

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. *Focus on Spanish Society* consists of three sections. The first one, "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, education, health and welfare benefits and services.

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Section I. Spain in Europe

I.1. Widening differences in unemployment rates and labour market policy expenditure across the EU during the crisis

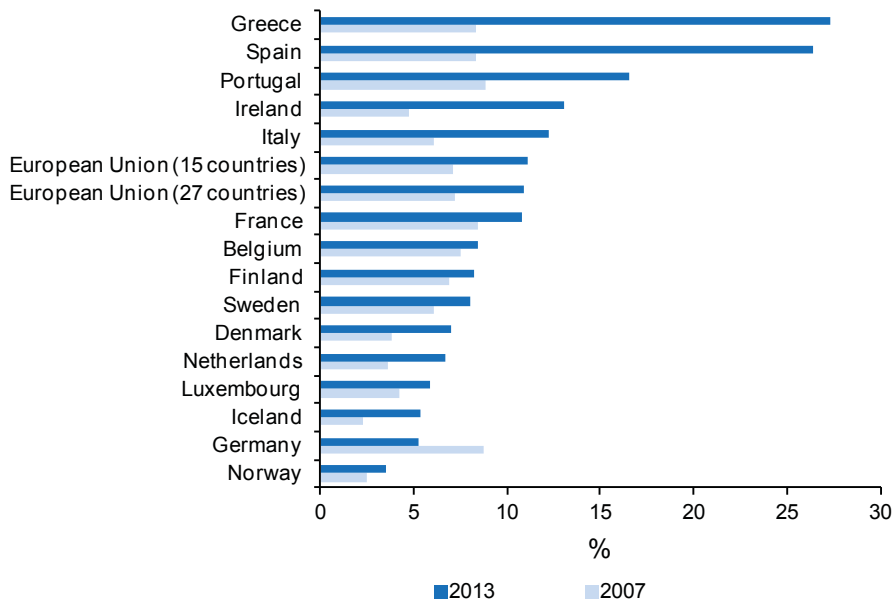
Except for Germany, unemployment rose across all European Union Member States between 2007 and 2013. However, the great diversity of these rises has provoked an increase of intra-EU differences in unemployment rates. In 2007, unemployment rates ranged from less than 3% in Iceland (2.3%) and Norway (2.5%) to 8-9% in Portugal (8.9%), Germany (8.7%), France (8.4%), Spain and Greece (8.3%). In contrast, unemployment rates fluctuated in 2013 from less than 6% in Norway (3.5%), Germany (5.3%), Iceland (5.4%) and Luxembourg (5.9%) to more

than 26% in Spain (26.4%) and Greece (27.3%) (Exhibit I.1a).

Recently released Eurostat data on labour market policy (LMP) expenditure between 2007 and 2011 also show a significant increase. And similarly they reveal sizable intra-EU contrasts (Exhibit I.1b). Denmark, Belgium, Ireland and Spain are the countries which in 2011 spent a bigger percentage of GDP in LMP, even though in this same year unemployment rates in Denmark (7.2%) and Belgium (7.7%) were drastically lower than in Ireland (14.9%) and Spain (22%).

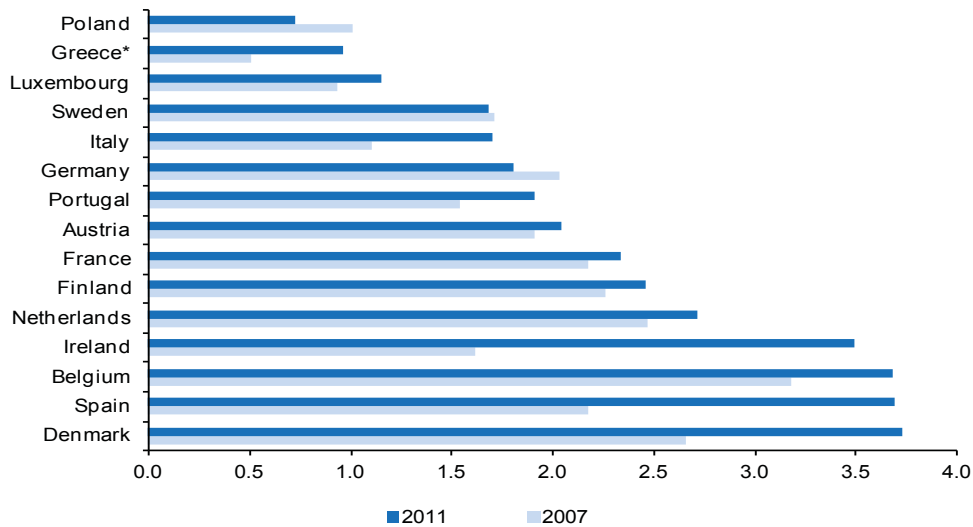
Very striking is also the fact that the former countries spent around 40% of their total LMP in interventions aimed at providing people with new skills or work experience in order to improve their employability (LMP measures). This percentage was approximately double that in Ireland and Spain. These two latter countries devoted the lion's share of expenditure (ca. 80%) to support policies (i.e., benefits) (Exhibit I.1c).

Exhibit I.1a
Unemployment rates in the European Union (2007 and 2013)



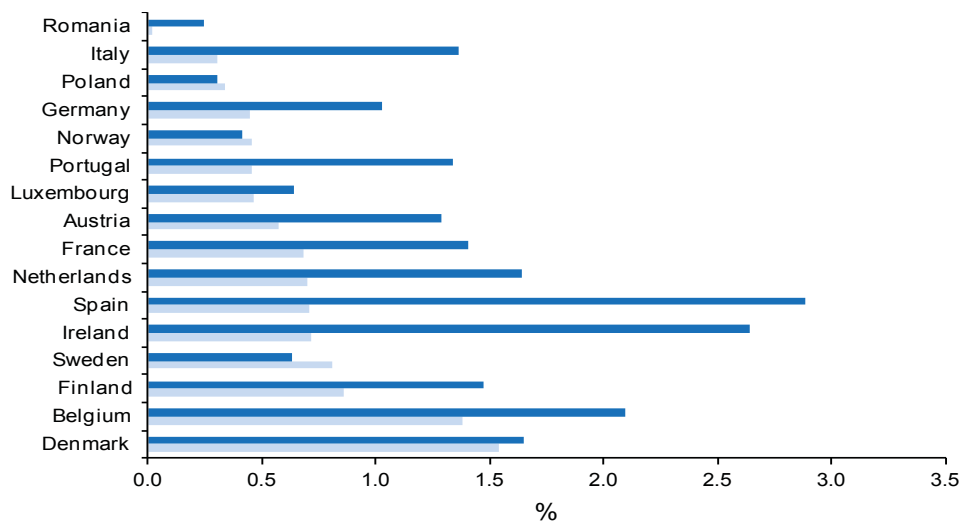
Source: Eurostat (last update: 27-03-2014). 2013 data for UK and Austria are not available.

Exhibit I.1b

Labour market policies: Total expenditure in % of GDP (2007 and 2011)

Source: Eurostat (last update: 14-01-2014).

Exhibit I.1c

Labour market policies: Expenditure in measures and supports in % of GDP (2011)

LMP measures (active interventions) cover interventions that aim either to provide people with new skills or experience of work in order to improve their employability or to encourage employers to create new jobs and take on people who are unemployed or otherwise disadvantaged.

LMP supports (passive interventions) mostly cover financial assistance designed to compensate individuals for loss of wage or salary and to support them during active job-search (i.e. mostly unemployment benefits).

Besides LMP measures and supports there are also LMP services, which basically cover the costs of all publicly funded services for jobseekers.

Source: Eurostat (last update: 14-01-2014).

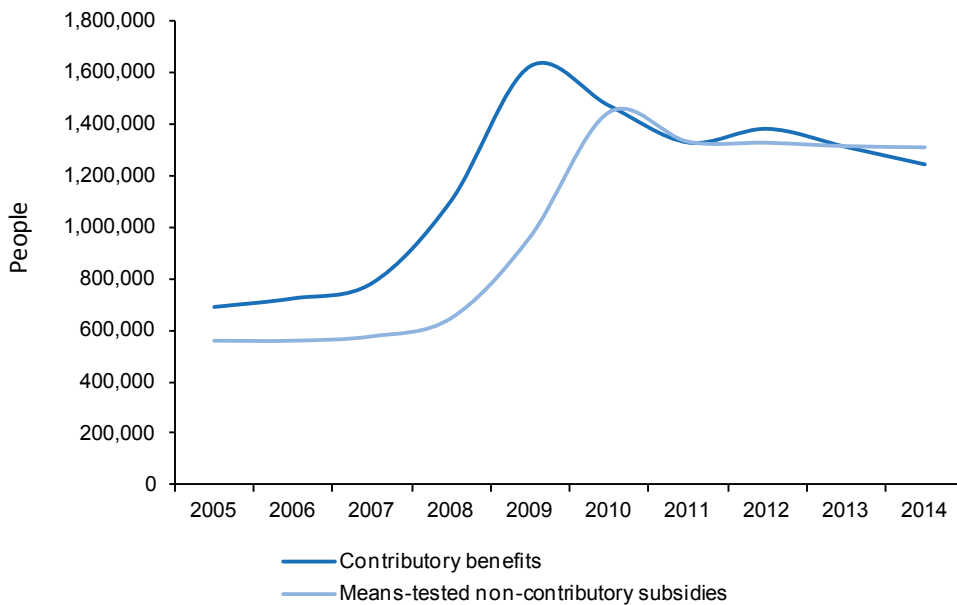
**I.2. Unemployment support in Spain:
Means-tested subsidies beat
contributory benefits**

Following the rise in unemployment during the crisis, expenditure in unemployment benefits has notably soared between 2007 and 2011 in most European countries, particularly in Ireland and Spain (data for Greece are not available). In Spain, the percentage of unemployment benefits as a share of GDP doubled between 2007 and 2009 (from 1.5% to 3% of GDP). As shown in

provided by the Spanish Labour Ministry, between 2011 and 2013, the number of unemployment benefit recipients has dropped from 1,328 to 1,310 million, while the average daily benefit amount has stayed constant at 28 euros. During the same period, the number of means-tested non-contributory unemployment subsidies fell as well from 1,331 to 1,313 million (in 2013 and 2014 the monthly subsidy amounts to 426 euro). Thus, both types of unemployment allowances have dropped. At the end of 2013, the number of subsidy beneficiaries surpassed the number of contributory benefit recipients, a very uncommon

Exhibit I.2

People receiving unemployment benefits and subsidies in Spain (2005-2014)



Source: Boletín de Estadísticas Laborales, Ministerio de Empleo y de Seguridad Social (last update: 28-03-2014).

Exhibit I.1c, the corresponding percentage in 2011 amounted to 2.9% of GDP. Actually, unemployment benefits absorbed resources that represented ca. 40% of the total expenditure on public (universal) health care.

fact that persisted at the beginning of 2014, according to latest data available (Exhibit I.2).

Since then, absolute expenditure in unemployment benefits has decreased. In accordance with data

1.3. A long-term unemployment trap?

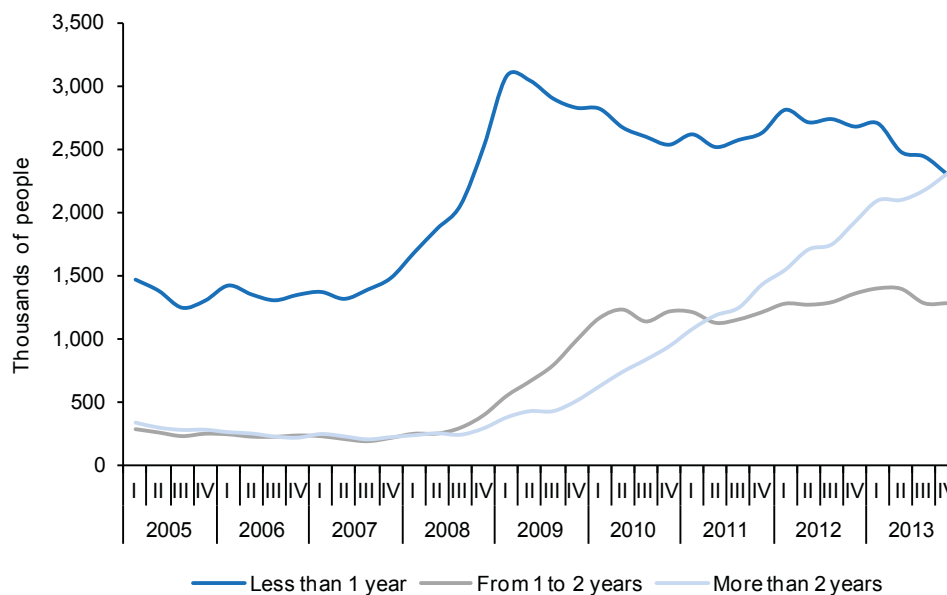
According to the Spanish Labour Force Survey, the number of unemployed people has been falling since the second quarter of 2013 (even if the total unemployment rate sank between the first and third quarter, but reached 26.03% in the fourth quarter). It is nevertheless important to distinguish between short-term and long-term unemployed. In fact, while the number of short-time unemployed (less than one year) shows a decreasing tendency, that of long-term unemployed (more than twelve months) is persistently and sharply increasing (Exhibit 1.3). At the end of 2013 there were 2,309 million unemployed people who had lost their job more than two years before. Those long-term unemployed men and women, who according

to Spanish labour law are no longer eligible for unemployment benefits, may have access to non-contributory means-tested subsidies (not considered as a LMP support, but as social assistance). Thus, there is a growing number of Spanish workers with mounting difficulties to get over the unemployment situation and who receive at best unemployment means-tested subsidies.

It seems that people who extend the period in which they are jobless face greater difficulties to find an occupation and exit from unemployment through a work contract. There may be many causes that explain this observation, including relative low levels of qualifications of long-term unemployed and the likely resistance of employers to contract them when short-term unemployed are available. Long-term jobless workers would thus suffer a penalty and face a greater risk of falling into an unemployment trap.

Exhibit 1.3

Unemployed people by duration of unemployment (2005-2013)



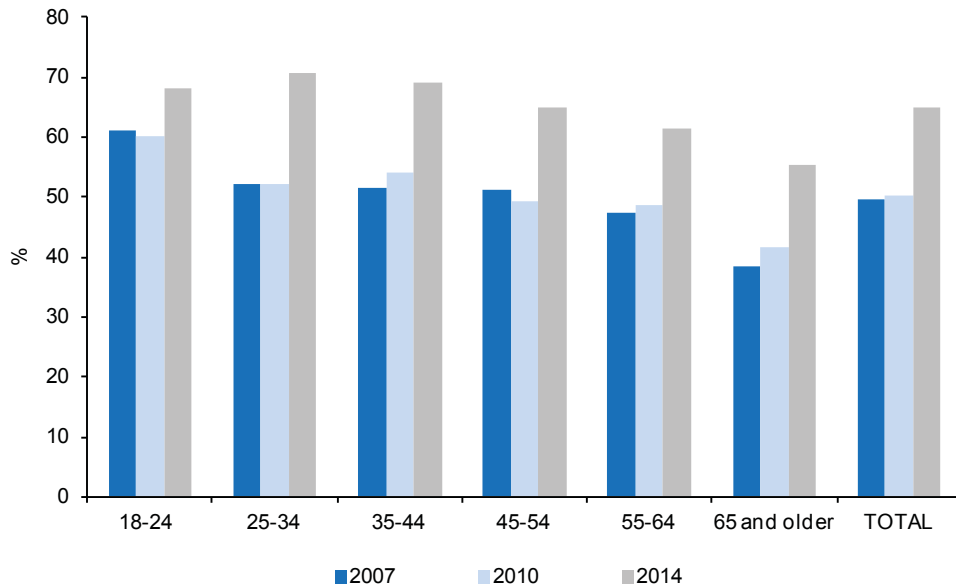
Source: Labour Force Survey 2005I-2013IV (Encuesta de Población Activa, EPA).

Section II. Public opinion trends

The share of Spanish people who attach importance to learning foreign languages has appreciably increased during the crisis. In 2007, half of the adult population thought that learning foreign languages was important or very important; seven years later the corresponding proportion was two thirds. This argument has gained supporters among all age groups, but

especially among people aged 25-34 (Exhibit II.1). This age group is also the one that has experienced a bigger growth in English language skills between those years: in February 2014, 49% of them declared they were able to read and write in English, seven percentage points higher than in 2007 (Exhibit II.2). Generally speaking, half of the population between 18 and 34 can read and write English according to their own testimony. The evolution of English language skills has shown only modest progress throughout the crisis even in this age group.

Exhibit II.1
People who attribute importance to learning foreign languages

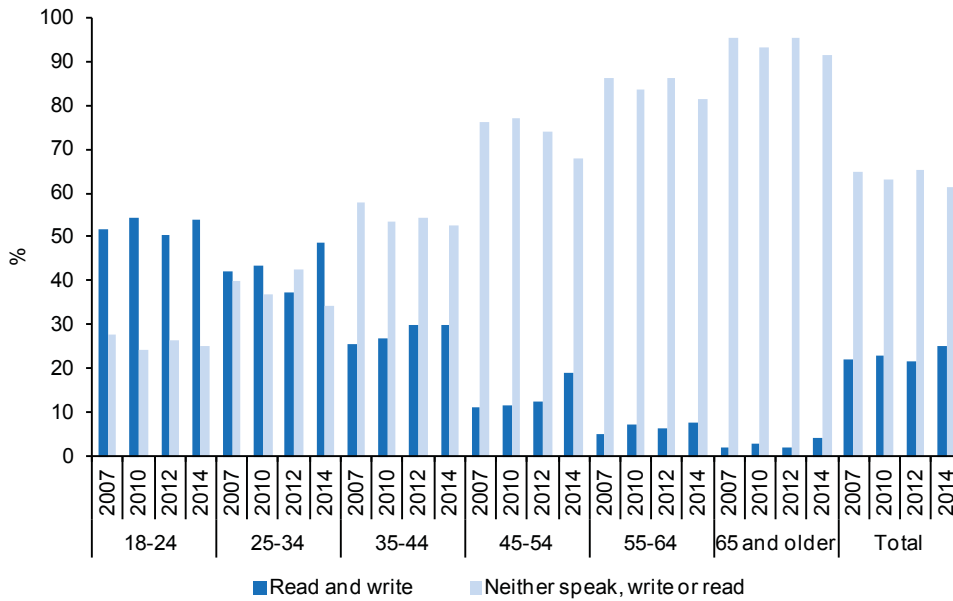


Question: "I would like to know if knowing foreign languages is in your opinion today very important, somewhat important, of little importance or not important at all" (percentages of answers 'very important' and 'important' have been added up).

Source: Center for Sociological Research (CIS), Opinion surveys 2677, 2830, 2932, 3013.

Exhibit II.2

Evolution of English skills by age groups (207-2014)



Question: "With respect to the following languages (English), could you tell me if you speak and write it, only speak it, only read it, neither speak nor write nor read it?"

Source: Center for Sociological Research (CIS), Opinion surveys 2677, 2830, 2932, 3013.

Section III. Follow-up social data

Table III.1

Population

	Total population	Average age	65 and older (%)	Life expectancy at birth (men)	Life expectancy at birth (women)	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	77.71	84.16	47.49	24.63	10.82	840,844	37.57
2007	45,200,737	40.76	16.66	77.79	84.14	47.41	24.55	11.61	958,266	41.69
2008	46,157,822	40.81	16.54	78.23	84.34	47.47	24.49	13.10	726,009	28.40
2009	46,745,807	40.92	16.65	78.63	84.66	47.81	24.61	13.83	498,977	31.98
2010	47,021,031	41.12	16.87	79.06	85.05	48.63	25.03	14.05	464,443	35.54
2011	47,190,493	41.36	17.15	79.32	85.16	49.43	25.51	14.15	454,686	36.87
2012	47,265,321	41.63	17.40	79.38	85.13	50.39	26.14	14.30	370,515	36.32
2013	47,129,783	41.87	17.69			50.65	26.64	14.08		
Sources	PMC	PMC	PMC	ID INE	ID INE	PMC	PMC	ID INE	EVR	EVR

ID INE: *Indicadores Demográficos INE.*

PMC: *Padrón Municipal Continuo.*

EVR: *Encuesta de Variaciones Residenciales.*

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	17,404.2	2.62		
Sources	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	155,628	32.2	29.7	2.08
2007	9.00	8.69	141,304	32.2	29.9	1.56
2008	8.51	8.35	131,060	32.4	30.2	1.62
2009	7.48	8.23	124,594	32.8	30.6	1.74
2010	7.17	7.89	127,682	33.2	31.0	1.87
2011	6.89	7.19	124,702	33.6	31.4	2.17
2012	7.17	6.74	127,160	33.8	31.7	2.04
2013						
<i>Sources</i>	ID INE	ID INE	CGPJ	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE

Fertility						
	Median age at first child, women	Total fertility rate Spanish women	Total fertility rate Foreign women	Births to single mothers (%)	Abortion rate	Abortion by Spanish-born women (%)
2006	29.32	1.31	1.69	28.36	10.62	
2007	29.45	1.31	1.72	30.25	11.49	
2008	29.30	1.36	1.83	33.16	11.78	55.56
2009	29.60	1.31	1.68	34.48	11.41	57.21
2010	29.83	1.30	1.68	35.52	11.49	58.30
2011	30.12	1.29	1.58	37.37	12.44	59.99
2012	30.25	1.27	1.56	38.96	12.01	61.67
2013						
<i>Sources</i>	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE	MSAN	MSAN

LFS: *Labour Force Survey*.

EPF: *Encuesta de Presupuestos Familiares*.

ID INE: *Indicadores Demográficos INE*.

CGPJ: Consejo General del Poder Judicial.

MSAN: Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad.

● EPF 2012: 2012 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: 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.

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 and 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
2013	27.3	7.3	18.1	27.7
<i>Source</i>	LFS	LFS	LFS	LFS

Students involved in non-compulsory education

	Pre-primary education	Secondary education	Vocational training	Under-graduate students	Post-graduate studies (except doctorate)
2006/07	1,557,257	665,127	445,455	1,405,894	16,636
2007/08	1,643,016	659,573	451,541	1,389,249	34,695
2008/09	1,763,019	669,021	472,604	1,377,228	49,799
2009/10	1,819,402	692,054	517,344	1,404,115	81,840
2010/11	1,872,829	720,937	555,580	1,445,392	100,963
2011/12	1,917,236	684,176	699,295**	1,469,653	113,061
2012/13	1,900,173	692,558	747,189**	1,450,036***	111,087***
<i>Source</i>	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD

Education expenditure

	University (under-graduate)	Public expenditure (thousands of €)	Household expenditure (€)
2006		42,512,586	8,244
2007		46,459,265	8,522
2008	10,232	50,880,439	8,505
2009	10,758	53,092,220	8,762
2010	11,766	52,720,999	9,085
2011	13,790	50,714,177	9,194***
2012	16,561	46,789,649*	
<i>Sources</i>	Eurostat	MECD	Contabilidad Nacional del INE

LFS: *Labor Force Survey*.

MECD: Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte.

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

* Provisional data.

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

*** Avance de la Estadística de Estudiantes Universitarios.

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	1,310,915	27.9	5,451,465	979.5	935,220	907.6	2,336,240	617.6
2014	1,242,666●	27.6●	5,522,206◆	992.2◆	930,613◆	913.1◆	2,343,830◆	621.9◆
Source	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL

Non-contributory benefits

	Social Security			
	Unemployment	Retirement	Disability	Other
2006	558,702	276,920	204,844	82,846
2007	575,675	270,980	203,401	73,159
2008	646,186	265,314	199,410	64,967
2009	960,888	260,908	197,126	57,737
2010	1,445,228	257,136	196,159	50,876
2011	1,331,316	254,295	194,712	44,457
2012	1,327,027	251,549	194,876	37,651
2013	1,313,986	250,815	195,478	32,066
2013	1,309,289●	250,501●	197,005●	
Sources	IMSERSO	IMSERSO	IMSERSO	BEL

BEL: *Boletín de Estadísticas Laborales*.

IMSERSO: Instituto de Mayores y Servicios Sociales.

* Benefits for orphans and dependent family members of deceased Social Security affiliates are excluded.

● Data refer to January.

◆ Data refer to January-February.

Table III.5

Social protection: Health care

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

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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