

30 May 2018

Registered Health Professionals Statistics
Year 2017

The number of registered *doctors* increased by 2.4% in 2017 reaching 5.44 per 1,000 inhabitants

The number of *nurses* stood at 6.43 per 1,000 inhabitants, 2.9% more than in the previous year

The number of registered *doctors* in Spain increased by 5,838 people (2.4%) reaching a total of 253,796 in 2017.

On the other hand, registered *nurses* increased by 8,527 people (2.9%), standing at 299,824. Within this group, 9,013 people were registered as *midwives*¹ (2.6% more than the previous year).

The number of registered professionals in the other health professions covered by the statistics also increased, except for the number of *chemists* with a speciality in health (-5.8%). The largest increases were registered in *dietitian nutritionists* (21.6%), *physicists with a speciality in health* (13.9%) and *occupational therapists* (13.7%).

Evolución de profesionales sanitarios colegiados

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Tasa de variación (%) 2017/2016
Enfermeros	26.557	274.040	283.611	291.297	299.824	2,9
<i>Con título de matrona</i>	8.279	8.505	8.547	8.785	9.013	2,6
Médicos	232.816	238.240	242.840	247.958	253.796	2,4
Farmacéuticos	66.657	68.381	69.774	71.119	72.500	1,9
Fisioterapeutas	39.936	42.490	45.054	48.173	51.130	6,1
Dentistas	32.445	33.286	34.641	35.716	36.689	2,7
Veterinarios	29.541	30.289	31.242	31.961	32.555	1,9
Psicólogos	12.404	28.707	26.879	25.094	25.857	3,0
Ópticos-Optometristas	15.825	15.930	16.317	16.882	17.372	2,9
Logopedas	6197	7.385	8.147	8.681	8.971	3,3
Podólogos	6.197	6.423	6.867	7.040	7.406	5,2
Protésicos Dentales	6.232	6.247	6.672	7.164	7.248	1,2
Dietistas nutricionistas	2010	2.551	2.884	3.361	4.086	21,6
Terapeutas Ocupacionales	1783	2.338	2.646	3.080	3.502	13,7
Biólogos	654	..
Químicos	424	383	351	343	323	-5,8
Físicos	58	100	133	166	189	13,9

¹ The number of registered professionals in this speciality may be underestimated, given that registration is compulsory for the Diploma in Nursing, not for the speciality.

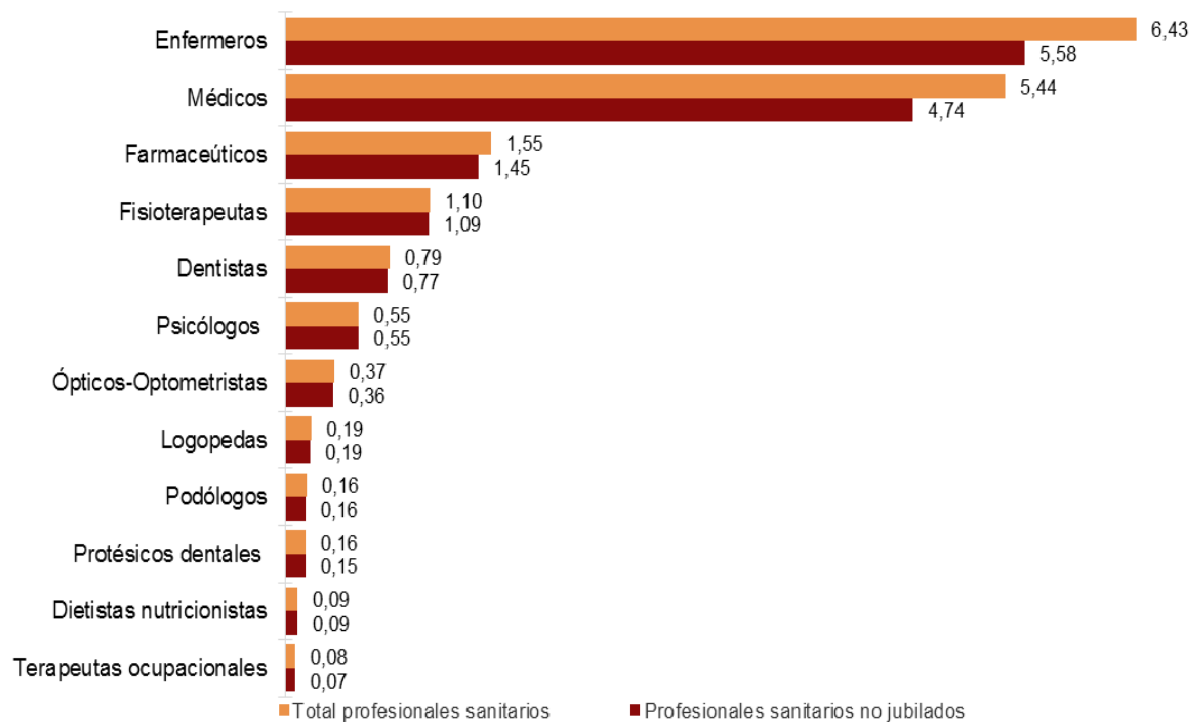
Rates of registered health professionals

The number of registered health professionals per 1,000 inhabitants differs according to the group. In 2017, the number of *nurses* presented the highest rate (6.43 per 1,000 inhabitants), followed by *doctors* (5.44) and *pharmacists* (1.55). In turn, the lowest rates were observed in the groups of *occupational therapists* (0.08) and *dietitian nutritionists* (0.09).

In the particular case of nurses specializing in *midwifery*, the rate was 0.86 per 1,000 women of childbearing age.

According to the employment status of the registered professionals, the rate of non-retired *doctors* per 1,000 inhabitants was 4.74 and that of *nurses* 5.58. In the case of non-retired registered professionals specializing in *midwifery* the rate stood at 0.70 per 1,000 women of childbearing age.

Rates of registered health professionals per 1,000 inhabitants. Year 2017

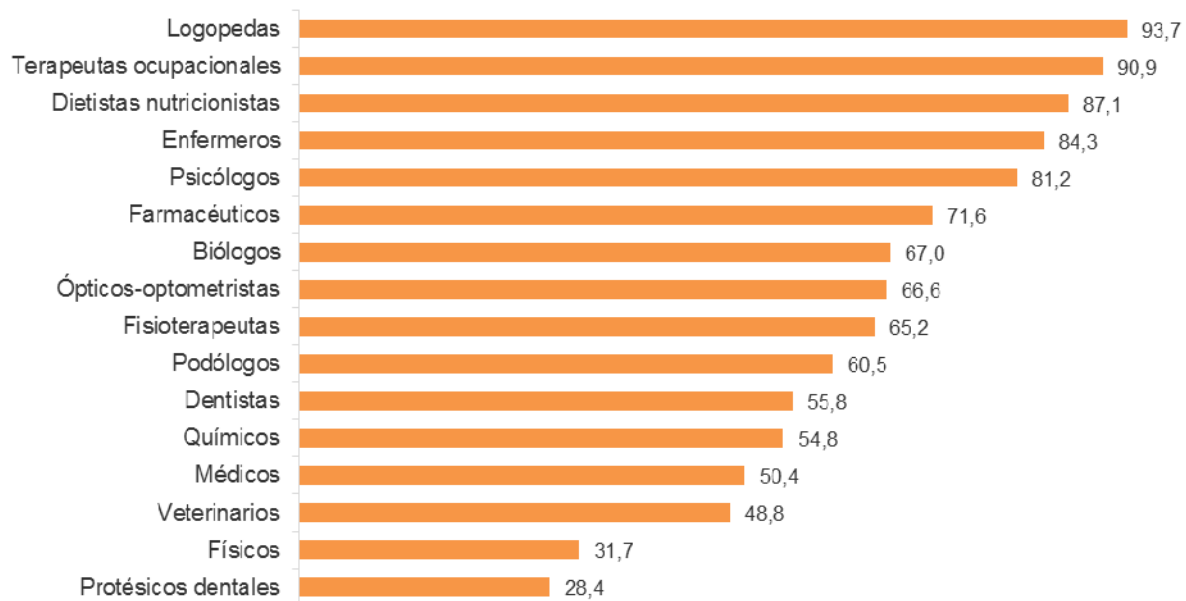


Registered health professionals by sex, age and employment status

The health profession has a predominantly female presence. In 13 out of 16 professions analysed there were more registered women than men. The groups with the highest percentage of women in 2017 were *speech therapists* (93.7% were women), *occupational therapists* (90.9%) and *dietitian nutritionists* (87.1%).

On the other hand, the professions with the lowest percentage of women in 2017 were *dental technicians* (28.4%), *physicists with a speciality in health* (31.7%) and *veterinarians* (48.8%).

Percentage of women among registered professionals by type of health profession. Year 2017



By age group, the highest percentages of health professionals under 45 years of age were found in *occupational therapists* (93.7%), *dietitian nutritionists* (90.5%) and *physiotherapists* (87.4%).

The lowest percentages in this age group were presented by the groups of *doctors* (36.7%), *dental technicians* (45.6%) and *pharmacists* (46.6%).

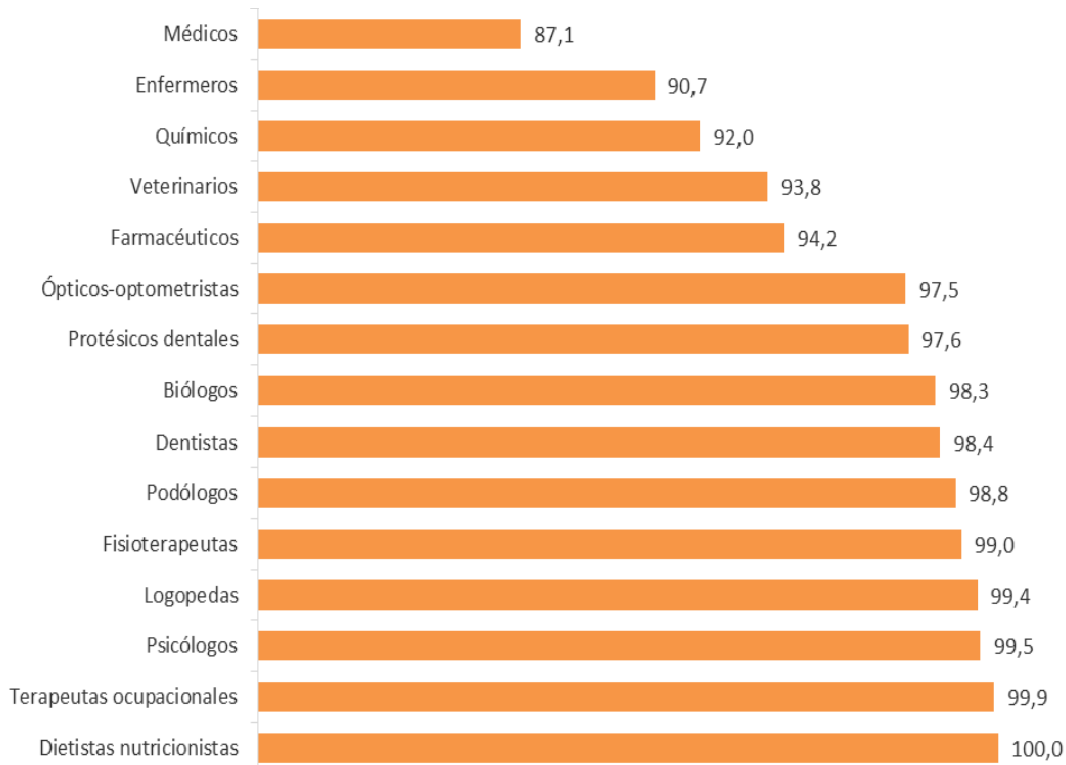
Distribución por edad de los colegiados por profesión sanitaria. Año 2017

	% Menores de 45 años	% De 45 a 64 años	% De 65 y más años
Médicos	36,6	47,2	16,2
Protésicos dentales	45,6	49,8	4,6
Farmacéuticos	46,6	40,3	13,1
Veterinarios	49,8	43,7	6,5
Enfermeros	54,4	37,3	8,3
Biólogos	54,8	43,3	1,9
Psicólogos	58,3	40,2	1,5
Dentistas	61,3	33,5	5,2
Ópticos-optometristas	61,6	34,4	4,0
Logopedas	70,5	27,6	1,9
Podólogos	76,1	19,6	4,3
Fisioterapeutas	87,4	11,4	1,2
Dietistas nutricionistas	90,5	9,4	0,1
Terapeutas ocupacionales	93,7	6,2	0,1

According to the employment status, the lowest percentages of non-retired registered professionals in 2017 were in the groups of *doctors* (87.1%), *nurses* (90.7%) and *chemists with a speciality in health* (92.0%).

On the other hand, the highest percentages of non-retired registered professionals were in *dietitian nutritionists* (100%), *occupational therapists* (99.9%) and *psychologists* (99.5%).

Percentage of non-retired registered professionals by type of health profession. Year 2017



Data by Autonomous Community

The number of registered *doctors* in 2017 increased in all the Autonomous Communities and only decreased in the Autonomous City of Melilla (-0.3%).

The largest increases compared to the previous year were recorded in Canarias (3.5%), Región de Murcia (3.2%) and Andalucía (2.8%).

In turn, the lowest increases were recorded in Extremadura (1.0%), Cantabria (1.3%) and Principado de Asturias (1.4%).

Evolución de médicos por comunidades y ciudades autónomas

	Año 2013	Año 2014	Año 2015	Año 2016	Año 2017	Tasa de variación (%) 2017/2016
TOTAL	232.816	238.240	242.840	247.958	253.796	2,4
Andalucía	33.697	36.141	37.295	38.024	39.079	2,8
Aragón	8.187	8.311	8.427	8.585	8.797	2,5
Asturias, Principado de	5.838	6.035	6.123	6.276	6.363	1,4
Baleares, Illes	5.152	5.225	5.355	5.484	5.632	2,7
Canarias	9.312	9.598	9.855	10.145	10.504	3,5
Cantabria	3.299	3.357	3.422	3.507	3.551	1,3
Castilla y León	13.968	14.101	14.251	14.398	14.627	1,6
Castilla-La Mancha	8.370	8.354	8.379	8.526	8.685	1,9
Cataluña	38.534	38.875	39.437	40.392	41.407	2,5
Comunitat Valenciana	23.086	23.460	23.866	24.447	25.012	2,3
Extremadura	5.149	5.219	5.338	5.439	5.496	1,0
Galicia	13.002	13.072	13.294	13.559	13.792	1,7
Madrid, Comunidad de	40.137	40.952	41.860	42.697	43.772	2,5
Murcia, Región de	6.483	6.624	6.800	6.979	7.203	3,2
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	3.811	3.881	3.918	4.011	4.075	1,6
País Vasco	12.657	12.884	13.039	13.269	13.536	2,0
Rioja, La	1.547	1.555	1.573	1.610	1.648	2,4
Ceuta	319	323	324	320	328	2,5
Melilla	268	273	284	290	289	-0,3

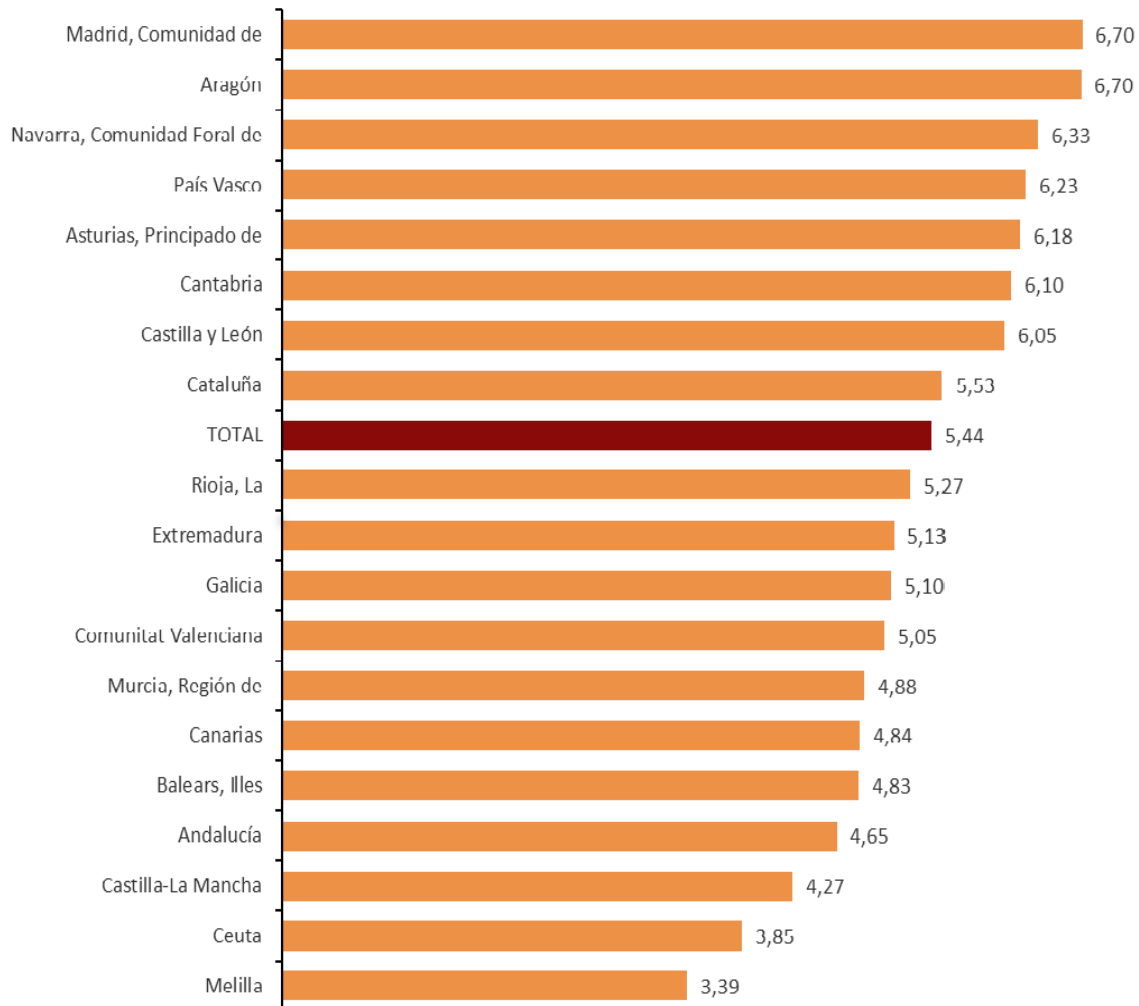
The Autonomous Communities with the highest rates of registered *doctors* in 2017 were Comunidad de Madrid and Aragón (6.70 per 1,000 inhabitants in both) and Comunidad Foral de Navarra (6.33).

In turn, the Autonomous Cities of Melilla (3.39) and Ceuta (3.85) and Castilla-La Mancha (4.27) showed the lowest rates.

Considering the rate of non-retired registered *doctors*, Comunidad de Madrid (6.00 per 1,000 people), Aragón (5.61) and Comunidad Foral de Navarra (5.44) also recorded the highest ratio per inhabitant.

In turn, the Autonomous Cities of Melilla (3.15) and Ceuta (3.54) and Castilla-La Mancha (3.75) presented the lowest ratios.

Rates of registered doctors per 1,000 inhabitants. Year 2017



In the case of *nurses*, the number of registered nurses in 2017 increased as compared to the previous year in all the Autonomous Communities.

The greatest increases were recorded in Comunidad Foral de Navarra (23.0%), Andalucía (5.5%) and Canarias (4.6%).

On the other hand, La Rioja (0.5%), Galicia (0.6%) and Comunidad de Madrid (0.8%) registered the lowest increases.

Evolución de Enfermeros por comunidades y ciudades autónomas

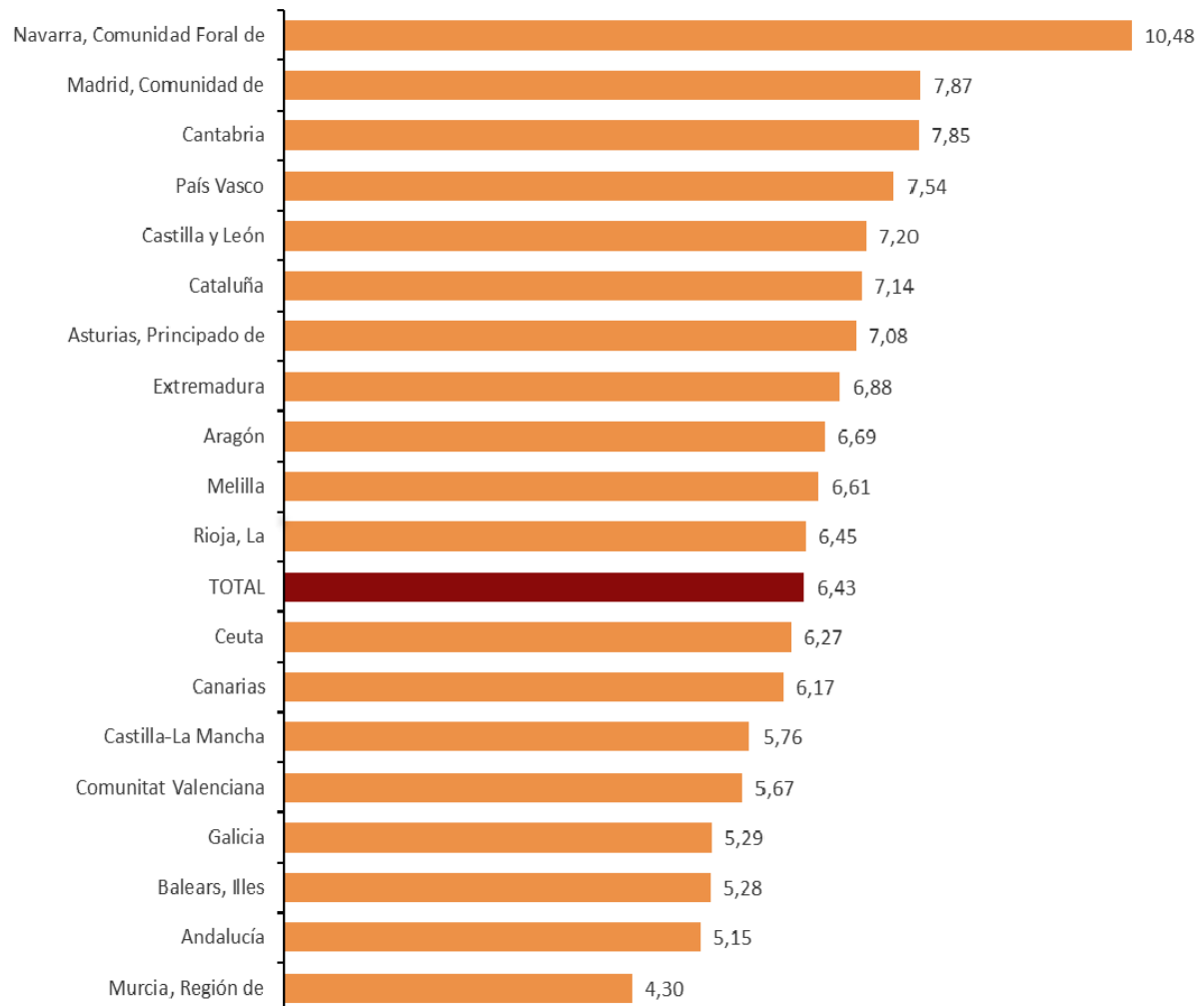
	Año 2013	Año 2014	Año 2015	Año 2016	Año 2017	Tasa de variación (%) 2017/2016
TOTAL	265.557	274.040	283.611	291.297	299.824	2,9
Andalucía	34.631	38.407	40.103	41.060	43.305	5,5
Aragón	8.083	8.215	8.323	8.519	8.784	3,1
Asturias, Principado de	6.101	6.722	6.905	7.131	7.281	2,1
Baleares, Illes	5.003	5.321	5.745	6.012	6.152	2,3
Canarias	10.469	11.363	12.178	12.806	13.398	4,6
Cantabria	4.129	4.167	4.287	4.433	4.566	3,0
Castilla y León	16.677	16.476	16.844	17.189	17.423	1,4
Castilla-La Mancha	11.310	11.242	11.299	11.503	11.705	1,8
Cataluña	48.257	49.042	50.401	51.919	53.508	3,1
Comunitat Valenciana	25.154	25.524	26.565	27.366	28.104	2,7
Extremadura	6.767	6.924	7.269	7.302	7.368	0,9
Galicia	14.059	13.954	14.023	14.211	14.295	0,6
Madrid, Comunidad de	44.955	47.099	49.365	50.955	51.347	0,8
Murcia, Región de	5.541	5.618	5.848	6.116	6.342	3,7
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	6.098	5.321	5.445	5.484	6.743^(*)	23,0
País Vasco	15.365	15.677	15.978	16.218	16.389	1,1
Rioja, La	1.963	1.978	1.988	2.007	2.017	0,5
Ceuta	470	463	491	517	534	3,3
Melilla	525	527	554	549	563	2,6

(*) Comunidad Foral de Navarra incorpora en 2017 los Enfermeros colegiados jubilados

The Autonomous Communities with the highest rates of registered *nurses* were Comunidad Foral de Navarra, with 10.48 per 1,000 inhabitants (8.68 not retired), Comunidad de Madrid, with 7.87 (6.70 not retired) and Cantabria, with 7.85 (6.34 not retired).

On the other hand, Región de Murcia, with 4.30 registered *nurses* per 1,000 inhabitants (4.30 not retired), Andalucía, with 5.15 (4.15 not retired) and Illes Balears, with 5.28 (5.28 not retired) presented the lowest rates.

Rates of registered nurses per 1,000 inhabitants. Year 2017



As for the other professions, the highest ratios of registered *pharmacists* per 1,000 inhabitants stood at 2.28 in Comunidad Foral de Navarra (2.12 not retired), 1.94 in Comunidad de Madrid (1.94 not retired) and 1.86 in Galicia (1.65).

The highest rates of *physiotherapists* were found in Comunidad de Madrid, with 1.53 per 1,000 inhabitants (1.50 not retired), 1.31 in Principado de Asturias (1.31 not retired) and 1.31 in Cataluña (1.29 not retired).

The highest rates of registered *dentists* were registered in Comunidad de Madrid, with 1.25 per 1,000 inhabitants (1.25 not retired), País Vasco, with 0.85, (0.83 not retired) and Principado de Asturias, with 0.82, (0.82 not retired).

The highest rates of *psychologists* with a speciality in health were 1.63 per 1,000 inhabitants in Comunidad de Madrid (1.63 not retired), 0.97 in the Autonomous City of Melilla (0.97 not retired) and 0.92 in Principado de Asturias (0.91 not retired).

Región de Murcia, Comunidad de Madrid and Comunitat Valenciana had the highest rates of registered *optician-optometrists*, with rates of 0.50, 0.47 and 0.45 per 1,000 inhabitants, respectively, (0.50, 0.45 and 0.43 not retired).

The Autonomous Communities with the highest rates of registered *speech therapists*² were Región de Murcia, with 0.39 per 1,000 inhabitants (0.39 not retired), Cataluña, with 0.36, (0.36 not retired) and Cantabria, with 0.26, (0.26 not retired).

Podiatrists recorded the highest rates in Extremadura, with 0.29, (0.29 not retired), Comunidad de Madrid, with 0.22, (0.21 not retired) and Comunitat Valenciana, with 0.19, (0.19 not retired).

The Autonomous Communities with the highest rates of registered *dental technicians*³ were Cantabria, with 0.25 per 1,000 inhabitants (0.25 not retired), Comunitat Valenciana, with 0.23, (0.22 not retired) and Aragón, with 0.22, (0.20 not retired).

As for *dietitian nutritionists*⁴, Comunidad Foral de Navarra showed the highest rate, with 0.40 per 1,000 inhabitants (0.40 not retired). This was followed by Cataluña, with 0.17, (0.17 not retired) and Aragón, with 0.14, (0.14 not retired).

Finally, the highest rates of registered *occupational therapists*⁵ were 0.51 in Extremadura (0.51 not retired), 0.38 in Aragón (0.38) and 0.25 in Comunidad Foral de Navarra (0.25 not retired).

² The Autonomous Communities in which the Official College of *Speech Therapists* has been constituted and for which data are available are: Andalucía, Aragón, Illes Balears, Cantabria, Castilla y León, Castilla-La Mancha, Cataluña, Comunitat Valenciana, Extremadura, Galicia, Comunidad de Madrid, Región de Murcia, País Vasco and La Rioja. Data for Ceuta and Melilla are included in Andalucía.

³ No data are collected from País Vasco as the Official Association of *Dental Technicians* is not constituted.

⁴ There is no data because the official associations of *dietitian nutritionists* in Principado de Asturias, Canarias, Extremadura and La Rioja are not constituted.

⁵ The Autonomous Communities in which the Official Association of *Occupational Therapists* has been constituted and for which data are available are Aragón, Asturias, Illes Balears, Castilla y León, Castilla-La Mancha, Cataluña, Comunitat Valenciana, Extremadura, Galicia, Región de Murcia, Comunidad Foral de Navarra, País Vasco and La Rioja.

Methodological note

The Registered Health Professionals Statistics investigates the number and characteristics of health professionals registered in their respective Professional Associations or Councils. It has been compiled at the National Statistics Institute without interruption since 1952. This research provides information to various international organisations such as the OECD and the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat).

It is an annual structural statistic. Data refer to 31 December, and from this information results are obtained at national, Autonomous Community and provincial level.

The information currently provided refers to the professions included in Law 44/2003 of 21 November on the Regulation of Health Professions, or which meet the requirements established therein. The groups from which information has been obtained are: *doctors, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians, psychologists with a speciality in health, physicians with a speciality in health, nurses, physiotherapists, podiatrists, opticians-optometrists, dental technicians, chemists with a speciality in health, dietitian-nutritionists, occupational therapists, speech therapists and biologists with a speciality in health*. The variables that are collected are the territory of registration, sex, age and employment status (retired or not retired).

Information relating to *doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, dietitian-nutritionists, dental technicians and dentists* is provided by the respective professional associations at provincial and Autonomous Community level, while in the case of *pharmacists, veterinarians, psychologists, physicians, podiatrists, opticians-optometrists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, chemists, biologists* and for some provinces of *dental technicians and dietitian-nutritionists* it is obtained through the General Councils of the respective Professional Associations.

The questionnaires are completed through a web application (IRIA) by the General Councils and Professional Associations. There are two different models of questionnaires depending on the target group:

1. To the General Councils of Associations: *Pharmacists, Veterinarians, Psychologists, Physicians, Podiatrists, Optician-Optometrists, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Chemists* and *Biologists* as well as for some provinces of *Dental Technicians* and *Dietitian-nutritionists*.
2. To the Professional Associations at the provincial and Autonomous Community levels of *Physicians, Physiotherapists, Dental Technicians, Dentists, Dietitian-Nutritionists* and *Nurses* (the latter also includes the modules for registered professionals with the title of *Nurse Specialist*).

The 2017 results provide for the first time information on biologists with a speciality in health.

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