149	43	15	13	75	3
Sopelana	441	134	9	13	263	22
Trapagaran	169	38	4	12	102	13

Urduliz	84	37	2	0	44	1
Zamudio	159	36	13	7	103	0
Zaratamo	31	12	0	2	17	0
Zierbana	21	15	0	0	6	0
Total	39.743	8.129	2.397	3.208	23.800	2.223
Horizontal Percentages	100,0	20,5	6,0	8,1	59,9	5,6

Source: Independent analysis of NSI data

**Table 8. Immigrant population residing in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area from Europe, by area. 1.1.2007**

Continent	Area	Population	Percentage
Europe	UE-27	7.482	18,8
	Rest of Europe	647	1'6

**Table 9. Immigrant population residing in the Basque Country based on continent of origin, by province. 1.1.2007**

	Álava	Gipuzkoa	Bizkaia	Total Basque Country
Europe	5.581	10.767	13.082	29.430
Africa	4.888	3.774	7.145	15.807
North America	145	488	656	1.289
Central America	667	2.122	1.401	4.190
South America	7.108	10.505	25.468	43.081
Asia	1.000	1.340	2.287	4.627
Oceania	3	44	53	100
Total Immigrant population	19.392	29.040	50.092	98.524

Source: NSI Municipal Registry

**Table 10. Immigrant population residing in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, by continent of origin. 1.1.2007**

	Metropolitan Bilbao	Percentage	% Basque Country	% Bizkaia
Europe	8.129	20,5	8,3	16,2
Africa	5.569	14,0	5,7	11,1
America	23.794	59,9	24,2	47,5
Asia	2.223	5,6	2,3	4,4
Oceania	28	0,1	0,0	0,1
Total Immigrant population	39.743	100		

Source: NSI Municipal Registry

## 2. Level of education and schooling of immigrant population

Available information on the level of education of the immigrant population are taken specifically by immigrant census, and are taken every decade. The available data available was taken in Greater Bilbao in 2001.

In 2001, three out of every ten immigrant persons do not have a formal education (28% did not have an education and 2% are illiterate). A quarter had primary school education (Table 11). The biggest group has a secondary education (33%), with the

remaining 3% having attained a professional education. The remaining 10% hold a university degree.

Based on continent of origin, Europeans hold the highest level of education, followed by the American population, and then by the Asian and African populations. Further, between the European and American population, more than half of the population have a secondary and/or university education. As for the Asian population, three out of every four do not have certification for basic education. As for the African population, more than half have not been to school.

**Table 11. Immigrant population in Greater Bilbao, based on continent of origin and level of education (horizontal percentage). 2001**

Continent	Without Education	Primary	Secondary	University
Europe	21	21	40	18
America	22	28	42	8
Asia	40	31	20	9
Africa	57	19	21	3

Source: EUSTAT

Moreover, in the province of Bizkaia, the immigrant population at a schooling age represented approximately a fifth of the total immigrant population (19%) in 2004; even though half of the population are undocumented. The majority of these people are aged between 0 and 19 years of age are of Latin American origin (58%), the other 17% originate from Europe and same percentage applies to those of African origin, and the remaining 6% are of Asian origin.

The immigrant population of primary school age in Bizkaia and Metropolitan Bilbao in particular, is increasingly culturally diverse. Without a doubt, what ought to be studied is whether the Basque educational system will accomplish its task of “guaranteeing the right to education for all, which is constitutionally recognized, regardless of economic, social or any other obstacle” (art. 3.2.a, Basque Public Education System Policy).

Based on the data retrieved from the Department of Education, Universities and Research and the Research Centre of the Basque Government, during the large part of the last years there has been an constant increase in students of immigrant backgrounds in the province of Bizkaia. As such, this collective of pre-university students, totalling 2.858, is enrolled in the 2002/2003 general curriculum public education system, even though they represent but a fraction (1,9%) of the actual student body.

About half of the educational institutes (218) in Bizkaia have immigrant students, of which 68% count as public education centres and the remaining 32% are private education facilities. Of the immigrant student body, 78% are registered in public educational centres, while 22% are registered in private educational centres. The majority of these students have received the mandatory primary and secondary education (which are mandatory up to 16 years), illustrating that the rate of continuing non-mandatory education (formative and bachelors) is increasing.

### **3. Recent evolution of immigration in Metropolitan Bilbao**

Bilbao has been a place of immigration for many years. The major part of the twentieth century until the 1980’s saw Bilbao receiving many migrants from other Spanish provinces. These migrants were transferred from agricultural zones in Spain to work in the various industries in the Basque Country, especially in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area. The economic crisis of the late 1970’s and the second industrial wave of the

1980's has brought with it a massive flow of migrants. In the 1980's and the 1990's, the Bilbao Metropolis had changed its focus from industry-based to service-based, after many industrial companies closed down.

Although immigration – migration from outside of Spain – is but a recent phenomenon, it has developed and increased quickly. In 1996, there were 5.128 immigrants (Table 12), representing 0,6% of the total population of Bilbao (Table 13), and of which the majority come from other European Union Member States. Four years later in 2000, the number of immigrants had not increased a lot, counting 7.471 people, 0,8% of the total population of Bilbao. However, year after year the number of immigrants is quickly and steadily increasing (Graph 1.), and in 2007, immigrants represented 4,4% of the total population, totalling at 39.743.

**Table 12. Evolution of immigrant population living in the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, based on municipality of residence. 1996 to 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 to 2007**

Municipality	1996	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2007
Abanto y Zierbena	14	37	45	60	67	83	98	129
Alonsotegi	1	0	5	18	26	36	51	67
Arrigorriaga	29	58	79	124	190	247	285	396
Baracaldo	919	482	631	810	1.078	1.414	1.901	3.216
Barrika	11	13	19	26	26	30	32	49
Basauri	148	216	286	313	435	545	722	1.051
Berango	34	64	75	122	165	173	219	273
Bilbao	2.217	3.953	6.125	8.820	11.096	13.049	16.215	21.890
Derio	17	8	17	47	83	83	124	169
Erandio	67	114	188	273	436	546	742	1.285
Etxebarri	30	38	49	55	67	90	142	164
Galdakao	70	105	137	214	330	429	507	596
Getxo	873	1.327	1.718	2.315	2.778	3.020	3.605	4.254
Gorliz	37	35	64	81	112	123	145	231
Larrabetzu	3	4	4	4	7	9	12	23
Leioa	120	241	335	522	692	806	980	1.349
Lezama	6	5	7	16	19	39	58	100
Loiu	4	11	34	267	147	209	150	159
Muskiz	6	13	14	29	50	85	91	124
Ortuella	16	26	29	38	46	53	66	85
Plentzia	21	39	52	79	97	120	153	106
Portugalete	118	154	168	270	336	460	631	882
Santurtzi	138	174	255	302	379	557	770	1.148
Sestao	108	171	239	309	332	383	543	943
Sondika	6	6	17	33	46	69	97	149
Sopelana	75	107	122	198	268	325	370	441
Trapagaran	19	28	29	56	74	106	121	169
Urduliz	10	25	40	46	53	68	109	84
Zamudio	2	5	8	38	77	86	109	159
Zaratamo	4	9	10	11	12	14	20	31
Zierbana	5	3	4	9	15	17	14	21
Total in Metropolitan Bilbao	5.128	7.471	10.805	15.505	19.539	23.273	29.082	39.743
Total Bizkaia	6.533	9.419	13.120	18.661	23.908	28.876	36.217	50.092

Source: Author, from NSI

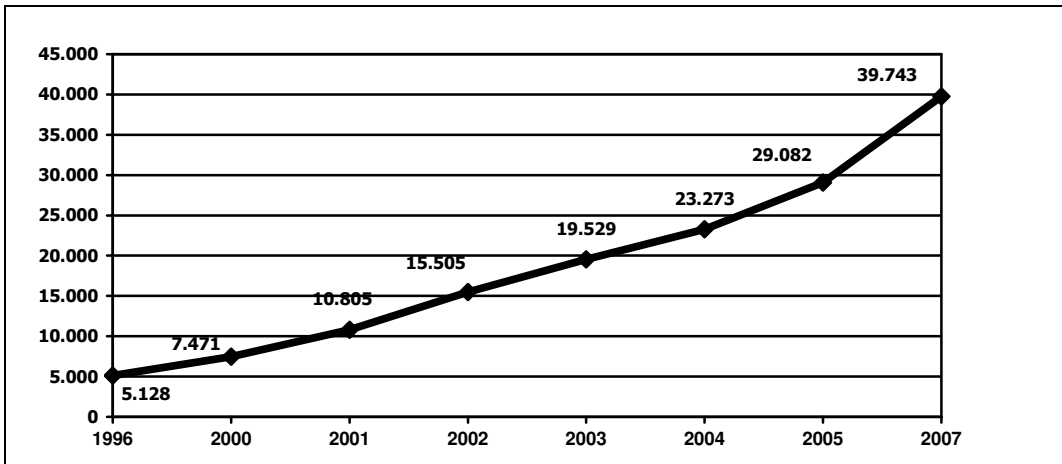
**Table 13. Evolution of percentage of immigrant population in Bilbao Metropolitan Area, based on municipality of residence. 1996 to 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 to 2007**

Municipality	1996	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2007
Abanto y Zierbena	0,2	0,4	0,5	0,7	0,7	0,9	1,0	1,3
Alonsotegi	0,0	0,0	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	1,9	2,4
Arrigorriaga	0,3	0,5	0,7	1,1	1,7	2,1	2,3	3,2
Baracaldo	0,9	0,5	0,7	0,8	1,1	1,5	2,0	3,3
Barrika	1,1	1,1	1,6	2,2	2,1	2,3	2,4	3,5
Basauri	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,7	1,0	1,2	1,6	2,4
Berango	0,7	1,3	1,5	2,3	2,9	3,0	3,7	4,3
Bilbao	0,6	1,1	1,7	2,5	3,1	3,7	4,6	6,2
Derio	0,4	0,2	0,4	1,0	1,7	1,7	2,5	3,3
Erandio	0,3	0,5	0,8	1,2	1,9	2,4	3,2	5,4
Etxebarri	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,2	1,8	2,0
Galdakao	0,2	0,4	0,5	0,7	1,1	1,4	1,7	2,0
Getxo	1,1	1,6	2,0	2,8	3,3	3,6	4,4	5,2
Gorliz	1,1	0,8	1,5	1,8	2,4	2,6	3,0	4,5
Larrabetzu	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,7	1,3
Leioa	0,5	0,9	1,2	1,8	2,4	2,8	3,4	4,6
Lezama	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,7	0,9	1,8	2,5	4,1
Loiu	0,2	0,6	1,7	11,8	6,9	9,5	6,8	7,3
Muskiz	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,5	0,8	1,3	1,4	1,8
Ortuella	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,8	1,0
Plentzia	0,7	1,1	1,4	2,1	2,6	3,1	3,9	2,6
Portugalete	0,2	0,3	0,3	0,5	0,7	0,9	1,3	1,8
Santurtzi	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,8	1,2	1,6	2,4
Sestao	0,3	0,5	0,7	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,8	3,2
Sondika	0,2	0,2	0,4	0,8	1,1	1,6	2,3	3,4
Sopelana	0,8	1,1	1,2	1,8	2,5	2,9	3,2	3,6
Trapagaran	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,4	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,4
Urduliz	0,4	0,8	1,3	1,5	1,7	2,1	3,4	2,6
Zamudio	0,1	0,2	0,3	1,2	2,5	2,7	3,4	4,9
Zaratamo	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,9	1,2	1,8
Zierbana	0,4	0,2	0,3	0,7	1,2	1,3	1,1	1,6
Total Metropolitan Bilbao	0,6	0,8	1,2	1,7	2,2	2,6	3,2	4,4
Total Bizkaia	0,6	0,8	1,2	1,6	2,1	2,5	3,2	4,4

Source: Independent analysis from NSI

**Graph 1. Evolution of the immigrant population in Metropolitan Bilbao. 1996, 2000 to 2005 and 2007**





Source: NSI

### The theme of regional territory of the Bilbao Metropolitan Area

**Bilbao the capital.** The central nucleus, financial centre and the main population hub, Bilbao is composed of 8 districts and 39 neighbourhoods. Entrenched in a valley and surrounded by a natural landscape, Bilbao is an urban space which is incapable of increasing its capacity in terms of infrastructure inside its own borders. Therefore, urban growth has had to spill over onto neighbouring municipalities. The urban crisis of the 1980's drove the city to renovate itself within the frame of the Strategic Plan, with the bases of recovering the vacant ground and space due to the closing down of businesses and the 1980's crisis. This Strategic Plan was the key to put the projects in gear such as the Guggenheim Museum, the Bilbao Metro, The Music Palace, the Tramway and others.

**Right Margin.** The municipalities of Leioa, Getxo and Berango belong to this area. These residential municipalities are inhabited by the upper-middle classes. The price of rent is relatively high in this area, serving as an expansion where the different social classes can escape the main city as they look for a pleasant environment with a high quality of life. Getxo is emblematic for its history, size and importance, as it holds a symbolic reference for several sectors of the society that give this municipality a substantial importance.

**Left Margin.** The traditionally labour-based community is in the process of a deep restructuralisation process. The municipalities in this area are: Barakaldo, Sestao, Portugalete and Santurtzi. It is an industrial zone that has gone through an industrial dismantling and has brought along with it a political rejuvenation at the economic and social level. Currently, decisions are being made to clear up the contaminated grounds, to develop local employment policies and actions in order to eradicate resultant problems from the concentration of ethnic minorities: a concentration of the Roma community in an area that is in deep degradation: Chavarri Special Plan in Sestao.

**Txorierri.** Is a residential area that is close to Bilbao, composed of the following municipalities: Erandio, Loiu, Sondika, Derio, Lezama, Zamudio, Larrabetzu. All of these municipalities have a semi-rural/semi-urban feel, with an abundance of space and are close to or surrounded by much of the important infrastructure: Airport, Technological park... In recent years, this area has attracted the upper classes. The concentration of technology-based businesses and some research centres are

strategic incentives for this area. Some municipalities such as Derio and Erandio, still have an industrial feel even though they have gone through dramatic transformations.

**Mining Zone.** Evident by its name, this area is composed of working-class municipalities that were historically dedicated to the extraction of iron minerals and whose character is eminently industrial. Abanto and Zierbena, Muskiz, Trapagarán, Ortuella, and Alonsotegi are all municipalities that make up this mining zone. The continuous abandonment of the mines has brought on the necessity to replace the retired miners of the area with others and to reinvent these municipalities. It is an area that belongs to the Left Margin at the foot of the Triano mountains, which is in a deep process of transformation. The population is inherently made up of labour workers and is in great need to create efficient and active policies of social protection in order to alleviate strikes and poverty. Currently, this area is going through intense transformations due to the innovative projects in energy and new technologies that are taking place.

**Ibaizabal.** Partly situated in the upper bed of the river, from which its name is derived: *Ibai* = river, *Zabal* = wide, this area is made up of the following municipalities: Basauri, Galdakao, Etxebarri, Arrigorriaga and Zaratamo. These municipalities have an old industrial tradition, are quite densely structured and reflect the existence of previous labour-concentrated hubs from the 1960's and the 1970's, as finding housing in this period was vital. Basauri constitutes the most populated city and has a long industrial tradition. Its industrial layout and neighbourhoods that were constructed in a chaotic fashion without adequate planning, offer a good indication of the problems these municipalities are presently facing: the urgent need for active policies to rejuvenate and to improve the quality of life. Even though Etxebarri and Galdakao are not in such an urgent state, they also suffer from the same symptoms of uncontrollable growth which has to be managed. Zaratamo and Arrigorriaga are quite different in this sense, since they are expanding residential areas.

## **Part F. CONCLUSIONS**

The Bilbao Metropolitan Area is an old industrial hub that has been shaken during the 1980's and 1990's as a consequence of an economic crisis that has forced a series of regeneration of its role and significance. Thus, the political and financial strength of the Basque institutions has allowed a vast transformation of this area.

The decrease in the birth rate has played an important role in the demographic crisis that has affected the Bilbao Metropolitan Area, although it has been compensated by the arrival of diverse immigrant groups. While this process is slow, it is however continuous in that it has achieved a significant visibility in recent years, and has created an economic space for these immigrants in both the industrial and social sector

Applying the Factorial Analysis in order to do the neighborhoods selection is convenient to remark that the main researches use the Factor I Social Class as hypothesis in order to assess their real influence over the spatial distribution of migrant people in urban structure. (Shevky, Bell, Duncan and others).

Each city has their own peculiarity depending of the physical and territorial characteristics of urban structure. As Duncan Timms said some year ago: "... *leaving aside the subjective characteristics of the people, the differentiation residential is rightly correlated with possibilities offered by territorial frame...*" (in Duncan Timms: *Urban Mosaic*, Cambridge University Press).

Bilbao has no space. This feature is conditioning the spatial pattern of settlement. There is not Barrios settled apart of the rest of the city likewise "Segregated Island" The urban structure does not permit this pattern.

There is not segregated and differentiated areas set away each other like we could expect (i.e. in American cities) or in other contexts where the urban land is abundant. §In our case the residential differentiation goes by City Block. The people live physically in the same place and the territorial differences among neighborhoods are very small.

The Factor Age is more closely related with the immigrant spatial pattern than Factor I Social Class. The main reason is because the urban land of oldest housing blocks is more affordable that the new ones. (i.e. They can afford the rent in a old neighborhood, it is less expensive).

Then, according our point of view, the three Neighbourhoods elected to follow this research would be: San Francisco (in Ibaiondo), Errekalde (in Rekaldeberri) and San Pedro (in Deusto). These neighbourhoods concentrate the majority of immigrant population (4.214 immigrants, 19,3% of the total of immigrants in Bilbao), and they are neighbourhoods with specific characteristics each one.

San Francisco, with 7.690 residents and 2.136 immigrants is the neighbourhood were immigrants are most concentrated.

San Pedro, with 18.746 residents and 1.040 immigrants is a neighbourhood with middle class people that received immigrants in very recent years.

Errekaldeberri, with 15.449 residents and 1.038 immigrants is a neighbourhood created in the 1955-65s by former internal immigration.

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### **Web pages of interest**

<http://www.bilbao.net>

<http://www.bilbaoria2000.org>

<http://www.bizkaia.net>

<http://www.bm30.es>

<http://www.quiabizkaia.com>

# ANEX

## Data Basis Used for Factorial Analysis

NEIGHBORHOOD	DISTRICT	POPULATION CENSUS 2001	AGE GROUP				IMMIGRATION		SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITION					NIVEL DE INSTRUCCION						OCCUPIED POPULATION BY ACTIVITY SECTOR			
			>65 AÑOS	50-65 AÑOS	25-50 AÑOS	<25 AÑOS	i.c.a. 2001-2007 (%)	Imm/ total Bilbao 2007	High Class	Professionals & White Collar	Craftsmen & Agriculture	Skilled Labor Class	Non Skilled Labor Class	literate	No Finished Elementary School	Primary Studies	Training Studies	Secondary School Finished	Mid-Superior Studies	Universitaria	Industry & Energy	Construction	Services
ARANGOTI	1	4.648	16,09	17,43	40,81	25,67	8,7	1,6	6,5	32,1	14,1	29,4	18,0	1,0	6,3	50,1	14,1	15,2	5,4	8,0	21,3	13,5	64,3
IBARRIKOLANDA	1	12.029	18,77	18,13	37,14	25,96	6,9	2,3	19,9	40,6	12,8	17,4	9,3	0,2	4,1	36,3	12,2	20,4	9,5	17,1	16,8	5,5	77,3
SAN IGNACIO	1	13.638	23,66	15,14	40,01	21,18	10,4	3,6	14,7	39,5	12,2	21,0	12,7	0,5	4,8	43,4	14,0	16,8	7,7	12,9	17,4	7,8	74,3
SAN PEDRO DELUSTO	1	22.578	19,39	19,09	37,13	24,40	6,4	5,3	27,4	40,6	12,6	12,2	7,2	0,2	1,9	30,0	10,7	21,8	11,5	24,0	15,5	4,9	79,2
ARABELLA	2	1.803	22,68	15,92	40,16	21,24	8,4	0,4	10,2	36,7	13,7	26,1	13,2	0,5	7,0	46,2	12,4	16,1	6,6	11,3	17,7	11,8	70,3
CASTANOS	2	8.125	21,22	17,86	38,54	22,39	0,2	1,3	7,8	34,0	12,6	29,1	16,5	0,3	7,8	49,4	13,7	15,4	5,0	8,4	15,2	5,4	79,2
CIUDAD JARDIN	2	759	13,04	15,15	42,42	29,38	4,8	0,2	29,1	39,7	11,9	11,5	7,9	0,2	1,9	30,8	9,4	21,6	10,9	25,2	14,4	5,8	79,9
MATIKO	2	3.916	20,74	17,54	39,84	21,88	16,9	1,6	21,7	41,6	13,8	14,9	7,9	0,0	5,7	31,8	10,5	19,8	7,9	24,3	17,0	6,1	76,6
URIBARRI	2	14.207	20,86	19,58	38,24	21,31	13,0	4,6	16,0	41,0	12,7	17,9	12,5	0,4	3,9	40,0	11,8	18,6	8,7	16,6	17,5	10,1	72,1
ZURBAPAN	2	12.061	17,98	23,38	36,33	22,31	7,3	1,9	15,9	38,2	12,7	22,7	10,5	0,3	6,4	39,1	12,4	17,8	8,7	15,3	18,8	9,3	71,7
OTXARKOAGA	3	11.817	22,36	11,84	37,14	28,66	11,7	1,7	3,0	26,5	12,9	32,7	24,9	2,6	14,7	54,0	8,8	14,8	2,1	3,0	14,7	20,7	64,3
TXURDINAGA	3	17.715	10,21	14,59	42,53	32,68	-0,4	1,4	13,8	40,4	12,8	21,3	11,6	0,6	4,2	38,9	13,0	23,0	7,6	12,7	16,2	9,8	73,6
BEGONA	4	5.827	15,14	24,21	35,08	25,57	7,8	0,9	23,6	40,1	13,0	14,6	8,6	0,2	2,1	31,4	11,9	22,0	10,9	21,4	18,2	5,7	75,9
BOLUETA	4	4.820	14,61	19,13	40,21	26,06	17,1	1,7	7,0	33,9	12,9	31,6	14,6	0,8	5,5	51,2	13,0	16,9	4,5	8,2	21,7	11,9	66,2
SANTUTXU	4	34.097	19,31	21,38	36,58	22,74	12,4	6,9	11,3	37,3	14,6	24,5	12,4	0,4	4,8	46,4	12,7	17,5	6,6	11,5	19,2	9,3	71,1
ATXURI	5	5.092	22,23	18,99	38,24	20,54	14,0	1,7	11,8	36,1	15,8	22,8	13,5	0,6	5,8	49,6	12,2	14,9	5,8	11,1	17,9	10,3	71,3
BILBAOLA VIEJA	5	2.929	19,56	13,18	42,20	25,06	-0,2	1,4	8,3	31,8	14,6	26,2	19,1	1,5	7,7	53,5	9,1	15,3	4,6	8,4	13,4	14,2	72,0
ITURRIBIDE	5	4.502	18,79	16,37	41,29	23,55	13,5	1,6	17,2	40,0	13,4	18,3	11,0	0,2	3,5	37,2	12,9	20,0	9,2	16,9	17,1	8,2	74,0
LA PEÑA	5	7.935	13,74	18,16	42,19	25,91	4,6	1,8	5,6	34,4	14,9	29,2	16,0	1,0	3,7	53,9	13,4	16,5	4,2	7,3	17,1	15,9	66,7
SAN ADRIAN	5	3.635	22,81	13,56	40,83	22,81	21,5	1,8	10,1	38,0	12,0	26,2	13,7	0,5	6,7	47,7	12,5	18,5	5,3	8,8	16,5	10,6	72,6
SAN FRANCISCO	5	5.837	19,58	15,73	41,96	22,73	16,6	10,1	11,5	32,5	17,0	21,7	17,4	1,2	9,3	52,3	7,7	14,6	4,5	10,3	14,1	10,9	74,2
SIETE CALLES	5	5.924	18,42	13,62	48,50	19,46	12,7	3,2	29,0	35,7	15,0	11,5	8,8	0,2	2,9	32,1	9,9	16,5	10,3	28,0	11,4	6,2	81,9
SOLOKOETXE	5	7.663	19,93	15,83	40,86	23,39	13,1	2,8	17,2	41,5	14,1	17,0	10,2	0,3	2,7	39,4	13,2	19,5	8,4	16,4	15,5	7,3	76,8
ZABALA	5	7.964	20,27	14,40	39,63	25,70	10,6	2,8	13,9	40,7	14,5	19,6	11,3	0,4	4,1	44,7	11,3	20,4	7,8	11,2	16,1	8,5	75,2
ABANDO	6	22.940	22,66	16,84	37,79	22,71	6,6	6,4	39,2	34,3	13,2	6,7	6,5	0,1	1,8	22,5	8,0	21,7	11,3	34,6	12,9	3,7	83,0
INDAUTU	6	28.558	25,49	17,13	35,80	21,57	7,4	6,4	39,7	34,1	14,2	5,9	6,1	0,1	2,0	23,0	7,5	21,6	12,0	33,8	13,0	3,7	83,0
AMEZOLA	7	12.566	24,28	17,08	37,63	21,02	12,5	5,3	24,5	39,2	14,8	12,4	9,1	0,3	3,5	34,9	9,9	19,5	10,4	21,6	13,6	5,4	80,5
IRIALABARRI	7	9.876	22,19	17,26	38,32	22,24	15,1	4,3	15,3	38,1	15,0	19,4	12,2	0,3	3,8	44,3	11,6	18,7	7,2	14,1	18,3	6,9	74,5
ITURRIGORRI-PENASCAL	7	1.994	16,40	14,19	42,03	27,38	1,8	0,2	2,1	24,8	14,1	37,4	21,6	3,6	8,5	62,3	8,7	12,3	1,7	2,9	18,8	21,2	59,5
LARRASQUITU	7	1.773	22,39	16,81	38,18	22,62	17,1	0,7	8,0	32,6	16,4	30,8	12,2	0,7	3,1	56,0	11,1	14,5	6,2	8,3	19,3	11,2	69,0
REKALDEBERRI	7	17.441	21,95	16,52	39,31	22,22	10,6	4,9	8,3	32,9	14,6	29,0	15,2	0,8	5,5	54,2	11,2	15,4	4,9	8,1	19,2	11,4	69,2
URETAMENDI	7	1.826	17,96	19,66	40,42	21,96	24,2	1,0	3,5	27,0	11,4	36,0	22,1	1,8	10,5	61,1	9,1	11,3	2,7	3,5	19,1	15,1	65,5
ALTAMIRA	8	2.150	24,28	17,26	37,12	21,35	2,0	0,3	5,2	27,6	12,6	37,8	16,8	0,8	5,6	60,5	10,6	12,6	3,9	6,0	20,3	14,1	64,1
BASURTO	8	12.027	21,14	18,03	37,91	22,92	14,6	3,8	25,4	37,9	15,1	13,6	8,0	0,2	3,0	33,0	10,4	21,0	10,5	22,0	15,6	5,8	78,2
MASUSTEGI	8	5.258	9,68	12,65	46,86	30,81	5,5	1,2	13,3	35,0	14,5	23,5	13,7	0,5	5,7	41,0	12,7	21,5	6,5	12,0	17,0	11,9	70,7
OLABEAGA	8	1.827	29,50	17,79	33,44	19,27	6,0	0,4	13,4	34,9	11,6	25,9	14,1	0,8	5,8	45,8	11,8	17,7	5,2	13,0	18,3	9,0	72,6
ZORROZA	8	12.215	15,19	16,54	41,58	26,70	15,6	2,8	6,5	34,7	13,4	31,3	14,1	0,8	6,4	47,8	14,1	18,1	5,1	7,7	21,2	10,9	67,6

