

03 December 2020

**Structure and dynamism of the business fabric in Spain
Central Companies Directory (CCD) at 1 January 2020**

The number of active companies increased 1.2% during 2019 and stood at 3.4 million

17.2% of active companies were 20 or more years old and 21.2% were less than two years old

As of January 1, 2020, there were 3,404,428 active companies in Spain, according to data from the Central Business Directory (DIRCE). The data now presented is comparable to that of the previous year when using the adapted concept of enterprise that was implemented in the data for 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 2020, it represented 60.6% of the total.

This sector, which has 2,062,122 active companies, includes all those dedicated to hospitality, transportation and storage, information and communications, financial and insurance activities, real estate, professional, scientific and technical activities, administrative activities and auxiliary services, educational, health and social assistance and other social activities, including personal services.

The weight of *Trade* was also significant, with 21.3% of the total. This sector includes companies which carry out wholesale trade, retail trade and commission trade.

Finally, Construction sector companies represented 12.3% of the total and Industrial sector companies 5.8%.

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 2020, more than 1.91 million companies did not employ any employees at all. This figure represented 56.2% of the total. Besides this, 907,192 companies (26.6% of the total) had one or two employees.

If these two groups are added together, the result is that 82.8% had two or less employees.

Considering only the companies with employees, those that had 20 or more employees represented 4.9% of the total.

The largest percentages of small companies were found in the *Construction* sector (where 84,2% had two or less employees) and *Other Services* (84,8%).

In turn, the weight of large companies was concentrated in the industrial sector, where 8.4% of the total employed 20 or more workers.

Companies active according to economic sector, by employee range

Data as of January 1, 2020

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.404.428	195.615	420.118	726.573	2.062.122
Sin asalariados	1.912.010	69.868	251.578	357.542	1.233.022
De 1 a 2 asalariados	907.192	53.785	102.156	235.733	515.518
De 3 a 5 asalariados	305.986	25.455	33.329	79.381	167.821
De 6 a 9 asalariados	125.472	15.327	14.873	28.621	66.651
De 10 a 19 asalariados	81.298	14.649	10.759	13.704	42.186
De 20 o más asalariados	72.470	16.531	7.423	11.592	36.924

Active companies by age

The population of active companies is characterised by great dynamism, since only 17.2% 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, 21.2% 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 (29.2% 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* (25.3% have not yet reached their second year).

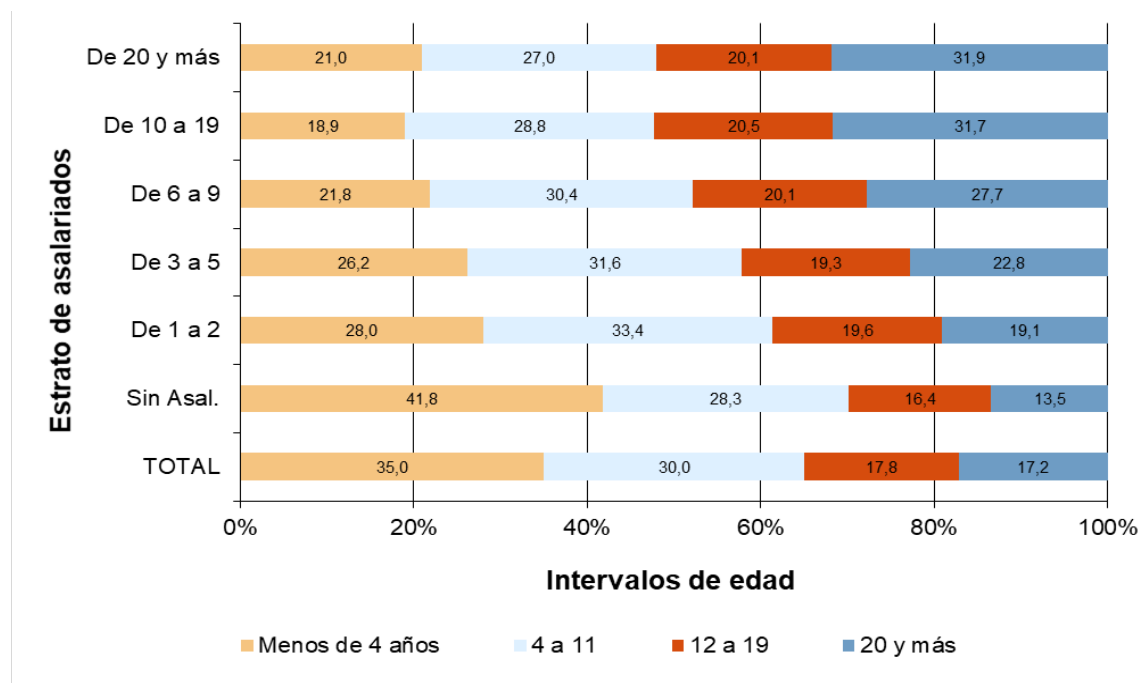
Companies active according to economic sector, by age range

Data as of January 1, 2020

	Total	0 - 1	2 - 3	4-7	8-11	12-15	16 - 19	20 ó más
TOTAL	3.404.428	720.446	471.578	602.815	419.084	351.232	255.339	583.934
Industria	195.615	26.246	20.733	28.434	25.393	20.003	17.715	57.091
Construcción	420.118	90.678	58.906	68.737	47.779	54.790	36.301	62.927
Comercio	726.573	135.286	95.735	130.041	86.174	65.672	57.024	156.641
Transporte/Almacenamiento	204.921	38.831	22.276	29.388	20.894	22.661	17.763	53.108
Hostelería	282.629	71.589	46.835	51.980	32.901	22.512	17.773	39.039
Resto de Servicios	1.574.572	357.816	227.093	294.235	205.943	165.594	108.763	215.128

Active companies by size and age ranges

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.



Distribution by age is linked to company size. Thus, the presence of very young companies is relevant in the micro-enterprises segment (41.8% of companies without employees were between their first and fourth year).

On the other hand, there was a greater representation of older companies in the larger ones (31.9% of companies with 20 or more employees were at least 20 years old).

Active companies that have a *natural person* as legal basis; data by gender

According to the different legal forms adopted in our legal framework, the CCD registered 1,899,810 companies that have a natural person as legal basis. This population represents 55.8% of the total set of units.

Of the total for these companies, 36.7% have a woman as a natural person. It should be noted that the level of representation is not homogeneous for all economic activities, however.

Activities related to Education, Health and Social Services sectors have a majority presence of businesswomen (55.6%). In the Retail and Other Services sectors, the presence of women is also significant, with 46.3% and 43.7%, respectively.

Detailed activity sectors, by entrepreneur gender

Data as of January 1, 2020

	Total	Hombres	Mujeres
TOTAL	1.899.810	1.202.824	696.986
Industria	64.967	50.201	14.766
Construcción	195.954	190.290	5.664
Comercio al mayor e intermediarios	73.749	56.209	17.540
Comercio al menor	340.221	182.724	157.497
Transporte y almacenamiento	153.636	139.978	13.658
Hostelería	170.559	100.982	69.577
Educación, sanidad y servicios sociales	209.861	93.143	116.718
Resto servicios	690.863	389.297	301.566

Company registrations and de-registrations

Considering the evolution over the past year, 423,837 companies began the exercise of economic activities during 2019. On the other hand, 372,856 ceased all their activities.

78.9% of the units registered as at 01 January 2020 were already active in the same date of the previous year.

Registered companies by demographic category

Data as of January 1, 2020

Categoría demográfica	Total	Porcentaje sobre el total
TOTAL	3.777.284	100
Altas	423.837	11,2
Permanencias	2.980.591	78,9
Bajas	372.856	9,9

The sectors in which more companies were created in net terms during 2019 were *Other personal services* (6,856) and *Real estate activities* (6,332).

On the other hand, the sectors with the greatest negative balances were *Retail trade, except of motor vehicles* (-6,200) and *Wholesale trade and intermediaries* (-2,107).

Sectors with greatest net business creation

Data as of January 1, 2020

Divisiones CNAE 2009	Altas	Bajas	Saldo neto
Otros servicios personales	20.898	14.042	6.856
Actividades inmobiliarias	19.875	13.543	6.332
Actividades sanitarias	18.747	13.336	5.411

Sectors with the highest net number of companies that have ceased operations

Data as of January 1, 2020

Divisiones CNAE 2009	Altas	Bajas	Saldo neto
Comercio al por menor excepto vehículos de motor	47.293	53.493	-6.200
Comercio al por mayor e intermediarios del comercio, excepto de vehículos de motor y motocicletas	23.058	25.165	-2.107
Fabricación de productos metálicos, excepto maquinaria	2.052	2.588	-536

Active companies by Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the Autonomous Community which concentrated the greatest number of active companies at 01 January 2019, with 18.5% of the total. It was followed by Comunidad de Madrid (16.2%) and Andalucía (15.6%).

Companies active according to economic sector, by autonomous communities and cities

Data as of January 1, 2020

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.404.428	195.615	420.118	726.573	2.062.122
Andalucía	531.045	28.395	57.938	133.421	311.291
Aragón	90.682	6.532	11.787	17.953	54.410
Asturias, Principado de	68.433	3.495	8.133	14.010	42.795
Balears, Illes	100.022	4.834	17.291	15.884	62.013
Canarias	152.756	5.677	16.951	32.570	97.558
Cantabria	38.880	2.086	5.537	7.722	23.535
Castilla y León	160.199	11.477	22.875	36.175	89.672
Castilla-La Mancha	128.713	11.174	19.696	31.785	66.058
Cataluña	629.876	35.339	75.555	121.585	397.397
Comunitat Valenciana	370.645	24.680	45.521	84.418	216.026
Extremadura	67.336	4.787	8.384	19.093	35.072
Galicia	197.813	12.100	28.030	45.249	112.434
Madrid, Comunidad de	552.027	20.965	60.387	93.648	377.027
Murcia, Región de	96.764	7.107	12.537	24.641	52.479
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	44.430	3.833	6.282	9.208	25.107
País Vasco	143.028	10.700	19.745	30.706	81.877
Rioja, La	22.700	2.233	2.775	4.903	12.789
Ceuta	3.845	73	294	1.431	2.047
Melilla	5.234	128	400	2.171	2.535

Active establishments by Autonomous Communities

Active companies registered in the CBR carried out their activities in 3,907,402 establishments set up in all the national territory.

By Autonomous Communities, Cataluña concentrated 18.5% of total establishments, Comunidad de Madrid 15.8% and Andalucía 15.6%.

Active business premises according to economic sector, by autonomous communities and cities

Data as of January 1, 2020

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.907.402	234.901	457.526	900.959	2.314.016
Andalucía	610.535	34.635	63.527	162.195	350.178
Aragón	106.172	7.957	13.089	23.114	62.012
Asturias, Principado de	78.627	4.175	8.829	17.834	47.789
Balears, Illes	116.632	5.698	19.008	20.645	71.281
Canarias	181.176	6.930	18.716	43.616	111.914
Cantabria	44.694	2.464	6.198	9.717	26.315
Castilla y León	187.588	14.670	25.133	45.213	102.572
Castilla-La Mancha	149.012	15.738	20.766	38.027	74.481
Cataluña	723.362	42.512	84.729	153.575	442.546
Comunitat Valenciana	425.055	29.007	49.612	104.102	242.334
Extremadura	78.257	6.252	9.107	22.697	40.201
Galicia	226.452	14.236	29.852	56.249	126.115
Madrid, Comunidad de	619.563	22.345	64.176	115.266	417.776
Murcia, Región de	110.418	8.839	13.430	29.547	58.602
Navarra, Comunidad					
Foral de	51.730	4.859	7.412	11.376	28.083
País Vasco	161.083	11.615	19.927	37.408	92.133
Rioja, La	26.686	2.723	3.243	6.154	14.566
Ceuta	4.528	100	342	1.764	2.322
Melilla	5.832	146	430	2.460	2.796

Data Review and Update

The data published today is final and is not subject to further revision. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

The new definition of company, implemented in the DIRCE system with reference to 2018, affects the aspects of organizational structure, autonomy of decision and market orientation. In short, the economic factors of the units prevail over the traditional vision, which is more oriented towards legal aspects. The data generated in the 2019 CCD reference cycle - recently published and the focus of this publication - are consistent with those of the previous year and allow for the temporal comparison of aggregates.

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).

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information see the section on Quality at INE and the Code of Best Practices on the INE website.

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