Part-time employment is more common among young women than among men

The rate of part-time employment in the Basque Country has increased, although it is far from the rate in countries such as Holland or Denmark

On occasion of the International Women’s Day on 8 March, the Basque Youth Observatory wants to provide some data relating to the employment situation of young women in the Basque Country.

The latest data from the Basque Statistical Office (EUSTAT), based on the Population Survey in Relation to Activity (PRA), shows that the employment rate of women aged 16 to 29 is slightly higher than that of men (39.6% and 36.7%, respectively). However, the percentage of part-time employment is 10 points higher among women.

In recent years, part-time employment has been gaining force to the point that, in 2014, it accounted for 30.5% of the employment among young women and 19.9% among young men.

Evolution of the part-time employment rate among young workers aged 16 to 29 in the Basque Country, by gender (%)

![Graph showing the evolution of part-time employment rate among young workers aged 16 to 29 in the Basque Country, by gender (%).]

Source: Basque Youth Observatory based on data provided by Eustat (PRA)

If we compare this situation with Europe, we can see that we are within the average figures in terms of the percentage of young people in part-time employment. While 30.5% of young working women work part-time in the Basque
Country, 30.8% do so in the EU28. Young men have a higher level of part-time employment in the Basque Country at 19.9%, 3 percentage points above the European average.

However, Europe presents highly significant differences by countries. Although part-time work is much more common among women than among men in practically all of them, there is a great difference regarding the prevalence of this type of work in different countries. In the Netherlands, almost eight out of every ten working women aged 16 to 29 and over half of the young men have part-time jobs. It is followed by Denmark and Sweden. At the other extreme, we have Hungary, Croatia or Latvia that have the lowest part-time employment rates.

**Part-time employment rates among young workers aged 16 to 29 by gender. European Union 2014 (%)**

![Bar chart showing part-time employment rates among young workers in the EU28 by gender and country.](chart)

*Source: Basque Youth Observatory based on data provided by Eustat and Eurostat statistics*
Regarding the reasons for working part-time, six out of every ten young women who work part-time in the Basque Country state that they have not been able to find full-time work as the main reason. In this case the difference with men is not very large; 52.9% of men with part-time jobs are also in this situation against their wishes. But family obligations are only mentioned by women (5%).

**Reasons why young people aged 16 to 29 work part-time in the Basque Country by gender. 2013 (%)**

- **Unable to find full-time employment**: Men 59.3%, Women 52.9%
- **Personal decision or interest**: Men 17.7%, Women 21.0%
- **Family obligations**: Men 0.0%, Women 5.0%
- **Because the company has a workforce adjustment plan or reduced work hours**: Men 0.5%, Women 0.0%
- **Other reasons**: Men 19.8%, Women 11.7%
- **Dk/Na**: Men 5.7%, Women 6.3%

*Source: Basque Youth Observatory based on its own data*

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