



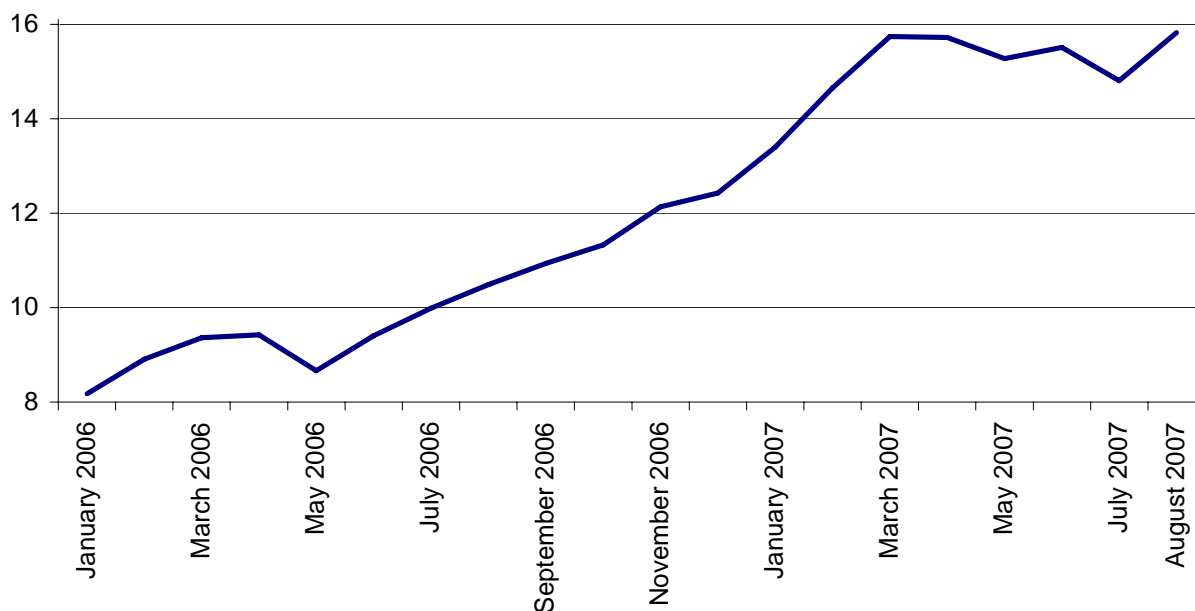
## New technology applications in survey collection

### One in six questionnaires received by the INE are completed online

More and more companies are completing INE questionnaires online via the ARCE (Storage and Collection of Economic Questionnaires), thus benefiting from increased speed and security in sending data.

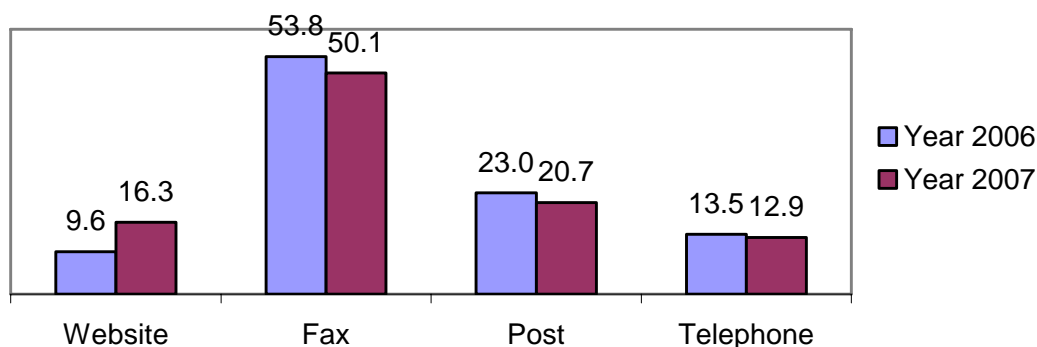
Since January 2006, completion of the economic situation surveys online has increased considerably and has come to represent 8.17% to 15.82% of the total, representing a variation of 93%. In this way, one in six questionnaires received by INE are completed online.

### Evolution of questionnaires received by ARCE on the total received



Conversely, users who have opted for the Internet have proportionally abandoned other alternative means of sending information.

## Percentages of the different ways of completing questionnaires

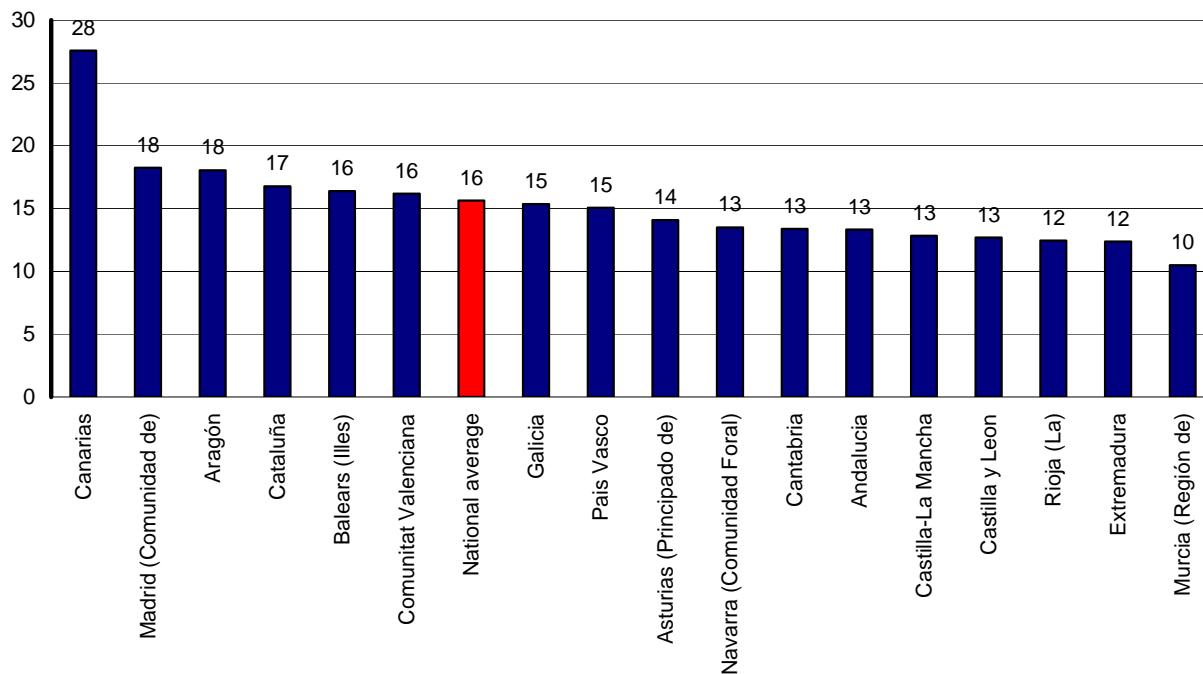


Completion of questionnaires online by Autonomous Community.

Canarias shows a rate of completion of questionnaires online considerably above the national average, reaching 28%.

Also above the aforementioned average are the Autonomous Communities of Madrid, Aragón, Cataluña, Illes Balears and Comunitat Valenciana.

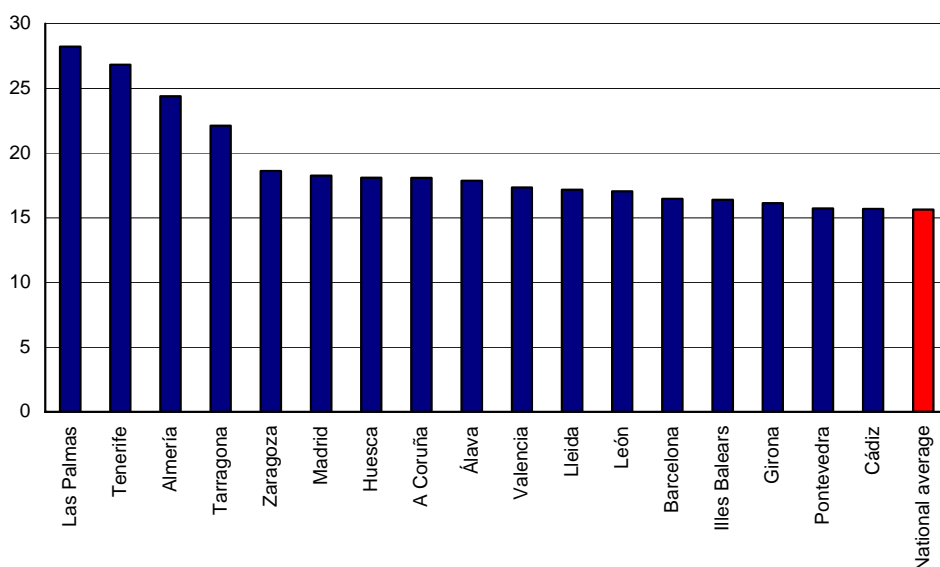
## Questionnaires collected via ARCE as a % of the total collected



By **province**, Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife reach values above 25% for online completion. Almería and Tarragona stand at over 20%.

In addition to these provinces, the percentage of questionnaires collected via the ARCE system also exceeds the national average in Zaragoza, Madrid, Huesca, A Coruña, Álava, Valencia, Lleida, León, Barcelona, Illes Balears, Girona, Pontevedra and Cádiz.

**Questionnaires collected via ARCE as a % of the total collected**



### Internet use in the different surveys

Within the **Services** surveys, the Services Sector Activity Indicators (SSAI) survey reaches a rate of questionnaires completed online regarding questionnaires collected of over 23%. In the Travellers Transport (TT) statistics, the percentage is 17%, and for the Retail Trade Index (RTI) it is 12%.

In the **industrial sector**, the Industrial Turnover and Incoming Orders Indicators (ITI-OEP) reach a percentage of 17% for questionnaires received online, regarding the total questionnaires received. In turn, the Industrial Production Index (IPI) and the Export and Import Price Indices (EXPRI-IMPRI) reach 16.5% and 15.5%, respectively. The short-term survey with the lowest percentage is the Industrial Price Index (IPRI), standing at 10.5%, although it is appropriate to indicate that it is the survey in which the least data is requested.

Lastly, the Quarterly Labour Cost Survey (QLCS) is worth noting, being the continuous survey in which the most data is requested, and which reaches a percentage of 23% of questionnaires completed via the ARCE system.

### Almost 120,000 companies work in partnership with the INE

In order to prepare the economic situation surveys, the INE carries out, on a monthly or quarterly basis, different continuous surveys, for which questionnaires are sent to almost 120,000 companies or establishments.

Currently, 24,000 monthly questionnaires are received from these companies via the Internet.

## **Features and advantages of the ARCE system**

- In order to be able to complete the questionnaire in ARCE, it is necessary to have received beforehand an order number and a control digit, which are unique for each questionnaire.
- Secure data transmission. ARCE uses the HTTPS communication protocol, which enables the making of end-to-end encrypted transactions.
- Once the questionnaire has been sent, the INE issues a certificate of receipt, which will serve as a guarantee and reference for the informant.
- ARCE allows the completion of a dummy questionnaire ("survey test") in order to become familiar with the process.
- It is not necessary to be registered as a user. It is possible to go straight into the recording of a questionnaire, by simply having the order number and control digit.
- It is possible to register as a user, which enables the obtaining of information on the latest questionnaires completed, as well as a history of the last actions performed, or the receiving of an email alert when a questionnaire is to be completed.
- There is also the possibility of using the digital certificate from the Royal Mint. The purpose of all of this is to fully automate access for completion of questionnaires.

## **Forthcoming questionnaires in the ARCE system**

From 1 January 2008 onwards, it will be possible to complete Tourist Accommodation Occupancy Survey questionnaires (hotel establishments, holiday dwellings, rural tourism accommodation and campsites) online. Establishments cooperating in these surveys will be able to return the questionnaire as an XML file, either manually via ARCE, or else via web services.

In addition, throughout 2008, other surveys will be incorporated into the economic structure, such as the Industrial Companies Survey, the Technological Innovation Survey or the Survey on Information and Communication Technologies.

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For further information see [INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome\\_en.htm](http://INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm) All press releases at: [www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa\\_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm)

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