

28 January 2020

Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS) Fourth quarter of 2019

Main results

- Employment registered an increase of 92,600 persons in the fourth quarter of 2019 compared with the previous quarter (0.47%), standing at 19,966,900 employed persons. In seasonally adjusted terms, the quarterly variation was 0.80%. Employment has grown by 402,300 persons (2.06%) in the last 12 months.
- This quarter, employment rose by 67,900 people in the private sector and 24,700 in the public sector. In the last twelve months, employment has increased by 360,000 persons in the private sector and 42,300 in the public sector.
- Salaried employees increased this quarter by 56,200. The number of wage-earners with a permanent contract has increased by 134,700 persons, while that of wage-earners with temporary contracts has decreased by 78,600 persons. The number of salaried employees increased by 392,500 in the annual rate (permanent employment increased by 414,200 persons, while temporary employment fell by 21,600). The self-employed work increased by 34,300 workers this quarter and by 7,500 workers in the last 12 months.
- In this quarter, employment increased in *Services* (83,000 more), *Agriculture* (47,600) and *Construction* (14,000). In *Industry* it dropped by 52,100. In the last year, employment rose in *Services*, where there were 374,600 more people employed, in *Construction*, with 55,400, and in *Agriculture*, with 4,000. In *Agriculture*, employment fell by 31,700 in annual variation.
- The largest increases in the in the economically active population this quarter were registered in Comunidad de Madrid (78,400 more economically active people), Andalucía (49,100) and Extremadura (35,200). The largest decreases were recorded in Illes Balears (-49,600), Extremadura (-19,900) and Galicia (-9,700). In the past year, employment increased in almost all communities. Comunidad de Madrid (138,900 more), Cataluña (87,000) and Andalucía (45,800) showed the greatest increases.
- The number of unemployed persons dropped by 22,500 this quarter (-0.70%), standing at 3,191,900. In seasonally adjusted terms, the quarterly variation was -2.76%. Over the last 12 months, unemployment has decreased by 112,400 persons (-3.40%).
- The unemployment rate stood at 13.78%, which is 14 hundredths less than the previous quarter. Within the last year, this rate has decreased by 67 hundredths.
- By autonomous communities, the highest quarterly unemployment drops took place in Andalucía(-41,900), Canarias (-22,100) and Cataluña (-16,300). The greatest increases were registered in Extremadura (18,700 more unemployed persons), Murcia (15,200) and Illes Balears (7,500). In annual terms, the greatest decreases in the number of unemployed persons occurred in Cataluña (45,600 fewer), Comunidad de Madrid (-43,800) and Canarias (-10,800).

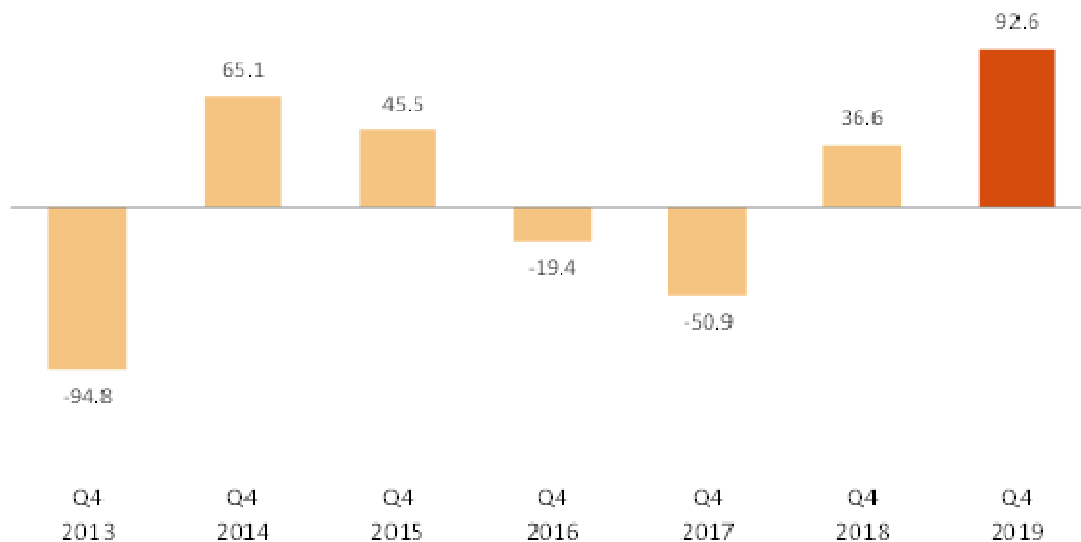
- This quarter, the number of economically active persons increased by 70,100, up to 23,158,800. The activity rate increased by two hundredths, standing at 58.74%. Over the last year, the economically active population has increased by 290,000 persons.

Employment

The number of employed persons increased by 92,600 persons in the fourth quarter of 2019, reaching 19,966,900. The quarterly employment variation rate stood at 0.47%. This is the best quarterly evolution in a fourth quarter since 2006.

The employment rate (percentage of employed persons with respect to the population aged 16 and over) was 50.64%, representing an increase of 10 hundredths as compared to the previous quarter. In the last year, this rate has risen half a point.

Quarterly variation of employment. Thousands (Q4 compared with Q3 of the same year)



By sex, employment decreased this quarter by 15,900 for men and rose 108,500 for women. By nationality, employment increased by 52,100 persons among Spaniards and by 40,400 among foreign nationals.

By age, employment grew this quarter among those 40 and over and in the 25 to 29 age group range. The largest increase (88,700 more employed) is among people aged 55 and older. By contrast, employment was low among those under 25, with 32,100 fewer people employed in the 16 to 19 age range and 46,600 fewer in the 16 to 24 age range.

In the past 12 months, employment has increased by 402,300 persons (155,500 men and 246,800 women). The annual variation rate of employment was 2.06%, representing an increase of 29 hundredths compared to the previous quarter.

Annual variation rate of employment. Percentage.



Employment increased this quarter in *Services* (83,000 more people), *Agriculture* (47,600) and *Construction* (14,000) and decreased in *Industry* (-52,100).

In the past year, employment has risen in *Services* (374,600 more employed), in *Industry* (55,400) and in *Construction* (4,000), while it decreased in *Agriculture* (-31,700).

Full-time employment decreased by 63,000 persons this quarter, whilst part-time employment increased by 155,600. The percentage of persons employed part-time increased by 71 hundredths, up to 14.75%.

Over the last 12 months, full-time employment has increased by 352,300 persons and part-time employment by 50,100.

The number of salaried employees increased this quarter by 56,200. The number of wage-earners with a permanent contract has increased by 134,700 persons, while that of wage-earners with temporary contracts has decreased by 78,600 persons. The temporary employment rate decreased 56 hundredths, to 26.11%.

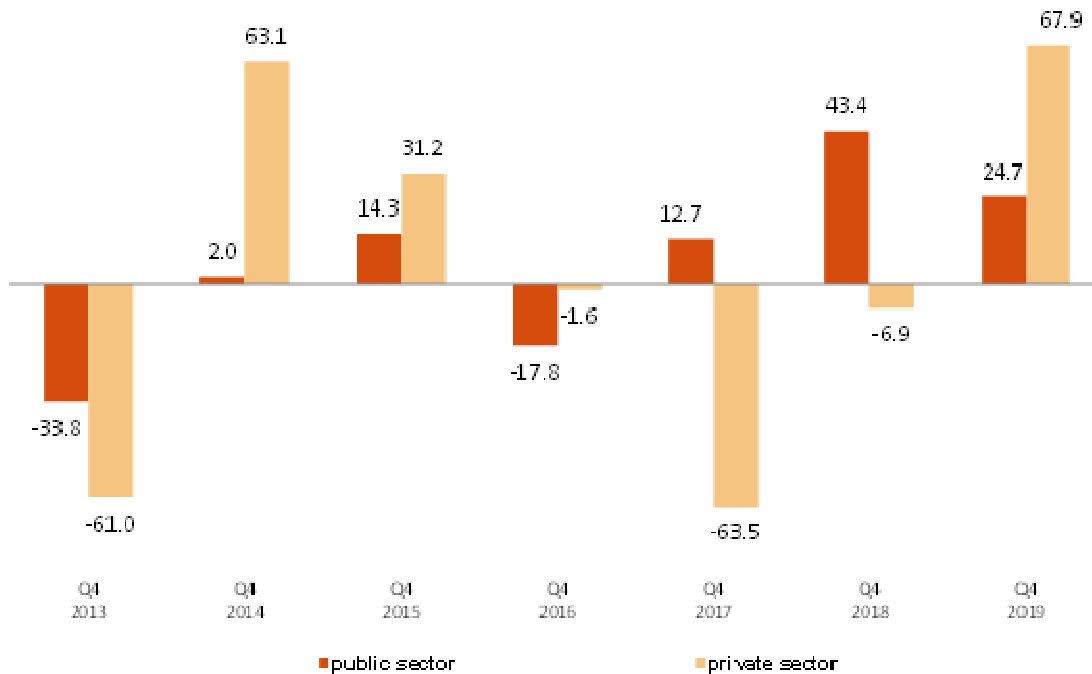
Over the last 12 months, the number of salaried employees has increased by 392,500. Permanent employment has increased by 414,200, while temporary employment decreased by 21,600.

The number of self-employed persons increased by 34,300 persons in quarterly variation, and by 7,500 over the past year.

This quarter, private employment¹ increased by 67,900 persons, standing at 16,713,600. Public employment² increased by 24,700, up to 3,253,300.

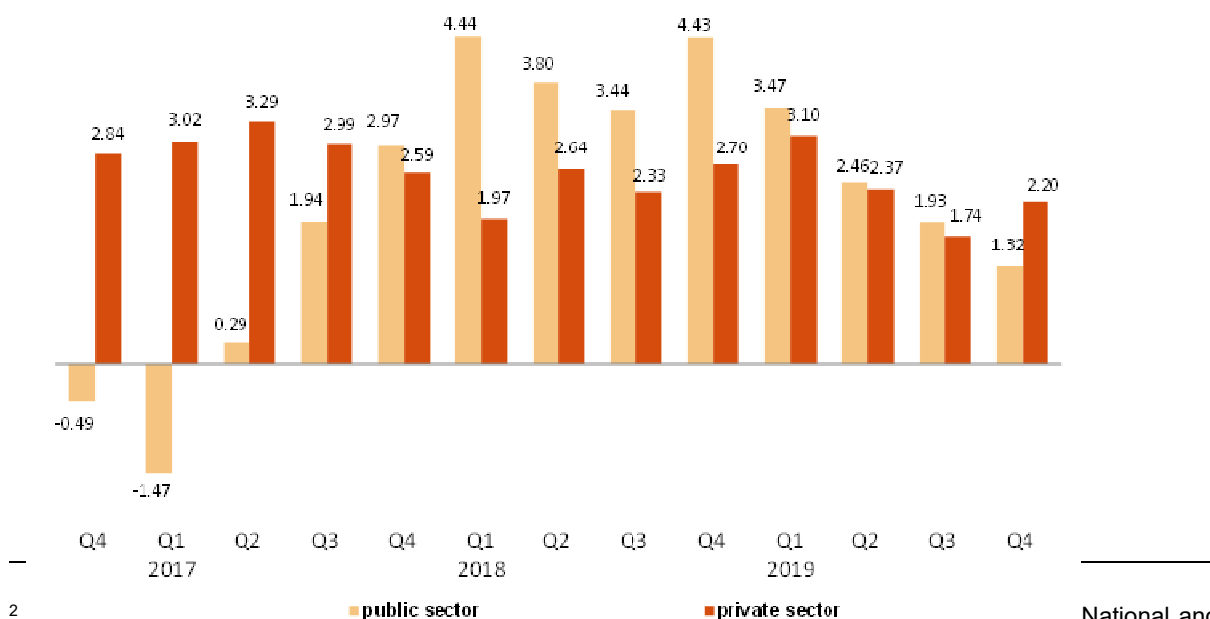
¹ Employment in the private sector includes: private sector salaried employees, employers, self-employed workers and self-employed without employees, members of cooperatives, contributing family workers and other professional situations.

Quarterly variation of employment by nature of employer. Thousands
(Q4 compared with Q3 of the same year)



Employment in the private sector showed an annual variation of 2.20%, while public employment of 1.32%. In the past twelve months, employment has increased by 360,000 persons in the private sector and by 42,300 in the public sector.

Annual variation rate of employment by nature of employer. Percentage.

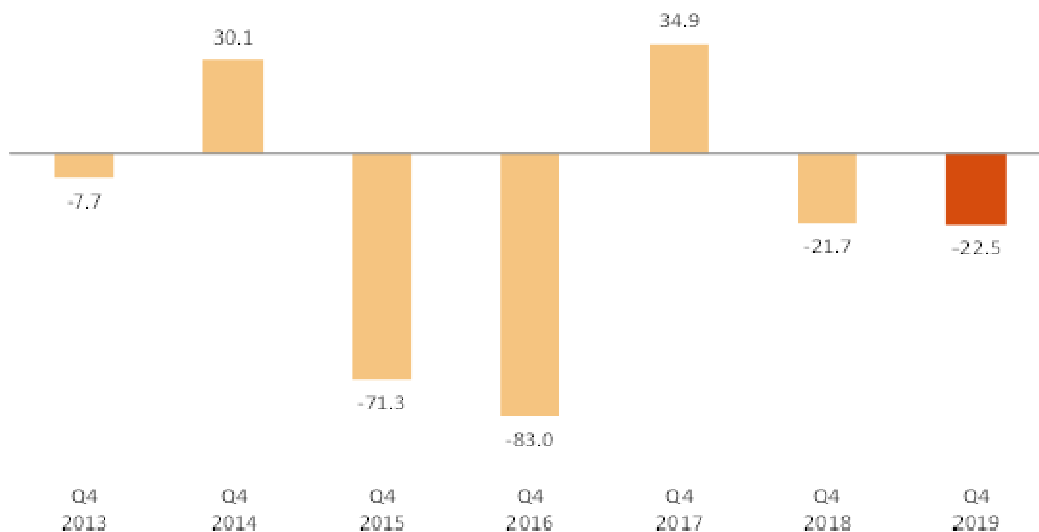


2 National and Regional Administrations, including both workers contributing to the General Social Security System and those attached to the Special Civil Service System.

Unemployment and unemployment rate

Unemployment decreased by 22,500 persons this quarter. The total number of unemployed persons stood at 3,191,900. In relative terms, the quarterly variation of unemployment was -0.70%.

Quarterly variation of unemployment. Thousands (Q4 compared with Q3 of the same year)



The unemployment rate declined by 14 hundredths and stood at 13.78%. In the last 12 months it has decreased by 0.67 points.

By sex, the number of unemployed men increased by 5,600 this quarter, standing at 1,506,100. Among women, unemployment decreased by 28,100, reaching 1,685,800.

Female unemployment rate decreased by 38 hundredths and stood at 15.55%. The male unemployment rate rose by six hundredths and stood at 12.23%.

By age group, unemployment declined this quarter among those under 25 (-46,900 unemployed aged 20 to 24 and -15,500 for those aged 16 to 19). In turn, the number of unemployed persons increased by 37,900 among those 55 and above.

By nationality, unemployment decreased this quarter by 56,800 among Spaniards and increased by 34,300 among foreigners. The unemployment rate of the Spanish population was 12.83%, while that of the foreign population was 19.98%.

This quarter, unemployment increased in *Services* (22,700 more unemployed), *Industry* (11,600) and *Construction* (7,800). On the other hand, unemployment fell in *Agriculture* (-19,300).

Unemployment increased by 12,800 people among those who lost their job over a year ago and rose 58,000 among those who are seeking their first job.

The evolution of unemployment in the annual rate was -3.40%. The total number of unemployed persons has decreased by 112,400 persons in one year, with a decrease of 68,000 for men and 44,300 for women.

Annual variation rate of unemployment. Percentage.



By age, the unemployment number falls in the last 12 months in all groups, except for those aged 55 and older, where it increases by 13,100 people. The largest decrease was in the 25-54 age group, with 85,200 less.

By sectors, in the last year unemployment has decreased in *Industry* (-9,900) and has remained practically unchanged in *Services* (-900). In contrast, it has increased in *Construction* (16,400) and *Agriculture* (10,900). On the other hand, the number of unemployed persons who lost their jobs over a year ago has decreased by 108,000 and that of unemployed persons looking for their first job has fallen by 20,900.

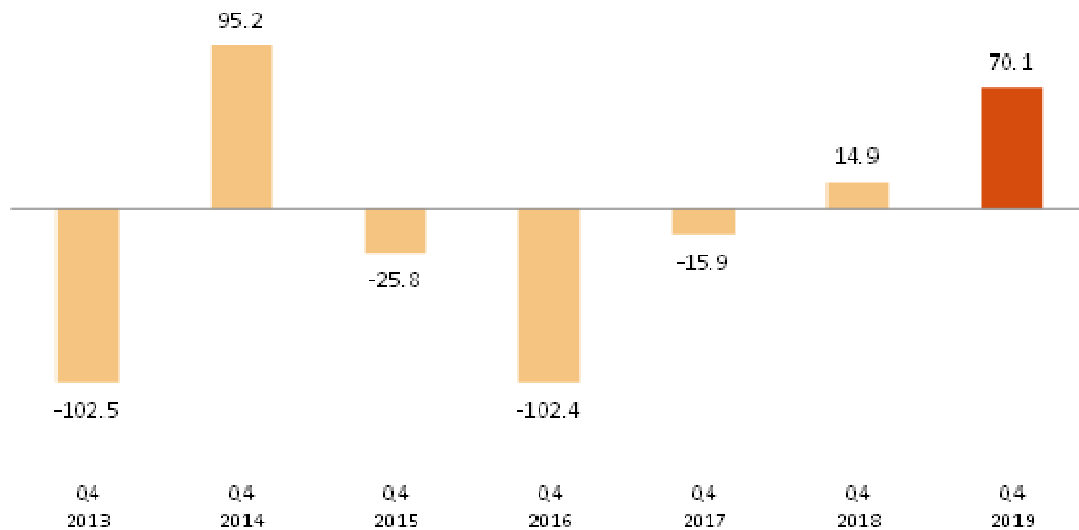
Economically active population and activity rate

The economically active population experienced an increase of 70,100 persons in the second quarter of 2017, standing at 23,158,800. The number of economically active women increased by 80,400, while that of men decreased by 10,300.

By nationality, the number of economically active persons decreased by 4,600 among Spaniards and increased by 74,700 among foreign nationals in this quarter.

The economic activity rate increased two hundredths, reaching 58.74%. The economic activity rate for males fell 22 hundredths, standing at 64.24%, and that of females increased 25 hundredths, to 53.53%.

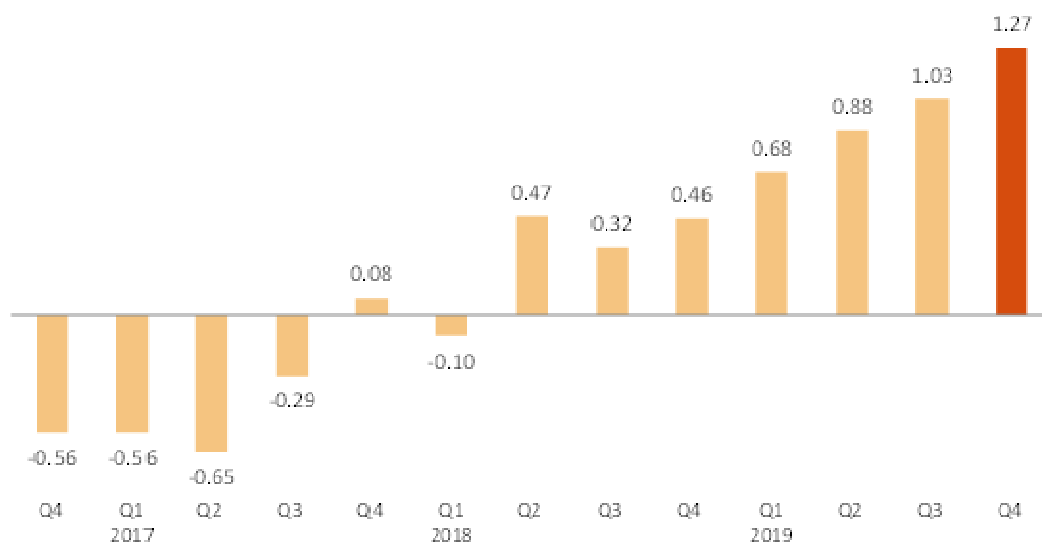
Quarterly variation of activity. Thousands (Q4 compared with Q3 of the same year)



The economic activity rate of Spaniards decreased by five hundredths as compared with the previous quarter, standing at 57.20%. Foreign national activity increased by 37 hundredths, up to 71.21%. The difference of almost 14 points between both rates is mainly explained by the different age structures for both populations.

In annual terms, the economically active population has increased by 290,000 persons. The annual variation rate of economically active persons was 1.27%.

Annual variation rate of activity. Percentage.



Households

The number of households increased by 37,100 this quarter, standing at 18,746,900. Of these, 4,871,300 were single-person households.

Households in which all economically active members were unemployed increased by 3,200 this quarter, up to a total of 1,013,200. Of these, 285,600 were single-person households.

On the other hand, the number of households in which all of the economically active members were employed increased by 91,200, standing at 10,798,600. Of these, 2,016,500 were single-person households.

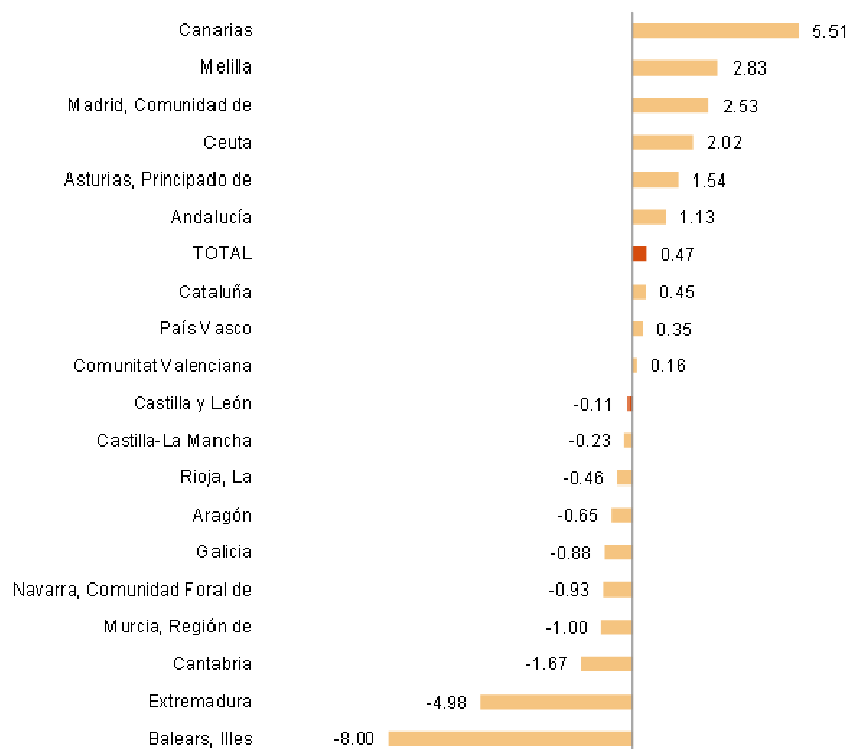
In annual comparison, the number of households with at least one economically active member in which those members were unemployed has decreased by 40,300, while those where all active members were employed has increased by 228,200.

Results by Autonomous Communities³

The largest increases in the in the economically active population this quarter were registered in Comunidad de Madrid (78,400 more), Andalucía (49,100) and Extremadura (35,200). In turn, the largest decreases were recorded in Illes Balears (-49,600 persons), Galicia (-19,900) and Extremadura (-9,700).

In relative terms, the Autonomous Communities with the highest quarterly employment increase were Canarias (5.51%), Comunidad de Madrid (2.53%) and Principado de Asturias (1.54%).

Quarterly variation rate of employment by autonomous community. Percentage.

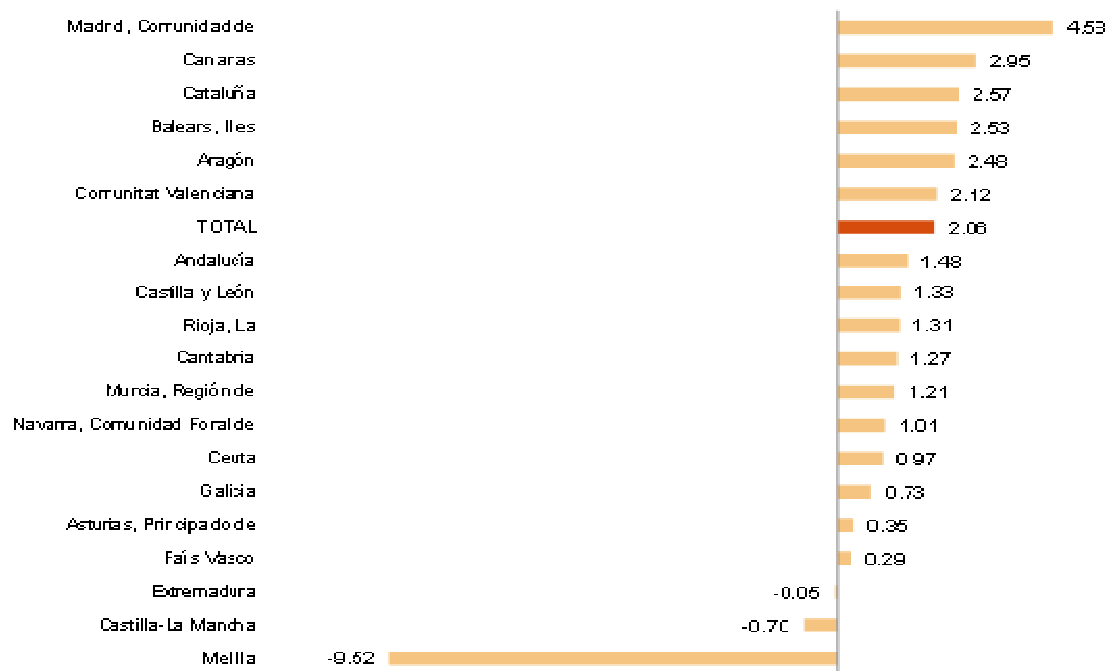


³ As with the rest of the EAPS data, employment results in this section are presented according to the Autonomous Community of residence of those persons interviewed in the survey, and not according to where their workplace is.

In the last year, employment increased in nearly all autonomous communities. The greatest increases were observed in Comunidad de Madrid (138,900 more), Cataluña (87,000) and Andalucía (45,800). Employment remains nearly unchanged in Extremadura and Castilla-La Mancha has 5,900 less employed.

In relative terms, the Autonomous Communities with the highest annual variations in employment were Madrid (4.58%), Canarias (2.95%) and Cataluña (2.57%). Meanwhile, Castilla-La Mancha (-0.70%) and Extremadura (-0.05%) showed negative rates.

Annual variation rate of employment by autonomous community. Percentage.



The largest quarterly unemployment declines took place in Andalucía (-41,900), Canarias (-22,100) and Cataluña (-16,300). On the other hand, the largest increases in unemployment occurred in Extremadura (18,700 more unemployed), Región de Murcia (15,200) and Illes Balears (7,500).

In annual terms, the greatest decreases in the number of unemployed persons occurred in Cataluña (-45,600), Comunidad de Madrid (-43,800) and Canarias (-10,800). On the other hand, the greatest increases in unemployment were observed in Cantabria (4,900 more), Castilla-La Mancha (3,700) and Murcia (3,500).

Comunidad Foral de Navarra (9.01%), País Vasco (9.09%) and La Rioja (9.89%) recorded the lowest unemployment rates this quarter. At the other extreme, Extremadura (23.48%), Andalucía (20.80%) and Canarias (18.78%) showed the highest rates.

The highest increases in activity rates in this quarter were registered in Comunidad de Madrid (76,700 more economically active persons), Canarias (27,000) and Comunitat Valenciana (10,400). The greatest decreases were recorded in Illes Balears (42,100 fewer active persons), Galicia (-7,400) and Andalucía (-6,700).

In the last 12 months, Comunidad de Madrid (95,100 more economically active persons), Comunitat Valenciana (46,400) and Cataluña (41,400) registered the greatest increases in

the number of economically active persons. However, the greatest decreases occurred in País Vasco (2,700 fewer) and Castilla-La Mancha (-2,200).

This quarter, the activity rates fluctuated between 63.40% for Comunidad de Madrid and 50.77% for Principado de Asturias.

Seasonally adjusted series

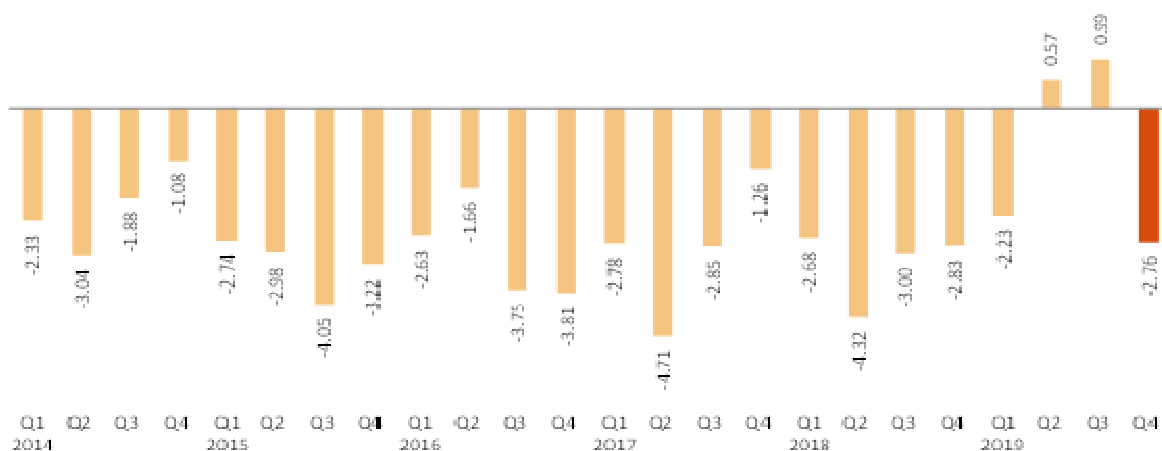
In the fourth quarter of 2019, the quarterly rate of employment in seasonally adjusted terms was 0.80%.

Quarterly variation rate of seasonally adjusted employment. Percentage.



As regards seasonally-adjusted unemployment results, there was a decrease of 2.76%.

Quarterly variation rate of seasonally adjusted unemployment. Percentage.



As explained in the methodology used for seasonal adjustment, the seasonal adjustment model is maintained for a year, with the first quarters corresponding to the time of the model's re-identification, but the coefficients are recalculated quarterly, so that each quarter the previous results are reviewed (either by re-identification or by revision of coefficients) and therefore the latest series available must always be consulted.

The series of the quarterly variation rates of the seasonally adjusted results of employment and unemployment since 2005 and the description of the method used can be found in:

http://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/daco4211/epa_desestacional.xlsx

Flows in absolute values as compared with the previous quarter⁴

The total inflow to employment in the fourth quarter of 2019 was 1,383,600 people, a figure 22,600 lower than that registered in the same quarter of the previous year.

However, the outflow from employment was 1,395,100 people, which is 2,200 more than in the same quarter of 2018.

Flows of persons becoming and ceasing to be employed each quarter.

Thousands.



The number of persons who were unemployed three months ago but are not currently unemployed stood at 1,422,900, which is 48,000 fewer persons than in the same period in 2018.

In turn, the total inflow to unemployment reached 1,422,200 people, which is 64,400 fewer persons than in the same quarter of 2018.

⁴ This section compiles the results of the Economically Active Population Flow Statistics. Due to the methodology used when preparing it, the results might not match the net balances of quarterly EAPS. The differences are caused by the "no data recorded" groups (persons turning 16 years old in the change between one quarter and the next and those who did not live in Spain in the previous quarter).

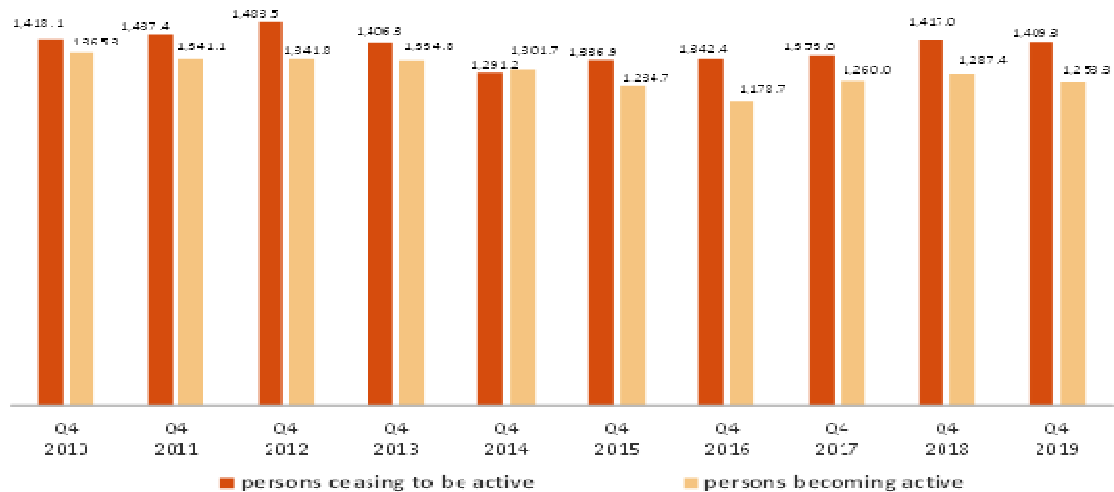
Flows of persons becoming and ceasing to be unemployed each quarter.
Thousands.



The inflow into activity in this fourth quarter was 1,253,300, a figure 27,300 lower than that of the same period in 2018.

Meanwhile, a total of 1,409,300 people have left the activity this quarter, compared to 1,417,000 who did so during the same quarter in the previous year (that is, 7,700 less).

Flows of persons becoming and ceasing to be active each quarter. Thousands.



The outflow from employment to inactivity of people aged 60 and over was 100,800 this quarter. This figure is 12,700 lower than that observed in the same period of 2018.

The number of people under 25 who have entered employment directly from inactivity this quarter stood at 149,000, a figure 18,000 higher than that observed in the same quarter of 2018.

The flow data on which these comments are based can be found in the annex of this press release <http://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/daco4211/epafluji0419.xlsx>

EAPS results by province

The provincial results summary of the EAPS may be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/daco4211/epapro0419.pdf>

All the provincial information can also be accessed from the INEbase database:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/inebase/index.html?padre=996>

Data Review and Updates

The data published today are final. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

The Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS) has been carried out since 1964 and the methodology currently in force is that of 2005.

It is a continuous, quarterly research addressed to families, whose main purpose is to obtain data on the labour force and its various categories (employed, unemployed), as well as on the population outside the labour market (inactive).

As of the third quarter of 2009, the survey includes an additional sample in Galicia that is collected by the Galician Statistics Institute (IGE) using the same fieldwork system and methodology as the INE.

Type of survey: quarterly continuous survey.

Population scope: population residing in family dwellings.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period of the results: the quarter.

Reference period of the information: the week before the interview.

Sample size: 3,822 census tracts, around 65,000 dwellings and 160,000 people. Of the 3,822 tracts, 234 correspond to the additional sample of Galicia.

Type of sampling: two-stage sampling with stratification in the first stage units. The first stage units are the census tracts and the second stage units are the inhabited family dwellings.

Collection method: personal and telephone interview.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

https://www.ine.es/en/inebaseDYN/epa30308/docs/resumetepa_en.pdf

To the technical details of the survey design and evaluation of the quality of the data in:

http://www.ine.es/inebaseDYN/epa30308/docs/epa05_disenc.pdf

And the standardised methodological report at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30308>

The Statistics on Economically Active Population Flows (EAPFS) collect information regarding the follow-up of the population, or specific groups thereof, between one quarter and the previous one in absolute values, regarding its relation with labour market. This information links the interviewee's situations in two moments of time on the basis of the EAPS in order to study its evolution.

Given that in the EAPS sample one sixth is renewed each quarter and the remaining 5/6 parts are kept fixed between two consecutive quarters, the common part of the sample between the two conducts of the survey is used to obtain flow statistics from the questions relating to the situation in which the interviewee was in the current and previous quarters.

Type of survey: quarterly exploitation of the common EAPS sample between consecutive quarters that provides estimates in absolute values of the relation with the activity in the current period compared with that of the previous quarter.

Population scope: population residing in family dwellings.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period of the results: the quarter.

Reference period of the information: the week before the interview.

Sample size: 3,822 census tracts. The common EPA sample between consecutive quarters is approximately 100,000 people aged 16 and older.

Type of sampling: two-stage sampling with stratification in the first stage units. The first stage units are the census tracts and the second stage units are the inhabited family dwellings.

Collection method: personal and telephone interview.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

https://www.ine.es/en/inebaseDYN/flujo30310/docs/metoflujos_valores_absolutos_en.pdf

And the standardised methodological report at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30310>

For further information see INEbase: www.ine.es/en/ Twitter: [@es_ine](https://twitter.com/es_ine)

All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

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