

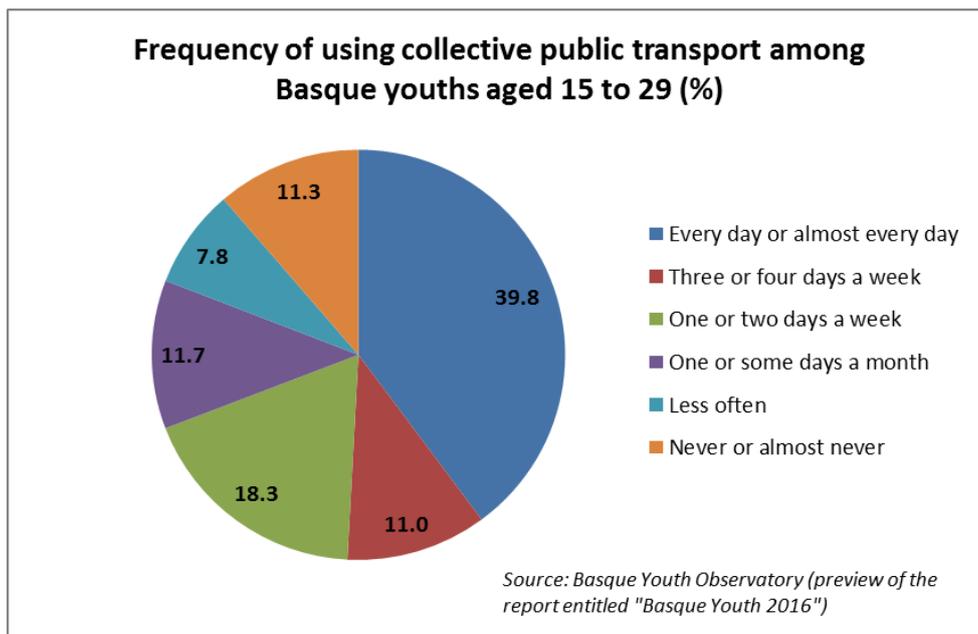
In the Basque Country six out of every ten young people commute everyday by collective public transport

European Mobility Week 2016

On occasion of the European Mobility Week, which is being held from 16 to 22 September, the [Basque Youth Observatory](#) is presenting data on the use of public transport by young people in the Basque Country.

This year, 2016, 39.8 % of Basque youths aged 15 to 29 say they use collective public transport (bus, train, subway, tram...) every day or almost every day. This percentage is higher than that recorded in 2012, when the figure obtained was 37.2 %.

If we add the percentage of those that use public transport three or four days a week, we can see that half of young people in the Basque Country (50.8 %) normally use public transport in their regular journeys.



Now we are going to analyze the differences between some groups, based on data about young people who commute by public transport every day or almost every day.

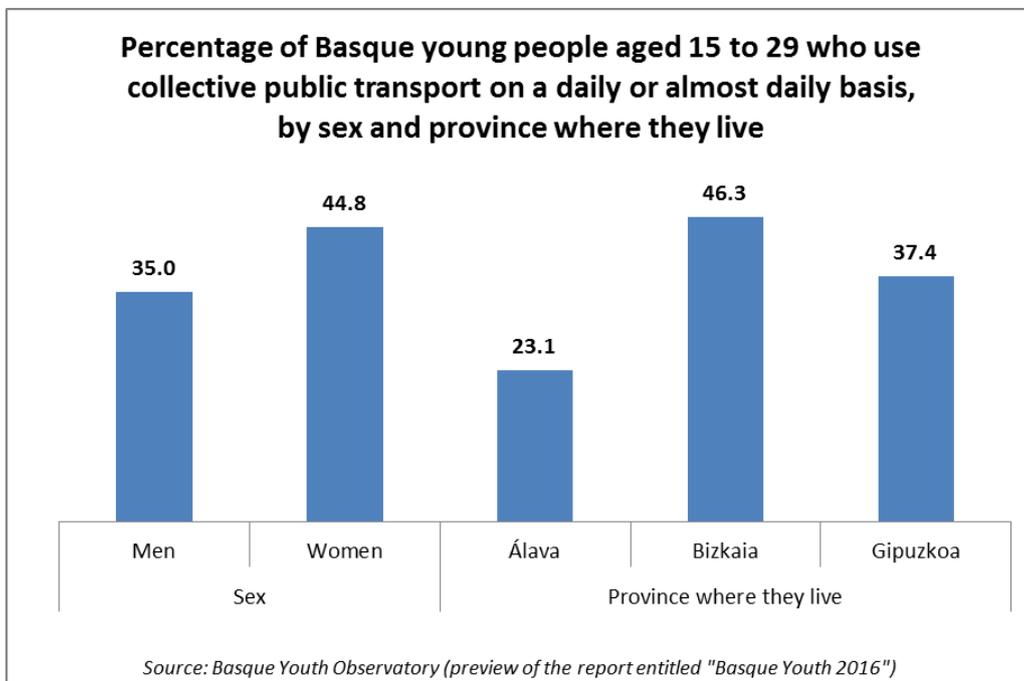
In general, girls use public transport when commuting to a greater extent than boys (44.8 % versus 35.0 %).

Young people under the age of 25 use public transport more frequently than those over that age: 46.8 % of people aged 15 to 19 commute by public transport every day or almost every day, just as 45.9 % among those aged 20 to 24; but the percentage decreases to 29.0 % among people aged 25 to 29.

It should be noted at this point, that people under the age of 25, mostly students, often have public transport to go to school, and they usually do not have incomes to buy their own vehicle or even don't have a driver's license, while older people (25-29 age group), who are mainly working, have more possibilities to buy a car or a motorcycle, and sometimes have no other option than to use private vehicles to go to work. This can be seen when we analyze the data based on people's main occupation: 48.8 % of students use collective public transport on a daily or almost daily basis, while this rate falls to 29.1 % among young people who are working.

Regarding province of residence, there are also noticeable differences. Bizkaia is the province where most young people commute by public transport every day (46.3 %), probably due to the presence of the Underground, available in the most highly populated cities in the province. In Gipuzkoa the rate falls to 37.4 % and in Álava is even lower, 23.1 % (but we must say that the percentage of young people in Álava that use bicycles, that are another sustainable means of transport, is much higher than in Bizkaia or in Gipuzkoa).

We also can find some differences if we analyze the use of public transport in the capitals, medium-size towns and small villages. The smaller they are the more young people use public transport, probably because they may need to commute to other towns or village to go to school or to work: 43.0 % of young people who live in villages that have less than 10.000 inhabitants use public transport every day, 40.7 % among those who live in towns with more than 10.000 inhabitants, and 37.0 % among young people living in capitals (Bilbao, San Sebastian or Vitoria-Gasteiz).



These data come from a survey carried out in the first quarter of 2016 by the Basque Youth Observatory. In this survey a representative sample of 1500 young people of the Basque Country aged 15 to 29 (750 men and 750 women) has been enquired about this theme and much more. Presented results are a preview of the full report entitled "**Basque Youth 2016**" that will be published next year. This report will be the fifth number of the collection that the Basque Youth Observatory prepares every four years about the values, attitudes, opinions and behaviors of people under the age of 30.