

25 March 2022

Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS). Sub-sample variables Year 2021¹

Main results

- In 2021, 14.7% of employed persons worked in *companies with 250 or more workers* and the same percentage worked in *companies with 50 to 249 workers* (in 2020 the percentages were 13.7% and 15.0%, respectively). . In companies of up to 9 employees the percentage was 33.4% (33.3% the previous year).
- A total of 357,400 employed persons, almost all women, worked part-time, for the purpose of having more time available to care for dependent persons. This figure was 17.0% higher than in 2020.
- In 2021, the areas of specialisation *Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)* and *Social Sciences, journalism and documentation* showed the highest employment rates (78.60% and 72.31%, respectively). *Health and welfare* (8.25%) and *Engineering and engineering trades* (9.51%) had the lowest unemployment rates.
- People who have studied *General training and personal skills* —being those who have, at most, reached compulsory secondary education or high school— showed the highest unemployment rates (19.46%) and the lowest rates of employment (36.90%).

¹ The results tables can be consulted in INEBASE:

http://www.ine.es/dyngs/INEbase/es/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736176918&menu=resultados&secc=1254736195128&idp=1254735976595, Resultados anuales. Sub-sample variables.

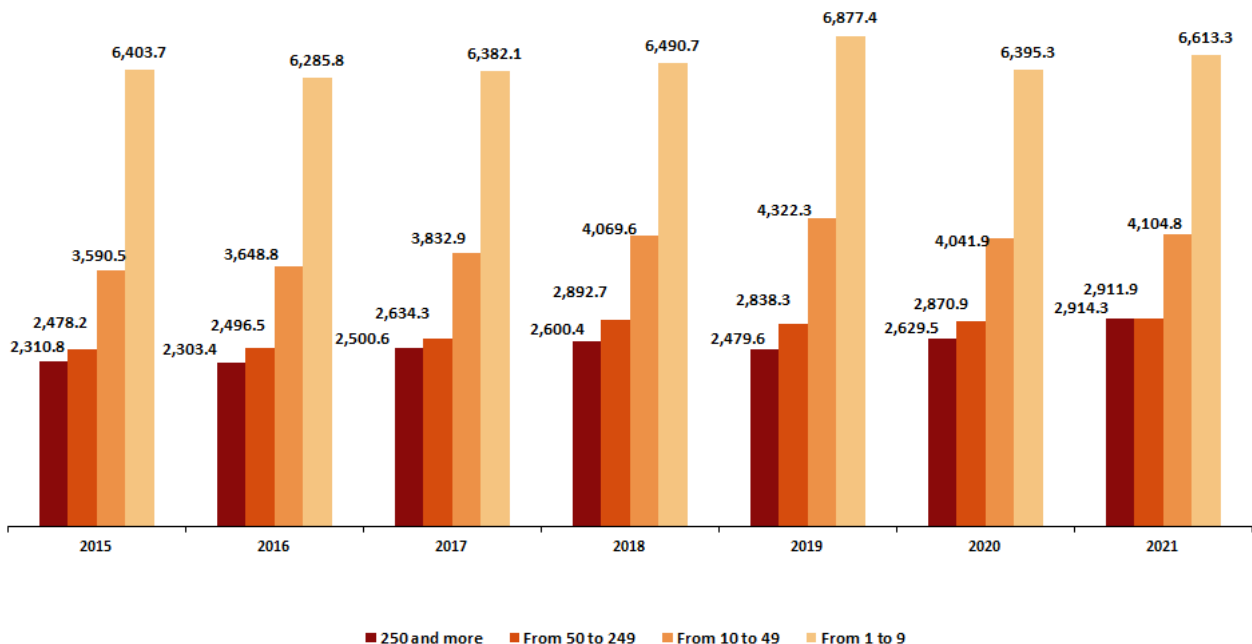
Establishment size

The average number of persons employed in 2021 was 19,773,600², representing an increase of 571,200 over 2020.

According to the size of the establishment or work centre, the number of employed persons increased in all modalities. It should be noted those of *250 or more employees*, with an increase of 284,800 persons, and those of *1 to 9 employees*, with 218,000 more³.

The percentage of employed persons who worked in establishments with *50 to 249 workers* decreased to 14.7%, as compared with 15.0% in 2020. On the contrary, in *establishments with 250 or more workers* it increased to 14.7%, from 13.7%.

Employed persons by number of persons working in the establishment (Thousands of persons)



Type of work post

Most of the workers in Spain had a boss but no subordinate. Nearly seven out of 10 employees were in this situation in 2021.

On the other hand, 10.6% were *self-employed (without a boss or subordinates)*; 7.2% were *middle-level managers*; 6.3% were *directors of small companies, departments or branches*, 6.1% were *persons in charge*; and 0.7% were *directors of large or medium-sized companies*.

² All the results of the sub-sample variables, both those commented on in this press release and those included in INEBASE, are annual averages (see the methodological annex at the end of this press release).

³ The total number of employed persons in each size category does not coincide with the total number of jobs, because there are employed persons who do not know the size of the establishment where they work.

The percentage of *employees (with bosses and without subordinates)* decreased compared to 2020 by three tenths. On the contrary, the percentage of *self-employed workers (without bosses or subordinates)* increased five tenths, standing at 10.6%.

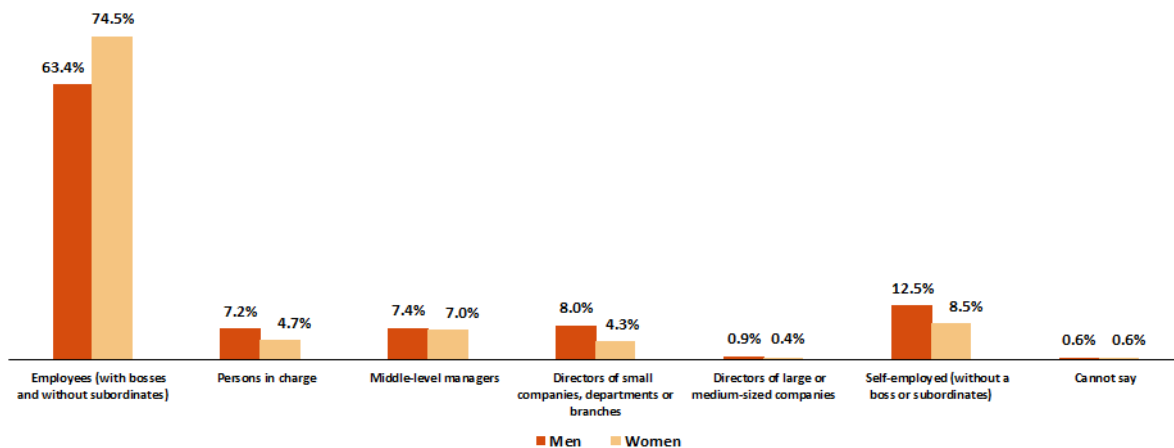
By sex, the percentages of men were higher than those of women in all types of jobs; except in the case of *employees (with bosses and without subordinates)*, where the percentage of women exceeded that of men by 11.1 points.

We should highlight the differences in percentages between men and women in *self-employed workers (without bosses or subordinates)*, with a difference of four points; followed by *directors of a small company, department or branch*, with 3.7 points of discrepancy.

Employed persons by type of job position and sex

Percentage	2021			2020		
	Both sexes	Men	Women	Both sexes	Men	Women
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Employees (with bosses and without subordinates)	68.6	63.4	74.5	68.9	63.8	75.1
Persons in charge	6.1	7.2	4.7	6.2	7.3	4.9
Middle-level managers	7.2	7.4	7.0	7.2	7.7	6.5
Directors of small companies, departments or branches	6.3	8.0	4.3	6.4	8.1	4.4
Directors of large or medium-sized companies	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4
Self-employed (without a boss or subordinates)	10.6	12.5	8.5	10.1	11.9	8.0
Cannot say	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7

Distribution of employed persons by type of job position and sex. Year 2021



Labour mediation and working conditions

The number of employees hired through a temporary employment agency (TEA) was 677,000 in 2021. It represented 4.1% of the total, compared to 3.5% in 2020.

On the other hand, 324,700 employees (2.0% of the total) obtained their employment through the assistance of a public employment office, the same percentage as in 2020.

A total of 83.9% of those employed did not work *any days* in their private home; while 9.5% did so *more than half the days*, compared to 10.8% in 2020. For their part, 5.8% did so *occasionally*.

A total of 34.0% of employed persons worked at least *one Saturday per month*, which is 1.8 points more than that registered in 2020. For 64.4% of employed persons, Saturday was not part of their working week, 0.9 points lower than in 2020.

As for Sunday, 20.6% of employed persons worked at least *one Sunday a month*, compared with 19.1% in 2020. On the other hand, 78.3% of employed persons did not work *any Sunday*, one percentage point less than in 2020.

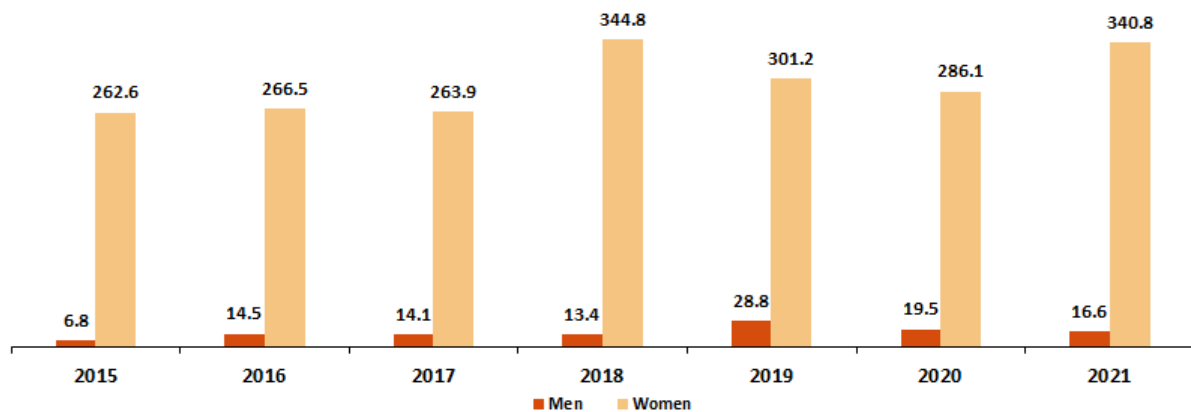
10.6% of employed persons worked on night shift (10.7% in 2020). 6.0% did so *occasionally*, and 4.6% on *more than half of their working days*. The percentage of male night workers (12.7%) surpassed the number of female night workers (8.1%).

Dependency

A total of 357,400 persons worked part-time, for the purpose of having more time available to care for dependent persons in the year 2021, representing a decrease of 17.0% as compared with the previous year.

The majority of those who worked part-time, in order to simultaneously work as caregivers were women (340,800).

Persons who are employed part-time because they take care of dependent persons (Thousands of persons)



Training

Considering the Spanish population aged 16 years old and over, 56,42% had *General training and personal skills*, which correspond to persons who have at most reached *compulsory secondary education or the baccalaureate*.

The rest of the population had some specialisation in 2021, especially in *Business, Administration and Law* (11.02%); *Mechanics, electronics, other technical training, industry and construction* (7.99%), and *Health and social services* (6.13%).

Population aged 16 years old and over by field of the highest level of education successfully completed

	2021		2020	
	Thousands of persons	Percentage	Thousands of persons	Percentage
Total	39,654.2	100	39,578.8	100
Basic programmes and personal skills Education	22,374.8	56.42	22,928.7	57.93
Arts, humanities and languages	1,576.5	3.98	1,471.6	3.72
Social sciences, journalism and information	1,158.9	2.92	1,162.9	2.94
Business, administration and law	678.2	1.71	650.4	1.64
Biological and related sciences, physical sciences and mathematics and statistics	4,371.8	11.02	4,094.6	10.35
Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	797.4	2.01	778.3	1.97
Engineering and engineering trades, manufacturing and construction	876.6	2.21	859.1	2.17
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	3,170.1	7.99	3,136.7	7.93
Health and welfare	286.7	0.72	284.4	0.72
Services	2,431.9	6.13	2,343.5	5.92
Unknown fields / Not applicable	1,190.2	3.00	1,135.6	2.87
	741.1	1.87	733.0	1.85

Influence of training on the labour market

The level of training achieved and the area of study of this training are decisive factors in in the rates of activity and employment of the population, both in terms of their amount and the distance between the male and female rates.

Population 16 years and older trained in *Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)* presented the highest activity rate (87.64%) in 2021, followed by persons trained in *Social sciences, journalism and information* (80.97%).

By sex, the female activity rate was higher than the male one in four of the 12 categories of the study sector analysed.

The highest employment rates in both men and women occurred among those specialized in *ICT*, with 88.36% and 85.07%, respectively. Among women, the next highest rates corresponded to those trained in *Engineering and engineering trades*, with 81.48%. Among men, the next highest rates corresponded to those trained in *Social Sciences, journalism and information*, with 81.59%.

In turn, those persons with *General Training and personal skills programmes* presented the lowest activity rates (45.81%). In the case of women, these rates stood at 37.86%.

Activity rates by field of the highest level of education successfully completed and sex

Percentage	2021		
	Both sexes	Men	Women
Total	58.51	63.57	53.73
Basic programmes and personal skills	45.81	53.86	37.86
Education	70.33	68.73	70.83
Arts, humanities and languages	72.31	73.55	71.44
Social sciences, journalism and information	80.97	81.59	80.65
Business, administration and law	77.74	80.17	76.34
Biological and related sciences, physical sciences and mathematics and statistics	78.43	77.38	79.58
Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	87.64	88.36	85.07
Engineering and engineering trades, manufacturing and construction	77.09	76.57	81.48
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	80.37	80.16	80.77
Health and welfare	78.27	80.27	77.67
Servicies	77.17	78.73	76.11
Unknown fields / Not applicable	22.79	33.14	15.93

The highest employment rate occurred in 2021 in the people trained in ICT (78.60%). Following this were those trained in *Social Sciences, journalism and documentation* (72.31%) and *Health and social services* (71.81%).

In turn, those persons with *General Training and personal skills* presented the lowest employment rate, of 36.90%.

By sex, the female employment rate was only higher than the male in the sector, *Engineering and engineering trades*.

Employment rates by field of the highest level of education successfully completed and sex

Percentage	2021		
	Both sexes	Men	Women
Total	49.87	55.27	44.75
Basic programmes and personal skills	36.90	44.86	29.03
Education	63.38	63.86	63.23
Arts, humanities and languages	63.61	64.27	63.15
Social sciences, journalism and information	72.31	74.72	71.04
Business, administration and law	68.88	72.97	66.51
Biological and related sciences, physical sciences and mathematics and statistics	70.68	71.34	69.96
Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	78.60	79.01	77.11
Engineering and engineering trades, manufacturing and construction	69.76	69.74	69.97
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	68.99	69.53	68.02
Health and welfare	71.81	74.83	70.90
Servicies	63.31	67.93	60.18
Unknown fields / Not applicable	15.95	26.87	8.70

Regarding unemployment, the highest unemployment rates in 2021 were registered among those persons who had attended *General Training and personal skills* (19.46%).

Conversely, the lowest unemployment rates were among those trained in *Health and social services* (8.25%) and in *Mechanics, electronics, other technical training, industry and construction* (9.51%).

In all training sectors, the female unemployment rate was higher than the male rate, except for men trained in *Arts, Humanities and Languages*, who presented an unemployment rate 1.01 points higher than that of women with the same training; as well as in the *Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)* sector, in which the female unemployment rate was 1.23 points lower than that of men.

Unemployment rates by field of the highest level of education successfully completed and sex

Percentage	2021		
	Both sexes	Men	Women
Total	14.78	13.05	16.71
Basic programmes and personal skills	19.46	16.72	23.31
Education	9.88	7.09	10.73
Arts, humanities and languages	12.03	12.61	11.60
Social sciences, journalism and information	10.70	8.42	11.91
Business, administration and law	11.40	8.97	12.88
Biological and related sciences, physical sciences and mathematics and statistics	9.88	7.81	12.09
Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	10.32	10.58	9.35
Engineering and engineering trades, manufacturing and construction	9.51	8.92	14.13
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	14.16	13.26	15.79
Health and welfare	8.25	6.78	8.71
Servicies	17.96	13.72	20.94
Unknown fields / Not applicable	30.04	18.94	45.36

Change in EAPS methodology in 2021

The 2021 EAPS annual subsample data, published today, are the first obtained using the new survey methodology, in effect since 2021. Previously, these data had been published using the methodology effective since 2005.

This new 2021 methodology is based on Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council of October 10, 2019, which establishes a common framework for household surveys in the European Union, and the Regulation of Execution (EU) 2019/2240 of December 16, 2019, as well as other Delegated and Execution Regulations establishing the variables to be analysed, the definitions to be used and the periodicities for each of the variables in the EU Labour Force Survey. The Spanish version of this survey is the EPA.

Data Review and Update

The data published today are final. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

One of the new features introduced with the methodological changes of the EAPS in 2005 was the use of a Survey sub-sample, distributed throughout the year, for the purpose of providing information on structural variables as an annual average. This *survey system extended* to a sub-sample to cover a series of variables additional to those studied each quarter is called *sub-sample system*, and the additional structural variables obtained are known as *sub-sample variables*. The possibility of implanting a system of this type is considered in European Council and Parliament Regulation no. 2257/2003 and in European Commission Regulation no. 430/2005.

The new 2021 methodology continues to consider the use of subsample variables, through Commission Execution Regulation (EU) 2019/2240, which specifies the technical data of the data set, and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/256 of the Commission, which establishes the different periodicities of the variables to be analysed.

The objective of these variables is to lessen the response workload of the EAPS, which had grown continuously with each of its methodological changes. The sub-sample used for these variables is that of the households ending its collaboration with the EAPS each quarter of the year, that is, those that are in their sixth interview.

Type of survey: annual continuous survey, for sub-sample variables.

Population scope: population residing in family dwellings

Geographical scope: the entire national territory.

Reference period for sub-sample results: the year.

Reference period of the information: the week prior to the interview.

Sample size for the sub-sample: The sub-sample has a lower number of records than the quarterly EAPS files. It consists of approximately 40,000 households.

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: personal, telephone and computer-assisted web interviews.

For more information the methodology can be accessed at:

<https://www.ine.es/inebaseDYN/epa30308/docs/submuestra.pdf>

The standardized methodological report is at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30308>

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