



PRESS KIT 2026



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Instituto Nacional de Estadística [National Statistics Institute]

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01.

Introduction

Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE), the National Statistics Institute, is an autonomous body attached to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business **responsible for preparing and disseminating official statistics on the main areas of the economic, social and demographic reality of Spain.**

It produces statistics on population and demographics, the economy, labour market, living conditions, society, the environment, science and technology, and services, among other areas. The information it generates becomes a fundamental tool in the design of public policy and decision-making by administrations, companies and the public at large.

The INE coordinates the statistical services of the General Administration of the State and supervises the procedures for preparing official statistics. It also maintains close collaboration with international organisations, especially with the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat), within the framework of the European Statistical System.

It also actively participates in the High Council of Statistics, an advisory body that brings together representatives from the Administration, academia, social organisations and users, and that defines the

statistical information needs of society. The National Statistical Plan is developed around these needs, determining the statistical operations for state purposes.

To compile its statistics, the INE collects information from household and business surveys, from public and private administrative records, and from other sources. Data is collected through different channels (interviews, telephone, Internet or electronic questionnaires). All responses are protected by statistical confidentiality. Statistical results are disseminated through various channels to facilitate universal access.

The INE is also responsible for the formation and management of the Electoral Census, through the Electoral Census Office, integrated into its structure. This body compiles the census using information from the Municipal Register, town halls, consulates and civil registries, ensuring the proper identification of voters and that it is kept permanently up to date.



More than 80 years of history

The INE was created by the Law of 31 December 1945 with the mission **to develop and improve existing statistics, create new operations, and coordinate the State's statistical services.** In 1989, the Law on Public Statistical Function consolidated its role as an autonomous body and strengthened the coordination of the Spanish statistical system, as well as the cooperation with autonomous communities and European institutions.

The Statutes of the INE, approved by Royal Decree 508/2001 of 11 May, establishes the functions of the agency in matters of statistical production, coordination of the statistical services of the State Administration and technical supervision of official statistical operations.



02.

Open letter from the President



"Official data constitute a strategic resource that facilitates evidence-based decisions, enriches public debate, and generates value for society."

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Elena Manzanera

President of the National Institute of Statistics

The main mission of the INE is to collect, produce and disseminate high-quality official statistical information of public relevance, in an efficient, independent, professional and ethical manner, and to make it available to society to promote evidence-based decision-making.

To fulfil this responsibility, we have defined an institutional strategy looking towards the year 2030 that organises our tasks around three main pillars: public service, innovation and leadership, always in accordance with the provisions of state and European regulations, and respecting the European Statistics Code of Practices.

Official statistics, as a public asset, place public service at the core of our activity. Listening to and understanding users' information needs is essential to providing useful information. Our challenge is to adapt and expand our production to meet new demands, offer increasingly detailed regional and sectoral statistics, improve immediacy, and ensure dissemination in accessible and reusable formats.

Official data constitute a strategic resource that facilitates evidence-based decisions, enriches public debate, and generates value for society through its reuse. In this context, the media play an essential role in the dissemination and interpretation of public statistics, acting as intermediaries between data-producing institutions and citizens, contributing to a more informed public debate.

In a constantly transforming world, marked by digitalisation and the increasing availability of information, we are continuously making strides in the modernization of our processes by integrating new data sources, making more intensive use of

administrative records and adopting advanced methodologies and technologies that strengthen the efficiency, timeliness and quality of our statistics.

This is all with the guarantee of independence, confidentiality and technical rigour that so characterise the INE.

The trust that society places in our statistics is based on maximum transparency, clear methodologies and harmonised standards at the European level.

In the current scenario, where data is a strategic asset, we are bolstering our commitment to placing the INE in a central position, both for the rigorous and quality information we offer, and for our ability to act as a driver of innovation in the field of data and data processing.

This leadership involves bolstering coordination with other producers of statistics, promoting common standards that guarantee consistency and interoperability, and consolidating an active role both nationally and internationally.

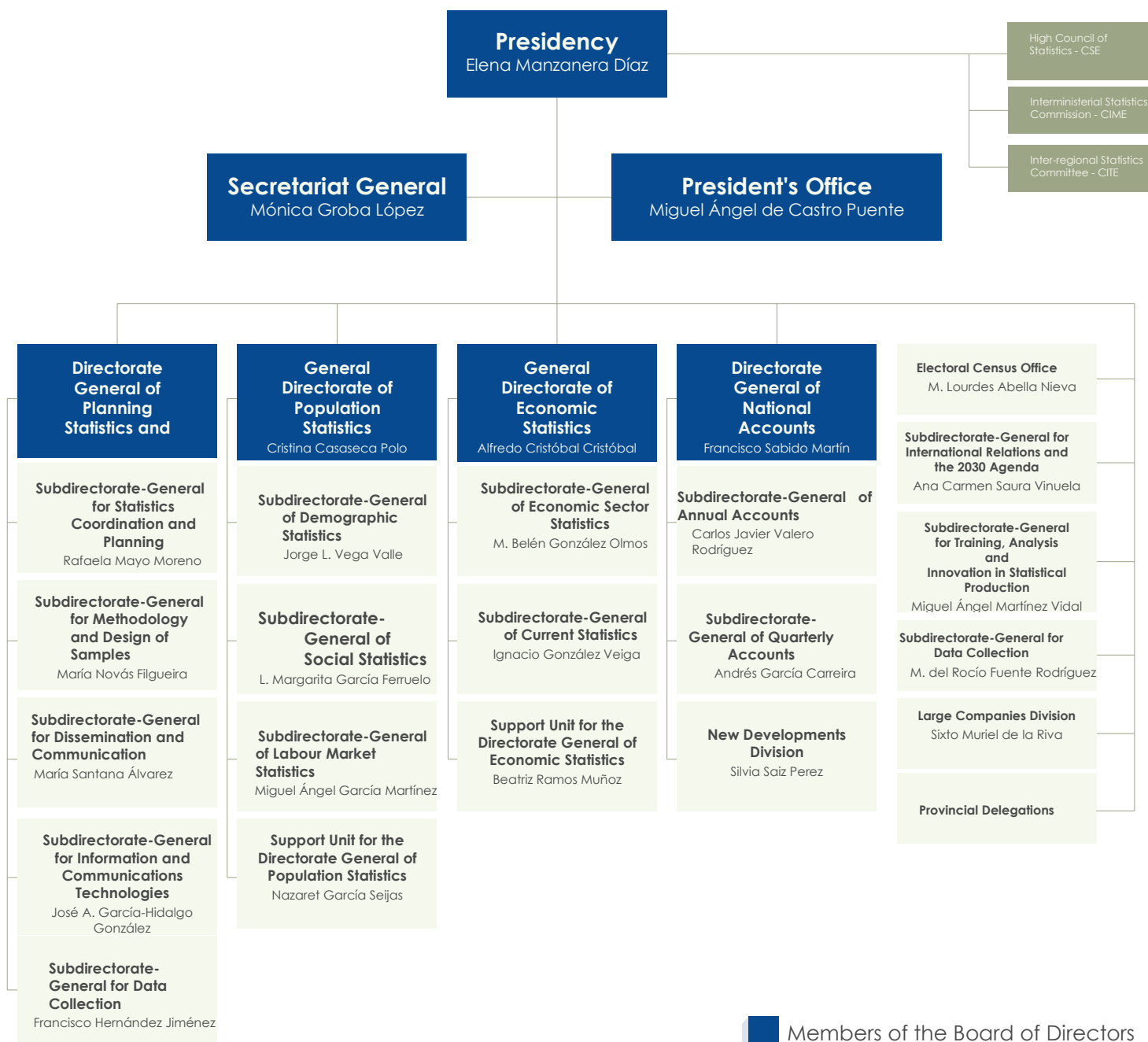
Our goal is clear: to strengthen the public statistical system and ensure that it remains robust, modern, and useful to society.

With this vision, we work to offer society rigorous, timely and high-quality statistical information, freely accessible and available in reusable formats via online services. We provide our users with data in multiple formats – tables, infographs, press releases, anonymised microdata files – and channels – web, social media, API –, in addition to personalised support services and custom requests to meet their needs.

None of this would be possible without the technicians and great professionals of the INE. I have the honour of leading a great team whose effort and hard work enhances the value of public statistics.

We hope to continue serving the needs of the media, essential partners in disseminating our work and thus reinforcing public confidence in our statistics.

03. Structure



04. Philosophy and objectives



The mission of the INE is to collect, produce and disseminate high-quality official statistical information that is relevant to society and produced efficiently, independently, professionally and comprehensively.

This information is made available to citizens, public administrations, companies and researchers with the aim of facilitating a better understanding of the country's economic and social reality and contributing to informed decision-making.

The INE conducts its activities in accordance with the principles of professional independence, methodological rigour, transparency and public service, which form the basis of society's trust in official statistics.

Within the framework of the INE 2030 Strategy, the Institute is driving a process of transformation aimed at modernising statistical production and strengthening the role of public statistics in an environment characterised by digitalisation, the heavy use of AI, the emergence of new data sources and the growing importance of the data economy.

This strategy presents a vision for the future of the INE as a highly digitised, innovative and efficient institution, capable of leveraging new technologies and the knowledge to offer increasingly timely, detailed and useful statistics for society.

The INE 2030 Strategy is structured around 10 transformational projects aimed at modernising official statistics and strengthening the Institute's role in the data ecosystem.

In this context, the initiative is structured around three main strategic lines:

Public service

Strengthening the role of official statistics as a public asset at the service of society, improving user dialogues, expanding data accessibility and developing new services based on statistical information that provide value to citizens, businesses and institutions.

Innovation

Empowering the modernisation of statistical production by incorporating new sources of information (such as administrative records and data from private sources) as well as the use of advanced technologies, including big data analysis techniques and artificial intelligence, with the aim of improving the quality, timeliness and efficiency of statistics.

Leadership

Strengthening the role of the INE as coordinator of the public statistical system and as a national and international reference in the production of official statistics, promoting cooperation between institutions, the exchange of knowledge and the development of technical capacities in the field of statistics.

Some of its main objectives include:

- To produce reliable, relevant and timely official statistics, in accordance with the National Statistical Plan and international standards.
- To meet society's new needs for information by adapting statistical production to economic, social and technological change.
- To promote innovation in statistical production by incorporating new data sources and digital tools.
- To facilitate access to and understanding of statistical information, thus promoting transparency and data reuse.
- To strengthen institutional cooperation, both within the National Statistical System and as part of the European Statistical System.
- To guarantee the confidentiality and protection of information, ensuring that the data collected is used exclusively for statistical purposes.

Through these principles and objectives, the INE seeks to bolster public confidence in official statistics and contribute to a better understanding of the changes taking place in Spanish society.





05. The importance of knowing in order to succeed in providing knowledge

The INE is the main producer of statistical information in Spain and plays a fundamental role within the European and international statistical system.

The statistics compiled by the INE are an essential tool for public administrations, companies, researchers, the media and citizens. Indicators such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Gross Domestic Product (GDP), population statistics, and employment figures are a regular part of current affairs analysis and help guide public policies, business strategies, and academic studies.

There is an ever higher and broader demand for statistical information. In this context, the INE works to continuously improve the accessibility, usefulness and understanding of the data it produces, offering different formats and dissemination channels adapted to the needs of different users.

The availability of open and reusable data, as well as the development of new services based on statistical information, allows for the increased social and economic value of data and fostering of its use in areas such as research, innovation, or public policy analysis. Much of the information used everyday to analyse the evolution of the economy and society comes from the INE.



“The statistics compiled by the INE constitute an essential tool for public administrations, companies, researchers, the media and the general public.”

The work of the INE would not be possible without the collaboration of informants – citizens and companies that participate in its surveys. The information collected is protected by statistical secrecy, which guarantees its confidentiality, anonymity and use exclusively for statistical purposes.

In an environment characterised by digital transformation, the emergence of new sources of information and the growing role of data in society, the INE continues to adapt its methods and tools to offer increasingly accurate, timely and useful statistics for society.

In this way, the INE contributes to improving the understanding of the economic and social reality, reinforcing the role of official statistics as an essential element for an informed society and evidence-based decision-making. Because having better knowledge of reality is the first step to understanding and improving it.



“Because having better knowledge of reality is the first step to understanding and improving it”.

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