



focus

O N S P A N I S H S O C I E T Y

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*Focus on Spanish Society* is published by the Social Studies Office of **Funcas**. The aim of this publication is to depict the Spanish social situation and provide brief insights into some of its most relevant aspects. *Focus on Spanish Society* consists of three sections. The first section, **SPAIN IN EUROPE**, draws attention to recently published statistical data and puts the Spanish case in comparative perspective. The second section, **PUBLIC OPINION TRENDS**, examines in more detail one particular social issue as perceived by the Spanish public and manifested through opinion surveys. Finally, the third section **FOLLOW-UP SOCIAL DATA** presents several social indicators related to demography and families, labour market and education, health and welfare benefits and services.



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## SPAIN IN EUROPE

# Increase in **international university student enrollment**, but still behind European standards

It is well known that Spanish universities are undergoing a process of internationalization, both in terms of faculty and students. The share of foreign faculty in Spain is clearly increasing (2.6% in 2016-2017; 3.4% in 2021-2022),<sup>1</sup> and the same is happening with students. On the one hand, the proportion of Spanish students enrolled abroad is growing, and not only in the framework of mobility programs of short stays, such as Erasmus.<sup>2</sup> On the other hand, international students are increasing their share of enrollment in Spanish universities (Table 1). This is not due to programs which involve short, non-degree-oriented stays at a Spanish

**The proportion of Spanish students studying abroad is growing and international students are increasing their share of enrollment in Spanish universities as well**


**TABLE 1**

Mobile students from abroad enrolled at Spanish on-site universities by type of mobility. 2016-2021 **Percentages over total enrollment**

	Total (*)		Credit mobility (**)		Degree mobility (***)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>2016-2017</b>	109,522	8.3	52,962	4.0	56,560	4.3
<b>2017-2018</b>	120,990	9.0	58,058	4.3	62,932	4.7
<b>2018-2019</b>	125,675	9.3	57,153	4.2	68,522	5.1
<b>2019-2020</b>	129,375	9.5	55,593	4.1	73,782	5.4
<b>2020-2021</b>	91,555	6.6	19,654	1.4	71,901	5.2
<b>2021-2022</b>	135,474	9.7	54,163	3.9	81,311	5.8

(\*) Students enrolled in a Spanish university but habitually living abroad.

(\*\*) Students enrolled abroad, but earning some credits at a Spanish university.

(\*\*\*) Students habitually residing abroad, but enrolled in a Spanish university aiming at getting a degree.

**Source:** Prepared by the Social Studies Office with data from Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades, Movilidad de estudiantes internacionales.

1 Source: Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades, Estudiantes y profesores extranjeros.

2 In the 2016-2017 academic year, students who studied abroad with a mobility program accounted for 3.1% of total enrollment in on-site universities, a figure that stood at 3.5% in the 2021-2022 academic year. Source: Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades, Movilidad de estudiantes internacionales.

**It would take more than 20 years for the share of mobile students from abroad in Spain to reach the current European Union average**

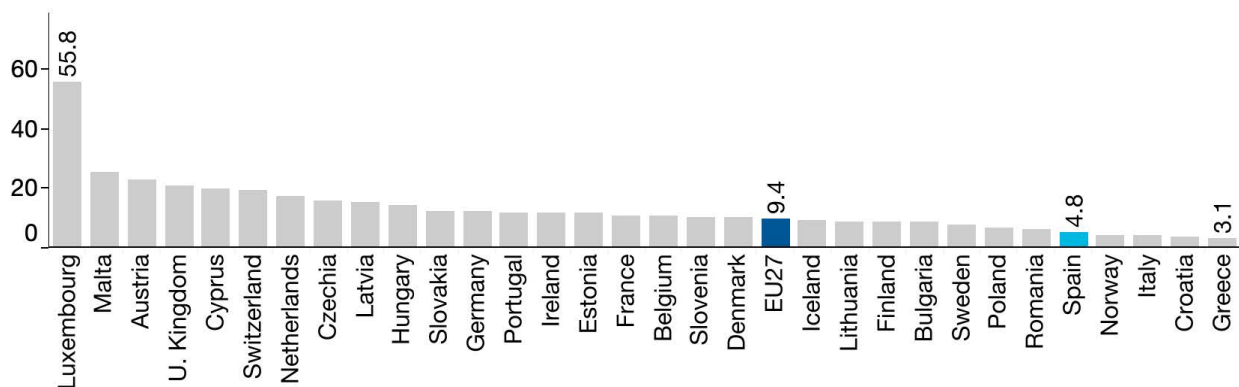
university (“credit mobility”), but to the growth in the share of so called “degree mobility”, which represented 5.8% of enrollment in on-site universities in the 2021-2022 academic year, 2.5 percentage points more than in the 2016-2017.

In spite of the growing share of foreign students with regular enrollment, Spain still lags behind the European Union average. According to Eurostat data,<sup>3</sup> in 2022, degree mobility students in Spain represented 4.8% of total university enrollment in Spain, nearly half the EU27 average (9.4%) (Figure 1) and in any case significantly lower than those of large (and high per capita) countries such as Germany (12%) and France (10.6%) or, outside the EU, the United Kingdom (20.9% in 2019). But the Spanish share is also lower than those registered by smaller and less wealthy countries such as Portugal (11.8%) or Hungary (14.3%). As stated previously, the Spanish figure was 4.8% in 2022, up from 3.8% in 2017<sup>4</sup>. If the linear trend for the 2017-2022 period were maintained (+0.2 points per year), it would take more than 20 years for the share of mobile students from abroad to reach the current European Union average, although the trend implicit in the data in Table 2 points to a somewhat shorter path.



**FIGURE 1**

Mobile students from abroad (\*)  
European countries and United Kingdom, 2022. **Percentage of total university students**



(\*) Data refer to the following levels of tertiary education: Bachelor, Master’s or Doctoral, and their equivalents. (\*\*) Data for 2019.

Source: prepared by the Social Studies Office of Funcas with data from Eurostat, Mobile students from abroad enrolled by education level, sex and field of education [educ\_uae\_mobs01] and Students enrolled in tertiary education by education level, programme orientation, sex, type of institution and intensity of participation [educ\_uae\_enrt01].

- 3 Eurostat statistics on “mobile students from abroad” collect data on regular enrollment, excluding credit mobility. By selecting the categories of tertiary education more akin to university education (bachelor’s or equivalent level, master’s or equivalent level and doctoral or equivalent level), it is possible to calculate the weight of international students in the university enrollment of many European countries.
- 4 Differences between these figures and those presented in Table 1 are due to the fact that they refer to total enrollment, not just to on-site enrollment.



TABLE 2

Mobile students from abroad enrolled by continent of origin and country of destination (\*)  
European countries, 2022. Percentages

Europe		Africa		Northern America		Caribbean, Central and South America	
U.K.	17.0	France	47.1	U.K.	41.2	<b>Spain</b>	<b>30.2</b>
Germany	15.3	Germany	14.8	Germany	15.2	Germany	16.6
Netherlands	9.5	U.K.	10.1	Ireland	7.2	Portugal	13.8
Austria	7.7	Portugal	6.1	France	6.3	France	12.1
Poland	6.0	Italy	4.2	<b>Spain</b>	<b>3.7</b>	U.K.	7.9
Switzerland	4.9	Belgium	3.3	Netherlands	3.6	Italy	7.0
France	4.4	Poland	3.0	Switzerland	3.4	Netherlands	2.2
Czechia	4.4	<b>Spain</b>	<b>1.8</b>	Italy	2.9	Switzerland	2.1
Belgium	3.5	Hungary	1.6	Poland	2.2	Belgium	1.3
<b>Spain</b>	<b>3.3</b>	Romania	1.1	Austria	1.9	Austria	1.0
Rest	24.0	Rest	6.8	Rest	12.4	Rest	5.7
<b>Number</b>	<b>826,430</b>		<b>223,395</b>		<b>58,495</b>		<b>105,222</b>

Asia		World total except for the reporting country		Population	
U.K.	38.6	U.K.	21.9	Germany	15.8
Germany	24.2	Germany	18.5	France	12.9
France	8.2	France	11.4	U.K.	12.8
Italy	4.7	Netherlands	7.3	Italy	11.2
Netherlands	2.7	Poland	4.2	<b>Spain</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Hungary	2.5	Italy	4.1	Poland	7.0
Poland	2.3	<b>Spain</b>	<b>3.9</b>	Romania	3.6
Ireland	1.9	Austria	3.8	Netherlands	3.3
Finland	1.7	Switzerland	3.0	Belgium	2.2
Sweden	1.6	Belgium	2.5	Czechia	2.0
Rest (including <b>Spain</b> )	11.5	Rest	19.4	Rest	20.3
<b>Number</b>	<b>569,704</b>		<b>1,889,534</b>		<b>528,013,272</b>

(\*) Percentage of mobile students from each of the continents enrolled in a destination country. Only the first ten countries are included. UK data is for 2019.

Prepared by the Social Studies Office of Funcas with data from Eurostat, Mobile students from abroad enrolled by education level, sex and country of origin [educ\_uae\_mobs02]; Eurostat, Population on 1 January by age and sex [demo\_pjan]; and Office for National Statistics, Estimates of the population for the UK, England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

Given the low percentage of mobile students in Spain, it can be stated that the international attractiveness of Spanish universities is comparatively low. When focusing on all mobile students from abroad enrolling in European universities in the countries represented in **Figure 1** by continent of origin, we see that of all those students from another European country or from the rest of the world, Spain welcomed 3.9% in 2022, clearly below its demographic weight in the group of European countries considered (9%)<sup>5</sup>. This gap is even greater for the 826,000 mobile students of European origin (3.3%) and, especially, for the 570,000 Asians (1.3%). Thus, Spanish universities are not very successful

**The international attractiveness of Spanish universities is comparatively low**

<sup>5</sup> Given the relevance of the UK as a destination for international students, the sum includes data from the UK, corresponding to 2019. Surely, if we had comparable data for 2022 the UK destination figures would be lower, due to Brexit, especially for students of European origin. But it serves as an approximation.

in catering to European and Asian students. True, as expected, Spain is the unquestionable leader, with 30.2%, in welcoming Latin American students. Yet, they only amount to 105,000, barely an eighth of the European students and a fifth of the Asian. Increasing the presence of international students in the Spanish universities requires improving their institutional and academic leverage among European and Asian publics.



## Universal healthcare access in Spain: **More socially inclusive** than in other EU countries (except for dental care)

**Spain fell below the European average of people reporting unmet needs for medical examination or treatment**

In today's European societies, universal healthcare access is widely regarded as an expected standard. However, in 2023 many people living in the European Union still reported unmet needs for medical examination or treatment. Although a small minority throughout the EU as a whole (3.8%), they represented a non-negligible proportion of the population in certain countries. In Estonia, Greece, Denmark, and Latvia, more than one in ten people reported being unable to meet their healthcare needs (**Figure 1**). Countries with the lowest proportions of individuals reporting unmet healthcare needs include Cyprus, Malta, Germany, and Austria. With 3.1%, Spain fell below the European average (3.8%), a percentage which represents ca. 1.3 million people aged 16 and over.

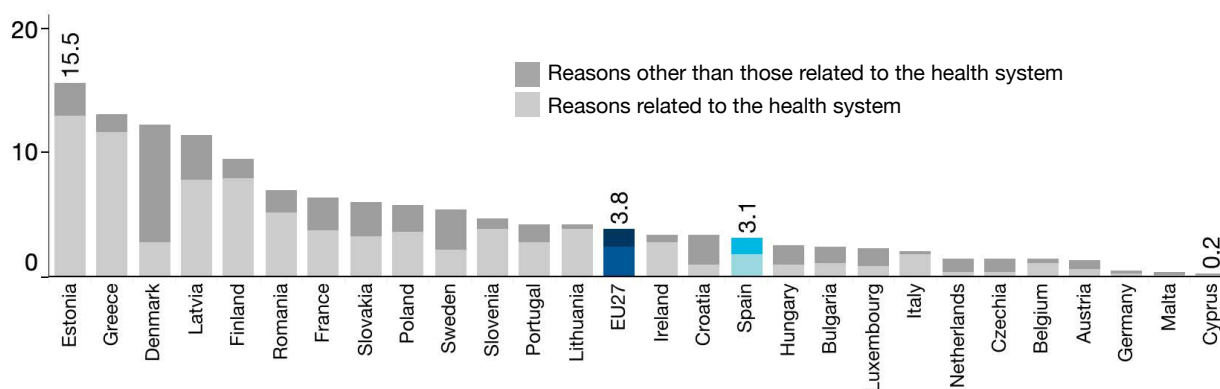
Some of the reasons behind unmet healthcare needs may be related to the healthcare system. In countries like Estonia, Greece, and Latvia, most individuals reporting unmet needs cited healthcare system-related barriers, mostly high cost or long waiting lists (**Table 1**). By contrast, in Denmark, a notable proportion of individuals reported that they chose to wait and observe if their health issues improved on their own. In Spain, the primary reason cited for unmet healthcare needs was long waiting lists (52%), 20 percentage points above the European average (32%) while very few individuals mentioned high costs (6%), which is remarkably below the European average of 26%.



FIGURE 1

### Unmet needs for medical examination or treatment, by reason

Population aged 16 or over, 2023. Percentage



Source: Eurostat [hlth\_silc\_08].



TABLE 1

### Reason reporting unmet needs for medical examination or treatment

Population age 16 or over reporting unmet needs for medical examination or treatment.

	Reasons related to the health system			Reasons other than those related to the health system				
	Too expensive	Too far to travel	Waiting list	No time	Didn't know any good doctor or specialist	Fear of doctor, hospital, examination or treatment	Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own	Other
<b>EU</b>	26.3	2.6	31.6	7.9	2.6	2.6	10.5	13.2
<b>Estonia</b>	2.6	3.2	77.4	1.9	1.9	0.0	1.3	11.0
<b>Greece</b>	71.8	6.1	10.7	6.1	0.0	3.1	1.5	0.8
<b>Denmark</b>	3.3	1.6	18.0	9.8	3.3	6.6	35.2	23.0
<b>Latvia</b>	22.8	3.5	41.2	3.5	2.6	1.8	14.9	8.8
<b>Spain</b>	6.5	0.0	51.6	6.5	0.0	0.0	6.5	29.0

Source: Eurostat [hlth\_silc\_08].

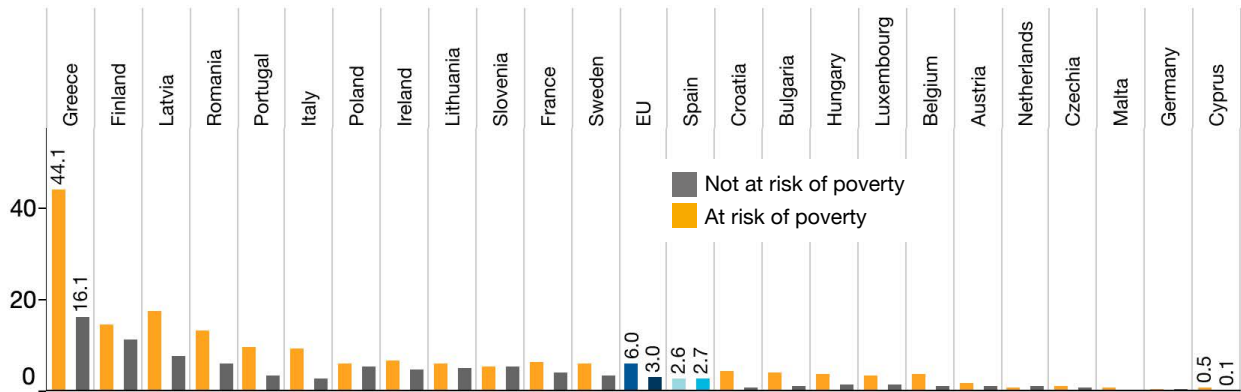
Economic capacity plays a crucial role in determining individuals' ability to avoid healthcare access obstacles due to high cost, travel distances or waiting lists. In the European Union, people at risk of poverty with healthcare needs face twice the rate of these kind of unmet healthcare needs (6%) compared to the rest of the population (Figure 2). Spain is one of the few exceptions to this pattern, showing no noteworthy disparity in unmet needs between those at risk of poverty and others. In contrast, Greece demonstrates a pronounced inequality: 44% of people at risk of poverty with healthcare needs report those needs as unmet, a rate far exceeding even the high 16% reported by the rest of the population. Latvia has the second-highest percentage of people at risk of

**In the European Union, people at risk of poverty face twice the rate of these kind of unmet healthcare needs compared to the rest of the population**



FIGURE 2

Unmet needs for medical examination or treatment due to being too expensive, too far to travel or waiting lists, **by risk of poverty**  
 Population aged 16 or over reporting needs, 2023. **Percentage**

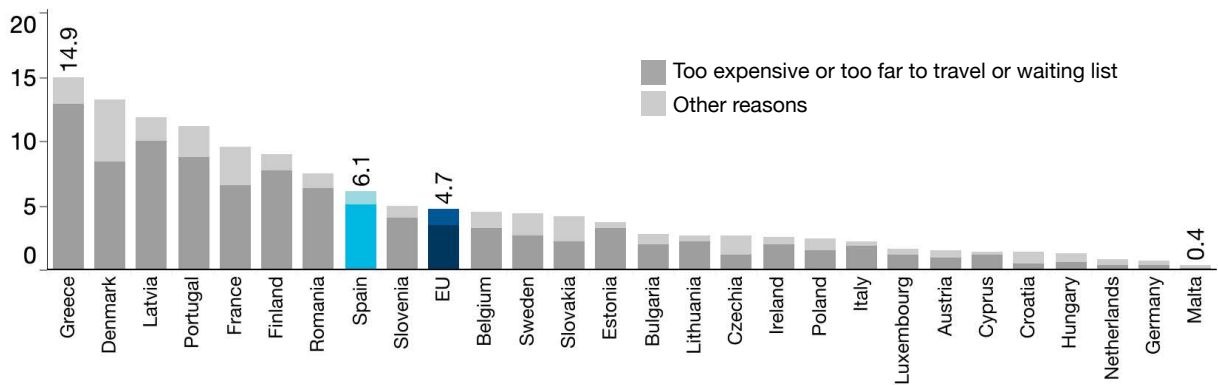


(\*) Estimates.  
 Source: Eurostat [hlth\_silc\_08].



FIGURE 3

Unmet needs for dental examination, **by reasons**  
 Population aged 16 or over, 2023. **Percentage**



(\*) Estimates.  
 Source: Eurostat [hlth\_silc\_08].

poverty with healthcare needs reporting them as unmet for reasons related to the health system (18%).

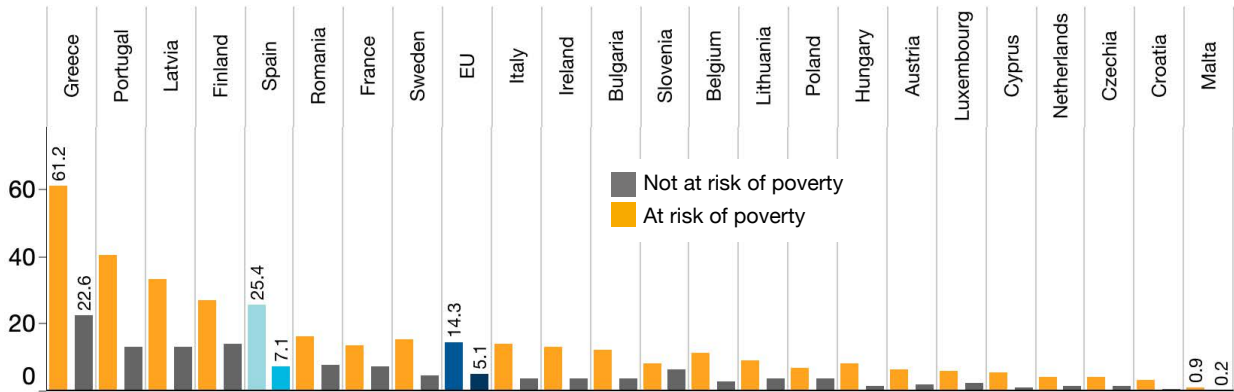
Spain occupies a different relative position when it comes to unmet dental care needs, with a rate above the European average (6.1% compared to 4.7%) (Figure 3). Greece, Denmark, and Latvia once again stand out, alongside Portugal, with the highest percentages of individuals reporting unmet





**FIGURE 4**

Unmet needs for dental examination or treatment due to being too expensive, too far to travel or waiting lists, **by risk of poverty**  
 Population aged 16 or over reporting needs, 2023. **Percentage**



Source: Eurostat [hlth\_silc\_08].

dental needs, each exceeding 11%. Conversely, Malta, Germany, and the Netherlands report the lowest rates, with less than 1% of their populations experiencing unmet dental care needs. Economic resources play an even more significant role in unmet dental care needs, as this type of care is less frequently covered by public or private insurances. Across the EU, people at risk of poverty who need dental care report unmet needs at nearly three times the rate of the rest of the population (14.3% vs. 5.1%) (Figure 4). In Spain, the disparity is even more pronounced: 25.4% of individuals at risk of poverty with dental care needs report them as unmet, compared to just 7.1% among the rest of the population—a gap of 3.5 times.

**Economic resources play a significant role in unmet dental care needs, as this type of care is less frequently covered by public or private insurances**





## PUBLIC OPINION TRENDS

### Falling satisfaction with healthcare

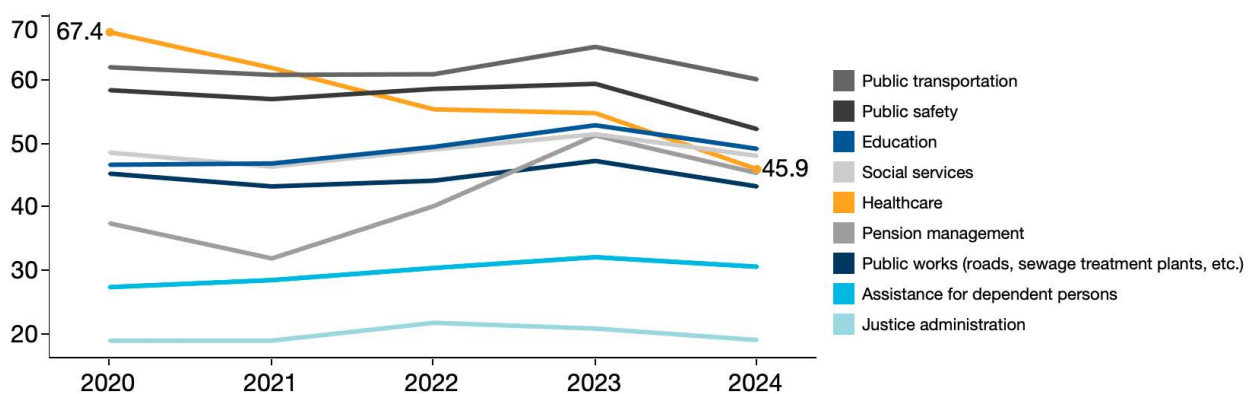
Satisfaction with healthcare has not stopped falling since the pandemic among the Spanish population, as shown by the “Public opinion and fiscal policy” surveys carried out by the Spanish Center for Sociological Research every July since 2020. In this year, two thirds of the population aged 18 and over said that healthcare worked “very” or “fairly satisfactorily”. In fact, in 2020 and 2021, the two most critical years of the pandemic, healthcare appeared as the most satisfactorily rated public service (of all those asked about in the survey). In 2024 it ranks fifth, after “public transport”, “public safety”, “social services” and “education”. Healthcare is in fact the public service that has experienced the greatest change in rating during this five-year period (Figure 1).

**Satisfaction with healthcare has not stopped falling since the pandemic among the Spanish population**



FIGURE 1

Appraisal of public services: Very or fairly satisfactory performance 2020-2024. Percentage



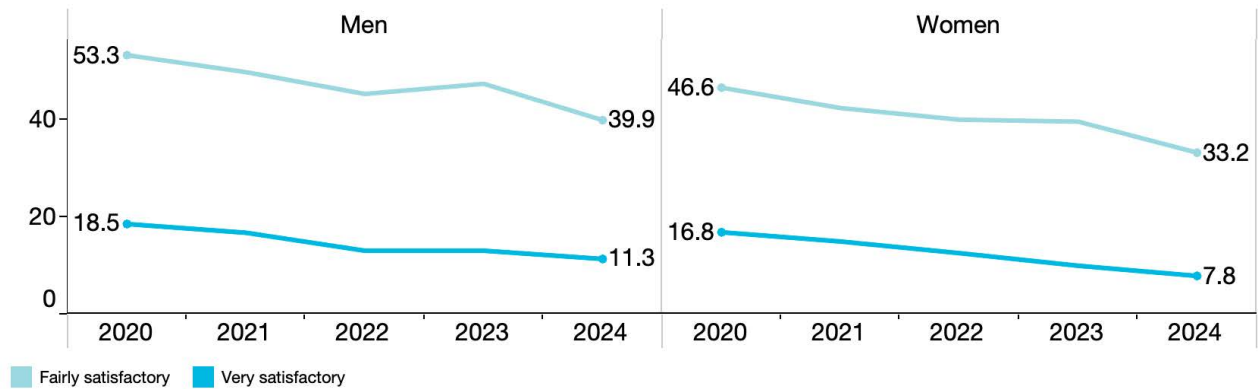
**Question:** To what extent would you say each of the following public services does function very satisfactorily, fairly satisfactorily, not very satisfactorily or not at all satisfactorily?

**Source:** Center for Sociological Research (CIS), “Public opinion and fiscal policy” surveys, 2020-2024 ([www.cis.es](http://www.cis.es)).



**FIGURE 2**

Appraisal of healthcare: Very or fairly satisfactory performance, **by gender**  
2020-2024. **Percentage**



**Question:** To what extent would you say each of the following public services does function very satisfactorily, fairly satisfactorily, not very satisfactorily or not at all satisfactorily?

**Source:** Center for Sociological Research (CIS), “Public opinion and fiscal policy” surveys, 2020-2024 ([www.cis.es](http://www.cis.es)).

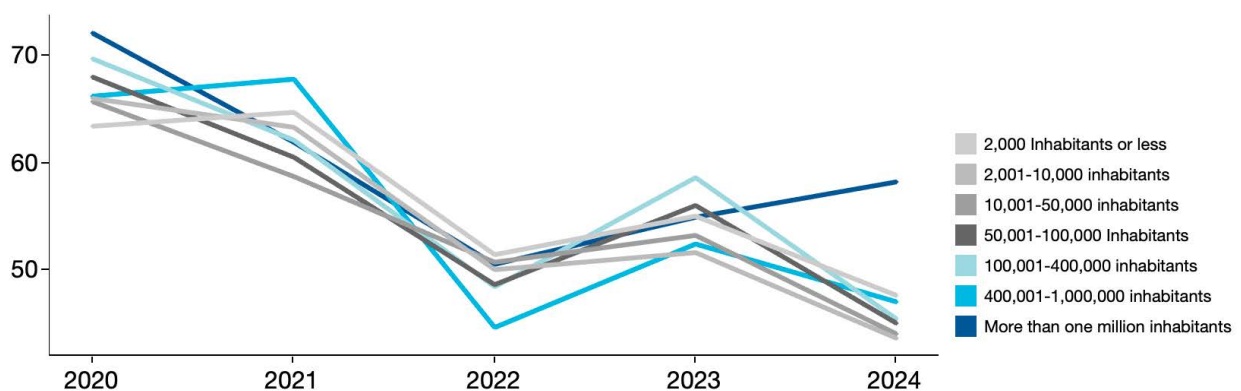
The decline in the evaluation of the performance of healthcare is evident among both men and women: the former invariably rate this service better than the latter, but among both men and women satisfaction with healthcare has dropped significantly (Figure 2).

Interestingly, healthcare is rated more positively in municipalities with more than one million people (i.e., Madrid and Barcelona) than in smaller cities and



**FIGURE 3**

Appraisal of healthcare: Very or fairly satisfactory performance, **by size of municipality of residence**  
2020-2024. **Percentage**



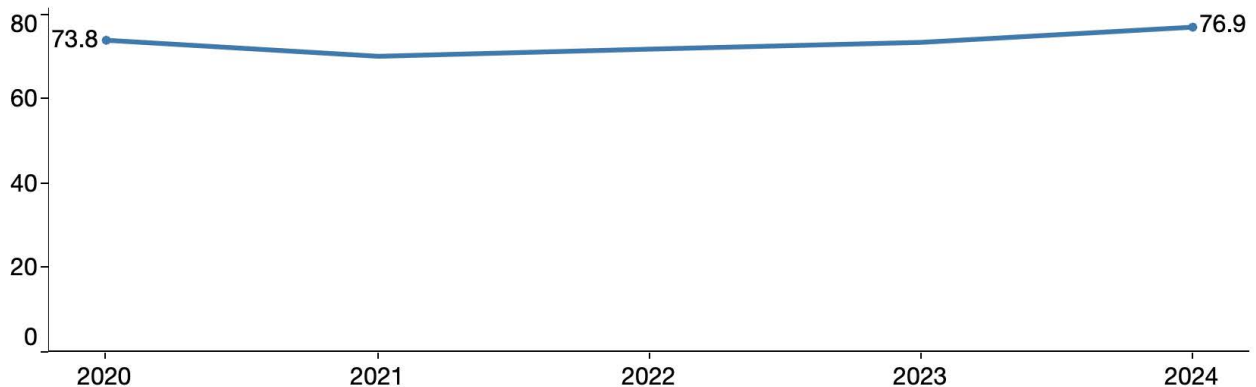
**Question:** To what extent would you say each of the following public services does function very satisfactorily, fairly satisfactorily, not very satisfactorily or not at all satisfactorily?

**Source:** Center for Sociological Research (CIS), “Public opinion and fiscal policy” surveys, 2020-2024 ([www.cis.es](http://www.cis.es)).



FIGURE 4

People thinking that public resources for healthcare are too few  
2020-2024. **Percentage**



**Question:** As you know, the different public administrations allocate the money we pay in taxes in Spain to finance the public services and benefits. Please tell me if you think too many, the necessary amount, or too few resources are allocated to each of the services I am going to mention.

**Source:** Center for Sociological Research (CIS), “Public opinion and fiscal policy” surveys, 2020-2024 ([www.cis.es](http://www.cis.es)).

in towns. However, in all municipalities, large and small, appraisal of healthcare performance has dropped (**Figure 3**). In line with this evidence, in 2024 the proportion of people who consider that too few resources are allocated to healthcare has reached the highest value since 2020, approaching four fifths of survey respondents (77%), a proportion only outstripped by “housing” and “research in science and technology” (80% in both items) (**Figure 4**).

In any case, even in years when healthcare ranked first in the list of highly praised public services, the percentage of people criticizing its underfinancing never fell below 70%. This very high level of demand for more healthcare funding in Spain signals the existence of financial bottlenecks and inefficiencies that have been identified by experts. They have emphasized the need for adequate funding and financing strategies and approaches to ensure the long-term sustainability of Spain’s health system as well as a fair distribution of resources given its decentralised structure. These financial claims notwithstanding, experts also hint to necessary improvements in service organization, management practices and regulation of health-care demand<sup>1</sup>.

**Even in years when healthcare ranked first in the list of highly praised public services, the percentage of people criticizing its underfinancing never fell below 70%**

<sup>1</sup> See, for example, [Legido-Quigley, H., Berrojalbiz, I., Franco, M. et al. \(2024\)](#), Towards an equitable people-centred health system for Spain, *The Lancet*, 403, 10424: 335-337.





## FOLLOW UP SOCIAL DATA



### POPULATION

#### Population, life expectancy and dependency

	Total population	Average age	67 and older (%)	Life expectancy at birth (men)	Life expectancy at birth (women)	Life expectancy at 65 (men)	Life expectancy at 65 (women)	Dependency rate (older than 66)	Dependency rate
2013	46,712,650	41.8	15.7	79.9	85.5	18.9	22.8	23.0	46.6
2014	46,495,744	42.2	16.0	80.1	85.6	19.0	22.9	23.6	47.3
2015	46,425,722	42.5	16.3	79.9	85.4	18.8	22.6	24.1	47.9
2016	46,418,884	42.7	16.6	80.3	85.8	19.1	23.0	24.7	48.5
2017	46,497,393	43.0	16.9	80.3	85.7	19.1	23.0	25.1	48.9
2018	46,645,070	43.2	17.0	80.4	85.8	19.2	23.0	25.4	49.0
2019	46,918,951	43.4	17.2	80.8	86.2	19.4	23.4	25.5	48.9
2020	47,318,050	43.6	17.3	79.5	85.0	18.3	22.3	25.8	48.8
2021	47,400,798	43.8	17.5	80.2	85.8	18.9	23.1	26.0	48.5
2022	47,486,727	44.1	17.7	80.4	85.7	19.1	23.0	26.3	48.5
2023	48,085,361	44.2	17.8					26.4	48.1
2024	48,630,010		18.0					28.4	47.8
Source	ECP	IDB	ECP	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB	ECP	ECP

#### Migration

	Foreign population (%)	Foreign-born population (%)	Foreign-born with Spanish nationality (% over total foreign born)	Immigration	Emigration
2013	10.8	13.2	24.7	280,772	532,303
2014	10.1	12.8	28.7	305,454	400,430
2015	9.6	12.7	31.8	342,114	343,875
2016	9.5	12.7	33.0	414,746	327,325
2017	9.5	12.9	34.4	532,132	368,860
2018	9.8	13.3	34.2	643,684	309,526
2019	10.3	14.0	33.8	750,480	296,248
2020	11.1	14.8	32.9	467,918	248,561
2021	11.4	15.3	33.1	887,960 <sup>1</sup>	696,866 <sup>1</sup>
2022	11.6	15.7	33.6	1,258,894	531,889
2023	12.7	17.1	32.2		
2024 <sup>1</sup>	13.4	18.1			
Source	ECP	ECP	ECP	EMCR and EM*	EMCR and EM*

ECP: Estadística Continua de Población. IDB: Indicadores Demográficos Básicos. EM: Estadística de Migraciones. EMCR: Estadística de Migraciones y Cambios de Residencia

<sup>1</sup> Break in the series.

\* Estadística de Migraciones y Cambios de Residencia (2021 onwards), Estadística de Migraciones (up to 2020). Series not comparable.

**Dependency rate:** (15 or less years old population + 67 or more years old population) / 16-66 years old population, as a percentage. **Dependency rate (older than 66):** 67 or more years old population / 16-67 years old population, as a percentage.



## HOUSEHOLDS &amp; FAMILIES

## Households

	Households (thousands)	Average household size	Households with one person younger than 65 (%)	Households with one person older than 65 (%)	Single-parent households (%)	Emancipation rate 25-29 years old (%)
2013	18,212	2.54	13.9	10.3	8.1	50.8
2014	18,329	2.52	14.2	10.6	8.2	50.4
2015	18,376	2.51	14.6	10.7	8.2	48.2
2016	18,444	2.50	14.6	10.9	8.3	47.2
2017	18,513	2.49	14.2	11.4	8.6	46.1
2018	18,581	2.49	14.3	11.5	8.3	46.1
2019	18,697	2.49	14.9	11.2	9.0	45.9
2020	18,794	2.49	15.0	11.4	9.1	43.2
2021	18,746	2.51	15.6	11.0	9.0	37.9
2022	19,078	2.49	15.4	11.7	8.8	40.4
2023	19,369	2.48	16.4	12.0	8.4	42.5
2024	19,518 <sup>1</sup>	2.48 <sup>1</sup>				42.0
Source	EPA	EPA	EPF	EPF	EPF	EPA

EPF: Encuesta de Presupuestos Familiares. EPA: Encuesta de Población Activa.

<sup>1</sup> Data refer to January-September.

**Note:** The EPA data from 2021 onwards are calculated using a new population base. The EPF data in 2023 are not strictly comparable with previous ones, as they are based on new population estimates.

**Single-parent households (%):** One adult with a child /children

**Emancipation rate 25-29 years old (%):** Percentage of persons (25-29 years old) living in households in which they are not children of the reference person.

## Nuptiality &amp; divorces

	Marriages per inhabitant	Marriages per inhabitant (Spanish)	Marriages per inhabitant (foreigners)	First marriages over total marriages (%)	Mean age at first marriage, (men)	Mean age at first marriage, (women)	Same sex marriages, (men) (%)	Same sex marriages, (women) (%)	Mixed marriages (%)	Divorces per inhabitant
2013	0.46	0.49	0.34	84.3	34.3	32.2	1.07	0.93	15.0	0.28
2014	0.49	0.52	0.34	84.3	34.4	32.3	1.05	1.00	13.7	0.29
2015	0.52	0.55	0.34	83.7	34.8	32.7	1.17	1.10	13.1	0.28
2016	0.54	0.58	0.37	83.1	35.1	32.9	1.28	1.25	13.2	0.28
2017	0.55	0.58	0.38	82.4	35.3	33.2	1.37	1.37	14.0	0.29
2018	0.53	0.57	0.36	81.5	35.6	33.4	1.45	1.54	14.2	0.28
2019	0.53	0.57	0.37	80.5	36.0	33.9	1.54	1.64	15.1	0.27
2020	0.28	0.30	0.22	76.6	37.1	34.9	1.72	1.93	17.3	0.23
2021	0.47	0.52	0.30	80.4	36.8	34.6	1.54	2.00	14.8	0.25
2022	0.58	0.63	0.37	81.4	36.7	34.6	1.65	1.96	15.3	0.24
Source	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB	MNP	MNP	MNP	IDB

IDB: Indicadores Demográficos Básicos. MNP: Movimiento Natural de la Población.

**Marriages per inhabitant:** Average number of times an individual would marry in his or her lifetime, if the same age-specific nuptiality intensity were to be maintained as observed in the current year. **Mixed marriage:** Marriage of a Spaniard to a foreigner. **Divorces per inhabitant:** Average number of times an individual would divorce in his or her lifetime, if the same intensity of divorce by age as observed in the current year were to be maintained.





## HOUSEHOLDS &amp; FAMILIES

## Fertility (I)

	Mean age at first child, women	Mean age at first child, Spanish women	Mean age at first child, foreign women	Total fertility rate	Total fertility rate (Spanish women)	Total fertility rate (foreign women)
2013	30.4	31.0	27.3	1.27	1.23	1.52
2014	30.6	31.1	27.5	1.32	1.27	1.61
2015	30.7	31.2	27.6	1.33	1.28	1.65
2016	30.8	31.3	27.6	1.33	1.28	1.71
2017	30.9	31.5	27.6	1.31	1.25	1.70
2018	31.0	31.6	27.8	1.26	1.20	1.64
2019	31.1	31.7	28.1	1.23	1.17	1.58
2020	31.2	31.8	28.3	1.18	1.13	1.45
2021	31.5	32.1	28.8	1.18	1.15	1.35
2022	31.6	32.2	28.5	1.16	1.12	1.35
Source	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB	IDB

## Fertility (II)

	Births to non married mothers (%)	Births to non married Spanish mothers (%)	Births to non married foreign mothers (%)	Abortion rate (voluntary abortions / female population, 15-44 years old x 1,000)	Abortion by Spanish-born women (%)
2013	40.9	41.0	40.2	11.7	62.2
2014	42.5	43.1	39.7	10.5	63.3
2015	44.5	45.5	39.6	10.4	63.9
2016	45.9	47.0	40.7	10.4	64.5
2017	46.8	48.1	41.1	10.5	64.6
2018	47.3	48.9	41.2	11.1	63.7
2019	48.4	50.1	42.4	11.5	62.6
2020	47.6	50.0	39.3	10.3	64.1
2021	49.3	52.0	39.2	10.7	65.1
2022	50.1	53.1	40.3	11.7	66.7
2023				12.2	63.1
Source	IDB	IDB	IDB	MS	MS

IDB: Indicadores Demográficos Básicos. MS: Ministerio Sanidad.

**Total fertility rate:** Average number of children a woman would have during her childbearing life if she were to maintain the same age-specific fertility intensity as observed in the current year.



**EDUCATION**

Educational attainment

	Population 25 years and older with primary education (%)	Population 25 years and older with tertiary education (%)	Population 25-34 years old with primary education (%)	Population 25-34 years old with tertiary education (%)
2013	28.6	28.2	7.6	41.1
2014	26.3	29.0	6.8	41.5
2015	25.2	29.3	7.3	41.0
2016	24.2	29.8	7.2	41.0
2017	23.2	30.4	6.7	42.6
2018	22.3	31.1	6.3	44.3
2019	20.9	32.3	5.8	46.5
2020	19.2	33.4	5.5	47.4
2021	18.4	34.1	5.6	48.5
2022	18.0	34.4	5.6	50.2
2023	17.8	34.9	5.3	52.0
2024 <sup>1</sup>	17.2	35.4	5.1	52.7
Source	EPA	EPA	EPA	EPA

Educational enrollment ratios

	Gross enrollment rate in pre-primary education, first cycle	Gross enrollment rate in upper secondary education (general)	Gross enrollment rate in upper secondary education (vocational)	Gross enrollment rate in tertiary education (vocational)	Gross enrollment rate in tertiary education (university: undergraduate and postgraduate)
2013	31.9	81.3	39.1	37.1	46.5
2014	33.0	81.5	41.0	40.6	47.6
2015	34.2	80.7	41.5	41.7	47.4
2016	35.1	80.2	40.3	41.0	47.4
2017	36.7	76.9	38.5	43.6	47.7
2018	38.5	74.3	37.8	45.1	47.6
2019	39.9	72.5	38.1	44.9	47.1
2020	41.3	71.0	38.8	47.3	46.7
2021	36.0	70.4	41.1	53.6	47.6
2022	42.0	69.5	42.3	54.6	47.3
2023	46.0	67.1	42.6	55.4	46.1
2024 <sup>1</sup>	47.6*	65.8*	43.3*	57.2*	45.6
Source	MEFPD and ECP	MEFPD and ECP	MEFPD and ECP	MEFPD and ECP	MU and ECP



## EDUCATION

### Educational outcomes and expenditure

	Graduation rate in 4-year university degrees (%)	Drop-out rate in undergraduate studies (%)	Early school leavers from education and training (%)	Public expenditure (%GDP)	Private expenditure (%GDP)	Private expenditure (% total expenditure in education)
2013	48.6	33.9	23.6	4.38	1.42	25.1
2014	50.2	33.2	21.9	4.31	1.41	25.5
2015	51.8	33.2	20.0	4.29	1.37	24.9
2016	52.8	33.2	19.0	4.24	1.35	24.9
2017	53.4	31.7	18.3	4.22	1.31	24.5
2018			17.9	4.18	1.34	25.0
2019			17.3	4.24	1.32	24.4
2020			16.0	4.89	1.45	23.4
2021			13.3	4.84	1.29	21.6
2022			13.9	4.62		
2023			13.7			
Source	MU	MU	MEFPD	MEFPD	OECD	OECD

EPA: Encuesta de Población Activa. MEFPD: Ministerio de Educación, Formación Profesional y Deporte. ECP: Estadística Continua de Población. MU: Ministerio de Universidades. OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

<sup>1</sup> Data refer to January-September. (\*) Provisional data.

**Note:** The EPA data from 2021 onwards are calculated using a new population base.

**Gross enrollment rate in pre-primary education, first cycle:** Enrolled in early childhood education as a percentage of the population aged 0 to 2 years. **Gross enrollment rate in upper secondary education (general):** General secondary enrollment (Bachillerato) as a percentage of the population aged 16 to 17. **Gross enrollment rate in upper secondary education (vocational):** On-site and distance learning enrollment. Enrolled in intermediate level training cycles (Ciclos Formativos de Grado Medio) as a percentage of the population aged 16 to 17. **Gross enrollment rate in tertiary education (vocational):** On-site and distance learning enrolment. Enrolled in higher level training cycles (Ciclos Formativos de Grado Superior) as a percentage of the population aged 18 to 19. **Gross enrollment rate in tertiary education (university; undergraduate or postgraduate studies):** Enrolled in official bachelor's or master's degrees as a percentage of the population aged 18 to 24. **Graduation rate in 4-year university degrees (%):** Percentage of students who complete the degree in the theoretical time foreseen or in one additional academic year. **Drop-out rate in undergraduate studies (%):** New entrants in an academic year who stop studying in one of the following 3 years. **Early school leavers from education and training (%):** Percentage of the population aged 18-24 who have not completed upper secondary education and are not in any form of education or training.



## LABOUR MARKET

### Employment

	Employed population (thousands)	Unemployed population (thousands)	Employment rate (men)	Employment rate (women)	Unemployment rate (men)	Employment rate (women)
2013	17,139	6,051	60.1	51.0	25.6	26.7
2014	17,344	5,610	61.6	52.0	23.6	25.4
2015	17,866	5,056	64.0	53.4	20.8	23.5
2016	18,342	4,481	65.8	55.1	18.1	21.4
2017	18,825	3,917	67.6	56.5	15.7	19.0
2018	19,328	3,479	69.0	57.8	13.7	17.0
2019	19,779	3,248	69.9	58.8	12.4	16.0
2020	19,202	3,531	67.3	56.6	13.9	17.4
2021	19,834	3,476	68.7	58.6	13.2	16.8
2022	20,548	3,079	70.5	60.2	11.4	14.9
2023	21,182	2,938	71.3	62.0	10.7	13.9
2024 <sup>1</sup>	21,586	2,829	71.7	62.5	10.4	13.0
Source	EPA	EPA	EPA	EPA	EPA	EPA



## LABOUR MARKET

### Public employment, temporary contracts & part-time employment

	Public employees (% total employed)	Employees with temporary contracts, private sector (% total employees)	Employees with temporary contracts, public sector (% total employees)	Part-time employed (%)
2013	17.1	24.1	19.6	15.8
2014	16.9	25.0	20.2	15.9
2015	16.7	26.0	21.6	15.7
2016	16.4	26.9	22.5	15.2
2017	16.1	27.4	23.7	15.0
2018	16.3	27.1	25.4	14.6
2019	16.3	25.9	27.7	14.6
2020	17.2	23.0	28.1	14.0
2021	17.3	23.7	31.2	13.9
2022	16.9	23.7	31.2	13.6
2023	16.6	18.8	31.6	13.3
2024 <sup>1</sup>	16.6	14.0	30.6	13.4
Source	EPA	EPA	EPA	EPA

EPA: Encuesta de Población Activa.

<sup>1</sup> Data refer to January-September.

Note: The EPA data from 2021 onwards are calculated using a new population base. Employment rate calculated for the 16-64 population. Unemployment rate calculated over the active population (16 and more).



## INEQUALITY & POVERTY

### Inequality & poverty

	Gini index of equivalised disposable income	At-risk-of-poverty rate (%)	At-risk-of-poverty rate, 2008 fixed threshold (%)	Severe material deprivation (%)
2013	34.7	22.2	30.9	6.2
2014	34.6	22.1	29.9	7.1
2015	34.5	22.3	29.2	6.4
2016	34.1	21.6	26.5	5.8
2017	33.2	21.5	25.5	5.1
2018	33.0	20.7	24.9	5.4
2019	32.1	21.0	21.8	4.7
2020	33.0	21.7	22.8	7.0
2021	32.0	20.4	20.5	7.3
2022	31.5	20.2	20.1	8.1
2023				8.9
Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV

ECV: Encuesta de Condiciones de Vida.

**Gini index of equivalised disposable income:** The extent to which the distribution of equivalised disposable income (net income divided by unit of consumption; modified OECD scale) deviates from a distribution of perfect equity (all individuals obtain the same income). **At-risk-of-poverty rate (%):** Population below the poverty line. Poverty threshold: 60% of median equivalised disposable income (annual net income per unit of consumption; modified OECD scale) in each year. **At-risk-of-poverty rate, 2008 fixed threshold (%):** Population below the poverty line. Poverty threshold: 60% of median equivalised disposable income (annual net income per unit of consumption; modified OECD scale). In this case, the threshold used is the 2008 one. **Severe material deprivation (%):** People with material deprivation in at least 4 items (Europe 2020 Strategy).



## SOCIAL PROTECTION

## Public expenditure &amp; contributory benefits

	Public expenditure on minimum income benefits (% GDP)	Expenditure on social protection, cash benefits (% GDP)	Contributory benefits						
			Permanent disability, pensions	Permanent disability, average amount (€)	Retirement, pensions	Retirement, average amount (€)	Widowhood, pensions	Widowhood, average amount (€)	Unemployment
2013	0.15	18.2	935,220	908	5,451,465	979	2,336,240	618	
2014	0.15	17.9	929,484	916	5,558,964	1,000	2,348,388	624	
2015	0.16	17.2	931,668	923	5,641,908	1,021	2,353,257	631	838,392
2016	0.14	17.0	938,344	930	5,731,952	1,043	2,358,666	638	763,697
2017	0.14	16.7	947,130	936	5,826,123	1,063	2,360,395	646	726,575
2018	0.14	16.9	951,838	946	5,929,471	1,091	2,359,931	664	751,172
2019	0.14	17.4	957,500	975	6,038,326	1,138	2,361,620	712	807,614
2020	0.21	22.2	952,704	985	6,094,447	1,162	2,352,680	725	1,828,489
2021	0.33	20.3	949,765	994	6,165,349	1,190	2,353,987	740	922,856
2022	0.37	18.8	951,067	1,035	6,253,797	1,254	2,351,703	778	773,227
2023			945,963	1,119	6,367,671	1,375	2,351,851	852	801,091
2024 <sup>1</sup>			957,374	1,162	6,469,095	1,441	2,351,119	895	829,802
Source	MTES	Eurostat	MTES	MTES	MTES	MTES	MTES	MTES	MTES

## Non contributory benefits

	Non-contributory benefits		
	Unemployment	Disability	Retirement
2013		195,478	250,815
2014		197,303	252,328
2015	1,102,529	198,891	253,838
2016	997,192	199,762	254,741
2017	902,193	199,120	256,187
2018	853,437	196,375	256,842
2019	912,384	193,122	259,570
2020	1,017,429	188,670	261,325
2021	969,412	184,378	262,177
2022	882,585	179,967	265,831
2023	875,969	175,792	272,188
2024 <sup>1</sup>	867,945	171,907	281,086
Source	MTES	MTES	MTES

MTES: Ministerio de Trabajo y Economía Social.

<sup>1</sup> Data refer to January-September.

**Expenditure on social protection, cash benefits (% GDP):** Includes benefits for: sickness or disability, old age, survivors, family and children, unemployment, housing, social exclusion and other expenses. **Public expenditure on minimum income benefits (% GDP):** Minimum insertion wage and migrants' allowances and other benefits.



## HEALTH

## Expenditure &amp; primary care staff

	Public expenditure (% GDP)	Private expenditure (% GDP)	Private expenditure (% total expenditure)	Primary care doctors per 1,000 people assigned	Primary care nurses per 1,000 people assigned
2013	6.2	2.6	29.0	0.76	0.65
2014	6.2	2.7	29.7	0.76	0.65
2015	6.2	2.6	28.7	0.76	0.64
2016	6.1	2.5	28.4	0.76	0.65
2017	6.0	2.6	29.5	0.77	0.65
2018	6.0	2.7	29.8	0.77	0.66
2019	6.1	2.7	29.5	0.78	0.67
2020	7.6	2.9	26.8	0.78	0.66
2021	7.2	2.7	26.3	0.77	0.66
2022	6.9	2.5	26.0	0.78	0.70
Source	Eurostat	OECD	OECD	INCLASNS	INCLASNS

## Other staff &amp; waiting times

	Medical specialists per 1,000 inhabitants	Specialist nurses per 1,000 inhabitants	Patients waiting for a first consultation in specialised care per 1,000 inhabitants <sup>1</sup>	Average waiting time for a first consultation in specialised care (days) <sup>1</sup>	Patients waiting for a non-urgent surgical intervention per 1,000 inhabitants <sup>1</sup>	Average waiting time for non-urgent surgery (days) <sup>1</sup>
2013	1.78	3.04	39.0	67.0	12.3	98.0
2014	1.81	3.14	39.4	65.0	11.4	87.0
2015	1.85	3.19	43.4	58.0	12.2	89.0
2016	1.90	3.27	45.7	72.1	13.7	115.0
2017	1.93	3.38	45.9	66.2	13.1	106.1
2018	1.98	3.45	62.5	95.9	14.8	129.0
2019	1.97	3.50	63.7	87.6	15.5	121.5
2020	2.02	3.74	53.6	99.4	15.1	147.8
2021	2.11	3.90	77.2	88.9	15.4	122.9
2022	2.14	3.87	85.4	95.2	17.1	120.1
2023			81.5	101.0	18.0	128.0
Source	INCLASNS	INCLASNS	INCLASNS	INCLASNS	INCLASNS	INCLASNS

INCLASNS: Indicadores clave del Sistema Nacional del Salud.

<sup>1</sup> Only in the public health system.



