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Press Release

28 of March of 2007

# Spanish Regional Accounts. Base 2000 (SRA-2000)

## Gross Domestic Product per Region. Year 2006

## Main results

| Gross Domestic Product per Region. Year 2006  |
|---|
| <ul> <li>Four autonomous communities, Región de Murcia, Cantabria, País Vasco and<br/>Galicia, have led the growth of the economy in 2006. GDP growth in real terms<br/>for these four communities was 4.1%, two-tenths above the national average.</li> </ul>  |
| - The territories that experienced a less dynamic economy in 2006 in terms of real growth of the GDP were the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla (3.3%) and the autonomous communities of La Rioja and Canarias (3.4%).   |
| - In terms of GDP <i>per capita</i> , Comunidad de Madrid is at the top of the list of communities in 2006, with a GDP per inhabitant of 28,850 euros, more than 30% higher than the Spanish average of 22,152 euros. At the bottom of this list is Extremadura, with a record of 15,054 euros.   |
| <ul> <li>Taking as a reference the average GDP per inhabitant of the European Union at<br/>25 Member States, reaching 24,500 euros in year 2006, four autonomous<br/>communities show records above this level: Comunidad de Madrid, País Vasco,<br/>Comunidad Foral de Navarra and Cataluña.</li> </ul>  |
| - If we analyse the period 2000-2006, the autonomous community with the highest annual average growth is Región de Murcia, with 3.9%, six tenths above the national average. Followed by Andalucía, with 3.7% and Castilla - La Mancha with 3.5%. On the other hand, Illes Balears is the region with the least average growth in the period, 2.3%. |
|   |

### Gross Domestic Product for the autonomous communities. Year 2006

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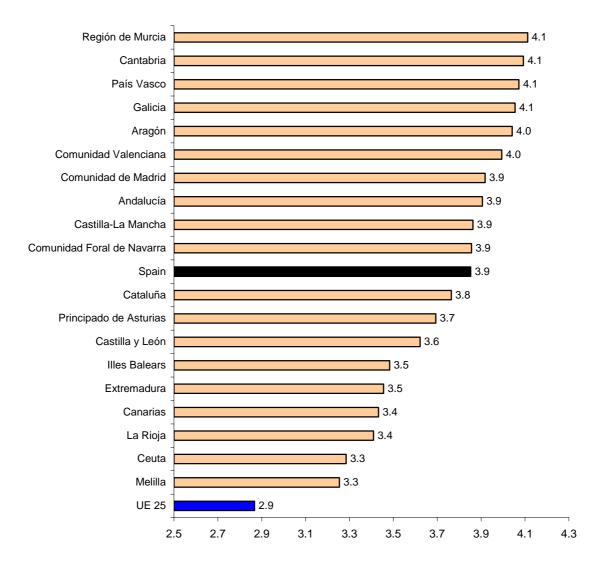
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On 21 February last year, Spanish Quarterly National Accounts published the first estimate of real growth of the entire Spanish economy for year 2006, 3.9%.

The regional distribution for this data produced by RAS-2000 reflects that **Región de Murcia**, **Cantabria**, **País Vasco and Galicia were the autonomous communities recording the greatest real growth in Gross Domestic Product in 2006, reaching 4.1%**, two tenths above the national level.

Aragón and the Comunidad Valenciana (4%) followed, then Comunidad de Madrid, Andalucía, Castilla - La Mancha and Comunidad Foral de Navarra, all of the latter with 3.9%, a rate similar to the national average.

On the other hand, the smallest records of growth were reached in the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, 3.3%, as well as in the communities of La Rioja and Canarias, 3.4%. Nevertheless, these records are practically half a point greater than that reached by the European Union with 25 Member States (EU25), which was of 2.9%.



#### GDP Growth Rate between 2005 and 2006 in real terms

When analysing the results by branch of activity, we observe the common pattern for the most dynamic autonomous communities in 2006 is the remarkable growth of **industrial branches and energy**, which together grow 5.5% in Galicia, 4.8% in País Vasco, 4.4% in Región de Murcia and 3.8% in Cantabria. The national average was 3.1%.

Thus, in agreement with the industrial production indices, in Cantabria the most dynamic activities were those linked to electrical and electronic equipment as well as non-metallic mineral products extraction and industry.

In Galicia, energy and, to a smaller degree, manufacture of transport material and the textile and clothing industry were the activities that contributed the most to industry growth.

In Región de Murcia, the industrial branches that had a greater contribution to growth were chemistry and especially energy.

Finally, in País Vasco the branches of metallurgy, and mechanical machinery and equipment were the industrial activities with the greatest growth.

With respect to **construction** activity, the autonomous communities of Aragón, Castilla - La Mancha and Región de Murcia experienced the most remarkable growth in 2006, close to 6%. Behind these favourable records are the building of infrastructures linked to the 2008 Exposition in Zaragoza, land transport infrastructures as well as housing construction in Castilla - La Mancha and finally, infrastructures linked to energy and water (combined cycle power stations and desalination plants) in Región de Murcia.

The growth rate of autonomous communities in the **services** branches does not show great differences between the different communities, although a better performance has been appreciated with respect to the previous years for those territories in which tourist activity has an important specific weight in the economic structure.

Indeed, and as a consequence of that said above, the improvement experienced this year by the Autonomous Community of Illes Balears is significant, with a GDP growth of 3.5%, thus abandoning the last places it had been occupying in previous years in the ranking of aggregate growth.

Finally, in the case of **primary branches**, the best growth records were for the autonomous communities of Castilla y León, Andalucía and Castilla - La Mancha. These results have been founded on agricultural activity and especially on the good harvests of cereals and olives.

## GDP per capita. Year 2006

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Considering nominal Gross Domestic Product *per capita* for the autonomous communities and sorting it in descending order, **Comunidad de Madrid features at the top of the list**, **with 28,850 euros per inhabitant**, followed by País Vasco, with 28,346 euros, Comunidad Foral de Navarra, with 27,861 euros, and Cataluña, with 26,124 euros per inhabitant.

These four communities are the only ones having a record above the average of EU25, reaching 24,500 euros per inhabitant, according to information by Eurostat.

On the other hand, Castilla - La Mancha, with 17,339 euros per inhabitant, Andalucía, with 17,251 euros, and Extremadura, with 15,054 euros, occupy the end of the list.

#### Gross Domestic Product per capita. Year 2006. Euros per inhabitant.

| above the national average |        | below the national average |        |
|----------------------------|--------|----------------------------|--------|
|                            |        |                            |        |
| Comunidad de Madrid        | 28,850 | Cantabria                  | 21,897 |
| País Vasco                 | 28,346 | Castilla-León              | 21,244 |
| Comunidad Foral de Navarra | 27,861 | Comunidad Valenciana       | 20,239 |
| Cataluña                   | 26,124 | Ceuta                      | 20,171 |
| Illes Balears              | 24,456 | Melilla                    | 19,929 |
| Aragón                     | 23,786 | Canarias                   | 19,924 |
| La Rioja                   | 23,495 | Principado de Asturias     | 19,868 |
|                            |        | Región de Murcia           | 18,400 |
|                            |        | Galicia                    | 18,335 |
|                            |        | Castilla-La Mancha         | 17,339 |
|                            |        | Andalucía                  | 17,251 |
|                            |        | Extremadura                | 15,054 |
| Spain                      | 22,152 |                            |        |

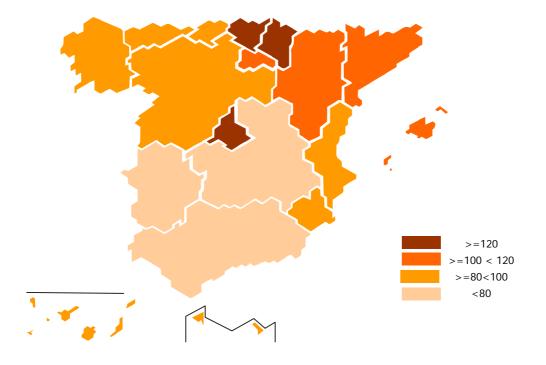
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EUROPEAN UNION EU25 24,500 (Eurostat)

In relative terms, Comunidad de Madrid is more than 30% above the national average and País Vasco and Navarra exceed said average in more than 25%. For its part, Andalucía is 22% below the national level and Extremadura 32% below said record.

With respect to the ranking of autonomous communities by GDP per inhabitant, in 2006 only two changes are observed with respect to that of the year 2005 which, as can be seen in the previous table, affect the autonomous communities of Aragón, La Rioja, Canarias and the autonomous city of Melilla.

As can be observed on the map reflecting these results, and as happened in previous years, the autonomous communities having a GDP per inhabitant above the national average are those placed above the so-called *Ebro axis*, with the exception of Comunidad de Madrid and Illes Balears.



## PIB per cápita Año 2006. España = 100.

## Gross Domestic Product. Series 2000-2006

Average national growth is estimated at 3.34% by analysing the interannual variations of GDP in real terms corresponding to the period 2000-2006.

Eight autonomous communities grew above this level. **The list is headed by Región de Murcia, with an average growth of 3.88% in the period 2000-2006**, followed by Andalucía, 3.72%, and Castilla - La Mancha and Comunidad de Madrid, 3.52% and 3.51%, respectively.

In contrast, the territories that grew the least in said period were La Rioja (2.87%), Principado de Asturias (2.83%) and, finally, Illes Balears, with an average GDP growth of 2.30%.

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#### The average annual growth rate of the GDP between 2000 and 2006 in real terms

| above the national average |      | below the national average |      |
|----------------------------|------|----------------------------|------|
| Deción de Mureio           | 2.00 | Comunidad Valenciana       | 2 22 |
| Región de Murcia           | 3.88 | Comunidad valenciana       | 3.32 |
| Andalucía                  | 3.72 | Aragón                     | 3.32 |
| Castilla-La Mancha         | 3.52 | Melilla                    | 3.23 |
| Comunidad de Madrid        | 3.51 | Cataluña                   | 3.21 |
| Extremadura                | 3.50 | Comunidad Foral de Navarra | 3.20 |
| Cantabria                  | 3.44 | Castilla-León              | 3.18 |
| Canarias                   | 3.41 | País Vasco                 | 3.08 |
| Ceuta                      | 3.37 | Galicia                    | 3.08 |
|                            |      | La Rioja                   | 2.87 |
|                            |      | Principado de Asturias     | 2.83 |
|                            |      | Illes Balears              | 2.30 |
| Spain                      | 3.34 |                            |      |

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