

24 September 2021

Labour and Geographical Mobility Statistics (LGMS) Year 2021

Main results

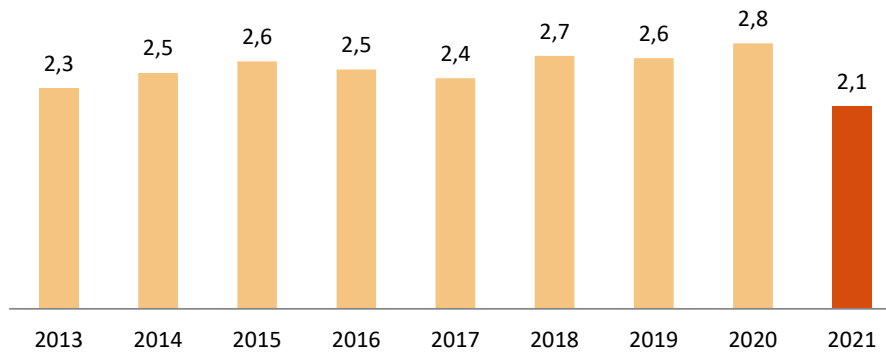
- 2.1% of employed persons in the first quarter of 2021 have changed their municipality of residence less than a year ago. For most of them, it within the same province.
- Almost one in three employed persons (30.4%) has not changed municipality of residence since birth.
- 3.1% of salaried employees with a temporary contract have changed municipality of residence less than a year ago, as compared with 2.0% of those with a permanent contract.
- 3.5% of unemployed persons have changed their municipality of residence less than a year ago, as compared with 4.7% in 2020. A total of 8% have not changed their residence since birth.
- Geographical mobility, both of employed and unemployed persons, is much greater for foreign nationals than for Spaniards.
- The communities with the greatest geographical mobility of those employed in the last year are Comunidad de Madrid (2.8 %), Castilla-La Mancha (2.6 %) and Cantabria (2.5 %). Those with the least mobility of the unemployed were Extremadura (90.7 % of unemployed persons have not changed their municipality of residence during the last five years), Andalucía (84.8%) and Principado de Asturias (84.8%) .
- In the analysis of figures for this statistic, we should take into account that figures referring to mobility in the last year were influenced by COVID-19related restrictions.

Mobility of the Employed

The percentage of employed persons who have changed their municipality of residence in the last year was 2.1%, as compared with 2.8% in 2020.

Employed persons who have changed municipality of residence less than one year ago.

Percentage



In absolute terms, 407,600 out of 19,206,800 employed persons in the first quarter of 2021 have been living in the current municipality for less than one year. On the other hand, there were 16,183,900 employed persons (84.3% of the total) who have been living in the same municipality for five or more years.

Almost one in three employed persons (30.4%) has not changed municipality of residence since birth. 40.2% have changed municipality within the same province, 4.3% came from another province in the same Autonomous Community, 13.6% from another Autonomous Community and 11.5% from another country.

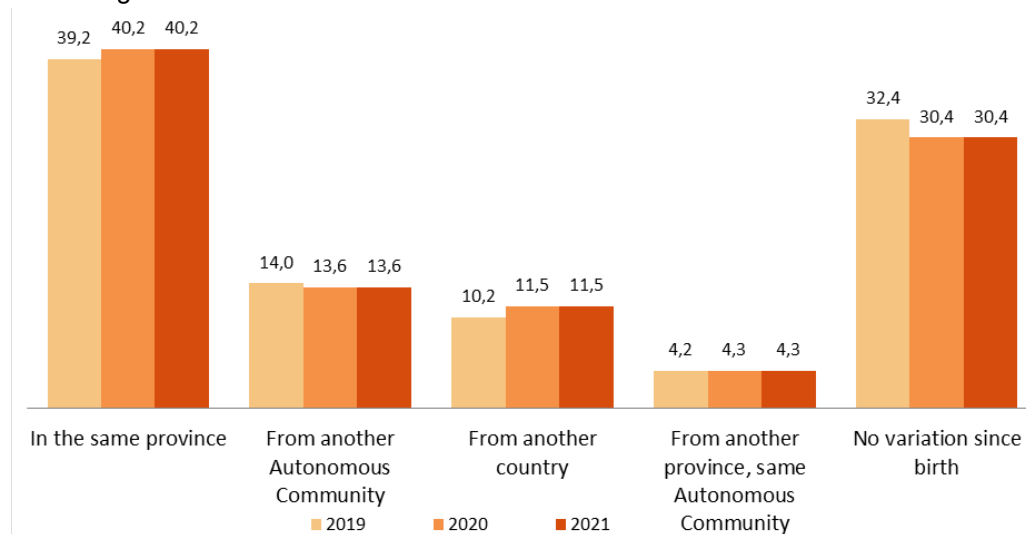
Mobility of employed persons by location of the previous municipality of residence and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	19.206,8	407,6	1.448,4	1.166,9	16.183,9
In the same province	7.730,4	202,3	763,1	614,1	6.150,9
In another province, same Autonomous Community	820,6	33,5	98,0	64,4	624,7
In another Autonomous Community	2.616,5	100,8	274,4	216,7	2.024,6
In another country	2.208,4	71,0	312,8	271,7	1.552,8
No variation since birth	5.830,9	..	..	..	5.830,9
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
In the same province	40,2	49,6	52,7	52,6	38,0
In another province, same Autonomous Community	4,3	8,2	6,8	5,5	3,9
In another Autonomous Community	13,6	24,7	18,9	18,6	12,5
In another country	11,5	17,4	21,6	23,3	9,6
No variation since birth	30,4	..	..	..	36,0

Mobility of employed persons who have changed municipality of residence.

Percentage



As far as the pattern observed in the first quarter of last year, 2021 has seen a decrease of 10 points in the mobility of employed persons from another autonomous community, and an increase of 7.3 points in mobility from another province within the same autonomous community.

Mobility was higher among the youngest employed persons. Thus, 158,000 employed persons aged 16-34 (3.6% of the total) have changed municipality in the last year.

Among those over 55 years old, only 40,000 employed persons (1.1% of the total) have changed municipality of residence in the last year.

Mobility of employed persons by age group and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	19.206,8	407,6	1.448,4	1.166,9	16.183,9
16 to 34 years old	4.411,5	158,0	607,9	402,5	3.243,1
35 to 54 years old	10.995,9	209,5	736,9	682,6	9.367,0
Over 55 years old	3.799,4	40,0	103,7	81,9	3.573,8
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	100,0	2,1	7,5	6,1	84,3
16 to 34 years old	100,0	3,6	13,8	9,1	73,5
35 to 54 years old	100,0	1,9	6,7	6,2	85,2
Over 55 years old	100,0	1,1	2,7	2,2	94,1

Geographical mobility was higher for foreign nationals than for Spaniards. In the last year, 5.0% of foreign employed persons changed their municipality of residence, as compared with 1.7% of Spaniards.

87.6% of Spanish employed persons have resided in the same municipality for five years or more. The percentage of employed foreign nationals in those same circumstances was 59.1%.

Mobility of employed persons by nationality and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	19.206,8	407,6	1.448,4	1.166,9	16.183,9
Spanish *	16.944,8	293,6	989,1	814,2	14.847,9
Foreign	2.262,0	114,0	459,3	352,7	1.336,1
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
Total	100,0	2,1	7,5	6,1	84,3
Spanish *	100,0	1,7	5,8	4,8	87,6
Foreign	100,0	5,0	20,3	15,6	59,1

* Includes dual Spanish and foreign nationality

The seniority of employed persons in their job is closely related with mobility. Thus, 4.3% of the employed persons who have been working less than one year in their current job have changed their municipality of residence in the last year, compared with 1.3% of those who have been working six years or more in their current job.

Mobility of employed persons by time in the current job and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	19.206,8	407,6	1.448,4	1.166,9	16.183,9
Less than 1 year in the job	2.737,7	117,6	332,7	225,1	2.062,3
Between 1 year and < 6 years in the job	5.701,7	152,4	669,6	526,7	4.353,0
6 years or more in the job	10.767,3	137,5	446,1	415,1	9.768,6
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
Total	100,0	2,1	7,5	6,1	84,3
Less than 1 year in the job	100,0	4,3	12,2	8,2	75,3
Between 1 year and < 6 years in the job	100,0	2,7	11,7	9,2	76,3
6 years or more in the job	100,0	1,3	4,1	3,9	90,7

Geographical mobility was greater among salaried employees with a temporary contract as compared with those with a permanent contract.

3.1% of salaried employees with a temporary contract have changed municipality of residence less than a year ago, as compared with 2.0% of those with a permanent contract.

Moreover, 85.1% of salaried employees with a permanent contract have resided in the same municipality for five years or more, as compared with 78.8% of temporary workers.

Mobility of salaried employees by type of contract and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	16.104,3	360,3	1.268,0	1.014,3	13.461,7
Permanent	12.272,1	239,7	862,1	726,6	10.443,7
Temporary	3.832,1	120,6	405,9	287,7	3.018,0
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
Total	100,0	2,2	7,9	6,3	83,6
Permanent	100,0	2,0	7,0	5,9	85,1
Temporary	100,0	3,1	10,6	7,5	78,8

When separated by highest level of education, there were also differences in mobility among the employed. In the last year, 2.4% of employed persons with higher education have changed residence, 2.1% of those with second stage secondary education and 1.6% of those who, at most, have first stage secondary education.

Likewise, 86.9% of employed persons who have up to first stage of secondary education have been living in the same municipality for five or more years. This percentage was 84.0% for those with the second stage of secondary education and 82.7% for those with higher studies.

Mobility of employed persons by level of education and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

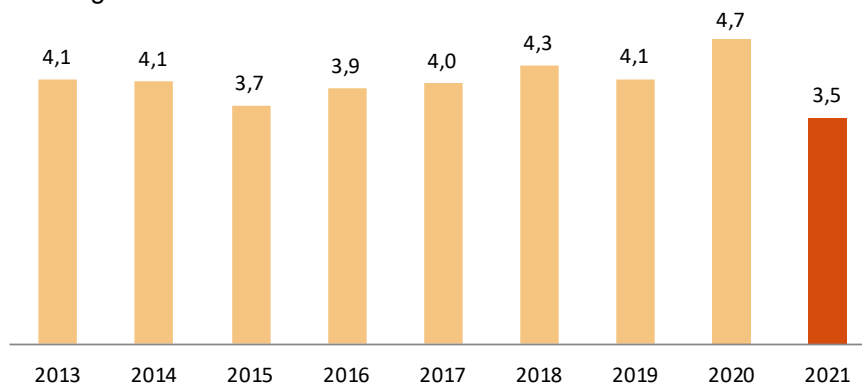
Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	19.206,8	407,6	1.448,4	1.166,9	16.183,9
Up to 1st stage secondary education	5.701,0	92,3	367,4	287,0	4.954,4
2nd stage secondary education	4.559,3	96,5	348,3	284,4	3.830,0
Advanced studies, including doctorate	8.946,5	218,8	732,7	595,5	7.399,5
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
Total	100,0	2,1	7,5	6,1	84,3
Up to 1st stage secondary education	100,0	1,6	6,4	5,0	86,9
2nd stage secondary education	100,0	2,1	7,6	6,2	84,0
Advanced studies, including doctorate	100,0	2,4	8,2	6,7	82,7

Mobility of the Unemployed

A total of 3.5% of unemployed persons changed their municipality of residence less than a year ago, as compared with 4.7% in 2020.

Unemployed persons who have changed municipality of residence less than one year ago.

Percentage



In absolute terms, 127,700 out of 3,653,900 unemployed persons in the first quarter of 2021 have changed municipality of residence in the last year. In turn, 2,854,900 (78.1% of the total) have spent at least five years residing in the same municipality.

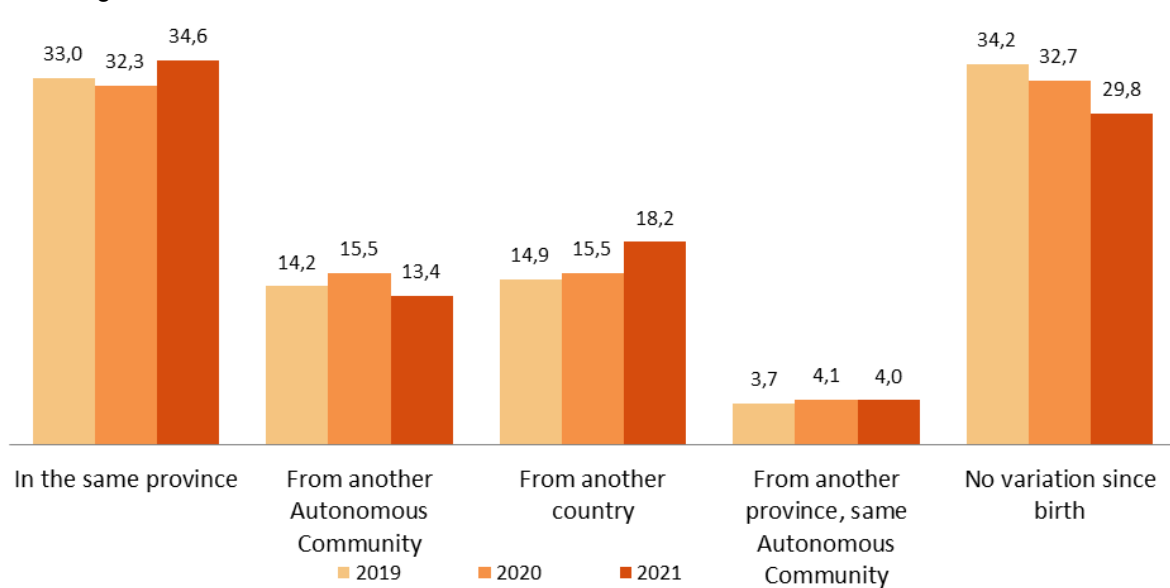
29.8% of unemployed persons have not made any change in municipality of residence since birth, 13.4% have arrived at their current municipality from another Autonomous Community and 18.2% from abroad.

Mobility of unemployed persons by location of the previous municipality of residence and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	3.653,9	127,7	416,7	254,6	2.854,9
In the same province	1.264,0	58,3	164,2	100,2	941,4
In another province, same Autonomous Community	146,3	6,1	26,9	12,4	100,9
In another Autonomous Community	489,8	23,4	71,6	54,1	340,8
In another country	665,4	40,0	153,9	87,9	383,6
No variation since birth	1.088,3	..	..	..	1.088,3
	Percentage with regard to the location of the previous municipality				
Total	100,0	3,5	11,4	7,0	78,1
In the same province	34,6	45,7	39,4	39,4	33,0
In another province, same Autonomous Community	4,0	4,8	6,5	4,9	3,5
In another Autonomous Community	13,4	18,3	17,2	21,2	11,9
In another country	18,2	31,3	36,9	34,5	13,4
No variation since birth	29,8	..	..	..	38,1

Mobility of unemployed persons who have changed municipality of residence
Percentage



Geographical mobility was higher among among younger people. 4.7% of unemployed persons aged 16 to 34 years have changed municipality in the last year. Among unemployed persons over 55 years of age, this percentage was 1.4%.

Mobility of unemployed persons by age group and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	3.653,9	127,7	416,7	254,6	2.854,9
16 to 34 years old	1.446,3	67,3	210,1	110,7	1.058,1
35 to 54 years old	1.655,0	52,6	167,2	121,2	1.314,2
Over 55 years old	552,6	7,9	39,4	22,7	482,5
	Percentage with regard to the total of each age group				
Total	100,0	3,5	11,4	7,0	78,1
16 to 34 years old	100,0	4,7	14,5	7,7	73,2
35 to 54 years old	100,0	3,2	10,1	7,3	79,4
Over 55 years old	100,0	1,4	7,1	4,1	87,3

Geographical mobility among unemployed persons is greater among foreign nationals than among Spanish nationals. The percentage of Spanish unemployed persons that have changed their municipality of residence less than a year ago was 2.3%, as compared with 7.9% of foreign nationals.

85.6% of Spanish unemployed persons have been residing in their municipality for at least five years. Amongst foreign nationals, this percentage was 51.5%.

Mobility of unemployed persons by nationality and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	3.653,9	127,7	416,7	254,6	2.854,9
Spanish *	2.851,2	64,5	201,1	144,4	2.441,2
Foreign	802,8	63,3	215,6	110,2	413,8
	Percentage with regard to the nationality				
Total	100,0	3,5	11,4	7,0	78,1
Spanish *	100,0	2,3	7,1	5,1	85,6
Foreign	100,0	7,9	26,9	13,7	51,5

* Includes dual Spanish and foreign nationality

Unemployed persons with a maximum of first-level secondary education changed their residence the least over the last year (3.2%), compared to 4.1% of those with secondary-level secondary education, and 3.4% of those with higher education.

For their part, 81.0% of those unemployed who have a maximum of first-stage secondary education have resided in the same municipality for five years or more; while for those who have second-stage secondary education this number is 78.0%, and 73.7% for those with higher education.

Mobility of unemployed persons by level of education and time of residence in the current municipality

Units: thousands of persons and percentage

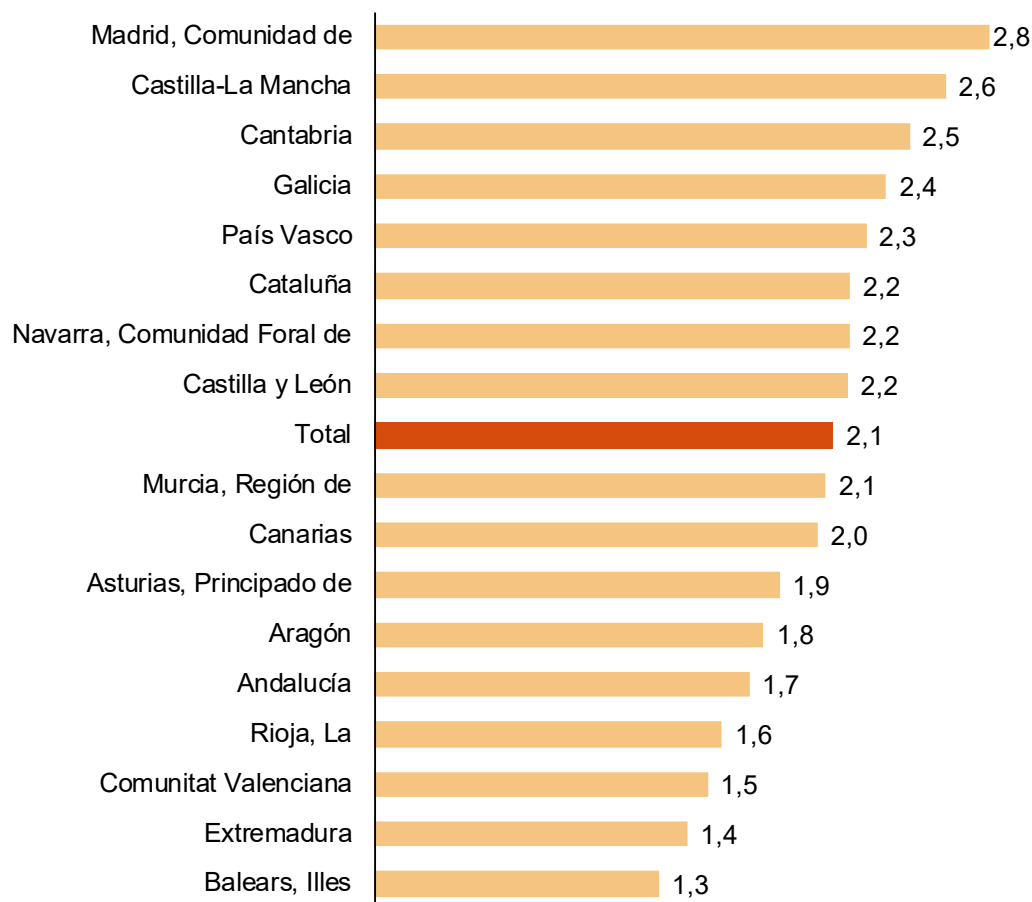
Year 2021	Time of residence in the current municipality				
	Absolute values				
	Total	Less than 1 year	Between 1 and < 3 years	Between 3 and < 5 years	5 years or more
Total	3.653,9	127,7	416,7	254,6	2.854,9
Up to 1st stage secondary education	1.657,9	53,8	160,8	101,0	1.342,3
2nd stage secondary education	983,0	39,9	105,5	71,3	766,3
Advanced studies, including doctorate	1.013,1	34,0	150,4	82,3	746,4
	Percentage with regard to the total of each educational				
Total	100,0	3,5	11,4	7,0	78,1
Up to 1st stage secondary education	100,0	3,2	9,7	6,1	81,0
2nd stage secondary education	100,0	4,1	10,7	7,3	78,0
Advanced studies, including doctorate	100,0	3,4	14,8	8,1	73,7

Labour and geographical mobility by autonomous communities

The communities with the greatest geographical mobility of those employed in the last year are Comunidad de Madrid (2.8%), Castilla-La Mancha (2.6%) and Cantabria (2.5%).

For their part, those with the least mobility are Illes Balears (1.3%), Extremadura (1.4%) and Comunitat Valenciana (1.5%).

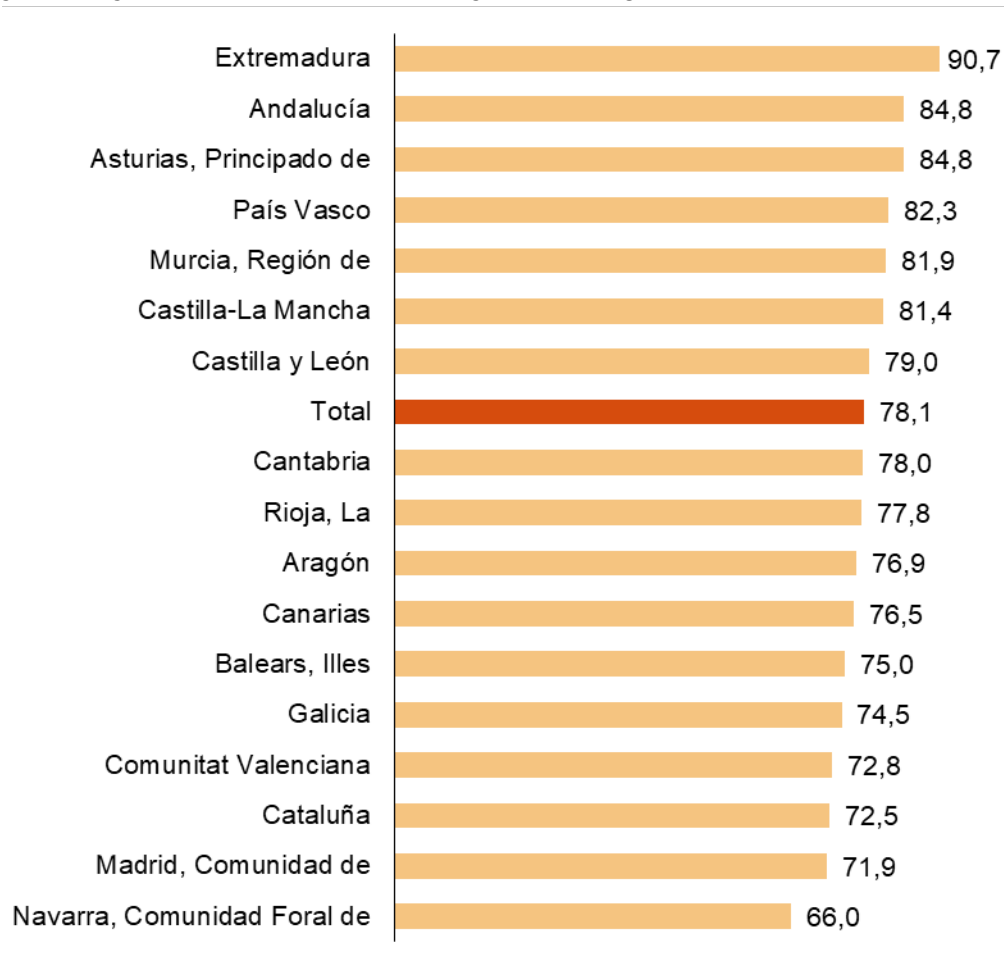
Employed persons who have changed their municipality of residence less than one year ago, by Autonomous Community of current residence. Percentage



As regards unemployed persons, the Autonomous Communities with less geographical mobility measured in terms of highest percentage of unemployed residents in each of them who have not changed their municipality of residence at least during the last five years, were Extremadura (89.6%) and Andalucía and Principado de Asturias (87.0% in both).

On the other hand, communities where the unemployed were more mobile were Comunidad Foral de Navarra (66.0%), Comunidad de Madrid (71.9%) and Cataluña (72.5%).

Unemployed persons who have not changed municipality of residence in at least five years, by Autonomous Community. Percentage



Methodological note

The Labour and Geographical Mobility Statistics (LGMS) investigates the relationship between the employability of persons and their willingness to change residence, through the joint study of labour characteristics and the time they have been residing in the municipality.

To this end, the LGMS incorporates specific variables derived from the INE Municipal Register (population base resulting from the coordination of the Municipal Registries) into the sample of the Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS) for the first quarter of the year. In this way, it is possible to relate the demographic and labour variables contained in the EAPS with the geographical mobility registered in the administrative source. With regard to the latter, only changes of inter-municipal residence will be taken into account, since changes of domicile within the same municipality are not relevant for employment purposes.

Type of operation – Annual structural survey.

Population **scope** - Population 16 and over living in family homes in Spain.

Geographical scope – The entire national territory.

Reference period for the results – First quarter of 2021.

Information Reference Period - First quarter of 2021 for the data from the Economically Active Population Survey (EPA) and the latest census variation available in the INE Municipal Register.

Sample size – 3,822 census tracts¹ and around 58,000 homes and 122,000 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 - Combination of the information collected in the EPA, with the data from the INE Municipal Register.

For more information, the methodology can be found at:

http://www.ine.es/dynqs/INEbase/es/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736176909&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735976597

And the standardised methodological report at:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30209>

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¹ In 2021 the progressive change of sectioning began. This restructured the sample into a greater number of sections and a smaller number of dwellings interviewed per section. The process will conclude in 2024, with a total of 5,298 sections and 13 dwellings surveyed per section.