

31 July 2018

**Structure and dynamism of the business fabric in Spain
Central Business Register (CBR) at 1 January 2018**

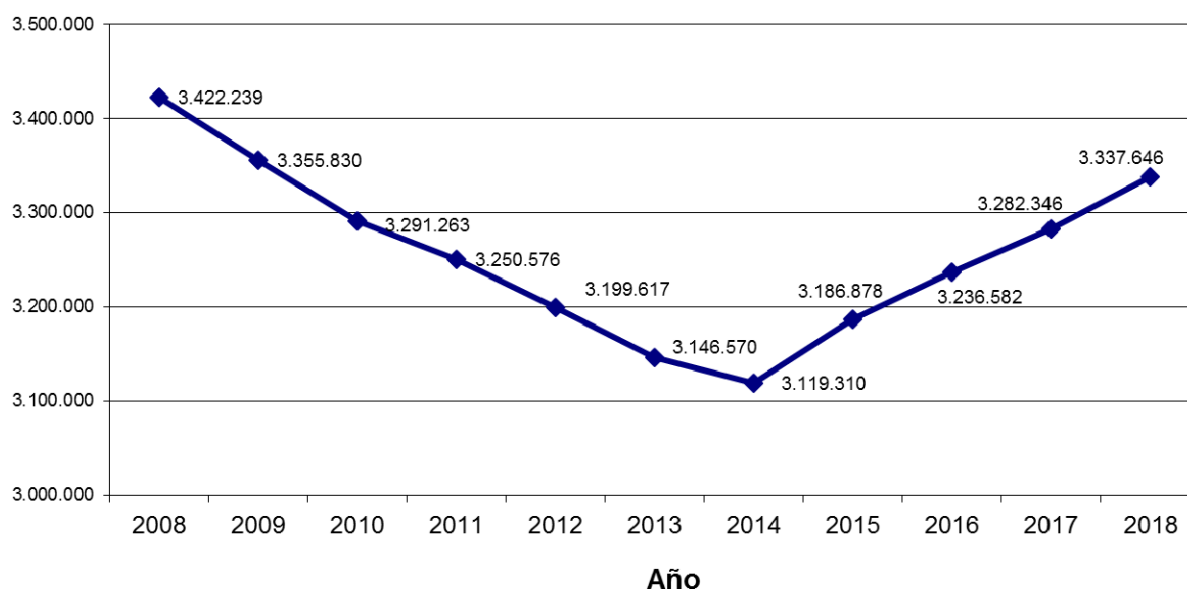
The number of active companies increased 1.7% during 2017 and stood at 3.34 million

16.8% of the active companies are 20 years old or over, while 20.3% are less than two years old.

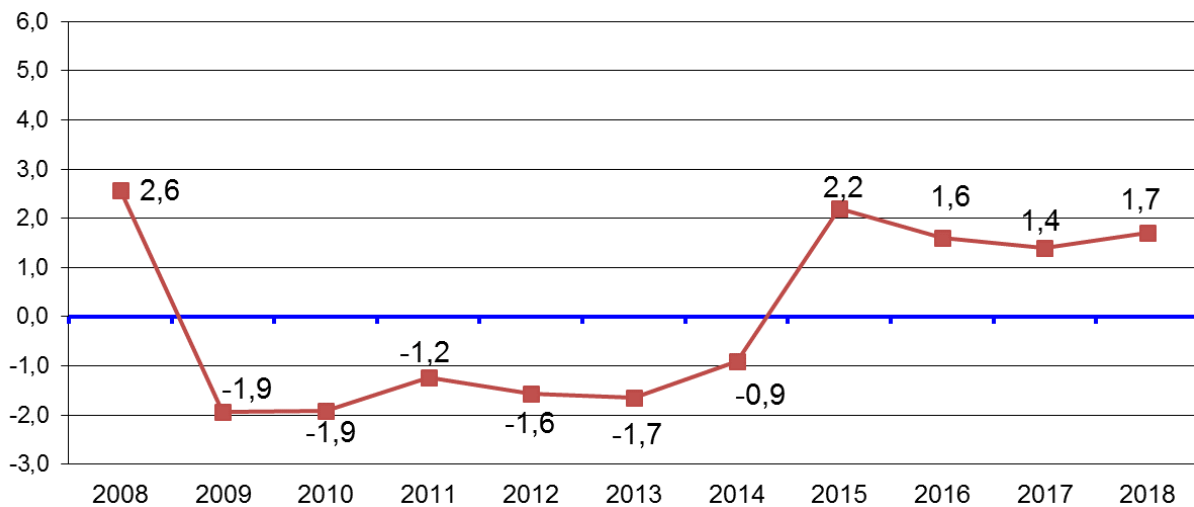
The number of active companies increased 1.7% during 2017 and stood at 3,337,646, according to the update of the Central Business Register (CBR), at 01 January 2018.

This is the fourth consecutive increase in the number of active companies after six years of successive decreases.

Evolución de la población de empresas (2008-2018)



Tasas de variación anual del número de empresas activas (2008-2018)



Active companies by economic sector

The sector *Other Services* once again had the highest weight in the structure of the population of companies. On 01 January 2018, it represented 59.0% of the total.

This sector which counts with 1,970,538 active companies (2.3% more than the previous year) includes all the companies dedicated to accommodation, transport and storage, information and communications, financial and insurance activities, real estate, professional, scientific, and technical activities, administrative and support services, educational, sanitary and social assistance and other kind of social activities, including personal services.

The weight of *Trade* was also significant, with 22.4% of the total. This sector includes companies which carry out wholesale trade, retail trade and commission trade. The active company population in the *Trade* sector decreased 0,7%, standing at 747,874 companies with respect to the previous year.

Finally, companies in the *Construction* sector represented 12.4% of the total and those of the *Industrial* sector, 6.2%. With respect to last year, the number of construction companies increased by 2.4% while industrial companies did so by 4.0%.

Active companies by number of employees

From the point of view of size, measured by number of employees, the Spanish companies were once again characterized by their reduced dimension.

At 01 January 2018, more than 1.84 million companies did not employ any employees at all. This figure represented 55.3% of the total. Besides this, 910,686 companies (27.3% of the total) had one or two employees.

If these two groups are added together, the result is that 82.6% had two or less employees.

Considering only the companies with employees, those that had 20 or more employees represented 4.8% of the total.

The largest percentages of small companies were found in the *Construction* sector (where 84,8% had two or less employees) and *Other Services* (84,4%).

In turn, the weight of large companies was concentrated in the industrial sector, where 8.2% of the total employed 20 or more workers.

Empresas activas según sector económico, por intervalo de asalariados

Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.337.646	206.711	412.523	747.874	1.970.538
Sin asalariados	1.845.881	77.491	251.127	365.581	1.151.682
De 1 a 2 asalariados	910.686	55.496	98.856	244.188	512.146
De 3 a 5 asalariados	303.574	26.072	32.191	81.915	163.396
De 6 a 9 asalariados	125.173	15.820	13.921	30.013	65.419
De 10 a 19 asalariados	80.860	14.970	9.948	14.424	41.518
De 20 o más asalariados	71.472	16.862	6.480	11.753	36.377

Active companies by age

The population of active companies is characterised by great dynamism, since only 16.8% existed 20 or more years ago.

On the other hand, an important presence of very young companies can be observed. As a matter of fact, 20.3% had less than two years as economically active units.

The following table combines this criterion with the developed activity. It can be observed that the distribution by age is not homogeneous for the different sectors considered.

In this way, the industrial companies presented the greatest proportions of older companies (29.4% were 20 years old or over), while the representation of young companies was greater in the activities related to the *Services sector*, especially in *Accommodation* (26.2% have not yet reached their second year).

Empresas activas según sector económico, por intervalo de edad

Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

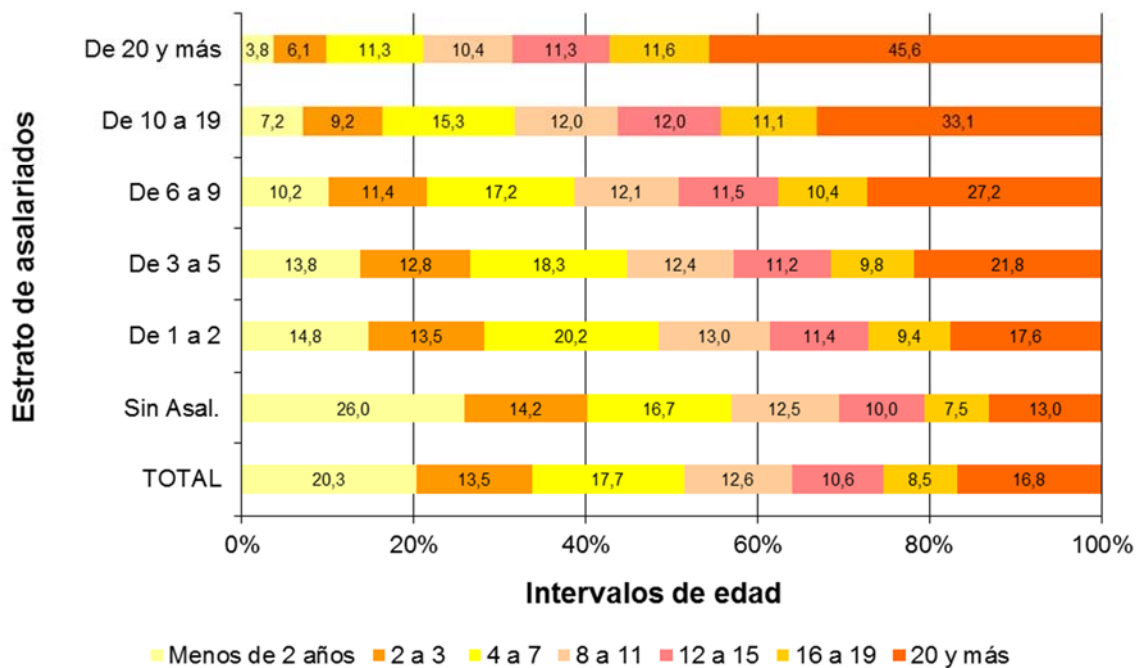
	Total	0 - 1	2 - 3	4-7	8-11	12-15	16 - 19	más
TOTAL	3.337.646	677.231	450.082	590.406	419.199	355.144	284.591	560.993
Industria	206.711	25.914	18.960	30.909	28.607	20.592	21.045	60.684
Construcción	412.523	84.920	53.340	63.113	60.368	54.233	38.517	58.032
Comercio	747.874	142.163	97.653	130.055	80.419	72.924	67.150	157.510
Transporte/Almacenamiento	197.444	30.300	19.739	28.427	23.412	22.385	20.925	52.256
Hostelería	283.332	74.356	43.319	53.117	30.156	24.800	20.125	37.459
Resto de Servicios	1.489.762	319.578	217.071	284.785	196.237	160.210	116.829	195.052

The following graph combines the age of the companies with other basic structural element, such as the size measured in function of its stratum of employees.

It shows that the age distribution is related to the size of the companies. Thus, the presence of very young companies is relevant in the micro-enterprises segment (26.0% of companies without employees were between their first and second year).

On the other hand, there was a greater representation of older companies in the larger ones (45.6% of companies with 20 or more employees were at least 20 years old).

Empresas activas por tamaño e intervalos de edad



Company registrations and de-registrations

Considering the evolution over the past year, 384,390 companies began the exercise of economic activities during 2017. On the other hand, 335,563 ceased all their activities.

80.4% of the units registered as at 01 January 2018 were already active in the same date of the previous year.

Empresas registradas según categoría demográfica

Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

Categoría demográfica	Total	Porcentaje sobre el total
TOTAL	3.673.209	100
Altas	384.390	10,5
Permanencias	2.953.256	80,4
Bajas	335.563	9,1

The sectors in which more companies were created in net terms during 2017 were *Real Estate activities* (8.374) and *Health activities* (4,653).

Sectores con mayor creación neta de empresas

Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

Divisiones CNAE 2009	Altas	Bajas	Saldo neto
Actividades inmobiliarias	18.873	10.526	8.347
Actividades sanitarias	15.956	11.303	4.653
Educación	16.474	12.507	3.967

On the other hand, the sectors with the greatest negative balances were *Retail trade, except of motor vehicles* (-7,427) and *Electricity supply* (-579).

Sectores con mayor número neto de empresas que han cesado su actividad

Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

Divisiones CNAE 2009	Altas	Bajas	Saldo neto
Comercio al por menor excepto vehículos de motor y motocicletas	47.981	55.408	-7.427
Suministro de energía eléctrica	65	644	-579
Ingeniería Civil	1.149	1.452	-303

Active companies by Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the Autonomous Community which concentrated the greatest number of active companies at 01 January 2018, with 18.5% of the total. It was followed by Comunidad de Madrid (16.1%) and Andalucía (15.2%).

Empresas activas según sector económico, por comunidades y ciudades autónomas
 Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.337.646	206.711	412.523	747.874	1.970.538
Andalucía	509.137	29.225	54.700	134.444	290.768
Aragón	91.493	6.893	12.228	19.072	53.300
Asturias, Principado de	68.688	3.652	8.344	14.844	41.848
Balears, Illes	96.638	4.877	16.502	16.442	58.817
Canarias	146.126	5.687	15.938	33.196	91.305
Cantabria	38.522	2.080	5.484	8.105	22.853
Castilla y León	161.986	11.976	23.627	38.059	88.324
Castilla-La Mancha	127.643	12.310	19.141	32.710	63.482
Cataluña	618.366	37.605	74.420	126.161	380.180
Comunitat Valenciana	356.480	25.510	43.427	85.417	202.126
Extremadura	66.879	5.049	8.611	19.072	34.147
Galicia	200.801	12.970	29.686	48.081	110.064
Madrid, Comunidad de	538.917	23.519	58.926	95.751	360.721
Murcia, Región de	95.544	7.387	12.691	25.415	50.051
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	44.289	3.985	6.090	9.619	24.595
País Vasco	144.357	11.416	19.173	32.459	81.309
Rioja, La	23.197	2.389	2.868	5.277	12.663
Ceuta	3.916	88	310	1.537	1.981
Melilla	4.667	93	357	2.213	2.004

Active establishments by Autonomous Communities

Active companies registered in the CBR carried out their activities in 3,771,343 establishments set up in all the national territory. By Autonomous Communities, Cataluña concentrated 18.5% of total establishments, Comunidad de Madrid 15.6% and Andalucía 15.4%.

Locales activos según sector económico, por comunidades y ciudades autónomas
 Datos a 1 de enero de 2018

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.771.343	235.809	442.038	916.843	2.176.653
Andalucía	581.255	34.414	59.625	162.615	324.601
Aragón	105.222	7.982	13.281	24.165	59.794
Asturias, Principado de	78.168	4.235	8.987	18.624	46.322
Balears, Illes	111.030	5.515	17.926	21.145	66.444
Canarias	172.507	6.752	17.640	43.991	104.124
Cantabria	43.751	2.398	6.093	9.984	25.276
Castilla y León	187.340	14.696	25.761	46.951	99.932
Castilla-La Mancha	147.070	16.449	20.203	38.972	71.446
Cataluña	697.166	43.062	81.762	156.850	415.492
Comunitat Valenciana	403.501	28.944	46.524	104.431	223.602
Extremadura	76.821	6.258	9.328	22.625	38.610
Galicia	226.301	14.505	31.211	58.934	121.651
Madrid, Comunidad de	587.362	22.368	60.176	116.300	388.518
Murcia, Región de	107.876	8.731	13.423	30.141	55.581
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	50.369	4.799	6.931	11.603	27.036
País Vasco	159.160	11.754	19.122	38.661	89.623
Rioja, La	26.615	2.728	3.268	6.492	14.127
Ceuta	4.584	107	367	1.843	2.267
Melilla	5.245	112	410	2.516	2.207

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Methodological note

The Central Business Register (CBR) gathers all Spanish companies and their local units located in the national territory in a single information system. It is a key infrastructure tool which enables the carrying out and coordination of the research system aimed at the productions units.

In order to meet this requirement, the CBR must be duly updated and the units must be shown with reliable identification, localisation and classification data.

The CBR is compiled and maintained annually from data originating from diverse sources of an statistical and administrative nature. All this information is subjected to a sophisticated itinerary of cleaning, standardisation and integration with the object of achieving total national coverage. It is normally published in the first days of August, date which is conditioned by the periods where primary sources are available.

The CBR is a product implemented by the INE since 1989 and contains information relative to the population of companies in the national territory, as well as of the local units where these carry out their activities.

Other objectives are:

- To provide structural data of the number of companies and establishments existing in Spain, classified according to their principal economic activity, employee ranges, legal condition, and geographic location.
- To provide data related to the temporary evolution of the companies with respect to new companies, existing companies and closed companies, detected in the year of the updating of the Directory, and their classification by the usual variables.
- To satisfy the information requirements of the international organisations, especially, of the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat).