

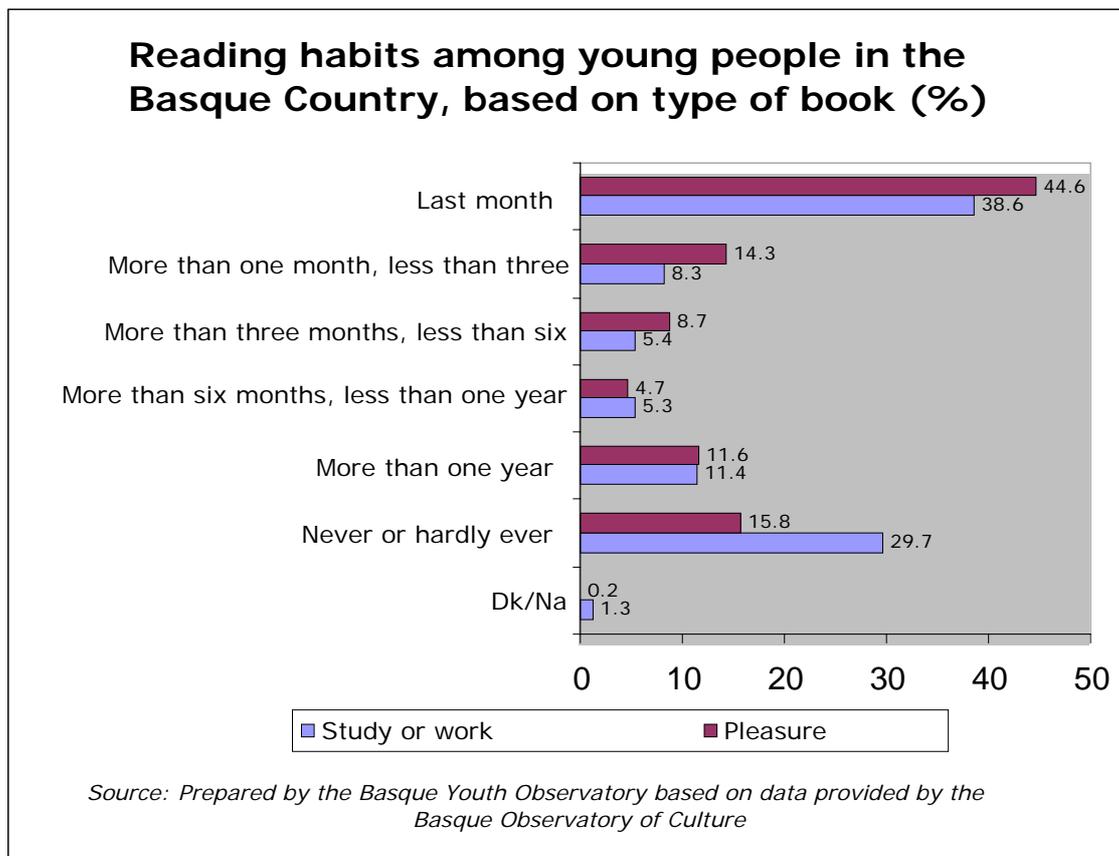
APRIL 23, World Book Day

Almost half of the young people in the Basque Autonomous Region declare they read books regularly for pleasure - girls more than boys

To mark the World Book Day, the [Basque Youth Observatory](#) has analysed some data on reading habits and books referred to young people aged 15 to 29 in the Basque Autonomous Region. These data have been provided by the [Basque Observatory of Culture](#) based on statistics on customs, practices and consumer culture in the Basque Country (2007-2008).

According to these data, 38.6% of young people in the Basque Autonomous Region aged 15 to 29 have read at least one book connected with their jobs or studies in the last month. This percentage differs greatly depending on age, from 59.8% among people under 20 years of age (where nine out of ten are students) to 26.7% in older age groups (25-29).

A higher percentage, 44.6% of youths claim to have read a book for pleasure during the last month. On the other hand, 15.8% declare they never or hardly ever read books for pleasure.

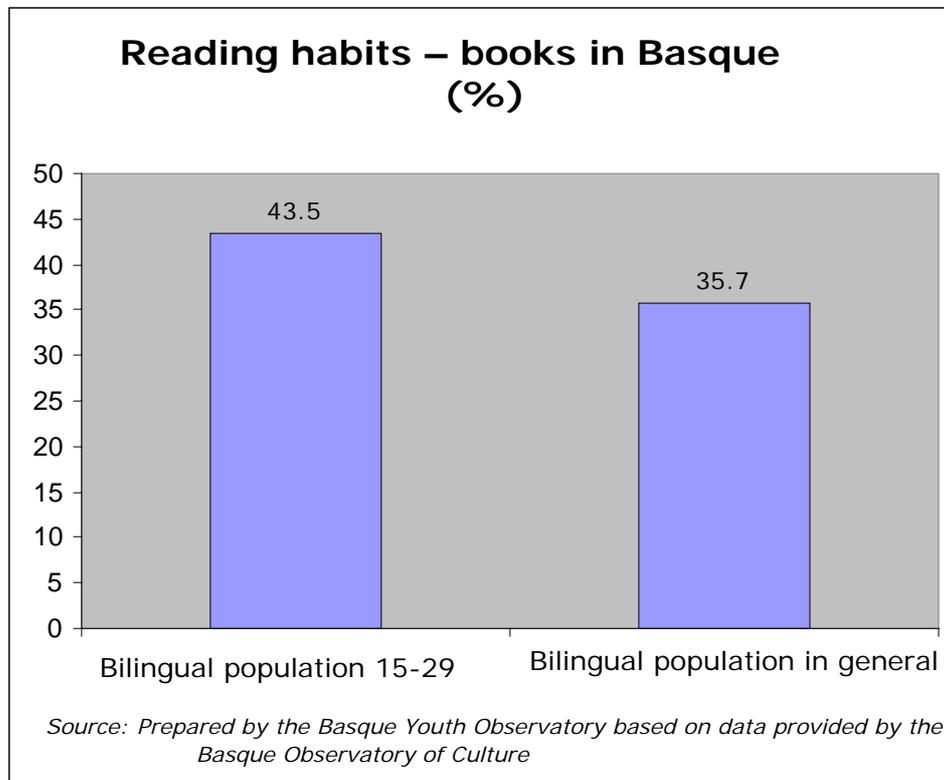


Reading for pleasure is more common among women (49.4%) than men (40.2%). When it comes to reading books related to work or study, there is no gender-based difference.

On the other hand, the proportion of young people who have read a book for pleasure over the last month is the same as that for the population of the Basque Autonomous Region in general (45.7%).

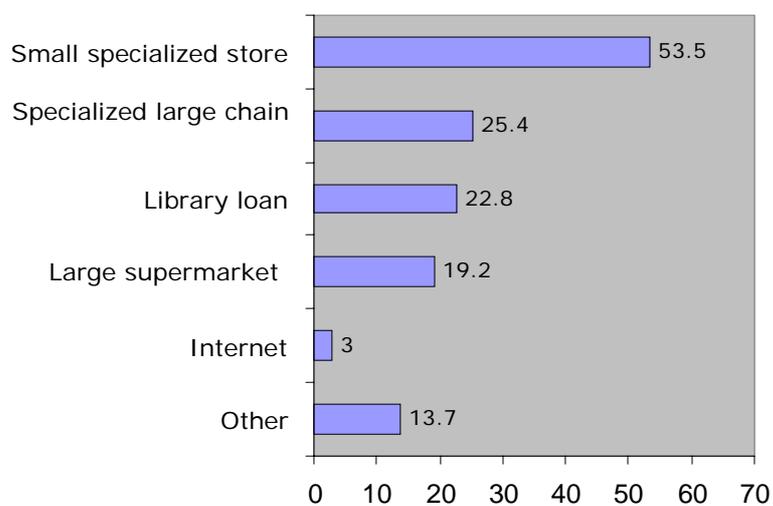
There are no marked differences in relation to the interest displayed in reading books, either. On a scale from 0 to 10, it is about 6.5 in the case of young people and 6.8 for the general population. However, among youth people, there is a difference between men and women. The latter display greater interest (7.0) than the former (6.0).

As for reading books in the Basque language among the bilingual population, we must note that this habit is far more widespread among young bilingual people (43.5%) than among the total bilingual population in the Basque Autonomous Region (35.7%).



Finally, in relation to the acquisition of or access to books, the establishments most frequently used by young readers are small specialised shops (53.5%), followed by large specialised chains (25.4 %) and library loans (22.8%). It should be noted that 3% of young people access books via Internet. This latter resource is more widely used by men than by women.

Places where books are usually acquired (%)



*Source: Prepared by the Basque Youth Observatory based on data provided by the Basque Observatory of Culture.
Base: Young readers.*