

Labour market



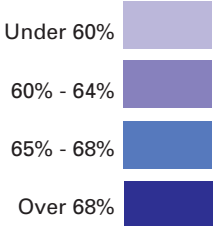
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Employment rate in the EU 27

2006

The number of persons aged 15-64 in employment as a share of the total population in the same age group.



Employment rate

2006 %

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Denmark | 77.4 |
| Netherlands | 74.3 |
| Sweden | 73.1 |
| United Kingdom | 71.5 |
| Austria | 70.2 |
| Cyprus | 69.6 |
| Finland | 69.3 |
| Ireland | 68.6 |
| Estonia | 68.1 |
| Portugal | 67.9 |
| Germany | 67.5 |
| Slovenia | 66.6 |
| Latvia | 66.3 |
| Czech Republic | 65.3 |
| Spain | 64.8 |
| EU-27 | 64.5 |
| France | 63.8 |
| Lithuania | 63.6 |
| Luxembourg | 63.6 |
| Belgium | 61.0 |
| Greece | 61.0 |
| Slovakia | 59.4 |
| Romania | 58.8 |
| Bulgaria | 58.6 |
| Italy | 58.4 |
| Hungary | 57.3 |
| Malta | 54.8 |
| Poland | 54.5 |

Employment rate at the Community average

Employment rate in Spain reaches at 64.8% in 2006, three decimals above the EU average. The country with the highest employment rate in the European Union is Denmark (77.4%), while the lowest rate is observed in Poland (54.5%).

The Community female employment rate remains below the male rate, 57.3% for women versus 71.6% for men. By countries, the largest difference between male and female employment rates takes place in Malta (74.5% for men versus 34.9% for women), whilst the smallest difference is found in Finland (71.4% versus 67.3%).

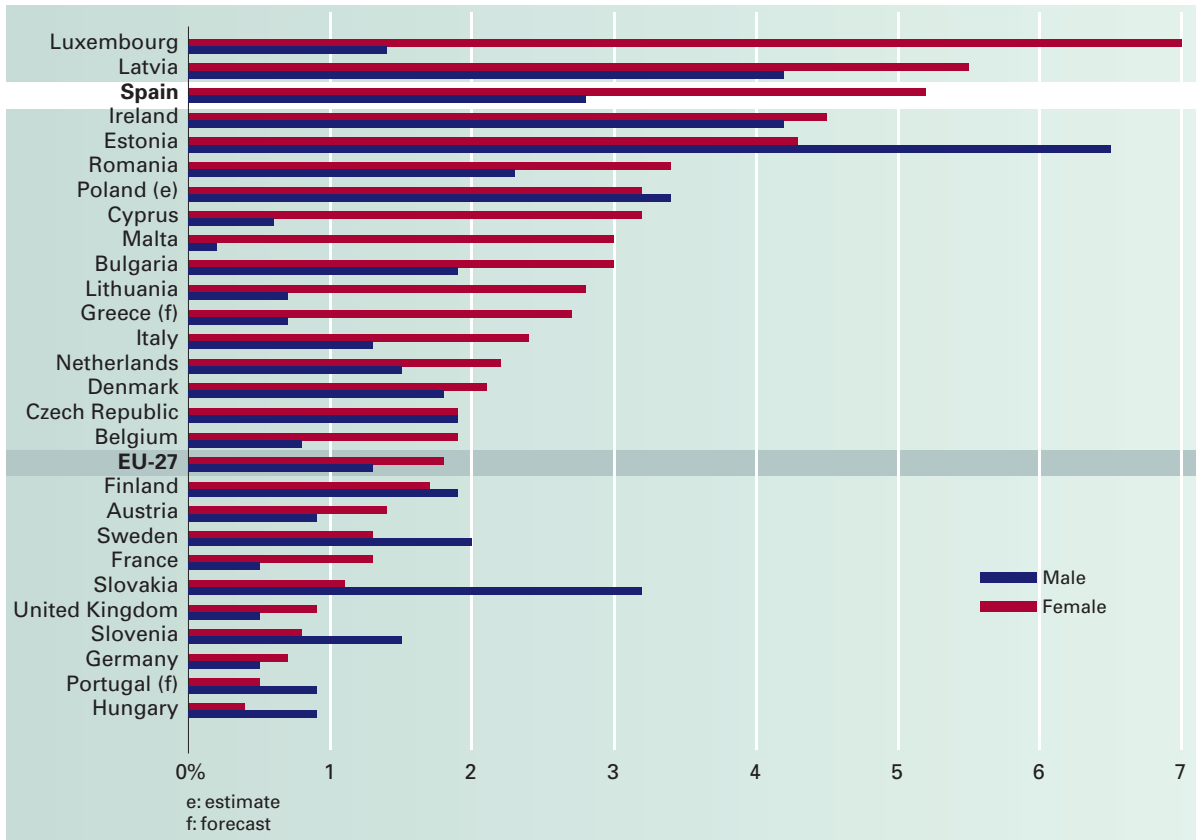
In the case of Spain the male employment rate stands at 76.1% and the female at 53.2%.



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Employment growth rate by gender. 2006



In 2006 the percentage of employment growth in Spain reaches 5.2% for women versus 2.8% for men. As regards the EU average, this stands at 1.8% in the case of women and 1.3% in the case of men.

All EU countries show positive increases in employment rates for both sex. The highest growth for women are recorded in Luxembourg (7.0%), Latvia (5.5%) and Spain (5.2%). As regards men, the highest increases are observed in Estonia (6.5%), Latvia and Ireland (both 4.2%).

Employment rate of older workers (55-64 years)

2006 %

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Sweden | 69.6 |
| Denmark | 60.7 |
| Estonia | 58.5 |
| United Kingdom | 57.4 |
| Finland | 54.5 |
| Cyprus | 53.6 |
| Latvia | 53.3 |
| Ireland | 53.1 |
| Portugal | 50.1 |
| Lithuania | 49.6 |
| Germany | 48.4 |
| Netherlands | 47.7 |
| Czech Republic | 45.2 |
| Spain | 44.1 |
| EU-27 | 43.5 |
| Greece | 42.3 |
| Romania | 41.7 |
| Bulgaria | 39.6 |
| France | 37.6 |
| Austria | 35.5 |
| Hungary | 33.6 |
| Luxembourg | 33.2 |
| Slovakia | 33.1 |
| Slovenia | 32.6 |
| Italy | 32.5 |
| Belgium | 32.0 |
| Malta | 30.0 |
| Poland | 28.1 |

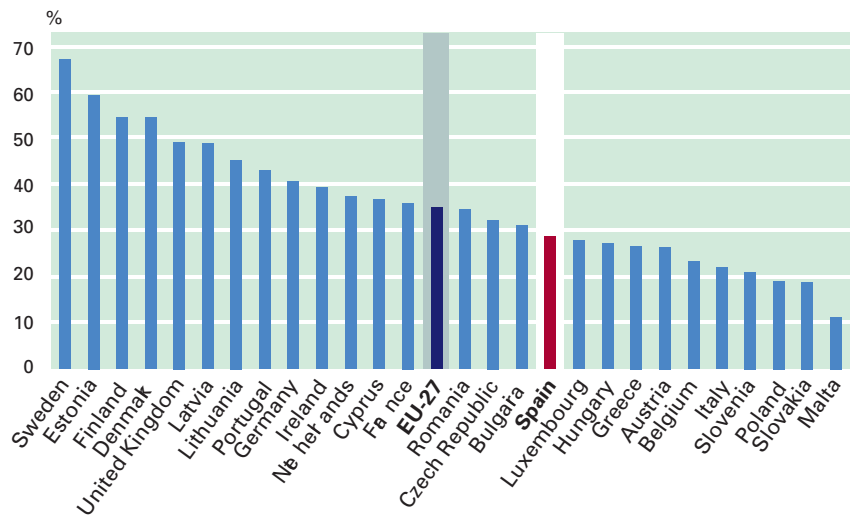
Increase in the employment rate of older workers

Spain occupies a position slightly above the average with regard to the employment rate of persons aged 55-64 (44.1% versus 43.5%).

This value has been gradually growing over the last few years; whilst in 1996 only 33 out of every 100 Spaniards aged 55-64 were in work, currently 44 out of every 100 continue working.

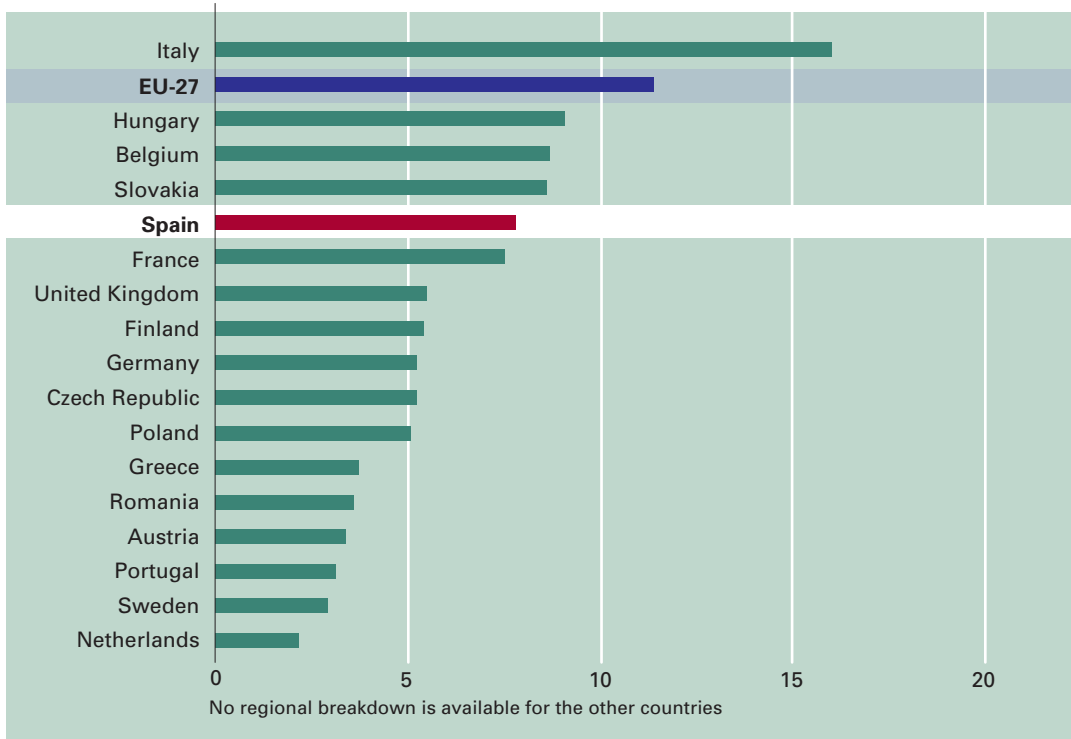
By gender, the employment rate of Spanish women in this age group is 28.7% versus 60.4% in the case of men.

Female employment rate of older workers. 2006



In 2006, the employment rate of older workers is 61.8% in the US and 64.7% in Japan

Dispersion of regional employment rates. 2006



Decrease of interregional differences

There are considerable territorial differences within the European Union with regard to employment. For this purpose, the coefficient of variation for employment rates by NUTS-2 regions is studied within each country. The indicator gives a measure of the regional dispersion of employment rates.

Since 1999 the value of this indicator in Spain has undergone a reduction of three points, standing at 7.8 in 2006. This drop indicates that the employment differences among NUTS-2 regions have decreased in our country.

Unemployment rate¹

2007 %

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Slovakia | 11.3 |
| Poland | 9.6 |
| Greece (*) | 8.9 |
| Germany | 8.4 |
| Spain | 8.3 |
| France | 8.3 |
| Portugal | 8.0 |
| Belgium | 7.5 |
| Romania (*) | 7.3 |
| Hungary (*) | 7.2 |
| EU-27 | 7.1 |
| Bulgaria | 6.9 |
| Finland | 6.9 |
| Italy (*) | 6.8 |
| Malta | 6.3 |
| Sweden | 6.1 |
| Latvia | 5.9 |
| Czech Republic | 5.3 |
| United Kingdom | 5.2 |
| Estonia | 4.9 |
| Slovenia | 4.7 |
| Luxembourg | 4.7 |
| Ireland | 4.5 |
| Austria | 4.4 |
| Lithuania | 4.3 |
| Cyprus | 3.9 |
| Denmark | 3.7 |
| Netherlands | 3.2 |

Above the EU average

In the last few years the unemployment rate in Spain has undergone a significant drop, standing at 8.3% in 2007. However, the percentage of unemployed in Spain continues to be slightly above the EU average (7.1%). The country with the highest unemployment rate in the European Union is Slovakia (11.3%), followed by Poland (9.6%); on the opposite side, the countries with the lowest unemployment rates are Netherlands, with 3.2%, and Denmark, with 3.7%.

The groups most affected by unemployment in Spain are women and young people. In 2007, the unemployment rate stands at 10.9% for women versus 6.4% for men. As regards young people, the unemployment rate for those under 25 year is 18.2%.



Photo: banco-imagen es@cnice.mec.es

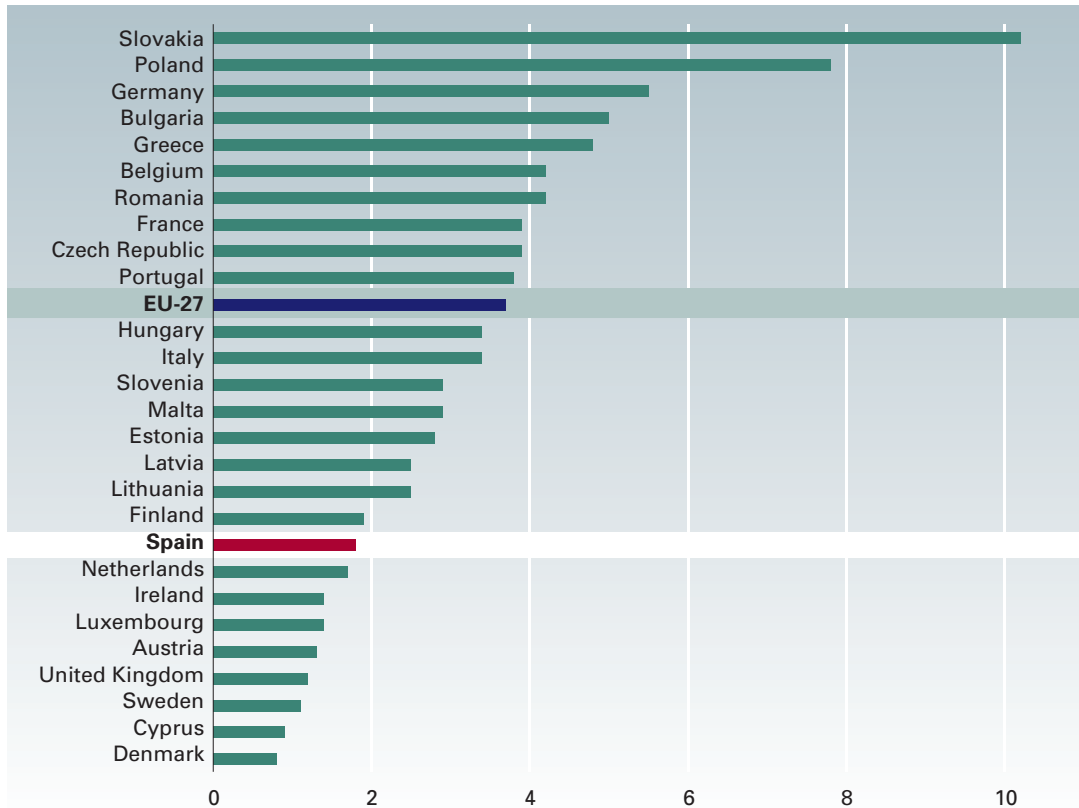
¹ Percentage of people without employment in the economically-active population who have had a job previously or are ready to work within two weeks or search for a work.

* datum of 2006



In 2007 the unemployment rate is 4.6% in the US and 3.9% in Japan

Long-term unemployment rate. 2006



Long-term unemployment is falling

The long-term unemployment rate (at least twelve months) in the EU is 3.7% in 2006, while in Spain this indicator has dropped in the last few years to 1.8%. The countries with the lowest long-term unemployment rate are Denmark and Cyprus, with values under 1%. At the other extreme Slovakia (10.2%), Poland (7.8%) and Germany (5.5%) are found.

Gender differences are marked. In Spain the long-term unemployment rate for women is 2.8%, while for men it is 1.2%.

Accidents at work with more than 3 days' absence¹

2005

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Estonia | 126 |
| Lithuania | 104 |
| Ireland | 101 |
| Netherlands | 100 |
| Cyprus | 97 |
| Romania | 96 |
| Latvia | 92 |
| France | 90 |
| Finland | 88 |
| Spain | 87 |
| Sweden | 85 |
| Slovenia | 84 |
| United Kingdom | 84 |
| Denmark | 83 |
| Poland | 80 |
| Czech Republic | 80 |
| Hungary | 79 |
| EU-27 | 78 |
| Austria | 77 |
| Malta | 77 |
| Portugal | 74 |
| Luxembourg | 72 |
| Italy | 71 |
| Germany | 65 |
| Belgium | 62 |
| Bulgaria | 58 |
| Greece | 55 |
| Slovakia | 52 |

Accidents at work are decreasing

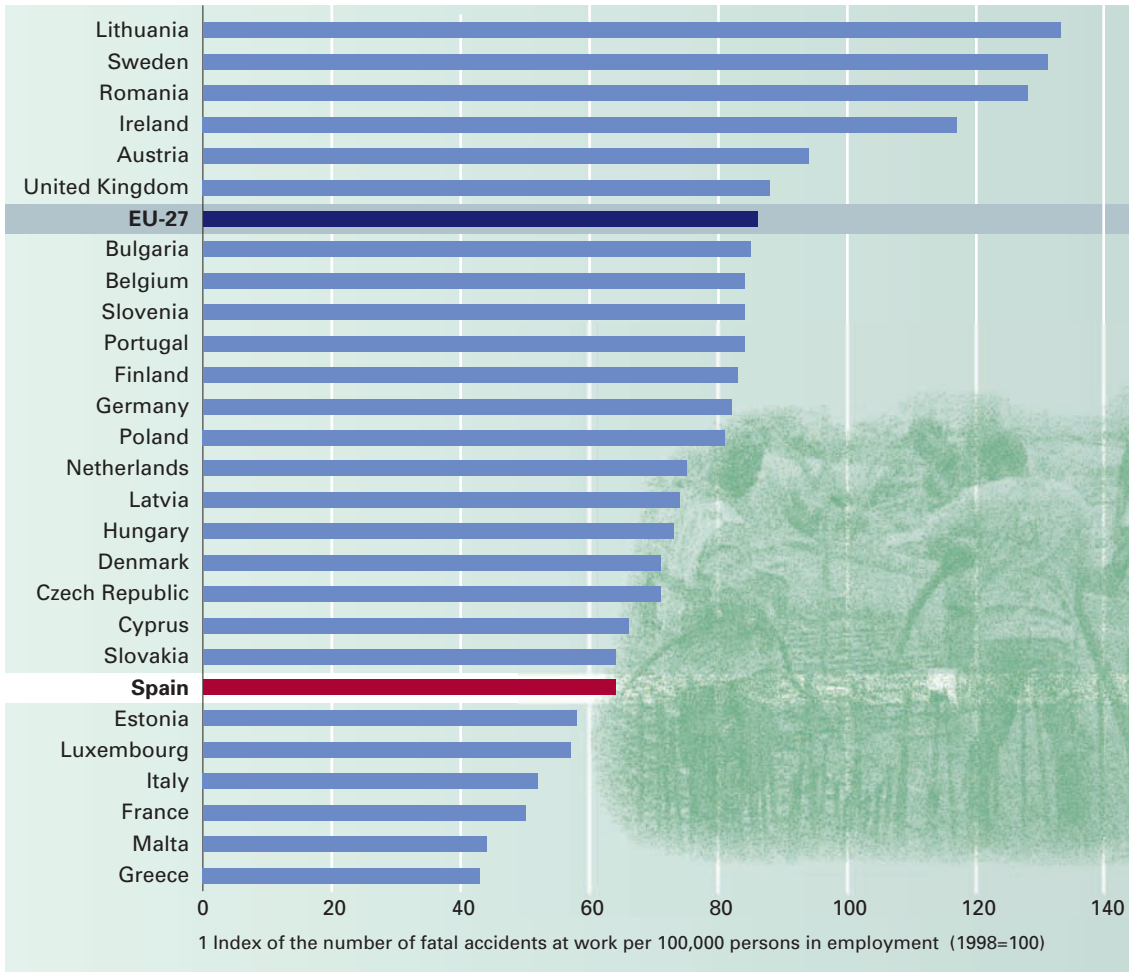
In Spain the index of accidents at work with more than 3 days' absence stands at 87 for 2005. This figure indicates that the number of these accidents per 100,000 persons employed dropped by 13% between 1998 and 2005. The EU average also recorded a decrease of 21% in the same period.

The highest decreases in this index of accidents take place in Slovakia (-48%), Greece (-45%) and Bulgaria (-42%). The only countries in which the number of accidents increased in relation to 1998 are Estonia (26%), Lithuania (4%) and Ireland (1%).



¹ Index of the number of accidents at work with more than 3 days' absence per 100,000 persons in employment (1998=100)

Fatal accidents at work¹. 2005



The number of fatal accidents per 100,000 persons employed has fallen by 14% between 1998 and 2005 in the European Union.

By countries, in Spain the number of fatal accidents has decreased 36% in the same period. The largest decrease in this indicator is recorded in Greece, with 57%. On the contrary, in Lithuania the number of fatal accidents per 100,000 persons employed has risen 33% from 1998.