

17 April 2015

**Continuous Household Survey  
Year 2014.**

**The average number of households in Spain is 18,303,100; with an increase of 85,800 regarding the previous year**

**The average size of households continues decreasing and it stands at 2.51 persons, compared with the 2.53 in 2013**

**The number of persons who live alone continues increasing and it reaches 4,535,100; 24.8% of the total households**

## **Households**

The number of households in Spain continued increasing and reached 18,303,100 as the average value in 2014, which means an increase of 0.5% regarding the previous year (85,800 more). This increase was registered despite the decrease of population living in family dwellings, which decreased by 0.4% due to the reduction in the number of persons living in each household.

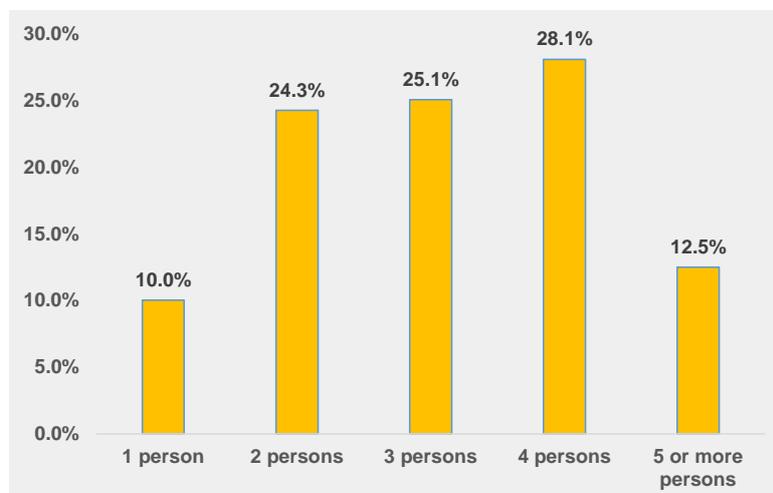
In terms of household size, the most usual households were those formed by two persons (30.6% of the total), followed by single-person households (24.8%), however the population included in the latter was only 10% of the total (9.6% in 2013).

In turn, households with five or more persons constituted 5.9% of the total. Their average size was 5.4 persons and constituted 12.5% of the population (12.8% in 2013).

### **Household according household size. Year 2014**

	<b>Households</b>	<b>%</b>
Total	18,303,100	100.0%
1 person	4,535,100	24.8%
2 persons	5,593,000	30.6%
3 persons	3,853,800	21.1%
4 persons	3,247,100	17.7%
5 or more persons	1,074,200	5.9%

**Population according to the size of the household in which they live. Year 2014**



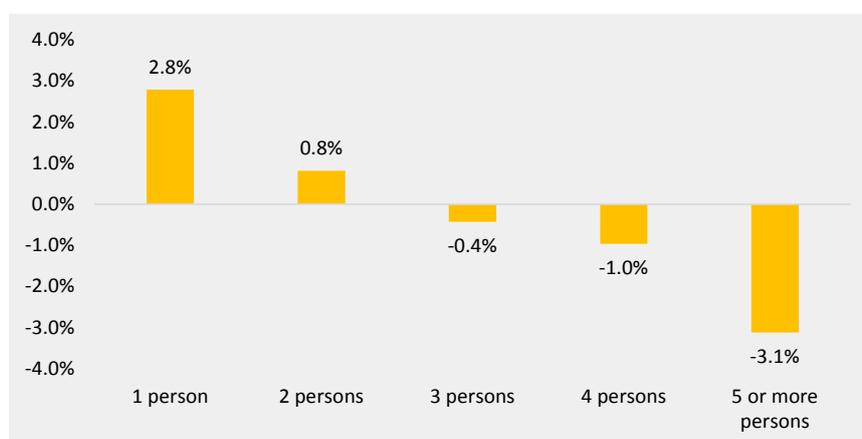
Smaller households (one or two persons) continued increasing. The greatest increase was registered in single-person households. Thus the number of persons living alone reached 4,535,100 as the average value in 2014, with an increase of 2.8% regarding 2013. As compared with the total of households, single-person households represented 24.8% compared with 24.2% in 2013.

Average size of households decreased from 2.53 persons per household in 2013 to 2.51 in 2014.

**Households according to households size. 2013-2014 evolution**

	Year 2014	Year 2013	Absolute variation	Relative variation
Total of households	18,303,100	18,217,300	85,800	0.5%
1 person	4,535,100	4,412,000	123,100	2.8%
2 persons	5,593,000	5,547,600	45,400	0.8%
3 persons	3,853,800	3,870,300	-16,500	-0.4%
4 persons	3,247,100	3,278,600	-31,500	-1.0%
5 or more persons	1,074,200	1,108,800	-34,600	-3.1%
Average size	2.51	2.53	-0.02	-0.8%

**Growth in households 2013-2014 according to household size**



In turn, households with three, four, five or more persons decreased. Households formed by three persons would decrease the least (0.4%), whereas households formed by five and more members would registered the greatest decrease (3.1%).

### Most frequent types of household. Year 2014

	CHS-2014	%	CHS-2013	%	Absolute Variation	Relative Variation
Total	18,303,100	100.0%	18,217,300	100.0%	85,800	0.5%
Single-person household	4,535,100	24.8%	4,412,000	24.2%	123,100	2.8%
Couple without children living in the household	3,978,600	21.7%	3,943,300	21.6%	35,300	0.9%
Couple with children living in the household	6,333,800	34.6%	6,362,900	34.9%	-29,100	-0.5%
With 1 child	2,946,300	16.1%	2,980,900	16.4%	-34,600	-1.2%
With 2 children	2,792,600	15.3%	2,795,600	15.3%	-3,000	-0.1%
With 3 or more children	594,900	3.3%	586,400	3.2%	8,500	1.4%
Single-parent household (one adult with children)	1,754,700	9.6%	1,707,700	9.4%	47,000	2.8%
Couple or father/ mother with children and other persons	786,500	4.3%	848,500	4.7%	-62,000	-7.3%
Other (more than one family nucleus)	369,400	2.0%	379,300	2.1%	-9,900	-2.6%
Personas without family nucleus	545,100	3.0%	563,700	3.1%	-18,600	-3.3%

### Households formed by couples

The number of households formed by couples, whether de facto or de jure, were the most numerous. In 2014 there were 10.3 million households exclusively formed by couples with or without children.

Considering the number of children that lived with the couple, in Spain there were 3.98 million couples without children, 2.95 million couples with one child and 2.79 million couples with two children. As compared with 2013 the number of households formed by couples without children increased by 0.9% and the number of couples with children decreased by 0.5% (particularly couples with only one child dropped by 1.2%).

In turn, the number of couples that lived with three or more children increased by 1.4% and has reached 594,000, which represents 3.3% of the total households.

If other types of households in which there were also other members are added to this figure, there were 10.9 million households in which there was at least one couple living. And adding households with more than one couple there were a total of 11.4 million couples.

### Couples

	Year 2014	%	Year 2013	%	Absolute variation	Relative variation
Total couples	11,402,000		11,456,500		-54,500	-0.5%
Opposite-sex couples	11,310,100	99.2%	11,373,000	99.3%	-62,900	-0.6%
Same-sex couples	91,900	0.8%	83,600	0.7%	8,300	9.9%
De jure couples	9,799,100	85.9%	9,889,100	86.3%	-90,000	-0.9%
De facto couples	1,602,900	14.1%	1,567,400	13.7%	35,500	2.3%

Married couples constitute 85.9% of the total and de facto couples 14.1% (in 70.7% of them, both members are single). As compared with 2013, the number of de fact couples increased 2.3%, whereas married couples decreased by 0.9%.

Heterosexual couples constitute 99.2% of the total and homosexual couples 0.8%. 58.4% of homosexual couples were formed by males and 41.6% by females. The number of homosexual couples increased by 9.9% regarding 2013.

## Single-person households

In Spain, there were 4,535,100 single-person households, that is, formed by one person. Of this figure, 1,853,700 (40.9%) correspond to persons who are 65 years of age or over and live alone. 72.2% were females (1,337,700 households)

Regarding persons under 65 years of age who live alone, they were mainly males (1,606,000 being 59.9%). Females under 65 years of age who live alone were 1,074,000.

When comparing the 2013 average data, the number of single-person households increased 2.8%. In absolute terms there were 123,100 more single-person households.

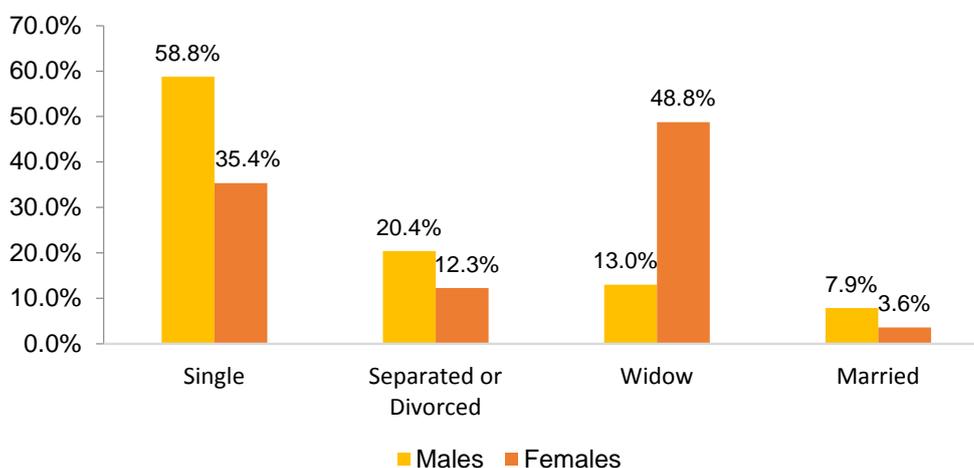
It is important to highlight that the households formed by persons who are 65 years of age or over as well as those formed by persons under 65 years of age increased, however the increase was higher in the first (2.7% as compared with 2.9%). By sex, the increase was higher in males (3.4%) than in females (2.3%).

### Single person household according to age and sex

Age	Sex	Year 2014	Year 2013	Absolute Variation	Relative Variation
Under 65 years old	Total	2,681,400	2,606,300	75,100	2.9%
	Male	1,606,600	1,557,100	49,500	3.2%
	Female	1,074,800	1,049,200	25,600	2.4%
65 years old and over	Total	1,853,700	1,805,600	48,100	2.7%
	Male	516,000	496,000	20,000	4.0%
	Female	1,337,700	1,309,600	28,100	2.1%

The marital status of persons who live alone is very different according to sex. Hence, in 58.8% of households in which there is one man living, he is single. On the other hand, in households in which there is one woman living, the most frequent marital status is widow (48.8%).

### Single-person households according to marital status. Year 2014

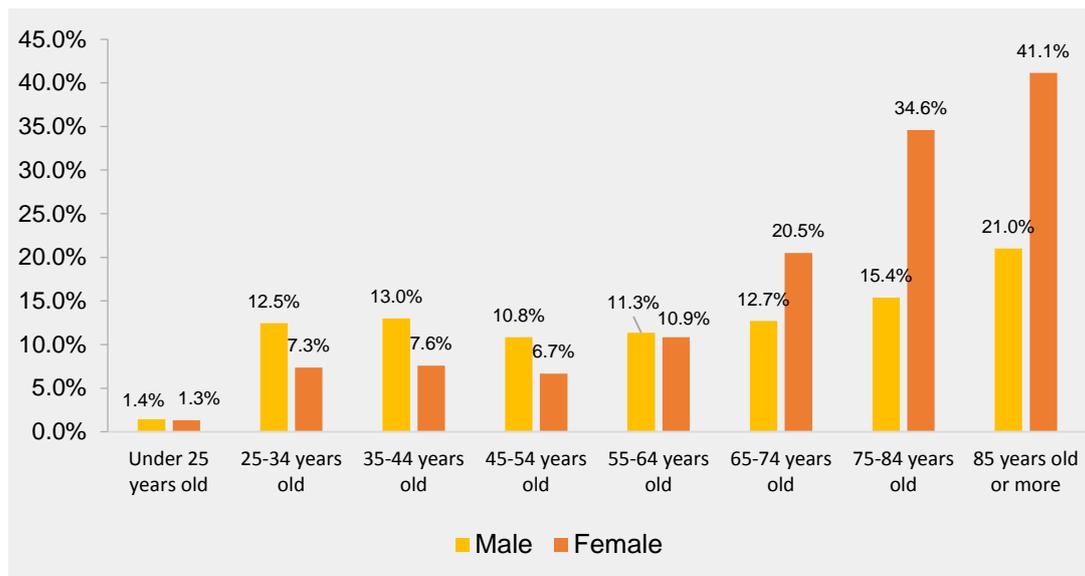


Nearly one in four males between 35 and 44 years of age live alone (24.4%). And nearly one in four females between 75 and 84 years of age live alone (24.6%).

Propensity<sup>1</sup> to live alone is different according to sex and age. Thus, it is higher in males until they reach 55 years of age, and higher in females when they reach 65 years of age.

At early ages (under 25 years of age) the propensity to live alone is of 1.4% in males and 1.3% in females.

**Propensity to live alone according sex and age (% of the total by sex). Year 2014**



**Single-parent households**

Single-parent households, that is, formed by one of the parents, were mainly formed by mother with children (1,450,400, which is 82.7% of the total, compared with 304,200 of father with children). In two in three single-parent households (67.3%), the parent live with only one child.

The number of households formed by mother with children increased 2.7%. In contrast, households formed by father with children increased by 3.2%. As a whole, they have increased 2.7% regarding 2013.

In 41.8% of households formed by mother with children the mother was a widow, in 37.0% she was separated or divorced, in 11.7% she was single and in 9.4% she was married. In 56.5% of the 169,700 households formed by single mother with children, they were formed by females who were 40 years of age or over.

In slightly over a third of the single-parent households (34.4%), parents were 65 of age or over and parents under 35 years of age did not reach 5%. In 29.0% of the households formed by father with children, parents were under 50 years of age, whereas in those households formed by mother with children, the percentage was 37.1%.

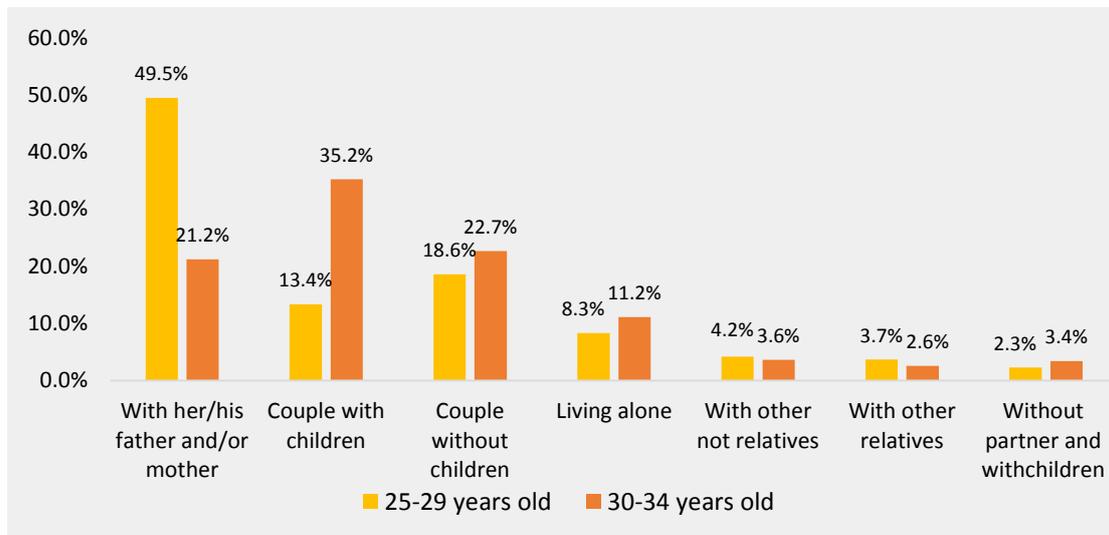
<sup>1</sup>"Propensity" is the quotient between the number of persons in each age group that live alone and the total number of persons in that age group.

## Emancipation: persons between 25 and 34 years of age

Regarding the way in which young persons live, one in three of the 6,014,300 persons between 25 and 34 years of age had still not emancipated. The most usual is that they lived with both parents or with one of them (33.8%), with their partner and children (25.5%) and with their partner without children (20.9%).

Emancipation is less common among younger persons. Hence, one in two young persons between 25 and 29 years of age continued living with their parents (49.5%), compared with one in five (21.2%) persons between 30 and 34 years of age.

### Types of cohabitation of persons between 25 and 34 years of age. Year 2014



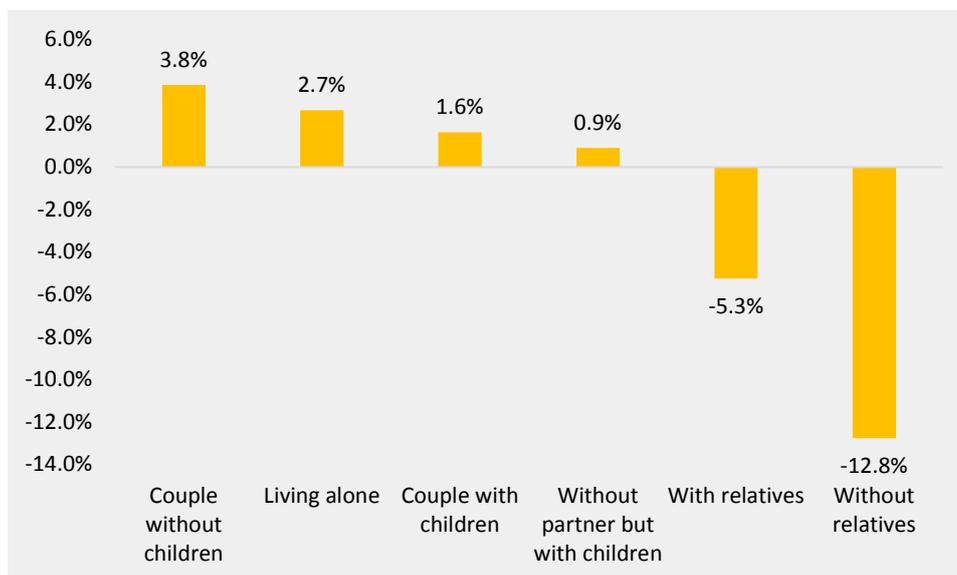
## Elderly persons

The most common type of cohabitation of persons who were 65 years of age or over and lived in family dwellings was living with their couple without children in the household (45.9%), followed by alone (22.6%) and with their partner and children (14.6%).

Persons who were 85 years of age or over, the most common was living alone (368.400 persons, which is 34.4% of the total), followed by living with their couple without children in the household (23.4%) and living with other relatives that are not their partner or children (20.2%).

Between 2013 and 2014, persons of 65 years of age and over increased 2.1%, being the greatest increase in those living with their couple without children (3.8%). On the contrary, those living with other relatives that are not their partner or children decreased 5.3% and those living with other persons not linked by relationships decreased 12.8%.

**Variation 2013-2014 in forms of cohabitation of persons over 64 years old**

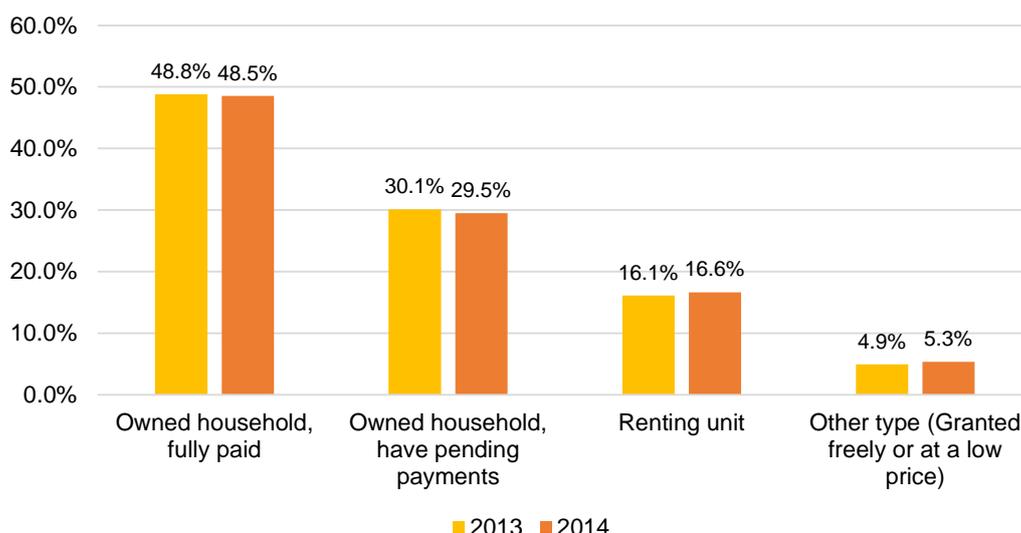


**Dwelling tenancy regime**

78.0% of households occupied dwellings they own, whether they had pending payments or not. This percentage is slightly lower than the one registered in 2013 (78.9%), but it is important to highlight that the proportion of households with pending payments reduced from 30.1% in 2013 to 29.5% as the average value in 2014.

In turn, households that live in a rental unit changed from 16.1% of the total in 2013 to 16.6% in 2014.

**Variation 2013-2014 in dwelling tenancy regime**



Dwelling tenancy regime varied a lot according to nationality. Thus, 57.9% of households with a foreign national member were renting a dwelling, compared with 56.9% in 2013.

In the case of households in which all of its members were Spanish, 11.3% live in a rental unit, compared with 10.4% in 2013.

The percentage of households with a foreign national member that own a house but have pending payments decreased from 21.3% in 2013 to 20.2% in 2014.

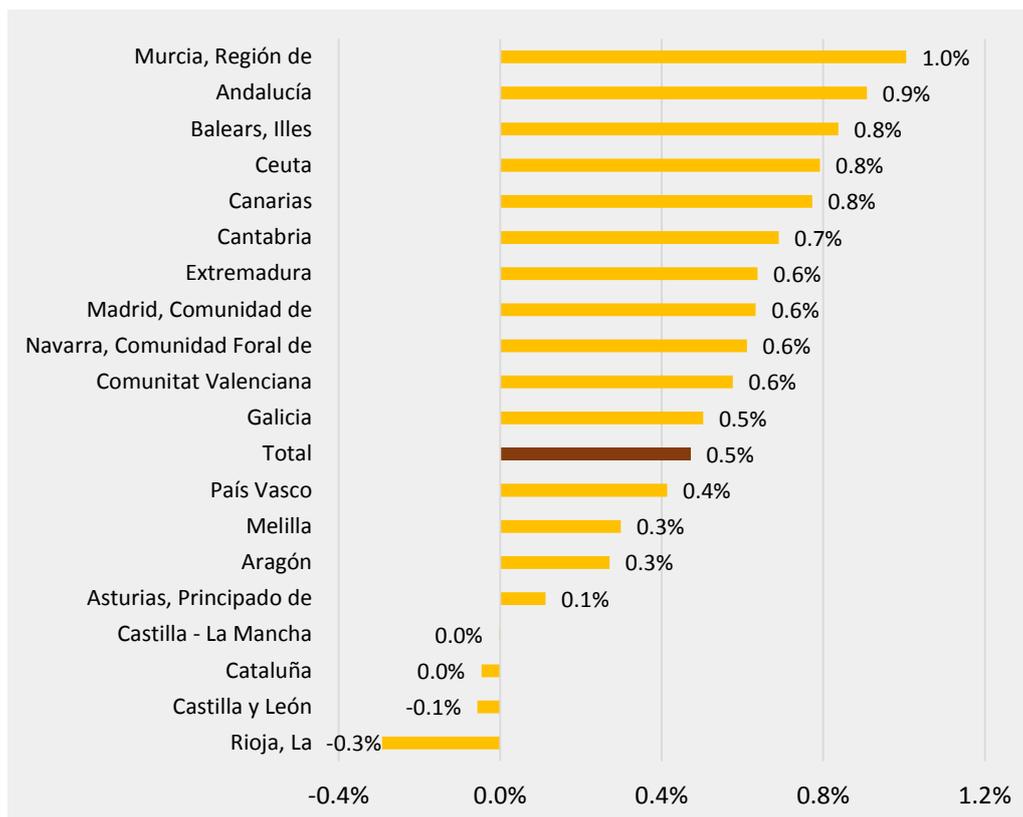
In households in which all of its members were Spanish, the decrease was less, from 31.4% as the average value in 2013 to 30.7% in 2014.

### Number and size of the household by Autonomous Communities:

The number of households increased 0.5% on a national level. Región de Murcia (1,0%), Andalucía (0.9%) and Illes Balears (0.8%) registered the greatest increase.

The greatest decreases were registered in La Rioja (—0.3%) and Castilla y León (—0.1%).

#### Relative variation 2013-2014 in number of households by Autonomous Communities.

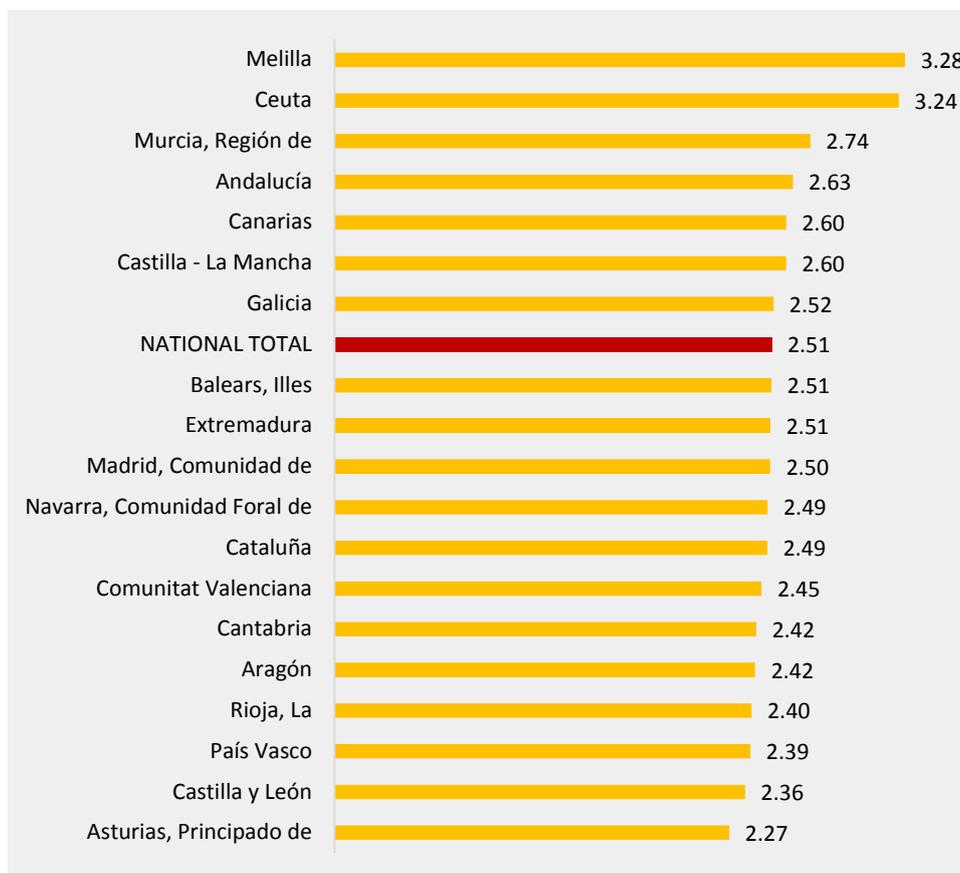


The average size of household in 2014 was 2.51 persons (2.53% in 2013), Therefore it maintained its downward trend.

By regions, the Autonomous Communities of Ceuta and Melilla presented the highest average household size, with more than three persons in both cases. Next was the Región de Murcia (2.74 persons) and Andalucía (2.63 persons).

On the opposite side were Principado de Asturias (2.27 persons per household), Castilla y León (2.36), País Vasco (2.39) and La Rioja (2,40)

**Average size of household by Autonomous Communities . Year 2014**



The Autonomous Cities of Melilla (21.2%) and Ceuta (19.6%) and Región de Murcia (9.1%) presented the highest percentages of households with five or more members.

On the opposite side were Principado de Asturias (3.2%), País Vasco and Castilla y León (both 3.9%).

Principado de Asturias was the community with the highest percentage of population living alone (29.1% of households were single-person). Next were La Rioja (28.2%) and Castilla y León (28.1%).

On the other hand, the lowest percentages of single-person households belonged to the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta (16.3%) and Melilla (16.6%) and Región de Murcia (20.3%).

**Percentage of households according size by Autonomous Communities. Year 2014**

	Household size				
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons and more
NATIONAL TOTAL	24.8%	30.6%	21.1%	17.7%	5.9%
Andalucía	22.4%	28.5%	21.4%	20.7%	6.9%
Aragón	26.8%	31.5%	20.8%	16.4%	4.6%
Asturias, Principado de	29.1%	33.9%	22.1%	11.6%	3.2%
Balears, Illes	24.3%	32.0%	20.5%	16.8%	6.4%
Canarias	23.4%	28.8%	22.8%	17.7%	7.2%
Cantabria	27.2%	30.4%	21.6%	16.1%	4.8%
Castilla y León	28.1%	32.2%	20.3%	15.4%	3.9%
Castilla - La Mancha	23.0%	29.5%	20.7%	20.5%	6.3%
Cataluña	24.8%	31.9%	20.7%	16.9%	5.8%
Comunitat Valenciana	25.8%	31.0%	21.2%	17.2%	4.8%
Extremadura	25.0%	30.2%	20.5%	19.2%	5.1%
Galicia	24.1%	31.0%	22.6%	15.7%	6.6%
Madrid, Comunidad de	25.5%	30.4%	20.4%	17.6%	6.1%
Murcia, Región de	20.3%	28.6%	21.2%	20.9%	9.1%
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	26.3%	29.8%	19.9%	18.4%	5.6%
País Vasco	26.8%	32.2%	20.8%	16.3%	3.9%
Rioja, La	28.2%	31.1%	20.1%	15.9%	4.7%
Ceuta	16.3%	21.6%	21.7%	20.8%	19.6%
Melilla	16.6%	21.9%	17.5%	22.8%	21.2%

## Methodological note

The Continuous Household Survey is a continuous sample-based study that offers annual information on the basic demographic features of the population, of the households they form and the dwellings they inhabit. Data collection started in January 2013.

The CHS is considered the reference source of the INE in terms of household features, since it provides information on the number of households by size and composition as well as on the types of cohabitation of the persons.

The researched annual sample had 1.600 census sections distributed through the entire national territory and 65 postal addresses by section, of which approximately 70% were occupied dwellings. The effective sample was of around 57,000 households in 2014. Sampling had two stratified stages. The units of the first stage were the census sections and those of the second stage were the addresses that exist in the section.

Information was collected by means of a multi-channel sequence system that includes carrying out Computer-assisted web interviewing (CAWI), Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI), questionnaires on paper through e-mail and Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI). The information collection rate through the different channels was: 24% by Internet, 30% by telephone, 21% by mail and 25% by means of visits from INE agents.

The survey allows to provide data on a national and Autonomous Community level with samples corresponding to one year. Accumulating the sample of two complete years (more than 110,000 households), it also allows to provide broken down data by province

## Provisional and final data

The information currently presented correspond to sample processing of a complete year (2014), therefore the data refer to the average of the year (with reference 1 July). This data, which is provided for the national and Autonomous Community total.

In April 2015 data regarding the 2014 average is published, as well as the data regarding 1 January 2014, this way they will gather the sample of two complete years (2013 and 2014). This sampling size also allows providing data by province.

## Definitions

**Household:** it is the person or group of persons that reside in a family dwelling.

**Family nucleus:** Intermediate hierarchical unit between the inhabitant and the household. There are four types: couple without children, couple with one child or more, father with one child or more, and mother with one child or more. In order to be considered part of the family nucleus, children must not have a partner or have children.

**Family dwelling:** A dwelling designed to be inhabited by one or more persons, not necessarily linked by family ties, and who do not constitute a group establishment.