

SPANISH EXTERNAL SECTOR AND COMPETITIVENESS: FACTS AND FIGURES

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1. EXPORT-IMPORT PERFORMANCE

International trade of goods (Secretariat of State for Trade of the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness with Customs data; [reports](#) and [customizable data](#))

- In **2016**, exports increased by 1.7% compared to 2015 to an unprecedented amount of 254,530.2 million euros, whereas imports fell by 0.4% year-on-year to 273,284.2 million euros. In **real terms**, exports grew by 3.5% year-on-year, as export prices diminished by 1.7% (according to [unit value indices](#)), and imports advanced by 2.8% year-on-year, as import prices decreased by 3.1%.
- Spain's **trade deficit** decreased to 18,753.9 million euros compared to 2015 (deficit of 24,173.9 million euros with provisional data). The export/import coverage ratio reached 93.1%, 1.9 percentage points higher than in 2015 (91.2% with provisional data).
- **Exports to the European Union (EU)** accounted for 66.3% of total exports in 2016 (up from 64.8% in 2015) and advanced by 4.1% year-on-year, while exports to the euro area accounted for 51.8% of total (50.4% in 2015) and expanded by 4.4%. Exports to the rest of the world accounted for 33.7% of total exports (down from 35.2% in 2015) and decreased by 2.6% year-on-year.
- In 2016, the good performance of exports had led to a **positive contribution of the external sector (goods and services) to GDP of 0.7 p.p.**, according to the [National Statistics Institute](#). According to [Government's Macroeconomic Scenario 2017-2018](#) (updated on 16.10.17) the forecast for the contribution of the external demand is 0.7 p.p. for 2017 and 0.5 p.p. for 2018.
- In the **year to September 2017**, Spain's exports advanced by 9.1% compared to the same period of 2016 to 205,559.6 million euros, whereas imports advanced by 11.1% year-on-year to 224,121.2 million euros. In real terms, exports rose by 8.6% year-on-year, as export prices grew by 0.4%, and imports advanced by 5.6% year-on-year, as import prices increased by 5.2%. Spain's trade deficit increased to 18,561.5 million euros compared to the same period of 2016 (deficit of 13,227.1 million euros). The export/import coverage ratio reached 91.7%, 1.7 percentage points lower than in the same period of 2016 (93.4%, provisional data).

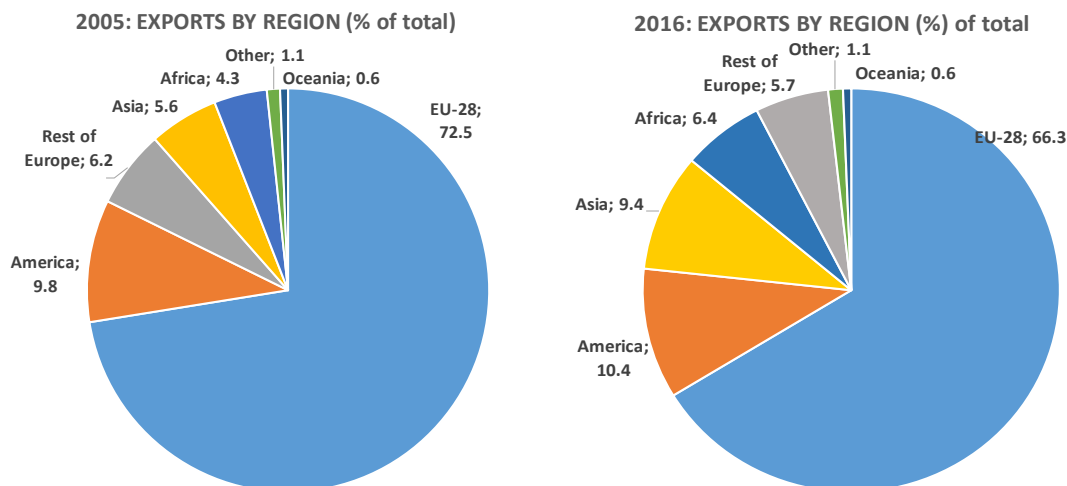
Sectorial composition

- Spain's **leading exporting sectors** in 2016 were capital goods (representing 20.3% of total exports, advancing by 2.5% year-on-year), vehicles (17.7% of total, increasing by 5.9%), food, beverages and tobacco (16.9% of total, growing by 6.2%) and chemical products (14.1% of total, advancing by 0.1%). The **main contributions** by sector to the annual change of Spain's exports (1.7%) were vehicles (contribution of 1.0 percentage points), food, beverages and tobacco (1.0 points), consumption goods (0.6 points) and capital goods (0.5 points).
- The largest shares by sector of Spain's imports in 2016 were capital goods (representing 22.0% of total and growing by 7.6% year-on-year), chemical products (15.6% of total imports, diminishing by 2.8%), vehicles (13.6% of total imports, advancing by 3.9%) and consumption goods (12.8% of total imports, increasing by 6.5%). In terms of their contribution to the annual change of Spain's imports (-0.4%), the most positive by sector were capital goods (1.6 percentage points), consumption goods (0.8 points), vehicles (contribution of 0.5 points) and food, beverages and tobacco (contribution of 0.5 points). On the other hand, the major negative contributions corresponded to energy products (-3.3 points) and chemical products (-0.5 points).
- Furthermore, in the period **January-September 2017** the largest shares by sector of Spain's exports were those of capital goods (representing 20.4% of total exports, surging by 10.5% year-on-year), food, beverages and tobacco (16.6% of total, growing by 7.3%), vehicles (16.3% of total, decreasing by 0.8%) and chemical products (14.2% of total, advancing by 7.4%). Considering imports, largest shares by sector were those of capital goods (representing 21.4% of total and rising by 10.0% year-on-year), chemical products (15.0% of total imports, expanding by 4.7%), energy (13.4% of total imports, surging by 41.7%) and vehicles (12.9% of total imports, growing by 2.7%).
- Although Spain still has a lower degree of diversification than our main European trade partners (Germany, France or Italy), it has notably changed its export mix to a higher degree of sectorial diversification from 2008 to 2016

Geographic analysis

- In 2016, Spain's **exports to non-EU** countries fell by 2.6% year-on-year, due to the economic weakening in emerging economies, after the strong growth rates registered in the period 2010-2013, followed by two years of relative stability. Along the decade, exports to non-EU countries have **increased their share** in Spanish exports from 27.5% of total in 2005 to 33.7% in 2016, with a maximum of 37.4% in 2013. In 2016, exports to North America increased by 0.3% year-on-year (exports to the U.S. falling by 0.7% y-o-y, while those to Canada growing by 8.4%), and those to Latin America fell by 9.1% (especially to Argentina by -35.4% and Brazil by -17.8%). Exports to Asia augmented by 0.1% (China by 13.4%, Hong Kong-China by 10.2%) and those to Africa fell by 0.4% (particularly to South Africa by -10.9% and Algeria by -8.1%).

Spanish external sector and competitiveness: facts and figures

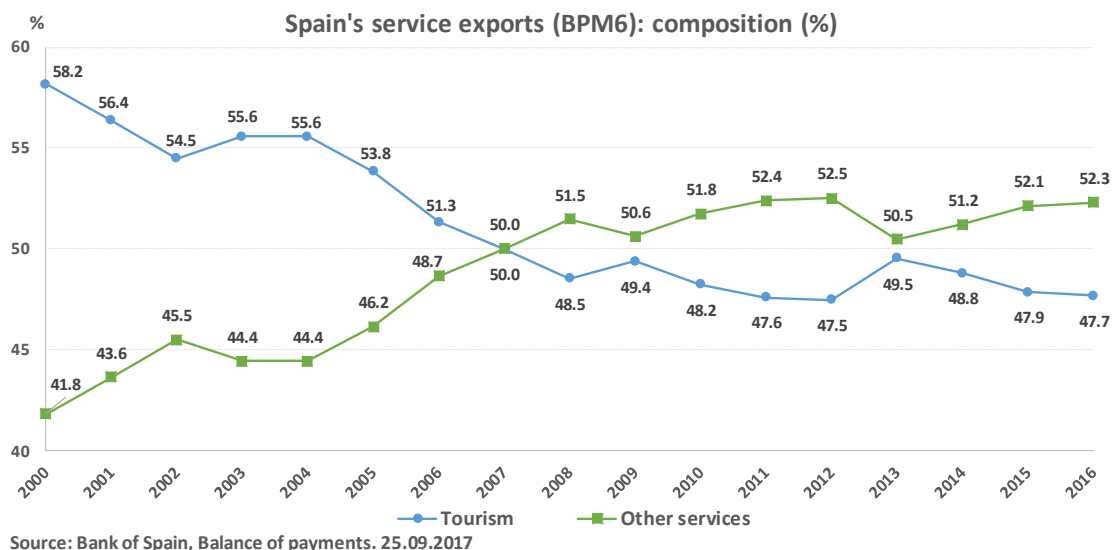


- In 2016, **exports to the European Union accounted for 66.3%** of total exports in the period (up from 64.8% in 2015) and advanced by 4.1% year-on-year, while exports to the euro area accounted for 51.8% of total (50.4% in 2015) and expanded by 4.4%. In comparison to 2005 exports to EU countries have decreased their share in Spanish exports from 72.5% of total in 2005 to 66.3% in 2016.
- In the **year to September 2017**, exports to the European Union accounted for 65.9% of total exports in the period (down from 66.5% in the same period of 2016) and grew by 8.1% year-on-year, while exports to the euro area ran at 51.7% of total (equal value as in the same period of 2016) and advanced by 9.0%. Exports to the rest of the world amounted to 34.1% of total exports (33.5% in the same period of 2016) and expanded by 11.0% year-on-year.

Sectorial and geographic analysis of exports of services (Bank of Spain, Balance of Payments, BPM6, [monthly](#), and [quarterly](#)).

- In 2016, **exports of services increased by 7.6% year-on-year to 114,614 million euros**, the highest value ever-achieved ([Bank of Spain](#)). This rise in 2016 was due to the 8.0% increase in other services as well as 7.2% rise in tourism.
- The **share of other services** in the total exports of services has been steadily rising in the last decades in comparison with that of tourism. Thus, the share of other services has reached 52.3% in 2016, up from 41.8% in 2000.

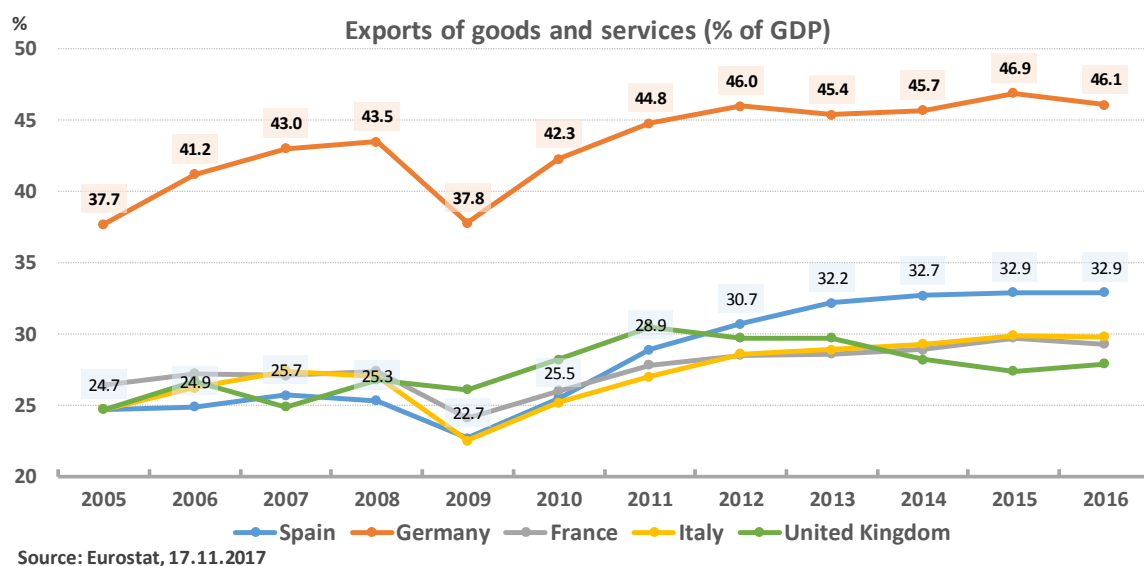
Spanish external sector and competitiveness: facts and figures



- **In 2016** (BPM6, [Bank of Spain](#)), 52.3% of Spanish exports of services corresponded to non-tourism. By type of service, other business services represented 18.6% of total exports, followed by transport services with 12.7% of total, and by telecommunications, computer and information services with 9.2% of total.
- **In 2016** (BPM6, [Bank of Spain](#)), 72.1% of Spanish exports of total services went to the Europe (63.0% to EU-28 and 41.7% to the euro area), 8.3% to Asia, 6.3% to North America, 5.6% to South America, 3.4% to Africa and 0.7% to Oceania. By countries, the most important destinations were the U.K. (15.0%), Germany (10.9%), France (10.4%), the United States (5.6%), Switzerland (5.1%) and Italy (3.8%).

Exports of goods and services, % of GDP ([Eurostat](#))

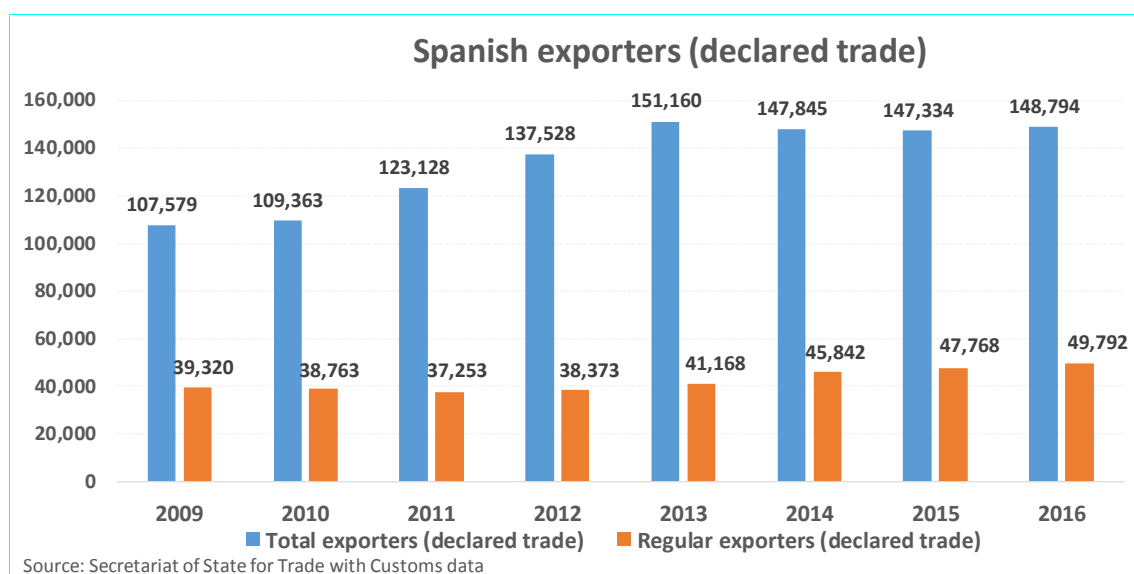
- In the last few years, Spanish exports of goods and services have risen steadily in terms of GDP. According to Eurostat, Spanish exports of goods and services reached 32.9% of GDP in 2016, 10.2 p.p. higher than in 2009, a greater ratio than in Italy, France or the United Kingdom.



2. EXPORT BASE

Spanish exporters (Secretariat of State for Trade of the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness with Customs data; [customizable data](#))

- Another factor explaining the good performance of the Spanish external sector is the **increase in the export base**. In 2016, the number of **regular exporters** (those that have already exported in the current year as well as in each of the three preceding years with declared trade) **rose by 4.2%** year-on-year and reached 49,792, the fifth consecutive year of increase (4.2% in 2015, 11.4% in 2014, 7.3% in 2013 and 3.0% in 2012). The total number of exporters increased by 1.0% to 148,794 exporters (8.2% higher than in 2012), out of which, 38,382 had exported at least 50,000 euros in the year.



- The number of regular exporters has risen by 29.7% in the period 2012-2016. Despite regular exporters were only 33.5% of total exporters in 2016, they accounted for 94.3% of total declared exports. In 2016, Regular exporters exporting over 5 million euros (in the current year as well as in each of the three preceding years) accounted for almost 80% of Spain's foreign declared sales (79.5%).

SPANISH REGULAR EXPORTERS (DECLARED TRADE)																	
Minimum exports	Number of exporters					Annual rate of change (%)					16/12 %	% of total					16/12 (p.p.)
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Total exporters	137,528	151,160	147,845	147,334	148,794	11.7%	9.9%	-2.2%	-0.3%	1.0%	8.2%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-
Regular exporters	38,373	41,168	45,842	47,768	49,779	3.0%	7.3%	11.4%	4.2%	4.2%	29.7%	27.9%	27.2%	31.0%	32.4%	33.5%	5.55
x>=25.000 €	23,261	24,232	25,498	26,228	27,013	0.7%	4.2%	5.2%	2.9%	3.1%	16.1%	16.9%	16.0%	17.2%	17.8%	18.2%	1.24
x>=50.000 €	20,637	21,553	22,663	23,327	24,042	0.2%	4.4%	5.2%	2.9%	3.2%	16.5%	15.0%	14.3%	15.3%	15.8%	16.2%	1.15
x>=500.000 €	11,369	11,956	12,626	13,102	13,718	0.3%	5.2%	5.6%	3.8%	4.8%	20.7%	8.3%	7.9%	8.5%	8.9%	9.2%	0.95
x>=5M€	2,954	3,220	3,426	3,603	3,750	1.5%	9.0%	6.4%	5.2%	4.3%	26.9%	2.1%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	0.37
x>=50M€	309	357	391	435	440	1.0%	15.5%	9.5%	11.3%	1.1%	42.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.07	
Minimum exports	Value of exports in millions of euros					Annual rate of change (%)					16/12 %	% of total					16/12 (p.p.)
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Total exporters	226,114.6	235,814.1	240,581.8	249,794.4	254,530.2	5.1%	4.3%	2.0%	3.8%	1.7%	12.6%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-
Regular exporters	205,750.2	216,966.1	223,421.0	233,440.1	240,098.7	5.3%	5.5%	3.0%	4.5%	2.7%	16.7%	91.0%	92.0%	92.9%	93.5%	94.3%	3.34
x>=25.000 €	203,258.3	214,392.9	221,140.5	231,314.0	237,652.5	5.5%	5.5%	3.1%	4.6%	2.6%	16.9%	89.9%	90.9%	91.9%	92.6%	93.4%	3.48
x>=50.000 €	202,369.6	213,352.2	220,485.0	230,680.6	236,953.7	5.4%	5.4%	3.3%	4.6%	2.6%	17.1%	89.5%	90.5%	91.6%	92.3%	93.1%	3.60
x>=500.000 €	196,048.3	207,370.4	214,365.2	224,357.2	231,060.2	5.2%	5.8%	3.4%	4.7%	2.8%	17.9%	86.7%	87.9%	89.1%	89.8%	90.8%	4.08
x>=5M€	169,588.0	181,327.8	188,338.1	196,738.2	202,460.2	6.1%	6.9%	3.9%	4.5%	2.7%	19.4%	75.0%	76.9%	78.3%	78.8%	79.5%	4.54
x>=50M€	112,593.1	121,361.3	127,173.7	134,604.9	137,707.0	6.2%	7.8%	4.8%	5.8%	2.2%	22.3%	49.8%	51.5%	52.9%	53.9%	54.1%	4.31

Source: Secretariat of State for Trade with Customs data

- Between 2012 and 2016 the number of Spanish exporters selling abroad over 50,000€ annually has risen by 1.7%. In the whole period 2012-2016, these exporters were

responsible for almost all exports by value (between 99.7% and 99.8%). In the upper sections, in 2016 there were 657 companies exporting more than 50 million euros (0.5% of total exporters), from 571 in 2012, concentrating 61.5% of total exports in 2016 from 60.9% in 2012.

SPANISH EXPORTERS (DECLARED TRADE)																		
Brackets (value of exports)	Number of exporters					Annual rate of change (%)						16/12 %	% of total					16/12 (p.p.)
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012		2013	2014	2015	2016		
TOTAL	137,528	151,160	147,845	147,334	148,794	11.7%	9.9%	-2.2%	-0.3%	1.0%	8.2%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-	
x<50.000€	99,774	112,203	108,349	108,591	110,412	14.7%	12.5%	-3.4%	0.2%	1.5%	10.7%	72.5%	74.2%	73.3%	73.7%	74.2%	1.66	
x>=50.000€	37,754	38,957	39,496	38,743	38,382	4.5%	3.2%	1.4%	-1.9%	-0.7%	1.7%	27.5%	25.8%	26.7%	26.3%	25.8%	-1.66	
50.000€ <= x < 0,5M€	19,057	19,660	19,725	18,602	18,134	6.6%	3.2%	0.3%	-5.7%	-2.5%	-4.8%	13.9%	13.0%	13.3%	12.6%	12.2%	-1.67	
0,5M€ <= x < 5M€	13,868	14,317	14,635	14,780	14,793	2.1%	3.2%	2.2%	1.0%	0.7%	6.7%	10.1%	9.5%	9.9%	10.0%	9.9%	-0.14	
5M€ <= x < 50M€	4,258	4,407	4,542	4,727	4,798	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%	4.1%	1.9%	12.7%	3.1%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%	3.2%	0.13	
50M€ <= x < 250M€	476	473	492	530	552	5.3%	-0.6%	4.0%	7.7%	4.9%	16.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.02	
x >= 250M€	95	100	102	104	105	6.7%	5.3%	2.0%	2.0%	-1.9%	10.5%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.00	
Brackets (value of exports)	Value of exports in millions of euros					Annual rate of change (%)						16/12 %	% of total					16/12 (p.p.)
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012		2013	2014	2015	2016		
TOTAL	226,114.6	235,814.1	240,581.8	249,794.4	254,530.2	5.1%	4.3%	2.0%	3.8%	1.7%	12.6%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-	
x<50.000€	628.1	656.0	612.2	606.2	597.4	11.2%	4.4%	-6.7%	-1.0%	-1.7%	-4.9%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	-0.04	
x>=50.000€	225,486.5	235,158.1	239,969.7	249,188.3	253,932.8	5.0%	4.3%	2.0%	3.8%	1.7%	12.6%	99.7%	99.7%	99.7%	99.8%	99.8%	0.04	
50.000€ <= x < 0,5M€	3,703.7	3,776.6	3,799.7	3,496.3	3,417.9	6.7%	2.0%	0.6%	-8.0%	-1.8%	-7.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	-0.30	
0,5M€ <= x < 5M€	23,187.0	23,801.2	24,454.1	25,089.9	25,447.6	1.7%	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%	1.8%	9.7%	10.3%	10.1%	10.2%	10.0%	10.0%	-0.26	
5M€ <= x < 50M€	60,947.4	63,398.5	64,599.5	67,511.5	68,538.8	2.9%	4.0%	1.9%	4.5%	1.8%	12.5%	27.0%	26.9%	26.9%	27.0%	26.9%	-0.03	
50M€ <= x < 250M€	47,484.0	47,559.0	48,841.6	52,464.1	54,527.0	5.3%	0.2%	2.7%	7.4%	4.5%	14.8%	21.0%	20.2%	20.3%	21.0%	21.4%	0.42	
x >= 250M€	90,164.4	96,622.8	98,274.7	100,626.5	102,001.6	7.2%	7.2%	1.7%	2.4%	0.4%	13.1%	39.9%	41.0%	40.8%	40.3%	40.1%	0.20	

Source: Secretariat of State for Trade with Customs data

Exports according to the characteristics of the enterprise ([Customs and Special Taxes Department](#), [Tax Agency](#) for Spanish data and [Eurostat](#) for comparisons).

- The Customs and Special Taxes Department combines foreign trade statistics with data of the Central Business Register ([BR](#)) of the National Statistics Institute ([INE](#)), using as common identifier the tax identification number (NIF), with the purpose of offering declared foreign trade data by the characteristics of the enterprise. In 2015 (data published in November 2017), there were 95,703 registered companies that exported for a value of 228,931.7 million euros, 91.6% of total declared exports that year (249,794.4 million euros).
- In 2015, almost two thirds of the total number of exporting companies (BR, declared trade) in Spain (64.7%) had fewer than 10 employees, although they represented only 11.1% of the declared value of exports by companies (BR). That year, 97.7% of the total exporting companies (BR) had fewer than 250 employees, while their weight in total exports was 49.2%. At the opposite end, the 2,186 companies with 250 or more employees, 2.3% of the total, exported 116,199.7 million euros, 50.8% of total exports.

EXPORTING ENTERPRISES (BR, DECLARED TRADE) BY SIZE-CLASS (NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES)*

Size-class (# employees)	Number of enterprises (BR)							Exports in millions of euros						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	var. 14/10	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	var. 15/10
0_9	42,857	52,036	59,253	62,542	62,213	61,939	44.5%	20,509.9	22,852.8	22,698.0	22,371.0	23,433.3	25,506.5	24.4%
10_49	20,423	22,100	22,567	23,129	23,531	23,864	16.8%	25,467.4	29,403.2	31,229.5	31,343.6	32,294.3	32,447.4	27.4%
50_199	6,322	6,912	6,869	6,765	6,904	7,121	12.6%	33,083.4	40,026.1	39,434.6	40,041.8	42,672.6	45,489.2	37.5%
200-249	530	558	577	563	564	593	11.9%	6,678.3	7,079.1	7,850.7	8,860.7	9,463.0	9,289.0	39.1%
250-499	1,021	1,119	1,145	1,128	1,097	1,147	12.3%	20,357.1	21,801.6	21,369.1	19,313.0	19,696.7	20,992.1	3.1%
>=500	894	1,000	998	1,012	1,019	1,039	16.2%	66,159.4	77,604.9	86,906.0	92,327.8	91,260.7	95,207.6	43.9%
Total (BR)	72,047	83,725	91,409	95,139	95,328	95,703	32.8%	172,255.5	198,767.7	209,488.0	214,258.0	218,820.7	228,931.7	32.9%
Size-class (# employees)	Number of enterprises (% of total)							Exports in millions of euros (% of total)						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	var. 14/10	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	var. 15/10
0_9	59.5%	62.2%	64.8%	65.7%	65.3%	64.7%	5.2 p.p.	11.9%	11.5%	10.8%	10.4%	10.7%	11.1%	-0.8 p.p.
10_49	28.3%	26.4%	24.7%	24.3%	24.7%	24.9%	-3.4 p.p.	14.8%	14.8%	14.9%	14.6%	14.8%	14.2%	-0.6 p.p.
50_199	8.8%	8.3%	7.5%	7.1%	7.2%	7.4%	-1.3 p.p.	19.2%	20.1%	18.8%	18.7%	19.5%	19.9%	0.7 p.p.
200-249	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	-0.1 p.p.	3.9%	3.6%	3.7%	4.1%	4.3%	4.1%	0.2 p.p.
250-499	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	-0.2 p.p.	11.8%	11.0%	10.2%	9.0%	9.0%	9.2%	-2.6 p.p.
>=500	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	-0.2 p.p.	38.4%	39.0%	41.5%	43.1%	41.7%	41.6%	3.2 p.p.

* Only traders that matched with the central business register (BR) are taken into consideration

Source: Customs and Special Taxes Department

Spanish external sector and competitiveness: facts and figures

- There is a high concentration of exports, since the top 20 exporting companies (BR) in Spain represented 24.1% of declared exports in 2015. In this sense, the top 1,000 major exporters accounted for two-thirds of total declared exports in 2015 (67.4%), 3.2 percentage points lower than in 2010.

EXPORTING ENTERPRISES (BR): MAJOR EXPORTERS (DECLARED TRADE)														
Top exporters	Exports in millions of euros							% of total						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Var.15/10	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Var. 15/10
Top 5 exporters	20,476.7	19,461.1	22,621.7	23,841.8	23,541.1	26,069.8	27.3%	11.9%	9.8%	10.8%	11.1%	10.8%	11.4%	-0.5 p.p.
Top 10 exporters	29,613.3	30,492.8	33,555.5	37,435.6	37,025.5	39,426.9	33.1%	17.2%	15.3%	16.0%	17.5%	16.9%	17.2%	0.0 p.p.
Top 20 exporters	41,157.7	43,806.0	47,185.5	52,348.9	52,943.0	55,164.2	34.0%	23.9%	22.0%	22.5%	24.4%	24.2%	24.1%	0.2 p.p.
Top 50 exporters	58,581.3	66,795.1	70,766.1	72,428.4	74,859.2	77,513.9	32.3%	34.0%	33.6%	33.8%	33.8%	34.2%	33.9%	-0.1 p.p.
Top 100 exporters	71,335.3	81,433.7	86,590.6	88,380.2	89,875.3	93,200.8	30.7%	41.4%	41.0%	41.3%	41.2%	41.1%	40.7%	-0.7 p.p.
Top 500 exporters	105,212.4	117,638.4	124,905.3	126,832.6	128,783.7	133,960.8	27.3%	61.1%	59.2%	59.6%	59.2%	58.9%	58.5%	-2.6 p.p.
Top 1000 exporters	121,719.4	135,621.9	143,393.5	145,590.4	147,263.4	154,328.0	26.8%	70.7%	68.2%	68.4%	68.0%	67.3%	67.4%	-3.2 p.p.
Total exporters (BR)*	172,255.5	198,767.7	209,488.0	214,258.0	218,820.7	228,931.7	32.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-

* Only traders that matched with the central business register (BR) are taken into consideration

Source: Customs and Special Taxes Department

- Compared to the main economies in the EU (Eurostat, with a different methodology, since takes into account total trade, not only declared trade) in 2015 the percentage of microenterprises (taking into account only the number of employees of total exports excluding unknown) is of 72.3% in Spain, a higher rate than those of Germany (56.9%), France (63.8%), Italy (66.4%) and the U.K. (64.8%). Regarding the percentage of exports in millions of euros by size-class 50% of total exports in value was made by SME, only Italy has a higher proportion (53.7%).

EXPORTING ENTERPRISES TOTAL TRADE IN 2015: MAJOR ECONOMIES IN THE E.U.										
Size-class (# employees)	Number of enterprises (BR)					Exports in millions of euros				
	Spain	Germany	France	Italy	U.K.	Spain	Germany	France	Italy	U.K.
0_9	111,393	113,424	55,494	129,314	86,799	27,689.4	34,224.9	14,887.8	23,708.6	59,234.4
10_49	31,917	57,674	21,144	53,286	33,107	33,375.1	62,353.0	22,114.2	70,800.7	32,915.9
50_249	8,544	21,593	7,544	10,324	10,609	54,954.0	133,846.0	40,209.3	115,504.3	57,494.8
>=250	2,319	6,608	2,859	1,908	3,453	116,224.6	803,655.1	311,346.2	180,820.3	237,527.3
Unknown	5,182	117,615	22,365	27,817	5,375	22,356.2	161,743.4	68,673.2	21,460.3	27,166.1
Total	159,355	316,914	109,406	222,649	139,343	254,599.4	1,195,822.4	457,230.8	412,294.2	414,338.5
Total exc. unknown	154,173	199,299	87,041	194,832	133,968	232,243.3	1,034,079.0	388,557.5	390,833.8	387,172.3
Size-class (# employees)	Number of enterprises (% of total exc. unknown)					Exports in mill. euros (% of total exc. unknown)				
	Spain	Germany	France	Italy	U.K.	Spain	Germany	France	Italy	U.K.
0_9	72.3%	56.9%	63.8%	66.4%	64.8%	11.9%	3.3%	3.8%	6.1%	15.3%
10_49	20.7%	28.9%	24.3%	27.3%	24.7%	14.4%	6.0%	5.7%	18.1%	8.5%
50_249	5.5%	10.8%	8.7%	5.3%	7.9%	23.7%	12.9%	10.3%	29.6%	14.8%
>=250	1.5%	3.3%	3.3%	1.0%	2.6%	50.0%	77.7%	80.1%	46.3%	61.3%

Source: Eurostat

- Regarding export concentration, in 2015 the percentage of the value exported by the top 1,000 exporters in Spain (60.6%) is similar to that of Germany (59.3%), but lower than in the U.K. (72.6%) and France (68.9%) and higher than in Italy (48.1%).

TOP EXPORTERS IN 2015 (TOTAL TRADE): MAJOR ECONOMIES IN THE E.U.										
Top exporters	Exports in millions of euros					% of total				
	Spain	Germany	France	Italy	U.K.	Spain	Germany	France	Italy	U.K.
Top 5 exporters	26,069.8	245,618.8	79,705.9	24,170.9	75,795.1	10.2%	20.5%	17.4%	5.9%	18.3%
Top 10 exporters	39,426.9	300,965.5	101,260.5	34,764.0	101,664.2	15.5%	25.2%	22.1%	8.4%	24.5%
Top 20 exporters	55,164.2	352,234.2	125,133.6	50,436.9	134,400.9	21.7%	29.5%	27.4%	12.2%	32.4%
Top 50 exporters	77,513.9	415,425.6	169,046.5	74,524.3	176,105.2	30.4%	34.7%	37.0%	18.1%	42.5%
Top 100 exporters	93,200.9	469,832.4	204,653.8	97,040.7	206,348.6	36.6%	39.3%	44.8%	23.5%	49.8%
Top 500 exporters	133,961.3	631,114.7	284,158.5	161,992.8	272,348.2	52.6%	52.8%	62.1%	39.3%	65.7%
Top 1000 exporters	154,329.5	709,200.1	315,115.4	198,434.0	300,688.6	60.6%	59.3%	68.9%	48.1%	72.6%
Total exporters*	254,599.4	1,195,822.4	457,230.8	412,294.2	414,338.5	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

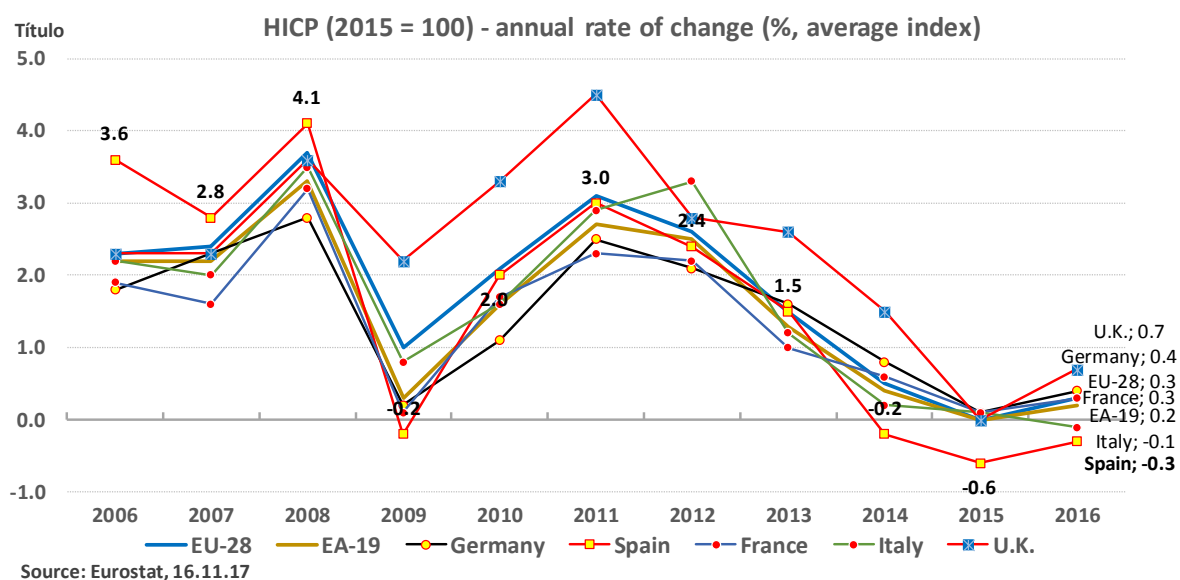
* Exports of all exporters whether matched and not with the business register of each country

Source: Eurostat

3. COMPETITIVENESS

Price-based competitiveness indices

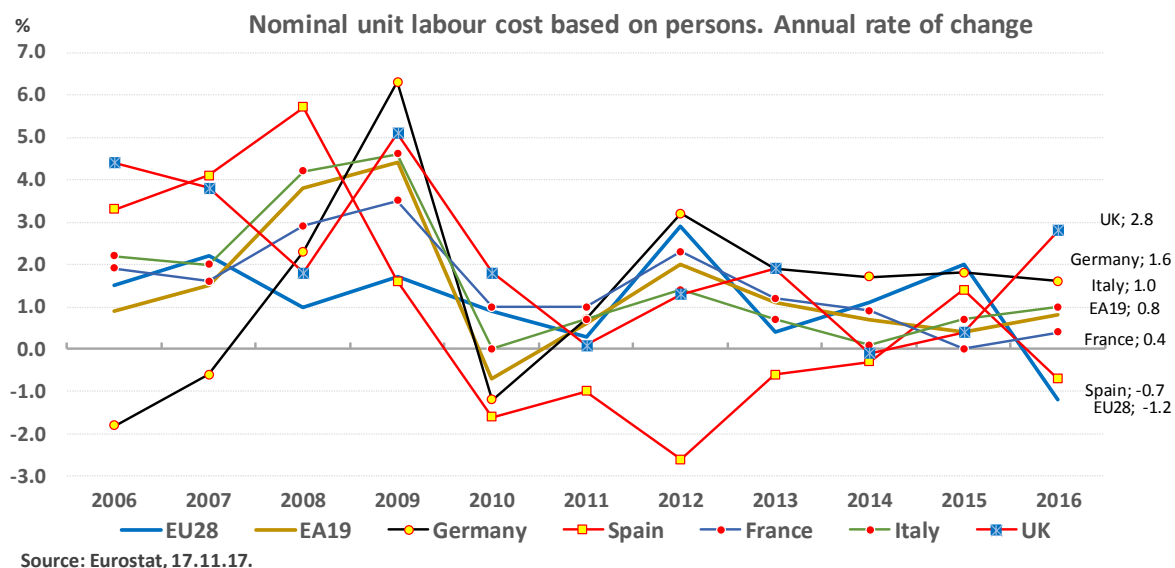
- In 2016, according to [Eurostat](#), the average inflation rate in Spain was -0.3%, whereas it reached 0.3% in the EU-28 and 0.2 in the euro area. Spain's inflation rate was also lower than in the EU largest economies: Germany (0.4%), France (0.3%), Italy (-0.1%) and the U.K. (0.7%).



- According to the [Quarterly Report on Competitiveness Indices](#) of the Secretariat of State for Trade (8.11.17), with data based on ICP, the competitiveness in the third quarter of 2017 compared to the same quarter of the previous year showed a loss (0.3%) vis-à-vis the euro area 19 and vis-à-vis the EU (0.5%). In the latter, this is due to the combination of a higher increase of prices in Spain (0.2%) and the appreciation of the euro in the quarter (0.3%). In 2016 as a whole, Spain gained competitiveness against the euro area (-0.7%) but lost it against the EU (0.5%), due to the lower inflation rate compared to the average in both regions and to the significant appreciation of the euro against the rest of the currencies of the EU-28 countries. Vis-à-vis the OECD countries, Spain's competitiveness also decreased in the third quarter of 2017 (2.7% y-o-y), since the gains due to lower inflation (-0.1%) were more than offset by appreciation of the euro against the currencies of the OECD countries (2.8%). Vis-à-vis the emerging economies (BRICS), Spain has lost competitiveness in the third quarter of 2017 (3.3% y-o-y) due completely to the losses derived from the appreciation of the euro (3.4%) since there were gains from relative prices (-0.1%). In 2016 as a whole, Spain has gained competitiveness vis-à-vis the OECD countries (-0.1%), but lost it against the BRICS (2.4%). With both areas, there has been a combination of lower inflation in Spain with an appreciation of the euro.

Other competitiveness indicators

- The evolution of nominal unit labour costs (ULC) in Spain is helping to gain competitiveness and to lower export prices. According to [Eurostat](#), Spanish nominal ULC based on persons decreased by 0.7% y-o-y in 2016, sixth fall in the last seven years. The ULC also fell in the EU28 as a whole (-1.2%), but they increased in Germany (1.6%), France (0.4%), Italy (0.8%) and the U.K. (2.8%).



- Total Factor Productivity (TFP) in Spain has risen for the fourth year in a row in 2016, according to European Commission data ([AMECO](#), updated 9.11.17). TFP increased in Spain in 2016 by 1.20%, a higher expansion than those of the EU-28 (0.72%) and of euro area (0.66%), as well as those of Germany (0.78%), France (0.36%), Italy (0.12%) or the U.K. (0.33%). For 2017, the prospects show further increases in TFP in Spain (+1.01%), as well as in the rest of major economies in the EU, Germany (0.66%), France (0.33%), Italy (0.51%) and the U.K. (0.81%).

Market share – based competitiveness indicators

- According to the latest data of the WTO, **Spain increased its weight** of international trade of goods in 2016, **to 1.80%** (compared to 1.71% in 2015), **gaining two positions up to number 16th** in the ranking of leading exporters (source: WTO, [Statistics database](#)).

Quota of international merchandise trade				
Country	2014	2015	2016	Rank 2015
China	12.33	13.79	13.15	1
United States	8.53	9.11	9.12	2
Germany	7.86	8.05	8.40	3
Japan	3.63	3.79	4.04	4
Netherlands	3.54	3.46	3.57	5
Korea, Republic of	2.76	3.10	3.24	6
Hong Kong, China	3.05	3.07	3.14	7
France	3.01	3.19	3.11	8
United Kingdom	2.79	2.77	2.89	9
Italy	2.66	2.79	2.57	10
Spain	1.71	1.71	1.80	16

Source: WTO, Statistics database, updated April 2017

- Regarding the trade of commercial services, in 2016 Spain registered a **2.63%** share in the world trade of commercial services, reaching the **11th position** in the ranking of leading exporters (source: WTO, [Statistics database](#))

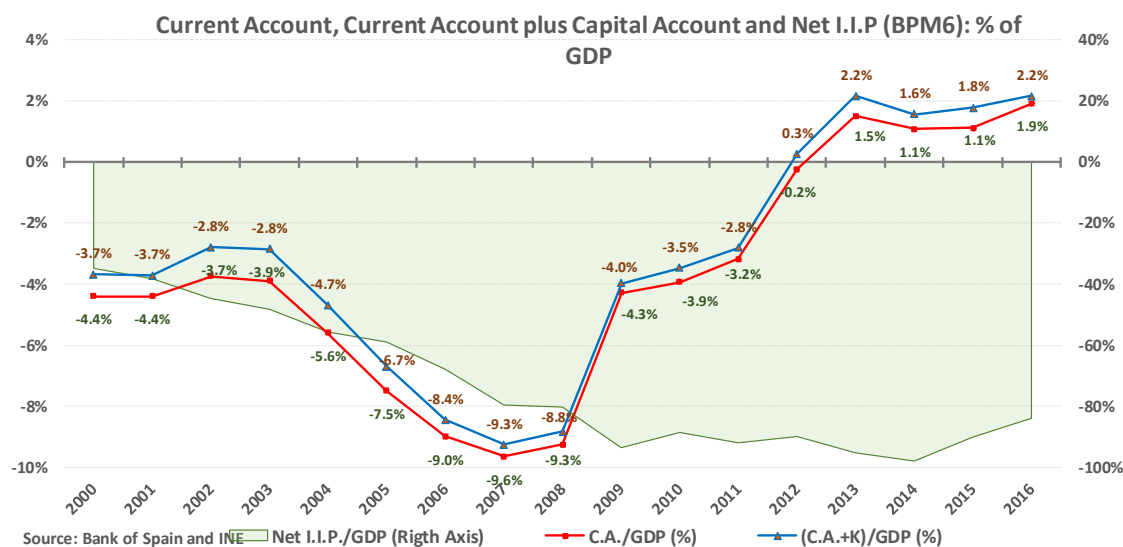
Quota of international trade in commercial services (BPM6)				
Country	2014	2015	2016	Rank 2016
United States	14.24	15.25	15.24	1
United Kingdom	7.04	7.11	6.73	2
Germany	5.63	5.42	5.57	3
France	5.39	5.03	4.90	4
China	4.29	4.52	4.31	5
Netherlands	3.84	3.67	3.69	6
Japan	3.14	3.31	3.51	7
India	3.08	3.25	3.35	8
Singapore	3.02	3.10	3.11	9
Ireland	2.75	2.81	3.04	10
Spain	2.61	2.46	2.63	11

Source: WTO, Statistics database, updated June 2017

4. CURRENT ACCOUNT B. AND LENDING CAPABILITY ([Bank of Spain](#))

- The good performance of the Spanish trade balance is the main factor that explains the correction of the current account deficit, from -9.6% of GDP in 2007 to 1.9% surplus in 2016 (21,484 million euros, data published on 25 September 2017 by [Bank of Spain](#)).
- The services balance has also played a positive role in the last few years, going from a surplus of 2.7% of GDP in 2007 to a surplus of 4.6% of GDP in 2016 (51,095 million euros, [Bank of Spain](#)).
- The aggregate balance of the capital account and the current account in 2016 shows a surplus against **the rest of the world of 24,166 million euro, 2.2% of GDP with BoP data (in 2015, 19,245 million euro, 1.8% of GDP)**, in sharp contrast with the borrowing needs of 100,021 million euros (-9.3% of GDP) recorded in 2007.
- According to Spanish Government [forecasts](#) (updated on 16.10.17), Spain is expected to attain a current account surplus of 1.7% in 2017 and 1.6% in 2018, and to achieve a net lending capacity vis-à-vis the rest of the world of 1.8% in 2017 and 1.7% in 2018.

Spanish external sector and competitiveness: facts and figures



APPENDIX: MAIN FORECASTS FOR SPAIN

MAIN FORECASTS FOR SPAIN																					
% annual change (unless otherwise indicated)	Exports of goods and services			Imports of goods and services			Current account bal. (% GDP)			Net lending vis-à-vis ROW (% GDP)			External sector cont. GDP (*)			Domestic demand cont. GDP (*)			GDP		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Spanish Gov.¹	4.8	6.2	5.1	2.7	4.4	4.1	1.9	1.7	1.6	2.1	1.8	1.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	2.5	2.4	1.8	3.3	3.1	2.3
IMF²	4.4	5.9	4.8	3.3	4.7	4.2	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	2.7	2.6	2.3	3.2	3.1	2.5
EC³	4.8	6.0	4.8	2.7	4.4	4.3	1.9	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.2	0.7	0.6	0.3	2.6	2.5	2.2	3.3	3.1	2.5
OECD⁴	4.4	6.7	5.0	3.3	5.5	4.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	-	-	-	0.5	0.5	0.2	-	-	-	3.2	2.8	2.4
Bank of Spain⁵	4.8	6.4	4.6	2.7	5.0	4.1	-	-	-	2.0	2.1	2.3	0.7	0.6	0.3	2.5	2.5	2.2	3.3	3.1	2.5

(*) Contribution to GDP growth in percentage points.

1. [Macroeconomic Scenario 2017-2018, 16 October 2017](#)

2. [IMF. WEO. October 2017](#)

3. [European Commission. European Economic Forecast, Autumn 2017. November 2017](#)

4. [OECD Economic Outlook 101, June 2017](#)

5. [Boletín Económico, September 2017](#)