

20 December 2019

**Structure and dynamism of the business fabric in Spain
Central Companies Directory (CCD) at 1 January 2019**

The number of active companies as of January 1, 2019 stood at 3.36 million

The INE adapts the company statistical concept and implements it for the first time in the CCD production cycle

As of January 1, 2019, there were 3,363,197 active companies in Spain, according to data from the Central Company Directory (CCD) in which the INE's adaptation of the company statistical concept appears for the first time.

The reasons why the INE has adapted the company definition were communicated in the December 17, 2019 press release. The goal is to offer a more adequate vision of our productive fabric, one which better suits the context of the globalised economy. This initiative is being implemented and coordinated throughout the European Statistical System (ESS).

For this reason, the data published today in the CCD is not comparable with that of previous years. The new concept implies a reduction in the number of statistical units, although this decrease does not mean that real company growth rate has been negative in 2018: quite the opposite. The methodological note for this press release offers a brief comparative analysis, using the assumption that legal units will continued to be considered as an approach to companies.

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 2019, it represented 59.5% of the total.

This sector, which has 2,000,414 active companies, includes all companies 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 22.0% of the total. This sector includes companies which carry out wholesale trade, retail trade and commission trade.

Finally, Construction sector companies represented 12.6% of the total ad Industrial sector companies 5.9%.

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 2019, more than 1.88 million companies did not employ any employees at all. This figure represented 56.0% of the total. Besides this, 905,113 companies (26.9% of the total) had one or two employees.

If these two groups are added together, the result is that 82.9% had two or less employees.

Considering only the companies with employees, those that had 20 or more employees represented 4.7% of the total.

The largest percentages of small companies were found in the *Construction* sector (where 84,9% had two or less employees) and *Other Services* (84,7%).

In turn, the weight of large companies was concentrated in the industrial sector, where 8.0% of the total employed 20 or more workers.

Companies active according to economic sector, by employee range

Data as of January 1, 2019

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.363.197	199.076	422.350	741.357	2.000.414
Sin asalariados	1.882.745	72.504	258.849	366.951	1.184.441
De 1 a 2 asalariados	905.013	54.835	99.529	240.260	510.389
De 3 a 5 asalariados	302.375	25.733	32.434	79.874	164.334
De 6 a 9 asalariados	123.424	15.326	14.352	28.934	64.812
De 10 a 19 asalariados	79.393	14.438	10.209	13.892	40.854
De 20 o más asalariados	70.247	16.240	6.977	11.446	35.584

Active companies by age

The population of active companies is characterised by great dynamism, since only 16.7% 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, 20.6% 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 (28.3% 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* (24.7% have not yet reached their second year).

Companies active according to economic sector, by age range

Data as of January 1, 2019

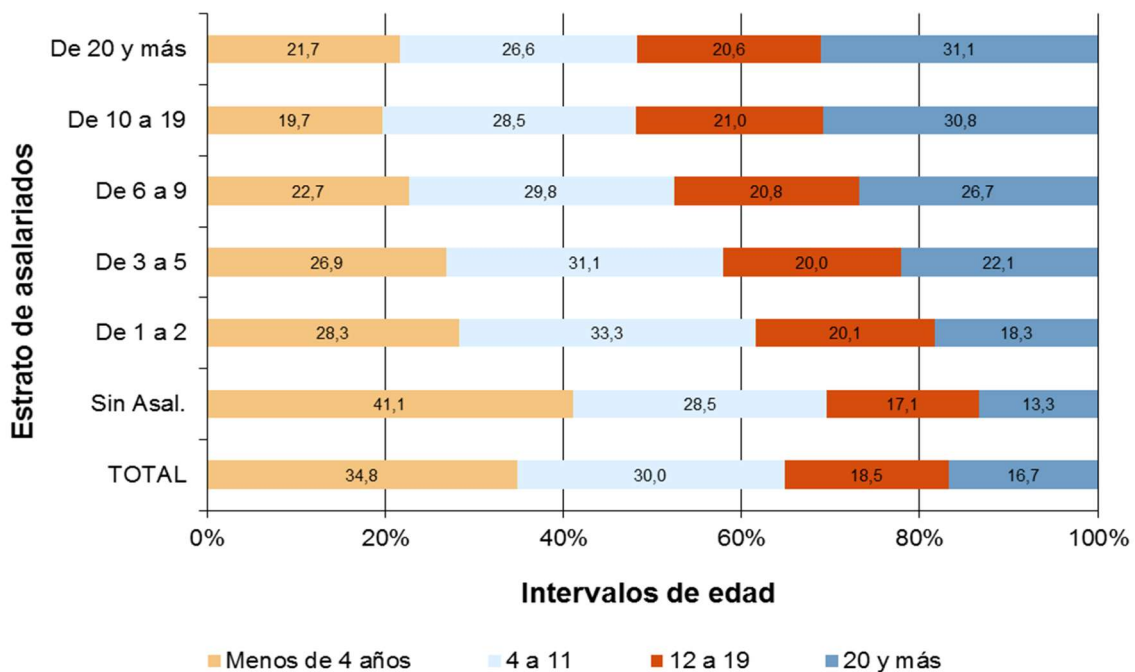
	Total	0 - 1	2 - 3	4-7	8-11	12-15	16 - 19	20 ó más
TOTAL	3.363.197	694.037	476.196	625.868	383.451	353.829	268.118	561.698
Industria	199.076	26.805	21.725	32.189	23.107	20.160	18.797	56.293
Construcción	422.350	88.677	57.395	69.261	51.647	57.459	37.918	59.993
Comercio	741.357	137.161	100.630	138.377	78.485	68.727	62.439	155.538
Transporte/Almacenamiento	194.244	29.619	21.048	29.843	20.289	22.667	19.178	51.600
Hostelería	280.079	69.103	46.505	54.840	28.916	23.422	19.301	37.992
Resto de Servicios	1.526.091	342.672	228.893	301.358	181.007	161.394	110.485	200.282

Companies active by size and age ranges

Distribution by age is linked to company size. Thus, the presence of very young companies is relevant in the micro-enterprises segment (34.8% 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 (31.1% of companies with 20 or more employees were at least 20 years old).

Companies by seniority and employee stratum



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 1,847,996 companies that have a natural person as legal basis. This population represents 55.0% of the total set of units.

Of the total for these companies, 36.3% 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 (55.1%). In the Retail and Other Services sectors, the presence of women is also significant, with 46.5% and 43.1%, respectively.

Detailed activity sectors , by entrepreneur gender

Data as of January 1, 2019

	Total	Hombres	Mujeres
TOTAL	1.847.996	1.176.532	671.464
Industria	65.438	51.034	14.404
Construcción	191.285	186.212	5.073
Comercio al mayor e intermediarios	74.802	57.354	17.448
Comercio al menor	345.486	184.964	160.522
Transporte y almacenamiento	142.014	130.509	11.505
Hostelería	168.227	100.729	67.498
Educación, sanidad y servicios sociales	198.502	89.155	109.347
Resto servicios	662.242	376.575	285.667

Company registrations and de-registrations

Considering the evolution over the past year, 431,528 companies began the exercise of economic activities during 2018. On the other hand, 349,350 ceased all their activities.

79.0% of the units registered as at 01 January 2018 were already active in the same date of the previous year.

Companies registered according to demographic category

Data as of January 1, 2019

Categoría demográfica	Total	Porcentaje sobre el total
TOTAL	3.712.547	100
Altas	431.528	11,6
Permanencias	2.931.669	79,0
Bajas	349.350	9,4

The sectors in which more companies were created in net terms during 2018 were *Real Estate activities* (9.118) and *Health activities* (6,849).

On the other hand, the sectors with the greatest negative balances were *Retail trade, except motor vehicles* (-4,596) and *Land transport* (-3,955).

Sectors with greatest net business creation

Data as of January 1, 2019

Divisiones CNAE 2009	Altas	Bajas	Saldo neto
Actividades inmobiliarias	20.712	11.594	9.118
Actividades sanitarias	20.196	13.302	6.894
Educación	19.107	12.430	6.677

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

Data as of January 1, 2019

Divisiones CNAE 2009	Altas	Bajas	Saldo neto
Comercio al por menor excepto vehículos de motor y motocicletas	49.870	54.466	-4.596
Transporte terrestre y por tubería	8.530	12.485	-3.955
Energía	200	1.178	-978

Active companies by Autonomous Communities

Cataluña was the Autonomous Community which concentrated the greatest number of active companies at 01 January 2019, with 18.4% of the total. It was followed by Comunidad de Madrid (16.1%) and Andalucía (15.4%).

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

Data as of January 1, 2019

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.363.197	199.076	422.350	741.357	2.000.414
Andalucía	518.532	28.866	56.664	134.033	298.969
Aragón	91.114	6.666	12.368	18.725	53.355
Asturias, Principado de	68.661	3.561	8.430	14.480	42.190
Baleares, Illes	98.712	4.893	17.331	16.386	60.102
Canarias	151.661	5.747	17.250	33.657	95.007
Cantabria	38.702	2.081	5.649	8.012	22.960
Castilla y León	161.407	11.676	23.774	37.475	88.482
Castilla-La Mancha	128.106	11.443	19.803	32.546	64.314
Cataluña	620.031	36.126	76.072	124.089	383.744
Comunitat Valenciana	363.428	24.945	45.060	85.531	207.892
Extremadura	67.687	4.940	8.771	19.385	34.591
Galicia	200.972	12.570	29.686	47.484	111.232
Madrid, Comunidad de	540.544	21.227	59.702	95.074	364.541
Murcia, Región de	95.456	7.095	12.649	25.066	50.646
Navarra, Comunidad					
Foral de	44.224	3.829	6.213	9.366	24.816
País Vasco	142.198	10.926	19.451	31.452	80.369
Rioja, La	22.669	2.286	2.810	5.020	12.553
Ceuta	3.789	82	290	1.439	1.978
Melilla	5.304	117	377	2.137	2.673

Active establishments by Autonomous Communities

Active companies registered in the CBR carried out their activities in 3,853,124 establishments set up in all the national territory.

By Autonomous Communities, Cataluña concentrated 18.4% of total establishments, Comunidad de Madrid 15.7% and Andalucía 15.5%.

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

Data as of January 1, 2019

	Total	Industria	Construcción	Comercio	Resto de servicios
TOTAL	3.853.124	237.554	457.929	916.234	2.241.407
Andalucía	596.048	34.925	62.087	162.792	336.244
Aragón	106.377	8.023	13.592	23.940	60.822
Asturias, Principado de	78.798	4.256	9.104	18.303	47.135
Balears, Illes	114.966	5.773	19.006	21.203	68.984
Canarias	180.185	7.038	19.058	44.835	109.254
Cantabria	44.467	2.450	6.316	10.010	25.691
Castilla y León	188.197	14.767	26.020	46.699	100.711
Castilla-La Mancha	148.297	15.994	20.947	38.902	72.454
Cataluña	710.916	43.180	84.479	155.961	427.296
Comunitat Valenciana	416.681	29.368	48.954	105.344	233.015
Extremadura	78.254	6.399	9.503	22.990	39.362
Galicia	229.321	14.711	31.470	58.724	124.416
Madrid, Comunidad de	604.281	22.402	62.969	116.621	402.289
Murcia, Región de	108.718	8.733	13.495	29.972	56.518
Navarra, Comunidad					
Foral de	51.310	4.823	7.305	11.492	27.690
País Vasco	159.311	11.724	19.581	37.953	90.053
Rioja, La	26.584	2.746	3.290	6.288	14.260
Ceuta	4.479	106	342	1.768	2.263
Melilla	5.934	136	411	2.437	2.950

Data review and updates

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

Methodological note

Aspects of the new definition and temporal analysis based on legal units

The new definition of company affects aspects of organizational structure, decision autonomy, and market orientation. In short, the economic factors of the units prevail over the traditional vision, which is more oriented towards legal aspects.

The European Statistical System has adopted a set of common operational rules to facilitate a uniform interpretation of the business concept. With this reformulation, a company can correspond to an *independent legal unit*, a *group of companies* or an *autonomous* part of a group.

In the first case, nothing changes in comparison with the previous situation. The vast majority of companies operating in Spain do so outside groups and the Company = Legal Unit identity (natural or legal person with the capacity to carry out activities) remains valid. Will be thus have the population of *simple companies* in the Spanish economy identified.

The delineation of companies in company group environments is implemented by *Profiling* techniques and can lead to combinations of various legal units. In these cases, the population of *complex companies* in the Spanish economy is obtained.

Our business fabric is now structured in **3,363,197** companies, of which 3,310,798 are simple (98.4%) and 52,399 (1.6%) are classified as complex. Consequently, the latter operate in business group environments.

The population of groups is made up of 104,168 legal units or subsidiaries, of which 26,045 have sufficient decisive autonomy and constitute, in and of themselves, complex statistical companies.

The rest of the legal units are combined with others, giving rise to 26,354 complex companies. Among these, 24,828 are constituted by combinations of two to five legal units, 1,011 are formed by combinations of six to nine legal units and the remaining 515 are formed by combinations of 10 or more legal units.

Temporal analysis based on legal units

If for this reference year we took *legal units* as an approximation to *companies*, as of January 1, 2019 the CCD would register a total of 3,414,966 active units.

This figure would represent a 2.3% increase with respect to the previous year. This growth would not be distributed homogeneously by economic sectors, although it would be positive in all of them.

Legal Units by economic sector

Data as of January 1, 2019

	Valor	Variación anual
Total	3.414.966	2,3
Industria	207.619	0,4
Construcción	429.092	4,0
Comercio	748.680	0,1
Resto servicios	2.029.575	3,0

The same situation can be observed if we now take size as the criteria for unit classification. The following table shows the variation according to the strata of employees usually considered in CCD publications.

Active Legal Units according to employee stratum

Data as of January 1, 2019

	Valor	Variación anual
Total	3.414.966	2,3
Sin asalariados	1.905.186	3,2
De 1 a 2 asalariados	916.871	0,6
De 3 a 5 asalariados	307.466	1,3
De 6 a 9 asalariados	127.447	1,8
De 10 a 19 asalariados	83.107	2,8
De 20 o más asalariados	74.889	4,8

For more information, the documentation methodology can be accessed at:

https://www.ine.es/dynqsNC/INEbase/es/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736160707&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735576550

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

Press office: Telephone numbers: (+34) 91 583 93 63 /94 08 – gprensa@ine.es

Information Area: Telephone number: (+34) 91 583 91 00 – www.ine.es/infoine/?L=1
