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Indicators of the Information and Communication Technology Sector (ICT) Year 2020

Main results

- Turnover of companies in the ITC sector reached 106,456.5 million euros in 2020, with a decrease of 1.5%, as compared to the previous year.
- The number of companies in the ICT sector that carried out R&D stood at 1,925, indicating a 8.3% increase.
- The trade deficit of companies in the ITC sector decreased by 1.9%. The largest import volume for ITC products was telecommunications and computer equipment.

Main variables in the ICT sector

Turnover for companies in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector stood at 106,456.5 million euros in the year 2020, which is, an decrease of 1.5% with respect to the previous year. These companies generated a value added of 38,180.9 million euros.

The number of companies in the ICT sector stood at 72,857, indicating a increase of 4.8%. In turn, the number of persons employed grew by 3.8%, standing at 547,805 persons.

Main variables in the ICT sector Year 2020

Economic data in millions of euros

ICT Sector (NACE-2009)	2020	Annual Rate
Number of enterprises	72,857	4.8
Turnover	106,456.5	-1.5
Added value	38,180.9	-1.9
Number of persons employed	547,805	3.8

Source: Structural Business Statistics: Industrial and Services sectors

Wage costs in the ICT sector

The wage cost per worker in the ICT sector stood at 2,558.0 euros per month in the fourth quarter of 2020. The wage cost of the *Manufacturing industry* was 2,916.2 euros and that of *ICT Services* was 2,551.5 euros.

As for the hourly wage cost, the highest wages were recorded in *Telecommunications* (24.5 euros), *Programming, consulting and other activities related to computer science* (22.4 euros) and *Publishing* (21.3 euros).

Wage cost in the ICT sector. Fourth quarter of 2020

Euros

2020 Quarter IV. ICT Sector (NACE 2009)	Wage cost per hour	Wage cost per worker
ICT INDUSTRIES: Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products (NACE 26)	20.5	2,916.2
ICT SERVICES	18.4	2,551.5
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles (NACE 46)	16.5	2,259.9
Publishing activities (NACE 58)	21.3	2,879.1
Telecommunications (NACE 61)	24.5	3,524.2
Computer programming, consultancy and related activities (NACE 62)	22.4	3,224.7
Information service activities (NACE 63)	19.6	2,549.4
Repair of computers and personal and household goods (NACE 95)	13.8	1,837.6
ICT SECTOR	18.5	2,558.0

Source: Quarterly Labour Cost Survey

Companies in the ICT sector which carried out R&D activities

The number of companies in the ICT sector that carried out R&D activities in 2020 increased by 8.3%. This translated to 1,925 companies, or 17.2% of all businesses carrying out this type of activity.

Employed personnel (in full-time equivalence) increased by 11.0%. The number of female researchers rose by 13.0% and that of researchers in general by 14.4%.

R&D activities in the ICT sector. Year 2020

NACE 2009	Total	% of business	
		total	Annual Rate
Number of enterprises	1,925	17.2	8.3
Internal R&D expenditure*	1,358.8	15.5	11.7
Persons employed on R&D. Total (FTE)**	22,089.3	21.1	11.0
Persons employed on R&D. Women (FTE)**	4,760.4	14.3	10.7
Researchers. Total (FTE)**	11,437.9	20.7	14.4
Researchers. Women (FTE)**	2,326.4	13.3	13.0

Source: Statistics on R&D Activities

*millions of euros

**FTE=Full-time Equivalent

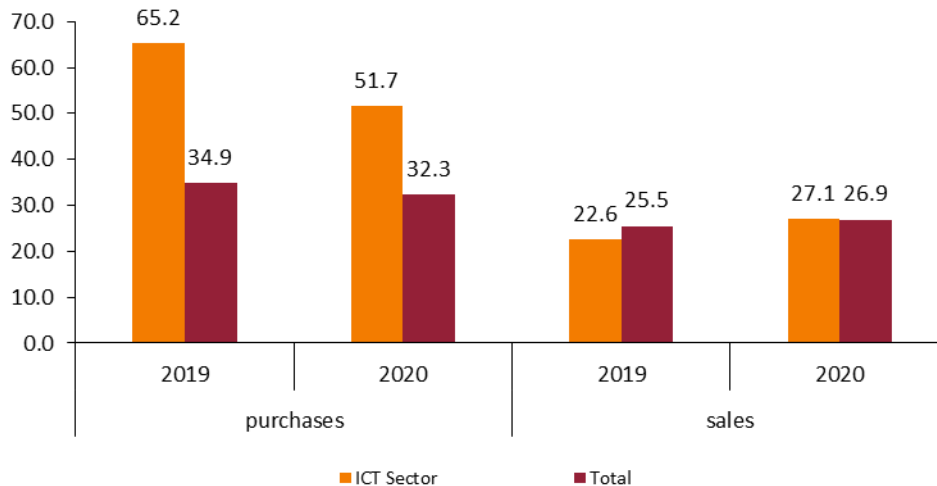
Companies in the ICT sector that carried out e-commerce

In 2020, 51.7% of the companies in the ICT sector with 10 or more employees made purchases through e-commerce as compared to 32.3% of the total of the business sector.

On the other hand, 27.1% made sales through e-commerce, compared to 26.9% of businesses overall.

Companies involved in e-commerce (2019 – 2020)

Percentage



Source: Survey on ICT usage and e-commerce in enterprises

Companies in the ICT sector made e-commerce sales amounting to 15,428.1 million euros, which represented 5.6% of total e-commerce sales.

As for purchases, companies in the ICT sector spent 11,752.6 million on e-commerce, or 5.3% of total purchases.

Production value of ICT goods

According to the Industrial Products Survey, the production value of ICT goods was 2,910.9 million euros in 2020, with a decline of 7.6% compared to the previous year.

By product group, *Computer Equipment* recorded the lowest decline, of 20.3%.

Production value of ICT sector goods

Millions of euros

Groups of products (PRODCOM)	Value	% of ICT sector	% of industrial sector	Annual Rate
1. Communication equipments	463.7	15.9	0.1	-12.2
2. Computers and peripheral equipments	144.9	5.0	0.0	-20.3
3. Electronic components	903.8	31.0	0.2	-1.8
4. Audio and video equipment	200.5	6.9	0.1	-2.2
5. Miscellaneous	1,197.9	41.2	0.3	-8.9
TOTAL ICT sector	2,910.9	100.0	0.8	-7.6
TOTAL industrial production	384,571.1		100.0	-12.4

Source: Industrial Products Survey

The production value of ICT goods accounted for 0.8% of the total value of the industrial production in 2020.

Foreign trade of ICT products

ICT products had a negative trade balance of 13,559.3 million euros in 2020, with an 1.9% decrease in the trade deficit compared to the previous year.

Total exports reached 5,676.2 million euros, while imports reached 19,235.5 million euros.

Foreign trade of ICT products Year 2020

Millions of euros

Groups of products (CN*)	Exports	Imports	Trade balance	Coverage rate	Annual rate of trade balance
1. Communication equipments	1,759.2	6,830.5	-5,071.4	25.8	-1.6
2. Computers and peripheral equipments	939.2	4,621.5	-3,682.3	20.3	11.1
3. Electronic components	904.8	2,301.4	-1,396.6	39.3	-23.7
4. Audio and video equipment	707.5	2,675.9	-1,968.5	26.4	-4.5
5. Miscellaneous	1,365.6	2,806.2	-1,440.6	48.7	-1.5
TOTAL ICT sector	5,676.2	19,235.5	-13,559.3	29.5	-1.9
TOTAL	263,628.3	276,925.2	-13,296.9	95.2	-57.8

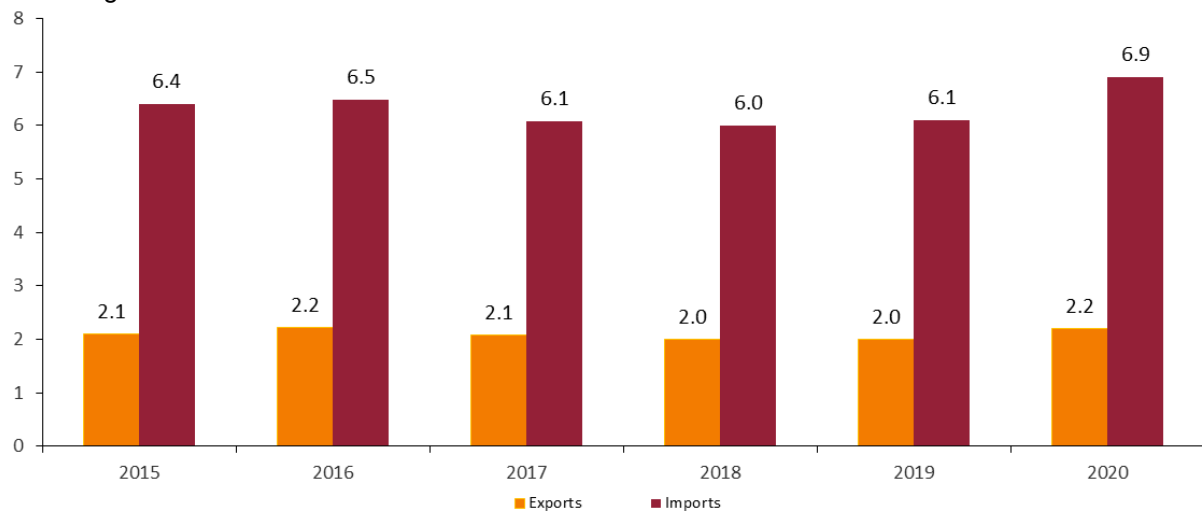
Source: Own elaboration based on data from Tax Administration

(*)Combined Nomenclature

The exports of the ICT sector represented 2.2% of the Spanish exports in 2019, 0.2% more than in 2019. On the other hand, imports represented 6.9% of national imports, compared to 6.1% the previous year.

Foreign trade of ICT products 2015-2020

Percentages



Source: Own elaboration based on data from Tax Administration

Data Review and Update

The data published today are final. The results are available at INEBase.

Methodological note

The **Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) Sector Indicators** seek to describe the situation of the sector on the supply side rather than the use side, with the aim of providing relevant information on manufacturing and service industries whose main activity is linked to the development, production, commercialisation and intensive use of Information and Communications Technologies. These sectors are characterised by high rates of innovation, technological progress and productivity, and therefore they have a substantial impact on economic activity.

In order to develop the indicators, information from other statistical operations is collected. Tables with overall values of the ICT sector are published with the following variables: turnover, production value, added value, employed persons and other variables specific to the sector (classification variables, branch of activity and type of product), exports and imports.

Type of survey: annual synthesis statistics.

Population scope: National companies whose main activity (manufacturing, commercial or services) corresponds to the ICT field.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period: the calendar year.

Collection method: synthesis of different statistical operations.

For more information you can access the methodology and the standardized methodological report at:

http://www.ine.es/dyngs/INEbase/es/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736176742&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735576692

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