

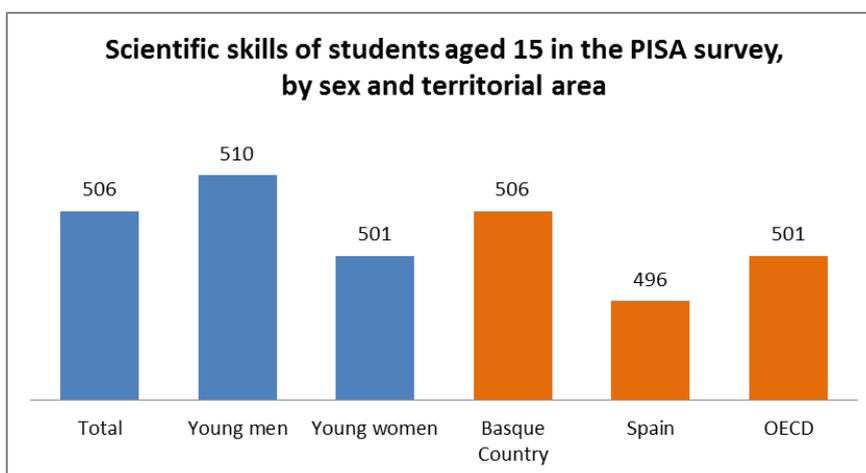
Zientzia Astea 2015

The scientific skills of Basque youths aged 15 exceed the OECD average

The Fifteenth Edition of the **Science, Technology and Innovation Week** (Zientzia Astea) will be held from 4 to 8 November in the capitals of the Basque Country. In the light of this event, the [Basque Youth Observatory](#) wants to provide some data regarding the knowledge Basque youths have in science and technology.

In the first place, if we consider the scientific skills of students aged 15 in the PISA survey (Programme for International Student Assessment), which is published every three years, we find that, in the 2012 edition (the latest to date), the Basque Country stands slightly above the average for OECD member countries: 506 points for the Basque Country compared to 501 on average. The Basque Country also scores ten points more than the Spanish average (496).

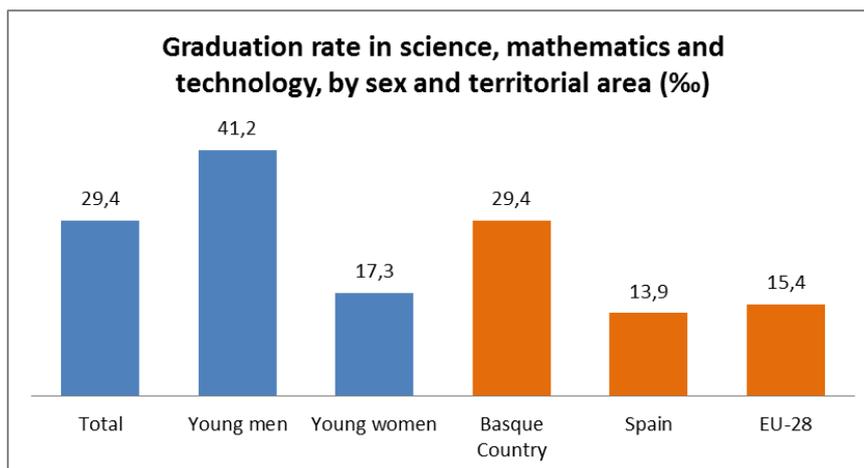
The scientific skills of Basque boys aged 15 are slightly higher than those of girls of the same age (510 and 501, respectively).



On the other hand, we are going to analyse the rate of higher studies in science, mathematics and technology in the Basque Country, understood as the number of young people aged 20 to 29 that have finished ISCED 5A, B and 6 tertiary studies in science, mathematics and/or technology (this includes both university degrees and higher level training) per 1000 persons in the same age group.

This rate was 29.4‰ in 2010 (latest data available), and has seen a substantial increase compared to the year 2000, when it was 20.2‰.

This rate is much higher among boys than among girls (41.2‰ and 17.3‰, respectively), and far exceeds the European (15.4‰) and Spanish (13.9‰) averages.



Both indicators can be found in the study [Youth Indicators 2013](#), more specifically in the section on education.

These are some of the 111 indicators on the situation of young people collected in this comprehensive study prepared by the Basque Youth Observatory. The data are taken, in some cases, from research conducted by the Observatory and, in other cases, from official statistics. In this case, the data have been taken from the Basque Institute of Educational Research and Assessment (ISEI-IVEI) of the Department of Education, Language Policy and Culture of the Basque Government.

In all, this study offers a general view of the situation of young people and compares it with the Basque population as a whole and with young people from other areas, such as Spain or the European Union.

The information is available in four formats to facilitate access:

- [Interactive database](#). This makes it possible to prepare interactive charts and maps to analyse the evolution, comparison and disaggregation of the 11 indicators by selecting variables.
- [Youth Indicator Panel](#), a summary chart that synthesizes the information of the 111 indicators used in the research project.
- [Indicator files](#), information on a selection of 64 basic indicators.
- [Executive Summary](#), a brief text that summarises the main conclusions taken from the analysis of all the indicators.

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