

BILA Index (≥ 5 years old). BAC

Definition

The BILA index is a category obtained by crossing the language competence and mother tongue variables.

Territory

Basque Autonomous Community

Variables and categories

- **Geographical zone:** BAC, Araba/Álava, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa
- **Type of speaker:**
 - **Native basque speaker:** a person for whom Basque is his/her first language, and who understands and speaks it well.
 - **Native bilinguals:** a person for whom both Basque and Spanish are first languages, and who understands and speaks Basque well.
 - **New basque speakers:** a person for whom another language other than Basque is his/her first language, but who understands and speaks Basque well.
 - **New partial Basque speakers:** a person for whom another language other than Basque is his/her first language, and who speaks Basque with difficulty or who understands or reads it well, despite not speaking it.
 - **Lost basque partially:** a person for whom either Basque alone or Basque and Spanish are first languages, but who speaks Basque with difficulty or does not speak it at all, despite understanding or reading it well.
 - **Lost basque completely:** a person for whom either Basque alone or Basque and Spanish are first languages, but who does not speak Basque, nor understands nor reads it well.
 - **Native spanish speakers:** a person for whom Spanish is his/her first language, and who does not speak Basque nor understands nor reads it well.

Sub-indicators (crosses)

BILA by age and sex

Sources

Census and Population and Housing Census in the BAC.

Characteristics of the sources	<p>The Census and Population and Housing Census analyse three variables: competency in Basque, first language and language use in the home.</p> <p>In the BAC the variable competency in Basque has been included since 1981, first language since 1986, and language use in the home since 1991. It therefore offers us a broad view of the evolution of the Basque language in the Basque Autonomous Community: thirty years in the case of linguistic competency, twenty-five for first language, and twenty for language use in the home.</p> <p>The results of the BAC are included in the Sociolinguistic Map. An official statistic included in the Basque Plan of Statistics under the code 020702. As well as the three indicated variables (competency in the Basque language, first language and use in the home), the Sociolinguistic Map addresses two further synthetic variables: the BILA index (crossing point between competency in the Basque language and in the first language) since 1986, and the ERABIL index (crossing point between competency in the Basque language, the first language and use in the home) since 1991.</p>
Administrators of the source	<p>In the BAC, Eustat is responsible for the data, whilst its handling is managed by the Vice-Council for Linguistic Policy.</p>
First data and frequency	<p>First data: BAC 1981</p> <p>Frequency: Every five years in the BAC (staggered with the Census and the Population and Housing Statistics).</p>
Data obtaining methodology	<p>Mixed methodology is used to create the Census and the Population and Housing Statistics. Using the Population Registry as a base, information from the samples is combined with different administrative sources.</p> <p>This methodology was first used to complete the 2006 Population and Housing Statistics. There has been a major change in the methodology, as it uses various European statistic institutes used in countries such as Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands.</p>
Complementary information	
Publications and reports	<p>http://www.euskadi.eus/informacion/estudios-sociolinguisticos/web01-a2lingu/es/</p> <p>http://www.euskarabidea.es/castellano/el-euskera-en-navarra</p>
Questionnaire	<p>http://es.eustat.eus/estadisticas/tema_25/opt_1/tipo_8/temas.html</p>