



Focus on Spanish Society is published by the Social Studies Office of the Spanish Savings Banks Foundation (FUNCAS). The aim of this publication is to depict the Spanish social situation and provide brief inquiries into some of its most relevant aspects with the help of statistical data (time series data as well as cross-national data). *Focus on Spanish Society* consists of three sections. The first one, "Spain in Europe", draws attention to recently published cross-national 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, education, health and welfare benefits and services.

Section I. Spain in Europe

- 1.1. Important gains in life expectancy
- 1.2. High homeownership rates
- 1.3. Few severely deprived people alongside a large at-risk-of poverty population

Section II. Public opinion trends

Section III. Follow-Up social data

Section I. Spain in Europe

1.1. Important gains in life expectancy

Spain has experienced high life-expectancy gains during the last 40 years (Table I.1). As regards life

expectancy at birth, while in 1970 Spain lagged behind Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands, Greece and France, at the beginning of the 21st century it had beaten all these countries: in 2010 life expectancy at birth in Spain was 82.32 years, only outstripped in the European region by Switzerland (82.83). This important demographic change is also evident when looking at life expectancy at age 65 (Table I.2). Spaniards born at the end of the Second World War had at 65 a life expectancy of nearly 21 years, 5.7 years more

Table I.1

Life expectancy at birth, in years

Countries	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2011
Austria	70.02	72.78	75.99	78.66	80.91	81.3
Belgium	71.02	73.20	76.26	-	-	-
Bulgaria	71.29	71.09	71.48	71.71	73.82	74.27
Croatia	-	-	72.57	73.00	76.8	77.26
Cyprus	-	-	-	77.89	81.86	81.69
Czech Republic	-	70.30	71.53	75.21	77.81	78.06
Denmark	73.51	74.24	75.11	77.22	-	-
Estonia	-	-	69.94	70.95	76.03	76.63
Finland	70.40	73.73	75.13	77.88	80.34	80.76
France	72.93	74.91	77.62	79.35	-	-
Germany	-	-	75.54	78.42	80.64	-
Greece	73.82	75.39	77.19	78.23	80.69	-
Hungary	69.30	69.12	69.45	71.93	74.78	75.15
Ireland	70.75	72.46	74.81	76.61	80.80	-
Italy	71.66	74.38	77.20	79.75	-	-
Latvia	69.89	69.15	69.54	70.58	73.70	-
Lithuania	70.78	70.50	71.55	72.21	73.57	-
Luxembourg	-	72.70	75.54	79.07	81.49	-
Malta	70.48	70.38	76.19	78.24	81.51	81.04
Netherlands	73.71	76.00	77.19	78.29	81.15	-
Norway	74.17	75.84	76.70	78.84	81.34	81.53
Poland	69.98	70.36	71.01	73.86	76.58	-
Portugal	-	71.15	74.11	76.75	80.06	80.90
Romania	68.04	69.24	69.79	71.25	73.83	-
Slovakia	-	70.5	71.14	73.45	75.66	-
Slovenia	-	-	73.99	76.27	79.96	-
Spain	72.88	75.60	77.00	79.49	82.32	-
Sweden	74.83	75.87	77.77	79.92	81.77	-
Switzerland	73.24	75.77	77.59	80.09	82.83	-
United Kingdom	71.95	73.71	75.92	78.06	80.78	-
EU	-	73.65	75.18	77.50	80.09	80.14

Source: European Health for All database (online) Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe 2012 (<http://data.euro.who.int/hfad>).

than Spaniards born at the start of the 20th century. Few European countries have experienced such a fundamental gain in life expectancy among old age.

Table I.2

Life expectancy at age 65, in years

Countries	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2011
Austria	13.59	14.97	16.77	18.41	19.98	20.23
Belgium	13.92	15.04	16.85	-	-	-
Bulgaria	14.20	13.70	14.17	14.16	15.50	15.86
Croatia	-	-	14.83	13.76	16.67	17.01
Cyprus	-	-	-	17.31	19.98	19.67
Czech Republic	-	-	13.77	15.84	17.53	17.70
Denmark	15.41	15.82	16.17	17.09	-	-
Estonia	-	-	14.47	15.34	17.41	17.99
Finland	13.43	15.21	16.24	17.91	19.79	20.06
France	15.65	16.84	18.69	19.48	-	-
Germany	-	-	16.36	18.14	19.61	-
Greece	16.16	16.26	17.07	17.49	19.60	-
Hungary	13.37	13.32	14.00	15.21	16.53	16.73
Ireland	13.57	14.06	15.21	16.42	19.49	-
Italy	14.78	15.79	17.31	18.83	-	-
Latvia	-	14.45	14.51	15.27	16.36	-
Lithuania	-	-	15.65	16.22	16.52	-
Luxembourg	-	14.45	16.49	18.70	20.04	-
Malta	13.05	11.81	15.73	17.00	20.04	19.57
Netherlands	15.21	16.51	17.05	17.59	19.63	-
Norway	15.46	16.46	16.84	18.20	19.83	19.99
Poland	13.96	14.17	14.64	15.86	17.70	-
Portugal	-	14.34	15.78	17.36	19.30	20.18
Romania	13.64	13.45	14.41	14.84	15.85	-
Slovakia	-	-	14.41	15.21	16.38	-
Slovenia	-	-	15.66	16.97	19.27	-
Spain	15.19	16.58	17.54	19.03	20.90	-
Sweden	15.84	16.35	17.46	18.68	19.95	-
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	15.05	16.56	17.77	19.29	21.07	-
EU	-	15.53	16.47	17.74	19.50	19.54

Source: European Health for All database (online) Copenhagen, WHO Regional Office for Europe 2012 (<http://data.euro.who.int/hfad>).

1.2. High homeownership rates

Spain ranges among the European countries with the highest percentage of people living in owned homes. More than four among five persons (82.7)

live in their own home (Table I.3). Although Italy, Greece and Portugal also display high percentages of homeownership (in any case lower than Spain: 72.9, 75.9 and 75.0, respectively), this pattern is not a particularity of the South. Similar or higher percentages of homeownerships than in Spain are to be found in the Baltic and Eastern European countries (Romania, Lithuania, Slovakia, Hungary,

Bulgaria, Poland, Estonia, Latvia). In contrast, German speaking countries (Germany, Austria and Switzerland) show significant lower figures. The traditional aspiration of Spanish families to own their home, together with low interest rates since the mid 90's, significant tax incentives for the purchase of the principal residence and soaring house prices have contributed to the real estate bubble which Spain has suffered as

of 2008. According to recently published data by the National Institute of Statistics, since 2009 the number of home mortgage contracts signed each year has been rapidly decreasing (at a yearly rate of 24%). Nonetheless, in 2012 274,715 home mortgages were contracted for a total sum of 28,348,524 million Euros. For many Spanish families the purchase of their home represents their largest investments in life. Therefore, homeownership is an important variable to take into consideration when analyzing Spanish data on household assets as well as household income.

Table I.3

Total population living in owned homes

Countries	2011
Austria	57.5
Belgium	71.8
Bulgaria	87.2
Croatia	92.1
Cyprus	73.8
Czech Republic	80.1
Denmark	67.1
Estonia	83.5
Finland	74.1
France	63.1
Germany	53.4
Greece	75.9
Hungary	89.8
Ireland*	73.4
Italy	72.9
Latvia	82.5
Lithuania	92.3
Luxembourg	68.2
Malta	80.8
Netherlands	67.1
Norway	84.0
Poland	82.1
Portugal	75.0
Romania	96.6
Slovakia	90.2
Slovenia	77.5
Spain	82.7
Sweden	69.7
Switzerland	43.8
United Kingdom	67.9
EU	70.7

*2010 data.

Source: Eurostat (*Income and living conditions; ilc_lvho*).

1.3. Few severely deprived people alongside a large at-risk-of poverty population

By setting the at-risk-of-poverty thresholds at 60% of the national median equivalised (according to household size) disposable income, Eurostat considers that 24.2% of the Union's population is at risk. Social transfers reduce this percentage to 16.9% (Table I.4). Maximum rates of at-risk-of-poverty population after social transfers are registered in Bulgaria (22.3), Romania (22.2), Spain (21.8) and Greece (21.4). But while Bulgaria and Romania are also those countries with a largest percentage of the population severely deprived in terms of material resources (43.6 and 29.4, together with Latvia, 30.9), and Greece also registers quite a high percentage of people living under severe deprivation (15.2), only 3.9% of the Spanish population suffers under these circumstances, i.e. lives in households that cannot afford at least four of the following conditions: 1) to pay rent/mortgage or utility bills on time, 2) to keep home adequately warm, 3) to face unexpected expenses, 4) to eat meat, fish or a protein equivalent every second day, 5) a one week holiday away from home, 6) a car, 7) a washing machine, 8) a colour TV, or 9) a telephone (including mobile phone).

Table I.4

Percentage of at-risk-of poverty and severely materially deprived population (2011)

Countries	At-risk-of-poverty before social transfers	At-risk-of-poverty after social transfers	Severely materially deprived
Austria	16.90	12.60	3.90
Belgium	21.00	15.30	5.70
Bulgaria	49.10	22.30	43.60
Croatia	15.30	9.80	6.10
Cyprus	23.70	14.50	10.70
Czech Republic	32.70	21.10	14.80
Denmark	18.90	13.00	2.60
Estonia	23.10	17.50	8.70
Finland	17.90	13.70	3.20
France	19.30	14.00	5.20
Germany	19.90	15.80	5.30
Greece	31.00	21.40	15.20
Hungary	31.00	13.80	23.10
Ireland*	29.90*	-	7.50*
Italy	28.20	-	11.20
Latvia	40.40	19.30	30.90
Lithuania	33.40	20.00	18.50
Luxembourg	16.80	13.60	1.20
Malta	21.40	15.40	6.30
Netherlands	15.70	11.00	2.50
Norway	14.60	10.50	2.30
Poland	27.20	17.70	13.00
Portugal	24.40	18.00	8.300
Romania	40.30	22.20	29.40
Slovakia	20.60	13.00	10.60
Slovenia	19.30	13.60	6.10
Spain	27.00	21.80	3.90
Sweden	16.10	14.00	1.20
Switzerland	17.20	15.00	1.30
United Kingdom	22.70	16.20	5.10
EU	24.20	16.90	8.80

* 2010 data.

Source: Eurostat News Release 171/2012, 13 December 2012.

EU-SILC : http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/income_social_inclusion_living_conditions/data/main_tables.

Section II. Public opinion trends

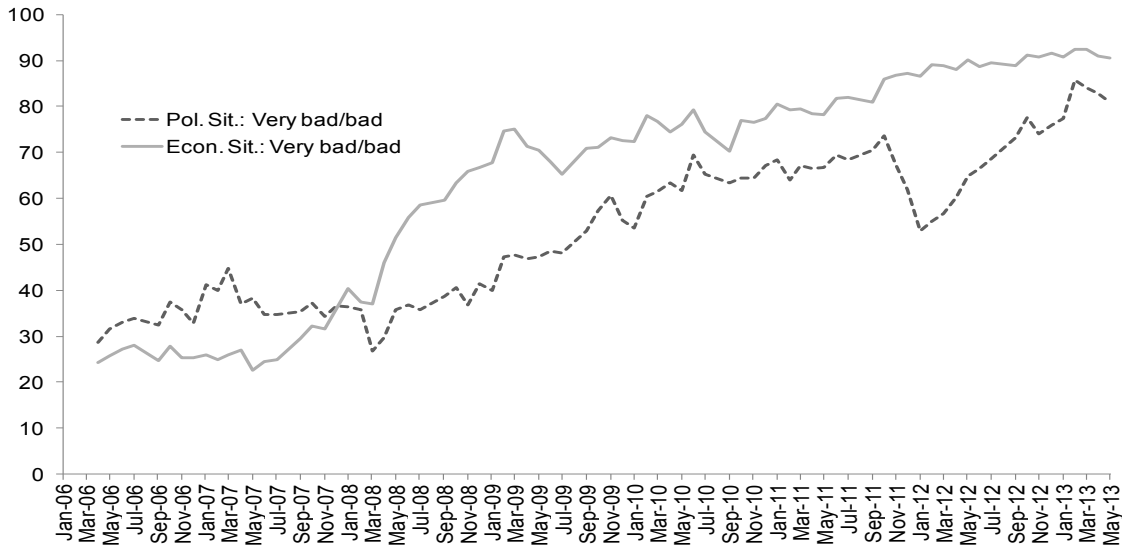
Social scientists have traditionally devoted many research efforts to figure out the factors that explain democratic legitimacy. When and why do citizens approve of the functioning of their democratic system? Does this approval depend on features of the citizenry, like political culture or social capital? If this were so, it may be expected that approval rates would stay fairly stable during long periods of time.

Spanish opinion polls illustrate the instability of these data. Satisfaction with democratic

performance has considerably fluctuated in the last decades. These fluctuations show a startling parallelism with the evolution of perceptions about the national economy, as shown in Exhibit 1. Discontent about the economy and the political system run parallel. Only in election periods do they seemingly detach from each other hinting at some type of democratic excitement (see the fall of the curve around the initial months of 2008 and the beginning of 2012). This connection between political and economic variables is also visible in Exhibit 2, which gathers data about perceptions of democratic performance and unemployment.

Exhibit 1

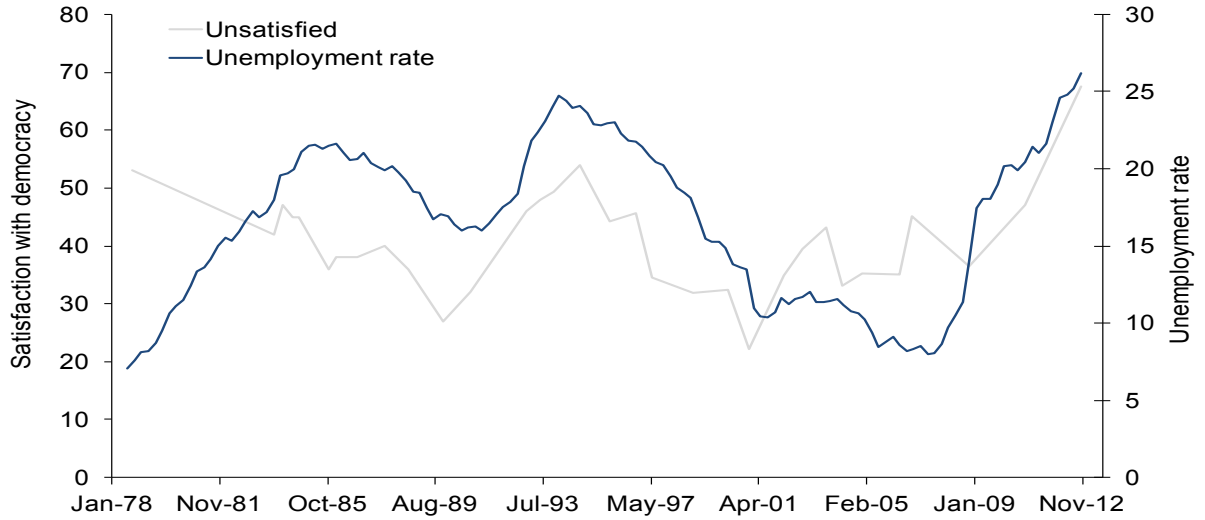
Spain 2006-2013: Perception of the political and economic situation



Source: Elaboration with data of Sociological Research Centre (Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas; www.cis.es).

Exhibit 2

Spain 1978-2012: Satisfaction with democracy and unemployment rate



Source: Elaboration by Juan Carlos Rodríguez with data of Sociological Research Centre (Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas; www.cis.es) and LFS (*Labour Force Survey*; www.ine.es).

Section III. Follow-Up social data

Table III.1

Population, family and households

Population

	Total population	Average age	65 and older (%)	Dependency rate	Dependency rate (older than 64)	Foreign-born population (%)
2005	44,108,530	40.50	16.62	47.75	24.81	9.96
2006	44,708,964	40.63	16.74	47.49	24.63	10.82
2007	45,200,737	40.76	16.66	47.41	24.55	11.61
2008	46,157,822	40.81	16.54	47.47	24.49	13.10
2009	46,745,807	40.92	16.65	47.81	24.61	13.83
2010	47,021,031	41.12	16.87	48.63	25.03	14.05
2011	47,190,493	41.36	17.15	49.43	25.51	14.15
2012#	47,265,321	41.63	17.40	50.39	26.14	14.30
2013##	47,059,533	41.89	17.71	50.63	26.67	14.06
Source	PMC	PMC	PMC	PMC	PMC	ID INE

Family and households

	Household number (thousands)	Average household size	Marriage rate	Separations and divorce	Mean age at first marriage. men	Mean age at first marriage. women	Median age at first child. women	Total fertility rate
2005	15,327.1	2.81	9.57	149,367	31.7	29.4	29.34	1.34
2006	15,856.2	2.76	9.34	155,628	32.2	29.7	29.32	1.38
2007	16,280.5	2.74	9.04	141,304	32.2	29.9	29.45	1.39
2008	16,742.0	2.71	8.57	131,060	32.4	30.2	29.30	1.46
2009	17,068.2	2.68	7.64	124,594	32.8	30.6	29.60	1.39
2010	17,173.9	2.67	7.33	127,682	33.2	31.0	29.83	1.38
2011	17,344.1	2.65	7.01	124,702	33.6	31.4	30.12	1.36
2012#	17,434.4	2.63	7.16	127,160	33.7	31.5	30.23	1.35
2013##	17,391.5	2.63	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source	EPA	EPA	ID INE	CGPJ. Memoria	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE

CGPJ: Consejo General del Poder Judicial

EPA: *Encuesta de Población Activa*

ID INE: *Indicadores Demográficos INE*

PMC: *Padrón Municipal Continuo*

Data of ID INE are referred to the period July 2011 - June 2012.

Provisional data.

Dependency rate: (15 or less years old population + 65 or more years old population)/ 16-64 years old population, as a percentage.

Dependency rate (older than 64): 65 or more years old population/ 16-64 years old population, as a percentage.

Marriage rate: number of marriages per thousand population.

Total fertility rate: the average number of children that would be born per woman living in Spain if all women lived to the end of their childbearing years and bore children according to a given fertility rate at each age.

Table III.2

Education**Students involved in non-compulsory education**

	Pre-primary education	Secondary education	Vocational training	Under-graduate students	Post-graduate studies (except doctorate)
2005	1,487,548	675,250	447,429	1,443,246	-
2006	1,557,257	665,127	445,455	1,405,894	16,636
2007	1,643,016	659,573	451,541	1,389,249	34,695
2008	1,763,019	669,021	472,604	1,377,228	49,799
2009	1,819,402	692,054	517,344	1,404,115	81,840
2010	1,872,829	720,937	555,580	1,445,392	100,963
2011	1,912,380	741,250	580,576	1,469,653	113,061
<i>Source</i>	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD

Educational attainment

	Population 16 years and older with primary education (%)	Population 30-34 with primary education (%)	Population 16 years or older with tertiary education (%)	Population 30-34 with tertiary education (%)
2005	33.9	9.0	15.5	26.2
2006	32.9	8.4	15.6	25.3
2007	32.5	9.0	15.9	26.5
2008	32.1	9.2	16.1	26.9
2009	31.4	8.7	16.3	26.2
2010	30.6	8.6	17.0	27.7
2011	29.4	7.4	17.6	27.0
2012	28.5	7.5	17.8	26.6
<i>Source</i>	LFS	LFS	LFS	LFS

Education expenditure

	Public expenditure (thousands of €)	Household expenditure (€)
2005	39,122,860	7,927
2006	42,512,586	8,244
2007	46,459,265	8,522
2008	50,880,439	8,505
2009	53,092,220	8,762
2010	52,720,999	9,085
2011	-	-
<i>Source</i>	MECD	Contabilidad Nacional del INE

LFS: Labor Force Survey

MECD: Ministerio de Educación Cultura y Deporte

Table III.3

Social protection: Benefits**Contributory benefits**

	Unemployment		Retirement		Permanent disability	
	Total	Average daily gross amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)
2005	687,033	23.44	4,678,269	687	832,789	700.0
2006	720,384	24.12	4,809,298	723	859,780	731.5
2007	780,205	25.43	4,863,256	760	888,776	760.7
2008	1,100,879	26.84	4,936,839	814	906,835	801.5
2009	1,624,792	27.73	5,038,861	854	920,863	831.5
2010	1,471,826	28.08	5,140,554	884	933,730	849.9
2011	1,328,020	28.40	5,246,241	915	938,491	869.5
2012	1,381,261	28.66	5,330,195	946	943,296	887.3
2013#	1,440,437	-	5,402,089	971	938,830	904.7
Source	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL

Contributory benefits (continuation)

	Widowhood		Dependent family members	
	Total	Average amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)
2005	2,165,881	455.3	40,071	350
2006	2,196,934	476.7	39,120	375
2007	2,225,501	498.3	38,283	398
2008	2,249,904	529.0	37,801	428
2009	2,270,283	553.9	37,730	447
2010	2,290,090	571.7	37,679	459
2011	2,309,332	586.4	37,898	472
2012	2,322,938	601.5	38,225	486
2013#	2,329,707	615.3	37,603	498
Source	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL

Non-contributory benefits

	Social Security			Other
	Unemployment	Retirement	Disability	
2005	558,501	279,189	205,318	484,507
2006	558,702	276,920	204,844	481,764
2007	575,675	270,980	203,401	474,381
2008	646,186	265,314	199,410	464,724
2009	960,888	260,908	197,126	458,034
2010	1,445,228	257,136	196,159	453,295
2011	1,331,316	254,295	194,712	449,007
2012	1,327,027	251,549	194,876	446,425
2013#	1,376,271	-	-	-
Source	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL

BEL: *Boletín de Estadísticas Laborales*

#Data referred to January and February.

Table III.4

Social protection: Health care

	Total expenditure per capita (€)	Public expenditure per capita (€)	Physicians (members) per 1,000 inhabitants	Nurses per 1,000 inhabitants	Pharmacists per 1,000 inhabitants	Medical staff primary health care per 1,000 medical cards
2005	1,604.89	1,146.87	4.59	5.32	1.37	0.71
2006	1,728.07	1,245.43	4.61	5.38	1.37	0.72
2007	1,838.28	1,332.33	4.63	5.41	1.36	0.74
2008	1,971.68	1,444.13	4.67	5.46	1.35	0.75
2009	2,011.18	1,503.33	4.76	5.55	1.38	0.74
2010	1,959.56	1,471.03	4.84	5.69	1.39	0.74
2011	-	-	4.90	5.80	1.41	-
<i>Source</i>	INCLASNS	OECD	INE	INE	INE	INCLASNS

INCLASNS: *Indicadores Clave del Sistema Nacional de Salud*

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística

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