

76.8% of people aged between 15 and 29 in the Basque Country have taken part in some artistic or cultural activity in the last year

On this occasion, the Basque Youth Observatory publishes a preview of data on artistic and cultural activities of Basque youth aged 15-29 years old from the research "Basque Youth 2020/2021". This is a four-yearly research, but due to the pandemic, some of the questions planned for 2020, such as those related to artistic and cultural activities, were postponed to 2021. The report brings together data from the two surveys conducted between 2020 and 2021.

76.8% of people aged between 15 and 29 in the Basque Country have taken part in some artistic or cultural activity in the last year. Among women, this percentage is somewhat higher than among men (79.1% and 74.5%, respectively) due, above all, to the difference that occurs in the practice of dance, ballroom dancing or ballet.

By age group, we observe that the youngest respondents are more active in all the activities they were asked about, resulting in 81.2% of those aged 15 to 19 having taken part in some artistic or cultural activity in the last year; among those aged 20 to 24 this percentage is 77.8% and among those aged 25 to 29 71.2%.

Among all the cultural or artistic activities carried out in the last year, taking photographs is the most common, carried out by 49.2 %; linked to the previous one is making videos (32.8 %); painting and drawing have been practised in the last year by 31.7 % of young people; playing a musical instrument by 24.2 %; writing by 22.7 % and dancing in any form by 15.9 %.

Young people in the Basque Country aged between 15 and 29 who have taken part in each of the proposed cultural or artistic activities in the last year, according to sex and age groups						
(% of affirmative response for each type of activity)	TOTAL	Gender		Age group		
		Women	Men	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years
Taking photographs	49.2	51.2	46.9	49.2	51.1	47.2
Making videos or other audio-visuals, such as graphic design, web pages, 3D animation, etc.	32.8	28,0	37,0	41.6	32.4	23.8
Painting, drawing or other plastic arts, such as ceramics, sculpture, engraving, etc.	31.7	39.8	23.7	33.6	33,0	28.3
Playing an instrument	24.2	25.1	23,0	25.6	27,0	19.8
Writing stories, poetry, articles...	22.7	22.9	22.4	31.9	20,0	15.6
Dance (classical, modern, traditional...).	15.9	23.4	8.5	21,0	13.5	12.7
Singing in a choir or musical group	6.1	5.9	6.4	7.8	5,0	5.5
Theatre	4.9	4.5	4.9	6.6	3.7	4.1
Doing bertsolaritza	3.4	3.2	3.6	5.8	2.2	1.9
Another artistic modality (circus...)	4.7	4.1	5.3	4.5	4.6	5,0
ARTISTIC ACTIVITY IN THE LAST YEAR	76.8	79.1	74.5	81.2	77.8	71.2
Source: Basque Youth Observatory (advance data from the report "Basque Youth 2020/2021")						

The evolution of artistic or cultural activities carried out in the last year shows the tremendous impact that smartphone and social media-related activities have on this indicator. While in 2008, 39.8% of young people engaged in one of these cultural or artistic activities, and in 2012 it was still less than half of young people (42.9%), this percentage jumped to 55.1% in 2016 and soared to 76.8% in 2021.

