

*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 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**

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## Section I. Spain in Europe

### 1.1. Falling fertility rates

According to the National Statistics Institute (INE), the total fertility rate of women living in Spain has fallen throughout the crisis. During the last decade, the highest fertility rate among Spanish women was recorded in 2008 (1.36). In contrast, foreign women living in Spain achieved their highest fertility rate in 2002 (1.86). In 2012, the fertility rates of both groups of women were 1.28 and 1.54, respectively (Exhibit 1).

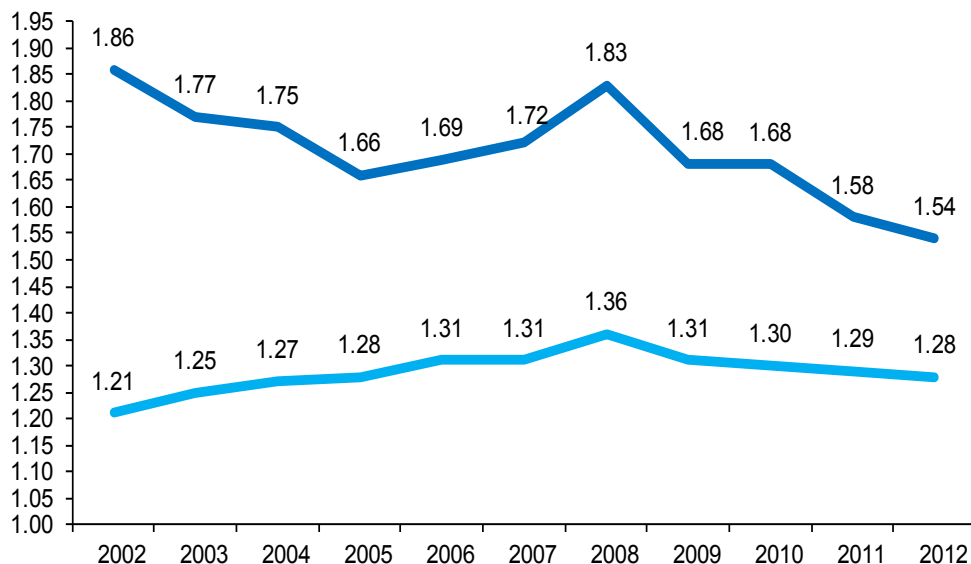
These results are in line with the latest research, which shows that countries hardest hit by the

recession exhibited a decrease in fertility<sup>1</sup>. Apparently, the crisis has caused a convergence between the fertility rates of native and foreign women in Spain. The truth is that foreign women concentrate childbirths in the first years after their arrival to Spain. Due to descending immigration flows since 2008, in recent years, fewer children have been born to foreign mothers.

### 1.2. Female employment seems to favor fertility

As regards fertility, there are marked differences in Spain between employed and non-employed women. Contrary to Germany, Austria and Norway, employed women in Spain show significantly higher fertility rates than non-employed women. This pattern is also observable in other South European countries, like Portugal and Greece, but

Exhibit 1  
**Fertility rate of women in Spain**



Source: National Statistics Institute (INE), Basic Demographic Indicators [retrieved September 21, 2013].

<sup>1</sup> Goldstein, J.; Kreyenfeld, M.; Jasilioniene, A.; Dilan, D. and K. Örsal (2013), "Fertility Reactions to the 'Great Recession' in Europe: Recent Evidence from Order-Specific Data", *Demographic Research*, 29: 85-104.

the difference in fertility rates between employed and non-employed women is considerably larger in Spain than in those countries (Table I.1).

Interestingly enough, the fertility rate of employed women in Spain has grown between 2007 and

for example Croatia, Italy, Estonia and Greece with Germany, Sweden, Austria and Luxembourg in Exhibit 2). In some countries, social benefits for families and children seem to have a crowding-out effect on the fertility of employed women, thus hampering the increase of the total fertility rate.

Table I.1

### Fertility rates of employed and non-employed women (2007-2011)

Countries	Employed women			Non-employed women			Total fertility rate 2011
	2007	2009	2011	2007	2009	2011	
Austria	1.33	1.31	1.41	1.53	1.63	1.52	1.42
Croatia	2.23	2.52	2.44	0.75	0.69	0.63	1.52
Denmark	-	1.90	1.78	-	1.56	1.60	1.75
Estonia	2.08	2.21	1.96	1.04	1.02	1.04	1.52
Finland	-	1.67	-	-	2.30	-	1.83
Germany	0.96	0.87	0.88	2.20	2.48	2.66	1.36
Greece	1.32	1.47	1.52	1.50	1.56	1.32	1.42
Hungary	2.15	2.14	1.79	0.85	0.83	0.82	1.23
Norway	-	1.84	1.80	-	2.54	2.16	1.88
Poland	-	1.81	1.78	-	1.04	0.92	1.30
Portugal	1.48	1.45	1.44	1.20	1.19	1.30	1.35
Romania	1.35	1.37	1.14	1.44	1.52	1.43	1.25
<b>Spain</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.82</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>1.36</b>

Note: Data are not available for all European Union countries.

Source: Eurostat, *Statistics in Focus* 13/2013.

2011, a trend which is also observable in Greece (although less strikingly), but not in Portugal. The latter country has experienced a fertility downfall among employed and non-employed women during the crisis, while in Spain this has affected only non-employed women.

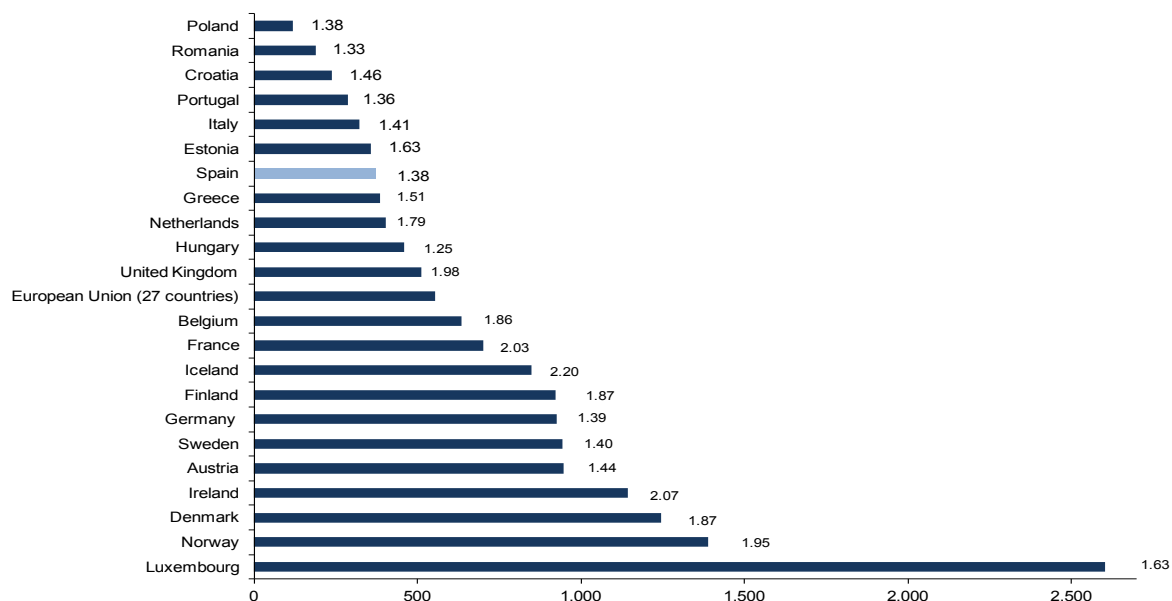
Non-employed women tend to present higher fertility rates in those countries in which social benefits devoted to family and children are high (for example, Norway, Germany and Austria). But generous benefits of this kind do not guarantee higher fertility rates in general. As a matter of fact, some countries with low social benefits for families and children have similar or even higher fertility rates than others with extensive benefits (compare

### 1.3. Many full-time working couples with small children

Consistent with the evidence concerning employment and fertility in Spain, many young working mothers participate today in the Spanish labor market. By 2010, the proportion of couples in which both partners were in the age range 25-49, worked full-time and had children under 6 years, in Spain was high compared to countries with significantly lower unemployment rates, like Austria, Germany and the Netherlands (35.4% vs. 19.9%, 16.0% and 8.5%). In fact, both parents working full-time is the most frequent working pattern in Spain among young couples with small children (Table I.2).

Exhibit 2

### Social protection benefits (family/children function) in Purchasing Power Standard per inhabitant (bars) and total fertility rate (2010)



Source: Eurostat, Social Protection Database [retrieved September 25, 2013] and Eurostat, *Statistics in Focus* 13/2013.

Table I.2

### Couples (both partners 25-49) with children under 6 by working pattern (2010)

Countries	Man & woman full-time	Man full-time, woman part-time	Man full-time, woman not working	Man & woman not working
Austria	19.9	40.3	27.4	3.6
Belgium	36.6	29.9	18.6	5.4
Estonia	36.0	7.2	40.5	4.9
Finland	47.7	11.0	31.2	3.4
Germany	16.0	35.8	34.6	5.4
Hungary	26.3	3.1	54.7	11.2
Ireland	33.8	15.5	27.3	10.6
Italy	30.8	18.0	39.9	5.9
Netherlands	8.5	53.5	24.6	2.8
Portugal	64.6	3.7	21.7	3.7
Romania	58.0	3.2	21.9	6.1
<b>Spain</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>8.9</b>
United Kingdom	23.1	36.6	26.0	5.0

Data for other less frequent working patterns not reported.

Source: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Statistical Database [retrieved September 27, 2013].

Nevertheless, in four out of every ten of these couples, mothers did not work in 2010, and in nearly one out of every ten couples, neither partner was employed. Both proportions are rather high in comparative terms.

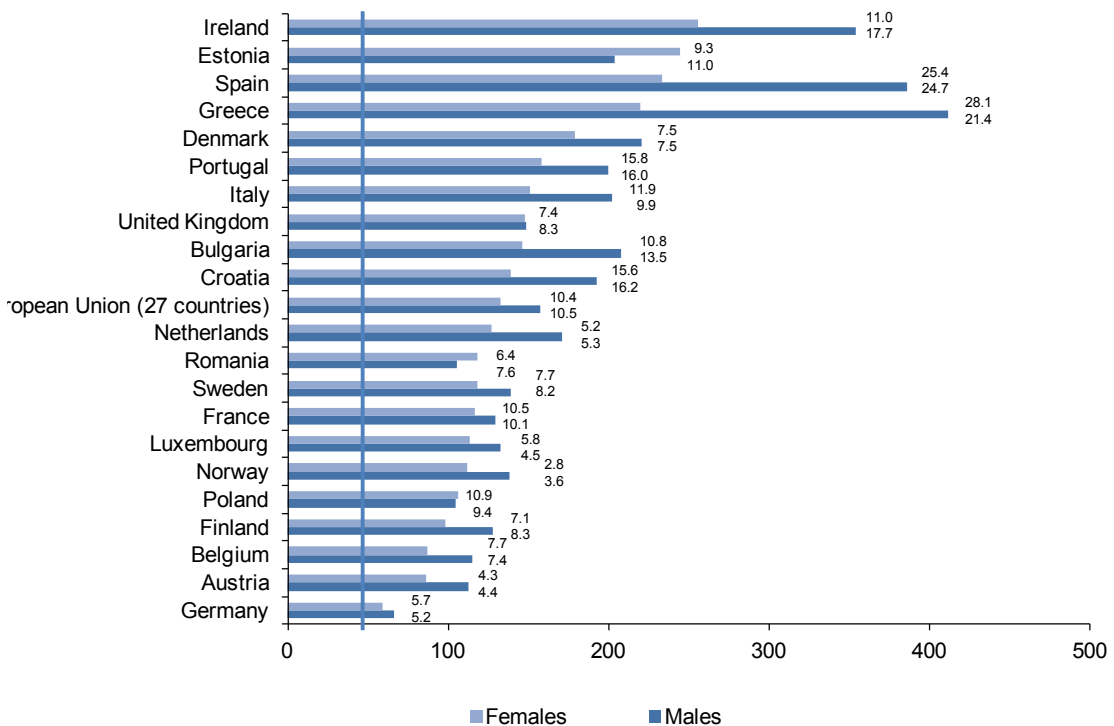
**1.4. European women less affected by unemployment growth than men**

Between 2007 and 2012, women have suffered lower employment losses than men in most

European countries. In the EU-27, male unemployment has increased 58% between those years, while female unemployment has risen 33%. In Austria, Belgium and Finland, female unemployment has even decreased, while male unemployment has increased. These gender differences in unemployment growth have been clearly highest in Spain, Greece and Ireland (Exhibit 3). In Spain, male unemployment has increased 3.85 times (from 6.4 to 24.7) and female unemployment 2.33 times (from 10.9 to 25.4). The unemployment rate for women is still higher than the unemployment rate for men, but the gap between them has become significantly shorter.

Exhibit 3

**Unemployment growth rate between 2007 and 2012 by sex (bars, baseline 2007) and unemployment rates for women and men in 2012**



Source: Eurostat (based on national LFS) [retrieved September 27, 2013].

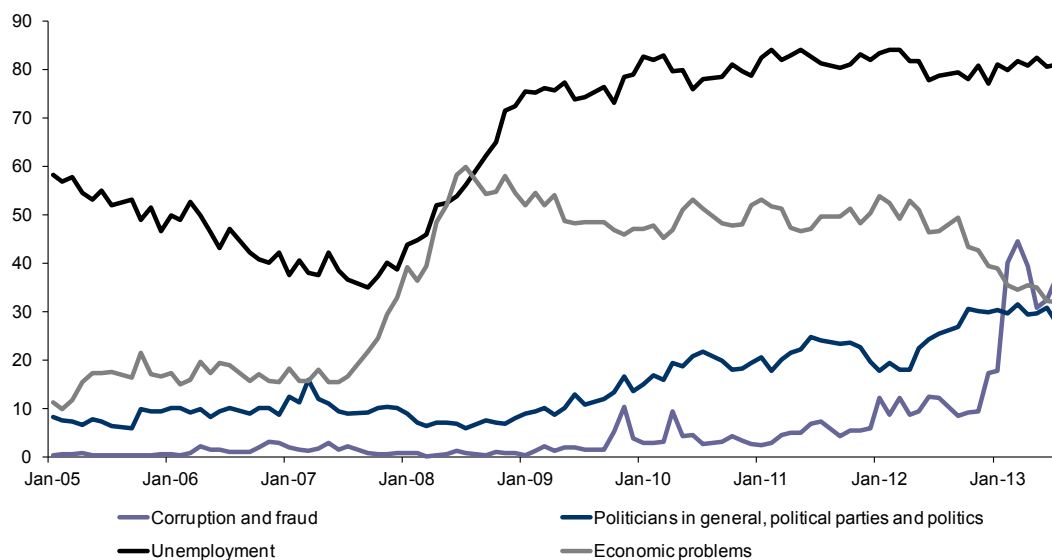
## Section II. Public Opinion Trends

The Spanish media have in the last months paid close attention to political scandals and corruption cases. Since 2012, corruption and fraud have gained prominence amid the problems Spanish people perceive as the most important. More worrisome is the fact that people have increasingly identified “politicians in general and political parties” as a key problem of the country. Perceptions of both problems (corruption and fraud and politicians in general and political parties) have evolved in parallel until the first months of 2012 (Exhibit 4). However, the last public opinion polls administered by the *Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas* (CIS) suggest a break in this pattern. The perception of politicians and political parties as an important problem is slightly losing significance, whereas the perception of corruption and fraud fluctuates much more. Unemployment continues to be perceived by eight out of ten respondents as one of

the three main problems faced by Spain. However, the amount of people mentioning “economic problems” has notably decreased (from 49% to 32% between September 2012 and July 2013).

Compared with unemployment and economic problems, social benefits and services, as well as cutbacks, are scarcely cited as the most relevant problems facing Spain (Exhibit 5). While the percentage of people considering that health care and education are the greatest problems has approximately doubled since July 2011, only around one respondent out of every ten mentioned these issues in July 2013. In addition, pensions and the functioning of public services have not received much consideration as critical problems. The time series shows the strong and enduring concern of Spanish people over unemployment. Even in the years of this century during which the unemployment rate has been under 10% (2005-2008), around 40-50% of people believed unemployment was one of the three most important problems facing the country.

Exhibit 4  
**Most important problems in Spain (2005-2013)**

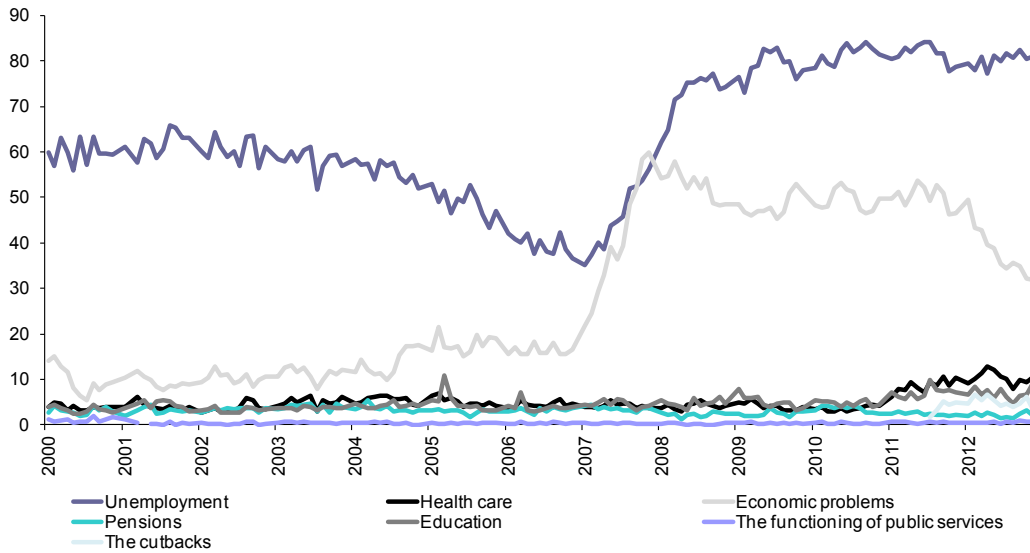


Question: “What is in your view the main problem currently facing Spain? And the second most important? And the third?”

Source: *Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas* ([www.cis.es](http://www.cis.es)) [retrieved September 25, 2013].

Exhibit 5

**Most important problems in Spain (2000-2013)**



Question: "What is in your view the main problem currently facing Spain? And the second most important? And the third?"

Source: *Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas* ([www.cis.es](http://www.cis.es)) [retrieved September 25, 2013].

## Section III. Follow-up social data

Table III.1

### Population

	Total population	Average age	65 and older (%)	Dependency rate	Dependency rate (older than 64)	Foreign-born population (%)	New entries (all nationalities)	New entries (non-EU-27 born)(%)
2006	44,708,964	40.63	16.74	47.49	24.63	10.82	840,844	37.57
2007	45,200,737	40.76	16.66	47.41	24.55	11.61	958,266	41.69
2008	46,157,822	40.81	16.54	47.47	24.49	13.10	726,009	28.40
2009	46,745,807	40.92	16.65	47.81	24.61	13.83	498,977	31.98
2010	47,021,031	41.12	16.87	48.63	25.03	14.05	464,443	35.54
2011	47,190,493	41.36	17.15	49.43	25.51	14.15	454,686	36.87
2012*	47,265,321	41.63	17.40	50.39	26.14	14.30	370,515	36.32
2013**	47,059,533	41.89	17.71	50.63	26.67	14.06		
<i>Sources</i>	PMC	PMC	PMC	PMC	PMC	INE	EVR	EVR

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

PMC: *Padrón Municipal Continuo*.

EVR: *Encuesta de Variaciones Residenciales*.

\* Data from INE for this year refer to 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.

Table III.2

### Households and family

#### Households

	Household number (thousands)	Average household size	Households with one person less than 65 (%)	Households with one person older than 65 (%)
2006	15,856.2	2.76	8.4	8.70
2007	16,280.5	2.74	8.8	8.73
2008	16,742.0	2.71	9.3	8.68
2009	17,068.2	2.68	9.7	8.87
2010	17,173.9	2.67	10.0	8.80
2011	17,344.1	2.65	10.3	9.02
2012	17,434.4	2.63	13.5●	9.82●
2013	17,416.2♦	2.62♦	-	-
<i>Sources</i>	LFS	LFS	EPF	EPF



Table III.2

**Households and family (continued)****Nuptiality**

	Marriage rate (Spanish)	Marriage rate (foreign population)	Separations and divorces	Mean age at first marriage, men	Mean age at first marriage, women	Same sex marriages (%)
2006	9.26	9.45	145,645	32.2	29.7	2.08
2007	9.00	8.69	137,360	32.2	29.9	1.56
2008	8.51	8.35	118,797	32.4	30.2	1.62
2009	7.48	8.23	106,039	32.8	30.6	1.74
2010	7.17	7.89	110,181	33.2	31.0	1.87
2011	6.89	7.19	110,519	33.6	31.4	2.17
2012	7.19*	6.65*	110,631	33.7*	31.5*	-
2013	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sources</i>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>

**Fertility**

	Median age at first child, women	Total fertility rate	Births to single mothers (%)	Births to foreign mothers (%)	Abortion rate	Abortion by Spanish-born women (%)
2006	29.32	1.38	28.38	16.54	10.62	-
2007	29.45	1.39	30.24	18.98	11.49	-
2008	29.30	1.46	33.15	20.82	11.78	55.56
2009	29.60	1.39	34.47	20.72	11.41	57.21
2010	29.83	1.38	35.51	20.55	11.49	58.30
2011	30.12	1.36	37.34	19.51	12.44	59.99
2012	30.23*	1.35*	-	-	-	-
2013	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Sources</i>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>MSAN</b>	<b>MSAN</b>

LFS: *Labour Force Survey*.

EPF: *Encuesta de Presupuestos Familiares*.

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

MSAN: Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad.

\* Data from INE for this year refer to July 2011-June 2012.

◆ Data refer to first semester 2013.

● EPF 2012: 2012 data were calculated using 2011 census population data and are not strictly comparable with prior periods.

Marriage rate: Number of marriages per thousand population.

Total fertility rate: 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.

Abortion rate: Number of abortions per 1,000 women (15-44 years).

Table III.3

**Education****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 (%)
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>Sources</i>	<b>LFS</b>	<b>LFS</b>	<b>LFS</b>	<b>LFS</b>

**Students involved in non-compulsory education**

	Pre-primary education	Secondary education	Vocational training	Under-graduate students	Post-graduate studies (except doctorate)
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	1,917,236	684,176	699,295**	1,469,653	113,061
2012	1,900,173	692,558	747,189**	1,492,391***	-
<i>Sources</i>	<b>MECD</b>	<b>MECD</b>	<b>MECD</b>	<b>MECD</b>	<b>MECD</b>

**Education expenditure**

	Public expenditure (thousands of €)	Household expenditure (€)
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	50,714,177*	9,194***
2012	-	-
<i>Source</i>	<b>MECD</b>	<b>INE</b>

LFS: *Labor Force Survey*.

\* Provisional data.

\*\* It includes distance vocational education and initial vocational qualification programs.

\*\*\* Forecast.

MECD: Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte.

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

Table III.4

**Social protection: Benefits****Contributory benefits\***

	Unemployment		Retirement		Permanent disability		Widowhood	
	Total	Average daily gross amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)
2006	720,384	24.1	4,809,298	722.7	859,780	731.5	2,196,934	476.7
2007	780,205	25.4	4,863,256	760.0	888,776	760.7	2,225,501	498.3
2008	1,100,879	26.8	4,936,839	814.5	906,835	801.5	2,249,904	529.0
2009	1,624,792	27.7	5,038,861	854.1	920,863	831.5	2,270,283	553.9
2010	1,471,826	28.1	5,140,554	884.0	933,730	849.9	2,290,090	571.7
2011	1,328,020	28.4	5,246,241	915.2	938,491	869.5	2,309,332	586.4
2012	1,381,261	28.7	5,330,195	946.3	943,296	887.3	2,322,938	601.5
2013	1,353,046♦	28.7♦	5,424,645♦	975.8♦	936,475♦	906.4♦	2,332,439♦	616.6♦
Source	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL

**Non-contributory benefits**

	Social Security			
	Unemployment	Retirement	Disability	Other
2006	278.1	204,383	318.92	82,846
2007	290.4	201,751	330.26	73,159
2008	307.7	197,884	348.50	64,967
2009	315.5	196,782	357.57	57,737
2010	320.6	195,962	362.05	50,876
2011	330.4	194,704	371.81	44,437
2012	342.4	194,896	383.12	37,651
2013	395.0●	195,169●	443.34●	33,025♦
Source	IMRSERO	IMRSERO	IMRSERO	BEL

BEL: *Boletín de Estadísticas Laborales*.

IMRSERO: Instituto de Mayores y Servicios Sociales.

\* Benefits for orphans and dependent family members of deceased Social Security affiliates are not reported.

♦ Data refer to January-July.

● Data refer to January-August.

Table III.5

**Social protection: Health care**

	Total expenditure % GDP	Public expenditure % total expenditure	Physicians per 1,000 inhabitants	Nurses per 1,000 inhabitants	Pharmacists per 1,000 inhabitants	Medical staff primary health care per 1,000 medical cards	Population over 45 who considered their health "good or very good" (%)
2006	8.4	71.6	3.6	4.1	1.37	0.72	51.27
2007	8.5	71.9	3.7	4.4	1.36	0.74	-
2008	8.9	73.0	3.5	4.6	1.35	0.75	-
2009	9.6	74.7	3.5	4.9	1.38	0.74	-
2010	9.6	74.2	3.8	4.9	1.39	0.74	-
2011	9.3	73.0	4.1	5.5	1.41	-	58.70
2012	-	-	3.8	5.3	-	-	-
<i>Source</i>	<b>OECD</b>	<b>OECD</b>	<b>OECD</b>	<b>OECD</b>	<b>INE</b>	<b>INCLASNS</b>	<b>ENS</b>

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

INCLASNS: *Indicadores Clave del Sistema Nacional de Salud*.

ENS: Encuesta Nacional de Salud.



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