

Press Release

10 October 2023

Survey on Essential Characteristics of Population and Housing Year 2021. Final data

A total of 44.5% of the population that works or studies does so in the same municipality where they reside and 63.0% use a private means of transportation to get around

A total of 45.9% of women and 14.9% of men are the primary persons in charge of domestic chores

English is the second most spoken language in Spain (24.6% of the resident population)

The Survey of Essential Population and Housing Characteristics (ECEPOV-2021) complements the 2021 Population and Housing Census by providing information not available in administrative records in order to provide continuity to the existing census series. This allows comparisons with the 2011 census data for some variables.

In this first publication of results, only a part of the questionnaire has been used, focused on the daily mobility of people, their family dynamics and care for dependent persons, the social support that households with one person have, the family of origin, contact with new technologies and knowledge and use of languages.

The rest of the variables, which will refer to households, dwellings and buildings, will be published in February 2023.

Daily Mobility

Almost half of the population aged 16 or over residing in Spain as of July 1, 2021, which lives in family homes and is employed or studying (44.5%), works or studies in the same municipality in which they reside .

For their part, 34.5% do so in another municipality in the same province of residence. This percentage is higher than the 29.9% of the 2011 census, with reference to the month of November of that year.

It should be noted that these data do not take into account people who were teleworking as a result of COVID-19, since they were asked to respond taking into account their situation prior to the pandemic.



Persons aged 16 or over according to place of work/study in 2011 and 2021 Percentages

As for means of transportation, 63.0% of the population aged 16 and over use a private means of transportation to get to their workplace or study center, compared to 60.6% in 2011.

For their part, 16.1% use public transport (compared to 19.6% 10 years ago) and 16.1% walk (versus 17.8% in 2011).





Private transport is the most used among all age groups. In the group between 30 and 49 years, it exceeds 71%.

The age group of those under 30 years of age proportionally uses public transport (29.3%) and walks (21.6%) the most.

People aged 16 and over according to the main means of transport used to travel to the place of work/study and age Percentages



A total of 98.1% of the population that travels to work or school on foot is satisfied or very satisfied with the means of transport used. On the contrary, 19.7% of those who use public transport state that they are dissatisfied.





Family Dynamics

Domestic chores fall mostly on women. Thus, 45.9% are in charge of most domestic chores, compared to 14.9% of men.

For their part, 15.7% of men do not regularly participate in these tasks, compared to 6.0% of women.

Persons aged 16 or over according to degree of participation in domestic chores and sex



Looking at the situation at home, 49.7% of women who live with a partner are in charge of most domestic chores, compared to 4.3% of men in the same situation.

And only 1.5% of these women do not regularly participate in this type of task, compared to 12.6% of men.

Persons aged 16 and over who live with a partner according to the degree of participation in domestic chores by sex Percentages



Care for dependent people and minors

A total of 47.1% of the population aged 16 and over resides in households with a dependent person (minors are included).

Almost eight out of ten of these dependents are minors and 39.8% of caregivers spend between three and six hours a day caring for these people.

The care of minors falls mainly on women (40.2%, compared to 4.8% of men).

Persons aged 16 or over according to the degree of participation in care of minors within the home, by sex

Percentages



Women also tend to assume the tasks of caring for dependent persons (chronically ill, disabled or other types, excluding minors) who live in the home. A total of 48.3% are responsable for most care, compared to 20.5% of men.





By age, caregivers are concentrated between 30 and 50 years. A total of 64.3% are in that age group.

On the other hand, 29.7% of the population aged 16 and over have a dependent person outside the home. Of these, 60.7% do not regularly participate in their care.

Nearly three in 10 of these dependents are chronically ill or disabled.

A total of 38.8% of the persons who take part in the care of dependent people who live outside the home dedicate between one and three hours a day to their care.

By sex, 11.3% of women are in charge of most of the care for dependents who live outside the home, compared to 2.6% of men.

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At the other extreme, 64.6% of men who have a dependent outside the home do not regularly take part in their care, compared to 57.1% of women.

Persons aged 16 or over with a dependent outside the home according to the degree of participation in their care by sex



Knowledge and use of languages

In Spain there are 10 languages that are spoken well by at least 1% of the population. The most frequent are Spanish (96.0%), English (14.7%) and Catalan (14.2%).

More than half of the population speaks only one language well (57.2%).

As for reading, half of the population declares that they can read only one language well. While 8.3% can read three languages.

When it comes to writing, 28.5% of the population can write two languages well. And almost three out of 100 persons (2.7%) understand four or more languages well.

Persons who speak the main languages used in Spain well



(*) includes MALLORCAN, MENORQUIN, IBIZAN OR FORMENTERENSE

Almost the entire population (99.5%) understands and speaks Spanish, even if it is with difficulty. This percentage drops to 96.6% when it comes to reading or writing in the language.

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As for the languages of other countries, 24.6% of residents in Spain speak English with difficulty or well, and 7.2% speak French.

If we analyse English, as age increases, the level of language knowledge decreases for all types of use. Thus, among those over 50 years of age, the percentage who do not speak English exceeds 80%. In contrast, among the population aged 20 to 29, the percentage of people who speak English well is 32.0%.

Persons older than one year according to the level at which they speak English and age

Percentages

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Spanish is always used in the family by 77.1% of the population. For the same frequency, the percentage is 75.2% when used with friends and 73.1% when used at work.

Persons older than one year according to frequency and place of use of Spanish Percentages



On the other hand, 17.7% of the population sometimes, frequently or always uses English at work. This percentage drops to 11.3% when used with friends and 7.7% when used with family.

In general, English and French are more frequently used at work. Use of the co-official languages is more common in the family.

Persons over one year of age who sometimes, frequently or always use the main languages of other countries in Spain, depending on the place of use Percentages



The most common initial language – that is, the first language a person uses when they begin to speak – is Spanish. Specifically, for 74.7% of the population. It is followed by Catalan (5.3%) and Galician (2.4%).

For its part, 2.0% of the population had Spanish and Catalan as their joint initial languages.

By place of birth, 79.9% of those born in Spain had Spanish as their initial language, compared to 43.8% of those born in another country.

Among those born in Spain, the most frequent initial languages, in addition to Spanish, are Catalan (6.1%), Galician (2.7%) and Spanish and Catalan jointly (2.3%).

Among those born outside of Spain, the most frequent initial languages are, in addition to Spanish, Arabic (9.5%), Romanian (8.2%) and English (5.4%).

Percentage

97.2 8.8 2.2

94.4 83.1 8.9 2.6

97.2 22.7 4.5

93.5 12.6 5.0 3.8

96.4 17.0 16.1 5.1 2.6

96.6 44.1 12.3 2.9

96.2 12.4 3.5 2.8 2.6

95.5 25.6 8.3 3.0

93.4 7.1 6.5 5.4 2.6

Languages that are spoken well by at least 2% of the population by AC Autonomous Community and Autonomous Community and

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Autonomous Community and	Dorocatora	Autonomous Community and
Languages	Percentage	Languages
Andalucía		Extremadura
SPANISH	96.2	SPANISH
ENGLISH	13.4	ENGLISH
FRENCH	3.6	PORTUGUESE
Aragón		Galicia
SPANISH	97.1	SPANISH
ENGLISH	13.2	GALICIAN
FRENCH	4.6	ENGLISH
ROMANIAN	3.3	FRENCH
CATALAN	3.0	Madrid, Comunidad de
Asturias, Principado de		SPANISH
SPANISH	98.4	ENGLISH
ENGLISH	13.5	FRENCH
FRENCH	3.3	Murcia, Región de
ASTURIAN	2.8	SPANISH
Balears, Illes		ENGLISH
SPANISH	94.1	ARAB
CATALAN (*)	59.5	FRENCH
ENGLISH	19.8	Navarra, Comunidad Foral o
GERMAN	3.7	SPANISH
FRENCH	3.4	BASQUE
Canarias		ENGLISH
SPANISH	95.2	FRENCH
ENGLISH	17.6	ARAB
GERMAN	3.3	País Vasco
FRENCH	3.1	SPANISH
ITALIAN	2.7	BASQUE
Cantabria		ENGLISH
SPANISH	98.2	FRENCH
ENGLISH	13.8	Rioja, La
FRENCH	2.8	SPANISH
Castilla y León	2.0	ENGLISH
SPANISH	97.6	FRENCH
ENGLISH	10.2	ARAB
FRENCH	2.8	ROMANIAN
Castilla - La Mancha	2.0	Ceuta
SPANISH	97.2	SPANISH
ENGLISH	9.9	ARAB
ROMANIAN		
	2.7	ENGLISH FRENCH
Cataluña SPANISH	95.3	Melilla
CATALAN	75.0	SPANISH
ENGLISH	16.3	ARAB
FRENCH	5.1	
ARAB	2.0	TAMAZIGHT
Comunitat Valenciana		FRENCH
SPANISH	94.7	
VALENCIAN	51.6	
ENGLISH	12.1	
FRENCH (*) MALLORCAN, MENORQUIN,	3.2	

(*) MALLORCAN, MENORQUIN, IBIZAN OR FORMENTERENSE

Data Review and Update

The data published today are final and are not subject to further revision.

Methodological note

The Survey of Essential Population and Housing Characteristics selects independent samples in each province. For municipalities with more than 50,000 inhabitants or provincial capitals, a simple random sampling of main family dwellings has been carried out. For the rest of the municipalities, stratified two-stage sampling has been carried out in which the first stage units are the census sections, and the second stage units are the primary family dwellings.

The survey provides national results by autonomous communities, by provinces and by municipalities with more than 50,000 inhabitants or provincial capitals.

Type of survey: structural survey with irregular periodicity

Population scope: persons residing in Spain in family dwellings.

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period for the results: the information was collected from March 29, 2021 to February 15, 2022.

Reference period of the information: date of interview

Sample size: 172,444 homes in which 424,493 persons reside distributed in 2,152 census sections.

Sampling type: simple random sampling and stratified two-stage sampling.

Collection method: Collection method: interview completed by the respondent himself via the Internet, telephone interview, postal mail interview and computer-assisted personal interview.

For more information, you can access the methodology at:

https://ine.es/censos2021/proyecto_caracter%C3%ADsticas_esenciales.pdf

The standardized methodological report is at:

https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/index.html

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