

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 particular social issues as perceived by the Spanish public and expressed 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. Delayed maternity and lower fertility

Motherhood delay is an overall European demographic phenomenon, but there are noteworthy international differences in this common trend. Together with Ireland and Italy, Spain showed in 2005 the highest mean age of women at childbirth (30.9 years). Even though between 2005 and 2014 this indicator grew more rapidly in other European countries, Spain maintained in 2014 its forefront position (after having surpassed Ireland and Italy): the mean age of women at childbirth was 31.8 years, 1.4 and 1.0 years above the EU-28 and the euro area averages, respectively (Exhibit I.1).

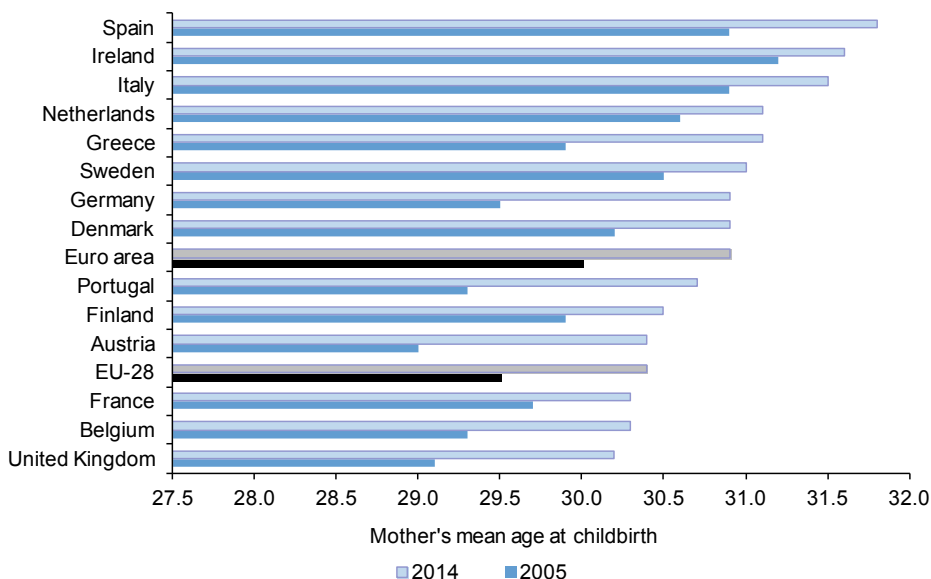
Italy and Spain are also the euro area countries with the highest mean age of women at the birth of

their first child. In 2014, those women living in Spain who had their first child recorded an average age of 30.6 years (30.7 in Italy). Both countries stand out as the only ones in the euro area whose female mean ages at birth of first child were in 2014 above 30 years (Exhibit I.2). At the other end we find France, which is not only the euro area country with the lowest mean age of first time mothers (28.3 years), but also the only one that has lowered this average age since 2005 (outside the euro area, the UK also shows a modest reduction in age of first time mothers between 2005 and 2014).

Delaying motherhood is often times linked with lower fertility rates. However, both phenomena do not always go hand in hand. In fact, the fertility upturn in most European countries between 2007 and 2010 took place while maternity age was growing. In Spain, the total fertility rate began to fall as of 2009; the slight increase between 2013 and 2014 (from 1.27 to 1.32) has not halted the upward trend in the mean age of women at childbirth (Exhibit I.3).

Exhibit I.1

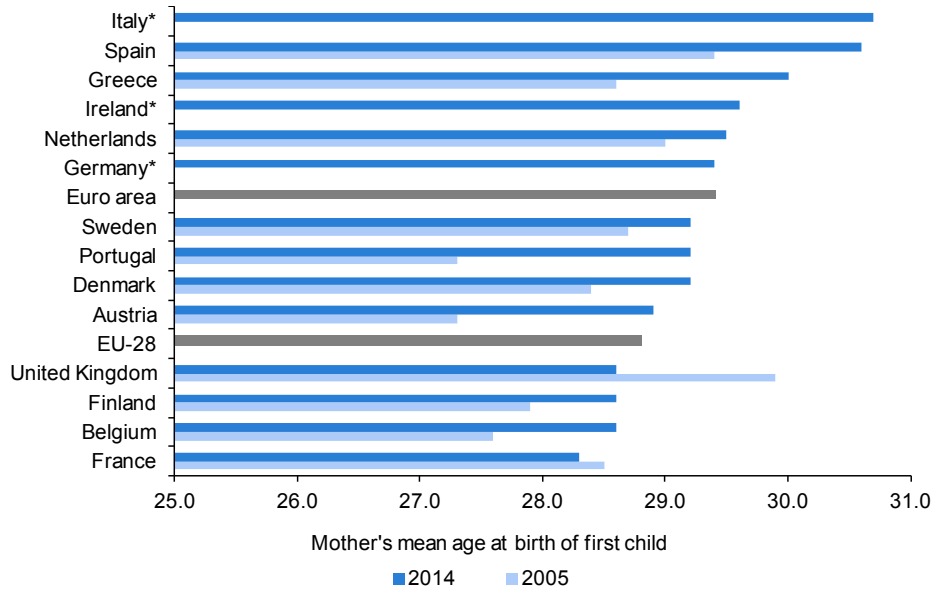
Mother's mean age at childbirth (2005 and 2014)



Source: Eurostat (Fertility statistics).

Exhibit I.2

Mother's mean age at birth of first child (2005 and 2014)

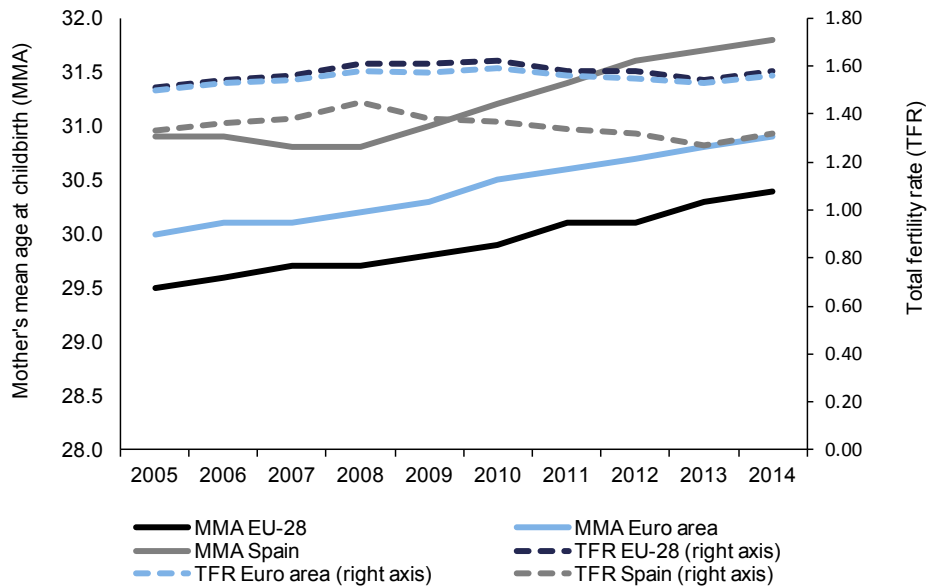


Note: * Data for 2005 not available. EU-28 and Euro area averages refer to 2014.

Source: Eurostat (Fertility statistics).

Exhibit I.3

Total fertility rate and mother's mean age at childbirth (2005-2014)



Source: Eurostat (Fertility statistics).

I.2. Young people's factual unemployment

Youth unemployment has been very high on the Spanish public agenda in the last few years. The “over 50%” threshold of youth unemployment is still a sort of common knowledge deeply ingrained in public opinion. On the basis of this figure, young people are often described as the most strongly affected by the economic crisis.

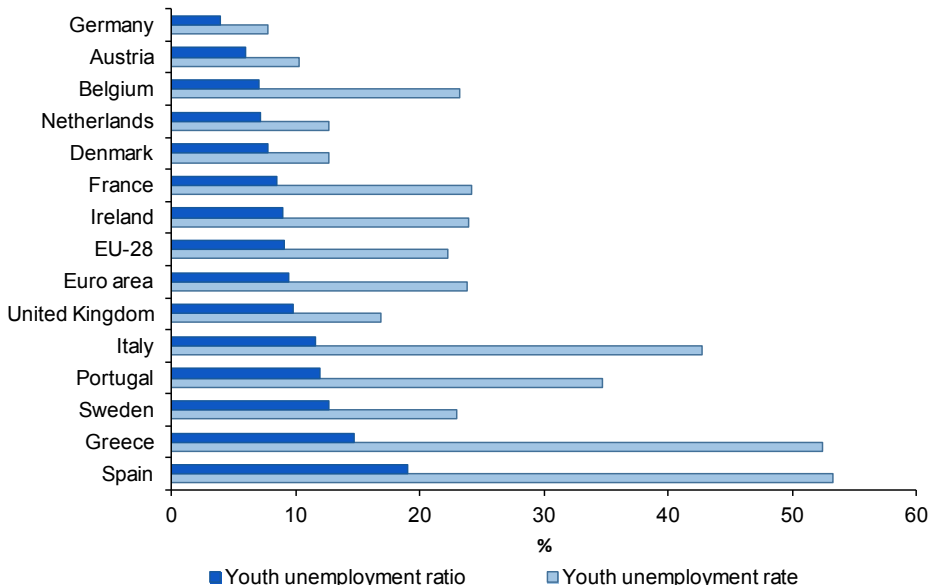
However, as Eurostat has noted, the youth unemployment rate should not be used to outline the magnitude of youth unemployment, since many young people are not included in the labour force (the denominator for calculating the unemployment rate) since they are studying full-time, and thus

neither working nor genuinely looking for a job (in Spain, for instance, only 36.1% of people aged 16 to 24 were statistically considered “labour force”, i.e. “población activa”, in the last LFS). Eurostat has therefore recommended to distinguish between the unemployment rate and the unemployment ratio, the latter being calculated as the share of the unemployed for the whole population. As shown in Exhibit I.4., youth unemployment ratios in the EU are much lower than youth unemployment rates. Spain has the lead in both indicators, but they differ considerably: the Spanish youth unemployment rate in 2014 was 53.2%, while the youth unemployment ratio amounted to 19%. This means that around one out of every five persons aged 15 to 24 was effectively unemployed.

When looking in more detail at recently published Spanish Labour Force Survey (LFS) data (school years 2014/15 and 2015/16),¹ we find significant

Exhibit I.4

Youth unemployment rates and ratios (2014)



Source: Eurostat (Unemployment statistics).

¹ A school year comprises the fourth quarter of one year (Q4 Y) and the first and second quarters of the next year (Q1/Q2 Y+1). However, dedication to regulated education is concentrated in the fourth quarter of a year and the first quarter of the next year (school/university leaving occurs empirically more often in the second quarter of Y+1). These two quarters (Q4 Y and Q1 Y+1) are therefore crucial to measure the size of the group of young people studying in each school year. The recent publication of the Spanish LFS data corresponding to the first quarter of 2016 allows to estimate the school years 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.

Exhibit I.5

Position of Spaniards (born in Spain)* aged 16 to 24 (2014/15 and 2015/16)**

Notes: * The category "Spaniards born in Spain" excludes naturalized immigrants.

** The estimates are based on LFS data of the fourth quarters of 2014 and 2015 and the first quarters of 2015 and 2016.

Source: Spanish LFS (www.ine.es). Data categorization and analysis by Prof. Luis Garrido Medina.

differences within the 16-24 age group as regards the dedication to (regulated) education and to employment (Exhibit I.5). First, the share of young Spaniards (born in Spain) under 19 years who are not studying is quite small. At the age of 19, 65% of males and 70% of females are studying nowadays. Only at the age of 22 does the proportion of those working or unemployed outstrip the proportion of those studying. At the age of 24, less than one out of every four Spanish men and women states that she/he is studying, approximately half the proportion of those who are employed. Curiously enough, the share of those young people who do not study, nor work, nor look for a job is very similar at all ages (around 5%) and does not show significant differences between males and females.

In sum, the proportion of unemployed Spaniards (males and females born in Spain) between 16

and 24 years amounts to 17.4% (9.6% with work experience and 7.7% without it). This figure is close to the Spanish youth unemployment ratio offered by Eurostat (19%).

I.3. The trade-off between unemployment and education

The Spanish LFS data also allow to draw interesting conclusions about the evolution of youth unemployment during the last few years. When focusing on the reverse side of this phenomenon, *i.e.* on youth employment, we see that the proportion of working people aged 16 to 24 strongly decreased from 2007/2008 to 2012/2013 (particularly among males). Yet during the same period the proportion of those dedicated

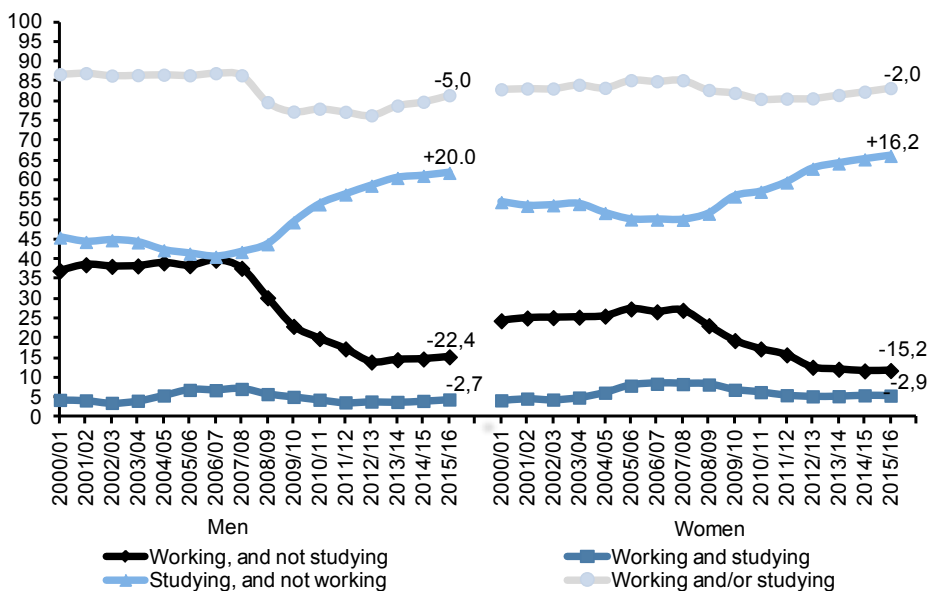
to studying increased with a similar intensity. Thus, employment among young male Spaniards (born in Spain and aged 16 to 24) decreased 22.4 percentage points between 2007/2008 and 2015/2016, while the increase of those studying amounted to 20 points. With respect to women, the employment rate dropped 15.2 percentage points between those years, whereas the proportion of those studying increased 16.2 points (Exhibit I.6). The data strongly suggest that most young males and females reacted to unemployment by devoting their productive time to studying (whereby males reacted later and less intensively than females:

compare the curves between the former and the latter in Exhibit I.6).

In sum, the evidence hints to a nearly perfect trade-off between unemployment and education among young people since the beginning of this century (this trade-off finds additional support in the only relatively minor decrease in the share of young people studying or working between 2007/2008 and 2015/2016 [upper curves of Exhibit I.6]: the male share fell 5 points, while the female share decreased 2 points).

Exhibit I.6

Employment and education of Spaniards (born in Spain)* aged 16 to 24 (2000/01-2015/16)**



Notes: * The category "Spaniards born in Spain" excludes naturalized immigrants.

** The estimates shown here are based on LFS data of the fourth quarter of each year (Y) and the first quarter of the following year (Y+1).

*** The figures at the end of each curve display the increase/decrease in percentage points between 2007/08 and 2015/16.

Source: Spanish LFS (www.ine.es). Data categorization and analysis by Prof. Luis Garrido Medina.

Section II. Public opinion trends

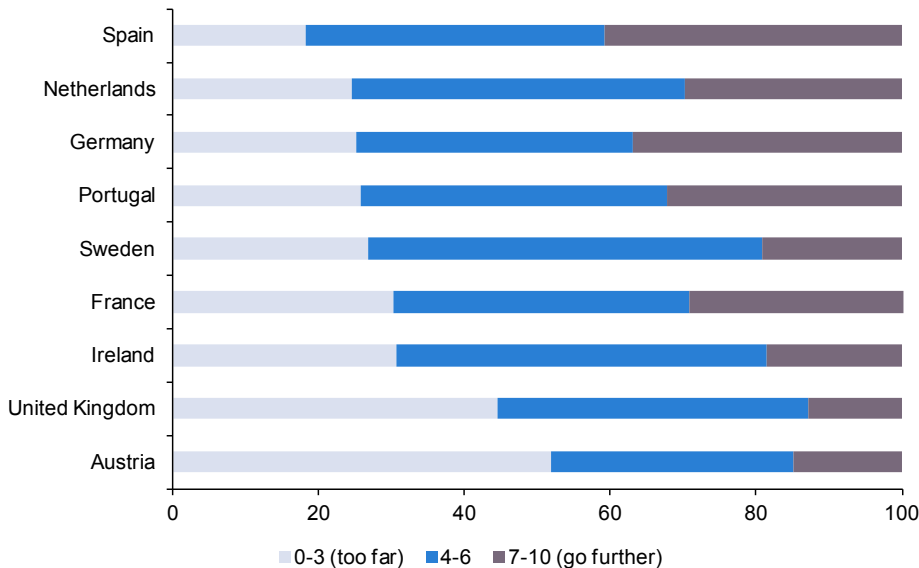
A call for more Europe

The recently published European Social Survey (ESS) data for the year 2014 confirm Spain's support for further European unification. Of all countries included in the ESS, Spain shows the biggest proportion of residents (aged 15 and over) calling for more European integration. On a 10 point scale where 0 means that "unification has already gone too far" and 10 that "unification should go further", 41% of people living in Spain

responded "7", "8", "9" or "10". Denmark (38%), Germany (37%) and Poland (37%) follow Spain in this ranking, with the UK (15%) and Austria (13%) at the other extreme (Exhibit II.1).

Two points deserve mention. First, Spanish people's support for advancing European unification has been comparatively high during the last decade despite some ups and downs. Second, this positive standpoint seems to have resisted quite well the euro crisis. In fact, the average score on the 10 point scale decreased during the years of economic expansion and began to recover after 2008 (Exhibit II.2). According to this survey evidence, the often harshly criticized crisis management by the European institutions does not seem to have negatively impacted the desire for more Europe in Spain.

Exhibit II.1
Attitudes toward European unification (2014)

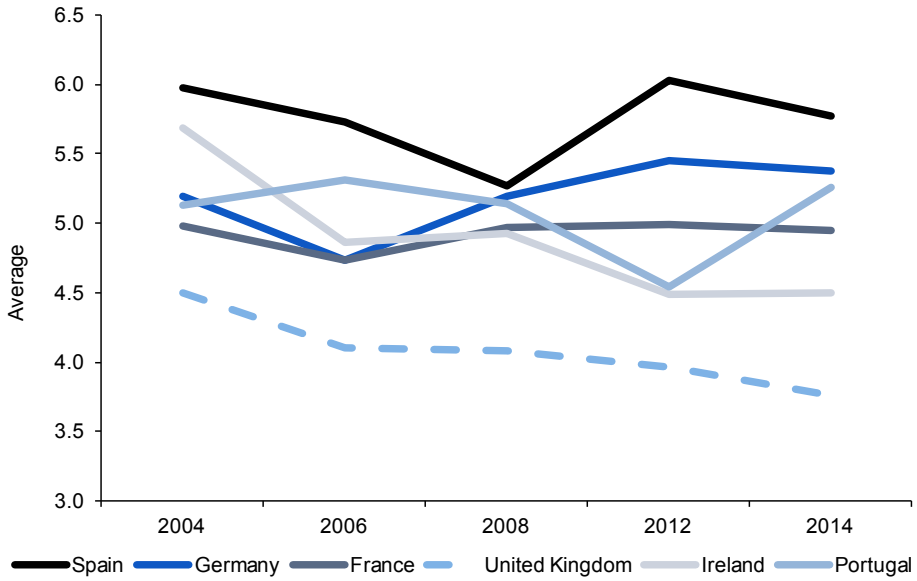


Question: "Now thinking about the European Union, some say European unification should go further. Others say it has already gone too far. Using this card, what number on the scale best describes your position?" (10 point scale where 0 means that "unification has already gone too far" and 10 that "unification should go further").

Source: European Social Survey data (<http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/>).

Exhibit II.2

Attitudes toward European unification (2004-2014)



Question: “Now thinking about the European Union, some say European unification should go further. Others say it has already gone too far. Using this card, what number on the scale best describes your position?” (Average of answers on a 10 point scale where 0 means that “unification has already gone too far” and 10 that “unification should go further”).

Source: European Social Survey data (<http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/>).

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 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	46,771,341	42.14	18.05			51.58	27.36	13.43		
2015	46,624,382	42.43	18.39			52.42	28.03	13.22		
<i>Sources</i>	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.

Table III.2

Households and families

Households

	Households number (thousands)	Average household size	Households with one person younger than 65 (%)	Households with one person older than 65 (%)
2007	16,280.5	2.74	11.8	10.2
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
2014*	18,328.9	2.51	14.2	10.55
2015*	18,375.9	2.54		
2016**	18,408.3	2.50		
<i>Sources</i>	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 (%)
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	6.63	6.60	124,975	34.3	32.2	2.05
2014*	6.95	6.46	133,643	34.4	32.3	2.06
<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 (%)
2007	29.4	1.31	1.72	30.3	11.5	
2008	29.3	1.36	1.83	33.2	11.8	55.6
2009	29.6	1.31	1.68	34.5	11.4	57.2
2010	29.8	1.30	1.68	35.5	11.5	58.3
2011	30.1	1.29	1.58	37.4	12.4	60.0
2012	30.3	1.27	1.56	39.0	12.0	61.5
2013	30.4	1.23	1.53	40.8	11.7	62.2
2014*	30.6	1.27	1.62	42.5	10.5	63.3
<i>Sources</i>	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE	ID INE	MSAN	MSAN

LFS: *Labor 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.

Provisional data.

**The magnitude change in 2014 LFS data is partly due to a methodological change.*

***LFS data refer to January-March.*

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 (%)
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
2014*	24.4	6.1	27.2	42.3
2015	23.3	6.6	27.5	40.9
2016**	22.7	6.6	27.8	40.7
Source	LFS	LFS	LFS	LFS

Students involved in non-compulsory education

	Pre-primary education	Secondary education	Vocational training	Under-graduate students	Post-graduate students (except doctorate)
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	582,940	1,469,653	113,061
2012	1,912,324	692,098	617,686	1,450,036	111,087
2013	1,884,342	696,648	646,158	1,438,115	109,113
2014	1,836,606●	690,228●	651,938●	1,361,340	139,844
2015	1,798,213◆	697,699◆	658,301◆		
Source	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD	MECD

Education expenditure

	Public expenditure (thousands of €)	Public expenditure (% GDP)
2007	47,266,674	4.37
2008	51,716,008	4.63
2009	53,895,012	4.99
2010	53,099,329	4.91
2011	50,631,080	4.73
2012	46,476,414	4.46
2013	44,974,574	4.36
Sources	MECD	Contabilidad Nacional del INE

LFS: Labor Force Survey.

MECD: Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte.

INE: Instituto Nacional de Estadística.

● Provisional data.

◆ Forecast.

* The magnitude change in 2014 LFS data is partly due to a methodological change.

** LFS data refer to January-March

Table III.4

Social protection: Benefits**Contributory benefits***

	Unemployment		Retirement		Permanent disability		Widowhood	
	Total		Total	Average amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)	Total	Average amount (€)
2006	720,384		4,809,298	722.7	859,780	731.5	2,196,934	476.7
2007	780,205		4,863,256	760.0	888,776	760.7	2,225,501	498.3
2008	1,100,879		4,936,839	814.5	906,835	801.5	2,249,904	529.0
2009	1,624,792		5,038,861	854.1	920,863	831.5	2,270,283	553.9
2010	1,471,826		5,140,554	884.0	933,730	849.9	2,290,090	571.7
2011	1,328,020		5,246,241	915.2	938,491	869.5	2,309,332	586.4
2012	1,381,261		5,330,195	946.3	943,296	887.3	2,322,938	601.5
2013	1,310,915		5,451,465	979.5	935,220	907.6	2,336,240	617.6
2014	1,059,799		5,558,964	999.8	929,484	915.6	2,348,388	624.0
2015	838,392		5,641,908	1,021	931,668	923.3	2,353,257	630.6
2016•	779,047		5,697,618	1,036	934,487	928.0	2,355,321	635.0
Source	BEL		BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL	BEL

Non-contributory benefits

	Social Security			
	Unemployment	Retirement	Disability	Other
2006	558,702	276,920	204,844	82,064
2007	575,675	270,980	203,401	71,818
2008	646,186	265,314	199,410	63,626
2009	960,888	260,908	197,126	56,396
2010	1,445,228	257,136	196,159	49,535
2011	1,331,316	254,295	194,712	43,116
2012	1,327,027	251,549	194,876	36,310
2013	1,313,986	250,815	195,478	30,725
2014	1,221,390	252,328	197,303	26,842
2015	1,102,529	253,838	198,891	23,643
2016•	1,062,167	254,450	199,746	22,141
Sources	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 excluded.

• Data refer to January-April.

Table III.5

Social protection: Health care

	Total expenditure (% GDP)	Public expenditure (% total expenditure)	Total expenditure per capita (\$)	Physicians per 1,000 inhabitants	Nurses per 1,000 inhabitants	Pharmaceutical expenditure (\$ per capita)	Attendance primary care medicine per person/year
2006	7.8	72.5	2,395.2	3.6	4.5	470.2	
2007	7.8	72.7	2,571.4	3.6	4.6	488.8	5.96
2008	8.3	73.6	2,796.4	3.5	4.8	517.1	6.10
2009	9.0	75.4	2,946.1	3.6	5.0	537.8	5.56
2010	9.0	74.8	2,916.5	3.8	5.2	531.9	5.43
2011	9.1	73.8	2,957.0	3.8	5.2	525.7	5.51
2012	9.0	71.7	2,956.8	3.8	5.2	511.7	5.31
2013	8.8	71.5	2,898.4	3.8	5.1	545.0	5.30
<i>Sources</i>	OECD	OECD	OECD	OECD	OECD	OECD	INCLASNS

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

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

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