

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 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.

Section I. Spain in Europe

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- Population, households and families, education and social protection

Section I. Spain in Europe

I.1. Marrying less and later

Marriage has traditionally been a central institution in family formation. Nevertheless, in some European countries, among them Spain, nuptiality indicators show significant changes since the beginning of the 21st century. According to Eurostat data, the Spanish crude marriage rate (the number of marriages per 1,000 inhabitants) has sunk from 5.0 in 2003 to 3.5 in 2012. Compared with other countries, Spain shows a fairly abrupt fall. Italy's and France's crude marriage rates have also fallen to 3.5 and 3.7, respectively, but not so sharply.

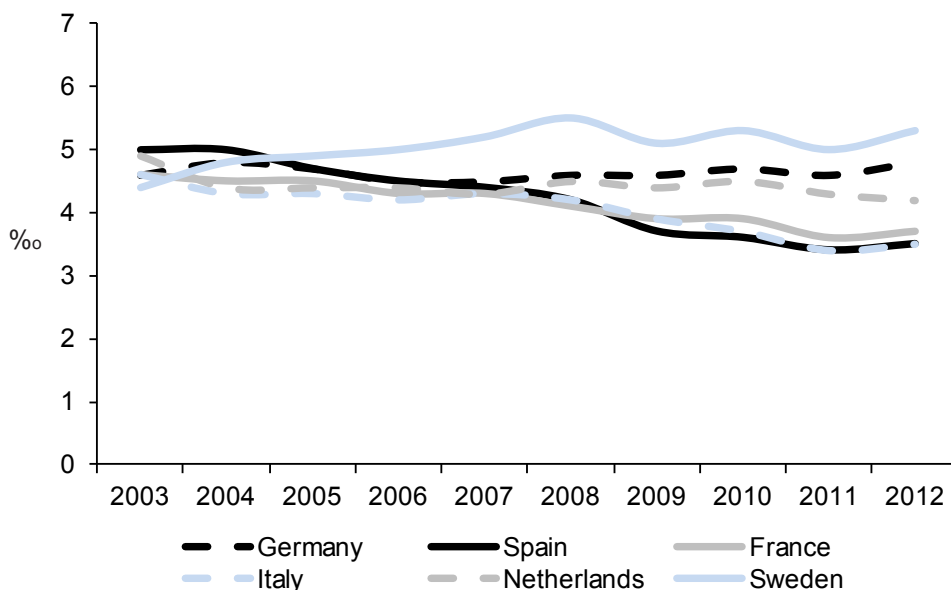
In contrast, Sweden and Germany illustrate the opposite evolution. While the Swedish crude marriage rate was 4.4 in 2003, it peaked in 2008 to 5.5 and stayed over 5 per thousand ever since. Germany's increase has been more moderate (Exhibit I.1).

At first glance, it seems that the marriage rate is contingent upon the economic situation – expansion furthers marriage and recession provokes drops. In fact, the three European bailed-out countries –Greece, Ireland and Portugal– have experienced a decrease in their marriage rates, but only in Portugal did people in 2013 marry less than in Spain, where the decay in marriage began before the crisis.

Curiously enough, while marriage trends have diverged in these countries, in all of them the mean age at first marriage has increased for women as well as for men. Spain shows the biggest delay in marriage among the

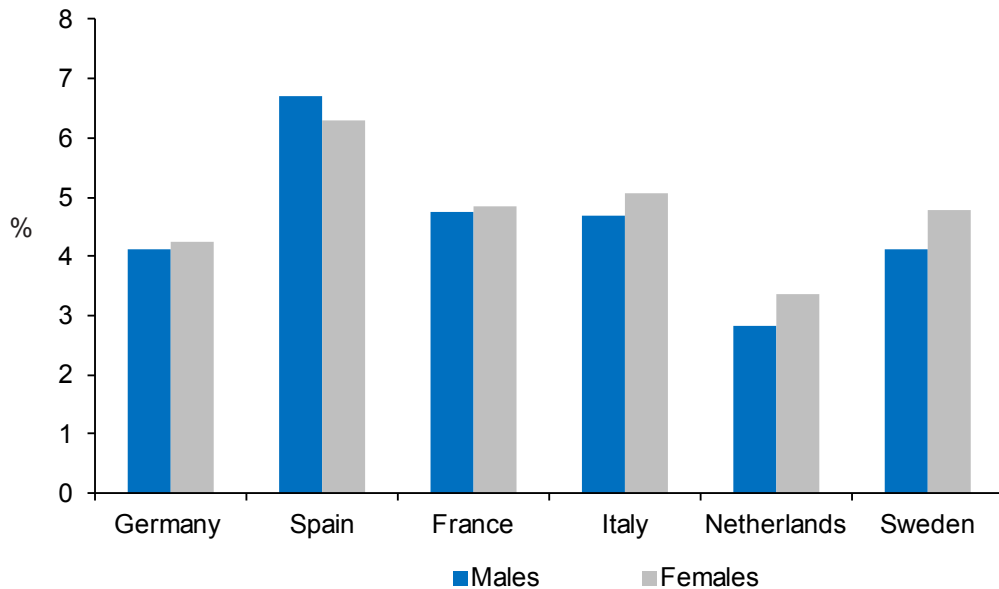
Exhibit I.1

Crude marriage rate (2003-2012)



Source: Eurostat [demo_nind].

Exhibit I.2

Growth of mean age at first marriage between 2004 and 2011

Source: Eurostat [demo_nind].

selected countries in Exhibit I.2. According to the last available Eurostat data, in 2011, men in Spain married at 33.4 years old, and women at 31.3; in 2003, men married 2.5 years earlier, and women 2.4. Women marry in all countries between 30 and 33, and in each country at least two years earlier than men.

is significantly lower in Italy (25%), a country with similar family traditions to Spain (Exhibit I.3).¹ Spanish statistical data (Labour Force Survey) suggest a growing trend of this behavior in the near future, since it appears to be much more extended among younger age cohorts of mothers.

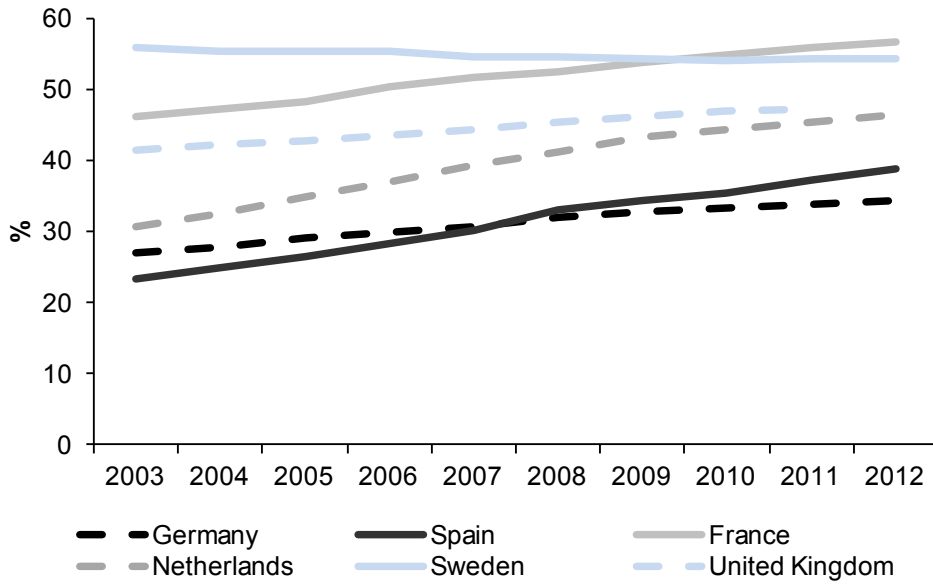
I.2. Growing proportion of children born outside marriage

A less contingent indicator of the weakening of marriage in Spain is the proportion of children born out of wedlock. In 2012, the percentage of babies born from unmarried mothers represented 39%, 16 percentage points more than in 2003. True, the percentage of children born out of wedlock is higher in other countries, like France (57%), Sweden (54%) and Holland (47%), but it

¹ Italy is not included in this Exhibit because Eurostat only provides data for 2012.

Exhibit I.3

Evolution of births outside marriage (2003-2012)



Source: Eurostat [demo_nind].

Section II. Public opinion trends

Finding or improving employment: More optimism among the youngest

As it is well-known, youth unemployment is very severe in Spain. According to Eurostat, the unemployment rate for people younger than 25 years amounted in the second quarter of this year (2014Q2) to 53.2%, some thirty percentage points higher than the Euro area average. Seven years before (2007Q2), it was 17.7%, slightly more than two percentage points above the Euro area average. This huge increase in unemployment among young Spanish people is the main argument upon which mass media have grounded the pointed concept of the “lost” or “wasted” generation. Many experts and journalists have also underlined the depressed mood of these millennials (born in the 90s) and their feelings of hopelessness.

Nonetheless, the youngest people are clearly the ones that have more positive attitudes towards recent changes in the labour market situation and also show more optimism regarding the near future. The available data do not back the idea that they are discouraged or worse-off in terms of expectations than other age groups.

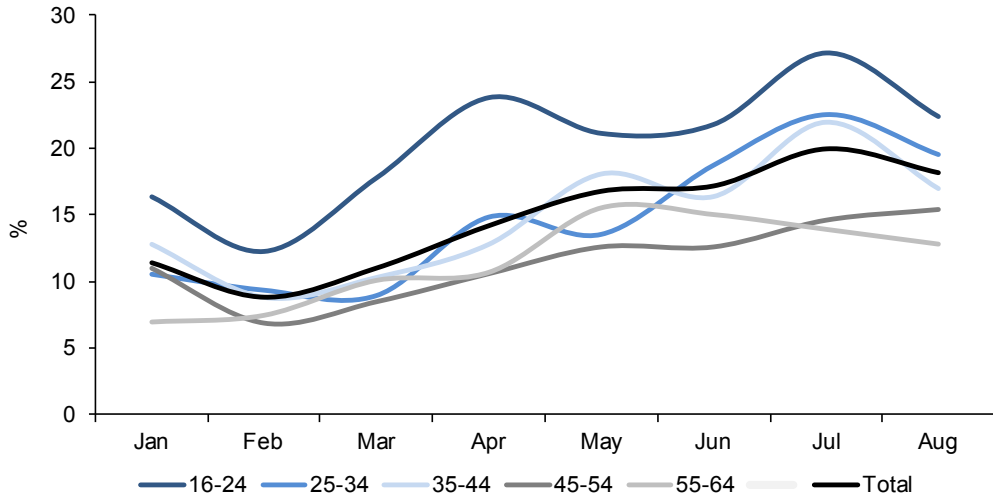
According to monthly surveys issued by the Center for Sociological Research (CIS), the percentage of people who think that “the situation to find or improve a job is now better than six months ago” has increased during 2014. In January, only 11% of all respondents supported this view; the corresponding figure in August was 18%, noticeably signaling an upward trend. As shown in Exhibit II.1, during all these months, the youngest segment of the population surveyed (16-24 years old) has revealed a much more positive attitude than other age groups. They also stand out when asked about finding or improving a job in the next

six months. In July and August, nearly half of them were optimistic; the expectations of people in other age groups were far more pessimistic. Thus, pessimism is more extended among older adults, particularly those older than 35 (Exhibit II.2). If confidence in the future is a good indicator of appropriate attitudes towards the employment search and job opportunities, the millennials seem to be less impaired than previous workers’ generations.

Concerns about youth unemployment are certainly justified, but survey data hint at the need to pay more attention to older adults. Their attitudes suggest stronger distrust towards the labor market and wider frustration.

Exhibit II.1

Perceptions about the current employment situation: Better now than six months ago (2014)

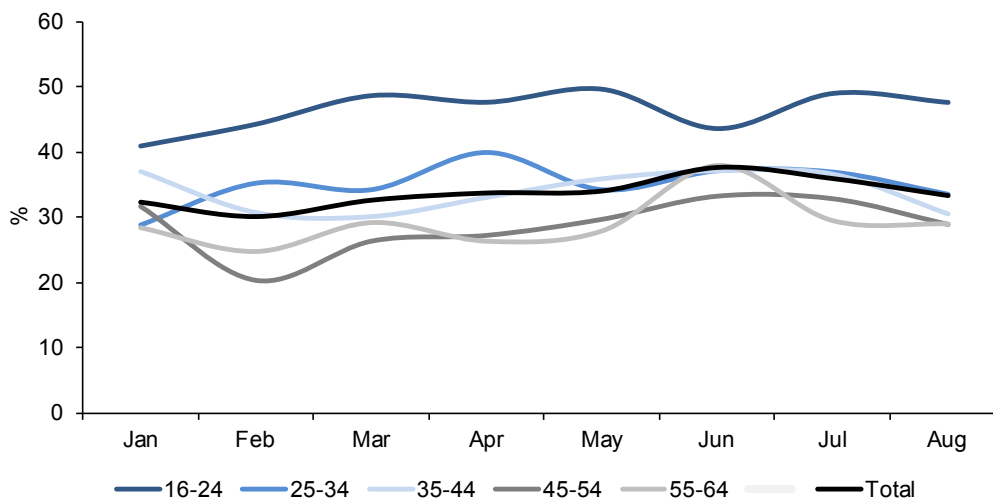


Question: "Do you think that the situation in Spain to find/improve employment is better or worse than six months ago?"

Source: Center for Sociological Research (CIS), ICC surveys, January-August 2014.

Exhibit II.2

Expectations about the employment situation in the near future: Better in six months than now (2014)



Question: "Now, looking to the future, do you think that the situation in Spain to find/improve employment will be in six months better or worse than now?"

Source: Center for Sociological Research (CIS), ICC surveys, January-August 2014.

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 (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	79.98	85.60	50.65	26.64	14.08	342,390	36.55
2014*	46,725,164	42.15	18.06			51.54	27.37	13.41		
Sources	PMC	PMC	PMC	ID INE	ID INE	PMC	PMC	PMC	EVR	EVR

ID INE: *Indicadores Demográficos INE.*

PMC: *Padrón Municipal Continuo.*

EVR: *Estadística 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.

*Provisional data

Table III.2

Households and families

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	11.6	10.27
2007	16,280.5	2.74	11.8	10.20
2008	16,742.0	2.71	12.0	10.24
2009	17,068.2	2.68	12.6	9.88
2010	17,173.9	2.67	12.8	9.93
2011	17,344.1	2.65	13.2	9.79
2012	17,434.4	2.63	13.7	9.91
2013	17,404.2	2.62	13.9	10.29
Sources	LFS	LFS	EPF	EPF

Table III.2

Households and families (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	31.6	2.04
2013	6.56	6.48	124,975			2.05
<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	30.91	1.21	1.50			
<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.

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
2013/14	1,884,886*	698,057*	784,413*	1,438,115*	109,113*
<i>Source</i>	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD

Students abroad**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*	
2013			
<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*.

• Forecast.

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	1,102,848♦	27.1♦	5,537,145♦	996.2♦	914,411♦	913.5♦	2,345,227♦	623.1♦
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
2014	1,247,659♦	251,696♦	196,964♦	27,760♦
Sources	IMERSO	IMERSO	IMERSO	BEL

BEL: *Boletín de Estadísticas Laborales*.

IMERSO: Instituto de Mayores y Servicios Sociales.

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

♦ Data refer to January-July.

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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