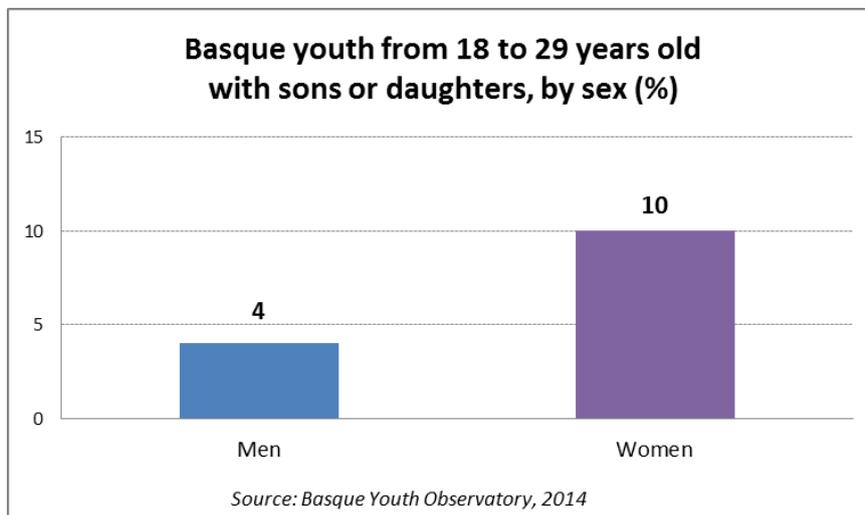


Only 4% of men under age 30 are fathers

The great majority of young men would like to have children but they consider the ideal age for this is 35

The [Basque Youth Observatory](#) has analysed how many youths from 18 to 29 years old are fathers or mothers before the age of 30 and how many wish to in the future. The data are from a survey administered in November 2014 to a representative sample of Basque youth.

4% of young men state they are fathers, a fairly lower percentage to that of women of the same age who state they are mothers (10%).



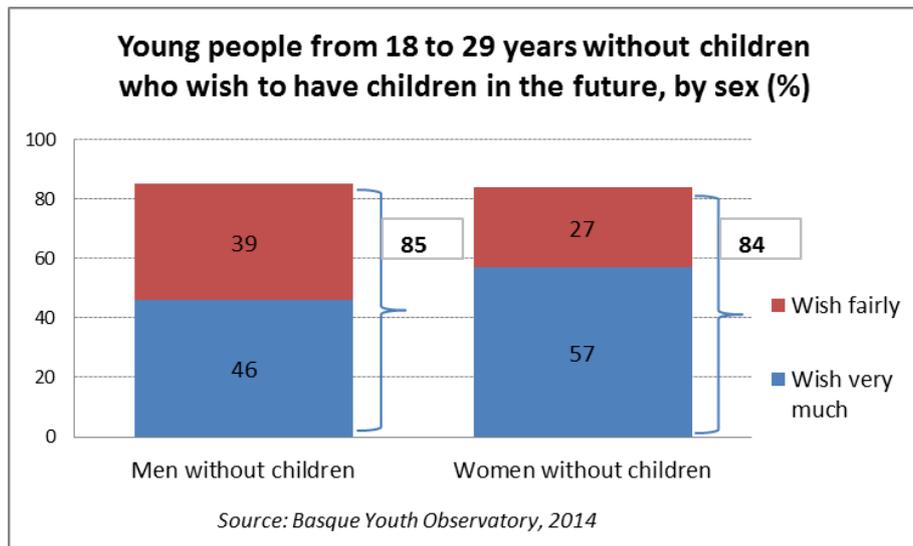
The percentage of young men who are fathers increases with age: between 18 and 24 years, only 2% are fathers and between 25 and 29 years, 5%. In the case of women, the gap between both age groups is even greater: before 25, barely 3% of women are mothers, while in the age group from 25 to 29, the percentage of mothers amounts to 19%. In any case, **it is noted that paternity and maternity are very minority phenomena among youth.**

In fact, young men themselves consider that the ideal age for a man to have children is 35. And in the case of women, the age considered ideal to have children is 33. In both cases, the ideal age is way beyond 30 years old.

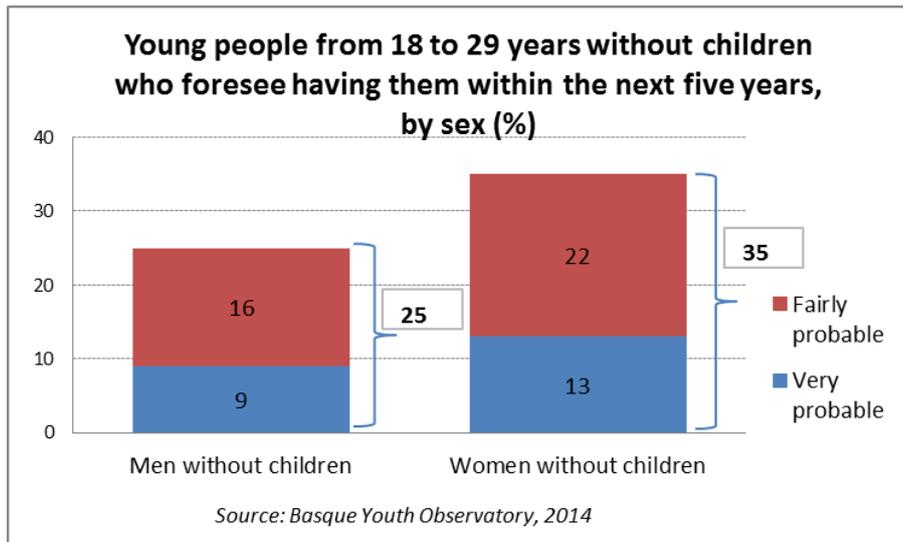
When asking young men who do not have children whether they wish to be parents in the future, 46% state that they would very much like to and 39% that they would fairly like to. 11% say they would not like it very much. And just 3% of young men without children state that they would not like to have them.

More than half of women who do not have children affirm that they would very much like to have them in the future (57%), 27% state that they would fairly like to, 10% would not like to very much and 5% would not like to at all.

If we take those who affirm they would very much or fairly like to have children in the future, no differences are appreciated between young men and women (85% and 84%, respectively), but women show greater intensity in their desire, as there are more women than men who want it very much (57% and 46% in each case).



In spite of that recognised desire, barely 25%, that is, one out of four young men without children, foresees having them within the next five years. In the case of young women without children, that percentage rises to 35% and it is women who are more conditioned than men due to their age of fertility.



If we concentrate on the group from 25 to 29 years, we observe that 39% of men consider it is very or fairly probable they will have children within the next five years, and in the case of women, that age, the percentage is 54%.

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